

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our Branch has hosted two excellent programs in the last few weeks. In August we were treated to the broadcast version of our earlier program *Suffragists Speak*. And just a few days ago, we presented with the League of Women Voters a program entitled *Voting in the Time of COVID*. Both were broadcast via Zoom and provided excellent information.

The Voting program was a slide presentation by Anne Torre of the League of Women Voters, with **Marian Wattenbarger** as moderator and **Connie Goddard**, who put the whole program together and invited Anne to speak, handling the lively Q&A. We learned that mail ballots will be sent to all registered voters in Monmouth County in just a day or two, and that there are 17 drop box locations in Monmouth County. Anne also showed us how to correctly fill out and deliver or mail the ballots and told us about the deadline for ballots to be received. If you missed the program you can watch it at <https://youtu.be/fs3Tzs92MpQ>. It is well worth watching.

AAUW National has broadcast several excellent webinars recently. Some examples are *COVID-19 and the Labor Economy* and *Conversations on Race, Equity and Inclusion*. These are recorded, and you can find them at <https://www.aauw.org/resources/events/equity-network/events/>.

The branch has acquired our own Zoom account, which can now be used for board and b

ranch meetings, study group meetings, and other committee meetings. If your group would like to use it, have the host contact me, and I will give her the account information.

You should have received via email our current member directory and list of branch officers. It was sent by **Deb Blood** and **Mary Lea Burden**. Thanks to you both for a super job. We will be updating the directory as new members join and will just email the whole new directory from time to time. This is being done in lieu of a paper yearbook this year.

Finally, we mourn the loss of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who may have done more than any other individual in our history to advance human rights in the US, and not just for women. This is a grievous loss to all of us who care deeply about human rights. Following is a statement by AAUW CEO Kimberly Churches:

“America lost one of our most beloved role models tonight, a pioneering jurist and iconic feminist who blazed new trails, not only in her own life, but in the lives of the countless women she championed — and inspired. On behalf of AAUW and its members and supporters who recognized Justice Ginsburg with a 1999 AAUW Achievement Award, we extend our condolences to her family, her colleagues and to every American whose lives and hearts she touched. The nation owes it to her — and to all women — to honor her final wishes and refrain from naming a replacement until after a new president is inaugurated.”

Pat Miller, President



Membership Matters

Membership is Everyone's Responsibility

We trust you have all received your Membership Directory by email or snail mail. Please let us know of any changes/corrections.

Deb Blood

Mary Lea Burden

Membership Co-directors

Pandemic twist to Friends Helping Friends Shopping Days at Boscov's

In years past, participating in the Friends Helping Friends shopping days has required purchasing a \$5 pass for the day. Purchase has been through the organizations benefiting from the day and the purchase price of the pass has gone to the organization. Normally, there has been just a single shopping day. This year, to make matters as no-contact as possible, there are no passes. There are however, two eligible shopping days, Wednesday, October 14 and Thursday, October 15. You'll receive a 20% discount on almost all purchases and, when you mention the name AAUW-NMCB as that of the organization you want your purchase to benefit, we will receive 5% of your purchase price. That's all there is to it, so come out to Boscov's in mid-October and add some fundraising dollars to AAUW-NMCB coffers. (See flyer on page 6.)

Study, Action, Interest Groups

Study Group News

Study group in-person meetings have been suspended until further notice.

Art History

We have been meeting via ZOOM since May and our plans are based on having mostly virtual meetings for the foreseeable future.

For our October ZOOM meeting we plan to do a "guess who" where members will somehow describe a woman artist, giving three clues. Participants will have to name the artist.

In early November we are hoping to do an outing to the Shrewsbury Historical Society to see their exhibit of restored wedding dresses – following social distancing rules, of course.

In November we will also have a ZOOM meeting to view suffrage videos from London. For details or anyone interested in joining, please contact Susan or Barbara.

Chairs: Susan Buccellato
Barbara Iwanski

French Conversation

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.

New members are always welcome.

German Conversation

Suspended indefinitely.

Insights

This non-fiction book group normally meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at members' homes. Because of the pandemic, **we plan to hold an October Zoom or Google Meeting event.** Members are encouraged to share their recommendations for this year's books to chair, Kathy Olsen, prior to October 1.

An email list of recommendations will be sent in early October, prior to the meeting,

New members are always welcome and can contact Kathy for information. Our spring selections, which we have yet to discuss, were *The Feather Thief* by Johnson and *Have Dog Will Travel* by Kuuisto and Sanders. Happy reading.

Literature

On hiatus.

Please contact the chair for more information.

Chair: Regina Sieben

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.

Russian Short Stories

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

Please 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. When members again meet in person, after the journaling exercise they will take time out to enjoy light refreshments and conversation.

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Shrewsbury Historical Society

Museum, Education and Research
Center

Wedding Dresses

Exhibit Open

October 3 - Nov 28, 2020
Thursdays and Saturdays
10AM to 1PM

Other times available by appointment

COVID protocols in place

ShrewsburyHistoricalSociety@gmail.com

Contributions appreciated

Venmo accepted

419 Sycamore Avenue
Shrewsbury NJ 07702

NetWorks is published by the Northern Monmouth County Branch of AAUW. No date has been scheduled for the next issue.

Karen Topham, Editor
kptopham@gmail.com

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

Deb Blood 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*.



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We have a current opening on the board for **Recording Secretary**. Responsibilities include taking minutes at board and branch meetings, sending those minutes to the board, and reporting to members at branch meetings. The position can be shared by more than one member. Minutes are written to a minimum: motions made, results of motions, items for further action. For more information, please contact **Pat Miller**, President.

From a Twentieth Century Suffragist Leader, Carrie Catt

By Marian Wattenbarger

Carrie Catt and Alice Paul were the two suffragist leaders who saw the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution, giving women the right to the vote, finally be ratified. Catt was the practical leader who pursued state by state ratification of the amendment, and like others, in pursuit of an honorable goal, chose strategies that were sometimes clearly open to criticism. By the time the Tennessee legislature ratified the 19th amendment with a single aye vote, several states in the north had refused to consider it, and Tennessee was the last hope for ratification. Here, in the language of the early 20th Century, is Carrie Catt's explanation of what she did, and her final powerful statement about what it means to be part of a democracy.

"In the 15 states south of the Mason and Dixon line, the total Negro population is 8,294,274 and the total population of white women is 8,788,901. White women outnumber both Negro males and females by nearly half a million. If the South really wants White Supremacy, it will urge the enfranchisement of women.

"Yes, I said those words and compiled those statistics for our Southern brethren. But listen to this and hear me now.

"The South professes to fear the increased Negro vote; the North, the increased Foreign vote; the rich, the increased labor vote; the conservative, the increased illiterate vote. Certain elements fear the increased Catholic vote, and still others, the increased Jewish vote. Ballot reformers fear the increased corrupt vote, and corruptionists fear the increased reform vote. The Republicans...fear the increased Democratic vote; the Democrats fear the woman voters' support was only temporary.

"Ridiculous as this list of objections may appear, each has been supported earnestly by a considerable group, and collectively they have furnished the basis of opposition to woman suffrage in and out of Congress.

"But the answer to one is the answer to all. Government by 'the people' is expedient, or it is not. If it is expedient, then obviously all the people must be included.

"The struggle for woman suffrage is no white woman's struggle, but every woman's struggle.

"Everybody counts in applying democracy. And there will never be a true democracy until every law-abiding adult in it, without regard to race, sex, color or creed, has his or her inalienable voice in government."

In the spirit of the suffragists who struggled for several generations to achieve suffrage for women, please make sure you are registered and vote on November 3.



BOOK SALE BOOK SALE

We plan to reopen on **Saturday, October 10 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.**

Volunteers are needed to sort books on Thursday mornings, our donation drop-off day, and for Saturday sales. Sales shifts run from 9:00-11:00 a.m. and from 11:00 until 1 p.m. Please email Annabelle Boehm if you can help.

Masks and social distancing rules will be required.

HELP SUPPORT AAUW - NMCO

(Non-profit organization)



Boscov's



*better
than
ever!* →

FRIENDS *really*
HELPING
FRIENDS

2 BIG DAYS

**SHOP OCTOBER 14TH & 15TH, 2020
NO SHOPPING PASS TO PURCHASE!**

YOU SAVE

20%*
OFF

**LOWEST SALE PRICES
ON ALMOST EVERYTHING**

*10% discount items and exclusions apply.

WE RECEIVE

5%
BACK

**OF YOUR TOTAL
PURCHASE**

**MENTION OUR ORGANIZATION BY NAME
IN-STORE AT THE REGISTER OR ONLINE AT CHECKOUT
& WE'LL RECEIVE 5% OF YOUR TOTAL PURCHASE.**

Visit www.boscovs.com/friendshelping_friends
for a listing of items receiving a 10% discount and exclusions.



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 highly rated charity.

AAUW Used Book Sale



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

RESTARTING ON OCTOBER 10

To volunteer: contact 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/



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