



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

THE FORUM

Volume 109 , No. 3
Atlantic County Branch, New Jersey

November 2008

~Visit us on the web at www.aauwacnj.org

President's Notes *Sonya Bertini*

The AAUW Educational Foundation is celebrating its 50th Anniversary and since its conception in 1958, it has fought to break through barriers for women and girls. In honor of the EF's 50th Anniversary , members and friends can help AAUW meet our goal of raising 500 gifts of \$50 in 50 days. To be a part of this important effort, please send your contribution to:

AAUW EF 50th Anniversary Celebration
1111 16th St. NW
Washington, DC 20036

Contributions will be used where we have the greatest need and opportunity to educate women for a lifetime of success, research the barriers that harm women and protect the legal rights of those facing discrimination. This is a wonderful opportunity to contribute to an extremely worthwhile cause. Congratulations AAUW Educational Foundation!

Program *Mildred Thomas*



Our guest speaker this month is Mr. Richard Dovey, president of the Atlantic County Utilities Authority. He has held this position since 1990. Mr. Dovey has been a strong proponent of renewable energy and has initiated many green projects at the ACUA, most notably the construction of New Jersey's first windfarm in Atlantic City.

He is active in numerous community organizations. He is chairman of the Egg Harbor City Industrial Commission, Vice President of the Egg Harbor City Board of Education, member of the Community Food Bank of New Jersey, supervisor of the Cape Atlantic Soil Conservation District and Member of the Chambers of Commerce of Egg Harbor City and Atlantic City. We look forward to meeting and speaking with Mr. Dovey at our meeting on November 17 at Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, Northfield at 7:30pm.



***Holiday Luncheon
Helen Riso***

Our Holiday Luncheon will be held on Saturday, December 6th at 12:30 pm. at Harbor Pines Golf Club. The luncheon will include Chicken Marsala or Seared Salmon filet. The cost is \$25 per person. Reservations are a must. The deadline for reservations is November 26th. Please mail your check to:

Helen Riso

Be sure to indicate your menu choice on your check.

***Stockton Summer Children's
Jan Smith***

Thanks to all of the ladies who volunteered their time to usher at the Stockton Summer Children's Playhouse in July. Your time was much appreciated as a letter of thanks was sent by Dana Roberts, director of ticketing services, to Jan Smith. She wrote: "I am particularly grateful as the new kid on the block to have such vivacious and generous ladies helping us. We simply could not have done it without you! Please extend my thanks to all. If I had everyone's address, I would send each a letter myself but I am missing a few addresses and don't want anyone to feel left out of my gratitude so I shall have to depend on you to extend my thanks.

***Book Group
Mary Lou Breidenstine***

The book group will meet of Wednesday, November 5 at the home of Carolyn Bassett. Emely Aiken will lead a discussion of "The Vanishing Act of Esme Lennox" by Maggie O'Farrell. Newcomers are always welcome.

The American Literature group will discuss "Rabbit Run" by John Updike. This group meets on Saturday, December 13 at 10:00. at Gail Zona's house. The discussion will be followed by lunch.

***Movie and Dinner Group
Diane Intenzo***

The Movie Group has had several outings over the last few weeks, seeing some really good and at times heart-thumping but thrilling films. We began with Brideshead Revisited and progressed through Tell No one, Elegy, Transsiberian, Frozen River and The Duchess. The dinner discussions have been lively and extensive.

This is the season for good movies, as film studios jockey to release their potential Oscar entries. So we'll continue to plan on more outings. Please feel free to join us. If you are not on the distribution list, contact Diana Intenzo and let her know you are interested. Remember friends and family are welcome.

Forum articles are due on the
15th of every month
Send information to
Sandy Swain

Membership Judy Page

We welcome the following new members:

Marie Turnbull
306 North Shore Rd
Beesley's Point, NJ 08223
Phone: 609-390-3394
MTurnbull306@Comcast.net
BA+30 Trenton State College, NJ

Barbara Cissone
860 Fourth St.
Ocean City, NJ 08226
BA Penn State, PA
Med Glassboro State, NJ

College Fair Lee Ellenberg

The 46th Annual College Fair , co-sponsored by AAUW and the Kiwanis Club, was held Sunday, October 5th. It was well attended, and allowed students and parents to meet with college reps for two hours.

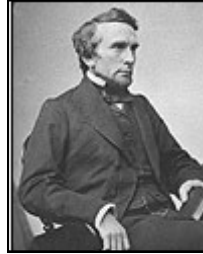
Many thanks again to all who delivered posters and fliers to the high schools. The many hours contributed by the following people were greatly appreciated - Sonya Bertini, Christine Ecker, Maureen Page, Betsy Reed, Ginny Gormley, and Helen Riso.

December Program Marylou Breidenstine

It is the December Holiday Season and the AAUW Players are preparing to host their annual Holiday Coffee Hour for the Senior Citizens of Atlantic County. Join us to see if you can discern the "Impatient Perfectionist," the "Loyal Worker" and the "Work-Avoiding Joiner" as the "Coffee Committee" deals with some unexpected challenge while preparing to open the doors of the Community Room to the gathering throng of increasingly impatient senior citizens.

AAUW Educational Foundation A History Lesson - Sandy Swain

As expressed in this edition's "President's Notes", AAUW's Educational Foundation is celebrating its 50th anniversary. Each year this Foundation provides about 4 million dollars in fellowships, grants, and awards for outstanding women around the world and for the creation of community action projects. The Foundation also funds original research on women, girls, and education. The current Educational Foundation's predecessor goes back to 1888 when its founders first began to award fellowships and grants. Among the first such fellowships presented in the United States was awarded to Ida Street, a pioneer in the field of early American Indian history. This award enabled Miss Street to pursue a graduate degree in Education at the University of Michigan. The importance of this \$350 fellowship cannot be over stated, especially when the then popular opinion concerning women and education is understood.



In 1873 Harvard professor Dr. E. H. Clarke, wrote a book against coeducation titled "Sex in Education or A Fair Chance for the Girls". Dr. Clarke believed "women who engaged in sustained vigorous mental activity, studying in a 'boy's way,' risked atrophy of the uterus and ovaries, masculinization, sterility, insanity, even death. Coeducation was seen as impractical since young women should study no more than four hours each day, with a total remission during the menstrual period, a regime which would be emasculating to boys." ¹

The following excerpt from Dr. Clarke's book further explains the beliefs of the time: "Miss G___ worked her way through New-England primary, grammar, and high schools to a Western college, which she entered with credit to herself, and from which she graduated, confessedly its first scholar, leading the male and female youth alike. All that need be told of her career is that she worked as a student, continuously and perseveringly, through the years of her first critical

AAUW Educational Foundation A History Lesson

epoch, and for a few years after it, without any sort of regard to the periodical type of her organization. It never appeared that she studied excessively in other respects, or that her system was weakened while in college by fevers or other sickness. Not a great while after graduation, she began to show signs of failure, and some years later died under the writer's care. A post-mortem examination was made, which disclosed no disease in any part of the body, except in the brain, where the microscope revealed commencing degeneration." ²

"This was called an instance of death from over-work. Like the preceding case, it was not so much the result of over-work as of un-physiological work. She was unable to make a good brain that could stand the wear and tear of life, and a good reproductive system that should serve the race, at the same time that she was continuously spending her force in intellectual labor. Nature asked for a periodical remission, and did not get it. And so Miss G___ died, not because she had mastered the wasps of Aristophanes and Mecanique Celeste, not because she had made the acquaintance of Kant and Kelliker, and ventured to explore the anatomy of flowers and the secrets of chemistry, but because, while pursuing these studies, while doing all this work, she steadily ignored her woman's make. Believing that woman can do what man can, for she held that faith, she strove with noble but ignorant bravery to compass man's intellectual attainment in a man's way, and died in the effort..." ²

In 1885 a group of AAUW members designed, administered, and evaluated a survey that confirmed the ridiculousness of Dr. Clarke's claims. This survey was the first of many future ventures that AAUW would undertake on behalf women and girls across the country and around the world. Its history of research and advocacy for women's issues is unparalleled in any other organization. In fact, to date the AAUW Education Foundation has awarded millions and millions of dollars in fellowships and grants to women in the United States and abroad....and think...it all began with a \$350 grant to Miss Street.

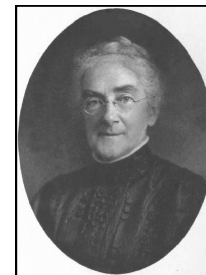
If women don't support the AAUW Education Foundation, who will?

Donations can be sent to:

AAUW EF 50th Anniversary Celebration
1111 16th St. NW
Washington, DC 20036

Sources:

- 1 Educational Resources Information Center. "Dr. Clarke vs the "Ladies" Coeducation and Women's Roles in the 1870's"
- 2 [Http://www.themissgproject.org/about/missg.html](http://www.themissgproject.org/about/missg.html)



"Marion Talbot (pictured top) and Ellen H. Richards (lower) organized the first AAUW meeting in 1881. Both of these "founding mothers" went on to accomplish great things — Talbot became Dean of Women at the University of Chicago; and Richards was the first female student and instructor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and the first woman in America to earn a chemistry degree."

Source: www.nwhm.org/coalition_exhibit/1.htm

***Travel Group
Carolyn Bassett***

The Travel Group will meet at the home of Jackie Sarnier to hear about her month-long trip to New Zealand, much of it spent using youth hostels as her lodgings. Jackie will give us details about the country as well as sharing her experiences with this low-cost way of traveling. The date is Nov19 (Wednesday) - Call Jackie if you plan to come The program begins at 7:30.

If you would like to present a program or have an idea for a topic, please call Carolyn Bassett and let her know.

**THE
POWER
OF ONE VOTE**

YOUR VOTE MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

VOTE

Tuesday November 4, 2008

Polling hours 6:00am to 8:00pm

Questions about voting in New Jersey?
Go to:

<http://www.866ourvote.org/state?id=0020>



NOVEMBER 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
If possible, please pay for your Holiday Dinner reservation at our Nov.17th meeting.						1
2	3	4 Vote	5 Book Club Mtg at home of Carolyn Bassett	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Branch Meeting; Good Shephard United Methodist Church, Ecological Topic	18	19 Travel Group meeting at Jackie Sarnier's home 7:30pm	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

The **American Association of University Women** promotes equity for all women and girls, life-long education, and a positive societal change. The **AAUW Educational Foundation** provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women and to foster equity and societal change. **The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund** provides funding and a support for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination. In principal 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 or disability.

AAUW, Atlantic County Branch



DATED MATERIAL

