

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

News of Note

September 2021

Branch Program

AAUW South Shore Branch invites you to our annual:

Kick Off Supper

Tuesday, September 14 at 6:30 pm Donovan Farm Clubhouse

Our Kick Off Supper this year, formerly known as Pot Luck, will be held on Tuesday, September 14 at 6:30 pm. Ginny Giordano has arranged for us to use her community clubhouse. It is located at 17



Donovan Farm Way in Norwell off of Circuit Street. Instead of bringing a dish to share this year, I will be buying wrapped sandwiches,

potato chips, dessert and water for everyone. The cost will be \$12 for each meal. The one important thing is you need to let me know if you are coming by **September 9th** so I can order the correct amount of food. I hope to see you all there for our "Kick Off" meeting. We will be presenting a preview of our programs for the year.

Sheila Doherty Social Chair 781-267-1098



Co-President's Message

Welcome back to another year of informative programs and the possibility of seeing friends that you have may have missed over the past year. I really enjoyed Beach Day at Sheila's in August

where I finally was able to converse with and see, in person, members of our branch that I had only seen on my iPad or computer screen for months!!

I feel we survived the 2020-2021 year of programs quite well and learned about the possibilities of our computers, iPads and in some cases phones. One of the advantages of using Zoom for the past year was the ability of members of AAUW from across the state to partake of our online meetings and we were also able at times to share their programs. That is one of the reasons that we will also hold some of our meetings this year virtually as well as in person. We have some great programs lined up and will keep you informed about them in your monthly *News of Note*.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you in person at Kick Off Supper on September 14. It is being held at the Donovan Farms Clubhouse, Norwell which is across the street from my home. The clubhouse has a parking lot. If it is full, you may park on the right-hand side of the street. If you have questions or need directions don't hesitate to call me. Read Sheila's article for all the details.

> <u>Ginny Giordano</u> Co-President 781 659-2269



Co-President's Message

As the weather cools down and the sun sets earlier it means that it's time to go back to school and time to kick off another year of AAUW South Shore Area Branch

meetings. I'm happy to be taking on the role of Co-President with Ginny this year. We have been working with the Executive Board to put together programs for our monthly meetings. We have some interesting presentations lined up. We are still looking for presentations for November and February so please reach out to one of us if you have any ideas.

We are hoping to have our meetings in person whenever possible. However, in light of the ongoing pandemic we have renewed our Zoom subscription so when we have an in-person meeting if possible we will have a hybrid meeting which means we will hope to present it on Zoom as well. During the winter months if the weather does not look like it will be a good night for an in-person meeting, we will host the meeting online via Zoom.

This year AAUW is celebrating its 140th year of empowering women and advocating for gender equity and economic security. Our monthly meetings are open to the public so please help us spread the word and invite others to join you at a meeting so that we can continue to work together to make a difference in the lives of women and girls.

> Lynn Howard Co-President

Membership Matters

Hello All, I hope that you had a wonderful summer! Our branch has planned an exciting year of monthly meetings and programs. We're hoping to have inperson meetings, but will also offer Zoom as an option. The start of the AAUW year is the perfect time to introduce friends, colleagues, neighbors, and relatives to AAUW. Please invite them to our first Kick-Off Meeting on September 14th. They will be provided with a sandwich meal as our guest and also be introduced to our branch. If they'd like to join as a member that night, they would be offered half-price National dues. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Our condolences go out to Phyllis Warren on the loss of her mother and to Ruth Ann Moore on the loss of her husband.

Years!

Congratulations are in order for long-time members: Jane

Street, Elaine Cadogan, and Anne Foley (Quincy) who have been awarded Honorary Life Membership in AAUW for 50 years of membership and to Ruth Powell who celebrated her 95th birthday in August! Awesome!

We are proud to announce our newest member Celia Nolan will be providing a presentation on Rank Choice Voting at the October 12th meeting at the Hingham Library. Thank you, Celia!

> Please watch your email in the next couple of days for the new 2021-2022 *Directory*. It will be emailed as a PDF electronic document to all members who have an email address and by regular mail to others. You will find the list of branch officers, our monthly meeting programs/activities, member contact information, and the book list for the Book Discussion group this year.

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.



Gail Saccone Co-Membership VP

Public Policy

Support the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act

Stand Up for Voting Rights!

Update: On August 24, 2021, the U.S. House of Representatives <u>passed</u> the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act (H.R.4). The legislation now moves to the Senate — take action below to urge your Senators to support this vital update to our nation's laws protecting the freedom to vote!

Over the past decade, states and localities across the country have enacted policies that make it harder to vote. So far in 2021, 49 states have introduced more than 400 anti-voter bills — and at least 18 states have passed 30 of them.

The landmark Voting Rights Act of 1965 stopped states from enacting racially discriminatory voting restrictions. However, laws fostering voter suppression have been on the rise. The 2013 Shelby County v. Holder Supreme Court decision gutted key protections in the law, making way for many of these new discriminatory and restrictive voting laws. These voting restrictions disproportionately impact people of color, women, voters with disabilities, and young and older voters, making it more difficult for them to access the ballot box.

It's time for Congress to restore and update this landmark law and ensure voters can fully participate in elections.

With so much at stake each time we head to the ballot box, it's crucial that everyone is able to make their voice heard. The John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act (H.R.4) responds to the Shelby decision and the wave of voter suppression tactics enacted. The bill passed the House with bipartisan support in December 2019 and they passed it again in August 2021. Our democracy works when everyone can fully participate—and our electoral participation needs the protections in this legislation.

Elected officials routinely make decisions about issues that directly impact all of us. From our paychecks to paid leave, access to reproductive health care to access to education, our lives are on the line—and our vote is our voice. To create real change, we must be part of the conversation, and the most powerful way for us to chime in is at the polls.

Tell your Senators it's time to pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and protect the freedom to vote today!" Go to: <u>https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-</u> <u>activist/voting-rights/</u>

> Patrice Metro Public Policy Chair

Book Discussion



Great news: Kay Hardy Campbell, former branch member and now resident of Maine, will Zoom with us in January when our branch will read and discuss her new book. Her book is *The Sons of Fez*. It is available on Amazon or it can be ordered through Buttonwood Books in Cohasset.

Our branch book discussion group meets monthly from September-May on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm. The monthly selections for



2021-2922 are attached to this newsletter and posted on the branch web page, direct link <u>https://aauw-ma.aauw.net/files/2020/08/2020-2021-Book-List.pdf</u>.

Until further notice discussion will be held via Zoom. The meetings are open to all branch members. If you would like to receive the Zoom link, please contact Lynn Howard (781-901-9120 mobile).

Equity Now

Together, we can achieve a vision of equal opportunity for all

SOUTH SHORE AREA BRANCH CALENDAR September 2021						
			1	2 VJ Day	3	4
5	6 Labor Day Rosh	7	8	9 RSVP Deadline for Kick Off	10	11
	Hashanah			Supper		10
12	13	14 <mark>Branch</mark> <mark>Meeting: Kick</mark> Off Supper	15 Yom Kippur	16	17 Constitution Day	18
19	20 Sukkot	21 <mark>Book</mark> Discussion	22	23	24	25 National Daughters Day
26 Hoshana Rabbah	27	28 National Voter Registration Day	29	30		

September 9, Deadline for RSVPing for Kick Off Supper

September 14, Branch Program: Kick Off Supper, Donovan Farm Clubhouse, Norwell, 6:30 pm September 21, Book Discussion of *The* Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes, 6:30 pm

Articles for publication in the South Shore Area branch newsletter, *News of Note*, should reach the editor, Hollie Bagley (<u>holliebagley@gmail.com</u>) by the 20th day of the previous month

Visit our branch web page: <u>http://aauw-</u> <u>ma.aauw.net/branches/southshorearea/</u>

Like and contribute to our branch Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/AAUWSouthShor eAreaMassachusetts