



Calendar of Branch Events

Tuesday, February 7 • 7 p.m.

Women’s Self Defense Workshop with Renee Funke
Hamilton Collegiate Center, Student Union.

February 11, 2017 • Sat. 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Get in the Game • JCC Athletic Complex

Thursday, February 16 • 7 p.m

EmpowerMe! Escalation Film: One Love Foundation
Hamilton Collegiate Center, Student Union

Wednesday, February 22 • Noon – 1 p.m

EmpowerMe! Series: Not your Typical Sex Talk
Hamilton Collegiate Center, Student Union

Tuesday, February 28 • 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Hire Me! Series: Net The Work
Hamilton Collegiate Center, Student Union

March 15, 2017 • Wed. – Time TBD

Dream It Do It STEM • JCC Athletic Complex

March 2017 • 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Tech Savvy • UB’s North Campus

April 21 – 23, 2017 • Fri. – Sun.

AAUW NYS Convention • Double Tree Inn, Syracuse, NY

April 26, 2017 • Wed. 6 – 8 p.m.

Membership Social - Speaker:TBD • James Prendergast Library

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

In This Issue

Calendarp. 1
 President’s Messagep. 2
 Public Policyp. 2
 Programp. 3
 State Conventionp. 3
 Advisory Boardp. 4
 Educational Opportunities Fund...p. 4
 Legal Advocacy Fundp. 4
 What’s New Fairp. 5
 Circle of Distinctionp. 6
 About the AAUWp. 6
 Dining Divasp. 7
 Branch Leadershipp. 8

Editor’s Note

Thank you to Kathi Clark for her years of dedicated service as the editor of the Twigs newsletter.

Kathi created a fantastic template to make handing over the reigns to a new editor very easy. She added a lovely personal touch to this newsletter and I hope to do that as well.

- Leslie Calimeri

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 at the November 2016 and January 2017 meetings. All board meetings are open to all members.

- We have recently welcomed new members, bringing our current membership to 78 members.
- Our financials remain strong. Reports are available from Treasurer Shirley Sanfilippo.
- The Heroin Epidemic program at the Jamestown Public Library on January 19, 2017 was well received with reportedly over 100 attendees. Several media outlets recorded the event and released information from the evening. It was encouraging to be part of an effort so well supported by the community. Many thanks to members Kia Briggs, Mary Keeney, and Janet Forbes for their collaborative efforts in bringing to the fore awareness of a timely topic not only in our community but nationwide.
- Dining Divas enjoyed a delicious dinner and good conversation at Forte, a local restaurant, on January 17, 2017. Divas dine monthly.
- Get in the Game will be hosted at Jamestown Community College on February 11, 2017 with on the average 100-130 girls in attendance. The branch will fund up to ten scholarships. Several volunteers have been secured but others are encouraged and welcome. Contact Rae Lynn D'Angelo at 386-2052 or her cell, 499-2548. Girls participate in kayaking, self-defense, and Zumba among other activities; lunch is provided. The cost for the day is \$15. Registration forms are handed out at schools and can be found on the branch Facebook page.
- The AAUW/JCC Women's Issues Advisory Board in collaboration with the Jamestown Community College student campus group, Empower Me!, will present the event Net the Work at 7 PM on February 28, 2017 at Jamestown Community College in the Hamilton Collegiate Center in the Student Union. This event promotes career building skills through a mock networking event with representatives from community businesses and organizations. The AAUW/JCC Women's Issues Advisory Group and the Jamestown Community College newly formed campus group, Empower Me, will continue to collaborate during monthly meetings to plan events like Net the Work and Dress for Success Interview Attire Fashion Show. Kayla Crosby, Campus Life Director and AAUW College Partner member is their advisor.
- The AAUW NYS annual convention is currently open for registration. The convention will be held in Syracuse, NY April 21- 23, 2017. For more details and to register, see the full article in this edition of TWIGS and go to the convention link: <http://aaunyswp.aaunys.org/wp/index.php/state-events-2/nys-convention/>.
- The holiday dinner gathering at The Landmark in December was well attended. Guests and new members were welcomed. A delicious meal and good fellowship was enjoyed by all. As part of AAUW's new Anniversary Pin Campaign, lapel pins were awarded to commemorate and celebrate members who reached their 5, 10, 20, 30, and 40 years in AAUW as of 2016. Members Becky Nystrom (5 years), Maggie Irwin (10 years), and Janet Forbes (20 years) received their pins during the evening. Rita Brown, 50 year member was sent her pin and a special certificate directly from national!

Now is certainly an exciting time to be involved in supporting equity for women and girls. AAUW is a leading voice in advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research to empower women and girls and the issues that surround us both individually and in our community. Women's issues are everyone's issues and reach out past our own community and across the nation as well as worldwide. I am filled with enthusiasm in looking forward to 2017 and thrilled to be part of this amazing organization. The opportunity to work alongside such intelligent and talented women has truly been a blessing. Together, may our continued efforts and good work propel us forward in making a difference.

PUBLIC POLICY

B. Dolores Thompson

The 2016 election is over, the winning candidates settling into their new or continued roles. That does not mean life on the political scene will settle down or quiet down. There will certainly be some contentious issues, some of which will be of interest to AAUW. As they arise, we will keep our members apprised of them and of AAUW's comments and positions on them. Women's issues remain the focus of AAUW, nationally and internationally.

Program

By Christina A Marsh, AAUW Jamestown Branch President

The Heroin Epidemic program event, co-sponsored with The Mental Health Association (MHA), was a great success with over 100 hundred people in attendance. Concerned citizens representing all sectors of the community listened intently while the panelists and keynote speaker spoke about Chautauqua County's problem with opiate addiction and its impact on women and families in the community.

Panelists Dr. Lilian Ney, Julie Apperson, Heather Brown, Leanna Luka-Conley, Lori Keller, and keynote speaker Kia Briggs, MHA Executive Director, spoke from their professional and personal experiences including possible action steps for individuals and the community to consider. A local acting group with St. Luke's Episcopal Church, The Winged Ox Players, read short pieces reflecting stories of addiction. Chautauqua Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Council (CASAC), Hope Chautauqua, and The Mental Health Association (MHA) also set up tables providing information to attendees. A short question and answer session was held directly afterward. Several media representatives attended as well.

Included are links regarding the event including coverage from The Post Journal, several posts on AAUW's Facebook page, and WRFA LP 107.9 FM's audio recording of the event in its entirety.

Press Links:

<http://www.post-journal.com/news/page-one/2017/01/aauw-heroin-panel-reveals-stories-of-addiction/>

<https://soundcloud.com/wrfaradio/community-matters-heroin-epidemic-womens-voices-needs-and-impact-panel-discussion>

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=aauw%20jamestown>

AAUW along with Jamestown Community College, cosponsored by YWCA and CRCF, will host the 18th annual Get in the Game event on February 11, 2017 from 8:30 am-4 pm at the Jamestown Community College Physical Education Complex. Registration forms are handed out in local schools and available on the Get in the Game and AAUW Jamestown Branch Facebook pages. Registrations are strongly encouraged by February 6, 2017 with some scholarships available on first come basis. This event allows girls in grades 4-7 to experience different sports workshops and meet high-school and college women that play sports in a setting that is fun and empowering! If you are able to volunteer during this event please call Maggie Irwin at 483-5448.

Dream It Do It STEM Wars event will be held on March 15, 2017 from 9 am to 1 pm at the Jamestown Community College Physical Education Complex. Middle and high school students participate in this fun and educational event featuring technology events, a local business and manufacturing career fair, and on-site team building and leadership skills competitions. AAUW typically participates in this event by supervising a table where AAUW members provide information regarding Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education and careers to encourage girls to learn more about STEM fields.

American Association of University Women New York State Convention 2017

Convention registration for the 2017 New York State American Association of University Women is now open. Convention theme *Women and Power* will celebrate one hundred years of women's suffrage in New York State. The convention will be held April 21-23, 2017 in Syracuse, New York.

Featured speaker, Louise Bernikow, author and Fulbright scholar, Huffington Post blogger, and expert on the suffrage movement will guide the Saturday morning plenary session. The Saturday evening keynote speaker is Michelle Rivera-Clonch, director of the Omega women's Leadership Center. Rivera-Clonch utilizes her many years of experience in higher education and non-profits in the fields of mental health, gender justice, conflict analysis, mindfulness, and capacity building to develop curriculum and facilitate workshops.



As well, a variety of workshops will be offered and an opportunity to participate in a tour of the Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation and the Stickley Museum.

For more information and to register go to: <http://aaunyswp.aauw-nys.org/wp/index.php/state-events-2/nys-convention/>.

AAUW – JCC Women’s Issues Advisory Board

By Yvonne Makl

The Educational Partners Committee: AAUW-JCC Women’s Issues Advisory Board is pleased to announce the creation of the JCC student initiated club, EmpowerMe! Their mission has been extended from Women’s Rights, to the rights of all students on campus regardless of sexuality, race, religion, or gender. As a club they plan to bring a multitude of events to JCC in their attempt to educate and support the students of JCC on every issue they may face. The EmpowerMe! Executive Board: Co-Presidents: Ebehitale and Riley Stedman, Vice President: Hannah Lorenc, and Treasurer/Secretary, Alan Jones. All Advisory Board members look forward to working with these energetic future community leaders.

JCC Campus Events

Tuesday, February 7 • 7 p.m.

EmpowerMe! Series:

Women’s Self Defense Workshop with Renee Funke

Hamilton Collegiate Center, Student Union.

Sponsors: Campus Life/AAUW/EmpowerMe!

Saturday, February 11 • 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m

“Get In The Game” AAUW Volunteer Opportunity

JCC Athletic Complex

Sponsor: AAUW

Thursday, February 16 • 7 p.m

EmpowerMe! Escalation Film: One Love Foundation

Hamilton Collegiate Center, Student Union

Group discussions

Sponsors: Title IX Steering Committee/AAUW/
EmpowerMe!

Wednesday, February 22 • Noon – 1 p.m

EmpowerMe! Series: Not your Typical Sex Talk

Hamilton Collegiate Center, Student Union

Sponsors: Campus Life/Title IX Steering Committee/
AAUW/EmpowerMe!

Tuesday, February 28 • 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Hire Me! Series: Net The Work

Hamilton Collegiate Center, Student Union

Sponsors: Campus Life/Bellevue University/AAUW/
EmpowerMe!

March/April... Coming Soon!

EmpowerMe! Series: -Christina Irene, Speaker

Sponsor: Campus Life/AAUW/EmpowerMe!

March 15, 2017 • Wed. – Time TBD

Dream It Do It STEM • JCC Athletic Complex

Dress for Success Interview Attire Fashion Show

Sponsors: AAUW/Campus Life/EmpowerMe!/Men’s
Warehouse/Maurices

Educational Opportunities Fund Honoree for 2017

By Elaine Damsteegt

I’m happy to report to you that RUTH WAHL has been named our EOF honoree for 2017. We honor someone each year who has wrapped herself around the AAUW Mission and shown by her involvement in AAUW activities that she is worthy of the honor. Our \$500 is given to EOF in Ruth’s name. Her name will be listed in the State Convention booklet along with the others being honored by the other Branches of the State.

Educational Opportunities Fund (EOF) & Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF)

Elaine Damsteegt, EOF VP and Laurie Holthouse, LAF VP

At our Annual Holiday Party monetary gifts for the 2 funds totaled \$245 or \$122.50 for each fund. We thank all who gave so generously to support the excellent work of these 2 funds.



The logo for Craft Burgers & Brews features the word "craft." in a large, black, distressed, lowercase font. Below it, the words "BURGERS & BREWS" are written in a smaller, bold, black, uppercase font. The entire logo is set against a white background with black horizontal bars above and below it.

Divas Dine at Craft Burgers & Brews

Bring a friend and join us for a dining experience full of fun.
Non Members are welcome.

Tuesday, February 21, 2017, 630 pm

60 Chautauqua Avenue

Lakewood, NY 14701

RSVP: Kathy Colby, kjcolby@hotmail.com, 716-720-0234

What's New Fair

By Mary Lee Talbot

Congratulations! We raised \$8000 toward our scholarship program, despite the first major snowfall of the season, through the 2016 What's New Fair. This was only possible because of the hard work and support that you all give to this event. Many thanks to each of you for all the support and time you gave this event.

Kat Colvin again worked with the merchants. We had about 10 fewer this year due to life events with some of our long-time participants and then new configuration of the kitchen space and fireplace room in the Hamilton Student Center at Jamestown Community College. But the merchants who were there were very happy and appreciative. Special thanks to Joyce Brasted and Jerry Vanim who helped tape down the rooms in record time. Kat has retired as co-chair of the event but promises to be there in 2017 as a volunteer. Thank you, Kat, for all the innovations you have enabled in the past 5 years. Kathy Stanton has stepped forward to be the liaison with our merchants.

Phoebe Forbes did her usual fine job as treasurer. She keeps us honest with how much we have to give away. Terry Klein and Rita Brown have been mainstays with the Admissions tables for many years. They had to step away but came back for a couple of years. Now it is time for them to hand on this piece of the Fair to a couple of people who can only give limited but important time to the event.

Holly Gatto, Becky Nystrom and Yvonne Makl set up the Raffle, one of our biggest money makers. They work hard to get in touch with a variety of institutions around the area to provide prizes. Some of our merchants even give an extra gift to help make this a successful part of the Fair. Maggie Irwin is our publicist extraordinaire. She has used her contacts in the community to get us some of the best publicity for the event. She needs someone to work with her to help get the word out about the Fair in a variety of ways.

Kathy Colby and Mary Keeney coordinated the Sweet Shoppe. Your donations helped us sell some sweet treats to our visitors. They are going to need at least one more person to help with this part of the Fair this year.

Candy Johnson always does an incredible job in decorating the Ginger Bread men. Eklof's Bakery again made the cookies for us. Over the fall, the Manufacturer's Club of Chautauqua Lake Central School refurbished the Ginger Bread House. Candy is ready to retire and we need two people to come on board and coordinate the decoration of the cookies. This is a great place to meet some of the wonderful young people who volunteer each year.

Dolores Thompson again said yes to coordinating our AAUW volunteers. Thank you, Dolores. Wendy Present does the recruiting of our young volunteers and she did a great job. In fact, the word is spreading among some high school groups that the What's New Fair is a good place to get their volunteer points.

Alice O'Grady, Dixie Siegel and Shirley Forbes found grocers all around the county who donated food for our hospitality cart. They kept the merchants happy with bagels, cookies, fruit and drinks. Alice O'Grady will be moving to Texas at the end of March and we are sorry to see her go. Thanks Alice for volunteering and good luck! We will need another person to come on board. Several AAUW members including our president Christiana Marsh told people about the work of AAUW and invited people to join us. Welcome to all our new members! Linda Fellows, Ruth Wahl and Elaine Damsteegt coordinated the Members table where items are re-gifted from members some members contribute handmade items. The receipts from this table help defray the dues that we pay each year.

We had great support from the staff of Jamestown Community College, from a variety of merchants and institutions around the area to provide gifts and food, and from the greater community in coming to the Fair. We will be getting dates set with JCC soon and then it is time to get things started for 2017. Please consider volunteering to help with one of the committees and be sure to put the dates on your calendar to be at the Fair. Together we can raise the hopes of so many women who are working hard to get an education to improve their lives and the lives of their families.

Circle of Distinction

By B. Dolores Thompson

Jamestown and area residents have had the privilege of having access to top quality hospital care within the city itself since 1885. WCA Hospital has been in the news recently, as it has become part of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center's network, expanding its services with the latest in medical science.

AAUW's Circle of Distinction recognized the hospital, in particular its founders, in March 1989 in recognition of National Women's History Week. Fortuitously, the history of the hospital's founding was due to be briefly recounted in this Twigs issue, just as the hospital is in the news!

In the early 1880s a group of philanthropic Christian women operated a city mission. They were deeply concerned about those less fortunate. Their husbands were professionals and prosperous businessmen, but they were not wealthy. Thus, the women were constantly finding ways to raise money for their philanthropic work. They also sought donations of food, clothing and other needed supplies. Of particular concern were the children in the community along with their mothers.

On September 8, 1884 a community leader spoke to the women of the great need for a hospital in the village. Six months later, February 28, 1885, the village poor master asked them to consider establishing a house for single young women who were flocking to the village to work in

the mills and factories. Ultimately, the group incorporated as the Women's Christian Association of Jamestown, NY, dated May 23, 1885. Their goals included a hospital and boarding houses. Eventually, two of the latter were established - the YWCA and the Agnes Home. Other concerns of these women were eventually taken care of by other resources in the community.

The much needed hospital became reality in April 1887 with the \$13,500 purchase of the Kimball property at the corner of Foote Avenue and Allen Street. The brick Italianate structure on the property was scheduled to house a number of the group's endeavors with one room as a "hospital" It was soon realized many more rooms were needed for that purpose. The indefatigable women embarked on fundraising with a variety of events. At their annual meeting of October 3, 1892, the president, Mrs. Clark, announced that the debt was paid in full.

The Italianate building is long since gone, as the hospital has expanded numerous times over the years to serve the needs of the community. But let us remember, it was a group of women, dedicated to community needs, who had the courage to go into debt personally to address one of those needs.

(The term "village" above is correct, Jamestown became a city in 1886)

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.



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

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

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

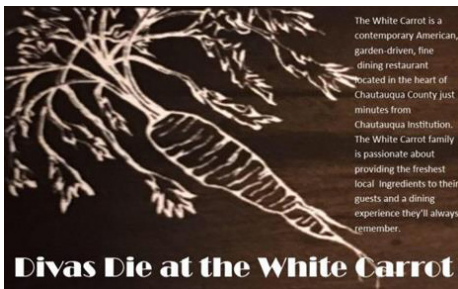
This AAUW special interest group is called "Dining Divas." This is open to all AAUW members, guests and the community. This is a great tool for member recruitment, member retention and engagement.

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."*

Divas Dine Visual History



Divas Die at the White Carrot

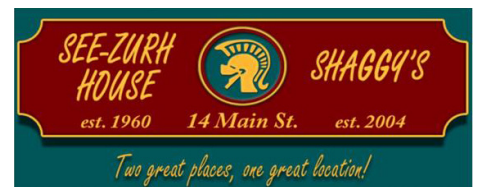
The White Carrot



EBC



Blue Heron Inn



See-Zurh House



The Hadley House

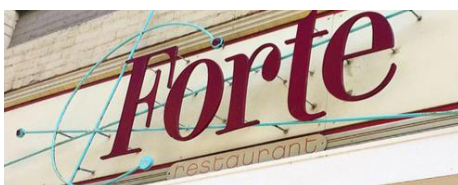


House of Petillo



DIVAS DINE-OUT

The Watermark



Forte



Summer Wind



Mexican



Red Lobster

About the AAUW

AAUW Mission

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

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 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 Value Promise

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

National Website:

www.aauw.org

State Website:

www.aauw-nys.org

Jamestown Website:

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

Branch Leadership

Executive Board--(Elected Officers)

- President Christina Marsh
- Program VP Janet Forbes
- Membership Joint VPs Linda Fellows
Mary Keeney
- EOF VP Elaine Damsteegt
- LAF VPs 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

- Communications
 - Publicity Keri Brown
 - TWIGS Editor Leslie Calimeri
 - Directory Debra Eck
 - Social Media Kathy Colby
 - Member Communications... Maggie Irwin
- Public Policy Chair B. Dolores Thompson
- STEM Janet Forbes
- Nominating Committee Linda Fellows
- Hospitality Dixie Segal
- Scholarship Wendy Present
- Dining Divas Kathy Colby
- Historian..... Elaine Rissel
- Interclub Council B. Dolores Thompson
- Circle of Distinction B. Dolores Thompson
- Education Partners Valerie Champlin
Maggie Irwin
- Get In the Game Wendy Present
RaeLynn DeAngelo
- What's New Fair: Kathy Stanton
Mary Lee Talbot