



**BEDFORD-LEXINGTON AREA BRANCH
MAY 2011**

Breaking Through Barriers for Women and Girls

**50TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER
WEDNESDAY, MAY 4 AT 6:00 PM
HERITAGE ROOM, COLONIAL INN
CONCORD CENTER**

YOU ARE INVITED...

In one more month, in early May,
We "veterans" will have our say;
For some of us have been alive
For well beyond the decades five
That A A U W was here!
It's, YES, our anniversary year,
And some of us, when young and nifty
Never dreamed we'd last through fifty.
So come, eat, listen, reminisce;
It's a meeting NOT to miss.
Think back on women's education:
Today, a cause for celebration,
For EFP and LAF, for equity and
choice,
For A A U W members
Who helped give women voice.

See you at the May 4th celebratory dinner for Golden Oldie Us!
YOU may be on the program with
Founder/First Prez Lois Pulliam!

(If you have any questions call Sue Giurleo at 781-275-6584.)

Directions to the Heritage Room in the Colonial Inn:

The May dinner will be in the Heritage Room which is located on the lower level of the Colonial Inn.

If you enter the Inn from the front, go down the staircase next to the tap room. You may also enter from the parking lot behind the Inn. Go through the door on the right which is marked Prescott Entrance and follow signs to the Heritage Room.

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CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Sue Giurleo and Dot Hart Rand

Between an excellent PowerPoint presentation and her mother's help to preserve her voice, Holly Stockdale brought our attention to the American Cancer Society's Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) that has a very different role from the Cancer Society we are used to supporting.

Holly is Assistant Director on the policy team at ACS CAN to develop strategies to address Medicare and keep cancer a top national priority. Holly also told us more about the health care reform bill. In order to keep the needs of cancer patients before Congress, CAN's programs educate the media and the public so that the need to continue cancer research, information about prevention and early detection and public education is wide spread. The key issue of CAN is to keep funding for ACS in the budget while Congress is slashing health care and programs meant to assist the poor. Holly works in Washington where CAN is close to the important contacts who can be lobbied.

Reviewing all the programs this year, the diversity of topics is impressive. From the success of a local residential program in Arlington to treat adolescent girls who have histories of such behaviors as physical aggression and who are able to move on to college and career paths, to "Do we still need women's studies?"

And speaker, Janet Freeman didn't just mean college undergraduates. Other programs included "Yoga for Living" and "Pray the Devil Back to Hell," which told the important role women played in bringing peace to Liberia. The Program VPs, Catherine Boyd and Liz Markson, have done an outstanding job of providing us with interesting and mission related speakers. We also had an unforgettable speaker at our EF December Dinner, Ronit Ridberg, who received a Career Development Grant from AAUW. Thanks to Janet Khattab, EF chair, for selecting Ronit.

We also want to say it again: Ruth Ladd as Editor, you have put together issue after issue of terrific, newsworthy and current newsletters. Robin DeMott, we thank you for all your work as Treasurer and the many tasks that you do for the branch.

The One Member One Vote forms should be in your hands by the end of April. Please vote. If you plan to vote online, please save your pin number. All the proposed changes in the by laws are clearly explained: RATIONAL, CURRENT BYLAW, PROPOSED AMENDMENT. This may be your first ever opportunity to be heard, since only those who attended the National Convention have been able to vote until the passage of One Member One Vote.

One Member, One Vote Materials, Policies, and Procedures

Voting Materials

Voting materials for the election, the amendment of bylaws, and the adoption of resolutions will be mailed to members on or about April 15, 2011. The materials will contain detailed information on submitting the ballot and the deadline by which the vote must be received.

Casting the Ballot

A member may cast a ballot by mailed ballot, or online electronic ballot. The timeline for voting is as follows.

April 15, 2011 -Paper ballots with member number and a pin number mailed to all members.

May 1, 2011 -Electronic voting period begins. Online voting is encouraged. It is fast, easy, and secure.

May 31, 2011 -Mailed ballots must be postmarked by 11:59 p.m. Paper ballots submitted after that date will not be counted.

June 17, 2011 -Electronic voting period ends at 9 p.m.

AAUW-MA CONFERENCE NOTES

Sue Giurleo and Liz Blumenthal

The AAUW-MA Annual Meeting and Spring Conference entitled "Title IX Compliance: Know the Score" was held on Saturday, April 2, on the top floor of the Healy Library at UMass-Boston with a gorgeous view of Boston Harbor.

At the annual meeting in the morning, Krys Wulff, a member of the AAUW national board of directors, presented the AAUW Strategic Plan.

Goal #1—AAUW will be highly regarded for our commitment to exemplary member relations, dues value, and resulting member satisfaction.

Goal #2—AAUW will amplify our advocacy voice to achieve educational and economic equity for all girls and women.

Goal #3—AAUW will engage and motivate leaders in our schools, workplaces, and communities to break through educational and economic barriers affecting women and girls.

Goal #4—AAUW will target our philanthropic efforts to support programs that provide women and girls with opportunities for a lifetime of success.

Goal #5—AAUW will have a sound fiscal strategy and stewardship to meet current and projected needs, address challenges and capitalize on opportunities.

She also said that AAUW is working on several new research reports: "Pay Gap after College," "Crossing the line in Middle and High Schools and Community Colleges," and "Gateway to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math." AAUW is also working with WGBH on a STEM program called "Engineering your Life."

Krys also explained the voting process of One Member, One Vote. AAUW will be sending out ballots to every member on April 15. You can vote by mail or on line. Every ballot will have a pin number which you need even if you vote on line, so do **not** throw away your ballot.

Liz Fragola started her president's report with a quote from Gail Sheely: "If we don't change we don't grow. If we don't grow, we are not really living. Growth demands a temporary surrender of security." AAUW-MA now has a Facebook page which has attracted at least one new member. However, we have lost the Attleboro branch, which had a long history of working the AAUW mission.

Barbara Burgo reported that the state-wide collaboration with the Boston Branch hosting a dinner/meeting on the topic of Human Trafficking was successful. This may be the topic for the fall state meeting.

Betty Orsi, in her membership report, stated that we have only 11 active branches with 365 members. We were down 9.43% over the past year. However, Bedford-Lexington increased their number by 1.

New officers were installed. Congratulations to Barbara Burgo as President Elect, Sanaz Raoufi and Renee Gooch as Co-Program Vice Presidents, and our own Robin DeMott who takes on the position of Finance Officer.

In the afternoon session, Shraddha Barahi, Educational Foundation Fellow studying international development at Harvard University, gave an amazing presentation of the electricity crisis in Nepal. People are living with black-outs up to 16 hours a day. Gas in Nepal costs twice our US price. There is a major problem in inadequate transmission and infrastructure, tariffs and leakage. Tariffs support the affluent. People are getting loans for solar panels. Much depends on water flow, which is less available in cities.

Krys Wulff started the panel discussion with a wonderful comprehensive history of Title IX. The law reads "No person in the US shall on the basis of sex be excluded from participation in or denied benefits of, or to be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity that receiving federal aid." She pointed out that only a very small part of the bill involves athletics. On the Title IX Panel were Diana Cutaia, director of Athletics and Sports Based Initiatives at Wheaton College, and Carole Copeland Thomas, diversity professional and syndicated radio host. They explained that, when sports are cut back, those who suffer most are poor girls who can't afford to pay for them. If they are to learn how to play sports, it is important that training starts before the age of 10. Girls thrive when they participate in sports. Studies say that women who play sports become more successful in business. Sports can train participants to accept failure, take risk, and keep up the challenges. Many women coaches are left out of the promotions, etc. Women athletes are paid far less than men. It was noted there are more articles about men's sports in newspapers and more men's games shown on TV. We said that we need to write letters to newspapers and to support women's sports by watching them on TV and by buying season tickets.

We learned so much. The meeting was packed with statistics that confirm women are being paid less, average 77% of men's pay. Eighteen percent of women belong to law firms and yet 48% of graduates of law school are women. Another statistic was that 82% of women in corporate board rooms have participated in sports.

AAUW MEMBER SERVICES DATABASE

We now have the option to renew our dues by check (our traditional method) or by credit card on the AAUW web site.

The latter option is only available to renewing members. New members will still submit a check.

The AAUW Member Services Database is the location to pay your AAUW dues on-line with a credit card. The following instructions describe the registration, log on, and dues payment processes:

Go to www.aauw.org/member_center/
Type your member number in the **Member Number** field and click **Submit**. **Go to Step 7.**

If you do not know your member number, click **Member ID Lookup**.

Type your first name, last name, state, and zip code and click **Submit**.

Your member number will display. Click **Enter Member Center**.

After a pause, the **AAUW Member Login** screen re-displays. Click **Submit**.

Click **Member Services Database (MSD)** on the left side of the page.

Type your password and click **Log in**. **Go to Step 12.**

If you currently do not have a password, click **register here** to perform a one-time registration to set up a password.

Type your first name, last name, state, zip code, last four digits of home phone number and click **Register**.

Follow the prompts to complete your registration.

Once your login is complete, a welcome screen will display.

Click **Personal Membership MPP** on the left side of the page.

Complete your credit card information and click **Submit**.

Your dues are paid!



Bedford Lexington Area Branch AAUW
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL AND NEW MEMBERS, JULY 1, 2011 TO JUNE 30, 2012

Name _____ Address _____

Home telephone _____

Cell/Fax _____ E-Mail _____

Occupation _____ Volunteer work _____

Education
 Undergraduate _____ Graduate _____

Only if changed

Annual Dues

Branch Member	\$79.00	Honorary Life Member	\$0.00
Includes National Association	\$49.00	Member at Large to Branch Member	\$30.00
State	\$15.00	Student Affiliate (Active undergraduate)	\$32.00
Branch	\$15.00	Community Member (No degree but supports goals of AAUW)	\$15.00
Life Member	\$30.00		

\$46 of the \$49 National Association Dues is Tax Deductible!!

Make checks payable to: **Bedford Lexington Area AAUW - due June 1, 2011!**

Mail to: Robin DeMott, 71 Robbins Street, Acton, MA 01720

Renewals only may pay dues for 2011-12 after 3/15/11 on-line with a credit card at www.aauw.org. Log into the Member Services Database and an option will display on the left to pay your dues.

Please check areas of interest and activity even if you can't be actively involved this year.

AAUW Activities

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Telephoning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational Foundation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programs and Special Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Advocacy Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Post Flyers and Deliver Brochures | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's Rights Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Development and Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Political Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinate Rides to Meetings | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Refreshments | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greeter at Meetings | <input type="checkbox"/> Parenting Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Liaison to Other Community Groups | <input type="checkbox"/> Diversity Activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library and Town Day Displays | <input type="checkbox"/> Girls Inc. |

Skills you could share with AAUW

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bookkeeping | <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Skills |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Website Design and Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Design |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Program Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Editing and Writing Articles |

Would you like to attend the following groups?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cinema | <input type="checkbox"/> Book Group (Evening) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book Group (Daytime) | |

Other interest groups, in which you would like to participate or help organize, such as: current events, eating out, theater, etc.

Bedford-Lexington Area Branch
Ruth Ladd, Editor
15 Pine Knoll Road
Lexington, MA 02420-1206

AAUW's 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.

SUMMER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: June 15, 2011

LETTER FROM OUR NCCWSL GRANT RECIPIENT

Dear Bedford-Lexington Branch of the AAUW:

Greetings from Barcelona! [card was postmarked in Spain]

I am honored to be the recipient of the grant for the National Conference for College Women Leaders sponsored by the Bedford-Lexington branch. I want to extend my honest and sincere thanks to the branch for sponsoring me and helping me cover my traveling expenses. Without doubt, your help will allow me to experience an opportunity I otherwise would not be able to have. I truly appreciate your confidence in me!

I look forward to a professionally rewarding experience and an opportunity for me to socialize with students and speakers from across the country. I look forward to this wonderful experience and sharing it with the branch.

Once again, I thank you very much for your support and sponsorship.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Castano
Chelmsford, MA



Jane Kamensky and Jill Lepore

BOOK GROUP

On Wednesday, May 18, the group will meet at 1:00 pm at the home of Mary Brezezenski in Lexington. We will be discussing "Blind Spot" by Jane Kamensky and Jill Lepore about Politics in the Age of the American Revolution. Mary will be doing the background.

