

# 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.

## MARCH 2023 Newsletter



### President's Corner

Hello everyone,

It's going to be a busy spring this year. Besides our usual spring board meeting and fun excursions, we have several other activities coming up.

We have been invited to participate again in the Annual Luncheon and Fashion Show hosted by the Cape Women's Resource Fund. The luncheon is June 4<sup>th</sup>, so we will have plenty of time to create 10 baskets for the silent auction.

Also, Karen Weis has asked us to help in a joint project with her new AAUW club, the Summit College Club. They hold a huge book sale every spring (this year on April 23) and don't always know what to do with the leftover books. We will coordinate with the organization, Books Behind Bars, and deliver some of these leftover books. Please consider helping in these activities. More information will be available next month.

Thanks,  
Chris Rohrman  
President of Cape May County AAUW

## Coming soon... **Hats Off to the Wildwoods Fashion Show and Luncheon**

Sunday, June 4



---

## TWEEN TECH 2023

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

Three more volunteers are needed to support Tween Tech, a one-day interactive STEM program at Stockton University on March 17 for middle-school girls to promote understanding of careers in the sciences. Volunteers are needed to chaperone the girls to and from workshops and events. Come spend the day - arrive between 8:00-8:45 am and depart about 2:00 pm - and attend some really interesting workshops with the girls. Without your support, this event would not be possible, and your presence is greatly appreciated. The added benefit is - it's fun!

Theresa Basquez

## EVENT

For those who would like to see the historic Flanders Hotel and join us for lunch before our program:

Upcoming program of tours of the Ocean City Historical Museum and the Ocean City Arts Center on Thursday, March 16:

11:30am - Lunch at Emily's Ocean Room Restaurant in the historic Flanders Hotel at 719 E. 11th Street, Ocean City, NJ 08226

(1st floor easily accessible) - order from the breakfast or lunch menu, individual checks

1:00pm - 2:00pm - Meet at the Ocean City Historical Museum for a guided tour (ramp at Simpson Ave. entrance)

2:00pm - 3:00pm - Tour the Ocean City Arts Center (above the museum- elevator available) "Centering" Symbolic imagery on clay plates by Elizabeth Ohlson will be the featured exhibit.

Looking forward to this event and hope that many of you can attend.

Please RSVP to Joan Vicari if you are coming lunch, the tours, or both.

[jbvicari@yahoo.com](mailto:jbvicari@yahoo.com) or 609-553-5470

---

## BOOK NOOK

Greetings Fellow Readers,

Spring is in the air! Happy St. Patrick's Day to all of you of Irish heritage and to all that are Irish for a day!

May your pockets be heavy

And your heart be light.

May good luck pursue you

Each morning and night.

- Irish Blessing

This month I have poetry on my mind. In the past our book groups have had two discussions which focused on poetry. The first was way back in the early 2000s when Rae Louise Porch, one of our members and an accomplished poet, led us in a general discussion about poetry and shared some of her own poems.

Our present membership includes a published poet, Meredith Trede. In 2016 one of her books, *Tenement Threnody*, was published. Her poems took us back to a time when many of us were young and brings back memories of growing up in neighborhoods where everyone knew each other. Meredith graciously led a discussion for us at Castaways. Over lunch she talked about the inspirations for her poems, read several, and answered our many questions.

This year, 2023. Meredith has published a new book of poems, *Bringing Back the House*. It is a collection of memories about the family house in Wildwood where she spent many of her childhood summers. Meredith and her husband, Brad, have restored the house and spend their time between Wildwood and New York City. Whenever they can, they join our Evening Book Group discussions.

As many of you know, I am not a big fan of poetry. I enjoy the rhyme and rhythm of Poe's verses such as "The Raven" and "Annabel Lee". I enjoy some of Frost, especially "Stopping by the Woods" and some narrative poems like Longfellow's "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere". But most poetry doesn't "grab" me like a good novel.

When Meredith sent an email about her new book I purchased a copy mainly to support her as one of our AAUW members. I read through it in one sitting. Let me tell you, I loved it! Somehow it just resonated with me. It took me back to some of my own childhood trips

"down the shore". I could picture Uncle Joe and Aunt Louise. I wanted to know more about them.

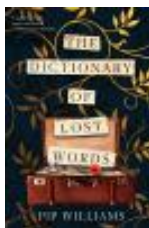
I emailed Meredith about my reactions and asked her if she ever thought about writing a novel. She replied that she has tried prose and writing short stories but they always turn into poems! She has a website, [www.meredithrede.com](http://www.meredithrede.com), where you can read more about her poems. I'm hoping that she and Brad will be able to lead an Evening Book Group discussion featuring *Bringing Back the House* for our 2023-24 season.

Happy Reading

PS If anyone would like to write a Book Nook column about reading and enjoying poetry, please let me know. I know I would enjoy learning more about poetry and I suspect many of you would also.

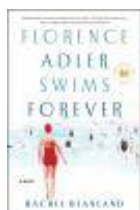
Cheers,  
Mary Jane

## MARCH BOOKS



*The Dictionary of Lost Words* by Pip Williams

We will meet on **Tuesday, March 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.



*Florence Adler Swims Forever* by Rachel Beanland

We will meet on **Wednesday, March 29** 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.

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

April 18 - Daytime Group  
*Out of Darkness* by Ashley Hope Perez

April 26 - Evening Group  
*Salt to the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys

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

## AAUW Public Policy

tbasquez\_86@hotmail.com

**An excerpt from *Here's where salary transparency laws are gaining steam in the U.S.* MSNBC article by Gloria Blackwell:**

“This year, salary transparency laws went into effect in California and Washington state, requiring companies with 15 or more employees to post pay ranges in all job posting and to provide that information to any employee who seeks it out. This comes on the heels of a similar law adopted in New York City last fall (and the state, slated for this fall), which mandates salary-range disclosure for employers with more than four workers. (Colorado led this trend, adopting a pay transparency requirement in 2019.) Clearly, the momentum toward transparency is building, and we're likely to see more cities and states follow suit in the months and years ahead.

These new laws are formalizing a trend that's been percolating among younger workers for quite some time. When millennials began moving into the

workforce a decade or so ago, the taboo around sharing salary info began to fade. This generation—a cohort accustomed to freely sharing details of their lives – felt perfectly comfortable discussing their paychecks on their runs to the coffee shop. They circulated spreadsheets on social media encouraging workers in different professions to disclose how much (or little!) they earned. They used that information to negotiate pay raises or at least to feel confident they weren't underpaid.

Though this can all seem a little jarring for anyone who came of age when salary info was secret, the fact is that this openness can be a key component of ending discriminatory wage practices.”

<https://www.msnbc.com/know-your-value/business-culture/salary-transparency-laws-are-picking-steam-u-s-n1302638>

## EVENT CALENDAR

**Tuesday, March 21** Daytime Book Club

**Wednesday, March 29** Evening Book Club

**Tuesday, April 18** Daytime Book Club

**Wednesday, April 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.

### Acknowledgements:

From Chris Dewaghe in honor of her dear friend Nancy Wottrick MacNaught who recently passed. Nancy was a great activist for the environment.

<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!

President  
Chris Rohrman

Vice President

Secretary  
Sandy Sieber

Treasurer  
Barbara Heinrichs

Book Groups  
Mary Jane Slugg  
Joan Vicari

Fund Raising  
Chris Rohrman

Historian

Membership  
Mary Jane Slugg

Newsletter  
Barbara Heinrichs

Programs  
Joan Vicari

Public Policy  
Theresa Basquez

Public Relations

Scholarship  
Sandy Sieber

STEM Coordinator  
Theresa Basquez