







Somerset Hills AAUW- APRIL NEWS

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	CONTACT/HOST
		 APRIL 2025 	
4/7	6:00 PM	Evening Book Group <u>The Art Thief</u> Michael Finkel Panera Basking Ridge	Pat Emanuele
4/8	5:45 PM	<i>Don't Read That!</i> ⁺ Speaker: Elissa Malespina (elissamalespina.com) Long Hill Twp. Library	☀️ SNACKS NEEDED! See below!!!
4/20	9:00 AM	Morning Book Group ZOOM <u>The Wharton Plot</u> By Mariah Fredricks	Jackie D'Allessio Zoom link https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81003976170?pwd=a0V5emZQZkVhRXRiWkpETStaY1Urdz09
		 MAY 2025 	
5/5	6:00 PM	Evening Book Group <u>Becoming Madam Secretary</u> By Stephanie Dray Panera Basking Ridge	Pat Emanuele
5/13*	5:45 PM	<i>Navigating Healthcare</i> Sharon Hayden Long Hill Twp. Library	
5/19	9:00 AM	Morning Book Group BOOK CHOICE	Karen Brown

+This program on book banning is for our members only!

***(Please note the date in the current directory has the May meeting incorrectly as May 7. The correct date is May 13!)**

☀️ **Volunteers needed to bring snacks for our APRIL meeting!!!** Please reach out to Jean Aurnhammer (908-227-3861- jaa39@aol.com) if you can help by bringing an item.

Leadership Opportunity!! The AAUW Board is in need of some interested members to fill some leadership openings. We are looking for a **PROGRAM VP**. This person helps to arrange for our engaging monthly programs. If interested please contact Ginny Lyttle lyttlegvirginia@yahoo.com

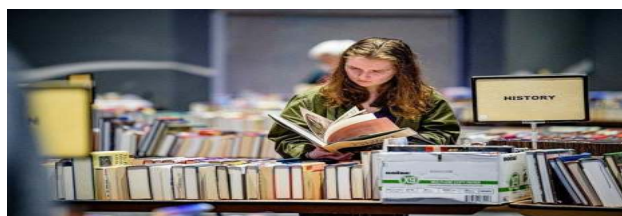
There will be a Program Committee meeting on May 20th at 7 PM. It will be on ZOOM. If you are interested in joining this important committee, or have an idea for an engaging/interesting program for the 2025/2026 year, please look for the email with the ZOOM link!! **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

AAUW Scholarship Winners will be honored-The 20th Annual Scholarship Reception at Raritan Valley Community College will take place on Thursday April 17,2025 at the RVCC Event Center. The AAUW Scholarship recipients will be there as we honor them and many other scholarship recipients. If you would like to be in attendance and witness this remarkable and inspiring event, please contact Teri Passarello-908-313-8421. Dinner will be served.

🚗 **Carpool coordination:** Sharon Hayden (sharon.hayden323@gmail.com). (908-229-6915) If you need a ride, or can provide a ride!

☀️🌸 **MEMBER ENGAGEMENT & SOCIAL COMMITTEE** - Please notify the committee if you know of a member whose life circumstances are such that they could use a little SUNSHINE. The committee will extend a supportive connection on behalf of the Branch! Please contact Jean Aurnhammer (908-227-3861) jaa39@aol.com or Lee Delitzscher (908-647-4497) ladybearlee@aol.com

It's coming! It's coming! The 2025 Book Sale is coming!



All hands on deck! We can all do a little to make this big event happen!

Schedule of Activities

Move boxes, furniture to BMS	Fri	Jul 25	8:30 - 12:00
Set up (Mon), donations, sorting	Mon - Thu	Jul 28 - 31	7:00 - 4:00
Donations (Mon only), sorting	Mon - Wed	Aug 4 - 6	7:00 - 4:00
Morning preparation Sale	Thu - Fri	Aug 7 - 8	7:00 - 11:59
	Thu - Fri	Aug 7 - 8	12:00 - 8:00
Morning preparation Sale	Sat	Aug 9	7:00 - 8:59
	Sat	Aug 9	9:00 - 3:00
Clean-up	Sat	Aug 9	3:00 - 6:00
Final clean-up / pick-up	Mon	Aug 11	7:00 - 1:00



Book Sale Co-Chairs: [Teri Passarello](#) / [Bonnie Gould](#)



BUYING BOOKS as gifts or for yourself?

At this time of year we are all looking forward to seeing what's available at the Book Sale. If you want to be sure of getting just the specific title or topic you have in mind, search on the [ThriftBooks.com](#) website. This company continues to be a valuable partner helping us to reap the benefit of books donated for our annual sale and not sold immediately. They can be a great source for YOUR book purchases!

AAUW BOOK GROUPS: Please contact Jackie D'Allessio (3rd Monday - mornings) or Pat Emanuele (1st Monday - evenings), the coordinators, to be put on the list to receive information for whichever Book Group meetings best fit your schedule and your interest in titles. **For a full list of dates and titles, go to our website:** <https://somerseethills-nj.aauw.net/> Look under "Interests."**NATIONAL AAUW DUES UPDATE!**

What's happening: the NATIONAL AAUW Board approved a modest dues adjustment — **\$2 per year over the next two years.**

Starting April 1, 2025, individual member dues will be \$74. On April 1, 2026, dues will change to \$76.

Why it matters: Member dues are an important funding source for AAUW. While costs for member support increase annually, member dues have not kept pace. The Board's decision to increase dues by \$2 allows AAUW dues to keep up with inflation and continue supporting the important work of AAUW. Your member dues help fund our work such as:

- **Education & Advocacy:** Member dues help support AAUW's public policy and member advocacy programs, which are now vitally important to defending higher education and rights for women on campus
- **Member Trainings:** Our regular virtual member gatherings and training programs provide education and engagement on several relevant topics
- **Member Engagement:** We organize member-led groups and committees like Archives Corps, Lobby Corps, and national committees, and coordinate AAUW's member advocacy through 2-Minute Activist
- **Real-Time Support:** Connect Team provides daily assistance to members
- And more!

The bottom line: The dues increase balances AAUW's financial sustainability with the member feedback we received. Thank you for all you do as an engaged member of AAUW!

LOCAL and NATIONAL Membership renewal has begun!! Pay your dues now!!

Send your dues-\$117 (check payable to: AAUW Somerset Hills) to:

AAUW Somerset Hills

P.O. Box 5

Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Contact: Teri Passarello

Call/text 908-313-8421

Email teri.passarello@somerset-hillsaauw.org

🌸 **Spring Tip:** Please consider waiting to clean up your gardens! Our pollinators need a little more time!!



AAUW National and AAUW New Jersey

Take Action

Members of AAUW's Action Network receive urgent email notices and text messages when their advocacy is needed most. With our online Two-Minute Activist tool, it takes just minutes and an internet connection to make your voice heard on issues impacting women and girls!

<https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>

AAUW National offers FREE Webinars!! Visit this site to see what is upcoming, and to view recordings of previous WEBINARS!!

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/webinars/>

Upcoming Webinars:

AAUW Advocacy Strategies for In-District Meetings

April 8 | 7:00 p.m. ET

Face-to-face advocacy can drive real change. This session will guide members on how to set up in-district



meetings with members of Congress, maximize town hall participation, and effectively use key talking points during the upcoming April congressional recess. Learn how to make your voice heard. [Register Here](#)

Funding Futures: Understanding Changes to Sex and Gender-Based Scholarship Programs

April 15 | 7:00 p.m. ET

Navigating legal changes to sex-based scholarships can be complex. This interactive session will provide information to AAUW branches on funding scholarships amid evolving regulations while staying true to our mission of advancing education for women and girls. Space is limited. [Register Here](#)

Missed the First Session? Watch the Recording

- [AAUW: Standing Strong Against Attacks on Equity in Education](#)

[TAX Implications of our AAUW Dues and Donations:](#)

Please note that 2024 tax preparations are underway for most of us. It's worth covering an update about the tax implications of contributing to AAUW.

Generally, AAUW dues are tax deductible as 501(c)(3) charitable contributions, except for \$3 of National dues and \$10 State dues which support 501(c)(4) non-partisan lobbying efforts. This means that \$102 of the \$115 membership dues we paid for the 2023-2024 membership year and all dues paid by our Friends of the Branch are tax deductible. While the NJ State portion of our membership dues are not tax deductible, contributions to the AAUW-NJ Charitable Trust, including those in support of Tech Trek, are.

Log onto National's aauw.org site, click on the "Orders and Donations" button in your "Personal Snapshot" screen. Charity donations made to the AAUW National funds will come up and can be printed as backup for your tax records.

Our AAUW Somerset Hills Branch is a separate fully recognized 501(c)(3) with NJ Exempt Organization ID 237-005-372/000. Donations to our Branch and our annual Branch Book Sale are tax deductible. Individual donations have been acknowledged and receipts have been issued. Call me (908-285-8385) or email (bonniegould@verizon.net), if you need more clarification or think I have missed acknowledging a donation.

Bonnie Gould, Branch Treasurer

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