



The Banner

Central Montgomery County Business and Professional Women's Club

Volume XCII – May/June 2020

Theme: Nevertheless, She Persisted

Next Meetings – Thursday, May 21, 2020 and June 18, 2020
via Zoom at 7:00 pm – Details to follow

President's Message:

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Dear CMC BPW Members,

2020 will be a year to remember always. How did it change so quickly in only a few weeks? Many of you are struggling with your jobs, your businesses being closed, and not seeing your family members. Some of your family members have taken ill and I know personally that we have lost loved ones to this terrible disease.

We have heard about pandemics in our history but here we are experiencing a life changing event ourselves. I remember as a young child my Grammy talking about some Spanish Flu that arrived in their little town. She already was 30 years old and had 6 little girls and the fear of that disease was petrifying. They stayed indoors for months. She felt lucky when it was over. Her family all survived but that was not the case for other families. But what she learned, and we will too is that we will get through this pandemic.

Women are leading the way. So proud of the many women who are risking their lives to keep the rest of us healthy and safe. The daily news shares so many COVID-19 stories but those about the women who are doing the unbelievable just resonate that at changing times, it brings out the best of us. We should all be thanking and supporting them.

Looking back in time, women have always fought, campaigned, lost the cause, but always got up and continued to move forward and succeed. That is the word. We will succeed by supporting each other, and we will be closer for it. We in BPW believe in "Women Helping Women". We are sisters and that is what we do in our families. Be there for each other. So, let us stay close and support each other. Stay strong and positive. We will get through 2020.

May you be safe and stay healthy,
With much love in BPW Sisterhood,
Nancy, your President
Members,

**Central
Montgomery
County
BPW Officers
2019 – 2020**

President

Nancy Werner

Vice President

Ginny Bailey

Recording

Secretary

Cheryl Austin

Treasurer

Noreen Morello

Corresponding

Secretary

Vanessa Perez

Parliamentarian

Cheryl Decoteaux

The May and June meetings will be conducted via Zoom.

Members can download the free app on their phones, laptops, and tablets.

The free app will allow meetings of 3 people or more for a limit of 40 minutes.

President Nancy is looking into a version that will allow longer meetings for a small fee.

You do not need the Zoom app to attend a meeting.

Information on joining the May and June meetings will be forthcoming.

Members who could use our support

These are trying times and many of us are working from home, are laid off, or furloughed and we're all pinching our pennies but we should also try to support our members (this list is in no particular order):

- Bev Schwartz Weinberg – Integrate for Good
- Trish Corvo – Step Up Academy
- Alexis Werner – Bunker Labs
- Patti Klemp – Crayon Kids Daycare
- Virginia Frantz – Montgomery County Foundation
- Linda Bean – Kelly Ann Dolan Fund
- Beth Sturman – Laurel House

Members may post their businesses and fundraisers on CMC's Facebook page.

Also, with money being tight, don't forget to support your local food bank. It can take up to 1 month for unemployment benefits to start so many more families have food insecurities. Several school districts are providing lunches to children in their districts.

Obituary for Joseph Stimmler

Joseph J. "Joe" Stimmler, the beloved and devoted husband of Frances Stimmler, passed away on March 27, 2020. Joe will be sadly missed by brothers Leo (Kathy), and Frank, as well as, sister-in-laws Gale and Jane, and many loving nieces, nephews and friends. He was preceded in death by his sister, Margie, brothers Paul and Mark. Born and raised in Manayunk, he moved to Blue Bell and ultimately resided in Malvern. After he graduated from LaSalle College, he began working in Health Administration. He and his wife, Fran, founded Regina Nursing Center in Overbrook and ultimately, Norristown, which they operated for over 50 years. Joe was an avid exerciser and enjoyed swimming, biking, and walking. He played a significant role in many charitable endeavors and was always there to help those in need.

A Memorial Service will be held at a later date (TBD) where all those who loved Joseph, can honor his life in the manner he deserves. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the Residents Activity Fund at Regina Nursing Center, 550 East Fornance Street, Norristown, PA 19401 are appreciated by his family.

Regina Nursing Center has been the site of CMC's Board Meetings and we were always welcomed with open arms and plenty of goodies. Regina Nursing Center was also recipient of the prestigious BPW/PA Employer of the Year Award in 2016.

"Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, ambition inspired, and success achieved."

~ Helen Keller

Bylaws Change

Current

Article XII – Meetings

- Section 1. Regular meetings shall be held monthly on the third Thursday of the month unless otherwise ordered by the local president or the executive committee.
- Section 2. The regular March meeting of each year shall be designated the annual meeting, at which time reports summarizing the year's activity shall be given.
- Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the president or by any five members, provided all members are notified in writing of time, place, and purpose of such meeting.**
- Section 4. One fourth (1/4) members shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 5. No member shall have more than one vote, and no voting by proxy shall be allowed.

Proposed

Article XII – Meetings

- Section 1. Regular meetings shall be held monthly on the third Thursday of the month unless otherwise ordered by the local president or the executive committee.
- Section 2. The regular March meeting of each year shall be designated the annual meeting, at which time reports summarizing the year's activity shall be given.
- Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the president or by any five members, provided all members are notified in writing of time, place, and purpose of such meeting. Vote by video conferencing, mail, facsimile (fax), or email when deemed permissible by the president. The vote shall be canvassed by the president and the members shall be notified of the vote cast.**
- Section 4. One fourth (1/4) members shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 5. No member shall have more than one vote, and no voting by proxy shall be allowed.

Rationale

With the need for social distancing and self-quarantine, restrictions make holding face-to-face meetings difficult and alternatives for conducting the business of the local necessary. To that end, allowing Zoom meetings and votes to be taken via video conferencing, email, phone, or fax will allow all members to take part in the decision making process.

Thank You!

For her birthday, Vice President Ginny Bailey held a Facebook fundraiser to raise \$250 for Laurel House. Ginny is pleased to report that the total raised was \$275 and would like to thank everyone who contributed to make this fundraiser successful: Sharon Baker, Emily Baker, Past State President Denice Robinson, Barbara Jean Maresca, Beth Sturman, Sue Gordon, Judge Andrea Duffy, Becky Shoulberg, SEPA Bishop Patricia Davenport, Crystal Metzler, President Nancy Werner, Andrew Baker, and Stephanie Mach. Ginny requested the money raised be submitted as part of CMC's contribution to the State Project. As of the Winter Board teleconference on March 29th, CMC placed 5th in the State for our donations for the work with the Domestic Violence Project – Laurel House.

PA Primary

Reminder to vote either in person or by mail-in ballot on June 2nd.

Important Dates:

- May 18 – last day to register or update your voter registration
- May 26 – last day to apply for a mail-in ballot – apply online at VotesPA.com/ApplyMailBallot
- June 2 – VOTE
Montgomery County has consolidated polling places. Check the County website (Board of Elections) or your Township or Boro website on where to vote in person.
- June 2 – 8:00 pm deadline to return your mail-in ballot

For more information, go to www.pavoterservices.pa.gov or VotesPA.com

Also – Don't forget to complete your 2020 census! For more information or to complete your census form online, go to 2020census.gov

Virtual Mary Walker House Visit

CMC is planning a virtual visit with notebooks, a craft and meal to the 13 current residents of the Mary Walker House on Wednesday, May 27th, time to be determined. President Nancy will arrange for a craft and Mo Gillen and Becky Shoulberg will arrange to have lunch delivered. CMC members will be able to “visit” via Zoom. Members signed up to participate are – Nancy, Becky, Mo, Cheryl D., Barbara Jean, and Bonnie but more are welcome. Please let President Nancy if you would like to attend.

May Days Are Pay Days

CMC's membership currently stands at 41 with two new members – Courtney and Amanda – and has equalized! Don't forget to renew your dues! – \$50 for members and \$25 for student members. Dues NOT paid by the end of August will result in you being dropped as a continuing member and if you pay in September, you will be considered a new member. Send your dues to Treasurer Noreen Morello, 504 East Fornance Street, Norristown, PA 19401.

BPW/PA State Convention

Sadly, this year's State Convention is another victim of the COVID-19 virus and was cancelled; however, virtual meetings will take place so maybe more can attend. Check the BPW/PA.org website for more information.

If you paid your registration fee for convention, BPW/PA Treasurer Jean Towle will be processing refunds shortly. President Dawn would like members to consider making a donation to the PA BPW Foundation with some (or all) of your refund. You may request your refund from Jean by sending an email to BPWtreasurerjean@gmail.com. If you did not register for convection, please also consider a donation to Foundation since the Friday night event was also cancelled.

Cards for Irene Landis

Long time BPW member Irene Landes (Souderton-Telford) fell recently and broke her hip and wrist. She is recovering but cards and well wishes would be appreciated. Irene's home address is – 383 West Chestnut Street, Souderton, PA 18964.

Medicine Vials

Don't throw those vials away! We weren't able to collect any more due to the cancellation of the Spring District Meeting or CMC's March and April meetings but we will still collect them and send them to Matthew 25: Ministries in the fall.

American Idol

Louis Knight, who performed at CMC's pot luck Christmas Party, is one of the 7 finalized on American Idol. To follow Louis and vote to keep him in the competition, go to abc.com/shows/american-idol

Happy Birthday to Our Members:

May

20 – Jessica Libor



June

10 – Sally Shaw
24 – Vanessa Perez
25 – Angela Lutz
30 – Glenda Neal

July

7 – Linda Bean

August

9 – Alexis Werner
24 – Judge Cheryl Austin

Dates to Remember:

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| May 25 | Memorial Day |
| June 2 | PA Primary Election Day – Don't forget to vote! |
| June 11 – 14 | State Convention – Details to follow |
| June 14 | Flag Day |
| July 4 | Independence Day |
| August 18 | 19 th Amendment Ratified – Voting cannot be denied on account of sex |

Save the Date – BINGO, Sunday, December 13, 2020 at Maggiano's – Details to follow

Important Websites:

- Business and Professional Women's Foundation – www.bpwfoundation.org
- 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

For Perspective, Imagine You Were Born in 1900

It's a mess out there now. Hard to discern between what's a real threat and what is just simple panic and hysteria. For a small amount of perspective at this moment, imagine you were born in 1900.

On your 14th birthday, World War I starts, and ends on your 18th birthday. 22 million people perish in that war. Later in the year, a Spanish Flu epidemic hits the planet and runs until your 20th birthday. 50 million people die from it in those two years. Yes, 50 million.

On your 29th birthday, the Great Depression begins. Unemployment hits 25%, the World GDP drops 27%. That runs until you are 33. The country nearly collapses along with the world economy.

When you turn 39, World War II starts. You aren't even over the hill yet. And don't try to catch your breath. On your 41st birthday, the United States is fully pulled into WWII. Between your 39th and 45th birthday, 75 million people perish in the war.

Smallpox was epidemic until you were in your 40's, as it killed 300 million people during your lifetime.

At 50, the Korean War starts. 5 million perish. From your birth, until you are 55 you dealt with the fear of Polio epidemics each summer. You experience friends and family contracting polio and being paralyzed and/or die.

At 55 the Vietnam War begins and doesn't end for 20 years. 4 million people perish in that conflict. During the Cold War, you lived each day with the fear of nuclear annihilation. On your 62nd birthday you have the Cuban Missile Crisis, a tipping point in the Cold War. Life on our planet, as we know it, almost ended. When you turn 75, the Vietnam War finally ends.

Think of everyone on the planet born in 1900. How did they endure all of that? When you were a kid and didn't think your 85 year old grandparent understood how hard school was. And how mean that kid in your class was. Yet they survived through everything listed above. Perspective is an amazing art. Refined and enlightening as time goes on. Let's try and keep things in perspective. Your parents and/or grandparents were called to endure all of the above – you are called to stay home and sit on your couch.