



# Upstate Update

agj - ny . aa uw . net

June - July 2015

Special  
points of  
interest:

- Scholarship Awards
- 2015 / 2016 Program
- Leadership Development Conference

Inside this  
issue:

Recognition	4
Membership	6
Awards	7
Public Policy	8
New Members	10
Calendar of Events	12

## Co-President's Message:

Thanks for the memories!

Over the past four years our branch has accomplished a lot. FMCC became a college/university partner of AAUW making their students eligible to join free as e-students and in turn an AAUW Student Organization was temporarily formed. The Lunch Bunch ¡Adelante! Book Club was organized. Our first Celebration Scholarship Fundraiser was a success. We started providing scholarships to send an FM female student each year to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). In addition, we continued offering our AAUW Tech Savvy Summit signature program for middle school girls, as well as our 8th grade math and science awards, high school literary award and FM scholarship. Our branch also continued to provide active representation in the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium, providing educational programs for the communi-

ty. We updated our website and updated our social network connections with Facebook. We have continued our connections with National and AAUW NYS by providing donations to the AAUW Legal Advocacy and Education Opportunities Funds and participating in the NYS Conventions, summer Leadership Conferences and District IV Conferences.

Without the work of you the members, our branch could not have accomplished so much. Thanks to all the officers, committee chairs, and event volunteers who have helped make all the wonderful things happen. It has been a good four years. We have become a branch that NYS and National AAUW have taken notice of and as a result, other branches are coming to for ideas and assistance.

As we happily turn over the reigns to new co-Presidents Catherine Julius and Sandy Maceyka, please be

assured that the branch is in very good hands. Sandy brings with her the experience of not only having been a past President of this branch, but she also held the position of Program VP soon after she joined in 1999. Catherine has had leadership experience with our branch as well, helping first with ticket sales for a pancake breakfast fundraiser soon after she joined in 2011, then serving as Membership VP and most recently as co-chair of the Celebration Scholarship Fundraiser. We hope that all of you will support and assist your new leadership as you have worked with us. Plan to be an active member. Every little bit helps. We invite you all to step up and be part of the future of our AAUW branch.

**Thank you for our gifts presented to us at the June meeting.**

*Liz Russo & Linda Hammond*

## Thanks for sticking with our branch!

Appreciation was expressed to our faithful members who joined the Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown branch soon after it was

formed in 1968 and have stayed with us all these years!

Pat Valachovic	1972
Phoebe Boschi	1973
Nancy Reynolds	1976

# CELEBRATION!

## Program Planning Meeting for 2015-16

Just a quick note from one of your newly elected co-presidents. Summer is coming or at least trying to be here everyday and we officially do not meet again until September. However, we are hoping to have a pot luck planning meeting on Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> in Johnstown . The time will be set after we see who is

volunteering to help plan the year ahead and knowing when everyone is available. Some people have the summer off and some are working, so depending on who volunteers to work on this, we will set the time. If you are interested .. and we hope you are ... please let us know, by return email if you can be there and what is the earliest time that you

are available. We need all the help we can get to launch a great program for the 2015-2016 year.

[smaceyka@frontiernet.net](mailto:smaceyka@frontiernet.net)

[cm78julius@gmail.com](mailto:cm78julius@gmail.com)

[Darcelle@nycap.rr.com](mailto:Darcelle@nycap.rr.com)

## CELEBRATION 2016 Planning Begins

The first planning meeting for the Celebration Scholarship Fundraiser was held on May 26. The event will be held in April, 2016. Tentative plans are for a garden party themed luncheon at a place to be determined. Music and raffle baskets will be part of

the event. Committees are forming and more volunteers will be welcomed. We thank Helen James for stepping forward to once again chair this event. Let's join her and help insure the success of this event which will not only provide funds for our FM scholarship, 8th

grade math and science awards, high school literary awards, and NCCWSL attendee scholarship, but also raise AAUW visibility in the community. The next planning meeting will be announced soon. Plan to attend and offer your help.

## Next Lunch Bunch Book Club Meeting—August 3

The Branch Lunch Bunch will meet on Monday, August 3 at 1:30 pm at the Raindancer Restaurant, Route 30A Amsterdam to discuss the book *Wild* by Cheryl Strayed.

Copies have been reserved at the Johnstown Public Library under AAUW Book Club.

Contact Patricia Valachovic at 736-1253 by July 31 if you would like to join the group for food, friendship and book discussion.

We order from the menu when we arrive. All are welcome whether or not you get a chance to finish the book!

## July 24–26 Leadership Development Conference

The theme of this summer's conference is *Connecting AAUW's Mission at the Branch Level to Local Communities*. The entire weekend (2 nights, 6 meals) is subsidized by AAUW-NYS so is an affordable \$105 (TOTAL - rooms, program and meals) (or \$110 if you register by mail). This year promises to be another fun and engaging AAUW-NYS Summer Meeting weekend with sessions on New Leadership Models, Making the Connection to Community, a keynote from our Regional Field Representative, **Kim Pollard**, as well as brainstorming sessions for district conferences, Convention 2016, counterpart sessions, and time for networking, enjoying the beautiful campus of Cazenovia College, and fun (and ice cream!). This is a weekend for all members of AAUW - you will meet new people, learn

more about AAUW on the local, state and national levels. We will once again be staying in Shove Suites - air conditioned and with elevators! The suites are clusters of 2 to 5 private bedrooms sharing a small living area, kitchen and bath. Sheets, blanket, pillow and pillow case will be provided, as will a set of towels. The various meeting rooms vary in air-conditioning temperature, so we suggest you bring along a sweater. Check-in at the Seminary Street entrance to Shove Suites will begin at 2pm on Friday, July 24. Programs will run from dinner on Friday through lunch on Sunday. Jen Garren has graciously offered to drive. Please contact Jen if you are interested in attending and getting a ride. It is nice to share a suite with branch members so indicate this on your registration.

The registration form is available on line from the AAUW NYS site. Website: <http://www.aauw-nys.org/index.htm> Make sure to print out 3 copies of the completed registration before you send on-line.



## August 14 Ice Cream Social Celebrating Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Women's Right to Vote

The Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium (ECWSC) will hold an ice cream social on the evening of Friday, August 14 in the park on Main St. in Johnstown. It will be in conjunction with the last Band Concert of the summer.

A birthday cake commemorating the birth of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's in Johnstown 200 years ago will be served along with the ice cream. It will also be

an early celebration of Women's Equality Day - the day the 19th amendment was passed giving women the right to vote in 1920.

We are hoping that since AAUW is a member organization of the ECWSC that some of our branch will dust off the suffrage costumes they wore to past events in the park and participate by helping to set up, serve the ice cream and cake and greet those attending.

Please contact Helen Martin ([martart@nycap.rr.com](mailto:martart@nycap.rr.com)) if you would like to be part of this wonderful community activity.

## Trivia:

1) True or False – Was a female teenager able to strike out both Babe Ruth & Lou Gehrig?

2) When did Barbie have a tattoo?

- A. 2010
- B. 1969
- C. 1999
- D. Never

Answers can be found on page 8.

## Honoring Past, Installing New...

The June potluck meeting was held at the Mayfield Yacht Club on Wednesday, June 10. As we parked behind the big red barn we noted the barn quilt that several ladies of the Club including our own Jahnn Gibson made last summer. During the meeting we honored the work of past officers and committee members and installed the new officers. Our membership welcomed new member, Amy Jones who was recruited by Jen Garren, Give a Grad a Gift Recipient Sandy Marsh and FM Scholarship winner Cindea Brad-

ley and her dad. As usual, we enjoyed copious amounts of delicious food provided by our members as well as the wonderful relaxing surrounding thanks to branch member and Mayfield Yacht Club member Jahnn Gibson.

Outgoing officers Liz Russo and Linda Hammond expressed appreciation to the following members for their service to the branch.

Out-going Officers:

- Bonnie Van Wie - Secretary, 4 years
- Nancy Reynolds - AAUW Funds VP, 1 year
- Paula Lerner - Program co-VP, 1 year
- Cece Alexander - Membership co-VP, 1 year

## Thank you....

Also, thanks were expressed to those who have aided our branch over the years and who we hope will continue.

- Marie Wojeski and Linda Zilka - 8th Grade Math and Science Awards
- Laurie Freeman - FM Scholarship Chair
- Linda Bumpus - Tech Savvy Summit for Girls
- Ella Ryder - 3 years as Treasurer
- Melissa Ackerknecht - Membership co-VP
- Darcelle Winchell - Continuing Program VP  
- Providing our FM College Connection  
- Assisting with Tech Savvy Summit for Girls
- Ginni Mazur - on going Historian for the branch
- Helen James - Chair of last and future Celebration Scholarship Fundraisers
- Jen Garren - Our chauffeur for Cazenovia and Convention  
- Recruiter of new members  
- Top recruiter of donors for our Celebration Fundraiser  
- Organizer of Movie Night at FM with Jennifer Lee  
- AAUW rep on the ECSWC and program committee member for the ECSWC Symposium

## Branch Unsung Hero—Jahnn Gibson

Jahnn Gibson was honored as the Unsung Hero of our branch at the June potluck supper meeting at the Mayfield Yacht Club.

- Jahnn Gibson
- Started out by distributing member name tags at meetings
  - Organized meetings including:
    - a. Blind Awareness
    - b. Global Warming
    - c. Summer planning
    - d. June potluck
  - Devoted to the Branch

- Lunch Bunch Book Club
- Agreed to take reservations for several meetings
  - Oversaw the “models” for our Celebration scholarship fundraiser
  - Acted as Secretary pro-tem when Bonnie was unavailable
  - Stepped up for the HS Literary Award committee, setting the essay topic, organizing readers and presenting the awards at Amsterdam this June,

The Unsung Hero award was originated by past branch president Helen Martin to acknowledge the special behind-the-scenes efforts of local branch members who have not received the Emerging Leader Award but have contributed much to further the mission of AAUW. Past recipients include Susan Summerfield, Gloria Kimball, Carol Cownie and Bonnie Van Wie.



## Welcome New Officers

Below is the slate of officers elected into office at the April 29 business meeting:

**Co-Presidents:**

Catherine Julius  
Sandra Maceyka

**Secretary**

Paula Lerner

**Co-Membership VP**

Mary Jablonski

**AAUW Funds VP**  
**(Developmental VP)**

Irene Collins

## FM Scholarship Winner

Cindea Bradley of Fort Plain is this year’s winner of the branch scholarship for a female non-traditional student who graduates from FM with at least a 2.8 GPA and is enrolled in a bachelor’s degree program. The award is given annually to acknowledge the accomplishment of women who have interrupted their education for a variety of reasons and plan to continue on to achieve a bachelors or higher degree. As a result of the very successful Celebration Scholarship

Fundraiser in 2014, we were able to increase the award to \$750 this year.

Bradley is currently enrolled in Empire State College with the goal of earning a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration. She is employed as an accountant for Montgomery County. Bradley graduated from Foothill High School in California 45 years ago. She has 3 children and 5 grandchildren. She attended FM with her youngest son who is 18.

Cindea was introduced to the branch at the June meeting. Her father, William, joined her. He had been unable to attend her graduation. At the meeting, she was presented with an AAUW membership as part of the award. Cindea generously presented our branch with a Thank You Cake and a \$50 check for future scholarships. Laurie Freeman is the chairperson for the FM branch Scholarship.



# Membership

## TIME TO RENEW YOUR AAUW

### MEMBERSHIP!

Our fiscal year runs from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. We are pleased that 23 of our members have renewed to date. We hope to hear that the rest of you plan to continue to be part of our vibrant branch. If you have not already done so, please submit your check for \$74 made payable to AAUW with the attached form

to: Ella Ryder, PO Box 111, Mayfield, NY 12117.

Please include any changes in your telephone number, address, or email. We appreciate your promptness with this matter. Note: Not only is part (\$46) of our National Dues tax deductible as a 501 (c) 3, but ALL of our NYS dues (\$13) are as well!

That means \$46 + 13 = \$59 of our AAUW dues are tax deductible.

## Free Membership Renewal Winner

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. Congratulations to Ella Ryder our third raffle winner! Thanks to all who purchased raffle tickets, we raised a total of \$132 from the 3 raffles. Funds raised will offset costs of recruiting new members.

AAUW  
helps you  
take a  
stand!

# GIVE A GIFT TO A GRAD (G-G-G)

College graduations are at hand. Need to give a present? Why not consider giving that friend, daughter, granddaughter, or niece a free AAUW membership at no cost to you or her! Remember, only members can take advantage of this offer. Just complete the online membership application now or download the application (MSWord) (PDF).

Your grad will receive a one - year member-at-large membership, a \$49 value. She can join a branch at any time but will be responsible for paying branch and state dues. (Or you can pay the state and branch dues as the rest of your gift.)

You can apply online or download the application at <http://www.aauw.org/>

[resource/give-a-grad-a-gift/](http://www.aauw.org/resource/give-a-grad-a-gift/).

If you do not have a computer and wish to give a gift to a graduate, (associate, bachelors, or masters degree) contact Liz Russo at 762-9702.



# Thanks Darcelle and Anya

Darcelle Winchell and Anya Biel took advantage of the G-G-G to honor several members of the recent graduating class of FM including:

- Whitney Martuscello, Fonda,
- Julia Hupkes, Edin-

burgh

- Sonali Kumar, Amsterdam
- Leanne Mercadante, Latham
- Sandra Marsh, Gloversville

All G-G-G recipients were invited to attend our June meeting and we were fortunate that Sandra Marsh was able to attend. She had given a speech at commencement and is currently working toward a degree in the field of medical research.

# Paula O'Neil at NCCWSL

Paula O'Neil, a 2015 graduate of FMCC, was the recipient of our AAUW branch scholarship to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). Many of the members met Paula at our April business meeting at the Johnstown Senior Center. Here is a note we received from Paula:

I would like to say thank you to the AAUW for taking part and sponsoring me to attend the NCCWSL. The large gathering of both young and inspiring women will forever leave an imprint on my life. The opportunity to experience this in person is priceless. As an older, non-traditional student this trip gave me some insight on how important these types of conferences are to our next generation. Investing in these young bright students is certainly a worthwhile

endeavor. Many of us took advantage of the pre-conference activities. I took advantage of the "Are You an Artist or Muse" tour. One of the museums we visited was completely dedicated to women artists and their struggles. From there we attended the opening session of the conference. The entire room was just full of positive energy. Later in the evening we all gathered back in the ballroom for the Women of Distinctions Awards Ceremony. Each of these women were equally inspiring and all very humble to have been chosen.

The following day was very busy with over fifty classes to choose from. How Remarkable Women Lead, Navigating your Next Step, Agree to Agree, and Dismantling the Double Standard

are just a few examples of the classes offered. Later in the evening we had the chance to visit DC. It was amazing to see for myself. I paired up with another attendee and we took a Peddle Cab around the city. Our guide peddled us across the mall and shared some of the history behind DC and all of the monuments and dropped us off at a local restaurant famous for their crab cakes, and I could see why.

All in all this was a fantastic weekend that I wish more girls could experience. The ability to network and share, both with your own voice and listening to that of others in such a large group is certainly a growing experience.

*Paula O'Neil*

## 8th Grade Math and Science Awards

In June our branch presented fourteen local, eighth grade girls with an Excellence in Mathematics and Science Award. Administrators and school counselors from the local schools assisted AAUW Chairwomen Marie Wojeski and Linda Zilka in the selection of the recipients.

The criterion for the award was excellence in mathematics and science, the students' genuine interest in these subject areas, and their likelihood to pursue a career in these fields. Each recipient received a certificate of recognition, pen and scientific calculator. The winners and their respective schools were as follows.

Amsterdam	Kelly Kilgallen
Broadalbin- Perth	Grace Miller
Canajoharie	Abigail Smith
Fonda-Fultonville	Taylor Etherton
Fort Plain	Abigail Burkhart
Gloversville	Samantha Antipuesto
Johnstown	Emily Wheelis
Lake Pleasant	Joy Ellen Trezise
Mayfield	Maggy Lambo
Northville	Jessica Miller
Oppenheim/Ephratah/ St Johnsville	Emma Hart
St. Mary's Institute	Dannie Nicole Hunt
Wells	Elizabeth O' Connor
Wheelerville	Abigail Gottung

# High School Literary Award Winners



It is my pleasure to announce the winners of the 2015 AAUW Dorothy Wemple Literary Award. This year's theme was "Elizabeth Cady Stanton: Why do you feel the work she did to expand women's legal, political and educational opportunities is important for women today, and how might it work for you."

and Audrey \$300. Both young ladies are seniors at Amsterdam High School. Kelsey will be going to Syracuse University, and Audrey will be studying at Hofstra University.

Readers for the award were Paula Lerner, Laurie Kozakiewicz, Nancy Reynolds, and myself. Awards were based on historical content, grammar and composition.

*Jahnn Gibson, Chair*

The winners were, First Place, Kelsey Thompson, and Second Place, Audrey Flint. Kelsey received \$500,

## TRIVIA

### ANSWERS:

- 1) True— In 1931 17 year old Jackie Mitchell (2nd woman to play in major league baseball) struck out Babe Ruth & Lou Gehrig.
- 2) Barbie revealed her butterfly tattoo in 1999 but it was promptly removed from market.

## Public Policy

### A Global update from the United Nations Foundation:

On June 1, the US House of Rep. passed the Girls Count Act, legislation which will support programs in Developing countries to improve birth registration & promote policies that prevent discrimination against girls. The US Senate previously passed the legislation,

which now heads to Pres. Obama's desk to sign. When a girl is counted by her government, there is a greater chance that she will have access to education, health, and social services, and later in life be able to vote, work and own property.

President Obama signed into law the Girls Count Act

(S.802/H.R.2100) on June 12, 2015.

*Jennifer Garren*

## Special Interest Group Members Wanted

### Bridge?

Any interest in forming a bridge group, if so contact Marietta Raneri (848-3707).

### Gourmet Group?

Any interest in a gourmet group--either nationality pot luck themes or restaurants, contact Jennifer Garren (jeng24@frontiernet.net).

### Do you have a group that we may want to start?

Let us know.



## Tech Savvy Summit for Girls Follow-up

The FM Campus came alive on May 20 when 200 girls, 23 chaperones, 22 facilitator for 14 workshops, our capnote speaker and AAUW volunteers and guests joined for the Tech Savvy Summit for Girls. It was the best attended Summit for Girls - we had to feed 275 attendees including our volunteers and AAUW guests!

We were pleasantly surprised to have Kim Pollard, the AAUW National Regional Field Director for NY, NH and Maine attend to observe our Tech Savvy event. She visited the workshops, took photos and notes and has posted information about our branch including our display board, string gift bags for the girls and new AAUW stylus pens. In addition, 3 members of the Adirondack AAUW Branch traveled from Saratoga County to get ideas for holding their own similar Tech Savvy Summit.

The staff at FM was a great help with last minute tech needs. Darcelle Winchell and Amy Tucker at FM handled the college arrangements and Chuck Saul and Jason Radlin took care of our tech needs.

We really appreciated all the behind the scenes work by our AAUW

members including folder prep by Ginni Mazur, Catherine Julius, Paula Lerner, and Terri Storti; gift bags Connie Chamberlain, day of helpers Bonnie Van Wie, Linda Zilka, Marie Wojeski, Gloria Kimball, Anya Biel. Linda Hammond undertook the difficult job of sorting 200 girls into 3 workshop choices out of 14 sessions. She produced class lists and name tags and ordered string bags that said AAUW Tech Savvy Girl.

Linda Bumpus solicited donations, applied for grants and obtained keynote speaker Gwendolyn Bluemich from GLOBALFOUNDRIES and P-Tech follow-up program for adults. This was very well received. School Counselor Jen Sponnoble brought 2 girls who were just completing their first year at the Pathways in Technology (P-Tech) program at Jansen Ave, Johnstown.

The girls attending the Summit were great. The workshops went well. We were very grateful to Lynda McMaster for recruiting presenters from SUNY Cobleskill and Rebecca Ortez for getting our Astronomy/Physics workshop presenters from Siena. We have looked over the evaluations and we have

received many good ideas for future summits regarding workshop suggestions.

Looking ahead, the college has indicated that summer session will go back to the original schedule so we should not have as many hurdles as we did this year. Workshop presenters from past years are interested in returning and new presenters from this year are as well.

As costs for food go up we will have to address the possibility of increasing the registration fee or raising more money to put on the Tech Savvy Summit which now costs around \$6000. We would love to expand our Tech Savvy Committee next year and hope that when meetings start in the fall, you will step up to help.

We held a follow-up meeting on June 30th. Many new ideas and resources were discussed for our 2016 Summit.



## Thanks For Donations to Tech Savvy Summit !

Donations from Stewart's Shops, Argersinger Trust Fund, NBT Bank, Soroptimist International of Fulton County, Nathan Littauer Hospital, Fit Happens, Johnstown Teachers Association, Louise Sira, O-E-SJ

Teacher's Association, Balanced Health, Fulton County First Choice Financial, Delta Kappa Gamma and private donations made it possible for our AAUW branch to hold the event at FM, purchase "bunny suits"

for the girls to wear in the nanotech clean room workshop, provide registration materials and drawstring backpacks, and cover part of the cost of food.

# NEW MEMBERS

A big WELCOME BACK to returning member, **Trish Isabella**.

Trish graduated in 2000 from Skidmore with a degree in Marketing. Having recently left a job in regional software sales, she has been busy getting ready to open an establishment in Caroga Lake as a Tea Room, Antique Center, yoga center and cultural venue. She expects to have 2 nights of Shakespeare on the lawn of the old barn that used to be the "Jammer", among the other events she is planning. Having more energy than a barrel of monkeys, Trish has also bought and rehabbed more than 30 homes in the area, some of which she resells, others which she rents. Currently, she is applying for another job in regional software sales.

Trish is a great cook and enjoys entertaining, and lives at home with her husband, John, and her 2 children.

**Marietta Raneri** always had fond memories of growing up in Johnstown. When lightning hit her Rockport, Maine home burning it to the ground, she started over by moving here. But Maine was not her first destination when she left after graduating high school. Her BA (1964) as well as her Masters in English Literature (1968) came from Albany University. After enjoying teaching high school English for a few years, she went to Penn State to complete a PhD in literature. She taught for awhile at

Penn State and then switched careers entirely by moving to Santé Fe, NM and became a successful real estate broker. She also held many state-level realtor positions. Upon retirement to Rockport, Maine, Marietta found herself with yet another career---Artist: painting with water colors. She continues today as an Artist. Joining AAUW was an easy choice for her as she has championed the advancement & empowerment of women since the 1960's.....and she believes it will be very nice to meet and befriend like-minded individuals.

**Theresa DaBiere-Craig**, from Amsterdam, NY, joined the AAUW at our AAUW branch Tech Savvy workshop, held at FMCC, on May 20<sup>th</sup> of this year.

Theresa attended Herkimer Valley Community College and graduated in 1976 with an Associate of Applied Science degree. She currently works at the Center for Employer Services at Fulton Montgomery Community College. Theresa also provides consultation for management and grant writing.

Important platforms of AAUW to Theresa are supporting women's issues, networking with other women, and receiving AAUW publications and information. Of particular interest to her, was learning more about the branch's Tech Savvy Summit.

Theresa's states her additional interests involve public speaking and training.

We are very pleased to welcome this new member to the AAUW and our Fulton / Montgomery County branch. Our local group is fortunate to have Theresa, with her vocational experience and interests, to aid us in future group planning and events.

**Gillian Paciolla**, is a 1999 graduate of Gloversville High School and a 2004 graduate of SUNY Plattsburgh. After receiving her BA in Communications / Mass Media Gillian held an internship at PBS but left to start her family.

Gillian is very active in her community as a Girl Scout Leader and a volunteer at her children's school.

She is married to Jake and has 3 children – Charlotte (9), Jorga (7), and Jackson (2).

Gillian joined AAUW as she embraces AAUW's mission of empowering and educating women.

**Amy Jones** is a new nursing graduate at FMCC. She is currently studying for her boards and plans to specialize in maternity care. Amy graduated from Gloversville High School in 2002 and had been a stay-at-home mom until her youngest child started school.

Amy is married to Kyle and has 2 children – Lilly (10) and Zack (6).

She had joined AAUW because she likes the fact that women are being empowered not only in our community but around the world.

## Community Outreach - The Haven of Hope

Our branch is continuing with our community outreach to the Haven of Hope Farm in Fonda. We recently received a request for children's books and a bookcase. Gloria Kimball and Irene Collins responded with donations and Haven of Hope sent a thank you note for their generous donations. If you have any items you wish to donate, please contact Paula Lerner at 736-2449 regarding needs and on how to deliver the items.

Some back ground for our new members...

Last November we held a potluck dinner at the Fonda Reformed Church and our speaker was Pat Brookins who explained her work helping homeless women at the Haven of

Hope Farm in Fonda. In preparation for the presentation we suggested an "all branch reading" of the books *A Framework for Understanding Poverty, A Cognitive Approach* by Ruby K. Payne. which was created for educators, employers, policy-makers, and service providers) and another book by the same author which the Rochester AAUW Branch read and recommended, *Bridges out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities* to help understand temporary and long term poverty.

At the meeting we collected hygiene items which we gave to Pat for those mothers with children who are temporarily homeless. We will be continuing with donations to fill needs as they are brought to our

attention. We will also be donating HUG BEARS from a past community outreach effort.

Please note: The Haven's enclosed stand is open for the season. Baked goods and crafts are available for sale on Fridays, 12 - 6 pm and on Saturdays, 9 am - 4 pm. The Haven of Hope Farm is located on Cemetery St. across from the Fonda-Fultonville Central School.

## SAVE the Date – September 26 District IV Conference

Our branch is a part of NYS District IV which includes Kingston, Poughkeepsie, Albany, Schenectady and Adirondack Branches. Each year District IV holds a conference to share ideas.

This year the District IV conference which will focus on Food Insecurity will be held on Saturday, September 26 from 9:30am - 2pm in the multipurpose room in the campus dorms at SUNY Adirondack Community College in Queensbury just north of Glens Falls. Registration will be around \$25 and include breakfast, lunch and a going home snack. Portions of the movie *A Place at the Table* will be shown and

the Adirondack Branch will secure a panel of speakers for a discussion of Food Insecurity and what we can do in our individual communities to help alleviate social injustice. Awareness of food insecurity by college students and ways to help will be addressed. Adirondack branch co-president, Nan Scinta would appreciate any assistance our branch members who would like to provide with this event. If you are interested in attending or helping out, contact Linda Hammond.

\*As a footnote, our branch under the leadership of Carol Cownie and Helen James showed *A Place at the Table*

at the Glove Theater in November of 2013. The movie was purchased by Dr. Phillip and Helen James for the viewing. Carol also did a presentation regarding understanding food insecurity at the Summer Conference in Cazenovia in 2014 which resulted in the topic and movie choice for the upcoming District IV Conference. Even if you have seen the movie, the purpose of the Conference is to determine how we can use what we learn from the movie to make changes that will help others and follow up with branch projects to affect those changes.



Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown (NY) Branch

Co-Presidents: Catherine Julius  
Sandra Maceyka

Co-Vice Presidents – Membership:  
Melissa Ackernelcht  
Mary Jablonski

Treasurer: Elle Ryder

Recording Secretary: Paula Lerner

Newsletter Editor: Linda Hammond

Phone: 518-229-2058

E-mail: agjaauw@yahoo.com

agj - n y . a a u w . n e t  
A A U W - N Y S . o r g  
A A U W . o r g

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

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

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.



## Calendar of Events

July 24-26 AAUW-NYS  
Leadership Conference,  
Cazenovia College

Aug 3 Lunch Bunch Book  
Club, 1:30 pm,  
Raindancer Restaurant, Amsterdam

Aug 11 Program Planning  
Meeting, Time &  
Place TBA

Aug 14 ECSWC Ice Cream  
Social, Sir William  
Johnson Park (Main  
St Band Shell), 6 pm

Sept – Monthly Meeting/  
Annual Recruitment  
Drive will be announced in late July/  
early August

Sept 26 District IV Conference, Location: TBA  
(Saratoga area)

2016:

April 15-17 AAUW-NYS  
Convention,  
Holiday Inn,  
Saratoga Springs

## Ideas from our Program VP – Darcelle Winchell

I returned from State Conference tired but inspired and full of ideas and hope to put together a terrific year of events and meetings.

The Planning Caucus I attended was terrific and I am going to put down a few of the ideas that other chapters gave me and I am asking for your ideas on the attached survey. This year the planning meeting will be strictly for planning - no other business will be discussed. We will vote on each idea as we go and select a first choice and second choice for each date. We will also talk about projects to take on by our chapter. It is also asked that a venue from each community be mentioned - please do not just say you don't prefer meetings in the same place; offer alternatives so we can check those out.

Here are some of the ideas I got from the meeting. Please read these over and come up with others and fill out what you'd like to do for our 2015-16 year.

### Programs

- PJ party for middle school girls with the focus on STEM (there is also programs called STREAM and STREAM - STREAM incudes the written arts; STEAM includes any Art) - A library would be a good place and it should start early to get the girls home early
- Healthy Kids Sports Day - A school or YMCA to use ball courts, pool, exercise equipment, yoga class or aerobics (suggest FFCS; Hagaman YM)
- International Women's Day
- Sexting
- A session with Toni Simons (Sense relaxation/meditation/hypnosis, etc.)

### Projects

- Collect Books for Haven of Hope (put together reading/art baggies)
- Have a display Get out the Vote for Constitution Day at an area High School or FM
- Display at a local high school for Pay Equity Day (it is never too early to point out the discrepancies)
- Begin collecting clips for a later Bullying Program (next year or the following)
- Take time to have tea with elderly at a retirement home - comforting to both parties and get to know the staff and families if possible and after have a training in Geriatric Care (we aren't getting any younger and the sandwich generation could use some tips for dealing with aging parents)
- Work on a project for P-Tech and after have a program with the students "teaching" us

I thank each and everyone of you. The many awards we received at Convention are due to your input and help. It is very appreciated. - *Darcelle Winchell Program VP*

## Did you fill out the Member Survey?

Help us schedule meetings and speakers that interest you!

What time and day do you prefer we meet? Restaurants, pot luck, dessert meetings?

Shall we meet and eat at 6pm to give those working a time to arrive and hold a meeting afterwards? Those who just want to attend to hear the speaker can do so as has been the case in the past. What amount do you consider reasonable for a meal?

Do you have a speaker you would like to have or a place you would like us to visit?

This is your branch, we need your input! You can fill out the attached survey and e-mail to Darcelle at [darcelle@nycap.rr.com](mailto:darcelle@nycap.rr.com) or handwrite and mail to

Darcelle Winchell 277 Bleecker St., Gloversville 12078.

Thanks so much. The program planning committee has set August 11 for a potluck planning meeting session. Those interested should contact Darcelle, Sandy Maceyka or Catherine Julius.

## The Final Chapters and Words on Leadership From Eleanor Roosevelt

Joan Monk continues to keep us up to date with monthly reports about the WILD (Women in Leadership Development) Project. She will be part of a round table discussion at the National Convention in San Diego regarding the next part - Phase 3 which focusses on Leadership: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.

*Leadership the Eleanor Roosevelt Way* by Robin Gerber

### Chapter Ten - Contacts, Networks and Connections

“Human relationships, like life itself, can never remain static.” -ER

Eleanor’s Way

- Look for opportunities to network wherever you can.
- Be broad and inclusive in building your network.
- Be creative in bringing people into your sphere. Look for ways to show that you care.
- Build Networks That Further Your Goals
- Reach Out and Connect
- Be Open and Inclusive
- Be the Connector

Maintain Your Networks and Connections

### Chapter Eleven - Embrace Risk

“What matters now, as always, is not what we can’t do: it is what we can and must do.” -ER

Eleanor’s Way

- Recognize that all risk takers struggle with and overcome internal doubts & fears.
- Replace I can’t with I can.

Lead by example.

ER viewed conflict “as a way to prove our strength and demand respect for our wishes.”

She understood the Chinese symbol for crisis is made up of two pictographs:

one for danger and the other for opportunity.

When trouble appears on the horizon, “embrace your inner Eleanor.”

### ER’s nightly prayer when she served at the UN

“Deliver us from fretfulness and self-pitying,

Make us sure of the good we cannot see and of the hidden good in the world.

Open our eyes to simple beauty all around us and our hearts to the loveliness men hide from us because we do not try to understand them.

Save us from ourselves and show us a vision of a world-made new.”



AMSTERDAM-GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN AAUW 2015-2016

Membership Renewal Form

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

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

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

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, 2015. \*(\$69)

\_\_\_\_\_ **I have enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \*\* dues on or after June 1, 2015. \*\*(\$74)**

National: \$49 State: \$13 Local: \$7 (before June 1) / \$12 (after June 1)

To become a Life Member one pays 20 times the current national dues plus the current yearly state and local dues year-

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

**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 \_\_\_\_TECH  
SAVVY/Sister 2 Sister \_\_\_\_e-student and AAUW College Organization \_\_\_\_Newsletter

Make your **check payable to AAUW** and send this form along with your check to treasurer:

Ella Ryder  
P.O. Box 111  
Mayfield, NY 12117

\*\*\*\*\*

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

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