

A GREAT Way to Start Our AAUW Year!

September's General Meeting

Wednesday, September 16th
6:00 P.M.

Zion Lutheran Church
153 Nott Terrace, Schenectady

Meet your friends,
Greet new potential members
Learn about our current and new Interest and Study groups
Enjoy hor d'oeuvres!

Program: Learn about the impact the AAUW sponsored
National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)
had on 2 SUNY Albany students.

Bring a friend or relative to enjoy good company,
good food and a good 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)

Mark your Calendar



Wednesday, September 2, 6:45 p.m
Board Meeting, Niskayuna Town Hall

Wednesday, October 7, 6:45 p.m
Board Meeting, Niskayuna Town Hall

Wednesday, September 16
General Meeting
Meet, Greet, Eat & hear how AAUW
Impacted two SUNY Albany women.

Wednesday, October 21, 6:45
Program: ***As Simple As Breathing:
On Yoga, Writing, and Life***
by Leah Carey
Sponsored by the Modern Lit. Group

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



Friday-Sunday, April 15-17, 2016
AAUW-NYS Convention
Holiday Inn,
Saratoga Springs, NY



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I hope you have all had a good summer. Fall is coming and a wonderful calendar of interesting activities and meetings awaits us all. While I'm writing this in July, I'm also thinking ahead to our first general meeting and looking forward to meeting, greeting and chatting with you on September 16th.

This year, we will begin our activities with a BRING A FRIEND POT LUCK HORS D'OEUVRES evening. What a great way to start our year and to introduce someone to our wonderful organization!

Perhaps you have a family member whose interest in our group will be sparked by an invitation to this meeting? Perhaps a nice neighbor or walking buddy? Let's work at increasing our membership.

At this meeting, all the Interest and Study Groups will be making short presentations about what they do and I hope you find a group or two which will attract you. Last year, I joined one of the Interest Groups - and I met more members in a more intimate setting, learned a lot of interesting things, and had some great afternoons!

A very sincere THANK YOU to the members who worked to put together our activities. So let's look ahead to our first meeting and to a wonderful, stimulating, enjoyable AAUW YEAR!

MEMBERSHIP – GOOD NEWS!

AAUW is proudly offering local branches 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 on the spot during an AAUW public event. Branches also earn one free national membership to give away for every two newly recruited members.

Can we be one of the more than 200 branches that avail themselves of this bonus?
Our slate of branch programs for 2015-2016 certainly will entice newcomers.

WE **YOU are the "U" in AAUW!** **REALLY**
NEED YOUR HELP to make our AAUW events happen.

If you could help out for *ONE or more* of the following events,
contact Eleanor Aronstein at eleanoraronstein@aol.com or 518-265-2500.

~ *Candidates Forum(s) - October Event*
~ *Niska-Day Plant Sale - May Event*

~ *Kids Art Festival - June Event*
~ *STEM Exploration Event for Girls*
~ *SCCC and/or Union College for an AAUW student affiliate sign-up*

Quote of the Month

***"Retirement does not mean doing less;
it is simply
a transition to something more."***

Jennie Pennington

AAUW-Schenectady Branch President 2010-12
Secretary-Bylaws 2013-Current

In Memory of

Grace Mueller

who passed away
July 7, 2015

AAUW - Helping to Give a Gift to Our Community

The Schenectady Annual Kids Arts Festival on Saturday, June 6th was quite a wonderful, fun community event! We started out with 500 bags which the children decorated and used to put their artwork they made at other tables in. By 3:45 we only had a few bags left! We were one of the more popular tables.

Thanks so much to Maxine Borom, Miriam Cajuste, Robin Eddy, Gail Karl and Shellie van der Zee, for staffing the AAUW table and telling the adults about our organization.

A special THANK YOU goes to Bobbi Richardson who made our participation happen. She has a true dedication for this event and what a great way to make the community aware of The American Association of University Women! ~ **Robin Eddy**

I was part of the group that began the Kids Art Festival 21 years ago, and the thing I always notice is the great diversity of the participants and the number of families participating.

This year had several highlights for me. One was father who came to our table with his small son. The two were deeply absorbed in the activity and very much enjoying being there together. The second highlight for me was recounting this story to Karen Johnson (the true "angel" behind The Schenectady Kids Arts Festival for all these years). Karen responded with the comment that this event is our gift to the community, especially to those families which normally don't have the opportunity to participate in events like this. I couldn't agree more! ~ **Maxine Borom**

Welcome to AAUW Schenectady Branch!

Sarah R. Barger
1301 E. Genesee St.
Apt 404, Syracuse 13210
sarahbarger345@gmail.com

Kimberly A. Blanchet
4 Hampshire Court
Glenville 12302
kiblanchet@post.edu

Leah Watkin
807 Coburg Village
Rexford 12148
518-243-6241

Our Branch was the WINNER of the following awards presented at the 2015 AAUW-NYS Conference

- We were one of the top 10 Branches for
- * Total Contributions to the following funds:
 - Eleanor Roosevelt Fund
 - AAUW Funds,
 - Public Policy Fund
 - Unrestricted AAUW Fund
 - Legal Advocacy Fund,
 - Total Leadership Programs Fund,
 - Spare Change for Change Initiative
- * Top LAF/Evvie Currie Giving Circle Contributions
- * Membership Special Recognition
- * Consistent Effort to Educate Members about Public Policy issues through the Branch Newsletter
- * 21st Century Bronze Program Award for the Cuba Presentation
- * 2014-2015 Public Policy Impact Grant Awards: Common Core Education Award
Voter Registration and Education Award
- * Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) per capita Contributions
- LAF Advocacy Fund Star Branch
- * Newsletter Award of Merit
- * Website Award of Distinction



CONGRATULATIONS Jennie Pennington! Our 2015 AAUW-Schenetady Branch Named Grant Honoree

Jennie grew up in Spruce Pine, North Carolina, a mining town in the western part of the state with a rural population of about 2,200 people. (The town still has about 2,200 residents. Mica is no longer mined; the hosiery mill and furniture factory are now located in China.) Jennie was fortunate to attend Duke University and Stanford University. At Stanford, she met her husband who was to become an engineer with General Electric. After assignments in Virginia and Arizona, Jim and Jennie came to Schenectady GE in 1968. They have lived in the area ever since.

Jennie Pennington spent 37 years working in the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake School District as a teacher and an administrator: teaching English in grades 7 and 9, serving as "Unit Head" at the Junior High School, as the Assistant Principal who developed the schedule at the High School (before the computer helped), and as Principal of the High School.

As the principal of the Burnt Hills- Ballston Lake High School she was instrumental in increasing the enrollment of girls in math, science and computer classes. She found the AAUW publication "Hostile Hallways" useful as a staff development program before anti-bullying initiatives were required.

Jennie was active with professional organizations NYSUT (New York State United Teachers) and SAANYS (School Administrators Association of NYS). Her particular interest was contract negotiation and labor relations. Since retirement from the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake School District, Jennie has worked as a consultant for the School Administrators Association of New York (SAANYS) and has continued in many of our AAUW branch leadership roles.

Jennie has been a member of Schenectady AAUW since 1968. She has been President of our branch, VP of the Educational Opportunity Fund, Chair of the Nominating Committee, Chair of the Gourmet Group and has been Secretary and Bylaws chair for the past two years. Jennie has been to a number of AAUW-NYS Summer Leadership Conferences, networking with other branches and bringing back new ideas to our branch. She produced the fundraising calendar and directory for many years.

Since 1984 Jennie has been active as a committee member, Board Member and Treasurer of the First New York Federal Credit Union. She has been an active member of the Schenectady American Association of University Women and a member of the Board of Trustees of The Charlton School.

She enjoys participating in several book groups, spending time as "Nana" to her 3 grandchildren and living by her statement...***Retirement does not mean doing less; it is simply a transition to having time for something more.***

Congratulations to our Scholarship Winners!

Giovanna Giovannone from SCCC is going to Stony Brook University and majoring in biology.

Kayla Aulet from Schenectady High School is going to Hobart and William Smith College

Congratulations to AAUW's funding to 2 SUNY Albany students to go to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) !

Julia Alford – AAUW National
Chrisel Martinez – Schenectady Branch
(These 2 women will be speaking at our September General Meeting.)



Study and Interest Group Meetings for September 2015

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

Book Exchange 1

Leader: Marguerite Pileggi(280-5623)

No regular meetings: 

Book Exchange 2

Leader: Ellie Rowland (370-1958)

No regular meetings

Couples Gourmet

Leaders: Pat Terry (372-8431)

Faith Weldon(399-0048)

Friday, September 11, 2015 7:00 p.m.

Dinner Theme: Shore Dinner

Hosts: Blanche Payne and Faith Weldon

Diverse Topics

Leader: Gail Karl (393-7590)

Monday, September 21, 2015 1:30 p.m.

Program: Sara Foss, Gazette Reporter

Hostess: Jean Wildgrube (982-5837)

1234 Coburg Village Way

Rexford

Modern Literature

Leader: Joan Bergin (399-1861)

Monday, September 14, 2015, 7:30 p.m.

Book: All the Light We Cannot See

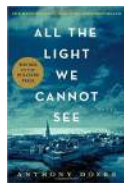
Reviewer: Barb McEvoy

Hostess: Pat Gregory (306-4171)

Location: 26 Central Ave.,

Saratoga Springs

Co-hostess: Arlene Maranville



Mah Jongg

Leader: Dottie Potchnik (399-3854)

Monday, September 14, 2015, 1:30 p.m.

Hostess: Dottie Potochnik

Location: 5000 Queen Philomena Blvd.
Schenectady

Monday, September 28, 2015, 1:30 p.m.

Hostess: Shellie van der Zee (393-8177)

Location: 35 Warwick Way, Niskayuna

Quilting

Leader: Margeurite Pileggi (280-5623)

Monday, September 28, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

Program: Christmas sweatshirt

Hostess: Gerri Pinkerton (346-4560)

Location: 803 Dongan Ave, Scotia, NY

Science Topics

Leader: Emily Hart (374-3229)

No meeting in September.

Varied Interests

Leader: Reba Mehan (374-7503}

Thursday, September 10, 2015 12:30 p.m.

Program: Solar house tour and talk

Location: 333 Alplaus Ave. Alplaus NY

Co-Hostesses: Carol Reynolds (377-3856)

Mildred Creasey (370-0410)

Word Games

Leader: Eleanor Aronstein (518-265-2500)

Contact Eleanor if you're interested in joining the group. Right now there are 4 in the group

Our AAUW-SCHENECTADY WEBSITE



Misplaced your newsletter?

Want more information on National and State AAUW issues?

Need a suggestion for a good book?

Want to contact your legislator but don't know the phone number or email address?

Find your AAUW answers on our branch website!

**New on our site – WOMEN and GIRLS
in the NEWS**

<http://schenectady-ny.aauw.net>

**In addition to our speakers,
more information about our groups
will be presented at our General Meeting.**

**If you have suggestions for new groups,
contact Ellen Auerbach at
ellenmtauerbach@gmail.com or 265-2500.**



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

Bobbi Richardson and Robin Eddy

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**

