

May's Annual Dinner and General Meeting



Join us
Wednesday, May 18th
for our
Annual Dinner at 6:00 p.m



Mohawk Golf Club
1849 Union Street, Schenectady

Program

Buffet Dinner and Basket Auction
Special Member Recognition
Installation of Officers & Honor our Named Grant Honoree

Cost: \$27

Make your check out to: AAUW Schenectady Branch by May 12th or sooner.

Mail to: *Ellen Auerbach*
848 Beech Drive
Niskayuna, NY 12309



We will once again be selling plants at Niska-Day on **May 21**. The event will be held at Craig Elementary School and the theme is Niska-Day 35 "Let's Have a Fiesta". Many gardens in Niskayuna and Schenectady contain plants that were grown by AAUW members. The Community loves our plants.

Now is the time to begin potting up plants that you are willing to share. Niska-Day is a fun day and a great time to work with fellow AAUW members in a fund raising event that benefits all involved. **The plants look much better if they are potted up about two to three weeks prior to the sale** so they are well established and look healthy. Plants that are wilted do not sell. We will also sell house plants this year and also garden books for the first time, so if you have any to donate, they would be appreciated.

If anyone needs pots or help with digging, contact Bobbi Richardson at 346-6697 or Roberta_Richardson@hotmail.com. Volunteers are needed for the day of the sale in two hour shifts beginning at 8:30 am until 4 pm. Each shift needs 3 volunteers. Please let me know if you are willing to help the day of the sale and be a part of the "Fiesta".

~ *Bobbi Richardson*



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we move into spring, I think it's appropriate to both look back at what we have accomplished and also look ahead to what we hope to accomplish. Looking back, we can be pleased with our growth; we have almost a dozen new members who will bring skills and their unique talents to our chapter. Looking ahead, we need to focus on developing a more active membership so that we have capable people to fill board positions in the years ahead.

Our ability to work with other organizations gives us strength and presents us to women who might not know about AAUW. I would encourage you to find ways to work with other organizations and at the same time - educate the women in these organizations about AAUW.

What groups am I thinking of? Certainly, the League of Women Voters. Yes, they are facing the same demographic and social pressures which we face, but we do have women who are members of both organizations. The Business and Professional Women's group is another source - and a rich one. They present Life Unplugged each spring and they always need volunteers. This is a great opportunity for us to educate and encourage new members. For those of you who are active in church or synagogue groups, make it your focus to find new members. For those of you who are active in college alumnae groups, check that out for possibilities.

And finally, bring your friends and neighbors to our monthly meetings. We are here for our membership but we are also here for our community and we need to do a more aggressive promo job of making sure our community knows about us! ~ *Eleanor Aronstein*

Annual Dinner Auction

This year we are going back to the themed baskets for the Auction. We are asking each interest group to come up with a theme that reflects the group's activities/interest this past year. Please discuss your choices with your interest group and let us know as soon as possible. Remember to let us know the estimated value of your basket.

We are looking forward to being amazed by the fantastic baskets we will be auctioning this year. We hope to see you and your work of art at the dinner where everyone will be encouraged to bid high and bid often.

If your group needs a basket, please reach out to Maxine. She has accumulated a few baskets from past garage sales. ~ *Miriam & Maxine*

This is a busy time of year for fundraising which is essential to carry on our scholarship program.

Nominating Committee Report

We will be voting on the following slate of officers at the dinner.

President: Eleanor Aronstein

Treasurer: Ann Hicks

Secretary: Ellen Auerbach

Program Vice President: Arlene Maranville

Membership Vice-President: **Needed**

Public Policy Vice-President: Linda Rizzo

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

- * We need someone who would volunteer to be our **Membership VP**. If you are interested, please contact Robin Eddy at 346-1683 or rjeddy321@gmail.com.
- * **Our branch is in charge of the District 4 conference in October.** Contact Eleanor Aronstein at 1-845-462-6452 if you are interested in being on the committee, if you have ideas for speakers or a theme.

WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE ISSUES ARE UNDER ASSAULT AGAIN

This primary season has dealt not only with the candidates' views on political issues, but it has focused again on women's health care rights. A woman's right to use contraceptives, the abolishment of Roe V Wade, and the defunding of Planned Parenthood are taking center stage.

First of all, the right for women to use contraceptives in the United States began in 1912. However, there are candidates who oppose having these covered by insurance companies while at the same time remaining silent on male enhancement drugs being covered by these same companies. They totally oppose abortion allowing no exceptions, but do not want women to protect themselves while they are using Viagra etc. The Guttmacher Institute gives data showing that 31% of women use contraceptives to reduce menstrual discomfort. Some use it for polycystic ovary syndrome and for a plethora of other medical reasons.

Abortion can be a difficult topic because there are a wide range of areas involved in this issue; but to abolish Roe vs Wade would be a disaster for women. No matter where one stands on this issue, most would agree that there are legitimate medical reasons for a woman to contemplate the need for an abortion. Men should not make this the center piece of their campaign. This is a woman's issue not a "male campaign talking point". Whether these male candidates are pro or con, they should not interject this issue into their campaign speeches.

Planned Parenthood has been a valuable asset for women's health care. Statistics have shown that the abortion component is limited in comparison to the health benefits women derived from this organization. Most of their patients are low income women seeking medical attention.

Maybe, women should simply tell our male counterparts to stay out of their health care issues. What women's groups have interfered with male reproductive health issues?? I can't name one. ~ **Linda Rizzo**

A Message from a New 50 Year Member

As I reflect on 50 memorable years as a member of AAUW, I realized that I would no longer be asked to pay annual dues. However, it seems that it would be appropriate for me and others like me to consider a contribution to AAUW's Education Fund or one of the other AAUW funds each year to show our appreciation for all that AAUW has done for more than a century to improve the status of women and girls in our society.

Please join me in this endeavor if you can!
Maxine Borom, 50 year member! !

YOU are the "U" in AAUW!

**We NEED your help and donations
for our upcoming events!**

Contact Bobbi Richardson if you can help out

- * Niska-Day, **May 21**
(begin potting your plants for the sale)
- * The Garage Sale (donate your treasures)
at Maxine Borom's, **June 4**
- * The Children's Arts Festival in downtown
Schenectady, also **June 4**

SPRING GARAGE SALE



Our spring garage sale will again be held at Maxine Borom's house on June 4th. For this to be a success we need items to sell. In the past two years the sale has made \$800 at each sale, thanks to your generous contributions! Perhaps you could designate a box or bag to collect items that you no longer need/want for the sale.

One item that has been in very short supply is books. These are always a big seller and we have had very few in these past two sales. Remember that all unsold books are donated to the library. Arrangements can be made with Maxine to drop off items at her house for the sale. Thanks for your support. ~ **Pat Terry**

What Do Your Annual Dues Support?

By Edwina Frances Martin, Esq., AAUW-NYS President

Continued from last month's newsletter

When you pay your annual dues, a portion goes to AAUW national, a portion goes to the state, and a portion goes to your local branch. AAUW national is the national voice for AAUW, promoting the mission, vision and goals of AAUW on a national level, and providing support to members and branches through leadership, grant and scholarship programs and funding. AAUW-NYS provides support to its local branches to promote AAUW, raise visibility, provide community leadership, and attract new members dedicated to the mission of AAUW. At the local level, members live the mission of AAUW and are the lifeblood of the organization – giving local scholarships, collaborating with like-minded organizations to address critical community needs, and providing leadership in their local communities on issues of importance to AAUW.

In addition to what was listed in last month's newsletter, here are the other areas your dues support.

The grant programs and legal advocacy and workshop projects of the national office, including:

- [The Legal Advocacy Fund](#);
- [Elect Her–Campus Women Win](#);
- [Start Smart Salary Negotiation Workshop](#);
- Campus leadership Programs; and
- [Tech Trek](#), [Elect Her](#), [Tech Savvy](#).

The grants and programming provided for you by the state, including:

- [The AAUW-NYS Branch Grant Program](#);
- [The AAUW-NYS District Conference Grant Program](#);
- The annual summer leadership conference;
- The ***Focus*** newsletter; and
- The Business Meeting at the annual convention.

Last but not least, your dues support the scholarships and programming of your local branch!

The combination of national, state and local work is what makes being a member of AAUW so powerful and special – we are truly the change makers of our communities and our nation.

Congratulations AAUW!



AAUW “rang” the bell at the NY Stock Market on Wednesday, March 30th.

(The bell is actually a button on the podium.)

Welcome to AAUW!

Margaret Schadler

5 Wellington Way, Niskayuna 12309
518-372-5252 mhschadler@aol.com

Katherine Armstrong

138 Glen Eddy Drive, Niskayuna 12309
518-346-3037

Susan Wright

17 Wellington Way Niskayuna NY 12309
(h)280-8016 ©698-2516
standfasts@gleneddy.com

Quote of the Month

***“Be the solution to
someone else’s problem.”***

Leigh Ann DeLyser

NYC Foundation for Computer Science Education
Keynote Speaker at the 2016 AAUW-NYS Convention

Membership Matters

Your Renewal Membership Form is included in this newsletter or you can find it on our website. Remember to fill out the two pages.

<http://schenectady-ny.aauw.net/membership/membership-renewal-form>



Study and Interest Group Meetings May/June 2016



If you're interested in attending a meeting, contact the leader

Since this year's programs, organized by our Study and Interest Groups, worked out so well, we will be doing it again for next year's General Meetings. So when you plan your programs for next year, decide on 1 or 2 you think would be great for your group's contribution to our General Meetings.

Arlene Maranville, next year's Study and Interest Group chair, **will be inviting all group leaders to her house in JUNE to fit your programs in our schedule.**

Book Exchange 1

Leader: Dottie Potochnik (399-3854)
No regular meetings

Book Exchange 2

Leader: Ellie Worland (250-4302)
No regular meetings

Gourmet Group

Leaders: Pat Terry (372-8431)
Faith Weldon (399-0048)

Friday, May 13 7:00pm

Theme: Derby Dinner Men's night
Hosts: Faith Weldon, Betty Rose
Location: 7 Marilyn Dr. Glenville

Friday, June 10, 7:00pm

Theme: Cooking Light
Hosts: Gail Puckette (399-7369)
Location: 28 Via Maria Dr., Scotia

Diverse Topics/Varied Interest

Leader: Gail Karl (393-7590)
Reba Mehan (374-7886)

Monday May 16 1:15pm

Program: Planning meeting
Location: Baker Café, Puzzles
515 State St., Schenectady

Modern Literature

Leader: Joan Bergin (399-1861)
Monday, May 9, 7:00pm
Book: The Boston Girl
Author: Anita Diamant
Reviewer: Mary Delroy
Hostess: Bobbi Richardson ((346-6697)
Location: 1417 Fox Hollow Rd Niskayuna
Co-hostess: Joan Bergin

TOTE BAGS for HAITI

Miriam Cajuste's sister is again traveling to Haiti to volunteer. If you have tote bags you could donate, please bring them to one of our event and Miriam will pick them up.

Modern Literature (continued)

Monday June 13 6:00pm

Book: Art of Hearing Heartbreaks

Author: Jan-Phillips Sendker

Reviewer: Bobbi Richardson

Location: TBD

Mah Jong

Leader: Dottie Potochnik (399-3854)

Monday May 9, 1:30

Hostess: Arlene Maranville (384-1639)

Location: 1 Maywood Dr. Scotia

Monday, May 23, 1:30 p.m.

Hostess: Gail Puckette (399-7369))

Location: 28 Via Maria Dr. Scotia

Monday June 13, 1:30

Hostess: Ellen Auerbach (381-4432)

Location: 848 Beech Dr Niskayuna

Monday June 27, 1:30

Hostess: Robin Eddy (346-1683)

Location: 1222 Hempstead Road, Niskayuna

Quilting

Leader: Marguerite Pileggi (280-5623)

Monday, May 24 1:00 p.m.

Program: Luncheon program and planning

Science Topics

Leader: Emily Hart (374-3229)

Monday May 2, 7:30pm

Program: Miriam Cajuste

Hostess: Sally Dewes (346-1761)

Location: 21 Englehart Dr. Glenville

Monday: June 6, 6:00pm

Program: picnic/planning

Hostess: Maxine Borom (370-2662)

Location: 2171 Foxhill Dr, Niskayuna

Word Games

Leader: Eleanor Aronstein (265-2500)

"LIKE" us on FACEBOOK!

**Thanks Kim Blanchett for setting up our
AAUW Schenectady page.**

**American Association of University Women
AAUW Schenectady Branch Membership Renewal
July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017**



(Please Print and fill out the 2 sides)

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip code _____

Phone (home) _____ (cell) _____ E-mail _____

Check appropriate category:

***If you renew
before May 18st***

___ AAUW (\$49) + NYS (\$13) + Branch Member (\$16)	\$78.00	\$75.00
___ Paid Life Member Renewal (NYS + Branch)	\$29.00	\$26.00
___ Dual Branch Member in NYS	\$16.00	\$13.00
___ Dual Branch Member living out of NYS	\$29.00	\$26.00
___ Honorary Life Member (50-year member)	\$ 0	

To keep our directory up-to-date, Honorary Life Members need to return this form!

I prefer to receive VISIONS _____ in color via email attachment / _____ be mailed to me via USPS.

If you spend part of the year out of town and wish to receive your mailed newsletters during that time,
Months you'll be away: _____

_____ I prefer VISIONS to be e-mailed while I'm away.

Alternate address: _____

Mail your dues check payable to **AAUW Schenectady Branch:**

**Pat Gregory
AAUW Schenectady Branch
26 Central Ave.
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866**

Questions? Contact Pat at pgregor1@nycap.rr.com or 306-4171

Optional Donations: In addition to my membership check, I am including another check(s) with my donation(s) to further AAUW's work. See page 10 in your directory for descriptions of funds.

___ AAUW Funds	___ Public Policy Fund	___ Eleanor Roosevelt Fund
___ Educational Opportunities Fund	___ Evvie Currie Giving Circle	___ Schenectady Branch
___ Legal Action Fund	___ Leadership Programs Fund	Scholarships to help support high school and college females pursue their education

Suggestions for program topics or speakers that would be good for a general meeting:

Suggestions for fundraising projects/events: _____

Name _____

Positions(s) I've held in AAUW (Officer, Interest group /Project/Event leader, etc.)

Community Organizations I belong to: _____

Places I volunteer at: _____

AAUW PRIORITIES OF INTEREST TO YOU – Check all that apply.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board Position | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Advocacy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Outreach | <input type="checkbox"/> Diversity | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Policy/Legislation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> International Women's Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's Health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> College affiliates | | <input type="checkbox"/> World Events/Issues |

INTEREST GROUPS (groups in bold currently exist) – Check all that interest you.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts & Crafts | <input type="checkbox"/> Golf | <input type="checkbox"/> Quilting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book Exchange(no meetings) | <input type="checkbox"/> Green Thumb Ladies | <input type="checkbox"/> Science Topics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Couple Gourmet | <input type="checkbox"/> Hikes/Walks | <input type="checkbox"/> Serendipity Trips |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evening Events/Get-togethers | <input type="checkbox"/> International Travel | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biking | <input type="checkbox"/> Language Groups | <input type="checkbox"/> Word Games |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge or Couples Bridge | <input type="checkbox"/> Mah Jongg | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Classical Concert Goers | <input type="checkbox"/> Modern Literature (evening) | * Other groups I would be interested in |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diverse Topics/Varied Interests | <input type="checkbox"/> Movie/Theater Group | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gals' Gourmet | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum Trips | _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography | _____ |

TALENTS/RESOURCES (I can help the branch with....)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accounting | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality | <input type="checkbox"/> Transport members to meetings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Be a greeter at meetings | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Use of home for event for 20+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Branch leadership position | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter mailing | <input type="checkbox"/> Write publicity articles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Branch newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Program planning | * Other ways I can help the branch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Branch website | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chair short-term event | <input type="checkbox"/> School library/tutoring | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> College outreach | <input type="checkbox"/> Snacks for general meetings | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer help | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunshine | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraisers | <input type="checkbox"/> Take minutes at board meetings | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Give a hand where needed | <input type="checkbox"/> Telephoning | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Writing | | |

I would be willing to volunteer at Branch Community Outreach Projects

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Capital District Election (collect election results) | <input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Proctor SAT Practice test |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Plays | <input type="checkbox"/> Niska-Day Plant Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Visiting elected officials in Albany |
| <input type="checkbox"/> College recruitment or events | <input type="checkbox"/> Schenectady Children's Arts Festival | |

List places where we might have a general meeting where you have contacts:

I would like a ride to meetings: _____

Other suggestions for the branch: _____



VISIONS

Schenectady Branch Newsletter AAUW
(published monthly except
January, July, August)

The deadline for newsletter items is the
1st week of the month
prior to publication.

Editors: Robin Eddy and Bobbi Richardson
Circulation: Carol Reynolds

President: Eleanor Aronstein

Website: schenectady-ny.aauw.net
NYS: <http://www.aauw-nys.org>
National: <http://www.aauw.org>

AAUW'S MISSION

AAUW Advances Equity for women through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

AAUW'S VISION

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.

AAUW'S PROMISE

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and educational barriers to so that all women have a fair chance.

IN PRINCIPLE AND IN PRACTICE AAUW VALUES and seeks 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.



Schenectady Branch
C/O Robin Eddy

1222 Hempstead Road
Schenectady, NY 12309

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Wednesday May 4

Board Meeting 6:45
Niskayuna Town Hall

Thursday, May 12

Reservation for Annual Dinner DUE

Wednesday, May 18

Annual Dinner at the Mohawk Golf Club

Saturday, May 21

Niska-Day Plant Sale

Saturday, June 4

Garage Sale
Children's Arts Festival