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THE FORUM

Atlantic County Branch

February 2011

Volume 110, No. 15

Program Helen Riso 641-7085

Saturday, February 12th, Luncheon at Harbor Pines Golf Club (Ocean Heights Avenue EHT). Cost is \$15 per person and we will order off a special menu.

Social Hour is 12:30—1 p.m. Lunch will be served at 1 p.m. in the upstairs dining room (there is an elevator).

Reservations are a must and please note your assigned seating preference when you return your check to:

Helen Riso 619 Pitney Road Absecon NJ 08201. Deadline is February 8th.

Speaker Is Norman Goos. Topic: Atlantic County Men at the Battle of Trenton in 1776.

President's Notes Emely Aiken eaiken10@comcast.net

We received an acknowledgement letter from Claudia Ratzlaff, Executive Director of the Atlantic County Women's Center:

"....to thank you, most sincerely, for your extremely generous donation of gift cards.* The Women's Center was able to "make the season bright" for more families this year than in previous years. As a strong supporter of the Women's Center, your thoughtfulness touches us deeplyPlease know that your goodwill has enriched the lives of so many women and children in this community. We are proud that you feel strongly enough about our mission to support us...for taking our clients' needs into your hearts, and for giving, so generously, to your community."

As you know, our branch continues its strong tie to the GED program at the Womens' Center, with its all-volunteer tutors, including our own Judy Page.

A belated thank-you to the two members who, without fanfare, have been keeping our branch website up to date (www.aauwacnj.org). When you meet someone who expresses interest in **our group, and you just don't happen to have a current *Forum* handy**, just tell her to go to this website!

* a total of \$305.00 was collected

Membership Judy Page stpage1@verizon.net

Welcome to new members:

Anne McLaughlin 500 Davis Avenue Linwood 08221
BS West Chester University Ph: 927-6906 email: akindercop@hotmail.com

Victoria (Vicki) Biron 3 Country Juniper Lane Egg Harbor Township 08234
BA Richard Stockton College Ph: 383-1132 email: vickibiron@comcast.net

Nominating Committee Report:

The nominating committee met on January 4th **at Audrey's home and we are happy** to report that we were able to fill most of the open positions that day. We are still working on a couple of vacancies and will keep you informed. Our thanks to everyone who responded to the call to serve our wonderful organization.

[The Nominating Committee](#)

Treasurer's Report Betsy Reed hbreed@verizon.net

As of January 1, 2011:

Operating Account - Checking - \$3588.34	Operating Savings - \$6829.61
Education Account - Checking - \$4508.27	Education CD - \$8308.13

Travel Group Carolyn Bassett geoca@mymailstation.com

Since the Travel Group in January didn't meet due to the weather, the next meeting will be March 2nd at 7 pm at the home of Stella Hordes. The topic will be hiking in the Dolomites with the Sierra Club, presented by Carolyn Bassett.

On March 16th at 7 pm, Karen Aarons will be the presenter and hostess of her trip to Africa with her husband and another couple. Please let the two hostesses know if you plan to attend so they can prepare appropriately.

Cultural Interests Mary Lou Breidenstine breidensti@aol.com

Reminder: **We will meet on Wednesday, January 26, at 7:00 at Christine Ecker's home** to discuss "The Book Thief," written by Markus Zusak. This simply written, yet profoundly moving book about the decisions a German family must make during the Holocaust, is sure to provoke an interesting discussion.

Our February 23rd meeting will be conducted by Gail Zona at Mary Lou Breidenstine's home. Gail will lead us in a discussion of the historical novel "Pompeii", a New York Times best-seller, written by Robert Harris. New people are always welcome.

Public Policy Audrey Moloney audreyPZM@aol.com

AAUW has been very successful this past year in promoting issues that impact the welfare of women and girls. Following are a few of our many accomplishments:

- * Made enormous strides toward strengthening and updating the *Equal Pay Act* by advocating for the *Paycheck Fairness Act*. Although the bill was ultimately defeated by a procedural vote of 58-41 in the Senate, President Obama personally thanked AAUW and Director of **Public Policy and Government Relations Lisa Maatz for AAUW's leadership in advocating for** the bill. We will continue the fight for strong pay equity legislation in the next Congress, and for stronger equal pay enforcement through the Executive Branch.
- * Published *Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics*, a comprehensive report on the continued underrepresentation of women in these fields adding to **AAUW's strong research foundations. This report has been so successful that AAUW has** already invested in a third printing. You can order a copy by mail for just the cost of shipping at ShopAAUW or download the report there.
- * Awarded \$3.2 million in Fellowships, Grants, and Awards for the 2010-2011 academic year to support 215 scholars, research projects, and programs promoting education and equity for women and girls. Since 1888, AAUW has provided more than \$80 million to 11,000 fellows and grantees around the globe.
- * **Helped close the book on the Pentagon's 17 year-old "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy which bans LGBT Americans openly serving in the military.**
- * **Encouraged the inclusion of Sen. Barbara Mikulski's (D-MD) Women's Health Amend-**ment in the health care reform legislation. This amendment will prevent health insurance providers from discriminating against women, requiring insurance companies to cover additional preventive health care and screenings for women at no additional premium or co-payment cost.

STAR (Sisters Together Against Racism) Gail Zona gzona1@comcast.net

STAR will meet on Monday, January 31st at the Galloway Library Meeting Room, Jim Leeds Road, at 6 pm (bring your dinner) and 6:45 pm for the program and meeting.

The presenter will be Karen Johnson of Egg Harbor Township. She will present a video, "Talking Through Walls". The subject is a timely one -the struggle to build a mosque in a community in New Jersey and the effect generated on the community. Discussion will follow. **STAR invites guests to join us at any of our meetings. Questions? Call Gail at 641-1986.**

Woman of Distinction Gail Zona gzona1@comast.net

Reminder: Save the date - Saturday, March 19, 2011 - Luncheon/Award Ceremony at Atlantic City Country Club, Northfield, NJ, to honor Sandy Miller, an accomplished musician.

February 2011

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

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 Sarnier
523 Holly Brook Road
Galloway, NJ 08205

DATED MATERIAL