

AAUW NetWorks

empowering women since 1881

Monthly newsletter of the Northern Monmouth County (NJ) Branch, American Association of University Women
Volume 64, Number 3
November 2019

BRANCH MEETING AAUW Means Scholarship

MONDAY, November 18, 2019 — 7 to 9 p.m.
EATONTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER
72 BROAD ST, EATONTOWN

What do we do with all the money we work to raise at our Book Sale, Bridge Group, Scholarship Luncheon and many other fundraisers?

We invite you to meet our student recipients and winners :

Connie Goddard will introduce and tell us about some of the **22 Math Scholars at Monmouth County High Schools.**

Michelle Stein will tell us about that 'NCCWSL' word and introduce one of our **NCCWSL students who attended the conference in May 2019.**

Annette Benanti's name is synonymous with our **Tech Trek students** who show off their projects. It's always fascinating to hear what they have learned!

Carol Walther will introduce **Chyna Walker of Tinton Falls, recipient of the Monmouth University Scholarship.** She will share her dreams and hopes for her future.

Join us for an interesting and informative evening shared with the best of scholars.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We held our first branch program of the year on October 21. The theme was ***Clean Energy: Clean Air, Clean Water & Our Legacy of a Livable World.*** It featured a panel of three speakers: Amy Goldsmith of Clean Water Action, Taylor McFarland of Sierra Club, and Peter Blair of Clean Ocean Action.



Seated l to r, Peter Blair, Amy Goldsmith, Taylor McFarland; standing: Pat Miller, moderator

Photo: Barbara Withers

Together they made the case that any new construction of fossil fuel infrastructure, such as pipelines, power plants, or liquid gas export terminals, would be an obstacle to our existential goal of getting to 100% clean energy and stave off the worst effects of climate change. This was followed by a lively discussion with Q&A. We had sent the invitation to several outside environmental groups and were pleased to have many guests (9).



Photo: Barbara Withers

At the meeting Nancy Butler (below, right) was honored for completing her second term as president of the branch. She was presented with a chain to match her president's pin by current president Pat Miller (below, left).



Photo: Barbara Withers

Our upcoming November 18 program will feature our scholarship and other program award winners, the ultimate beneficiaries of all our fundraising efforts. Please join us for an interesting and informative evening shared with the best of scholars. The program will be hosted by members of the Education Outreach Committee: Connie Goddard, Carol Walther,

Michelle Stein, and Annette Benanti. And I am pleased to announce that Connie has accepted the position of Education Outreach Director. The former Director, **Renee Swartz**, has notified us that she is unable to continue in the position because of an increase in her other obligations. Thank you, Renee, for your service, and welcome aboard, Connie.

AAUW-NJ held its 2019 Fall Focus on October 12 in Mt. Laurel. **Marian Wattenbarger** and I attended from NMCB. Two Brookdale students attended, one of which, **Veronique Manfredini**, is a student e-member of our branch. There were several workshops and presentations that were of interest. Marian and her colleagues at the NJ Charitable Trust spoke about grant opportunities available to branches. We were told about the challenges that NJ Tech Trek faces due to a dearth of volunteers during the summer camp. All branches are asked to commit to provide volunteers. **Annette Benanti** has stepped up and made her own commitment, and we need others in the branch to do the same. One of the most informative talks was Tremayne Parquet from AAUW National, who spoke about the cutbacks at National made in response to a severe budget deficit that has been building over several years. So we might expect that the support we are used to from National might be cut back as well. Also, we are asked to increase our branch and personal contributions to National to help with this crisis.

We now have more clarity on our Central NJ Interbranch program, which NMCB is hosting this year. It will be held Thursday, March 26, 2020, at Brookdale Community College in the Student Life Center (SLC) Twin Lights Room, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The theme will be "Closing the Wage Gap." We are inviting the Freehold, Northern Ocean and Trenton branches, as well

as Brookdale students. We will let you know when there is further information.

Also, as we announced last month, the 7th Annual Scholarship Luncheon will take place on April 30 at the Beacon Hill Country Club in Atlantic Highlands.

We look forward to seeing you at the November 18 branch meeting, the Book Sale, or any committee or Study Group you would care to join!

Pat Miller, President

~

Membership Matters

Membership is Everyone's Responsibility

News of Honorary Life Members

Hannah R. Klein (Honorary Life Member)

Hannah was an Honorary Life member of our branch. She passed away on October 14, 2019 (95 years old). She taught elementary school in NY and NJ for over 30 years. She was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother and had many friends in Monmouth County where she lived from 1960 to 2009.

Helen Rudy (Honorary Life Member)

Helen's husband, Holland R. Rudy, 89, passed away on October 21, 2019. Their family has resided in Middletown for 57 years. In addition to his wife of 62 years, Helen, Holland is survived by an extended family. Helen has been a member of our branch since 1966.

Yearbooks for 2019-2020

Have you checked your name and contact information? If corrections need to be made, please contact Barbara Withers. If you did not

receive a Yearbook and would like one, please contact Mary Lea Burden.

Mentors

If you are a mentor for a newer member, please remember to contact her by phone or email as a reminder for upcoming meetings. Also ask if she has received *NetWorks*. We need more mentors for new members. If you would like to support our branch in this way, contact one of us.

Barbara Withers and Mary Lea Burden
Membership Co-Directors

aaaw.nmcb@gmail.com

Branch phone: 732-933-4855 (voice mail)



Thanks to Arbor Terrace for hosting our monthly board meetings.

~

Study, Action, Interest Groups

Study Group News

We look forward to seeing you this fall with renewed enthusiasm. The Study Groups are a very important part of our branch.

In this issue you will see that the Art History Study Group has been very, very busy, and they have two upcoming events that are very exciting.

If your study group has experiences/projects to share with the branch, please send the information to Karen Topham for upcoming issues of *NetWorks*.

Cordially, Your Study Group Director
Marie Gambuzza

Art History

Meets: November 21, 4:30 p.m.

Gallery Talk: artspace88, 46 E. Front St., Keyport

Dinner: 6:30 p.m. at [Drew's Bayshore Bistro](#),

across from the gallery

Contact: Vickie Snoy

Upcoming: December 5, 12 p.m.

Lunch: TBD

Tour: 2:30 p.m., Ballantine House at the Newark Museum

Chairs: Susan Buccellato

Barbara Iwanski

We meet to study and discuss global art of all periods and genres through member presentation and visits to museums, galleries, and outdoor art exhibitions. New members are welcome!



Photo: Arlene Thoma

Art History Study Group trip to the Zimmerli Art Museum

By Lynda Griffith

On September 26 the Art History study group met at the Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers University for a tour of 2 current exhibitions. We had an excellent docent guide us through *Dimensionism: Modern Art in the Age of Einstein* and also *Women Artists on the Leading Edge: Celebrating Douglass College at 100*.

The *Leading Edge* show featured artists who had been associated with the university as teachers, portrait painters, etc.

The shows remain on exhibit until January 5, 2020 and January 11, 2020 respectively.

The participants were Barbara Withers, Joan Fruchter, Annette Benanti, Susan Rosenberg, Susan Gelber, Arlene Thoma, Susan Buccellato and friend and Lynda Griffith.

For anyone wishing detailed information about these exhibits, the Zimmerli Art Museum website has write-ups.

Art History Study Group trip to the Asbury Park Boardwalk Murals

By Vickie Snoy

The October 28 tour of the murals (and related artworks) on the boardwalk in Asbury Park, arranged by Susan Rosenberg and led by "arts and experience curator" Jenn Hampton, was a feast for the eyes for the dozen art study group members who gathered in the chill of the Asbury Park carousel house. This writer's head is still spinning from all she saw and heard that day, the colors and imagery complemented by the running commentary that bounced back and forth between Susan, who grew up in Asbury Park (and still lives in the family home on the town's border with Ocean) and Jenn, creator of what is known as the Wooden Walls Public Arts Project and curator for Asbury's pushing-the-envelope Parlor Gallery, which some of us visited after the boardwalk tour.

Jenn has been working her magic with art and community in Asbury Park since 2002. The Wooden Walls Project first breathed life in 2010 and finally had a budget to work with beginning in 2015. Most of the murals are by emerging artists that Jenn has discovered in her backyard as well as on extensive travels. I loved her

response to the question, “How long does a mural last?” Said Jenn, “Mother Nature decides.”



Photo: Barbara Withers

Somewhat indicative of Mother Nature’s decision-making are the remnants of an enormous art installation hanging from the beams of the boardwalk Casino. By the artist Hottea, whom Jenn had met several times and finally flew to Asbury Park last spring to check out possible sites for his work, the piece is entitled “One Last Moment Under the Sky.” It is created from 5,760 strands of yarn in 36 colors and even in its tangled and wind-blown state, is still mesmerizing.

Every mural in the Wooden Walls Project and its creator – or creators – has a tale and Jenn is a wonderful storyteller. It was very special to have her guide the group from one panel to another as the clouds gave way to sunshine. But even without her interpretive comments, the murals would be a glorious experience. Go see for yourself when an off-season day at the beach seems to be just the ticket.



Photo: Barbara Withers

French Conversation

Meets: 2nd and 4th Thursdays,
12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Contact the chair for more information.

Chair: Jeannine Maloney

Our group enables women with a good knowledge of the French language to maintain their fluency through some language structure reviews and conversation with other members. (The group is made up of native-born speakers, those educated in France, French majors in an American university and those who have studied the language for several years.) Grammatical notes and practice sheets are e-mailed to the participants before each meeting and one half hour of the two hours is spent reviewing a grammatical point and listening to the paragraphs written by the participants.

Participants eat together and share their stories in French.

L'hôtesse sert un déjeuner à la française, pour mieux apprécier la vie culturelle du pays.

New members are always welcome.

German Conversation

Meets: Twice a month on Mondays,
1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.,
at Red Bank Library

Chair: Aline Ashkin

We read *auf deutsch* and translate. Our goal is to improve our German language skills in reading and conversation. Our group is a mixture of English-speaking members with a background of college-level German, and several members who are native German speakers. New members are always welcome.

Insights

Meets: Tuesday, November 12, 7:30 p.m.

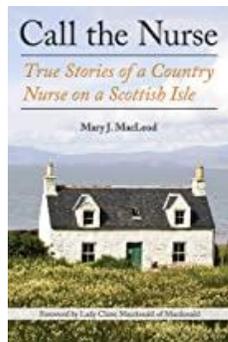
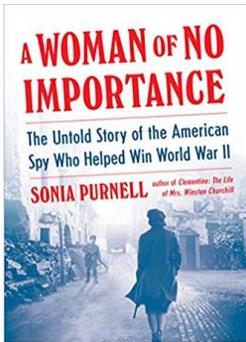
Topic: *A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of the American Spy Who Helped Win World War II*, by Sonia Purnell

Contact Hostess/Chair: Kathy Olsen

Upcoming on December 10:

Call the Nurse: True Stories of a Country Nurse on a Scottish Isle by Mary J. MacLeod

This *nonfiction book group* focuses on current issues, with special attention to topics affecting women and books written by women. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month. We are resuming our Tuesday evening schedule. New members and guests are very welcome!



Literature

Meets: Thursday, November 21, 1 p.m.

Topic: *Marriage of Opposites*, by Alice Hoffman.

Contact hostess: JoAnne McWilliams

or

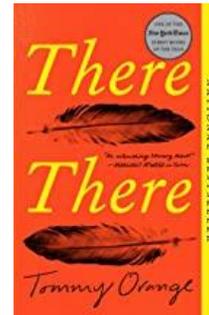
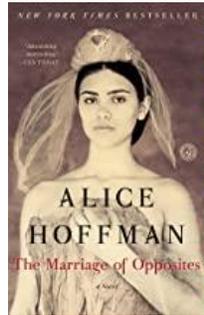
Chair: Regina Sieben

Upcoming: Thursday, January 16, 1 p.m.

Topic: *There, There*, by Tommy Orange.

Contact chair for more information.

We select *literary fiction or an occasional memoir* to read during the year. A different member acts as leader each month and presents background and critical appraisal of the month's selection. We meet the third Thursday of the month at 1 p.m. New members are most welcome!



Russian Short Stories **NEW STUDY GROUP**

Meets: 3rd Thursday, Monmouth County Library, Eastern Branch, 2nd Floor, Services Office, 1 p.m.

Meeting: November 21

Contact Study Group Chair: Stephanie Rose

Russia is a continental power of vast proportions, with distinctive traditions, character, national myths and forms of political organization. After a brief survey of Russian geography and culture, this study group will deal with nine short stories, and conclude by examining popular themes within Russian literature.

Presentations are in English. All materials for the study group are available through

<https://www.gutenberg.org/>.

Writing

Meets: Thursday, December 19, 1 p.m.

Hostess: Betsy Wattley

Contact chair for meeting information

Chair: Patricia Chapman

Members of this group are resolute in their belief in the power of the written word to inform, delight, amuse and transform the reader. With this aim, members present their writings from various genres - poetry, fiction, essays, memoir, non-fiction, opinion. The meetings begin with a timed journal exercise based on a prompt provided by a member. After sharing their responses, members take time out to enjoy light refreshments and conversation.

Following the break, members then read aloud completed pieces or segments of what they are currently working on, eliciting reactions, comments, suggestions. The members are extremely supportive of the efforts of their fellow writers, contributing to the creation of a reassuring, relaxed atmosphere. Meetings are usually on the fourth Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.

You Can Make a Difference!**The Scholarship Luncheon**

One of our two biggest fundraisers, the annual Scholarship Luncheon, is scheduled for April 30, 2020. It will be the sixth annual luncheon, and the luncheon committee has begun making plans for this very special event. More hands make less work for everyone and we invite you to join us in raising the funds that provide scholarships and special programs for girls and women.

Here are some ways that you can help:

Provide a place for us to store donations for the auction baskets (an extra bedroom, a dry

basement, or a half empty closet would all work).

Solicit donations of gift cards or merchandise from local merchants (we will provide a letter for each merchant telling what we use the donations for and will acknowledge their donation).

Be part of the group that puts the baskets together after we have all the donations from study groups and individuals (generally done within two weeks of the luncheon).

Help with set-up the day of the luncheon.

You can volunteer by sending an email to luncheon co-chairs, Arlene Thoma or Lauren Nicosia (they are both in the yearbook). You'd also be welcome to attend our January luncheon committee meeting and think about joining us. Our meetings always feature good company, good food (we do like to eat), and the satisfaction of a job well done.

The upcoming luncheon will find us honoring not only two Women of Achievement but also the memory of Barbara Williamson, who provided the inspiration and leadership that started the luncheon tradition. It will be a special day.

Running & Winning Workshop

The 14th Annual Running & Winning Workshop is scheduled for April 23. This event for high school junior girls is a collaboration of AAUW-NMCB, the League of Women Voters of the Greater Red Bank Area, the Junior League of Monmouth County, and the greater Red Bank area Hadassah. Running & Winning Workshop brings together young women from twelve area high schools. The students have an opportunity to interact with women who have run for public office and to think about and develop leadership

skills that they can use now in high school and in the future. We expect at least some of them will use these same skills to run for public office themselves someday. Inspired by the fact that not a single woman was represented in the NJ delegation to the US Congress fifteen years ago when we began (now there is one), the four organizations came together to encourage young women to consider public service as something they could aspire to.

If you are interested in being part of Running & Winning contact **Marian Wattenbarger**, co-chair. Some of the ways you can make a difference:

- Serve as a facilitator of a small group of students (training provided).
- Work on developing a program for the teachers who accompany the students.
- Help with set up.

Visit a Steering Committee meeting and consider whether you'd like to be involved in the future.

AMAZON SMILE!

Please remember when you shop at Amazon to use Amazon Smile and select American Assoc. of University Women Northern Monmouth as your charity. A portion of eligible purchases will be donated to AAUW-NMCB at no extra cost to you. Your holiday shopping can help to add a few extra dollars to our treasury.

Thanks!

FUTURE AAUW-NMCB 2019–2020 PROGRAMS

Monday, November 18

“AAUW-NMCB’s OWN SCHOLARSHIP & EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AWARDEES”

Eatontown Community Center, 7–9 p.m.

We will showcase NMCB’s scholarships and awards and feature some of the 2018–2019 awardees describing their experiences: High School Book Awards, AAUW’s NCCWSL, Tech Trek, and academic scholarships at local colleges.

Monday, December 9

“CIMABUE AND GIOTTO:

THE DAWN OF RENAISSANCE PAINTING”

Eatontown Community Center, 7–9 p.m.

Our annual holiday celebration will feature a huge dessert buffet, plus slides and commentary from our resident art historian **Mary Anne Anderl**.

Sunday, March 1

“SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL IN BLACK AND WHITE”

**Eastern Branch of Monmouth County Library,
Shrewsbury, 2–3:30 p.m.**

NMCB and League of Women Voters (LWV) will celebrate the centennial of the 19th Amendment with a program that tells, via role playing, the suffrage story through the words of five women (and one man) who made it happen – Susan B. Anthony, Frederick Douglass, Carrie Chapman Catt, Alice Paul, Ida B. Wells, and Fanny Lou Hamer. Co-sponsored with LWV, T. Thomas Fortune, and Monmouth County Library Eastern Branch.

INTERBRANCH

Thursday, March 26

“CLOSING THE WAGE GAP”

**Brookdale Community College,
SLC Twin Lights Room, 7–9 p.m.**

Save the Date:

Thursday, April 30, 2020

**7th ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON
Beacon Hill Country Club, Atlantic Highlands**

NMCB Community Outreach Program 2019-2020

Each year, our branch members reach out to women and girls in our community in need of basic toiletries and feminine products. People who visit food pantries are on the SNAP program (Food Stamps) which, unfortunately, does not cover non-food items.

NMCB Member **Betty Randall** coordinates the collections and also delivers all collected items to three local agencies: Lunch Break, Calico Cat and the Keyport Ministerium Food Pantry.

Some of the most requested donation items include: *shampoo & conditioner, toothpaste & toothbrushes, deodorants/antiperspirants, feminine products (pads, liners, etc.), hand cream/moisturizing lotions, hand soap pumps, and toilet paper.*

How Can You Help?

See the list below for suggested items to bring on the designated month.

If you have any suggestions of your own, bring something appropriate.

November 18 Feminine Products

December 9	Toilet Tissue
March 1	Toothpaste & Toothbrushes
March-April	Deodorant
June	Body Wash or Bath Soap

*Thank you for your generosity!
Our sisters in need are always
delighted to receive our gifts.*

AAUW Book Sale

- The Fall Book Sale schedule still has room for volunteers.

Many weeks and times are available.
Please let me know if you can help.

Thank you.
Annabelle Boehm

NetWorks is published by the Northern Monmouth County Branch of AAUW. Items for the next issue are **due on Monday, November 25**, to: Karen Topham, Editor

Send address changes, names of prospective members, membership applications and checks, and questions about non-receipt of the newsletter to:
Barbara Withers and Mary Lea Burden, Membership Co-Directors
P.O. Box 398, Red Bank, NJ 07701
aauw.nmcb@gmail.com

Our electronic mailing list enables us to inform you about opportunities for AAUW members that arise too late for publication in *NetWorks*. You can be sure that we carefully evaluate each notice before we send it out.

Please note that use of the branch email list is for branch activities only. Members wishing to share other information with branch members are invited to submit a notice to the "Networking" column in *NetWorks*.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

November 11, Veterans Day

November 11, Board Meeting: 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Arbor Terrace, Tinton Falls

November 18, Branch Meeting: AAUW-NMCB's Own Scholarship & Educational Program Awardees, Monday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Eatontown Community Center
Outreach Donation: Feminine Products

November 28, Thanksgiving

December 2, Board Meeting: 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Arbor Terrace, Tinton Falls

December 9, Branch Meeting: *Cimabue and Giotto: The Dawn of Renaissance Painting*, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Eatontown Community Center
Outreach Donation: Toilet Tissue

Your Northern Monmouth County Branch is part of the greater, national AAUW. As you can see, what we do locally fits well within the national AAUW Strategic Plan.

AAUW Strategic Plan

The AAUW Strategic Plan is created through an inclusive process involving the AAUW Board of Directors and staff. The goals, indicators of success, and strategies reflect an integrated approach to fulfilling our mission, vision, and value promise. As AAUW continues to move forward in a changing world, so have our Strategic Plan and our Vision Statement.

To read the complete Strategic Plan online, go to <https://www.aauw.org/who-we-are/strategic-plan/>.

Mission

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Vision

Equity for all.

Values

Nonpartisan.

Fact-based.

Integrity.

Inclusion and Intersectionality.

OUR STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUSES ON THREE AREAS:



[Education & Training](#)



[Economic Security](#)



[Leadership](#)

Public Policy Message from AAUW National

As the 2020 presidential campaign gets underway, the power of women is on full display.

Maybe it's that there are so many women in the race — the largest number in history — or because the candidates are eager to earn our support. Whatever the reason, the issues that matter most to us are *finally* getting attention.

As a non-partisan organization, AAUW doesn't endorse specific candidates. But that doesn't mean we're not advocates for the policies that matter most to us. Indeed, we have a long history of championing policies that advance equality for women in education and the workplace.

So, in the months ahead, AAUW will be watching closely to see where candidates stand on these five issues:

1. **Equal Pay for Equal Work.** To close the stubborn wage gap, we need leaders who will pass the federal [Paycheck Fairness Act](#) and advocate for laws and policies that ensure women are not discriminated against at work.
2. **Investing in Education.** Education is the pathway for women and girls, but too many of our schools are falling short. We need to raise teacher pay, invest in [STEM education](#), protect [Title IX](#) and make education a top national priority.
3. **Reducing Student Debt.** Women hold two-thirds of the nation's \$1.46 trillion [educational debt](#). Policymakers should protect grant programs, champion tuition- and debt-free options and expand loan forgiveness programs.
4. **Strengthening Social Security.** Because of lower wages and time off from work, women collect about \$320 a month less than men do in Social Security benefits. Our lawmakers need to [address the retirement wage gap](#) women face.
5. **Implementing Paid Leave.** The U.S. is the only developed country without paid family and sick leave. Let's [adopt policies](#) to give workers paid time off for illness and caregiving.

You know how much is at stake in the next election. So, please, do what you've done in the past: Tune in, get involved, make your voices heard — and ensure that we harness the power of women to drive the national agenda.

With gratitude for all you do to guarantee a brighter future for women and girls,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kimberly Churches'.

Kimberly Churches
Chief Executive Officer



American Association of University Women
Northern Monmouth County Branch
P.O. Box 398
Red Bank, NJ 07701

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. In principle and in 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.

Membership is open to any graduate holding an associate degree or equivalent, baccalaureate, or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

AAUW-NMCB is designated as a 501(c)(3) organization. All donations to the branch, as well as to the national organization, are fully tax-deductible. AAUW is a top-rated charity.

AAUW Used Book Sale



The store is located at:
Old First Church
69 Kings Highway
Middletown

Open: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays thru June
Donations: 10 a.m. to Noon on Thursdays
To volunteer: Annabelle Boehm

Have you been missing
AAUW's *Outlook* magazine that used to
arrive in the mail?

It's online at
<https://www.aauw.org/who-we-are/outlookmag/>

Stay Connected!

AAUW www.aauw.org

AAUW-NMCB www.aauw-nj-nmcb.org

AAUW Action Network www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/

AAUW-NJ aauw-nj.aauw.net

Branch phone 732-275-2237



Join AAUW-NMCB on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.NMCB/>

Meeting cancellation information:

Listen to 94.3 FM or call 732-345-8094.