



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

THE FORUM

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Atlantic County Branch, New Jersey

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Public Policy Audrey Moloney, Chair

Welcome back to all of our members! At the national level AAUW has been busy all summer. *The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act* was signed by president Obama in the spring. At our national convention this summer in St. Louis, Missouri, Ms. Ledbetter raised more than \$5,000 for our *legal Advocacy Fund* by spending hours giving autographs. She has a strong commitment to AAUW and shares our belief that much work still lies ahead. Here in New Jersey full time women workers make only 78% of the earnings of their male counterparts. When we compare college educated workers the ratio drops to 71%.

A student aid bill (H.R. 32211) passed through the House Education & Labor Committee a few weeks ago. One component of the bill establishes a grant program for community college investment and AAUW played a leading role in the passage of an amendment to ensure women and girls are a part of the Science, Technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) programs at these schools.

AAUW believes that although there are numerous ideas for how to reform and run our healthcare

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President's Notes Emely Aiken

Ninety-two years (1917-2009) as a branch, and 46 past presidents, make an impressive legacy to continue! So, as we begin our 93rd year with this September meeting, the Board and Committee Chairs would like to "get a sense of the membership". The election and installation of officers does not mean that decisions as to our branch goals for that year should be made in a vacuum. We need you to speak up at meetings, or contact us individually, (phone numbers and e-mail addresses are in your roster) with both the negative and the positive (always good to get that feedback, too).

As a start, Judy Page, the Membership Chair, will have a short questionnaire prepared that we hope you will take the time to answer at the meeting. Think especially of future program suggestions and interesting fundraiser ideas. (Our branch has a commitment to donating local scholarships, so each year we need to generate almost \$3,000. above the general operating expenses.)

Enough about money....first and foremost, we support the goals of AAUW national, but it's the participation, enthusiasm, and friendship of our branch members that makes it fun to belong here. The more involved you are, the more you know, and the more you can determine what we do. Hope to see you on September 21.

Travel Group Carolyn Bassett

After a varied year of presentations by members and friends, the Travel Group will be kicking off with a meeting September 23 at the home of Stella Hordes. Karen Weis will be the presenter, talking about a trip she and her husband made to Spain in the spring. They spent some time in Madrid with cultural tourism, and then went to a province of Spain on the border of Portugal for bird watching. The second section of the trip was with an organized group. It promises to be an interesting evening. Call Stella if you're coming (meeting starts at 7:30).

Next up is a program on October 21 presented by Nazrin Majd who is part of the AAUW Spanish study group. Nazrin spent 3 months in Argentina last winter - part of her time she studied in a language school and lived in an Argentinean home, and the other part of the time she traveled extensively on her own using public transportation and seeing a lot of beautiful scenery. That meeting is also at 7:30 and it will be at Carolyn Bassett's house. Call Carolyn if you plan to come.

The group will not meet in November, but on December 16 Esther Howie make a presentation on a trip she & her husband took last year to Mongolia and Russia which involved taking the Trans-Siberian Express. She has beautiful pictures of the Mongolian countryside and, of course, many interesting experiences to share with us. That will meet a Carolyn Bassett's too, at 7:30.

Please think of a trip you think would interest the group that you have taken recently. We would like to meet several times in the winter and spring too. Call Carolyn Bassett with your suggestions and ideas.

Other dates we'd like to have programs for are Jan 20, March 24, April 21, and maybe May 19. Hope to see you soon!

STAR Gail Zona

Our last report to The Forum announced STAR's trip to the AMERICA I AM exhibit at the Constitution Center in Philadelphia. On Monday, April 27th, 14 members enjoyed this outstanding presentation of African-American contributions to our country. STAR was a co-sponsor of the INTER-FAITH DIALOGUES sponsored by the American Conference on Diversity held at the Jewish Community Center in Margate on Thursdays, June 4, 11 and 18, 2009. The panelists represented diverse faiths and the topics and Discussions were very thought-provoking (Are We At War With Islam?, Traditional Religious Views on Abortion, Euthanasia and Capital Punishment and Are Traditional Religious Governments Compatible With Democracy?). Our June 13th meeting was a buffet dinner at the home of Laura Hickman to meet Her guest, Komozi Woodard, a professor of History and Africana Studies at Sarah Lawrence College.

A fascinating personal history of his experiences working with many well-known Civil Rights Leaders and movements and his recent books were discussed and his Fall 2009 book honors the many Black Women who have not been recognized for their past and present major contributions.

On July 14, 2009, Sisters volunteered at the Show House At The Shore in Ventnor, NJ.

STAR's BBQ/Picnic will be held at the home of Mildred and John Thomas in Absecon on Saturday, August 22nd at 1PM.

STAR's September meeting date is to be announced. The topic will be an honest attempt by Sisters to Discuss the important topic of National Health Care Reform. Each member is asked to research the FACTS – separating them from the rhetoric and biases we too often are subjected to. All are invited to Join us for this program – check with Gail Zona (or other Sisters regarding the Sept. date.

Budget Betsy Reed

Budget 2009 - 2010

Income

Branch dues	\$950.00
College Fair	400.00
Luncheons/Dinners	300.00
Raffles/50-50	200.00
Operational Fundraisers	500.00
Interest	80.00

TOTAL \$2430.00

Disbursements

Membership Services	\$ 750.00
College Fair	300.00
Insurance	250.00
Venue Rental	100.00
Incorporation/Legal	100.00
Hospitality	150.00
Programs	1000.00
Conventions/Conferences	200.00
Chair/Officer Expenses	300.00
Woman of Distinction	<u>300.00</u>

TOTAL \$3450.00

We will be distributing the 2009-2010 Roster at the September meeting. If you are not listed, your dues did not reach us before the printing deadline. Your name and information will be included in future Forums.

Movie & Dinner Group Diana Intenzo

The movie and dinner group has been off and running even before the official opening of the new AAUW year. In August we saw two movies: "Julie and Julia" which was a real hoot, and "500 Days of Summer" which was most enjoyable. If you'd like to join the group please contact Diana Intenzo Remember family and friends are welcomed to join in the fun.

Public Policy *continued* Audrey Moloney, Chair

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system certain principles must be included: Gender discrimination in insurance policies must end and women's reproductive health coverage should be a component of all healthcare policies. Access to and coverage for preventative care should be included in any comprehensive healthcare program. Go to the AAUW website (www.aauw.org/publications) for more information.

FYI: Two prominent AAUW members influenced national public policy in the past: Jane Adams, feminist and social activist and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931 and Dr. Donna Shalala, Dept. of Housing & Urban Development 1977-1980.

Book Club Mary Lou Breidenstine

The Book Club had a great summer discussing short stories by American authors. The highlight of the summer was a chance to get together at Audrey Moloney's for a movie and lunch. This group is an excellent way to get to know AAUW members on a more personal basis. We have a variety of opinions expressed, and although we may not always agree, we are usually agreeable. It is great fun! If you have not yet joined us, give us a try in the fall.

Our first meeting of the fall season will be on Wednesday, October 7 at 7:00 at the home of Carolyn Bassett. Claire Moyer and Gail Vreeland will lead the discussion of "Gertrude Bell, Queen of the Desert, Shaper of Nations" by Georgina Howell. Gertrude Bell led an extraordinary life and at one time was the most powerful woman in the British Empire. The book should lead to an interesting discussion.

Also, this is the meeting where we will decide on the schedule for the coming year. Come with your suggestions.

Our Saturday group will switch from American to English literature. We will begin at the very beginning with Beowulf. Date and location TBA.

2009-2010 Annual Calendar
Emely Aiken

Branch Meetings/Events

- Mon. Sept. 21....6 pm dinner....Blue Heron Country Club
- Mon. Oct. 19.....7 pm meeting...Galloway Public Library
- Mon. Nov. 16....7 pm meeting...Good Shepherd Meth.Church, Northfield
- Sat. Dec. 5.....noon luncheon...Mays Landing Country Club
- Sat. Jan. 23.....11 am program, noon lunch...Atl. County Womens' Center
- Sat. Feb. 20.....noon luncheon....Ocean City
- Sat. March 20....noon luncheon...Woman of Distinction.... ?Crab Trap??
- Sat. April 17.....noon picnic....Forsythe Wildlife Center, Galloway
- Sat. May 15....officers' installation + fundraiser....?place??

Board Meetings

- Mon. Sept. 14....7 pm.....Audrey Moloney's home
- Mon. Nov. 2.....7 pm.....Gail Zona's home
- Mon. Feb. 1.....7 pm.....Carolyn Bassett's home
- Mon. April 12....7 pm.....Connie Smedley's home
- Mon. June 7.....7 pm.....Betsy Reed's home

Woman of Distinction Award Dinner – May 18, 2009
Gail Zona

Mays Landing Country Club was the setting of our 6th annual Berenice Connor Kennedy WOMAN OF DISTINCTION AWARD. **Effie Jenkins-Smith, Principal of Washington Avenue School**, was honored by many educators, friends, family and AAUW members that evening totaling over 100 guests!

The citations from public officials were many, the SPECIAL PHOTO OP of Effie Jenkins-Smith's life was a complete surprise to her and beautifully organized **by Mary Lou Breidenstein** (a teacher at the Washington Avenue School). Following the presentation of AAUW's award to

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Woman of Distinction Award Dinner – May 18, 2009 -continued Gail Zona

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Effie, she spoke of her gratitude to family, former teachers and her teaching staff at the Washington Avenue School in Pleasantville, NJ. The high ranking achieved by her K-5 school has been recognized locally and by the State of New Jersey. The special programs she has brought to the students include environmental awareness, swimming lessons, literacy, parental involvement and urban wildlife habitat studies.

Thank you to all the AAUW members for your support of this special event and the **biggest “THANK YOU” goes to HELEN RISO** who handled the reservations, dinners and coordination of the many details that made this event such an outstanding evening for all of us.

AAUW Applauds Senate Confirmation of Judge Sotomayor

Source: AAUW.org

WASHINGTON – In a historic bipartisan vote, the Senate today confirmed Judge Sonia Sotomayor as an associate justice to the U.S. Supreme Court (68-31). Judge Sotomayor will become the first woman justice confirmed to the high court since Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg in 1993. She will also be the first Latina justice.

"Sixteen years ago, President Clinton predicted that Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg would move the court 'not left or right but forward.'ⁱ We believe those words apply equally well to Judge Sotomayor," said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE. "We hope all Americans will join us in celebrating this historic achievement for all women. Judge Sotomayor will bring welcome depth, experience, and first-rate legal knowledge to the court."

"Today is a proud day for those of us who fight for gender equity and judges who are committed to upholding the rights of all Americans," said Lisa Maatz, AAUW director of public policy and government relations. "The Senate has confirmed an extremely well qualified nominee who has amassed three decades' worth of legal experience. The Supreme Court, and our nation, will be well served as a result."

After carefully considering her 17-year record as a federal judge and closely reviewing her recent testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee, AAUW last month announced its support of the confirmation of Judge Sotomayor based on her depth of legal experience, her stellar academic credentials, and her in-depth knowledge of the law. She holds the distinction of being nominated to three federal judicial positions by three different presidents representing different political parties. Further, she has been confirmed to these positions by both Democratic-led and Republican-led Senates. Such distinctions are a rarity in today's partisan world of judicial confirmation battles.

ⁱ The Patriot-News (August 5, 1993). A New Justice for the Court. Retrieved August 6, 2009, from [http://docs.newsbank.com/s/InfoWeb/aggdocs/AWNB/10D8A418F10D6AC5/0D0CB60CE5C979CA](http://docs.newsbank.com/s/InfoWeb/aggddocs/AWNB/10D8A418F10D6AC5/0D0CB60CE5C979CA)

AAUW Dinner Meeting - Monday Sept 21, 2009

You've paid your dues, so why not come out and witness the installation of the new officers and learn what the committee chairs have in store for us.

When: Monday, Sept 21, 2009

Time: 5:30 pm - Social Hour

6:30 pm Dinner

Donation: \$30 per person (includes tax and gratuity)

Where: Blue Heron Golf Club in Cologne, Galloway Township
(Tilton Road - Opposite old Lenox warehouse)

Seating Assigned

If you want to sit with someone special please indicate it on the reservation form.

Reservations are an absolute must. Deadline is Sept.10, 2009

Bar Options: Cash Time: 5:30pm

Hor d' oeuvres:

Domestic and International Cheese Display with assorted crackers and flat breads

Dinner Time: 6:30pm

Salad: Fresh tossed garden salad with tomato, cucumbers, red onions and balsamic vinaigrette dressing

Entrée: Chicken Sorrento - Breast of Chicken topped with melted provolone cheese and finished in a rouge of exotic mushrooms, onions, tomato, garlic and basil

or

Herb Encrusted Tilapia - Fresh tilapia filet encrusted in a herbed panko and presented in a sun-dried tomato and mango vinaigrette

or

Filet Tips-with mushrooms and artichoke hearts in a red wine demi sauce drizzled with a béarnaise sauce.

Chef's selection of potato and vegetables, rolls and butter

Reservation Form

Make checks payable to Atlantic County Branch AAUW
Mail to Helen Riso, by Sept. 10, 2009

Name _____ Phone _____

Menu Choice _____



SEPTEMBER 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Board Mtg	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Dinner Mtg. Blue Heron Country Club	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
c/o Jackie Sarner
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Galloway, NJ 08205



DATED MATERIAL