

*Serving Women For Over One Hundred Years*

**President's Message**

Arlene Groch

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Dear AAUW-AC Friends,

My "Message" for this Forum could be only one word-- "**VOTE**".

Nevertheless, here are a few more words, some of which I hope you may find helpful. For more details, go to [www.atlantic-county.org/elections](http://www.atlantic-county.org/elections).

→ Today to October 5 –Watch your mailbox for your Mail-in-Ballot, which will be mailed to all active registered voters. If you do not receive your ballot by Oct. 15th, call ☎ the County Clerk of Elections, Lynne Caterson.

→ October 5 - November 3

✓ Vote your mail-in-ballot:

📖 Read and follow the instructions carefully.

✍ Record your votes and sign the ballot certification and seal.

✉ Insert ballot into the Inside Envelope and seal it.

📧 Insert that envelope in the Outside Envelope and seal it (no stamp needed).



✓ Return your ballot by your method of choice:

👤 Deposit it in a secure County Drop Box - they are picked up each day by Republican and Democratic teams and delivered to the Board of Elections

📮 Deposit it in a Post Office box or at the Post Office, or

👤 Bring it to the County Board of Elections Office.

👤 Bring your Ballot to your voting place on Election Day and place in a secure ballot box inside the polling place.

→ October 13 –Voter registration deadline

→ November 3 – Election Day – Polling places open 6 am to 8 pm.

→ November 3 – Last day the post office will stamp mail-in-ballots as received.

→ November 3 – Last day to submit your mail-in-ballot to any location noted above

→ November 20 - Election results must be certified to the County Clerk.


✓ Don't forget to vote on the 3 Ballot Questions

Here is a summary of each, but you can read the full descriptions on your ballot.

Q 1 – Should the Constitution be amended to legalize a controlled form of marijuana called "cannabis"?

Q 2 - Should the Constitution be amended to give a \$250 property tax deduction to veterans who did not serve in time of war?

Q 3 - Should the Constitution be amended to change when new legislative districts are created if the federal census data is delayed?

Track your vote-by-mail ballot through the [Track My Ballot Portal](#) .

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## Membership Vice-President

Linda Karp

Lindakarp@gmail.com

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What a terrific new year this is for our Chapter. The complete Branch Roster is included in this email. Please welcome the following new members to our Chapter:

Ilene R. Daniels (H)(609) 667-0367  
45 Pebble Beach Drive (W)(609) 442-1239  
Egg Harbor Twp., NJ 08234 Ilene@Inf.com

Susan Mayer (609) 457-3613  
16 Fischer Road Suemay13@aol.com  
Linwood, NJ 08221

Alice Tarlach 732-939-0547  
33 Patmore Road Alicetarlach@comcast.net  
Brick, NJ 08724 – Duel Member



If you have not renewed your membership, **there is still time** before the National Roster is closed for this year. Send your dues .... \$79 ...to our treasurer:

Beverly Schechtman (609) 345-5650  
100 S. Berkley Sq. Unit 9G bevschech@hotmail.com  
Atlantic City NJ 08401

The rest of 2020 and 2021 promises to be active and exciting for our Branch. We have Zoom programs planned for each month and are working hard to reach many different interest areas for our members!

Stay involved and enjoy all that AAUW has to offer! If you have a friend that might be interested in joining, please send me her name and I'll contact her. Let's try to each bring in one new member for this coming year. AAUW is only successful with your support. Stay safe!

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## Program Vice-President

Jacalyn Shelley-Tasoff

jacalyn\_shelley2003@yahoo.com

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I hope you'll join us on **October 21st** starting at 7 pm via Zoom for a discussion on Voting Rights led by one of our members, Mary Maudsley, adjunct professor at Stockton University. She and Claire Abernathy, Assistant Professor specializing in voting rights at Stockton University, will discuss the history of voting rights and current issues. There will be plenty of time to answer your questions on this important and timely issue.



### Save these Dates!



**November 18th** for another presentation by Chef Kelly, Director of the Culinary Institute at ACCC. She'll show us how to slice an onion, make a fall soup and challah bread.



And .... drum roll ... **December 16th** to honor our friends who have been members of AAUW - AC for 50 years. Look for their names in this space in November's Forum.

The Program Committee is also busy planning our 2021 Programs and we need your help! First, your ideas. Our September program on systematic racism drew over 60 people! What other topics would you like to learn more about? During 2020, we tried to offer a balance between interesting topics that captivate our longing to learn more about the world around us and a time to socialize and "escape" the world for an hour of comradery and fun. Please send me any ideas you have to my email address: Jacalyn\_Shelley2003@yahoo.com.

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As you're thinking about what programs you'd enjoy, also consider joining our committee. If you're creative, or if you're someone who likes to work on projects, have computer technical expertise, or want to lend a helping hand to our programs, we'd enjoy welcoming you to our team. The time commitment is 1 1/2 hours once a month for our planning session, another 1 1/2 to participate and/or coordinate one program a year. Thinking about it? Feel free to send me an email with any questions you might have. Include your phone number and a good time for me to call you if you'd like to discuss before joining!

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## Corresponding Secretary

Kris Baker

Kristinabaker2014@gmail.com

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As Corresponding Secretary, each month I mail out The Forum to members who need a paper copy in the mail.



I also send cards by mail to members for: Get Well, Thank You, Sympathy on the death of a member or someone in the member's family who has passed away. Just send me an email message if you know of someone you would like to receive a card on behalf of AAUW.

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## Fundraising

Carol Zerbe

Kathy Zeigenfus

czpaints@verizon.net

Kzeigenfus@aol.com

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The Fundraising committee hopes you have received and enjoyed our recent mailing! Lucy and Ethel are an example of the wonderful friendships women enjoy, much as we have within our AAUW community. Their "conversation" was included with our "No-Calorie Luncheon" Fundraiser to help you understand the importance of our annual appeal. This year is so unusual in many ways, including our inability to gather together. We still need to raise money to meet our philanthropic mission and this appeal is our major fundraiser. We know we can count on you to be generous. But we also ask that you reach out to your friends and family, much as you would have asked them to attend a luncheon with you in years past. Our goal of funding Tech Trek and scholarships is more important than ever! Please send donations by **November 6**, payable to AWCO to:



Linda Harmon  
31 Jill Avenue  
Marmora, NJ 08223

Here is the [link](#) for the information and videos about Tech Trek. This includes interviews with former students reflecting on the impact of Tech Trek in their lives today! We strongly recommend you follow the link and click on the students' names and listen to their updates on their lives today. It is inspiring! Thank you again for your consideration of a generous donation to AWCO for Tech Trek and Scholarships.

A copy of the Fundraising information and Donation Return slip is available on this issue of the Forum. Click the link in the email. If you would like copies sent to someone who might be interested in donating, please contact either Kathy or Carol.

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## STEM

Gail Davis

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OUR TECH TREK camp director and assistant director are busily interviewing past Tech Trekkers for soliciting grants for next year, all via ZOOM. At least one is already in college and all are giving very positive reviews of their Tech Trek days. Many are old enough to be camp counselors next year 🍌😊. No dates have yet been set for Tween Tech or Teen Tech at this time as so much depends on Stockton University.

We always need MONEY to fund TWO camps next year so if you are looking to make a taxable donation PLEASE contact me. I will be happy to share ways to do that.

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As the newest member of the Community Foundation of South Jersey, our AAUW Branch is now part of a large group of local women's philanthropy organizations.



On October 23rd at 10 am, CFSJ program will give us an opportunity to meet other women also doing meaningful work in our area. I hope many of you will join me at this Zoom program on **The Power of Female Philanthropy**. Community Foundation of South Jersey will be introducing our Branch as its newest Fund member during their program about women's philanthropy. It will be a wonderful opportunity for our leadership and interested members to meet and network with folks from many other women's non-profit organizations.

This "Why We Give" event "explores what makes female philanthropy unique and introduces diverse groups of women to others that are actively addressing needs in our region." [...] "There are many communities of women quietly making a difference in South Jersey. Unfortunately, they don't know that the other groups exist. This event provides an opportunity to break down silos and offers an opportunity for women of different backgrounds to learn about the meaningful work being done by women insular, yet impactful communities," says Kyle Ruffin, chair of Why We Give. "We hope to introduce them and open the door for potential collaboration, integration and greater impact."

## Scholarships

Karen Poorman

karenpoormansjawe@gmail.com



Our branch raised funds that supported the donation of two scholarships to Atlantic Cape Community College and two scholarships to Stockton University. Recently, thank you emails were received from the Stockton students and were posted on our private Facebook group. To join the group and see the emails in full, search Facebook for



AAUW Atlantic Members and request membership. One scholarship recipient is majoring in Social Work and minoring in Childhood Studies. She expressed appreciation for the scholarship and explained how it will help reduce some of the stress by helping with educational expenses. The second recipient is studying biology with a Pre-Professional Studies concentration. The scholarship will offset educational expenses and allow for more time studying and involvement on campus. In addition, we sponsored three high school students for the summer virtual music program hosted by Rowan University. All three participants have emailed to express their appreciation and all found the experience worthwhile. We had budgeted to send two graduate students to a Women's Leadership Conference, but the event was canceled.

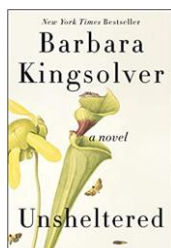
The Annual Fundraising campaign underway now will help us to continue to offer scholarship support. Your generous support is appreciated. Thank you.

## INTEREST GROUPS

### Book Group

Mary Lou Breidenstine

breidensti@aol.com



The AAUW Book Group will begin its fall schedule on Friday October 9 at 10:30. On Zoom, of course. Shelley Cohen will facilitate a discussion of Barbara Kingsolver's "Unsheltered". This book is of particular local interest because it shifts in time from the Vineland, N.J. of today to the Vineland of the late 1800s. Who knew that Vineland was established by Mr. Landis as a new "Utopian" community!?

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Two additional books will complete our fall series. They are: "The Testaments" by Margaret Atwood and "Blonde" by Joyce Carol Oates. All of these books should be easily available at any library. Hope to see many of you on Zoom. If you haven't tried it yet, you will find it easier than you think. Please reach out by email if you would like to be included in the Zoom discussion invitations.

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## Film Group

Terry Dailey

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As movie theaters continue to be closed due to COVID, there will be no screenings in September. I will continue to monitor the situation and when they reopen will suggest films that those who feel congregating in a closed space might want to see. In the meanwhile, I and other members will continue to send those in the group emails with suggestions to stream safely at home.



The latest suggestions include for those with Netflix (particularly to see with your granddaughters) a film called Enola Holmes. It stars Millie Bobby Brown (of Stranger Things fame) and Helena Bonham Carter and tackles murder and the patriarchy in PG fashion when her mother disappears and she goes sleuthing.

Also, for those with Showtime, James McBride's The Good Lord Bird starts as a seven part series on October 4. I loved the book and am looking forward to the series which stars Ethan Hawke.

Please stay safe and well so that we can see each other in the future. If you are interested in receiving the email of suggested films, send me an email.

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## Conversational Spanish

Jeannette Flax

jcflax@yahoo.com

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Join the Conversational Spanish group as we continue to gather weekly via Zoom on Mondays from 4:00 to 6:00, thanks to two of our competent members (not yours truly...). We have lively conversations and welcome anybody who would like to practice speaking Spanish. Contact me if you are interested in joining us!

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## Travel Group

Carolyn Bassett

geoca41@gmail.com

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The TRAVEL GROUP IS BACK!

Join us on ZOOM, **Tuesday, October 20** at 1 pm for a trip to CHINA with Linda Karp. She will take us on her once in a lifetime tour of Beijing, Shanghai, and Xi'an, the three major tourist cities in China. You will see and hear about her journey to:

- The Great Wall
- Forbidden City
- Summer Palace in Beijing
- The astonishing Terracotta Warriors and Horses of Emperor Qin She Huang in Xi'an
- Shanghai, a worldwide metropolis with the Bund

Enjoy learning about the sights and foods of Asia as you travel through China with Linda as your virtual guide!

Please let Carolyn know so she can send you the ZOOM link.

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## UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER:

All Meetings via Zoom. Please contact Group Leader for Zoom Meeting Information

Mondays	4 pm	<b>Conversational Spanish</b>	Jeanette Flax
Sept 30	7 pm	<b>New Member Welcoming Meeting</b> New members, Board members & Program Chairs	Linda Karp
Oct 9	10:30 am	<b>Book Discussion</b> "Unsheltered" by Barbara Kingsolver	Mary Lou Breidenstine
Oct 20	1:00 pm	<b>Travel Group</b> China with Linda Karp	Carolyn Bassett
Oct 21	7:00 pm	<b>Branch Meeting</b> Panel Discussion: Voting Rights	Arlene Groch
Oct 23	10:30 am	<b>CFSJ program</b> The Power of Female Philanthropy	Arlene Groch
Nov 6		<b>Fundraiser Donations Due</b>	Carol Zerbe Kathy Zeigenfus
Nov 18	7:00 pm	<b>Branch Meeting</b> Chef Kelly Demonstration	Arlene Groch
Dec 16	7:00 pm	<b>Branch Meeting</b> Special Members Honored	Arlene Groch

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