

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

December

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

I enjoyed seeing so many of you at our November meeting. I know that everyone's schedules are getting filled up right now with the holiday season close at hand so I appreciate your effort to attend the meetings.

The needs I addressed at the meeting still exist – **a membership vice-president and a chairperson for the nominating committee** being the two most important at this time. If any of you are interested, even to act in the capacity of co-chair, please let me know. I know Patsy Suydam and

Linda Bumpus have found that working as co-chairs of Sister to Sister is easier than had either one of them taken on the duties of sole chairperson – this might work well for membership also.

I attended the NYS Board meeting in Albany from November 19-21 in my position as Cultural Interests Director. I also took that opportunity to talk to the other State officers and brought back information that our branch will find not only informational and useful but also pertinent to issues that will appear on the agenda for the April Convention.

So, once again thank you for attending the meetings and for all your help. Also, thanks to Anne Campos for arranging the November meeting and Karen Britt's wonderful presentation on Alzheimer's. I am sure there are many of us whose lives have been touched by either Alzheimer's or another form of dementia affecting a family member, and the discussion and suggestions will hopefully prove helpful to those of us in that position.

I hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving, and I look forward to seeing everyone at our Holiday Brunch on December 11th!

Best,

Helen



Holiday Buffet

Our Holiday Brunch will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 11 at Union Hall, East Main St., Johnstown. The Bobcats local women's singing group will provide entertainment. We always have a nice time, so hope you will all be able to attend this fun meeting. The menu will include quiche, salad, sausage tarts, bread pudding for dessert, juice, coffee, and tea.

Those interested in attending should send a check for \$17 made payable to AAUW to Sandra Maceyka, 100 East 6th Avenue, Johnstown, 12095. Deadline for reservations is December 3. For more information call 736-5130.

The local AAUW branch has chosen the Food Pantry for their community outreach donation this year. Those attending the December meeting are asked to bring nonperishable food items or to make a suggested \$5 monetary donation.

AAUW's mission is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. For more information go to www.agjaauw.org

Also, if anyone would like to *chair or co-chair the membership committee or public policy or nominating committee*, it's a great chance to help out your organization. Please think about it!

If you weren't at the November meeting to pick up your AAUW directory for 2010-2011, they are gorgeous this year, thanks to Patsy Suydam! Hope you'll be there in December to get your copy.

The January meeting is a book discussion at the Johnstown Public Library on the 19th at 5:30 p.m. with Carol Cownie and Maryanne Abad. Hope you can contribute to our international dessert bar to share. The book is available at the Johnstown Library and is called *Half the Sky* by Kristof and Wu-Dun. If you are too swamped to read and want to take part, there is a 20-minute docu-film available called *Woineshet*.

--Sandy Macey-
ka

Our Local AAUW Openings:

- ◆ Membership
- ◆ Nominating Committee Chairperson
- ◆ Public Policy

Half the Sky

I have purchased a copy of the book *Half the Sky* that we will be discussing at our January meeting. If anyone would like to borrow it from me, please let me know. I will try to have it finished by the time of the December meeting (in between writing 2 term papers!)

--Helen Martin

AAUW January Meeting

Start the New Year with a fresh look at a global problem that strikes at the heart of the AAUW mission.

We will be reading *Half the Sky* by Nicholas Kristof and

Sheryl WuDunn. Our national organization has chosen this book as part of the global theme of "Our Sister's Keeper". The Johnstown Library has many copies or you can buy it at our local book store, Mysteries on Main Street or through the AAUW website portal.

If you do not have time to read the book, please take 20 minutes to watch the TED presentation by WuDunn at www.cnn.com/2010/OPINION/09/05/wudunn.women.oppression/index.html?

We will meet downstairs at the Johnstown Library on January 19, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. It will be a dessert meeting and the community is invited; bring a friend. Bring a dessert to share or pay \$5. A flyer will be sent in early January. Have a wonderful holiday season!
--Carol Cownie & Maryanne Abad

My Sister's Keeper

by
Natasha Josefowitz

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!

The minutes from the board meetings will be sent to board members and committee chairpersons. If anyone else is interested in receiving the board meeting notes, please let Sue Summerfield know.

The Hysterical Historian

As some of you know, I have reclaimed my title of Historian, at

least until someone else is dying to work on scrapbooks and AAUW history. I do enjoy reading all about our AAUW branch from years gone by; however, I want to remind you that if you have any AAUW history hiding away in your homes, you can pass it on to me. I really want "scrapbook worthy" items, such as articles, old newsletters, photos, etc. If you have a question as to whether or not it might be "worthy" give me a call. Also, current photos you might have taken at any meetings would be welcomed too. Thanks to Liz Russo, we have many meetings covered through photos!

--Ginni Mazur

773-7180

12th Sister to Sister Summit Planned

Our branch will be organizing its 12th annual Sister to Sister Summit thanks to Linda Bumpus and Patsy Suydam who have agreed to serve as chairpersons. Planning is already underway for the special conference day designed for middle school girls from Hamilton, Fulton, and Montgomery Counties. The Sister to Sister Summit will be held at FMCC on May 16, 2011. Last year's event drew over 200 girls and advisors.

The Sister to Sister Summits are an AAUW initiative and are presented annually across the nation to assist girls in dealing with issues such as stress, self esteem, healthy relationships, bullying, and body image in their often difficult transitional years.

The committee which includes Anne Campos, Melanie Pombrio, Sue Summerfield, Barb Nigro, Gloria Kimball, Dianne Kierpiec, Sandy Maceyka, Mary Habla, MaryAnn Abad, and Liz Russo has been reviewing evaluations from

the last Summit to determine which workshop topics will be offered and speakers considered. Letters soliciting donations have already been sent to local businesses, PTA's, and Teachers Associations.

The next planning meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 14, at 3:30 p.m. in the Johnstown Public Library's community room. Anyone interested in assisting with planning, providing workshops, or funding sources is invited to attend the meeting. For more information contact Linda Bumpus at 725-1927.

--Liz Russo

Attendance at NYS Board Meeting

I attended the New York State Board meeting the weekend of November 19-21 in Albany and came away with quite a lot of information that I will be sharing with all of you either at the next few meetings or via our newsletters. I do not plan on spending a lot of time on all of this at our Holiday Brunch – that is for fun and celebration. Much of this information pertains to membership and future programming in addition to financial concerns of AAUW-NYS. I appreciated having the opportunity to attend the Board meeting so I could learn of these things firsthand and be able to bring the information back to all of you in a timely fashion.

--Helen Martin

AAUW NYS 2011 Convention

The 2011 Convention will be held April 15-17, 2011 at the Glen Cove Mansion on Long Island. Details and registration information will start to appear on the AAUW NYS soon since a lot of the details were finalized at the recent Board meeting. Please save

the dates and let me know if you are planning on attending. Due to the distance, we may want to think about carpooling or taking the train.

--Helen Martin

Thanks to Nancy Krawczeski and Gloria Kimball for donating a "wine & chocolate themed basket" for the November meeting. Liz Russo won the basket and over \$70 was raised for LAF and EF.

Legal Advocacy Fund

Do you believe that competitive cheerleading is an athletic sport equal to that of an equestrian team? Do you believe that the addition of competitive cheerleading should be the reason to eliminate an equestrian team? If you answered "NO" that's how 15 members of the Delaware State University women's equestrian team felt when they filed a lawsuit earlier this year. The University chose to eliminate the equestrian team only to replace it with competitive cheerleading. In Foltz et al v. Delaware State University, the plaintiffs claim that the university failed to provide equal opportunities to DSU's female students.

AAUW is supporting this cause by funding an expert witness who will testify regarding DSU's non-compliance with Title IX's requirements. Stay tuned!

--Ginni Mazur
VP LAF



Public Policy

The Paycheck Fairness Act was defeated on November 17th in the US Senate by a 58-41 vote.

Lisa Matz, AAUW Director of Public Policy, said that the bill was defeated by arcane Senate rules that allowed a defacto filibuster of fair pay by the Republicans thus ensuring that the bill's merits were never debated. The Paycheck Fairness Act would have closed loopholes and strengthened incentives to prevent pay discrimination and prohibit retaliation against workers who inquire about employer's wage practices or dis-

close their own wages.

Michele Acquaro

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, December 11 – Our Holiday Brunch at Union Hall at 10:30 a.m. The Bobcats will sing at 11:45 a.m. Collection for the food bank

Tuesday, December 14 - Sister to Sister meeting at the Johnstown Public Library at 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 19 – Book Discussion: *Half the Sky, Turning*

Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn at the Johnstown Public Library's Community Room, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 1 – Board meeting at the Johnstown Public Library at 5:30 p.m.

April 15-17 - AAUW NYS 2011 Convention will be held at the Glen Cove Mansion on Long Island.

AAUW

AMSTERDAM
JOHNSTOWN



GLOVERSVILLE
BRANCH

Saturday, December 11, 2010 at 10:30 a.m.

Deadline: Thursday, December 3, 2010

Union Hall, E Main Street, Johnstown, NY



HOLIDAY BRUNCH BUFFET ...\$17



WITH BOBCATS SINGING

THERE WILL BE A COLLECTION FOR THE FOOD PANTRY.

PLEASE BRING ITEMS OR A \$5-SUGGESTED MONETARY DONATION.

**Menu: Quiche & Salad & Sausage Tart with Bread Pudding for dessert.
Juice, Coffee & Tea**

EatingTime: 10:45 Date: Sat. Dec. 11, 2010 Deadline: Thurs. Dec. 03, 2010

Place: Union Hall Cost: \$17 Checks payable to AAUW

Name: _____ Deadline: Thursday, December 3, 2010

Send Payment to:

**Sandra Maceyka
100 East 6th Ave.
Johnstown, NY 12095**

736-5130, SMaceyka@frontiernet.net