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

## April Branch Meeting

*Debbie Schall*

To continue with our programs focusing on “The Road Less Traveled”, we are fortunate to have two of the areas well-known gardeners with us this month. You will recognize Gabrielle Gosselin and Cathy



Gabrielle Gosselin and Cathy Karonis

Karonis if you frequent several of the local summer and winter farmer’s markets.

Gabrielle and her husband, Nate Drummond, own and operate Six River Farm in Bowdoinham. They lease 13 acres and own 7 acres of farmland all located along the shores of Merrymeeting Bay. They grow 9 acres of vegetables, herbs, and cut flowers, and 1 acre of berries. The remainder of their fields are used for crop rotation and cover cropping to keep their soils healthy. They grow over forty different crops and

sell the majority of their produce at farmers markets in Brunswick. The rest is sold to several restaurants and natural food stores in Bowdoinham, Brunswick, and Freeport.

Gabrielle says, “We are young farmers who are passionate about creating a healthy, ecologically sustainable food system here in Maine. We were drawn here by the fertile, rock-free soils, the beauty of the Bay, and proximity to good farmers markets. And as our farm grew, we felt increasingly attached to living and farming in such a beautiful place with such a vibrant, supportive community”.

Cathy and her husband, Pete, own and operate Fairwinds Farm located in Topsham and Bowdoinham. They are headquartered on Augusta Road in Topsham where they have their farmstand, 5 greenhouses, 5 acres of crops, and their home. They also have 10 acres of strawberries and 40 acres of mixed vegetables along the beautiful Kennebec River in Bowdoinham. They sell seedlings and produce at four weekly Farmers Markets and at their Topsham farm stand. Their strawberry fields are open to the public, in season, for “Pick Your Own Strawberries”.

Cathy says, “We have a mission with our farm. That mission is to Grow Top Quality Produce; Grow it Responsibly; and Sell it Reasonably Priced. We strive to make locally grown food affordable to all. We feel it should be a staple in every household, and not be considered a luxury”.

These two women traveled different routes to get to where they are today, and their stories are fascinating. We look forward to hearing about their journeys, and seeing beautiful photos of their farms.

**April Branch Meeting  
Annual Meeting**  
**Guest Speakers: Gabrielle Gosselin  
and Cathy Karonis**  
**Wednesday, April 18, 700 p.m.**  
 Morrell Meeting Room  
 Curtis Memorial Library  
 Brunswick  
*Refreshments*

## Growstown School

Linda Clement

The Annual Clean-Up Day at Growstown School will be held Monday, April 16 at 9:30 a.m. (rain date, Tuesday, April 17) Come join us and help prepare the school for our 2012 spring session. Please bring your own cleaning supplies, including a rake if you like to work outdoors.

We continue to look for members or other friends willing to make pinafores for our "19th century scholars". As always, we'll provide the pattern and fabric needed. We'd like to get a group together to work on them in an assembly-line fashion. Please contact Linda Clement if you can help with this project - 729-8563 or wdlhclem@gwi.net.

## Out to Lunch Bunch

Betty Fitzjarrald

The Out To Lunch Bunch will continue to sample ethnic foods in April.

The Mediterranean Grill, 10 School Street, Freeport is our April destination. We will meet and greet on Friday, April 27th at 11:30 a.m..

We have enjoyed sampling Indian, Thai and Japanese dishes so far this year, and we have shared many ideas and information while dining together.

Come and join this fun group of AAUW women.

To reserve a seat, please call Betty Fitzjarrald at 442-9780 or E-mail BFitz831@gmail.com

## Calendar

- April 11 **Book Group.** Thornton Oaks Library, 2:00 p.m., Discussion of *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls led by Jennifer Hayden
- April 13 **Knitting Group,** Home of Debbie Schall, 251 Woodside Road, Brunswick, 1:00 p.m.
- April 16 **Annual Clean-Up Day,** Growstown School, corner of Church and Woodside Roads, Brunswick, 9:30 a.m.
- April 18 **Annual Branch Meeting,** Curtis Memorial Library, 7:00 p.m.
- April 17 **Board Meeting,** Thornton Hall Activity Room, 4:00 p.m., *Note change of date*
- April 27 **Out to Lunch Bunch,** The Mediterranean Grill, 10 School Street, Freeport, 11:30 a.m.
- April 28 **AAUW State Convention,** Thomas College, Waterville
- May 8 **Book Group,** *Caleb's Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks, *Note change of date*

## Celebration Basket for Convention Raffle

Let's make a party in a basket! What kind of party you ask? Any kind of party or celebratory event.



What do you need for a party? How about invitations, decorations, candles, champagne, thank you notes, food treats and goodies, decorative

plates or cups, a book on parties. Parties are fun, so let's have some fun putting together our branch basket for the State Convention Basket Raffle. What's this all about, you may also ask? Well, each year, at the AAUW State Convention, branches submit large baskets filled with fun items relating to their chosen theme. The baskets are raffled off at the convention and the proceeds go to the AAUW Funds nationally with scholarships, fellowships, leadership training and in the courts (think Lilly Ledbetter and Title IX). We've had basket winners from our branch every year recently plus have filled some rather spectacular baskets. Let's keep the traditions going.

The basket will be at the April 18th meeting, so please bring your "celebration" items and help us fill it up.

If you missed purchasing the Basket Raffle tickets at the Spring Brunch on St. Patrick's Day, Kristen Sweeney will be selling them again at the April meeting. You do not need to be present at the State Convention on April 28th to win. If your name is called, a branch member will choose a basket for you, take it home and arrange for delivery. Raffle tickets cost \$5 for 4 or \$10 for 10. Don't forget to bring your address labels (much easier than writing on those tickets) to the branch meeting.

## AAUW State Convention

Joanne Bollinger

AAUW State Convention is less than an hour away in Waterville on April 28th. I wanted to attend this year but must be away so I hope a number of you will be able to take part in the day's activities and report back to me. You received all of the details in the recent *Dawn Breaker* -- just a reminder that the keynote speaker is an expert on bullying and harassment, a subject which has to concern us as women, mothers and grandmothers. Charlotte Price and a few others plan to go; Charlotte has offered to fill up her car with a couple more passengers. Call her at 607-4321 or e-mail: charpeter@gwi.net for a ride.

## UCBB Information Session

Joanne Bollinger

On March 7th Lynda DeHaan and I visited with six women students, including AAUW scholarship recipient and new member Joline Connolly-Allen, at University College Bath/Brunswick. Student Services Coordinator Lisa Whitney also attended -- with much enthusiasm, I might add. The women were eager to learn about AAUW, how it might help them now and in their futures, both as college graduates and working women. We asked them to share something of their stories and lives as non-traditional students, which they did with grace. They asked many questions, including several about our scholarship. Lynda in turn shared how much AAUW has meant to her over the years while I provided information about our local branch (one of the students was a Growstown "scholar" many years ago!) and the larger mission of AAUW. Joline organized the valuable session and we should all be grateful to her for her energy, enthusiasm and organizational skills.

### Identity of "Mystery Members"...

- #1--Nan Amstutz
- #2--Lynda DeHaan
- #3--Debbie Schall

## Proposed Budget for 2012-2013

|                      | Proposed<br>2011-2012 | Actual<br>2011-2012 | Proposed<br>2012-2013 |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>        |                       |                     |                       |
| Dues                 | 640.00                | 670.00              | 670.00                |
| CD Rollover          |                       |                     |                       |
| Fundraisers          |                       |                     |                       |
| Greens Event         | 1,200.00              | 1,855.00            | 1,800.00              |
| Donations            |                       | 548.00              | 500.00                |
| Other Income         | 500.00                |                     |                       |
| Bake Sale            |                       | 815.00              | 500.00                |
| Supper Income        |                       | 265.00              | 150.00                |
| Surplus              | 1,403.00              |                     |                       |
| State for Convention |                       |                     |                       |
|                      | <b>3,743.00</b>       | <b>4,153.00</b>     | <b>3,620.00</b>       |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>      |                       |                     |                       |
| Insurance            | 125.00                | 150.00              | 150.00                |
| Hospitality          | 50.00                 | 65.00               | 60.00                 |
| Meeting Expenses     | 250.00                | 200.00              | 250.00                |
| Speakers             | 400.00                | 75.00               | 300.00                |
| Growstown School     | 283.00                | 100.00              | 250.00                |
| Newsletter           | 150.00                | 107.00              | 200.00                |
| State and Reg'l Mtgs |                       |                     |                       |
| State Convention     | 200.00                |                     | 150.00                |
| AAUW Funds           | 750.00                | 750.00              | 750.00                |
| Scholarship - Local  | 1,000.00              | 1,496.00            | 1,000.00              |
| President            | 50.00                 | 0.00                | 50.00                 |
| Treasurer            | 10.00                 | 56.00               | 10.00                 |
| Membership           | 125.00                | 96.00               | 100.00                |
| National Convention  | 350.00                | 350.00              | 350.00                |
| B/PA System          |                       | 200.00              |                       |
|                      | <b>3,743.00</b>       | <b>3,645.00</b>     | <b>3,620.00</b>       |

## Co-Presidents' Letter

Joanne Bollinger

38 members and guests gathered on a lovely springlike March Saturday for our annual brunch at Thornton Oaks. A number of our regulars happened to be away so it was a fine turnout for a delicious meal and good conversation. Don Knisely, new Executive Director at the Oaks, greeted us warmly, commented knowledgeably on our mission, and told me later that he was very impressed with our group. Samantha Wilkinson, Reid State Park Manager, was a delightful presenter -- informative, yet charmingly casual (did I just coin a phrase?). I know I'm repeating myself here but our programs are so very special -- I encourage you to invite others to attend, learn and enjoy.

I'm writing this at the end of March and it seems we're enduring winter once again. But true spring is approaching and what better time to hear from farmers than at our meeting on April 18th at Curtis Memorial Library. Many of you know these two women if you attend the Farmers Markets and from what I understand, you are in for a fascinating, fun evening. Please be there promptly at 7 PM for our brief Annual Meeting (Election of Officers and

Budget Approval), after which we'll be hearing from the speakers, followed by refreshments and conversation.

AAUW's mission is looming large these days, what with the funding battles in Congress, the persistent issues of women's equity, low numbers of women in STEM studies and careers, bullying, harassment and on and on! Be grateful for the women AAUW has in Washington, fighting the good fight every day. However, each of us needs to take a few moments to study and act when we receive those e-mails from the national offices -- every voice makes a difference.

### Mystery members

**Member #1:** Although I grew up in Massachusetts my family always summered in Maine. August saw us at the old family homestead in Penobscot, while July was for other adventures. One July I spent on a farm where I "helped" with chores, such as milking the cows, and was given my first taste of beer which I disliked then and ever since. Several summers I attended a girls camp with the unforgettable name of Camp Laughing Loon. During high school one of my great ambitions was to spend my junior year abroad--ParisParis, Rome and Prague beckoned. Unfortunately,

## Mystery Members *Cont.*

by the time junior year rolled around the only Americans headed to Europe were G.I.s. After some years, it happened that Asia, not Europe, was where I found myself. Life in capital cities was always interesting and sometimes challenging, but many of my best memories are of trips we took to the remains of ancient civilizations -- Mohenjodaro, Alexander's city of Ai-Khanum on the Oxus River, the giant Buddha statues of Bamyán (later destroyed), the hundreds of Buddhist stupas in Pagan and the Mughal Empire's Fatehpur Sikri. Travel to my first-love, Europe, was limited mostly to post-retirement.

Member #2: I'm a real Motown girl, born and raised in Detroit...attended a large downtown high school for technology, science and arts...same school as Diana Ross who was a year ahead. From that school of over 3,000 students, I went to a very small women's college in south central PA. During college I developed a love of travel, starting with a family trip to England and Wales to reconnect with both parents' relatives, a highlight being the reunion with Dad's family in Coventry, England (first time he had seen them since WWII), followed by summer study in Madrid, Spain. I moved to Maine with my husband in 1977; there ensued another reunion with his huge family in Friesland in the Netherlands. The travel bug continues: I take annual trips with a group of women who have latched onto the Mt. Ararat student trips and have gone to Germany-Austria-Switzerland, China, and London; this April I'm off to Scotland and Ireland. In our earlier years in Harpswell,

summer vacations were sailing trips with our two children. After 35 years here, now I look forward to an exciting year with the upcoming birth of my first grandson and my daughter's wedding. An active member of AAUW since the early 1970s in Georgetown, Mass. and our branch since coming to Maine, I've worked as a medical transcriptionist, newspaper reporter, and bilingual secretary for a large pharmaceutical company and have been involved with Harpswell Community TV and served as a library assistant at Mt. Ararat for many years.

Member #3 was born and raised in MA where she lived two blocks away from her grandparents. Both grandmothers, the "Italian one" and the "American one" were fabulous cooks, and they planted the seed in her that grew into a love of cooking. She found a passion for sailing during her summers on the Vineyard as a camper and a counselor, and after college, while living in Boston, she could be found regularly sailing on the Charles. She met her husband while both were students in college, and she spent a year chasing one of his friends until her future hubby caught her! Like many others in the area, Uncle Sam brought her and her husband to BNAS. They had often talked about settling in a small NE college town and knew as soon as they arrived here that Brunswick would be home. She is most proud of the work she has done for over 30 years advocating for people with developmental disabilities, spending many years on committees in Augusta and around the state. Now retired, she and her husband are avid travelers making their way around the world – for the second time.

### Arts Corner

*Pat Forsyth*

- I am thankful to have a "do-over": The **Alvin Ailey Dance Group** is April 24th at 7:30 at Merrill Auditorium, 207-842-0800. I apologize for putting the wrong location in last month's newsletter.
- **Carmine Burana**, the masterpiece based on twenty five 13th century Latin poems will be presented April 22nd at 3:00 p.m. at Merrill Auditorium, 207-842-080
- **Pat Benatar, The "Great Dame of Rock"** will perform April 21st at 8:00 p.m. at the State Theater 609 Congress St., 207-956-6000
- **Exhibit: Those Boys in Blue**, Civil War Flags carried by Maine soldiers and other artifacts from that time through June 2015, Maine State Museum, 230 State St., Augusta, 207-287-2301
- **British pianist Imogen Cooper** will perform works by Hadyn, Schubert, Brahms, Beethoven and Chopin, April 25th at 7:30 p.m., Merrill, 207-842-0800
- **Edgar Degas, The Private Impressionist**, Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress St. Portland, thru 5/28. Also included are works of his peers Mary Cassatt, Paul Cezanne, Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres, and Henri de Toulouse Lautrec.

***Remember free Friday nights from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m..***