



## Jamestown Branch

Volume 21, Issue 2

November / December 2015

### From the Editor

Last month was packed with important community mission-based events and we made the front page of the *Post-Journal* on more than one occasion. These next two months are focused on Fun and Fundraising to continue our mission.

If you need to reach me, contact Kathi R. Clark at [wordsintheworks@gmail.com](mailto:wordsintheworks@gmail.com)

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### Calendar of Branch Events

#### Nov. 11, 2015; Wed.

##### Board Meeting

**Place:** Celoron Community Center

**Time:** 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Mark these meetings on your calendar.

#### Nov. 18, 2015; Wed.

##### Fun Event: Divas Dine at Taste of India Restaurant

**Place:** Taste of India, 140 Fairmount Ave, Lakewood, NY

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**RSVP:** Kathy Colby, [kjcolby@hotmail.com](mailto:kjcolby@hotmail.com) or 720-0234

#### Nov. 21 & 22, 2015; Sat. and Sun.

##### Program: AAUW What's New Fair

**Place:** JCC Hamilton Collegiate Center

**Time:** Sat: 10 AM - 5 PM; Sun 10 AM - 4 PM

#### Dec. 2, 2015; Wed.

##### Fun Event: Martz Observatory

**Place:** 176 Robin Hill Road, Frewsburg, NY 14738

**Time:** 7:30 PM

**RSVP:** 11/27/15 Eileen Carlson, [neeliecarlson@hotmail.com](mailto:neeliecarlson@hotmail.com), 397-7773

Breaking through Barriers  
for **130** Years

#### Dec. 9, 2015; Wed.

##### Board Meeting

**Place:** Celoron Community Center

**Time:** 6:00 - 7:30 PM

#### Dec. 16, 2015; Wed.

##### Program: Dining Divas Holiday Gathering

**Place:** Landmark Restaurant, 516 W. 4th St., Jamestown

**Time:** 7:30 PM

**RSVP:** Kathy Colby, [kjcolby@hotmail.com](mailto:kjcolby@hotmail.com) or 720-0234



## Board Message

-- By Janet Forbes, Program VP

### Board of Directors Updates

Here is a summary of reports and key decisions made by our Branch Board of Directors at our September and October 2015 Board meetings. All BOD meetings are open to all members.

- Proceeds from Educational Opportunities Fund garage sale totaled \$169.
- When information needs to go out to all members, send to Kathi Clark, Communications Chair.
- Dolores Thompson will provide voter registration table at JCC.
- Educational Partnerships group will partner with JCC for the Clothesline Project--focus on prevention of violence towards women on college campuses.
- Volunteers needed to serve on Communications Committee.
- Mandatory by-law changes will be incorporated into Branch by-laws. Discussion of developing a

working committee to review by-laws and recommend changes.

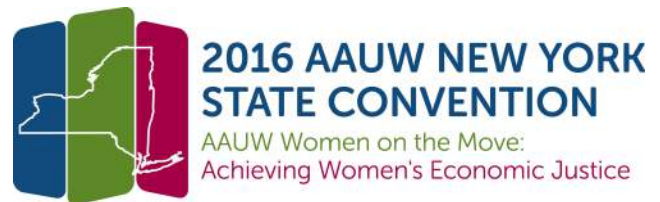
- Power of Seven Project discussed. AAUW Jamestown Branch has been asked to become a partner with this project along with other organizations, non-profits. BOD approved exploring this project.
- Current membership is 68.

## News From the State Board

-- By Edwina Frances Martin, Esq.,  
President AAUW NYS

Summer leadership conference materials are available on the NYS website ([www.aauw-nys.org](http://www.aauw-nys.org)). Most of the materials are available at the following link: [http://www.aauw-nys.org/Cazenovia\\_2015.htm](http://www.aauw-nys.org/Cazenovia_2015.htm).

The Convention 2016 Planning Team, after lengthy discussion regarding the ideas from the summer meeting convention brainstorming session, has selected the following theme for Convention 2016:



We are planning an exciting program, including once again having a new leadership track for students and a Continuing Legal Education workshop for attorneys, and hope that many of you and your branch members will be able to attend! AAUW NYS Convention will be held at the Holiday Inn, Saratoga Springs, April 15 -17.

## Members With Name Changes

If you have changed your name in the last 5 years, we need your help. Only you can update your name change on the National website. Our branch officers are not able to go in and update your name. Therefore, we request that you please email [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org) and let them know of your old name and your new name so they can correct it in the National database. It will then trickle down to the branch level and your branch dues can be credited to your current name.

### AAUW Mission

The American Association of University Women advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

### AAUW 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 Diversity

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a 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 Value Promise

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so all women have a fair chance.

## AAUW What's New Fair Is Almost Here

-- By Mary Lee Talbot, What's New Fair Co-Chair

It's time to get ready for the 60th annual What's New Fair. AAUW Jamestown branch has been raising money for women to continue their education and make a difference in the world. This year we will again be at the Jamestown Community College Hamilton Collegiate Center on November 21 and 22 from 10 AM - 5 PM on Saturday and 10 AM - 4 PM on Sunday. Last year we raised over \$10,000 for transfer scholarships for JCC and JBC women graduates and over the last 59 years we have raised over \$300,000.

Kat Colvin and Mary Lee Talbot are the Fair co-chairs. Phoebe Forbes is our treasurer. Kat coordinates the merchants and Mary Lee handles everything else. We need people to help us mark the floor booth spaces on Friday, November 20 from 9:30 until 3 p.m. You don't need to get down on the floor; we have tape rollers to push and mark the booths. It is a fun time and you get to see the Hamilton Center transformed. We will also need people to help hang some banners and other decorations at that time.

The success of the Fair depends on all of us. Please be sure to sell or give away your admissions tickets and send the proceeds in the envelope provided to Terry Klein. Kathi Clark, Holly Gatto, and Becky Nystrom have been working hard to find great prizes for the Raffle. If you have sold or given away your raffle tickets, please send the money in the envelope provided to Kathi Clark.

Maggie Irwin has been working hard on publicity and you should begin to hear radio ads soon. Kat Colvin, Mary Lee Talbot, and Alice O'Grady will be on the Breakfast Club on November 14.

Alice O'Grady and Dixie Siegel are working on hospitality for our merchants and volunteers. They need a third person to help them find donors for food and to work at the Fair. Please consider joining this fun committee.

You will be getting some emails about the Sweet Shoppe and the AAUW Table. The proceeds from these tables help keep our local dues low. Kathy Colby, Shirley Sanfilippo, and Mary Keeney are looking for

pies, cookies, and brownies to sell at the Sweet Shoppe. Pies can be cut and sold by the piece and treats like White Trash and Chex Mix are always welcome.

Elaine Damsteegt, Linda Fellows, and Ruth Wahl are looking for handicrafts and gently used or re-gifting merchandise to sell.

Candy Johnson and Madeline Morganti are running the Gingerbread House this year. The gingerbread cookies will be from Ecklof's and personalized and decorated by our own members.

Alicia Mae Hodnett will again be at the membership table inviting women to join our AAUW branch. If you would like to work with her at the membership booth, she would appreciate your help.

Our volunteer coordinators, Patty Lindquist and B. Dolores Thompson, will call you to help at the Fair. Please try to find 4 hours to volunteer at the Fair. Wendy Present, our contact at JCC, has been looking for high school and junior high students to volunteer. If you know of a young person looking to fulfill volunteer hours, let her know.

PLEASE COME OUT AND SUPPORT OUR FAIR!!







Put on your aprons and conjure up some tasty treats in your kitchen for the What's New Fair SWEET SHOPPE. Start now and freeze them. Last year's SWEET SHOPPE was a success. With your help we can be a hit again. See ideas of goodies to make posted on the SWEET SHOPPE door above. More information and details will be coming your way soon.

## AAUW What's New Fair Table

-- By Elaine Damsteegt, Linda Fellows & Ruth Wahl

The sales from the AAUW What's New Fair table fund our Branch operating expenses and keep the Branch share of your AAUW dues at \$8.00. Handmade items sell beautifully and we hope you are busy making things. We also appreciate items that are new or like-new that you might want to donate (but no clothing please).

It really helps us to have everything in advance so we can price and organize them before the set-up on Nov. 20, so we would be very grateful if we could have everything by Monday, Nov. 16.

Please leave your contributions on the porch at Elaine Damsteegt's house, 186 Hallock Street, Jamestown where the porch will be checked regularly. Or, you may call her at 483-0858 to set up a time to bring them if you prefer.



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.

**National Website:** [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

**State Website:** [www.aauw-nys.org](http://www.aauw-nys.org)

**Jamestown Website:** <http://jamestown-ny.aauw.net>

## Our Branch EOF Grant

-- By Elaine Damsteegt, EOF VP

The reason I do fundraising for our Branch is that the money we bring in enables a broader community of women with a Bachelor's degree to gain access to educational and economic opportunities. Our Branch maintains Grant #1445 which was funded by Jamestown members from 1980 to 2002 for that purpose. It's our legacy to ensure that that fund continues to provide a substantial grant each year to a worthy woman or project.

National AAUW sifts through the applications to determine who receives the Grant. **I have just discovered that our new grant recipient for 2015-16 is Nicole Patten from Fullstack Academy, New York, New York. Her field is computer and information sciences. Our grant will enable her to specialize in computer programming.** I am in touch with National to learn more about her and will try to make contact with her to give you further information in the next TWIGS.

This is not the only grant available to women through AAUW. In fact, AAUW is one of the world's largest sources of funding for graduate women, providing more than \$3.7 million in funding for more than 241 grants and fellowships to outstanding women and nonprofit organizations in the 2015-16 academic year. I am including the following information in case **you** might want to apply for one.

**Career Development Grants** -- Who may apply: Women pursuing a certificate or degree to advance their careers, change careers, or reenter the workforce and whose bachelor's degree was received at least five years before the award period. Deadline: December 15. Funding: \$2,000-\$12,000

**American Fellowships** -- Who may apply: Women pursuing full-time study to complete dissertations, conducting postdoctoral research full time, or preparing research for publication for eight consecutive weeks. Deadline: November 15. Funding: \$6,000-\$30,000.

**International Fellowships** -- Who may apply: Women pursuing full-time graduate or postdoctoral study in the United States who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Deadline: December 1. Funding: \$18,000-\$30,000.

**International Project Grants** -- Who may apply: Alumnae of AAUW's International Fellowships program who are living in their home countries and pursuing community-based projects to improve the social advancement and economic empowerment of women and girls. Deadline: January 15. Funding: \$5,000-\$7,000.

**Selected Professions Fellowships** -- Who may apply: Women pursuing full-time study in a master's or professional degree program in which women are underrepresented, including STEM, law, business, and medicine. Deadline: January 10. Funding: \$5,000-\$18,000.

Find more information on any of these by going to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org), putting "grants" or "Educational Opportunities Fund" in the search box. Click on Educational Funding and Awards. Under each type of grant, click on "Learn More".

## Dream It Do It + Our Branch STEM Team

-- By Janet Forbes, Program VP

AAUW NYS shared this article on their FB page with the note: "AAUW Jamestown continues to lead the way with their community coalitions."

Dream It Do It hosted "Women in Engineering" at Cummins Engine on October 20. Linda Fellows, Patty Lindquist, Alicia Hodnett, and Ruth Wahl from the STEM Team represented the AAUW. The event included a panel discussion from women in various occupations at the company. The women stressed the importance of reading and math in their jobs. Many of the women had come into their careers following non-traditional pathways. Many had changed jobs at Cummins by choosing additional training and receiving tuition reimbursement. All said that STEM careers are a way to make a good living in our local area.

About 20 mostly middle-school aged girls and their parents attended. The evening ended with a tour of the plant.

If you would like to join our STEM team, contact Janet Forbes at 490-2616 or [jlforbes@hotmail.com](mailto:jlforbes@hotmail.com).



## Circle of Distinction

-- By B. Dolores Thompson, Public Policy VP

Mehitable Wing Prendergast was the 4th woman honored by the Circle in 1985. Her historic horseback ride rivals Paul Revere's in the annals of the country's history. Mehitable married her husband, William Prendergast in 1755 and settled down to farm on a few acres of land William rented from Frederick Philipse, lord of thousands of acres in Westchester and Dutchess Counties.

William's crops had been poor; he was behind in his rent; and he was disturbed and unhappy about a number of things regarding Philipse's treatment of the tenants on his lands. He learned that Philipse paid the British crown the same amount of money for his vast estate that he paid to rent a few acres. Talking with other farmers, he learned all had the same problems and gripes and were willing and eager to demonstrate against all of the manor lords. He raised an army of

hundreds who marched through the area, rioting as they went. Many were arrested. William, who had escaped capture, gave himself up, at Mehitable's urging, to the authorities on charges of treason.

Mehitable stayed by his side at his trial, even speaking on his behalf. But, William was convicted of treason and sentenced to be hung. Mehitable immediately mounted a horse and rode 80 miles to the home of the Governor at Ft. George on Manhattan Island, begging for an audience with him. Her pleas so touched him, that he granted a stay of execution, pending a pardon from King George III. Mehitable immediately rode the 80 miles back home.

We know, of course, that the pardon was granted, and Chautauqua County's early history was sealed. Incidentally, Prendergast remained loyal to the King throughout the Revolutionary War.

## Public Policy

-- By B. Dolores Thompson, Public Policy VP

The Autumn season is also the political season. Yes, we hear from politicians year-round, but at a much lower intensity. Come Autumn, it heats up, at times to boiling-over intensity. (Prepare now for 2016!) For our community, this year was a very low-key year - only County and local community positions were up for grabs. And, sadly, many of those positions were uncontested.

"Why should I bother to vote?" you may ask. We have, in this USA, the privilege of voting. Far too many countries elsewhere in the world do not have



that privilege. And, in many countries where voting is allowed, it is male only - females do not have that right...they do not count.

The Chautauqua County League of Women Voters statistics paint a very dismal picture of the voting record of the County's residents. In a Presidential year, 2/3-3/4 of registered voters will make their voices heard via the ballot. In off-years, as few as 1/4-1/3 will take advantage of this opportunity to speak regarding the critical local issues which affect all county residents.

Your vote counts!....use it!!

## Education Partners Present Self-Defense Workshop

-- Parts taken from P-J Article, Oct. 23, 2015

Our Branch joined with our AAUW College Partner, Jamestown Community College (JCC), to present a self-defense workshop Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the JCC Student Union, Hamilton Collegiate Center. This event followed the continued focus on violence against women events presented by the AAUW and JCC coalition on women's issues. The event was free and open to the public.

Barry Swanson, JCC coordinator of campus safety and security, and Eileen Goodling, JCC vice president of student development, spoke about campus safety and Title IX. Renee Funke lead the program into the physical demonstration of self-defense. She is currently studying martial arts at AKT Combative Academy in Olean, where a high priority is placed on reality-based instruction and activities.



## ICE 8 Unveiled to AAUW Jamestown Branch

-- By Katrina Fuller, [kfuller@post-journal.com](mailto:kfuller@post-journal.com), Post-Journal (shortened--For full article see Oct. 21, 2015)

Christine Schuyler, Chautauqua County public health director and social services commissioner, gave a presentation at our October Branch meeting, discussing the new Innovate Collaborate Educate 8 (ICE 8) initiative. All 18 school districts in the county have signed on to this collaborative program which focuses on health education; physical education; health services; nutrition services; counseling, psychological and social services; a healthy and safe school environment; health promotion for staff; and family and community

involvement. She said: "It takes a whole county to raise a whole child."

"Right now, 50 percent of our community can't pass a drug test," Schuyler said. "Obviously, what we have been doing for years and years isn't working. Every facet is affected by this. If you want to get rid of the fighting, school suspensions and get better graduations rates, we need a more comprehensive program," Schuyler said. "We need to do something as early as we can. We can only do so much for the adults, and we need to start doing something for the next generation."

## Holiday Wreath Fundraiser

-- By Laurie Holthouse, Linda Fellows, and Elaine Damsteegt, LAF & EOF VPs

We will again be having our Holiday Fundraiser, selling 25" live Victorian Wreaths. The cost of the wreath is \$26, which includes tax, shipping, and a decorative bag in which it will be delivered. LED lights with timer can be purchased for an additional \$3.50. A wreath hanger can be purchased for an additional \$1.50.

Please write your orders on the order form below, cut it out, and mail your order form and money to Laurie Holthouse, 7378 Brownell Road, Panama, NY 14767 by November 10. Checks are to be made out to Laurie Holthouse. Money is due at the time of order.



**Christmas Wreath LAF Fundraiser**  
Beautifully decorated 25 inch Victorian live balsam fir wreath. Cost is \$26.

Also available : Battery operated LED light set with timer. \$3.50

EZ wreath hanger \$1.50

Order and payment needed by November 10th  
Wreaths and accessories arrive Dec 8th- 11th

Please consider purchasing some for yourself and ask family and friends to place orders so we can meet our LAF and EOF goals for the year. Wreaths will be ready to be picked up December 10 at Elaine Damsteegt's home, 186 Hallock Street, Jamestown. If you sell to friends and family, you will need to pick up their wreaths and deliver them. Thank you in advance for your support of the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund. Questions? Call Linda Fellows at 665-6863 or Laurie Holthouse at 782-3251.

## AAUW LAF & EOF Wreath Order Form

Name/Phone \_\_\_\_\_; # Wreaths \_\_\_\_\_; # LED lights \_\_\_\_\_; # Hangers \_\_\_\_\_

Name/Phone \_\_\_\_\_; # Wreaths \_\_\_\_\_; # LED lights \_\_\_\_\_; # Hangers \_\_\_\_\_

Name/Phone \_\_\_\_\_; # Wreaths \_\_\_\_\_; # LED lights \_\_\_\_\_; # Hangers \_\_\_\_\_

Name/Phone \_\_\_\_\_; # Wreaths \_\_\_\_\_; # LED lights \_\_\_\_\_; # Hangers \_\_\_\_\_



## Jamestown Branch

### 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: **Alicia Mae Hodnett**  
(716) 489-3012

### Branch Leadership

#### *Executive Board--(Elected Officers)*

President:	Acting Board
Program VP:	Janet Forbes
Membership VP:	Alicia Mae Hodnett
EOF VP:	Elaine Damsteegt
LAF VPs:	Linda Fellows and Laurie Holthouse
Treasurer:	Shirley Sanfilippo
Recording Secretary:	Ruth Wahl

#### *State Representative*

NYS Member/Finance Liason:	Phoebe Forbes
AAUW NYS BOD Liason:	Laurie Ginnitti

#### *Committee Chairs*

Public Policy:	B. Dolores Thompson
Communications Chair:	Kathi Clark
<i>Publicity:</i>	Committee
<i>TWIGS Editor:</i>	Kathi Clark
<i>Directory:</i>	Debra Eck
<i>Social Media:</i>	Kathy Colby
<i>Member Communications:</i>	Kathi Clark
STEM:	Janet Forbes
Social:	Mary Keeney
Scholarship:	Wendy Present Kathi Clark Becky Nystrom
Historian:	Elaine Rissel
Interclub Council:	Rita Brown
Circle of Distinction:	B. Dolores Thompson
Education Partners:	Maggie Irwin and Christina Marsh
International Affairs Chair:	TBA