



The Banner

Central Montgomery County Business and Professional Women's Club
Volume XCV – November/December 2021

Next Meeting – Thursday, November 18, 2021

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**

President

Ginny Bailey

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President's Message:

Dear Members,

I recently stopped in Wegman's to pick up a few groceries and when it was my turn to check out, the cashier asked me if I had seen the signs for their new app. She told me if you download this app into your phone and all you need to do when you enter the store is open the app (the stores have wifi now), scan the items you wish to purchase, and place them in the bag(s) you bring from home. When you're finished shopping, you go to the self-check-out, pay for your purchases, and you're on your way. While I can see how this would be convenient if you only need a few items or need to get dinner on your way home from work, my question to the cashier was, "And how many people will be laid off because of the app?" She gave me an odd look like no one had asked her that before and then said, "management said no one will lose their jobs." If it were any other store, I might have been suspicious but to their credit, Wegmans was recently honored to rank #1 on *Fortune's* list of "Best Workplaces in Retail" for the 6th consecutive year.

Will I use the app? I don't know. I do see the benefits of the app but, as a rule, I don't use the self-check-out registers because I don't work for the store and I don't want to take a job from someone. I feel the same way about those tablets on the tables of some restaurants, like Applebee's or Red Robin. I don't use them because I think it takes away the personal interaction with the server. Plus, if you order and pay your bill on the tablet, you only see the server when they deliver your food and does that affect their tip? I hope not. It's bad enough they make less than minimum wage and have to rely on tips without a tablet taking that away.

Having been **both** a waitress and salesclerk, I guess I see things a little differently. Not that our members need them but I'd like to give you my tips for a happy holiday season for everyone:

- 1. Be Patient.** We've all heard on the news about shortages and supply line hold-ups. These are not your server's or salesclerk's fault. We didn't have these problems when I worked for Macy's but our holiday stock was in the storerooms by Labor Day and we wouldn't get more before the holidays.;

2. **Be Pleasant.** Don't take your frustrations or bad day on the server or salesclerk. As my Dad advised before I took my first waitressing job, "Everybody has a bad day and nobody wants to hear about yours.";
3. **Be Kind.** Just because someone works in a store or a restaurant, it doesn't give you the right to be rude, talk down or belittle them. For many, this isn't just a part-time job or just something to earn a little Christmas money, this is their job. A lot of people are struggling to recover from the pandemic and either lost their jobs or wages and they need to put food on the table and support their families. There's a great quote in the movie, *Maid in Manhattan*, where the head butler at the hotel says, "To serve people takes dignity and intelligence. And although we serve them, we are not their servants.";
4. **Treat everyone with dignity and respect.** It's as simple as treating people how you would like them to treat you. Sound familiar???

I won't make it a tip but if you can, support local stores and restaurants. The locally owned businesses are struggling too to get back on their feet and can use the boost in their revenue.

"Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you." ~ Princess Diana

Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving and Happiest of Holidays,
Ginny

Fall District Meeting

District Eleven's Fall District Meeting was held Saturday, October 23rd at Andy's Diner & Pub. CMC was well represented by 6 of our members: Priscilla Brandon, Maura "Mo" Gillen, Barbara Jean Maresca, Noreen Morello, Nancy Werner, Alexis Werner, and President Ginny Bailey. Reports were given by the District Officers, Committee Chairs, and L.O. Presidents and the District budget for 2021-2022 was adopted. Highlights include the nomination of District Director Jennifer Van Ingen for the office of BPW/PA Vice President, the Eleanor Knoke Award was won by Central Montgomery County (that's back-to-back wins!), and the Bernice Maxwell Award for Issues Management was won by Greater Conshohocken.



Sad news to share

Nancy Werner's oldest sister, Dorothy George, passed away on Wednesday, October 27.

To add to their sorrow, Nancy's daughter-in-law Suzanne Werner and son Rob, lost her father on October 23. Suzanne's father was Louis Sicard of Westwood, MA. Suzanne is a member of the Quakertown BPW.

November Dinner Menu

First Course

Mozzarella Marinara
Crispy Zucchini Fritte
Chopped Salad

Second Course

Fettuccine Alfredo
Baked Ziti & Sausage
Parmesan-Crusted Tilapia

Desserts

Apple Crostada
New York Style Cheesecake

State Theme:




District Theme:


Just Be

CMC Theme:

With the right words,
you can change the world.



CENTRAL MONTGOMERY COUNTY
BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN



**NOVEMBER MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18**

SPEAKERS

KRISTIN LEONE, RN
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER,
U.S. NAVY RESERVE /
PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD,
HAVEN WOMEN

ALEXIS WERNER
CORPORATE GIVING MANAGER,
BUNKER LABS /
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
IMAGINE FURTHER COLLECTIVE

Maggiano's Little Italy 250 Mall Blvd King of Prussia, PA	6:00 p.m. - Networking 6:30 p.m. - Dinner 7:15 p.m. - Program
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Yes, we are back in person! Price remains \$30 payable at the door.

RSVP to vbailey0726@aol.com

**★ TO ALL OUR VETERANS:
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE! ★**

Thank you Mo for the great flyer and arranging our November program!

Mo, however, will not be with us on the 18th because she will be attending the Delaware County Veterans Memorial Association (DCVMA) 7th Annual Freedom Medal dinner. The Delaware County Council partners with the DCVMA to honor local Veterans each year at these dinners, benefitting the memorial and the work of the association.

Mo was selected as an honoree this year along with a number of other Veterans serving the community. You can learn more about the memorial at <https://www.delcoveteransmemorial.org/>, or learn about this year's honorees in the 2021-2022 DelCo Times Veterans Book, <https://jrc-pa.pageflip.site/editions/VB52192#page/1>.

Mo gave CMC BPW "HUGH THANKS" for placing an ad in the dinner's tribute book!

HONORING VETERANS

Lt. Col. Maura A. 'Mo' Gillen

Lt. Col. Maura A. "Mo" Gillen was born Maura O'Brien in upstate New York.

In 1986, Mo graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point and served over 27 years on active duty in the US Army.

After earning her MBA from the University of Houston in 1996, Mo returned to West Point where, as chief of admissions marketing, she helped recruit the academy's bicentennial class.

In 1999, Mo was assigned to U.S. Army Cadet Command at Fort Monroe, Va., and was selected as the first chief of the newly-created Recruiting and Retention Division.

Following 9/11, Mo was awarded the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, in recognition of more than 200 hours of community service.

From 2003 to 2005, at U.S Army Accessions Command Fort Knox, Ky, Mo led the development and execution of the Army's strategic and tactical marketing plans for all Army recruiting.

Mo then moved to Alexandria, Va., where she was part of a task force reviewing the Army's Officer Personnel Management System. While there she was instrumental in helping wounded Soldiers requesting continued active-duty status before being deployed to Baghdad, Iraq, in 2008.

During her deployment, in addition to providing daily briefings to Gen. David H. Petraeus, Mo also led the Strategic Communication Division's move from the Republican Palace to the New Embassy Compound and assisted with the transition of U.S. government elements out of the International Zone.

Upon returning to the U.S., Mo worked on critical communications projects at the Pentagon before leaving to head the Army ROTC program at Drexel University, where she was also a professor of military science.

Mo completed her Army career as key staff for the commander of the 2nd ROTC Brigade at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.

For her service, Mo was awarded: the Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Meritorious Service Medal (with three bronze oak leaf clusters); Army Commendation Medal (with three bronze oak leaf clusters); National Defense Service Medal (with one bronze oak leaf cluster); Global War on Terrorism



Service Medal; Iraq Campaign Medal with Campaign Star and the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara.

Since her military retirement in 2013, Mo has continued to serve her community in numerous ways.

Working with the nonprofit organization, Veterans Multi-service Center, Mo was instrumental in expanding critical services for veterans across multiple counties and the tri-state area.

In her role as chief of mMarketing and social media for the Delaware Valley Veterans Consortium, she helps veteran-serving organizations connect, communicate and collaborate.

Mo also leads the "Joining Forces for Women Veterans" program, supports the Mary Walker House and is a volunteer instructor for the National Alliance for Mental Illness "Family to Family" program.



CMC would like to thank all our members who served in the military: Allison Stanco Aguilar, Judge Cheryl Austin, Lorri Darbes, Cheryl Decoteaux, Maura "Mo" Gillen, Ellen Hamilton, and Deb Jesseman.



Semper Fi

November 10th, 1775, the United States Marine Corp was founded at the Tun Tavern in Philadelphia, PA.

Modernly, women serve in all branches of the military, but that was not always allowed. Women began joining the United States Marine Corp during the end of World War I in 1918; Opha May Johnson was the first of those women. That year some 300 women would join to do clerical duties for the Marines. By the height of the Vietnam War, there were 2,700 women Marines. On June 12, 1948, Congress passed the Women's Armed Services

Integration Act and made women a permanent part of the regular Marine Corps. Now they may serve in all areas of the Marine Corp, fighting side by side with men to defend this country. Today women make up 8.4% of the Marine Corp. (Women's Rights National Historical Park)

Enlisting "Marinettes" Photograph shows women called the "Marinettes" who performed clerical work usually done by male Marines starting in 1918 during World War I.

Standing and Special Committee Reports

In order to conduct our Zoom 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



The Eleanor Knoke Award is the highest award for a local organization in District 11. We were honored to receive this award for another year but volunteer hours are one of the main questions asked on the application. I do not make up these hours. I use the given hours that YOU the members provide to me. Starting with July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, I need to hear from each of you. I will start sending out the form and you complete it. Return to me. I do the tabulations. Just that easy but it seems to be the hardest part when I need your participation. Anything you do for your church, school, community to BPW events and activities are included. We were always told that your BPW meeting night was not to be included but the Board meeting could be. (I will check it out so we hear it again.)

May I thank you now for all that each and everyone of you do. We are one active group of BPW members and WHAT A DIFFERENCE WE MAKE.

LAST CALL for Medicine Vials – Nancy Werner

The medicine vials are still wanted. The mailing box has been started. Please bring to our meeting on Nov. 18 and I will gladly accept on Dec. 5 at the BINGO. We are supporting the Matthews 25 Ministries located in Cincinnati, Ohio. They recycle and share with countries that do NOT have plastic vials. Thank you for your interest.

IDP – Nancy Werner

I would love for you to join me in the best personal professional development program developed by BPW. What can I offer you? A day of learning about yourself and your relationship to others in the workplace. We will discuss interviewing, networking, negotiating, business etiquette and creating resumes. We will take a look at our leadership capabilities through the use of Parliamentary Procedure. We will take time to learn how to set our goals and attain them. Lastly, we will learn how to prepare a presentation to share with any audience, not only BPW. It is a full day of interaction and fun among BPW friends and guests. (Please invite others if you wish.) If in person, there will be a fee of \$25.00. (Materials only.)

When? I am looking at Saturday, January 29, from 8:15 am to 4:00 pm. We would order lunch from a nearby eatery. Where? I am presently searching. Hoping to find a safe environment for us. Will send out as soon as I make the deal.

We will keep checking as to the COVID-19 updates. Wanted to give you an advance notice. Please contact me with an email at nancy.werner73@gmail.com. Looking forward to sharing my BPW knowledge with you. Thank you.

Joining Forces – Maura (Mo) Gillen

It's been SO LONG since we've gathered with the residents of Mary Walker House in Coatesville ! Here's hoping we can get back to those activities soon. As the VA starts administering COVID booster shots, perhaps visitors will be allowed. We are tentatively looking at a visit on Wednesday, December 1.

In the meantime, we'll continue to let them know of our support in other ways, such as the flyer I created for Veterans Day, and our next delivery of goodies, slated for Friday, November 19.

We will put together some wrapped snacks with a "Friends"-giving theme, but also want to refill their toiletries supply. Please consider donating a full-size toiletry item to this effort.

We also want to help the ladies at HAVEN Women prepare for the holidays by providing greeting cards they can use to stay in touch with friends and family. Please gather those greeting cards you get in the mail from nonprofits, or any other cards you have (holidays, but also birthday and other sentiments), and consider donating postage stamps, stickers, and/or pens as well. And please write out a card or two with your message of support!

YOU CAN BRING THEM TO THE NOVEMBER MEETING. Deb MacDonald will collect them, and will pass along the cards to our speaker Kristin Leone, for the ladies at HAVEN Women.

Reminder: the next retreat for women Veterans presented by our friends at Cranaleith Spiritual Center is Saturday, November 20th, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Register at <https://cranaleith.org/retreats-for-women-veterans/> For more info, contact Bernadette Rudolph at 215-934-6206 or info@cranaleith.org. Happy Veterans Day and Happy Holidays!!

Public Relations – Becky Shoulberg

On Veteran's Day, I had a great time volunteering for Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce during their employment event at MCCC. The added bonus of honoring veterans made for an extra special day. Remember your CMC membership gives you access to Chamber events. You have to RSVP. Ask to be on their weekly email list – ryan@montgomerycountychamber.org



Ways and Means – Becky Shoulberg

Our big Bingo Fundraiser is baaaack. Dec. 5th 1-4 PM at Maggiano's Ballroom. A recent email was sent to all CMC members with details. We do sell out, so I hope you got your tickets! Bring your lucky dauber and \$\$ for raffles! Tickets must be pre-paid! You can either give Noreen your payment on November 18th or use the following link: <https://www.paypal.com/biz/fund?id=526N5NUCFWHA8>

When you access the page, enter the amount you wish to pay and add a note to indicate BINGO. Amount should be \$50 for each ticket plus a donation of \$2 per ticket to cover PayPal fees.

Monthly raffles at member meetings are baaack too! In October, our winners were Barbara Jean and Linda. We raised \$240 for our WOTY, Dr. Bev Schwartz Weinberg and Integrate for Good! More raffles to come at our November 18th IN PERSON meeting!

Time for Tea!



The members of CMC used to go to tea in December just to get together and enjoy each other's company before the holidays. Since The Talking Teacup (pictured) in Chalfont has reopened, and there's also The Village Teahouse in West Point (two of our favorite places), would you be interested in having another tea party sometime after the first of the year? After some thought, maybe we could meet for a Valentine's Day theme tea party just get together and socialize? The two dates we would be looking at are either February 12th or February 19th. Please let me know your preference because if we want to do this, we're going to have to plan it now. Both

teahouses book up fast – especially around a holiday like Valentine's Day. We've been apart for so long, it might be nice to just relax, enjoy a nice, hot cup of tea and get reacquainted without having to hold a meeting.

Thanksgiving Trivia (answer key appears in newsletter)



1. How many pilgrims came over on the Mayflower?
a) 89 b) 102 c) 185 d) 217
2. In what year did the first American Thanksgiving celebration take place?
a) 1900 b) 1492 c) 1621 d) 1776
3. How long did the first Thanksgiving Feast last?
a) 1 Day b) 1 Week c) 3 Days d) 4 Days
4. Which U.S. state produces the most turkeys annually?
a) Alabama b) North Carolina c) Missouri d) Arkansas
5. How fast can wild turkeys run?
a) 15 mph b) 55 mph c) 5 mph d) 25 mph

6. How high must a cranberry bounce before it is harvested?
a) 6 inches b) 8 inches c) 3 inches d) 4 inches

7. Who was the first President to make Thanksgiving a national holiday?
a) Washington b) Lincoln c) Jefferson d) Roosevelt

Holiday Helpers Needed!

HOLIDAY HELPERS ARE NEEDED AT NORRISTOWN STATE HOSPITAL!

CENTRAL MONT. CO. BUSINESS &
PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB
C/O NANCY WERNER
2111 OLD BARN RD
GREENVILLE, PA 18041

Please provide the relevant contact information:

Daytime phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email address: _____



YES, I WILL be a "Holiday Helper" to the patients at
Norristown State Hospital! My choices are indicated below.



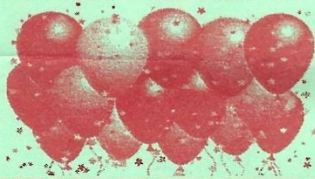
2021 PATIENT HOLIDAY GIFT SPONSOR

I'd like to shop for and purchase a personal gift for _____ (#) patients.
I understand that the cost of these personal gifts averages \$30 each.
I'm aware that the gift delivery deadline is December 10th.
Please send me my gift assignment(s) right away!



I won't be able to shop for a personal patient gift this holiday season,
so I'd like to help in another way, with my check or money order.

I'd like my contribution to help an indigent patient receive
a personal spending allowance each week throughout the
year. I've enclosed a check for \$_____, made payable to:
"PATIENT PERSONAL ALLOWANCE FUND"



I'd like my gift to help make every patient's
birthday a special occasion. I've enclosed
a check for \$_____, made payable to:

"PATIENT BIRTHDAY FUND"



I'd like my donation to be
used to benefit the NSH
patients as needs or
opportunities arise. I've
enclosed a check for
\$_____, made payable to:

"VOLUNTEER MISCELLANEOUS FUND"

Please return this form to:

Volunteer Resources Department
1001 Sterigere Street, Bldg. #1
Norristown, PA 19401-5397
Phone: 610-313-1228
Email: pahart@pa.gov
FAX: 610-313-1230

THANK YOU!

Happy Birthday to our Members!



Dates to Remember

November & December Birthdays

November 7 – Patti Klemp

November 14 – Becky Shoulberg

November 23 – E. Pearl Smith

November 27 – Barbara Jean Maresca

December 7 – Maria Mastrosante

December 12 – Virginia Frantz

December 15 – Yudelca Amparo

December 18 – Bev Weinberg

December 23 – Maura “Mo” Gillen

November 18 – CMC Monthly Meeting at Maggiano’s Speaker Kristin Leone, Lieutenant Commander, Nurse Corps, U.S. Navy Reserve, and President of the Board for Haven Women, and Alexis Werner

November 25 – Happy Thanksgiving

November 28 – Chanukah Begins

December 2 – **NO** Board Meeting

December 5 – Bingo

December 16 – **NO** Dinner Meeting

December 21 – First Day of Winter

December 25 – Christmas

January 1, 2022 – New Year’s Day

January 6 – CMC Board Meeting via Zoom

January 20 - CMC Dinner Meeting at Maggiano’s Speaker Georgia Wilson – 7 Pearls of Wisdom



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)
- Answer Key: 1-b; 2-c; 3-c; 4-b; 5-d; 6-d; 7-b