

Co-President's Corner

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January is the month in which we are expected like Janus to have two views. One is facing backward to reflect on the past year and the other is facing forward to consider the future. No matter which way we look for the AAUW Cape May Branch, we can see only success and expansion on the education of women and girls.

This year our membership numbers increased significantly, particularly with dual members from the Atlantic County Branch. We can now harness the talents of many more members in our former and new members.

Programs ably designed and arranged by Evelyn Lovitz have been well attended and varied. Book groups are running into a problem associated with their popularity. It is difficult to find meeting space for our growing numbers.

Our long-standing association with the Atlantic Cape Community College is expanding beyond the mentoring program organized by Karen Weis and our scholarship help overseen by Sandy Harmon Weiss. We are forging a new relationship with College Connections thanks to the energy put into this effort by Marion Ingram.

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*"The degree of
civilization in a society
can be judged by
entering its prisons."*

- Dostoevsky



Rina Terry reads from Cardboard Piano on January 15.

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Member Spotlight

MARY JANE SLUGG



Mary Jane Slugg

Mary Jane Slugg joined the Cape May Branch of AAUW around 2003 together with Lee Smythe. She immediately got heavily involved in the daytime Book Group and soon became coordinator and discussion leader. She, Lee, Peggy Long and Karen Weis decided that an evening Book Group was needed which could include husbands, significant others and guests. The Pot Luck Literature Club was born and met in members' homes. As the Club grew, and the members' homes didn't, the group met in various local restaurants and now meets at Mulligan's in Wildwood Crest and at Rio Station when Mulligan's is closed. Our daytime group has also grown so instead of meeting in members' homes it meets at Crest Pier in Wildwood Crest. Mary Jane is also our Membership Chair.

Mary Jane enjoys meeting and interacting with all of our members. She is proud of how the Branch has grown since 2003 in both our variety of activities and programs and our continued support of our Second Chance Scholarship and ACCC mentoring programs. Reading is her favorite pastime and the book groups enable her to read books out of her comfort zone and to discuss them with a group of intelligent, well-read, congenial people. She never knows where the discussions will lead us, but she enjoys every one.

With a B.S. in Education from Millersville State College (now Millersville University) and an M.S. in Education from the University of Pennsylvania, Mary Jane taught 4th grade at the Upper Darby and Central Bucks Districts, taking off time when her children were young. When her children were in school she substituted at all levels in the North Penn School District and then became a 7th grade reading and study skills teacher for the remainder of her 31 year career, retiring in 2002. Mary Jane was also an Instructor for Prepared Childbirth Classes and a Nursing Mothers Counselor for FAMLEE (Fathers and Mothers Learning Through Education and Experience) in Lansdale during the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Mary Jane and Chuck have been married for 47 years and counting! They met in college! When they were younger Chuck rode a motorcycle and Mary Jane was his passenger. They were married on a Labor Day weekend so for many years and for many years Chuck's mother would baby sit while Chuck and Mary Jane went on a 3 day motorcycle trip exploring Pennsylvania.

Chuck and Mary Jane enjoy birding and volunteer as Associate Naturalists for Cape May Bird Observatory. They enjoy traveling with Mark Garland's Nature tours to see birds from afar and have visited Texas, the Olympic Peninsula in Washington State, Florida, Virginia, Georgia and West Virginia in the US and Newfoundland, Costa Rica and Cuba outside the US.

The Sluggs have 2 children (Matthew and Beth) and 3 grandchildren (granddaughter Micah; grandsons Wyeth and Elijah). They enjoy having their children and grandchildren all visit at the same time in organized chaos that is precious to them.

Mary Jane's philosophy of life is "So many books, so little time" and "Attitude is the paintbrush of the mind; it can color any situation." She describes herself as a Pollyanna from way back with her paintbrush filled with bright colors and looking at the bright side of any situation.

President's Corner

(continued)

Programs

Educational and Lifelong Learning Opportunities

Oscar Frontrunner Movie Nights

Tuesday, February 10, 4:30pm

Evelyn Lovitz's Home

Cost: Donation to Tribute Scholarship Fund

Please RSVP, evelyn@lovitz-mccabe.com

With his unique vision, writer/director Ned Benson ambitiously captures a complete picture of a relationship in the beautifully relatable portrait of love, empathy and truth that is *THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ELEANOR RIGBY*. Once happily married, Conor (McAvoy) and Eleanor (Chastain) suddenly find themselves as strangers longing to understand each other in the wake of tragedy. The film explores the couple's story as they try to reclaim the life and love they once knew and pick up the pieces of a past that may be too far gone. Screened for the first time at the 2014 Cannes Film Festival, Benson's latest version of their story combines his previous two films - titled *HIM* and *HER* - uniting their perspectives and taking a further look into the subjectivity of relationships.



Tuesday, February 24, 4:30pm

Evelyn Lovitz's Home

Cost: Donation to Tribute Scholarship Fund

Please RSVP, evelyn@lovitz-mccabe.com

Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance) is a 2014 American dark comedy film co-written, produced, and directed by Alejandro González Iñárritu. It stars Michael Keaton with Zach Galifianakis, Edward Norton, Andrea Riseborough, Amy Ryan, Emma Stone, and Naomi Watts. Keaton plays a faded Hollywood actor famous for his superhero role struggling to mount a Broadway adaptation of a Raymond Carver story.

Birdman was the opening film of the 71st Venice International Film Festival, where it premiered on August 27, 2014 in competition for the Golden Lion. It received a limited theatrical release in the United States on October 17, 2014 and a wide release on November 14, distributed by Fox Searchlight Pictures. The film grossed over \$41 million worldwide.

It was nominated for seven Golden Globe Awards at the 72nd ceremony, including Best Motion Picture – Musical or Comedy, Best Director, Best Score and won for Best Screenplay. Keaton won Best Actor, while Norton and Stone were nominated for Best Supporting Actor and Best Supporting Actress respectively at both the Golden Globe Awards and the 21st Screen Actors Guild Awards, where the cast is also nominated for Outstanding Cast in a Motion Picture. At the 87th Academy Awards, *Birdman* received nine nominations, joint most for the ceremony (with *The Grand Budapest Hotel*), including Best Picture, Best Director, and acting nominations for Keaton, Norton and Stone.



What: Knitting & Crocheting baby birds nests for Kathy Woods Rehabilitation Center
When: Monday, February 16, 10:30am
Where: Evelyn Lovitz's Home
Cost: Donation to our scholarship fund
RSVP: Email Evelyn, evelyn@lovitz-mccabe.com

TRIBUTES

Gifts to the ACCC Tribute Scholarship Fund provide needed support. Tributes are a thoughtful way to honor a special life event, such as birthdays and anniversaries, as well as the perfect way to commemorate relatives, friends and AAUW members. A handwritten acknowledgement will be sent to the donor as well as the individual recognized, without disclosing the amount of the gift. Please send your gifts to bheinrichs@earthlink.net

Marion Ingram: College Connection Chair

marion.ingram@comcast.net

\$tart \$mart prepares college women who are approaching the job market with the confidence, knowledge, and skills they need to negotiate salaries and benefits.

When students leave the three and a half hour \$tart \$mart campus workshop, they learn.

- **how the gender wage gap affects their lives**
- **how to develop a personal budget to determine salary needs**
- **how to benchmark salary and benefits**
- **how to negotiate for their first salary out of college**

According to AAUW research, just one year after graduation, women earn just 82 percent of what their male counterparts earn, and the gender wage gap widens over the next 10 years.

More than 225 campuses throughout the United States have hosted \$tart \$mart. Before the workshop, only 25 percent of attendees said they were confident that they could negotiate a salary and benefits package. That figure skyrocketed to 91 percent upon completion of the workshop.



Spring \$tart \$mart Programs were planned on January 13 at Atlantic Cape Community College, Mays Landing, with Barbara Williamson, NJ AAUW \$tart \$mart Regional Manager; Jane Neimeyer, NJ AAUW \$tart \$mart Regional Manager; Dr. Mitchell Levy, Vice President of Student Affairs; Tammy DeFranco, Director of Cape May County Campus Student Services and Campus Management; Nancy Porfido, Mays Landing Campus, Director of Student Services and Judicial Officer; Cynthia Correa, Director of Worthington Atlantic City Campus Student Services and Campus Management; Dottie Pearson, Co-President, AAUW Cape May County; Marga Matheny, Co-President, AAUW Cape May County; and Gail Vreeland, President, Atlantic County. The \$tart \$mart workshops will be held on March 10, Mays Landing Campus; March 11, Atlantic City Campus; and March 12, Mays Landing Campus.

On Wednesday February 25 between the hours of 11:00 - 1:00, two AAUW Cape May County volunteers will promote the \$tart \$mart program, distribute program flyers, register students, recruit AAUW e-members, and promote AAUW Scholarships. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact marion.ingram@comcast.net

March 1 marks the start of National Women's History Month, and AAUW has strong ties to this annual celebration of women history makers. AAUW is an established historic organization that has helped — and continues to help — women make history. The committee is forming now. All members are invited to join this project, please contact marion.ingram@comcast.net.



PUBLIC POLICY IN ACTION

WOMEN ARE NOT WORTH LESS

By: Michelle J. Douglass

Want to meet with an elected official about a policy issue? Want to spotlight that issue in the media? Want a fun and easy action you can participate in? Making a delivery to an elected official's office is the answer!



Connecting with our elected officials about AAUW issues in a face-to-face meeting is a great way to develop a relationship with them and work to influence the positions they take on issues important to you.

The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap is an issue of prime importance to us. The pay gap has barely budged in a decade. Women face a pay gap in nearly every occupation. From elementary and middle school teachers to computer programmers, women are paid less than men in female-dominated, gender-balanced, and male-dominated occupations.

On **April 14th** we will once again recognize **Equal Pay Day**, the symbolic date when women's wages catch up to men's from the previous year. I know my calendar says 2015, but I'm having trouble believing it. The Mad Men era isn't just on TV. It's real life for women and their families who are struggling to make ends meet. For the last decade, median earnings for women working full time, year-round have been just 77% of men's earnings-23% less. This oft-cited percentage stems from U.S. Census Bureau data and is not, despite critiques, something made up to give women raises.

Get ready to learn about what is reported in ***Graduating to a Pay Gap*** and ***The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap*** and what we can do about it. For starters, how we can go about contacting and meeting with our local elected officials and educating them about these issues?

Join us. Get involved. Help plan our meeting with elected officials. Come view the National Women's Law Center Video "Women are not Worth Less!" Don't miss the February 16, 2015 Plan for Action meeting!

It's time to take action!

Please RSVP: Michelle Douglass, mjd@myrightslawyers.com

Welcome New Member

Carol Brill, flamingobrill@comcast.net



Tech Trek is Coming to New Jersey

Tech Trek is growing! In 2013, 15 AAUW branches selected 50 campers to attend camp. In 2014, 20 branches participated in Tech Trek by nominating, funding and selecting 30 campers to attend. In 2015, New Jersey was selected to sponsor, for the first time ever, a Tech Trek camp in the Northeast. Our camp will be administered under the AAUW-NJ Tech Trek committee and will have coordinated curriculum and activities. AAUW-NJ branches will be encouraged to support our camp which will be hosted by the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. Current plans are for 30 campers to attend Stockton College for one week filled with STEM activities, workshops and curriculum.

Currently seeking camp staff volunteers — Professional Women to speak and mentor the campers, health aide, student counselors (over age 16), teachers and workshop presenters. We especially encourage branch STEM Scholars to apply to be student counselors. Please click on the Volunteer tab and complete the application form.

Branches are currently working to identify, interview and select campers from Atlantic and Cape May Counties, as well as raise funds to support their campers' attendance. We look forward to having as many as 30 current 7th grade girls attend this summer from Atlantic and Cape May Counties, New Jersey! It's our hope that this pilot program proves to be a huge success so that we may be able to expand the Tech Trek camp to areas all over the State of New Jersey.

"I had always been worried about going into a male-dominated field," said one camper in Washington. "Tech Trek has made me feel more confident about my abilities in STEM and has made me want to follow my dreams of becoming a medical engineer."

"My daughter came home a changed girl. She was so shy she wouldn't even get up in front of her classmates to make a presentation. Here she is today, speaking before a complete group of strangers — teaching them something she learned at Tech Trek about genetics. Tech Trek has definitely impacted our entire family as her confidence is rubbing off on her younger sister too."

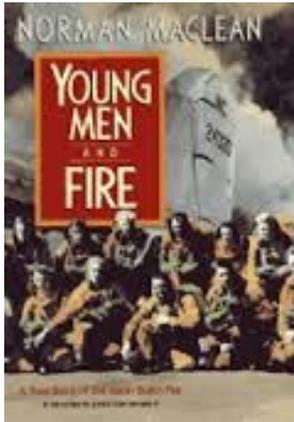
At Tech Trek, girls are immersed in a world that empowers and encourages them to think about themselves as future scientists, engineers, mathematicians, and computer specialists.

This one-week STEM camp for rising eighth-grade girls got its start 15 years ago, when AAUW of California member Marie Wolbach applied for an AAUW Community Action Grant to open a science camp for girls on the Stanford University campus. Wolbach and AAUW of California have since expanded the program to 10 camps in California alone.

After seeing how effective the program is — alumnae are more likely than their peers to take advanced science and math classes and eventually to go to college — AAUW decided to take the program nationwide. In 2013, Tech Trek was expanded to four states, Ohio, Oklahoma, Florida and Washington, and is already changing the lives of the girls who attended.

Campers at other sites took part in activities like building and launching model rockets, building model bridges and roller coasters, fingerprinting, DNA extraction, blood patterns (CSI investigations), the chemistry of soap making, epidemiology, and marine biology (including dissecting squid). They also learned how to do some computer coding, build a simple website/blog, make a vacuum robot, extract DNA, make ice cream using dry ice, simulate meiosis with genetic trait models, models of hands and how the tendons, ligaments and bones work together, models of lungs and how pulmonary ventilation takes place, and much more! Tech Trek has been shown to significantly increase girls' self-confidence and their interest in and excitement about the STEM fields which is why AAUW is bringing Tech Trek to three new states in 2015: New Jersey, New Mexico, and Oregon.

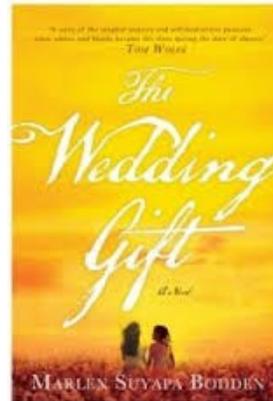
The program puts AAUW's groundbreaking research report into action. Tech Trek's formula follows the report's recommendations, introducing girls to role models and career choices and giving campers the opportunity to reside on a college campus. Find out how you can support a camp today! Visit us online at <http://techtrek-nj.aauw.net/>



Daytime Book Club
Young Men and Fire
By Norman Maclean
February 25, 12 noon
Crest Pier Community Center
5800 Ocean Avenue
Wildwood Crest
Please bring lunch & beverage

Dessert will be provided

Pot Luck Literature Club
The Wedding Gift
by Marlen Suyapa Bodden
February 17, 6pm
Mulligan's
310 West Hildreth Avenue
Wildwood



Cape Women's Resource Fund
14th annual
Hats Off to Fashion
Luncheon & Fashion Show
Sunday, May 17, 2015
Grand Hotel
Cape May

The purpose of this fundraiser is to benefit county projects for women and girls in Cape May County. The ticket price includes lunch and a fashion show featuring fashions from local boutiques, modeled by Cape Women's Resource Fund members. In addition, funds are raised through a ticket auction, with a large variety of enticing donated baskets.

Several years ago, the Cape Women's Resource Fund began sharing the proceeds of this fun event with two Cape May County, women's organizations, the League of Women Voters and AAUW. The attendance at this event has grown significantly, and the fundraiser has become the largest contributor to the AAUW CMC Tribute Scholarship Fund.

AAUW contributes 6-8 very popular baskets each year. In order to fill the baskets, we ask the members for donations at our meetings. We greatly appreciate the generosity of our membership in donating items and contributing money for the baskets. You are welcome to join committee members including Kathy and Karen Weis fill-in and complete the baskets. Most importantly, your contributions, big or small, generously help us work as a team to support the Tribute Scholarship Fund. For further information, please contact Karen Weis at karenweis@yahoo.com

**Atlantic Cape Academy of Culinary Arts
ACCC Mays Landing Campus
Thursday, May 14, 2015
11:30 am**

**\$20/member, advance payment required
This is a wonderful opportunity for members
of Cape May and Atlantic counties to meet
and mingle.**

**CapeBank Charitable Foundation
True Friend of Second Chance Scholarships!**

CapeBank Foundation is not only continuing its support of the work of AAUW/CMC Branch but also generously doubling its contribution in 2015. Chick Pinto, Executive Vice President, states, "Please accept this contribution with our best wishes and thanks for all you do for our community." We are proud of this great partnership and ask that all members please take time to personally express their gratitude to representatives of CapeBank

Co-Presidents

Marga Matheny
Dottie Pearson

Secretary

Peggy Long

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Barbara Heinrichs

Membership

Mary Jane Slugg

Programs

Evelyn Lovitz

Book Group

Mary Jane Slugg
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Scholarship

Sandy Harmon Weiss

Historian

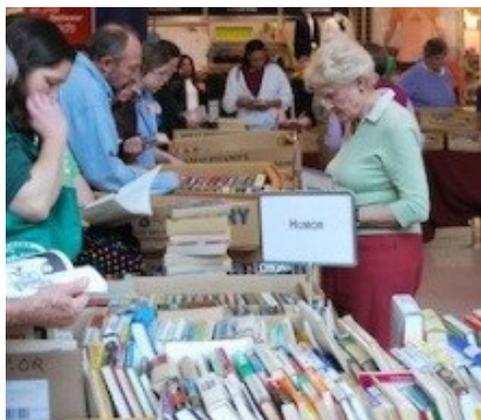
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For information about the newsletter content, information or corrections, please contact:

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**AAUW Wilmington's
46th Annual Dollars for Scholars Used Book Sale**

to benefit college scholarships for Delaware women

Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 26-Feb. 29

10 am - 9 pm

Sunday, March 1

11 am - 5 pm

**Concord Mall
4737 Concord Pike
Brandywine Hundred, DE 19803**

Please note: Bad weather may curtail sale hours.

Don't miss the area's largest sale of gently used books. Most items are between \$1-\$5, with collectibles up to \$100. Items are sorted into more than 50 categories on tables throughout the mall. The sale also includes DVDs, CDs, VHS tapes, records, sheet music, puzzles, and ephemera. Starting at 6 pm, Saturday, Feb. 28, most items are half-price. On Sunday, March 1, people can buy a bag for \$10 and fill it (certain categories are excluded).

For more information, please visit <http://wilmington-de.aauw.net/booksale>, call (302) 428