



AAUW NetWorks

Monthly newsletter of the Northern Monmouth County (NJ) Branch
American Association of University Women

Volume 55, Number 7

May 2011

Branch Officers Elected

The following new branch officers were elected at the branch Annual Meeting on April 4 and will be installed at the June 6 branch meeting:

Co-Presidents: **Barbara Iwanski**
Joan Spring

VP Program: **Annette Benanti**

VP Finance: **Patricia Miller**

VP Public Policy: **Rekha Datta**

VP Communications: **Caroline O'Neil**
Catherine San Filippo

Congratulations to all! Thanks to nominating committee members **Linda Beltran, Susan Gelber, Doris Hudak, Patricia Miller, Marilyn Parker, Regina Sieben,** and chair **Irene Gibson.**

Special Events

Running & Winning

April 29, Friday, Monmouth Regional HS

Brookdale Women's Conference

April 29, Friday, BCC

AAUW National Convention: "Breaking Through Barriers—Advocating for Change"

June 16-19, Renaissance Washington DC

Information at www.aauw.org



Join Us!

AAUW National Convention

June 16—19, 2011

Branch Meeting

"AAUW's Women in Society Delegation to Israel"
Slide Presentation by Virginia Lyttle

May 2, 7 p.m.
Monmouth Beach Cultural Center
128 Ocean Blvd., Monmouth Beach

Last October AAUW women, including Virginia Lyttle, past president of AAUW-NJ, traveled to Israel at the invitation of Linda Hallman, executive director of AAUW, and Dr. Rivka Carmi, president of Ben Gurion University, to meet with leading political and professional women to discuss women's social issues.

Ginny will be at our May meeting to give us details of her trip, including visits to women leaders in medicine, math, science, law, and politics, as well as to the Jerusalem branch of the Israeli Federation of University Women. She also visited historical and cultural sites, such as a kibbutz, a Druze village, and the seaport of Caesarea. Her program will be a fascinating look at the work of Israeli women on key AAUW issues.

All are welcome! If you need a ride, please call Mary Lea Burden or Laura Noll.

Board Meeting

Monday, April 25, 7 p.m., at the Eatontown Community Center, 58 Broad Street (Route 71). The meeting is open to all branch members.

BRANCH OFFICERS 2010-2011

Co-Presidents	Doris Hudak Barbara Iwanski
Program VP	Mary Anne Anderl
Study Group VP	Susan Gelber
Membership VPs	Mary Lea Burden Laura Noll
Development VPs	Jeannette Molzer Ruth Hodum
Public Policy VP	Joan Spring
Communication VPs	Margaret Barney Elaine Lent
Finance VP	Barbara Williamson
Recording Secretary	Annette Benanti Alice MacPhee Karen Topham

NetWorks is published monthly except January, July, August, and September by the Northern Monmouth County Branch of AAUW. Items for the June issue are due on May 3 to:

Nancy Butler, Editor

Please note that use of the branch e-mail 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*.

Send address changes, names of prospective members, membership applications and checks, and questions about non-receipt of the newsletter to:
Laura Noll, Membership VP

Presidents' Message

Here we are well into spring. We've had a busy year. This is when we see the fruits of our fundraising efforts from our Book Sale and other activities, when we are able to help worthy young women in achieving their educational goals.

We are getting ready to award our three scholarships—the **Ruth Kennedy Scholarship** at Douglass, the **Esther Hymer Scholarship** at Brookdale, and the **Audrie LaTowsky Scholarship** at Monmouth—as well as our high school book awards to the best female mathematics students at 22 Monmouth County public high schools. Although the high school book award is not a monetary award, we try to give these young women a book that will be useful, if not inspirational, to them in pursuing their education beyond high school. This year's book will be *The Traveler's Gift* by Andy Andrews. Thanks go to all our members and friends who support our Book Sale and activities that make these awards possible.

We ask you to continue your support of branch activities, including branch meetings, study groups, educational programs such as Running & Winning, fund raising programs, and the ongoing Book Sale. It is our members' participation that keeps our branch alive and successful. Give us your input and your energy!

Barbara Iwanski for
Doris Hudak
Barbara Iwanski
Co-Presidents

Study, Action, Interest Groups

Advanced Spanish Conversation

Meets: First Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Contact: Alicia Portuondo

Some of us are native-born, and others come from Latin American countries. We serve brunch, followed by different programs about Spanish culture or women's health. Call for meeting details.

Art History

Meets: Tuesday, May 17, 7:30 p.m. at Mary Anne Anderl's in Middletown

Topic: "The Anglo-Saxon Treasures: Part Two"

Contact: Mary Anne Anderl

SPECIAL THANKS!

Marilyn Parker has donated to the branch Microsoft Publisher software for use in producing *NetWorks*.

Now we're looking for an assistant editor to work with editor Nancy Butler to "learn the ropes." For more information, contact Nancy.

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

Bridge

Contact: Niobe Schabert

A new group has formed. Players and their friends are welcome to join. This is a fundraiser for our branch scholarship funds.

Drama

Meets: Wednesday, April 27, 9:30 a.m. at Phyllis Scholz's in Middletown

Meets: Wednesday, May 25, 1 p.m.

Topic: *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris* at Two River Theater

Contact: Marjorie Levy

We study plays, classical and modern, and attend performances when feasible. This year we plan to subscribe to Two River Theater in Red Bank. Prospective members are welcome to attend a meeting and/or join the group for a matinee or weekend performance. Call/e-mail for details.

French Conversation

Meets: 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m.

Contact: Kate Wellauer

Our group enables women with a good knowledge of the French language to maintain their fluency through conversation with other members, many of whom are native-born speakers. Others were educated in France or were French majors at American universities. We all strive to improve our skills, meeting on a rotating basis for lunch at a member's home. We encourage more AAUW members to join us. Call or e-mail for meeting details.

French Intermediate

Meets: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 9:30 to 12

Contact: Anne Morrison

This group offers an opportunity to those with some experience in French to read, write, translate, and speak the language. French culture, customs, and current events are topics for our lively discussions. New members are very welcome! Call/e-mail for meeting details.

German Conversation

Meets: Twice a month on Mondays, 9:30-12

Contact: Walli Rosen

Our members come from German-speaking countries, or have learned to speak German as an additional language. To retain and improve our German language skills, we read about/discuss current events, contemporary German literature, and stories of common interest as suggested by members. Call for meeting details. New members are welcome.

Insights

Meets: Tuesday, May 10, 7:30 p.m.

Topic: *Princess: Life Behind the Veil in Saudi Arabia* by Jean Sasson

Contact: Marilyn Parker

This non-fiction book group focuses on current issues, with special attention to topics affecting women and books written by women. Recent topics have included autism, global warming, integration of high schools, organic farming, and the first woman secretary of labor. New members are welcome! Contact chair for location.

Italian Conversation

Meets: 4th Tuesday, 1 to 3 p.m.

Contact: Jeannette Molzer or Irene Gibson

To improve our knowledge of the Italian language and to make Italian travel easier, we enjoy studying the customs, culture, and people of modern-day Italy. We would love to welcome new members; please call/e-mail for information.

Book Corner



The Insights Interest Group's recommendation for this month is *The Big Necessity* by Rose George. The title refers to an *indoor flush toilet*, something many people today still do not have.

The author traveled around the world learning about the toilet habits of various cultures, ranging from people who still just do *it* wherever they are to super-expensive, high-tech Japanese fixtures. Strange as it sounds, it was fascinating. Her writing style is terrific.

Marilyn Parker
Insights Chair

Literature

Meets: Thursday, April 21, 1 p.m. at Anne Morrison's in Holmdel
 Topic: *Purge* by Sofi Oksanen
 Meets: Thursday, May 19, 1 p.m. at Adelaide Swanson-Bonner's in New Monmouth
 Topic: *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* by Muriel Barbery
 Contact: Regina Sieben

Our group selects literary fiction or an occasional memoir to read during the year. A different member acts as a leader each month and presents background and critical appraisal of that month's selection. We welcome new members. Please contact chair for meeting details.

Movies and More

Meets: Tuesday or Wednesday evening
 Contact: Jeannette Molzer

Once a month we view a movie at the Clearview Cinema in Red Bank and discuss it afterwards at the Broadway Diner. Contact chair to be put on the list for receiving details, usually the week before. Please join us!

Writing Group

Meets: Thursday, April 28, 1 to 3 p.m. at Caroline O'Neil's in West Long Branch
 Contact: Caroline O'Neil
 Members are writing and reading a variety of pieces each session, and a good time is had by all! Please contact Caroline.

Membership

New Members

We welcome new members **Nancy Fitch** and **Joan Rykiel** to our branch. Please add their contact information to your yearbook.

Nancy Fitch
 Holmdel, NJ 07733
 Wilson College

Joan Rykiel
 Wall, NJ 07719
 Susquehanna University; Seton Hall University

Membership for 2011 - 2012

Membership runs from July 1, 2011, to June 30, 2012. **Current members:** It is time to renew your membership. **AAUW friends:** Would you like to join AAUW and the Northern Monmouth County Branch? Be part of a powerful national network that has been promoting equity for women and girls for over 125 years. Play a part in your local branch that has served our area since 1928.

A separate dues notice will be mailed out shortly; a copy is also included here on page 9. Complete and return the membership form with your check so that your membership information will be listed correctly in our 2011-2012 Yearbook. Please consider including a \$10 donation to help defray branch expenses.

If you pay your dues by June 6th your name will be entered in a drawing at the June branch meeting for a free membership (payment will be refunded). You need not be present to win, but it would be nice to see you at our final meeting of the year at Monmouth Beach Cultural Center on June 6th.

If you need a ride to a branch meeting or activity, please call one of us.

Mary Lea Burden
 Laura Noll
 Co-Membership VPs

Meet Our New Members!

In this new feature, I ask new members a series of questions about their education, their experiences as women, and their particular interests, etc. We hope you find this interesting, and perhaps you will find a new friend or two. Call one or more and plan to do something together!

—Caroline O'Neil

Ivonne Vanderbilt was born in Uruguay and lives now in Oceanport. She enjoyed all of her educational experiences at Southern Methodist, Vanderbilt, and Rutgers; she loved going to school, learning, and expanding her world. Trilingual, she has taught ESL, Spanish, and French at Vanderbilt, in the CUNY system, and later at Monmouth University. While she didn't experience any discrimination against women in Uruguay or during her student years, as a professional she has found a more open difference in the treatment of women and men.

Ivonne was attracted to AAUW through good friends who are members and because of an interest in some of the cultural activities. She does not have that much free time, however, because of a part-time job and regular attendance at concerts and theatrical performances. While she used to play the piano, now her love of classical music finds her in the audience rather than performing. Hers is a pleasantly busy life, Ivonne concludes.

Elinore Delaney, who now lives in Shrewsbury, is from New Jersey originally. What she found best about her education was the “incredible mentor” she had at Kean College, whose guidance led Elinore to research Maud Gonne, a most memorable experience. She became a high school teacher in Old Bridge. Given that background, it is not surprising that she now works at Monmouth University as a mentor to student teachers. She loves working with the young people and exchanging ideas with them.

Elinore also loves reading and has become very fond of her new Nook. She thought she would hate it and miss the tactile aspect of reading real books but finds she is reading novel after novel on her new device. Recently she read *The Paris Wife*, which she liked a lot; she found it entertaining, and it definitely gave her a new perspective on Hemingway. “I don’t think I would have liked him,” she admits. She joined AAUW because she attended the meeting on the Venice Opera and found the members to be an interesting group of women. “It was great to be with people who actually talk about stuff,” she concluded.

Originally from Kansas, **Lee Jantz** has lived in New Jersey since 1967. Thinking back on her education in nursing, she says that one of the best things about it was that it allowed her to leave home, be independent, and make her own way in the world. As a nurse, Lee especially loved the interaction with the patients, but regrets that the profession became more and more difficult with the all the new technology and drugs; the responsibility for another human life was not to be taken lightly. Also, back then she felt that women in the profession, mainly nurses, were not treated with the same degree of respect as men, although she is glad to say that that situation has improved and is continuing to improve. There is more a sense of partnership now.

Lee joined AAUW after retiring, looking for friends and activities. She has already joined the film and art groups. She loved *The Help*, reading about the early ‘60s, the civil rights movement and the turmoil surrounding it, the lives of the women in the south.

She also loves hiking with the Monmouth County Parks system, and admires the wonderful parks in the county and the people who hike. She would recommend that activity to everyone. “Hikers are lovely people, very friendly,” she says. “You feel so good about yourself after you have hiked a couple of hours.” With her children, grandchildren, husband, and travels, Lee has a good life, she says. Her last trip was to England, and she hopes to go to Cuba in August.

—*To be continued*

NetWorking

NEEDED: As we are organizing the branch archives, we find that some important information is missing. We need Yearbooks from 1998 to the present. Also, if you have any files or information of historical interest, please let us make a copy to add to the archives.

Ruth Hodum

Marian Wattenbarger

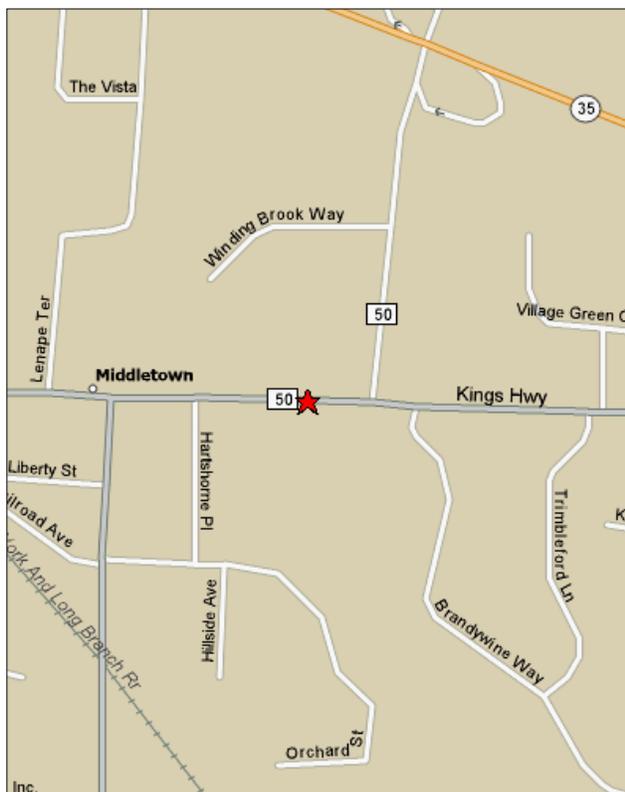
IF YOU ARE interested in serving on a committee to recognize branch members’ contributions, please contact Barbara Iwanski: barbaraiwanski@comcast.net

BE SURE TO check the branch website for the latest information and events: www.aauw-nj-nmcb.org

Public Policy

The Impact of House Republicans’ Budget Proposal on Women and Families

The National Women’s Law Center recently released state-by-state reports detailing the impact House Republicans’ budget proposal, if passed, would have on women and families. Among the statistics provided for each state, the report indicated the number of children who could lose essential Head Start and child care programs, the number of students who may not have the ability to continue funding their education, and the number of men and women who will lose access to indispensable health services. The report emphasized the impact of these cuts on girls, women, and families. The factsheets also made an apt comparison between the cost of saving these vital services and the cost of tax breaks for corporations



Book Sale Location

Old First Church, 69 Kings Hwy., Middletown
Open Saturdays 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

and wealthy Americans provided for in H.R. 1.

AAUW hopes that critical investments in our country's future economic strength and in critical programs for women are not short-changed. Such an action would be short-sighted indeed at a critical juncture in our nation's history.

New Report on the Status of Women at MIT Released

In late March, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology released an update to its 1999 and 2002 reports on the status of female college professors, focusing on women in MIT's Schools of Science and Engineering. Among the updated report's findings was that progress has been made in growing the number of women in faculty and administrative roles and in fostering a more accepting environment. The report also identified areas of continuing concern, such as lack of adequate child care support and insufficient formal policies in place to address sexual harassment.

AAUW supports promoting and strengthen-

ing women's involvement in science, technology, engineering, and math at all levels. We also agree that sexual harassment is a continuing critical concern. Our own Holly Kearn, LAF program manager, has been working this month with AAUW Community Action Project grantee Holla Back DC! to conduct a groundbreaking community safety audit in Washington, D.C., one of many ways we're combating sexual harassment.

Anniversary of Health Care Reform

March 24 marked the one-year anniversary of the signing of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the health care overhaul bill. In just that short period of time, a number of quantifiable improvements have been made to women's access to quality health care, including mandatory coverage of preventive health care for women, such as mammograms. Disagreement over the law has not yet abated, however, and will likely be a major issue in next year's presidential election. If it were repealed, many of the 32 million Americans who have already secured or will secure coverage through the law would lose that assistance, and over 44 million seniors on Medicare would face increased costs for crucial preventive care. The National Women's Health network has put together a useful guide that addresses the specific benefits women have received from the health care law.

AAUW supports the right of everyone to high-quality, affordable and easily accessible health care. We marked the anniversary on AAUW Dialog.

Jobs Still Matter to Voters

At the March 10th Summit on Jobs and America's Future, new data was released revealing that jobs and the economy are still voters' primary concern. While worries about spending levels exist, concerns about the economy outweigh concern over the deficit nearly two to one. The group presenting the data, Lake Research Partners, believes these findings present an opportunity for progressives and organizations such as AAUW interested in protecting funding for vital services such as job-training, education, and health services programs.



A tough economic climate is also an opportunity to invest in future economic strength. AAUW is committed to ensuring that new opportunities open for women. AAUW advocates for economic self-sufficiency for all women through education, job training, and fair pay, and has made recommendations on the Workforce Investment Act to ensure

women are included in job recovery programs.

United States Joins Broad Community of Nations Reaffirming Commitment to LGBTQ Rights

On March 23, 85 nations, including the United States, reaffirmed their commitment to working to end violence against LGBTQ individuals. The declaration presented to the United Nations Human Rights Council was championed by the US and implores non-signatory nations to work to prevent violence against individuals based on sexual orientation or gender identity. The Obama administration issued a statement applauding the declaration and emphasizing the importance of advancing the human rights of all people.

AAUW supports freedom from violence and fear of violence in homes, schools, workplaces, and communities. This is why AAUW led the successful campaign for the Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009 and continues to support strengthened enforcement of measures to end violence motivated by gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability.

Several Republican Senators Stand with Planned Parenthood

In the wake of House-passed budget H.R. 1, which, in addition to making harmful cuts to a variety of critical education and health care programs, would halt all federal funding for Planned Parenthood, several Republican senators have come forward to criticize

this measure and voice their support for women's health. In late March, Sen. Scott Brown (R-MA) spoke out against the GOP's attacks on Planned Parenthood, saying "the proposal to eliminate all funding for family planning goes too far." Brown's statement follows a stream of Republicans voicing similar disapproval for their party's actions, including Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME), and Olympia Snowe (R-ME). It is unlikely that this attack on women's health will pass without the support of these three senators.

AAUW supports the right of every woman to safe, accessible, affordable and comprehensive family planning and reproductive health services. The recent attempts in the House to limit this right are unconscionable steps in the wrong direction.

Sign Up Your Friends and AAUW Colleagues for Action Network!

Visit AAUW's Take Action page of our website <http://capwiz.com/aauw/home/> where AAUW members and non-members alike can sign up for Action Network. It is an excellent way to introduce potential members to AAUW's advocacy.

Joan Spring
Public Policy Vice President



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Each Office Is Independently Owned And Operated



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Monday, May 2, Branch Meeting: "AAUW's Women in Society Delegation to Israel" with Virginia Lyttle

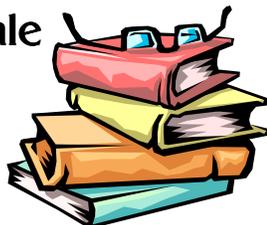
AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

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

Value Promise: "By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance."

AAUW Book Sale

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



Open: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays
Donations: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays
To volunteer: Anne Morrison
Information: Viki Mischenko, Chair
732-933-4855

All profits go to local scholarships for women and to the AAUW Educational Foundation for fellowships for women.

Stay Connected!

AAUW www.aauw.org
AAUW-NJ www.aauwnj.org
AAUW-NMCB www.aauw-nj-nmcb.org
Branch phone 732-933-4855

AAUW Action Network
<http://capwiz.com/aauw/home/>



AAUW and AAUW-NJ are now on Facebook. Check them out!

Meeting cancellation information:
Listen to 94.3 FM.

2011-2012 AAUW-NMCB Membership Dues

Membership runs from July 1, 2011, to June 30, 2012. Dues for 2011-2012 are:

Regular - \$69 (national \$49*, state \$10, branch \$10).

Life Member - \$20 (state & branch).

Guest - \$40 (for those without a two- or four-year degree).

[*] \$46 of Regular dues is tax deductible for payments made to "AAUW," our 501(c)(3) charitable organization. \$3 of Regular dues is not tax deductible as it goes to support the AAUW Lobby Corps and election-related activities.

Name _____ Current Member ____ New Member ____

Circle Member type: Regular, Life, Honorary Life, or Guest

Current Members: Enter information to be updated in the 2011-2012 Yearbook, or
Check here if your information in the 2010-2011 Yearbook is correct _____

New Members: Enter all your information to be included in the 2011-2012 Yearbook

Address: _____

City _____, State _____, Zip _____ - _____

Phone (for yearbook) _____, Email _____

College / University _____, State _____, Degree _____

Any Additional Schools, with Degrees _____

Profession _____, Interests _____

Dues amount enclosed: \$ _____, Donation enclosed: \$ _____

Mail your membership form and check (made out to "AAUW") to:
AAUW c/o S. Gelber, PO Box 98, Little Silver, NJ 07739