

# The Advance

The Bulletin of the Greater Wayne Area Branch of the AAUW



Volume T No.1

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

November-December 2024

## 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.



Hello again, members and friends. Here is another issue of our newsletter, The Advance. I hope you enjoy the pictures of events over the last 2 months, especially the Walk-a-thon. I thank you for your monetary support for our cause. Again, you came up big

for the Walk-a-thon, an event that was also graced by a presentation and question and answer session with the Passaic County Clerk, Danielle Ireland-Imhoff. She presented information on voting in November, including requirements, dates, and practices/controls that avoid fraudulent voting. GET OUT THE VOTE!

Wayne Day was also a big success in terms of profile for AAUW and its mission. Many still do not know us. Let's keep going with our outreach and profile.

Lunch Bunch, now being organized by Ann Sheridan, brings people of other branch interest groups and general membership together. The last one at Segovia in Oakland was delightful for those of us who attended. Please join us for subsequent lunches.

Please read this newsletter in its entirety and enjoy the information on upcoming events and issues. Our calendar is full of possibilities for interaction. We pack this newsletter with information on our

numerous and very active interest groups and topics that we hope you find interesting and useful.

We are all looking forward to our Annual Holiday Party, so please be sure to read the flyer.

Lastly, the fall season is reaching its zenith at this time. Enjoy the remainder, especially the colorful changes in the area's trees as they show off for us.

Thank you, deservedly and repeatedly, for your support in all ways, monetary and non-monetary. YOU are the AAUW; I am happy to be a temporary shepherd.

Best to all until our next interactions.

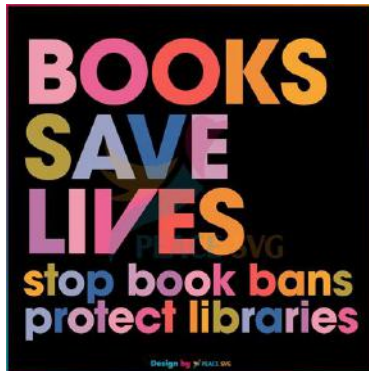
*Linda Nardone*





### Freedom To Read Act (S2421)

New Jersey lawmakers are moving to place limits on who can request books to be removed from libraries. Dozens of people testified, including students who said protections are needed in school libraries. The Freedom To Read Act (S2421) introduced by State Senator Andrew Zwicker (D-Princeton) and State Senate Majority Leader Teresa Ruiz (D-Essex) establishes requirements for library material in public school libraries and public libraries and protects school library media specialists and librarians from harassment. The bill cleared the Senate Education Committee after passing the full Assembly in June.



### Transparency in Compensation and Employment Listings

Bill S2310, which requires transparency concerning compensation for promotional opportunities and in employment listings, passed in both the Senate and Assembly with bipartisan support. Read more about it in AAUW NJ's press release.

### Menstrual Products in Public School Bathrooms

New Jersey's law to provide free accessible menstrual products in public school bathrooms went into effect this September. However, ensuring compliance with the law often rests with students and the public. We encourage members to check if their local school districts are following the law. If they are, do take photos and send them to aauwnj@gmail.com. If not, contact your local school administrators and ask them to check with the New Jersey Department of Education to learn what they need to do in order to be compliant.

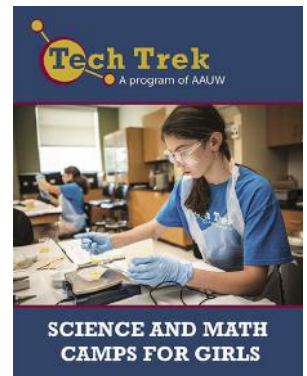
### AAUW Activity Underway

A new year of AAUW activity is underway! To reach gender equity, we must look to our mission of STEM education as a path for girls to achieve in science, technology, engineering and math careers. AAUW has

successful programs to foster that path, and we encourage each branch throughout the State to incorporate an annual STEM activity. This year we hope to increase branch and camper engagement and funding for the camp. Here are several suggestions for how you can participate:

AAUW NJ is offering a one-day program to girls in local schools, Tween Tech for middle-school students and Teen Tech for high-school students

AAUW NJ's Science and Math Camps for Girls, the State program that sends girls from counties throughout New Jersey to a week-long summer camp at Stockton University. To meet this goal, importantly, members are encouraged to: Help increase the number of campers to pre-pandemic levels (60 girls) by contacting middle-school science teachers in your area to make them aware of the program and to nominate students.



AAUW NJ is offering more information (more info to come)

**March 2025 TBA** Statewide Women's History Month Virtual Program

**March 2025 TBA** NJEA Celebration of Women May 17, 2025 Annual Meeting

**June 21, 2025** Women as Agents of Change awards and Panel Discussion

### For lovers of both Barbie and Gloria Steinem

For lovers of both Barbie and Gloria Steinem, "*The Movement*" is the first oral history of the decade that built the modern feminist movement. Through the captivating individual voices of the people who lived it, "*The Movement*" tells the intimate inside story of what it felt like to be at the forefront of the modern feminist crusade, when women rejected thousands of years of custom and demanded the freedom to be who they wanted and needed to be. The author, Clara Bingham, is an award-winning journalist.

**Karen Wertheimer**  
*Public Policy*



We held our second Art Expo at the Wayne library on Wednesday, October 6, from 12 to 3 p.m. featuring creative projects by eight of our members in pastels, voice, cross stitch, painting, printmaking, bird houses and outdoor flower boxes. Check out our AAUW talent in the photos included here.

Then on November 3 we are planning to attend a musical, "The Hunchback of Notre Dame," at William Paterson University.

We have a trip on the Sculpture Trail at Laurelwood Arboretum planned for the Spring and more! We have a musical concert and another art exhibition also planned for next year. I'll keep you all posted!

**Arline Lowe**  
*Cultural Events*



Photography by Carol Yontov Palmer



The Walk-A-Thon, which was held on September 18, was a huge success. Of the 24 members who participated, 20 walked the track while singing a cheer that Elaine Dolsky created. Following lunch and a general meeting, a speaker discussed voting issues.

We made \$4,116, which will be used for scholarships.

Thank you to all who participated and to all the sponsors.



Donations can be made to the Greater Wayne Charitable Trust in celebration of an event or in memory of someone who has passed away. Please send me an email. Include your name, the name of the recipient, reason for the donation, and email address of the donor and recipient, if they are not a member of the Wayne branch. An email acknowledgement will be sent to the donor and the recipient.

Donations should be sent to Elaine Kirsh. No additional tributes have been made since the last Advance publication.

**Joan London**  
*Fundraising Chair*



On Tuesday, October 22, 11 members of the AAUW participated in a 2-hour presentation led by David Spera, RN, whose company is ShowMeCPR.

Dave's excellent presentation featured both video and practical demonstration of lifesaving measures including the Heimlich maneuver, CPR, and AED (defibrillator.)

The Wayne First Aid Commissioner, Keith Heyman, kindly arranged for this valuable instruction session.

**Linda Nardone**  
*President*



The Current Events group meets on the third Friday of each month. We have tried to cover general topics in our body politic. Recently we covered topics on the political platforms, gerrymandering, poll workers, history of the electoral college, and electoral fraud. I feel the topics were very informative and encouraged discussion.

**Marlys Huss**  
*Current Events*



This year OASIS has two different collections for the holiday season. Listed below is an explanation of the Toy Drive and Visa Gift Card Drive.



Please bring unwrapped new toys, games, and clothing for boys and girls (infant to sixteen year olds). Checks are not accepted unless they are made out to Oasis. Thank you!



As the holiday season approaches, OASIS is reaching out to request your support for their initiative to assist women in need within their community. This year, they will provide Visa gift cards valued at \$25 each to help these women purchase essential items and celebrate the holidays with a sense of joy and dignity. YOU MAY DONATE MORE THAN ONE GIFT CARD BUT THEY MUST BE \$25.00 EACH AND VISA GIFT CARDS.



PLEASE BRING YOUR TOY AND/OR \$25 VISA GIFT CARD TO THE HOLIDAY PARTY ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 OR DROP IT OFF AT THE BIN AT MY FRONT DOOR BY DECEMBER 8.

Thank you! I always look forward to seeing the pile of gifts and donations from our AAUW group.

**Diane Snyder Ricart**  
*Social Concerns*



This September, our branch participated in Wayne Day. Our goal was to solicit new members and make the community aware of our presence. After setting up our booth and arranging much of the jewelry we brought, we were ready to meet/greet those who stopped by. Individuals could choose a piece of jewelry, free, if they were willing to give us their email and hear about our organization. We collected over 80 emails. We are currently following up with individuals.

This was good exposure for us. Many had never heard of AAUW. Many were impressed by the scholarship awards we make.

Doing this again next year should certainly be considered.

**Joan London**  
**Ruth Liston**

# Are You a Sustainable Shopper?

With the cold weather approaching and the holidays around the corner, I thought I might share some thoughts about shopping, concentrating on clothing. Hopefully it may encourage you to check out the clothing you've bought and be mindful of gifts you buy, considering their effect on the environment and enable you to make the best possible shopping decisions in the future.



I have generally been critical of online shopping especially buying from mega corporations like Amazon, who tend to gobble up smaller businesses and eliminate the competition. However, I decided to put my personal feelings aside and get an objective view on whether an online or in-store approach is more eco-friendly when it comes to shopping.

What I found was that most studies favored online shopping over in-store shopping with the exception of people who have access to public transportation to shop and/or those who live in walkable cities where it is convenient to walk to shop. It is important to note, however, that buying a number of items at the same time either while online or in a store also helps reduce the carbon footprint in both types of shopping.

But then there are the returns... The truth is that online goods are approximately 3 times more likely to be returned than items bought in brick and mortar stores. It also turns out that returns not only cause a headache for retailers but also create a giant carbon footprint. Most companies simply do not have the technology in place to handle return goods, so it is generally more beneficial for them to sell to discounted retailers or even truck them to a landfill.

The average American buys about 53 clothing items a year, about 4 times more than in the year 2000 with over 11.3 million tons of textiles winding up in U.S. landfills each year. With a booming world population expected to grow from 7 billion to 9.7 billion by 2050, solutions that ensure that our

returns can be recycled, reused, or donated are vital.

The fashion industry is responsible for a whopping 20% of global wastewater pollution. In addition, washing synthetic fibers releases microplastics into the ocean which can harm marine life and contaminate drinking water. Fabrics commonly used by the fashion

industry, such as nylon, acrylic, and polyester, are made from petroleum through a complex chemical process that turns polymers into long, flexible plastic chains. As a result, they are not biodegradable, but they are durable, cheap, and trendy and often are used only a few times before being thrown away.

So what can we do when we need a dress for a special occasion? For a sustainable choice, you might want to choose to rent rather than buy a dress—and yes, they even have websites specializing in renting dresses for women over 50. And let's not forget about thrifting—where you can find second-hand clothing that has stood the test of time, is inexpensive, and lessens the impact of new clothing production and the environmental damage it carries.

Hopefully you are concerned about your carbon footprint but probably have “skeletons in your closet” like I do. So, you are now wondering how you handle the synthetic clothes you already have? Not to worry—you don't have to toss them out—the better alternative is to continue wearing them until they wear out and wash them when absolutely necessary. The only route to a sustainable future is to phase out synthetics, limit your fabric choices to plant-based products, such as organic cotton, linen, hemp, lyocell, and bamboo, and buy only what you need and NOT what you want.

Since Halloween is over, it just might be the right time to replace the “skeletons in our closets” with a more sustainable outlook for the upcoming year. I hope so.

**Barbara Stomber**  
*Environmental Issues*



Our newest member is Joyce Jacobson, who lives on Kiwanis Drive--which brings the number of AAUW members who live on Kiwanis Drive to three. Going for four??

Joyce has already joined us at several events; she was at the Lunch Bunch in September and introduced herself to the members present and has joined us on our Friday walks. Joyce is a member of CASA and has recently happily placed two children in a permanent home. WELCOME Joyce!!

Wayne Day presented a wonderful opportunity for us to meet prospective members. We probably will

have a booth again next year. If you enjoy meeting people and telling them about us, let me know. What we did discover this year is that we need more people in the booth so that we can more easily have direct conversations with those who stop for the free jewelry. We were unable to sell the jewelry, but we sure can give it away.

Just let me know of any potential members. I will be happy to speak with them.

**Ruth Liston**  
*Membership Chair*



**Welcome to the Upcoming Lit Group!**  
**Would love to see you join us!**

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 1:00.

**November 6**

Book: *The Covenant of Water* is a 2023 novel by physician and author Abraham Verghese.  
Host & Leader: Randi Galanowsky  
Please let Randi know if you plan to attend.

**December 4**

Book: *Apeirogon* is a novel by Colum McCann  
Leader: Elaine Kirsh  
Host: Ruth Liston

**January 8**

**ZOOM MEETING.** Information to join will be sent out prior to meeting  
**TOPIC OF MEETING:** A book share to discuss favorite books you have read. We can then choose books for the April, July, and August meetings.

**February 5**

**ZOOM MEETING:** Information to join will be sent out prior to meeting.  
Book: *The Demon of Unrest: A Saga of Hubris, Heartbreak, and Heroism at the Dawn of the Civil War* by Erik Larson  
Leader: Dorothy Quinn

**March 5**

**ZOOM MEETING**

Book: *The Rabbit Hutch* by Tess Gunty  
Leader: Nancy Ferer

**April 2**

We will choose a book prior to the meeting.

**May 7**

Book: *The Museum of Failure* by Thrity Umrigar  
Leader & Host: Jan Rutherford

**June 4**

Book: *The Great Divide* by Cristina Henriques  
An epic novel of the construction of the Panama Canal, ...  
Host & Leader: Linda Trongone.

**HAPPY READING!**

**Diane Snyder Ricart**





In September, five members of the Culinary Group stepped back in time and visited Magnanini Winery in Wallkill, NY. The day included live music and a six-course dinner in the restaurant overlooking the picturesque vineyards.



**Carolyn Noble**  
*Culinary Group*



The Culinary Group met on Friday, October 25, to share a variety of "finger" foods, a lovely assortment of which were presented. We will next meet at 12:30 PM on Friday, November 22, location to be determined. The theme is "Celebrate Citrus" - foods made with lemons, oranges, or limes.



**Carolyn Noble**  
*Culinary Group*



Twenty members gathered at Segovia Tavern in Oakland on October 10 for a delicious array of Spanish/Portuguese food. Good company and conversations, and Sangria, made for an enjoyable afternoon."



**Ann Sheridan**



The Games group is alive and well, particularly for bridge. Additionally, canasta is off to a good start. Those of us who had played years ago are much more comfortable with the new version.

Several of you have mentioned that you would like to learn one or more of the games. Please give me a call. We play bridge Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, canasta on Tuesday, and mahjong on Tuesday. Not only is it fun learning a new game, the benefit is that you get to know your fellow branch members better, including a couple who live out of state. If there is another game in which you are interested, also let me know. Never too many players!

**Ruth Liston**

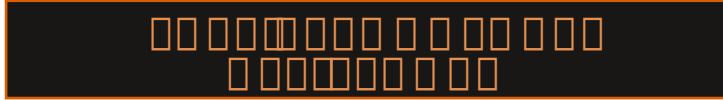


- |                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Linda Nardone   | Nov.21 |
| <b>December</b> |        |
| Diane Ricart    | Dec 6  |
| Arline Lowe     | Dec 18 |
| Pat Durante     | Dec 20 |
| Bobbi Breslow   | Dec 26 |
| Linda Trongone  | Dec 26 |



This interest group is going strong and participation is high. Participants enjoy getting together, sharing personal experiences and responding to prompts. The size of the group is limited so that all can have an opportunity to speak. If you are not a member, but would be interested in a new C & C group, contact Joan or Ruth.

**Joan London**  
**Ruth Liston**



**November 6 ♦ 9-11 ♦ Wayne Library**

On November 6, students and their professor from Caldwell University, will be available at the Wayne library to provide individual assistance to you, for computers and phones. This assistance is free.

These students have been available at the Y through October, as part of a course at the college. I have taken advantage of this opportunity and have been very pleased with this assistance.

If you are interested in participating, contact me with the time you would like to come ( 9:10-9:30, 9:30-9:50, 9:50-10:10, 10:10-10:30, 10:30-10:50 ) and the device(s) you wish to discuss (computer - MAC or PC, phone - iPhone or Android ). You can bring your device or use theirs.

**Joan London**



The Movie Club meets several times a year to discuss recent viewings.

The movie voted on for the upcoming gathering was "Conclave." It recently opened locally at Hawthorne, Clifton, and Wayne. It is also airing on Prime.

We will meet at my home on November 14 at 1 p.m. to discuss.

**Julie Tiso**



I went to the nursing degree pinning ceremony and dinner for 2023 AAUW Scholarship Recipient, Donnette Jones, at Caldwell College with my husband, Gary. We were honored to be her only two guests and so happy we attended. At the ceremony we learned that Donnette had the

highest GPA in the history of the program and that the faculty chose her to give the speech representing the graduates. The director of the program sat with us for a few minutes telling us that Donnette was always interested in learning more and that she was her favorite student.



That is not the end for Donnette. She is currently a student at Rutgers earning her masters degree. On our way out the door, Donnette asked me to thank all of you for the AAUW Scholarship and that we made it possible to complete her dream of earning a college degree.

**Diane Snyder Ricart**  
**Scholarship Committee Member**



Each Friday morning at 10 a.m., walkers led by Jeanne Pisatowski and Ann Sheridan meet at various venues for exercise and companionship. We've walked the Rail Trail in Pequannock, Laurelwood Arboretum in Wayne, and Goffle Brook Park in Hawthorne. Come join us!



**Ann Sheridan**  
**Jeanne Pisatowski**

Photos by Randi Galanowsky Laurelwood Arboretum, Wayne



# Happy Holidays from AAUW-GWA!

Please join us for our annual holiday party. This year's menu will be a catered Mediterranean buffet including mezzes, salads, meats, falafel, shrimp, pitas and special desserts.

In keeping with the theme we'll have songs and stories from the area as well as an old fashioned sing-a-long.

**When:** Sunday, December 8, 1:00-4:00

**Where:** Carol Palmer-Yomtov's Clubhouse  
(Carpooling suggested)

**RSVP** yes or regrets by Sunday, November 24  
to Carol.

**Cost:** \$35

Make checks payable to AAUWGWA and mail to  
Carol Palmer-Yomtov by November 24.

**Annual Oasis Toy/Gift Drive:** Please remember to bring your  
unwrapped toy and/or \$25 Visa gift card to the holiday party.

*P. Palmer*

# NOVEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1 10 AM Walking Group 1:00 GWCF Board Mtg @ Joan London	2
3 WPU Musical Hunchback of Notre Dame RSVP Arline Lowe: 862-221-8124, aloweart@aol.com.	4 12:30 PM Bridge (in person) 3 PM Bridge online	5 1 PM Canasta 2 PM MJ online 7 PM Bridge online  VOTE!	6 9-11 AM Tech Help: <i>Wayne Library</i> 1 PM Book Club <i>The Covenant of Water</i> Randi Galanowsky 32 Agawam Dr, Wayne 201-953-6741	7 12:30 PM: Bridge in-person No lunch bunch	8 10 AM Walking Group	9
10	11 <b>Veterans Day</b> 12:30 PM Bridge (in person)	12 2 PM Cocktails & Conversation 2 PM MJ online 7 PM Bridge online	13	14 12:30 PM: Bridge in-person 1 pm Movie Club	15 10 AM Walking Group 1 PM Current Events	16
17	18 11:30 AM Bridge (in person) 3 PM Bridge online	19 1 PM Canasta 2 PM MJ online 7 PM Bridge online	20	21 12:30 PM: Bridge in-person	22 10 AM Walking Group 12 PM Culinary Group	23
24	25 11:30 AM Bridge (in person)	26 2 PM MJ online 7 PM Bridge online	27	28  Thanksgiving Day	29 10 AM Walking Group	30

# DECEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 12:30 PM Bridge (in person) 3 PM Bridge online	3 1 PM Canasta 2 PM MJ online 7 PM Bridge online	4 1 PM Book Club <i>Apeirogon</i> Leader: Elaine Kirsh Host: Ruth Liston, 428 Boulevard, Pompton Plains, NJ 973-930-7858	5 12:30 PM: Bridge in-person	6 10 AM Walking Group	7
8 <i>AAUW Holiday Social</i> 1-4 PM	9 12:30 PM Bridge (in person)	10 2 PM Cocktails & Convo 2 PM MJ online 7 pm bridge online	11	12 12:30 PM Bridge in person No lunch bunch	13 10 AM Walking Group	14
15	16 12:30 PM Bridge (in person) 3 PM Bridge online	17 1 PM Canasta 2 PM MJ online	18	19 12:30 PM: Bridge in-person	20 10 AM Walking Group	21
22	23 12:30 PM Bridge (in person)	24	25 Chanukah/ Christmas 	26 12:30 PM: Bridge in-person	27 10 AM Walking Group	28
29	30 12:30 PM Bridge (in person)	31 New Year's Eve	1 Happy New Year! 	2	3	4



## 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	Linda Nardone
Treasurer	Elaine Kirsh
Secretary	Jan Rutherford
Membership/Sunshine	RuthListon
Program VP	Carol Palmer Yomtov
Related Programming	Arna Taraporevala
Communications VP	Lorraine LaShell

## APPOINTED OFFICERS

Advance Design	Peggy Gardner
Advance Editor	Randi Galanowsky
Advance Special Feature	Dorothy Quinn
Cocktails & Convo	Joan London & Ruth Liston
Culinary	Carolyn Noble
Cultural Events	Arline Lowe
Current Events	Marlys Huss
Environment Issues	Barbara Stomber
Fundraising	Joan London
Games	Ruth Liston
Hospitality	Pat Durante & Jeanne Pisatowski
Lit Group	Diane Ricart
Lunch Bunch	Ann Sheridan
Movies	Julie Tiso
Public Policy	Karen Wertheimer
Scholarship	Lorraine LaShell
Social Concerns	Diane Ricart
Website	Lorraine LaShell
Walking & Wellness	Jeanne Pisatowski & Ann Sheridan