



THE FORUM

Atlantic County Branch

March 2017

Volume 116, No. 7

Celebrating Our 100th Anniversary

President's Message **Linda Harmon** linda.harmon@gmail.com

Spring is around the corner! What a busy winter we have had: book club, reading to children, interviewing young ladies for Tech Trek, STAR, movie/dinner outings to see Oscar nominated films, travel night, learning Spanish, discovering ethnic cuisines, and helping with Children's Theater. And more!

Our February Fundraiser at Greate Bay Country Club was a hit. Thank you to all of our members who came out to support us! A big thank you to Karen Poorman, Helen Riso, Claudine Keenan, Diana Intenzo, Kristin Jacobsen, and the members of ACACW for all of their hard work to make it happen! Think about volunteering to help at our future STEM events. See Gail's details to sign up!

Our big event coming this month is our annual **"Woman of Distinction" Luncheon on March 18th** at Linwood Country Club. AAUW is very proud to honor Heather Tomasillo. Details are in the Forum. Please come join us for another enjoyable event. **Sign up today before you forget!**

Two April events to mark on your calendars:

April 22 at 10:30 am – Northfield Library – Branch meeting followed by a light lunch. Meghan Wren will be our speaker and we will be **voting for our new elected officers as well!!**

April 30 – May 1 – AAUW NJ State Convention at Resorts Hotel/Casino

Details for both events will be found in the Forum. I hope you will attend these events with good friends, great speakers, and good food!

"Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away." – Maya Angelou

Heather Tomasello **2017 Woman of Distinction!**

On Saturday, March 18th we will honor Heather Tomasello as our 2017 Woman of Distinction. The event will take place at the Linwood Country Club at noon.

Heather is an engineer at Leidos Corporation at the FAA Center where she has also chaired the IEEE Women in Engineering organization for several years. She volunteers her time to help children get a head start in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and her involvement is helping to build the momentum needed to make this the year of STEM.

Heather is a Stockton University alumna and lives with her husband Frank in Mays Landing. Every year, she volunteers to help high school students with the South Jersey Robot Challenge and it is her time and talent at Pilgrim Academy, in particular, that has made that school's robotics program a reality. She also helps recruit other women engineers to support Tech Trek through robotics courses. In her spare time, Ms. Tomasello performs as a Civil War re-enactor at Batsto Village and Cold Spring Village and fundraises for the community food bank.

We look forward to your presence at this exciting event for such a worthy individual. \$40 includes lunch. PLEASE send in your reservation and entrée selection by the deadline date. See you March 18th at the Linwood Country Club!

Sincerely,
Tula Christopoulos Chairwoman, Woman of Distinction 2017

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

Atlantic County Branch Presents

2017 Annual Woman of Distinction Award Luncheon***Honoring******Heather Tomasello*****SATURDAY, March 18****LINWOOD COUNTRY CLUB****Social – Noon Luncheon 1:00 PM**

\$40.00 per person (all inclusive)

Menu Choices : Baked Alaskan Salmon, Vegetarian Pasta Primavera or
Chicken Francaise in wine sauce and mushrooms

Please make checks payable to AAUW and mail with Reservation Request Form to:
Helen Riso, 619 Pitney Road, Absecon, NJ 08201 by **March 11, 2017.**

Reservation Request Form
AAUW 2017 Woman of Distinction Luncheon
Assigned Seating

NAME _____ PHONE # _____

MENU CHOICE(S) _____

PLEASE SEAT ME WITH _____

Sorry, I cannot attend. Enclosed is my donation. _____

Please include Reservation Form with your check to Helen Riso, 619 Pitney Rd., Absecon, NJ 08201

Your participation will help to support the scholarships we award to local women attending area colleges.

Tech Trek

Gail Davis - Lucy Jerue
ghdath@comcast.net

We have approximately 140 legitimate teacher nominations from ALL 21 counties in New Jersey!! A remarkable achievement from the state STEM TEAM - up from 11 last year. Lucy Jerue and Peg Fiore are working hard to construct mail merge packets (as soon as the student applications come in) to send to county Chairs. No small feat I might add - as each one takes about 21 steps between documents! They deserve major compliments! I have been busy contacting teachers who (despite the limit of one nomination per school) submitted more than one! STUDENTS will be notified on April 18 as to whether they are selected or wait listed. This is our first year going all electronic and we keep making notes to iron out kinks for next year.

Gail Davis-STEM

**Teen Tech at Stockton on May 23, 2017**

Teentech is a one-day event for high school girls designed to demonstrate that STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education and careers are exciting, relevant, and accessible to girls and women.

Teentech participants engage in laboratory, engineering, and math workshops presented at a host college/university, giving them confidence-building experiences in a real college setting.

The event is run on a school day as an approved school field trip from each attending district. The educators who accompany the girls participate in their own hands-on workshop in the morning and a panel discussion session in the afternoon.

Interested AAUW members are asked to contact Dottie Pearson at pearson@princeton.edu if they would like to volunteer for Teen Tech at Stockton on May 23.

Membership

Lynne Walters - rrwalters321@hotmail.com

Please correct the email address for our new dual member:

Margaret (Peg) Fraatz

Box 94 407 Cedar Ave., Cape May Point, NJ 08212
609-898-9565; cell - 215-808-9555

fraatzmb@comcast.net

BS Drexel University

Calendar 2017

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
Mar 06, 2017	Board Meeting	1pm	Linda Harmon's
Mar 18, 2017	WOD Luncheon	12pm	Linwood CC
Apr 22, 2017	Branch Meeting	10:30am	Northfield Library
Apr 30, 2017	NJ-AAUW Meetings	3- 5pm	Resorts Casino
May 1, 2017	NJ-AAUW Meetings	9am- 12pm	Resorts Casino
May 04, 2017	Board Meeting	7pm	TBA
May 15, 2017	Installation Dinner	5:30pm	TBA

Interest Groups

Book Group

Mary Lou Breidenstine breidensti@aol.com

Join us on **March 22** at 7:00 as Gail Zona leads us in a discussion of The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah. This novel details the life of a young French woman who becomes a member of the Resistance during World War II. Kathy Shippen is the hostess for the evening. Everyone is welcome!

STOCKTON'S CHILDREN'S THEATER

Vicki Biron vickibiron@comcast.net

I need volunteers for the children's program at Stockton on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 10:30am. It's the "Bay-Atlantic Symphony Education Concert." Volunteers are asked to be there no later than 9:45 am. The concert is in the Performing Arts Center, parking Lot 6. If you'd like to volunteer, please e-mail me at vickibiron@comcast.net, or give me call at 609-703-3788.

If you have already volunteered, thank you!

About 2 weeks prior to the show, I will have a Stockton parking pass e-mailed to you by Anjanette at Stockton.

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.

Travel Group

Carolyn Bassett geoca41@gmail.com

GREECE AND TURKEY: OFF THE BEATEN TRACK. On Wednesday, **March 1** at 7 pm Karen Weis will tell us about a trip she and her husband took to some little-visited parts of Greece to look for birds. She will focus on the areas of general interest, such as the languages spoken, foods, terrain, and culture as well as telling us a bit about the birds they saw. The meeting will be at the home of Carolyn Bassett, 328 W. Poplar Ave, Linwood NJ. Please let Carolyn know if you plan to come. Phone: 927-9095 or e-mail: geoca41@gmail.com.



STAR

Carolyn Bassett geoca41@gmail.com

A sisterhood program sponsored by the Atlantic County Branch in 1996 led to the formation of an affiliate organization, STAR – Sisters Together Against Racism. This group promotes diversity and tolerance among all peoples.

STAR will next meet on **February 27** at 7pm at the Mainland Professional Office Park, Allied Health Office, 1750 Zion Rd, Northfield.

AAUW NJ State Convention

Linda Harmon linda.harmon@gmail.com

Our Atlantic County Branch is celebrating our 100th Anniversary this year. We will have a table display at the convention with cake and balloons to celebrate. **Please, let's all try and make this event this year... it's in our backyard and I would love to see all of you there!**

It is time to register for the **Annual State Convention April 30 – May1** at Resorts Casino in Atlantic City. Your **\$25 registration fee** includes Sunday evening appetizers and Monday morning breakfast provided by the AAUW of NJ. Speakers include:

Yasemin Bessen-Cassino: Associate Professor of Sociology at Montclair University and author of “Consuming Work – Youth Labor in America” - “Gender Inequality at Work and at Home: Division of Labor at Home”

Dr. Mary Gatta: Associate Professor of Sociology at City University of New York - “Women, Security and Aging”

Abigail Lewis: AAUW VP Campus Leadership Programs. – “AAUW Updates”

Candace Straight: Executive producer of “Equity”, a film about a corporate woman in the male dominated investment banking industry. See Bio - Award ceremony for the “AAUW NJ Woman as Agent of Change” Award

In addition, there are workshops on both days that should be insightful and enjoyable.

You must register online. HERE IS HOW: go to

<http://aauw-nj.aauw.net/>

Scroll down until you see the information about the State Convention April 30-May 1

Click “Register Now” and follow the commands.

It will ask you to pay through PayPal. **You do not need a pay pal account. When you open it, it will give you the option to pay by credit card.**

Hotel rooms are available at Resorts Casino. Rates are \$95 for the night of April 30th. Call to make your reservation 888-797-7700 and give the Group Code: VAAW7.



**AAUW of New Jersey
Annual Meeting**
April 30 – May 1, 2017
April 30 (3 – 7 PM), May 1 (8 AM – 1 PM)
at Resorts Casino Hotel, Atlantic City

[Register Now!](#)



“ALL ROADS LEAD TO EQUAL”

This year, more than ever, women everywhere must unite to further our progress along “the roads to EQUAL”. We must continue to work on pay equity, campus leadership, research studies and STEM as these are our tools to arrive at our ultimate destination along these roads – “EQUAL” in every sense!

Speakers (Additional Speakers to be added – Subject to Change)
(Agenda will be published prior to the meeting)

1. **Dr. Mary Gatta** – Associate Professor of Sociology at City University of New York - **“Women, Security and Aging”**
2. **Yasemin Bessen-Cassino**: Associate Professor of Sociology at Montclair University and author of “Consuming Work – Youth Labor in America” - **“Gender Inequality at Work and at Home: Division of Labor at Home”**
3. **Candace Straight** – Executive producer of “Equity”, a film about a corporate woman in the male dominated investment banking industry. [See Bio](#) - **Award ceremony for the “AAUW NJ Woman as Agent of Change” Award**

Registration fee: \$25/pp – [Pay Now!](#) Must also complete [Registration Form!](#)

Sunday evening appetizers and Monday morning breakfast provided by the AAUW of NJ

Accommodations: Resorts Hotel and Casino Atlantic City

Room rate: \$90.50 inclusive room rate (\$65 plus tax. Includes a \$10 resort fee for up to two guests)
Self-parking is available in the enclosed garage on North Carolina Avenue for \$5 fee, (Valet parking is \$10.)

Call the Hotel to make your reservations, at: 888-797-7700
Group Code VAAW7

Reservations not canceled 48 hours prior to check-in will result in the one-night's room and tax charged to their credit card.

Questions about the event? Contact Margo Lichtenthal email: magsml0610@gmail.com
H — (732) 536-1732, C — (732) 547-2330

PUBLIC POLICY| By: Michelle J. Douglass, Esq.
WHAT'S IN STORE FOR THE NEXT 4 YEARS?

Today's AI-driven revolution is coming so fast that we have trouble even imagining how it will turn out. How do we get ready? It won't be long before you'll be able to contact an AI doctor via your smartphone, talk to it about your symptoms, use your camera to show it anything it wants to see and get a triage diagnosis that tells you to either take a couple of Advil or get to a specialist. The speed will be difficult to handle.

While technology is partly responsible for years of middle-class wage stagnation, it has mostly hurt the less educated and helped the more educated. Economists have shown time and again that automation helps overall standards of living rise, literacy rates improve, average life span lengthen and crime rates fall. There are signs that the technology is creating more jobs than it destroys. U.S. census data released in 2016 showed the largest annual drop in poverty since 1999. Nearly 3 million jobs were created from 2014 to 2015. Donald Trump won the presidential election by promising to bring jobs "back" to America—a promise believed by many who feel left behind by technology-driven shifts. Yet all evidence suggests that the jobs lie ahead, created by moving forward. AI will lead us into the mother of all tech revolutions. Emerging right along with AI are robotics, virtual reality, blockchain, 3-D printing and other wonders.

Healthcare and tech are among the fastest-growing sectors of the US economy, and several well-paying jobs in those industries are primed to expand dramatically in the next decade. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics recently released its biennial projections for job growth across hundreds of occupations between 2014 and 2024. Here is a look at the prediction for the Top 7 best jobs in the future:

Registered nurses Projected new positions by 2024: 439,300; Median annual earnings in 2014: \$66,640

Software applications developers Projected new positions by 2024: 135,300; Median annual earnings in 2014: \$95,510

Computer systems analysts Projected new positions by 2024: 118,600 ; Median annual earnings in 2014: \$82,710

Physicians and surgeons, all other Projected new positions by 2024: 51,700; Median annual earnings in 2014: At least \$187,200

Management analysts Projected new positions by 2024: 103,400; Median annual earnings in 2014: \$80,880

Computer and information systems managers Projected new positions by 2024: 53,700; Median annual earnings in 2014: \$127,640

Software systems developers Projected new positions by 2024: 51,300; Median annual earnings in 2014: \$102,880



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Feb. 27 STAR 7pm		1 Travel Group 7pm	2	3	4
5	6 Board Meeting 1pm@Linda's	7	8	9	10	11 WOD Registration deadline
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 WOD 12:00
19	20	21	22 Book Group 7pm	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	April 1

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.

February Fundraiser at Greate Bay Country Club



From Our Archives - March 2002

In celebration of our branch's 100th anniversary, archive excerpts will be included in newsletters.

Mary Rydzewski mrydz@yahoo.com




[Click here to view the 2001-2002 Photo Album](#)

From Our Archives - March 2005

[Click here to view the 2005 Photo Album](#)

**ATLANTIC COUNTY BRANCH
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY WOMEN**
Presents



SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING
LUNCHEON AND FASHION SHOW
TO BENEFIT WOMEN'S SCHOLARSHIPS

Saturday, March 19, 2005 The Flanders Hotel
Noon - 3 pm 11th & Boardwalk, Ocean City

FASHIONS BY GABRIELLE & CO.
MUSIC BY DAN BREIDENSTINE

Donation \$35 pp

FREE PARKING BE
FOR INFO



AAUW Life member
Edie Bankert

