



Newsletter

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September , 2013

Co-Presidents Welcome Message

We are excited to welcome our long-time and new members to the 2013-2014 season of the North Shore Area Branch of AAUW-MA. The fall is full of new events for our branch, the most important being our Kick Off on September 15.

Our kickoff event "Taking Pride in AAUW: A Remarkable Past, A Bold Future" will feature our national president and beloved NSAB member, Patricia Fae Ho. Join us and bring your friends and colleagues on Sunday September 15 at the Flint Library in Middleton at 1:30 pm. (See article for details) This is a "Shape the Future" event which means anyone who joins that day will receive half off national dues. A real bargain! Here's our chance to hear about the national agenda for AAUW firsthand! Here is our opportunity to support Patricia for all she has given to our branch, to our state, and now to our national organization. So, mark your calendars now and be part of the bold future of AAUW. Also coming up are the following events:

September 21, the Essex County Commission on the Status of Women will host a forum on Pay Equity and Immigration (see article)



Liz Fragola & Yvette Villa-Barry,, Co-Presidents

October 6, Sally Matson will perform as "Margaret Bourke-White Courageous Photographer", at the Middleton Library.

October 28, AAUW and North Shore Community College will host a lunch panel discussion on Women in Community Colleges (see article).

November, we hope to have an Author Coffee featuring our favorite North Shore author and engaging raconteur, Andre Dubus III, date and time TBA.

December 8 is the date for our Holiday Brunch and fundraiser for NCCWSL. More on that later.

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Hello AAUW!

Thank you for having me as your co-president, alongside Liz Fragola!!! If I haven't met you yet, please introduce yourself if I don't catch you first.

I first heard about AAUW while I was living in San Diego, working for a non-profit with a degree in Biology. I was intrigued by Tech Trek, offered by AAUW-CA, where they worked to inspire and educate young girls in the STEM subjects. I volunteered as a dorm mom for the weeklong Trek and developed such an admiration for the AAUW mission of empowering women and young girls to become magnificent. The passion and stamina of the AAUW members enticed me to join and to become more involved with the Public Policy committee.

I later decided I needed a career change and pursued a Master's degree at Tufts University. I WOULD NOT HAVE GRADUATED WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF AAUW! As we all know, the expense of higher education is sometimes too great. I was awarded the Career Development grant, at the maximum amount, and was therefore able to complete my degree and fully advance my life and my career! I will forever be indebted to AAUW and it is my pleasure to return the favor and volunteer time and energy in hopes of changing another woman's life. I now work in the field of Affordable Housing for low income people, specifically for a corporate, financial investment company.

The work that AAUW does is so powerful and so meaningful, from educating ourselves on local issues, to raising money for our many causes, to stirring up young women at local colleges and universities - you should be very proud to be a part of such an amazing organization! I am completely humbled to be a part of the North Shore and Newburyport branches where I have witnessed such driven and dedicated women volunteering their time and energy to impact the women of our communities. I look forward to working with you - it's going to be a fantastic year! Our leaders already have an amazing line up for this Fall, please attend and participate in changing someone's life! I'll see you at our next event in Middleton on September 15th! (See article -back page).

Best,

Yvette Villa-Barry, Co-president

Co-Presidents Welcome...from page 1

Wow! What a fall lineup. In addition, please join one of our three Task Forces: 1) STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), 2) Public Policy, or 3) College Connection. Each group will gather information and develop an activity or plan of action for the coming 2013-2014 year. Each member can participate to the extent that she is able. Please contact Liz (ekf226@comcast.net or Yvette (yvilla78@hotmail.com) for more info.

Our branch is on the move! We welcome ALL to participate in these coming events and activities. We are available to answer any questions by email or phone (Liz: 978-546-9799), (Yvette: 617-272-0157). Looking forward to seeing you as we begin another great year for the North Shore Area Branch.

Liz Fragola & Yvette Villa-Barry,, Co-Presidents

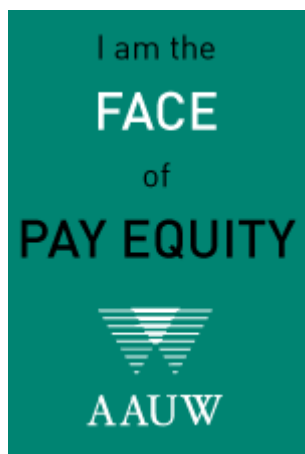


**AAUW
Empowers
Women!**



Raising Our Voices: Women Speak Out for Social Justice

By Scottie Robinson



North Shore
Area Branch
collaborates
with ECCSW on
Raising Our
Voices: Women
Speak Out for
Social Justice

On **Saturday September 21, 8:30 – noon**, the North Shore Area Branch will co-sponsor an Essex County Commission on the Status of Women's forum, **Raising Our Voices: Women Speak Out for Social Justice**. Other sponsoring organizations include the YWCA of Greater Lawrence, YWCA of Newburyport, and Northern Essex Community College. This year's audience will be women and community representatives from Greater Lawrence, with a large percentage of Latina women and immigrants attending. More than 100 are expected to participate.

The forum will focus on pay equity, training and education leading to sustainable wage jobs, and federal immigration reform legislation. ECCSW's goal is to mobilize women to engage in legislative and fair pay advocacy on their own behalf and to register to vote.

The keynote address will be made at 9am by attorney Marisa DeFranco, civil and human rights advocate*. Our own national president, Patricia Fae Ho, will moderate the panel, **Smarten Up: Pay Equity**, beginning at 9:30. She will be joined by State Rep. Diana DiZoglio and Elia Alvarado, a local SEIU member. At 10:30, a short information session, **Current Status of Immigration Reform**, will be offered by MIRA's (Mass. Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition) organizing director, Alexandra Piñeros-Shields. The second panel, **Breaking Through to Self Sufficiency**, includes Odanis Hernandez of the Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board, Megan Shea, Project Director at Northern Essex Community College's College to Career program and a member of the Crittenton Women's Union. They are slated to begin at 11 o'clock. Each panelist will speak on their topic and questions will be taken from the group in attendance.

The event will take place at the **Lawrence Senior Center, 155 Haverhill Street, Lawrence, MA**. There is plenty of parking on site. Carpooling is advised, simply because it can take 45 minutes or more from the Beverly area and it is more fun to ride up with a friend. Having a co-pilot is not a bad thing either. I have found directions from MapQuest to be quite accurate.

Assistance with welcoming attendees and with registration at the door would be a great help. Please let me, Scottie, know if you are able to arrive by 8:15 to be oriented to the layout of the building and the desired flow of traffic: 978.768.1183 or robson@verizon.net. Any fluent Spanish speakers please identify yourself when you volunteer. Thanks so much!

** Since accepting ECCSW's invitation to participate, Marisa DeFranco has declared her intention to run for John Tierney's seat in the US Congress. This should be an interesting opportunity for those of us in the 6th Congressional District to see her up close, although this is NOT a campaign stop!*

Note: See next page for the schedule/flyer.

Women's median weekly earnings by race/ethnicity and education, 2012





YOU ARE INVITED

Saturday, September 21, 2013

8:30am -12 noon

Essex County Commission on the Status of Women presents:

Raising Our Voices: Women Speak Out for Social Justice

This forum will feature a keynote speaker, two moderated panel discussions with Q&A time, and an information session on immigration reform.

Presenters include members of the Commonwealth of MA Congressional Delegation, MIRA (Mass. Immigrant and Refugee Coalition), American Association of University Women (AAUW), Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board (MVWIB) and others.

Information booths staffed by local, supporting human services, employment, and education providers will be present throughout the morning.



- 8:30 Registration
- 9:00 Keynote: Atty. Marisa DeFranco, civil and human rights advocate
- 9:30 Panel discussion: *Smarten Up: Pay Equity*
AAUW, and others
- 10:30 Info Session: *Pathways to Citizenship: Current State of Immigration Reform*
- 11:00 Panel discussion: *Breaking Through to Self Sufficiency*
Workforce Investment Board; and others
- 12:00 Adjourn

Lawrence Senior Center
155 Haverhill Street
Lawrence, MA
on-site parking available

Please RSVP and forward questions to: ECCSWomen@gmail.com

MEETING NANCY PELOSI

By Liz Fragola

On Friday, August 23, 12 members of NSAB met former Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi, at a forum in Beverly entitled: "When Women Succeed, America Succeeds: An Economic Agenda for Women and Families".

Approximately 100 people attended the forum which featured our national president and NSAB member, Patricia Ho, as a speaker. Also speaking were Janice Forsstrom, interim president of North Shore Community College, Ana Perdomo, a family day care provider from Lynn, Congressman John Tierney, and, of course, former speaker Pelosi.

President Forsstrom gave the opening remarks emphasizing the importance of community colleges like North Shore CC in improving women's economic stature. Ms. Perdomo spoke eloquently in Spanish about obstacles she has faced as a daycare provider and single mother to support her family and those of other working parents.



Patricia gave a comprehensive overview of AAUW's work through research and public policy development and engagement in identifying the current needs of women and families which have influence proposed legislation.

We felt particularly proud as AAUW members, when former speaker Pelosi repeatedly referred to AAUW's research and lobbying as being invaluable in shaping past and future legislation to meet the needs of working families. Congressman Tierney also referred to AAUW and to our president, Patricia, as being vital forces in advocating for women.

There was a brief Q and A giving women representing a variety of community organizations a chance to bring their concerns to both leader Pelosi and congressman Tierney.

Our group was thrilled to meet Nancy Pelosi and to have our picture taken with her. She was very warm and engaging and thanked us again for our efforts as AAUW members.

We couldn't be prouder of Patricia and the high regard in which she is held by our local and national leaders. What a great day for our national organization and our branch!

WOMEN IN COMMUNITY COLLEGES: ACCESS TO SUCCESS

Monday, October 28, 2013 11:30 – 1:00

North Shore Community College, Lynn Campus Gym

AAUW members and friends are urged to participate in this public forum based on AAUW's May 2013 study *Women in Community Colleges: Access to Success*.

This forum will highlight the vital importance of community colleges and the gateway they provide women in attaining employment and economic self-sufficiency goals for themselves and their families. Women need affordable, accessible child care as they pursue education or employment, and they need opportunities for higher-paying STEM careers.

National AAUW President Patricia Fae Ho will present findings of the study, with comments from State Senator Joan Lovely, Jacqueline Cook of the Women's Bureau Department of Labor, and Dr. Maureen O'Neill from North Shore Community College. The Women's Fund of Essex County has awarded a generous grant in support of this forum, which is also presented by the Essex County Commission on the Status of Women.

As an organization founded on the principle of making college accessible to women, AAUW has been a leading voice for women in education and the workplace for more than a century. Please save the date and watch for forthcoming details.



Welcome New Member

Susan Crown moved to Rockport, MA in December of 2011 after retiring from a long career in global Human Resources consulting and management, much of it centered in the New York metropolitan area. A graduate of Cornell University, Susan did compensation and benefits consulting work for Towers Perrin in New York and William M. Mercer in Chicago before joining Citibank (later Citigroup) as Vice President, Global Benefits in 1995. In 2000 she rejoined Towers Perrin (now Towers Watson) as Director of Global HR Programs, a role she held until her retirement.

Since coming to Cape Ann, Susan and her husband Ian have been enjoying exploring this beautiful area and learning about all it has to offer. She is very much interested in the arts, especially theater, dance, and the visual arts, and now that she doesn't have to do it for a living, she's looking forward to traveling again! Susan currently serves on the Town of Rockport Personnel Board, works with the Rockport Cultural District, and has been active in founding a Boston-area chapter of The Transition Network for women "fifty and forward." She looks forward to participating in AAUW activities and is particularly interested in public policy issues.





<http://aauw-ma.aauw.net/branches/north-shore/>

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research."

AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.

AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

AAUW is open to all graduates who hold the associate's or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university. 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.

Taking Pride in AAUW: A Remarkable Past, A Bold Future



Sunday, September 15, 2013

1:30 - 3:30pm

Flint Public Library,

First Floor Conference Room



Middleton MA, at the intersection of Routes 62 and 114

To AAUW Members and Friends, you are warmly invited to enjoy conversation, refreshments and the opportunity to share points of pride in the AAUW Experience with Patricia Fae Ho, National President and North Shore Area Branch member.

Think you know most of what AAUW does and the impact it makes? Be surprised and delighted as Patricia discusses national AAUW updates and new initiatives.

For example, did you know that Rachel Carson used her 1956 AAUW Achievement Award to write *Silent Spring*, which sparked the contemporary environmental movement? Fast forward to the present – do you know what international projects our current fellows are working on? Have you heard of Embrace, the innovative, low-cost infant warmer conceived by AAUW Fellow Jane Chen for use in Third World countries? Would you like to know what member leadership programs will be rolled out in the next two years?