

AAUW NEWS OF NOTE

AAUW-MA website: <http://aauw-ma.aauw.net>/AAUW-MA Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/aauw.massachusetts>

Branch website: <http://aauw-ma.aauw.net/branches/hingham/>

SOUTH SHORE AREA BRANCH

NOVEMBER 2013

President: Sheilagh Doherty (781) 848-8122

Membership VPs: Anne Foley (781) 749-2369, Gail Saccone (781) 749-9881

Mission Statement: AAUW advances equity for all women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

Vision Statement: AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

CALENDER

November 5, Tuesday	Board Meeting, 7:00 PM Home of Sheila Doherty
November 7, Thursday	Adventures in Dining, 6:30 PM Square Café, Hingham
November 12, Tuesday	Branch Meeting, 7:00 PM HOUSEHOLD HIGHS: THE DANGERS OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AND INHALANTS IN THE HOME Hingham Public Library
November 14, Thursday	Girls Game Night, 7:00 PM Home of Sandy Carle
November 19, Tuesday	Book Group, 7:00 PM, <i>The Fort of Nine Towers</i> Home of Carol Sullivan-Hanley
November 20, Wednesday	Writers' Group, 9:30 AM Brewed Awakening, Hingham
November 23, Saturday	Genealogy Workshop, 2 PM Home of Ruth Powell

BRANCH MEETING

We will meet on Tuesday, November 12th at Hingham Public Library, at 7:00 PM.

According to the 2009 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey one high school student in five has taken a prescription drug without a doctor's order. Girls and boys were equally likely to abuse a prescription medication. Nowadays, more so than ever before, getting high can be as simple as opening up the medicine cabinet and eating two or three pills. With medicine being abused so rampantly, our November branch program will be beneficial for parents and friends alike to be aware of what prescription drugs can be abused, and just what these substances do to one's body. A quick Google search will give you a list of the Top Ten Abused Prescription Drugs. You can be sure today's teens and pre-teens are skilled in discovering easy methods of getting high. Our speaker, Liisa Budge Johnson, a deputy in the Plymouth Country Sheriff's Department, will bring the audience up-to-date on the latest ways teens and pre-teens abuse drugs readily available to them. Attached to this *News of Note* is a flyer about the November 12th program at 7pm in the Hingham Public Library. If you know parents, grandparents, teachers of middle or high school students, please invite them to the program, give them a flyer, and ask them to spread the word. Adults need to be as well informed on this topic as our teens are.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At the Convention in New Orleans this past spring, the AAUW Board established the following goals for the upcoming year. To grow philanthropy to AAUW so that we can increase the number of women who receive fellowships, grants and scholarships; increase the number of girls who attend AAUW science camps; increase the number of Elect Her Campus Woman Win sites; increase funding for the Legal Advocacy Fund plaintiffs; and fight harder to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act. The second goal is to provide training for the philanthropic work of member leaders through increased personal and professional development and the dissemination of industry best practice information to branch and state fund raising chairs. These are ambitious goals that the board has set for themselves, the committees, and national staff; but I believe it can be done with help from the state and local branches. If we could increase our giving to the national organization by just a tiny bit we would be helping to achieve these goals.

On a local note our branch meeting on Tuesday, November 12th will feature Liisa Budge-Johnson, the Outreach Coordinator from the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department. She will speak on the dangers of prescription drugs and some household items that can be abused by members of the household. It is a program not to be missed. Please let your friends and neighbors know they are welcome to attend as our guests.

Sheila

CONDOLENCES

We send our heartfelt sympathy to Fran Schlesinger on the passing of her sister, Alice, on October 23rd in Colorado.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Lynn Howard on receiving "Weymouth's Democrat of the Year" award. The ceremony was held at the South Shore Country Club on October 18, sponsored by the South Shore Caucus (made up of 8 towns on the South Shore). Lynn, among her other activities, chairs the Weymouth Democratic Town Committee. On hand to see her receive this deserving award were: Ann Blair, Hollie Bagley, Sandy Carle, Ruthanne Kennedy, Pat Laidler, Patrice Metro, Carol Sullivan-Hanley, and Judy Zografos.

ADVENTURES IN DINING

Adventures in Dining: our next event will take place on November 7th at 6:30 PM at Square Café in Hingham.

Sondra Schmidt , 781-383-1245 - beesnees@comcast.net

GIRLS' GAME NIGHT

The game girls will meet on Thursday, November 14th at 7 o'clock at Sandy Carle's home.

WRITERS' GROUP

The writing women will meet on Wednesday, November 20th, at 9:30 AM at Brewed Awakenings in Hingham.

Kay Campbell

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

There will be a presentation and workshop on genealogy on Saturday, the 23rd at 2:00 PM at the home of Ruth Powell, Braintree. You can park in back.

PUBLIC POLICY

Health Care

The American Association of University Women believes that everyone is entitled to high-quality, affordable, and accessible health care. While all Americans benefit from meaningful health care reform, the issue has particular resonance for women. According to the Department of Labor women make approximately 80 percent of all family health care decisions. For further information about the Affordable Care Act, Medicare and Medicaid, [click here](#).

Retirement Security The American Association of University Women strongly supports strengthening retirement benefits and programs, including pension improvements and protecting Social Security from privatization. Find more information [here](#).

Elementary and Secondary Education Act

The American Association of University Women believes that quality public education is the foundation of a democratic society, and strongly supports adequate and equitable funding. AAUW remains committed to ensuring strong academic principles and bias-free public education that closes the achievement gap for all children — objectives at the heart of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Read more [here](#) about the improvements AAUW would like to see in schools.

HINGHAM LIFE ARTICLE ON SOUTH SHORE AREA BRANCH

Late this summer Sheila was approached by an editor from the magazine *Hingham Life*. She was giving us the opportunity to have an article published about our branch. Sheila asked Kay Campbell if she would be willing to write the article and Kay agreed. The result was wonderful publicity in living color. A scanned copy is included in this newsletter. Thank you Kay for a job very well done!

A PIECE OF AAUW HISTORY



On November 28, 1881, Marion Talbot, then a recent graduate from Boston University, and Ellen Swallow Richards, the first female professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, invited 15 alumnae from eight colleges to a meeting in Boston. Discouraged by the lack of opportunities available to them, the women discussed how they would join together to help other women attend college and to assist those who had already graduated.

Although Marion is usually credited with initiating this first meeting, it was really her mother, Emily Talbot, who urged Marion to do so. A longtime advocate of girls' education, Emily was perpetually frustrated by the lack of educational opportunities for young women, including her own daughters.

At the November 28th meeting, one graduate from each of the eight represented colleges was chosen for a committee to move toward the next step. So a few weeks later, on January 14, 1882, 65 women college graduates met and officially formed the Association of Collegiate Alumnae (the predecessor organization to AAUW) to “unite in practical educational work.” As we celebrate the 132nd birthday of AAUW, our commitment to advancing women's educational opportunities remains as strong as it was in 1881.

AAUW-MA SURVEY

The state organization wants to know how it is doing and what it can do to improve. It needs your input. Please take the time to fill out the brief survey attached to this newsletter and return it either to Sheila or directly to Robin DeMott. It would be most helpful for the state to see your comments even if you feel you have not had any interaction with the state. We all receive the state newsletter and all members are invited to all AAUW-MA conferences. Thanks in advance!

See scanned materials below



What parents need to know Household Highs Dangers in your home



A presentation on the inventive ways that young people are using both prescription drugs as well as household items to get high.

Speaker: Deputy Liisa Budge-Johnson of the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department

**Tuesday, November 12 at 7 pm
Hingham Public Library**

Sponsored by the South Shore Area branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW)

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



Area Branch Brings Women Together For Equity

Branch member, Lynn Howard, will share details of her trip to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands with several Massachusetts educators at presentation at the Hingham Public Library.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SOUTH SHORE AREA BRANCH OF THE ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

South Shore Women, Connect Here

*by Kay H. Campbell
Community contributor*

The South Shore Area Branch of the American Association of University Women, also known as the AAUW, brings women together from across the South Shore – from Quincy to Plymouth – in its mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

The branch organizes public meetings of interest to the community, raises money for AAUW's national funds supporting women in higher education and meets regularly to share common interests. Members include busy mothers, professionals, empty-nesters and retirees. Founded in 1968, the branch recently celebrated its 45th anniversary, and is one of the most active local branches in Massachusetts.

The branch website explains, "AAUW members believe in the power of education to change women's lives. We also

recognize that women's education means not only attaining higher degrees. It also means becoming financially literate, daring to take risks to grow and learn throughout our lives, and to help others both around us and far away from us to reach their potential."

South Shore Area AALW members are well-traveled, and the October branch meeting reflects their wide-ranging interests. On October 8, 2013 at 7pm, branch member Lynn Howard, a teacher in the Weymouth schools, will give a presentation at the Hingham Public Library about a recent study trip to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands that she took with a group of Massachusetts educators. In Ecuador, they met Maria Virginia Farinango, co-author of "Queen of Water", a coming-of-age novel about a native Ecuadorian girl, based loosely on Farinango's own childhood. Ms. Howard invites anyone interested to read the book ahead of time, so the group can discuss it during her presentation. Like all monthly programs, the public is invited to attend.

Founded in 1968, the branch recently celebrated its 45th anniversary, and is one of the most active local branches in Massachusetts.

On November 12th, Deputy Liisa Budge-Johnson of the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department will speak about "Household Highs: The Dangers of Prescription Drugs and Inhalants in the Home". The presentation will focus on prescription drugs and inhalants that pose a danger to children. The meeting will take place at the Hingham Public Library at 7PM.

Kate Whonley, author of the award-winning memoir, "Remembering the Music, Forgetting the Words," will attend a discussion of her book at a potluck supper in January.

In addition to its monthly programs, AALW members on the South Shore have organized several special interest groups that meet regularly in members' homes. These include a book group, Adventures in Dining, Girls' Game Night, a de-cluttering support group, a writer's group and a yarn group.

South Shore Branch president, Sheila Doherty of Marshfield, encourages new members.

"We hope you'll join us at one of our events. Even if you have a busy schedule, you'll always find something of benefit in our programs. Our thought-provoking speakers raise awareness and expand horizons. And you'll meet a network of interesting, like-minded women from the South Shore. Joining an AALW branch is a great way to make a national impact on equity for women and girls while connecting with others in our community."

The South Shore Area Branch of the American Association of University Women welcomes new members who hold an associate's or bachelor's degree.

New members can join at a branch meeting or by contacting Gail Saccone - 781-749-9881 or Anne Foley 781-749-2369. For more information, visit the South Shore Branch online at <http://aauw-usa.aauw.net/branches/hingham/>

The American Association of University Women's national



Branch members at a yard-sale fundraiser. Photo courtesy of South Shore American Association University Women



South Shore branch resident, Sheila Doherty, presents the 2013 Recognition Award, with other South Shore branch members to a student pursuing a higher education. Photo courtesy of South Shore American Association University Women

organization has more than 165,000 members and supporters. Founded in 1881, and aims to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. For more information about the national organization and its history, visit aauw.org.

Tell us what you **THINK** @ hibumagazine.com/survey

AAUW-MA

"How Are We Doing?" - State Evaluation

Please complete and return this form. Your input is important and will help us to improve our state.

You are a member of: National only National & State National, State and Branch

How many years have you been a member of AAUW? always in AAUW-MA? Yes No

How many years have you been a member of AAUW - MA?

in which other state(s) have you been a member?

Current Branch name(s)

Leadership roles in which you have served (check those that apply):

State Roles

- State President
Membership VP
Program VP
Treasurer
AAUW Funds/LAF/EF
College/University Chair
Other

Branch Roles

- Branch President
Membership Chair
Program Chair
Treasurer
AAUW Funds/LAF/EF
Other

Comments

(Use back for more)

Please rate your experiences with AAUW-MA using: E=Excellent, G=Good, F=Fair, D=Disappointing

How well are you supported by the State as a member and/or in your role(s)?

How well is the State serving you as a member and the AAUW mission?

How is AAUW-MA doing overall? If fair or disappointing, what do you view as the problem(s)?

- 1.
2.
3.

Do you open and read our Newsletter via the new format on Constant Contact? if no, why not?

To help us plan future state conferences, do you prefer: a one-day meeting OR a two-day meeting?

Comments

At future state conferences, I would like topics such as:

(optional) Name

Contact information

(e-mail preferred - please print)