

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

It was great to be reminded of all the things for which I can be thankful, including having been born in a place and time of freedom and (at least relative) equality. As I get older and time flies so quickly, I'm also glad that this business of getting darker earlier will start to swing the other way in a few weeks!

With the holiday season getting into high gear, our December activities take a more festive turn, with a holiday dinner and lighter fare for the Lit Group. Please make note of the earlier times for both so you don't miss any of the fun. Prospective members are welcome, too, so please let us know your interest.

Speaking of the holiday dinner, Bea needs to get your check by December 3rd so she can give Illiano's a headcount.

Anyone who forgot to do it, please let Mary Strickler know how you want to participate for the Champagne Brunch in March or for the Scholarship process. As she recuperates from knee surgery, I'm sure she needs some distraction!

Hope to see you at one of our events, and wish you the very best of togetherness with loved ones over the holidays!

Mary Ann Brookes

Mark Your Calendar

Thursday, December 5th

Lit Group Dinner & A Movie: *The Book Thief*
Rave Cinema

Tuesday, December 10, 6:30 pm

General Meeting - Holiday Dinner

Illiano Cucina Mediterranea,
200 Tuckerton Road, Medford

Tuesday, December 17, 7:00 pm

Literature Group - *Bossypants*, by Tina Fey

Ginger Asian Cuisine

Route 541 and Wilkins Station, Medford

Planning Ahead:

Saturday, March 1, 2014

Next Book & Author Brunch

Medford Leas

Member Greetings

Happy Birthday greetings in

December go out to:

Bea Chawla, December 3

Dian Hattrick, December 6



Get Well Wishes go out to Mary Strickler, recuperating from knee surgery even as she prepares for her next cruise; and to Rita Manno, for good news from testing.

Lit Group

Lynne Poag graciously hosted the lit group's discussion of the engrossing novel, *The Light Between Oceans*, at her home in November. December's book, *Bossypants*, by Tina Fey, was selected because in it she describes the "hectic, too-many-things to juggle lifestyle we all have, but instead of complaining about it, she can just laugh it off." It seems like the perfect antidote for the frenzied holiday season! The group will meet at **Ginger Asian Cuisine** on the corner of Route 541 and Wilkins Station in Medford at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, December 17th to enjoy a delicious meal and discuss the book. We will be ordering off the menu and separate checks will be provided. Please RSVP to either Rose Mary or Helen.

In addition, we are planning an outing to see the movie adaptation of one of last year's selections, *The Book Thief*, on Thursday, December 5th. Since the movie has not yet opened, we are not sure of the exact time, but we plan to go to an early showing, around 4:00 pm, and then to dinner at one of the restaurants located in the same plaza as the theater. If you are interested in joining us, please contact either Rose Mary or Helen and we will help to arrange the logistics. We hope to see you at one or both of our gatherings.

Helen O'Neill and Rose Mary Bland

Operation Stocking Stuffers

Many thanks to all those who generously donated to the Liberty USO Operation Stocking Stuffers. I took three full grocery bags to the PHL USO facility. Our deployed troops will appreciate having stockings filled with great things and sent with your best wishes.

Cid Richards

Programs

AAUW Holiday Dinner

This year's holiday dinner will be held at Illiano's, in the Taunton Forge shopping center, at the corner of Tuckerton and Taunton. Here are the details:

Date: December 10th

Time: 6:30 PM

Place: Illiano Cucina Mediterranea,
Village of Taunton Forge Center, 200
Tuckerton Road, Medford

Cost: \$30.00

Other: BYOB

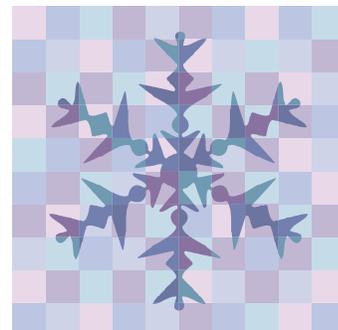
Please indicate your choice for dinner and send a check for \$30.00 made out the *AAUW, Medford Area Branch* **by Tuesday, Dec. 3rd** to:

Bea Chawla
104 Landing Street
Vincentown, NJ 08088

1. Baked Ziti
2. Chicken Marsala
3. Salmon Scampi

Hope to see you there for a festive evening of good food and great company!

Sylvia Teahan and Bea Chawla



Public Policy

Call to Action:

AAUW members nationwide are leading efforts to **fight human trafficking** by starting petitions for legislative action, raising awareness, and working to prevent sex trafficking during the 2014 Super Bowl.

Human trafficking [disproportionately affects](#) women and children. The Bureau of Justice Statistics [estimates](#) that 40 percent of all human trafficking incidents opened for investigation in the United States involve sex trafficking of a child. The bureau also reports that at least 80 percent of these child victims are U.S. citizens.

Possible child prostitution at the 2014 Super Bowl prompted AAUW of New Jersey to act. The state organization has [joined](#) with other members of the New Jersey Coalition against Human Trafficking to train hotel employees to watch for sex trafficking when the state sees an influx of visitors coming to attend the Super Bowl in Secaucus, New Jersey, in February. Twenty AAUW of New Jersey volunteers were trained on child prostitution and trafficking in September and will lead the coalition's efforts in northern New Jersey.

Also in New Jersey, which already has some of the nation's strongest anti-human trafficking [laws](#), AAUW members have created a [petition](#) to encourage the same level of protection through a federal law. In Pennsylvania, AAUW members have started a [petition](#) to urge the state legislature to act, since Pennsylvania is one of only two states without a sex trafficking law.

Both New Jersey's and Pennsylvania's efforts are part of the 2013–14 Public Policy Impact Grant program, which awards grants to states for policy work around priority issues. AAUW of Michigan has also chosen to work on human trafficking through an Impact Grant, and other states, including Maryland, have focused on human trafficking at recent state conventions.

AAUW believes that global interdependence requires national and international policies against human trafficking and that promote peace, justice, human rights, sustainable development, and mutual security for all people.

In accordance with this focus, AAUW helped pass a [bipartisan reauthorization](#) of the Violence Against Women Act that [included](#) human trafficking provisions.

AAUW also supports the bipartisan [End Sex Trafficking Act](#), which will help eliminate sex-trafficking organizations by targeting those who purchase sexual acts and by making certain that the law's language clearly states these criminals should be prosecuted as human traffickers.

One year after President Barack Obama [pledged](#) that the United States would lead the fight against human trafficking, AAUW members are certainly doing their part. [Take action](#) with us now.

Women Hit Workforce Milestone

A recent Department of Labor report showed a [record](#) 67.5 million working women, beating the 2008 pre-recession record of 67.4 million. While women have gained back the jobs lost during the recession, the overall employment gains for women have not kept pace with population growth and the [gender wage gap](#) persists in many of these professions.

Lynne

Other AAUW News

AAUW at the White House

AAUW [stood](#) with President Obama and Vice President Biden to discuss the need for Congress to fix our broken immigration system. The issue has rare bipartisan support, so now is the time to act! [Contact](#) your representative today.

AAUW's Holiday Gift Guide for Girls: 2013 Edition

Gift shopping for girls can be challenging. [Read our Holiday Gift Guide](#), and learn about gifts that defy stereotypes, encouraging girls (and boys, too) to explore the whole range of hobbies and careers available to them, including science and engineering. This holiday season, let's give kids the chance to be creative and have fun!

FundPhotos for Scholarships



AAUW has joined FundPhotos! We hope to use our partnership with FundPhotos to help build our Scholarship Fund and you can help us do that.

FundPhotos is a web-based photo sharing, printing and photo merchandise site dedicated to supporting civic and non-profit organizations. FundPhotos offers you the same high quality photo processing and photo personalized products as the other online photo processing sites at competitive prices. The only difference is that 20% of every order will be donated to our AAUW Pinelands branch scholarship fund.

Simply go to: www.FundPhotos.com and click on the 'Join Now!' button. Then you can upload photos to share with friends and family, and when you or anyone else purchases prints or photo personalized merchandise, you can designate AAUW Pinelands Branch as your donation recipient. It's as simple as that!

If you have any questions, contact Cynthia Sosnowski, our FundPhotos AAUW Medford Area Branch group coordinator, jcsos1@comcast.net or 609.602.2762.

Cynthia

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Rita Manno

Newsletter Coordinator

Mary Ann Brookes

**AAUW-Medford Area Branch
Happy Holidays!**



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.



PINELINES

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