



PINELINES



The Monthly Newsletter of the AAUW - Medford Area Branch

www.aauwmedfordnj.com

AAUW's Mission

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

President's Message

We missed out on the Air Corp presentation last month due to the weather. Here's hoping that we will be able to hear about Margaret Riccardelli's adventures in Cuba next week.

Our book & author brunch is scheduled for April 30. Get your reservations in early, as seating is limited. It should be a really nice event. Thanks to Mary Strickler and team for organizing! See details below.

The 2011 Scholarship application form is now posted on the website and will be available at the meeting. Think about who might be a good candidate and get her to apply.

The Lit Group selection for February is a classic that some of us read in High School, but I think *Cannery Row* is easier to appreciate from a mature perspective!

Please see what's going on in our neighboring branches below and on our website. Salem branch is presenting a program on Civil War garb that sounds fascinating and Wilmington, DE is hosting their 42nd annual used book sale with books, CD's and more. Both events are in March.

I hope to see everyone at Cranberry Hall on the 8th.

Mary Ann Brookes

Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, February 8, 7:30

"Assignment: Havana": Speaker
Margaret Riccardelli
Cranberry Hall, Medford

Tuesday, February 15, 7:30 pm

Lit Group – **Cannery Row** by John Steinbeck
Home of Linda Fanelle

Saturday, April 30, 11:30 am

Medford Branch Book & Author Brunch
Lights Out In Paradise by Paul Salvo
Medford Leas, 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 Tina Wetterau on February 8.



Hope your special day is wonderful!

Tricia Reace

Lit Group

John Steinbeck's classic novel, *Cannery Row* will be discussed at the February Lit Group meeting. With its deceptively simple plot, the novel presents a slice of the lives of a group of men who, in the post-depression era, populate a strip of sardine canneries after the workers go home. Although penniless bums, Steinbeck's characters share a rich camaraderie and are remarkably contented with their lot in life.

Join us on Tuesday, February 15th at 7:30 pm at the home of Linda Fanelle as we analyze the novel and perhaps discover the secret to what makes for genuine happiness. For directions and to RSVP, please call Linda at 856-234-4075.

Bea Chawla and Rose Mary Bland

Programs

Please attend the February 8th meeting to hear Margaret Riccardelli speak about "Assignment: Havana." One of our own AAUW members, Margaret will tell of her experiences in Havana while on assignment with the U.S. State Department.

Margaret lived in Havana from 2000-2002. She will talk about living under intense surveillance by the Cuban government, medical care, schools, what life was like for official Americans and for tourists, why the U.S. Government is the only country that does not have diplomatic relations with Cuba, and why we still have an embargo.

Please join us for a very interesting and enlightening evening.

Lynne and Dian

Public Policy

2011 National Convention Registration Now Open

Registration is now open for the AAUW Convention 2011, "Breaking through Barriers - Advocating for Change," June 16-19 in Washington, DC! A highlight of this year's convention will be the Capitol Hill Lobby Day. For information on programming, accommodations, travel, and more, visit <http://convention.aauw.org>.

Military Commission Proposes Ending Ban on Women in Combat

This week, the Military Leadership Diversity Commission proposed ending the ban on women in direct combat operations. To go into effect, the proposal requires approval from only the Defense Department; congressional approval is not necessary.

While formal Pentagon policy currently bans women from participating in any ground combat operations, opponents of the ban point out that the lines between combat and non-combat situations have been blurred in recent years in Iraq and Afghanistan. The current policy also places artificial barriers to advancement for women because successful combat experience is the most direct route for career advancement and promotion in the military.

AAUW supports the mission of advancing equity throughout all levels of the workforce, including the U.S. military.

Lynne Poag



Fundraising & Scholarship

Our next major fund-raising event will be on Saturday, April 30th when we will be hosting a Book and Author Brunch at Medford Leas. Paul Salvo, author of *Lights Out in Paradise* will be our speaker. The price will be \$30. We will be asking you to make reservations, as seating will be limited. See the flyer attached.

I will also be thanking a whole list of people who are working on this, but the ones who have done the most important things so far are Mary Ann Brookes, who lined up the speaker, and Bea Chawla, who has made the arrangements with Medford Leas.

The 2011 Scholarship Application has been sent to the financial aid offices of NJ colleges and is posted on our website. Feel free to direct candidates to submit their application.

I look forward to seeing all of you there, along with many of your friends and neighbors.

~ Mary Strickler

Other Branch Events

Salem, NJ Branch, March 19: [Women's History Month Queen's Tea](#)

Saturday, March 19 at the Friends' Meetinghouse Annex in Woodstown at 11:30-about 2:00pm. We have tables of four available, or will seat individuals with new friends. Cost is \$25.00/person.

Our program will be "[An Under the Skirts Tour of Civil War Dressing](#)" by two local people who are very knowledgeable about the topic. A male member of their group makes the clothing for the presentation. For info, email jhjack@verizon.net.

Wilmington, DE Branch, March 3-6: [42nd annual AAUW Dollars for Scholars Used Book Sale](#)

There will be more than 50,000 used books, 1,000 vinyl records, CDs, DVDs, a "Wizard of Oz" collection and other items for sale. Most items are 75 cents to \$5, with collectibles priced up to \$100.

The sale will be held at Concord Mall, 4737 Concord Pike, Brandywine Hundred. For more information, visit the website at www.aauwwilmington.org/booksale.html, call (302) 428-0939 or (302) 428-0939 or e-mail aauwwilm@gmail.com.

2010/11 Executive Board

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AAUW Medford Area Branch presents:

2011 Book & Author Brunch
***Lights Out in Paradise* by Paul Salvo**

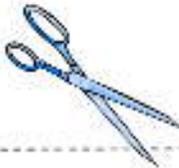
**** All ticket proceeds go to college scholarships ****

Lights Out in Paradise is a coming-of-age novel that is a blend of autobiography and fiction following a young boy moving from Sicily to Bushwick, one of Brooklyn's working-class neighborhoods. The author delivers insightful views into the cultural and ethnic influences and changes experienced by two friends through the 1950's and 60's.

When: Saturday, April 30, 2011, 11:30 AM

Where: Medford Leas, Route 70, Medford, New Jersey

Tickets: \$30 per person (\$15 tax deductible)



www.aauwmedfordnj.com

******* RSVP *******

Yes, I will attend the brunch and meet Paul Salvo.

Name: _____

Number of attendees: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ (\$30 per person)

Please make checks payable to: AAUW Medford Area Branch

Send with RSVP & check to: June Ramondetta, 119 Bracken Rd. Medford, NJ 08055

**AAUW-Medford Area Branch
Membership Roster
February 2011**

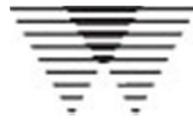


*The **American Association of University Women** promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change. In principle and practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.*

*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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Newsletter Editor:
Mary Ann Brookes
38 Red Oak Trail
Medford, NJ 08055

