



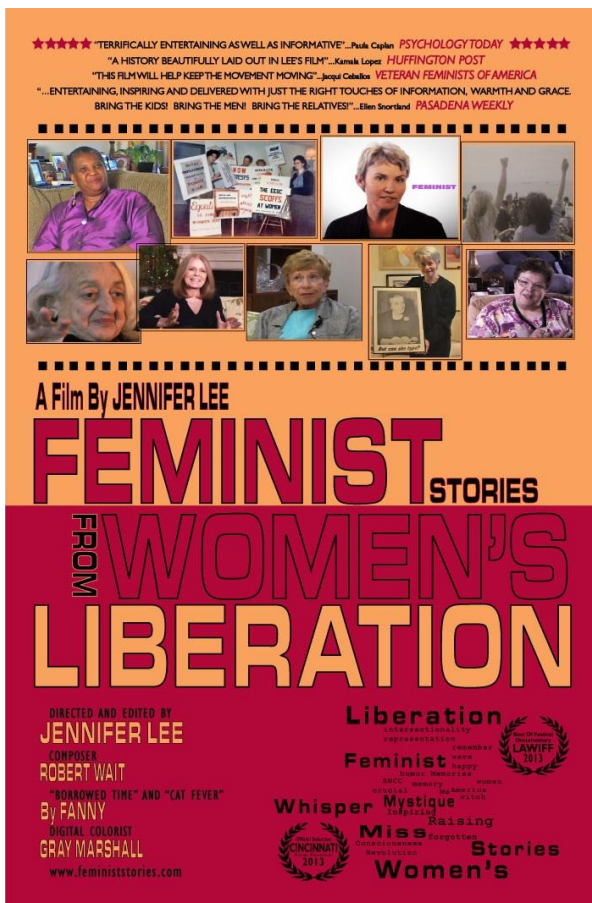
Upstate Update

AMSTERDAM * GLOVERSVILLE * JOHNSTOWN BRANCH

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

agj-ny.aauw.net

March - April 2015



SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, April 11th

Meet
Jennifer Lee, Writer,
Speaker & Filmmaker

6:30 pm
FMCC Theatre
FREE!!!

The film, "*Feminist Stories from Women's Liberation*" illustrates how women have continued to fight for their rights in the 20th Century and beyond.

BRING YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY!

On Saturday, April 11 at 6:30pm our AAUW branch is sponsoring the showing of the film, "**Feminist: Stories from Women's Liberation**" in the Theater at FMCC. The film illustrates how women have continued to fight for their rights in the 20th Century and beyond. Elizabeth Cady Stanton was part of women's history. Without Elizabeth and many other notable women from the Suffragist period, the 20th Century Liberation may not have occurred. Jennifer Lee, the film's author and director will be traveling from California to join us for a discussion of the film after the performance. Our branch applied for and received a \$500 grant from AAUW NYS to cover the costs and bring this program to our community. NYS AAUW President Edwina Martin will be traveling here all the way from Stanton Island to attend so we hope you will all be there as well and bring your friends and neigh-

bors. There will be dessert refreshments before the movie. There is no charge, but donations will be accepted. The evening is open to the public. Spread the word! The AAUW Movie Night at FM is our AAUW branch contribution as part of the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium to the year-long celebration of the birth of Elizabeth Cady Stanton 200 years ago. Our thanks go to AAUW branch member, Jen Garren for making this happen.

More about JENNIFER LEE... Jennifer grew up on Staten Island, New York in the late 60s and early 70s. Her father was a police officer and her mother was a social worker who worked at Willowbrook State School and was instrumental in its closing. Jennifer and her mother moved to Athens, Georgia and then Atlanta in 1973. They lived in the Quaker Meeting House in the artists' area of Atlanta, Little Five Points. The neighborhood included filmmakers, actors, gay activists, political activists, feminists, and the general counter culture of the time. Jennifer was a part of a dance theater company and volunteered at the feminist bookstore, "Charis Books and More." Upon graduating from Hampshire College, she moved to the San Francisco Bay area intent on working at Lucas film's Industrial Light and Magic in their optical department (this was when visual effects were created on cameras and film - computer effects were just beginning). She started working in the optical department as a compositor in 1989.

Jennifer Lee has worked on many feature films at ILM, including *Forrest Gump*, *Ghost*, *Back To The Future 2*, *Death Becomes Her*, *The Rocketeer*, *The Hunt For Red October*, *Hook*, *In The Mouth Of Madness* And *Forrest Gump*.

The first independent film that she directed was about little-known southwestern architect named Mary Jane Colter: The Desert View. It was narrated by Ellen Burstyn. Jennifer was drawn to Colter's story because her work was significant and ground-breaking, and Jennifer had never heard of her.

Moving to Los Angeles to broaden her film experience she worked in several Hollywood studios including, Warner Bros. Studios, Sony Imageworks, and Technicolor. Jennifer worked as a visual effects producer, compositor, editor, digital intermediate conforming editor and she produced miniature effects. She worked technically and creatively. Her credits include, *Race To Witch Mountain*, *The Human Stain*, *Kill Bill Vol. 1+2*, *Final Destination*, *Herbie Fully Loaded*, *Beowulf*, *Pirates Of The Caribbean*, And *Enchanted*.

Jennifer Lee began to move in a more independent direction with film. She created and directed a film festival in Winslow's historic theater from 2002 through 2004. For three years the festival screened independent films and hosted a visual effects lecture series that included visual effects professionals. FEMINIST: STORIES FROM WOMEN'S LIBERATION won "Best of the Fest" for documentary at the Los Angeles Women's International Film Festival. It is a film exploring the significance of the second wave of the women's liberation movement on our lives. Interviewees include author and NOW founder Betty Friedan, authors and activists Frances M. Beal, Robin Morgan, Sonia Pressman Fuentes, Betita Martinez and many other feminists who are not well-known but should be.

As a speaker Jennifer works to connect the importance of history as women along with seeing women as leaders. Speaking engagements include the Berkshire Conference on Women's History, Hampshire College, The Women, Action and Media National Conference, UCLA, University of Colorado, Boulder, Girls Athletic Leadership School, Denver, CO, Loyola Marymount University, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, University of Texas Dallas, and the International Islamic University in Islamabad, Pakistan.

What a wonderful opportunity we have to meet such an accomplished woman as Jennifer Lee and view her film "Feminist: Stories From Women's Liberation". It is not every day that someone of her stature comes to Johnstown, NY!

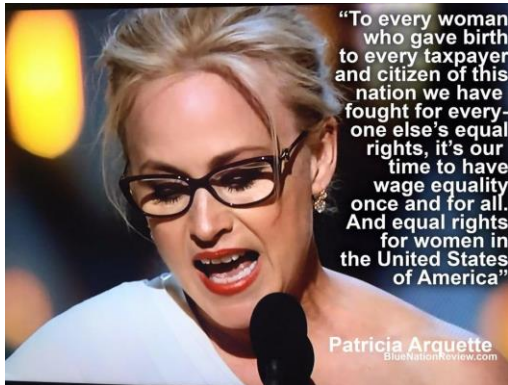
Let's be there in big numbers to meet and greet her on Saturday, April 11 at 6:30 at FMCC.

FMCC Art Gallery will be open with Student Work on display before the film - still another reason to come to FMCC on April 11.

Co-President's Message

OK, Mother Nature! Spring is here according to the calendar. It's time for us to have the sun shining and the nice warm temperatures. But please don't make the creeks rise too high.

Yesterday, the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Symposium was a great day! Thank you to all who put many hours volunteering their time in planning for this event and executing the many tasks for a successful event. Many of our participants expressed having a great time with our speakers & guests. Liz reported that we had 9 attend from other AAUW branches (4 Schenectady, 4 Poughkeepsie, 1 Kingston, plus Authors: Ruth Scott - Rochester Branch, and Greta Nettleton - NYS Empire State Virtual Branch). Total AAUW with our AGJ 20 = 31.



Ladies, did you watch the Oscars? Did you catch Patricia Arquette acceptance speech? It was great! The National AAUW Facebook site has the film clip of the acceptance speech and it was on many other news feeds. It was fun seeing Meryl Streep and Jennifer Lopez bouncing in their seats & cheering Arquette on. Maybe the ERA will be revved up this year.

We really had a great February meeting. I don't think there was anyone in the room who wasn't having a good time. Thank you to Ruth Scott and to Darcelle Winchell! Ruth directed our teams through a revised exercise that our Tech Savvy girls experienced. The teams were given required steps to complete while building. It was fun to

watch everyone designing their homes and how they worked together. Pictures of the teams can be found further in the newsletter.

We have a busy spring for our branch. We have great program events and we have some really great baskets being created by our branch. If you happen to stop by the Johnstown Public Library, check out our college survival kit basket. Liz Russo and Connie Lais Chamberlain did a great job. Thank you ladies!!! We also have a great basket for the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Symposium. Thank you, Irene Collins! At this time, we are working on the LAF purses for the NYS AAUW convention.

Happy Easter! Happy Passover!!

Co-president Linda Hammond

FEBRUARY – MARCH ACTIVITIES / NOTABLES

February -Lego Challenge Meeting

Those attending our Taste of Tech Savvy branch meeting in February seemed to enjoy building houses, vehicles, trees, etc., under the direction of Ruth Scott who presented the same workshop to the girls at past Tech Savvy Summits. The Pink Ladies, Yellow and Blue teams each with a mix of veteran and new members worked together to gather Legos and follow the building specifications. We were all so engrossed in completing our projects that we didn't realize we had been working for 45 minutes when Ruth called time and directed us to carefully move our projects to the viewing table. Then we all had a chance to check out each other's handiwork. Thanks, Linda Hammond, for documenting our creations before we had to pick up the Legos and head home. Thanks, Ruth, for conducting the meeting and bringing your Legos for us to play with! Thanks, Darcelle, for making the arrangements. We also had good food and lots of it, thanks to Chartwells at FM.

March 4 Dessert Meeting Focused on New Educational Model

Our March 4 meeting was follow-up from our 2014 Tech Savvy Summit for Girls when Principal Michael Dardaris



explained the new P-Tech program to adults in attendance. Now with the program underway, we had an opportunity to tour the facility on Jansen Ave., in Johnstown where the new approach to education is being held and learn how students are progressing. Fifty 9th grade students from Hamilton-Fulton and Montgomery Counties are the first group to be enrolled in P-Tech. They will be joined by 50 more 9th graders in the fall as they progress through high school, attend Fulton-Montgomery Community College and go on to internships for careers in technology. It was a great meeting with many questions and input by our members. We had an opportunity to hear about and see the classrooms of the future, with high work surfaces where one can stand and work as well as movable comfortable furniture. We really appreciated the time taken by Principal Michael Dardaris to explain the program and give the tour despite his long ride home. We also enjoyed delicious desserts brought by our members. In addition, we were pleased to be joined by guest Caitlin Daly, a graduate of JHS. Caitlin served on the original Sister to Sister Summit planning committees from the time she was an 8th grade student at Knox Junior High through high school. She has a degree from RPI and studied architecture in London. She had just accepted a position with the architecture group that will be working on updating schools in Gloversville and Johnstown including the P-TECH School. What a coincidence!

NYS AAUW Convention – April 17 – 19, 2015

Attending an AAUW Convention is a wonderful way to better understand the organization and meet women from all over NYS who share a common interest. The weekend will include a choice of workshops on education, voting rights, domestic violence, and leadership. There will be election of State Officers and presentation of the 21st Century branch awards and Emerging Leader recognition. There is time for networking with other branches to trade ideas for fundraising, program, communications and leadership concerns.

The fun begins on Friday with a mixer activity. There is also a chance to do aerobic exercise or participate in the AAUW Funds Swimathon and dance for AAUW Funds on Saturday night. The LAF auction and raffle room will be open until Saturday night while the bidding continues. Linda Hammond, Liz Russo, Paula Lerner, Jen Garren, Ella Ryder, Bev Alves and Sandra Maceyka will be representing our branch. Several of them will be participating in the Swimathon - Please offer a pledge for them to take to the convention.

Message from the Convention Committee:

Will you be joining us this year to the State Convention? It is being held on Grand Island and we will be celebrating the 125th birthday of the Buffalo branch. The convention committee sends this message, “Think about a **vintage hat** or **costume** you might have that you could wear Friday night to help celebrate Buffalo's 125th birthday!!!”

NYS AAUW EMERGING LEADERS

Prior to Convention each branch selects their Emerging Leader and they are recognized at Saturday night's dinner. This year's Emerging Leader at AGJ is Paula Lerner!! This year we had our previous Emerging Leaders work as a committee to select our new Leader. Our committee was Gina Mazur, Darcelle Winchell, Linda Hammond and Ella Ryder. Here is our submission to the Convention Committee.



Paula received her Bachelor of Arts in English from Hunter CUNY in 1972 and her Nursing Degree from Nassau Community College in 1992. She supports women's issues and enjoys networking with other women. She especially enjoys the Branch Lunch Bunch Book Club. Paula is currently the Co-Vice President for Program. She is a willing and enthusiastic AAUW member. Since joining AAUW in 2013 she has attended conventions and summer leadership conferences. Paula has volunteered on many of our programs, such as our Tech Savvy Summit (overseeing creation of the packets for students, hand-delivery of registration material to schools). Our Community effort this year is working with the Haven of Hope Farm in Fonda, NY whose purpose

is to help temporarily homeless women with children. Paula initiated the outreach, organized a branch program and has spent many hours organizing donated supplies as well as working at the Haven. She is becoming more tech savvy herself learning to use a computer to more easily communicate with us as well as access AAUW information online.

We have a Nominating Committee, now we need Nominees!

The committee is still working and still waiting for a yes when they approach you.

They are asking and we are hoping you will agree to be part of the future leadership of AAUW in our community. Eleanor Roosevelt, Don Ruiz and Steven Covey all have good lessons for each of us, whether in our daily lives or as we claim our right, step up to volunteer to lead our branch and continue the AAUW mission in our community! You can do it and when you do, Eleanor would be proud!

Our Year with Eleanor continues....

Thank you, Joan Monk for continuing the AAUW NY/NJ WILD (**Women in Leadership Development**) Project. WILD April inspiration comes from Chapter Nine of Leadership the Eleanor Roosevelt Way by Robin Gerber – Keep Your Focus “To be useful is, in a way, to justify one’s own existence. The difficult thing, perhaps, is to learn how to be useful, to recognize needs and to attempt to meet them.”-ER

- Flexibility and Focus
- Think Long, Think Transformation
- The Power of Conviction

All of the above are important to consider as we finish our 2014-15 AAUW year and plan for the future of our Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown branch.

For March:

As part of the AAUW NY/NJ WILD (**Women in Leadership Development**) Project, our year with Eleanor Roosevelt continues with Chapter Eight, “**Face Criticism with Courage**” of Robin Gerber’s book, Leadership the Eleanor Roosevelt Way.

The Eleanor quote the month of March is: “**Develop a skin as thick as a rhinoceros hide!**” -ER

The take away lessons include:

- Get First Hand Information
- Don’t Let Critics Get in Your Way
- Stay True to Yourself

During the recent WILD Project teleconference, The Four Agreements by Don Miguel Ruiz was also referenced including:

1. Be impeccable with your word
2. Don’t take anything personally.
3. Don’t make assumptions.
4. Always do your best

The Leadership tips from Chapter 8 of Leadership the Eleanor Roosevelt Way included:

- Seeing, listening, learning and taking action – are the simple steps that can give you courage to lead in the face of opposition.
- Be a leader who knows the way before she shows the way.

- Handle criticism with less emotion and more intelligence.
- Be open to constructive ideas.
- Be strong in the face of unjust attacks.

From Steven Covey's books, [Seven Habits of Highly Effective People](#) and [The 8th Habit](#)

1. Be Proactive
2. Begin with the End in Mind
3. Put First Things First
4. Think Win/Win
5. Seek First to Understand, Then to be Understood
6. Synergize
7. Sharpen the Saw
8. Find your voice and inspire others to find theirs.

March 21st - Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Symposium / District IV Conference

Thanks to the efforts of the planning committee the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Symposium offered much to those who attended. The event which took place on March 21 also served as the AAUW District IV Conference with Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown as the host branch. We were pleased to have members from the Kingston, Poughkeepsie and Schenectady branches attend along with 20 of our own branch. A District IV AAUW display highlighted activities of member branches and AAUW members wore the organization's logo to provide visibility and ease in networking between branches. Symposium speakers included two authors who presented at the AAUW NY State Convention last April in Ellenville. Greta Nelleton and Ruth Holland Scott joined local author Hiedi Sprouse in the *Women on the Page* workshop. AAUW members serving on the planning committee included Helen Martin, Sandra Maceyka, Lauren Kozakiewicz, Jennifer Garren, Jahnn Gibson, Catherine Julius and Liz Russo. In addition, Paula Lerner, Linda Hammond, Connie Chamberlain and Bonnie Van Wie assisted with set up. Sandy Lane, Ginni Mazur and brand new member Colleen Bower served as hostesses to introduce workshop presenters and handed out and collected evaluation forms. Anja Biel helped to register the attendees as they arrived. New member Irene Collins organized our health and fitness basket for the ECSWS raffle. A special thanks to Sandy Lane for stepping in to present about her book *The Trail of the Wildflowers* to fill a workshop spot when Penny Colman became ill. Wonderful things can and do happen when women work together!

PUBLIC POLICY

How do you feel about this?

New York Assembly passes anti-human trafficking bills

Pieces of Women's Equality Act pushed rather than package

By Matthew Hamilton

Published 11:16 pm, Monday, March 16, 2015

The logjam has been broken, though it doesn't seem like the entire Women's Equality Act will easily flow to the governor's desk.

The Assembly passed on Monday a package of anti-human-trafficking legislation, only one bill of which is poised to be signed by the governor. The Trafficking Victims Protection and Justice Act — a WEA plank that passed the state Senate in January — increases penalties for sex and labor human trafficking, requires anti-human-trafficking training for law enforcement and creates a civil right of action to enable victims of human trafficking to sue their perpetrators for damages, among other things. The rest of the package, which includes bills aimed at training gaming facility employees to recognize the signs of human trafficking and creating a 24-hour hotline to report human trafficking, is made of new bills that face an uncertain fate in the GOP-controlled state Senate.

Monday's votes were symbolic of a larger narrative on women's bills this session. For the first time, the Assembly is willing to take up the Women's Equality Act piecemeal instead of passing an omnibus package. But [Democrats](#) will look to strengthen individual pieces by passing new bills instead of legislation already approved by the state Senate this year. At a press confer-

ence announcing the human trafficking package, Speaker [Carl Heastie](#), a Democrat, said the Democratic majority's consensus is to move forward on individual pieces. "I would say yes — to some degree," Heastie said of whether the rest of the WEA would move toward a vote. "We're going to go back to where the original sponsors were in the Assembly on where the legislation is. We will take up all the topics, but not necessarily the same bills on any of the topics."

Advocates lauded movement on the trafficking bills while voicing hope that it signals that other women's bills will begin moving through the Legislature. Passing those other bills will take negotiation with the state Senate. While the Republican majority may be movable to some degree on pieces, it's expected to dig in its heels on the controversial codification of *Roe v. Wade* into state law.

Unemployment Initiatives – This article talks about the new practices of a local national company. Many smart phones, which many of us have, have the capability of producing high definition video.

Video Interviews Help Address Long-Term Unemployment

By Roy Maurer
3/5/2015

HR and hiring managers began using video interviewing to simplify the hiring process and increase access to a wider range of talent, but some companies have found that the technology can also help address one of the country's most vexing problems: long-term unemployment.

About one-third of the 9 million Americans counted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics as unemployed are considered long-term unemployed—jobless for 27 weeks or more. About 2.6 million have been unemployed for a year or more. About one-third of that group have been unemployed for more than two years.

Compounding the problem, employers are disinclined to hire even well-qualified job applicants who have been out of work for six months or longer, according to the National Employment Law Project. The long-term unemployed are about half as likely as the short-term unemployed to get a callback, according to a White House report. The interview callback rate for otherwise identical resumes falls sharply as the length of unemployment rises, with callbacks 45 percent lower for those unemployed for eight months compared to those unemployed for just one month, the report said.

Removing Barriers

In January 2014, the White House launched an employer initiative with over 300 companies signing a pledge to develop leading practices for recruiting and hiring the long-term unemployed. One of the companies highlighted was Frontier Communications.

"Frontier changed the way we meet applicants," said Jim Oddo, senior vice president of human resources at the Stamford, Conn.-based telecom. Frontier made a commitment to take down barriers in the application process and give those with gaps in their employment history a chance to let their personality shine, by shifting from "resume first to interview first," Oddo explained. "Instead of recruiters opening up a position and looking at a pile of resumes, we shifted to video interviewing" for the company's call-center sales and service representative jobs, he said.

"We found that applicants' prior experience was not really a key determining factor of future behavior and that the soft skills and competencies that a candidate possessed, such as optimism, motivation, empathy, enthusiasm and the ability to delight the customer, were more important indicators of their future contribution." The ability to delight a customer is not easy to find on someone's resume, Oddo explained, and "Video interviews gave us a way to quickly identify those competencies."

Video interviewing is just one way employers can assess a candidate's soft skills, commonly reported as the most important and most difficult attribute to assess.

Employers that have incorporated skills-based hiring rather than relying on recent job experience have seen a 25 percent to 75 percent reduction in turnover and a 50 percent to 70 percent reduction in time-to-hire, cost-to-hire and time-to-train, according to a 2014 guide for employers looking to hire the long-term unemployed, produced by Deloitte and the Rockefeller Foundation.

"People are who they are, not what they write," said Mark Newman, founder and CEO of HireVue, a digital recruiting platform and video interview service provider. Newman predicts that empowering candidates to tell their stories will be the next era in recruiting and hiring. "The job interview is a life-changing experience. The organization that empowers candidates during the hiring experience leaves a lasting impression of their brand," he said.

Applicants submit video responses to interview questions designed around certain skills or competencies at their convenience. Hiring managers then review what comes in.

Oddo said his hiring managers were skeptical at first. "They wanted to see resumes, like they've been doing for years," he said. The initiative was small when it started, "with a few hiring managers in select locations. Now they're seeking more video interviews. We've spread it across the company, and use it for almost all call-center positions."

Of the 3,000 positions filled at Frontier in 2014, 462 were individuals from the ranks of the long-term unemployed, making up 15.4 percent of new hires for the year. Another 513 hires were individuals who had been unemployed in the short term.

To date, the company has retained 82 percent of long-term unemployed hires, compared to 79 percent of individuals who were employed elsewhere at the time of hire. "We find a high level of loyalty and commitment from the previously long-term unemployed group," Oddo said.

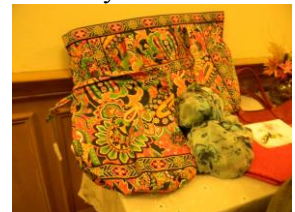
Long-term unemployed hires were also promoted at a greater rate (15.7 percent) than employed hires (13.6 percent). Oddo recommends that employers record and track data on their long-term unemployed hires "to help debunk myths" about the productivity of this worker category.

AAUW FUNDRAISING

Please Donate...Items needed for AAUW NYS Convention LAF Fundraiser

Each year our branch gives \$300 to the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) and additionally donates items for the AAUW NYS Convention raffle/silent auction LAF fundraiser.

Thanks to the generosity Nancy Reynolds and Bonnie Van Wie, we will be bringing 3 items to this year's Convention in Buffalo April 17-19. Bonnie is donating a crystal bowl from Europe and Nancy is donating two large bags. Thanks to contributions, we have filled our Bright and Healthy Bag.



We still need the following items for our RED-y to Read Bag:



- scarf
- tissue packet,
- small first aid kit
- handbag holder
- scratch off tickets
- small flashlight
- spot treatment
- wet wipes/ hand sanitizer.
- gift card
- reading glasses (inexpensive) 2.0 or 1.75
- small flashlight
- spot treatment
- wet wipes/ hand sanitizer.
- gift card

Those wishing to donate items for the LAF Fundraiser are asked to bring contact Nancy Reynolds. We will assemble the baskets the week after Easter and **will need all donations by April 3.**

AAUW Funds Spare Change Bucket Collection

We collected a total of \$24 at our February and March meetings. Since September, we have collected over \$240.00 as part of our spare change for change campaign. Thanks to all who have lightened their pocket books and helped raise money for Legal Advocacy and Education grants, scholarships and research by added their coins. We appreciate our AAUW Funds Chair Nancy Reynolds for her perseverance with this fundraising project. Bring you pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters to our May meeting!

Where do our donations go??

Part of the funds we collect goes to the Education Opportunities Funds (EOF) some of which are used to fund research on topics effecting women. An example is the *Solving the Equation* research report regarding women in engineering and computing which will be released by AAUW in March. *See below.*

Latest AAUW Funded Research Report to be Launched March 26

The launching of the latest AAUW research report, *Solving the Equation: The Variables for Women's Success in Engineering and Computing* will take place on March 26 from 2-3:30pm at the new Samsung headquarters in Sili-

con Valley. You can watch the online live streaming to find out why women aren't in these fields and what employers, educators and parents can do about it.

A panel of experts from the industry and academia, moderated by leading gender-in-science researcher [Londa Schiebinger](#), will discuss the report's findings and what they mean for anyone who cares about tapping the innovative solutions that half our population offers. Register to watch the launching of the research by clicking on.. [Stream the Solving the Equation panel and launch live on March 26!](#)



Budget time again

Each Committee Chair is asked to consider whether they need more money for next year. Should we increase the amounts we give for each scholarship, do we want to give more scholarships? Is there any area that we should increase? Please share your suggestions with Treasurer Ella Ryder or co - presidents Linda Hammond and Liz Russo **BY FRIDAY, APRIL 3rd.**

APRIL ANNUAL MEETING

APRIL 29th at 6:30 – 8 PM

Johnstown Senior Center

This is a business only meeting. We will vote on our 2015/2016 budget and vote in our new officers. A convention report will be presented.

Beverages and dessert will be provided. Please plan to attend and vote on our required business.

We had looked at our programs scheduled for April & May. It was felt that the programs were very important and that we wouldn't have time for discussion and voting.

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome Back, Jack !

John Kohn renewed his membership to our branch in January. We were glad to see him at our Lego Challenge meeting at FM February 10. He will also be a workshop presenter at our Tech Savvy Summit for Girls May 20.

Please add John Kohn to your AAUW membership booklet.

John Kohn,
149 Second Ave
Gloversville, NY 12078
(H) 234-1116 (W) 762-4651

Raffle for Free Membership Renewal - One More Chance to Win!

Congratulations to **Linda Zilka** and **Sandy Lane** who were the February and March winners of an AAUW membership renewal. Though our Shape the Future Membership recruitment last September, we signed up 7 new members earning our branch 3 free memberships from National AAUW which we annually raffle.

Thanks to those who bought tickets, we raised \$90 for future membership recruitment. The third and **last membership raffle**, will take place at our **May 28** meeting. **Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.** Good luck!

This will be just in time since the **date for renewing AAUW memberships is June 1 to get the special early bird rate of \$68. After June 1 the dues will be \$74.**

February Meeting - Lego Challenge!

Our teams:



After the rules were received, the teams gathered their supply of Legos.



Lunch Bunch Discussed The Kitchen House in February

The Branch Lunch Bunch met on Thursday, February 26, at 1pm at Sam's Restaurant, Rte. 30A, Johnstown. To commemorate Black History month, the book discussed was The Kitchen House by Kathryn Grissom. As usual, the conversation was lively and the company enjoyable.

March 24 Lunch Bunch to Discuss My Beloved World by Sonia Sotomayor

March is Women's History Month. In celebration, the Branch Lunch Bunch is reading the AAUW Adelante book choice, My Beloved World by Sonia Sotomayor. Sotomayor is the first Hispanic person and the third woman appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court. With a candor and intimacy never undertaken by a sitting justice, she recounts her life from a Bronx housing project to the federal bench, a journey that offers an inspiring testament to her own extraordinary determination and the power of believing in oneself. The Branch Lunch Bunch will meet at 1 pm at Jackie's Restaurant, rte. 29 Johnstown. Please contact Ella Ryder if you wish to attend. Books are still available at the Johnstown Public Library. Join us whether or not you have read the book for good company and conversation.

¡Adelante! Book of the Month Club *Message from AAUW National*

Read any great books lately?

Submit your recommendations for the 2015-16 book club! Then join us on Goodreads and share your reviews of ¡Adelante! Book of the Month Club titles.

Submit your recommendations for the 2015-16 book club!

<http://www.aauw.org/resource/adelante-book-list/>

AAUW High School Scholarship Essay Topic Announced

Since Johnstown will be celebrating the 200th anniversary of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's birth, the suggested essay topic for the 2015 Dorothy Wemple Literary Award is "**Elizabeth Cady Stanton: Why Do You Feel The Work She Did Is Important For Women, and How Might It Help You Personally**" The research or autobiographical essay should be 300-500 words. Entries will be judged on literary form, research and clarity of thought.

Entries should be submitted to high school guidance departments who along with area English teachers have received information regarding the award. To ensure objective judging, neither the name nor the school should appear on or be included in the essay. A separate sheet with the student's name and school, college they plan to attend, and the counselor's signature should be submitted with the entry. Deadline for the AAUW scholarship application is April 23.

Thanks to the success of our Celebration Scholarship Fundraiser last spring, we have been able to increase the award to \$500. Depending on number and quality of essays submitted an additional \$300 prize may also be given. The award is given annually by the Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) in memory of Dorothy Anderson Wemple who was a member of AAUW for over 50 years and a member of the local branch since its inception in 1967. Dorothy Anderson Wemple, who died in 2007, was an English teacher at Knox Junior High School in Johnstown and was a past judge for the essay contest which began in 1991.

The scholarship is available to women high school seniors in Fulton, Montgomery, and Hamilton Counties who will be pursuing a 2 - or 4-year college degree upon graduation.

The AAUW branch High School Literary Award Committee includes Linda Hammond, Jahnn Gibson, Paula Lerner, Nancy Reynolds and Laurie Kozakiewicz. Thank you all for stepping up to ensure that our High School Scholarship Award will continue. ("Eleanor" would be proud of you all!)

Calendar of Upcoming Events

		LOOKING AHEAD	
March 24	Lunch Bunch Book Discussion 1 pm, Jackie's Restaurant, Route 29, Broadalbin Contact Ella Ryder RSVP	May 19	Set up for Tech Savvy Summit 3-5 pm; FMCC Student Union
April 11	Movie Night – Documentary, <i>Feminist Stories from Women's Liberation</i>; Speaker: Jennifer Lee FMCC Theatre, 6:30 pm	May 20	Tech Savvy Summit for Girls 8 am – 2 pm; FMCC
April 14	Equal Pay Day	May 27	AGJ Board Meeting 6 pm; Johnstown Public Library
April 17 – 19	AAUW NYS Convention in Buffalo	May 28	Women's Suffrage Movement in Fulton & Montgomery Counties 5 pm tour; 6 pm light supper & program Elwood Museum, 100 Church St. Amsterdam Speakers: Samantha Hall-Salladino, Anne Pecone
April 29	AGJ Business Only Meeting, 6:30 pm Johnstown Senior Center	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

HerStory 2015

[Fulton & Montgomery County Celebrations of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's 200th Birthday!](#)

Coordinated by the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium

website www.ECSWC.org Lizdeclares@ECSWC.com info@ECSWC.org or call 762-7638

Watch for more Information

Sat Jan 24 9-1 - [Girl Scouts of NENY](#) - "Our History is Our Strength" at Johnstown Community Center

Sat Feb 28 at 1 - [Women Democrats](#) - Audrey Bowman & Rev Ruby Smith, "The Struggles of Black Women in Upstate New York" at Trakside Community Center

Sat March 21 8-3- [Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Symposium](#) - "Our History Is Our Strength" at HFM BOCES Lite Breakfast, Lunch, & wonderful workshops

March-April Sunflower Seeds will be available to residents from [City Of Johnstown](#) - Birthplace of Elizabeth - In exchange flowers must be photographed & photos sent to the seed company

Sat April 11 at 6 - [AAUW-American Association of University Women](#) - "Feminist Stories from Women's Liberation," a film by Jennifer Lee at FMCC & discussion with the film maker

Sat May 16 - [Women's Republican Club of Fulton County](#) - Luncheon - Laurie Kozakiewicz on Women in Politics: Historic Strategies and Challenges at Lanzi's on the Lake

Thurs May 28 at 6 - [AAUW-American Association of University Women](#) - Samantha Hall-Saladino & Anne Peconie - Tour & talk on -Women Suffrage in Fulton & Montgomery County at Elwood Museum - Amsterdam

Sat June 6 11-2 - [Pleasant Square Volunteer Fire Dept](#) - Picnic to honor Women First Responders at Pleasant Square Pavilion

Thurs June 25 at 7 - [Fulton County Historical Society](#) - Program by Laurie Kozakiewicz & Samantha Hall-Saladino on Women in War: From the Daughters of Liberty to the Women's Army Corps at the Fulton County Museum

July - August - [Johnstown Library](#) - Children's Reading Program on Heroes & Adult Reading & Discussion

Sat July 25 at 1 - [Eclectic Society](#) - Wade Wells speaking on Molly Brant followed by reception at St Johns Episcopal Church

Mon August 24 - ECSHA - [Elizabeth Cady Stanton Hometown Association](#) - Woman of Distinction Award and Reception

Sat Sept 19 - [GFWC Century Club](#) - Tea Party - at the Century Club

Thurs Oct 8 at 6:30 - SIFC - [Soroptimists International of Fulton County](#) - HerStory Trivia Challenge at the Eccentric Club - Tickets \$5/person - \$30 for a table of 6 Cash Bar, Food and Prizes

Nov 6,7,8,13,14,15- [Colonial Little Theatre](#) - production of "The Quilters"

Thurs Nov 12 6:30 -8 - ECSHA - [Elizabeth Cady Stanton Hometown Association](#) - 200th Birthday Celebration of Elizabeth at FMCC