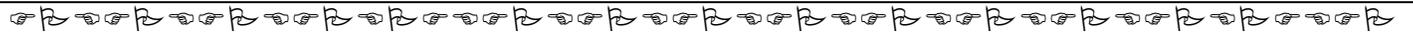


AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN MADISON BRANCH

Co-Presidents: Susan Mennella & Berly Morgan Editor: Judy Vernon



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Website: <http://AAUWMadisonnj.org>



A Message from our Co-Presidents

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Greetings AAUW Madison members! The holidays are already here and we are excited for our upcoming program year! First, we would like to thank Carol Simon Levin for her women's suffrage program this month and thank every who attended including our hospitality committee that made it a special and delicious evening.

In program news, Berly attended the Work Smart workshop on Salary Negotiation presented by the Summit College Club on November 18th. It was a very informative evening and we are committed to help closing the pay gap for women entering the workforce as well as those already working. Women need to know their value and their worth!

If you know anyone who would benefit from this ground breaking AAUW program we are having our own workshop this March and you can also

visit salary.aauw.org.

Please do not forget to join us for our holiday lunch bunch Dec 16. If you have not signed up please do so now. We are looking forward to celebrating the holidays and sharing AAUW news with current members and many new members!

Wishing you and your family a wonderful holiday

Susan and Berly

Programs & Events

**UPCOMING
MEETINGS &
EVENTS**

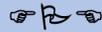
- Board Meeting
01/20/2020
- Book Group
12/11/2019
01/08/2020
- **Holiday Lunch
Bunch
12/16/2019**
- Mahjongg
12/09/2019
01/13/2020
01/27/2020
- Stitch 'n Chat
01/30/2020

We have several great programs planned for 2020 and hope that they are already marked on your calendar. Our interest groups are also active and look forward to many new participants; remember you do not need to "stitch" just come to "chat" and you do not need to know how to play mahjongg, just be willing to learn and enjoy, we all need to eat, so once a month plan to have lunch with us. Last but not least if you like to read, join the book group meeting for a lively discussion at the Madison Public Library. Interest Group schedule is published on page 2 of the newsletter.

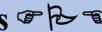
We will start off the year with an afternoon event on January 6th, 2020, at 1:30 PM. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Anne Gepford Mocko. She grew up in Madison and is the daughter of our member Marsha Gepford. Anne graduated from Madison High School in 1998 and The College of William and Mary in Virginia in 2002. She received both an M.A. and PhD from the University of Chicago Divinity School specializing in South Asian Religions. She is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Religion at Concordia College, Moorhead Minnesota. She has done extensive fieldwork in Nepal, India and Sri Lanka and has published numerous academic articles as well as her first book "Demoting Vishnu." She is currently working on her next book.

Prof. Mocko will share stories and pictures from her fieldwork in India, talk about how spending time with members of the Jain community changed her understanding of human impacts on the world, and read selected excerpts from her forthcoming book *Eco-Karma*.

Send information including directory updates to jpverson@yahoo.com. Input for the newsletter is due the day after the board meeting.



Announcements and Events



The Book Group

All are welcome to join us. **The group meets at 1:30 pm.** Lots of conversation and sharing ideas on the book, author, and its reviews. Come and join us bringing your suggestions for future reads.

December 11 - Madison Library at 1:30 pm
Elsewhere by Robert Russo
January 8 - Madison Library at 1:30 pm
Becoming Mrs. Lewis by Patti Callahan
Note change of day to 2nd Wednesday



Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch meets periodically at a local restaurant at 12:30 pm. Everyone is invited to attend. *Call Judy Vernon no later than the day before the event if you plan to come.* Date, name and location of the restaurant are announced in the newsletter.

See sign up on page 5
Holiday Lunch Bunch December 16, 2019

For reservation and direction call Judy Vernon

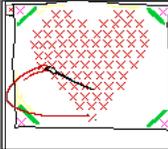


Mahjongg

As always, we are looking for interested members to join. Knowledge of game is NOT required. Having fun is mandatory.

Group meets at 11:30 am on the second Monday of the month at Shirley Mutchler's home. Bring lunch, drinks and sweets are provided.

December 9th, 2019
January 13th, AND 27th, 2020



Stitch and Chat

Stitch and Chat meets from 1 pm to 3 pm at Judy Vernon's home. Stitching is optional, but chatting is required. All dates are announced in the newsletter.

Weather permitting
Please check with Judy
Thursday, January 30th, 2020

For direction call Judy Vernon

Board Meeting

Board meetings are held at Misty Kramer's home, at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Members are welcome to attend.

- 2019** August 19
- September 16
- October 21
- November 18
- 2020** January 20 (snow 1/27)
- February 17 (snow 2/24)
- March 16 (snow 2/23)
- April 20
- May 18
- June 15

Membership Corner

Congratulations to our Co-President, Susan Mennella, for winning the Toastmasters International Area 14 Tall Tales Contest and placing second at the Toastmasters International Division A Tall Tales Contest. Susan is a member of a two Toastmaster clubs – South Street and Real Talk.

Welcome to our newest member Sharon Feinstein.

Admitted to the practice of law in New York and New Jersey, enjoyed practicing in both both states, and now states, and now appreciating retirement. She was attracted to Madison as a walkable and thriving of the active group of women in the AAUW. We are all looking forward to meeting her at the Holiday Lunch Bunch and getting to know her.

Editor's note:

Please send news or announcements about a member (including you) for our Membership Corner column to Marianne or Judy. We like to recognize the accomplishments of our members as well as significant events in their lives.

Community News

SAVE THE DATE! The Summit College Club (an AAUW branch) is celebrating their 100th anniversary with a gala brunch on Sunday April 5 from 12:30 to 3:00 at The Grand Summit Hotel. More details available in early 2020.

Community Arts

The Fairleigh Dickinson University School of the Arts will present its annual Winter Festival Concert on **Monday, December 9th, at 7:30 PM.**

Like previous concerts, this year's will present an extremely varied program of classical, contemporary, and holiday music. It will again feature FDU's music faculty, the FDU Chorus, the FDU Chamber Choir, and the FDU Band. The faculty performing will include Steve Girardi, our guitar teacher; Peter Toth, our piano teacher; Elzbieta Winnicki, our violin teacher; Patty Gonsky, our new cello teacher; Kevin Brown, our bass teacher; Jane Seaman and Mariana Karpatova, two of our voice teachers; and Dr. Allen Cohen on piano.

As in previous years, this year's concert will be in Dreyfuss Theater on the Florham campus. Admission is \$5 (students free with ID).

Branch History

Episode IX –The Nineties

“The decade of the 1990s...saw our branch still facing problems of the past: struggling to recruit new (and younger) members, develop programs interesting and varied enough to get current members to attend and at the same time attract the outside public, effectively fundraise for substantial scholarships, contributions to EF ad LAF, and keep our name and mission in the public eye.”

Highlights of the decade:

In 1999 we celebrated our 70th anniversary at the Park Avenue Club. It was also the year the branch went on the Internet.

We celebrated our members with particular note of Ruth Churchill's 100 birthday. This Honorary Life Member was the author of “Memories Entwined with Roses,” a book of personal essays published in 1984. Barbara Brack and Sheri Anderson were recognized at the AAUW-NJ Convention as up and coming leaders. In 1996 branch member Linda Adams won the AAUW-NJ Women as Agent of Change award. Kathleen Magill was invited to serve on the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund in 1993. The same year the branch received a state award for a 12% increase in membership.

The Book Sale took on a new look with “mini book sales” held at Kathleen Magill's home in 1990 and at Ginny Schulze-Johnson's home in 1991, coordinated by Jeanne Eisele and Angela Stuehler. By 1999 the book sale grossed \$3,100 which allowed for an increase in the branch's local grants program.

Other fundraising activities included selling Foodtown vouchers to members, a fashion jewelry demonstration and

Branch History continued

sale at Shirley Mutchler's home, a Saks 5th Avenue fashion show and buffet dinner and a deluxe trip to Atlantic City. In 1997 the branch donated \$1,072 to the Education Foundation.

In 1996 member Terry Hyland was working with Drew international students. She suggested that members “host” some of the students.

The Interest Groups included arts and crafts, German conversation, afternoon and evening reading groups, round robin bridge, mixed media and gourmet.

Programming was strong with branch meetings focusing on topics such as “Expand Your Horizons-Girls in Math & Science,” home schooling breast cancer awareness, “How to Talk to Your Doctor,” domestic violence, “Earthwatch-Orangutans Borneo.” Members attended “Strong Families, Strong Schools,” a conference with Ann Richards, former Texas Governor.

We expanded our social programs with a trip to Waverly Home Decorators to learn decorating ideas, a trip to Frederic Church's home and the Fire Fighting Museum in the Hudson River Valley as well as luncheons and movie evenings.

Cultural programs were featured including a backstage tour of the NJ Shakespeare Festival, talks on “200 years of American Painting,” “Dining in the 19th Century,” and “Women & Silk – the History of Textiles from China to Paterson, NJ.” “We were treated to a poetry reading by the author, a noted Madison Folk Artist, Janice Fenimore (Jeanne Eisele's mom) and an interbranch meeting with speaker Kent Manahan – TV's NJ Nightly News anchor.” The December meetings usually featured music and were held at Acorn Hall, Macculloch Hall and other festive locations.

When President George H. W. Bush vetoed the Civil Rights Act that most members of Congress had voted for, AAUW asked members to thank their representatives for their “yes” votes. Judge Clarence Thomas' nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court was opposed by AAUW.

“AAUW's research report *How Schools Shortchange Girls* showed that girls were discouraged by teachers, parents, texts, and counselors from pursuing math and science. Their report, *Shortchanging Girls, Shortchanging America – A Call to Action*, confirmed gender inequity in education AAUW also lobbied to support the Gender Inequity in Education Act. Dr. Lawrence Feinsod, Superintendent of Madison Schools, distributed AAUW's report, *Hostile Hallways* throughout the district to all Madison teachers...”

Nancy Adamczyk

November 2019

Tech Trek Volunteers NEEDED

Everyone who attended the Pot Luck would agree that one of the highlights of the evening was hearing the **Tech Trek** campers and their parents talk about how worthwhile this camp is. The camp is completely run by volunteers and it is a huge commitment. The Atlantic and Cape May branches organize the camp but other help is needed. **To run the camp in 2020 AAUW NJ has requested that each branch commit to the items to the right, which the Madison Board reviewed and discussed at its October meeting.**

Our branch already fulfills many of the needs; we have volunteers who conduct the interviews and Beth has participated every year in the Professional Women's Forum. Beth and Judy can tell you firsthand how appreciated and needed this camp is. **We are very fortunate that Beth has volunteered to cover responsibility #2 – staying at the camp and helping for the week. The purpose of this note is to identify ALL who are interested to provide additional support to ensure the continuation of this very worthwhile and necessary program. Since we are able to fulfill all the requirements the board will be making this commitment to AAUW NJ. However, we would like to have another volunteer or volunteers who could stay at the camp for either all or part of the time, July 26, to August 1, 2020.**

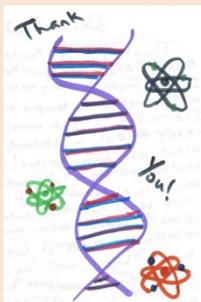
Please review the responsibilities in the column to the right and contact Judy Vernon 973 455 0427 if you would like to volunteer for any item noted or to ask additional questions about the program. More information is available by visiting www.aauwnj.org or www.aauw.org.

Branch Commitments:

The Tech Trek planning Team needs each branch that sends girls in their communities to commit to the following:

1. Select an interview Chair for your branch/county/area (can be combined branches and/or chairs). County Chair(s) will:
 - a. Recruit volunteers to conduct interviews including supporting the nominees through the process of providing follow up with schools, teachers, and parents to ensure paperwork is submitted by deadlines.
 - b. Maintain parent contact information for future meetings and camper appearances. Notification of requests and interactions with campers will be made to the Tech Trek leadership Team before campers/parents are contacted in accordance with POM.
2. Provide at least one volunteer during camp week to help with daily needs. This includes day counselors and dorm moms. We provide overnight accommodations and meals for all volunteers. Also, we always need help "packing out" camp on the last day, which will be Saturday, August 1, 2020.
3. Provide monetary support through one of the following:
 - a. Branch Fundraiser
 - b. Writing a grant; for example, an AAUW Community Grant, NJ Charitable Trust, businesses/organizations. We provide templates and boilerplate text.
 - c. Donations to the AAUW NJ Charitable Trust
4. Provide any additional support a camper from your area may need. Examples: helping to coordinate transportation, lending a sleeping bag, camp supplies or other expenses.

Dear Tech Trek Supporter,



Thank you for funding this amazing experience that has forever changed the way I look at the world. I have made so many new friends. I loved the workshops that taught me all about everyday materials and showed me that there is more to them than what meets the eye. I learned about technology that I didn't even know existed! Speaking of technology, the whole week we didn't have our phones. I(t) allowed us to socialize a lot more and get to meet new people and learn about their lives a lot more than we would have if they hadn't taken away the phones. The staff constantly kept us busy and we always had something to do. There was never a dull moment. Professional women's night showed us that we could be whatever we wanted when we get older with perseverance (sp). I am forever grateful!

Sincerely, Kelly G.

Editor's Note: Above text was typed as written by the student as the scanned copy was illegible