

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 2022 Newsletter

President's Corner

Hello everyone,

One good thing that has come out of this COVID pandemic is the increased use of Zoom type technology. I was so happy to be able to join the daytime book group's discussion this past month via Zoom. Also, my husband and I can keep in touch with his 92-year-old mother in Ocean City. Our whole family purchased "portals" and now can videoconference each other any time. The portal is super easy to use, and we get to "see" her once a week while we are here in Florida.

Lucky for us – we got to see some AAUW friends in person, too – Sandy and Chuck Sieber and Joan and Dave Husband. Keep in touch with friends! And don't forget to send in your pledge!

Chris Rohrman
President



Joined Joan and Dave in Mt. Dora, Florida

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

BOOK NOOK

MARCH BOOKS



The Boy, The Mole, the Fox and the Horse (graphic novel) by Charlie Mackesy

We will meet on **Tuesday, March 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.



The Great Gatsby (graphic novel). Make sure you get the edition by Woodman-Maynard

We will meet on **Wednesday, March 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.

Greetings Fellow Readers,

In the September 2020 issue of our Newsletter I introduced the idea of reading graphic novels in the spring. This month each of our groups will be discussing a different graphic novel. The Daytime Group is reading *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox, and the Horse* by Charlie Mackesy which was written originally in graphic form. The Evening Group is reading a graphic novel adaptation of *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald. The graphic adaptation was done by K. Woodman-Maynard. If you wish to delve into reading more graphic novels, a good resource is Kara Buono, the Collection Development Librarian in charge of graphic novels, at the Cape May County Library. She has great suggestions and can send you an annotated list of graphic novels and adaptations.

I think a brief history of graphic novels is in order before our group discussions. If your spouse comes with you to the Evening Group you might want to share this information.

Compilations of comic strip and cartoon stories have been around in comic book form since the 1920s. The beginning of the modern graphic novel began in the 1970s when neighborhood five-and-dime stores gave way to malls and big-box stores. Technically the term "graphic novel" means an original story never published before. The term has evolved to include graphic adaptations of classic literature. As in traditional literary novels, graphic novels tell a complete story through the use of illustration and text. They include action stories with superheroes and a host of fictional novels as well such as *Habibi* by Craig Thompson. Some of the more powerful stories are nonfiction and are

written as memoirs. Art Spiegelman's *Maus* is an example.

As the popularity of comic books as we remember them waned, Marvel Comics' Stan Lee and John Kirby began putting together novel-length comics. Cartoonist Jules Feiffer published *Tantrum* in 1979 which was described as a "novel-in-pictures". Most sources agree that the first "real" graphic novel was Will Eisner's *A Contract With God and Other Tenement Stories* published in 1978.

The term "graphic novel" is a bit of a controversy in itself. Some say it's a marketing term that simply means "an expensive comic book". Others say the difference is in the binding. Still others say they are essentially comic books but, like novels, have a distinct beginning, middle, and end to the story.

In conclusion, graphic novels can be fiction or nonfiction and could be called comic books in a real book's binding. They are a combination of illustration and text and can be an original story or an adaptation of a well-known literary work. Although I still prefer traditional books I have enjoyed the graphic novels I have read and will continue to read them occasionally. Just as it took me quite a while to adjust to reading on my Kindle, I am learning to enjoy the graphic novel format. You CAN teach an old dog new tricks!!

Happy Reading,
Mary Jane

PS Don't forget your list of 3-5 books which have influenced you the most!

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

STEM

We are still in the planning stage 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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EVENT CALENDAR

Support the Gender Equity in Education Act (GEEA)

Update: The U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights held a virtual public hearing in June 2021 to review all existing regulations, orders, policies and guidance documents pertaining to Title IX. AAUW provided public comment that emphasized the need to create regulations that uphold the commitment to ensuring equal and nondiscriminatory access to education for students at all educational levels. The information gleaned from the hearing will influence future regulations pertaining to Title IX that we expect in the coming months and years. In the meantime, the need for legislation is critical to strengthen protections, regardless of who is in the White House.

In the 49 years since its enactment, Title IX has opened doors for girls and women from classrooms to playing fields. But despite tremendous progress, challenges to equity in education still exist. That's why the Patsy T. Mink and Louise M. Slaughter Gender Equity in Education Act ([GEEA](#)) of 2021 was reintroduced, to ensure schools and educational institutions have the resources they need to comply with this landmark civil rights law.

Follow the link to read more about the legislation, and to let your representatives know that you support it!

<https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/geea/>

Tuesday, March 15 Daytime Book Club
Wednesday, March 23 Evening Book Club

Tuesday, April 19 Daytime Book Club
Wednesday, April 27 Evening Book Club

Tuesday, May 17 Daytime Book Club
Wednesday, May 25 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.

Acknowledgements:

Barb Heinrichs

Marion Ingram

Chris Rohrman

<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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