AAUW CAPE MAY COUNTY BRANCH

Website http://capemay-nj.aauw.net

The purpose of this branch shall be to further AAUW's mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

MARCH 2021 Newsletter

President's Corner

Hello everyone. Hope you are enjoying our Zoom version of Book Clubs. We even have our Couples Book Club active now. Check out MaryJane's Book Nook for more details.

Thought I would pass along some tips for surviving winter during the pandemic. They're from a book we shared last year about the Danish secret to happiness - hygge. The Danes attribute their happiness to striving for "coziness." To achieve that they use these elements in their homes - candles (lots of candles which they actually burn on a regular basis), plants (bringing the outdoors inside) and things from nature (such as pinecones, twigs, nuts, sea shells).



Try it! Hope it helps. Spring is right around the corner.

Chris Rohrman

BOOK NOOK

Dear Fellow Readers,

"March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb." We had a hint of spring last week but new storms are forecast for us (hopefully rain). The weather report sounds a lot like the COVID reports - up and down. Speaking of COVID I hope when you read this you have had at least one and hopefully two doses of a vaccine. Let's up hope March and COVID are saying Baaa to uncertainty as the month unfolds.

Since our last newsletter my reading has become more eclectic. I'm still reading psychological thrillers. One stands out: *Between You and Me* by Lisa Hall. The drama takes place between a married couple, Sal and Charlie. Charlie is the breadwinner, a corporate lawyer, who abuses Sal, a former teacher, who stays home and cares for their child. The twist lies in their names! I won't say any more in case you decide to read it.

I was looking over my collection of lists of books that everyone should read. *Anna Karenina* by Leo Tolstoy appears frequently and was an Oprah pick. I had never read it so I figured if Oprah could do it so could I. It was long, eight parts which were each equal to a normal book, but I found it fascinating. I can see why it is considered a classic. I learned about Russian life in the city and in the country, marriage customs, and love betrayals. If you have time on your hands give it a try.

The last book I'll mention is *The Book Club* by Mary Alice Monroe. This is definitely in the chick lit category but I found the relationships between the five women in the book club interesting. I also liked the way each chapter began with a quote from one of the books they read. In fact, that's why I recommended *Madame Bovary* by Gustave Flaubert as our May book for the Daytime Group. This is a book that appears on the must-read lists too.

Our first evening ZOOM went well. We had a mixed group of couple and singles and everyone had a chance to weigh in during our discussion of *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold.* It wasn't as nice as meeting for dinner but doable. We will continue to ZOOM and I hope that more of our evening regulars will join us on March 24th.

On Feb. 25th Connie Blocher, Barbara Heinrichs, Chris Rohrman, and I ZOOMed to choose books for both the daytime and evening groups for March through May. You will find the schedule in this newsletter. We tried to include a mix of subject matter and genres.

March books



Finally, please share what you have been reading by texting (215-803-1299) or emailing (<u>shoresluggs@aol.com</u>) me. We will use your responses to choose books for our 2021-2022 discussions. And remember, you can always find our book group titles on our website: capemay-nj.aauw.net.

Happy Reading, Mary Jane Slugg

Tuesday, March 16 at 1pm *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michelle Richardson.

Wednesday, March 24 at 6:30pm *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean.

Tuesday, April 20 at 1pm One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest by Ken Kesey.

Wednesday, April 28 at 6:30pm Simon the Fiddler by Paulette Jiles.

Tuesday, May 18 at 1pm *Madame Bovary* by Gustave Flaubert.

Wednesday, May 26 at 6:30pm *The Martian* by Andy Weir.

TECH TREK 2021

STEM - Gail Davis

Our 2020 Tech Trek camp will be virtual in July this year. A 2021 will NOT be chosen. We hope to have an Alumni camp in the future if funds permit. We will have a virtual Meet /n Greet on May 15 and they will get to meet what would have been their roommates. Possibly a virtual campus tour with Alumns. Then we need to ascertain IF they all will have internet access after schools end in June. At camp they will have a morning YOGA class, then 4 core classes, workshops in the afternoon, possibly virtual field trips.

Professional Women's Night is being worked on by Virginia Rettig.

My interview team may be asked to help assemble the kits each camper will receive.

PUBLIC POLICY

www.aauw.org

From AAUW's home page you can select **Explore the Issues** or **Get Empowered** which includes issues like Work Smart and Start Smart.

By selecting the **Take Action** page, you can sign up to receive timely action alerts by email. You may also receive these alerts on your cell phone by texting AAUW to 21333 for the Two Minute Activist tool. This is a fast and easy way to contact your legislators.

You can also subscribe to AAUW's newsletter by email.

Members should use these web pages to keep abreast of what AAUW is advocating on a state and national level.

Tributes

Gifts to our Tribute Scholarship Fund are a thoughtful way to recognize an anniversary or remember a friend, member or relative while providing support to our scholarship recipients.

An acknowledgement is sent to you and to the individual recognized. Your name will be made known, but not the amount of the gift.

Please send your gift to Barbara Heinrichs, 503 Whildam Ave., North Cape May, NJ 08204.

Acknowledgements:

Loretta Scheetz

Karen Weis

http://capemay-nj.aauw.net

KEEP OUR WEB ADDRESS HANDY

Events, meetings, book discussion dates, and more!

You can always find up-to-date information here. Book lists and dates for both groups are posted.

A complete membership list with contact information is available.

To access the information for <u>Members Only</u> call: Mary Jane Slugg (609) 884-7041 or Barbara Heinrichs (609) 889-1647 and we will give you the password! Acting President Chris Rohrman

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