



The Monthly Newsletter of the AAUW - Medford Area Branch

<http://medford-nj.aauw.net/>

AAUW's Mission

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

President's Message

Our September opening tea at the Medford Arts Center was enjoyed by all. Our next regular meeting, in November, will be held at the same venue.

For October, the big event is our Book & Author Champagne Brunch at Medford Leas. We are looking forward to meeting Amy Ellis Nutt and to the wonderful brunch. And don't forget those mimosas! All for the good cause of our Scholarship Fund. We had a sell-out crowd for our last brunch, so get your RSVP in early.

This month's Lit Group selection, *The Warmth of Other Suns*, while non-fiction, is so engaging that I've been having a hard time putting it down. I just can't wait to find out what happens next to the three people we are following through their experiences in the South and then their part in the great migration to the North and West of our country.

Huge thanks go to Mary Strickler for hauling all those books back and forth to accommodate our book sales at Kirby's! Although the venue hasn't the high level of traffic of the Medford Lakes Farmers' Market, we've been able to add some to our scholarship fund and those of us who turn up have a pleasant time hanging out together. Come out to our last sale of the season on October 14 to help out, hang out or even to buy some books.

I hope to see you all at Medford Leas on October 20.

Mary Ann Brookes

Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, October 16, 7:30 pm

Lit Group – The Warmth of Other Suns by

Isabel Wilkerson

Home of Nancy Sauer

Sunday, October 14, 10 am—2 pm

Fundraising book sale

Farmers' Market at Kirby's

Main Street, Medford

Saturday, October 20, 11:30 pm

Annual Book & Author Champagne Brunch

Pulitzer Prize winning author Amy Ellis Nutt

Medford Leas, Medford

Occasions

Birthday wishes for October go out to two of our members:

Roberta Hyatt – October 19

Nancy Sauer – October 27

Have a great day, Ladies!



Also, for any of you who know her, drop a card to former member Jean Abbott, who is celebrating her 99th birthday!

If you haven't shared your birthday yet, please send it along so we can celebrate you, too.

And please continue to let us know if any members need a note of encouragement, a card of thanks, or congratulations.

Scholarship & Fundraising

Book Sales Add to the Fund

First of all, I'd like to say a big 'Thank you' to those of you who have been helping with the book sales. We have one more to go - on October 14th - at Kirby's as before. We could use another one or two volunteers, so please let me know if you are available. My email is mstrickl@att.net, and my phone number is (609) 267-1665.

Champagne Brunch on October 20

However, the biggest news is, of course, the upcoming **Book and Author Brunch** on October 20th at Medford Leas. By now you all should have received either an invitation or a flyer and several of you have already responded. The rest of you, get going! And bring friends! This is our biggest fund-raiser and we need a good turnout.

The event starts at 11:30am and features a presentation by Amy Ellis Nutt, a Pulitzer-prize-winning author. She will be talking about her latest book, *Shadows Bright As Glass*. See Rita's summary below for more details.

Please get me your responses by October 13th so we can finalize the arrangements with Medford Leas. I look forward to seeing you there.

Mary Strickler

Author Brunch

We are excited that Pulitzer Prize winning author Amy Ellis Nutt will be the featured speaker at our Book/Author event on Oct. 20. Amy will talk about her book *Shadows Bright As Glass*, the remarkable story of "One Man's Journey from Brain Trauma to Artistic Triumph."

This is the fascinating, true story of a man who one day was a chiropractor with a normal family life but after a stroke awoke a different man, a painter whose art work is displayed in galleries across the country. Amy, a long-time reporter at the Star-Ledger, is recognized as one of the premiere writers and storytellers in the country.

Rita Manno

Lit Group

For our October selection, the Literature Group will be discussing *The Warmth of Other Suns* by the Pulitzer prize winning author Isabel Wilkerson. This non-fiction work chronicles the migration of citizens who fled the south for northern and western cities in search of a better life. The story is told through the lives of three very unique individuals, each representing a different decade of the great migration north.

The October meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, October 16th, at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Nancy Sauer. Please contact Nancy at saueml@aol.com for directions.

Looking ahead, we will be meeting on November 20, 2012 to discuss Jack Kerouac's *On The Road*.

Helen O'Neill and Rose Mary Bland

Programs

There will be no regular program in October, as the Book & Author Event takes the place of our regular meeting.

Stay tuned for information on November's meeting, back at the MAC, in the next newsletter.

Bea and Sylvia

Thanks—2012 Dues

Most of you have paid this year's dues—thank you!

And an extra special thanks to those who included a little something extra for our scholarship fund!

If you haven't already renewed, please mail your payment to:

**June Ramondetta, Treasurer
119 Bracken Road
Medford, NJ 08055**

Public Policy

All articles in this column are the expressed views of AAUW National. They are drawn directly from AAUW Washington Update, the national on-line newsletter.

IT'S MY VOTE: I WILL BE HEARD – VOTER EDUCATION AND ELECTIONS NEWS

The Power of Moms This Election

It's no secret that candidates have been focusing on women voters this election. Now, news reports indicate that [married moms](#) are a voting bloc that may have more power than they realize. While single moms tend to lean more Democratic, married moms are a target of both political parties. If politicians are already focused on married moms, these moms have the power to help steer the conversation toward the goals of a more equitable workplace for all parents—equal pay, protection against pregnancy discrimination, and part-time work protections.

AAUW [knows](#) that women wield great power in American politics. More than ever before, women are registering to vote and casting ballots in greater numbers and with more consistency than men. We are a powerful and influential bloc of voters, which is why we must turn out on Election Day.

AAUW Action Fund is making an unprecedented investment in turning out women voters. We are educating, engaging, and registering millennial women voters across the country. Together, we'll ensure that women understand what's at stake in 2012 and know how to use their voice and their vote to influence the election! Learn more about our campaign [It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard](#).

U.S. Behind on Job Training and Education

The United States is [falling](#) behind other industrialized countries in the production of associate degrees and certificates, according to a new study from the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce and Civic Enterprises. The study finds that there is often confusing and ineffective training and education for those earning less than a bachelor's degree. Such career and technical education programs are essential in helping job-seekers without bachelor's degrees gain employment since today's economy has fewer job opportunities for those who earn only a high

school diploma.

AAUW [believes](#) that career and technical education (CTE) is increasingly important for women and girls seeking to earn their way in a competitive marketplace. AAUW strongly believes that access to high-wage, high-skill jobs should be a right for women and girls from diverse racial, ethnic, socioeconomic, age, and disability backgrounds, including training for nontraditional jobs.

Air Force Appoints Woman to Take Over Basic Training after Sexual Assault Allegations

Following dozens of sexual abuse allegations at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, the U.S. Air Force has [appointed](#) a woman to take over its basic training unit. Col. Debora Liddick will take Col. Glenn Palmer's place on the base, which conducts training for all new Air Force members. As many as 42 women have been identified as potential victims in a large sexual assault scandal on the base. Trials are currently underway, and Congress is expected to hold hearings on the scandal.

AAUW proudly stands with the female trainees who are courageously speaking out. AAUW adopted a legal case last year, [Cioca v. Rumsfeld](#), involving military sexual assault. Read AAUW's [blog](#) about the case, and [learn more](#) about how AAUW combats all forms of sexual assault.

NEW: AAUW Releases Fact Sheets on Key Campaign Issues

AAUW's *It's My Vote. I Will be Heard* campaign has released [four fact sheets](#), one for each of the issue focus areas: [access to birth control](#), [employment opportunities](#), [college affordability](#), and [fair pay](#). You can use the issue fact sheets for: voter registration drives (should be placed on a separate table), informational tabling events, canvassing, phone-banking (when referencing an issue), and more. [Download your copies today!](#)

The November elections are almost upon us!

Welcome the end of all those campaign ads and don't forget to get out and exercise the hard-won right that so many of our own ancestors didn't have, not to mention the many who still don't have that right today.



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AAUW-Medford Area Branch Membership Roster



By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

In principle and 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, disability, or class.



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