



TOWSON BRANCH

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or

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**TOWSON BRANCH
ELECTED OFFICERS**

President: Gail Marciano Thies

Co-Vice Presidents Programs:

Co-Vice Presidents Membership:

Ann Peterson and

Roberta Sharper

Treasurer: Willard Graves

Recording Secretary:

Geraldine Hisle

Corresponding Secretary:

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Educational Foundation:

Marcia Brooks

Legal Advocacy Fund:

Marcia Brooks

Public Policy: Christine Schmitz

Visibility: Mary Louise Ellenberger

SUPPORTING LEADERSHIP

Communications: Janet Moses

By-laws:

E-Group: Willard Graves

Finance Auditor:

International Relations:

Member News:

Newsletter Publication:

Eunice Young

Newsletter Proof Reader:

Linda Wiech

Scholarship for Interrupted Studies:

Lois Leuba and Eunice Young

Yearbook: Carol Graves

EVENTS and ACTIVITIES

COORDINATORS

Bridge: 2nd and 4th Monday Evening:

Eunice Young

Bridge 3rd Monday Evening:

Marcia Brooks

Bridge Marathon: Bev Winter

Cultural Activities:

Day Books:

Evening Books: Bev Winter

Gardening:

Holiday Party:

Hospitality: Loraine Lewis



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Holiday Party

Lois Reed Leuba

410-296-0407

Our Holiday Party was enjoyed by all. We were able to contribute checks and gifts valued well over \$200 to the Fund for Social Welfare of Baltimore County.





Please Join Us

When: **Saturday, March 21, 2009**
 10:00 AM for Networking
 10:30 AM Program

Where: **Goucher College**
 Alumnae/Alumni House

What: **Ann Weller Dahl**
 A. A. Milne: Much More Than Just Pooh

Ann Weller Dahl has been an AAUW member for 8 years. She is currently serving as secretary for both the Baltimore branch and for the state. She is also active - now there's an understatement - at Pratt Library and is on the board of the Citizens for Maryland Libraries. During her 31 years teaching at Calvert School, she became interested in the life and writing of Laura Ingalls Wilder, about whom she spoke to the Towson AAUW last March. This year's "encore" talk will introduce the branch to A. A. Milne, the "father" of Winnie-the-Pooh but also a most prolific writer in a variety of genres.

Deadline For the May/June 2009 newsletter
April 20th

Send your submissions to: Janet Moses at
janetmoses@juno.com
or by mail to:
21 Theo Lane
Towson, MD 21204-2751

Submissions for the May/June newsletter must be received by the deadline



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Gail M. Thies
410-597-8918

On Valentine's Day our Towson Branch had a presence at AAUW Baltimore-College Club's luncheon at the Episcopal Cathedral of the Incarnation. Towson attendees included Gail Thies, Janet Moses, Carol Graves, Carolyn Whittington, Geraldine Hisle, Lois Leuba, Dottie Towsley, Ann Peterson, Roberta Sharper, Clara Hall, Eunice Young, and Bev Winter. Linda Hallman, AAUW Executive Director, was guest speaker. All present witnessed the overall enthusiasm of our Executive Director who expounded upon her Washington experiences concerning the signing in of pro-AAUW legislation by the country's Executive Branch (front-row seating status and recognition of AAUW nationally for starters). In light of this conveyed enthusiasm do come and join the Towson Branch in whatever goings-on you choose: Evening Book Group-March 2nd discussion of Cokie Roberts' book *Ladies of Liberty: The Women Who Shaped Our Nation*; March 21st general membership meeting and program featuring Ann Weller Dahl's lecture: "A.A.Milne: Much More Than Just Pooh"; April 6th Book Group discussion: *People of the Book: A Novel* by Geraldine Brooks; April 18th: AAUW Maryland Spring Conference in Easton at the Marine Engineers Benevolent Association. Thanks to the membership of the Towson Branch for all that gets done behind the scenes - and - to the interactive approach with other branches. Here's to our defense of the equity cause with the following citations: Simone de Beauvoir, 1908 – 1986 is considered one of the 100 most influential women of our time. Quoting from her *The Second Sex* (first published in English in 1953) "...Justice can never be done in the midst of injustice." and "The only public good is that which assures the private good of the citizens.

Gail Thies,
President



Mark Your Calendar

Saturday, March 21, 2009
10:00 AM Hospitality and Networking
10:30 AM Program
Ann Weller Dahl
A. A. Milne: Much More Than Just Pooh
Goucher Alumnae/Alumni House

Saturday, April 18, 2009
AAUW Maryland Spring Conference—Easton—see *The Marylander* for details

Saturday, May 16, 2009
11:00 AM Brunch and Tour of the Historic Green Mount Cemetery
Details to be announced

June, 2009
Picnic
Date and details to be announced

June 26 —29, 2009
2009 AAUW National Convention
St. Louis, Missouri

Saturday, July 11, 2009
AAUW Maryland State Conference Hosted by AAUW Patuxent River Branch
College of Southern Maryland, La Plata, MD.

Public Policy
 Christine Schmitz
 410-795-5091

I thought excerpts from a letter written by Seth Chase, our Public Policy Field Representative at AAUW should be shared with all of you in the Towson Branch:

Seth wrote: AAUW celebrated a huge victory last month when President Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law, bringing pay equity into the national spotlight again. You can help keep pay equity on the front burner of national agenda by starting now to plan activities for Equal Pay Day on Tuesday, April 28 - if you've not already done so.

Equal Pay Day symbolizes how far into the year a woman must work, on average, to earn as much as a man earned the previous year. Because women earn less, on average, than men, they must work longer for the same amount of pay.

Last month, AAUW kicked off our Keep the Change until Women Have Real Change campaign in response to the latest salary data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which show that the wage gap between men and women narrowed by one cent. Women now earn 78 cents for every dollar earned by men, up from 77 cents. This is the narrowest the wage gap has ever been, but it's only an additional one cent on the dollar. One cent is chump change. It isn't real change.

AAUW branches across the country will engage in a variety of activities designed to promote pay equity on Equal Pay Day. AAUW community leaders will also mobilize to educate others about pay discrimination and to unite their communities in support of the Paycheck Fairness Act, which provides additional tools to deter wage discrimination by closing loopholes in the Equal Pay Act. AAUW has been a leader in moving the bill forward, and we continue to urge the Senate to join the House and act swiftly on this bill.

Lingering wage disparities are disturbing more than 40 years after passage of the Equal Pay Act. Minority women face an even larger wage gap. Pay disparities affect women of all ages, races, and education levels- regardless of their family decisions. The AAUW Educational Foundation's research report, *Behind the Pay Gap*, shows that just one year out of college, women working full time earn only 80 percent of what their male counterparts earn, even when they work in the same field. Ten years after graduation, the gap widens. AAUW believes that pay equity is a simple matter of justice and continues to support initiatives that seek to close the persistent and sizable wage gap between men and women



Evening Book Group
 Bev Winter

Follows is the program for the AAUW Towson Branch evening book group for the 2008/2009 year. If you are interested in joining this group please call Bev Winter at 410-583-2356 or e-mail her at BHWinter@AOL.com

First Mondays

Hostess

March 2	<i>Ladies of Liberty: The Women Who Shaped Our Nation</i> By Cokie Roberts	Bev Winter
April 6	<i>People of the Book: A Novel</i> Geraldine Brooks	Linda Prause
May 4	<i>Your Inner Fish: A Journey into the 3.5-Billion-Year History of the Human Body</i> By Neil Shubin	
June 2	<i>The Sea</i> By John Banville	Marjie Slater-Kaplan

Potluck Dinner



Please plan to join us May 16 when we have brunch followed by a tour of the historic Green Mount Cemetery. The picture and the following were taken from the cemetery's web site <http://greenmountcemetery.com>.

Green Mount Cemetery was one of the earliest rural or garden cemeteries in the United States. Samuel Walker, a Baltimore tobacco merchant, led the campaign to establish the Cemetery after visiting Mount Auburn Cemetery in 1834.

After a successful campaign, Walker, and a group of gentlemen drew up the plans for a public cemetery. The site they chose was the country estate of the late merchant Robert Oliver. Oliver's estate, known as "Green Mount", was a hilly location at the then northern boundary of the city of Baltimore. During his life, Mr. Oliver spared no expense in beautifying his estate, and aided by its natural advantages, he left it, at his death, a picturesque and highly ornamented locale.

The Proprietors of Green Mount Cemetery purchased about sixty acres from the heirs of Robert Oliver and Green Mount Cemetery was officially established by an act of the General Assembly of Maryland on March 15, 1838.

Benjamin Latrobe, a civil engineer with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, laid out the early design of the Cemetery. His efforts produced a place for reflection with shady avenues and beautiful gardens. Green Mount Cemetery was officially dedicated on July 13, 1839. Those involved with the service included the Reverend William Wyatt, Congressman John Pendleton Kennedy, and the Reverend J.G. Hamner. Special hymns were written for the occasion by Frances H. Davidge, Esq. and J.H.B. Latrobe, Esq. The Musical Association of Baltimore sang a chorale from the Oratorio of St. Paul by Felix Mendelssohn.

The first person laid to rest in these hallowed grounds was two year old Olivia Cushing. Since that time, Green Mount has become the final resting place of more than 65,000 individuals. Many have had a profound influence on our Nation's History. Within the walls of the Cemetery you will find Statesmen, Captains of Industry, Philanthropists, Artists, Authors, Military Leaders, and even a Presidential Assassin and his Co-conspirators. The Cemetery was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980.