

PROMOTING WOMEN’S EQUITY THROUGH EDUCATION FOR OVER 100 YEARS

GIVING BACK IS INVESTING IN THE FUTURE!



Shelly Meyers, co-president, AAUW-Atlantic County, Dr. Claudine Keenan, Dean of Education, Stockton University; Dr. Barbara Gaba, President of Atlantic Cape; Dr. Josette Katz, Senior VP of Academic Affairs; and Jean McAlister, co-president, AAUW-Atlantic County

Presidents’ Message

Dear AAUW-Atlantic County Members,

We want to give a special thank you to the students of the Academy of Culinary Arts at Atlantic Cape Community College for a delicious lunch at our October event, and our amazing speakers Dr. Claudine Keenan, Stockton University and Dr. Josette Katz, Atlantic Cape for sharing information about changes that have occurred in higher education post-COVID. From the number of students struggling with mental health issues, to food insecurity, to ways colleges have had to adapt to a variety of learning modalities, there have been many changes. Students struggle financially, and this is of greater impact on women, as females make up 60% of the student body.

We are looking forward to November 18 at Italian Gourmet Restaurant for the annual scholarship fundraiser event. We hope that you will join us for a beautiful afternoon as we recognize our efforts to close the equity gap through scholarships, tutoring services, and affording young women opportunities to participate in STEM programming. If you are unable to attend, please consider donating to the scholarship fund and/or Tech Trek. Sadly, financial insecurity continues to be the number one reason women cannot further their education. In fact, according to AAUW.org, women hold 2/3 of the student loan debt. The work of AAUW members supports women to achieve their goals one student at a time.

Elections are quickly approaching, and we must vote so that our voices are heard! Gloria Steinem said, “The voting booth is still the only place that a pauper equals a billionaire, and any woman equals any man. It is the only place on earth in which everybody’s equal.” Thanks to Lynn Catterson for sharing her

knowledge of Provisional voting changes in NJ. If you are unsure about this year's voting changes, go to [Atlantic county-elections](#). Lynn also provided us with information we will gladly send you.

Lastly, thank you to committee leaders, committee members and the Atlantic County AAUW Board, as we continue to support the mission and vision of AAUW, leveling the playing field for all women. We are truly honored to serve you!

Happy Holidays!

Jean McAlister mcaliste@atlanticcape.edu

Shelly Meyers sfmecllc@gmail.com

Program Vice President

Shelley Cohen

cohen2475@gmail.com

The Planning Committee met via Zoom on 9/18/23. We reviewed what was covered at the Sept. AAUW program featuring Virginia Rettig, our Community Partnerships Officer and Christine Ruth, founder of the Atlantic City Educational Equity program. The panel included a former client who passed the State Praxis test and is now employed as a high school teacher.



She is currently tutoring other minority clients who need to pass the test. Christine expounded further on the need for textbooks and other materials. The committee decided to donate \$100 to the ACEE program.

Our October luncheon program was held on October 18th in Careme's Restaurant, Atlantic Cape Community College. The topic was How Secondary Education Has Changed Post COVID. Presenters were Dr. Josette Katz, VP of Academic Affairs ACCC and Dr. Claudine Keenan, Dean of Education, Stockton University. The annual Holiday Luncheon will take place Saturday, 12/16/23 from noon to 3pm at Linwood Public Library. Mary Lou Breidenstine will coordinate the potluck luncheon. Kathy Zeigenfus will provide the entertainment so brush up on your trivia facts.

For 2024, the committee decided not to hold a program in January. Both February and March meetings will be held via Zoom. Topics will highlight the lives and accomplishments of famous Black women entrepreneurs. State AAUW will offer a program about Madam CW Walker in February and we are planning a program to discuss Atlantic City business woman Sara Spencer Washington in March.

Our committee has voted to award the 2024 Woman of Distinction Award to Dr. Claudine Keenan. In addition to her duties as Dean of Education, she has also led the AAUW STEM program since its inception. Shelly Meyers suggested holding the award luncheon the first Saturday in April after spring break to garner a large number of attendees from Stockton.

Lisa Goodwin discussed possible venues and members agreed that the Carriage House would be a suitable site. The "Save the Date" announcement for this important event honoring one of our members who has truly advanced our mission will go out in the near future.

Membership Vice President

Kristina Baker

kristinabaker2014@gmail.com

Welcome these women who are now members of the Atlantic County Chapter.

Rina Terry of Somers Point

Lory Golden of EHT

Rosemarie Yazdanseta of Northfield

Two important things I would like to mention.

First, attached to this email with the Newsletter listed below is a link for the Atlantic County list of members. Please check to be sure that your information is correct. Also, I suggest you make a copy of the list so that it is easy to contact another member instead of trying to find the email 6 weeks after it was sent.

Second, there is another link with a membership form for our chapter. In this way if you know of someone who wants to join you can just send/give them a copy. Instructions are on the form.

Lastly, do not hesitate to contact me if you have a question or concern.



Tutors for Educational Equity

Virginia Rettig

rettigva@yahoo.com

If you were not able to join our September meeting about TEE reach out to me with any questions about our tutoring program.

- Clients have passed a total of 31 tests since we began 3 years ago.
- We now boast 9 certified teachers supported by this program. Teachers are in Atlantic City, Pleasantville, Galloway, Bridgeton, Camden, among other locales.
- We now have former clients tutoring their peers!
- We were just notified that we have received another \$1000 grant from the AAUW New Jersey Charitable Trust to reimburse test takers (each test is \$90) and to pay for study guides.
- We are looking to engage more with AVANZAR to help people pass their GED tests. More to come on that!



Fundraiser Officer

Kathy Zeigenfus

kzeigenfus@aol.com

Although it isn't quite like planning the Academy Awards, our very small, but hard working Fundraising Committee has spent numerous hours preparing for our Scholarship Fundraiser, "An Afternoon of Musical Love," featuring versatile Vocalist, Composer, and Musician, Gina Roche. We've been collecting gift cards, baskets of cheers, and lovely items for basket give-away. The Gourmet Italian Restaurant is planning a wonderful luncheon, with cocktails available. We'll have a fifty/fifty as well, all to raise funds for our Scholarships and STEM programs. However, we know that the best part will be gathering with friends old and new.

We were most appreciative of your generosity during the last three years and know that we can count on your support again. We still have a few tables available so please get your responses in to Lisa Goodwin as soon as possible. We will be happy to accept donations if you can't attend, but hope to have a full house for this special event.



We have collected almost \$500.00 from our Boscov's Friends Helping Friends program, and that money will go towards our Scholarships and STEM programs as well. I hope you had as much fun shopping as I did!



Our event room is on the left side entrance to the Gourmet Italian Restaurant, so we will happily greet you there at 12:00 on November 18. You will get your table placement and name tag, then can enjoy some delicious appetizers and peruse our fabulous baskets. We are so pleased that this year, many of our items come from the talents of our own members.

I can't wait to see you on the 18th and know you will be pleased with our efforts to make this event our best Scholarship Fundraiser ever. Personally, I look forward to the beautiful sounds of Gina Roche, whose daughter, Zoe Rosenberg, was in our first STEM camp and is now an astrophysics major at Rutgers University. Gina is donating her performance because she feels that it was our STEM Camp that convinced her to head in the direction of science. It does my heart good to think about it!

Public Information

Pam Tyson

pamtyson@herocampaign.com



LinkedIn for Atlantic County AAUW Chapter. I will be setting up a LinkedIn social media page for our Atlantic County Chapter. It has been suggested that this may attract new and younger members. When researching, it is suggested that each organization has a few administrators for the account. If you are interested in joining me as an administrator, please contact me at pamtyson@herocampaign.org or 609-703-1254.

Items of Special Interest

We received a request from State AAUW that our members work at the AAUW table during the NJEA convention in Atlantic City. The convention dates are November 9th, 9am-5pm and November 10, 9am-3pm.

If you are to help and represent Atlantic County, even for just an hour or two either of those days, please let **Shelly Meyers** know via email at sfmecllc@gmail.com



SAVE THE DATE

The next Board Meeting is Monday, January 8, 2024 at 7pm (Zoom)

More information to follow!

Newsletter Publication Schedule

September - Welcome Back & plans ...

November - Fundraiser & Holiday Lunch

January - Happy New Year ...what's ahead

March - Nominating Committee Recommendations & Notice of Annual Meeting (April) & calendar year statement of income & expenses & recommendations for scholarships

May - Accomplishments, wrap-up information on any of the above & Installation of Officers & summer plans

To ensure that you are getting the most current information of our organization's events and happenings, check our Facebook Private Group Page (you must join this page and be accepted in order to view the posts) and reach out to the Interest Group Leaders by email to make certain you are on their mailing lists for information.

Annual Scholarship Fundraiser Event Preview



Lisa Goodwin, Event Coordinator

Mark your Calendars!!

Our Annual Scholarship Fundraiser will be in November.

Registration is due: Nov 2, 2023

Register early for your seating preferences -*limited seating for this scheduled event*

Where

Gourmet Italian Cuisine
Pitney Road, Galloway, NJ

When

November 18, 2023 12:00

What

Our previous recipients of STEM & Scholarship Program and a special guest

Gina Roche

AWCO*—Atlantic Women's Charitable Organization
 Empowering Women
 Annual Scholarship Fundraiser Presents
Gina Roche
 Versatile Vocalist, Musician, & Composer
 in
An Afternoon of Musical Love
 JOIN US
Gourmet Italian Cuisine 324 South Pitney Road, Galloway, NJ
 November 18, 2023 Donation \$60.00 Social 12:00 Lunch 1:00

Menu Choices
 1) Salmon Chardonnay 2) Chicken Francese 3) Vegetarian

Deadline for Reservation is November 2, 2023 - *Event seating is limited.*
 Mail Check & Reservation form to: Lisa Goodwin, 814 Ohio Ave, Absecon, NJ 08201
 Please make checks payable to: AWCO

Cut Here ---Return Bottom portion with your CHECK 

Name(s): _____
 Phone Number: _____ E-Mail: _____
 _____ Salmon Chardonnay _____ Chicken Francese _____ Vegetarian

I would like to sit with: _____

 Limited Seating- Register Early **Scholarship Program**
 Additional Donations for Stem and Scholarships

\$500 \$300 \$200 \$100 \$75 \$50 Total \$60 + _____ = \$ _____

Checks payable to : **AWCO**, send in prior to November 2nd, mail payment to;
Lisa Goodwin, 814 Ohio Ave, Absecon, NJ 08201
 * AWCO—an IRS approved 501 (c) (3) Questions-Concerns: lisagoodwin999@gmail.com



Sample Event Invitation

This year's Event Invitation includes at the bottom a section :
"Additional Donations for Stem and Scholarship Program"

If you are coming to the event **and** would like to make a donation-add the donation amount to the \$60.00.

When you receive the Invitation please mail in EARLY with your payment.

Any questions or concerns regarding the Event, please don't hesitate to ask.

My email is: lisagoodwin999@gmail.com

INTEREST GROUPS

Documentary/Short Film Group

Jean Mason

Jeanmariemason54@gmail.com



I am pleased that the AAUW Documentary Film Group will once again occur this year. We will meet on the first Monday of each month at the Linwood Library from 1:00 to 3:30 PM. A lively discussion and snacks will follow the viewing of the films.

Any questions, comments or cries of outrage, contact me, jeanmariemason54@gmail.com or 610-761-3106.

Explorers Group

Kristina Baker

kristinabaker2014@gmail.com

NOVEMBER 10 at 1PM We will be visiting the **National Aerospace Research and Technology Park (NARTP)**. Atlantic County is home to New Jersey's only recognized Aviation Innovation Hub. We will have a one hour presentation in the conference room by Howard Kyle, President/CEO of NARTP. He will explain projects with the Air Force and FAA.



The address is: 600 Aviation Research Blvd. EHT. Follow signs for the Atlantic City Airport and at the circle take the road after the WAWA onto Amelia Earhart Blvd., take right at Aviation Research Blvd. go a bit down the road and the parking lot is to the left in front of the entrance to the building. The bathrooms and building are wheelchair accessible. The presentation and tour are free. RSVP if you plan to attend. Details on parking etc. will be sent out about two weeks before the following.



Head on picture of the massive 7 manual console of the Midmer-Losh Opus 5550, on-stage at Historic Boardwalk Hall. © HORC

DECEMBER 8 at NOON We will have an **organ recital** at noon followed by a tour of the largest pipe organ located at Jim Whelan **Boardwalk Hall** in Atlantic City. The cost for the recital and tour is \$10 payable the day of the tour.

JANUARY 10 at 1:30 The **US Life Saving Station** located at 4th street and Atlantic Ave in Ocean City will be our next destination. The museum has been preserved as it was in 1885 and we will be given an explanation on how rescue operations were conducted and how it evolved into the present Coast Guard. The entrance, museum and bathrooms are wheelchair accessible. There will be no cost but donations for the upkeep of the museum would be appreciated.



Do not hesitate to contact me: 609-602-4467 or kristinabaker2014@gmail.com if you have questions or concerns.

We are well into Year Two of our discussion group: The Salon! We meet monthly to discuss a timely issue or a philosophical question. A facilitator chooses the topic and prepares questions to pose at the meeting. There are no right or wrong answers, and we are not searching for a consensus. The discussion is the point!

A few of our past topics have included: Religion in Society, The Pros and Cons of Artificial Intelligence, Recent Supreme Court Decisions, Growing Old in America, Near Death Experiences, and Immigration in the US.

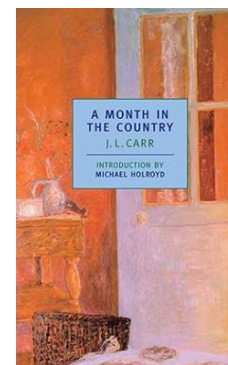
You can find us at the Margate Library, from 2:30-3:30, on the second Monday of each month, from now through March, when our Great Decisions group will resume. Our next meeting is on Monday November 13th. If you want to join the Salon group, or just learn more about it, please email me at VKoob@aol.com.

Book Group

Mary Lou Breidenstine

breidensti@aol.com

AAUW Book group meets on the first Friday of each month at 10:30 at the Linwood Library. Following are the selections through February:



11/3/23 A Month in the Country by J.L. Carr

12/1/23 Barbie and Ruth by Robin Gerber

1/5/24 Movie (tba) and lunch

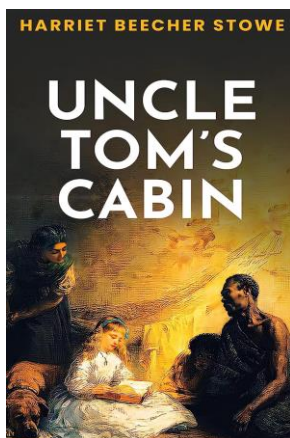
2/2/24 The Marriage Portrait by Maggie O'Farrell

All are welcome. Please send me an email if you would like to be on the list.

For A More Equal Society

Carolyn Bassett

geoca41@gmail.com



This is a small discussion group which meets on the second Thursday of every month on ZOOM. We are educating ourselves on issues of racial and economic equity. We have just embarked on reading Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe. In November (November 9 at 1pm) we will be discussing Chapters 8 to 13. We are also reading commentary on the book. Please let Carolyn know if you are interested.

Conversational Spanish

Jeannette Flax

jcflax@yahoo.com



Our conversation group has been going strong since 2007, under the guidance of Claire Moyer, Aida Colon, and enthusiastic members who want to maintain and improve their fluency. I'm always surprised by our interesting conversations. We help and encourage one another. Everyone who would like to participate, or even just to listen at first is welcome to join us. Contact me for more information.

Ethnic Cuisines

Ann-Maria Guevara
Gretchen Braunwrath

amguevara@comcast.net
gretchenb66@gmail.com

Ethnic Lunch will be hosting its annual Holiday Potluck on Tuesday, Dec. 5, at noon at Gretchen Braunwarth's home, 36 Caledonia Drive, Seaville. All Ethnic Lunch members are invited. Not a member? Just email Gretchen or Ann-Maria (gretchenb66@gmail.com, amguevara@comcast.net) to join!
Info on lunches after December to follow.





Stockton Theater Ushers Group

Theresa Sartorio

theresasartorio@comcast.net



Volunteers are needed for the Stockton Children's Theater. The next show is "The Nutcracker: Atlantic City Ballet on Friday, Dec. 8th at 10:30. If you can volunteer between the hours of 9:45 to noon, please call or email Theresa at 609 965-9521 or thesasartorio@comcast.net for details.

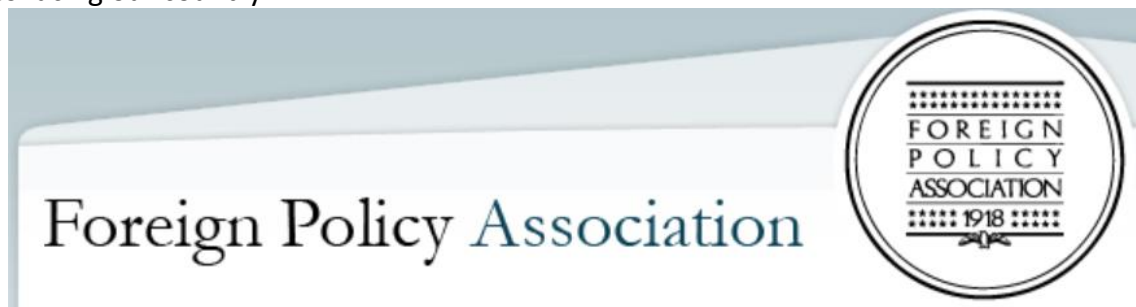
	The Nutcracker Student Matinee Imagination Station Stockton Performing Arts Center	Friday, December 8, 2023 10:30 AM (ET) GET TICKETS
	CelloGayageum Student Matinee Imagination Station Stockton Performing Arts Center	Monday, February 5, 2024 10:30 AM (ET) GET INFO
	Bay Atlantic Symphony How Music Talks Imagination Station Stockton Performing Arts Center	Tuesday, May 7, 2024 10:30 AM (ET) GET INFO
	Bay Atlantic Symphony How Music Talks Imagination Station Stockton Performing Arts Center	Tuesday, May 7, 2024 12:00 PM (ET) GET INFO

Great Decisions

Lynne Walters

rrwalters321@hotmail.com

Our Great Decisions group meets to discuss world affairs once a week for eight weeks in April and May. The program involves reading a chapter in the Great Decisions Briefing Book, then meeting at the Margate Library to watch a short film about the topic. We then discuss the topic. We have discussed some of the most critical global issues facing our country.



I will have more information on specific topics and dates in our January newsletter. Stay tuned!

The Travel Group meets about once a month on the second Wednesday at 1pm on ZOOM In this group, members present interesting trips they have taken and give some background on the areas they have visited. Next up is a presentation by **Mary and Phil Ingram** (regular contributors to our group) on a trip they took to **Scandinavia to delve into the history of the Vikings**. The group meets on the second Wednesday of the month, so the date for this one is November 8 at 1pm. We are still meeting on ZOOM. In December, Karen Weis will present her trip to Italy - the region of Puglia. That is December 13. In January Linda Karp will regale us with her cruise to England, Norway and Iceland. That will be January 10 at 1pm. We are going to skip February and I will let you know about the programs after that. Please let me know if you want to get a link to the meetings. Let Carolyn know if you want to get announcements of up-coming programs, and also if you would like to volunteer to be a presenter.



Programs and Board Meetings			
Nov 2 Thursday		Fundraiser RSVP Due	Lisa Goodwin
Nov 18 Saturday	Noon Italian Gourmet	Fundraiser Luncheon An Afternoon of Musical Love	Kathy Zeigenfus
Dec 15 Saturday	Noon Linwood Library	Annual Holiday Luncheon	Shelley Cohen
Jan 8 Monday	Zoom	Board Meeting	
February TBD	Zoom	Monthly Program	Shelley Cohen
March TBD	Zoom	Monthly Program	Shelley Cohen

Information on the dates, times and event details for Interest Groups can be found in the sections above or by contacting the Interest Group Leader directly.