



AMERICAN
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WOMEN

THE FORUM

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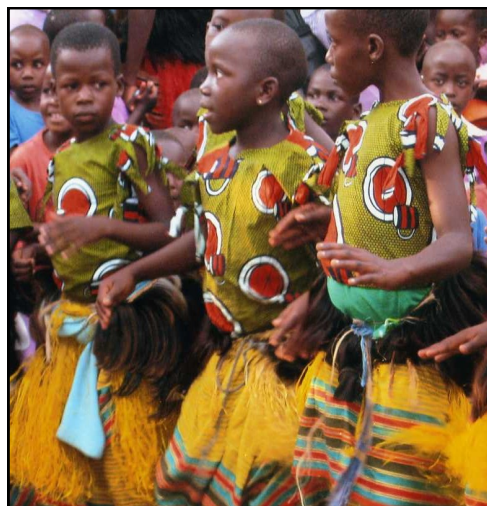
President's Notes ***Sonya Bertini***

Among the Women's eNews top news stories for women during 2007 posted on www.womensnews.org is Margaret Chan, who took over as chief of the World Health Organization on January 4, 2007 making the annual deaths of 529,000 women from pregnancy-related causes an international priority. By the end of October, the global health community had obtained donations over \$1.4 billion for the effort. Another top story was Mexico implementing a sweeping law to address gender-based violence. The law establishes violence against women as a national priority, setting Mexico ahead of other Latin American nations and many in the world. On the down side, the Census Bureau released data in September that showed women's incomes had dropped 1.2 percent continuing the feminization of poverty in the US. Women comprise 56 percent of those living below the poverty line and head over half of poor households. Among the notable women who died in 2007 was the first woman democratically elected to lead a Muslim nation, Benazir Bhutto, opera singer Beverly Sills, fashion designer Liz Claiborne, and former first lady, Lady Bird Johnson.

Uganda Project ***Jackie Sarnier***

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight one of our members, Diana Intenzo. Upon learning about the Sponsor A Child Program at Good Shepherd Child Care Center in Lukaya, Uganda, she was moved to sponsor a child on behalf of AAUW, Atlantic County Branch. She very generously gave money out of her own pocket to support Namatovu Irene in school, send her notes and packages and has tried to generate interest among other members.

Let me share some information about Irene. Her African name is Namatovu (Na means "girls"), and her second name is Irene. Her birthday is 11/10/2003, so she is now 4 years old and enrolled in the pre-school. She lives with her mother and a sibling who is three years old in a two-room brick/mud home. She is a Christian, and her teacher said she is a "caring child who is doing well". Irene will begin this school year in February and will probably be enrolled in the "top



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Program
Sonya Bertini

Who says anesthesiologists put people to sleep?

Remember the really enthusiastic guy who played the part of the hero in our holiday play this year? For those of you who didn't get a chance to come to our holiday celebration and see the play, this man actually memorized all his lines! Well, now we are lucky enough to have Dr. Seitman, doctor of anesthesiology, and even more importantly spouse of one of our members, Louise Seitman speak to us about his intriguing field in a lovely venue, the Ocean City Arts Center.

The Arts Center will be hosting its February exhibit entitled "Repurposed Art", a themed show on the art of repurposing salvaged objects into art. It will be featuring well known area watercolor artist Kim Weiland among others. To catch a preview of the show log onto <http://www.oceancityartscenter.org/exhibit/2008/february.htm>

Please come join us and break free of the winter doldrums!

Where: The Ocean City Arts Center,

1735 Simpson Avenue, Ocean City

When: Saturday, February 23, 2008 at 12:00 noon

Cost: \$7.00 will cover lunch, payable at the door

Please contact Louise Seitman or Priscilla Wilkinson, or Audrey Owen if you plan to attend so that we can get a head count for the sandwiches and refreshments.

Treasurer's Report
Betsy Reed

The balance in our checking account as of January 1 is \$2510.66.

GILBERT & SULLIVAN OUTING:
MARCH 12, 2008
Diana Intenzo

Second Notice to invite you to attend a production of Gilbert and Sullivan's *HMS PINAFORE*, at Stockton on March 12 at 7:30 pm. Ticket prices \$35 or 50.

This is the third G & S show to be put on by this excellent troupe. Those of us who seen the first two shows have enjoyed them immensely. So come and join the fun. We'll have dinner at the Italian Gourmet prior to the show.

We can get a group discount if we can order tickets for 10 or more people. Double check your calendar and let Diana know as soon as possible if you are coming. Family and friends are welcome.

Movie/Dinner Group
Diana Intenzo

The movie group has wasted no time in getting out to see some of the movies that are being mentioned for various awards. On January 6 a large group went to see *Charlie Wilson's War* and enjoyed it immensely. We thought it was funny and thought-provoking. Then the next week, on January 13, a big group went to see either *The Kite Runner* or *Juno*. We all shared views about the two films over dinner at the Shore Diner. Undoubtedly more outings will take place in the weeks to follow. There are many more good films on the way.

If you have not participated in these outings, please give it a thought. It's a great way to get together and share our thoughts over dinner. Friends and family are welcome. Contact Diana if you want to be added to the list.

Urge the Senate to Enforce Title IX in our High Schools
www.aauw.org

Title IX's impact on women's athletic participation is one of the country's greatest success stories. Despite the significant gains girls and women have made since the enactment of Title IX, an important drawback to the law's enforcement at the high school level involves the lack of data reporting. The US Department of Education has not required these schools to report athletic opportunity participation, and funding statistics to any higher authority. AAUW strongly supports the High School Sports Information Collection Act which would require high schools to report basic information on the number of female and male students in their athletic programs and the expenditures made for their sports teams. If you haven't yet done so, go to <http://capwiz.com/aaaw> to urge your senators to enforce Title IX in our high schools.

Book Group
Marylou Breidenstine

Reminder: Karen Weiss will lead a discussion on "The Man Who Loved Only Numbers" by Paul Hoffman on Wednesday, January 30, at the home of Mary Lou Breidenstine. See you at 7:30.

"The Painted Veil" by Somerset Maugham will be the topic for discussion on March 25. Many of us have seen the recent film but we are in for a surprise at the conclusion of the novel.

The next book for the Saturday literature group is "Herzog" by Saul Bellow. The date and location will be announced later.

Uganda Project -continued
Jackie Sarnier

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pre-school class. Because of Diana's support, Irene receives a head start in her education, nutritious meals, uniforms and health care.

When she learned that I was going back to Uganda, she gave me some money to purchase something that would be needed for the school. As it turned out, the leadership team of the school had been hoping to buy a full set of drums to enhance their teaching, to use for celebrations, and to introduce a music program. Because of her kind generosity, Good Shepherd was able to purchase a full set of drums, all sizes and shapes. They were initiated at a ground-breaking ceremony, attended by over 250 people, for the newly purchased property intended to be a new school campus. What joy the drums brought to the festivities!



Many thanks for her willingness to reach half-way across the world to bring health, happiness and hope to children where once there was



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.

February 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 AAUW Mtg Ocean City Arts Center
24	25	26	27	28	29	

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