



The Banner

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

Next Meeting – Thursday, February 17, 2022

via Zoom at 7:00 pm – Details to follow

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

President

Ginny Bailey

Vice President

Deb McDonald

Recording

Secretary

Maura Gillen

Treasurer

Noreen Morello

Corresponding

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Barbara Jean

Maresca

President's Message:

Dear Members,

I'm sure there's no "season" for cyber threats but they seem to come in clusters. Just this past weekend, I received 2 in a matter of 3 days. But, instead of coming through my email, they were text message on my cell phone. The first one confirmed that an order I allegedly placed with a medical marijuana facility in Doylestown was ready for pick-up. The second was from the USPS telling me they couldn't deliver a package until they had my name and address. Huh?

Before I clicked on any link in either message, I called the facility in the first text and, after some investigation, found they do not have me listed as a patient. We figured either someone transposed the phone number or it was entered incorrectly. In all fairness, this probably wasn't a scam but to see a message telling me I purchased marijuana (for whatever reason) was a little unnerving. You have to understand, my Dad was a cop and arrested people for that.

In addition to a link, the second text had two phone numbers – none of which were listed when I looked up the phone number for the North Wales Post Office. I called them because I couldn't figure out why they would have my phone number and not my name and address? In the past, when there's been an issue, I would receive an email with a tracking number or a small brown card in my mailbox.

You really have to be careful because even scam emails can look very official. I receive them from banks where I don't have accounts and even received one from Amazon a few months ago telling me they needed more information to deliver a 65" wide-screen TV. Trust me when I tell you, I live in townhouse and there isn't a wall in my house big enough to mount a 65" TV! Needless to say, I called the police department to report the fraud and my bank to make sure the payment hadn't been deducted from my account. Unfortunately, the police can't do anything unless I had proof that the fraud actually occurred and my bank said they would be watchful and decline any request for that amount of money from my account.

CYBERSECURITY TIP

If you receive an unexpected message that is...



It could be a scam!

- Don't click on links or attachments.
- Don't share sensitive information.

If you know the sender, independently check with them to see if the message is real. If you don't know the sender, delete it.

I know it's not just me because several of you have had your Facebook and email accounts hacked and sometimes it's almost as bad as losing your wallet. While you're upset about losing any money, replacing your driver's license or calling your credit card companies to report the loss and change cards can be equally or more frustrating. Having to change email accounts and passwords is just as bad.

No matter how careful you are, you could still be hacked or subject to scams. Just make sure you have good security software on your phone, laptop or tablet. Use strong passwords (even if they're a pain to remember) and change them often. Be careful who you give your information to – especially your social security number. And be careful who can see your information online.

Hopefully, with a little vigilance, we can keep our accounts and personal information safe.

Let's be careful out there!

Ginny



Happy Valentine's Day!

At CMC's board meeting on February 3rd, we decided to throw a Valentine's Day card party for our 3 special ladies - Pat Angelucci, Agnes Ferrara, and Sally Shaw. The pandemic has been hard for everyone but imagine being home and not able to reach out to your friends because you don't have internet. Pat, Agnes, and Sally would love to hear from us. Please send a card - either Valentine's Day or "Thinking of You" - and maybe include a small note to:

Pat Angelucci, 2320 Twin Silo Drive, Blue Bell, PA 19422

Agnes Ferrara, 2685 Shady Lane, RD2, Lansdale, PA 19446

Sally Shaw, 450 Forest Avenue, Apt. 215A, Norristown, PA 19401

Becky Shoulberg graciously volunteered to send Pat, Agnes, and Sally a card from the club but let's stuff their mailboxes to let them know we're thinking about them.

Did You Know Conversation Hearts Got Their Start As Medical Lozenges?

Weirdly enough, the story of conversation hearts first began when a Boston pharmacist named Oliver Chase invented a machine that simplified the way medical lozenges — used for sore throats and other illnesses — could be made. The result was America's first candy-making machine, because the pharmacist soon started shifting his focus from making lozenges to candy instead! Chase founded the New England Confectionery Company, or Necco, and the candy lozenges soon became what we know today as Necco wafers. Conversation hearts didn't get messages until 1866.





Due to the current rise in COVID cases and our need for social distancing, Central Montgomery County BPW meet via Zoom in January.

The CMC Board will discuss the feasibility of meeting in-person each month and will make a decision on a month-to-month basis.

State Theme:



District Theme:

Just Be

CMC Theme:

With the right words, you can change the world.

February Program **MontCo. Black History: Famous People**



Our speaker will be Karen Ploch the curator at the Historical Society of Montgomery County.

Karen received her BA in History with a minor in Museum Studies from SUNY Oswego in 2014. She went on to receive her MA in History with a concentration in Museum Studies from University of North Carolina, Greensboro in 2017. After graduation, she moved to the Philadelphia region to be with her now husband, Charles.

Karen started working at the Historical Society of Montgomery County, PA in 2017. As the Curator, she oversees the three-dimensional artifacts in their collection. She also shares interesting bits of county history on our blog, social media, and YouTube channels. Karen, along with other HSMC staff, help researchers with genealogy and general county history questions.

Karen owes her love for history to her parents. Every childhood family vacation included a visit to at least one museum or historic site. She's thrilled to have the opportunity to work with history every day and make it fun and accessible to the public.

Program Synopsis

This program is titled *MontCo. Black History: Famous People*. Using PowerPoint, Karen will share the stories of some local individuals dating from the 1700s to modern day. From an American Revolutionary War Soldier to an actor, Montgomery County has been home to many unique individuals

BPW/PA State Convention

The BPW/PA State Convention will be held Thursday, June 9 – Sunday June 12, 2022 at the Wyndham, Gettysburg. Information and Registration is currently available online on the BPW/PA website (www.bpwpa.org). BPW/PA State Convention is open to ALL members.

President Tiffanie is also asking members to donate back any 3-ring binders (1 inch) that you no longer need from previous convention manuals. If you have any you'd like to donate, you may either bring them to Mid-Winter Board or, if you let President Tiffanie know, she'll help you figure out a way to get them to her. She would like all donations by the beginning of May 2022.

Would you be interested in helping out at the Convention? President Tiffanie is looking for volunteers to be doorkeepers, pages and timekeepers. If you're interested, let President Tiffanie know as soon as possible because she'd like to have her list of helpers complete by Mid-Winter Board. The final date to let her know is prior to May 15th.

Highlight on Marian Anderson



Marian Anderson used her singing voice to break down racial barriers. She began singing at Carnegie Hall in 1920. In April of 1939, after being denied the stage at the Daughters of the American Revolution Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C., Marian Anderson sang in front of the Lincoln Memorial to a crowd of 75,000 guests.

One of the members of the DAR was first lady Eleanor Roosevelt. Outraged by the decision, Roosevelt sent a letter of resignation and wrote about it in her weekly column, "My Day." "They have taken an action which has been widely

criticized in the press," she wrote. "To remain as a member implies approval of that action, and therefore I am resigning."

Perhaps her most iconic moment was her performance of "My Country 'Tis of Thee." In her rendition, she changed the pronouns of certain lines to "we" to be all inclusive and invite all people to be part of the community.

"We cannot live alone. And the thing that made this moment possible for you and for me has been brought about by many people whom we will never know."

Marian Anderson went on to have a tremendously successful singing career. She became the first African American singer to perform in a lead role at the Metropolitan Opera in the role of the sorcerer Ulrica in Giuseppe Verdi's opera "Un ballo in maschera (A Masked Ball)."

Anderson became one of the original board members of The Carnegie Hall Corporation and held more than 50 performances through the mid-1970s at Carnegie Hall.

Source: <https://blackmusicscholar.com/highlights-marian-anderson/>

Standing and Special Committee Reports

In order to conduct our meetings (Zoom or in-person) 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

We are the proud LO who has the Eleanor Knoke for this year! We need to keep thinking of completing this form whether by the month, bi-monthly or whatever is easiest for you. Anything you do from education, church work, outside organizations other than BPW are all allowed. The only hours not counted are our monthly general meeting hours. Haven't a clue why because that would be an easy 3 hours for all of us. The sheet is coming shortly so make a few copies and begin. Look back to July 1, 2021 on your date calendar and remember all that you have done. It is amazing what you have accomplished. We stop looking for hours come June 30, 2022. Then we begin again for another year.

Also, if you visit any other LO or District BPW, please share. There is a statement asking how many members have traveled outside their own LO. It can be for a general meeting or a special event. They all count. Don't forget our State Convention in Gettysburg come June. That really adds the hours whether attending for the entire Convention or just making a day trip.

I started the folder so keep them coming. Thank you.

Medicine Vials – Nancy Werner

Matthew 25 Ministries located in Cincinnati, Ohio is collecting empty medicine vials. I sent off our first shipment. If you have anymore, please save for when we will meet in person OR drop off at Noreen Morello's location on Fornance Street, Norristown. Keep saving as this is our project for the Green Economy under the BPW Foundation. Hoping to send again. Many thanks.

IDP – Nancy Werner

Individual Development Program was shared as the "Best Professional Development" ever. Please consult back to the January 2022 Banner to read what I shared because I am hoping that we will have better luck this time around. Had a few technical errors last month.

Look at Saturday, February 26 at 8:15 a.m. to enter Zoom and we will do our best to end by 4-4:30 p.m. We will take a 30-minute lunch but remain on Zoom so we do NOT have to reenter. As for materials, I would send you the supplement activities via email. There will be no cost unless you request the module materials in the manual form. Then it is \$25.00.

Please let me as soon as possible if you have this day open to participate. Nancy.werner73@gmail.com

Deadline for *The Key* – Nancy Werner

Contrary to a recent edition of *The Buzz* and the BPW/PA website, the **correct** deadline submissions to *The Key* is April 1. We will have an article covering our January, February and March Meetings to share with our state BPW readers.

Membership – Noreen Morello

CMC Membership has grown by **FIVE!** Joining our local is Marron Kilbride, a care manager at Chrispos Homehealth, Laurie Cusic, a self-employed corporate trainer, Mercedes Petrellis, an investment manager at Comprehensive Investment Management, Sayi Efraim, CEO of Efraim Home Care, Jessica Harrington, a health educator and founder of Journey to Yourself. More information to come. Welcome to CMC!

Remember to follow Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce Facebook and Website. Your CMC membership gives you access to their events. You must mention CMC when you register.

Joining Forces for Women Veterans – Maura (Mo) Gillen



So looking forward to bringing some Valentines love to the residents of the Mary Walker House and LZ II! Got some BEAUTIFUL artwork from the kids at A Step Up Academy and from Deb MacDonald's kids as well, plus additional contributions from Linda Bean and awesome chocolate treats (and perfumes!) through Becky's efforts.

Will be delivering these on Valentine's Day and hoping to share a smile with a resident or two.

Ways and Means – Becky Shoulberg



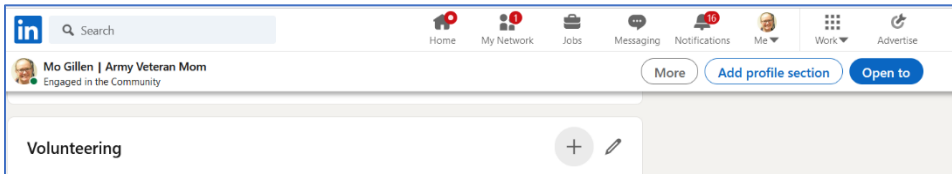
Benefit Mobile app is switching to Shop With Scrip. Be sure to sign up and help us earn with no cost to you. Maggiano's and 750 merchants participate! With the old system, we earned 8% back of our total bill at Maggiano's now it will be 11%. In the last year, my personal shopping has earned us back over \$120!! It is so easy! Click on the link to get started: <https://www.shopwithscrip.com/>

Public Relations – Becky Shoulberg

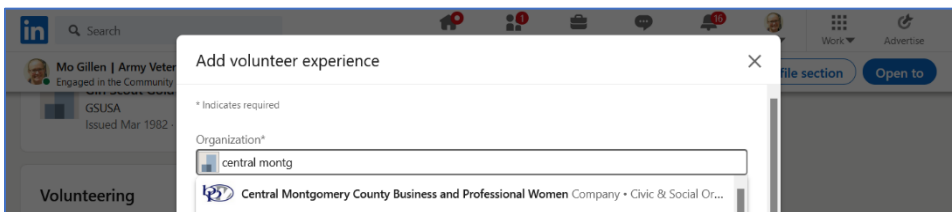
Please remember to follow our website and Facebook pages. Also, everyone can "do" PR by talking about what you love about BPW. Inviting a guest, sharing our posts & this Banner are ways to participate in promoting BPW and each other. Afterall, we are Women Helping Women!

Inspired by a note in the Winter issue of the Key, Mo Gillen has created a CMC BPW "company" on the LinkedIn, www.linkedin.com/company/cmcbpw. Please visit and feel free to post your good business news. Please also add CMC BPW to your own professional profile on LinkedIn. Here's how:

View your Profile and scroll down to the most appropriate section. I put CMC BPW under Volunteering, but you could also use Organizations. Add a profile section if you need to. Then select the plus sign to add an entry.



Search for Central Montgomery County Business and Professional Women in the Organization field box. You'll need to spell out the name – it won't show up if you try just CMC BPW. Select it when it comes up.



Fill in the details of your experience with CMC BPW and hit SAVE. You can borrow some text from the Company page for the Description and add some details about your role.

When you've saved it, you'll see that our logo is now on your profile, and you'll be sharing your involvement with CMC BPW with your professional network!

Black History Trivia

1. Where did Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. utter the immortal words, "I have a dream"?
2. What leading crusader against lynching founded the first black woman's suffrage organization?
3. Matthew Henson was famous for?
4. Who was known as the "Queen of Soul"?
5. Who was the first African-American woman elected to the U.S. Congress?
6. Who was the first African-American woman in space?

Happy Birthday to our Members!



Dates to Remember

February – Black History Month

February 3 – CMC Board Meeting via Zoom at 7:00 pm

February 11 – International Day of Women and Girls in Science

February 14 – Valentine’s Day

February 17 - CMC Dinner Meeting
Speaker Karen Ploch – Black Historical Figures in Montgomery County

February 21 – President’s Day

March – Women’s History Month

March 3 – CMC Board Meeting via Zoom at 7:00 pm

March 17 - CMC Monthly Meeting
Tracy Ashland – Girls on the R

January Birthdays

February 12 – Agnes Ferrara

February 13 – Tracey Martin

Save The Date

March 11-12 – BPW/PA Mid-Winter Board, Hilton Garden Inn, State College, PA

April 9 – Spring District Meeting, Caitlyn & Cody’s Diner, Quakertown

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

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
- Benefit Mobile App – www.benefit-mobile.com
- Girls on the Run - GOTR Southeastern Suburban PA (gotrpa.org)

Trivia Answers:

1. The Lincoln Memorial
2. Ida B. Wells-Barrett
3. Reaching the North Pole first.
4. Aretha Franklin
5. Shirley Chisholm of New York
6. Mae Jamison