

The Advance

The Bulletin of the Greater Wayne Area Branch of the AAUW



Volume Q No.1

<https://www.greaterwaynearea-nj.aauw.net>

September-October 2022

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.



Dear Members,

This is my first letter as president of our Branch. I will try to measure up to past president, Lorraine LaShell, and all the previous presidents who have achieved so much, not only in increasing membership, and scholarship funds, but in the content of what they have delivered. I will give it my "all"!



We are finally, carefully moving away from the Zoom meetings last year that we held due to Covid precautions, and now we are meeting in person when feasible. Let's hope we can continue on this path because we all enjoy each other's company in person. Our interest groups have increased in number and topics that provide appeal and interest to every taste. The only thing lacking might be a PickleBall Tournament! Our fundraising efforts have included very creative efforts, from collecting small change from couches or wallets to having sales of our abandoned costume jewelry. Many of these ideas seemed odd, but were creative and able to increase our scholarship fund, even if on a small scale, and surprising contacts were made that resulted in a substantial grant to our scholarship fund. This year we had three scholarship winners and we hope to be able to do the same next year. Many new ideas for our branch have come from new members who add so much to our collective goals. Our new members have diverse backgrounds and

fresh ideas and will help us achieve our goal of helping women finish or resume their academic goals.

Last year's Walk-A-Thon was the most successful promotion and we look forward to another successful walk this year. We have a lot to look forward to together.

Stay well and keep cool.

Arline Lowe



At the Summer Social Lorraine and Ruth received recognition for their outstanding contributions to our GWA branch.



A wonderful time was had by all at our Summer Social.



Greater Wayne Area Branch Spreads its Wings!

I'm pleased to announce two exciting new developments that will positively impact our branch. We received a \$1000 grant to the Scholarship Fund from Visions Federal Credit Union and we will be making a presentation to the Wayne Rotary on October 12.



Thank You Visions Federal Credit Union

It was fate. Our branch had a table selling accessories at a Music & Marketplace event in Little Falls in June and, although we didn't sell many accessories, we did make a connection with Angela Farina, branch manager of Visions Federal Credit Union in Fairfield. Angela informed us about Visions Cares, a grants and donations program that supports local causes and organizations, and suggested we apply for a grant. We filled out the online application and had a phone interview with Shari Leone, Community Development Liaison based in Union. Shari presented our case to her committee and emailed us that we would receive a \$1000 grant!

Our branch is grateful for the generous gift and hopes to build on its relationship with Visions in the future.

If you are not familiar with the bank, Visions Federal Credit Union was chartered on May 6, 1966. Headquartered in Endwell, NY, it has assets in the

amount of \$3,393,007,124. Its 174,327 members are served from 40 locations. Deposits in Visions Federal Credit Union are insured by NCUA. Visions has 40 locations serving New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. The nearest location in our area is in Fairfield.



Wayne Rotary Gets to Know Us...and We Get to Know the Rotary

On October 12 members of our branch will present to the Wayne Rotary at their lunch meeting held at Vila Verde in Wayne. This will give both our branch and the Rotary an opportunity to get to know each other and explore ways we can support each other.

Our missions are aligned in several ways including service to the community. Rotary members are volunteers who work locally, regionally and internationally to combat hunger, improve health and sanitation, provide education and job training, promote peace under the motto Service Above Self. AAUW is a national organization with international reach and local branches all working to remove bias from education, advocate for fair pay and economic equity and advance leadership for women.

We look forward to exchanging ideas with members of the Wayne Rotary and partnering with them for the benefit of the community.

Lorraine LaShell



Three cheers to our AAUW members for donating supplies and checks to the SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE! At the end of our Summer Social, the collection table was full to overflowing with notebooks, backpacks, markers, etc. It was so exciting to deliver the school supplies to OASIS in Paterson. The supplies filled up a large shopping cart and wheeled inside the building while some school age children smiled and pointed with excitement.

Thank you,
Ada Liggett & Diane Snyder Ricart
Social Concerns Chairpersons





Annual Walk-A-Thon

Please donate to the AAUW Greater Wayne Annual Area Walk-A-Thon which will be held on September 21 (rain date September 22) at Barbour Pond, Wayne, NJ. You can sponsor a member who is walking or simply make a donation to the cause.

The money collected will be used to provide scholarships to women over 25 returning to college. This year the branch awarded three \$2500 scholarships.

All donations must be received by September 19.



Thank you for your support of education for women.

Your donation can change a life.

<http://greaterwaynearea-nj.aauw.net>



What's in the Inflation Reduction Act for Me?

The Inflation Reduction Act recently passed by the Senate and House is a historic bill representing the single biggest climate investment in U.S. history by far. Although there are funds invested in prescription drug pricing, expansion of Medicare benefits, and lowering of health care costs, the largest piece of the pie is dedicated to mitigating the effects of climate change.

While the bill is far from perfect, in that it makes some concessions to the fossil fuel industry in the form of tax credits for carbon capture and sequestration as well as pipeline permits, thus extending the life of the industry and its emissions, the bulk of the climate funding will increase the appetite for the average citizen to curb a climate out of control.

So, using The Act's tax and rebate incentives, you may be eligible for a some of its benefits. If so, you could choose from a variety of incentives that could add up to \$28,500.

Are you in the market for an electric vehicle? You may be eligible for \$7,500 toward the purchase of a new electric vehicle or up to \$4,000 towards the purchase of a used electric vehicle. It is important to note that these credits are not available to those families earning more than \$300,000 per year for new vehicles or \$150,000 per year for used vehicles.

Or, perhaps you are considering rooftop solar. The Act provides for 30% off the cost of solar and home batteries as well.

Thinking about switching to electric appliances? Some examples include electric induction cooktops, electric dryers, upgrades to electric panels and especially heat pumps, with the largest return.

I have been thinking about replacing my outdated exterior doors with energy efficient doors, and that, in addition to windows and other energy efficient home improvements, are also on both the state and

federal rebate and tax incentive tables. Other home improvement examples for your consideration include wiring, home insulation and air sealing.

It is estimated that tax incentives and rebates generated by the many programs within the Inflation Reduction Act will result in families saving an estimated \$1,800 per year in annual

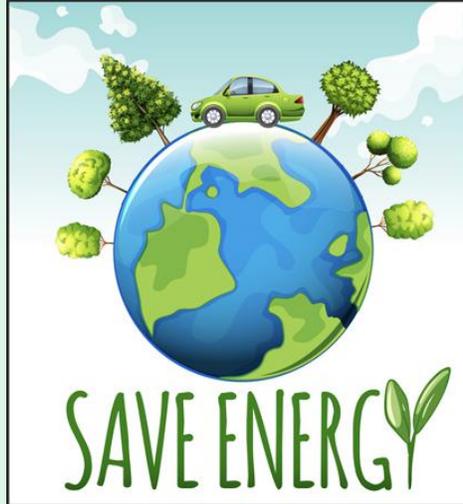
costs of gasoline and utility bills as a result of the increase in

electrification. Nationwide, the average family is projected to spend \$1,025 less in 2030 than it does today.

Also, as a result of electrification, 1.5 million jobs in clean energy would be created. Clean energy investments would improve the health of our nation and save an estimated 3,900 lives annually by 2030 as climate pollution would be reduced to 40 percent below 2005 peak levels by 2030.

I encourage you to read into some of the benefits of this legislation which is far reaching and too complicated to include in this short article. My hope, however, is that it will encourage you to increase your thirst for some of the incentives and tax breaks available to you. It will no doubt prove beneficial to you and, most importantly, the generations that follow in your footsteps. You may not be here to have future generations thank you for your contribution to the only home we know but, with more awareness of the steps that must be taken to insure the future, at least they will.

Barbara Stomber
Environment Issue Chair





As of September 1, we have 44 registered and paid-up members in the Greater Wayne Area Branch of AAUW. We continue to grow with Sandi Lazzara, a friend of Linda Nardone, having joined us on July 21. Many of us met Sandi at the Summer Social along with meeting our second newest member, Ann Sheridan, for the first time. You will see Ann's lunch review in this Advance.

When we do our presentation to the Rotary in October my Membership piece will be presented as though it were a football game with me as quarterback and with all of you as the ball receivers. For as much as I am the Chair and

receive the credit, much of our success rests with all of you being the receivers/welcomers in that you/ receive/reach out to all the incoming women.

Ten new members joined us in the last eighteen months, all of whom have participated in at least one event. If you know someone who is eligible and would find our group fun and believe in our mission, let me know. Thank you all for spreading the news!!!

Ruth Liston
Membership Chair



Our group met on May 20th to discuss Ukraine. This was the first Current Events meeting that I would lead and host. It was a very lively discussion. Elaine K spoke of Ukraine's economy, of steel and iron ore and the cornerstone of the economy, grain. Lorraine spoke of the rapid rise of President Zelensky. Ruth's topic was the different religions in Ukraine. Joan offered information about the current happenings in the Donbas region and Barbara told us about the Russian mini-state of Transnistria. Before the meeting started, we decided to limit our talks to 10-12 minutes, offering only the most salient points. This approach seems to be working well.

The next meeting on June 17th was about the Supreme Court. Elaine K spoke about Chief Justice Roberts, and had some personal knowledge she shared with us, which always enhances the topic. Justice Thomas, whose wife was in the news lately, was Ada's choice. Arline's most interesting topic was Chief Justice Warren Burger and the Second Amendment.

Linda spoke about the Shelby v Holder decision. And my topic was Samuel Alito, who wrote the decision



Justice Samuel Alito wrote the decision to overturn Roe v. Wade

to overturn Roe v Wade.

The July 15 meeting was cancelled due to a COVID exposure so we took up introducing some of the possible GOP candidates for the 2024 Presidential race on August 19. Larry Hogan, Nikki Haley, Ron DeSantis and Tim Scott were covered. Our discussion might just give us a glimpse into the future.

Our next meeting will take place on September 16th, 1pm usual time, at Barbara Stomber's home, 101 Kiwanis Rd, Wayne. At our last meeting, we chose "Education" as our next topic, with each presenter focusing on one aspect of the topic. For instance, I intend to research how critical race theory and "wokeness" are affecting education.

Future meetings will return to picking a Democratic candidate for the 2024 Presidency, and perhaps a Time Capsule can hold our guesses of who might win. We also explored the idea of veering away from things political and choosing other topics that are just "Current and Eventful".

I'm always amazed by the work and time that each presenter gives to each topic. The end result, every time, is very impressive.

Mary Querrazzi
Current Events Discussion Group Chair



Fundraising is at the heart of our organization. Providing scholarships to women who wish to return to college can only be accomplished if our members support this goal. All of you have stepped up and provided this support. I feel very fortunate to be part of this committed group.

In June, two events were held.

■ **Dine Around Restaurant Month**

Each week in June a different restaurant was selected and AAUW members as well as their family and friends dined at the designated restaurant. This format allowed people to try different eateries and offered a weekly opportunity to support our scholarship efforts. Members liked having this event for the entire month and enjoyed trying new places.

Of particular note was the generosity of Monica's in Pompton Lakes. Not only did the owner, Atila, give us a 20% rebate, he more than doubled the agreed upon contribution. A big THANK YOU to him. We will be back!!!

■ **Marketplace and Music**

We set up our accessory sale at the Little Falls event on June 30. While it was only minimally financially successful, we established two contacts that were very important. One was with Visions Credit Union and the other with the sponsor of the Little Falls event. See Lorraine's Community Outreach article for more info about this.

■ **Walk-A-Thon**

This year the Walk-A-Thon will be held on September 21 (rain date September 22) at Barbour Pond in Wayne. AAUW members are asked to solicit sponsors. In addition to paper checks, Venmo has been added as a means of collecting donations. After the walk, lunch will be provided at the gazebo followed by the first general meeting of the year. The walk will begin at 11 and lunch served at 12. Please let me know by September 10 if you will be walking and/or attending the lunch and meeting so I can include you in the planning.

Last year, this event raised \$3000 for scholarships. With you assistance, we can do as well, if not better this year.

■ **Thank You Party**

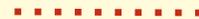
A new event is scheduled for October 7.

I am very aware of the contributions all have made to support our scholarship efforts. In addition to responding to the annual ASK letter in January, many have participated in Restaurant Month and the Walk-A-Thon. And many have personally helped or offered to help at various events.

This Thank You party is a recognition of your contributions. There will be delicious light refreshments and drinks served. A formal invitation will be sent by email. The party will be held at Linda Nardone's home, 28 Pelham Road, Wayne, from 3-5. PM. Come celebrate your efforts and our successes!

■ **Donation Cards**

Please don't forget to use donation cards as a means of recognizing life events. Individual cards can be purchased for a \$10 donation. Packets of five cards cost \$25. Call or email Lorraine LaShell with your requests. Include the name and address of the individual receiving the card as well as the reason and amount of the donation. Checks can be mailed to Lorraine. Since greeting cards have become so expensive, using this vehicle to recognize someone, is cost effective and helps our organization.



Note: Thank you to everyone who purchased donations cards to send to Peggy Gardner in memory of her husband, Brian. Donations totaled \$325.



I am always open to considering additional activities. If you have a fundraising idea, I would love to hear from you.

Joan London
Fundraising Chair



Potential Mentorship Program between AAUW members and William Paterson University

In exploring ways to bring new members into the AAUW Greater Wayne Branch, a suggestion was made to create a partnership of sorts with local colleges and our branch by creating a mentorship program. Our members, professionals coming from all walks of life, are an untapped army of knowledge and wisdom. What better way to share their life experiences than by mentoring a soon to be college/university graduate?

It is with this goal in mind that I contacted William Paterson University and happily found such a mentorship program already in progress.

These are the guidelines they shared with me:

- Be a local WPU alumni, community member, WPU adjunct professor or WPU business partner.
- Have a minimum of five years professional work experience and a bachelor's degree.
- Possess a strong interest in helping a William Paterson University student with career decision making and professional development.
- Commit to serve as a mentor for a minimum of

one academic year (two semesters).

- Commit to meeting with your mentee at least once per month. This can be in-person, by Skype, email, or phone.
- Must be willing to participate in one mentor/mentee program each semester.
- Must be willing to undergo a background check and complete a brief phone interview.
- Must be willing to communicate progress and update program coordinator.

If there is a solid interest with present AAUW members to continue developing this program I ask them to contact me. I will then report back to WPU and continue onto the next step.

A spokesperson is willing to make a presentation if there is an interest.

I thank you all in advance for your consideration of this proposal.

Respectfully submitted,

Arlene Sullivan
Public Policy Chairperson



September

Abby Schwartz	5
Marianne Ritter	29

October

Joan Hahn	19
Mary Querrazzi	20
Elaine Dolsky	21
Dot Anton	25
Karen Wertheimer	27
Peggy Gardner	31



The Culinary Group will meet on Friday, Sept. 23 on Carolyn Noble's deck. Time to be determined.

Since inflation is exacting a toll on all of us, the group will share organic food products and discuss how to make wise purchases. Please let me know if you plan on attending.

Carolyn Noble
Culinary Group Chair

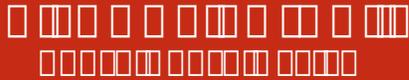


The online and in-person games of bridge and maj jongg are continuing. All are welcome; just let me know if you would like to be included.

Also if there is any interest in reviving a game day/night activity, also let me know. I know in the past there had been a group who met on Friday evenings to play any and all of types of games.

Call or email me with any requests.

Ruth Liston



On Thursday August 11, eleven AAUW members enjoyed a delicious outdoor lunch at Leyendas de Mexico in Boonton. Though reservations had been made, the staff (lack of) were initially not prepared for us. AAUW women took charge with humor and grace, setting the table, bringing water, spilling water, helping in the kitchen, serving/spilling salsa, and other kitchen skills. The tasty lunch and laughter made for an enjoyable afternoon. Looking forward to our next Lunch Bunch outing.

I very much enjoyed my first activity with AAUW. Haven't laughed so much in a long time.

Ann Sheridan

New Member and Critic at Large

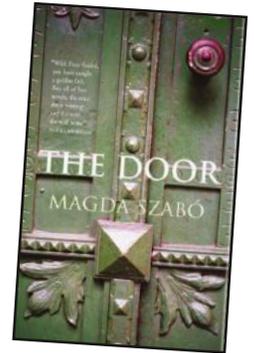


Oooooops...It was a difficult day for Barbara Stromber but hilarious for the rest of us. First she knocked over a full glass of ice water and as soon as that was cleaned up... there went the bowl of salsa.



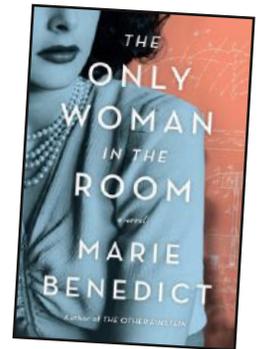
Lit Group has been very active all summer with 10 to 14 members at each meeting. Come join us this fall!

Wednesday, September 7 at 1-2:30 to discuss **The Door** by Magda Szabo. Host & Discussion Leader: Joan London

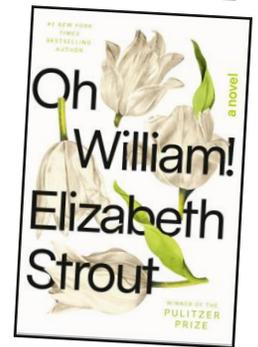


Wednesday, October 5 cancelled due to the Jewish Holiday, Yom Kippur.

Wednesday, November 2 at 1-2:30 to discuss **The Only Woman in the Room** by Marie Benedict. Host, Discussion leader needed.



Wednesday, December 7, at 1-2:30 to discuss **Oh William** by Elizabeth Strout. Host, Discussion Leader: Ada Liggett



Here are the options for volunteering to help out for our future meetings:
*You may host a meeting by offering your home, yard, porch, or deck for the meeting as well as provide refreshments.

*You may lead the book discussion at the meeting. (I AM MORE THAN WILLING TO HELP YOU PREPARE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEAD!) or

*You may host as well as lead the discussion. Please email or call if you have any questions.

See you soon,
Diane Snyder Ricart
Chairperson

September



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1 12PM: Bridge in-person	2	3
4 3 PM Bridge online	5 3 PM Bridge online	6 2PM: MahJongg online	7 1 PM Lit Group:Joan London 3:30 Bridge online	8 9:30 Board Mtg: Elaine Dolsky 12PM: Bridge in-person	9	10
11 3 PM Bridge in-person	12 3 PM Bridge in-person	13 2PM: MahJongg online	14 3:30 Bridge online	15 12PM: Bridge in-person	16 1PM Curent Events Barbara Stomber	17
18 3 PM Bridge online	19 3 PM Bridge online	20 2PM: MahJongg online	21 11 AM Walk-a-Thon @ Barbour Pond Lunch/Meeting 3:30 Bridge online	22 Rain Date 11 AM Walk-a-Thon @ Barbour Pond Lunch/Meeting	23 Culinary Group:Carolyn Noble	24
25 3 PM Bridge in-person	26 3 PM Bridge in-person	27 2PM: MahJongg online	28 3:30 Bridge online	29 12PM: Bridge in-person	30	1

October



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2 3 PM Bridge online	3 3 PM Bridge online	4 2PM: MahJongg online	5 3:30 Bridge online No Lit Group/Save the Date 11/7	6 12PM: Bridge in-person	7 3-5 PM Thank You Party:Linda Nardone	8
9 3 PM Bridge in-person	10 3 PM Bridge in-person	11 2PM: MahJongg online	12 12 PM Rotary Presentation 3:30 Bridge online	13 12PM: Bridge in-person	14	15
16 3 PM Bridge online	17 3 PM Bridge online	18 2PM: MahJongg online	19 3:30 Bridge online	20 12PM: Bridge in-person	21 1 PM Current Events	22
23 3 PM Bridge in-person	24 3 PM Bridge in-person	25 2PM: MahJongg online	26 3:30 Bridge online	27 12PM: Bridge in-person	28 Culinary Group: Carolyn Noble	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

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.



empowering women since 1881

Greater Wayne Area Branch

MEMBER TOWNS

- Bloomington
- Englewood
- Franconia, NH
- Kinnelon
- Little Falls
- Mt. Pleasant, SC
- Montville
- New Foundland
- North Haledon
- Nutley
- Old Tappan
- Parsippany
- Pompton Lakes
- Pompton Plains
- Riverdale
- Teaneck
- Wayne



ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Arline Lowe
Vice President	Linda Nardone
Treasurer/Finance	Ann Raynor
Secretary	Elaine Dolsky
Membership VP	RuthListon*
Program VP	Ruth Liston
Communications VP	Lorraine LaShell

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Advance Design	Peggy Gardner
Advance Editor	Lorraine LaShell
Advance Special Features	Dorothy Quinn
Diversity & Inclusion	Elaine Kirsh
Environment Issues	Barbara Stomber
Fundraising	Joan London
Parliamentarian	Bea Kettlewood
Public Policy	Arlene Sullivan
Publicity	Abby Schwartz
Scholarship	Lorraine LaShell/Marianne Ritter
Social Concerns	Ada Liggett/Diane Ricart
Sunshine	Ada Liggett
Technology	Bobbi Breslow
Website	Lorraine LaShell

INTEREST GROUPS CHAIRS

Culinary Group	Carolyn Noble
Cultural Events	Elaine Kirsh
Current Events	Mary Querrazzi
Games: Bridge	Partiicipants
Games: Mahjong	Partiicipants
Lit Group	Diane Ricart
Lunch Bunch	Ruth Liston/ Elaine Dolsky

*Acting Membership VP