

The Advance

The Bulletin of the Greater Wayne Area Branch of the AAUW



Volume O No.4

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUWGreaterWayneArea/>

January-February 2021

AAUW GREATER WAYNE AREA BRANCH PURPOSE

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.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Happy New Year!

And so looking forward to 2021 during which, hopefully, we will be able to meet and "see" one another.

During this past year we were introduced to two new interest groups--Cooking and Current Events. Both have gotten off to rousing successes with active members. Both were the brain children of Joan London, our Program Coordinator. Joan is investigating starting two additional interest groups--volunteerism and women's issues. See more in her article on page 2.

And Lunch Bunch took on a life of its own once we had discovered the gazebo at Barbour Pond in Wayne. We were just so glad to be able to see one another.

The Cultural Events interest group was introduced by Merrill Crowell and our first trip to the Franklin Lakes Nature Preserve on a beautiful day, was just a taste of things to come.

During the year we exercised to an introductory Body & Brain program hosted via Zoom by member, Ann Wheeler.

We have been playing both bridge and Maj jongg on line since March. Bridge is played on Monday and Wednesday and Maj jongg on Tuesday. Please give me a call if you would like to join us 973-839-4626.

The Scholarship Committee, on behalf of the Branch, awarded two college scholarships which were presented to the recipients during a Zoom meeting.

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CALENDAR

| | |
|--------|---|
| Jan 14 | Laurelwood Arboretum tour 1:00 Snow dates February 11 or 18. |
| Jan 20 | General Meeting Zoom 4:00 |
| Jan 22 | Current Events Zoom 1:00 |
| Jan 28 | Lit Group Zoom 7:00 |
| | <i>Coming up...</i> |
| Feb 19 | Current Events 1:00 |
| Feb 25 | Lit Group Zoom 7:00 |

GWA SLATE of OFFICERS 2020-21

ELECTED OFFICERS

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| <i>President</i> | Ruth Liston |
| <i>Treasurer/Finance</i> | Ann Raynor |
| <i>Secretary</i> | Dorothy Quinn |
| <i>Membership VP</i> | Ruth Liston |
| <i>Program VP (Chairs)</i> | Joan London, Ada Liggett, Esther Flower |

APPOINTED OFFICERS

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <i>Cultural Event</i> | Merrill Crowell |
| <i>Diversity & Inclusion</i> | Beth Marmolejos |
| <i>Fundraising</i> | Lorraine LaShell |
| <i>Parliamentarian</i> | Bea Kettlewood |
| <i>Media: Print</i> | Abby Schwartz |
| <i>Media: Online</i> | Ann Raynor |
| <i>Scholarship</i> | Lorraine LaShell, Marianne Ritter |
| <i>Social Concerns</i> | Diane Ricart, Ada Liggett |
| <i>Sunshine</i> | Ada Liggett, Donna Persh |
| <i>The Advance</i> | Peggy Gardner; Member Profiles Dorothy Quinn |

I want to take this opportunity to thank Carol Brown for her tenure as president and wish her better health as she winters in Florida. And to thank Stella Hyman for all of her work through the years, especially her tenure as Treasurer. We wish Stella renewed health as she takes an hiatus.

Good health to all of you.

Ruth Liston

PROPOSED NEW GROUPS

Womens' Issues Interest Group

We are considering starting a womens' group which would discuss topics such as:

- what feminine trait do you value most
- what qualities do you look for in a friend
- in what ways do you consider yourself creative

The topics and day and time of the monthly meetings, would be decided by the participants. Zoom or in person meetings would be determined by the weather.

If interested, contact Joan London

PROGRAM

The December social, held on zoom was lots of fun. 20 people submitted pictures of themselves from 40 years ago and we had to guess who they were. Some were easy (some people never change) and others were stumpers. It was great seeing what we all looked like so many years ago.

On January 20th, on zoom, Beverly Margolis will describe her family's journey, from Germany, during the Holocaust.

In March, we are going to have a virtual scavenger hunt. More information to follow.

Plans for the spring are on hold since it is uncertain if we can meet in person in April or May for a luncheon or dinner.

Joan London Ada Liggett Esther Flower

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Throughout my retirement I have participated in numerous volunteer activities. They have provided me with a sense of accomplishment and an opportunity to "give back." I am proposing our AAUW branch initiate a volunteer arm with activities to suit a variety of needs and interests. Nothing will happen until Covid is resolved.

Before I investigate specific activities, I need to know if you are interested in participating. Here is a partial list of opportunities:

- **AARP in Wayne**
shopping for an infirm/older neighbor
hospice in a home
- **Library literacy volunteer**
ESL tutor
book sales
- **Working in the schools**
- **Laurelwood Arboretum**
outdoor - gardening, tour guide
indoor - greenhouse, marketing,
- **Cedar Crest**
teach a class with your particular expertise
- **Mental Health Association of Passaic County**
community advocate volunteer
fundraising assistant
- **Jersey battered women' services**

If you are interested in one or more of these activities or have other volunteer suggestions, please contact me.

Joan London

COOKING GROUP

In January, the cooking group will be completing a list of hardy, comforting winter meals that are sure to warm you up. Soups, stews, and casseroles. In February, we'll share our secrets as to how we bake with yeast and prepare to have our baking knowledge RISE to new heights! Think rolls, breads, cakes, and buns.

Carolyn Noble

Stella Hyman, Our Branch's Fiercest Advocate for Women

by Dorothy Quinn



Stella took part in the Women's March 2017

Those who know Stella Hyman well, will not be surprised that when she was asked for permission to become a subject for this Advance article, her response was, "Absolutely not! I'm simply not that interesting." That humble response was no surprise. However, to give thanks to a woman who has been

more than generous with her energy, time, enthusiasm and talent dedicated to the GWA Branch of the AAUW for the last 30 years, this article comes as a tribute to her because she is a very interesting woman!

Stella's early and remarkable beginnings started in Poland before WWII. Her family provided the means for her and some family members to escape the clutches of the Nazi's anti-semitic coralling of all Jews. Stella was only six or seven years old at the time and she doesn't remember all the details. Her family's escape did not come via the Atlantic, but the northern route via the Siberian railroad that took all of them to safety in Japan. After a brief stay in Japan, the family made connections with other aunts and uncles in New York City where Stella came to grow up. This arduous journey of many miles, through many cultures must have had a lasting impact on the fortitude and the resilience that Stella exhibits. When questioned, her response was 'that it was just something we had to do, so we didn't think about it - we just did it.'

Education was a priority for her family and that continues to influence Stella's actions to this day. Stella's initial desire was to study art and her home demonstrates that love in the different artifacts she has collected from world travels. However, she calculated (which Stella does often and very well) that she could make more money in the sciences. She was educated in New York at

Syracuse for a BS in Physics, at Columbia for an MA in Physics and at NYU for an MS in Mathematics. While achieving these educational milestones, she married and started a family, a daughter named Michelle. Stella's first career was as an electrical engineer for ITT. After a long and successful career as a mathematics professor at William Paterson University, Stella retired.

Retirement is not a word that can be associated with Stella. Besides being a very active member of the League of Women Voters, Stella has served the GWA Branch wearing so many hats! Both organizations fed Stella's passion to give women a voice! Whether it was through representation at the ballot box or fostering a path for women through education, Stella was fierce!

Stella was an energetic part of the branch's early history of fundraising for scholarships. She was always an interesting contributor to the Lit Group, and for years held the roundtable discussion in deciding which books would be selected for the upcoming year. Again, in an effort to give opportunity to young girls in the field of math and science, her passion, she was an interviewer for selecting promising young teens to participate in AAUW's successful camp program, Tech Trek at Georgian Court University. To continue her promotion for young women in the field of math and sciences, Stella assisted AAUW organizers for Teen Tech, a program for high school girls at Montclair University.

But what Stella will most be revered for is her tenacity and accuracy in keeping the books as Treasurer for the branch for nearly two decades. A smile comes to most members as they recall a call from Stella as a friendly reminder to "pay up" for dues or dinners.

Besides this swarm of activity and commitment, she made time for vigilant exercise at Spa 23 and in her own home gym. She also was an avid gardener and often called members to meet her for lunch with

continued on next page

interesting conversation as dessert.

Unfortunately, Stella's energy and vitality is waning and she has resigned as Treasurer for our Branch. Her service will be sorely missed, but her friendship is still available to all of us. This woman never dwelt in the past and those details to most are unknown. A bit troubled by her future, something she never dwelled upon either, but those who know Stella are

confident that she will make a difference no matter where she resides. This is one INTERESTING WOMAN!

Stella designed the AAUW display for the Library case at William Paterson



FUNDRAISING for SCHOLARSHIPS

Lorraine LaShell

■ Remembrance and Birthday Donation Cards

Thank you to everyone who purchased Remembrance or Holiday cards this past year. I am happy to report that, in the short while our branch has been offering the donation cards, we have earned \$360 for the Scholarship Fund! As we move forward in 2021 we are adding a Happy Birthday version at the request of several members. Once again Peggy has used her artistic and creative skills to come up with a unique version of the cards just for birthday remembrances.

■ Individual Remembrance Cards

Send a check made out to AAUW GWA with your donation (\$10 minimum; amount will not be disclosed) to Lorraine LaShell. Include the name and address of the party to receive the card and the reason for the donation (In Honor Of, In Memory Of, Get Well, Happy Birthday).

■ Remembrance Card Packets

Have cards on hand to send at your convenience by purchasing Remembrance card packets. Each packet will contain five (5) cards and cost \$25 per packet. When you send out a card, notify Lorraine as to the recipient's name and the purpose of the card.

■ Order Form

Fill out the order form in this issue and send it to Lorraine with your check made out to AAUW GWA. You may also order by sending Lorraine an email including all the information from the Order Form. Then send a check via mail or online banking to Lorraine. Take advantage today of this new initiative as a way to support the scholarship fund while expressing your sympathy, congratulations or birthday wishes to family and friends.

The Order Form in this issue can be used to purchase the packets or individual cards. As the form indicates, when an individual card is purchased, the appropriate information needs to be sent to Lorraine so that she can mail the card to the intended recipient. If you need help with your order, contact Lorraine.



Remembrance Donations

- Ruth Liston in Memory of David Holberg
- Ada Liggett in Memory of Lucy Allen Seberg
- Bea Kettlewood in Memory of Mae Reinstra
- Bea Kettlewood in Memory of Patricia Hellyer
- Bea Kettlewood in Memory of Ruth Worden
- Ruth Liston in Celebration of Alexandra & Frank Krivanka on the occasion of their wedding
- Abby Schwartz in Honor of the 25th Anniversary of daughter and son-in-law Sara & Mitchell Chwatt
- Marianne Ritter in Honor of daughter Amy Ritter Whited getting her Master of Public Administration from University of Colorado
- Marlys Huss Holiday Greetings to Florence Lederman
- Marlys Huss Holiday Greetings to John & Katharine Daly
- Lorraine LaShell Holiday Greetings to Cheryl Naclerio, England; Catherine McAllister NY; Dr. and Margaret Szalay, PA; Lucine & Louis Kovacs, MA; Loretta & Jack Looney, NJ

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Recently our member, Marlys Huss, was approached by her neighbor (the founder of Grandma's Place) requesting AAUW to provide 20 small gift bags with toiletry items for the families living there. Grandma's Place in Clifton assists homeless families with children to transition them to living independently. Each year we try to provide items they need as part of our holiday giving.

With fast action and a budget, AAUW presented the gift bags to Grandma's place. How nice to bring smiles to the families staying there!

Ada Liggett & Diane Snyder Ricart
Social Concerns Committee

SCHOLARSHIP 2021

We all have much to be proud of in our Greater Wayne Area branch. At the top of the list each year is our branch awarding undergraduate scholarships to worthy women applicants from Northern New Jersey. For us to continue our scholarship awards in 2021, we need your help. Please donate generously to the Greater Wayne Area scholarship fund.

In December you received a letter from the scholarship team requesting your donation. A big thank you to those members who contributed to the 2021 fund in December. If you have not yet done so, please send your donation by check by January 31 to Lorraine LaShell.

If you have any questions, please contact Lorraine or Marianne Ritter.

A very happy and healthy New Year to you.

Lorraine LaShell & Marianne Ritter
Scholarship co-chairs

CURRENT EVENTS

One of the many committees that our organization hosts is the Current Events Committee which meets monthly to share discussions around topics that are of interest to our members. The topics are chosen by majority vote and usually involve current issues or matters that are relevant to us at the time.

Responding to the racial unrest last summer, the topics revolved around race: slavery, and the many historical and political involvements of our government involving voting rights, etc. Other topics were China and the issues of Hong Kong, falun gong and biography of Madame Chiang Kai-shek and other political figures.

At our December meeting the topic was Climate, a very broad subject. Reports were given about The Green New Deal, fires, especially in National Parks, fracking, pipelines, the dangers of Permafrost and the value of trees to counter negative climate change.

The subject of the January meeting will be Russia

and the topics so far submitted are: biography of Putin; How Russia is winning the climate challenge; the Ukraine; and Russian "mischief: hackers and assassins".

The optimum size of our group is from 6 to 8 members so that speakers might cover their subject with some depth. However, the size of the group could exceed that number and regroup into two, covering the same topic, or another topic altogether.

When the weather and health issues permit, we could have our meetings outdoors as we have done in the past, or continue with our Zoom meetings. The next meeting is on January 22, 2021 at 1pm, but going forward the committee will meet on the third Friday of the month at the same time.

Contact Arline Lowe for more information or to join our group.

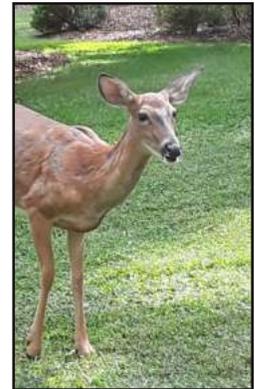
Arline Lowe
Current Events

CULTURAL ARTS

On Jan 14 at 1 pm--meeting in the parking lot--John Crowell will take us on a winter tour of Laurelwood Arboretum in Wayne. The address is: 725 Pines Lake Dr. W, Wayne, NJ 07470. Laurelwood features woodland trails and gardens, wildlife, two ponds, streams and many unusual species of plants and trees. Please be sure you dress for the occasion including adequate footwear. Following is John's description of the tour. Doesn't it sound interesting!!

It's partly what you don't see in the other seasons: bones of trees, bird's nests, berries etc. I'll talk a little about the newly placed sculptures. We can peek into the greenhouses. We will find one shrub variety blooming.

The ponds are being dredged. This is a first time event. The tour should take about forty five minutes. Degree of difficulty: all level surfaces except for one incline. It doesn't make any sense to do this if there is snow on ground: if this is the case, we will reschedule for February 11 or 18.



Photos by Peggy Gardner

MEMBERSHIP BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday

Since the new Membership Listing contains birthdays, I would like to begin a birthday column. The names to be listed this edition:

| | |
|------------------|------|
| Nancy Ferer | 1/10 |
| Lorraine LaShell | 1/25 |
| Maryann Davidson | 2/6 |
| Joan London | 2/8 |
| Dorothy Quinn | 2/13 |
| Ruth Liston | 2/16 |
| Stella Hyman | 2/23 |



Ruth

LITERATURE GROUP

All are welcome.

Please let Win know if you are planning on attending so she can forward you the Zooming information.

Date: Jan. 28, 2021

Book: Dear Edward: A Novel

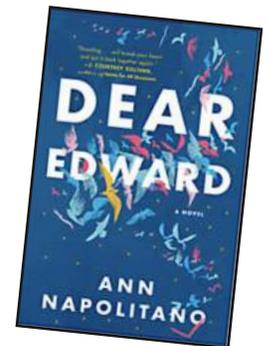
Author: Ann Napolitano

Time: 7:00pm

Date: Feb 25, 2021

Book: TBD

Time: 7:00pm



If any member wishes to be put on the mailing list please contact Win Reinhardt.

BRIDGE



If you are interested in joining us for online bridge or Maj jonn, please give Ruth Liston a call. Bridge meets on Monday 3:00 and Wednesday 1:00 and Maj jonn on Tuesday 2:00. Presently we have two groups playing. Lots of room for more.

Ruth

AAUW GWA SCHOLARSHIP FUND REMEMBRANCE DONATION ORDER FORM

Fill out this order form and send it to Lorraine with your check made out to AAUW GWA. You may also order by sending Lorraine an email including all the information below. Then send a check via mail or online banking to Lorraine LaShell. For help contact Lorraine.

Your name: _____

Your phone number: _____

Your email: _____

Individual Cards (Minimum donation \$10 per card)

Amount of donation: \$ _____

Name of the person to receive the card as an acknowledgment of your donation (please print):

Address of person to receive the card (please print):

Reason for the donation:

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Happy Birthday to _____

Card Sets (Minimum donation \$25 per pack of five cards)

In Honor Of Remembrance Cards _____ (# of sets of five)

In Memory Of Remembrance Cards _____ (# of sets of five)

Happy Birthday Cards _____ (# of sets of five)

Mixed sets _____ (# of sets of five)

Amount enclosed: _____

Thank you for supporting the Scholarship Fund!

AAUW GREATER WAYNE AREA BRANCH

PURPOSE

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.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

VALUE PROMISE

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.



Greater Wayne Area Branch
428 Boulevard
Pompton Plains, NJ 07444

MEMBER TOWNS

Bloomingtondale
Englewood
Kinnelon
Mt. Pleasant, SC
North Haledon
Nutley
Pompton Lakes
Pompton Plains
Teaneck
Wayne
West Milford