

### 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

We are starting off our season with lots of activity, starting with the Riversharks game on September 6. I will be driving out from Medford and can accommodate a few passengers if someone needs a ride. Join us for a fun evening of baseball, camaraderie, and fireworks.

Medford Leas will be our meeting place again this year, with our first meeting on September 10 focused on getting acquainted/re-acquainted to kick off the season. Guests are welcome, as always, and we will have a good time and plan out our year.

Dian Hattrick will once again be representing us at Military Day at Indian Acres. She'll still be hobbling around a bit in her cast, so volunteer to help her out for a couple hours that Saturday for a great cause.

The Literature Group has devised a good reading list designed to stimulate lots of discussion over the next nine months. At our meeting, Mary will tell us more about the Boscov's fundraiser to help line our scholarship coffers, as well as the next Book & Author Brunch we are planning for the Spring.

This fall, the AAUW NJ meeting will be a 2-day retreat in Atlantic City. It will be a great opportunity to meet women from all over the state who are working to empower women and girls. See inside for details.

Hope you had a wonderful summer and see you soon.

Mary Ann Brookes

## Mark Your Calendar

**Friday, September 6, 7:30 pm**

**AAUW at the Riversharks**

Campbell Field, Camden, NJ

**Tuesday, September 10, 7:30 pm**

**General Meeting - Season Opener**

Medford Leas, Medford, NJ

**Tuesday, September 17, 7:30 pm**

**Literature Group - Home** by Toni Morrison

Home of Helen O'Neill

**Saturday, September 21, 10am to 5pm**

**Military Appreciation Day**

Indian Acres Tree Farm

### **Planning Ahead:**

**Saturday, October 2013**

**Boscov's Friends & Family Day**

**Sunday, Oct. 20th to Monday Oct. 21**

**AAUWNJ Fall Retreat**

**Resorts Casino Hotel on the Boardwalk in Atlantic City**

**Saturday, March 2014**

**Next Book & Author Brunch**

**Medford Leas**

## Occasions

**Happy Birthday** for September to:

Rita Manno  
Janet Bruner  
Tricia Reace



## Lit Group

The Literature Group is planning another season of good books and great discussions. We will begin the year with the newest entry from the iconic American writer and Nobel Laureate, Toni Morrison. *Home* is the story of Frank Money, a modern American Odysseus, who returns home to Georgia after serving in the Army in Korea. It is about leaving and returning home and about the healing power of women. It is also a powerful indictment of racism in 1950's America, just before the end of Jim Crow and before the civil rights movement.

Please join us on Tuesday, September 17th, at 7:30 at the home of Helen O'Neill. Call or email Helen to RSVP and for directions.

*Looking ahead*, our October selection will be *Wild*, by Sheryl Strayed. We encourage everyone who enjoys books and a good discussion to join us.

*Helen O'Neill and Rose Mary Bland*

## AAUWNJ Fall Retreat

*Resorts Casino Hotel on the Boardwalk in Atlantic City*

**Sunday, Oct. 20th to Monday Oct. 21**

Something new for our fall AAUW NJ meeting this year! Join the retreat to meet women from all over the state, as well as a representative from AAUW's national team, who are working to accomplish our goal of empowering women. The energy will be contagious!

One very low registration fee includes all the programs, Sunday evening cocktail party, and Monday morning breakfast. We also have a special room rate for Sunday night. So come see what's new in Atlantic City.

See the attached flyer for registration & details.

## Programs

**September 10th** – Welcome Back

Join us at Medford Leas to kick off the 2013-14 season

*Looking ahead:*

**October 8th** – Grayson Heberley – an elder law attorney from Cherry Hill will speak to us about the three areas of estate planning: Wills and trusts, estate administration and long term care.

**November 12th** – Janet Giardina – Medford Historical Society's (MHS) Center for Education located at the Bunning Farm. She will speak about the MHS partnership with area schools using the Center for sharing and recording stories about the area.

*Sylvia Teahan and Bea Chawla*

## Scholarship & Fundraising

Plan to come see the Camden Riversharks play the Somerset Patriots at Campbell Field on Friday night, September 6th and stay for the fireworks after the game.

The Medford Branch will earn \$6 for each ticket bought. Seats have been reserved for us in section 109. Here's how to order them.

Go to [www.riversharks.com](http://www.riversharks.com) - this is their home page. If you get the special page advertising a particular game, look at the bottom & click "Continue to Riversharks.com" to get to their home page.

- **On that home page, click on FUNDRAISING which is a box on the right hand side of the page.**
- **Do the security thing, i.e. copy the letters/numbers you are shown.**
- **Log in as AAUW.**
- **At the bottom of the next page, select your seats.**

If you are not comfortable with this process, call me at (609) 267 1665 and I will order tickets for you for pick up at the box office that evening. You can write me a check to pay for them. The last time to buy is the day before the game, so don't delay!

This should be a fun evening. Bring your family and friends!

*Mary Strickler*

## Public Policy

### **Call to Action:**

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel [announced](#) a number of new measures that the Department of Defense will take to prevent and respond to sexual assault in the military.

- While AAUW applauds the department's recognition of the problem, we call on Congress to fundamentally change how sexual assault is handled in the military by passing the STOP Act (H.R. 1593): [Take action on this bill today!](#) Go to the 2-minute activist site and send an email to our Senators and Congressmen. <http://salsa4.salsalabs.com>
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### **Five Women Named as Recipients of Presidential Medal of Freedom**

In early August, President Obama [named](#) five women [out of 16 recipients] as recipients of the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The Presidential Medal of Freedom is the Nation's highest civilian honor, presented to individuals who have made especially meritorious contributions to the security or national interests of the United States, to world peace, or to cultural or other significant public or private endeavors. The awards will be presented at the White House later this year.

This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the Executive Order signed by President John F. Kennedy establishing the Presidential Medal of Freedom, as well as the first ceremony bestowing the honor on an inaugural class of 31 recipients. Since that time, more than 500 exceptional individuals from all corners of society have been awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

#### **Loretta Lynn**

Loretta Lynn is a country music legend. Raised in rural Kentucky, she emerged as one of the first successful female country music vocalists in the early 1960s, courageously breaking barriers in an industry long dominated by men. Ms. Lynn's numerous accolades include the Kennedy Center Honors in 2003 and the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010.

#### **Sally Ride (posthumous)**

Sally Ride was the first American female astronaut to travel to space. As a role model to generations of young women, she advocated passionately for science education, stood up for racial and gender equality in the classroom, and taught students from every background that there are no limits to what they can accomplish. Dr. Ride also served in several administrations as an advisor on space exploration.

#### **Gloria Steinem**

Gloria Steinem is a renowned writer and activist for women's equality. She was a leader in the women's liberation movement, co-founded *Ms.* magazine, and helped launch a wide variety of groups and publications dedicated to advancing civil rights. Ms. Steinem has received dozens of awards over the course of her career, and remains an active voice for women's rights.

#### **Patricia Wald**

Patricia Wald is one of the most respected appellate judges of her generation. After graduating as 1 of only 11 women in her Yale University Law School class, she became the first woman appointed to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, and served as Chief Judge from 1986-1991. She later served on the International Criminal Tribunal in The Hague. Ms. Wald currently serves on the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board.

#### **Oprah Winfrey**

Oprah Winfrey is one of the world's most successful broadcast journalists. She is best known for creating *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, which became the highest rated talk show in America for 25 years. Ms. Winfrey has long been active in philanthropic causes and expanding opportunities for young women. She has received numerous awards throughout her career, including the Bob Hope Humanitarian Award in 2002 and the Kennedy Center Honors in 2010.

## Military Day at Indian Acres



Military Appreciation Day at Indian Acres Tree Farm is back for a third year due to the great response and heartwarming appreciation from the Military families in previous years.

The 160 acre farm is the perfect place for family fun for this "kid friendly" event. There is an extensive free play area and there is no parking fee or admission fee to the farm.

AAUW Medford Area Branch is again helping to sponsor this community "give back" day with a donation of \$150, plus some refreshments for the Shawnee kids who have volunteered to help our own Dian Hattrick run some fun entertainment for the young ones.

**Dian is looking for additional volunteers** to come out to the event for about 2 hours each throughout the day from 9am until 4pm. She will still be getting around in her cast, so can use some support.

To volunteer or get more information, call 609-953-8181 or email [villagecoach@verizon.net](mailto:villagecoach@verizon.net).

For more information on Indian Acres Tree Farm, see their website at <http://www.indianacrestreefarm.com/home.htm>.

## 2012/13 Executive Board

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Mary Ann Brookes

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Mary Strickler

### Literature Group

Rose Mary Bland

Helen O'Neill

### Hospitality

Rose Mary Bland

### Public Relations

Rita Manno

### Newsletter Coordinator

Mary Ann Brookes

## AAUW-Medford Area Branch



*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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