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

May Branch Meeting

Pam Erickson, Executive Director, Coastal Studies for

A number of years ago, I was pleased to have the opportunity to share the dream of Coastal Studies for Girls with members of our local branch of AAUW. Since that time, the vision of working with tenth grade girls in a residential marine science and leadership semester school has come alive. We are now in our fifth semester of programming, and in June we'll have 64 alumnae out in the world!



Coastal Studies Students

Our students are here for a full four months of the fall or spring of their sophomore year of high school, and are from public, private and home schooled environments. We've been fortunate to have worked with girls from California, Minnesota, Texas, North Carolina, Tennessee, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine. Additionally, our first international student from Kathmandu, Nepal, is also joining us

this semester! We continue to have goals to geographically, socioeconomically and ethnically diversify our student body and we've been fortunate to have received some very generous donations from individuals to help make this happen in our first five semesters.

CSG is the first and only semester school for girls in the country, and our marine science and leadership program is second to none. Girls conduct real research projects, meet guest lecturers and take field trips along the Maine coast. They engage in hearty discussions about themselves, others and the world in which they live, and develop Personal Leadership Plans, sharing thoughts on how they intend to embrace the Cornerstone of ACTION by making a positive difference in the world.



Students holding sea stars

We'd love for you to meet our girls and staff. The

public is invited to our "End of Semester Exhibitions" which will be held on Friday, June 1 at the Freeport Public Library. While there is no cost to attend the event, an RSVP is required to save a seat. Please call 865-9700 if you'd like to attend – we'd love to have you!

Our inaugural Summer 2012 programs extend the CSG experience to middle school girls, women and educators. We invite you to follow our growing organization's adventures on facebook, our blog or by subscribing to our e-news, www.coastalstudiesforgirls.org

May Branch Meeting
Coastal Studies for Girls
Guest Speaker: Pam Erickson,
Executive Director

Wednesday, May 16, 7:00 p.m.
 Thornton Oaks Multi-Purpose Room
 25 Thornton Way
 Brunswick
Dessert Buffet

Out to Lunch Bunch

Betty Fitzjarrald

The next Out To Lunch Bunch gathering will be at The Dolphin restaurant, located at the end of Basin Point Road, Harpswell.

We will “Meet and Greet” here on Friday, June 1st, 11:30 a.m.

We met here last year and everyone loved the spectacular views and the delicious menu choices and so I chose to end our dining together outings at this notable destination.

The Dolphin asks that I let them know a day ahead to arrange for appropriate seating for the group .

Therefore, please let me know if you plan to meet with the OTLB’ers so that you will be included.

Betty Fitzjarrald 442-9780 or bftiz831@gmail.com.

A Company of Girls

We all enjoyed the branch program last April when we met several young women from A Company of Girls. Now you will have the chance to see them perform when they present *Charlotte’s Web* on May 4-6 at Studio Theater at Portland Stage, 25A Forest Ave, Portland. Tickets (\$5) are available by calling 874-2107.

Calendar

- 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 6-8 **A Company of Girls**, *Charlotte’s Web*, Portland
- May 8 **Book Group**, Thornton Oaks Dining Room, Noon, Discussion of *Caleb’s Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks, led by Dee Little
- May 11 **Meet and Greet Tea for Newer members**, Growstown School
- May 16 **Branch Meeting**, Thornton Oaks Multi-Purpose Room, Brunswick, 7:00 p.m.
- May 29 **Program Planning Meeting**, Home of Deborah Cravey, 18 Willow Grove, Brunswick, 2:30 p.m.
- June 1 **Out to Lunch Bunch**, The Dolphin Restaurant, Harpswell, 11:30 p.m.
- June 7 **Board Pot Luck Supper**, High Head Yacht Club, 5:00 p.m.

Book Group

Nan Amstutz

There has been a change in the day and time of the May meeting of the Book Group. There will be a luncheon in Thornton Oaks Dining Room on Tuesday, May 8 at Noon. Following lunch Dee Little will lead a discussion of *Caleb’s Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks.

Speaker Update

Excerpted from The Lincoln County News

The Maine Nutrition Council presented the Katherine O. Musgrave Public Service Award to Focus on Agriculture in Rural Maine Schools (FARMS) co-founder and Damariscotta resident, and past B-B Branch speaker, Karen Kleinkopf (daughter of branch member Eileen Kleinhopf). The award recognizes an individual, organization or institution for outstanding work in nutrition policy, education, or research. The mission of FARMS is to educate students about good nutrition and the role of local farms in promoting healthy, sustainable communities and to promote and facilitate farm-to-institution purchasing.

Today, in her role as farm-to-school

coordinator, Karen delivers healthy snacks every week to classrooms across the Central Lincoln County School System. She leads taste tests and oversees a culinary club, all as a volunteer.

Growstown School

Linda Clement

The weather could not have been better! The morning was spectacular and temps were at an all-time high for the spring clean-up at Growstown School on Patriots’ Day. Many thanks go to our always faithful and diligent Betty Fitzjarrald, Anne Pierce, Carole Sargent, and Priscilla Smith for all their help with raking sweeping, scrubbing, and cleaning. The school looks terrific and is now ready for our scholars to arrive for their “one room” day of 19th century learning. Fifteen classes will attend Growstown through the month of June.

Identity of “Mystery Members”...

- #1--Nancy Worthington
- #2--Charlotte Price
- #3--Betty Fitzjarrald
- #4 - Carol Freeman

2012-2013 AAUW MEMBERSHIP

Bath-Brunswick Branch

_____ Dues - \$69 (\$49 National - tax deductible, \$10 State, \$10 Branch)

Optional Donations:

_____ Branch Local Scholarship at University College Bath-Brunswick

_____ National AAUW Funds (EF/LAF)

_____ Total

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ Zip _____

Phones: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____

E-Mail _____

College _____ Degree _____

***Please send your dues to branch treasurer,
Sonia Lofgren, 86 Toads Landing, Brunswick, ME 04011***

Mystery Members

Joanne Bollinger

Here are your final four Mystery Members for the year. This has been a grand experience for me, as I trust it has for all of you -- it has been such fun coming to know you better.

#1 is a "Jersey Girl", fell for her husband when he scored 7 goals in lacrosse for Middlebury against Harvard, and finished her MAT in Special Ed at the same time her eldest (of 4) graduated from high school

- played "Mother Goose" at her library for 20 years after retirement from teaching, was featured as "Clara Clutter" in the school recycling program, and was "Story Lady" at 3 day care centers--she's quite a "character"!

- loves that her unfulfilled dreams are coming to fruition through her grandchildren

#2 soloed on Gold and Crimson Tulips (a new one for Joanne!) in kindergarten, tended a Victory Garden as a Campfire Girl during WW II, and was involved in integrating restaurants in DC following the Supreme Court decision of 1949

- lived on the same floor of a NYC building as later Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall (who enjoyed her Scotch), and taught the current mayor of Chicago and a former Deputy US Ambassador to the UN when they were undergrads

- as an early feminist was involved in founding the first graduate program in Women's History, and later taught at the only maximum security prison for women in NY. •Her two daughters are in "female" professions (nursing/Early Childhood Ed) with a "feminist difference"; one is a "poster person with her wife and children for same sex marriage"

#3 was born in MA but has lived in ME for over 40 years, met her husband-to-be at a NH ski lodge when snowed-in during a huge March blizzard, and has made at least 12 cross-country road trips, managing to travel all major E-W highways, including Rt. 66, squeezing in visits to 26 national parks in the US in the process

- has celebrated a few unique birthdays, one at the Ritz-Carlton in Boston with none other than Jacqueline Kennedy and Lee Radziwill seated at the next table; on her 50th she rode a BIW Navy destroyer down the ways at a launch -- later meeting John Wayne in the BNAS Officers' Club
- participated in 7 Elderhostel/Road Scholar trips -- one to Grand Manan Island to see the nesting puffins -- and •"last, but not least, has been a member of the Bath/ Brunswick branch for more than 30 years.

#4"was hooked on the smell of greasepaint" from her first play in high school

- "along came college, marriage and children...with plenty of

(Cont. on page 4)

Mystery Members (Cont.

from page 3)

a cappella and choir singing, but no theater...it wasn't until I was 43 that I joined a Community Theater group in the midwest where I landed the role of Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof*,

...Oh what a joy!" Then came *Plaza Suite* and the role of Miss Marple in *Something's Afoot*, "with many songs and dances...fun, fun, fun!"

•hasn't acted since but delighted in her actor daughter's performance, also at 43, as Golde at Seacoast Repertory Theater in Portsmouth. (She now contributes her solid singing talent and great smile to The Thornton Singers -- Joanne's addendum)

ARTS COLUMN

Pat Forsyth

Summer is fast approaching and you may want to make some plans for yourselves, for expected company, or for grandchildren. First, the schedule for the Maine State Music Theatre:

A Chorus Line June 6- June 23

Legally Blonde June 27- July 14

Sunset Boulevard July 18- August 4

42nd Street August 8-August 2

Two children's shows are scheduled:

Skippyjon Jones Mon. June 11, 10:00 AM, 1:00 PM, and 3:00 PM

Sleeping Beauty Mon. August 20, 11:00 AM, 1:00 PM, and 3:00 PM

May 2, 2012 Single tickets go on sale for all MSMT shows and events. Box office: 725-8769 or www.msmt.org

NEXT: The Bowdoin International Music Festival runs from June 27-August 3

Featured composers are Claude Debussy and Johann Sebastian Bach. Highlights will include performances by the virtuoso violinist Midori, the Ying and Shanghai Quartets, violist Paul Newbauer, violinists Ray Chen, Frank Huang, Mikhail Kopelman, Renee Jolles, pianists Emma Tahmizian and Boris Slutsky, and clarinetist Larry Combs.

Festival Fridays, Wednesday Upbeat, and Monday Sonatas, the Gamper Festival and Artists of Tomorrow are all on tap.

For more information visit www.bowdoinfestival.org or call 725-3895 for a free copy of the season brochure.

Have a Happy ART-FULL summer!

Co-President's Letter

Joanne Bollinger

This is our newsletter's final edition of the 2011-12 year and isn't it a terrific broadsheet? Of course, that's all due to the graphic expertise and eye for detail of our editor, Debbie Schall. She is one of our special treasures.

The April meeting was as informative and friendly as any we've had this year. Our local "farmer friends", Gabrielle and Kathy, enlightened us with their stories, concerns, and passion regarding their endeavors to provide the community with delicious, clean, and fresh produce from their farms in Topsham and Bowdoinham. They were delightful!

I'm hoping to see you all at our last gathering of the year when we hear from the Freeport program, Coastal Studies for Girls. Be at Thornton Oaks at 7 PM on May 16 for their presentation plus yummy desserts.

As we have followed The Road Less Traveled over the past months, our minds have been challenged, our hearts have been touched, our funny bone tickled -- and our group has grown. My hope going forward is that everyone, long-time members and newcomers alike, will reach out to become even more engaged with one another and most especially with our projects.

Specifically, I am thinking of our Growstown School program. Our living-history project, now reaching the end of its third decade, is not only unique in the area, it is highly valued by local schools and certainly is firmly entrenched in the memory banks of thousands of attendees. As a few of our members have moved away or retired from the school committee, it is in need of -- and would warmly welcome -- "new blood". When many work together, the tasks are doable and the camaraderie unsurpassed! Committee Chair, Linda Clements can enlighten you further regarding the various duties that comprise the committee's work. You can contact her at 729-8563 or wdlhclem@gwi.net.

Lastly, the board will be hosting a "Meet and Greet Tea" on Friday, May 11 at Growstown School. Newer members and those who are considering joining our branch will receive invitations. The purpose of this event is to acquaint these women with our board, answer questions regarding AAUW's activities and mission, and of course, come to know each other a bit better. Our schoolhouse, with its special ambiance, seems the perfect place for such an occasion.

Thank you for being such a wonderful group of women and for advancing the cause of women and girls, both in the Bath/Brunswick region and through national AAUW.

American Association of University Women

2012-13 Programs

Deborah Cravey

Suggestions Wanted for Program Planning

There will be a first program planning meeting for the 2012-13 year on May 29 at 2:30 PM at Deborah Cravey's house, 18 Willow Grove Road, Brunswick, hosted by Deborah and Charlotte Price, Program co-chairs. Anyone interested in attending will be welcome as will suggestions from members who cannot attend. The planning meeting is a fine way to talk over ideas and get responses from those present, resulting in a good mix of programs. If you can attend, please call Deborah at 373-1749 or email Deborah at gmcdbc18@comcast.net, or Charlotte at charpeter@gwi.net.

Local Scholarship

Charlotte Price

In April, the Board, upon the recommendation of members of the Scholarship Committee, and after reviewing our financial status, agreed to award two scholarships again this year to non-traditional students that members of the AAUW Bath-Brunswick Scholarship Committee thought are both highly qualified and especially meet our criteria for this scholarship. This year the scholarship committee received four qualified applications so that the decision followed significant, difficult deliberations.

We welcome our two new scholarship recipients: Tammy L. Richards Meserve from Edgecomb has worked as a freelance writer

for a number of Maine newspapers, including the Portland Press Herald where she was denied a regular job because she did not have a college degree. Tammy graduated from Lincoln Academy High School in Newcastle, Maine in the late 1970s, but her parents believed it was unnecessary for a woman to go to college. She has taken some college courses since the 1990s and hopes to complete her degree so that she may pursue her dream of being a professional journalist. Tammy has published a children's book, *There's a Moose Loose in the Hoose!* And has another in process of publication. She still has some beginning courses to pursue, one that we will support.

Julie L. Geroux from Bath graduated from Morse High School and was accepted at three prestigious colleges. Family issues prevented her from attending college in 1987, but she now hopes to earn a bachelor's degree in computer information technology. Her goal is to eventually open her own web design company and she hopes for a future of security and independence. Our committee and board were particularly interested in supporting someone in a STEM field that all levels of AAUW are enthusiastic to encourage women to pursue.

We hope to introduce both of our new scholarship awardees at the May meeting at Thornton Oaks where Pamela Erickson will be our speaker. They will also be invited to the September "pot luck" that begins our 2012-13 season. Branch members may meet and greet them at one of those meetings.