



THE FORUM

Atlantic County Branch

September 2017

Volume 117, No. 1

Celebrating Our 100th Anniversary

President's Corner

Welcome back to the start of an exciting new year in AAUW! The summer kept us busy.

Tech Trek camp was a great success this summer hosting 62 8th grade girls from around the state of New Jersey. A big thank you goes to Claudine Keenan, Ann Marchesani, Gail Davis, Lucy Jerue, Dottie Pearson, and the many AAUW volunteers for their dedication and support.

Members continued to usher at the **Children's Theater at Stockton**. Again a thank you for stepping up to help out!

Over the summer, the Board voted and set in place our new **501C3 – the AAUW Atlantic County Charitable Corporation, Inc. (ACCCI)** All money raised and donated for scholarships will now be tax deductible.

There is **New Member Social** on **Thursday September 14th from 5 – 7pm** at the home of Gail Vreeland. This will provide an opportunity for those new to our organization to learn all that we have to offer!

Our program committee, led by Karen Poorman, has worked hard this summer and has set in place wonderful programs and events for 2017 -2018. Our first event is **Monday, September 18th at 5pm at Mays Landing Country Club**. See what is planned in the accompanying article. I truly hope you will make every effort to join us and I encourage you to invite a friend to learn about our dynamic organization! The annual Boscov's Pass for 25% off in October will also be for sale! Funds raised support our new ACCCI.

October's program brings us Dr. Nina Radcliffe as a guest speaker on **Saturday October 14th**.

November 4th is our big Fundraiser at Linwood Country Club. We are **celebrating our 100th Anniversary** as a branch with the theme "Deeds not Words." The fundraiser committee is hard at work to bring us a delightful afternoon of celebration, music, basket raffles, and fun!

So mark your calendars and let's have a great year together!
Linda Harmon, President

Program Committee: Karen Poorman

Thanks to Michelle Douglass, Connie Smedley, Diane Koob, Debbie Davies, Carol Zerbe and Jackie Shelley-Tasof for their efforts to make this a special year for programs. Our goals are 1. To present programs which are inclusive, entertaining and instructive. 2. To utilize the talents of women in the group. 3. To promote and increase interaction and camaraderie among the women of AAUW. 4. To be proactive in promoting the AAUW agenda. 5. To give back to and aid the women's community.

To that end, we will begin fulfilling those goals at our September dinner: a dinner that should not be missed. We will explain the documentary that we will be videoing all year entitled "Wisdom of the Ages," which will star our own members and the women who are a part of their families. Each girl/woman will be asked questions and we will compare the difference in the answers of the generations: ranging from 6 years olds to 98 years old. Members will participate at the dinner by proposing questions to be asked in the video and member women (who volunteer) will be videoed at each meeting. This is a link to a basic beginning of the concept. It is by no means complete, but exhibits the concept of just one of the questions. <https://youtu.be/eHGoVWx1qbc> You can click on the link or copy and paste the link.

At the dinner, we will also briefly discuss the future programs for the year. The highlight of the evening will be a performance by member Gail Davis and the Sweet Adelines. We will be singing along for some of the numbers. Don't worry if you cannot sing. We will be having too much fun to worry about that.

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

Atlantic County Branch

Dinner Meeting

Mays Landing Country Club

Monday, September 18

Socialize 5:00pm Dinner 6:00pm

\$ 40.00 pp

Entertainment by

Cape Shore Chapter of Sweet Adelines

Menu Choices

Roast Turkey Breast with Raisin Challah Stuffing

Horseradish Encrusted Tilapia

Pasta Primavera with Fresh Garden Vegetables

Registration - September 18 Dinner Meeting

Name _____ **Phone #** _____

Entrée Choice _____

Please indicate your seating preference _____

Please mail Reservation Form and your check payable to "AAUW, Atlantic County"
to Helen Riso, 619 Pitney Rd. Absecon, NJ 08201 (641-7085)

Registration deadline is September 10

**Bosco's "Friends Helping Friends"
Supports AAUW Scholarships**
Lucy Jerue ljerue@comcast.net

Mark your calendar for Monday, **September 18** and help support our AAUW branch by participating in **Bosco's "Friends Helping Friends."** The Bosco's shopping event will take place on **Tuesday, October 17, 2017** at all Bosco's locations from 9am To 11pm. Shopping passes will be sold at both our September meeting, September 18, and our October meeting, October 14.

The 25% OFF SHOPPINGS PASS you purchase entitles you to 25% discount on most items, even sale items. Plus, there are free refreshments and a chance to win prizes, including three \$500 shopping sprees. It's the perfect time to start your holiday shopping also.

The shopping passes sell for \$5.00 each.

It's important to remember that our branch keeps 100% of the money donated toward these shopping passes. All of the money raised will go into our scholarship fund.

So, please support this effort at our first meeting of the year. If you are able to donate \$20 to our branch, you will receive four shopping passes. Sell them or give them away. It's an excellent way to spread the name of AAUW and help support our efforts to provide scholarships to young women here in Atlantic County.

If, at any time, you want additional shopping passes, please contact any of our branch members coordinating this effort: Gail Zona, Lucy Jerue, Connie Smedley or Audrey Owen.



College Connections
Linda Harmon
linda.harmon@gmail.com

Looking for an opportunity to volunteer and support our mission of AAUW? Look no further. We are in need of someone to be our **College Connections** Chairperson for 2017–2018. This is an easy job with plenty of mentoring support to teach you the job! Please let me know if you are interested! Linda Harmon linda.harmon@gmail.com or 609-204-8596.

Ready Set Read! Program
AAUW-Women's Leadership Initiative Partnership
Mary Brodsky mabrodsky27@gmail.com

Ready Set Read! Is a program of United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey Women's Leadership Initiative in Atlantic County. Volunteer readers go to low income preschool and daycare classrooms to host a read aloud session. After reading a book, each student receives a copy of the book to take home.

The goal of this program is to encourage reading at home and to motivate the child to ask a caregiver to read to them-regularly.

Research has shown that one of the most important first steps in encouraging children to read is for teachers or parents to read stories with their children. Reading aloud to children has been considered by many researchers to be the single most important activity in developing a child's literacy.

The volunteer readers in Ready Set Read are always met with enthusiasm by both teachers and children. The children love receiving their book to take home. It's a very worthwhile program and a joyful experience for the volunteers. AAUW members who volunteer for ReadySet Read are an integral part of the program.

Message from Linda Harmon, President:

I am sad to announce the death of **Priscilla Wilkinson**, a longtime member of AAUW Atlantic County Branch. Priscilla was an active member in the branch. She was in charge of hospitality, and then moved over to historian. She attended board meetings, book club, monthly meetings, and other interest groups. We appreciate all the contributions she made to our organization over the last decade and remember her with high regard and affection. A memorial service is planned in September at the Central Methodist Church in Linwood.

From the Desk of Gail Davis

ghdath@comcast.net

Scholarships - nothing new to report since the Spring- it is always delightful for Karen Poorman and I to meet with our grateful recipients at both Stockton and ACCC- Mays Landing.

TECH

Our Third Tech Trek was a resounding success despite our Camp Director, Ann Marchesani being laid up with a broken tibia! Her insight and planning allowed us to make improvements in our procedures so everything ran quite smoothly. the campers enjoyed flying drones, setting off rockets, making rain barrels, flashlights, laser lights, seeing Hidden Figures on movie night, tie dying shirts (me too) and skirting construction safely on the Stockton campus! Thanks to our many volunteers who volunteered for check in and out, and leading campers to classes, the FAA and other workshops!! Some have even signed up for 2018!!!! I have to thank all of our volunteers throughout the STATE who stepped up to interview applicants as we had 20 out of 21 NJ counties represented and we all agreed they were the best class ever!!!

We look forward to our 2018 camp with enthusiasm - as usual any donations or referrals for grants are MUCH appreciated!

Tween Tech (6-8th graders) will be Jan. 5 at Stockton - again we'll need volunteers to lead girls to classes.

Teen Tech (9th- 11th graders) will be at ACCC- Mays Landing on May 23 and we'll need volunteers for that also.

Membership

Lynne Walters - rrwalters321@hotmail.com

Please welcome and add our new members to your membership list.

Eileen M. Trickey

108 Newcastle Court, Galloway, NJ 08205
845-807-3882 emtrickey@gmail.com
BA Newton College of the Sacred Heart
MSW Fordham University

Roberta DeVries (Bert)

3834 Central Ave., Ocean City, NJ 08226-1729
609-398-0924; cell - 215-962-1708
j2rdevries@aol.com
BS Cornell University

Eileen Mullin

408 Cedarbrook Lane, Linwood, NJ 08221
609-601-0884; cell - 609-226-4946
eileen.mullin@comcast.net
BAs Stockton University

Kathleen Ghanavati

2 Sparks Rd, Seaville, NJ 08230
609-390-8382; cell - 609-805-0751
kghanavati@ocsdnj.org
BS California State College
MS Adams State University

Carol Spina

504 Forestbrook Drive, Galloway, NJ 08205
215-460-4591; cas3238@aol.com
MS, MBA Drexel University

Please change :

Andrea Zerler-Wells' email address to:
andiwalks@aol.com

Diane Koob's cell number to: 609-412-0967
Please correct her information to:
BA, MA University of Minnesota;
MDiv United Theological Seminary

Carol Romano's address to: 303 West Royal Ave. Her phone number is: 609-233-9741.

Rochelle Cohen's name to Shelley Cohen.

Louise Seitman's email address to:
Ladyinred110@gmail.com

Women's Center Donations:

Bring to September Meeting

Deb Davies deb.davies@comcast.net

We have donated to the Women's Center in a number of ways over the years and they are most appreciative of our efforts. The Women's Center no longer has a thrift store as a mechanism for donations and a way to accept a variety of items, so their process and what they are able to accommodate has changed.

Both the Shelter and the Home to Work Program have an ongoing need for gift cards. They know that this type of donation can be less popular than "items", because part of donating is releasing oneself of things that one no longer needs. However, the Women's Center clients often cannot afford to put gas in their car to get to a job interview, so Wawa gift cards for gas are helpful. Target, Walmart and Shoprite gift cards are helpful for groceries for themselves and their children. \$10- \$25 gift cards are most appreciated.

The Home to Work Program also has a professional clothing closet. They ask that clothing items be clean, pressed and on hangers; not in boxes or bags. Also, they have very limited space so they are only able to accommodate seasonal and year 'round items. They will be accepting fall/winter clothing by the time of our September meeting. They ask that the clothing be of a current style. Clients range in age from 18 to 70 with an average age of 35. The magic question when determining what to donate is...Would a 35 year old woman wear this to an interview today? Feel free to contact me if you have questions about the appropriateness of a specific donation.

We could also put together small gift bags containing personal care items such as a tooth brush and tooth paste, body wash, deodorant and lotion. Travel sized items are acceptable, but they should be unopened. I will put together a small group at our September meeting to put together bags if we get enough items/ interest in that activity.

Save the Date and Bring a Guest November 4

**Cocktail hour begins at noon with lunch
starting at 1pm. Price is \$45.**

The Atlantic County Branch of AAUW will celebrate its 100th birthday during our Annual Fund-raiser Luncheon held at the Linwood Country Club. The theme will be "Deeds, Not Words" the slogan used by suffragettes in 1917. Our program will be a twenty minute tribute to our Branch members whose deeds throughout the years supported our mission of advocacy of education and equity for women and girls.

Money raised will provide scholarships for local women who are pursuing degrees at South Jersey colleges and sponsors both a weeklong Tech Trek Camp at Stockton University and STEM workshops for girls from NJ during the school year.

You can help make our fundraiser successful in a number of ways:

- Join our volunteer team who will create baskets from the donations we receive.
- Make a contribution of a new or gently used item to be placed in a themed basket
- Solicit donations from local businesses by using the attached donation form
- Create your own basket or donate a basket for us to use
- NOTE: all donated items are needed by October 16th.

Please call Gail Davis at 399-4027 or via email at ghath@comcast.net



*AAUW ATLANTIC COUNTY CHARITABLE
CORPORATION, INC.*

IRS approved 501(c)(3)

Fall 2017

American Association of University women (AAUW) of Atlantic County requests your support of our Fall Scholarship Benefit.

Proceeds from this fund raiser will be used toward scholarships for local women who are pursuing degrees at South Jersey colleges. This fundraiser will also support AAUW's STEM programs for girls in New Jersey. AAUW sponsors a week-long Tech Trek Camp at Stockton University for 8th grade girls and two (2) days of similar STEM workshops for girls in 7th – 12th grade during the school year. These programs provide girls from New Jersey a chance to explore and learn about careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) with the help of teachers and mentors.

We would appreciate a donation of either a gift certificate or item (s) to be auctioned at our annual **Scholarship Benefit** to be held **Saturday, November 4, 2017**.

Your donation is tax deductible.

We thank you for your generous donation to our fundraiser.

Sincerely,



Linda Harmon, President

AAUW Atlantic County Charitable Corporation, Inc.

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Interest Groups

Book Group

Mary Lou Breidenstine breidensti@aol.com

The planning meeting for the Book Club will be on Wednesday, October 4 at the home of Mary Lou Breidenstine. We begin at 7:00. Carolyn Bassett will lead a discussion of News of the World by Paulette Jiles. This is a poignant story of a young girl living among Native Americans who is released and returned to her family. There will be a lot to talk about.

Following the discussion we will choose the books for the coming year. This is your opportunity to recommend your favorite book. New people are always welcome.

STOCKTON'S CHILDREN'S THEATER

Vicki Biron vickibiron@comcast.net

As summer winds down, I will once again need volunteers to usher for the children's shows at Stockton. The dates and titles are listed below. Shows will take place in the main theater. Please arrive by 9:45 AM. You can park in parking lot 6. A few days before the show I will email parking passes as you will need one to park. If you'd like to volunteer for one, or more, or all shows, please email me at vickibiron@comcast.net, or text me at 609-703-3788.

Tuesday, October 17 10:30am: Franklin Institute: "Flight"

Wednesday, October 18 10:30am: Franklin Institute: "Flight"

Friday, December 8 10:30am: Atlantic City Ballet: The Nutcracker

Friday, February 16 10:30am: I Have a Dream: MLK Jr.

Tues, May 8 10:30am: Bay Atlantic Symphony Education Concert

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.

Movie Outing Group

If you are not receiving Movie Outings emails, please email Ruth Traa – ruthtraa@earthlink.net.

Ethnic Lunch

Linda Harmon linda.harmon@gmail.com

Our branch warmly thanks Phyllis Trackman for arranging so many delicious and enjoyable lunch-eons. However, we now need to find a new volunteer for this position. If you are interested and willing to become more involved, here is your chance! Phyllis says this is an easy job and is more than willing to provide lists of suggested restaurants and to coach you in this new role. If you are interested, please let me know and give Phyllis a call at 609-365-2628.

Travel Group

Carolyn Bassett geoca41@gmail.com

IN SEARCH OF AMELIA EARHART: The Travel Group will meet at the home of Mary and Phil Ingraham on **September 27** (Wednesday) where Mary and Phil will share their adventure of going to a remote island in the Pacific to search for the remains of Amelia Earhart.

They will have a lot to tell us about their own adventure and also some of the theories surrounding Amelia's disappearance. The group meets at 7pm. Please call Mary to let her know if you plan to come: 652-4041 or snowball56@gmail.com.

STAR

Carolyn Bassett geoca41@gmail.com

STAR will meet Monday, **September 25**, at 6:30 (snacks) with the program at 7pm. We are asking that people planning to attend the meeting view the movie "Detroit" now playing in the area. It deals with the race riots and a case of police brutality that took place in 1967. The movie has received very good reviews, and the issues it deals with are unfortunately still with us. Then we will discuss many of the issues raised as well as connecting them to current events at the meeting.

The meeting is at the Allied Health Office, 1750 Zion Rd. Northfield.

“Rock the Boat, Get Out and Vote!” Introducing the Atlantic County League of Women Voters**By: Michelle J. Douglass, Esq** mjd@myrightslawyers.com

I am pleased to announce that I as well as other women committed to rocking the boat, to get others to vote have formed the Atlantic County chapter of the League of Women Voters. Our immediate primary purpose is to register as many voters as possible before the upcoming elections in our State in November which includes open spots for Governor, Senate, Assembly, County Freeholder, various City and Town council seats and School Boards.

On August 17, 2017 our group met with the Atlantic County Superintendent of Elections and her staff who advised us that fair and open elections in the United States have been obstructed by antiquated voting machines that fail to accurately record voters' choices, ballots that confuse rather than clarify, overcrowded polling places, polling places that are inaccessible to the disabled and to the blind and to language minorities, inaccurate voter registration lists, and so-called ballot security measures which have the effect, if not the intent, of intimidating and discouraging voters. There has been more than \$3.8 billion over the next three years earmarked for improvements in voting technology and the election process. These funds will be allocated for voting equipment and technology, the voting process itself and ballot security measures.

Additionally, there is a critical need for POLL WORKERS for this upcoming electoral process. The Board of Elections is currently recruiting poll workers. This important civic responsibility is open to all registered voters in Atlantic County. Bilingual Spanish speaking poll workers are especially needed. In successfully working a complete day (5:15 am - 8:30 pm), you will receive: \$ 200 to serve as a Regular Poll Worker and \$25 additional stipend to serve as a Master Worker. For more information, visit: <http://www.atlantic-county.org/board-of-elections/poll-worker-program.asp>

The Atlantic County League of Women Voters will also be focusing on making elections more accessible to working family members by changing the date of the elections and be working towards a vote by computer option. These type of changes are challenging, take time and involve interaction with legislators and policymakers. If you would like to join the Atlantic County League of Women Voters, contact me for more information at: mjd@myrightslawyers.com or come to our next meeting on Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. located at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 75 Pomona Rd, Egg Harbor City, NJ 08215; Phone: (609) 965-9400.

1. I am running for one of three nonpartisan School Board seats on Egg Harbor Township School District Board under the platform, Better A,B,Cs: Academic Excellence + Budget Responsibility = Community Quality Commitment.

September						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Board Meeting 5:30 pm	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 New Member Social 5pm	15	16
17	18 Dinner Meeting 5pm	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 STAR 6:30pm	26	27 Travel Group 7pm	28	29	30
October 1	2	3	4 Book Group 7pm	5	6	7

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.

Summer 2017



Stockton ushers Carolyn Bassett, Terry Dailey, Audrey Moloney, Ginny Gormley, and Audrey Owen



Travel Group—Cuba



Spanish group: Claire Moyer, Aida Colon and Jeanine Brown



Book Group: Carolyn Bassett, discussion leader



Book Group: Diana Intenzo, Audrey Moloney, Cathy Shippen, Gail Vreeland, Shelley Cohen (standing) Mary Lou Breidenstine, Claire Moyer, Gail Zona

Teen Tech



Grand Hotel in Cape May to benefit the Cape May Co. AAUW as well as other organizations.



Loretta Scheetz with her prize



Debbie Walker and Audrey Moloney



Connie Smedley, Aida Colon, and Loretta Sheets



MaryAnn Montemurro and Cat Cronin