

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.

FEBRUARY 2022 Newsletter

President's Corner

Hello everyone!

February is the perfect time to think about the special people in our lives. And Valentine's Day gives us an excuse to shower them with hugs and kisses (even if only virtually via Zoom or the old-fashioned way with cards and phone calls).

So, enjoy all the extraordinary members of your family and your amazing friends. And don't pay any attention to the not- so- great weather!

Happy February!



Chris Rohrman
President



FUND RAISING

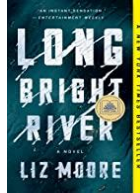
Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!
To everyone who took part in our Marion MacEwan Second Chance Scholarship 5-year Pledge.

What a wonderful success! We raised \$8750 for our scholarships. A special thank you to Pat Ford Roegner for conceiving this great idea and to Karen to encouraging us to contribute and being a super contributor herself.

Our NEW 5-year pledge drive will start this month and continue until 2027! Again, you are encouraged to donate \$100 a year for the next 5 years. I would like to add a goal of \$10,000! This newsletter will feature a pledge form (separate attachments to this email in two different formats) for you to fill out and send to Barb Heinrichs, our treasurer, (mailing address on Page 5) with your first \$100 for 2022. (Feel free to contribute even more!)

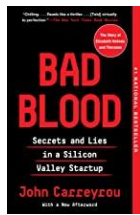
Thanks,
Chris Rohrman
Fund Raising Chairperson

FEBRUARY BOOKS



Long Bright River by Liz Moore

We will meet on **Tuesday, February 15** 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.



Bad Blood; Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup by John Carreyrou

We will meet on **Wednesday, February 23** 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.

The Rose Code by Kate Quinn will be re-scheduled for a discussion in June.

BOOK NOOK

Greetings Fellow Readers

I'm going to start this month with a nudge - keep working on your list of books that have changed you in some way. I have talked to a few members who confessed they were having difficulty whittling their list to only three titles. I'm going to modify the challenge to include up to five titles. Keep on thinking and editing your list.

In my efforts to keep my reading resolution for the new year, I have finished reading *Gulliver's Travels*. Once I got used to the archaic language I must admit that I enjoyed the book overall. The strange encounters throughout the story had morals about the way we live and view our fellow men that still ring true. Many parts were tedious for me to read but I admire Jonathan Swift's imagination, observations of our morality and civility, and writing skills. I'm glad I finally read the book.

This made me start to think about how my reading habits and book choices have changed through the years as I have aged and, I hope, matured. As a preteen I went through my "Nancy Drew/Judy Bolton" phase and fell in love with mysteries. I moved on to Perry Mason and Ellery Queen. Since I no longer spent my allowance on kiddy comic books, I applied it to buy these "adult" mysteries for thirty-five cents each at

our local drug store. I still love a good mystery!

Through my high school and college years I frequented the adult fiction section in our local library. I perused the shelves and grabbed anything that sounded interesting. I judged a book by its title and paid little attention to the author. In my high school and college English and Literature courses I learned to pay attention to the authors too.

As a young adult I read mostly fiction with an occasional biography thrown in. If I found an author I liked I would read as many books by that author that I could find. I also tended to binge on different genres such as romance, historical fiction, espionage, and realistic fiction. I never went through a science fiction or fantasy period with the exception of the Dragonriders of Pern, a fantasy series by Anne McCaffrey. These stories totally captivated me.

After I married and had children I had less time to read and read mostly for escape. I picked books from the best seller lists in the newspaper and swapped books with neighbors and fellow teachers. We had a local store, The Book Swap, where we could take our used books and receive credit to "purchase" new books. This, along with regular trips to the library with my children, fed my reading habit.

As an aside, I needed a book to read like a smoker needs a cigarette. From the time I was a child I always had a book with me in case I had some down time. I would bribe myself to

finish my housework by the promise of another chapter in my current book.

I joined my first book club in the early 1980s at the middle school where I was teaching. We call ourselves The Lady Bookies and are still going strong. This group plus our two AAUW groups dictate a large portion of my reading today. Through participating and leading discussion groups I have broadened my horizons to include new genres and nonfiction. Being able to discuss books with friends from a variety of backgrounds and experiences has enhanced my understanding of the books I read and has changed the way I read and reflect upon a book. Reading is no longer pure escape.

In conclusion, take some time to think about how your own reading has changed over the years. I have enjoyed writing about my walk down my Reading Memory Lane; I hope you enjoy yours!

Brace yourselves! Here comes the nagging - keep working on your book list for April!!

Happy Reading
Mary Jane

All day and evening books through June are listed on our website if you wish to read ahead.

STEM

We have tentative plan to offer a STEMINIST camp for alums in July. The first one would be a 3 day camp for the 2020 campers who never got to meet in person. Old 2016-17 alums could serve as dorm moms, etc. Also our AAUW members might wish to volunteer as day counselors, etc. Then a 2nd alum camp for 2017-2019 alumni for a 2 day camp of their own. Same deal for volunteers.

Of course- social distancing (single rooms, vaccination status etc.) would be required. And much depends on Stockton U.

Additionally Theresa Basquez has agreed to take over my STEM position in Atlantic County.

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PUBLIC POLICY

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Basic to all of AAUW's public policy efforts is the understanding that true equity requires a balance between the rights of the individual and the needs of the community. AAUW opposes all forms of discrimination and supports constitutional protection for the civil rights of all individuals.

"You cannot save people, you can only love them." Anais Nin

EVENT CALENDAR

Tuesday, February 15 Daytime Book Club

Wednesday, February 23 Evening Book Club

Tuesday, March 15 Daytime Book Club

Wednesday, March 23 Evening Book Club

Tuesday, April 19 Daytime Book Club

Wednesday, April 27 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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