

# 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.

## JANUARY 2023 Newsletter

### President's Corner



Happy New Year!

Let's hope it's a wonderful one! December was great for our club – we had a very successful Holiday Luncheon. We had 23 attending. For our scholarship fund, we raised \$292 from our 50/50, floral bouquet raffle and surplus (dinner payments). The Tuckahoe Inn looked beautiful and their service was excellent. I think everyone enjoyed their meal.

In the fundraising article, I'm going to give you some ideas on how to donate to our scholarships. I hope you find it helpful. Keep warm!

Chris Rohrman  
President of Cape May County AAUW



Holiday Luncheon at The Tuckahoe Inn

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## TECH TREK 2023

[tbasquez\\_86@hotmail.com](mailto:tbasquez_86@hotmail.com)

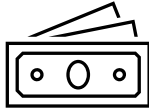
We are starting to organize and prepare for Tech Trek from July 23-29, 2023.

Nominations are being made, candidate applications are due March 3<sup>rd</sup>, and all interviews are to be completed before April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Are you available to help interview any candidates from Cape May County? Two members will work together to evaluate a candidate through a scripted process held in a public location (at the school or a public library).

Please let me know if you are available to support the process.

Theresa Basquez



## Fundraising

Here are the ways that you can contribute to our scholarship fund:

1. Our 5-year pledge – you send in \$100 or more each year for 2022 – 2026. We currently have 9 members pledging.
2. Memorial gifts – if you want to give a donation in someone’s honor.
3. Add to our \$30,000 endowed scholarship that Karen and Steve Weis have set up.

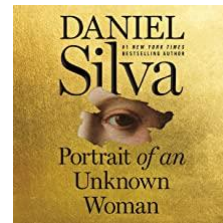
These donations can be made from your yearly Required Minimum Distribution from your traditional IRA. You will need to review the procedure with your investment firm. But basically, you fill out a special QCD form naming the charity you wish to receive your contribution and the amount desired and a check will be sent directly to the charity in your name. Thus, you don’t have to pay federal taxes on that donated amount which counts towards your required distribution. There are some exclusions and other rules, of course.

For more information you can contact our treasurer, Barb Heinrichs or me.

Chris Rohrman  
Fundraising Chairperson (temporary)

*The Last House on the Street* by Diane Chamberlain

We will meet on **Tuesday, January 17** 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.



*Portrait of an Unknown Woman* by Daniel Silva

**++ Change of venue and date ++**

Mulligan’s is closed in January. We will meet on **Tuesday, January 24** at 6 pm at **Castaway Café**, 301 Bayshore Road, Villas, NJ. This restaurant is closed on Wednesdays so it was necessary to change the day of the week. 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.

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## JANUARY BOOKS



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## BOOK NOOK

Greetings Fellow Readers,

Happy Healthy New Year to All! I hope everyone had a nice holiday and that no one was stranded in an airport without luggage. I also hope everyone received a

new book as a gift. As a matter of fact, this is the main topic for this month.

About two weeks before Christmas I was reading the advice column *Ask Amy* in the *Press of Atlantic City*. Her column was devoted to her annual literacy campaign. Her inspiration for this effort came from Pulitzer Prize-winning author and historian David McCullough. I know many of you read and enjoy his books. He has stated in many interviews that his whole life was shaped by the sharing of books and stories. Amy wrote that after McCullough's death in August many of the tributes to him mentioned the impact his parents and grandparents had on his life by exposing him to "literature, reading aloud and treasuring books."

Every Christmas morning David and his brothers would find a wrapped book on the foot of their bed from Santa. It was the first present they unwrapped and enjoyed on Christmas morning as they sat and read together. What a great and easy way to start a special memory for a special morning!

Amy went on to tell about a campaign supported by many writers and literacy advocates called a Book on Every Bed as they share their own literacy stories. In her column she shared Brad Meltzer's story. He is the author of bestselling legal and history thrillers as well as groundbreaking stories for DC Comics. You might recognize his titles *The Tenth Justice* or *The Fifth Assassin* from bestseller lists. He also wrote 52 books in the "I Am..." series for children about famous people past and present such

as Rosa Parks, Jim Henson and Mr. Rogers.

Meltzer's personal story began in Brooklyn with his grandmother. His family didn't have much money and didn't own books but she showed him one of the most powerful objects in existence: a library card. She took him to the public library in Brooklyn and the librarian showed him his section. Two of his first library friends were Agatha Christie and Judy Blume who taught him one of the greatest lessons in life: you must love yourself for who you are. In honor of his grandmother and the librarian he gives books to children each holiday season. He worked with the Children's Reading Connection ([childrensreadingconnection.org](http://childrensreadingconnection.org)) to give each child, teacher and staff member of his rural primary school books of their own to take home. The joy on the face of a child clutching his very own book is unforgettable.

We can all support literacy individually by thinking about a Book on Every Bed and the Children's Reading Connection every time we interact with children and grandchildren. Give the gift of a book for baby showers, the birth of a new baby, birthdays, graduations, Christmas, or just "for nice". When buying souvenirs on a trip include a book. Then try to find some quiet time to read together. Support "little libraries" in Cape May County by keeping a bag of books you have read in your car and adding them to libraries you pass. Reading is important to all of us but sharing books can change lives!

Happy Reading,  
Mary Jane

P.S. In April we will be discussing *Salt to the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys. My husband read and enjoyed it so much that he also found two other books that enrich the story. *Ship of Fate* by Roger Moorhead and *Death in the Baltic* by Cathryn J. Prince may also interest book group members after reading *Salt to the Sea*.

If you like to read ahead, following are our selections for February:

February 21 - Daytime Group  
*Fire Keeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley

February 28 - Evening Group  
*1984* by George Orwell

All books through June are listed on our website [capemay-nj.aauw.net](http://capemay-nj.aauw.net) under Activities – Book Groups

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## AAUW Public Policy

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Here's a snippet of some interesting Information from an AAUW Economic Security article, ***8 Surprising Facts about the Gender Pay Gap***. Find more data here:

<https://ww3.aauw.org/2019/04/02/8-surprising-facts-about-the-gender-pay-gap/>

“There is only one job where women typically earn more than men.

In the wholesale or retail buying occupation, women actually make around \$4,000 more than men. Among the professions with the

smallest pay gaps are food workers, writers, counselors, pharmacists and social workers, where women earn within 97 to 99 percent of what their male colleagues do. Conversely, the largest gaps occur among financial services sales agents, financial managers and financial advisers. In those fields, the pay ratio between women and men is between 61 and 66 percent.

There is also considerable variation in the pay gap among cities and states—which could be a function of differing regional industries, local laws or other demographic trends. Clearly, it's a complicated issue with many causes. That means we'll need many solutions as well.”

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## EVENT CALENDAR

**Tuesday, January 17** Daytime Book Club

**Tuesday, January 24** Evening Book Club

**Tuesday, February 21** Daytime Book Club

**Wednesday, February 28** 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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