



#### AMERICAN ASSOCIATION UNIVERSITY WOMEN **MADISON BRANCH**

Co-Presidents: Susan Mennella and Beth Krawczuk Editor: Judy Vernon

Vol LXXXVI December 2014

#### 

#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

**Board Meeting** Schedule 2

Stitch and Chat 2

Newsletter Due Date

Book Group

Lunch Bunch

2

Membership Corner

Community

A Message from our Presidents Our November program on Alice Paul was as inspirational as it was educational. The eve of the Midterm elections was a wonderful time to remember and learn how

this suffragette leader was a key figure in the voices that led to the passage of the 19th Amendment. I truly took pause the next day, to give thanks, before stepping into the voting booth to cast my ballot.

Our speaker Kris Myers, who manages the Alice Paul Institute and New Jersey Women's History websites, was delightfully enthusiastic and compelling. We learned so much in that hour, about Alice Paul's lifelong dedication to women's rights, from the introduction to the Equal Rights Amendment, to her work on the civil rights bill and fair employment practices. It was a fantastic program.

And now to kick off the holiday season! Join us on December 8th, 2014 at 7:30pm for "A Holiday Musical Celebration". Notice that this is the second Monday in December, not the first.

We are looking forward to enjoying the talents of opera soprano Jamie Baer Peterson, cellist Sariah Mourik Johnson, and pianist Lois Buesser. These accomplished artists will be performing a musical program that is set to include a variety of Holiday classics, non-Holiday numbers, and some secular holiday songs.

We really hope to celebrate with each and every one of you. If you need a ride, please let Judy Vernon know. We will plan carpooling so no one has to miss out.

See you Monday, December 8th!

Susan and Beth

#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

- Book Club 01/15/15
- Stitch 'n Chat 12/15/14 01/13/15
- Lunch Bunch 12/04/14 01/13/15

Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving!!

We are all looking forward to musical Monday! Call Judy to arrange a RIDE!

## **Holiday Music**

Monday, December 8th at 7:30 PM we will be starting the holiday season for 2014! As always we will meet in the Chase Room of the Madison Public Library. On the program will be Jamie Baer Peterson accompanied by some of her friends. Ms. Peterson a native of Minnesota began her career at the Lyric Opera of Chicago. She has performed with many leading orchestras and on the stage in opera houses across the US and Europe.

Website: https://gov.rosenet.org/nonprofits/aauw-madison

Refreshments will be served.

### December 2014

Bring a friend or two this will be a memorable event!

- Board Meeting 01/19/15
- Mahjongg 01/09/15

#### Announcements \* Upcoming Events

### **Board Meetings**

### Stitch and Chat

#### All board meetings are held at Misty Kramer's home, at 7:30 p.m. Members are welcome to attend.

No Board Meeting in December January 19 February 23 March 16 April 20 May 18 June 15 or 22 (depends on date of booksale)

## Stitch and Chat meets from 1 pm to 3 pm at Judy Vernon's home.

Stitching is optional, but chatting is required. All dates are announced in the newsletter.

# Monday December 15th

Tuesday January 13th

For direction call Judy Vernon 973 455 0427



## Newsletter Input **Due Dates**

Send information for the next Newsletter to jpvernon@yahoo.com. If you need to send hard copy, please alert me by calling ahead. Input must be received the day of the board meeting. See due dates on the left.

Judy Vernon 973 455 0427 24 Eagle Nest Road, Morristown, NJ 07960

## The Book Group

#### The Book Group has agreed to the following schedule and books. Meeting will start at 7:45 p.m. unless otherwise noted in an updated newsletter.

#### January 15

Book - Madonna's of Leningrad by Debra Dean

Hostess - Jeanne Murdock-afternoon--time?

#### February 19

Book - Across the Pond: An Englishman's View of America by Terry Eagleton

Hostess - Barbara Benedict



## Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch meets periodically at a local restaurant 12:30 pm. Everyone is invited to attend. Call Judy Vernon no later than the day before the event if you plan to come. Date, name and location of the restaurant are announced in the newsletter.

> Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> **Prospect Tavern, Madison**

Wednesday, January 28th **Arminio's Pizza in Chatham** 

For reservation and direction call Judy Vernon 973 455 0427



## Mahjongg

As always we are looking for interested members to join. Knowledge of game is NOT required. Having fun is mandatory.

Group meets at 11:30 am at Shirley Mutchler's home. Dates are announced in Newsletter. Bring lunch, drinks and sweets are provided.

Friday, January 9th



# Membership Corner

# Let us know what is new in your neck of the woods!

MaryAnne

Editor's note:

Please send news or announcements about a member (including you) for our Membership Corner column to Jeanne or MaryAnne. We like to recognize the accomplishments of our members as well as significant events in their lives.

## Community News

On Monday November 17, 2014 a meeting was held with representatives from the **College of Saint Elizabeth**. In attendance were: Loretta Harris, Susan Mennella, Barbara Williamson (AAUW NJ), Jane Niemeyer (AAUW NJ), Sally Cleary (College of Saint Elizabeth) and Patricia Devlin (College of Saint Elizabeth). It was a very productive meeting. We were able to provide information on the wide range of programs offered by AAUW – from the branch level all the way to the national level. The college representatives were very excited to hear about all we offer and they look forward to building a relationship with us.

We are hoping to be able to co-sponsor a \$tart \$mart Salary negotiation workshop at the College of Saint Elizabeth next March. March is a great month to hold this workshop because not only is it Women's History Month but also the time that college seniors are job hunting. As more details become available we will let you know.

Submitted by Susan Mennella

#### THE WOMEN'S CENTER AT COUNTY COLLEGE OF MORRIS OFFERS A VARIETY OF SERVICES

The Women's Center has a variety of services to women who need to become economically independent. The services focus on the development of a long term career plan, job market information, identification of job skills, development of job readiness, knowledge of and access to community resources, information on training and scholarship aid, computer literacy training, family law education, building self-esteem, and writing resumes and cover letters.

#### The Women's Center at County College of Morris offers:

Career Counseling and Job Search Assistance, Computer Classes, Family Law Clinics and Workshops, The Job Club, Special Events

Submitted by Susan Mennella

## **AAUWNJ** Fall Focus Meeting

Create, Collaborate, and Celebrate was the theme of the AAUWNJ Fall Focus meeting this year, and I was thrilled to attend with Loretta Harris.

It was wonderful to mingle with women from branches throughout New Jersey and hear about their efforts in the advocacy of human trafficking, violence against women on campus, STEM education, educational funding (like us!), and celebrating the girl.

We collaborated in groups to create program ideas, brainstorm on fundraising and marketing, discuss membership, and to share our experiences. We felt so bonded in such a short time...

We heard an inspiring presentation on the amazing role model and AAUW member, Eleanor Roosevelt.

A standout, for me, was hearing from Jessica Valiente who is a dissertation fellowship recipient. She gave an incredibly entertaining and charismatic speech about her quest for higher education. She expressed such gratitude because she would not have been able to pursue her degree without the help of AAUW. This made me very proud of the work our branch also does to help fund women who are going back to school.

The whole weekend was a celebration of women and friends, connected and united by a mission.

Traveling with Loretta was another highlight of the weekend. We had a super time talking and getting to know each other.



#### Editor's Corner

In looking for information about Eleanor Roosevelt and the Holiday Season I discovered two interesting facts:

- Both she and Franklin had the tradition of reading the Christmas Carol each year and in fact Christmas was her favorite holiday.
- She wrote a children's book entitled "Eleanor Roosevelt's Christmas Book." Published in 1940 "The times are so serious that even children should be made to understand that there are vital differences in people's beliefs which lead to differences in behavior."

Sadly the world is still full of conflict and the spirit of the season is not uniformly spread around.

I wish everyone a joyful season full of family and friends. Start by joining with all your AAUW Madison friends on Monday for a holiday concert and then continue the festivities through the month. Wishing one

## December 2014

I plan on attending the next convention and would be happy fill my	and all a very Happy New Year!
minivan with even more members!	Judy
Submitted by Beth Krawczuk	Juliy