****

**Q*UAKER QUILL***

**QUAKERTOWN BUSINESS& PROFESSIONALWOMEN’S CLUB**

**P.O. BOX 2, SPINNERSTOWN, PA 18968**

 **STATE THEME: LET YOUR DREAMS TAKE FLIG DISTRICT THEME: JUST BE**

[**www.bpwpa.wildapricot.org**](http://www.bpwpa.wildapricot.org)[**www.bpwfoundation.org**](http://www.bpwfoundation.org)[**www.BPWQuakertown.org**](http://www.BPWQuakertown.org)

[**www.facebookcom/bpwquakertown**](http://www.facebookcom/bpwquakertown)**BPWQuakertown@gmail.com**

**OFFICERS 2019-2020**

**President –Linda Moskal Corresponding Secretary – Gladys Benner**

**Vice-Presidents –Jeanne Schlicher &Georgia Wilson Treasurer – Crystal Smith**

**Recording Secretary – Ellen Miron Parliamentarian – Toni Rubic**

**Volume 68 Issue 7 April 2021**

**COVID RESTRICTIONS –To comply with the Governor’s requirements, we are asking members to wear a mask during the business meeting and speaker’s presentation.**

**April Meeting**

**Date –April 28 – Greeter – Crystal Smith**

**Place - Arts & Entertainment Center, McCoole’s Restaurant, Quakertown**

**Time – 5:30 Networking, 5:50 Business Meeting, 6:15 Dinner, 7:15**

**Menu –**Creamy Boursin Burger (Chicken or Beef) or McCoole’s Dip. (Chicken breast is topped with boursin cubes. Dip is sliced roast beef au jus topped with provolone cheese. Both are sandwiches.) Included is pita with humus, salad, and coffee or tea. Dessert provided by Gail Jancsics and Linda Lokay

Cost - $28 (Note price increase)

**Program** – “**Women of the Suffrage Movement”** – a theatrical presentation directed by Nancy Werner, starring Nancy, Ginny Bailey and the not ready for prime time BPW Players.

 For reservations: call Cathy Somich – 215-536-8526 or email gcsomich@yahoo.com. RESERVATIONS OR CANCELLATIONS SHOULD BE MADE NO LATER THAN 4:00 pm ON April 23. PLEASE NOTE: after you reserve if you are unable to attend the meeting, you are responsible for the meal payment. (Picture from the Treffinger Collections)

**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

****The 2020-2021 year started off slow with meetings planned and stopped and switched to Zoom while we all wondered when the pandemic would end.  Well, the end isn't here yet but we're making progress!  Many of our members are partially or fully vaccinated with everyone becoming eligible on April 19th!  And our Club has many exciting things coming up in our final months of this year!  I hope that everyone will attend ... and participate in ... the April meeting when Nancy Werner and Ginny Bailey will present their play on the Suffrage Movement -- there are parts for almost everyone so it is sure to be a lot of fun!  Also, in April, we will hold the election of officers for the 2021-2022 year.  And the Lottery Calendars will be available!  Then in May, Jeanne Carcanague and Lyn Treffinger have worked hard to give us visibility at Quakertown Alive's "Arts Alive" event.  If you haven't already volunteered to staff the booth, be sure to come downtown to see all the excitement.  It's May 15, 2021, between 9 AM and 4 PM.   We're all tired of having to stay home so it's very uplifting to see some return to normalcy! ***Linda M***

**LOCAL NEWS**

**PROJECTS**

**TWILIGHT WISH**

Thanks to Jeanne Carcanague we found a local group of seniors with a wish list. Working with the activities director, Suzanne, at Independence Court, we will be assisting in providing prizes for their weekly Bingo Games. **Items needed are individual candy bars, puzzle books (word searches, crosswords), small cracker or cookie packages. Please bring these items to our April meetings.** Thanks to all who brought them last meeting. All items will be delivered to Independence Court.

Thanks to Karen Creghan we also working with the bakers at Rockhill Community in Sellersville. **Here are items needed for the bakers: mixing bowls sets, glass or plastic 2 cup measuring cups, mixing spoons, silicone, metal, or plastic spatulas, glass prep bowls, cookie sheets, stackable tsp/tbsp./ measuiring spoons, whisks, cookie odugh scoops (Small and medium sixe) sturdy cutting boards. Please contact Karen (267-242-4848) before purchasing items so we don’t have a lot of one item. These also should be brought to the April meeting.**

**LOTTERY TICKETS**

We will be selling Lottery Tickets for the month of June. This will allow sale of tickets at Arts Alive in May. Tickets will be available at the April meeting and under the supervision of Melissa Wieand.

**THANK YOU NOTE**

**RECAP FROM WINTER ACTIVITES AND MEETINGS**

****Melissa Wieand reported on donations made to the Quakertown Food Pantry. Milk and butter and other items (coffee, juice, and cat food) as needed were delivered. Georgia Wilson presented members with a calendar and explained the Seven Pearls of Wisdom at the February Meeting. Brenda Hoot was inducted as a new member at the February Meeting.

**ARTS ALIVE – MAY 15**

Lyn Treffinger and Jeanne Carcanague are the coordinators for our booth. In addition to having raffle baskets filled with various goodies, we will be selling handmade baskets, framed paintings from the Treffinger collection, and small baked goods. Thanks to all who are helping with this project.

Schedule for workers: Lyn and Jeanner will be there all day.

8 – 10 – Cathy Somich, Pat Mullen, Brenda Hoot, 10 – 12 – Georgia Wilson, Brenda Hoot,

12 – 2 – Linda Bender, Gladys Benner, 2 – 4 – Judy Guise and Ellen Miron.

If you have connections with the weather department, please pray for a sunny day with no rain.

**OFFICERS**

Thanks to all who have stepped up to assume office for the next 2 years. We do have a slate to be voted on at the April meeting.

 President – Judy Guise

 Vice-President – Jeanne Schlicher

 Recording Secretary – Linda Moskal/Nancy Werner

 Treasurer – Crystal Smith

**SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Information was delivered to the Quakertown High School Guidance department an applications were due on April 15. Chair Ellen Miron is not sure how the interviews will be handled this year.

The names of this year’s winners is due to Guidance Office y May 7.

**JUNE PICNIC**

It will be held on June 23 at Lyn Treffinger’s home staring at 6:00. Menu will be the same – Hoagies from Jersey Mike’s, potato salad, broccoli salad, fruit, and assorted desserts. More information in the May Quill.

**DISTRICT 11**

The Spring District Meeting will be following the zoom format on April 24 starting at 9:00 am. President Moskal sent an email regarding registration for this meeting. If you plan to participate, please click on this link for registration. It is necessary to register in advance.

[**https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwuc-ihrD8qHNIISMBFuepWnUQQTO0goZRQ**](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwuc-ihrD8qHNIISMBFuepWnUQQTO0goZRQ)

**BPW/PA**

We are continuing to requests donations for the PA BPW Foundation. A donation form is included with this newsletter. Please consider donating to the Foundation, especially the scholarships. Your contribution provides hope to our BPW sisters and to those women and their families who are in search of assistance.  Whether seeking an educational degree or providing them funds for a particular emergency, we can make a difference.  If you can, please consider giving to the PA BPW Foundation. Thank you for your loyal support.

 **If you wish to contribute to the Foundation, a form is attached to the Quill for your use. You can bring it with you to the April meeting or mail to Crystal prior to April 27.**

A copy of the Quakertown History is attached to the newsletter for your information.

**CONVENTION**

Unfortunately the convention will be a zoom meeting. Information regarding registration etc will be listed in the Key and BPW Buzz. Look for it in May.

![C:\Users\Judith Guise\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\DUCCXUNL\spring-flower-garden[1].jpg]()

**Voting Alert: Four Questions on May 18 Ballot**
In the upcoming May 18 primary election, voters will be asked to vote on four ballot questions, including three proposed amendments to the state Constitution and one referendum regarding funding for first responders. **ALL VOTERS CAN VOTE ON THESE QUESTIONS. INDEPENDENT VOTERS, NOT NORMALLY VOTING IN A PRIMARY, ARE ENCOURAGED TO VOTE ONTHESE QUESTIONS.**
1. The first two questions propose constitutional amendments to address the state’s handling of future disaster declarations. Specifically, they propose limiting emergency declarations by a governor to a maximum of 21 days without legislative approval and clarifying that a concurrent resolution terminating or extending a disaster emergency declaration need not be presented to the governor for his signature.
2. The third question also proposes to amend the Constitution to ensure a person’s rights cannot be denied based on race or ethnicity.
3. The fourth question is a referendum seeking approval to provide loans to paid (rather than volunteer) municipal fire departments and emergency medical services companies to improve those operations.

**Ballot Question #1**Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to change existing law and increase the power of the General Assembly to unilaterally terminate or extend a disaster emergency declaration – and the powers of Commonwealth agencies to address the disaster regardless of its severity pursuant to that declaration – through passing a concurrent resolution by simple majority, thereby removing the existing check and balance of presenting a resolution to the Governor for approval or disapproval?
**Context for Ballot Question #1**
This proposed amendment comes in response to the governor’s veto of [House Resolution 836 of 2020](https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/billInfo/billInfo.cfm?sYear=2019&sInd=0&body=H&type=R&bn=836), which would have put an end to the COVID-19 disaster declaration and the governor’s unilateral authority to handle it. While state law authorizes the General Assembly to end disaster declarations with a resolution, the governor insisted – and the court agreed – that resolution was subject to his approval or veto. Under this constitutional amendment, a concurrent resolution terminating or extending a disaster emergency declaration need not be presented to the governor for his signature.

**Ballot Question #2**Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to change existing law so that: a disaster emergency declaration will expire automatically after 21 days, regardless of the severity of the emergency, unless the General Assembly takes action to extend the disaster emergency; the Governor may not declare a new disaster emergency to respond to the dangers facing the Commonwealth unless the General Assembly passes a concurrent resolution; the General Assembly enacts new laws for disaster management?
**Context for Ballot Question #2**
This proposed amendment comes in response to the TWO extended disaster emergency declarations under which we are currently operating. Under this constitutional amendment, disaster declarations would be limited to no more than 21 days, allowing time for the General Assembly to be called into session and meet possible emergency needs. If a governor believes the declaration should last longer, he or she would have to gain approval of the General Assembly by sharing information and data to prove the need for extending the declaration. Under current law, a governor can declare a disaster emergency for a period of up to 90 days and can renew it as often as he or she likes.

**Ballot Question #3 (this question is unrelated to emergency declarations)**
Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended by adding a new section providing that equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged because of an individual’s race or ethnicity?
**Context for Ballot Question #3**
If approved by the voters, this amendment would add a new section to Article I of the Pennsylvania Constitution creating a constitutional prohibition against restricting or denying an individual’s equal rights under Pennsylvania law because of race or ethnicity.

**Ballot Question #4 (this referendum question is unrelated to emergency declarations)**
Do you favor expanding the use of the indebtedness authorized under the referendum for loans to volunteer fire companies, volunteer ambulance services and volunteer rescue squads under 35 pa.c.s. § 7378.1 (relating to referendum for additional indebtedness) to include loans to municipal fire departments or companies that provide services through paid personnel and emergency medical services companies for the purpose of establishing and modernizing facilities to house apparatus equipment, ambulances and rescue vehicles, protective and communications equipment and any other accessory equipment necessary for the proper performance of the duties of the fire companies and emergency medical services companies?
**Context for Ballot Question #4**
To strengthen fire and EMS services in Pennsylvania, the legislature passed House Bill 1673, which became [Act 91 of 2020](https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/li/uconsCheck.cfm?yr=2020&sessInd=0&act=91). The bill contained key provisions including improvements to grant and loan programs for fire companies, new measures to support recruitment and retention of fire personnel and a ballot question to expand the existing “Emergency Services Loan

Assistance Fund” to include municipal fire departments.

 **![C:\Users\Judith Guise\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\RV56FZSL\Google_Doodle[1].jpg]()**

 **BIRTHDAYS**

**April 26 – Jeanne Carcanague**

 **30 – Loretta Malloy**

 **30 – Linda Moskal**

**May 5 – Brenda Hoot**

***DATES TO REMEMBER***

**April 24 District 11 Spring Meeting – Zoom format**

**April 28 Quakertown Membership Meeting**

**May 4 Quakertown Board Meeting**

**May 15 or 16 Arts Alive – Quakertown**

**May 18 PRIMARY ELECTION DAY**

**May 26 Quakertown Membership Meeting**

 **Woman of the Year presentation**

**June 12 BPW/PA Convention – Zoom style**

**2020 -2021 PATRONS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| C:\Users\Judith Guise\Pictures\Werner card (2).jpg | C:\Users\Judith Guise\Pictures\ironton telephone (2).jpg |
| C:\Users\Judith Guise\Pictures\Bender card.jpg | C:\Users\Judith Guise\Pictures\Lyn Treffinger.jpg |
| C:\Users\Judith Guise\Pictures\Crystal card new (2).jpg | C:\Users\Judith Guise\Pictures\BRenda Hoot card (4).jpg |