



Upstate Update



AMSTERDAM * GLOVERSVILLE * JOHNSTOWN BRANCH

- The American Association of University Women advances equity for woman and girls through advocacy, education and research.
- In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

2011 – 2012

February

Branch Officers:

Presidents

Liz Russo

Linda Hammond

Vice Presidents - Program

Sandy Maceyka

Ginni Mazur

Vice Presidents - Membership

Patsy Suydam

Susan Summerfield

Vice President – ED Opp Fund

Kaye Schrader

Vice President – Legal Advocacy

Ginni Mazur

Recording Secretary

Bonnie Van Wie

Treasurer – Michele Acquaro

Assistant Treasurer – Ella Ryder

Co-President’s Message

The year 2011 ended with a wonderful, well attended Holiday Brunch at Union Hall in December. There were favors, good food, and good music by The Penny Whistle Band thanks to the organization of Sandy Maceyka. Members were also exceedingly generous in their donations of gift cards, books, scarves, etc. to the Turning Point program for foster children organized by Jaydene Scofield.

An outing to the Century

Club Festival of Trees Luncheon by 10 of our members followed the next week. Friendship, food, music, holiday décor, and shopping made this memorable. We hope to “lunch” again when a special event or destination comes up and hope others will come along for the fun.

We are now off to a great beginning to 2012 with a record turnout for a January AAUW branch meeting! Of the 31 who signed up, only two canceled due to the weather. Thank you to Carol Cownie for a wonderful meeting: good food, good shopping, good program, and good company. In addition, we have a new member, Traci Di Mezza. Thanks Trish Isabella for bringing Traci to the meeting!

We have a busy February ahead. Thanks to the efforts of new AAUW member and FM math instructor, Sonnet Gravina, we will start the month off by holding our first organizational meeting of the AAUW Student Organization on February 1.

On February 9 there will be a board meeting. Once again, all are invited to share your ideas

and participate in the process of steering our AAUW branch in the direction of your choice. That is also the date when items or monetary donations are due for the College Survival Theme basket we are donating for the JPL StoryBook Sundae Fundraiser.

On February 11, new branch member Sonnet Gravina will be directing “The Vagina Monologues” at FMCC. AAUW members Laurie Freeman, Ann Thane, and past members Ellie Fosmire and Lena Andersson will be performing. Proceeds go to The Family Counseling Center’s Domestic Violence Program of Fulton County and the Montgomery County Domestic Violence and Crime Victim Services. There will be two performances - one in the afternoon at 2 p.m. and one in the evening at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$8. There will also be a silent art auction. Perhaps lunch and then the theater might be of interest to our Branch Lunch Bunch.

We hope the weather will cooperate for our February 16 book discussion meeting so that

- ◆ The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

Joan Monk can safely travel from Westchester to be our special NY AAUW Leader on Loan. We are trying something new for our February meeting. There will be no charge because we are hoping that instead, you will all generously donate to the Fistula Repair Fund after discussing the book *Hospital by the River* and viewing the video *A Walk to Beautiful* at the meeting. One Fistula Repair surgery costs \$300-600. Anyone who is unable to attend may also send a contribution. Since it is also Heart Health Month, please wear Red to our February meeting!

That is not all, as the month's activities continue with our joint Pancake Breakfast with the Soroptimist organization on February 26. We hope to have 100% participation to raise funds needed for the scholarships we give locally. Thanks to Jahnn Gibson, Catherine Julius, and Trish Isabella for stepping up to help with the event. Tickets were distributed at the January meeting or mailed to you. Thanks also to all who signed up at the December meeting to help with the February 26 event and thanks in advance to all for selling tickets. Catherine Julius has already received ticket money. We will also be selling the rest of the used books we collected in the fall. In addition, we are collecting contributions from businesses in the community for a Family Fun Raffle.

Then comes March! Start checking your closets, attics, and basements for any Girl Scout

memorabilia. We will have a display and share memories at our March 31 meeting in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouting.

Continue to read the newsletter for more details about the above events.

See you soon and thanks to all for continuing to make AAUW fun! --Liz and Linda

In Memory

On May 10, 2001, "Aunt" Dona Goldman ("with one n") attended her first AAUW meeting as a guest of her cousin, Kaye Schrader. The meeting on cultural diversity was held at Centro Civico in Amsterdam. At that meeting, Dona won the raffle for a free AAUW membership. She continued as a member of our AAUW branch until 2008. Those of us who got to know her learned of her career as a nurse and her love of the arts and literature...and martinis! (At the ECSWC Antique Show last October, she purchased a martini necklace to match her martini earrings!) She was an advocate of civil rights, environmental protection, and the advancement of women.

On December 4, 2011, Dona passed away. Thanks for the memories, Dona. --Liz Russo

Story Book Sundae Raffle Basket AAUW College Survival Theme Basket - February 9 deadline for donations

Thank you to those at our January meeting who donated

items from the original list or made monetary donations towards filling our College Survival Theme Basket for the Johnstown Public Library's Story Book Sundae Fundraiser. *An updated list of items still needed is listed below.

The Story Book Sundae takes place at FMCC on March 18 from 1-2:30 p.m. Our branch annually donates a basket in appreciation for the use, free of charge, of the library for our board meetings, Sister to Sister Summit planning meetings, and branch meetings. The baskets are displayed in the JPL during February and March.

February 9 is the deadline for donations for the basket. Contributions may be brought to the February 9 board meeting at 6 p.m., the JPL, or to Liz Russo at 302 Glebe Street, Johnstown.

The basket will include two books:
The College Dorm Survival Guide and *1001 Things every College Student Needs to Know*
Monetary donations will also be accepted so that we can shop for items on the list below.

Connie Chamberlain and Liz Russo will use the money to shop for items not donated.

Updated List of Items still needed for the basket:

- "husband" bolster pillow
- stapler and staples
- book light
- pencil sharpener
- hi lighters
- magic markers
- message board for door

poster hanger supplies
 scissors
 nail clippers
 emory boards
 disposable razors
 tool kit (small hammer,
 screwdriver set, pliers)
 extra long twin sheet set
 bowl
 mug
 plastic glass
 fork, knife, spoon
 alarm clock

For more information or to donate contact Liz Russo at 762-9702 by February 9.

AAUW e-student Affiliates

We now have 56 e-student affiliates registered. New AAUW member, FM math instructor and Sister to Sister Tech Savvy presenter, Sonnet Gravina has taken the initiative to set up our first organizational meeting of the AAUW Student Organization from noon – 1 p.m. on February 1 at FM.

The Vagina Monologues at FMCC - February 11

Sonnet Gravina is busy! She will also be directing a production of *The Vagina Monologues* at the FMCC Theater on Saturday, February 11 as part of the global V-Day activist movement led by local volunteers and college students to end violence against women and girls.

There will be a matinee at 2 p.m. and an evening performance at 7 p.m. Other branch members, Laurie Freeman and Ann Thane, e-Student Affiliate Sa-

mantha Yates, past members Lena Andersson and Ellie Fosmire, along with Katie Locke, Deb Skivington, Kelly Quist-Demars, Erin Salie, Susan MacLeod, Janee Johnson, Alyssa Reed, Shirlee DuFort, Jenn Goch, Samantha Cogan, Brooke Bowers, Lisa Pfeiffer, Michaela Goodell, Jean Marie Reinke, Paula Brown-Weinstock, and Roberta Esposito make up the cast.

Tickets are \$8 each. Proceeds will be split between the Montgomery County Domestic Violence and Crime Victim Services and The Family Counseling Domestic Violence Program of Fulton County.

There will also be a Silent Art Auction for which donations are still needed. If any of our members have a piece of art they wish to donate, please contact Sonnet at vdayfm@gmail.com

Perhaps this could be a “destination lunch” (Branch Lunch Bunch) and a group of our members might consider going out to lunch and then attending the 2 p.m. matinee. We could cheer our “sisters” who will be performing and help support this worthwhile cause. Please contact Liz Russo at eruso03@nycap.rr.com if you are interested.

February Meeting

Our Thursday, February 16 meeting is in support of the New York State program: **My Sister’s Keeper**. The goal of this program is to foster a greater understanding of the plight of

women worldwide and within our domestic boarders.

*I am my sister’s keeper.
 We are in this together.*

*Not to win
 Not to compete
 Not to conquer*

*But to educate
 To nurture
 To help.*

We are each other’s keeper.

*Let us celebrate
 The power within us all
 To make the difference
 To change the world!*

--Dr. Natasha Josefowitz

We will be discussing the issues surrounding obstetric fistula. You may have been introduced to the topic in the book, *The Hospital by the River*. If you haven’t had a chance to read the book, not to worry, I have purchased a PBS-NOVA award-winning documentary DVD, *A Walk Toward Beautiful* that shows the difficult journey that begins in hopelessness and shame for thousands of women in Ethiopia and ends in a productive new life. The film tells the personal stories of rural women who make their way to Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa, to seek treatment. Filmed in a starkly beautiful landscape, the documentary juxtaposes the isolated lives of village women who are outcasts because of their medical condition, with the faraway hospital that offers a miracle after a long and arduous trek—a "walk to beautiful." The film is 56 mi-

minutes and we will view as much of it as possible to fit in with our meeting and, hopefully, the ensuing discussion. You will be asked to donate to the Fistula Foundation in lieu of any other donation. Refreshments will be provided.

The women in the documentary are walking to get to the Addis Ababa hospital built by Doctors Catherine and Reg Hamlin who dedicated their lives to women suffering the catastrophic injuries, called fistulae, of obstructed labor. Until the Hamlins began their work in Ethiopia, fistula sufferers were neglected and forgotten--a vast group of women facing a lifetime of incapacity and degradation. Catherine and Reg, with their team of dedicated fistula surgeons, have successfully operated on over 25,000 women, and the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital has become a major teaching institution for gynecologists from all over Ethiopia and the developing world. —Patsy Suydam

Sister to Sister Summit

All the donor request letters have gone out and I'm waiting for the checks to come in. We have 15 presenters agreeing to do three workshops each with a lot of hands-on activities on Tech Savvy topics. Maryann Abad has agreed to get the food donor requests together and pick up the donations; letters will probably be mailed in April. Apple dippers from McDonalds will be requested by Ann Campos.

--Linda Bumpus

Our January meeting held at the Mohawk Harvest Cooperative Market was a wonderful success. Twenty-eight members and two guests enjoyed a tour of the Micropolis Gallery, delicious food, and an enlightening presentation by Crystal Stewart. We ended the evening with a better understanding of the challenges and barriers women farmers share and what we can do to support them. I would like to thank everyone who weathered the cold to attend the meeting. It was a success because of your support. THANK YOU!

Carol Cownie
Women's Issues Chair

Heart Health Month and Public Policy

Ok – so let's talk about women's heart health and how it relates to public policy. First a few facts:

- 1) Heart disease is the number one killer of women
- 2) It is estimated that one out of every two women will die from heart disease
- 3) Heart disease kills ten times more women than breast cancer each year, and more than all other cancers combined
- 4) One in ten women aged 45 to 64 already suffers from some form of heart disease
- 5) Nearly one fourth of women who died of heart disease were between the ages of 35 and 44 (Source: <http://www.fathersforlife.org/health/heartdths.htm>)

Now – how do we relate that to public policy? For starters, in addition to making changes in our personal lives we advocate for changes to our community – the kind of changes that will improve our way of life and encourage a healthier way of life for all of our relatives, friends, and coworkers. To do that we must not be shy about calling on our elected officials to use our tax dollars effectively by funding the types of programs that will be the most effective in the fight against heart disease. We must remember this:

“Congress determines if and how much of our federal tax dollars go to fund the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute for medical research on heart disease, and if any of these funds get earmarked for research on women with heart disease.”

(Source:

<http://www.womenheart.org>)

We must make sure that funding continues for heart disease research and prevention programs. We must make sure that our State legislatures take necessary actions to affect our access to healthcare including providing assistance to women with no health insurance, influencing Medicaid eligibility and establishing mandated benefits for routine cholesterol and blood pressure screenings.

I would like to suggest that to promote these efforts the members of our branch do two things during February:

- 1) Write or email your local and State legislators reminding them of the importance of supporting ALL heart health related legislation (contact information can be found in your local newspapers and phone book)
- 2) At our February meeting we all wear **red** in some form to show our support for heart health advocacy.

Public policy issues mean nothing if the PUBLIC is not proactive. Heart Health – for both sexes – should be high on everyone’s priority list.

--Helen Martin

E-Student Affiliate Initiative

Our local branch grabbed and ran with the new AAUW initiative: E-Student Affiliate. The program was developed specifically to provide an added incentive for colleges and universities to join or remain AAUW partner members, as well as to provide as many students as possible with free access to AAUW information, research, and advocacy. Thanks mainly to Liz Russo and Trish Isabella, 62 students from FMCC have been enrolled.

We used to hear about AAUW from our colleges or universities and members of our communities. Communication portals are constantly changing. The world of social websites and blogs is now a common avenue for “younger” men and women.

E-student affiliate membership gives access to the AAUW

website, including our members-only online resources such as research, publications, advocacy, leadership training, and project grant opportunities, scholarship and award notifications, and product discounts. Members are eligible to receive electronic copies of AAUW's publications and research. They have access to all AAUW's student leadership resources and benefits; principally, on-line.

Some of the other advantages of E-Student membership are:

1. FREE to all undergraduate students attending an AAUW college/university partner member institution and who do not already have a bachelor's degree.
2. Fifteen percent discount for C/U registration of four or more students to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders.
3. Upon graduating, the AAUW e-student affiliate receives the gift of a free year of AAUW membership through our Give-a-Grad a Gift program. This gift is compliments of their AAUW C/U partner member at no cost to either the student or to the C/U.

In the near term we will be meeting with as many of the enrolled students as possible to give them guidance in organizing, and helping to ensure that they get as much as possible from their new membership. Who would have thought our branch could even hint that we had over 100 members! Thanks

Liz and Trish. We couldn't have picked better recruiters.

–Patsy Suydam

New Members

This month our AAUW chapter was pleased to welcome four new members: Traci Di Mezza, Sherry Warner, John Kohn, and Sonnet Gravina. Traci practices law, and the latter three are all members of the faculty at FMCC.

Traci DiMezza completed an associate’s degree at FMCC where she was elected president of the student government. She received a bachelor’s degree in political science from Siena College and a Juris Doctorate from Connecticut’s Quinnipiac University. After being admitted to the New York State Bar, Traci was employed by a law firm in Westchester County New York until 1996, when she returned to Gloversville to open her own law practice.

Traci devotes time to a number of organizations including the Soroptimists, Miss Fulton County Pageant Board, P.T.A., Gloversville Rosary Society, and is a member of the Gloversville Republican Committee. She is married to Joseph DiMezza, a retired Gloversville fire-fighter, and has two children, Honor aged 11 and Ella aged 6. Trish Isabella invited Traci to join AAUW.

Sonnet Gravina, an FMCC Mathematics Instructor, received an A.S. degree from SUNY Adirondack and a B.S. from SUNY Albany where she majored in

Math and minored in Chemistry and Economics. She earned an M.A. in Math from SUNY Albany and is currently working on her PhD from Utah State University Logan in Mathematics Education with an interest in research areas of technology in the classroom and “virtual manipulatives,” a relatively new technology that provides math students an additional learning tool to develop relational thinking using interactive computer techniques. The doctorate will be completed in 2013-14.

Sonnet enjoys cooking, jewelry making, reading, kayaking, and hiking, and volunteers for various organizations. She learned about AAUW when she was asked to be a workshop presenter for Sister to Sister. In an organizational meeting for that event she was asked to join AAUW by Liz Russo.

John Kohn received a B.S. degree from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. He has an M.S. from Syracuse University, an M.A.L.S. from Dartmouth College and a M.S.F. from Yale University. He is an Associate Professor in Physics at FMCC.

John will be a workshop instructor at our 13th annual Sister to Sister Summit on May 22. He was recruited to join AAUW outside the FMCC library lobby where Liz Russo had set up a display to interest students in joining AAUW’s new e-student affiliate initiative. John is a hunter and fisherman and enjoys

hiking, tennis, cycling, camping, and sailing. He is also a benchrest shooter, a sport in which shooters search for the ultimate in accuracy and precision.

Sherry Warner is an Assistant Professor for Nursing at FMCC. She graduated from FMCC and went on to earn a B.S. from SUNY College of Technology and a M.S. in Nursing from St. Josephs of Maine. Sherry’s teaching assignments in Nursing Science III and IV focus on maternity nursing, and on burns, diabetes, and the endocrine system.

Sherry is active in both the New York State Nurses Association and the American Nurses Association. She has also been very active in raising money for the FM Foundation’s Nurses for Nurses Scholarship. A quilt maker, she crochets, knits, and does needlepoint. Sherry was approached about joining AAUW by Student Services at FMCC and became interested in becoming a member after speaking to Jane Kelly, FMCC Vice President for Student Affairs.

--Patsy Suydam



Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser February 26

The joint Soroptimists/AAUW Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser will be held on Sunday, February 26 from 8-11 a.m. at the Moose Lodge, Route 30A, Johnstown. Tickets are \$6 each. Kids under 5 are free. The menu includes pancakes, eggs, sausage, hash browns, juice, and coffee.

Five tickets for the event were distributed to each member in attendance at the January 17 meeting or were mailed to you if you were not present. Please check that there were 5 tickets in your envelope. We are asking each of our AAUW members to sell 5 tickets at a total cost of \$30. If you are unable to sell all the tickets or use them yourself, please consider making a donation and giving the tickets to others who might be able to attend the breakfast. We hope that we can have 100% of our members purchasing tickets so that this fundraising effort is spread over all rather than just fall upon a few in our branch.

Ticket money (\$30) may be sent to Catherine Julius, 134 E. Montgomery St., Johnstown, 12095, brought to the February 9 board meeting, or the February 16 branch meeting.

Jahnn Gibson, Catherine Julius, and Trish Isabella comprise the AAUW Pancake Breakfast committee while Soroptimist Ann Griffith and Lynn Glode are overall chairs for the fundraiser. The Soroptimists organized, produced the tickets for the event, and will be advertising the event. AAUW will receive

\$1.50 from each ticket sold which will go towards the local scholarship awards our branch gives annually to 8th grade girls, high school seniors, and FMCC graduates. –Liz Russo

Reminder to Pancake Breakfast Volunteers

The following people signed up to set up, serve, and bus tables from 7:30-10:00 a.m.:

Anne Campos
Linda Bumpus
Bonnie Van Wie
Linda Hammond
Ella Ryder

Those who volunteered to serve, bus tables, and clean up from 9-11:30 a.m.:

Marsha Smith
Connie Chamberlain
Ginni Mazur
Helen Martin

Others who will be on hand include Catherine Julius, Trish Isabella, Sandy Lane, and Liz Russo. See you February 26!

--Liz Russo

Family Fun Raffle and Used Book Sale at Breakfast

We have been invited by the Soroptimists to also hold a raffle or other fundraiser at the Pancake Breakfast. Therefore, we are putting together items donated by local businesses for a Family Fun Basket which will be raffled to raise funds for our local AAUW scholarships. Thanks to Anne Campos for securing 10 free game tickets from the Perry Lanes Bowling Center in Johnstown and two, one-month free lessons (each) gift certifi-

cates for Karate lessons from the American ZenDoKai Martial Arts on N. Perry St.. Passes to Johnstown Movie Plex, Royal Mountain, and restaurant gift cards will be added also. Members wishing to provide additional donations for the Family Fun Basket may bring them to the February 9 board meeting at the JPL.

We will also be bringing out the unsold books from our October event to conduct a small scale Used Book Sale at the Breakfast. Any additional “Dollars for Scholars” we can raise will help us meet our goal of \$1,000 and advance the education of our local girls.

–Liz Russo

Women’s Symposium –Save The Date!

The fourth Women’s Symposium sponsored by the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women’s Consortium will be held on Saturday, March 10 at the BOCES campus adjacent to FM.

Based on a theme of “*Recovery and Resiliency*” the Symposium will feature a keynote panel of area women who will speak on the community, financial, and health and emotional effects of coping with natural disasters such as the Tropical Storms that hit our area last fall as well as the inherent ability of strong women to rebound from life’s lemons and make lemonade!

A variety of workshops will offer topics such as nutrition, gardening, financial advice, spi-

ritual recovery, the importance of volunteering, safeguarding records – both personal and historical community records as well as those intended to provide ways of relaxation and stress relief including chair yoga and essential oils.

The Symposium promises to offer attendees a full day of interesting speakers, great food, and time to take advantage of the great offerings that will be provided by the vendors.

Date: Saturday, March 10
Location: HFM BOCES (adjacent to FM)
Time: 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Advance Registration Fee: \$30.
Fee includes: Continental Breakfast, Lunch, and Admission to 3 workshops and keynote panel presentation.

Registration brochures will be available soon! Hope to see all of you there! --Helen Martin

Delegates Needed for NYS Convention, April 21-22 in Rochester!

We are looking for at least 3 new faces to attend the 2012 AAUW NY State Convention in Rochester April 21-22 at the Woodcliff Hotel & Spa. Our branch has funds available to assist with the registration fees for those who serve as delegates.

According to Peggy Kelland, AAUW-NYS V.P. Program, this year's state convention theme, "In Their Footsteps," will cele-

brate the historic women's rights movement centered in New York State. It will begin with a Friday afternoon tour of the Susan B. Anthony House and continue on Saturday with a dialogue between impersonators of Anthony and of Matilda Joslyn Gage will bring alive the conflicts within the women's suffrage movement - surprisingly relevant to today's political divisions. Workshops on "The Haudenosaunee Influence," "Harriet Tubman," African-American "Uncrowned Queens," "Elizabeth Cady Stanton," "Women of the Chautauqua Movement," "The Seneca Army Depot Peace Encampment" will all expand on this theme.

Keynotes by Cathy Kelm, head of AAUW's Lobby Corps in Washington, and by Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, as well as workshops on The Temp Economy and "Clean Money, Clean Elections," a dialogue on the Women's History Trail, and "Project Women" will show how AAUW can continue the mission today. That mission will be extended throughout the world with our international speaker, Jane Roberts.

By popular demand there will again be military bridge on Friday evening, an exercise session (yoga this year!) on Saturday afternoon, musical entertainment on Saturday evening, and opportunities for swimming, walking, and LAF purse raffle. As a special treat, the Branch Showcase will be a presentation by the Bath Branch of the play "Moirs" on Sunday morning.

Attending convention is a wonderful experience. It gives you a chance to really understand what AAUW is all about. You will get a chance to meet AAUW "sisters" from across the state, share ideas, and become reinvigorated. Hope you consider attending and joining in on all the fun! Contact Liz Russo or Linda Hammond for more details.

Committees and Officers needed for 2012-14

The following positions are up for election in April at our annual meeting.

- Vice President - Program
- Vice President - Membership
- Vice President -Legal Advocacy Fund
- Vice President - Educational Opportunities Fund.
- Treasurer
- Assistant Treasurer

We are hoping to develop committees for Membership and Program with a mentor Vice President for each. Please consider stepping up to assist as many of our veteran members are interested in moving on after many years of serving. We hope you will say "yes" when called to serve our branch. "Many hands make light work!"

--Liz Russo

Fulton County Chamber of Commerce e-mails Q and A

Q: I was recently asked why our AAUW members were receiving e-mails from the Fulton County

Chamber of Commerce since our branch is no longer a member.

A: All Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown AAUW members are receiving Fulton County Chamber of Commerce e-mails from our newsletter editor Gloria Kimball. This is because our AAUW branch is a member of the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium (ECSWC) which in turn is a member of the Fulton County Chamber of Commerce. All consortium member organization's membership, therefore, have an opportunity to attend Chamber events. When attending a Fulton County Chamber event, please identify yourself as an ECSWC member.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 31

ECSWC Symposium planning meeting at 5:30 p.m.
Johnstown Public Library

February 1

AAUW Student Organization meeting at FMCC
Noon-1 p.m.

February 9

AAUW Board meeting at 6 p.m.
Johnstown Public Library

February 11

FMCC Theater Presentation "The Vagina Monologues" directed by Sonnet Gravina
Two performances: 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 to benefit the Montgomery County Domestic Violence and Crime Victim Services and The Family Counseling Domestic Violence Program of Fulton County.

February 16

Branch Meeting with Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium (dessert meeting at 6 p.m.)
Johnstown Public Library
Our Sister's Keeper 2.0
Book Discussion - *The Hospital by the River*; Video - *A Walk to Beautiful*
Special Guest - Joan Monk, NYS AAUW co-chair My Sister's Keeper 2.0
Donations to Fistula Repair Fund

February 26

Soroptimist/AAUW Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser
7:30-11:30 a.m.
Johnstown Moose Lodge
Rte. 30A, Johnstown
Family Fun Raffle, Used Book Sale
Benefit AAUW local scholarships

March 10

Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Symposium
8 a.m.-3 p.m.
BOCES VOTEC facility
Route 67, Johnstown
Theme "Recovery"
Keynote Panel, workshops, continental breakfast, light lunch, vendor shopping
Pre-Registration by February 25
\$30 fee

March 15

Deadline to Register for AAUW NY State Convention

March 18

Johnstown Public Library Story Book Sundae
1-3 p.m. at FMCC
Ice Cream sundaes, kids entertainment, Basket Raffle
Proceeds to JPL

March 31

Branch Meeting
Grace Lutheran Church
Johnstown
Joint meeting with Girl Scouts
Celebration of 100th anniversary of Girl Scouting
Speaker Cindy Rivera

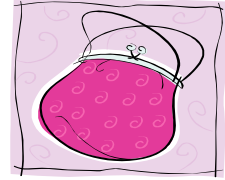
April 18

Branch Annual Dinner Meeting
5:30 p.m. FMCC Mohawk Room
Tour of:
Nanotechnology "Clean" Room
Speakers:
*Doris McLallen NYS AAUW College University Chair
*Becky Wachs, Doctoral Candidate Biomedical Engineering, RPI
AAUW EOF American Fellowship Award Recipient

April 21-22

AAUW NY State Convention
Rochester -Woodcliff Hotel & Spa, Fairport
Theme: Women's History Trail
Contact Liz Russo or Linda Hammond

The LAF Purse drawing (in lieu of basket raffle) at the upcoming convention sounds like it will be great fun! Tickets will be 10 for \$10. The money made by a purse depends on the number of tickets it collects, and **total contributions will be credited to the branch that donated the purses.**



Details below:

**April 20-22, 2012, Woodcliff Hotel & Spa, Fairport, NY
"The Women's History Trail: Walking in Their Footsteps"**

LAF PURSES DRAWING GUIDELINES

Branches are invited to raise funds for LAF while adding to the fun at the convention by submitting purses for a drawing. We will be asking branches to provide purses (new ones, of course) this year instead of baskets as a way to honor the suffragist Susan B. Anthony for whom a woman's purse was a symbol of her economic independence.

For the drawing submissions, *purses* can be interpreted somewhat broadly to include designer bags, small purses, shoulder bags, or evening bags. You may choose to include other items to enhance their value. Here are the rules to participate:

Each branch may enter up to 5 purses.●

Prior information is necessary for entry. Please inform **Roli Wendorf** about the number and titles of the purses you are planning to enter by the deadline: **Friday, March 30, 2012.**

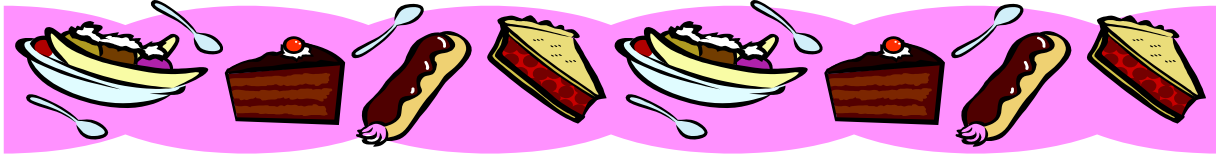
- A 4x6 card should be attached to the purse giving the title, information about the purse, contents if any, and the name of the contributing branch.

I hope our branch will take full advantage of the 5 entries we are allowed and ensure a sizeable contribution to LAF!

--Helen Martin



AAUW February Meeting



Branch Dessert Meeting
with Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium

February 16, 2012

6 p.m.

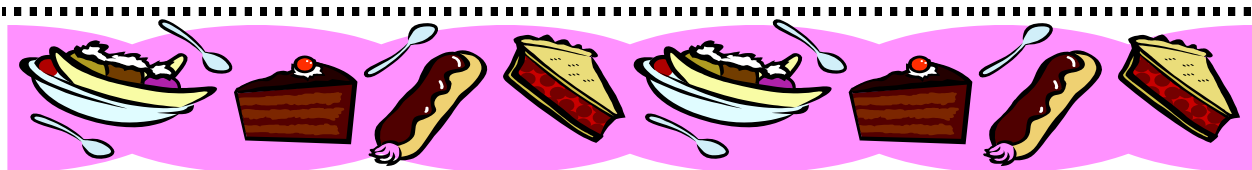
Johnstown Public Library

Our Sister's Keeper 2.0 Book Discussion - *The Hospital by the River*

Video - *A Walk to Beautiful*

Special Guest - Joan Monk, NYS AAUW
co-chair My Sister's Keeper 2.0

Donations to Fistula Repair Fund



Please RSVP by Monday, February 13

Bonnie Van Wie
102 Prospect Street
Johnstown, NY 12095-2501

bonnywee@gmx.com

762-9377