



The Banner

**Central Montgomery County Business and Professional Women's Club
Volume XCIV – June 2021**

Next Meetings – Thursday, June 17, 2021
via Zoom at 7:00 pm – Details to follow

President's Message:

Dear CMC BPW Members,



This is IT! My final goodbye as your CMC BPW President. Serving you during these past 2 years has been the ride of the century. Who would have thought that a pandemic would greet us in March of 2019? Never in a million years did I see this in my crystal ball. But you know what, we survived and that is what has made all the difference in the world.

Who would have ever thought that a communication tool called Zoom would hold us together? We did the impossible. Starting last Spring via Zoom for our Board

Meetings and for our General Meetings, we never missed a beat. You attended when you could and participated as well. Hats off to Bev Weinberg for sharing her Zoom for our general meetings. Thank you.

But I have the best memories of my two years serving you. Our meetings were top level programs from our Twilight Wish Project, the Justice Bell with Amanda Owen and honoring her with our Woman of the Year. Then our outstanding Veterans' program with Lexy Werner and her Bunker Labs and Karen Flaherty-Oxler, Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy, Ret. sharing her good work. Our Holiday gathering was the absolute best with a scavenger hunt, Holiday trivia and "Guess the Baby Picture." Thank you, Ginny Bailey. But we did not stop there, our virtual meeting of the A StepUp Academy with Trish Corvo, Laurel Hill Mansion with Barbara Jean Maresca, our Women Suffrage Play with our very own cast of twelve, Barbara Price of the AAUW/PA and lastly Amanda Mortimer, Innovative Development. What a year! I so enjoyed our tapping into the Members for sharing programs and writing articles for our Banner. It was positively the best time learning about so many of you. Thank you Ginny for the hours and hours working on our Banner.

We kept our promise to our Mary Walker House Veterans and the Veteran's Center in Norristown by providing them with gift certificates and whatever they needed. The same was true for the Patrician Society, the Norristown State Hospital, and the Laurel House. Thank you to Becky Shoulberg for scouting for gift certificates and her journeys to all these wonderful places. Also, to Mo Gillen for her travels to visit with our Veterans.

We survived with our membership number by even gaining a few new members. We appreciate you joining us and may you ALL remain with us.

**Central
Montgomery
County
BPW Officers
2020 - 2021**

President

Nancy Werner

Vice President

Ginny Bailey

Recording

Secretary

Cheryl Austin

Treasurer

Noreen Morello

Corresponding

Secretary

Vanessa Perez

Parliamentarian

Cheryl Decoteaux

We have an expression, "May Days are Pay Days." May has come and gone but we are still in need of your dues if you wish to be a member. Now we know this past year has been difficult. We need for you to really think about it. Treasurer Noreen Morello needs to hear from you on your intent. Our dues are \$50 and student dues are \$20. Please send to 504 E. Fornance Street, Norristown, PA 19401. You are dropped from the BPW/PA membership roster on August 31 but Noreen needs time to prepare her membership list and send to the State Treasurer. It is work for her. So please consider rejoining with us.

This coming meeting is "Cribs for Kids" with Chris Berkowitz. We will be providing an amount of \$150 to the organization and if you wish to add some personal funds, please send to Noreen. Then we will celebrate our 94th Birthday. Have a fantastic team working on a photo journal of years gone by -Ginny Bailey, Barbara Jean Maresca and Mo Gillen. So, as we look at our 94th Birthday, I think of Pat Angelucci and our Sally Shaw. They who often remark that they are as old as our club. We are so blessed to have them and our Agnes Ferrara. Cannot wait to welcome them back. Lots of great memories to sustain me for years to come. Thank you everyone for all your support of the CMC BPW.

Hoping for a wonderful Convention report like every year.

Just know that we will have a fantastic year ahead of us. Ginny Bailey has contacted Maggiano's, and we are in the books starting in September. I will let her share that information and she will also be having a planning meeting for the upcoming year -fundraisers and looking for programs.

I will leave you in my 50th year as a BPW member. I will cherish all your friendships and the adversity that we encountered together with the pandemic. Again, we are survivors. We will always be "Women Helping Women." Thank you.

Warmest Wishes,
Nancy



Musical Talent Wanted

Anyone interested in leading our members in singing the *Emblem Benediction* at the close of our meetings?

No auditions needed, just be ready to sing to the tune, *Blest Be The Ties That Bind*. If you're interested, please send President Nancy an email.

Thank you Susan Parsons Knab for being our guest vocalist at CMC's May!

June Dinner Meeting



Our speaker this month will be Chris Berkowitz from Cribs for Kids. Cribs for Kids is an organization that was founded to prevent infant sleep-related deaths by educating parents and caregivers on the importance of practicing safe sleep for their babies and by providing portable cribs to families who, otherwise, cannot afford a safe place for their babies to sleep. Cribs for Kids was selected as the BPW/PA Employer of the Year in 2013 and has been a program every June at CMC since 2014. CMC will be providing an amount of \$150 to the organization and if you wish to add some personal funds, please send to Noreen.

Also in June, President Nancy will give the report from State Convention and Barbara Jean and Mo are preparing something special in honor of CMC's 94th birthday.

We hope Noreen will be inducting our new members: Laura Miller, Kourtney Walter and Tara Nicastro. Welcome Laura, Kourtney, and Tara!



Due to the COVID 19 pandemic and our need for social distancing, Central Montgomery County BPW will discontinue in-person meetings at Maggiano's until further notice.

Our meetings will continue via Zoom. Zoom invitations for meetings, held the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm, will be sent out by President Nancy Werner.

State Theme:

May Your Dreams Take Flight

District Theme:

Just Be

CMC Theme:

Nevertheless, She Persisted



***** IMPORTANT NEWS *****

BPW/PA State Convention 2021

Registration for the BPW/PA State Convention Zoom Meeting is now open! State Convention will be held via Zoom on Saturday, June 12th at 9:00 am. All members in good standing are welcome to attend.

To register, click or copy/paste the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUucu2tqjktGtMKK9wSMh6ilKVgK mz9H9de>

*** After you register, you will receive a confirmation email with the link to the convention meeting. **Please save that email.*****

MAY DAYS ARE PAY DAYS!



Now Is the time to renew your dues and Treasurer Noreen needs to hear from you! Our dues are \$50 for the annual dues and \$20 for student dues. Please send your check (payable to CMC BPW) to Noreen Morello, 504 E. Fornance Street, Norristown, PA 19401.

If you would like to pay \$25 now and \$25 by August 27th, please let Noreen know to keep you on the rolls. Noreen has to turn in our list of members and their dues by June 30 and much of our budget and assessments are based on these totals. If you have not paid your dues by August 31st, you are dropped from the BPW/PA membership roster and would return as a "new member."

NEW THIS YEAR!

You can now pay your dues online!

Click or copy/paste the link below to use PayPal or your credit card to pay your dues:

<https://www.paypal.com/biz/fund?id=526N5NUCFWHA8>

Once you click the link, you'll see the BPW logo, "Donate to Central Montgomery County Business & Women's Club", and 4 boxes with \$10, \$20, \$50, and Other Amount. You should probably click "Other Amount" because we learned that we should add another \$1.75 onto the total to pay for the processing charges. Then click on either Donate with PayPal or Donate with a debit or credit card.

The next screen will show the amount selected and you'll see a small pencil graphic under USD. If you click on the pencil, you can add a note to help Noreen know where you want the money to go – for example, dues, Cribs for Kids, Twilight Wish, PA BPW Foundation, etc. Then fill in your information and click "Donate Now". It's that easy!

Facts About Women in the 1920's

In honor of CMC's 94th Birthday, here are some facts about women and life in the 1920's:



Fact #1: The 19th Amendment

The 19th Amendment was passed by Congress on June 4, 1919 and was ratified on August 18, 1920 and the Women's Suffrage Clause gave the right of women to vote.

Fact #2: Impact of WW1

The attitude and role of women changed during WW1, as many women took on the jobs of men. The influence and expectations of women, and their roles in society, increased during the 1920's.

Fact #3: The 'New Women'

The 'New Women' of the 1920's had been given the right to vote, were able to obtain college degrees, learned to drive and went to work.

Fact #4: The Roaring Twenties

The end of WW1 ushered in a new era in which people with money wanted to enjoy themselves - it was called The Roaring Twenties (1920-1929). The events of WW1 had left many young women disillusioned and led them to question traditional morality and values which resulted in the rebellious behavior of the Flappers.

Fact #5: Flappers

The Flappers of the 1920's represented Modernism and typified the clash of values and the changing status of women of the new era. The free-spirited Flappers flouted convention, cut their hair, listened to jazz and scandalized the older generation. The independent, exuberant and unconventional attitudes of the Flappers challenged the traditional ideas by wearing short skirts, bobbed hairstyles, make-up and cosmetics. Flappers began drinking and smoking in public and became sexually liberated during the 1920's.

Fact #6: Fashion

Most women in the 1920s, not just the young Flappers, abandoned traditional, restrictive women's clothes, such as long dresses and tight corsets, to free themselves of the shackles of the Victorian era.

Fact #7: Hairstyles

The long hair, traditionally worn by women, was cut into a 'Bob'. These modern, short hairstyles symbolized the independent and modern women of the 1920's. There were several different bob hairstyles including the 'Dutch boy' bob, the 'Marcel wave', the Castle Bob, the Eton Crop and the 'Shingle' bob.

Fact #8: The Jazz Age

The Jazz Age expressed the unconventional ideas and lifestyles of the 1920's. The term was coined by F. Scott Fitzgerald, author of the Great Gatsby, to describe the flamboyant "anything goes" era. The Jazz Age is associated with modernism, exuberance, sophistication, consumerism, decadence and the introduction of jazz music.

Fact #9: Jazz Music

Jazz music developed in the speakeasy cellars in the cities of New York and Chicago combining elements of Blues, Ragtime and Dixie music. Jazz music was characterized by improvisation and syncopation and introduced during the Harlem Renaissance. Jazz music was introduced to Americans due to the introduction of large-scale radio broadcasts in 1922 and by the end of the 1920's became mainstream. Jazz music led to the creation of new dance styles in the 1920's.

Fact #10: Labor Saving Devices

New labor saving appliances and devices became available to women in the 1920's such as new cookers, electric irons, refrigerators, washing machines, and vacuum cleaners and gave women more time for leisure. Luxury items such as radios and phonographs also became available.

What were the roles of Women in the 1920s?

The roles of Women in the 1920s varied considerably. The majority of women remained in the traditional role of housewife. However, the number of working women increased by 25% as a result of the work they had undertaken during WW1. Roles of 1920's women in the workplace included factory workers, secretaries, salesclerks and telephone operators. The number of women attending college rose to 10% of the population by the end of the 1920's.

Virtual Tea at Laurel Hill Mansion



Several CMC Members enjoyed a virtual tea sponsored by the Women for Greater Philadelphia on Sunday, May 23rd. Usually held at the Laurel Hill Mansion, the tea party had to be virtual this year due to COVID. The attendees shared stories about their favorite tea cups and tea experiences and we also played a few games and learned about the bees at the mansion maintained by the Philadelphia Bee Company. Lucky CMC members Nancy and Barbara Jean won ornaments and Ginny won a family membership. We hope we can visit the Mansion in person soon.

Eleanor Knoke Hours

Don't forget to send President Nancy your Eleanor Knoke hours! Nancy will need to turn them in by the District Summer Board Meeting but don't wait until the last minute – DO IT NOW!

Empty Medicine Vials

SAVE THOSE MEDICINE VIALS! Please bring your empty medicine vials to our first meeting in September. President Nancy has contacted the Matthew 25 Ministries in Cincinnati, OH and they are still collecting the. Nancy will send out a box after our September meeting and currently has over 100 in a bag!

Maggiano's

Incoming President Ginny has made arrangements for CMC to begin having in-person dinner meetings at Maggiano's starting in September. The cost for dinner has not changed and we will still be able to select our meals from the menu we used in 2019. We are "in the books" for the 3rd Thursday of the month for all months (September through June) with the exception of October. Unfortunately, our usual date in October was already booked so we will meet on **Tuesday, October 19th**. Please make note of this date change.

Orientation and Summer Planning Meetings

We would like to hold an orientation meeting for our new members some time this summer as well as a planning session for the upcoming club year. As of this date, we are not certain if they will be in-person or via Zoom meetings but once details are finalized, you will be notified. Stay tuned!

Happy Birthday to our Members!



June

Amanda Mortimer – June 1

Sally Shaw – June 10

Vanessa Perez – June 24

Angela Lutz – June 25

July

Linda Bean – July 10

Lorri Darbes – July 10

Tracy Marable – July 17

August

Kourtney Walter – August 4

Alexis Werner- August 9

Marlys Martin – August 18

Judge Cheryl Austin – August 24

Dates to Remember

June 10-13 – BPW/PA 101st Annual State Convention via Zoom

June 14 – Flag Day



June 17 – CMC Monthly Meeting via Zoom at 7:00 pm

June 20 – Father's Day

June 21 – First Day of Summer



Save The Date

Sunday, December 5, 2021 - BINGO! This is our fund raising event for our two scholarships for the Montgomery County Community College. At Maggiano's. More information to come later.

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
- Twilight Wish Foundation – twilightwish.org