

# Upstate Update

agj-ny.aauw.net

June—July 2016

## Co-President's Message

Lots of news and dates and names to remember. On June 14th, Flag Day, we held our end of the year picnic and celebration at the Mayfield Yacht Club compliments of Jahn Gibson and everyone brought something yummy to share. It was a perfect night, and the view was lovely, very relaxing and fun. KELSEY JOHNSON from Johnstown who is an early admission student at FM attended with her Mom. Our branch sponsored her at the NCCWSL conference in Maryland and she spoke glowingly about her experience. She will graduate from HS and finish her first year in college this year. What a delightful young woman. We enjoyed meeting her and also enjoyed each other's company and also installed the new officers and gave awards to those who are stepping down and those who do lots for AAUW.

Congrats to the new officers who will be taking over on July

1<sup>st</sup>: Vice Presidents - for Membership - JENNIFER GARREN and MARY JABLONSKI, for Program - BONNIE VAN WIE AND ELLA RYDER, and for AAUW Funds - EF/LAF - COLLEEN LEO and Treasurer - IRENE COLLINS. A big thanks to BEV ALVES who has graciously agreed to chair the Public Policy committee. Officers serve 2 two year terms and it's helpful to share the position with another member. VPs and Treasurer are elected in even years and Pres and Sec are elected in odd years. We are still looking for chairs for some committees such as Community Outreach, and International Affairs. If you have an interest in either of these, please let Catherine or Sandy know. We would appreciate your ideas and hope you will step up. We also need a nominating committee.

CAROLYN CZUB was the winner of the Rita Mary Burke \$1000 scholarship, presented in

Memory of Rita Mary Burke, Former FM Professor and Charter Member of the Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown Branch of AAUW to a female non-traditional student graduate of Fulton Montgomery Community

College who will continue her education after FM.

Next year in April the NYS AAUW conference will be in Syracuse at the Doubletree. Also the **first summer planning meeting will be on Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup>. Put it on your calendar.** The summer NYS conference at Cazenovia will be July 22-24<sup>th</sup>. It's a great experience. Think about attending. **Registration and more information** is available on the AAUW-NYS website at <http://www.aauw-nys.org>. **The conference is for ALL AAUW members!** I think 4 of our members are attending so far.

On October 15th the Schenectady branch will be hosting the district IV region conference. This March 18<sup>th</sup> will be the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Symposium. All the organizations are being asked to prepare a workshop. If you are interested in working on this, please let me know. Thanks for considering.

Also dues are due ASAP & payable to AAUW for \$75. Starting July 1<sup>st</sup>, they are mailed to Irene Collins and you might not get all the notices right away since everything is filed by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see you at the summer planning meeting.

*Sandy Maceyka*



## Celebration “Farewell to Downton Abbey”

We are so pleased with the tremendous success of our second "Celebration". The theme "Farewell to Downton Abbey" lent itself to a fun atmosphere with some ladies participating by wearing period dress and the Eccentric Club was the perfect venue.

Nearly 70 women enjoyed a "High Tea" catered by Union Hall while listening to lovely music provided by two cellists. The ladies enjoyed the Downton Abbey trivia game including the prizes they won and having their photo taken with the two life size cutouts of Lord Grantham and Lady Edith.

There are so many people to thank. Events like this take hours of planning and preparation. We would like to thank all the donors. Cash donations, table hostesses, silent auction and basket items and most especially time spent working on everything were greatly appreciated. We were overwhelmed by everyone's generosity, including the wonderful ladies who went out and sought donations, the group who put together all the baskets and the silent auction items. A special thank you to Sandy Maceyka for her tireless hours of basket and bow creations, so talented!

To everyone who made it all work, I thank you. From the ladies who welcomed our guests at the front door, to the lovely young ladies who sold the raffles, the ladies who did all the running that was needed

to make everything run on time, and every other little thing that goes unseen and unrecognized, but yet makes everything a success, I thank you.

I would like to especially thank our co-president Catherine Julius for opening up her home and making it fundraiser central! She printed and put together our beautiful program, the lovely quotes at the place settings as well as the fun trivia game.

Lastly, and most importantly, we raised monies needed to continue to fund and promote our branches philanthropic, advocacy and educational initiatives.

*Helen James  
Celebration Chair*

*Catherine Julius  
Sandy Maceyka  
Co-presidents.*



## NCCWSL Scholarship Winner—Kelsey Johnson

We were fortunate to meet **Kelsey Johnson** the FM student our AAUW branch funded to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), Kelsey attended our June meeting at the Yacht Club and shared her experiences. She expressed appreciation for the experience of being on the huge campus at Maryland and meeting girls and women from all around the country who were encouraging and supportive.

We have a video of her remarks which we can make available, perhaps for recruitment of e-students at



FM or to encourage students to apply next year to attend NCCWSL.

## Great Time Had by All at our Celebration!



## Tech Savvy Summit for Girls—Thank you!

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) has a history of encouraging women to pursue science dating back to 1920 when a small group of women, the founders of AAUW, raised funds to purchase a gram of radium for Marie Curie to use in her research. Later in the century, AAUW worked for the passage of Title IX which provides equal opportunities to girls not only to participate in sports, but also ensures the opportunity for them to take the same math, science, engineering and technology (STEM) courses in school as boys. The focus on STEM continues in this century as AAUW branches across the US including our local Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown AAUW hold Tech Savvy events for girls.

However, the support of the community is what makes these events a success. The Tech Savvy Summit for Girls was done in partnership with FMCC which is also a College Partner Member of AAUW. Faculty from Siena and SUNY Cobleskill, staff from St. Mary's & Nathan Littauer Hospitals, Fulton County Public Health, Lowe's, The Greek Pantology and Global Foundations joined FM faculty who volunteered their time to facilitate hands-

on workshops in classrooms and labs on campus. FM chemistry instructor Laurie Lazinski provided a high energy interactive capnote for the event.

Thanks go to Kate Brumagim who helped us successfully work around the construction at FM, Joshua Fleming who assisted with room assignments and set-up, FM IT staff Chuck Saul, Gabe Cirtwell and Jason Radlin, and Chartwell Cafeteria Manager, Alisa Mathis-Peterson, and staff for the great food.

Appreciation goes to P-TECH students, Mackenzie Longale, Rane Dutcher, Anne Ballou, Allison Morey, Jasmine Tate and Monique Beam along with school counselor, Jennifer Sponnoble, and science teacher, Jaime Dickinson, enthusiastically spoke to the adults attending about their participation in the Underwater Robotics Competition.

Donations from Stewart's Shops, Frank E Perrella Trust Fund, Montgomery County Youth Bureau, St Mary's Hospital, NBT Bank, Soroptomist International of Fulton County, Nathan Littauer Hospital, Fagé USA Dairy Industry, Inc., Fit Happens, Johnstown Teachers Association, Balanced Health, Fulton County First Choice Financial, Delta Kappa Gamma, Holiday Inn and Citizens Bank made it possible for the local 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.

Of course, the 5th Annual Tech Savvy Summit for Girls could not have taken place without the 14 schools that sent 180 girls and our AAUW volunteers. Thank you to members: Connie Chamberlain who was in charge of gift bags for the workshop presenters; Ginni Mazur, Sandy Lane and Jahnn Gibson who stepped up to help stuff the folders for the attendees; Laurie Kozakiewicz, Darcelle Winchell, Ella Ryder, Theresa DaBierre-Craig, Chantell Batuk, Linda Zilka, Marie Wojeski and Marsha Smith who helped with registration, set up and directing girls to their classrooms and to Catherine Julius who acted as hostess for the presenters' luncheon in the classroom building.

Sometime in July we will regroup to go over the evaluations provided by students, chaperones, workshop presenters and our own volunteers to determine the future of Tech Savvy Summit for Girls.

Your input is always appreciated!

*Elizabeth Russo*

*Linda Bumpus*

*Linda Hammond*

*Co-Chairs Tech Savvy Summit for Girls*

## Patricia Fox—In Memory

Only a few of us remember Pat Fox since she was a member of our branch a number of years ago. She was a long time member of our branch and served as president in the 90's. When she moved to Florida, she joined an AAUW branch there and for a time was a dual member of our AGJ branch as well. She spent summers in Northville. She was one of the originators of our AAUW branch Literary Award for high school seniors which we still give today. Pat was a librarian at Knox Junior High School. I substituted for her and learned so much. She encouraged my involvement in AAUW by inviting me to board meetings where my knowledge of AAUW grew. I consider her to be my role model and mentor. Pat passed on May 7 in Florida. A memorial service was held on June 25 at the St. Francis of Assisi Church in Northville.

Thank you Pat. You are missed.

*Liz Russo*

## Our 2016/2017 Officers



Co-Presidents—Catherine Julius, Sandy Maceyka  
 Co-Membership VPs—Jennifer Garren, Mary Jablonski  
 Co-Program VPs—Bonnie VanWie, Ella Ryder  
 Recording Secretary—Paula Lerner  
 Treasurer—Irene Collins

## Jahn's Environmental Message....

As if methane from feedlots is not bad enough, let's see what they feed the animals, that we in turn consume when we eat this meat.

Antibiotics are given in the feed of factory farm animals to cut down on salmonella, pneumonia, staph infections from wounds, and other bacterial infections caused by the overcrowded conditions. As a result, bacteria grow resistant. 90% of staphylococci were, in 1987, resistant to penicillin. These bacteria end up in the animals' flesh, and we consume them. This bacteria ends up in our intestinal tract, and, though our natural bacteria, which is non-resistant, keeps them in check, when treated with antibiotics which kill our own non-resistant bacteria, the resistant bacteria can overwhelm us. At some point, most, if not all, antibiotics will end up being ineffective.

Sex hormones are used to get more milk production from cows, and to produce more fat and weight. Unfortunately, this can cause early puberty in children as young as 4 and 5 years old, which can lead to breast cancer in women later on. Also, secondary female sex characteristics, like enlarged breasts and high voices, can appear in boys.

DES was finally banned, but the same substances that were in DES, are still in use in feed. One molecule present in the 340,000,000,000,000 present in 1/4 lb of beef liver can cause cancer.

Pesticides are used to kill bugs and weeds. They will also kill us. Phosgene, used in chemical warfare, and Zyklon B, used in extermination camps by the Nazis, are both still in use, as is Agent Orange defoliant, which was used in Vietnam. As these are sprayed on the plants that cattle consume as feed, they end up in the animals' flesh. Animals are often dipped or sprayed with chemical pesticides to prevent parasites. Pesticides are horribly carcinogenic. .00424 of an ounce of Parathion immediately paralyzed and killed a chemist who accidentally ingested it. These poison chemicals stay in the environment for decades, and we end up feasting on DDT, Aldrin, Kepone, Dieldrin, Chlordane, Heptachlor, Endrin, Mirex, PCBs, Toxaphene, Lindane, and many more, not to mention Zyklon B, Agent Orange, and Phosgene.

Sounds yummy, doesn't it? Do you really want your children eating these things? Please, avoid meat!!

Jahn Swanker-Gibson



## Additional Scholarship Awards

### 8th Grade Math/Science Awards:

Amsterdam	Syadda Hussain **
Broadalbin-Perth	Meaghan Uhlinger
Canajoharie	Vivian Hopkins
Fonda-Fultonville	Amanda Clifford *
Fort Plain	Lauren Weinberger **
Gloversville	Kristin Farley **
Johnstown	Cecilia Radalin
Lake Pleasant	Anna Crouse ***
Mayfield	Jordan Rivenburg ***
Northville	Brytney Moore **
Oppenheim- Ephratah-St Johnsville	Sarah King
St Mary's Institute	Sofia Dayian *
Wells	Maygan Robinson **
Wheelerville	Katey Germain

\* Attended 2015 Tech Savvy Summit

\*\* Attended 2016 Tech Savvy Summit

\*\*\* Attended 2015 & 2016 Tech Savvy Summit

### Dorothy Wemple Literary Award

1st Place	Fonda-Fultonville	Skyler Hesch
2nd Place	Johnstown	Erica Wagner

### Rita Mary Burke Scholarship

(Female non-traditional student graduate of FMCC who will continue her education)

Carolyn Czub

Thank you to everyone who worked on these scholarship awards. Your time and service is really appreciated especially from the girls in our area schools.

## Next Time You Use Your Dishwasher, Thank Josephine Cochrane

### Invented: 1886

It all started with a chip on her antique china, caused by a careless servant. Cochrane, a wealthy socialite, angrily vowed to do all the dishes herself, then discovered the harsh reality of the scullery. That prompted her to make a machine that washed dishes automatically, but by the time it went into production, her husband had died and left her in debt. So this proper Victorian lady began selling her invention herself, which she managed to do quite successfully until her death nearly 30 years later.

*This Old House Magazine, July 2016*

## What Our Freedom Knows by Tom Mach

Our freedom knows no gender – Jane Addams found housing for the poor, while Clara Barton helped the wounded and Walt Whitman comforted the dying. Our freedom knows no color – Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote about slavery. While Harriet Tubman let them to safety. And Lincoln abolished it altogether. Our freedom knows about free will. Helen Keller used hers to see without eyes, While Amelia Earhart found hers in flight. And Billy Graham used his to tell us about God.

*Darcelle Winchell*

## Grant Received from NYS AAUW

The Finance Committee of NYS AAUW approved the \$500 Grant that our branch sought for the Anti-Bullying program held on February 1st.

Congratulations to Jennifer Garren for a job well done!

## Unsung Hero

Congratulations to Ginni Mazur who was chosen as Unsung Hero of our branch for 2016--2017. Despite being busy with family, travel and other community activities, Ginni always stepped in to help from stuffing folders for Tech Savvy Summit for Girls to preparing raffle baskets for the Celebration Fundraiser to serving as our Branch Historian.

Thank you, Ginni!

## Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium (ECSWC) Updates

### "It's a Grand Old Flag" Concert

Our AAUW branch is a member of the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium. AAUW member Laurie Kozakiewicz serves as president and Helen Martin is the secretary. The organization presented "It's a Grand Old Flag" free concert at the Fulton County Museum in Gloversville on June 9. Although the event competed with the car show in Johnstown and had to be held inside due to wind and threat of rain, about 40 people attended to hear the Dream Catchers perform a program of patriotic and suffrage songs from America's past, enjoy refreshments provided by the Consortium as well as tour the Fulton County Museum.

### Participation in Government Awards

The ECSWC recently awarded scholarships to the top female students in Participation in Government Course in each high school in Fulton, Montgomery and Hamilton Counties. The winners received \$50, a certificate, pen and a copy of *Solitude of Self* which was written by Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

### ECSWC Symposium—March 2017

The ECSWC will meet on July 7 at 5:30 pm at the Johnstown Public Library to continue planning the 2017 ECS Women's Symposium slated for March...**Women Breaking Boundaries** is the theme of the March 2017 Symposium. The keynote speaker will be University of Albany SUNY Professor, Susan Goodier. Goodier is the author of a book on the anti-suffrage women of NY, editor of a suffrage edition of the journal *New York History* and will be publishing a book on the winning of suffrage in NY which will be out in 2017. All those interested in assisting with planning or sharing their ideas for speakers and workshops are invited to attend the meeting on July 7. The primary purpose of the meeting will be finalizing workshops and assigning tasks to the various member groups which are members of ECSWC.

## Branch Book Club

### June Report

Six members of the Branch Book Club met on June 22 at the Double Eagle Restaurant at the Kingsboro Golf Club in Gloversville for dinner and to discuss the annotated version of Laura Ingalls Wilder's book *Pioneer Girl* from the ¡Adelante! Book list. Jahnn Gibson shared photos of a trip she took with family years ago to visit the sites Laura Ingalls Wilder describes in her books. Jahnn had read all of the book series and watched the TV program as well. Ella Ryder who also was a fan of *Little House on the Prairie* shared her story of a trip to see the fiddle Laura's father had played, which unfortunately was moved to another location before she arrived.

### July Book Club

The next book discussion will take place at 2 pm on July 14 at Riverlink Restaurant in Amsterdam located in the park on the Mohawk River. The book to be discussed is *Nothing Daunted* by Dorothy Wickenden, a true story about two women who are Smith College graduates during the Victorian era who travel to the Colorado Territory to spend a year teaching.

In addition, some of the group will also be reading the ¡Adelante! Suggested book for LGBT awareness entitled *Charity and Sylvia: A Same Sex Marriage in Early America*. Two books were chosen due to a limited number in the library system.

All are welcome to attend on July 14 for good food and discussion whether or not that you have finished reading the book. Parking for the Riverlink Park is in the top level of the parking garage. You then walk across the overpass and either take the elevator or stairs to the park and restaurant. Dining is outside, but protected by awnings from sun and showers.

Contact Pat Valachovic at 736-1253 if you plan to attend.

### Message from AAUW National Branch Relations

With summer upon us, it's time for summer reading! In light of this, I am pleased to invite you to participate in AAUW's upcoming national book discussion featuring former First Lady of Colorado Helen Thorpe, author of [Soldier Girls: The Battles of Two Women at Home and at War](#).

Many U.S. soldiers sent overseas since 2001 have been women. Surrounded and far outnumbered by men, women soldiers have a decidedly different experience of war. Thorpe follows the lives of three women over 12 years on their paths to the military, overseas to combat, and back home. Throughout the book, readers get to see these women work extremely hard while they deal with the attentions of men on base and in war zones. Thorpe also shows the women's struggle to stay connected with their families back home. Carefully reported, beautifully written, and powerfully moving, *Soldier Girls* is an innovative work.

Join AAUW and other members as we read the July ¡Adelante! Book of the Month Club selection *Soldier Girls* and [register](#) for the book discussion by July 27<sup>th</sup>. The event will be held July 28<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30pm ET.

Hannah Seligman

Branch Relations Associate / AAUW

202.785.7784 | [branchrelations@aauw.org](mailto:branchrelations@aauw.org)

2016/2017

**Board Members:**

Co-Presidents:

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Sandra Maceyka

Co-Vice Presidents—

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Irene Collins

Recording Secretary:

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Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown (NY) Branch

**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 7	ECSWC Planning Meeting 2017 Symposium 5:30 pm at Johnstown Public Library	August 14	Social Security Anniversary
July 11	AGJ AAUW Branch Planning Meeting Time & Place TBA	August 18	Anniversary of the 19th Amendment
July 14	Branch Book Club 2 pm, Riverlink Park Restaurant, Amsterdam	August 26	National Women's Equality Day
July 19-20	Anniversary of the Seneca Falls, First Women's Rights Convention	<b>2017:</b>	
July 22—24	NYS AAUW Summer Leadership Conference Cazenovia College	April 21-23	NYS AAUW Convention DoubleTree Inn, Syracuse NY
July 31	Marian Talbot's Birthday (1858-1948), Co-Founder of AAUW	June 14-17	AAUW National Convention Washington, DC

### DID YOU KNOW....

#### AAUW National has moved!!

They are located at

**1310 L Street NW, Suite 1000  
Washington, DC 20005**

(Phone Numbers & Email Addresses have not changed)



Join us at Cazenovia!



***Building Success with Smart Ideas:  
Focus on Programming and Leadership***

Summer Leadership Conference  
July 22-24, 2016  
Cazenovia College  
Cazenovia, NY

- AAUW VP for Member Leadership Programs, Deepti Gudipati
- Workshop: Developing New Leaders
- Round Table: Branch Programming
- Newly revised Start Smart + Work Smart Programs
- ALL AAUW members are invited!
- Subsidized by AAUW-NYS
- \$105 for the entire weekend (2 nights, 6 meals), \$110 for paper registration
- Register at [www.aauw-nys.org](http://www.aauw-nys.org) after May 1

**FROM JENNIFER LEE:**

Jennifer Lee is an award-winning independent filmmaker, writer, speaker, Hollywood visual effects producer & editor of *Forrest Gump*, *Ghost*, *Pirates of the Caribbean 2*, *Beowulf*. AGJ AAUW brought Jennifer to the area for viewing of her film *Feminist: Stories from Women's Liberation* at FMCC and a Q&A.

Dear Friends,

Big news! Nine female Pakistani students and academics from Islamabad, Pakistan will be visiting Los Angeles and participating in 5 panel discussions. The trip is called:

“Consciousness Raising of Pakistani Women  
On Contemporary Academic and Social Issues 2016”

I am the US Coordinator for this US State Department funded trip. All events are free and open to the public.

The talks will be varied and topics range from religion, peace, fashion, green spaces in urban areas, and media images of women.

The first panel is on July 10!

I'm also keynoting the 5th Annual UNC Conference in Scottsdale.

Please join us for these exciting discussions!

The “Love Her, Love Her Not: The Hillary Paradox” book is still going strong. I recently created a trailer for the book.

Kind regards,  
Jennifer Hall Lee

**Future events in July & August**

**5 Panel Discussions** with members of the Critical Thinking Forum (CTF) of the International Islamic University Islamabad, Pakistan

- 1) The Islamabad to Los Angeles Panel Discussion  
The first panel discussion is at the Los Angeles Public Library, Central Library in downtown Los Angeles. It is called: “USA & Pakistan: Seeing Each Other and How to Expand Our Vision”. 2—4 pm
- 2) Images of Women in Media and Reality  
Place: West Hollywood Library, 6:30—8 pm
- 3) Pakistani Women: Religion and Peace  
Place: Santa Monica Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), 12—2 pm
- 4) Observing Fashion in the Post Feminist Era: Global Trends from Pakistan to the United States  
Place: Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising, 2:45—3:30 pm
- 5) Creating Urban Green Spaces: From California to Islamabad  
Place: Cottonwood Canyon, Pasadena, 4—5 pm

**2016 UCW Professional Development Conference**

August 5, 2016 at Sheraton Phoenix Airport Hotel, Tempe, 8 am—4:30 pm  
Registration: <http://links.asu.edu/UCW>