


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.

FEBRUARY 2023 Newsletter

President's Corner

Hello everyone, 

If you're looking for something a little different to do this winter, I would recommend the Garrett Family Preserve at Cape Island Creek. Russ and I visited a few weeks ago and really enjoyed the quiet and peacefulness. Even though there are no flowers blooming this time of year, there are picnic tables and benches throughout the walking trails. We just did the shortest trail – the Braille trail – which is unique with its guide ropes and signs featuring braille for the limited vision visitors. You can even bring your dog in the winter – November 1 – March 31. The address is 801 Wilson Street, Cape May.

See you in the spring,
Chris Rohrman
President of Cape May County AAUW



Chris at the Garrett Family Preserve.

TECH TREK 2023

tbasquez_86@hotmail.com



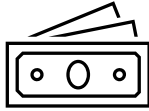
Cape May County has received one nomination so far for Tech Trek 2023 in July. Forty girls will be selected for attendance from nominations received throughout New Jersey. There will be one girl per dorm room at Stockton due to Covid impacts.

All applications must be submitted by March 3rd, at which time we will be able to schedule interviews for any candidates we have received. The interviews must be completed by April 7th.

Claudine Keenan, Assistant Director of Tech Trek NJ, conducted an interview volunteer training session on Wednesday, 1/19/23. She provided information about staffing and schedule, and handsomely thanked volunteers. Use this link to check out Tech Trek: <https://techtrek-nj.aauw.net/> and this link to volunteer: <https://techtrek-nj.aauw.net/volunteer/>

Theresa Basquez

FEBRUARY BOOKS



Fundraising

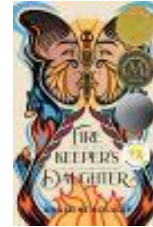
Here are the ways that you can contribute to our scholarship fund:

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 Fire Keeper's Daughter
by Angeline Boulley

We will meet on **Tuesday, February 21** 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.



1984 by George Orwell

We will meet on **Tuesday, February 28** at 6 pm at Mulligan's Shore Bar & Grill, 310 West Hildreth Avenue, Wildwood. There is no February 29 this year. We will discuss the book after ordering dinner.

Contact Mary Jane Slugg at 609 884 7041 or shoresluggs@aol.com so she can give a count to the restaurant.

BOOK NOOK



Greetings Fellow Readers,

The above cartoon appeared in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* early in January. I was reading the newspaper as usual at the breakfast table. When I read the cartoon I giggled aloud and looked to my left at the pile of books on a chair: My TBR!

The following are the "book" books waiting for me: *The 24-Hour Book Store* by Robin Sloan; *Visual Thinking* by Temple Grandin; *The Power of the Dog* by Thomas Savage; *The Honor Killing of David L. Branton* by Jonathan Branton; *Another Man's Shoes* by D. C. Page; *An American Childhood* by Annie Dillard; and *The Meaning of Everything* by Simon Winchester. I also have too many titles to count on my Kindle

and the ten remaining books for our Daytime and Evening Book Groups. As fellow readers I'm sure you can all relate and have your own lists and piles waiting for you.

I frequently ask myself why I keep borrowing, buying, and downloading books. One reason is because I see titles and book reviews that interest me. Instead of just making a note of it I want to have it ready when I'm ready to read it. Looking at the pile keeps them fresh in my mind.

Another reason for adding to my TBR pile is when I see a new book in a series that I follow. I just downloaded and read the latest Louise Penny Three Pines book, *A World of Curiosities*. Before that it was Diana Gabaldon's latest *Outlander* book, *Go Tell the Bees that I Am Gone!* The characters in both series are like friends and I can't wait to find out what they've been up to.

I also follow several authors and watch for new books by them on bestseller lists. They aren't quite as important to me as the above mentioned series so I usually put them on my Kindle.

I know that my physical limitations add to my TBR pile. I don't drive and can't pick up books from the library myself. I hate to add another task for Chuck to do. Ordering the books and having them sent directly to me salvages a little of my independence. And I can donate the books to brighten some other reader's day.

Whatever your reasons I hope everyone has a TBR stack of books, large or small, just waiting for the right time to sneak up on you like a snack attack. We all should know where our next great read is coming from!

Happy Reading.

Mary Jane

PS Happy Valentine's Day 🍷

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

March 21 - Daytime Group
The Dictionary of Lost Words by Pip Williams

March 29 - Evening Group
Florence Adler Swims Forever by Rachel Beanland

All books through June are listed on our website capemay-nj.aauw.net under Activities – Book Groups

AAUW Public Policy

tbasquez_86@hotmail.com

The Public Policy page of AAUW of New Jersey provides a link to LegiScan, a tool that provides an up-to-date snapshot of pending national legislation and pending bills in all fifty states. The link provided below defaults to pending New Jersey legislation. The page has a feature that allows a searcher to select a particular state, the US Congress, or to search on a

bill number or text phrase. It is a free public service for individuals monitoring their home state and Congress, with expanded professional services available. Nice to know this tool is out there!

AAUW-NJ Public Policy Page:

<https://aauw-nj.aauw.net/public-policy/nj/>

Link to LegiScan:

<https://legiscan.com/NJ/pending/assembly-state-local-government-committee/id/3085>

Trivia: While browsing the site, I learned that North Dakota is the only state that does not have voter registration!

EVENT CALENDAR

Tuesday, February 21 Daytime Book Club

Tuesday, February 28 Evening Book Club

Tuesday, March 21 Daytime Book Club

Wednesday, March 29 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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