



**BEDFORD-LEXINGTON AREA BRANCH  
NOVEMBER 2010**

**Breaking Through Barriers for Women and Girls**

**"FLORA OF THE MIDDLESEX FELLS"  
BY DR. BRYAN HAMLIN  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3 AT 7:00 PM  
BEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Dr. Bryan Hamlin grew up in England where his parents introduced him to a love of nature. He obtained bachelor's and doctoral degrees in the biological sciences before emigrating to America, where he met the love of his life, Anne. They have two grown children.

Bryan has served on the board of the New England Botanical Club (composed mostly of botany professors from around the region); is a member of the New England Wild Flower Society; and is Chair of the Friends of the Middlesex Fells, a state forest reservation inside Route 95.



Botanist Bryan Hamlin

For the past seven years, Bryan and his team have been making a complete botanical survey of the Middlesex Fells, and a study of the changes in this urban forest over the past century. This research is currently being prepared for publication. His talk, illustrated with slides of the plants, will be based on this report.

**NOTE ON PREVIOUS PROGRAM:**

After Susan Thomson spoke at our October Meeting, several people expressed interest in knowing more about Germaine Lawrence and/or volunteer opportunities at the facility. If you are interested in following up on either one, check out :

<http://www.germainelawrence.org>. You can follow the links from there. Or, if you are not on a computer, check out Germaine Lawrence's listing in the Arlington phone pages.

Thanks,

Liz Markson  
Co-Program Chair"

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## CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Sue Giurleo and Dot Hart Rand

At our October meeting, Susan Thomson gave us an interesting look at the program at Germaine Lawrence located in Arlington Heights. There are two programs for over 100 girls ages 11-19. The long term one is for about one year and the short term one is for a few days to over a month. These girls have all experienced significant trauma.

The newest dorm is for girls who have been sexually exploited. Other dorms are for those with eating disorders, aggressive behavior, drug or alcohol abuse or fire-setting. This is a residential program which gives the girls structure, nurturing, and consistency 24/7. The goal is to get them on the road to recovery. Some girls may have to return for a short time. Over 75% of the girls do succeed in their treatment.

We saw a DVD about two success stories. One girl had lost all responsible adults at a very young age, became a runaway, and got involved with drugs and prostitution. The treatment that she received at Germaine Lawrence enabled her to graduate from a community college and she is now continuing her studies to become a social worker. The other girl was

an only child who lost her mother at age 11 and developed an extremely severe eating disorder. After several hospitalizations, she was finally helped at Germaine Lawrence. She has since graduated from college and has a full time job in Florida. We were all impressed by the work that was being done for these girls at this facility in our own community.

—*Sue Giurleo*

After reading Sue's description of the October meeting, I knew I missed a meeting informing you about very good news. The impressive 75% success rate for both programs at Germaine Lawrence working for girls experiencing trauma is exciting. I am sorry I couldn't be there.

By the time of our next meeting on November 3, we will have made our choices at the ballot box. Will the nation's elections tell us the country's direction loud and clear or will there be many places where votes are "too close to call"? I hope that more women will have been elected. I have heard that the Women's Caucus is real and they meet regularly.

—*Dot Hart Rand*

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

We are sorry to say goodbye to three of our members this year: **Roseann Stephens, Ann Trevelyn, and Eva Arnott.**

We would also like to welcome three new members:

- **Karen Bragaw** from Bedford was a former member and we are pleased that she has rejoined now that she has retired.
  - **Michelle Barrie** lives in Watertown and has recently moved here from the Chicago Area.
- Both of these women joined this summer and are listed in the yearbook.

Our newest member joined after the September meeting. Helene Rosenthal recently moved to Bedford from Long Island.

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## **SUPPORT BRANCH LEGAL ADVOCACY FUNDRAISER: NOVEMBER 3**

Midge Nealon Seibert, LAF Chair

Do you want to:

- Provide financial and moral support for those fighting sex discrimination in the workplace and on campus,
- Develop and support proactive Campus Outreach Programs,
- Produce comprehensive online legal resources,
- Sustain a network of attorneys,
- Advocate for equitable policies and practices for campuses and workplaces and break through barriers so that all women have a fair chance?\*

By contributing to the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF), you can assist in achieving these goals and others. Thanks to the financial support from members of the Bedford-Lexington Area Branch, LAF can continue in its critical work to combat campus and workplace sex discrimination.

On Wednesday, November 3, 2010 the Bedford-Lexington Area branch will hold its annual Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) fundraising event. This year we will repeat our successful “fundraiser at the branch meeting” approach. All you need to do is attend the branch meeting (something you intend to do anyway) – and bring your checkbook! I will supply the pens and the envelopes for your checks.

At our November 2009 fundraiser we raised \$385 from 16 members who were present at the meeting. Please help us exceed our 2009 event results by attending the branch meeting and making your gift. While gifts of any size are welcome, I urge you to consider a gift of \$10 or more. We all easily spend \$10 on coffees from our favorite coffee spot or a trip to the movies. Your donation will help ensure that the important work of the LAF can continue.

Please make out your check to AAUW Funds with Legal Advocacy Fund #3999 on the memo line. The branch member contributing the largest check at our November meeting will receive a special “mystery” gift from me.

A special thank you is due to Sema Faigen and Florence Baturin for their significant gifts directly to the Legal Advocacy Fund. Their generosity, coupled with our branch efforts, enabled the Bedford-Lexington Area branch to receive Third Place among the Top Ten Protectors of legal rights through Total Branch Giving to the Legal Advocacy Fund in 2009. Thank you, Sema and Florence!

If you wish to help and are unable to attend the branch meeting, please send your check, made out to *AAUW Funds* with Legal Advocacy Fund #3999 on the memo line, to me, Midge Nealon Seibert, at the address in the directory. Thank you for your support!

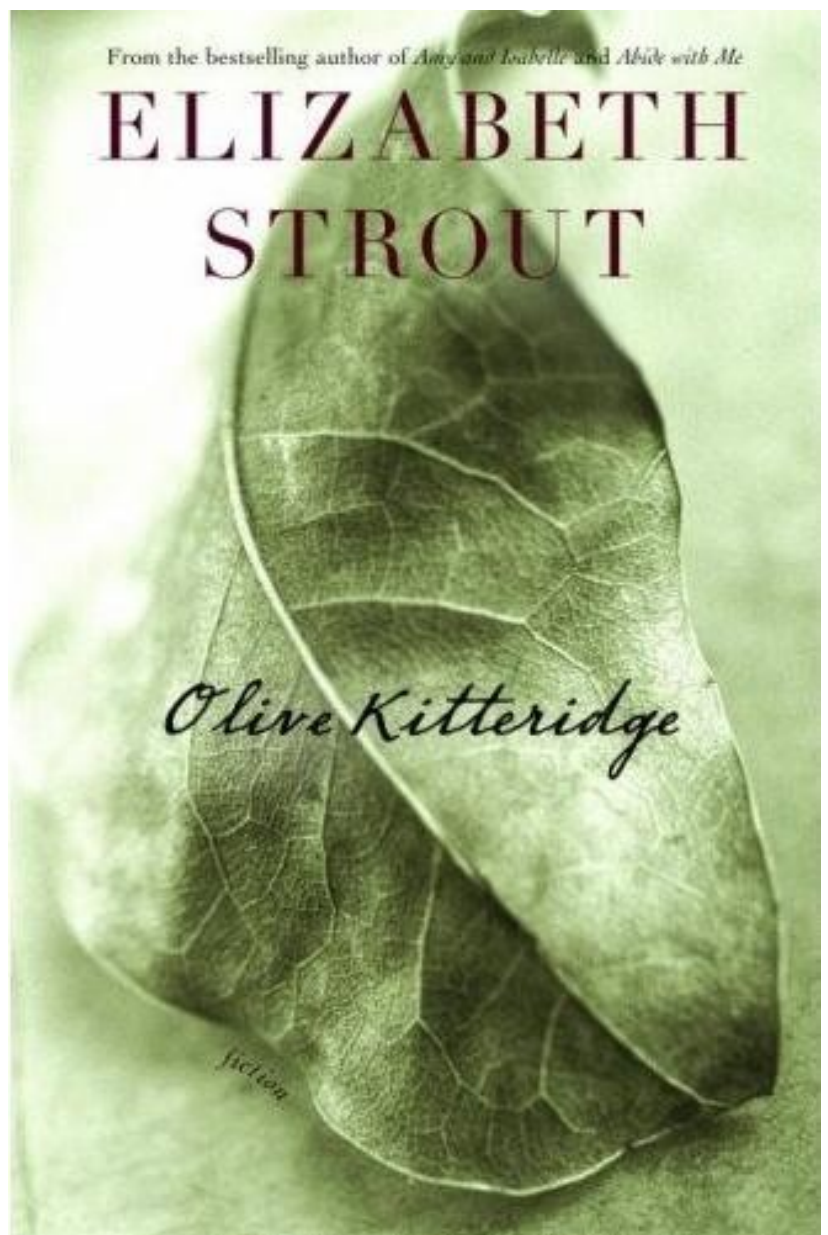
\*Text from AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund brochure (3/09)



## **BOOK GROUP**

The November book group meeting will be at 1 pm on November 17th, at the home of Harriet Hathaway, 66 North Street in Lexington (781-862-297).

We are reading "Olive Kitteridge", by Elizabeth Strout. Harriet will do the background.





## 2010 MacARTHUR FELLOW, JESSIE LITTLE DOE BAIRD: *INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE PRESERVATIONIST*

Women do many fascinating things and sometimes get wide recognition for it. This is a story of a fairly local woman. The following is from the New England District Corps of Engineers Equal Opportunity Office newsletter.

Jessie Little Doe Baird is a linguist who is reviving a long-silent language and restoring to her Native American community a vital sense of its cultural heritage. Wampanoag (or Wôpanâak), the Algonquian language of her ancestors, was spoken by tens of thousands of people in south-eastern New England when seventeenth-century Puritan missionaries learned the language, rendered it phonetically in the Roman alphabet, and used it to translate the King James Bible and other religious texts for the purposes of conversion and literacy promotion. As a result of the subsequent fragmentation of Wampanoag communities in a land dominated by English speakers, Wampanoag ceased to be spoken by the middle of the nineteenth century and was preserved only in written records. Determined to breathe life back into the language, Baird founded the Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project, an intertribal effort that aims to return fluency to the Wampanoag Nation. She undertook graduate training in linguistics and language pedagogy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she worked with the late Kenneth Hale, a scholar

of indigenous languages, to decipher grammatical patterns and compile vocabulary lists from archival Wampanoag documents. By turning to related Algonquian languages for guidance with pronunciation and grammar, this collaboration produced a 10,000-word Wampanoag-English dictionary, which Baird continues to develop into an essential resource for students, historians, and linguists alike. In addition to achieving fluency herself, she has adapted her scholarly work into accessible teaching materials for adults and children and leads a range of educational programs—after-school classes for youth, beginning and advanced courses for adults, and summer immersion camps for all ages—with the goal of establishing a broad base of Wampanoag speakers. Through painstaking research, dedicated teaching, and contributions to other groups struggling with language preservation, Baird is reclaiming the rich linguistic traditions of indigenous peoples and preserving precious links to our nation's complex past.

Jessie Little Doe Baird received an M.Sc. (2000) from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She has served as the co-founder and director of the Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project in Mashpee, Massachusetts, since 1993.

### FIRST WOMAN ON US POSTAGE STAMP

Although Queen Isabella appeared in the first commemorative stamps issued in 1893, the first stamp specifically to honor a woman was the eight-cent Martha Washington stamp issued in 1902. There have been many dozens of women on U.S. stamps since.



Bedford-Lexington Area Branch  
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**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.

**DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: November 15, 2010**

THE CENTER FOR WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP AT BABSON COLLEGE  
AND AAUW MASSACHUSETTS PROUDLY PRESENT:  
**EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, EMPOWERMENT: THE  
GLOBAL PROSPECTS FOR WOMEN**

**Saturday, November 6, 2010**

**8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**Babson Executive Conference Center**

**Keynote Speaker: Edie Hunt, Global Head of Talent Management, Goldman Sachs**

As the Head of Global Talent Management, Edie Hunt has demonstrated her commitment to women's education, employment, and empowerment through her leadership at Goldman Sachs, as well as her pioneering work as the founding director of Forte Foundation. Goldman Sachs is also well known and highly regarded for its recent initiatives, 10,000 Women and 10,000 Small Businesses.

**Program and Presenters**

The day will focus on the challenges and opportunities for women and girls as they pursue learning, join the workforce, and add their voices to the critical discussions and decisions affecting their lives. The morning sessions will take a global view, while the afternoon sessions will focus more specifically on the U.S. and Massachusetts.

In addition to the two co-host organizations, presenters will include:

- The Women's Global Banking Alliance
  - Pax World Investments
  - IBM
  - CARE USA
  - Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge
  - The Center for Women and Enterprise
  - Eastern Bank
  - Families United for Educational Leadership
  - Empower Peace Women2Women
- And many others.

For more information and to register for this special event, visit:

<http://www3.babson.edu/CWL/events/AAUW-CWL-conference.cfm>