

## 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.

**2010 – 2011**

**May**

### Branch Officers:

**President**

*Helen Martin*

**Vice President - Program**

*Sandy Maceyka*

**Vice President - Membership**

*vacancy*

**Vice President – Ed Foundation**

*Kaye Schrader*

**Vice President – Legal Advocacy**

*Ginni Mazur*

**Recording Secretary**

*Sue Summerfield*

**Treasurer - Barbara Nigro**

**Assistant Treasurer - Michele Acquaro**

### President's Message

It's great how things can improve in the course of a month. The sun is shining, it seems to be warming up and our branch will continue to operate!

Thank you to Liz Russo and Linda Hammond for stepping up to the plate to take over the Presidency. I have no doubt they will make an excellent team and look forward to hearing all of their ideas for the next two years!

Of course, my thanks go to everyone that has agreed to either take on a new position or retain their old – what a great slate of officers.

From what they've told me Sandy, Patsy, and Linda had a good time at convention, made some new connections, and came back with new ideas to share. Please read their reports contained in the newsletter. Thanks to all three of you!

As a group, we can be very proud of the various awards we won at convention. There is a separate list of them within the newsletter. While we didn't win Platinum again this year, we still managed to garner a Gold overall and that's wonderful! Congratulations to the entire branch!

Enjoy the weather and I hope to see all of you at the May meeting at the Senior Citizens Center.

Best,  
Helen



### **May Meeting Golden-Agers Gifting Event**

Usually we try to have one joint meeting per year and this is it. The Monday, May 16 meeting will be a joint one with the other member groups of the women's consortium and will be held at the Johnstown Senior Center. Each group will be collecting items for the Infirmary similar to what we did for the Domestic Violence Shelter. Dianne Kierpiec has sent a list of needed items or call Dianne, Helen, or Sandy for more information. The speaker will be Deborah Borie, and her topic will be *Too Sexy Too Soon*. She was a speaker at the 2010 NY State AAUW convention where she discussed the negative aspects of mass media marketing of sex and beauty to very young girls. She will focus on making us become aware of how media and advertisers work hard at influencing the decisions young people make. Borie currently serves as Project Co-Director of the *Training 2000+* grant: Just Kids Early Childhood Development Center. Hope to see you all there. Attendees can sign up to bring finger foods or desserts, and we will have a social time with lots of other women. –Sandy Maceyka

### **Silent Auction**

Up until June we will have a chance to bid on 2 great items to raise money for EF and LAF. The items will actually be

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

given to the high bidders at our June meeting. Barb Nigro has graciously contributed a handmade black and white quilted purse with lottery tickets included, and Peg Snyder has donated a beautiful tole painted basket with yummy Russell Stover eggs inside. Items will be available for viewing and bidding at our meeting. So on your mark, get ready to bid!

--Sandy Maceyka

### **Sunday, June 5 at 2 p.m. at the Infirmary**

Bob and the Bobcats will be performing, and we will serve cookies and punch for the residents. Everyone is welcome to attend and socialize with the residents. Bring any more gifts that you may have.

--Sandy Maceyka

### **Public Policy**

This will be my last communication as Public Policy Chair. I have enjoyed serving and overseeing Public Policy for the Amsterdam Gloversville Johnstown Branch since 2001. My Public Policy experience dates back to 1982 in New Jersey. AAUW Public Policy was beginning to establish itself as a national voice for women in the eighties. Roe v Wade had given women the freedom to choose safely. Careers were opening up to women that had previously accepted only token representation. AAUW was becoming a household word coming through television with newswomen, such as Diane Sawyer, using our research statistics and observations. The New Jersey Division (which would later be referred to as State) was in the forefront in the drive to bring awareness of educational inequalities for girls in pub-

lic schools. AAUW was the first to advocate for girls in sex discrimination cases in schools.

Today we find the AAUW Public Policy program still endorsing the same priorities; however, policy has become more intense and directed toward the discrimination in funding of educational programs for women and girls and preserving the hard fought for programs and benefits that now exist. AAUW has moved from public consciousness raising to lobbying the policy makers in Washington. Two hundred thousand voices and votes must be heard, and the way to ensure this will be to maintain members and seek to increase their numbers.

Helen Martin has offered to take over as the new Public Policy Chair and she will do an excellent job of keeping the branch informed and active on the Public Policy front. --Michele Acquaro

### **Sister to Sister Summit--May 16**

After all the hard work these past several months, the 12th annual conference for middle school girls is about to be happen. A total of 193 girls from 17 schools in the tri-county area have registered for this year's Summit. Patsy Suydam with assistance from husband Tom has computerized the registration process saving hours of cutting and arranging strips of paper to sort girls into workshop choices. Patsy has been handling all the computer chores with great creativity and has provided new ideas for the tasks that need to be done for a conference of this size to run smoothly. She has also connected us with a new music workshop for the Summit. Linda Bumpus has done a great job getting new funding sources for the event including Nathan Littauer

Hospital which has printed the registration forms and programs for the Summit and is funding our Capnote Speaker Deborah Borie. Linda has also taken care of obtaining funding from previous supporters of the conference by obtaining \$1,000 from Stewart's Shops for commemorative t-shirts and applying for a \$700 grant from the Montgomery County Youth Bureau. In addition, she obtained donations from several area businesses and organizations as well as food donations for breakfast snacks. She also arranged a tour of the new clean room at FMCC for chaperones who attend the Summit. Meanwhile, long time Sister to Sister Summit volunteers Melanie Pombrio and Susan Summerfield once again efficiently handled distribution of the information packets to the schools and collection of the student registrations, workshop choices, and t-shirt sizes.

Now that the programs have been printed, the t-shirts have been ordered, and the girls sorted into their workshops, the next step is preparing the registration folders for the girls and chaperones. Maps, schedules, and programs will be added to the folders by Fonda-Fultonville students under the direction of Teresa House and Paula Carnevale.

On Sunday, May 15 at 3 p.m. volunteers will help put up the workshop signs Patsy has made, distribute the balloons Linda will purchase to mark the way to the classrooms, hang the inspirational posters made by past attendees and saved by Anne Campos, and count out the t-shirts for each school to take home.

On Monday, May 16, bright and early, Linda will pick up the breakfast snacks donated from area grocery stores to be set up in time for the first arrivals at 8 a.m. A few more volunteers are still needed to help with the early morning tasks. Please contact Linda or Patsy if you can help on Monday, May 16 with breakfast setup, registration, directing students to their workshops, lunch assistance, or clean up. The event times are 8:15 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

--Liz Russo

### **Organizing Our History**

Keeping up with the AAUW scrapbook is an ongoing job, so if you come across any articles that have to do with AAUW that you might have been saving, please don't hesitate to pass them on to me. I can always put them in where they belong!

I am currently upgrading AAUW happenings from the 70s to the early 2000s. Our chapter has really been a busy one, even way back then! You'll be surprised at how active AAUW has been all along.

Hopefully, the scrapbooks of "Days Gone By" will be available for you by an early meeting in the fall!  
--Ginni Mazur

**Last Chance to Win a Free AAUW Membership!**

**Raffle at May Meeting**

The last of three free AAUW memberships for the 2011-2012 year will be raffled at the May meeting. Our branch earned the free memberships from National AAUW for recruiting over 6 members at our branch's September "Shape the Future Membership" meeting. Ella Ryder was the April winner. Raffle tickets will be \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

Good luck!

**Fundraising**

We definitely need ideas for fundraisers. We did no major fundraising for the past 3 years. In the past we did a garage sale, a gas grill-gas card raffle, and sponsored the antique show. So if anyone has any thoughts for something to do or an idea for a meeting, please share with Sandy Maceyka or another officer.

**Convention Report**

What a lovely trip to Glen Cove, Long Island. Met lots of interesting people and got lots of good information and ate lots of great food. There were 112 attendees representing 19 branches. NYS has 2889 members. The theme this year was My Sister's

Keeper. There was a wonderful talk about modern day Cuba where women and men experience little or no discrimination, and the education system is excellent. Also there was a talk about Israel and one about India and also Haiti. We toured Teddy Roosevelt's Sagamore Hill and heard his life story. We took 2 baskets to be raffled for LAF and returned with 2 that we won. I attended a workshop on how to achieve pay equity through gender equality awareness. Part of the problem is that jobs historically held by women and persons of color have had low salaries and still have them. If these salaries were raised to those of positions of comparable worth for men, then working women's families would gain \$4000 per year. Median weekly salary for women is \$669 and for men is \$824. We are STILL at 77 cents on the dollar! There are a bunch of websites to look at:

- [www.dol.gov/wb/](http://www.dol.gov/wb/)
- [www.iwpr.org/](http://www.iwpr.org/)
- [www.pay-equity.org/](http://www.pay-equity.org/)
- [www.whitehouse.gov/administratio  
n/eop/cwg/about](http://www.whitehouse.gov/administratio/eop/cwg/about)

Also NYS has a facebook site:  
facebook.com/AAUW.NYS.

--Sandy Maceyka

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**May 10**

ECSWC Meeting at 5:15 p.m.  
Johnstown Public Library

**May 15**

Set up for Sister to Sister Summit  
3 p.m. at FMCC Student Union

**May 16**

Sister to Sister Summit  
8:15 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at FMCC

**May 16**

Joint Supper Nibblers Meeting  
Golden Agers Giving  
5:30 p.m. at Johnstown Senior Center  
Deborah Borie speaker "Too Sexy Too Soon"

**June 5**

ECSWC Golden Agers Event  
2 p.m., Fulton County Infirmery  
Music by "Bobcats", desserts

**June 7**

June Tea Party Meeting at 5:30 p.m.  
Tour of Fort Johnson Garden and House  
Intersection of Route 5 and Route 67

**July 16**

ECSWC Bus Trip to Seneca Falls  
Rededication of Wesleyan Chapel  
National Women's History Center

There is a \$3 increase in State membership; therefore, dues for the 2011-12 year are **\$69**. **Before June 1**, please send your payment to: Barbara Nigro  
484 County Highway 122  
Gloversville, NY 12078

**June 1 or after**, please send your **\$74** to:  
Michele Acquaro  
P.O. Box 101  
Northville, NY 12134

Please send a check made payable to AAUW along with a membership renewal form that is attached.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation. On-time payments make membership a much easier job. --Michele & Barb

## AAUW Members...



We have a fantastic opportunity to contribute to the joy and happiness of our Fulton County infirmary patients during the ‘Mothers and Fathers’ Day season! We really need everyone’s participation in this event to make it successful and meaningful for our recipients. ***Whatever we give will come back to us a hundred fold!*** It will feel so good....and it doesn’t have to cost us a lot! Here is the plan...

On Monday, **May 16** we will meet jointly with several other ladies’ group at the Senior Center in Johnstown. A guest speaker will be in attendance, along with a social hour at 6 p.m. to chat and enjoy finger foods and beverages. It is during this gathering that we will collect the items you have so graciously donated to the infirmary’s men and women. We want to give you plenty of time to collect, find, purchase, create, or make the gifts they will cherish receiving. Hopefully, you will remember the suggestions below as you spring clean, shop, knit, sew, or just go about your daily routines. We are sure you will each find a unique variety of items that will feel special to the 165 infirmed.

It was suggested by the infirmary that there is a need for **portable** radio/cd/dvd players, old 40’s era music, and movies, nail care kits/dryers, jewelry (slip on bracelets/lapel pins/over-the-head necklaces), small pillows or neck bones, small stuffed animals, lotions/body sprays, large print books, notecards/stamps, lap robes/afghans, and any other items that you know the elderly often enjoy or possibly need from your own experiences. Of course, a monetary donation is always a grand idea and would combine to help purchase the portable music players.

Many of us are very clever with our knitting, crocheting, sewing, quilting, painting, crafting! We all could benefit from cleaning out our drawers, jewelry boxes, and closets. New or gently used as well as antique items are appreciated. Perhaps we can find some real bargains while out shopping. Almost anything goes! So, please help to make this event one that will be remembered by all of us on Mother’s and Father’s Day. AAUW will mingle with the infirmed patients while we present them with gifts and enjoy a concert from the Bobcats on Sunday afternoon, **June 5**. Oh... the joy and smiles we hope to exchange! Plan early to be a part of it. Thanks for supporting your community and this great cause. We are so blessed! Let’s share our resources.

\*You are invited to contact **Dianne Kierpiec** via phone or email to let her know what you are donating.



Call 518-853-4636 or email [DMKIERPIEC@yahoo.com](mailto:DMKIERPIEC@yahoo.com)

*Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown AAUW*  
**2011-12 BOARD**

*Positions with an \* are elected every 2 years with a maximum of 2 consecutive terms.*

*Positions with \*\* are to be elected this April.*

*The other positions are appointed.*

*There are SOME opening; please contact me if you are interested. --Sandy Maceyka*

**\*\*PRESIDENT:**

LINDA HAMMOND - NEW  
LIZ RUSSO - NEW

**\*VICE-PRESIDENTS:**

**\*\*PROGRAM:**

SANDRA MACEYKA  
GINNI MAZUR

**\*\*MEMBERSHIP:**

PATSY SUYDAM-New  
ASSIST. HELEN MARTIN  
& SUE SUMMERFIELD

**\*EDUCATION FOUNDATION:**

EF - KAYE SCHRADER -Yes  
LAF - GINNI MAZUR-Yes

**SECRETARIES:**

**\*\*RECORDING SEC / BY-LAWS.**

BONNIE VAN WIE-New

**CORRESPONDING SEC**

MARSHA SMITH-yes

**MEMBERSHIP BOOKLET**

PATSY SUYDAM-Yes

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

GLORIA KIMBALL yes

**WEB EDITOR & INTERNET CONTACT.**

LINDA HAMMOND

**\*\*TREASURER:**

MICHELE ACQUARO -New

**ASSISTANT TREASURER**

LINDA BETZ – will help

**PAST PRESIDENT**

HELEN MARTIN

**COLLEGE / UNIVERSITY RELATIONS**

Laurie FREEMAN-Yes

**PUBLIC INFORMATION**

LIZ RUSSO

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

JAYDENE SCOFIELD-New

**INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE:**

**CULTURAL**

BONNIE VAN WIE-Yes

**DIVERSITY**

MARYANNE ABAD yes

**WOMEN'S ISSUES**

CAROL COWNIE-Yes

**ED EQUITY/SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

**MATH & SCIENCE 7 & 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE**

MARIE WOJESKI yes

LINDA ZILKA yes

**HS-LITERARY**

ROSEMARY LEO-PAPPAS-Yes

**COLLEGE/FMCC**

TERRY CONAWAY-Yes

**HISTORIAN**

GINNI MAZUR-Yes

**OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH**

HELEN MANDATO

**PUBLIC POLICY/ EQUAL PAY**

HELEN MARTIN - New

**SISTER TO SISTER COORDINATORS**

LINDA BUMPUS -Yes

PATSY SUYDAM –Yes

**VOTER EDUCATION**

BERNADETTE PECORA-New

**NOMINATING**

OFFICERS

**HOSPITALITY /TIME KEEPER**

JAHNN GIBSON-Yes

**NYS DISTRICT IV REPRESENTATIVE**

LINDA HAMMOND



## AAUW 2011 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

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AAUW MISSION: The American Association of University Women advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Please fill this out so we can better meet the needs of our branch in planning for next year. If there is not enough space for your answers, PLEASE add on another piece of paper, or use the back side. Writing all over the margins is very difficult to read.

1. Which programs were most beneficial for you? And why?
2. How could we improve this organization? and attract new members?
3. What fundraising ideas do you suggest trying or not?
4. If you were happy/unhappy about the places/restaurants we used for this year's meetings, what other suggestions do you have?
5. What new ideas do you have for future programs, and who do you know that might be a good presenter?
6. Do you have specific suggestions for getting our new members to attend meetings? and remain members?
7. Give name and phone number for those you would like invited to a September membership meeting: List on back, please with address, phone number. Remember you need to follow up on those you suggest.
8. Other comments or committees you'd like to work on:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_



*AMSTERDAM-GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN BRANCH*

*2011 CONVENTION AWARDS*

*GOLD AWARD – 2011 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY AWARD*

*FIRST PLACE – 2011 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY PROGRAM AWARD*

*FOR ELIZABETH CADY STANTON WOMEN'S SYMPOSIUM*

*THIRD PLACE – MY SISTER'S KEEPER PROGRAM AWARD*

*2011 VISIBILITY AWARD*

*2011 NEWSLETTER OF EXCELLENCE AWARD*

*LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND – LAF STAR BRANCH 2010*

*EIGHTH PLACE – NEW YORK STATE 2010 TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO LAF*

*SPECIAL AWARDS TO:*

*HELEN MANDATO – 45 YEAR MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE*

*NANCY REYNOLDS – 25 YEAR MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE*

***GREAT JOB!!!!!!***



**AMSTERDAM-GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN AAUW  
2011-2012 Membership Renewal Form**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE ANY CHANGES AND COMPLETE THE PAGE BELOW\*\*\*\*\***

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Institution(s), Degree(s), and year(s) of graduation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**Please Check One of the Following:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I have enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \* for dues before June 1, 2010. \*(\$ 69)

\_\_\_\_\_ I have enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \*\* dues after June 1, 2010. \*\*(\$74)

(\*Subject to revision re AAUW National and State assessments.) National \$49, State \$13,  
Local \$7/\$12

\_\_\_\_\_ I have enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \* for dues as a Life Member.

(\*To become a life member one pays 20 times the current national dues plus the current yearly state and local dues yearly)

\_\_\_\_\_ I am resigning membership in AAUW.

My reason(s) is/are as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_ Family obligations \_\_\_\_\_ Moving out of the area \_\_\_\_\_ Dues amount \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting topics

Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

@@

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\*

If you are interested in serving on a committee, please indicate by putting an X by the name of that committee. Committee descriptions are available from membership chairperson.

\_\_\_\_\_ Program \_\_\_\_\_ Community Outreach \_\_\_\_\_ Finance \_\_\_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Historical

\_\_\_\_\_ Nominating \_\_\_\_\_ Cultural \_\_\_\_\_ Public Policy \_\_\_\_\_ International Issues \_\_\_\_\_ Diversity

\_\_\_\_\_ Educational Equity/Scholarship \_\_\_\_\_ LAF - Legal Advocacy Fund \_\_\_\_\_ Sister 2 Sister

**\*\*BEFORE JUNE 1..Make your check payable to AAUW and send this form along with your check to: Barb Nigro, 484 Co. Hwy. 122, Gloversville, NY 12078**

**\*\*\*\*AFTER JUNE 1... send to Michele Acquaro, PO Box 101, Northville, NY 12134**

**Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter.**

**Monday, May 16, 2011  
AAUW Joint Meeting**

**Gathering 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.  
Johnstown Senior Center  
E. Main Street, Johnstown, NY**

**Menu**

**Please bring finger foods & desserts to share**

**Speakers:**

**Debbie Borie: Too Sexy, Too Soon  
Donna Mowry, Fulton County Infirmary**

**Items will be collected for Golden Agers for the Mother &  
Father Day Celebration at the Infirmary on June 5th!!**

Old movies & cd's – 40's era, Sinatra, Astaire, Dean Martin, etc., Christmas music, costume jewelry: over the head necklaces, large pins, slip on bracelets, note paper & stamps, or assorted cards & stamps. Small stuffed animals, lotions, & body spray (no talc), small pillows—neck or bone style, large print books, nail care kits and driers, etc. **OR MONEY ALWAYS WORKS FOR THE DVD PLAYERS, ETC.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Food Item to share:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Donation(s) for the Infirmary Residents:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to AAUW:**

**Sandra Maceyka or Dianne Kierpiec  
100 E 6<sup>th</sup> Ave 3593 State Hwy 5S  
Johnstown, NY 12095 Fultonville, NY 12072**

**736-5130, email [smaceyka@frontiernet.net](mailto:smaceyka@frontiernet.net)**

**Reservation due by Monday, May 9, 2011**