

From our Incoming Co-Presidents:

Dear Members,

This past year has been an unusual one, to say the least. We are looking forward to a new year as we begin our term as co-presidents of the Northern Monmouth County Branch of AAUW.

We bring the experience of different generations and past positions. We want to work together with you to continue the legacy of this branch. Marian is a past president of NMCB (many years ago) and Heather a past program director, but new to being president. We have also both had responsibility for areas of branch communications.

We are excited to get back together with everyone in person and, now that we have all learned how to stay connected virtually, we expect to also continue with some virtual meetings and events.

A branch is only as strong as its members, and we are asking for your help. What do you value as a member of AAUW and what would you like to see? Today, we want to ask three things of you:

- Email us your ideas for programs that you would like to attend at upcoming branch meetings
- Share your ideas with us about actions that we might take as a group to support AAUW's mission of advancing equity for women
- Volunteer! Work at the book sale and meet other members; help with planning the author luncheon or assist with communications; be part of the group that will plan branch programs for the upcoming year; support our efforts to award scholarships and the book awards we give

annually to high school senior women; or support statewide and collaborative projects like Tech Trek NJ and Running & Winning

These are only a few of the ways we can join as a group to make a difference and we hope you'll be part of one or more of them. Together we can do great things.

We want to close with a heartfelt thank you to **Pat Miller** for her extended leadership of this branch, including leading us through the many challenges that the Covid-19 pandemic presented. Pat has served this branch as our treasurer and more recently as president, and she brought her technical skills to help us learn how to use Zoom and stay connected for over a year. We are grateful to Pat and all those who served with her on the board, those who reopened and kept the used book sale running, and those who gave us successful virtual events when in-person wasn't possible. Thank you all!

Looking forward to a productive two years,
Heather Balczarek
Marian Wattenbarger



AAUW

Northern Monmouth County Branch President's Annual Report 2020-2021

Submitted by Pat Miller

This year was, of course, our first-ever all-virtual year. Despite the fact that the year was a much quieter one than usual, we were able to hold many different activities. Among them:

- We offered seven high-quality programs, including our annual Scholarship Event, held on Zoom, featuring a talk by author **Francine Garson** and honoring two Women of Achievement, Anna Diaz-White and Gwendolyn Love. We also remembered late member **Barbara Williamson** and presented her family with a lovely glass sculpture.
- Five of our study groups were able to meet regularly via Zoom, and we also held all board and branch meetings on Zoom.
- We published seven issues of our Newsletter *NetWorks*.
- We received a grant to professionally record our "SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL IN BLACK AND WHITE" for national distribution. It is a joint program with Eastern Branch of Monmouth County Library, League of Women Voters (LWV), and the T. Thomas Fortune Cultural Center. It celebrates the centennial of the 19th Amendment with a distinctive program telling the suffrage story through the words of five women (and one man) who made it happen. Members **Lorraine Stone, Gilda Rogers, Connie Goddard** and **Marian Wattenbarger** were among the actors.
- We sponsored two Brookdale students to attend virtual National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in May. Tech Trek, AAUW-NJ's STEM summer camp for rising eighth grade girls will also be virtual this year. The attendees will be those who were chosen via interviews last year, whose camp was then canceled because of the Covid-19 lockdown.

- We awarded our traditional annual scholarships to Monmouth County women, two to students attending Brookdale, and a third to a Monmouth University student. This year we also gave a \$1000 gift to the Brookdale Student Basic Needs Fund. We also delivered book awards to the highest-ranking female senior in math at each of the area public high schools.
- Our high school book awards honor the graduating senior girl who has achieved the highest math scores for her school.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We thank all board members and appointees for their faithful attendance and support at board, branch, and committee meetings and fundraisers.

The following includes excerpts from the reports of Directors:

MEMBERSHIP: Mary Lea Burden and Deborah Blood, Co-Directors

Membership as of April 26, 2021, stood at 116 (including Honorary Life and Life 12, Dual 4, Guests 0, E-students 0). Note: there were 5 new members in fiscal year 2021-22. The option of renewing membership on our website using PayPal worked well this past year. This will be continued for the next fiscal year.

Transitions: Members moved out of the area:

Susan Boyce

The traditional yearbook was not printed this year due to the pandemic and lack of a yearbook chair. Deb was able to publish an electronic membership directory which was emailed to all members and could be updated periodically. Updates were also published in each issue of *NetWorks*.

PROGRAM

NMCB kicked off its 2020-21 season in August with a virtual version of its highly popular "Suffragists Speak." This joint project with the T. Thomas Fortune Foundation and League of Women Voters featured suffragists from the mid-1800s through the early 20th Century and into the 1960s, when all women finally won the right to vote.

In September the LWV again partnered with us on a very timely and informative program on how to vote in NJ. 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.

For our December Holiday Branch party, we took a Virtual Trip to Memphis, Tennessee, for an inside tour of Sun Records Recording Studio, known as the birthplace of Rock 'N' Roll. Liz Rothman, AAUW Freehold Branch, led our Zoom Discussion on Sun Records and the Rock 'N' Roll era. We each supplied our own holiday treats and eggnog.

In January Molly Makris and NMCB member **Mary Gatta** shared the findings from their new book *Gentrification Down the Shore* and discussed the impact of seasonal gentrification in Asbury Park, NJ. Around the turn of the 20th century Asbury Park was a dynamic beachfront resort. As the century wore on, it saw social and economic structural downturns. Today the city has multimillion-dollar beachfront condos for summer tourists, but across the railroad tracks many of Asbury's long-time residents live below the poverty level and struggle throughout all four seasons of the year.

In February we viewed two short films from the PBS series on American Masters "Unladylike2020: The Changemakers." "Unladylike2020" includes 26 digital short films featuring courageous, little known and diverse female trailblazers from the turn of the 20th century. **Barbara Withers** selected two for presentation and discussion at our meeting.

In March we heard author Rich Geffken speak about his book *Stories of Slavery in New Jersey* in a program sponsored by the Red Bank Library. The following day we joined member Connie Goddard in a discussion of the material.

And on April 29 we held the Zoom version of last year's Author Scholarship Luncheon featuring **Francine Garson**, author of *Follow the Leader*, and honoring Women of Achievement Gwendolyn Love and Anna Diaz-White. We also included a special

remembrance of longtime member **Barbara Williamson** whose impact on our Branch and on AAUW NJ was incalculable.

DEVELOPMENT: Vickie Snoy, Lauren Nicosia, Co-Directors

SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON: After its cancellation in 2020, our Annual Scholarship Luncheon was scheduled to be held on Thursday, April 29, 2021. Halfway through the year, we decided it would be a virtual event on the same date. The event was very successful. The guest speaker was author Francine Garson. Francine later signed and sold her two books, *Things*, and *Follow the Leader* in person at the Book Sale on Saturday after virtual event. Our Woman of Achievement awards were given in 2021 to the two women chosen last year: Anna Diaz-White of 180 Turning Lives Around, and Gwendolyn Love of Lunch Break. We honored the memory of our beloved Barbara Williamson with a Memorial Glass Sculpture given to her family.

BOOK SALE: Irene Gibson, on behalf of the Book Sale Committee

Book Sale closed because of Covid-19 in March 2020 and re-opened in October 2020. Face masks and social distancing were/are required; sanitizing wipes and hand sanitizers are available to our volunteers and customers. Saturday sales are considerably lower than in previous years for obvious reasons.

The Sale was mostly managed by Ruth Hodum, Kathy Olsen, and Irene Gibson. Annabelle Boehm did a great job of staffing the sale every Saturday with two shifts: 9 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. There were Saturdays where Annabelle had difficulty staffing both shifts. Hopefully, with the easing of restrictions and availability of vaccinations, members who previously volunteered will again be available and willing to work. We had a consistent team of volunteers to help sort, shelve and take in donations on Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., including **Mary Lea Burden, Sonia Dorn, Ellen Jackson, Sherri Rao and Ruth, Kathy and Irene** and others.

With the help of Mary Lea, we increased our publicity in other publications including *Atlantic Highlands Community Magazine* and the *Journal*. Lynn Humphrey who hosts a web site, *The BizEturtle*,

gave us consistent publicity of the book sale as well as other AAUW programs.

Annabelle and Irene sent notices to the Middletown and Holmdel-Hazlet Patch sites. Info was sent to Board members asking all who could to send Book Sale info to their local Patch Event page. This is free advertising.

COMMUNICATIONS: Karen Topham, Director

NetWorks: *NetWorks* was published seven times this year. Thank you to all who have submitted articles and photos over the past year. It is through your diligence that our newsletter receives kudos from readers each month.

Special thanks to **Mary Lea Burden** for being our liaison with the printer; **Betsy Wattley** for sending paper copies to some of our members; **Heather Balczarek** for posting the public issue on the NMCB website; **Barbara Withers** for troubleshooting when members have not received their electronic issues. It will be a pleasure to continue my role as editor in the upcoming year.

Website: **Heather Balczarek** continues as webmaster. She made some changes to the site this year to incorporate pictures and attempt to make it more inviting. We continue accepting PayPal credit card payments for the Luncheon and dues via the web, thanks to Heather and **Alice MacPhee**.

EDUCATION OUTREACH: Connie Goddard, Director

Our educational year has surely continued since last spring. We have all learned so much about how we can adapt, what we can do with technology, and what plans need to be changed.

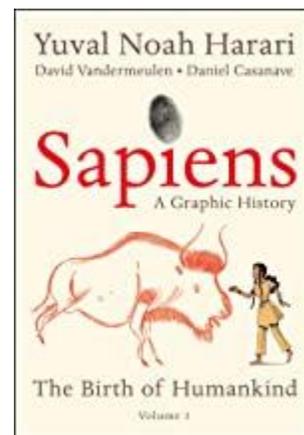
One of our educational programs is Tech Trek, a statewide, week-long summer camp for middle school girls interested in STEM-related careers. Last spring (2020) branch coordinators **Annette Benanti** and **Karen Topham** interviewed nominees of area schools and their parents and made their recommendations to AAUW-NJ, who made the final selections. The camp was canceled last summer. These same campers are now being

invited to attend this summer's Tech Trek, which will be virtual.

Our branch also participates in AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. Known by its acronym NCCWSL, the program also was canceled last year. We sent two students from Brookdale to this year's NCCWSL, which again was virtual.

For several years, our AAUW branch has provided scholarship monies for students at each of the two colleges in our area. And we did so again this year. Named in memory of long-time branch members, they are the *Esther Hymer Scholarship* of \$2,000 awarded to a student at Monmouth University and two awarded to students at Brookdale Community College. The latter are the *Audrie LaTowsky Scholarship* of \$2,000 and the *Louise Marsen Scholarship* for \$1,250.

The book chosen this year is *Sapiens: A Graphic History, The Birth of Humankind, Volume One* by Yuval Noah Harari, David Vandermeulen and Daniel Casanave.



Guidance counselors and others at the 22 public high schools in northern Monmouth determine the winners, who are usually honored at awards ceremonies held in conjunction with graduations. The program is coordinated by Connie Goddard, with welcome assistance from **Deb Blood**. This year, we are mailing the books directly to students. Thanks to all AAUW-NMCB members who have contributed generously to our education programs.

STUDY GROUPS: Marie Gambuzza, Director

Covid-19 and the associated pandemic restrictions did not stop our Study Groups from providing interesting and informative programs which continued to educate and enrich our lives.

Currently there are five functioning Study Groups in AAUW-NMC Branch. The German and Writing Groups are on hold until face-to-face meetings resume.

Literature and Art History groups were already functioning through private Zoom accounts in September 2020. Due to the diligent work and cooperation of many members we succeeded in establishing a Branch Zoom account which, by October, gave French, Insights and Russian Short Stories Study Groups the ability to schedule meetings of longer duration. Chairs worked to establish time slots on the Zoom calendar. We members have been part of an admirable collaborative effort. Our Branch is composed of women with varying computer skills. President Pat Miller, Art History Co-chair **Susan Buccellato**, and Treasurer **Alice MacPhee** among others, were instrumental in getting us off to a good start and providing continuing Zoom support.

We are all hoping for normality to resume. In the meantime, AAUW's mission to provide members with enlightening, enjoyable educational opportunities through Study Group presentations moves forward.

PUBLIC POLICY

This pandemic year has been especially hard on women. In the US we have fallen further behind in our fight for equity for all. Our Public Policy Director **Arlene Newman**, as a nurse, has been a frontline worker until she suffered what must have been at least partially a work-related injury and was herself disabled with a joint replacement.

It is reported that during the pandemic women lost decades of progress toward pay equity. Whereas men have already regained the low level of unemployment they enjoyed before the pandemic, women's unemployment is still much higher than it was before. A higher proportion of women had jobs that could not be performed remotely, which

caused many to quit those jobs when childcare became unavailable. And many women had to cut back their hours even if they did work at home so that they could also care for their children. The toll on women of color was even higher in all these areas.

It is especially critical now that we expand and protect the right to vote and elect leaders who are with us in the fight for equity. All these issues impact women and girls in an unequal way. It is incumbent on us all to fight this fight to preserve democracy and a better world for all our children and grandchildren of the future.

NEW OFFICERS FOR NEXT YEAR 2021-2022

I am so looking forward to the excellent new members to the Board elected in May. They are Heather Balczarek & Marian Wattenbarger (Co-presidents), Katharine McCleary (Treasurer), Sonia Dorn (Recording Secretary), Alice MacPhee & Barbara Withers (Program Co-directors), Annabelle Boehm & Karen Topham (Communications Co-directors), Mary Gatta & Gilda Rogers (Public Policy Co-directors), and Nancy Butler (Member at Large). Welcome to you, and I know we are off to an excellent new year.

Finally, I would like to thank all our members for making this year so effective. It is through your efforts that we have been able to meet our mission and purpose. We could not begin to name each of you who has played an important role in our work this year. We applaud you and your commitment to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. Thank you!

Pat Miller, President

This section includes Annual Reports from the board that were not published in the April 2021 issue of *NetWorks*:

Treasurer's Notes

Fiscal year 2020/2021 was certainly an unprecedented one! We were fortunate to have had a budget surplus from 2019/2020, plus our

expenses were reduced because of the pandemic, and you were most generous with your donations. Because of these factors, we were still able to fund our Latowsky and Marsen scholarships at Brookdale, the Esther Hymer scholarship at Monmouth U., our high school book awards, as well as pay for two students to participate remotely in NCCWSL. We are sending a sizable donation to AAUW national and an extra \$1000 to Brookdale for their Basic Needs/Helping Hands initiative, which helps struggling students with food, travel, and emergency expenses. We, of course, did not have our Scholarship/Author Luncheon in person, but instead enjoyed the program on Zoom and made some funds in the process. Our book sale has had increased traffic and has been doing very well. Thank you all for your participation and your donations throughout the year.

Submitted by **Alice MacPhee**

Study Group Final Report September 2020 - June 2021

Study Groups have continued to meet via Zoom during the Covid-19 pandemic. This is completely due to the diligence and drive of the Group Chairs whose efforts have made it possible to meet on a regular basis. Thanks must go to those who shared their technical Zoom skills and gave assistance to the Chairs when needed. At present NMCB proudly reports that we have five Study Groups consistently running. All Chairs have filed reports and will welcome new members when autumn meetings resume.

Art History Chairs **Susan Buccellato** and **Barbara Iwanski** presented virtual tours and discussions of art museums and landmark exhibitions, both domestic and foreign. "Share and Tell" featured personal art objects. Members' photos illustrating nature's beauty were exhibited and discussed. A book review of a woman artist was held. With relaxation of Covid-19 precautions the final meeting of potentially twenty members will be held outdoors at Thompson Park, Lincroft, on Wednesday, June 9.

French Conversation Chair Jennine Maloney has Zoomed enjoyable discussions to nine members with the goal of encouraging grammatical proficiency and verbal fluency. Readings and topics were selected by the moderator and conducted entirely in French. Additionally, each member was welcome to present her own topic of interest spontaneously or from a prepared paper.

Insights Chair Kathy Olsen Zoomed to fourteen and corresponded via email with three other members. Non-fiction books focusing topics affecting women and books written by women were selected. Many reflected examples of current culture. Some were historical in nature. All discussions were lively and informative.

Russian Literature Chair Stephanie Rose presented monthly discussions of short stories or poems by Russian literary masters, including the authors' lives, and times, to a group of twelve participants. Translations were freely downloaded in advance. Stephanie shared personal anecdotes acquired through years of Russian language study and travel throughout the country.

Literature Chair Regina Sieben Zoomed as group moderator to a group of ten who rotate as leaders of monthly meetings. Their selections included literary fiction or an occasional memoir. The leader presented the background and critical appraisal of the selection. Some current members have been active since 1989.

The Covid-19 pandemic has made communication difficult. We await contact with the Writing Group and the German Group. Hopefully we will meet in person in September.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Gambuzza, Study Group Director

New Award for Local Brookdale Community College Students

For several years, our AAUW branch has provided scholarship monies for students at both Monmouth University and Brookdale Community College. And

we did so again this year, as seen in the President's Report.

In making the awards, we have asked that they be used in ways that further some of AAUW's commitments. For the Monmouth award, we request that it be given to a female student, preferably a resident of the county, with an interest in gender equality or in a social science that focuses on women. We also ask that the recipient maintain a grade-point-average of 3.5.

Another AAUW commitment we want to honor is that of life-long learning. Hence, for the LaTowsky Scholarship, we request that it be given to a woman over 25 years of age enrolled as a part-time student who has completed at least 24 credits and maintained an average of 3.5. The Marsen Scholarship can be awarded to a younger woman who has completed 12 credits, with an average of 3.0. Recipients of both should be residents of Monmouth County, have demonstrated financial need, and be taking courses that can be transferred to a four-year college.

In past years, we have asked that scholarship recipients appear at a branch meeting in the fall. That hasn't always been possible, but once we are able to meet again in person, it might be a tradition worth continuing.

This year, following a discussion during our May board meeting, we decided to provide an additional award to Brookdale students, one that would help several of them in meeting basic needs such as for food and transportation. Fortunately, with assistance from **Sara Burrill**, a new member of our Education Outreach Committee and a member of the Brookdale faculty, we got in touch with a woman at the college whose title is director of student basic needs. She was delighted to be told of our generous award of \$1,000, which will be distributed to students in the form of gift cards, transportation vouchers, and other ways in which the college helps students continue their education.

So, a hearty thank you to all the members of our branch who have made these awards possible!
Submitted by **Connie Goddard**

Book Sale

Our Used Book Sale will have **half-price sale days** on Saturday, June 12 and June 19. Our **Bag Sale** will be Saturday June 26, 9:00 - 1:00. All books, greeting cards, puzzles, CDs and DVDs that fit in a grocery bag can be yours for just \$5/bag. We provide the bags. No limit.

Summer donation days: Thursday, July 15; Saturday, July 31; and Thursday, August 12; from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The Sale will be closed for July and August and will re-open on the first Saturday after Labor Day, September 11.

Our sales this past year were down due to the restrictions imposed by the pandemic; we were closed for several months. However, sales have picked up recently. We are able to fund our scholarships to women students at Brookdale Community College and Monmouth University. We have an amazing group of workers for sorting and shelving on Thursdays and for sales on Saturdays. Thanks so very much to all of you for your support!

Submitted by **Irene Gibson**



Thanks to one of the families who regularly visit our NMCB Used Book Sale!

Study, Action, Interest Groups

Membership Matters

Membership is Everyone's Responsibility

We trust you have received your dues notice in the mail. It would be appreciated if you could return your forms by the end of June which is the end of our fiscal year. Dues may be paid by check or using PayPal on our website. If you need a new form, please let us know.

New Members:

Sara Blades

Marguerite Borden

Francine Garson

New Addresses:

Linda Schwabenbauer

Betty Randall

Membership Co-directors:

Deb Blood

Mary Lea Burden

Study Group News

If you'd like to have contact with interesting AAUW members, broaden your knowledge of the world, and add something special to your life, consider joining. Check with the Chairs listed below. Those attending are required to be members in good standing. Guests may attend three meetings before being required to join AAUW. Contact Membership Co-Director, Mary Lea Burden. Here are your possibilities.

Art History

We will be meeting during the summer to plan for our new year with places to visit and an art-themed book to read and discuss.

We welcome new members. Contact the Chairs for more info.

Chairs:

Susan

Barbara Iwanski



French Conversation

The French Conversation study group was saddened to learn that its past leader, **Jacqueline Ollagnon**, passed away on June 4. Jacqueline had been a long-time member of AAUW and had led the French group for many years. She was born in France and traveled there regularly; she continued to share her knowledge of the language and French culture with the group until her health stopped her from participating. She also enjoyed playing bridge with some of our members. Jackie was indeed a special person and we will greatly miss her.

Contact the chair for more information.

Chair: Jeannine Maloney

Since September 2020 the French Conversation Group has been meeting twice a month (second Thursday and fourth Thursday) through Zoom at 1:00 p.m.

The second Thursday of each month we discuss a French short story. On the fourth Thursday the participants prepare a written statement (or oral statement) on the topic of the month. The meetings last one hour to an hour and a half.

We are eager to welcome new members.

German Conversation

Sally Gordon will restart German Conversation when in-person meetings are possible.

Insights

Our non-fiction book group meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Contact chair, Kathy Olsen for upcoming titles for the fall. New members are always welcome.

Literature

Our next meeting will be held on Zoom. Next scheduled date and book title is:

June 17: *Traitor and the Spy* by Ben MacIntyre.
Frances Foden, leader



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.

Please contact the chair for more information.

Chair: Regina Sieben

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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NetWorks is published by the Northern Monmouth County Branch of AAUW. The next volume of the newsletter will begin in late August/early September. Karen Topham, Editor

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*.

~

AAUW-NMCB - Zooming On

by Marie Gambuzza

What is Zoom? Is it a noun, a verb, a communication tool?

During the Covid-19 pandemic, Zoom proved to be all the above. We "Zoomed" Board, Branch, Committee and Study Group gatherings. Without using Zoom as a communication tool we might have ceased to function as a cohesive organization.

Our members have been part of an admirable cooperative effort. The Branch is composed of women with varying levels of computer skills. President **Pat Miller** established a Branch Zoom account. Knowledgeable members assisted those who needed to boost "How to Zoom" skills. Soon there was no stopping us. Groups met. Screens were shared. Among our many accomplishments, we viewed an historical Women's Suffrage video, celebrated Halloween in costume, and discussed Treasurer **Alice MacPhee's** budget report which was visible on screen. We visited museums together and shared our own nature photos. Literature and foreign language discussions occurred. The success of the Book Sale, and committee plans for the Scholarship Luncheon and the Book Awards were reviewed. We installed a new slate of officers and

thanked those outgoing for their service with applause. We discussed our future and problem solved together. We continued learning and had fun along the way. We succeeded in fulfilling AAUW'S mission of improving women's lives through education and opportunity.

Congratulations AAUW- NMCB. We've Zoomed through the pandemic with great success!

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For those who missed it:

Did you know about this great content from AAUW National?

AAUW has a series of great webinars, mostly panel discussions, on a wide variety of topics, some informational, some "how to."

To register for upcoming webinars, go to the AAUW Membership page: <https://www.aauw.org/membership/>

To explore the rich resource of past webinars, go to the AAUW webinar archive: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/webinars/>

~

Wishing all our members a safe, healthy, and happy summer.

Please keep in touch.

We hope to see you in the fall.



**JOIN THE
JUNETEENTH
JUBILEE
June 19th!
1pm-5pm**

Meet the Amazing Women Behind Storytellers in Cloth, 1:30pm

In 1995, Neptune residents, Gloria Douglas and Michelle Lewis founded Storytellers in Cloth, a group that hosts an annual three-day quilting retreat for women of color in Southbury, Connecticut. The retreat gives women of color an opportunity to showcase and teach their designs and quilting techniques.

After a quilting group they belonged to opted out of doing a retreat, Douglas and Lewis, committed to making a quilting retreat a reality and made a go of it with much success! The retreat takes place each November, when approximately 60-70 women from around the country converge on the beautiful campus of the Heritage Hotel. It is here that members take part in workshops, fabric block exchanges, and an ugly fabric auction. There is also plenty of fellowship with returning friends.

The women of Storytellers in Cloth will be featured, along with some of their quilts, at the JUNETEENTH JUBILEE, Saturday, June 19, 1-5 pm. Quilting has deep roots in Black tradition, from serving as compasses for those enslaved escaping to freedom, to hanging as works of art in some of the most prestigious museums.

The ladies have hosted this event every year since 1995 until the pandemic hit, but they will reconvene in 2022.

Taking Quilting to Another Level Behind the Work of Bisa Butler: Smithsonian American Art Museum Video Lecture Series, 2:00pm

Bisa Butler's work on the recent cover of May's *Essence Magazine* is stunning. The New Jersey artist's quilted fabric creations was recently featured in an exhibit at the Art Institute of Chicago, and has graced museums and magazine covers around the world. A fiber artist, Butler creates the most spectacular picturesque works that celebrate Black life. An exclusive video of Butler and her work will be shown at the Cultural Center. Of her work Butler says, "I am telling the story— this African American side— of the American life. History is the story of men and women, but the narrative is controlled by those who hold the pen."



Women from Storytellers in Cloth are inspired at their annual retreat



Artist Bisa Butler

A great event and inspiration for kids. Please call ahead and reserve a seat for those 16 years old and younger for the 2 pm. showing. This is a social distanced event. Call (732) 383-5483 or email evelynfortunefoundation@gmail.com to attend.

Event will be held at the T. Thomas Fortune Cultural Center



Shrewsbury Historical Society

Museum, Education and Research Center

More . . . Wedding Dresses



Exhibit Open

The widely acclaimed Wedding Dress Exhibit has been expanded to include an additional eight dresses bringing the total to 28 wedding dresses!!!

Also on exhibit are many fascinating items from the Borden Estate on the second floor East Room.

On view for the first time will be a stained glass window (37 x 63) which was formally a fixture at the Old Brick Reformed Church in Marlboro.

Hours for June and July are as follows:

Thursdays 2p.m. - 4 p.m.

Saturdays 10a.m. – 1 p.m.

Other times available by appointment

www.shrewsburyhistoricalsocietynj.org
ShrewsburyHistoricalSociety@gmail.com

Contributions appreciated

Venmo accepted

419 Sycamore Avenue

Shrewsbury NJ 07702

AAUW NJ Special Project Event



- Sponsored by AAUW NJ and Coordinated by Central, Northern, and Southern Districts
- Allaire State Park, Monmouth County, 4265 Atlantic Ave. Wall Township, NJ
- (Additional Information provided on Allaire State Park website or 732-938-2371)
- DATE: Saturday September 11, 2021----11:00 a.m.
- (Travel in groups on your own statewide to this Central Location)

Inclusive:



- Open Car Antique Steam Train Ride in Park
- Picnic Area Individual Lunch from Jersey Mikes (sub, chips, cookie, water)
- Picnic Tables available or bring your own folding chair



- At your leisure, tour Open Flea Market (creative vendors)
Historic Village (tour at leisure (All buildings open and appropriately staffed for information and questions)
- Cost: \$40.00 Non- Refundable Checks made out to AAUW NJ
First Come First Serve limited spots available
- Send to Patricia Baroska, AAUW-NJ Central District, 2 Wisteria Place, Howell, NJ 07731
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- Questions Pat/ Northern District Diane/ Southern District/ linda.harmon@gmail.com

Donation: will be given to AAUW National Greater Needs Fund by AAUW NJ



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.

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The store is located at:
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Middletown

To volunteer: Annabelle Boehm

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