

AAUW



GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT CAROLE MONESMITH

This spring, AAUW activities have been ramping up to full speed ahead for me. I believe that June will be fairly busy as well, but busy is good - *most* of the time! I am learning more, reacting more, and sharing more of the AAUW mission, which merits my time, in my opinion.

On April 16th I attended an AAUW-NJ Board Meeting, stayed overnight, and attended the AAUW-NJ Annual Meeting at the Forsgate Country Club in Monroe Township. It was a wonderful meeting; chock full of crazy-good guest speakers. Attending the State Annual Meeting revitalizes me, and moves me in a good direction, both mentally and emotionally. I would like to mention that we received a quasi-award for having the second largest number of branch members attending the meeting. Yeah for us! Kudos is given to Diane Crawford, Margaret Anderson, Connie Fadden, and Carol Holmelund for rising bright and early to travel to Monroe Township. (*Kudos takes a singular verb, but it just sounds wrong, doesn't it?!?*)

Our Branch Garage Sale (including a Jewelry Sale, Pottery Sale, and Plant Sale) was held on April 24th, so that was a busy day for a lot of our members. We netted \$483.00: allowing us to deposit \$241.50 in our scholarship fund; a \$120.75 donation for Mary Rapuano's trips to the Dominican Republic, and a \$120.75 donation to Project Self Sufficiency. My appreciation is extended to all who participated in this fund raiser; especially to Jessica Pierson for chairing the event, and to Mary Hookway for being our liaison with The Sparta Ambulance Squad building.



On May 3rd and May 4th, Jessica Pierson and I attended the **2010 Governor's Conference for Women**, which was held in Atlantic City. Although Jessica did not feel well at all, a terrible flu of some sort, we still managed to attend two extremely good forums presented by our female state legislative bodies. Speaker Sheila Oliver, who received the *AAUW-NJ Women as Agent of Change Award*, headed one of the forums. I must say that the female New Jersey Legislature Committee members who participated in the forum greatly impressed me.

I had planned to represent our branch at the Sussex County Community College Women's Weekend, but a belated Mother's Day picnic with my family in Manhattan took precedence. I thank Diane Crawford and Jessica Pierson for manning our branch AAUW display table, and for sharing the Patsy Mink video with attendees at our scheduled workshop. *Getting our name out there!* It would be great if we could do more of these kinds of activities to heighten our Sussex County exposure.

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GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT CAROLE MONESMITH

I traveled to another AAUW-NJ state Board meeting on May 19th, at which time I presented **The AAUW-NJ Pay Gap Booklet** to the members. From a detailed policy report on *The Gender Gap in New Jersey* by Drs. Mary Gatta and Yasemen Bezen-Cassino, commissioned by AAUW-NJ, I created and had printed the booklet that I plan to share with our branch members in the near future. All NJ Senators, all NJ Assembly persons, our US Congressmen and US Senators, and every AAUW branch president will receive a copy of the NJ Pay Gap Study. I am extremely proud of my participation in creating this vastly important Pay Gap Study booklet, which could and should furnish long-lasting, positive economic improvements in our state and for our state's employed women.

On June 10th, AAUW-NJ Board Members and I are attending the presentation of the AAUW-NJ study to the NJ Assembly through the Higher Education Committee, and then on to every college and university in the state. We are hoping to get good press coverage doing it this way. The word will be put out, via email, to invite all state members to join us at this important Committee Meeting presentation.

In addition, I zipped off the Spring Edition of The Garden Statement, which is mailed to all state AAUW members, to all of the AAUW State Presidents within the US, and to all national AAUW Officers, including the Director. About 2,000 people (not all women!) receive this newsletter, so writing it keeps me on my toes. It takes about 60 hours to complete, and when I am finished, believe me, I am more than happy...jubilant is more the word to express my emotions. When finished with the state newsletter, I begin writing the branch newsletter, and so it goes.

I am the web designer and editor of the state website (aauwnj.org). Since it is a paid position, I must keep that site current. Additionally, I try to keep our branch website current (www.aauwsussex.org), but sometimes, I am a month behind on that bit of business, sorry to say.



The new branch officers were elected at the May Luncheon. Most of the officers are the same, but some of our dear ladies switched positions, so we have the same old blood, but some are receiving transfusions, so to speak. I am so thankful to my friends on the board, and here are just a few of the reasons:

- They listen and offer wise ideas and honest opinions, even when being less forthright would be easier.
- They are the glue that holds our branch together, and please, let us not forget that some of these women have been carrying on the mission of AAUW for over 50 years. In short; that is dedication personified, and the antitheses of selfishness.
- Even when they are asked to do something, and they are tired of saying "yes", and secretly want to say "no", they continue to serve our branch with their time, and their energy. It is very obvious, that dedicated people have trouble saying, "no".
- Lastly, I must thank them for putting up with me; quite a lot to ask of them actually. Just like everyone else, sometimes I have more on my platter than I can handle, and my emotions get the better of me. Thank you ever so much for being there for me. I extend my thanks and appreciation to all of you.

THE BEAUTY OF SPRING

Spring Quiet Christina Rossetti

1830 – 1894

Gone were but the Winter,
Come were but the Spring,
I would go to a covert
Where the birds sing.

Where in the whitethorn
Singeth a thrush,
And a robin sings
In the holly-bush.

Full of fresh scents
Are the budding boughs
Arching high over
A cool green house:

Full of sweet scents,
And whispering air
Which sayeth softly:
"We spread no snare;

"Here dwell in safety,
Here dwell alone,
With a clear stream
And a mossy stone.

"Here the sun shineth
Most shadily;
Here is heard an echo
Of the far sea,
Though far off it be."

Emily Dickinson

1830 – 1886

A little madness in the Spring
Is wholesome even for the King,
But God be with the Clown —
Who ponders this tremendous scene —
This whole Experiment of Green —
As if it were his own!



A Light Exists in Spring Emily Dickinson

1830 – 1886

A Light exists in Spring
Not present on the Year
At any other period —
When March is scarcely here

A Color stands abroad
On Solitary Fields
That Science cannot overtake
But Human Nature feels.

It waits upon the Lawn,
It shows the furthest Tree
Upon the furthest Slope you know
It almost speaks to you.

Then as Horizons step
Or Noons report away
Without the Formula of sound
It passes and we stay —

A quality of loss
Affecting our Content
As Trade had suddenly encroached
Upon a Sacrament.

First Crocus Christine Klocek-Lim

This morning, flowers cracked open
the earth's brown shell. Spring
leaves spilled everywhere
though winter's stern hand
could come down again at any moment
to break the delicate yolk
of a new bloom.

The crocus don't see this as they chatter
beneath a cheerful petal of spring sky.
They ignore the air's brisk arm
as they peer at their fresh stems, step
on the leftover fragments
of old leaves.

When the night wind twists them to pieces,
they will die like this: laughing,
tossing their brilliant heads
in the bitter air.

NATIONAL AAUW NEWS

Position on Affirmative Action

AAUW supports affirmative action programs that establish equal opportunity for women and minorities and improve gender, racial, and ethnic diversity in educational institutions and in workplaces. AAUW's mission to promote gender equity in school and at work is founded on the belief, articulated in AAUW's legislative program since 1939, that all individuals have the right to full and free opportunity intellectually, socially, and economically, including the right to be employed according to abilities without regard to sex.

Despite the clear progress women have made over years, ensuring equal opportunity for women in education and the paid workforce remains an elusive goal, in part because women continue to face discrimination. AAUW believes that affirmative action programs have begun to break down the barriers that confront women and minorities in education and employment, and these programs remain essential to ensure equal access to all professions at all levels through recruitment, outreach, and training.

[AAUW's Affirmative Action Resource Kit](#) contains information on state-based anti-affirmative action initiatives and a variety of useful resources for taking action against them. It also contains step-by-step suggestions to help you plan a counter campaign and turn out voters to defeat such measures.



Voter Education

Women wield considerable power in U.S. politics. For more than a century, AAUW has influenced legislative debate and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political. Although women gained the constitutional right to vote nationwide only in 1920, they now constitute an important bloc of voters.

Educate

AAUW members have a long tradition of voter education and registration. Get involved by organizing a voter registration campaign in your community.

Register Voters

AAUW members have a long tradition of voter education and registration. Get involved by organizing a voter registration campaign in your community.

Woman-to-Woman Voter Turnout

The *Woman-to-Woman Voter Turnout* Campaign is based on effective voter turnout techniques and will mobilize women to vote.

AAUW members planning get-out-the-vote activities can request technical assistance and a free printed copy of the manual (while supplies last) by contacting the AAUW Public Policy and Government Relations Department at 202/785-7793 or VoterEd@aauw.org. Members and non-members may purchase copies through shopaauw at aauw.org as well.

AAUW members should [login](#) to download a [Woman-to-Woman Voter Turnout Program in a Box](#) in order to give a presentation at a branch meeting to learn how such a campaign would work in your community and additional resources listed below.



About the AAUW Action Fund

AAUW Action Fund Mission: The AAUW Action Fund advances equity for women and girls through member activism and voter mobilization.

Since 1881, AAUW has been the nation's leading voice promoting education and equity for women and girls.

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NATIONAL AAUW NEWS

The AAUW Action Fund was established July 1, 2009, following a strategic restructuring of AAUW, the AAUW Educational Foundation, and the AAUW Leadership and Training Institute. The AAUW Action Fund supports AAUW's continuing goal of breaking through barriers for women and girls, and it does so through member activism and voter mobilization. Both organizations have a nationwide network of nearly 100,000 members, 1,000 branches, and 500 college/university institution partners.

A [briefing](#) on the AAUW website provides detailed information about the structure of AAUW, the AAUW Action Fund, AAUW branches, and members.

International Organizations/Coalitions

AAUW's work extends globally via membership in coalitions to support human rights treaties, partnerships with international organizations such as CARE and the United Nations, and the promotion of major events such as International Women's Day.

United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA)

A nonprofit membership organization dedicated to building understanding of and support for the ideals and work of the UN among the American people.

United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

AAUW has special consultative status with the ECOSOC, which initiates reports, makes recommendations, and promotes respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

National Council of Women's Organizations

A bipartisan network of national women's organizations.

U.S. Global Leadership Campaign

A network of 400 businesses and NGOs; national security and foreign policy experts; and business, faith-based, academic and community leaders in all 50 states who support a smart power approach of elevating diplomacy and development alongside defense in order to build a better, safer world.

GIVE A GRAD A GIFT

AAUW members can give a recent grad — a **friend, daughter, son, granddaughter, grandson, niece, or nephew** — a free AAUW membership within two years of graduation. At no cost to you or them!

Expose the grad to the power that comes from belonging to a national women-led organization of more than 100,000 members who believe in and advance equity and education for women and girls.

Expand their networking opportunities through career development opportunities and community action projects. They will experience the rewards of working with and learning from successful AAUW mentors.



Keep them current on the events and people that affect their life as they receive *Mission & Action*, *AAUW Outlook*, Action Network alerts, and more.

Increase their buying power with access to discounts at The Princeton Review, Barnes&Noble.com, health and life insurance, auto insurance, AAUW research reports, credit cards and other members-only benefits such as CareerBuilder.com and TravelSmart.

Best of all, she/he will receive a free one-year AAUW membership at no cost to you or them! So send no money!

Remember, only members can take advantage of this offer.

AAUW-NJ MEMBERS PRESENTING THE AAUW-NJ PAY GAP STUDY TO THE NJ ASSEMBLY

On June 10th, AAUW-NJ members are presenting the AAUW-NJ Pay Gap Study to the NJ Assembly through the higher Education committee, and then on to every college and university in the state.

The study shows how a lower life-time income is paid for the same job to women who stay in NJ and go to college. This discrimination hurts the states economy as well as the woman's ability to spend as much as a man on food, shelter, clothing, etc.

And if she stays in NJ and gets even higher scholastic degrees, she will have been paid less dollars into her social security and her pension along with any other work benefits. And she also will have paid far less state income, property and sales taxes.

So why should a woman stay in NJ after being schooled? She can get more "bang for her buck" elsewhere. Why wouldn't the state want higher taxes from 50% of the job force? Today NJ's educated women have less money to spend than men (in the same job with the same education).

The lower incomes of women affect the state as a whole as well as a direct "hit" at the woman herself. This same "wage gap increase", as women studies prove, does not appear to happen in NY, CN, DE and PA. As a woman increases her education in the other states, the wage gap between men and women for the same job is reduced.

Our AAUW-NJ study has political, financial and educationally implications for NJ.

If you want to see the national study, you can print the study from AAUW.org. The pay gap is greater in NJ than most states and gets worse with every additional year of education for a woman.

We want to tell state politicians and state educators that we plan to be part of the solution --- - to change these negative stats for women in our state.

This is an AAUW mission. The national is pleased with our approach. The AAUW-NJ Board of Directors and all NJ branch members will be invited to Trenton via email.

Pay Gap = Women at a Discount

50%

Women are now 50% of the U.S. workforce.

40 yrs.

It has taken 40 years to close the wage gap by just 12¢.

77¢

On average, women earn 77¢ for every dollar earned by men.

1 yr.

Just one year out of college, working women already earn less than their male colleagues earn, even when they work in the same field with the same degree.

66+

At ages 66 and older, women are twice as likely as men to be poor.

100% unacceptable!

AAUW www.aauw.org

because **equity** is still an **issue**

BRANCH NEWS

From our Treasurer Sue Green

Checkbook Balance as of May: \$1063.07
This total includes dues from 11 members for a total of \$825.
Monies still have to be disbursed to national and the state.
CD Balance as of May: \$2621.82

**Dues are now due. Please mail \$75.00 to
Ms. Susan Green
23 Mohawk Avenue
Sparta, NJ 07871.**

\$46.00 of the money for national AAUW is tax deductible.

Scholarship Fund Margaret Anderson

Scholarship balance as of May 27, 2010

Checking account	\$400.85
Savings account	\$906.87
SCCC Fund	\$426.00
Cents for Change (Sept. - May)	\$114.90
Baker/Bakee (Sept. - May)	\$ 54.00

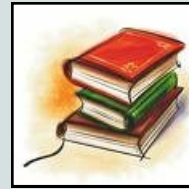
Garage Sale Jessica Pierson

I would like to thank the members and husbands who contributed to the success of our Garage Sale on April 24th. The following ladies volunteered their time, by either setting up, donating items, or working on the day of the sale.

1. Mary Hookway and her husband
2. Sally Larson and her husband
3. Carole Monesmith and her husband
4. Phyllis Pfeifer and her husband
5. Toni Heavener
6. Muriel Everhart
7. Carol Holmelund
8. Mary Rapuano
9. Diane Crawford
10. Debbie Hookway
11. Lynn Beckmann
12. Stevie Fava
13. Margaret Anderson
14. Susan Green

Lastly, our student volunteer Amber from VoTech who was invited to assist us by Mary Rapuano.

Again, thanks to everyone!



Book Club Connie Fadden

The book club will be held at Debbie Wikander's home on June 15th at 5:30. Please RSVP. (debwikander@embarqmail.com). The book is "Funny in Farsi -- A Memoir of Growing up Iranian in America". The author is Firoozeh Dumas.



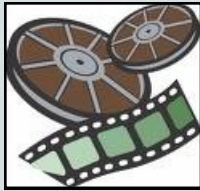
To date, we have earned \$202.65 from the iGive.com program, and I personally know of approximately \$25.00, or so, which is going to be added to that figure in the next few days. That represents more than \$227.00 earnings in six months, for doing zippo. I love earning money like that, don't you?!?! Thanks to those branch members who enrolled in this program.

Membership Diane Crawford

We have a brand new member! **Yeah!** We happily welcome Darlene Narvae into our AAUW branch. She has already attended a few of our branch meetings and book club meetings, so she is not just getting her feet wet...she is diving right in. Darlene (momm613@hotmail.com) joined our branch at the last book club meeting at Margaret's home. She received her B.A. from Long Island University and her MED from William Paterson University.

However, we do have to bid a fond farewell to Renee Alford. She stated, "I have too many family things going on right now in my life. It was fun for me to meet everyone, and have a good year." We are sad to see you go, Renee.

BRANCH NEWS

**Film Evening**

If there is enough interest, I would like to schedule **Paradise Road** to be our next Film Evening at my home or someone else's home. We will talk about it at the picnic, but please hold Tuesday, July 13th for a temporary date. It is a wonderful, powerful movie, in my opinion. These women bonded together and they made magic out of mayhem. Do not miss this movie and please bring tissues.

When the Japanese overrun Singapore during World War II, many women and children end up in a prison camp. Although they are of different ages, nationalities and backgrounds, the women form a bond as they cope with the brutal behavior of their captors and the lack of food and medical care. [Bruce Beresford](#) directs an ensemble that includes [Glenn Close](#), [Frances McDormand](#), [Cate Blanchett](#), [Pauline Collins](#), [Jennifer Ehle](#) and [Julianna Margulies](#).

This is an unforgettable movie, in my opinion. Please join us.

**4th Annual AAUW Picnic
June 12, 2010**

The 4th Annual AAUW Picnic at Sally Larson's home: 11:30 a.m. These ladies signed up to bring the following:

- Diane Crawford: Tossed Salad
- Gail Swain: Brownies
- Jessica Pierson: Deviled eggs
- Connie Fadden: Jell-O salad
- Carol Holmelund: Dessert
- Carole Monesmith: Potato Salad
- Muriel Everhart: Fruit Salad
- Roz Alpert: Hamburger & Hot Dog Rolls

Save Your Plastic Bottle Caps!

Various organizations are collecting plastic bottle caps to benefit a six year old Sparta boy with cancer. Save any color bottle tops from water bottles, soda bottles, milk bottles, etc. The caps are weighed and he is given monetary credit to be used for his cancer treatment. The caps that you save may be dropped off at the Bee Hive Thrift Shop, 123 Spring St, Newton, Newton Hospital (attn Doreen Eisenecker), or Sparta Bowling Alley. People may contact me for pick-up also (Kathy Pope 973-347-1949).

**TO BE A MEMBER IN OUR AAUW BRANCH,
PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES BY JUNE 15TH.**



BRANCH NEWS

2010 - 2011 Sussex County Branch Officers

Congratulations to the newly elected officers. The elections were held at the Luncheon held on May 8th.

President: Carole Monesmith
 Program Vice President: Gail Swain
 Membership Vice President: Diane Crawford
 Secretary: Lynn Beckmann
 Treasurer: Sue Green
 LAF and EF: Jessica Pierson
 Publicity Chair: Jessica Pierson
 Hospitality Chair: Margaret Anderson
 Past President: Margaret Anderson



"Let's Read Math" Comes to Sussex County

In December, Bristol-Myers Squibb awarded AAUW a grant to spread the Let's Read Math program in New Jersey. The recipient of the grant is the Makefield Area Branch in Yardley PA, where the program originated in 2005.

The purpose of the Let's Read Math (LRM) program is to overcome math anxiety in elementary school children and their parents. "We believe a positive attitude towards math outside of school goes a long way towards assuring success at school," says project director, Dr. Claire Passantino. "There

are lots of efforts to improve math instruction in schools, but in out-of-school settings children are bombarded with negative messages that are counter-productive. Children don't need to hear people say 'I hate math, I could never do math.' Instead, we hope future generations will be more positive and say things like: 'I always liked doing math. It was my favorite subject!'"

The basic idea for Let's Read Math is to combine literacy and numeracy, by utilizing children's literature with embedded math themes. Each LRM event involves reading a children's book, then doing related math activities that are FUN. A branch's Let's Read Math outreach can be run by as few as two people, or by a committee sharing tasks and dates. It depends on what you want to do. Programs vary from site to site.

On May 1st, two of our members, Margaret Anderson and Mary Rapuano attended a training-day workshop to equip them with knowledge and materials to begin the "Let's Read Math" program in Sussex County. Through the Squibb grant, our branch will receive several children's books and related workshop materials, and a small stipend for miscellaneous startup costs to implement programs in our communities – in venues such as classrooms, after school centers, day camps, libraries, or family centers. Connie Fadden also plans to be a team member in this valuable, inventive program. Good luck ladies, have fun, and spread the word to "read math" for more enjoyable learning.



QUOTES FROM FAMOUS WOMEN

"A woman must not depend upon the protection of man, but must be taught to protect herself."

Susan B. Anthony

"You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing which you think you cannot do."

Eleanor Roosevelt

"It doesn't matter who my father was, it matters who I remember he was."

Anne Sexton

"No man or woman who tries to pursue an ideal in his or her own way is without enemies."

Daisy Bates

"For we pay a price for everything we get or take in this world; and although ambitions are well worth having, they are not to be cheaply won."

Lucy Maud Montgomery

"Birds sing after a storm. Why shouldn't people feel as free to delight in whatever sunlight remains to them?"

Rose Kennedy

"The family unit plays a critical role in our society and in the training of the generation to come."

Sandra Day O'Connor

"We've chosen the path to equality, don't let them turn us around."

Geraldine Ferraro

"If you have knowledge, let others light their candles in it."

Margaret Fuller

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead

"Measure not the work until the day's out and the labor done."

Elizabeth Barrett Browning

"A photograph is a secret about a secret. The more it tells you, the less you know."

Diane Arbus

"It has been said that time heals all wounds. I do not agree. The wounds remain. In time, the mind, protecting its sanity, covers them with scar tissue, and the pain lessens, but it is never gone."

Rose Kennedy

"Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of overcoming it."

Helen Keller

"The bitterest tears shed over graves are for words left unsaid and deeds left undone."

Harriet Beecher Stowe

"The day will come when men will recognize woman as his peer, not only at the fireside, but in councils of the nation. Then, and not until then, will there be the perfect comradeship, the ideal union between the sexes that shall result in the highest development of the race."

Susan B. Anthony

"My address is like my shoes. It travels with me. I abide where there is a fight against wrong."

Mother Jones

"I can honestly say that I was never affected by the question of the success of an undertaking. If I felt it was the right thing to do, I was for it regardless of the possible outcome."

Golda Meir

"Remember no one can make you feel inferior without your consent."

Eleanor Roosevelt