

In This Issue...

Branch Meeting

Membership

Out to Lunch Bunch

Calendar

Harvest Bake Sale Recap

Home to Home

Knitting Group

Co-Presidents' Letter

Holiday Party and Greens Event

Arts Column

Achievement Citation Award

Book Signing

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

November Branch Meeting

Debbie Schall

This summer, Betsy Schmidt and I had the opportunity to hear a brief talk given by Elizabeth Scharpf, Founder of SHE - Sustainable Health Enterprises, about a revolutionary project taking place in Rwanda, and we knew immediately that it would be of interest to our AAUW friends. SHE is a social enterprise that invests in overlooked people and ideas to drive social and economic change. They educate and train local entrepreneurs, optimize and distribute product, and provide access to start-up capital. Their first campaign, SHE28, helps individuals to jump-start their own businesses to manufacture and distribute locally produced, low-cost, eco-friendly menstrual pads designed by SHE & its technical partners at MIT, NCSU, & Kigali Institute of Technology. With every woman-led business that SHE invests, about 100,000 women gain access to these pads.

The SHE LaunchPad significantly reduces the negative environmental impact of typical pads by using agro-waste (i.e.



banana fibers) as the absorbent core of the pad. Overall, the SHE28 campaign pairs its product innovation with a sustainable & scalable business model operated & owned by women in the community. SHE's sanitary pad franchising is also coupled with health & hygiene education & advocacy, to ensure long-term sustainability.

We told Elizabeth that we knew our AAUW branch members would love to hear more about SHE. Elizabeth is based in New York, but it was our delight to learn that another of SHE's officers, Cece Comacho lives in Brunswick! We are delighted to have Cece join us at our November meeting, and to learn more about SHE.

CeCe joined SHE after working in the field of education and international health. Previously, she worked for Waynflete School in Portland, Maine, overseeing their summer programs. She is the former director at the Cornell Public Service Center where she oversaw the K-12 programs. She worked for the International Women's Health Coalition's Africa program, promoting girls' and women's reproductive health and rights in Nigeria and Cameroon. CeCe also served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in both Yemen (Middle East) and Gabon (West Africa), working on maternal and child health projects and coordinating women in development initiatives. CeCe has an Ed.M. from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and a B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley. In her spare time, she loves to run up hills, travel, make art, take long walks with her family and drink tea.

November Branch Meeting
Sustainable Health Enterprises
Guest Speaker: Cece Comacho

Wednesday, November 14, 7:00 p.m.

Morrell Meeting Room
Curtis Memorial Library
Brunswick

Membership News

Betsy Schmidt

Sandra Barry's name was inadvertently omitted from the directory. Please add her information to yours. Thank you.

Sandra Barry 725-1286
(5042798)

rsbarrys@comcast.net
245 Hanson Drive, Topsham,
04086

University of Arizona

Also, Please add **Sara
Townsend's** home phone and
email to your directory:

Home 373-0608

saradtownsend@comcast.net

We would like to welcome
Barbi Norton as a returning
member. Barbi was an
active member of the branch
for many years before she
and her husband, John,
moved away several years
ago. Please correct her
email in the directory to
barbinorton@yahoo.com

Out to Lunch Bunch

Betty Fitzjarrald

The Out To Lunch Bunch
November gathering will
be on Friday, November
30th, 11:30 a.m. at Jack
Magee's Grill, Smith Union,
Bowdoin College.

Jack Magee's Grill is located
on the lower floor of the
Smith Union building.

Please come to meet and
greet other AAUW members
and enjoy the famed cuisine
of the college. The menu will
be a pleasant change from
turkey leftovers.

FMI contact Betty Fitzjarrald
at 442-9780 or e-mail
bfitz831@gmail.com.

Calendar

- October 31 **Out to Lunch Bunch**, Scarlet Begonias, Brunswick, 11:30 a.m.
- November 9 **Dahlov Ipcar Book Signing**, Mid Coast Hospital, 10 a.m.-Noon
- November 9 **Knitting Group**, Home of Debbie Schall, 251 Woodside Road, Brunswick,
1 p.m.
- November 14 **Book Group**, Thornton Oaks Library, 2 p.m., Discussion of *Drift* by Rachel
Maddow led by Marie Little
- November 14 **Branch Meeting**, Curtis Memorial Library, 7 p.m.
- November 27 **Board Meeting**, Thornton Hall, 4 p.m.
- November 30 **Out to Lunch Bunch**, Jack Magee's Pub, Bowdoin College, 11:30 a.m.
- December 12 **Holiday Party and Greens Event**, Curtis Memorial Library, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- January 8 **Board Meeting**, Thornton Hall, 4 p.m.
- January 9 **Book Group**, *In the Garden of Beasts* by Erik Larson

Harvest Bake Sale Recap

Linda Clement

The day dawned bright and chilly with the coldest temperatures of the season to date but that didn't deter many from attending the Annual Bake Sale and Open House at Growstown School on Saturday, October 13th. Perhaps it was the smell of the wood stove and spiced cider wafting in the wind that enticed some to enter the one-room schoolhouse, but come, they did! Many remarked on the wonderful warmth of the stove as they walked through the door. It did feel especially good that morning!

As always, visitors seemed pleased to learn more about the school and our very successful living history program as they checked out the delectable baked goods on display. A number of former students in attendance reminisced about their day at the school and even remembered the role they assumed while there.

Thanks to all who helped make the day such a success . . . those who helped set up and clean on Friday, those who served on Saturday, all the amazing bakers and all who purchased the many available goodies throughout the day. It was a great team effort! A special thanks to Joanne Bollinger for once again singing "I'll Never Smoke nor Chew Tobacco", always a delightful surprise for those visiting the school.

A total of \$667 was realized from the sale.
Thanks to everyone for a job well done!

Home to Home

Betsy Schmidt

One of our community projects is Home to Home. In 1996, our branch, along with the Maine Sixth District Court, founded Home to Home. It provides a safe and supervised place for separated or divorced parents to peacefully exchange their children for visitation.

The exchanges take place at Mid Coast Hospital in Brunswick by volunteers. The parents use separate parking lots, entrances and exits. There is no contact with one another. Volunteers are always needed. If interested in volunteering, call Rich Siegel at 837-4894.

Home to home has conducted thousands of exchanges sparing families stress. Because the program has been so successful, and with the urging of the Maine Sixth District Court, a supervised visitation program has been added.

Knitting Group

Debbie Schall

Knitting Group will meet on Friday, November 9 at 1 p.m. at my house. Afghans for Afghans has just announced a new campaign, so come prepared to make hats, mittens, or socks for ages 5 thru adult.

FMI, contact me at dmschall@comcast.net

Co-Presidents' Letter

Joanne Bollinger

October was a full month for our branch. First there was Janet Judge's presentation on Title IX. "WOW", was the most common reaction to her energetic, fact-filled, often humorous, sometimes disturbing talk. She had compliments for us as well, finding us engaged and eager to learn. Fast upon that evening came our third annual Growstown School Open House/Bake Sale which, although not quite as lucrative as last year's (could have been the very chilly morning), engendered much interest and wonderfully supportive comments. Your contributions were beautifully displayed as Co-Chairs Linda Clement and Betty Fitzjarrald worked their magic once again, transforming the school into a welcoming, autumn-y venue. It's always such fun to watch people's eyes open wide in amazement when they walk in for the first time -- they are often loathe to leave, wanting to stay and soak in the atmosphere, and purchase some goodies as well.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting on November 14th. We'll be at Curtis Memorial Library this time to hear CeCe Comacho of Sustainable Health Enterprises talk about their work in Rwanda.

Do you realize how wide-ranging, yet pertinent to AAUW's mission, most of our programs are this year? Our theme, Crossing the Line, comes from AAUW's important report on sexual harassment but we have expanded it to include women who have stepped beyond the ordinary, to those who have found new and challenging ways to engage in our world. Be with us as we explore their lives, trials and triumphs.

It's not too early to mark December 12th for our Greens Event. "Green" is for that paper in your billfolds! Whatever you bring goes toward our Scholarship Fund and AAUW Funds. Since no one was able to offer her home this time, we're going to bring the Morrell Meeting Room at the library alive with our conviviality, refreshments, and decorative touches with a few carols thrown in for good measure. Watch for more info as the date approaches.

I have two Mystery Members for you this month:

Member #1 grew up in Albany, New York where she met her husband. "We honeymooned in Maine because it was my husband's favorite state, I had never been there and we would most likely never get back. The Navy changed that."

She joined AAUW in 1991 when a good friend gave her a gift membership for finishing her degree in nursing. She worked in hospitals, doctor's offices and schools, enjoying school nursing the most: "Working with children and teenagers is often challenging but rewarding." She hung up her downhill skis last year but continues to cross-country ski; summers are full of sailing and gardening, while her grandchildren fill her life with joy the year round.

Member #2 began life in a small West Virginia town, earning

Save the Date
Wednesday, December 12, 2012
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Holiday Party and Greens Event
Morrell Meeting Room
Curtis Memorial Library
Brunswick

Holiday Party

Deborah Cravey

Members and spouses or guests will be welcomed to the annual Greens Event at Curtis Memorial Library this year. A change of space for our celebration of the holidays and our major fund raiser for the scholarship fund. We'll enjoy the usual wine, punch, and nibbles with a chance to socialize. To make the room more festive, if you have a small(less than 2 feet tall)tree that we can use for decorating the tables of food, please let me(Deborah) know when you RSVP. Nothing so precious you will worry about it, please. I plan to bring a ceramic tree that was my mother's, surely almost everyone had one of these in the late 50s. We'll happily enjoy any holiday floral arrangement you want to share, as well, but please be prepared to take your shared item when you leave because we cannot leave anything behind at the library. We'll have a special table for holiday books should members have favorites to display. Just remember that they must go home with you or with someone who agrees to take them.

As always, members are encouraged to bring food to share. The library kitchen is small so please bring items on a serving tray and remember that we may not be able to heat or reheat when you plan what to bring. The major purpose is to have some fun socializing while painlessly raising money for our scholarships. Mark your calendars and come on to Curtis on the 12th!

Reservation details will be in the December newsletter.

Valedictory status upon finishing grade school, while only managing to become Salutatorian of her high school! It was all up from there as she pursued medical studies after college and became an obstetrician and gynecologist.

Her entire career was spent in Brunswick from 1961-1998 (except for two years in Singapore in the 80s). How many Brunswick babies arrived into her capable hands?! "Life since retirement? Busy but love it and miss all my patients but not the 'night life'. I've gone on several mission relief trips to Guam, Penang, and Mexico, worked at the free clinic in Brunswick and currently am Asst. Director of SDA Community Services".

Arts Column

Pat Forsyth

ALERT!

At the Portland Museum of Art: Winslow Homer Exhibit

Because such crowds are traveling from all over to view the Winslow Homer exhibit, the museum is offering timed tickets which guarantee your entrance. You can call 775-6148 to order or stop in at the museum.

Sunday Nov. 18th, 2:30 p.m., **Strauss and Stravinsky**, Merrill Auditorium

Dec. 4th 7:30 p.m., Merrill Auditorium, **Natalie MacMaster**, fiddler, "Christmas in Cape Breton", a concert of traditional and contemporary Celtic melodies and Christmas carols.

Dec. 14-23, *The Magic of Christmas*, Merrill Auditorium

Beauty and the Beast, Jan. 4th, 7 p.m., and Jan. 5th, 1 and 7 p.m., Merrill Auditorium

And in case you want to get tickets in advance...

The Canadian virtuoso pianist and composer, **Marc-Andre Hamelin** has rescheduled his Portland Ovarions recital from Feb. 9th to Feb. 16th at 3 p.m.

Midtown Men Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m., Merrill Auditorium, Four stars from the original Broadway cast of *Jersey Boys*

Joffrey Ballet, Thurs. March 21, 7:30 p.m., Merrill Auditorium

A Christmas Carol, Nov. 30-Dec. 23, Portland Stage, Tickets: 774-0465, www.portlandstage.org

For all shows at the Merrill Auditorium tickets can be obtained from PORTTIX 842-0800

Identity of "Mystery Members"...

#1--Betsy Schmidt

#2--Alice Cunningham-Spindler

Achievement Citation Award

Kristin Sweeney

There will be a new format for an Achievement Citation Award in 2013. Nominees should be "young leaders" who are 25-40 years old, and who are eligible to join AAUW. Their accomplishments should be consistent with the AAUW mission and public policy positions. The person who receives the award will be expected to speak at the annual convention, which will be held in Belfast on April 26-27, 2013.

Branches need only provide a name, an age, and a short statement indicating why they think the candidate's accomplishments merit this award. The Achievement Citation Committee will do further research on each nominee.

Nominations may be submitted at any time (the earlier the better) to Kristen Sweeney at kgsweeney@gwi.net. If you do not receive an acknowledgement from me within a few days, please follow-up to make sure that I have received the nomination.

Each branch should be able to identify at least one nominee. This year nominations from branches will close on December 31, 2012, since more work will be required of committee members with this new model.

Dahlov Ipcar Book Signing

Millie Stewart

Returning for the 5th year, beloved children's author, Dahlov Ipcar, will be in the Cafe Corridor at Mid Coast Hospital on Friday, November 9 from 10 a.m. to noon to sign copies of her books, featuring her newly republished book, *Stripes and Spots*.

Dahlov will be 95 on Nov. 12, so this is a wonderful opportunity to see her again. She is amazing!

FMI, call 373-6015.