



NEWS OF NOTE

December 2017

South Shore Area (MA) Branch

DECEMBER HOLIDAY EVENT

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/AAUWSouthShoreAreaMassachusetts/>

Articles for publication in the South Shore Area branch newsletter, *News of Note*, should reach the editor, Hollie Bagley by the 20th day of the previous month.

holliebagley@gmail.com

The *News of Note* is published monthly from September – May.

A festive event card for the AAUW South Shore Branch Annual Holiday Brunch. The card has a light blue background with a decorative border of blue and white snowflakes and stars. A snowman illustration is positioned at the bottom left. The text is centered and reads:

AAUW South Shore Branch
Annual Holiday Brunch
Mill Wharf Restaurant in Scituate Harbor

Sunday, December 3, 2017, 11 am

Brunch menu varies but will include:
Eggs, bacon, sausage; made-to-order omelets; ham, turkey, roast beef; a fish dish and a pasta dish; fresh fruit, breads, and tea or coffee

Juice, Mimosas, Blood Marys, etc. are available on a cash bar basis

Reservation by November 20 Text or call 781-831-2321 or email phylisw@aal.com

AND send check for \$26.00 to
Phyllis Warren, 34 Holmes St, Halifax, MA 02338

BRANCH OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Sheila Doherty
greenharbor11@verizon.net

PROGRAM VP
Carol Sullivan-Hanley
csulliva@lesley.edu

MEMBERSHIP VP
Gail Saccone
gvsaccone@comcast.net
Anne Foley
annefoley15@gmail.com

TREASURER
Sandy Carle
scarle12@aol.com

PUBLIC POLICY
Patrice Metro
patriceuk@aol.com

FINANCE
Ginny Giordano
ggio@verizon.net

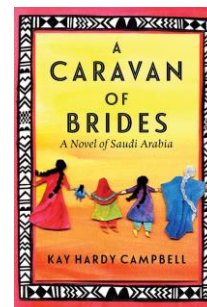
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a wonderful day spent in Lexington, MA last month with the CEO of AAUW, Kim Churches. She is a whirlwind person. She started her day on a 6:30 AM flight from DC to Boston. She spoke to us in Lexington and then flew home to arrive in time to see her daughter pitch in a late day baseball game. She is full of energy and brings this energy to AAUW. Under her leadership, Kim has been combining AAUW Departments to better streamline the organization to more effectively represent our mission and our members.

Last month's meeting was at the beautiful new Scituate Public Library. Librarian Ann Lattinville provided us with the status of all STEM and STEAM programs in Scituate. The Library and the Community work collectively to promote these programs to stimulate involvement with the children of Scituate.

In December we will celebrate the Holidays at the Mill Wharf Restaurant in Scituate on December 3rd at 11:00 AM. Please send \$26.00 to Phyllis Warren at her home address; to assure you have a place at the table, as soon as possible.

Our meeting on January 9th will be at 6:30 PM at the Allerton House in Hingham, MA. Kay Campbell will be our guest author. She has just published her book, *A Caravan of Brides*. This meeting includes a POT LUCK dinner and a discussion of Kay's book. Do not forget to bring your place setting and a dish to share with others. RSVP to me by January 5th so I can arrange for seating. Please use the attached flyer to publicize the event and to invite friends.



Have a wonderful Holiday Season.

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

I thought I would feature one of the AAUW membership “perks” that I’ve come to really appreciate. I find the Advocacy emails that I signed up to receive to be very informative and up-to-date. By signing up to receive the emails (advocacy@aauw.org), you will get frequent updates on bills & legislation coming up in Washington, top stories that have importance for women’s issues, spotlight articles on states that have led successful legislation, and “Cheers and Jeers” of the week. If immediate attention is required, you can click on the TAKE ACTION button and be directed to your senator/representative to quickly send an email stating your position on the issue. I really recommend this connection for the ease that you can add your voice to the issues of the day.

Gail Saccone
Co-Vice President of Membership

PUBLIC POLICY

Three-Fourths of Schools Report Zero Incidents of Sexual Harassment in Grades 7-12

October 24, 2017

“AAUW and other organizations have [long been skeptical](#) of schools’ [low reporting rates](#) when it comes to sexual harassment and bullying. AAUW recently revisited the 2013–14 data from the Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) to further examine differences in reported rates by state and differences in the rates at which girls and boys report sexual harassment. The analysis revealed that more than three-fourths (79 percent) of all public schools reported zero incidents of sexual harassment. If these numbers are accurate, 79 percent of schools have zero students coming forward to report cases of sexual harassment — despite many [research reports](#) providing evidence that this outcome is statistically impossible...”

But “the reports of zero cases of sexual harassment doesn’t [sic] begin to tell the whole truth about what’s happening to one of our most vulnerable populations in public schools across the country, but it does tell us that we must work to change the school environment for students immediately.” [Read the discussion and analysis here.](#)

40 YEARS OF ACTIVISM FOR WOMEN: THE 1977 NATIONAL WOMEN’S CONFERENCE IN HOUSTON, TEXAS

November 20, 2017

(I’ve copied this small article in full below. Remembrance of times past for many of us. AND food for some new thinking about where we are now and should be going.)

“This month marks the 40th anniversary of the National Women’s Conference (NWC) held in Houston, Texas, in November 1977. The conference was an outgrowth of the [International Women’s Year](#) conferences and a presidential commission to explore barriers “that [prevented] women from participating fully and equally in all aspects of life.” The gathering, chaired by [Rep. Bella Abzug](#) (D-NY), was authorized by public law during the Carter administration and was the first women’s conference supported by Congress.

While [much of the conference has been documented](#), it is important to turn our focus to the significance of this event in AAUW's history. Many of our members worked on the state organizing conferences that preceded the NWC. AAUW counted 115 members in Houston representing 37 states as delegates among the total 2,000 in attendance. The conference was a huge event, and, according to the *AAUW Journal*, also included an estimated 17,000 observers, many of whom were AAUW members. Such well-known figures as activists [Gloria Steinem and Coretta Scott King](#), actor Alan Alda, author [Maya Angelou](#), and athlete Billie Jean King also attended the 1977 NWC.

Although the conference was meant to be a unifying starting point to larger discussions about the status of women, it quickly became polarized over the issue of the [Equal Rights Amendment \(ERA\)](#), which AAUW supported at the time. AAUW was among a number of women's organizations that [organized a caucus in support of the ERA](#). A smaller anti-ERA group was also in attendance and held a counter-rally organized by spokesperson Phyllis Schlafly.

Despite the hot debate surrounding the ERA, the 1977 NWC gave rise to the expansive National Plan of Action, which dealt with 26 areas of interest to women, including child care, [employment](#), the ERA, [reproductive freedom](#), and diversity.

To this day many of the recommendations found in the National Plan of Action are still at the forefront of [AAUW's legislative agenda](#). Though women have made social progress within the last four decades, we still have a long way to go before we achieve equity. One thing is certain: Just as in Houston, AAUW will continue to rely on the power of organized women to advance our mission.”

Patrice Metro
Public Policy Chair

Happy
Holidays!

SOUTH SHORE AREA BRANCH CALENDAR

December 2017						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30 Game Night 7pm	1	2
3 Holiday Brunch 11am	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Hanukkah (Start)	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Book Group 7pm	20	21	22	23
24	25 Christmas	26 Kwanzaa (Start)	27	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5 RSVP for January meeting	6

2017 Calendar Template © calendarlabs.com

- November 20 RSVP deadline for Holiday Brunch to Phyllis Warren
- November 30 Home of Sandy Carle
- December 3 Mill Wharf Restaurant, 23 Wharf Plaza, Scituate
- December 19 Home of Patrice Metro discussing *Northanger Abbey* by Jane Austin
- January 5 RSVP deadline for January meeting to Sheila Doherty