



PINELINES



A Special Edition of the AAUW - Medford Area Branch Newsletter

AAUW's Mission

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research

Special Edition

In this special summer edition of the newsletter, we want to share some information of interest to our members and solicit any ideas or input you might have.

Mary Ann Brookes

In this Issue:

- Board Changes
- Survey Results
- Ice Cream Event Ideas
- Summer Birthdays
- Dues Payment

Board Changes

Many thanks to Connie Masington for her time and efforts as our Scholarship leader for the last few years. The galas were a lot of fun and quite successful at raising funds for our scholarship awards. Due to heavy commitments in her business and personal life at this time, Connie will be unable to fill her anticipated leadership positions for Scholarship and Membership. We hope she will continue to give us the benefit of her participation as time permits. Again, thank you, Connie, for your past leadership.

Two of our members have stepped up and agreed to take the leadership roles. Sylvia Somers will be our new Membership VP, bringing her great ideas and enthusiasm to the table. Mary Strickler will apply her project management skills to lead our Scholarship efforts. Thanks, Ladies!

Survey Results

Surveys were completed by ten of our 38 members, which is a good percentage as surveys go, but we would prefer input from as many as possible. This is one case where more is definitely better. However, there are some clear trends in the data, as shown below.

Respondents ranked the importance of these aspects of **membership** in the following order of importance:

- 1 Interesting speakers
- 2 Socialize
- 3 Stimulating discussion
- 4 Scholarship funding
- 5 Support AAUW mission
- 6 Volunteer opportunity
- 7 Chance to get out

Activities were rated from 1 through 5, with 1 as the highest score. Increasing membership, especially with younger members, was rated as a priority.

Activities	Average Rating
Increase membership	1.5
Add younger members	1.6
Current activity good	1.8
More social activities	2.6
Current membership good	2.8
Add subgroups	2.8
Promote knowledge	3.0
Fewer meetings	4.4

The website questions, also rated from 1 through 5, generated the most consistent ratings of all, with virtually unanimous support for launching a website for the branch.

Website	Average Rating
Event calendar	1.1
Scholarship application	1.1
Newsletter	1.3
Organization mission	1.3
Program status	1.6
Member info	2.9
Don't need website	4.5

Write-in suggestions from members included the following:

- Bring back the Arts & Letters subgroup
- Conduct trips and cultural events
- Entertainment at meetings
- Show members how to use social media such as Facebook and Twitter
- Investment club
- Monthly movies
- Card group
- Sharing travel stories/pictures/artifacts
- Have a speaker from the NJ Lottery
- Start a choral group
- Add web links to other sites of interest to women

Look for implementation of some of these ideas coming soon.

Please forward your own ideas, comments and suggestions to:

Mary Ann Brookes
38 Red Oak Trail
Medford, NJ 08055

Or email to mbrookes@comcast.net

Let me know if you would like to have a survey form to complete.



Ice Cream Event

The ice cream sundaes were terrific, and seemed to stimulate our brainstorming. We hope that you will all give us your own ideas and opinions on how to make this scholarship year successful.

Here are highlights from the evening:

No gala this year. We decided unanimously to pursue other fund raising efforts this year. The gala was successful for two years running, but CareOne is no longer available and it is too late to find another venue for autumn. The possibility of having a gala every other year was discussed.

Meanwhile, a number of other ideas were discussed that could be good fun as well as generate scholarship funding.

Fund Raising Ideas

RiverSharks

- We could run an outing for members and friends, adding a few dollars to each ticket.
- Sylvia will get more details.

Panera Bread – evening collection of receipts

- Requires volunteers to man a table with a sign during an evening to let patrons know we are collecting receipts for AAUW. We cannot actively solicit there, but can let members and others know to have dinner at Panera that night.
- A recent high school group netted \$400 for an event.
- Requires a 6-week lead time.

Chick-fil-A

- Similar to Panera. Sylvia to get more info.

Dining for Dollars

- Illiano's Restaurant has done this; similar to Panera Bread, we would pass out flyers

to get people to eat at the restaurant for a certain amount per patron. Kitty to get more details.

- La Posata was also recommended for a similar program by Mary Allbee

All Member Yard Sale

- Need a location. Mab to check with Rose Mary about possibility of parking lot of Cranberry Hall.
- We could also sell drinks and snacks during the event.
- A book sale could be added here also.

Antiques luncheon

- Need a venue that will not charge too much for lunch and an appraiser
- Sylvia found information on the Monmouth County branch showing they used an appraiser in 2008 named Martine White, who might be available for us

Department Store Fashion Show

- Cold Water Creek and Steinmart were mentioned as possibilities
- Would need to line up a venue (cost?) and a store

Wedding Dress Fashion Show

- Similar to above, with used wedding dresses hanging in our closets.

Gold Mine Jewelers

- Advertisement says they will give an organizer \$400 to host a gold sale party.
- Sylvia to get more info.

Raffle

- Maybe a Cruise or a Cape May weekend.
- Probably need a long lead time to get this set up.
- Mary Strickler to check with her cruise contacts on possibilities.

Book and Author Luncheon

- Need to identify some local authors who might be affordable.
- Need to identify a venue.
- Need an invitation list.

Book Sales

- Need volunteers to organize and a venue.

Psychic Night

- Need psychic cost and venue to determine profitability.

Other thoughts

Medford Leas as a possible venue for fashion show or luncheon?

Lynne to check on this with some contacts she has.

Kings Grant – Good Foods to Go was recommended as a good catering choice by Mary Allbee.

Occasions



We have lots of birthdays in the summertime! Happy Birthday wishes go to the following members:

Barbara Zeuli	- June	7
Linda Fanelle	- June	15
Pat Kalata	- June	24
Carol Guarnieri-Palermo	- June	25
Evelyn Goldner	- July	2
Mary Ann Brookes	- July	19
Phyllis Brown	- July	22
Lila Cleaver	- July	23
Kay Hatton	- August	22
Sylvia Somers	- August	29
Rachel Wubker	- August	29

Happy Birthday, Ladies!

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 date of your special day.

Nancy Sauer

2010 Dues

Payment is due July 31, 2010

State and national dues remain the same as last year. Our annual dues will remain at \$65.00 (\$49 for national, \$10 for state and \$6 for our local branch).

NAME: _____ BIRTHDAY _____ (Day and month only)

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

Email address: _____

Please check if you are a life member: _____

If you are a dual member with another branch, please indicate the branch name: _____

