



# NEWS OF NOTE

September 2017

South Shore Area (MA) Branch

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

Visit our branch web page:

<http://aauw-ma.aauw.net/branches/southshorearea/>

Like and contribute to our branch Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUSouthShoreAreaMassachusetts/>

## SEPTEMBER 12 POT LUCK SUPPER



### BRANCH MEETING

Our Annual Pot Luck Dinner will be held on Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at Donovan Farm Clubhouse in Norwell. Our meeting will begin at 6:30 PM. Please bring a salad, a main course, or a dessert to share. Water, coffee, and tea will be supplied.

Bring a place setting to use for yourself and one for your friend and prospective member. We welcome everyone, so this is a perfect time to invite them to a meeting. This is the one where a new member gets a discount of \$24.50 off of the membership price of \$79.00.

The Clubhouse address is 17 Donovan Farm Way, Norwell. There is a small parking lot at Donovan Farm in front of the clubhouse. If that is full, you may park on the RIGHT-HAND side of the street, but do NOT go onto the grass since there are sprinkler heads in there. The clubhouse is 180 degrees from where you start the one-way circle.

Please let me know by September 10<sup>th</sup> if you are coming, and if you are bringing a friend. You can also let me know if you are available to come early at 5:30 PM to help set up or stay later to help clean up.

Thank you!

Phyllis Warren, Social Chair  
[phylerrup@aol.com](mailto:phylerrup@aol.com)

### A NEW LOOK

Congratulations to Ruth Powell who retired as Newsletter Editor after many, many years. Hollie Bagley is the new editor. Articles for publication should reach her by the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the previous month.

[holliebagley@gmail.com](mailto:holliebagley@gmail.com)

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to everyone. I hope you had a great summer. One big change from National is that the OUTLOOK magazine is going digital with the Fall issue. So please look in your email inbox for this publication. I picked up AAUW's latest research report **Deeper in Debt: Women and Student Loans** at the convention. I have a copy if you would like to read it. Hollie and I would like to thank you for the stipend you gave us to attend the convention. It



Lily Ledbetter with Sheila Doherty

## BRANCH OFFICERS

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was sincerely appreciated. The highlight of the convention for me was the Friday night dinner when Associate Chief Justice of SCOUS, Sonia Sotomayor spoke to us.

You elected new AAUW National Officers and they were announced at the convention. They are listed in the new directory. A big shout out to Pam Collins, our former AAUW-MA President, who did a great job as convention chairperson.

I hope to see all of you at the Pot Luck Dinner on Tuesday, September 12 at 6:30 PM. It will be at the clubhouse on Donovan Farm Way in Norwell. Please bring a dish to share and also a prospective to member to enjoy the food and camaraderie of our group. Don't forget to bring a place setting for dinner and an extra if you bring a guest. Carol Sullivan-Hanley and her program committee have planned another great year of meetings. The program is listed in the directory which will be available at the meeting.

See you there,  
Sheila Doherty  
President

## BRANCH CALENDAR

You will find our monthly branch calendar on the last page of this newsletter. It is on a separate page so that you can print it or transfer the dates to your personal calendar. All events on the calendar are open to all members but as a courtesy please inform the hostess if you are attending. You can find their contact information in your branch directory. Our monthly branch programs are free and open to the public.



## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Anne and I, as co-Membership VPs, hope that you all had a wonderful summer! We're excited about the upcoming programs and events for the 2017-18 year. Our new blue Membership Directory is at the printer's and will be ready for you at our first meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup> at the Clubhouse at Donovan Farm, Norwell. For those that are unable to attend, we will be mailing the Directory out to you that week. The Directory includes information about National and Massachusetts officers, funds, etc. The most important information about our South Shore Area Branch includes Board Meeting dates, a list of special interest groups, the calendar of our branch programs for the year, and the directory of current members. There is also a list of the Book Club selections for the year with the dates of the meetings (locations will be posted each month in the *News of Note*). We hope you'll find the Directory a useful resource as a valued member of AAUW!

Gail Saccone and Anne Foley

## PUBLIC POLICY

### Women hold nearly two-thirds of the outstanding student debt in the United States — more than \$800 billion



**DEEPER  
IN DEBT**  
WOMEN AND STUDENT LOANS

Right now about 44 million borrowers in the United States hold about \$1.3 trillion in outstanding student loans. The scale of outstanding student loans and an increasing share of borrowers who fail to repay have made many Americans aware that student debt is a challenge for society and for individual borrowers. Yet despite the fact that women represented 56 percent of those enrolled in American colleges and universities in fall 2016, many people do not think of student debt as a women's issue. This report reveals that women also take on larger student loans than do men. And because of the gender pay gap, they have less disposable income with which to repay their loans after graduation, requiring more time to pay back their student debt than do men. As a result, women hold nearly two-thirds of the outstanding student debt in the United States — more than \$800 billion." [Read the quick report by clicking here.](#)

### Creating a Legacy: A Mother and Daughter Take On AAUW Lobby Day 2017

As Barbara Price an executive director of a statewide nonprofit for 20 years and as a member of AAUW, Barbara Price was used to talking to legislators. She and her daughter joined the 2017 AAUW Lobby Day. [Read about their experience here.](#)

### EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO CURTAIL CIVIL RIGHTS INVESTIGATIONS

On June 16, 2017, the U.S. Department of Education announced its decision to narrow investigations into civil rights violations at public schools and universities. The Department of Education is in charge of enforcing Title IX and its regulations and guidance. This includes investigating complaints about how schools handle instances of sex discrimination.

This scaling back means that the Department of Education will not fully protect students' civil rights or address all the underlying issues that are a factor in complaints. Over the past eight years the Department of Education Office for Civil Rights (OCR) increased technical assistance and enforcement and provided critical guidance to schools, which led to better outcomes and safer climates for students at every level. In fiscal year 2016 alone OCR resolved 1,346 Title IX complaints that ranged from schools' handling of athletics to sexual harassment." [Click to read more.](#)

## CONVENTION REPORT

President Sheila Doherty and I had the opportunity to attend the AAUW National Convention in Washington D.C. in June. The Convention was fantastic. Over 850 attendees in their AAUW Advocacy tee-shirts visited Capitol Hill on Thursday to lobby for Title IX enforcement especially as it pertains to sexual assaults on campus (budget cut \$9 million) and to get some relief for student loan debt. The MA delegation had an easy time of it as both our senators and representatives were extremely favorable and in agreement with our position.

We heard from Judy Woodruff, PBS news reporter, about speaking truth to power. She was a great speaker as you can imagine and very down to earth. Two CEO's and founders of polling companies, one Republican and one Democrat, addressed the audience on where they failed in the 2016 election and where we can do better and how to use their data for our purposes. They were friends as well as rivals and they made their conversation funny and relevant. The Republican was not in the least a Trump fan and she let everyone know it without even speaking his name.



*Some of the Massachusetts delegation with Senator Markey's aides.*



*2017 AAUW Achievement Award Recipient: Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor, Supreme Court of the United States*

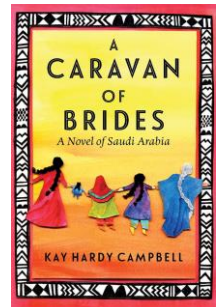
We said good-bye to our outgoing national board chair, our own Patricia Fae Ho, and welcomed our newly elected chair, Julia Brown. We attended several useful workshops (I leaned toward technology and social media), but the highlight of the Convention was our awards banquet where AAUW presented achievement awards to Tererai Trent (look her up) and Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayer. Trent gave an exceptionally moving speech about coming from absolute poverty in Africa to where she is today--a PhD who runs six schools in Africa (Oprah gave her \$1 million to start the first one). Sonia was absolutely amazing. She was to answer questions put to her by our new CEO, Kimberly Churches. Sonia decided, much to the dismay of her six or more body guards that she would answer the questions as she walked around the banquet tables and shook hands or hugged almost 900 guests without missing a beat in her answer. No one who was present will ever forget that night! You would have loved to have been there. Next time! Read more about the convention at <http://convention.aauw.org/>.

Respectfully,

Hollie Bagley

## KUDOOS

Congratulations to former member Kay Hardy Campbell on the publishing of her book, *A Caravan of Brides*. Kay has graciously agreed to be our guest speaker for our January book discussion branch meeting. The book will be available in paperback and e-book on September 15 and is available now for pre-ordering at amazon.com. Here is the link to the book page where you can pre-order. [https://www.amazon.com/Caravan-Brides-Novel-S.../.../ref=sr\\_1\\_1...](https://www.amazon.com/Caravan-Brides-Novel-S.../.../ref=sr_1_1...)



Happy reading!

## MEMBER RESOURCES

On page one in the top left-hand text box you will find links to the South Shore Area branch web page and Facebook page. They, along with the national and state AAUW websites, make excellent resources for all things AAUW, but only if we make use of them. People sometimes ask, why have both a web page and a Facebook page? The simple answer is that they fulfill two different functions. The web page is more static—it contains most of the information found in our branch directory. It changes monthly when it highlights our monthly program. It is great place to send prospective members. They get a little flavor of our branch and our mission and activities. They can read our current newsletter, see our STEM projects, view the booklist for the year and even download a brochure to join our branch. Members can also use the branch web page. Can't find your current directory? No problem—use the web page to check on our current program or to contact a branch officer or download a copy of the reading list. Want to declutter? You can throw out all your back issues of *News of Note*. They are all in the archives online. Seriously, please visit the branch web page at [http://aauw-](http://aauw-ma.aauw.net/branches/southshorearea/)



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[ma.aauw.net/branches/southshorearea/](http://aauw-ma.aauw.net/branches/southshorearea/) to see what is there and make a habit to come back often.

The branch Facebook page is more for communication among members and those who have Liked our page. It is a place where all members should take part in posting interesting items/articles/comments/photos, etc. The Facebook page and its contents is the responsibility of each and every member. It is supposed to be fluid which means there should be activity often. If you have not yet Liked our Facebook page, please do so immediately. You can reach it several ways: from the link on our branch web site, from the direct link,

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUWSouthShoreAreaMassachusetts/>, or by doing an Internet search. Once you have liked our page be sure to Like postings. The more you Like the postings, the better the chance you have of the page postings showing up in your newsfeed. Also, if you are posting an article or photo that you think would be of interest to certain members, please tag them as it helps to let more people see our page. The branch Facebook page is only as good as the member participation. Fran Schlesinger and Hollie Bagley would like to give a big thank you to Pat Laidler who has been instrumental in keeping our Facebook page going.

So, your challenge for this month is to post something—even if it is only a comment, “Hi, so glad I found you,” or a link to an article you thought would be of interest to our members. Hope to see you soon on Facebook!

## SAVE THE DATE



Kim Churches, AAUW CEO, has begun her national listening tour regarding issues, concerns, hopes for AAUW so she can gain broad understanding among members for next directions for the organization.

This will be a fantastic opportunity for the New England members to meet Kim, as well as other local AAUW members. Kim is eager to get to work and she wants to hear from you. Bring your questions and your suggestions - this is the perfect opportunity to make sure they are heard! **SAVE THE DATE!** The meeting will take place Saturday, **October 28**. Tentative time is 10 am - 2 pm and we are currently searching for an ideal location. More details will be shared as they become available.

## SOUTH SHORE AREA BRANCH CALENDAR

September 2017						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				31 12pm Adventures in Dining	1	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6	7	8	9
10 Deadline for Pot Luck RSVP	11	12 6:30pm Pot Luck	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 7:00pm Book Group @ Carol's	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 7:00pm Game Night @ Laurie's	27	28	29	30

2017 Calendar Template © calendarlabs.com

- August 31 Tokyo Japanese Steak House, Granite Street, Braintree, MA, United States, contact Sheila Doherty if attending
- September 12 Donovan Farm Clubhouse, 17 Donovan Farm Way, Norwell
- September 19 Home of Carol Sullivan-Hanley, discussing *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot
- September 26 Home of Laurie Taylor-Curby
- October 28 Meet with Kim Churches, new AAUW CEO
- November 2 Paint Night, AAUW Funds fundraiser, location and information to follow