

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

Our \$\$\$ Come Home

Part 2

Call for mentors for teen girls!

The Alice Paul Institute (API) is reaching out to women from various career fields to participate in a networking event for teen girls on Friday, July 17 from 12:30 to 1:15 and/or Friday, August 14 from 2 to 3 pm.

See www.alicepaul.org for more information. Contact Kris Myers at kmyers@alicepaul.org or 856 231 1885 or to sign up, email a brief bio (five sentences; name, title, company, contact info) to Kris. Please register with Kris by July 1.

These mentoring events are part of a two-year, \$10,000 grant that API received from AAUW, a grant application that our branch supported.

Helen & Elsie

Welcome

Welcome to our two newest members, **Dory Dickson** of Medford, and **Liz Humphrey** of New Egypt. We look forward to get to know one another when we regroup in September.

In Memory of Gladys Lowden-Metz

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of Gladys Lowden-Metz on Thursday, May 7, 2015. Gladys died peacefully at Virtua Memorial Hospital, Mount Holly, New Jersey. A longstanding member of AAUW, Gladys will be remembered for her spirit and dedication.

A memorial service will be held on July 11, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at the Protestant Community Church, 100 Stokes Road, Medford Lakes, New Jersey 08055. There will be a reception immediately following the service at the Church.

Helen

Mark Your Calendar

Our normal schedule will resume in September, with General Meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, Lit Group on the 3rd Tuesday, and the Book & Author Brunch planned for March.

Member Greetings

*Happy Birthday to our members
celebrating over the summer:*

<i>Janet Mee</i>	<i>June 2</i>
<i>Barbara Zeuli</i>	<i>June 7</i>
<i>Carol Guarnieri-Palermo</i>	<i>June 25</i>
<i>Dory Dickson</i>	<i>June 29</i>
<i>Mary Ann Brookes</i>	<i>July 19</i>
<i>Lila Cleaver</i>	<i>July 23</i>

Monthly Member Bio

This is our last article of the 2014-15 year, and we'd like to thank the members who generously contributed their bios to this column: Elsie, Helen, Mary Ann, Bea, Sylvia, Dian, Mary, Tricia, and our dear Gladys. If you didn't have a chance to read them at the scholarship dinner, we'll wrap up this year with the two articles written by Rita Manno introducing us to this year's winners, So with that, we'll close and let you know that we may be calling on you soon for our Monthly Member Bio feature. Have a wonderful summer!

June Ramondetta & Lila Cleaver



Wandy Rivera of Burlington City is a single mother of three boys who moved from Trenton about seven years ago so that her children would have a better education and safer environment.

Wandy, 38, enrolled in Burlington County College because she "understood how important it was to have a degree in order to get a better paying job and be able to support her family financially." She was a teen-age mother and could not pursue higher education at that time.

She received an Associate's degree in Accounting and in Business Administration last year and became the first member of her family to have earned a degree.

Wandy is now enrolled in the Bachelor's degree program at Wilmington University and is working to become an accountant or an auditor for the state of New Jersey where she currently works as a customer service representative.

"It has been a long and hard road but it will be all worth it on graduation day. Then I hope to be able to inspire others who may think it is impossible for them to reach their educational goals."

She also wants to inspire her children so they can follow in her footsteps and understand the importance of an education.

On a very practical level, Wandy says the scholarship money will help to pay for books and tuition so she can achieve her goals faster without having to sacrifice much of her limited earnings.



Valerie Tomaszewski of Bordentown has three children, 6, 8 and 12. Recently her 12-year old son joined the Civil Air Patrol at McGuire AFB, which is a program that prepares young men and

women for careers in the military. He wants to become a pilot.

Valerie cares for her children and cared for her husband Tom who was disabled from a tragic bus accident. As a result of his injuries, he was moved to Hospice late last year and died in March.

She is in her second semester at the College of New Jersey as she pursues her dream of becoming a teacher. Valerie, 46, has fared well in college with excellent grades even though much of her time was devoted to her children and husband.

"This scholarship assisted me in finding the confidence so that I will one day be able to provide for my children without the reliance of public assistance."

The AAUW scholarships are awarded annually to women who may have left college because of personal family responsibilities and want to return or continue studies after perhaps a long time away from studying. The award winners are highly motivated and responsible.

In her recommendation letter from the Women's Opportunity Center, Director Cathi Rendrey said Valerie has endured "emotional and financial struggles that most of us will never endure in our lifetime." Yet Valerie persisted.

Fundraising

Help Wanted

Boscov's popular Friends Helping Friends 25% off shopping day will be held on Tuesday, October 20, 2015.

Our participation has raised over \$450 for our Chapter's scholarship fund, thanks to the dedicated and capable work of Mary Stickler (who, alas is moving to Philadelphia).

We need someone to take over this project, which includes: filling out some paper work, selling \$5 shopping passes, coordinating volunteers to staff an AAUW table at Boscov's on October 20 and generally making sure it all goes smoothly.

The participation registration is due by September 14, 2015. Contact Elsie Behmer for the forms and detailed instructions.

Elsie Behmer

Membership Renewal

Don't forget! Now is the season to renew your AAUW membership. Please be kind to your treasurer and renew now to save me from having to follow up with you all summer!

The dues are still \$65, which is \$49 to National, \$10 to NJ State, and the remaining \$6 to Medford Area branch.

You can send a check to me, or this year, you can use a credit card to easily renew online on the AAUW website at this link:

<http://www.aauw.org/resource/join-a-branch-or-renew-branch-membership/>

If you prefer the check payment, please make it payable to AAUW Medford Area and mail it to:

Mary Ann Brookes
38 Red Oak Trail
Medford, NJ 08055

Thanks!

Pathways

Our branch supported *Writing Your Life Story*, a two-session workshop given by Mary Danielson, held at Medford Leas as part of its **Pathways** series. We received acknowledgement in the Pathways booklet and at the workshop itself.

The success of Mary's workshop opens the door to our branch for co-sponsoring other appropriate programs with Pathways.

Elsie Behmer

2014/16 Executive Board

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