



THE FORUM

Atlantic County Branch

February 2014

Volume 113, No. 6

On the Web: [Atlantic County](#)

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President's Message - Gail Vreeland

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As I reflect on this holiday season, it seems that much joy was experienced by the generous giving of gifts to those in need, and by the generous giving of time to community service. I'm speaking on behalf of AAUW members, as well as personally. The Women's Center was thrilled with our gift of \$305 worth of Wawa gift cards for their clients. A.H.E.A.R.T., the nonprofit org. that helps needy at-risk infants & their caregivers was so grateful for the unexpected donation of 9 bags of diapers & wipes from 2 members, in the name of our Branch. The group that is housing girls just rescued from human trafficking, thanked Audrey Moloney and me profusely, after letting us through their security doors with our 12 bags of clothes, toiletries, and towels. I smiled on the way home from all of those trips. Thank you to everyone who made these donations.

On Dec. 13th, I ushered at Stockton PAC's Imagination Station Children's Theater, along with several other AAUW members. Arlene Roller and I smiled when a young male teacher from Pleasantville Schools came back into the theater after intermission, announcing that his girls were all spinning around on their toes in the hallway, saying they want to be ballerinas when they grow up. On Jan. 9th, I went to a Pleasantville preschool as a "Ready, Set, Read" volunteer to read "The Snowy Day". The children were so animated & excited to share their snowy day experiences with me as we read the book. They all went home with their own copy, and big grins on their faces. To all the other ushers and volunteer readers, thank you for giving your time to these children.

To all of our members who have donated gifts and time, both through our organization and elsewhere, I hope you share in the joy that I do.

Program News - Lucy Jerue

ljerue@comcast.net

Our February branch meeting will take place on Saturday, **February 8th @ 12 noon** at the John D. Young Lions Blind Center in Absecon.

Ann Burns, Director of the Center, will speak about the day program offered there for the blind and visually impaired. She will also speak on blind etiquette. How do you assist a blind person? What does the white cane mean? Ann, who is blind, will have her guide dog Sport with her. She will relay to us the story of the intensive training period for both her and the dog in order for them to qualify to be a team.

The Lions Blind Center is located at the corner of Pitney Road and Crestview Ave. in Absecon. The address for GPS purposes is 100 Crestview Ave.

We will offer a catered lunch at noon prior to Ann's talk. The charge for that is \$10.00 to be paid at the door. No need to register. Just come out to learn and enjoy.



Treasurer's Report - December 2013

Diana Intenzo diainzo75@comcast.net

Operating Account:

Income:	Dues	\$ 30.00	
Less Expenses:	Holiday Luncheon Speaker	\$ 50.00	
	Jan meeting Venue: OC	50.00	
	Donation: Ranch Hope, Inc	<u>250.00</u>	
	(Human Trafficking Victims)	- 350.00	
Balance 12/31/13			<u>\$ 5,389.00</u>

Scholarship/Education Account: 12/31/13 \$ 10,065.00

Scholarship for 2014 estimated \$ 7,500.00

Meet Namatovu Irene

Diana Intenzo diainzo75@comcast.net



Last month Jackie Sarnier told you about Namatovu Irene, the little African girl whose education our AAUW branch has sponsored for the last five years.

Each year the school sends a picture of Irene, as shown here. So let me introduce you to her. Irene is now 9 years old and is doing very well in school. According to the latest report card from her teacher she speaks English very well, loves to read, works well with others, and identifies science as her favorite subject.

Each year she sends her heartfelt thanks for our support and covers her note with many crayon colors and numerous handdrawn pictures. This year she drew flowers, a bird, a bee, a candle, a bed, a banana tree, glasses and an array of hearts.

It is amazing that a mere \$180 can educate a child for a year. I think we can all take pride in knowing that we are helping to educate this African girl and preparing her for a hopeful, happy, and productive future.

A Tour of Poetry for Seniors— submitted by Peg Fiore

An ongoing series offering the poetry enthusiast an opportunity to enjoy the works of local artists. One Saturday each month from 11:00-1:00pm. A light luncheon is offered, compliments of the Library.

The first session is on **Saturday, Feb. 8** and the first presenter looks accomplished and quite fascinating. Tom Chin will show a short film. We will discuss the portrayal of artists.

For more information including additional meeting dates contact the Otto Bruyns Public Library of Northfield 609-646-4476 or email nflibrary.org

Ready, Set, Read January 9, 2014



Carolyn Bassett reading to Miss Tiffany's class at Atlantic Care Kids in Pleasantville



Students getting books as part of Ready,Set,Read program (AAUW is partnering with Women's Leadership Initiative)

Travel Group

Carolyn Bassett geoca41@gmail.com

The Travel Group will meet at the home of Gail Zona at 7 pm on Wednesday, **January 22**. Gail will give us an account of a trip she and her husband took to the Lower Peninsula of Michigan culminating in a visit to Mackinac Island. This promises to be an interesting evening - give Gail a call if you plan to come.

Save the Date: **March 12** Lucy Jerue will present a trip she made to Amsterdam, Bruges, Paris, and Giverny, at a place to be arranged.

Membership

Barbara Wolnerman

Thank you to all members who have brought guests to our meetings and events many of whom have enthusiastically joined our branch this year.

Please note that between now and March 31 we are able to offer half price dues at \$34.50. Anyone who joins after **April 1** will pay full price but will then be covered for the balance of the year and next year as well.

If you know of anyone who would like to receive our prospective member packet please contact me at 609 226-8733 (a change from the roster) or at BLW 425@aol.com.

It is with great sadness that we note the death of **Sonia Ruby**, Lifetime member and past president of AAUW-Atlantic County Branch. Sonia was a talented musician who was well known and respected for her work in the community. She will be greatly missed by everyone whose lives she touched.

Gail Vreeland

Book Group

Mary Lou Breidenstine

breidensti@aol.com



Carolyn Bassett will review "The Lacuna" by Barbara Kingsolver on **January 15** at 7:00. We will meet at the home of Claire Moyer. New people are always welcome. Get ready for the **February 12** meeting by reading "Beautiful Ruins" by Jess Walters.

On **March 26** we will read Hamlet and then attend the play at Stockton on Friday, **March 28**. Everyone is responsible for getting her own ticket.

Human Trafficking Reminder:

Wed., Jan. 29th at noon

Old Historic County Court House at 11 N. Main St. in Cape May Court House

Cape May County Prosecutor Robert Taylor will give a talk about human trafficking to AAUW and interested parties

Sponsored by Cape May Co. AAUW

Good news from the Editor's Corner: Watercolor Exhibit

Our member, Carol Zerbe, will present her watercolor exhibit, "*Light & Location*," at Latz's By The Bay Restaurant in Somers Point from February 1 to April 30. The opening will be on February 7, from 5:00 to 7:00pm. The public is invited and there will be light refreshments served. Carol's paintings are primarily landscapes where she has traveled.

Please share your good news! Email Forum editor, Mary Rydzewski, mrydz@yahoo.com

Conversational Spanish **Claire Moyer** clairekm@mac.com

Do you want to be part of an informal group that converses in Spanish with abilities ranging from beginner-plus to native speaker? If so, please join the Spanish Group that meets every **Monday** throughout the year from 4:15 until 6:00 at the home of Claire Moyer. Please call her at 609-641-8287 for more information and directions to her home.

Theater Outing

At the September dinner meeting, our speaker, Turiya Raheem, informed us that a play was coming to Stockton based on her book, *Growing Up in the Other Atlantic City*.

We talked about having a theater and luncheon outing to see the play. - So the time has come to make the arrangements:

Date:	Sunday, Feb 16, 2014
Show time	3 pm
Ticket cost	\$8.00-10.00
Place:	Stockton: Experimental Theater
Lunch	12:00 Italian Gourmet

If you did not have a chance to sign up at the January meeting, and you would like to come to the show and the luncheon, please contact Diana Inten-zo at diainzo75@comcast.net or call her at 609-653-1426. We'll order the tickets and reserve space at the restaurant. Family and friends are welcome.

Wish you could receive timely updates more often? Would like to see more photos? Have good news to share? Visit our new Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.Atlantic> or click the *thumb*. (You do not need to join Facebook to view the page.)



Children's Theater

Christine Ecker mcmmecker@msn.com

Stockton PAC's Imagination Station Children's Theater series includes two more shows for the 2013-2014 season. Wednesday April 16th, 2014; Tuesday May 6th, 2014. All shows begin at 10:30am.

Stockton would like us to provide 6-8 ushers per show. If you are able to usher at any or all of these shows, please email your contact information to mcmmecker@msn.com Thank you.



S.T.A.R.

Sisters Together Against Racism

Gail Zona gzona1@comcast.net

STAR will be attending the premier performance of "The Northside - The Other Atlantic City" at Stockton College's Experimental Theater on Sunday **February 16th** at 3pm. We are very proud of our Sister Turiya Abdur - Raheem whose book has now been made into a play by Stockton theater professors and student actors. Other dates are also available that week. Tickets are \$6.00 or \$8.00 and may be purchased by calling the Stockton Box Office--(652-1776 or 652-9000 or 652-4786).

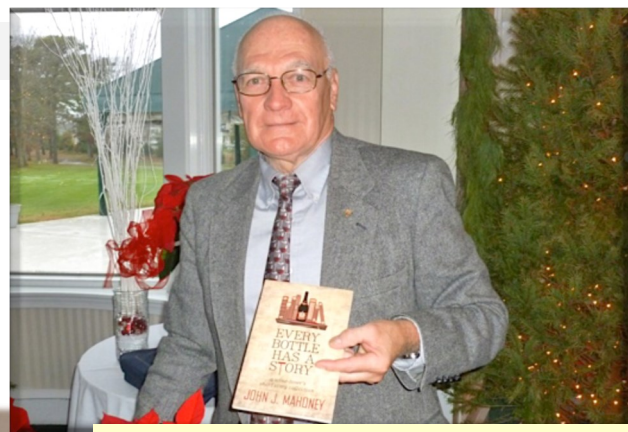
STAR plans to meet for lunch beforehand at The Gourmet Restaurant on Pitney & Jim Leeds in Galloway at noon on February 16th. The invitation is open to all.

Email or call Gail (641-1986)

Come out in support of this amazing woman's efforts to promote the Northside's residents and entrepreneurs and their personal commitment to the American Dream.

Holiday Luncheon

December 14, 2013



Every Bottle Has A Story by John Mahoney



Edy Laverdure, Emely Aiken, and Audrey Owen



Mary Ingraham, & Lucy Jerue



Lee Ellenberg, Diane Lennon, and Jeannette Flax



Edy Laverdure, John Mahoney, and Stephanie Cash




Mary Ingraham and Barbara MacGregor at hors d'oeuvre table



Judy Page, Betty Welch

February 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 <i>Lion's Blind Center 12:00</i>
9	10	11	12 <i>Book Club 7:00pm</i>	13		15
16 <i>STAR 3:00pm Theatre 3:00pm</i>	17	18	19	20		22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

The purpose of AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

AAUW Atlantic County Branch
c/o Terry Dailey
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Mays Landing, NJ 08330

DATED MATERIAL