



## ***SERVING WOMEN FOR OVER ONE HUNDRED YEARS***

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### **President's Message**

Arlene Groch

aggroch@mac.com

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As I reflect on my past two years as President of our AAUW branch, my first thought is how deeply grateful I am for the many new and very real friendships I have made. When I retired from a very busy law practice, I left behind many of my work relationships. I know that is common for many retirees, but I suspect it is more so in the adversarial world of law. But I did not have a void as I was simultaneously making new friends in the much more friendly world of polymer clay artists! And now I have added new friends from among the vibrant, intelligent, activist women in AAUW. Thank you for the treasure I take with me from this challenging experience.

I am gratified as well to know that our Branch will next be led by Jackie Shelley-Tassoff. I could not have hoped to leave our Branch in more capable, responsible and creative hands than hers. I know as well that Jackie will be supported by a full contingent of Board members who are equally devoted, hard-working and competent. As a member I will now have time to participate in the plethora of meetings and programs we offer, and I look forward to seeing you at book club, travel club, Ethics Study Group, Great Decisions, Film Group and more. And I am sure we'll soon enjoy our Ethnic Restaurant Lunches. I'm fully vaccinated now, and hope all of you are as well. So call me and "let's do lunch."

My deepest thanks to all who helped me navigate through the challenges and achievements of the past two years. It's been a great ride!

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### **Membership Vice-President**

Kristina Baker

kristinabaker2014@gmail.com

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Membership in AAUW is at a cross roads, awaiting the results of the national election. The AAUW Board of Directors and the AAUW Governance Committee is recommending a change in the by laws that would eliminate the degree requirement for membership. Presently, membership is denied to those without a college degree. You can vote on line by computer or mobile devise. At this time, it is too late to vote by paper ballot. Members have till Monday May 17 at 5 PM to vote at this [link](#). You will need your Member ID and Voter PIN. Check the email sent to you from AAUW National on April 7 for this information. If the vote passes, then the change would be effective immediately. This is a very important vote for AAUW membership that will determine who can be a member and as a result what members feel is important as to priority issues of the organization. Stay Safe. Social Distance. Wash your hands. Wear a mask!



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### **Treasurer's Report**

Linda Karp

lindakarp@gmail.com

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Members, National will soon email you a request to pay your annual membership dues. I strongly encourage you to pay online.\* It's easy if you follow the link and instructions provided in the email National will send to you.

You will notice that National's annual dues have increased from \$59 to \$62 [a \$3 increase] for the year July 1, 2021 –June 30, 2022. NJ State's and our Branch's dues remain at \$10 each. **Thus your total dues for next year is \$82**

Don't forget that \$62 of your AAUW membership is tax deductible and it gives you access to exclusive discounts on insurance, hotels, prescriptions and more, as well as equity updates and opportunities to take action!

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As a member, you know AAUW has been transforming women's lives for more than a century. Your AAUW membership connects you to a powerful network of more than 170,000 people across the country. Your membership matters! And we're grateful you're a member of our Branch.

\* Please note if you'd prefer to pay by check please send it to me at my address noted in our Membership Roster.

Also, the April Forum contained incorrect information regarding paying membership dues via PayPal. This option is NOT available due to the processing fees charges.



We're grateful for the generous donations received this month in memory of Diane Koob from Carol Zerbe and Shelley Cohen.

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**Program Vice-President**

Jacalyn Shelley-Tasoff

jacalyn\_shelley2003@yahoo.com

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**Let's Celebrate Us**  
**Annual Officer Installation Program**  
**May 13th**  
**7 pm**

Join us as we mark our achievements, welcome our 15 new Branch members, and meet the 2021-2022 Board Officers. All attendees will be eligible for a door prize – a \$50 gift certificate to Mazzeo's.

Zoom Meeting ID: 871 4754 8258 Password: Friends.

*See special note in "Items of Interest" below regarding Zoom meeting links.*

During our Annual Meeting in April, members voted to elect the following slate of officers:

**President:** Jackie Shelley

**Program Vice President:** Tula Christopoulos

**Membership Vice President:** Kris Baker

And to confirm the appointments of the following officers:

**Diversity Officer:** Sharone Jackson-Brown

**Fundraiser Officer:** Kathy Zeigenfus

**Public Information Officer:** Janet Yunghans

**Treasurer:** Linda Karp

Thank you to the Nominating Committee, Carolyn Bassett Chairperson, with Gail Davis and Carol Zerbe.

Please note: A reminder email will be sent to all members the morning of May 13th with Zoom link information. Or check our Facebook page for the link.

**Don't miss our upcoming summer programs:**

**June 10th** Container Gardening

**July 28th** Painting with Arlene & Carol

**August 25th** Stress-Free Cooking

See the Flyer at the end of this Forum.

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We are doing Tech Trek camp virtually this year as still no vaccine for the 12/13 age group unfortunately. We are now working to get our accepted students to accept via email and following up with all county chairs to insure contact has been made. The notices were sent out April 13 and we've still not received acceptances from four of our Atlantic County campers. I have followed up with phone calls to them. Additionally we are determining what type of device they are using. In a few cases I had to ask Linda Harmon to resend the invitation.



We always need money as we surely hope to have a 'real' selection and on campus camp in 2022. Please contact me if you wish to make a donation to AWCO for the camp. No news yet on our one day workshops yet. contact me. We surely hope that for 2022 we will be able to resume our normal Tech Trek selection procedure and camp at Stockton U provided vaccines are available for those 12/13 years old.

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## Facebook

Karen Poorman

karenpoormansjawe@gmail.com

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What you need to know about our presence on Facebook: There is an AAUW Atlantic page and an AAUW Atlantic group. The page can be read by everyone and anyone can join it. The group is members only and can only be seen by members. Fifty of our members are having daily discussions, posting information, photos and updates on our activities on the group page.



Join Facebook. Go to Facebook.com and click "Create New Account." Enter the information they ask for. Click "Sign Up." To finish creating your account, you need to confirm your email or mobile phone number. I have a separate email account for Facebook...one that I don't even check.

Once that is done, type "AAUW Atlantic Members" in the Facebook search bar. It will bring you to a screen that will ask if you are a member. I will receive a request from you and will approve you. That is the closed group page. You can "like" the AAUW Atlantic County Branch page.

It is good to "like" or post on Facebook at least occasionally because inactive accounts are the ones that tend to get hacked, so post on our group page. I hope to hear from you soon.

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## Items of Interest

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### AAUW NJ Special Event

Linda Harmon

[linda.harmon@gmail.com](mailto:linda.harmon@gmail.com)

Sans 2020, every year, AAUW NJ has sponsored an annual event. I have been to the United Nations, the Underground Railroad and the new American Revolutionary Museum in Philadelphia, and our last trip was to Seneca Falls NY, home of the birthplace of the Suffragette Movement as well as the Harriet Tubman NY home.



Attendees find the AAUW NJ events enjoyable and rewarding. You get to meet AAUW members from across the state. Staying closer to home this year, the AAUW NJ State District Coordinators are sponsoring our next in-person fun event.

Allaire State Park, Monmouth County  
Saturday September 11, 2021 11:00 am  
Cost: \$40.00 (includes lunch)

Travel is on your own. This event is limited in number, first come, first serve. More details are in the flyer at the end of the Forum. RSVP to Linda Harmon at [linda.harmon@gmail.com](mailto:linda.harmon@gmail.com)

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### Zoom Meeting Links

Jacalyn Shelley-Tasoff

[jacalyn\\_shelley2003@yahoo.com](mailto:jacalyn_shelley2003@yahoo.com)

Several people reported trouble accessing the April Program Meeting with the Zoom link provided. In an effort to avoid a similar problem for our May Program, we tested the Zoom link that will appear in the Subject Line of an Email you'll receive with our program flyer.

The result of that testing as of today is:

If you have an Apple device or you use Google Chrome as your browser, the Zoom link will take you directly into the Zoom meeting.

However, if you have a device that uses Microsoft Edge, you may need to take one of the following actions to join the May Program meeting:

1. Copy and paste the Zoom link into another tab on your browser.
2. If the above doesn't work, launch Zoom in your browser. Click on the "Join a Meeting" link. Enter the Meeting ID number and Password provided at the top of the Program flyer.

We've tried our best to make this process as easy as possible for all our members. Regrettably, our efforts are limited at this time. We will continue to work to make the process go more smoothly.

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## INTEREST GROUPS

### Book Group

Mary Lou Breidenstine

breidensti@aol.com



Book Club will meet on Friday, June 11 at 10:30 on Zoom. The link will be sent out by Carolyn Bassett. Ann-Maria Guevara will lead a discussion of the thought-provoking work of various poets. The poems will be emailed to all members of Book Club. If you are not already on the Book Club email list and would like to be included, please email me at breidensti@aol.com.

Our summer meetings will be held on Fridays at 10:30.

Dates are July 9, 16, and 23. The plan is to meet outside at the home of Mary Lou Breidenstine. Of course, the plan is subject to change if necessary. We will read three works by H. G. Wells, beginning with "The Time Machine" on July 9. The following two weeks we will discuss "The Island of Dr. Moreau" and "War of the Worlds". Keep in mind that when Wells wrote these SHORT novels, he hoped that readers would focus on his social, political, and economic views, not the "science," which he said was impossible. Think "Frankenstein" not "20,000 Leagues under the Sea."

New people are always welcome. Carolyn will send the Zoom link. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

### Film Group

Terry Dailey

johnd4photo@aol.com

Although Tilton Theatre is open, they can no longer accommodate our small group for special showings. The owners are also not inclined to show foreign and independent films, but are back to blockbusters. They are considering using one small theater in the Ventnor, when it opens, for art films. Also, I am awaiting a response from the Northfield Librarian as to when we can begin screening films there. My guess is maybe in the fall with masks. In the meantime, I will monitor the local theaters for films we might want to see on occasion. This would not be a regularly scheduled event as we were able to do before, but it would be nice to see each other! Our group does continue to give suggestions on movies and series to stream or view at home. For those who are willing to travel, the Landmark Theaters in Philadelphia are open and always have great, small films and special events. Keep safe and healthy!

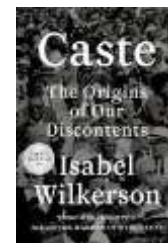
### For A More Equal Society

Carolyn Bassett

geoca41@gmail.com



Our next meeting is May 13 at 1:30. We will be discussing Part 1 of *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson and also the article on race relationships in the NYTimes from April 17, 2021 ([nytimes.com](https://www.nytimes.com)) which continues the discussion about Georgetown University and reparations. Let me know if you want to come.



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## Great Decisions Discussions

Lynne Walters

rrwalters321@hotmail.com

The Great Decisions Discussion Group will be meeting weekly during the months of April and May. This program helps us develop awareness and understanding of global issues. We'll be reading about a topic of current concern, watching a film on the subject, then meeting online to discuss it. A few of this year's topics include: Struggles Over the Melting Arctic, Global Supply Chains and National Security, Roles of International Organizations in a Global Pandemic, and Persian Gulf Security Issues. Different members of the group lead the discussions each week.



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## Conversational Spanish

Jeannette Flax

jcflax@yahoo.com

Siempre  
Apprendie

We are chatting in Spanish about our families and friends, progress in vaccination, and short stories on If you'd like to join our informal meetings via Zoom Monday afternoons from 4:00 to 6:00, please contact me.

Always  
Learning

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## Ethnic Luncheons

Ann-Marie Guevara

amguevara@comcast.net

We welcome you to join us on Tuesday, May 18, at NOON for the return of Ethnic Luncheons.

**GINZA II**

**3003 ENGLISH CREEK AVENUE**

in the English Creek Shopping Center (near ShopRite). Menu is Japanese: Teriyaki, Tempura, Sushi and Bento Box lunch specials! RSVP to Ann-Maria at [amguevara@comcast.net](mailto:amguevara@comcast.net) or [gretchenb66@gmail.com](mailto:gretchenb66@gmail.com) by Sunday, May 16.

**\*\*We ask that all participants be fully vaccinated.\*\***



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## Travel Group

Carolyn Bassett

geoca41@gmail.com



The Travel Group SMALL CEMETERIES OF NJ will be presented Tuesday, May 4 at 1pm by Carolyn Bassett and Karen Weis. They visited several small cemeteries in Union, Monmouth, Atlantic and Cape May counties and will share some of their findings with the group. There is lots of local history involved. Let Carolyn know if you want to come.

DORDOGNE, FRANCE & the LASCAUX CAVES will be presented by Terry Daily who traveled there in 2019. That meeting will be

Tuesday, June 1 at 1pm. Terry will tell us about scenery, gardens, and cave paintings she saw during her visit.

Again, tell me if you want to come.





## UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER:

Mondays	4 pm	<b>Conversational Spanish</b>	Jeanette Flax
Ongoing		<b>Great Decisions</b>	Lynne Walters
May 4 Tuesday	1:00 pm	<b>Travel Group</b> Local Small Cemeteries	Carolyn Bassett
May 13 Thursday	1:30 pm	<b>For a More Equal Society</b>	Carolyn Bassett
May 13 Mon	7:00 pm	<b>Branch Meeting &amp; Annual Officer Installation</b>	Jackie Shelley
May 18 Tuesday	Noon	<b>Ethnic Luncheon</b> Ginza II (RVSP by May 16)	Ann-Maria Guevara
June 1 Tuesday	1:00 pm	<b>Travel Group</b> Dordogne, France & The Lascaux Caves	Carolyn Bassett
June 10 Thursday	7:00 pm	<b>Summer Program</b> Container Gardening	Jackie Shelley
June 11 Friday	10:30 am	<b>Book Discussion</b> Poetry	Mary Lou Breidenstine
July 9, 16, 23 Friday	10:30 am	<b>Book Discussion</b> H.G. Wells Short Stories	Mary Lou Breidenstine
July 28 Wednesday	7:00 pm	<b>Summer Program</b> Painting with Arlene & Carol	Jackie Shelley
Aug 25 Wednesday	7:00 pm	<b>Summer Program</b> Stress-Free Cooking	Jackie Shelley
Sep 11 Saturday	11:00 am	<b>AAUW NJ Special Outing</b> Allaire State Park	Linda Harmon

# The Atlantic County Branch of AAUW Invites You to Join Us via Zoom

**A reminder email with Zoom link information will be sent out the morning of the program or check our Facebook page.**

**Thursday, May 13 • 7 pm**

**Check in at 6:45**

## Let's Celebrate Us at Our Annual Officer Installation Program

Join us as we mark our achievements, welcome our 15 new Branch members, and meet the 2021-2022 Board Officers. All attendees will be eligible for a door prize – a \$50 gift certificate to Mazzeo's.

*During our Annual Meeting in April, members voted to elect the following officers:*

President – Jackie Shelley

Program VP – Tula Christopoulos

Membership VP – Kris Baker

*And to confirm the appointments of the following officers:*

Diversity Officer – Sharone Jackson-Brown

Fundraiser Officer – Kathy Zeigenfus

Public Information Officer – Janet Yunghans

Public Policy Officer – Jenine Brown

Treasurer – Linda Karp

*Thank you to the Nominating Committee, Carolyn Bassett Chairperson, with Gail Davis and Carol Zerbe.*



### DON'T MISS OUR UPCOMING SUMMER PROGRAMS:

JUNE 10TH  
Container  
Gardening



JULY 28TH  
Painting with  
Arlene & Carol



AUGUST 25TH  
Stress-Free  
Cooking



Visit [ac-nj.aauw.net](http://ac-nj.aauw.net) to learn more about our Special Interest Groups

- AAUW Book Club • Conversational Spanish • Ethnic Cuisines
- For a More Just Society • International Relations Group
- Movie & Discussion Group • STAR: Sisters Together Against Racism
- Travel Discussion Group



Join Us on Facebook at  
[facebook.com/AAUW.Atlantic](https://facebook.com/AAUW.Atlantic)



AAUW NJ Special Project Event



- Sponsored by AAUW NJ and Coordinated by Central, Northern, and Southern Districts
- Allaire State Park, Monmouth County 4265 Atlantic Ave. Wall Township, NJ (Additional Information provided on Allaire State Park website or 732-938-2371)
- **DATE: Saturday September 11, 2021—11:00 am**  
(Travel in groups on your own statewide to this Central Location)



**Inclusive:**

- Open Car Antique Steam Train Ride in Park
- Picnic Area Individual Lunch from Jersey Mikes (sub, chips, cookie, water)
- Picnic Tables available or bring your own folding chairs



- At your leisure tour Open Flea Market (creative vendors)  
Historic Village (tour at leisure (All buildings open and appropriately staffed for information and questions)
- **Cost: \$40.00 Non- Refundable Checks made out to: AAUW NJ**

**First Come First serve limited spots available**

Send to Patricia Baroska AAUW-NJ Central District 2 Wisteria Place Howell, NJ  
07731 H-732-458-5906, C-732-267-3127

Questions Pat: [shorebeachgirl@hotmail.com](mailto:shorebeachgirl@hotmail.com) Northern District Diane:

[dianelcrawford@gmail.com](mailto:dianelcrawford@gmail.com) Southern District Linda: [linda.harmon@gmail.com](mailto:linda.harmon@gmail.com)

**Donation: will be given to AAUW National Greater Needs Fund by AAUW NJ**