

## *April's General Meetings*

### **Join Us For A TOUR OF THE DAILY GAZETTE**

**2345 Maxon Rd. Ext.**



**Wednesday, April 17  
Meet in the lobby at 1:30**



**Friends and relatives are welcome to join us**  
(This event is NOT open to the public.)

### **Coverage for All New Yorkers Could be a Reality THE NEW YORK HEALTH ACT** Single Payer Health

**Tuesday, April 23 5:30-7:30 pm**  
**Schenectady Public Library, McChesney Room**

**Documentary Film: "Now is the Time"**

**Speakers:** Dr. George Jolly

Member of the Physicians For A National Health Program

Ms. Karen Wojck-Hess,

President of the Capital Region Alliance for Retired Americans,

The Rand Corporation researchers concluded that such an approach could expand coverage while reducing total health spending. This proposal may come up for a vote in the current legislative session in both houses.

**Come and become informed about what benefits and changes it proposes.**

Sponsored by the League of Women Voters, American Association of University Women (AAUW), SICM and the Schenectady Retired Teachers Association.

## *Our May Dinner*

**At the EDISON CLUB**

**Wednesday, May 22, 5:30-8:30 p.m.**

**891 Riverview Road, Rexford**  
**(See page 4 for reservation details)**



***Please sign up soon!***

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



**April 2, Tuesday**  
**Equal Pay Day**

**April 17, Wednesday**  
1:30 Tour of Daily Gazette

**April 23, Tuesday**, SCPL McChesney  
Room 5:30-8:00 THE NEW YORK  
HEALTH ACT

**April 28-29, Fri, Sat, Sun** AAUW NYS  
Convention at the Otesaga in Cooperstown

**May 6**  
**RESERVATIONS for Dinner is due!**

**May 22, Wednesday**  
5:30 May Dinner

**June 1, Saturday**  
Kids Art Festival 12-4

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for this event!**

This is a great opportunity to interact  
with the children of Schenectady.

Contact: Bobbi Richardson for 2 hour shifts

**The experience will richly reward you!**

**June 30, Tuesday**  
**Your MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**  
**is DUE!**

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

### **AAUW - What We Do! Focus on Education**

The primary focus of AAUW is working toward policies that empower women and girls, and there is a well-defined mechanism through which is implemented. Members give input in the form of a survey and the results of this survey provide the focus for its Public Policies Priorities agenda.

At this time, AAUW has four major Public Policy Priorities: Civil Rights, Education, Economic Security and title IX. Since many of the Schenectady Chapter members are retired teachers, this article will focus on Education - and specifically, Career and Technical Education.

AAUW supports vocational education and programs which improve career development and earning potential. Women outnumber men in low-wage jobs, making up 57% of workers earning less than \$15 an hour. Conversely, in high wage, high skill jobs, women frequently make up less than 25% of that cohort.

The most important way to help women workers move up to high wage, higher skill jobs is to make sure they have access to the training programs for those jobs. Women, however, face barriers to equity in technical education. Old attitudes linger. A lack of role models is another factor. Proper career counseling may be lacking. And overt discrimination and sexual harassment still act as deterrents.

Therefore, AAUW focuses on holding State and local agencies accountable for improving both access and successful outcomes for women and girls in CTE (Career and Technical Education) and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) programs. AAUW promotes the expansion of public/private collaborations to open new pathways for women. AAUW promotes training to expand teacher/administrator receptivity to encouraging more women to enter non-traditional fields. Teachers and administrators must be trained to create an environment free of harassment and stereotyping.

On a personal note, in 1951 I was put into a Home Economics class and my fellow male 8th graders were put into shop classes! Had I wanted to learn how to use tools, it would not have been possible at that time. Just a few years later, my future Engineering student husband told me that there were exactly TWO women engineering students in his class of approximately 100 students. Times have changed - and hopefully, attitudes have changed, too.... but eternal vigilance is the price of progress. AAUW is at the forefront of providing that vigilance.

~ Eleanor Aronstein

## Time to Renew Your AAUW Membership!

Spring is a new beginning and with AAUW it is the time we **renew** our commitment and membership in an organization that continues to lobby for gender equity.

Membership with AAUW means you are part of a community dedicated to changing the climate for women and girls. Along with renewing our membership we also need to **renew our commitment** to our local branch. We are not only in need of your financial support but also your leadership skills to help our Branch remain strong. We cannot continue to rely on the few that have served continuously. When renewing your membership, please think of ways you can serve our Branch. Please fill out the enclosed membership form so you will be included in the directory. On the form include ideas and comments and indicate where your interests lie. We look forward to the year ahead with a renewal of commitment from our members.

If you would like to pay your membership dues on line go to:

1. AAUW.org
2. Click on **Join** at the top
3. Click on **already a member? Renew today.**
4. If you don't know your membership, look under your name in the directory.
5. If you would like to make a donation to cover the increased costs of printing and postage, please send it to Jackie Mendini.

## AAUW Schenectady 2019-2020 Proposed Officers and Committee Chairs



We are pleased to present the following slate of officers and committee chairs for 2019-2020. They were endorsed by our AAUW-Schenectady Board and will be voted on and installed at our May dinner..

AAUW Funds: Susie Leon

Co-Presidents:

Robin Eddy and Bobbi Richardson

Treasurer: Karen Huggins

Secretary: Ann Hicks

Study and Interest Group: Mary Delory

Programming V.P.: Mary Delory with help  
from the Study and Interest Groups

Membership V.P.s:

Jackie Mendini and Bobbi Richardson

Public Policy VP: Eleanor Aronstein

Newsletter: Faith Weldon

Publicity: Ellen Auerbach

Circulation: Pat Terry

League of Women Voters Liason, Candidates

Forum and Voter Information: Linda Rizzo

Directory: Julie Panke

Website: Robin Eddy

College/University Liaison: Robin Eddy

Social Events:

Arlene Maranville and Carol Reynolds

Bylaws: Robin Eddy

Sunshine – Karen Huggins

Nominating Committee: Recommendations from  
the membership and board

A big **THANK YOU** to all of you who have given your support  
over the past year to our branch and to National.  
Your participation and donations are greatly appreciated.

# MAY DINNER RESERVATION

(continued from page 1)

Wednesday, May 22, 5:30 pm

The Edison Club - in the Edison Room, 891 Riverview Road, Rexford.  
Park in the back. Use the entrance in the rear of the building.



Choose one of the following:

1. **Chicken Alexander with Spinach,  
Roasted Red Peppers & Smoked Gouda**
2. **Chicken Parmesan with Linguine**
3. **Sole Stuffed with Crab Scallops and Tomato Veloute.**
4. **Vegetarian available upon request.**

Your entrée will include Caesar salad, roasted red potatoes, seasoned vegetable medley, roll  
For Dessert: Baked apple dumpling with salted caramel and vanilla ice cream.

- Send your check for **\$30 by Monday, MAY 6th**, payable to AAUW Schenectady Branch to:

Arlene Maranville, 1 Maywood Drive, Scotia, NY 12302

Write your menu choice on your check.

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## RESULTS OF MEMBER SURVEY

At the directive of our Board, a member survey was conducted from October-December, 2018. The purpose was to seek input on our current activities as well as suggestions for branch activities in the future. We were especially interested in hearing ways to increase membership as well as any current barriers to members' participation.

The surveys were distributed via the Study & Interest Group meetings, email, the General Meetings and the December Luncheon. We had a 51% return rate on the surveys (43 out of 85 listed members as of December).

### Summary of the Results

**General Meetings:** the majority (37 respondents) indicated they prefer a variety of topics or a focus on community resources related to social issues. There were several suggestions for presentations which will be followed up on as we develop the 2019-2020 program.

### Top Barriers to General Meeting Attendance:

"evening meetings", "need for a ride" and "health related issues".

### Interest in Developing New Groups

Movies - 10 votes      Walks - 9 votes.  
Bridge group - 9 votes (either with just members or including spouses/partners).

If you are willing to develop one of these new groups, I can let you know which members are interested.

There were many excellent suggestions for increasing overall branch membership. Those which the Board will focus on initially are joining with other community organizations or regional AAUW branches for joint activities; day trips to cultural venues, luncheon at SCCC culinary program and an AAUW informational table at the Schenectady Green Market

It is noteworthy that although there were many suggestions to reach out to younger women, businesses and college alumni offices, our respondents clearly indicated a preference for daytime activities versus the option for evening or Saturday meetings. This appears to be reflective of the Branch's discrepancy between who we are as a branch as compared to who we want to be.

If you have other suggestions or if you need a ride to an event, let your Interest Group leader, Bobbi Ror Robin Eddy know.

Thanks to those of you who participated in our survey. This will help lead us in the future

~Mary DeLory, Study & Interest Group VP

## STUDY AND INTEREST GROUPS FOR APRIL, MAY, JUNE

### Book Chat

Leader: Ellie Rowland (518-250-4302)

**April 16,, 2:00 p.m.**

Book: The Other Einstein by Mare Benedict

Hostess: Ann Gotwals  
1359 Valencia Rd, Niskayuna

**May 21, 2:00 p.m.**

Book: The Flight of the Sparrow Amy B. Brown

Hostess: Bobbi Richardson  
1417 Fox Hollow Road, Niska

**June 23:** 12 Noon Planning meeting at the Lighthouse Restaurant

### Book Exchange 1

Leader: Marguerite Pileggi  
(518-280-5623)

No regular meetings

### Book Exchange 2

Leader: Ellie Rowland (518-250-4302)  
No regular meetings

**Except May 16th 2 p.m. Discussion Meeting**

Hostess: Ellie Rowland, 216 Lois Lane, Niskayuna

### Couples Gourmet

Leaders: Faith Weldon (518-930-2843)  
Pat Terry (518-372-8431)

**April 12: Dinner Out**

**May 10: 6:30**

Theme: Derby Dinner  
Organizers: Mendini/ Weldon

**June 14, 6:30 pm**

Theme: All American Picnic  
Organizers: Puckette/Rose

### Diverse Topics

Leader: Eleanor Aronstein (518-265-2500)

**April 17, 1:30 p.m.**

Visit to the Gazette

**May 22, 5:30 Annual Dinner**

The Edison Club

### Mah Jongg

Leader: Linda Ward (518-377-2377)

**March 11th, 1:30**

Hostess: Linda Ward

**March 25<sup>th</sup> 1:30**

Hostess: Eleanor Auerbach

**April 8<sup>th</sup>, 1:30**

Hostess: Gail Puckette

**April 29<sup>th</sup> 1:30**

Hostess: Arlene Maranville

**May 13<sup>th</sup> 1:30**

Hostess: Robin Eddy

**May 20<sup>th</sup> 1:30**

Hostess: Bobbi Richardson

**June 10<sup>th</sup> 1:30**

Hostess: Shelli VanDerZoe

### Modern Literature

Leaders: Joan Bergin (518-399-1861)  
Mary Delory (518-269-0966)

**March 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm**

Book: Mudbound by Hillary Jordan

Reviewer: Susie Leon

Hostess: Dottie Potochnik

5000 Queen Philomena Blvd, Schdy

Co-Hostess: Joan Bergin

**April 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm**

Book: Little Fires Everywhere

by Celeste Ng

Reviewer: Mary Delory

Hostess: Carol Reynolds

609 Engleman Ave, Scotia

Co-Hostess: Arlene Maranville

**May 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm**

Book: Driving Miss Norma,

T. Bauerschmidt & R. Liddle

Hostess: TBD

Co-Hostess: Pat Gregory

**June 10<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm\*\***

**Recap of books read throughout the year**

Hostess: TBD

Potluck dinner

### Quilting

Leader: Marguerite Pileggi (518-280-5623)

**March 26<sup>th</sup>**

Program: Hexagons, Marguerite .

Pileggi

Hostess: Geri Pinkerton

803 Dongan Ave, Scotia

**April 30<sup>th</sup>**

Program: Group Quilt Tie-In

Hostess: Marguerite Pileggi  
3 Robins Nest, Niskayuna,

**May 21: Lunch & Planning TBA Science Topics**

Leader: Dot Gray (518-859-4420)

Glen Eddy Senior Living Center,  
Niskayuna

**March 4<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm**

Program: Artificial Intelligence  
Sue Wright

**April 1, 7:00 p.m.**

Program Speaker: Dot Gray  
History Trash & Air Pollution, NYC,  
20<sup>th</sup> century

**May 6, 7:00 p.m.**

**Speaker: Emily Harte**

**June – Picnic TBA**

**Varied Interests**

Leader: Arlene Maranville (518-225-2143)

**April 11, 12:30 p.m.**

Program: Books We've Read

Location: The Eddy

Hostess: Reba Mehan

518-374-7886

**May 22, 5:30 pm**

Annual Dinner Meeting  
Edison Club

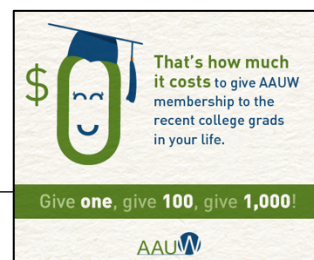
**June 13, 12:30 p.m.**

End of year picnic  
Hostess: Gail Puckette  
28 Via Maria Drive, Scotia

### DIRECTORY UPDATE

**Marguerite Pileggi**

**Tel: 518-280-5623**



## Give Every Grad You Know the Gift of AAUW Membership at No Cost!

As an AAUW member you can gift one year of AAUW national membership to as many recent college graduates as you like **at no cost to them or you.**

**Fill out the form at <https://www.aauw.org/resource/give-a-grad-a-gift>**

**American Association of University Women  
AAUW Schenectady Branch Membership Renewal  
July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020**


☐

**Please PRINT**

**Put an X in this box if there is a change from the information in the directory.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

***Any changes that occur in the future, please let us know promptly – for the newsletter and directory.***

***If you pay your dues online, please let Jackie know your contact information.***

***Check the appropriate category.***

_____ AAUW (\$59) + NYS (\$13) + Branch Member (\$16)	\$88.00
_____ Paid Life Member Renewal - NYS (\$13) + Branch Member (\$16)	\$29.00
_____ *Honorary Life Member (50-year member)	\$ 0

***If you pay  
before May 21***

***\$83  
\$24  
\$ 0***

***\* Honorary Life Members need to return this form to be included in the directory.***

**VISIONS**

\_\_\_\_\_ I prefer to receive VISIONS in color as an email attachment

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like the black and white edition of Visions mailed to me. **\*Please consider making a donation to cover the increased costs of the printing and the increase in postage.**

**To be included in the DIRECTORY** - Mail your dues check **PRIOR TO JUNE 30<sup>th</sup>** payable to **AAUW Schenectady Branch:**

**Jackie Mendini  
AAUW Schenectady Branch  
5 Durham Court  
Niskayuna, NY 12309**

\_\_\_\_\_ **I want my DIRECTORY emailed instead of a printed copy.**

**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.

\_\_\_\_\_ For the increased costs of printing and postage of VISIONS

\_\_\_\_\_ AAUW Funds

\_\_\_\_\_ Legal Action Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Educational Opportunities  
Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Public Policy Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Leadership Programs Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Eleanor Roosevelt Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Schenectady Branch

\_\_\_\_\_ Scholarships or programs to support women

**WE NEED your suggestions for  
program topics, speakers and Fundraising projects/events/meetings.**

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## VISIONS

### Schenectady Branch Newsletter AAUW

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

**Editor** Fait Weldon

**Circulation:** Pat Terry

#### Co-Presidents

Bobbi Richardson and Robin Eddy

**Website:** <https://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 Faith Weldon  
27 Brittany Oaks  
Clifton Park, NY 12365*

