



The Banner

Central Montgomery County Business and Professional Women's Club
Volume XCV – April 2022

Next Meeting – Thursday, April 21, 2022

Maggiano's Little Italy, 205 Mall Blvd., King of Prussia, PA
Networking: 6-6:30 pm ♦ Dinner: 6:30 pm ♦ Cost: \$30.00

**Central
Montgomery
County
BPW Officers
2021 – 2022**

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Ginny Bailey

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President's Message:

Dear Members,

There's currently a commercial airing which is an excellent example of the disparity caused by the pay gap. The commercial starts with a picture of the man and woman below and they speak in unison:



"I graduated top of my class in business school.

I lead a team of over 100 people, and since I joined the company, my department has increased revenue over 35% year over year.

Also, (just the man speaks) I make 18% more than her."

The tag line says, "It's time to close the gap on pay equality."

Was this commercial made by BPW, AAUW, NOW, or some other women's organization? Surprisingly, no. It was made by a software company that does payroll for other companies.

Equal Pay Day was originated by the National Committee on Pay Equity in 1996 as a public awareness event to illustrate the gap between men's and women's wages. This symbolic day denotes how far into the year women must work to be paid what men were paid the previous year. And, for as long as I can remember, Equal Pay Day was observed in April but, in the last 3 years, the date has been moved up – to March 31st in 2020, March 23rd in 2021, and March 15th in 2023.

You'd think we were making progress but according to an article in *Forbes*, in February 2022, 1.1 million fewer women were in the labor force than at the start of the pandemic. The latest figures only account for women who remained in the workforce full-time and does not include the women who were forced out of their jobs due to the pandemic or women who work part-time, which is the usually the lowest paid work force.

And, while for white women, Equal Pay Day was March 15th:

- For Asian-American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Women, Equal Pay Day is May 3rd;
- For Black Women, Equal Pay Day is September 21st;
- Native American Women's Equal Pay Day is November 30th; and
- Latina's Equal Pay Day is December 8th. Latina women have to work almost 2 full years to make what a man makes in 12 months.

Every year, women lose over \$10,000 to pay discrimination. Or, if you're looking at a 9-5 workday, women start working for free at 2:40 pm. Still think we're making progress?

If the gender wage gap were eliminated, the average woman would have enough money every year to pay for:

- An additional year of child care;
- One-year tuition and fees to a 4-year public university or the full cost of tuition and fees to a 2-year college;
- More than 9-months of rent;
- 7-months of health insurance (premiums through employer-based plans);
- More than a year's worth of food; OR
- Enough money to pay off their student loan debt in under 4-years.

Will women ever achieve pay equity? It depends on what study you look at. I've seen studies that said women would reach pay equity in 2093 but the pandemic added 36 years to that. Another study said 2111 and yet another said not for another 250 years.

Since BPW began in 1919, the principle of equal pay has been one of the three major issues that has shaped BPW's legislative agenda. I don't want my 8-year old niece, Ellie or my niece we're expecting in August to ever have to worry about whether she's getting paid fairly. I don't want to wait until 2093, do you?

Vote for candidates that support equal pay and raising the minimum wage!

Ginny

April is National Autism Awareness Month



National Autism Awareness Month raises awareness for autism and Asperger's syndrome during April. Autism is a complex brain disorder that often inhibits a person's ability to communicate, respond to surroundings, and form relationships with others.

According to WHO, about one in 270 people in the world has Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). ASD is a group of developmental disabilities that causes challenges in many areas of one's life. Some of the profoundly affected areas include social, communication, and behavior. Children with ASD are usually nonverbal or they have restricted or repetitive behaviors. ASD also affects people of all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

The month-long observance takes place during World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD), celebrated each year on April 2nd. WAAD was adopted by the United Nations in 2007 to shine a bright light on autism as a growing global health crisis. WAAD activities increase world knowledge of autism and impart information about the importance of early diagnosis and early intervention. Additionally, WAAD celebrates the unique talents and skills of persons with autism around the world.

In Memorium

Agnes Ferrara



It is with much sadness we found out recently our dear Agnes passed away in August 2021. We didn't know until our Valentine's Day cards started coming back with a note that she had passed.

In a resolution written by Nancy Werner and Noreen Morello, they remembered Agnes as a loyal and dedicated member of the Norristown/Central Montgomery County BPW Local Club and was a 60-year + member. Agnes served as President from 1966-1968 and during her membership years, she held many offices and chairs.

Agnes was a dedicated Visiting Nurse. As the leader of the Norristown Community's Visiting Nurses, she advocated for the nurses to discern and follow up with the medical services that were needed by the many children that they visited.

Agnes was her determined to see the Regina Nursing Home be established and built along E. Fornance Street, Norristown, PA. She attended numerous zoning and planning meetings and presented her case that the community needed this facility. She succeeded and it was the first facility of its kind for the Norristown Borough.

Agnes was the recipient of the 1965 BPW/PA Woman of the Year Award in 1965 when our BPW/PA membership was 12,000 members. It was an honor to be recognized among so many members.

Agnes will always be held in high esteem and will be remembered for her advocacy to all women and their families, her strength to express her views on any woman's issue, her BPW loyalty and leadership, and her deep faith in her church.

Agnes is buried in a crypt in the Chapel in St. Patrick's Cemetery. The cemetery is off Route 202 and Crimson Drive and is open daily from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Elfriede Werner



We were also sad to learn of the passing of Nancy Werner's mother-in-law and matriarch of the Quakertown local, Elfriede Werner on April 1, 2022. Elfriede was born in Fulda, Germany and was the daughter of the late Friedrich and Brigitte (Schuler) Heller. She was the wife of the late James I. Werner, Sr, with whom she shared 55 years of marriage. She worked for many years as a bookkeeper for Sears (Quakertown, PA), the former Kelly Construction, Inc., and the Belle Haven Nursing Home. She was member of the St. Isidore's RC of Quakertown where she served on the church council, on the church choir and on the food bank of the church.

Elfriede was a very active community servant and spent a lot of time volunteering. She was on the Quakertown Borough Council for over 25 years. She served on numerous boards, including the Children's Development Center and Bucks County Community College. She was a member of the Quakertown Business and Professional Women's Club for 61 years and was recognized as the BPW/PA Woman of the Year in 2014. She was long time member of the Sertoma Club of Quakertown.

Our condolences to the Werner family and the members of Quakertown BPW.

"As in a tale, so is a life: not how long it is, but how good it is, is what matters." ~ Lucius Annaeus Seneca

March Dinner Menu

First Course

Spinach & Artichoke al Forno
Crispy Zucchini Fritte
Maggiano's Salad

Second Course

Chicken & Spinach Manicotti
Baked Ziti & Sausage
Eggplant Parmesan

Desserts

Chocolate Layered Cake
Vera's Lemon Cookies

State Theme:



District Theme:

Just Be

CMC Theme:

With the right words,
you can change the world.

April Program



Kiki Peppard

Maternal/Familial Status Protection in Employment

Kiki Peppard is a working women's rights activist who has been working to amend the PA Human Relations Act since 1994. According to this 1955 Act, it is not illegal to ask women about their marital/familial status during job interviews in Pennsylvania. She had worked for 20 years to get legislation passed to prevent this legal form of discrimination. Despite the backing of many great organizations including MomsRising.org, bills were not passed. She took a 7-year hiatus and returned to school to become an Occupational Therapy Assistant and began a new career. With more women now in government positions, Kiki has recently resurrected this cause with renewed passion hoping for more legislative support. She will be speaking to us about HB1210 and SB577 which were introduced in 2021 and their current status.

BPW/PA State Convention

The 102nd BPW/PA State Convention will be held June 9 – 12, 2022, at the Wyndham Gettysburg in Gettysburg, PA. Registrations received after March 13th and before May 9th is \$75 full-time and \$60 one day. ALL members are welcome to attend. Registration can be made via mail or on-line on the BPW/PA website – www.bpwpa.org.

If you decide to go, call the Wyndham Gettysburg (717-339-0020) to make your reservations. But, do NOT hit '1' – hit '0' and talk to someone at the hotel and make sure you tell them you're with the BPW/PA convention for the correct room rate.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month – Laurel House



Sexual Assault Awareness Month is an annual campaign to raise public awareness about sexual assault and educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence.

Domestic abuse and sexual violence can be closely linked. **Between 40% and 45% of women in abusive relationships will also be sexually assaulted during the course of the relationship** (National Coalition Against Domestic Violence). In order to end domestic abuse, we must also end sexual violence.

All month long, Laurel House will be sharing information on social media about sexual violence and what we can do to prevent it in our communities. If you or someone you know has experienced sexual violence, we encourage you to reach out to Victim Services Center of Montgomery County for support. You can connect with one of their advocates 24/7 by calling 1-888-521-0983.

The Pennsylvania Primary is May 17th!

2022 PRIMARY ELECTION IMPORTANT DATES

- MAY 02** Last day to register to vote in the election.
vote.pa.gov/Register
- MAY 10** Last day to apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot.
vote.pa.gov/ApplyMailBallot
- MAY 17** Voted mail-in and absentee ballots must be received by 8 PM.
vote.pa.gov/County
- MAY 17** Election Day. Polls are open from 7 AM to 8 PM.
vote.pa.gov/Polls

★ ★ ★ vote.pa.gov ★ ★ ★

The Pennsylvania Primary Election is coming up on May 17, 2022. Voters will nominate candidates for governor, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the U.S. Senate, as well as candidates for a number of state and local offices. Here's what you need to know to cast your ballot and make sure it's counted:

Register to Vote:

The deadline to register to vote for this election is May 2, 2022. You can register to vote at www.vote.org/register-to-vote. Barbara Jean Maresca will have voter registration forms at the meeting.

Vote by Mail:

Some Pennsylvania voters can apply for a vote-by-mail ballot. Requests for a vote-by-mail ballot for this election must be received by your local elections office by May 10, 2022. You can apply for a ballot to vote by mail at www.vote.org/absentee-ballot. If you're voting by mail, your mail-in ballot must be received by the county board of elections by 8 PM on May 17, 2022.

Vote on May 17:

If you will be voting in person, please follow all guidelines and contact your local elections office for all the options on how to vote or return your ballot in person. Find your polling location at www.vote.org/polling-place-locator.

For more information, go to www.vote.pa.gov and to find out what's on the ballot, go to www.ballotpedia.org/Sample_Ballot_Lookup.

You Have the Right to Vote.

Standing and Special Committee Reports

In order to conduct our Zoom and dinner meetings in a timely manner, President Ginny will be asking all committee chairs to submit a brief report to be included monthly in *The Banner*. Whether you have some news to share or would just like to give our members (especially our new members) a brief overview of your committee, all reports are welcome.

Eleanor Knoke – Nancy Werner

This is a very special award dedicated to a former District Eleven Director. We are currently the proud recipient of this award for 2020-2021. But for us to keep and proudly share it with you, I need to hear from you on your VOLUNTEER hours. So find your calendar from July 1, 2021 to the present and start the tabulations. If you have ANY questions, do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Nancy.werner73@gmail.com or 215-679-6687

Medicine Vials – Nancy Werner

Still looking for a second shipment of vials. Bring them to the meeting or drop off at Noreens's Place of Business off E. Fornance Street, Norristown.

CMC Key Editor – Nancy Werner

Latest edition was released on April 11. Please take time to read and learn what is happening across our BPWPA Federation. CMC BPW is again in the news. Thank you.

PA BPW Foundation – Nancy Werner

Last Call for any donations for the PA BPW Foundation. You may share if you would like it as a memory or honor of a person. You may also note if you wish your monetary gift to go to Scholarship, Edith Oler Flanigan Emergency Fund or Undesignated. Undesignated is for expenses related to paper or postal needs. Treasurer Noreen would like to hear from you by our meeting night of April 21 as the deadline is April 30, 2022. Again, any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. Thank you for your consideration. Nancy

Public Relations – Becky Shoulberg

Members are enjoying running into each other at Chamber events and while out and about at other LO functions or while attending a member's event. Many members visited Jessica Libor in April at her Manayunk studio for art, fashion, tea and scones. Part of PR is getting our name out there and being visible, even if it is a Zoom opportunity. Becky Shoulberg was interviewed in March on Hanging with Heather live Facebook show. Our member, Dr. Bev Schwartz Weinberg recently hired Heather who had been a volunteer for Integrate for Good. The focus of interview was her story of BPW and NWHM. Bev is looking for more women to interview. Let her know.

Ways and Means – Becky Shoulberg



Raise Right Mobile App and Shop with Scrip are fundraising tools that help us earn a percentage of a purchase from hundreds of participating merchants. Maggiano's is one of them. We normally earn 11%, in April it is 16% of our total bill back to us!! Anyone can sign up and designate CMC BPW. Bring \$\$\$ for April member meeting. Mom's Rising will be recipient of raffle proceeds.

Mark your calendar for the big event, happening April 28 & 29. It's a huge opportunity to multiply your organization's earnings with bonuses on many brands.

Around the District

Quakertown BPW



QUAKERTOWN BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL
WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION



QUARTER/PADDLE RAFFLE

Proceeds from this event benefit Quakertown High School Scholarships and community outreach projects!

Date: Sunday April 24, 2022

Time: Games start at 1:00 pm (Doors open at noon)

Cost: \$10.00 per ticket

Tickets include: 1 paddle with a bidding number.
(Additional paddles can be purchased for \$1.00 each) AND
GRAND PRIZE of \$100.00 in Rub-off PA Lottery Tickets.
*Special drawings: Coach handbag,
Luglife travel bags*

Location:
Benner Hall
1260 E. Cherry Road
Richlandtown, PA 18955

Food, drinks and snacks will be available for sale!

GREAT PRIZES
Bring your quarters for bidding on these fabulous items.

For Tickets, Donations, Sponsorships or Information
contact bpwquakertown@gmail.com

Quakertown BPW will be holding their outreach fundraiser Paddle Raddle on Sun., April 24 at 1:00 pm. Doors open at noon. New venue - Benner Hall, Cherry Street, Richlandtown, PA. (Larger facility for table spacing.)

Bring your quarters to bid on great prizes, join in our raffle bag items, and your ticket gets you a bid for the grand prize. Extra paddles are available for \$1 each. Refreshments will be served for a small cost. Tickets are \$10.

Please contact Nancy Werner if interested by April 3.

Souderton-Telford BPW

SOUDERTON-TELFORD BUSINESS AND
PROFESSIONAL WOMEN PRESENT
THE FIFTH ANNUAL:

LOCALLY GROWN SHOWCASE



Saturday April 30th 2022
10am to 3pm
Rain Date - May 21st

- Local Food & Farm Products
- Wine & Spirits
- Artists & Craft Makers
- Music
- Raffle Items
- Entertainment
- Kids Activities
- Food Trucks

Upper Salford Park
559 Salford Station Rd. Schwenksville, PA 19473
SOUDERTONTELFORDBPW.ORG

Eat Clean. Shop Local. Give Back!

Souderton-Telford BPW has a date for Locally Grown Showcase 2022! It will be held on Saturday April 30th at Upper Salford Township's Park located at 559 Salford Station Rd, Schwenksville, PA 19473!

If you know an awesome vendor or food truck please let the Souderton-Telford BPW know. You can email them at: soudertontelfordbpw51@gmail.com

They're looking for local food and farm products, artists and craft makers, and wine, beer & spirits. ❤️

Happy Birthday to our Members!




Dates to Remember

April 21 - CMC Monthly Meeting
Kiki Peppard – Maternal/Familial Status
Protection in Employment

April 24 – Quakertown BPW Paddle Raffle

April 30 – Souderton-Telford BPW Locally Grown
Showcase

May 5 - CMC Board Meeting via Zoom

May 8 – Mother’s Day 

May 19 – CMC’s 95th Birthday Celebration

June 9-12 – BPW/PA State Convention,
Wyndham Gettysburg, Gettysburg, PA

April Birthdays

April 10 – Ginny Bailey

April 11 – Nancy Werner

April 15 – Cheryl Decoteaux

April 19 – Jacqueline Watson

“Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.”

~ Mother Teresa

Important Websites:

- Pennsylvania Business and Professional Women’s Clubs – www.bpwpa.org
- Central Montgomery County BPW – www.centralmontgomerycountybpw.org
- Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce – www.montgomerycountychamber.org
- The Patch – patch.com/Pennsylvania/Norristown
- Girls on the Run - GOTR Southeastern Suburban PA (gotrpa.org)
- Shop With Scrip – <https://www.shopwithscrip.com/>