

Upstate Update

agj-ny.aauw.net

November—December 2016

Happy Hanukkah!

Merry Christmas!

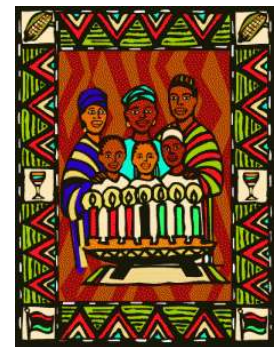
Kwanzaa Greetings!



Hanukkah
Starts at Sunset December 24
through January 1



Christmas
December 25



Kwanzaa
December 26-January 1

NEW EMAIL
ADDRESS FOR
AGJ AAUW:

AGJAAUW@gmail.com

A Successful Community Drive



Thank you to all who attended our holiday luncheon at Union Hall on Saturday, December 10th.

Thank you, Sandy Maceyka, for organizing a lovely meal & beverages. Many attending participated in the grab bag exchange. Some people received and grabbed some really nice gifts.

Everyone in attendance contributed to our Fill the Stockings

collections. We were able to send \$100 each to the Gloversville, Johnstown and Fonda food pantries. Outstanding collection!

It was a really nice day to catch **up on everyone's news and** holiday plans.

Tech Savvy Summit for Girls Planning

The Tech Savvy Summit will not be an AGJ AAUW event in May. Liz Russo and Linda Hammond announced on the 10th that they were not able to chair this event in 2017. Our 3rd Chair, Linda Bumpus, had stepped down in September because she, too, was not able to work on it.

At this time Laurie Lazinski has notified us that some of the participants at FMCC do not want to see this event stop and are willing to handle the sched-

uling and organizing for this event.

If anyone would be interested in working on this event, please contact Laurie Lazinski (Laurie.Lazinski@fmcc.suny.edu).

Linda Hammond is preparing copies of our project materials (e.g., budget, list of donors, and project tasks) to provide to the new organizers.

This is an excellent event of our middle school girls. It was a

hard decision to make for Liz and Linda.

January's Branch Meeting—January 24th



The AAUW meeting for January will be held on Tuesday, January 24 at St. John's One Church St. building (the old YMCA). We will be viewing the movie "Gasland", a documentary about fracking and the disruption it causes both environmentally, and to the folk living in the area. If you have the chance, please read the book "Heat and Light" by Jennifer Haigh. Our library only has one copy, but Fonda, Gloversville and Amsterdam also have copies. It's a brand new book, and they will not send them on interlibrary loan, but one can borrow directly.

We will be having pizza for dinner, so please let me know your choice of plain, pepperoni, sausage, mushroom, or white with broccoli. The cost is \$5.

Please respond by January 12

to Jahnn Gibson 705-2835.

Also, book club will be reading "Lights Out" by Ted Koppel. I recommend this book to everyone. It's about the vulnerability of our electric grid to attack, both physical and cyber, and how long it would take to get things up and running again. He says it's not a matter of "if" but a matter of "when". I bought a woodstove with a cooktop, if this tells you anything.

Jahnn Gibson

Jahnn Swanker-Gibson has faithfully sent in her articles about our Environment.

Submitted November 17:

So, now we have elected a man who thinks there's no such thing as climate change/global warming, in spite of the fact that 98% of scientists insist that there is, and that it's here now, and in spite of the changes in weather and climate patterns that we can see all around us. He is also a supporter of big business, so one knows that he will encourage, and kow tow to, Exxon, et.al. He intends to push forward the Keystone Pipeline and the Dakota Access Pipeline that is currently being fought against by the Standing Rock Sioux in N. Dakota. So, I guess that we can't expect the Federal Government to help us win our fight for a sustainable future. No, this fight will have to be won by the people, and by each individual state passing laws that bypass the fossil fuel industries, and so, help to mitigate climate change.

How can we help? Conserve, conserve, conserve. Drive fewer miles and buy a hybrid the next time you buy a car. Turn your heat down and air conditioner up. Invest in solar, wind, or a heat pump for heat. Turn off lights when not in use, launder with cold water. Sell any stocks you have in the fossil fuel industries, and encourage others to do the same. Give up beef. Write or call your congressman. In fact, a few friends and I demonstrate in downtown Johnstown with signs against global warming, once weekly for an hour to raise people's consciousness about climate change. Please, join us by doing this in your own communities. Because it's up to us now to create a sustainable future for our children and grandchildren. Please, do this for them.

Submitted December 13:

How does global warming affect the oceans? First of all, as the seas warm, tropical storms become more frequent and severe, remember Katrina, Sandy and Irene? There was also a hurricane in the Atlantic in January 2016, which is way out of season for hurricanes. Next, increased warmth causes coral reefs to bleach and die. One third of earth's coral reefs are bleached, and many are not expected to recover. Sea life depends upon these reefs, when they are gone, the oceans will start to die. Also, the polar ice caps are melting. Satellite views of the earth through the years show this. Much of this meltwater is fresh water, thus changing the saline content of the oceans. Sea life has evolved to exist on this salinity, so if it changes, many fish and marine mammals will suffer and die. The sea level will continue to rise, as it already has. Miami Beach now faces a flooding problem, the Dutch are building higher dikes and experimenting with floating buildings. The cold water entering the seas North and South will interfere with the warm currents which drive our weather and climate patterns, and it's anybody's guess as to what this will bring. As the polar ice melts, it affects life in the polar regions. Polar bears in the North are going hungry, as are the native peoples of Alaska, Northern Canada, and Greenland, since they depend on the sea ice to reach their food. Penguins in the South are often unable to get from their breeding grounds to the sea to feed, because the melted ice floes rub against the shore ice creating huge shards of broken ice which they are

unable to cross. And lastly, as the bright white ice, which reflects much of the sun's heat back into space melts, dark blue ocean is exposed, absorbing more of the sun's heat and contributing to even more warming. This exacerbates, or makes the problem even worse. This is called "feedback".

So please, conserve fossil fuels and eat less meat, as the cattle industry releases a lot of methane, which is even worse for the atmosphere than carbon dioxide.



NEWSLETTER EDITOR NEEDED:

Our branch needs to have someone help with the newsletters. If you know how to use Word or **Publisher, you're an excellent candidate.**

Linda Hammond no longer has the time to work on the newsletters. Think back as to when was the last time you read your branch newsletter.

Our branch also has a Facebook account and a website. Have you looked at these media sources?

New Members

Nancy Peck:

Nancy Peck has joined our AAUW branch because she has heard about all the wonderful programs we have had from a relative who is a member. (Jen Garren-step-daughter)

Nancy graduated from FMCC nursing program in 1979. She immediately began working in cardiac care at the Johnstown Hospital. From there she went onto become a Rehab specialist and a case manager. She has also worked as an insurance rehab specialist and in occupational medicine. Her last full time position was at Fulton County Correctional Facility. She has been trying to retire the last few years but does continue to work per diem. Nancy has 3 children, 5 step-children and many grand children as well as several great-grand children. She and her husband, David, celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary this year. She has **always been supportive of women's equality in employment, education and politics.**

Another new member is Amanda Beckett. We will try to get her bio in our next newsletter.

Welcome, Ladies!!!

Patricia Barter

Patricia Barter, another new member is also a nurse. She graduated from New England Baptist School of Nursing in Boston in 1987. She spent years working in ICU in Boston and then at St Peters in Albany and at Saratoga Hospital. Pat also worked in Corrections in mental health nursing at Mount McGregor and Comstock. For two years she was the administrator of an Alcohol & Drug Rehab in Boca Raton, Florida and she has also done private duty and home care. Her 21-year career as a nurse ended when she had a double knee replacement. Pat has many brothers and 12 nieces and nephews. Pat believes in the advancement of women, particularly in education and in the workplace but in general as well. She has been a resident of Johnstown since 2003 and is happy to join our local branch.

Patricia Locatelli

The AAUW is very pleased to welcome Patricia Locatelli, who joined the AGJ Branch of the AAUW, during this September's "Shape the Future" membership drive. She is interested in **supporting women's issues and networking with other women.**

Patty graduated from Wheelock College in Boston Massachusetts, in 2004, with a **Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education.** After college, Patty returned to Johnstown, NY, and worked at the local YMCA, running their Afterschool Program for Children, and working at Mysteries on Main Street, in Johnstown. She currently works full time at Mysteries on Main Street, where she has been employed for the past 12 years. Patty is also a member of the Johnstown Business and Professional Association.

Patty lives in Johnstown with her husband and two cats, and loves her job working in the local bookstore. When asked for her recommendation for a book to read, she replied, [Alexander Hamilton](#), by Ron Chernow. I strongly recommend stopping at Mysteries to see Patty for her expert and friendly guidance with any reading inquiries.

Branch Book Club

The book club will be meeting at Jackie's Restaurant, Route 29, at 3:30 pm January 12th.

Heat & Light by Jennifer Haigh and *Lights Out* by Ted Koppel are the books for January.

For those who missed November's book - Gloria Steinem's *My Life on the Road* is a must read. Everyone really enjoyed this book.

Trivia Night—October 27th

Thanks to all of you who were part of our first Trivia Night....It was GRAND!!

The venue, BOCES cafeteria, was bright and inviting, the trivia questions were challenging and Laurie was a terrific game show hostess! The **guests had to put on their “thinking caps”, the candy, pizzas and drinks** were plentiful and the prizes were appreciated. We even had two lovely young girls playing and doing well with the questions.

It was an evening of fun....the support of AAUW members and the participation of family and friends, created a successful community event.

Thank you everyone,

Be well dear friends
Bonnie Van Wie and Ella Ryder



District IV Meeting—Peggy Kelland, District IV Coordinator

The Fall District IV Conference was hosted by the Schenectady Branch on Saturday, October 15.

Almost 30 members from the Adirondack, Albany, Poughkeepsie, and Schenectady branches met in the comfortable parish house of Zion Lutheran Church just 5 minutes off the Northway and enjoyed the many choices of a substantial continental breakfast and buffet lunch.

The keynote speaker, Angelica Morris, the Schenectady County Commissioner of Human Rights, spoke of her many challenges and achievements as the only young, only female, and only African-American among her county's department heads. She was followed by Maxine Getty, a retired Marine Sergeant and reenactor who portrayed Mary Livermore: teacher, abolitionist, Civil War nurse, suffragist, and writer.

During lunch we heard from Anna Agnes and Julia Alford, recipients of the Schenectady Branch's scholarships to AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders and to Elect Her training at SUNY Albany. We concluded the day with a service project, making bracelets for the residents at the local women's shelter.

December Leadership Bite

“Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.”

— Robert F. Kennedy, former U.S. senator

2017 National AAUW Convention

JUNE 14—17, 2017

WASHINGTON, DC

Renaissance Hotel

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

<http://convention.aauw.org/>

2016/2017
Board Members:

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Sandra Maceyka
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Membership:
Mary Jablonski
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Treasurer:
Irene Collins
Recording Secretary:
Paula Lerner
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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

2017:

**February: Women's Health
Month...Wednesday, February 15th**

5 to 7
Saint Mary's Rao Outpatient Pavilion, 4950
State Hwy 30, Amsterdam
Catered meal from Saint Mary's Dining Ser-
vices...price TBA
RSVP Ella Ryder by February [3rd...661-
5951..waveryder64@nycap.rr.com](tel:661-5951)
Flier: Sandra Maceyka

**March: Elizabeth Cady Stanton Symposi-
um...Saturday, March 18th**

9-2
HFM BOCES, Route 67, Johnstown

Movie Night "Gasland"

Award Winning Documentary
by Josh Fox



Learn how Hydrofracking to extract natural gas could affect our environment.

Tuesday, January 24

6-9 pm

at

**1 Church St., Johnstown
(Former YMCA)**

SUGGESTED READINGS:

Heat and Light by Jennifer Haigh

Lights Out by Ted Koppel

Cost: \$5 checks payable to AAUW

Menu: Pizza, Salad & Beverages

Please choose your pizza preference from these selections:

Plain Cheese
White Pizza with Broccoli
Mushroom and Sausage
Pepperoni

**RSVP: by January 12 to Jahnn Gibson 705-2835
302 S. Melcher St., Johnstown, 12095**



Happy Holidays!

Dear AAUW-NYS members,

Looking ahead to an exciting 2017, our AAUW New York State Convention takes shape as we celebrate the centenary of women's rights in New York State. Geeta Desai, Program Vice President tells us about some of the exciting plans in the latest issue of *FOCUS*. Click [HERE](#) to view it!

AAUW-NYS President Roli Wendorf celebrates our successes and offers helpful ways in which AAUW branches can make a difference.

And Janet Forbes, District Director calls us to begin to think about the 2017 Emerging Leader Award.

Wishing you a happy, healthy, successful new year in AAUW!

Laurie Eikemeyer
AAUW-NYS *FOCUS* Director





Mark your calendars for the
American Association of University Women
New York State 2017 Convention

April 21 to 23, 2017

at

DoubleTree by Hilton Syracuse

6301 State Route 298

East Syracuse, New York 13057

Phone: 315 432 - 0200

Plan to come early Friday for a tour and High Tea at the Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation
and a tour of the J.G. Stickley Museum in Fayetteville.