



American Association of University Women

PINELINES

February 2013

Medford, New Jersey

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 venue changes again this month, with our general meeting being held at Medford Leas this time. Please see the directions to the Linden Room in the Programs section. We hope the parking lot at Cranberry Hall will be well-lit sometime in the next few months so we can return there, but meanwhile we get to experience new locales.

Featured at our meeting will be speaker Dr. Janet Lindmand, professor at Rowan University, for a discussion on the history of feminism. The Lit Group returns us to the classics this month, with an Ernest Hemingway selection.

Elsie Behmer reports that Diane Allen has agreed to be the keynote speaker at this year's Running & Winning Workshop. Please let Elsie know if you are interested in helping with the April 16 event.

Check out Lynne's Public Policy section. There's a lot going on in D.C. these days that could have long-term impact. Make your voice heard.

Finally, don't forget to get out the word about our scholarship. The website has the updated 2013 application and we look forward to getting lots of candidates. Thanks to Elsie Behmer for tracking down contacts at some of our target colleges! We hope it will help increase our candidate pool.

Mary Ann Brookes

Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, February 12, 7:30 pm

General Meeting – Speaker Dr. Janet Lindmand

Topic: A Brief History of Feminism

Linden Room, Medford Leas, Medford

Tuesday, February 19, 7:30 pm

Lit Group – The Sun Also Rises by Ernest Hemingway.

Home of Joan Slavin

Occasions

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

Tina Wetterau – February 8
Helen O'Neill – February 17



Enjoy your special day, Ladies!

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.

Share a Happy Valentine's Day with all of your loved ones!

Programs

This month's meeting will feature **Dr. Janet Lindmand**, who will join us on February 12 to speak on a brief history of feminism.

Dr. Lindman graduated from St Olaf College with a B.A. in history and religion. She earned her M.A. and Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota in U.S women's history and early American history. She is a full professor in the history department at Rowan University.

Dr. Lindman is the author of *Bodies of Belief: Baptist Community in Early America* and co-authored *A Centre of Wonders: The Body in Early America*. She has also written articles, reviews and book chapters on women, religion, gender and the history of masculinity. For ten years she served as the coordinator of the Women's and Gender Studies program at Rowan University and is a former chair and member of the Board of Trustees of The Alice Paul Institute in Mt Laurel NJ.

The meeting will be held in the Linden Room at Medford Leas, Medford, at 7:30 pm.

Directions:

Entering Medford Leas from Route 70, go to the right where the road first divides and park near the building on the right hand side by the Social Wing. (This is where we entered for the Book and Author brunch.) Go into the Social Wing door and turn left. The Linden Room will be on the right between the pool and the Game Room, on the same level where you entered, so you do not go upstairs as we do for the brunch.

We hope to see you there.

Bea and Sylvia

Lit Group

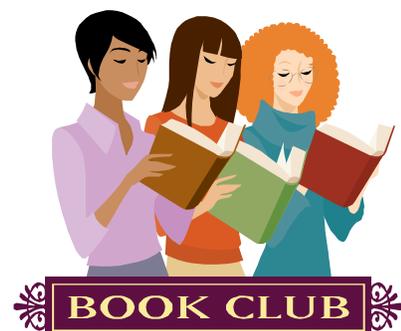
The Literature Group will be meeting on Tuesday, February 19th, at 7:30. We will be meeting at the home of Joan Slavin and will be discussing an American classic, *The Sun Also Rises* by Ernest Hemingway.

The quintessential novel of the Lost Generation, *The Sun Also Rises* is considered to be one of Hemingway's masterpieces and is an example of his spare but powerful writing style. The story follows a motley group of expatriates as they journey from the wild nightlife of 1920's Paris to the bullfighting rings of Spain.

The novel introduces some of Hemingway's most unforgettable characters, including the journalist Jake Barnes, the Princetonian boxer Robert Cohn, and Lady Brett Ashley. It also explores several themes including morality, women and love, nature and spirituality, masculinity and anti-semitism. First published in 1926, *The Sun Also Rises* helped to establish Hemingway as one of the greatest writers of the twentieth century.

Please call Joan Slavin at 609-654-4114, or joanslavin@aol.com to RSVP and for directions.

Helen O'Neill and Rose Mary Bland



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.

New Report Confirms Women's Economic Well-Being Lags behind Men's

According to a new report released by Legal Momentum, women still lag behind men in economic well-being. Although today women surpass men in educational attainment, men ages 21-30 are better off than women of the same age group based on eight measures of economic well-being, such as salary and employment rates.

These findings support the conclusions of AAUW's research on the pay gap; most recently, AAUW researchers found in Graduating to a Pay Gap that women working full time one year out of college earned an average of 82 cents for every dollar paid to their male peers.

President Obama Promotes Equal Pay in Inaugural Address

After he was sworn into office on Monday for his second term, President Obama gave a speech in which he acknowledged the need to confront and eliminate inequality throughout our society. Obama, who signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act as his first law in 2009, specifically cited the work we must do to achieve pay equity, saying: "Our journey is not complete until our wives, our mothers, and daughters can earn a living equal to their efforts."

AAUW is pleased that the president elevated the issue of pay equity in his inaugural address. One of AAUW's top priorities in the president's second term is passing the Paycheck Fairness Act, which would deter wage discrimination by closing loopholes in the Equal Pay Act and barring retaliation against workers who disclose their own wages to coworkers. Take action now: Urge your members of Congress to cosponsor the Paycheck Fairness Act!

Contact John Runyon at runyon.house.gov

Let John Runyon hear your ideas on gun control/gun violence, too! I'm encouraged to see that he is open to a discussion (see below). Grass-roots groups and organizations such as AAUW need to push their representatives to create meaningful legislation to begin

to curb the violence that is such a part of our country. Lynne

Runyan Announces Comprehensive Summit to Discuss Strategies to Reduce Gun Violence

Jan 23, 2013

Washington, D.C. – In the wake of the tragic shootings in Newtown, Congressman Jon Runyan (R-NJ) announced his plan to convene a summit with Burlington County Sheriff Jean Stanfield, local law enforcement, educators, mental health experts and local residents to discuss strategies for reducing gun violence.

Earlier this month, President Barack Obama unveiled his proposals to address gun violence and several members of Congress are looking to introduce legislation to address as well, including the reintroduction of the assault weapons ban. Congressman Runyan believes that the country must consider a myriad of strategies to address gun violence in our country, including a comprehensive discussion of mental health awareness and treatment, gun safety, school security and the increasingly level of violence in the entertainment industry via movies, television and video games. Any plan to truly affect change to move forward on this issue cannot be focused solely on access to firearms.

"In the wake of the tragic events in Newtown there needs to be a serious discussion about gun violence," said Congressman Runyan. "This discussion must not be limited to restricting the sale of guns or gun accessories. These areas must be included but there must be discussions about gun safety, mental health, law enforcement, and violence in our culture. This is why I have worked with Burlington County Sheriff Jean Stanfield to bring leaders in mental health, law enforcement, education, and from the community to have an open and frank discussion."

The summit will be open to the press. The community leaders in attendance will have the opportunity to use their expertise to help form a comprehensive plan to combat gun violence in America. Congressman Runyan has previously stated that he is keeping an open mind to the best legislative approach to this issue, and is eager to take the ideas discussed by the group back to Washington to share with his colleagues from both sides of the aisle, leadership, and the administration.

Lynne

Running & Winning

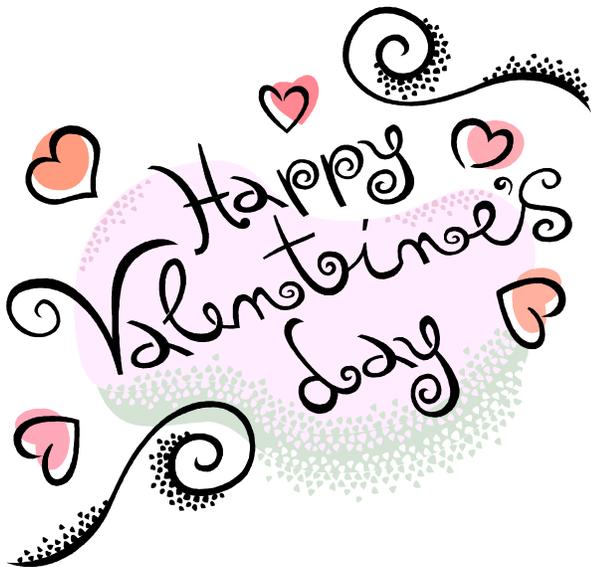
“Should we decriminalize marijuana in New Jersey?” has been selected as the ‘campaign’ topic for the Running & Winning Workshop sponsored by the Burlington County League of Women Voters.

The Workshop will be held Tuesday, April 16 at Cherokee High School, and **Diane Allen** has agreed to be the keynote speaker. The young women participating will work in small groups to develop a political campaign that includes a candidate, advertising and a speech to be delivered by the candidate before the whole group.

There will be an adult facilitator for each group. Three facilitators have volunteered from Medford AAUW, but more are needed. Facilitator training will be April 11 from 7 – 9 pm.

If you would like to participate as a facilitator, volunteer to help at the Workshop or donate money, please contact Elsie Behmer.

Elsie Behmer



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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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