



Calendar of Branch Events

April 26, 2017 • Wed. 6 – 8 p.m.

Membership Social - Speaker: Amanda Gasing, Director of Alumni Relations, JCC • James Prendergast Library

April 27, 2017 - Thurs. 6 p.m.

Take Back The Night – A sexual awareness march • Northwest Ice Arena
an AAUW Collaboration with The Salvation Army Anew Center and JCC's Empower Me! student group.

May 23, 2017 • Tues. 6 p.m.

Annual Dinner • Landmark Restaurant, 516 W. 4th St., Jamestown

July 21 – 23, 2017 • Fri. – Sun.

AAUW NYS Summer Leadership Conference • Cazenovia College, Cazenovia, NY

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Save the Date

Join us at Cazenovia for the Summer Leadership Conference

All members of AAUW are invited.

Register after May 1
www.aauw-nys.org

July 21-23, 2017
Cazenovia College,
Cazenovia, NY



- ☆ **Harnessing Women's Energy**
- ☆ **Building for Vitality**
- ☆ **Using Small but Mighty Ideas**

Save the Date

62nd Annual What's New Fair

Hamilton Student Center,
Jamestown Community College

November 11 and 12, 2017

(Set up on November 10)
Watch for more information through the What's New Fair Facebook Page and emails.



We're on Facebook!

Please visit our Facebook page and Like us.

Find our page by typing in AAUW Jamestown Branch in the Search space at the top of the page.

President's Message

By Christina A Marsh, AAUW Jamestown Branch President

Here is a summary of reports and key decisions made by the branch board. All board meetings are open to all members.

- The What's New Fair committee has opportunities in several areas including Admission Tickets and Gingerbread House. For complete details regarding all opportunities please contact Mary Lee Talbot.
- The board positions, Educational Opportunities Fund Vice President and Legal Advocacy Vice President, have been combined into one position. This position is currently open and seeking candidate(s).
- The JCC Student Senate and AAUW held a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on Pay Equity Day at JCC and raised \$250 to be donated to The Salvation Army Anew Center.
- The JCC student group EmpowerMe! and AAUW collaborated on the annual Dress For Success Fashion Show. The interactive show provided the audience with tips and information on interview skills.
- Four members will be attending the NYS Convention April 21-23. Details from the convention will be shared at the Annual Dinner on May 23rd.
- The Membership Social is coming up on April 26th at 6PM at the Jamestown Prendergast Library. Anyone willing to supply refreshments please contact Linda Fellows or Mary Keeney. Speaker, Amanda Gesing, Director of Alumni Relations at JCC, will talk to attendees about the power of mentoring.
- AAUW along with the Anew Center, Project Crossroads, and JCC EmpowerMe! Student group will be collaborating on Take Back the Night on April 27th. The mission of the event is to raise awareness about sexual violence. The rally begins at 6pm outside the Northwest Ice Arena.
- As a group, AAUW members will be attending "Least Resistance", a play about addiction and recovery in Jamestown on April 28th. Contact Kathy Colby for tickets and more information.
- The Annual Dinner is scheduled for May 23rd, 6PM at the Landmark restaurant in Jamestown. New board members will be installed at this time. A short program including highlights from convention will kick off the evening.
- Currently, there are 78 members.

My first year of my term as president is nearly up. I cannot believe how quickly the time has passed as I feel I'm just gaining some momentum and learning the ropes! I'm excited to attend state convention again this year and will be sharing details from the weekend at the Annual Dinner. I look forward to what the next year has in store for our AMAZING organization and the great work we will continue!

AAUW – JCC Women's Issues Advisory Board

By Yvonne Maki

AAUW – JCC Women's Issues Advisory Board

The AAUW/JCC Educational Partners Committee takes special note in spelling success as follows: "Net-the-Work"!

This February 28 social gathering provided JCC students and community professionals the opportunity to interact in a networking-practice event. The atmosphere in the Hamilton Collegiate Center, Student Union, included soft

lighting, music, light hors d'oeuvres and 'mock-tails' to round out the evening's complete experience. The AAUW Committee members, Campus Life, Bellevue University and the EmpowerMe! students extend a gracious and sincere thank you to all the attending community professionals representing Accounting, Biotechnology, College Administration, College Professors, Communications, Community Organizer, Education, Engineering, Government, Human Resources, Information Technology, Library Science, Publishing and Social Work.

Circle Of Distinction

B. Dolores Thompson

In 1990, the Circle of Distinction welcomed three of Jamestown's pioneer women: Agnes "Aunt Nancy" Thompson Prendergast, Phoebe Way Blowers, and Prudence Olivia Cotes Brown.

Phoebe Blowers was the first woman to settle in the, then forest, which became Jamestown. Her husband, John Blowers, an employee of James Prendergast, built a log cabin in November 1810 in the area near "The Boatlanding". The approximate site is marked by a blue and yellow historical marker. The family moved in December. The following spring, May 1811, Phoebe gave birth to a baby girl, Mary, the first white child born in what is now Jamestown. As the only settlers living in the area, was Phoebe alone during the labor and birth? Would any of the Native American women have attended her? History has not recorded that information.

Agnes, nee Thompson, Prendergast, "Aunt Nancy" as she was more commonly known, was born in Scotland, November 18, 1771. The family settled in Rensselaer on their arrival in the US where they prospered. She had a dowry of \$17,000 when she married James Prendergast in 1807 in Pittstown, where their son, Alexander was born February 3, 1809. Other Prendergast family members had settled in northern Chautauqua County, and James brought his family to Mayville in 1810 and then to

Jamestown in 1811. Agnes home was the 2nd log cabin built in the nascent village, with a 1 1/2 story home not built until November 1812, which was shared with another family. Agnes was described as "a lady of literary tastes" and brought a large library with her. Despite an obvious privileged upbringing, "Aunt Nancy" apparently adjusted to the rather primitive and crude life of the pioneer community. She was known for her culinary skills, the home's cleanliness, her spinning, and her hospitality, especially for the newcomers. She died in Ripley Jan 4, 1839.

Prudence Olivia Cotes Brown came to the village of Jamestown March 1819 following her marriage to Samuel A. Brown, Esq. She was born in Springfield, NY Jan 18, 1799. Upon her arrival she set up housekeeping in the rear room of her husband's law office. She did her cooking and laundry on an outdoor fire by the side of a large pine stump. Somehow she even boarded some of the hands who were erecting their home. As the wife of Jamestown's lawyer, her living conditions improved over the years. She bore 11 children, 5 of whom died in infancy; 3 sons followed their father in the legal field, establishing law firms. In her final years, Prudence health became delicate. Her valiant efforts to save the household furniture during the January 31, 1861 fire left her with chronic diarrhea and consumption. She died August 31, 1862.

Public Policy

B. Dolores Thompson

The nation is settling in to new directions at the federal level, as well as in some states and other, more local governments. We are, at the moment, in uncharted waters at some levels. However, AAUW remains steadfast in its commitment to advancing the role of women in all levels of society. What is most needed are women in top positions at all levels of government where we can have more influence and have more control over the issues of importance to us.

Women have a different perspective on many aspects of society - we are, on the whole, the nurturers, the caregivers, the food source for the newborns as well as for the unborns. We have a unique perspective on LIFE, which does not always fit with the male-dominated society's perspective.

Have you ever considered running for any office? No? Maybe it is time for more of us to do so...and as always, support those who do.

Annual Dinner & Installation of Annual Officers

Tuesday, May 23, 2017 6 pm
Landmark Restaurant , 516 W. 4th St., Jamestown

Come join us for our Annual Dinner to celebrate all the good work, collaborations, and successes throughout our AAUW year. We will install incoming officers, meet and greet new members, and enjoy fun and fellowship together.

The Annual Dinner is a great opportunity to invite prospective AAUW members who can meet members, learn more about AAUW, and the many programs and projects of our Branch. Consider inviting a friend or two to come with to the dinner.

We have the banquet room reserved which is entered from the side of the restaurant. We will order off the menu, and have separate checks. Please contact Janet Forbes, 664-3499 or jlforbes@hotmail.com with your reservation by Thursday, May 18, 2017.



**WELCOME
MEMBERS, FRIENDS, & GUESTS!**

For more information contact
Kathy Colby: kjcolby@hotmail.com

Share in the fun at our regularly scheduled dining out events.

This AAUW special interest group is called “Dining Divas.” This is open to all AAUW members, guests and the community. This is a great tool for member recruitment, member retention and engagement.

The first step in membership recruitment is sometimes joining an interest group - since this is our only active interest group, we need to get a pipeline to membership.

So spread the word. Send a simple note out *“I’m going to chosen restaurant for dinner with some friends from AAUW, I would love for you to meet them.”*

Another message to non-members would be - *“Get to know us, then learn more about AAUW and what it does through our dinner conversations then maybe become a member.”*

Who Can Join AAUW?

A graduate holding an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate or higher degree from a nationally accredited educational institution is eligible for membership.

Contact:

Linda Fellows, 716-665-6863
or Mary Keeney, 716-664-4758

Our 170,000 members and supporters span local and virtual communities, cities and college campuses, all over the world. On campuses, we foster the next generation of women in leadership



and in the workplace. After graduation, we mentor, fund, and support educational and professional development. From college through career and beyond, we’re working to change the future.

