

# Celebrate our Year of Achievement at our May Dinner and Auction

Wednesday, May 20, 2015  
6:00 p.m.

Mohawk Golf Club  
1849 Union Street, Schenectady

Many exciting things will be happening this evening!

We will honor our Emerging Leader, *Miriam Cajuste*, and Named Grant Honoree, *Jennie Pennington*, as well as our 50 year members, *Sandra Daley and Jane Golub*.

We will vote on next year's budget, install next year's new team of officers and participate in one of Miriam's and Maxine's famous auctions – thanks to the generous donations from our study groups.

Following dinner we will be entertained by **The Thursday Musical Club** directed by our own Julie Panke.

*Join us for our annual celebration of another productive year*  
as we move forward in our quest for equality for women and girls  
with camaraderie and friendship as members of our AAUW-Schenectady Branch.

Please send the information below and a check for \$30, payable to  
**AAUW Schenectady Branch no later than Saturday, May 9, 2015,**  
to: Bobbi Richardson, 1417 Fox Hollow Road, Niskayuna, NY 12309

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_

## Mark your Calendar



### Saturday and Sunday, May 2 & 3

Friends of Schenectady County Public Library **Book Sale** at the main branch  
Saturday 9:00-4:00/ Sunday 1:00-3:00

### Wednesday, May 6, 6:45 p.m.

Board Meeting, Niskayuna Town Hall

### Saturday, May 16

Niska-Day Plant Sale, 11:00-4:00

### Wednesday May 20

Annual Dinner and Auction - Mohawk Golf Club – Reservation info. on pg. 1

**\*\*Last day for Dues incentive\*\***

### Saturday, May 30

Garage Sale at Maxine's house  
See page 4 for more information



### Saturday, June 6

The *Annual Schenectady Kids' Arts Festival* on Jay Street

**Volunteers are needed for this fun community event**, contact Bobbi Richardson at 346-6697 or [Roberta\\_Richardson@hotmail.com](mailto:Roberta_Richardson@hotmail.com)  
See page 4 for more information.



### Friday-Sunday, June 19-21

AAUW National Convention  
San Diego, Calif. <http://convention.aauw.org>

### Friday-Sunday, July 24-26

AAUW-NYS Summer Conference, Cazenovia College, Cazenovia, NY. If you're interested in going, contact Eleanor Aronstein at 265-2500 or <http://www.aauw-nys.org>.



## ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

The sun is shining, the snow is almost gone - and with spring comes a renewed sense of hope and new sources of energy. Let's take a moment and reflect on what we - AAUW - do that makes us so special. Our organization has a long and distinguished history of advancing educational and professional opportunities for women in the United States and around the globe. One of the world's largest sources of funding for graduate women, AAUW is providing more than \$3.7 million in funding for more than 244 fellowships and grants to outstanding women and nonprofit organizations in the 2014-15 academic year.

Due to the long-standing, generous contributions of AAUW members, a broader community of women continues to gain access to educational and economic opportunities — breaking through barriers so that all women have a fair chance. Fellowship and grant recipients perform research in a wide range of disciplines and work to improve their schools and communities. Their intellect, dedication, imagination and effort promise to forge new paths in scholarship, improve the quality of life for all and tackle the educational and social barriers facing women worldwide.

On a local level, we have established connections with SCCC and SUNY Albany. We are hoping to reach out to young women locally at the high school level and encourage interest in STEM careers. Some of us are old enough to remember when there were almost NO women in STEM fields - and that is changing rapidly. AAUW is a big part of that change!

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***MEMBERSHIP – Please fill out your renewal form. If you pay your dues before May 20<sup>th</sup> you will get a special \$3.00 dues reduction incentive.***

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### **PUBLIC POLICY**

### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**



It appears the New York State Assembly is passing individual bills that were part of the Women's Equality Act. Several elected individuals in the assembly decided that it was more advantageous to bring the bills to individual votes so that the eight did not get "hung up" on the impasse one. Assembly woman Amy Paulin and State Senator Diane Savino were instrumental in pushing for individual votes on the Women's Equality Act.

The human trafficking bill passed the assembly and the abortion bill sponsored by Deborah Glick also passed. However, the abortion bill is D.O.A (dead on arrival) in the State Senate. Last year, the domestic violence bill passed the Legislature and it was signed into law by Governor Cuomo.

Assembly woman Michelle Titus will sponsor the pay equity bill. This bill is expected to be voted on after April 14. It is expected that this bill will be signed into law after it passes in the assembly if it is the same as the bill in the Women's Equality Act. Basically, many elected officials believed that it was an arbitrary political decision that made these bills come together, and it was not a good way to legislate.





## The AAUW-NYS District 4 Conference



What a wonderful opportunity we had to recognize the impact of the accomplishments of Elizabeth Cady Stanton at the recent AAUW District 4 Conference sponsored by the AAUW-Amsterdam, Gloversville, Johnstown Branch!

The event was made even more special by the presence and the presentations by the great, great granddaughter and the great, great, great grandson of Elizabeth Cady Stanton; both were so knowledgeable about their ancestor and continue her legacy.

The rich variety of programs offered ample opportunities to learn, expand our horizons, and network with other AAUW members. ~ *Jean Wildgube, Eleanor Aronstein, Gail Karl, Robin Eddy*



### NISKA-DAY PLANT SALE Saturday, May 16th!



Opportunities abound to help out for Niska-Day which will once again be held at Craig Elementary School. Our plant sale is one of our major fundraisers for the year, but for this to be successful, **we need plants from your gardens**. Finally spring is upon us, so digging is once again possible. Plants do better if potted in clumps two to three weeks prior to the sale so that they will be well established by Niska-Day.

If you need help digging, help is available! No excuses, just point them out in your garden and we will dig. Call Bobbi at 346-6697. After your plants are potted, remember to label and indicate whether they prefer sun or shade. Your plants may be delivered to our table at Craig School after 6 p.m. on Friday, May 15 or Saturday, May 16 between 8:00 and 10:00. We are assigned the southeast corner facing Zenner Road. An AAUW sign will be on the table. If you bring your plants on Friday, place them under the table.

#### **We also need help selling at Nisky-Day:**

8:30-10:30 Set-up and Sales  
10:30-12:30 Sales

12:30- 2:30 Sales  
2:30-4:30 Sales & Clean-up

If you are able to volunteer for any of these slots, please contact Bobbi Richardson at 346-6697 or [Roberta\\_Richardson@hotmail.com](mailto:Roberta_Richardson@hotmail.com). This is a wonderful opportunity to interact with Branch members and the community. Our perennials and house plants are very popular and people seek them out.



Hope to see you "Under the Big Top". It is a fun day even if you don't reside in Niskayuna. Come out and support AAUW. ~ *Jean Wildgrube and Bobbi Richardson*

### Quote of the Month

*"Carry out a random act of kindness, with no exception of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you."*

*Princess Diana*





## ***Our AAUW GARAGE SALE***

Maxine Borom's House  
2171 Fox Hill Drive, Niskayuna

***Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.***



This fund raising event will be held on Saturday, May 30, 2015 from 9:00 to 3:00 at the home of Maxine Borom at 2171 Fox Hill Drive, Niskayuna.

To make this a success we need your help: **STUFF TO SELL!** This is a good time of year to clear your home of items you no longer need, want nor have use for. Some suggestions are: books – of all kinds, and other media, small appliances – that **WORK**, linens, towels, accessories, plants and gardening items, luggage, kitchen items, craft items and supplies, collectibles, sports equipment etc. etc. **Clothing will not be accepted.** If you have any questions, please call or email Pat Terry.

To arrange drop off at Maxine's, please call her 370-2662.

We also will need volunteers on Saturday to assist with sales. The following schedule is a guide. Any time that you are able to give would be much appreciated.

8:00–11:00, 10:00–11:00, 1:00–4:00 (This includes “take-down” from 3:00–4:00)

Thank you for your support in making this effort a success. Last year our profit was just over \$800. We are still in need of a pick-up truck for transportation of large tables.

**Pat Terry**, 372-8431 [rterry3@nycap.rr.com](mailto:rterry3@nycap.rr.com)

*\* If you have an unusual, valuable or a collection of items that might draw collectors or dealers, please let Pat Terry know so that we can add the information to our newspaper article.*

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## **Schenectady's Kids' Arts Festival**

The Schenectady Kids' Arts Festival will be held on **Saturday, June 6** from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the City Hall/Jay Street area of downtown Schenectady, rain or shine. Our Branch has supported this event for several years. We provide paper tote bags that the children decorate in very creative ways. It is a wonderful activity and a great way to interact with the children of Schenectady.

**We are in need of volunteers** to help with this activity. Shifts are 12:00–2:00 and 2:00–4:00.

If this is something you would like to help out with, contact Bobbi Richardson at 346-6697 or [Roberta\\_Richardson@hotmail.com](mailto:Roberta_Richardson@hotmail.com). Volunteering at this event is always a fun day.

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## ***DID YOU KNOW...***

- Women make up half of the U.S. workforce, but hold just 25% of the jobs in technical or computing fields. In a room full of 25 engineers, only 3 will be women!
- While 57% of bachelor's degrees are earned by women, just 12% of computer science degrees are awarded to women!
- Women today represent 12% of all computer science graduates. In 1984, they represented 37%!

All across the nation, corporations and schools are partnering to encourage women to enter into STEM careers. In order for companies to be competitive, they need diverse people to come together and try to solve problems big and small!

# **CONGRATULATIONS Miriam Cajuste!**

## **Our AAUW-Schenectady Branch Emerging Leader**



Miriam joined the branch in 2012 and soon after became an active member on our board as Co-Vice President of LAF and AAUW Funds. Miriam comes up with innovative ideas including having our branch provide "Survival Bags" during Finals Week for Schenectady County Community College students and getting donations from local businesses to make it happen. Because of this, we recruited 218 students to become AAUW e-affiliate members.

She attended the 2014 NYS Summer Leadership conference and was one of our branch representatives at SUNY Albany's Elect-Her training. With her connections at the community college, she was able to get rooms at SCCC for our SAT practice test at no charge and co-chaired the event as well as getting us the SCCC auditorium for one of our general meetings that focused on women community leaders. With her help we had more SCCC students attend this meeting than AAUW members. She also co-chairs our Princeton Review Practice Tests given to High School students, helped organize our general meeting that focused on women community leaders, presented a power point presentation about Cuba for another general meeting, is our moderator at our wine raffles and initiated "Spare Change 4 Change" to raise money for AAUW Funds.

Miriam is a graduate of Touro College with an M.S. in Finance. Professionally Miriam is the Affirmative Action Manager for Schenectady County and also an adjunct professor at Schenectady County Community College teaching Business Statistics. In addition to her AAUW commitment, Miriam serves as a Board member for the Schenectady Community Action Program, Habitat for Humanity in Schenectady, is the Membership Chair for the Rotterdam Sunrise Rotary, and Co-Chair of Youth Leadership for the Business and Professional Women's Club. Miriam is very involved in the local community and acts as a role model and advocate for our young women. As you can see she has very little spare time but when she does, she enjoys spending time with her many siblings, nieces, and nephews.

Our branch is very fortunate to have Miriam Cajuste as one of our relatively newer members. We look forward to her continued leadership roles and innovative ideas as we move AAUW's mission forward.

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### **Proposed Officers for AAUW- Schenectady Branch 2015-2016**

Robin Eddy and Bobbie Richardson, Chairs of the Nominating Committee are pleased to present and nominate the following slate of officers for 2015-2016. They were endorsed at the AAUW Board meeting in March and will be voted on and installed during our business section at our annual dinner on May 21st.

President: **Eleanor Aronstein**  
Programming Coordinator: **Ellen Auerbach and Julie Panke**  
Secretary/Bylaws: **Jennie Pennington**  
Treasurer: **Ann Hicks**  
Membership Vice-President: **Pat Gregory**

AAUW Funds Vice-Presidents: **Miriam Cajuste and Maxine Borom**  
Public Policy Vice-President: **Linda Rizzo**  
Nominating Committee (elected):  
**Jennie Pennington and Faith Weldon**  
Past Presidents: **Bobbi Richardson and Robin Eddy**

Current members of our nominating committee include:  
Ann Hicks, Faith Weldon, Maxine Borom and Pat Terry



## ***Study and Interest Group Meetings for May 2015***

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

### **Book Exchange 1**

Leader: Dottie Potochnik (399-3854)

No regular meetings

### **Book Exchange 2**

Leader: Ellie Rowland (250-4302)

No regular meetings

### **Couples Gourmet**

Co-Leaders: Jennie Pennington (372-7503)

Jackie Mendini (869-3816)

### **Friday May 8, 7:00 p.m.**

Theme: Cinco de Mayo

Hostess: Barbara Pilliere (371-8312)

Location: 15 Sandalwood, Clifton Park

Co-hostess: Betty Rose

### **Diverse Topics**

Leader: Gail Karl (393-7590)

### **Monday May 18, 6:00 p.m.**

Program: Planning and catered dinner

Hostess: Carolyn Montorio

Location: 13 Maria Court, Rexford

Co-hostess: Suzanne Taylor

### **Modern Literature**

Co-Leaders: Joan Amell (399-4709)

Mary Delory (393-6811)

### **Monday, May 11, 7:00 p.m.**

Book: *Devil in the Grove* by Gilbert King

Reviewer: Dottie Potochnik

Hostess: Mildred Creasey

Location: 4 Boyle Road, Scotia

Co-hostess: Pat Gregory



### **Mah Jongg**

Leader: Robin Eddy (346-1683)

### **Monday, May 11 1:30 p.m.**

Hostess: Linda Ward (377-2377)

Location: 4028 Windsor Drive, Niskayuna

### **Monday, May 26, 1:30 p.m.**

Hostess: Ellen Auerbach (381-4432)

Location: 848 Beech Drive, Niskayuna

### **Quilting**

Leader: Pat Terry (372-8431)

### **Thursday, May 28, 7:00 p.m.**

Program: Dinner and planning meeting

Hostess: TBD

### **Science Topics**

Leader: Emily Hart (374-3229)

### **Monday, May 4, 7:30**

Program: Timely Topics

Hostess: Maxine Borom (370-2662)

Location: 2171 Fox Hill Drive, Niskayuna

### **Varied Interests**

Leader: Arlene Maranville (384-1639)

### **Thursday, May 14, 12:30**

Program: Soil and Water Conservation

Presenter: James Calhoun

Hostess: Mildred Creasey (370-0410)

Location: 14 Boyle Rd., Scotia

Co-hostess: Joan Amell

### **Serendipity**

Co-Leaders: Jennie Pennington (372- 7503)

Reba Mehan (374-7886)

Wednesday, May 27, 11:30am

Program: Lunch at Whistling Kettle Ballston Spa

Followed by visit to Bottle Museum for those who desire.

### **DIRECTORY UPDATE**

New Email Address for Jean Wildgrube

[wildgrubemj@aol.com](mailto:wildgrubemj@aol.com)

New Address: Catherine Raycroft

407 North Shore Road

Hebron, NH 03241-7222

### **TO ALL STUDY GROUPS**

**In an attempt to get new ideas and increased attendance at our General Meetings, as you plan your programs for next year, come up with a program that we could use for one of our General Meetings.**

**Contact Ellen Auerbach (424-8983, [ellenmtauerbach@gmail.com](mailto:ellenmtauerbach@gmail.com)) with a suggested month and program that your group would be willing to host.**

**American Association of University Women**  
**AAUW Schenectady Branch Membership Renewal**  
*July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016*



*(Please Print)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Check appropriate category:**

***Special Incentive  
if paid by May 20<sup>th</sup>***

_____ 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	\$ 0.00

***\* 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.**

**or alternate address if you want it mailed:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**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  | _____ Evvie Currie Giving Circle |
| _____ AAUW-Schenectady Branch Scholarships to help support area high school and college females | _____ Legal Action Fund          |
| _____ Educational Opportunities Fund  | _____ Leadership Programs Fund   |
| _____ Eleanor Roosevelt Fund  | _____ Public Policy Fund         |

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Suggestions for fundraising projects/events: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I would like a ride to meetings: \_\_\_\_\_





