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## January/February Branch Meeting

*Charlotte Price*

The program for our January-February luncheon is very special as we continue our theme of The Road Less Traveled. We are very fortunate to have as our speaker, Professor Barbara M. Fraumeni, Professor



of Public Policy and director of the Ph.D. program in Public Policy at the Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine in Portland.

Dr. Fraumeni's topic is "Human Capital in China and Around the World." As she also serves on various national and international committees including the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe/OECD, her work on measuring human capital solidly contributes to world-wide understanding of that fascinating idea. She will also share with us her recent experience as Chair of the American Economic Association's Committee on the Status of Women in the Economic Profession. That Committee was established in 1970 and follows what

has been happening to women economists over the last 40 years.

Barbara M. Fraumeni joined the Muskie School of Public Service of the University of Southern Maine as Professor of Public Policy and Chair of the Ph.D. Program in Public Policy in August of 2005. She has held a number of other administrative posts at Muskie: Associate Executive Director as well as Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs, Associate Dean for Research, and Co-manager of the School, as well as being a professor and a chair. She is also a Special-Term Professor of the Center for Human Capital and Labor Market Research (CHLR) of Central University for Economics and Finance (CUFE) in Beijing, a Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research, and until this January the Chair of the American Economic Association's Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession (CSWEP).

She has a 1972 B.A. from Wellesley College and a 1980 Ph.D. from Boston College, both in economics. After graduation from Wellesley, she became a Research Assistant for Dale W. Jorgenson of the Department of Economics and the John F. Kennedy School of Government of Harvard University, beginning a research collaboration that continues to the present.

In 2006 Professor Fraumeni was awarded the U.S. Department of Commerce's highest award, a Gold Medal, for her pioneering work on R&D and the U.S. economy. She also received the 2006 CSWEP Carolyn Shaw Bell Award for furthering the status of women in the economics professions through example, mentoring, and achievements.

### January Branch Meeting Guest Speaker, Professor Barbara Fraumeni

**Monday, January 30, 11:30 a.m.**

Henry and Marty Restaurant  
61 Maine Street  
Brunswick

***Luncheon \$20***

## Membership

*Betsy Schmidt*

Happy New Year. We start the year with 61 members. Please welcome our two new members, Nancy Worthington and Joline Connolly-Allen. Joline is one of last year's scholarship winners. Nancy has attended our last two meetings. If you see them, introduce yourself. Please add to your directory:

### **Joline Connolly-Allen**

901 US Route 1  
Woolwich, ME 04579  
841-1073  
joline.connollyallen@maine.edu

### **Nancy Worthington**

25 Thornton Way #111  
Brunswick, ME 04011  
nanrich111@gmail.com

## Out to Lunch Bunch

*Betty Fitzjarrald*

The Out To Lunch Bunch will meet and greet on Friday, January 20th, 11:30 a.m. at "Little Tokyo" 72 Maine Street, Brunswick. Luncheon selections will be made from their menu featuring Japanese Cuisine. Chopsticks are optional. Please call Betty Fitzjarrald @ 442-9780 or e-mail BFitz831@gmail.com to have a seat saved for you.

All Branch members are welcome to join with the Bunch and to share lively discussions while enjoying a special meal.

## Calendar

- January 20 **Out to Lunch Bunch**, Little Tokyo, 72 Maine Street, Brunswick, 11:30 a.m.
- January 30 **Branch Meeting and Winter Luncheon**, Henry and Marty Restaurant, 61 Maine Street, Brunswick, 11:30 a.m.
- February 8 **Book Group**, Thornton Oaks Library, 2:00 p.m., Discussion of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot led by Nan Amstutz
- February 10 **Knitting Group**, Home of Debbie Schall, 251 Woodside Road, Brunswick, 1:00 p.m.
- February 28 **Board Meeting**, Thornton Hall Conference Room, 4:00 p.m.
- March 14 **Book Group**, *The Lacuna* by Barbara Kingsolver
- March 17 **Spring Brunch and Branch Meeting**, Thornton Oaks, 9:00 a.m.

## November Meeting

*Deborah Cravey*

For those of us attending the November meeting who may not have picked up a copy of Mariam Raqib's flyer on Afghanistan Samsortya, here is the contact information, quoted from the brochure:

*Any financial contribution is of course welcome and will be put 100% towards our program expenses. We are a 501(c)(3) organization with entirely volunteer staff. In addition to donations, we would be grateful to receive advice or assistance on technical research, grant writing, database management, website creation, and indeed fundraising. Please contact:*

*Afghanistan Samsortya  
Mariam Raqib, Director  
200 Swanton St.#418  
Winchester, MA 01890  
email: mraqib@afghanistansamsortya.org  
website: www.afghanistansamsortya.org*

## Co-Presidents' Letter

*Joanne Bollinger*

I imagine most of you are looking forward to an upswing in good news as we enter 2012. The economic outlook has to improve at some point, right? And the well-being of our planet is in need of much

greater attention and care. However, for our local branch, I predict robust health. You are a grand bunch, as evidenced by the warm spirit and good cheer displayed at the "Greens" party in December. Once again, Frances Caswell's home was the gathering place for 42 members and guests and Fran, Forrest, and their extended family couldn't have been more welcoming. I was so pleased that I was able to cultivate old and new acquaintances in such a congenial atmosphere. And you've done it again: You broke last year's record by \$50 with donations reaching \$1750; however, if you neglected to send in your "green", our scholarship fund and AAUW Funds are always open to more contributions.

I trust you will all be able to attend the luncheon and presentation on January 30th at "Henry and Marty's". As the restaurant is not open to the public for lunch, we will enjoy a private catered meal followed by what promises to be a fascinating talk of special interest to women. Charlotte Price has been working diligently for months, researching venues and menus, plus wangling a "yes" from a speaker who will interest and challenge us. Please invite a guest or two as this is always a rewarding time. Remember, this is the meeting for January and February so, to prevent AAUW "WS" (Withdrawal Syndrome), your presence will maintain your good health in that regard!

## Luncheon Details

*Charlotte Price*

The annual AAUW luncheon, January 30, 2012 at 11:30 a.m., will be at Henry and Marty's Restaurant, 61 Maine Street near Mason Street in downtown Brunswick. We have three menu choices (see menu for detailed descriptions) and require that you make a reservation with Deborah Cravey as soon as possible and no later than Wednesday, January 25. Be sure to call (207) 373-1749 or email Deborah Cravey at [gmcdbc18@comcast.net](mailto:gmcdbc18@comcast.net) with your reservation and menu choice. She will acknowledge your call or email if you do not talk with her directly.

When you have made a reservation, **please mail a check for \$20** to our Treasurer, Sonia Lofgren, 86 Toads Landing, Brunswick, ME 04011. Checks should be made payable to AAUW of Bath-Brunswick. This will solve many logistical problems at the luncheon.

Please try to car pool with your friends or neighbors as parking is limited in that part of town.

### Henry and Marty

Monday, January 30, 11:30 a.m.

#### Entree Selection

Bowl of Seafood Chowder  
with lobster, salmon, and scallops

#### Chicken Caesar Salad

with seasoned croutons and Parmesan cheese

Crepes stuffed with Maine organic apples  
and Appleton Farm goat cheese with an organic  
butternut squash sauce  
with demi salad

#### Dessert

Rice Pudding with Raisins

Moses Dyer Coffee or Twinings Tea

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## Our Mystery Members for this month

*Joanne Bollinger*

**Member #1** married while still in college, honeymooned in a snow-bound family farmhouse in Harpswell; her hubby then "moonlit" as her ski and skating instructor for some years. Once through 18 busy years of mothering five children, she chose education as a second career and stayed on those skis until she was 60. Serving as AAUW Branch president and on the State Board occupied her energies for many years - her greatest privilege in that latter capacity was the opportunity of interviewing Coretta Scott King. In retirement she expanded her life to work with Literacy Volunteers, acting as a tutor, trainer, and Chairman.

**Member #2** grew up in Kentucky, loving small-time horse racing and being a bit of a "social butterfly". After putting her husband through school, having two children and working in a variety of educational settings, she went back to school at her husband's insistence and with his constant support. "It was a wonderful experience, with interesting classes that I probably wouldn't have taken when younger. I was 52, a nontraditional student in every sense, taking some classes where I lived and others from a school many hundreds of miles away." Since this was before the days of online classes, she would send her papers through the mail

and have her exams from the distant school proctored by her employer/professor at her local university! Even though she lived in 7 states before coming to Maine, in recent years she and her husband have been exploring even more of this country with a small travel trailer for weeks at a time, and continue an active lifestyle by kayaking, bicycling, and spending part of each winter on Jekyll Island.

**Member #3** believes the most interesting aspect of her youth was going to Australia as a teenager less than a year after the end of WWII. She attended a girls' high school there while her father ran an oil refinery. After a "great" year of "catch-up" at a boarding school back in the US, off she went to college to major (at her father's insistence) in Business Administration and just happened to find her husband along the way. Following her "fascinating work at the Pentagon in R&D", she had two boys and found satisfaction in various volunteer positions, one of which led to employment at the NY Botanical Gardens. Having fallen in love with Maine on her very first visit, she eventually convinced her husband that this was the place to be. Raised with a love of the water and boats, she had "one disappointment in life": her husband had not one iota of interest in the same, in fact seasickness was his usual response to being on the water! Ah well, life does have its ups and downs.

# Not the Arts Column

*Pat Forsyth*

In place of the Arts Column this month (it will return next month), I thought it would a good time to update you on Dr. Jennifer Coane's program on memory and false memory. Remember many of you filled out forms for her research project and agreed to mail back postcards on a specific date? Here are the results from Jen herself:

Here is a summary of what we have to date. As a reminder, the project is examining how young and older adults perform on 'prospective memory' tasks, which refers to remembering to perform an action in the future (as opposed to retrospective memory, which refers to remembering events that have already occurred). This type of memory can be relatively trivial (such as remembering to pick up an item from the store) to life-altering (such as remembering to take one's medication). In laboratory tasks, older adults often perform slightly worse than college students, but in more naturalistic situations, performance is often equivalent. To date, there is limited research on how the delay between forming an intention to perform a task and when the task actually takes place can affect performance. In other words, do people tend to forget to perform an action more if they have to wait longer to do it? In this study, we gave participants postcards and asked them to mail them back on specific days (1, 2, 5, 14, or 30 days later) without using any specific reminders (like a calendar or post-it). Here is a summary of our data to date:

Overall, response accuracy in the postcard mailing task is high across delay conditions. More than 85% of the postcards have been mailed within one day of the date requested. This rate is higher than the rate seen in younger adults tested in a university student population (59%) and is consistent with return rates seen in another older adult population tested (87%). Response rate declines little over the delay conditions, but does seem to show a small decline between 1 and 5 day delays, indicating that forgetting for this task seems to occur primarily within that time frame.

I hope this is helpful! We hope to submit the data for final publication in a peer-reviewed journal soon. I will let you know if that happens!

Best,  
Jen

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## Identity of "Mystery Members" ...

#1--Barbara White

#2--Deanna Baxter

#3--Jeannette Gorman