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THE FORUM

Atlantic County Branch
Volume 110, No. 5

January 2010

January Program Helen Riso

I hope you have marked your 2010 calendar for Saturday, January 23, 2010 **at 11 a.m.** for the presentation at the Atlantic County Women's Center- Cornerstone Building, 1201 New Road, suite 240, Linwood New Jersey. ** Lunch will follow. Carolyn Bassett is ordering the sandwiches. Please call her at 927-9095 if you plan to attend. Pay at the door - \$10 per person. Also, Emely Aiken will be collecting the WaWa gift cards, which should be enclosed in an envelope and the amount of the donation to be written on the envelope or on the attachment to the card so that the staff will know how to distribute the gift cards.

If you are unable to attend the meeting but wish to contribute a WaWa gift card, please mail it to Emely Aiken, 10 N. Rumson Avenue, Margate NJ 08402.

** Enter the building from the large parking lot to the north side of the building, at the door closest to New Road, and take the elevator down the hall to the second floor. Turn left and the ACWC is at the end of the hall.

President's Report Emely Aiken 822-3601

The mission of AAUW is to advance equity for women. The mission of the Atlantic County Womens' Center is "to empower women".

Of all the social service organizations in our area, the Atlantic County Womens' Center offers the most varied programs and services to help women better their lives for themselves and their children. The GED program we helped initiate is one of many.

On Saturday January 23rd, we will have the opportunity to tour the ACWC offices and hear about their work. Begun in 1975 by a small group of volunteers, the ACWC will be celebrating its 35th anniversary in 2010, so the presentation for our meeting will be their kickoff event!

And please remember that your contribution of a WaWa gift card will help the many women receiving services from the Women's Center to obtain such necessities as food for their families and gasoline for their cars during these difficult times.

Do try to join us, as it will strengthen the bonds between our two organizations.

Treasurer's Report Betsy Reed 601-6449 As of December 1, 2009:
Operating Checking Account \$4207.73 Operation Savings Account \$6803.21
Scholarship Checking Account \$2786.21 Scholarship Savings Account \$ 213.84
Scholarship CD \$8216.00

Nominating Committee Audrey Owen 927-9288 Nominations: Branch Officers / Committee Chairs 2010-2011

Branch Officer and Committee Chair positions which need to be filled for the years 2010 and 2011 are the following: Officers- Membership Vice President, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary; and Committee Chairs- Educational Foundation (Scholarships), Public Information, and Public Policy. Members who are currently serving in these positions are welcome to continue to serve or request another position. The positions are available for all members. Any member interested in continuing to serve or wanting to become a member of the Board, please notify the Nominating Committee. Serving on the Committee are: Audrey Owen, Judy Page and Priscilla Wilkinson. The Committee will be meeting in January to consider nominations.

Volunteering to serve on the AAUW Board is a great way to learn about the organization on the local, state and national levels. Becoming a Board member can be an interesting, stimulating and rewarding experience. Please consider joining an outstanding Board and make that phone call to Audrey, Judy or Priscilla before they call you!

Public Policy Audrey Moloney 926-5083

AAUW's position papers on public policy issues as well as our public policy priorities have recently been updated and are now available online. We note that advocacy isn't just about speaking on capitol hill but is also about AAUW members and all citizens concerned with equity, being knowledgeable about the current status of important issues. AAUW advocates for all women in the areas of: 1. Work/life balance 2. Pay equity 3. Social Security 4. Healthcare.

Through our **Action Network**, AAUW sent thousands of messages to their senators in support of the extension of unemployment insurance which has been signed into law by President Obama and which helps millions of Americans facing financial hardship. Recently, attempts have been made to insert language into the health care reform bill which would severely undermine women's access to complete reproductive and comprehensive health care. AAUW urges us to write to our senators and urge them to oppose any attempts to jeopardize women's access to complete medical care.
Notable AAUW member: Dr. Jessie Bernard, Sociologist and author of numerous books on family and the changing role of women. Former Penn state professor of sociology.



This is a picture of soprano (and cousin of Sonya Bertini) Alea Vorillas Jamsek and her accompanist Alina Kirayeva, who gave a magnificent performance at the December Holiday Luncheon.

Travel Group Carolyn Bassett 927-9095

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.



Here are some of the members who enjoyed Esther Howie's presentation on Russia & Mongolia, which included a slide show: Jackie Hall Smith, Jackie Sarnier, Carol Zerbe, Joan Leavy, Ginny Gormley, and the presenters, Esther and Bill Howie.

Cultural Interests Book Group Mary Lou Breidenstine 927-1779

The book group will meet on Jan. 27th at 7:30 p.m. The meeting is to discuss "The Book of Salt" by Monique Truong. Carolyn Bassett will be the leader and Jan Smith is the hostess. Next book on March 10th is "Waiting for the Barbarians" by JM Coetzee. Ginney Dominick will lead the group at Gail Vreeland's.

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 shows some of the members who joined book group leader Mary Lou discussing "The Help" and include discussion leader Audrey Moloney, Ginny Dominic, Gail Zona, Terry Daily, Christine Ecker, Peg Creegan, hostess Priscilla Wilkenson and Kit Lok, a guest.

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

January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 <i>Travel Group</i>	21	22	23 <i>Branch Meeting</i>
24	25	26	27 <i>Book Group</i>	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