



**BEDFORD—LEXINGTON BRANCH AAUW
SEPTEMBER 2012**

Breaking Through Barriers for Women and Girls

**“SEPTEMBER SOCIAL AND VOTER EDUCATION”
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012, 7:00 PM
BEDFORD TOWN CENTER (NOT THE LIBRARY!)**

We never seem to have enough time to renew friendships and get to know new members and visitors, especially in September after we’ve all gone in different directions over the summer. This will be our chance! The membership co-chairs are sponsoring this and inviting members-at-large and others. We would like to see a great turn-out on the part of our membership to help tell others what AAUW as an organization is all about and what we as a branch do. There will be great refreshments, too!

As much as it is fun to chat (and munch!), we can’t forget our organization’s mission. One action item AAUW is working on this election season is “It’s My Vote: I WILL BE HEARD.” Voter Education is part of AAUW’s Public Policy and Advocacy. AAUW-MA has an intern, Rebecca Rutenberg, a BU grad student, helping branches. She will be speaking to us about what we can do locally. Her enthusiasm is bound to be contagious!

**FAME IN OUR
MIDST!**

Did you know that Pat Costello received the Unsung Heroine award through the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women? CONGRATULATIONS, Pat! She was recognized for work she’s done for a myriad of organizations and committees: Tax Exemption and Deferral Advisory Committee, AARP volunteer tax preparer at the Lexington Senior Center, League of Women Voters, serving as a guide on the Liberty Ride and in Lexington’s historic houses.



Inside this issue:

September Program	1
Fame in our Midst	1
The Big 4-0 for Title IX	2
2012-13 Meeting Dates	2
Co-Presidents’ Message	2
Book Group Schedule	3
Get Out the Vote	3
Break the Silence	4
Election Dates	4
Donations to AAUW	4
Focus on Women in Science	5
Newsletter Deadline	6
Book Group	6
Refreshment Providers	6

THE BIG 4-0 FOR TITLE IX

I hope you were as pleased as I was to see and hear so much on Title IX in the news because of its 40th anniversary. I saw articles in our local paper (Lexington Minuteman) and in the Boston Globe. I heard about it several times on NPR (including “It’s Only a Game”).

2012-2013 MEETING DATES & LOCATIONS

September 11	Bedford Town Center, 7 pm
October 3	Bedford Library, 7 pm
November 7	Bedford Library, 7 pm
December 4	Holiday Potluck & Educational Foundation Night, Bedford Town Center, 6 pm
January 2	Bedford Library, 11:30 am
February 6	Bedford Library, 11:30 am
March 6	Bedford Library, 7 pm
April 3	Bedford Library, 7 pm
May 1	End of Year Dinner, location TBD, 6 pm

NOTE: The order of events at regular meetings will be adjusted starting in October:

7:00-gather to get nametags, pick up coffee/tea; 7:15-program starts; 8:00-refreshments and social time; 8:20-business meeting.

CO-PRESIDENTS’ MESSAGE

Greetings! We hope that everyone has had a good summer. September is only a few weeks away and the AAUW Branch Board has been busy preparing for the our 2012-13 year.

We want to inform everyone that our Treasurer, Robin DeMott, reports that our branch is down to 39 paying members because eight members are now honorary life members. Therefore, our branch budget has been reduced significantly. Unfortunately we are proposing to cash in our CD to balance the proposed 2012-13 budget. At our October meeting we will all vote on the proposed budget which will be printed in the yearbook.

As a result of this change in our circumstances, our spending will be very different for this year. Some activities (dinners, for example) may cost members a little more to cover our expenses. If anyone has simple fundraising ideas, please contact one of us. We will be most pleased to hear from you!

Nevertheless, our Program Team has planned exciting events for the coming year starting off with a Kickoff Meeting: September Social and Voter Education. Remember, this will be held on **Tuesday**, September 11th at 7 PM at the Bedford Town Center (NOT Library). In October we will be back at the Bedford Library.

Hope to see you soon!

Joan Zinderman and Alice Wadden



BOOK GROUP 2012-2013 SCHEDULE

DATE	HOSTESS	DISCUSSION LEADER	BOOK
Sept. 19	Harriet Hathaway	Irene Shea	<i>The Lives of Margaret Fuller</i> by John Matteson
Oct. 17	Joan Reddy	Joan Zinderman	<i>The Paris Wife</i> by Paula McLain
Nov. 28	Jeanne Stockdale	Janet Khattab	<i>In the Time of Butterflies</i> by Julia Alvarez
Dec. 19	Sue Giurleo		
Jan. 16	Harriet Hathaway	Harriet Hathaway	<i>Bleak House</i> by Charles Dickens
Feb. 20	Helene Rosenthal	Terry Van DeCarr	<i>Clara</i> by Janice Galloway
Mar. 20	Concord Public Library	Joan Zinderman	<i>Lark Rise to Candleford</i> by Flora Thompson
Apr. 17	Dorothy Smith	Jeanne Stockdale	<i>To End All Wars</i> by Adam Hochschild
BRING <u>ONE</u> BOOK CHOICE FOR 2013-2014 TO THIS MEETING OR EMAIL TO CATHERINE BOYD BY THE END OF APRIL.			
May 15	Catherine Boyd	TBD	<i>Elizabeth the Queen, Life of a Modern Monarch</i> by Sally Dedele Smith
June 19	Catherine Boyd		Dessert!
GROUP WILL VOTE ON BOOKS FOR 2013-2014.			

Questions? Contact Catherine Boyd at 978-371-2611.

GET OUT THE VOTE AT FAIRE-ON-THE-SQUARE Saturday, September 22, 10 am—4 pm

For the 2012- 2013 year, Bedford-Lexington Area Branch is participating in the ***It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard*** National, state and local focus which started for us with the AAUW-MA Spring Conference in Copley Square. The 18 to 30 year olds – the millenials—will be the primary focus. We have planned for several meetings and actions.

The first action event will be Watertown's *Faire on the Square*. Alice Wadden has reserved a table for the Bedford—Lexington Area Branch. The AAUW-MA intern (who will be speaking to us at our September meeting) will be helping with this but additional volunteers would be most welcome. Please contact Alice at awadden@comcast.net.

"Faire on the Square" (faireonthesquare.org) will be in Watertown. Events will take place in four adjoining locations: Saltonstall Park, in and around Town Hall (including the ball field), behind the Boys & Girls Club, and behind the library. The Faire offers a wide variety of free activities for children and adults including children's rides and activities, musical entertainment and food, crafts sales and dance performances.

Please come by at some time during the day to so that AAUW will be more visible to the community. It is so important at this time be part of a wonderful and energizing day! Plus we need to remember IT'S MY VOTE : I WILL BE HEARD.

BREAK THE SILENCE ON OVARIAN CANCER

Please Support the 14th Annual
Run/Walk on
Sunday, September 9, 2012

Did you know that more than **20,000** women in the United States are diagnosed with ovarian cancer each year? Approximately 15,000 women die annually from the disease. Unfortunately, most cases are diagnosed late when prognosis is poor. However, if caught early ovarian cancer is over 90% treatable. There is currently **NO** early detection test for ovarian cancer, nor is there a vaccination to prevent the disease. The key to key diagnosis is awareness.

Please support the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition/Massachusetts Chapter (NOCC) in the September 9th annual Run/Walk event. It is a 5K course at DCR's Carson Beach in South Boston. If you cannot participate, please consider making a donation to support the mission of the NOCC to raise awareness and promote education about ovarian cancer.

Checks made out to "NOCC" may be mailed to:

National Ovarian Cancer Coalition
Massachusetts Chapter
347 Massachusetts Avenue Suite 3
Arlington, MA 02474

You may also go to nocc.kintera.org/massachusetts to make a donation and obtain more information.

Additional contacts:

Email: massachusetts@ovarian.org

Phone: 781.643.9800

Facebook.com/NOCCmassachusetts

Your support of the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition will help save lives!

IMPORTANT ELECTION- RELATED DATES

August 27–30 — Republican National Convention, Tampa, Florida

September 3–6 — Democratic National Convention, Charlotte, North Carolina

September 22 — Get Out the Vote at Watertown's Faire on the Square (see article on p. 3)

September 25 — National Voter Registration Day

November 6 — Election Day



DONATIONS TO AAUW FUNDS

If you make donations to any of AAUW programs directly through the branch or as a result of an Association mailing, be sure to include the number of the fund (and note that you are in the Bedford-Lexington Area Branch). The most commonly designated funds are as follows:

AAUW Funds (unrestricted)	#9110
Legal Advocacy Fund	#3999
(collection will be taken at November meeting)	
Educational Opportunities Fund	#4336
(collection will be taken at December meeting)	
Eleanor Roosevelt Fund	#9170
Leadership Programs Fund	#4339
Public Policy Fund	#4337

If you have any questions, please see our Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) Co-Chairs (Midge Nealon-Seibert and Helene Rosenthal) or Educational Fund (EF) Chair: Lila Packer.

FOCUS ON WOMEN IN SCIENCE

(from Eastern Illinois University website: http://www.eiu.edu/~wism/about_biographies.php)

Florence Bascom (1862-1945)

Geologist

She was the first woman and first geologist to be awarded a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University. In 1896, she became the first woman scientist hired at the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and pioneered the use of microscopes in the study of minerals and rocks.



She is also accredited with contributing greatly to the understanding of how the Appalachian mountain range had been formed through her studies with the research process of petrology. Dr. Bascom was a professor of geology at Bryn Mawr College for 33 years where she influenced and taught most of the women geologist of the late 19th and early 20th centuries and establishing her impact on the future of geological research in the United States.

Maria Mitchell (1818-1889)

Astronomer

Growing up in the whaling town of Nantucket, Massachusetts Mitchell grew up learning about the stars and navigation. She could rate the chronometers for whaling ships and plot the movements of the planets.

In 1847, her discovery of a comet invisible to the naked eye won her international fame and a medal from the king of Denmark. After that, she went to work for the U.S. Nautical Almanac Office to compute ephemerides of the planet Venus.

When Vassar College was founded in 1865, she joined the faculty as a professor of astronomy and director of the college observatory. She became the first woman elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and founded the Association for the Advancement of Women in 1873, chairing the Committee on Women's Work in Science until her death.

Jewel Plummer Cobb (1924-Present)

Cell Biologist

After receiving her master's degree and doctorate in cell physiology from New York University, Cobb entered the National Cancer Institute for a postdoctoral fellowship. Her research involved designing new experiments to compare the *in vivo* effects of chemotherapeutic agents with *in vitro* effects on the same tissue obtained from the patient.

She returned to New York University and entered into exciting phasic cell research in the cancer chemotherapy program. Her research on normal and malignant pigment cells continued for 22 years. Her publications in this field include 50 books, articles, and other scholarly reports.



She became an influential promoter of programs which increased girls', women's and minority students' interest in scientific careers. She has been awarded 18 honorary doctoral degrees.

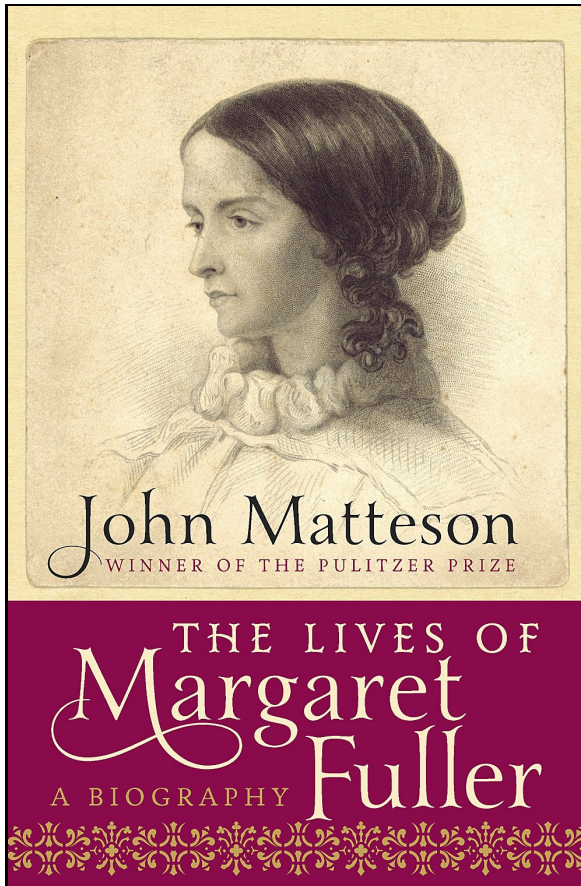
[Ed. Note: She was also at Connecticut College, my alma mater.]

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.

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: September 14, 2012



BOOK GROUP

This book is an eloquent biography of the only woman in the Concord circle of Emerson and Thoreau. She was a central figure in the transcendentalist movement and a close associate of Bronson Alcott, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Nathaniel Hawthorne.

On September 19 the group will meet at the home of Harriet Hathaway. As always, newcomers are most welcome.

Contact this year's coordinator, Catherine Boyd, at 978-371-2611 for directions and more information.

REFRESHMENT PROVIDERS

October	Charlotte Ford, Harriet Hathaway
November	Joan Reddy, Diane Leahy
January	Terry VanDeCarr, Sue Giurleo
February	Janet Khattab, Dot Hart
March	Annette Slocumbe, Jeanne Stockdale
April	Dorothy Smith, Mary Brzezanski