



Upstate Update



AMSTERDAM * GLOVERSVILLE* JOHNSTOWN BRANCH

- The American Association of University Women advances equity for woman and girls through advocacy, education and research.
- In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

2009 – 2010

March

Branch Officers:

President

Helen Martin

Vice President - Program

Sandy Maceyka

Vice President - Membership

Liz Russo

Vice President – Ed Foundation

Kaye Schrader

Vice President – Legal Advocacy

Ginni Mazur

Recording Secretary

Sue Summerfield

Treasurer - Barbara Nigro

President's Message

Hi Ladies,

Hope this finds all of you well and eagerly anticipating the arrival of Spring! The mild weather of the last few days has certainly been a welcome relief from the cold and snow that, unfortunately, forced the cancellation of our February meeting. We will definitely reschedule the program for the early part of our next program schedule.

There is still time to register for the April convention at the Otesaga Resort Hotel in Cooperstown. As of this newsletter, Sandy Maceyka, Linda Hammond, and I will be attending as delegates. If any of you would like to attend, please send your registration in as soon as possible. And, remember, if you only want to go for the day on Saturday that would be wonderful and would increase our presence at convention.

We are still in need of a new VP of Membership. Please consider serving in this position. Liz Russo will be there to help with the transition and share her knowledge of the ins and outs of membership.

Eileen Hartmann, our New York State President, and Maria Ellis, our New York State District Council Director, will be attending our April meeting. I hope everyone will plan on attending to hear about upcoming plans for AAUW New York State. And, thanks to Barbara Taylor for graciously offering to host both of them!

I am also pleased to tell you that at our recent board meeting the decision was made for our branch to host the District IV Fall Conference. I will be meeting with representatives from the other branches in our district at the convention along with Maria Ellis to work on tentative plans. We are hoping that by having more time to work on putting the conference together, we will have a more positive response than last fall when we were called on at the last minute to act as the host branch.

At our recent board meeting we discussed fund raising ideas and decided to hold our own garage sale again in conjunction with the Johnstown City Wide Garage Sale. This was a very successful function as well as a lot of fun. Please read the article for details.

Finally, I want to congratulate **Linda Hammond** on accepting the position of **District IV Coordinator**. Kudos Linda on behalf of all of us! I'll see you all at Trivia Night on March 25th!
Best,
Helen

Let the Games Begin!

The Trivia night games will take place at our Thursday, March 25 meeting at the Fireside Restaurant in Gloversville. A buffet will be served at 5:30 p.m. followed by a challenging and informative Trivia contest. Don't miss it!

Great fun and a chance to strut your stuff! Contact Dianne Kierpiec with questions. (Gloria Kimball will be taking care of reservations for this dinner). See attached flier.

Note: If you plan to bring a guest to any of our upcoming meetings, please contact Membership VP Liz Russo so that a prospective member packet and name tag will be ready for them.

District IV Coordinator

Congratulations to Linda Hammond who recently accepted the position of District IV Coordinator. Linda will be working closely with Maria Ellis, our New York State District Council Director. I know she will do a great job representing both our branch as well as the district. Thanks Linda!

--Helen Martin

ECS Women's Symposium

If you haven't already registered for the ECS Women's Symposium on March 20th at BOCES, you still have time! Please get in touch with Helen, Sandy Maceyka, or Liz Russo for a registration brochure!

LAF Update

Did you know that men are also fighting sexual assault on college campuses? Many men have started positive movements on campuses to create changes. In November, there was a conference held in Minnesota to share ideas and strategies for engaging college men in combating sexual violence. As one man, Adam Zimmerman from SUNY Stony Brook, stated, "Quite simply, men need to rise to the challenge. It is not enough to just treat women with respect in our own lives...we need to challenge other men to do the same. Men are themselves victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and, as men, we have a responsibility to our brethren who are survivors as well." It's great to know that many support our fight to prevent sexual assault on campuses.

When you have a minute, go to www.aauw.org highlight Advocacy and then LAF, and read about cases that LAF continues to fight. You will see that the fight continues!

--Ginni Mazur

LAF Convention Basket

As you know, we take a basket for a special raffle at convention, and the proceeds go to LAF. Our branch will get credit for our basket also. This year, the theme of our basket is "Life's Luxuries" and I am hoping that many of you will find something that will go nicely in the basket. With this theme, there are many possibilities: chocolate, beauty items, wine, books, exercise equipment, puzzle books, joke books, nice hand towels, or anything that you can dream up. The sky is the limit here!

I'll be collecting all items by April 1 (no joke here☺), so you can bring your item to the March meeting, or you may drop items off at my house. Just make sure you get it to me by the 1st.

--Ginni Mazur

Public Policy

Pay equity is still a major focus of attention for AAUW's Public Policy Program. NYS Public Policy Chair, Nancy Mion, recently alerted us to an event being planned in Albany on April 20, 2010. Fair Pay Advocacy Day will take place in the Well of the Legislative Office Building starting at 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Please note the tentative agenda:

- 10 a.m. Welcome by Barbara Bartotelli
- 10:15 a.m. Comptroller Tom DiNapoli will speak on his role in beginning NYS Pay Equity Reform movement.
- 10:30-11:30 a.m. Panel moderated by Hon. Barbara Smith of the Albany Common Council and including Alan Lubin of NYSUT.
- 11:30-12:30 p.m. Invited legislators, including Assembly and Senate sponsors of three pay equity bills-A6712/S5271, A3911/S955, A1119/S5480
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch and brief lobbying session and lobby team assignments for legislative visits as well a workshop will be offered on how job evaluations are conducted.

Members have said that a lobby day experience is exhilarating. Fair Pay Advocacy Day looks to be a worthwhile day for AAUW and its members. Look for more specific information to follow. --Michele Acquaro

April Meeting

Our April Meeting will be held on Monday, April 26, at the Holiday Inn in Johnstown. I apologize that the flier is not ready for this newsletter, but it will be sent out shortly. I can tell you that Maria Ellis, New York State District Council Director, and Eileen Hartmann, New York State President, will be our guests that evening.

--Helen Martin



The following information was received from the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce of which our A-G-J Branch is a member.

Please pass the information along to any woman that you think might be interested in attending. This program is sponsored by St. Mary's Hospital.

--Helen Martin

Free Women's Safety and Crime Prevention Education Program

Date: Thursday, April 1, 2010

Time: Registration 5:30 pm

Program 6:00 pm

Place: Carondelet Pavilion Auditorium, 380 Guy Park Ave., Amsterdam

Cost: Free to all; RSVP is required

For adult women only – Learn about how to keep yourself safe from becoming a victim of crime or sexual assault. Learn from expert law enforcement professionals with years of experience in crime prevention, education, and enforcement. The program will consist of an informational session with a question and answer period and a self-defense training in which women will be shown techniques to use if confronted by an offender. Learn how to keep yourself safe Workshop is for adult women 18 years and older. Space is limited.

To register for this free educational program, please call Maria Tambasco at 841-7382.

AAUW GARAGE SALE



Start cleaning out those closets and cupboards! Once again we will be holding a fund-raising garage sale in

conjunction with the Johnstown City Wide Garage Sale. Sale date is Saturday, May 15 with drop off on Friday, May 14. Tentative plans are for the sale to be held at the Johnstown Area Community Center, but the location will be confirmed – just waiting to hear from the JACC as to availability of the center.

Raising the Equity Banners

Our branch proudly donated an equity banner which will be displayed yearly on Main Street in Johnstown along with others purchased by area women's organizations to honor the birthplace of Elizabeth Cady Stanton. The banner-raising ceremony will be held on Saturday, March 13, at 9:30 a.m. We hope a number of our AAUW branch members will be on hand as recognition will be given to our organization at that time. See attached flier for more details. --Liz Russo

Basket Donation for JPL Storybook Sundae Fundraiser

For the past several years, our AAUW branch has been holding our board meetings and Sister to Sister Summit planning meetings at the Johnstown Public Library free of charge. In appreciation and in support of the library, we annually participate in the library's Story Book Sundae fundraiser by donating a basket which is raffled at the event. This year we have chosen the theme "A College Survival Basket for a Young Lady." The basket includes items donated by our members including the books *U chic The College Girl's Guide to Everything* and *The Everything College Survival Book* as well as college necessities for dorm life and studying. **The raffle drawings will take place at the Storybook Sundae which will be held on Sunday, March 21, from 1-2:30 p.m. at FMCC.** Baskets are now on display at the JPL and raffle tickets may be purchased for \$1 each.

Thanks to all who donated items for the basket. Hope you will visit the library to see our basket and all the other creative basket donations on display as well as attend the Storybook Sundae event. --Liz Russo

Remaining 2010 Programs:



Saturday, March 20
8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at BOCES
ECS Women's Symposium

Thursday, March 25
5:30 p.m. at Fireside Restaurant
Buffet-Competitive Trivia Night
Arrangements: Dianne Kierpiec
Reservations: Gloria Kimball
853-3126

April 23-25
NYS AAUW Convention
Otesaga, Cooperstown
Contact Helen Martin

Monday, April 26
Annual Meeting at Holiday Inn
Maria Ellis, NYS District Coordinator
arr & res Helen Martin 762-7638

Monday, May 17
Wemple & Edick's
Laura Channell--Women in Business
Buy your own sundaes, etc.
arr Marie Wojeski & Linda Zilka

Tuesday, May 18
11th Sister to Sister Summit at FMCC
Anne Campos & Dianne Kierpiec

Tuesday, June 8
Arkell Museum Tour
Catered light supper

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

***March 13** Women's Equity
Banner Raising Celebration
Johnstown
9:30 a.m.

***March 20**
Elizabeth Cady Stanton
Women's Symposium
HFM BOCES Rt. 67
Johnstown
8:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.

***March 25**
Competitive Trivia Night
Fireside Restaurant
5:30 p.m.

***April 23-25**
AAUW NY State Convention
Cooperstown
(www.aauw-nys.org/convention)

***April 26**
Annual Meeting
Holiday Inn
5:30 pm

In Honor of Women's History Month

and Celebrating in 2010 the

90th Anniversary of Women's Voting Rights

The Elizabeth Cady Stanton Hometown Association

cordially invites you to attend the

Women's Equality Avenue Banner Raising Event

Saturday, March 13, 2010

9:30am

Corner of W. Main & Market Streets

Downtown Johnstown [next to the Information Booth]

Bring your family & friends — and a camera with you — to take photos holding your sponsored banner!

We will ceremoniously place the first of 34 new avenue banners on a city lamppost Saturday morning in honor of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's advocacy for women's equality and suffrage rights. Joining us for the occasion is Mrs. Stanton's great-great granddaughter, Coline Jenkins, linking the past with the present in historic Johnstown, New York.

This event is open to the public, so please encourage others to join us in honoring the importance of equality rights for all citizens.

On Monday, March 15 city workers will place the remaining banners on display through August. In mid-May the flower baskets will join the banners on city lampposts in the colors of the suffragist flag: purple, gold and white as a fitting tribute to 2010 being the 90th anniversary of passage of the 19th amendment according women in America the right to vote.

A list of all sponsor groups and individuals is posted on our website that includes the personalized sponsor tributes.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ON SATURDAY, MARCH 13th !!

www.elizabethcadystantonhometown.org

Don't Miss Trivia Night!



AAUW presents their first **Trivia Night**
Thursday, **March 25th** ...2010

at The Fireside Restaurant

Dinner at **5:30** with game to follow!

Cost is **\$17.00** for everything...
except cocktails are extra!

Dinner is salad, beverage, potato, veggie
and pineapple upside down cake...

Along with your choice of **one** of these three entrees:

- ✿ Chicken Parmesan
- ✿ Broiled Haddock
- ✿ Sirloin Tips

**Plan to have the most fun of the year as part of a team working
together to answer questions and score points.

Prizes for the winners!

Cheers and laughs and great conversation...

Hosted by Dianne Kierpiec.

✿ Gloria Kimball is collecting reservations... Please RSVP
by the deadline of Tuesday, **March 16th** with your payment!

_____ I plan to attend the Trivia Night on March 25th at 5:30 p.m.
Enclosed is my check for **\$17.00** for dinner (made out to AAUW).

I have selected _____ as my entrée.

Name: _____.

*(Mail to Gloria Kimball, P.O. Box 204, Fonda, NY 12068)