



PINELINES



The Monthly Newsletter of the AAUW - Medford Area Branch

AAUW's Mission

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

President's Message

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. It was great to be with family and remember all the reasons to be grateful. Including leftover turkey!

The shopping night at Coldwater Creek was a great success! I know I managed to get a few Christmas gifts, as well as an item or two for myself. See the results and details below from Mary Strickler. Thanks to Lynne and Dian for setting up the evening.

This month's meeting is yet another event. Our annual holiday party will be held at Carriage Trade Cheese Shoppe. The eatery was favorably reviewed a few months ago in SJ Magazine and promises to be a fun time. Although it may seem like light fare, don't be fooled – it will be your dinner.

Welcome to our latest new member, Fran Hahn. We look forward to getting to know her better at our upcoming events.

Although the Paycheck Fairness Act was blocked by the Senate, we and all of AAUW will keep on fighting the good fight for equality. See details below from Lynne.

I hope to see everyone at Carriage Trade Cheese Shoppe on the 14th.

Mary Ann Brookes



Holiday Party

Please RSVP and send your \$25 for the evening to June Ramondetta by Monday, December 6, so we can get a count to the Carriage Trade Cheese Shoppe a week in advance.

On Tuesday, December 14 from 7 to 9 p.m. join your AAUW friends at the Carriage Trade Cheese Shoppe, Main Street in Medford, to celebrate the holidays. Owner Laurel Natale will host the event and teach us about the exquisite cheeses and pairings. Bring your own wine to give the evening an added kick while tasting all these fine cheeses. If you buy any of the cheeses or order any interesting cheese trays, you'll get a discount.

Rita

Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, December 14, 7:30

Holiday Party

Carriage Trade Cheese Shoppe
Main Street, Medford

Tuesday, December 21, 7:30 pm

Lit Group – **The Art of Racing in the Rain** by Garth Stein

Medford Art Center,
18 North Main Street, Medford

Occasions

If you know of a member who is celebrating an event or needs words of encouragement, or a word of thanks, please let Mary Ann or Tricia know so we can send a note or card.

Also, we'd like to include everyone on our birthday list, so please drop a note to either of us.

Birthday greetings



This month, please join in extending best wishes for a happy day to:

Bea Chawla – December 3
Dian Hattrick – December 6
Lois Clair – December 12

Hope your special day is wonderful!

Tricia Reace

Lit Group

Anyone who has had a dog is sure to have wondered what that dog might be thinking at one time or another. The December book selection tries to provide answers to that question. Written from the point of view of Enzo, a terrier/poodle/shepherd mix, **The Art of Racing in the Rain** by Garth Stein tells the story of not only the narrator, but also of the family to which he belongs. The story runs the gamut from humorous, to tragic, to philosophical and along the way the reader will become very involved with the engaging characters, both two-legged and four.

For a change of pace, the meeting will be held at the Medford Art Center, which is located at 18 North Main Street, across the street from the Township offices. The art center is in the former Burlington County Times building and is a beautiful old Victorian structure which will be decorated for the holidays. In addition there will be an art exhibit of local artists on display at the time of our meeting.

There is parking behind the building or on Main Street. Please join us on Tuesday, December 21st at 7:30 pm and bring with you a half dozen (or more!) cookies to share. To RSVP or for directions, call Rose Mary or Bea.

Thank you to Nancy Sauer for hosting the November meeting and for sharing her collection from both Korea and China. This included a pair of shoes designed for a woman whose feet had been bound - a tradition that was covered extensively in the November book, *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*.

Bea Chawla and Rose Mary Bland

Scholarship/Fundraising

Great news! At halfway through our season we have earned a total of \$655 toward our scholarship for this year. Huge thanks are due to Lynne Poag and Dian Hatrick for their efforts in putting together our evening at Coldwater Creek. That earned us \$350!

Of course, it was also a very pleasant evening; many of us got great bargains for ourselves or for gifts.

And at the store that evening we were introduced to a possible source of continuous income. We have some work to do before committing to that, but it looks quite promising. We'll keep you posted on that score.

As always we are open to suggestions for other fund-raising activities. Emails, snail mail, phone calls, or just a quick chat are all welcome.

Mary Strickler

Public Policy

Paycheck Fairness Act Blocked by Senate

The Paycheck Fairness Act (S.3772) was blocked on a procedural vote by a minority of senators on Wednesday. The 58 votes in its favor fell just below the 60 required to open substantive debate on the legislation. As AAUW Director of Public Policy and Government Relations, Lisa Maatz, put it, "This de facto filibuster of fair pay by Senate Republicans ensured that we never got to a debate on the bill's merits. Strategically, I can't blame them --- they can't win a fair fight against pay equity."

Following the vote, President Obama issued a statement noting his deep disappointment and pledged to continue his administration's

support for stronger protections of women's equality in the workforce. Maatz and AAUW received personal thanks from the president for all the hard work on behalf of the Paycheck Fairness Act. To watch his remarks, click [here](#).

Lynne Poag

AAUW Online

AAUW earns top-rated status!

GreatNonprofits.org gives AAUW 5 stars in both Education and Women's Empowerment campaigns. See what they say [here](#).

Forbes' Sexist Powerful Women List

What makes a person powerful? According to Forbes, that depends on gender. Forbes' World's 100 Most Powerful Women list came out last month, and the contrast with the World's Most Powerful People list is stark. [Read the blog](#).

AAUW Action Network

Members of the bipartisan National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform meet this week to debate adoption of recommendations including deep cuts in Social Security benefits. It is critical that we send a clear message to legislators that cutting Social Security is not an acceptable course of action.

Social Security is much more than a retirement program – it is one of the most successful anti-poverty programs in our nation's history, providing benefits to many children, disabled workers, surviving spouses, and retirees. In particular, older women, who frequently don't have pensions or adequate savings and often outlive their spouses rely on Social Security benefits. In fact, without these benefits, nearly half of elderly women would fall into poverty.

AAUW urges action. See the story [here](#).

For more information, read our position papers on [women and retirement security](#).

Medford Area Website

Don't forget to visit our own branch website at: www.aauwmedfordnj.com. Let us know how we can add to the experience.

*Happy
Holidays*



2010/11 Executive Board

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**AAUW-Medford Area Branch
Membership Roster
December 2010**



The American Association of University Women promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change. In principle and practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.

The AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.



 AAUW



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