



PINELINES



The Monthly Newsletter of the AAUW - Medford Area Branch

President's Message

Thanks to all who attended and brought refreshments to our Membership Tea. Judging from the conversation buzz, we all seemed to enjoy visiting with everyone whom we may not have seen since our May meeting. And it was so nice to get acquainted with our guests and new friends: Linda Ellis, Janet Mee, Mary Strickler, and Rachel Wubker. We have an exciting year of meeting speakers, book selections, and a fundraising gala. I hope you will be able to attend and lend your support to these events.

AAUW's Fall Focus meeting at Forsgate Country Club (a mile off NJ Turnpike Exit 8A) will be October 10th. Lila Cleaver, our membership chairperson, will represent our branch at the meeting, and if anyone else can attend, please contact Lila at 609-654-8163 or by email at lcleaver@snip.net. Christy Jones, Director of Membership at AAUW, will be the keynote speaker and her focus will be what the state and branches can do to attract and keep members. The cost is \$25 and includes a light breakfast starting at 8:15 AM and lunch. The meeting begins at 9 AM. To make a reservation, contact Pamela Coratti at 732-714-0986 or by email at PamelaCorSLP@aol.com.

For our October 13th meeting, Dian and Pat have booked a speaker from the League of Women Voters who will address the pertinent issues in the NJ governor's race. This will be a non-partisan talk on issues, not specific candidates. Plan to bring friends who can benefit from this timely political discussion. Continuing along civic lines, Evelyn has chosen *The Nine* as our October book club selection, a very good non-fiction read about looking *Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court*.

Connie and her committee need all members' help to make our November 13 *Wish Upon A Star*

gala a success. Think of whom you want to honor with a star, and invite your friends and family members to participate--both by purchasing stars and attending an evening of "honoring women who have made a difference in our lives." She also asks us to solicit businesses to buy ads for the program booklet. Connie will give us more information at the October meeting.

On a final note, let's remember to send notes of encouragement to our former members Ruth Nagy, who is coping with Alex's illness, and Lois Clair, who is adjusting to a new life in Indiana.

Thanks for all you do for AAUW,

Lynne

Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, October 13, 7:30 pm

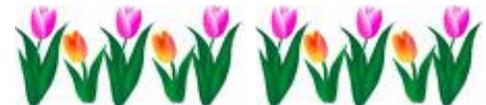
League of Women Voters Discussion
Cranberry Hall, Medford

Tuesday, October 20, 7:30 pm

Lit Group: The Nine: Inside The Secret World of The Supreme Court,
by Jeffrey Toobin
Rose Mary Bland's home

Saturday, October 17

Macy's Shop For A Cause fundraiser
See article inside



Programs

October's meeting will be on Tuesday, October 13. A representative of the League of Women Voters will present background information on the upcoming election for governor of New Jersey. This will not be a recommendation of any candidate but an informed summary of the issues and positions. The theme for this year's meetings is Ourselves, Our World, so the October meeting will be on the world of New Jersey and the November meeting will be on individual personal health when we learn about health and wellness issues for women of all ages.

Pat Kalata

Lit Group

October's book selection is The Nine: Inside The Secret World of The Supreme Court, by Jeffrey Toobin. Toobin is a former assistant U.S. attorney, who is now a senior legal analyst at CNN. He has written a fascinating book that pulls back the robes to reveal the machinations of the U.S. Supreme Court. In the book he details the biography of the justices, their character make-up, and their progression through the court system and the political world. It's an informative, fascinating and highly readable book.

Our meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on October 20th at the home of Rose Mary Bland. Please call either Rose Mary (609-714-1497) or me (609-654-9210) if you have questions or would like directions. Looking forward to seeing you all on October 20th.

Evelyn Goldner



Scholarship

"Wish Upon A Star"
*"Honoring Women Who Have
 Made a Difference in Our Lives"*

6:30-9:00 pm Fri, Nov 13

Location: CareOne at Evesham Assisted Living
 Evesboro-Medford Rd, Marlton

Tickets: \$25 per person

*A ticket purchase with a \$50 Shooting
 Star Donation will include a ticket for
 the Honoree*

*How wonderful it will be for an
 Honoree to attend a Gala in "Her Honor."*

Stars with Honorees' names will be showcased
 that evening

&

Names of Honorees will be listed in our Star filled
 Program.

Stars will be available for purchase through Nov 1

Star: \$10 donation 3 for \$25

Shining Star: \$25 donation

Shooting Star: \$50 donation

*Who are the Women who made a
 difference in your life?
 Be sure to honor each one with a Star.*

Contact Connie Masington for Stars

Public Policy

Women Make More Effective Lawmakers

According to a study from Stanford University and the University of Chicago researchers, women are more effective lawmakers than men. According to [Politico](#), the study, which focused on the performance of House members from 1984 to 2004, found that, on average, women representatives introduced more bills, attracted more cosponsors, and brought more money to their districts than their male peers did. The researchers accounted for things like representatives' seniority, party affiliation, majority/minority status, and priorities when making their comparisons. Women currently hold just 17 percent of the seats in the House and the Senate.

Gloomy report on U.S. education . . .

Report Released on International Academic Assessment

Recently, the [National Center for Education Statistics](#) released a report that builds upon their annual Condition of Education and takes a closer look at U.S. student performance on international assessments. The report found, among other things, that math scores for 15-year-olds in the U.S. now lag behind those of 31 countries. After the report's release, Education Secretary Arne Duncan said in a [statement](#), "It compels us to renew our focus and reinvigorate our resolve to prepare our students to achieve to high academic standards and be ready for the global marketplace." This report is the first report that has published all of these numbers together and puts a spotlight on the lack of improvement in different subjects in the years leading up to 2006. Duncan expressed his hope that initiatives like the [Common Core State Standards Initiative](#) allow states to successfully implement their reforms.

AAUW supports promoting and strengthening science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education, especially for girls and other underrepresented populations. These efforts will help increase America's competitiveness by reducing gender barriers that deter women from pursuing academic and career goals in STEM fields. For more information, read AAUW's position paper on [STEM education](#).

Newsletter Note

We are trying to go green as well as save money on postage. We can also get out information faster via email. Please check your contact information on the member roster in this issue and make sure yours is correct. Supply any missing data to any board member.

Mary Ann Brookes

Member of the Month

Mary Ann Brookes is a Philadelphia gal born and raised, who has lived in Medford for 15 years. She earned her undergraduate degree from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, and an MBA from Drexel University.

Mary Ann has visited more countries than U.S. States while traveling the globe for CIGNA International, directing reengineering and technology projects, but she says she is trying to remedy that. She also worked for J.P. Morgan in the technology area, and now has her own consulting company, running programs and projects for various client companies.

As an avid reader, Mary Ann has bookshelves overflowing with print and audio books. She loves the beach and takes her mom and her dog down to LBI for a week each spring and fall. She is treasurer for the community association where she lives, which also has a beach, plus a lake and other summer amenities.

Lila Cleaver

Occasions

We wish a happy birthday to Elizabeth D'Andrea, Mary Marsh, and Nancy Sauer this month.

If you know of anyone who is ill or has an event that we should remember with a greeting card, please let Lynne or Nancy know. And please let us know if you are not yet on our Birthday list....month and day of your special day.

Nancy Sauer

Branch Operating Funds

As you know, only \$6.00 of your dues stays with our club. Unfortunately, this is not enough to cover our operating expenses. The money we raise at our fundraisers can be used only for scholarships. Consequently, we need to find ways to raise money to supplement our income. We have been trying to find a way to do this that is simple and relatively painless.

Since most of our members are avid readers, we thought about bringing books you have finished in to our monthly meetings where other members could then select them for a modest donation of a dollar per book. These should be books that would conceivably be of interest to others in the club. This should be a win-win situation: we find a way to get rid of unwanted books, members get a bargain and the club makes money. Let's try bringing our used books to the October meeting and see how it goes. We'll display them on a table where members can browse through them before and after the meeting.

If you have any other ideas for raising money at meetings, please let me know. Meanwhile, see below for the Macy's event that Lynne arranged.

Bea Chawla, Treasurer

Participate in our ***Macy's Shop For A Cause*** fundraiser on Saturday, October 17, 2009 at Macy's Moorestown. This unique, one-day-only shopping event was created by Macy's to support local non-profit organizations.

The concept is simple. Macy's has provided our organization with shopping passes to sell for \$5 each. Every dollar goes directly to our organization. If we sell more, we make more!

By purchasing a shopping pass to the event, customers support their favorite cause while enjoying a day of spectacular discounts, entertainment, special events and a chance to win a \$500 shopping spree. This exclusive shopping pass includes **20% off most items and 10% off furniture, mattresses, and rugs.** (Some exclusions apply)

Contact Lynne Poag for passes to sell.

Acme Receipts

Please remember to save all your Acme cash register tapes and give them to me or Evelyn at our monthly meeting (or lit group). We receive 1% of the total amount on each receipt and have been donating this money each year to the AAUW education fund. It is a simple and relatively painless way for us to earn money and put it to a good use. If you do not shop at Acme yourself, you may know someone who does. Check with your friends and ask them to save their tapes for you. Thanks so much.

Bea Chawla

2009 – 2010 Executive Board

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