



A GREAT Way to Start Our AAUW Year!

September's General Meeting

Monday, September 18th
6:30 P.M.

McChesney Room
Schenectady County Public Library



Program: A Woman Who Made History
Stella Crockett Courtney shares the story of her journey to become the first African American student to integrate and then graduate from Texas Tech University.

Bring a friend or relative to this program!
As a special bonus, if they join our branch, they will be entitled to 50% off their National dues.
(See Membership article on page 2)

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Mark your Calendar



Wednesday, September 6, 6:45 p.m.
Board Meeting, Niskayuna Town Hall

Wednesday, October 4, 6:45 p.m.
Board Meeting, Niskayuna Town Hall

Monday, September 18
12:00-1:00 AAUW Student Club at
SCCC Program. Information on page 4
6:30 – 7:45 General Meeting
A Woman Who Made History

Wednesday, October 18, 2:30 p.m.
General Meeting:
Author Ray O'Connor will talk about his
book, She Called Him Raymond

Saturday, September 16
Garage Sale – See page 4

Saturday, October 23
District IV Conference
Poughkeepsie (more info. next month)

Saturday and Sunday,
September 23 & 24
Friends of Schenectady County
Public Library Book Sale
at the main branch
Saturday 9:00-4:00
Sunday 1:00-3:00



Candidates Forums
Schenectady: Sept. 27, Library 6:00
Niskayuna: Oct. 19
Niskayuna Town Hall, 7:00
Glenville: Oct. 25
Glenville Town Hall 7:00
Rotterdam – TBA
Call Maxine Borom for details

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OUR PRESIDENTS 'S MESSAGE

This summer was a productive one for us as we attended the AAUW National Convention in Washington DC. It was wonderful networking with fellow AAUW members from across the country who share the mission and actively do their part to work for it.



Lobby Day was especially effective as we “stormed” the Capitol, 800 strong, all dressed in our Lobby Day shirts; we were not to be missed. Although we did not get to see our NYS representatives, we did meet with staff that we briefed on our issues. It provided us with a good opportunity to express our appreciation to our New York representatives for supporting the issues AAUW had highlighted for discussion: keeping Title IX intact and Student Debt Relief. We also expanded our discussion to include current issues that Congress is addressing as well.



At the Convention we got ideas for programs, membership recruitment and fundraising, and had the opportunity to hear many distinguished speakers such as Judy Woodruff and Sonia Sotomayer. It was an honor to represent our Branch at the National Convention and we hope to implement some of the new ideas we learned.

~ Bobbi Richardson and Robin Eddy

The NYS Delegation to the National Convention
In Chuck Shummer's conference room with one of his aides.

MEMBERSHIP

A critical focus of AAUW continues to be gender inequality in education and the work force. We urge all of our members to reach out to the community to encourage local women to join us in our mission. This is an important time for us both locally and nationally.

AAUW National is again promoting the Shape the Future Membership Campaign. This campaign is a recruitment tool for current members to offer a discounted rate to prospective members. With this campaign, new members can take 50% off the national dues rate when they join during an AAUW public event. Branches also earn one free national membership to give away for every two newly recruited members. Last year we were able to give out 2 free membership.

Thank all of you who have renewed your membership.

* If you haven't paid your dues yet, it is essential that you send in your \$78.00 membership renewal ASAP in order to continue getting your AAUW newsletter and to participate in your study and interest groups.

Looking forward to the upcoming year ... Our branch programs for 2017-2018 will hopefully entice newcomers.
~ Jackie Mendini and Shellie van der Zee

Due to an error with National,
please add Linda's
information in your directory.

Linda Rizzo
2220 Fairlawn Parkway
Schenectady, NY 12309
518-428-2185
lmrizzo@gmail.com

AAUW POLICY FOCUS FOR 2017-2019

AAUW is committed to promoting women's issues through its public policy program. "The public policy program underscores AAUW's mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research" (AAUW, 2017). The organization informs its members of important policy issues so that they are able to support these issues on the local, state, and national levels.

The public policy for action (2017-19) continues to cover several important areas. These are:

- 1) education is the foundation of our society;
- 2) all individuals need to have affordable housing, health care, and a clean environment;
- 3) all individuals have the right to privacy, freedom from violence, good health care;
- 4) affirmative action is essential to the well-being of people throughout the world;
- 5) more international policies to promote human rights and justice;
- 6) pay equity for women;
- 7) the protection of social security from privatization;
- 8) the improvement of retirement benefits;
- 9) vigorous protection of our constitutional rights;
- 10) strong enforcement of employment anti-discrimination statutes.

The biennial action priorities include support of a strong public school system while opposing vouchers for non-public schools. The economic self-sufficiency of all women will expand beyond pay equity. The proposed change applies not only to salaries but also to bonuses and paid leave. The biennial priorities will also focus on quality, affordable child care and elder care and social justice.

Social security, Medicare, and Medicaid continues to need support. These entitlement programs are essential for a large segment of our population. AAUW will be a major player in supporting these programs since it advocates for economic self-sufficiency of women.

~ Linda Rizzo

YOU are the "U" in AAUW!

Take on one or more jobs to help make our AAUW events happen.

- ~ Garage Sale (pg. 3)
Contact Geri Mulligan 518-785-7544
- ~ Candidates Forum – October 19
Contact Maxine Borom 518-370-2662
- ~ May Annual Dinner
Contact Robin Eddy 518-346-1683

DIRECTORY Information

The number under your name is
your AAUW ID

UPCOMING GARAGE SALE – Yes, we are having another sale!
SEPTEMBER 9th from 9:00-3:00

Since our May Garage Sale was such a success, we are planning a second garage sale in September. Maxine Borom has generously offered her garage again. You may begin bringing your donations to her house starting on September 1st, but please call first (370-2662) so Maxine can arrange to be home.

Items Needed

- Household items - utensils, dishes, pots and pans, candles, etc
- Professional clothing and outerwear for women or men – must be clean and in good condition
- Clothing accessories – belts, scarves, purses, etc.
- Shoes and Boots
- Small electrical appliances
- Furniture in good condition – we have access to a truck so we may be able to move it if you can't or put it on Craigslist to sell. (Contact Christine or Geri)

Whatever is not sold will be donated, so if there is something you want back you will need to be there at the end of the sale to reclaim the item.

VOLUNTEERS are needed to make this sale another AAUW success!

If you can help or have questions, please call us.

Geri Mulligan [\(518\) 785-7544](tel:5187857544)

Christine Zinzow [\(518\) 641-8626](tel:5186418626)

Welcome to AAUW!

**Schenectady County Community College
now has an AAUW Student Club!**

Their first general meeting will be on Monday, September 18th at 12:00 in the Library Commons, Begley Library at SCCC. This meeting is in honor of Constitution Day

Program: **“Wicked Problems and Tough Choices”:**
Deliberative Democracy in Action

Members of the AAUW Student Club at SCCC in conjunction with the Student Government Association will moderate a deliberation of a current controversy surrounding a constitutional question.

Moderators have agreed to participate first in a facilitator training, will choose the topic for the discussion based on current and recent events, and will have studied multiple sides of the controversy to promote mutual understanding and critical thinking.

Contact Babette Faehmel faehmeb@sunysccc.edu She's the faculty advisor

THANKS Arlene Maranville for volunteering to be our College Liason

Congratulations Eleanor Aronstein Our 2017 Named Grant Honoree

Born/raised in Brooklyn, NY to a poor, immigrant family. Grew up with Polish-speaking maternal grandparents and my mother. I am the first person in my family to attend college. My mother was a very strong advocate of providing me with whatever I wanted, in terms of education. I had piano lessons, art lessons, the opportunity to attend Hunter College High School - and all of those opportunities allowed me to have a good life.

I met Jesse at CCNY in 1956, married him in Jan. 1958 and transferred to Russell Sage College since he was working for GE in Schenectady. I received my BS and MS from Sage, BA in History from Marist College, CAGS from MCLA - over the course of decades of college attendance. I have four NYSED permanent certifications: Elementary Education, Secondary Spanish, Secondary Social Studies, School District Administrator.

I developed and ran an Education Program at Dutchess County Jail (1979-82) which provided GED courses in English and Spanish. Taught and supervised staff in this program. I also taught Social Studies and Spanish at FDR High School in Hyde Park from 1982-2004. Developed and implemented a Mentoring Program for first year teachers which paired new teachers with experienced volunteers. Also taught European History at Marist College as an adjunct from 1985- 2012. Served as Chief Building Representative for the Hyde Park Teachers Association for over a decade.

Jesse and I have had a camp (which we built ourselves) on Galway Lake since 1961 and we're active sailors, kayakers.

Three sons: Robert, David, Martin. Moved to Schenectady from Poughkeepsie in 2013 to be closer to Robert (a music teacher in the Schenectady school system) and to Galway Lake.

Was active in LWV and AAUW in Poughkeepsie. Immediately upon moving here, I joined AAUW and Diverse Topics. Have enjoyed meeting many wonderful women in this branch.

I credit my mother, Hunter College High School (all girls back then!), and Jesse with providing me with the skills that enabled me to have a very satisfying life, ~ Eleanor Aronstein

Thanks for Volunteering at our May & June events

At Our Garage Sale

Barbara Aldi	Pat Buckowski	Gerri Mulligan
Eleanor Aronstein (Chair)	Robin Eddy	Gerri Pinkerton
Jesse Aronstein	Ellin Friedman	Pat Terry
Robert Aronstein	Ann Hicks	Faith Weldon
Jay Borom	Gail Karl	Christine Zinzow
Maxine Borom	Chet Lonergan	Jason Zinzow

Schenectady's Annual Kids' Art Festival

Gail Karl	Jackie Mendini	Bobbi Richardson
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**Our Branch was the WINNER of the following awards,
presented at the 2017 AAUW-NYS Conference**

21st Century Platinum Program
Award
Newsletter of Excellence
Website of Excellence
Visibility of Excellence

Top 10 Branch AAUW Fund

- AAUW Fund Contributions
- AAUW Fund per capita Giving
- Legal Advocacy Fund Contributions
- Total Contributions to All AAUW Funds

Our Gift to Women in Haiti – Our Donated Tote Bags

Dr. Rose Bonheur (Miriam Cajuste's sister) and her husband Roberto Bonheur have been volunteering for the non-profit organization, Touching Lives Around the World, and has been volunteering in Haiti for the past 7 years. They provide free medical care each year to a chosen community in Haiti. They continue to collect canvas and tote bag for their yearly clinic. Our branch has been donating tote bags to this program for the past three years.



Here is Dr. Bonheur's article:

This trip to the Ganthier community in Haiti was so different from any of our other trips. This community is located in the west part of Haiti. It is up a mountain that is dry, dusty and no signs of farming. It looks like it has not rained for days, people there are thinner than usual. Having said all that, they were joyful, humble and were so excited to receive the group. We never felt so much love.

The clinic was on Monday to Thursday. Over 400 patients were seen. They were 80% children, 20% adults. By the third day, we ran out of medication for the children for the first time, but medications are cheaper in Haiti to purchase than the states. We were able to purchase some more. During the clinic the people came in with fever, lots of infections, all the children were so sick. We were able to treat every one.

On the last day, the community leaders offered us fried fish and plantain. In addition to a special plaque made for the team. This is the first time we have ever been so honored by a community. They were in tears when we finally said goodbye.

Thank you AAUW for helping to make this trip a success.
I was able to give a tote bag to every woman that came to the clinic.
They would like to express many thanks to you.

Dr. Rose Bonheur DNP, FNP-C
(Miriam Cajuste's sister)





Study and Interest Group Meetings for September, 2017

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

Book Chat

Leader: Ellie Rowland (250-4302)

September 18, 2:00 p.m.

Commonwealth by Ann Patchett

Hostess: Maxine Borom

Location: 2171 Fox Hill Drive

Book Exchange 1

Leader: Marguerite Pileggi (280-5623)

No regular meetings

Book Exchange 2

Leader Ellie Rowland (250-4302)

No regular meetings



Couples Gourmet

Leaders: Faith Weldon (393-0048)

Pat Terry (372-8431)

September 8, 7 p.m.

Theme: Northwest Cuisine

Co-Hostesses: Payne/Weldon

Diverse Topics

Leaders: Barbara Aldi (372-4802)

Gerri Pinkerton (346-4560)

September 18, 6:30 pm

Program: Stella Courtney Cox

Place: McChesney Room

Schenectady County Library

Modern Literature

Leaders: Joan Bergin (399-1861)

Mary Delory(393-6811)

September 11, 7:00 p.m.

Boys in the Boat by Daniel Brown

Reviewer: Arlene Maranville

Hostess: Pat Gregory

Location: 26 Central Ave, Saratoga Springs

Co-Hostess: Mary DeLory

Mah Jongg

Leader: Linda Ward (377-2377)

September 11, 1:30 p.m.

Hostess: Bobbi Richardson

Location: 1417 Fox Hollow Rd.

September 25, 1:30 p.m.

Hostess: Shellie van der Zee

Location: 35 Warwick Way

Quilting

Leader: Marguerite Pileggi (280-5623)

September 26, 2017

Program: Fabric Edibles - Marguerite

Hostess: Gerri Pinkerton

803 Dongan Ave.

Science Topics

Leader: Nancy Walden (280-8065)

No Meeting in September

Varied Interests

Monthly Leader: Toni Walsh: (372-8764)

September 14, 12:30

Program: Destination Lunch

"What I did This Summer"

Place: Glenville Queen

The Road to Women's Right to Vote

2017 mark the 100th anniversary of when women got the right to vote in NYS.

Thirteen other states west of the Mississippi had already granted women full voting rights by the time New York voters were considering this matter in 1917.

Wyoming had granted women the right back in 1869.

New Zealand was the first

nation to grant women suffrage rights in 1893.





VISIONS

Schenectady Branch Newsletter AAUW
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prior to publication.

Editors: Robin Eddy and Bobbi Richardson

Circulation: Pat Terry

Presidents: Robin Eddy and
Bobbi Richardson

Website: schenectady-ny.aauw.net

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.

AAUW
Schenectady Branch
C/O Robin Eddy
1222 Hempstead Road
Niskayuna, NY 12309



