



# 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

May

### 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**

Welcome to spring! Can't wait to start planting my flowers. I think we are going to need a good watering plan for this summer. I would like to thank our members who participated in the ECS Women's Symposium this year. Our attendance was lower than in its history but the day was very enriching. Our panel of four along with Pat Beck, the moderator, started off the day. It was a great discussion session and seemed to set

the mood for our theme. Coline Jenkins brought Penny Colman's book "Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B Anthony." The book not only tells about their suffrage and equality activities, but it gives a look at life in the 1800s. One story that I had just read took place in August 1867 when Elizabeth and Susan did a speaking tour in Kansas which was still under municipal development. It was barren, prairie lands with cowboys and outlaws. At one stop, Elizabeth decided to sleep on the carriage to escape the bed bugs. During the night she was awakened by grunts and spasmodic shaking of the carriage. She was surrounded by pigs that were using the iron steps as scratching posts. Another evening Elizabeth had a mouse walk across her head. She ended up falling asleep from pure exhaustion not knowing what the family of mice did the rest of the night. Really makes you appreciate what we have and the hard work that these women did for us.

Many of our members will be attending the NYS Conference in

Rochester as this newsletter is being published. It is really great to have so many able to attend this year. The state's by-laws are on the agenda. Many of the bylaws are being updated to coincide with the National AAUW bylaws. Some would call this "house cleaning." The one bylaw that is stirring some NYS members is the combining of the EF Vice President and LAF Vice President and changing the name to AAUW Funds Vice President. "Article XI. Directors of Areas of Interest" is being removed altogether.

On May 9, we will have our meeting at the Jewish Synagogue on East Fulton Street in Gloversville. We will hear about their beautiful stain glass windows. Across the street from the Synagogue will be the annual art show. We will be able to visit that show if anyone is interested. The show will have art winners from the area schools. There will be a display of work by one artist. The format of the show has changed this year. Mrs. Clough has retired from the event and the chair position has

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

been transitioning over to new co-chairs.

Also, on May 22 we have our Sister to Sister at FMCC. I am really excited about this year's program. In one report that I had heard the girls will be able to take home their white suits that they are required to wear during the tour of the Clean Room. The facilitators for this area were able to have the suits donated. This will be a great reminder for their goals and be able to share with other students and siblings. Our Committee is doing a great job! Thank you, ladies!  
Linda Hammond  
Co-President

### **Win a Free Membership Renewal! Raffle at Branch Meeting**

Marsha Smith was the winner of the April Raffle. She won the second of three free AAUW membership renewals for the 2012-2013 year. Our branch earned the free memberships from National AAUW for recruiting over six members at our fall "Shape the Future Membership" meetings. Thanks to all who "took a chance" in April; we raised \$95 which will go toward future membership recruitment efforts. The last Free Membership Raffle will be held at our May 9 meeting. Raffle tickets will be \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Good luck! --Liz Russo



### **Welcome New Members!**

Our branch continues to grow. We welcome Mary Ann Delaney, Bev Alves, and Jane Kelley who joined our branch at our April meeting. Look for their bios in the next newsletter.

### **Sister to Sister Update**

The Sister to Sister Summit is fast approaching--May 22 beginning at 8 a.m. We have made some changes this year, beginning with a Tech Savvy Theme where all the presenters will use/show how Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) have an impact on our lives and future careers of our girls. All of the presenters are college professors and have invested a lot of time and energy into their programs. The registration will take place that morning in front of the theater, and the drinks and donuts, etc. will be in front of Books and Bytes by the library, as the Student Campus Union will be under construction. The opening remarks will be in the theater, and all of the presentations will be in the classroom building or the theater area. Lunch will be prepared by FM and served in the HFM BOCES cafeteria, a 2 -3 minute walk from the classroom building. The capnote speaker, Laurie Freeman, will be in the theater beginning at 12:30 p.m. For a give-a-way to the girls, we decided on a blue and white tote instead of the t-shirts, with Sister to Sister printed on one side and Stewarts' printed on the tag.

Thanks to the generous donations of many local investors, we have raised about \$2,450 and expect donations from Price Chopper, Hannaford, Dunkin Donuts, and McDonalds. Nathan Littauer is printing all of the programs and registration materials again this year.

We expect another successful summit, and for anyone who signed up to volunteer, we will be setting up on Monday, May 21 at 4 p.m. and start about 7:30 a.m. on the May 22. Hope you can make it either or both days.

--Linda Bumpus

### **April Meeting in Review**

Despite the fact that we were disappointed that RPI doctoral candidate Becky Wachs was unable to be with us due to a death in her family, we had a wonderful April meeting and a surprise visit from former AAUW member Linda Betz who was visiting from her new home in Maine! The evening began with a very enjoyable and informative tour of the nanotech clean room by Jeremy Spraggs, Instructor of Electrical Technology and Engineering Science at FM. Jeremy joined us for dinner, and we hope he will join our branch as our second male member.

Our speaker, AAUW NYS Board Member, Doris McKellan and Jefferson County AAUW Branch President Lynn Schwabenthal traveled from Watertown to attend the NYS AAUW Public Policy Day in Albany on April 17 and stayed on to visit our branch and tour

the A-G-J area. Doris reported on her experiences on Pay Equity Day in Albany as well as praising the accomplishments of our branch in connecting with our Fulton-Montgomery Community College. We all received Pay Day candy bars with the message that pay inequity is still an issue for women.

**NCCWSL and e-Student Update**

Jack Kohn was on hand at our April meeting to introduce FM e-student affiliate, Marie Thomas, who has been selected to attend the annual National Convention for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in June in Maryland. Lily Ledbetter will be a featured speaker at the event. Sonnet Gravina passed the mortar board filled with whistles for collections to offset the cost for Marie to attend NCCWSL (pronounced “Nick Whistle”)

Thanks to the generosity of those in attendance, \$240 was collected toward the \$445 registration fee which includes food and lodging for the 3-day conference. Anyone else who would like to donate may do so at the May 9 meeting. Checks should be made payable to AAUW with memo-NCCSWL.



**Election of Officers for 2012-14**

- The following officers were elected at the April 18 meeting
- \*Co-VP for Program** – Ginni Mazur (one-year mentor)
- \*Co-VP for Program** - Anne Campos
- Committee members:** Darcelle Winchell & Connie Chamberlain
- \*Co-VP for Membership** - Trish Isabella
- \*Co-VP for Membership** -OPEN
- Committee members:** Patsy Suydam, Catherine Julius, & Helen James
- \*VP for Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF)** - Danielle Scahff-Turchin
- \*VP for Education Opportunities Fund (EOF)** - Anya Biel
- \*Treasurer for Membership** - Michele Acquaro
- \*Assistant Treasurer** - Ella Ryder

NOTE: We are stilling looking for a co-membership VP to work with Trish as well as others to serve on various committees in a non-elected capacity. We hope you will “SAY YES” when approached. Thanks to all who have already stepped forward.  
--Liz Russo

**Emerging Branch Leader to be Recognized at NYS Convention**

We are proud to recognize Ella Ryder as the 2012 Emerging Leader of our Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown branch. Ella Ryder is our assistant treasurer. She agreed to audit our books and now manages the Sister to Sister Summit account. She serves on the branch finance committee working to develop a budget and reformat the branch

financial reporting system. Ella draws on her experiences to quietly make suggestions for new approaches. She attended the NYS Summer Leadership Conference. Ella has made many “visits” to the AAUW websites. She introduced her fellow employees to the AAUW website and provided them with AAUW brochures. She volunteers to represent AAUW in the community. “I’ll go, if you need me to.” We are thrilled with her quiet yet considerable contributions to our branch during her less than three years as a member and see in her great potential as a future leader.  
–Liz Russo

**Purses for Convention**

Thanks to donations from Sandy Maceyka, Nancy Reynolds, Catherine Julius, and Liz Russo, we will be bringing five purses to the NYS AAUW Convention to raise money for the Legal Advocacy Fund. Purses will be raffled as a way to honor the suffragist Susan B. Anthony for whom a woman’s purse was a symbol of her economic independence. Branches have donated a total of 82 purses which will be raffled during the weekend. Our branch’s contributions include:

- 1 "New Mom's Purse - A Diaper Bag"
- 2 "Cami Chic"
- 3 "Handmade Leather from the Glove Cities"
- 4 "Recycle and Fair Trade Go Hand in Hand"
- 5 “Basic brown and Lavender”

### **My Sister's Keeper 34 Million Laps**

Ella Ryder and Liz Russo will be swimming for our sisters at the NYS AAUW Convention to support 34 Million Friends of the United Nations Population Fund as part of the NYS project, My Sister's Keeper. Donations totaling over \$100 were made to team AGJ (Ella and Liz) who will swim laps over the weekend in the pool at Woodcliff Hotel. Thanks to all who sponsored our "team." The contributions will be turned in at convention for branch recognition at the Sunday Luncheon. —Liz Russo

### **Scholarship Fundraiser Wrap Up**

We recently received a check for \$832.50 from the Soroptimists for the joint Pancake Breakfast back in February. In addition, member Ann Thane requested that her ECS Women's Symposium speaker fee go to our AAUW local Scholarship Fund. Thank you Ann! Therefore, between ticket sales, member donations, raffle and book sales at the breakfast, we raised a total of \$1,214.94 for our local scholarships. Thanks to all who helped!

Membership Survey time again! Many of you received a copy of the survey at the April meeting, but if not, there is one attached to this newsletter. Please fill it out and return via e-mail or bring to the next meeting! We value your opinions and need your ideas. Thanks. —Liz Russo

**Time to Renew Your AAUW Membership!** Dues are due before June 1. It will remain at the present rate of \$69 for the 2012-13 year. On or after June 1, please submit \$74. Submit your check made payable to AAUW to:

Michele Acquaro  
P.O. Box 101  
Northville, NY 12134

Please include any changes in your telephone number, address, or email. We appreciate your promptness with this matter.

--Michele Acquaro

*Please update your membership address booklet by adding the following eight members who have joined since the fall:*

Anya Biel  
140 Cable Road  
Johnstown, NY 12095  
368-2386  
[Anna.Biel@fmcc.suny.edu](mailto:Anna.Biel@fmcc.suny.edu)

Helen James  
404 S. Market Street  
Johnstown, NY 12095  
848-3316  
[hjames2265@aol.com](mailto:hjames2265@aol.com)

John (Jack) Kohn  
149 Second Avenue  
Gloversville, NY 12078  
H-725-4956  
W-762-4651  
[john.kohn@fmcc.suny.edu](mailto:john.kohn@fmcc.suny.edu)

Sonnet Gravina  
229 Vrooman Avenue  
Amsterdam, NY 12010  
928-8265  
[sonnet.gravina@fmcc.suny.edu](mailto:sonnet.gravina@fmcc.suny.edu)

Sherry Warner  
19 Pearl Street  
Gloversville, NY 12078  
H-725-2336  
W-736-3622  
[sherrywarner@fmcc.suny.edu](mailto:sherrywarner@fmcc.suny.edu)

Traci DiMezza  
8 Judson Parkway  
Gloversville, NY 12078  
725-8727  
[attorneydimezza@gmail.com](mailto:attorneydimezza@gmail.com)

Stacy Wesley  
95 E. Main Street  
Johnstown, NY 12095  
762-0963  
[stacyannwesley@gmail.com](mailto:stacyannwesley@gmail.com)

Danielle Schaff-Turchin  
2568 State Highway 30A  
Fonda, NY 12068  
853-1905  
[muddy-sneakers@hotmail.com](mailto:muddy-sneakers@hotmail.com)

### **Take a Ride April 28 and Help Our Neighbors**

Local singer/songwriter, Dan Lynaugh, who performed his original "How Deep the Water" at the recent ECS Women's Symposium has spearheaded a benefit for Flood Recovery in neighboring Schoharie Valley. On April 28 we are encouraging all to take a ride, buy some gas in Schoharie to help their local economy, and visit the Parrot House on Main Street in Schoharie (Route 30) where you can have some food and beverage and hear Dan sing. The music will begin at 1:30 p.m. and continue throughout the rest of the day. Donations will be accepted. Hope to see you there. —Liz

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## **April 28**

Schoharie Valley Visiting Day  
to benefit Flood Recovery  
PARROT HOUSE 1:30 p.m. on  
music by Dan Lynaugh

## **May 9**

### Branch Dinner Meeting

5 p.m. Tour  
Fulton-County Art Show at Congregational Church  
6 p.m. Kneseth Israel Synagogue, Gloversville  
Dinner and Program on Chagall Windows/ Frank  
Lloyd Wright design  
Marsha Smith, presenter

## **May 10**

Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium  
(ECSWC) Meeting  
5:30 p.m., Johnstown Public Library

## **May 14**

### Board Meeting

6 p.m., Johnstown Public Library

## **May 21**

4 p.m. Set up for Sister to Sister

## **May 22**

AAUW Sister to Sister Summit  
*Tech Savvy* Conference for area middle school girls  
8 a.m. – 2 p.m. at FMCC

## **June 6**

Branch Meeting (Hors d'oeuvres)  
5:30 p.m. Fulton County Museum Tour  
Talk on Clarissa Putnam  
Gloversville

## **June 9-12**

AAUW National Convention  
New Orleans, Louisiana

## **July 20-22**

[AAUW-NYS Leadership  
Conference](#)  
Cazenovia College



## In honor of Mothers Everywhere

The local branch of the AAUW is hosting a Carnation Sale in honor of all mothers. Proceeds from this sale will go towards our Fistula Fund which was started after our discussion and viewing of the film based on "The Hospital by the River," by Dr. Catherine Hamlin. The purpose of our fistula fundraiser is to give hope to women suffering from these catastrophic effects of obstructed labor by providing money towards reparative surgery.

**Purchase a bouquet of 6 mixed carnations to treat your mother or friend!**



**Price: \$ 8.00 Check made payable to the AAUW**

**Place Order by Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>  
with Connie Chamberlain  
P.O. Box 424  
Johnstown, New York 12095**

**Flowers will be delivered on May 9<sup>th</sup> at our AAUW meeting...(in time for Mother's Day!)\***

**\*(If you are unable to attend this meeting to obtain your flowers, call Connie at 762-3887 or Jahnn 762-5036 to arrange delivery.)**

---

### Carnation Sale Order Form

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

**Phone No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Bouquets requested:** \_\_\_\_\_ bouquet(s)

**Total Donation:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you so much for helping other mothers!*



# Schoharie Valley Visiting Day

**Saturday, April 28**

singer/songwriter  
**Dan Lynaugh**

will perform

all day beginning at 1:30 p.m.

at the

**PARROT HOUSE**

Main Street (Route 30), Schoharie

Take a ride, enjoy the music,

buy some gas, eat,

have a beverage....

Spend some money in Schoharie Valley to help the  
flood recovery effort! (donations accepted)

## AAUW 2012 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

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 we try?
4. If you were happy or 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 names and phone numbers for those you would like invited to our September membership meeting.  
**(Please list names on back with addresses and phone numbers.)** Remember, you need to follow up on those you suggest.
8. Other comments or committees you'd like to work on:
9. Do you like having ten meetings a year or ?

NAME \_\_\_\_\_



**AMSTERDAM-GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN AAUW  
2012-2013 Membership Renewal Form**

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

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

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): \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**Are you interested in serving on a committee?**

Please indicate with an X. 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  
\_\_\_ e-student and AAUW College Organization

**Make your check payable to AAUW and send WITH THIS FORM to**

**Michele Acquaro, PO Box 101, Northville, NY 12134**

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

# AAUW DINNER MEETING

## FOCUS ON THE ARTS

**Wednesday, May 9**  
**5pm**

Visit the Fulton County Art Show  
Congregational Church, E. Fulton St., Gloversville

**6pm**

### **Knesseth Israel Synagogue**

34 E. Fulton St., Gloversville

*Business Meeting and Dinner*

Tour Synagogue

Presentation by Marsha Smith

Chagall Windows

Hadassah Hospital Synagogue in Jerusalem

### Buffet Menu

Blintz souffle

Turkish spinach souffle (vegan)

Roasted seasonal vegetables with quinoa (gluten free)

Tossed salad, Rolls (gluten free) and butter

Dessert: Fruit kuchen and Fruit salad Coffee, tea, water

**Cost \$18**

\*Checks payable to AAUW

**RSVP by April 30** to:  
(prepayment preferred)

Linda Hammond  
11 South Clark Ave.,  
Gloversville, NY 12078

725-2804