



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.

MAY 2021 Newsletter

FROM YOUR TREASURER

President's Corner

bheinrichs46@earthlink.net

Hello Everyone.

May is going to be a busy time this year. We have a Zoom program, May 6, presented by Karen Weis and Carolyn Bassett on local cemeteries and their history and a Zoom board meeting on May 12 at 1:00pm (everyone welcome). We will also be choosing a slate of officers for next year and collecting dues. Hope you can join us for all our AAUW activities.

A sure sign of spring at our house is when the tree swallows come back and claim our gourd. We love watching them!



Chris Rohrman
Acting President

Dues collection for July 1 through June 30, 2022 is in progress. Dues are: \$82 which includes National, State and our local branch membership.

National AAUW has sent you an email option to renew on-line using your credit card. This came as an email from memberinfo.aauw.org. It was personalized for you and had a direct link to National AAUW. If you successfully renew with a credit card, you can print the receipt which immediately appears on-line. Also you will receive an confirmation email from National, copy to me. On-line renewal is available to primary and dual members alike. Dual member dues remain the same as last year: \$10.

The option to mail me a check made out to AAUW (\$82), of course, is fine as well.

Barbara Heinrichs
503 Whildam Avenue
N. Cape May, NJ 08204

Thanks to all who have renewed already. That makes my job easier.

If you're not renewing for any reason, we will be sorry to lose you. Just let me know and I'll take you off the reminder list.

And if you can't find your personalized renewal link in your email, let me know and I will instruct National to send another one.

TRAVEL CLUB

Carolyn Bassett and Karen Weis have researched and prepared a Zoom program on Small Cemeteries of New Jersey.

This presentation will be on Thursday, May 6 at 10:30 a.m.

Why would you want to visit a cemetery? There are many reasons. The tombstones can give a little lesson in art history, symbolism, and changing attitudes towards death and the afterlife. Until about the 1850 most people in the U.S. were buried in churchyards or in family burial plots on their own property. Thus, there are many small cemeteries scattered about New Jersey, some with only one or two graves. About two years ago, Karen Weis and Carolyn Bassett spent several days locating and visiting several of these cemeteries.

Please join us.

Zoom Meeting ID: 875 1340 7353
Password: University Note: the "U" must be capitalized

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87513407353?pwd=RmsycEE4NUJtTzZWkczTTdJOXZMUT09>

BOOK NOOK

Greetings Fellow Readers,

Happy May Day to all and Happy Mother's Day to all the moms and grandmoms in our group! I must confess that I was scrambling for an idea for this month until after our book discussion on Wednesday. As we were talking about *Simon the Fiddler* one of our members said that she liked it when an author carried a character from one book to another. That comment led me to think about fictional characters that I follow in different book series. I wondered if you all had favorite series too.

I think the first book series I read was Nancy Drew beginning in elementary school. To date there are 175 books in the series written by Carolyn Keene, a pseudonym for different authors through the years. The series was commissioned as a series for girls to mirror the Hardy Boys for boys!

As an adult there is a series that I read straight through because of Steve Weis, husband of Karen. Many years ago he suggested and led the discussion for any book featuring Horatio Hornblower by C. S. Forester. I was dubious about the choice but read the first Hornblower book. I was captivated by the character and writing and went on to read all 11 books.

After several friends recommended author Louise Penny to me I decided to read her. I had been warned to read the books in order so I started with *Still Life* and was hooked. They are mysteries with Chief Inspector Armand Gamache as the main character. The setting is a small village, Three Pines, on the border between Quebec and Vermont and not shown on any maps. The characters are unique and diverse, the mysteries engrossing, and Gamache a master investigator. Again, one

book and I was hooked. I reserved the books in order, two at a time, from the library and read the whole series. I believe she has a new book coming out soon.

If you need a good laugh, try Janet Evanovich's twenty-seven books featuring Stephanie Plum. She works for her cousin who is a bail bondsman in Trenton NJ. Her job is to find and bring in anyone who has skipped bail. She works with her best friend, Lula, who is larger than life and unforgettable. Their misadventures tracking down and apprehending the bad guys make me laugh out loud.

If you like murder mysteries Jonathan Kellerman writes a series with Alex Delaware, a child and forensic psychologist who works with the LAPD as a consultant. Most of his cases come from Detective Milo Sturgis and the plots are always engrossing. If you like mysteries this is only one of many series from which to choose.

Finally I will mention my secret vice, the Jack Reacher novels by Lee Child. They aren't particularly well-written and the plots are contrived and often predictable but there is something about Reacher that makes me return to these books after reading a string of challenging books. By the way, if you saw the movie based on Child's main character, Tom Cruise makes a lousy Jack Reacher!!

Enough about book series! Our next book discussions will be with ZOOM meetings. The Daytime Group will meet on May 18 and discuss *Madame Bovary*; the Evening Group will meet on May 26 and discuss *The Martian*. Remember to read your email and

check the website, capemay-nj.aauw.net, for up to date information.

Finally I'd like to thank Connie Blocher for being my co-chair for the past several years. I will miss her help in choosing books and expertly leading discussions. She is taking a well-deserved break but will still be part of both discussion groups.

I'm pleased to welcome Joan Vicari as co-chair for our groups. Her years of being a high school librarian and her love of reading will bring new ideas; I look forward to working with her.

Happy Reading,
Mary Jane



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. Unfortunately, a vaccine for the 12 to 13 age group is not available.

We are now trying to get our "accepts" to accept via email and following up with all county chairs to ensure contact has been made. Emails were sent out April 13 and we've still not received acceptances from all of the campers. Additionally we need to determine what type of device they will be using. We will have a virtual Meet /n Greet on May 15 and campers will get to meet what would have been their roommates. Possibly a virtual campus tour with Alumns.

At camp they will have a morning Yoga class, then 4 core classes, workshops in the afternoon, possibly virtual field trips.

We always need money as we surely hope to have a "real" selection and on-campus camp in 2022. Please contact Gail Davis if you wish to make a donation to AWCO for the camp.

PUBLIC POLICY

Theresa Basquez

I'm sure you have received email from AAUW about the upcoming national election. In that regard, on April 1st, AAUW held a nationwide Town Hall meeting to discuss a proposed change to the By-Laws that would remove the educational degree requirement for membership. Reasons cited for this change are declining and aging membership and ineligibility for grant funding because of the educational membership requirement. The Town Hall provided an opportunity for all to express their pro and con leanings and the

reasoning behind it. In support of the change, women thought that the change is needed in response to changing attitudes and demographics, and is an opportunity to offer all women the ability to support the AAUW mission. In opposition, women thought that it will change the nature of the organization, that the organization provides a forum for women who have earned a degree, and that the term "University" in the organization name would be problematic.

Whatever your opinion, please be sure to vote by 5 pm (EDT), May 17th on this important issue, as well as to select national Board of Directors and public policy priorities.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/>

EVENT CALENDAR

Thursday, May 6 10:30am – Cemeteries of New Jersey Zoom presentation

Wednesday, May 12 1pm – Cape May County AAUW Board Meeting in Zoom

Tuesday, May 18 1pm – Zoom Book Club

Wednesday, May 26 6:30pm– Zoom Book Club

From Linda Harmon, AAUW NJ Secretary

Sans 2020, every year, AAUW NJ has sponsored an annual event. These have always been fun and you get to know AAUW members across the state. Staying closer to home this year, the AAUW NJ State District Coordinators are sponsoring our next in person fun event. It is limited in number, first come, first serve.



- 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 am**
(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 chairs



- At your leisure tour Open Flea Market (creative vendors)
Historic Villager (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

H-732-458-5906, C-732-267-3127

Questions Pat: shorebeachgirl@hotmail.com Northern District Diane: dianelcrawford@gmail.com

Southern District Linda: linda.harmon@gmail.com

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

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.

<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 Members Only call: Mary Jane Slugg (609) 884-7041 or Barbara Heinrichs (609) 889-1647 and we will give you the password!

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