

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

Co's Column

What's In Your Wallet?

It has been reported that women are feeling somewhat optimistic about achieving equality with men. But should they? According to the Associated Press and a number of other organizations, women trail men in pay, position and influence and it will probably take some time to change that. The difference in pay and achievement in the fields of technology and finance reportedly remains substantial. The Association of University Women reports that women in computers and information technology earn 77 percent of what men do with the same degree. Female engineers a year after graduation earn just 88 percent of what their male counterparts earn. The pay gap is even larger in the financial services sector where women earn \$14,000 a year less than men.

And according to the American Institute for Economic Research, it pays to remain single. Married women, the Institute reports, earn \$16,491 less than single women and all men. While some women have managed to achieve influence in social media networks, their overall participation remains low. The AP notes that while Facebook's Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg has been a leading voice in championing workplace advancement of women, only 31 percent of Facebook's workers are female. At Microsoft, women reportedly hold only 29 percent of the jobs. On a positive note, women have made some strides in politics. And their presence in law and medicine has increased. Hopefully, the idea of equal pay for equal work will take hold in the financial and technological world and in the nation's general workforce.

Helen & Elsie

Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, November 11, 7:15 pm
General Meeting - Emanuel (Manny) Estacio,
on returning veterans & women's health
Linden Room, Medford Leas, Medford

Tuesday, November 18, 7:30 pm
Literature Group - Cry, The Beloved Country
by Alan Paton
Home of Mary Ann Brookes

Happy Thanksgiving!



Planning Ahead:

Saturday, March 21, 2015, 11:30 am
Book & Author Brunch - Patti Sheehy, author
of *The Boy Who Said No*

Member Greetings

Happy Birthday to Gladys
Lowden-Metz, who was
born November 3rd



Programs

Our meeting date, November 11, falls on Veterans Day so it seems appropriate that we look at issues surrounding our returning combat veterans. Unless we have a family member in the military, many of us often don't stop to consider the scars--both physical and emotional--that accompany our military personnel when they return home and begin to reintegrate into society. To help us gain an understanding of the mental health issues experienced by veterans returning from a war zone, [Emanuel \(Manny\) Estacio](#) will be our speaker. He will focus on the generic needs of our returning combat veterans and specifically on women's health issues.

Mr. Estacio is a retired Army Reserve Major of the Medical Service Corps. A licensed clinical social worker (LCSW), earning his Master's of Education in Counseling Psychology from Temple University and a Master's of Social Work from Widener University, he has worked for 26 years in the fields of mental health and social work, spending much of his career in the area of community mental health services in New Jersey and Philadelphia. He joined the Philadelphia VA Medical Center in 2007 as a case manager for the Operation Enduring Freedom/Iraqi Freedom/New Dawn (OEF/OIF/OND) Program. He was promoted to be its Program Manager in 2012.

We look forward to the learning experience Mr. Estacio will offer.

Dian Hattrick, Lynne Poag, and Cid Richards

Lit Group

Cry, The Beloved Country by Alan Paton was first published in 1948. It is an impassioned novel about a black man's country under a white man's law. It tells the story of Stephen Kumalo, a black Anglican priest from a rural Natal town, who is searching for his son, Absalom, in the city of Johannesburg. Beautifully written, remarkable for its lyricism and unforgettable characters and incidents, *Cry, The Beloved Country* is at once a social protest against the structures of a society that would later give rise to apartheid as well as a depiction of the deep love between a father and his son. The book is a classic work of devotion and hope, courage and endurance, and the dignity of man.

Please join us on Tuesday, November 18th, at 7:30 at the home of Mary Ann Brookes as we discuss what has been described as the greatest novel to emerge out of the tragedy of South Africa.

Please call or email MaryAnn to R.S.V.P. and for directions.

Helen O'Neill and Rose Mary Bland



Operation Stocking Stuffers

As we did last year, this month we want to help the Liberty USO send holiday stockings to lift the spirits of deployed troops while they are away from their families for the holidays. Medford branch member Cid Richards is a Liberty USO volunteer who will be happy to collect any of the listed items for inclusion in the holiday shipment. If you are interested, just bring along the item to our next meeting or contact Cid directly at fishacre1@comcast.net.

Here's what to bring



Collection Items for Liberty USO

- 100 Stockings
- 100 DVD's
- 200 Cocoa Packets
- 100 Granola Bars
- 100 Hard Candy Packages (3 –8 oz sizes)
- 100 Small Puzzle Books (5x7 or smaller)
- 100 Packs of Gum
- 100 Small Packages of Nuts or Trail Mix
- 200 Large Candy Canes

Monthly Member Bio

Lynne Poag



After graduating from Heidelberg University in Tiffin, Ohio, Lynne Poag began her career in the Printing Division at Kodak Park, Rochester, NY, while husband, Jonathan, was in grad school. They moved to NJ but having commuted for 2 hours each way to work in Rochester, she looked for work locally. Vineland did not offer much in the way of

challenging or interesting work, and so, Lynne chose to go back to school to earn her early childhood and K-8 teaching certificates. She began teaching Pre-K and worked her way through the grades, ending up spending the majority of her career as an 8th grade Civics teacher and chairperson of the Social Studies department at a Middle School in Vineland.

In 1999, Lynne was privileged to join a group of NJ history educators on a trip to Germany and Israel organized by the NJ Holocaust Commission in 1999. That same fall she was chosen to participate with 200 other teachers from across the nation in a fully-funded 3-week study tour of educational facilities and cultural sites in Japan. This highly-competitive program was organized by the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund Teacher Program and was truly a highlight of Lynne's teaching career. She recently retired after 26 years of public and private school teaching.

Lynne is a very active retiree! She takes Pilates and yoga classes, works out with free weights, participates in a morning walking group, enjoys gardening, sewing, reading, cooking, painting, and her newest interest in Chinese Water Color techniques. She participates in her community church choir, produces her church's newsletter, contributes to a church casserole program for the homeless, and is a poll worker at primary/general elections.

Lynne loves to travel and has been to Europe, Thailand, India and many other distant lands. Her favorite vacation spot is Kenya. At her brother's wildlife preserve, the family is "surrounded by wild animals in a gorgeous setting while living in great comfort in one of his guest houses, and being totally catered to." She and her family have taken low-flying plane rides to see game and natural sites, gone on safaris to other game and national parks, and tried tent camping, mountain climbing and visiting off-the-beaten-path places that most tourists never dream of seeing. She also loves the Rocky Mountains and although she enjoys the excitement and

cultural activities in cities, she prefers vacationing in natural settings.

Lynne and Jonathan have been married for 41 years and were recently blessed with a beautiful granddaughter, Vivian! Her son and daughter-in-law live in PA and Lynne describes Wynnewood, PA as her current favorite destination.

Lynne was a Past President of AAUW (Before Mary Ann Brookes) and so, we asked her to add a bit about what attracted her to AAUW. She said the following: "As a newcomer to Medford in the early 1990's, I was looking for a women's group to join. AAUW's mission and liberal leanings attracted me. Serving in various officer positions over the years has strengthened my friendships within the group. As membership VP, I enjoyed welcoming new members; as program co- and tri-chairperson, I've enjoyed finding speakers who can address some of the issues we are interested in, and as President, I enjoyed working with all the other officers to keep our branch moving forward. The women within our branch are a collection of interesting, accomplished professionals. It's been a wonderful experience getting to know them and being a part of our activities."

June Ramondetta & Lila Cleaver

Fundraising

Thanks to all for buying / selling those Boscov's passes - we raised \$400 for our scholarship fund!

Special thanks to Linda Chamberlain, Gladys Metz, Cid Richards, Sylvia Teahan, MaryAnn Brookes, and Lynne Poag who helped sell passes at the store (and my apologies to Helen Oneill for not following up on her offer to help!).

For those few of you who haven't responded to my letters, it's too late to take advantage of Boscov's discounts, but it's not too late to support our fundraising effort. You can always make a donation (\$10 would be nice) to the scholarship fund by mailing a check made out to AAUW-Medford to me. This would be much appreciated. It would be grand if we were able to report that every member of the Branch contributed to this effort.

Mary Strickler

Public Policy

From Anne Hedgepeth, AAUW Government Relations Manager:

- As of Wednesday, October 15, [85 higher education institutions](#) are under federal investigation for how they handle cases of campus sexual assault and violence.

But good news:

On Monday, October 20, the Department of Education is going to publish the final rule for implementing the new campus safety provisions of the 2013 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) reauthorization.

Ultimately, everyone will benefit from these new regulations:

- **Students** will have more education on preventing campus sexual violence, and student survivors in particular will have more support as they consider their options for reporting the assault and begin the healing process. On a macro level, the programming and awareness activities that these new regulations will spur have the potential to stem the tide of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking on campus.

- **College and universities** will have new tools and guidance to implement clear policies on sexual violence and provide prevention programming. All of this will foster a safer, more inclusive campus environment which enhances the college experience and supports the emotional, intellectual, and professional growth of millions of young adults.

- **Parents and community members** will have access to more comprehensive crime statistics for their children's colleges and universities and the campuses in their community. In fact, schools should have started including the additional information mandated by the new law—such as statistics on dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking—in their most recent annual security reports, which schools released by October 1. Most schools publish their reports online, making it easy for you to find out more about their policies and procedures.

Today's announcement has really been years in the making, and you were there every step of the way. . . It's been a long journey, and I have been so grateful for and amazed by your persistent advocacy throughout the process. Thank YOU for never giving up on the Violence Against Women Act—public

policy victories like this one don't come along every day, and VAWA will make a huge difference in the lives of women and men nationwide.

Lynne Poag

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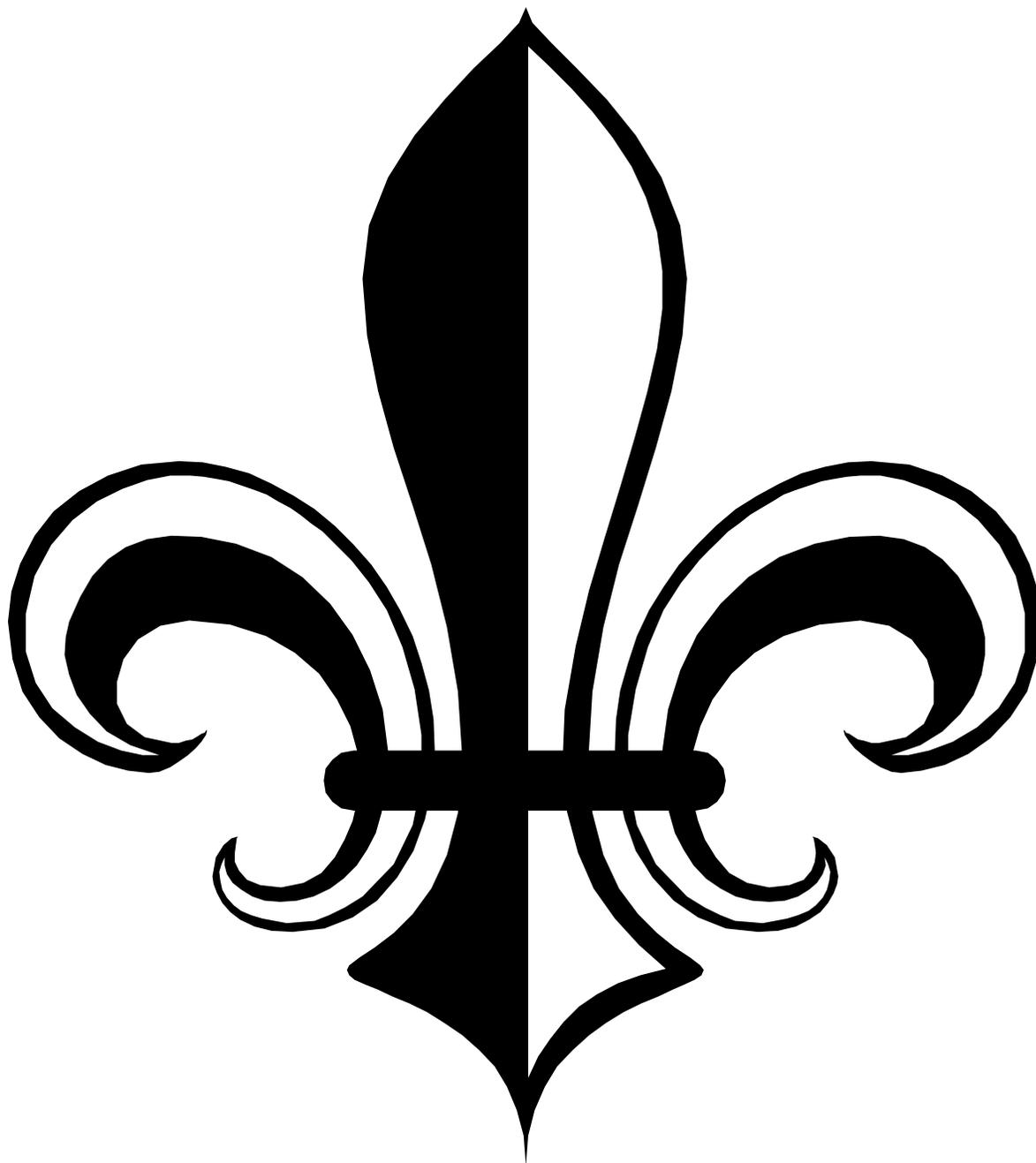
Public Relations

Mary Strickler

Newsletter Coordinator

Mary Ann Brookes

**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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