



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.

DECEMBER 2021 Newsletter

President's Corner

Hello everyone! I'm thrilled that we can have an in-person Holiday Luncheon this year! Looking forward to seeing many members, spouses and guests.

AAUW is celebrating 140 years of making an impact on women's education and equality. For this special occasion, National AAUW is offering a matching donation opportunity. Through December 31 every donation you make to National will be doubled. This might be a wonderful time to make that gift.

"It's hard to believe that, when Marion Talbot founded AAUW in 1881, few women had the opportunity to go to college. Today, women outnumber men in earning degrees at nearly every level," reminds Gloria L. Blackwell, our National president. Go to their website, aauw.org, and check it out!

See you at Alfe's on December 5th!

Chris Rohrman
President



A room full of book lovers! Evening book group November 17th.

DECEMBER BOOKS



My Name is Lucy Barton by Elizabeth Strout

We will meet on **Tuesday, December 7** at 12 noon at Crest Pier Community Center, 5800 Ocean Avenue, Wildwood Crest (between

Crocus & Heather). Please bring your lunch & beverage. Dessert will be provided.



Hercule Poirot's Christmas by Agatha Christie

We will meet on **Wednesday, December 15** at 6 pm at Mulligan's Shore Bar & Grill, 310 West Hildreth Avenue, Wildwood.

We will discuss the book after ordering dinner.

Contact Mary Jane Slugg at 609 884 7041 or shoresluggs@aol.com to let her know you are coming.

BOOK NOOK

Dear Fellow Readers,

I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving complete with a bountiful dinner, family and friends, football, parades, and a nap! I had a hard time thinking of a topic this month. It should be about Christmas, right? Beyond teaching Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* to 7th graders and reading stories like *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* to my children when they were young, I'm not a fan of books set at Christmas time. In fact, one of our members emailed me asking for any "Christmas" book recommendations for one of her book groups and my mind was blank!

However, I have fond memories of watching old movies and TV specials with the kids every year and they, in turn,

watched them with their children. Who can forget Rudolph with his red nose, Frosty with his magic top hat, and Charlie Brown with his forlorn Christmas tree? As a child I loved watching *Miracle on 34th Street* with Natalie Wood as the doubting child. It was made in 1947. Another favorite of mine is *It's a Wonderful Life* with James Stewart made in 1946. And of course we have to watch a version of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* which range from dramas taken directly from the book to musicals. I read that there have been 135 versions of this enduring story, "Bah humbug" notwithstanding. I'm sure you each have your personal favorite. And they were all books first!

I don't watch many movies, preferring to read the book. Many of you are movie buffs and regularly watch a movie version of our monthly choices for our book discussions either in addition to or instead of reading the book. Before Covid we had a movie group which met in someone's home to watch a current or classic movie.

My point is that reading books is a great way to exercise your mind and imagination but movies and TV shows, especially around the holidays, can enhance our reading and create lasting memories. The printed word is powerful but creating sight, sound, and music from our favorite stories is an art form that we can enjoy with others. Both should have a place in our lives.

Happy Reading and Watching through the Holidays!

Mary Jane

PUBLIC POLICY

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DAY BOOK READS

Dec. 7 My Name is Lucy Barton by Elizabeth Strout
Jan. 18 The Remains of the Day by Kazuo Ishiguro
Feb. 15 Long Bright River by Liz Moore

EVENING BOOK READS

Dec. 15 Hercule Poirot's Christmas by Agatha Christie
Jan. 26 Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Start Up by John Carreyrou
Feb. 23 The Rose Code by Kate Quinn

Books on March 15 and 23 will be graphic novels.

STEM

We have yet to hear from National AAUW. We continue to hope we are able to have an in person camp next summer as Virtual this year was an enormous amount of hard work by our volunteers.

As usual AWCO is in need of funding for our future camp. Any donation is fully tax deductible. Contact me if you wish to make a donation.

You can also donate through iGive.com You Shop. Your Charity Gets Money. For Free.

Shop normally (no special codes, no special anything) at any of about 2,200 stores helping to support your favorite cause or charity.

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Research and data collection are an important aspect of AAUW's Public Policy: the quantifiable data clarifies our goals and clearly demonstrates our mission. It is over half a century since pay discrimination became illegal in our country, yet the pay gap remains for white women at \$0.83 cents compared to the \$1.00 men earn. For women of color, the gap is even more drastic \$0.55 for Latinas, \$0.60 for Native Americans and Alaskans, \$0.63 for Black and Pacific Islander women. AAUW's extensive report "The Simple Truth about the Pay Gap" can be found here:

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/research/simple-truth/>

This quote in the report puts the disparity in perspective: "Men's jobs generally pay better than women's, even after accounting for their skill and education requirements. For instance, full-time parking lot attendants (usually men) are paid more to watch cars than full-time child-care workers (usually women) are paid to care for children, even though child-care workers are increasingly being pushed to earn a college credential."

At the current rate of progress, the gender pay gap won't be closed until 2111. We don't want to wait that long!

EVENT CALENDAR

Sunday, December 5 Holiday Luncheon
Tuesday, December 7 Daytime Book Club
Wednesday, December 15 Evening Book Club

Tuesday, January 18 Daytime Book Club
Wednesday, January 26 Evening Book Club

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

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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