



Upstate Update

AMSTERDAM * GLOVERSVILLE * JOHNSTOWN BRANCH

The American Association of University Women advances equity for woman and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

December 2014 / January 2015



Union Hall Holiday Lunch Buffet

Saturday, December 6th

12:00 pm

Lunch at 12:30 pm includes:

Assorted Sandwich Platter – including Grilled eggplant, with tomato & Roasted Peppers on Ciabatta Bread, or Turkey or Grilled Chicken

(if you are choosing the eggplant sandwich, please let me know, so there will be enough of them for the vegetarians and others who choose this item, otherwise it will be an even split on the sandwiches!)

Mediterranean Salad & Fresh Assorted Fruit Slices Coffee & Tea & Seasonal Dessert

\$15 includes tax & tip with Cash Bar

Please RSVP by Thanksgiving Week November 24th at the very latest to Sandra Maceyka 736-5130,

Checks should be made payable to AAUW

Mail to 100 E 6th Ave., Johnstown, NY 12095

Entertainment: Julio Rodriquez, a classical guitarist will play from 1:30 until 2PM

Co-President's Message

It was good to see so many at our potluck supper in November. We hope at least as many will join us for our Holiday Luncheon at Union Hall on Saturday, December 6. Contact Sandy Maceyka if you have not already made a reservation. At the Luncheon, we will continue our collection of items for the Haven of Hope as part of our annual community outreach. In addition, our Branch Lunch Bunch invites all interested to join us at the Century Club in Amsterdam on Tuesday, December 2 to enjoy the holiday decor, music by the Silver Tones, soup and sandwich lunch and a chance to shop. Contact me to sign up.

We have accomplished so much in the last few months and have many interesting activities planned for 2015. On January 15 we will watch a movie on global warming. Contact Jahnn Gibson to sign up with your pizza choice to munch as we watch the movie. In February, we will get a chance to "play with Lego's" and experience one of our Tech Savvy Workshops. In March we will visit a new educational facility and learn about the Pathways in Technology program. In April we will view the movie Feminist Stories and meet the author Jennifer Lee. In May, we visit the Elwood Museum in Amsterdam for a presentation on the suffrage movement in Fulton and Montgomery Counties. We hope you will be able to join us for this exciting line up.

As we head to the holidays and celebrate with family and friends, we wish for each of you the best gift of all - Good Health Now and in the New Year!

Co-president Liz Russo

JANUARY MEETINGS

Board Meeting January 14

All are invited to attend the board meeting at 6pm on Wednesday, January 14 at the Johnstown Public Library. Officers and committee chairs are encouraged to attend or send reports. We will discuss the April 11 Movie Night at FM, the Tech Savvy Summit for Girls on May 20 and Celebration Fundraiser. Ideas for promoting Project 2020 and the Hour of Code will be discussed. Donation of Bags of items for the Haven of Hope Farm will also be finalized. We will begin working on the budget and deciding how much we will give in scholarships this year. In addition, **a nominating committee will be needed to begin work looking for candidates for Branch President and Secretary. In addition, we will need Public Policy, Newsletter and Literary Scholarship Chairs for 2015-17.** We love to have volunteers step forward to serve. Consider all you have to offer to keep our branch alive and running!

January 15 Global Warming Topic of Meeting

On Tuesday, January 15, a meeting will be held at the 1st Presbyterian Church on Market St in Johnstown from 6-9pm. The meeting will be held in the Chapel, accessible through the Clinton St. door. A movie on Global Warming will be shown, and it is suggested that members read the book "Eaarth" by Bill McKibben. Pizza from Patricia's Restaurant will be served. Bonnie Van Wie will pick it up. Liz Russo will make a salad. Jahnn Gibson will buy soda and cups, Linda Hammond will supply coffee. Cost per person will be \$5. Reservations are due by January 8 to Jahnn Gibson 762-5036. Please request what kind of pizza you want from these selections: WHITE PIZZA WITH BROCCOLI, MUSHROOM AND SAUSAGE, PEPPERONI, and PLAIN CHEESE.

Thank you,
Jahnn Gibson

Eaarth by Bill McKibben

To prepare for the meeting, those interested can read the book Eaarth by Bill McKibben. Copies of the book are on reserve at the Johnstown Public Library under AAUW Book Club. This will be the January book selection for the Branch.

November Meeting Update

We had a great potluck supper meeting in November. There was a good turn out and such a wonderful variety of food! Veteran members and new members alike attended. We got a chance to meet our dual branch member Ann Christensen for the first time! Her primary branch is Stanton Island, but she hopes to participate in our branch while she is at her residence in Sprakers.

We discussed the book **A Framework of Understanding Poverty** and listened to the presentation by Pat Brookins about the work she does at Haven of Home to help women with families who are in need or shelter, clothing and most important direction in their lives. Pat spends time with the women teaching them to grow, harvest and prepare food like jam, jelly and breads which they can then sell at the road side farmer's market stand.

Collection of Items to Donate to Haven of Hope

Thank you so much for the generous contributions we received at our November potluck for the Haven of Hope. We will continue receiving donations at our December meeting as part of our annual holiday giving. As part of our AAUW Year with Eleanor, our branch will be following in Eleanor Roosevelt's Holiday tradition of giving hygiene items to her children as part of their gifts. We are collecting face cloths, towels, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, comb, nail clippers, files, and deodorant which we will put in bags to be given to women who come to the Haven of Hope Farm in the future. Since many gifts are given to the women during the holidays, our bags will be available to be handed out at other times of need. Ginni Mazur has offered to help sew the bags. When convenient, we will meet to sort the items and work on the bags. We hope to add HUGS Bears also. If anyone would like to help with this project, please contact Paula Lerner or Ginni Mazur.

Contining to help in the future...

Pat Brookins mentioned in her presentation other ways that our branch members can help. Tutors are needed to help those who are trying to get their GED's and thus improve their chances in making a better life. Also the children often need help in learning to share. It was suggested that books about sharing be provided. Several titles are available which we may decide to donate either to create a library at Haven of Home or to give to families seeking help. Other items that are needed and might be donated if members wish include toilet paper, feminine hygiene items and diapers, none of which can be purchased with food stamps. Contact Liz Russo for more information.

Tech Savvy Summit for Girls Set for May 20

We have begun meeting to plan our 2015 Tech Savvy Summit for Middle School Girls. Linda Bumpus has started sending solicitation letters to businesses and individuals who have donated in the past. If anyone has an idea for a donor, please contact her. Darcelle Winchell, in the meantime, has sent an e-mail to faculty and staff at FM regarding providing workshops for Tech Savvy. Last year's school contacts have also been e-mailed to insure that the correct person at each middle school receives the registration materials in April. If anyone is interested in helping with the event, please contact Linda Bumpus. We will need help with getting the registration packets ready and delivered to the schools in April. In May we will be preparing (photocopying and assembling) materials for the folders we give out at the Summit. We will need someone to be in charge of gifts for speakers also. On Tuesday, May 19 we will need help with set up at FMCC as well as assistance on May 20. Hope you will step up and be part of this AAUW initiative to introduce girls to STEM activities and professions.

Hour of Code

AAUW is promoting Computer Science Education Week (December 9-15) by working with states and branches across the country to host/support an Hour of Code. The Hour of Code is a series of one-hour tutorials that teach the basics of computer programming (coding) to young students, ages 6 and up. Hour of Code is the brain child of Code.org and aligns with AAUW's STEM initiative to encourage young women and girls to enter the fields of science, technology, engineering and math.

Last year, over 300 schools in NY State participated in a national Hour of Code demystifying the subject of computer science and demonstrating that programming is within the reach of every child regardless of grade, academic interest, and access to technology. Coding can be done with a computer, tablet, and smartphone or just with pen and pencil. It can be done in school, as part of a youth group activity or just by a family at home. I tried it last year as did our grandson. This year I tried it again. It is interesting, fun and relatively easy. The important thing is to remember which is left and which is right as your Angry Bird tries to reach the goal!

To access the Hour of Code tutorials and give it a try, go to code.org/learn

Our branch may be working with the Johnstown Public Library to offer the experience locally. An update on this initiative will follow.

Our Year with Eleanor continues....

As the AAUW year with Eleanor Roosevelt continues, this month, chapter five “Find Your Leadership Passion” of Robin Gerber’s book, Leadership the Eleanor Roosevelt Way is being covered. We are asked to consider “The Three P’s of Leadership - Passion, Purpose & People.”

“Work is easier to carry if your heart is involved.” -ER

- What Do You Value Most?
- Identifying Your Passion
- Live Your Passion
- Build on Your Mission



We hope that AAUW is part of your passion, and that you will step up to help us continue the AAUW mission in our community!

Eleanor Roosevelt’s Christmas Book

Copyright-1963 by the Estate of Anna Eleanor Roosevelt
Book Jacket

It is characteristic that Eleanor Roosevelt, who was fondly acclaimed as the first lady of the world, should have had a particular affection for the season of peace and good will toward all men. She loved the writings about Christmas, to which she made her own contributions, and collected her favorites among them to share with others, which are now presented in this volume.

These stories, essays and verses, old and new, come from many lands where Christmas is celebrated: USA, England, Wales, France, Italy, Spain, Poland, Romania, and Sweden. Included among them are Mrs. Roosevelt’s own descriptions of family Christmases at Hype and in the White House, as well as her charming original tale entitled Christmas. Represented are carols from the repertoire of the UN Singers and such classics as Dickens’ A Christ Carol, which her husband used to read aloud, along with contemporary works, such as Amahl and the Night Visitors, which have recently become traditions of the Christmas scene. From her own wide reading, Mrs. Roosevelt has selected writings from such diverse authors as Heywood Broun, Rachel Field, Anatole, France, Robert Frost, Washington Irving, Selma Lagerlof, F. Van Wyck Mason, O. Henry, Dylan Thomas, William Shakespeare, High Walpole, etc.

With her Christmas Book, Eleanor Roosevelt has left an enduring gift to enrich the season for young and old.

From the book:

- **The children teased ER because their stockings inevitably contained toothbrushes, toothpaste, nail cleaners, soap, washcloths etc. They said Mother never ceased to remind them that cleanliness was next to godliness – even on Christmas morning.**
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Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Symposium Planning Continues

Plans for the March 21, 2015 Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Symposium continues.

The conference will be held at the BOCES VOTEC center from 9am to 3pm. It will include workshops, speakers, and vendors. A light breakfast and lunch will be included as part of the registration fee. The theme will be Our History is our Strength. Possible workshop topics to date include: The History of Midwifery, Women on the Page regarding women authors, Clothing, body shape and fitness, and biography of Elizabeth Cady Stanton presented by author Penny Coleman. In addition, our own Jahnn Gibson has agreed to do a virtual cemetery tour dressed in colonial mourning attire. Afternoon workshops for fun may include how to become an outdoorswoman, Color Palette/ make up demo, salsa dancing, and herbalist presentation.

Several of our AAUW branch members are involved in organizing the event including Helen Martin, Jen Garren, Laurie Kozakiewicz, and Sandy Maceyka. Since our AAUW branch is a member of ECSWC, we as AAUW members are all part of the consortium and, therefore, invited to be part of organizing this event. More help is still needed and anyone interested in assisting with planning, or arrangements for the Symposium is invited to attend the next planning meeting on Tuesday, December 1 at 5:30pm at the Johnstown Public Library.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

		LOOKING AHEAD TO 2015
December 2	Branch Lunch Bunch Holiday Gathering – Festival of Trees 11-2pm Century Club, Amsterdam contact Liz Russo 762-9702	January 14 AAUW Board Meeting 6 pm, Johnstown Public Library
December 2	Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium Symposium Planning Meeting 5:30pm Johnstown Public Library	January 15 Global Warming 6 pm 1 st Presbyterian Church, Johnstown
December 6	AAUW Holiday Lunch 12:00 pm, Union Hall / Johnstown	February 10 Lego Challenge Presenter FM instructor Ruth Scott 6pm FMCC Student Union, Large Lounge
December 9-15	Computer Science Education Week Try the Hour of Code code.org/learn	March 21 Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Symposium
		April 11 Movie Night – Documentary, <i>Feminist Stories from Women's Liberation</i>; Speaker: Jennifer Lee FMCC, 6:30 pm
		April 17 – 19 AAUW NYS Convention in Buffalo
		April 29 AGJ Business Only Meeting , 6:30 pm Johnstown Senior Center
		May 20 Tech Savvy Summit for Girls , FMCC
		May 28 Women's Suffrage Movement in Fulton & Montgomery Counties Elwood Museum, Amsterdam
		May 28 – 30 <u>NCCWSL</u> / National Conference for College Women Student Leaders , Univ. of Maryland, College Park
		June 18-21 AAUW National Convention in San Diego, CA



Movie Night

“Global Warming”

Tuesday, January 15, 2015

at

1st Presbyterian Church

Market St, Johnstown

Prior to meeting AGJ AAUW Branch is reading the book

"Eaarth" by Bill McKibben

Cost: \$5

Menu: Pizza, Salad & Beverages

RSVP: by January 8 to Jahnn Gibson 762-5036.

Please request what kind of pizza you want from these selections:

- White Pizza With Broccoli
- Mushroom
- Sausage
- Pepperoni
- Plain Cheese