

Websites:

www.aauwacnj.org

www.aauwnj.org

www.aauw.org



# THE FORUM

Atlantic County Branch  
Volume 110, No. 4

December 2009

## December Program Helen Riso & Sonya Bertini

### Sonya Bertini—Holiday Luncheon Program

Soprano Alea Vorillas Jamsek has performed throughout the New York area as well as in other parts of the country with the Amato Opera. More recently, she has performed in the Philadelphia area with the Amici Opera. Operatic roles include Masetta, Gilda, Micaela, and Violetta among many others. She has also performed extensively in musical theater and operetta, garnering the attention and enthusiasm of critics and audiences alike. Alea will delight us with a selection of popular arias from well known operas. She will be accompanied by pianist Alina Kirayeva, who is recognized internationally as an accomplished recitalist and collaborative artist.

Both Alea and Alina are travelling from New York City to offer us a high caliber program as we kick off the holiday season in big city style!

### **Saturday, December 5th at 12:30 p.m. at the Mays Landing Country Club**

Social Hour 12:30 p.m. Lunch will be served at 1:30 p.m.

Donation is \$25.00 per person, all inclusive, payable to: AAUW Atlantic County Branch

Menu: Roast Stuffed chicken with wild rice OR Baked Atlantic Salmon with dill sauce  
OR London Broil Bordelaise

Send check to: **Judy Page 620 Darmstadt Avenue Egg Harbor City NJ 08215. Deadline is November 25th.**

*Please include menu selection on the check. (seating will be assigned)*

### December 5, 2009 Holiday Luncheon Reservation

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dinner Selection:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Seated with:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**President's Report Emely Aiken 822-3601 .**

For the past few years, at our holiday luncheon, our branch has generously brought toys for the children of the Atlantic County Women's Center clients, but this year our focus will change slightly. As most of you know, we have a strong connection with the Women's Center. Offering a GED course as part of the ACWC's "Home to Work" program ( 11 graduates so far!) was our idea; we donated start-up money, and it continues to be our members who teach the 2 weekly classes (Judy Page, Carol Romano, Suzanne Helmer, and Sally Roik – David Seitman is a substitute). Other AAUW members involved with the ACWC are Karen Aarons , Joan Leavy and Emely Aiken (ACWC Advisory Board), and Louise Seitman (domestic crisis volunteer).

Our **January** program will be a presentation at the Women's Center – a perfect time to give our donation. At a recent meeting with Theresa Moschetto, the Center's Coordinator of Volunteers, she said that a greater need than toys is for gas and food money for the women using the services at the Center. Theresa suggested that WaWa gift cards would be perfect and greatly appreciated. So, instead of a toy, we are asking that you go to your local WaWa store and purchase a **WaWa gift card** of any denomination. Enclose it in an envelope and give it to Joan Leavy at the December luncheon, or bring it to the January 23rd branch meeting at the Atlantic County Women's Center, Cornerstone Building, Linwood. If you will not be attending either meeting in December or January, please mail the WaWa gift card to Emely at 10 North Rumson Ave., Margate 08402.

Judging by the bounty of toys donated in the past, this much-easier-to-shop-for gift should result in another successful donation to the Women's Center. **Thank you all !!**

**AAUW By-laws changes:** By-laws changes mandated by AAUW, as well as suggested changes, were due to be sent back to AAUW-NJ by 10/31. Joan Leavy presented the revisions and led the discussion at the November 2nd board meeting, and the revisions were unanimously approved. A copy of the revised AC branch by-laws was brought to the November 16 meeting for interested members.

There is one proposed addition which the general membership will vote upon at the January branch meeting, as follows: Article VI Officers Section 2 Duties subsection f. "The corresponding secretary shall be responsible for mailing the newsletter each month and sending appropriate cards to members or their families." Anyone wishing a copy of the amended By-laws should email Joan Leavy (sk8s2@comcast.net) and one will be emailed to you.

**Additional Notes:**

Please cut out appropriate articles or photos and give to our Historian, Priscilla Wilkinson. Please contact our Corresponding Secretary, Jackie Sarner, if you know of a member who would appreciate a card.

**Public Policy Audrey Moloney 926-5083**

In response to the recent publication of "The Shriver Report" a much heralded and well respected policy paper, A Women's Nation Changes Everything, AAUW has taken the lead in policy recommendations. Building on the successful passage of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and The Pay-check Fairness Act, AAUW believes that pay equity should be advanced within the federal government and that family friendly policies that value women and reflect today's realities should be pursued.

AAUW has always been a strong advocate and voice for equity and opportunity for women in education, and especially in recent years, we have promoted opportunities for women in the fields of science and technology. This year we celebrate Dr. Carol Greider, an AAUW member who was awarded the Nobel Prize in medicine, an honor she shared with two other doctors.

**Public Policy cont.** The three doctors were recognized for their work with chromosomes. Also this year, a record five women received Nobel Prizes, the first time so many women have been honored as Nobel Laureates in one year! Dr. Greider joins another noteworthy AAUW member: Dr. Florence Sabin, who graduated Johns Hopkins Medical School in 1900 and was the first woman elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

**Travel Group Carolyn Bassett 927-9095**

The Travel Group will meet December 9, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Carolyn Bassett. Esther Howie will present a program on her trip to China, Russia and Mongolia, including travel on the Trans-Siberian Railroad.

On January 20, 2010, Nazrin Majd will tell about her three month trip to Argentina last year, on which she combined study of Spanish and travel, much of it on public transportation. Nazrin is a member of the AAUW Spanish Group. The meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. at Carolyn Bassett's home. Please let Carolyn know if you plan to attend, and also tell her if you took a trip you would like to share with the group.

**Treasurer's Report Betsy Reed 601-6449**

Treasurer's Report as of November 1, 2009:

Operating Checking Account	\$4263.32	Operation Savings Account	\$6803.21
Scholarship Checking Account	\$2786.21	Scholarship Savings Account	\$ 213.84
Scholarship CD	\$8216.00		

**Woman of Distinction Award Gail Zona 641-1986**

The Board Members are pleased to announce the 2010 WOD Award will be presented to ARLENE GILBERT GROCH on Saturday, March 20, 2010 (a luncheon). Arlene's accomplishments are many and her service to community has helped produce the Women's Center of Atlantic County. More details in the Spring. Please mark your calendars now.

**Sisters Together Against Racism STAR Gail Zona 641-1986**

Due to the storm on November 12th, STAR will meet on Wednesday, December 2nd at 6 p.m. (for dinner), 7 p.m. program, at the home of Rosalind Norrell-Nance in EHT. Superior Court Judge Nelson Johnson will be discussing his book, BOARDWALK EMPIRE (Atlantic City history, power brokers, politics, etc.) which promises to be a lively discussion! Questions? Call Gail.

**Cultural Interests Book Group Mary Lou Breidenstine 927-1779**



Join the Book Group on December 16th as Peggy Creegan leads a discussion of "People of the Book" by Geraldine Brooks. Kathy Shippen will be our hostess. The meeting begins at 7:30.

Our Saturday group will meet on February 13th at Gail Vreeland's to discuss "The Canterbury Tales." We will begin promptly at 10:30 a.m. New people are always welcome.

The picture is from a recent book group meeting to discuss "Gertrude Bell". Claire Moyer and Gail Vreeland led the discussion. Helen Riso was one of the attendees.

\*\*\*Please send all Forum reports to Joan Leavy at sk8s2@comcast.net by the 15th of each month. \*\*\*

# December 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 STAR	3	4	5 Luncheon
6	7	8	9 Travel Group	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Book Group	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

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.

**AAUW Atlantic County Branch**  
c/o Jackie Sarner  
523 Holly Brook Road  
Galloway, NJ 08205

**DATED MATERIAL**