



Jamestown Branch

Volume 19, Issue 5

May/June 2014

From the Editor

Lucyism:

“Once in his life, every man is entitled to fall madly in love with a gorgeous redhead.”

-- Lucille Ball

Shall we all go get our hair dyed together? Fun branch meeting idea. :)

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Calendar of Branch Events

May 1, 2014; Thurs.

Program: Membership Social/Meet the Scholarship Winners

Place: The Sheldon House

Time: 7:00 PM



May 21, 2014; Wed.

Program: Spring Tune-Up

Place: Den Adelsman's Klub, 3411 Salisbury Rd, Gerry, NY 14740

Time: 6:00 PM

A fun branch event. Look for more info via email

June 19, 2014; Thurs.

Program: Annual Dinner/Installation of Officers

Place: Hare 'N Hounds Restaurant, Bemus Point

Time: 6:00 PM

Dinner: Two meat entrees, a fish meal, and a vegetarian selection.

Cost: \$24 or \$25 that includes coffee or tea, the meal, and dessert.

Tax and tip included

August 8, 2014; Fri.

Program: AAUW Day at Chautauqua

Place: Chautauqa Institution

Speaker: Ken Burns

Lunch: Athenaeum Hotel

All members are encouraged to attend these meetings.



President's Message

-- By Maggie Irwin, President

Dare I say Spring is here? I see people finally starting to come out of their homes, taking long walks, cleaning up their yards, riding bicycles, and more. To me Spring represents fresh starts or new beginnings. For our branch, it's the time of year we honor and celebrate our scholarship recipients who will be starting new chapters in their lives as they go on to earn their four year degrees. We will meet these outstanding young women at the Membership Social (May 1st, 7 pm at the Sheldon House in Jamestown). These are the young women for whom we worked so hard last November at the What's New Fair. We are awarding \$10,500 in scholarships this year. I am so proud of our branch and its awesome members! And, thank you to our Scholarship Committee (Wendy Present, Kathy Stedman, Kathi Clark, and Frieda Fairburn) for the time they put into the process.



This is also the time of year when our AAUW membership renewal letters go out on May 1st. We are beginning a new year on July 1st and we want you all on board to support our mission and contribute your time, if you are able. A free membership will be awarded from the pool of members who send in their renewal checks by June 1st. We ask you to return the renewal letter with your check for \$70 no later than June 20th.

We end our year with the annual dinner on June 19th at the Hare 'N Hounds restaurant where we celebrate all the year's accomplishments, swear in officers, enjoy the good food, and each other's company. You will be getting an invitation and I hope you'll be able to join us.

And finally, we begin to think about next year. I hope you will take a moment to send me an email or call me (mirwin@stny.rr.com; 483-5448) to let me know what you would like to see in the way of programming or in what areas of the branch you would like to become involved. Or, if you're unsure of what is available to do, let's have a chat. We can certainly plug you into an area you will like.

Enjoy your Spring. And, especially, enjoy the rebirth around and within you.

Inez Alston Celebrates 50 Years —

Please join us in congratulating Inez Alston who has been an AAUW member for 50 years!! At this milestone, she will receive an Honorary Life membership to AAUW.

Inez earned her Bachelor's degree and Master's Degree in Elementary Education and Reading from SUNY Fredonia. Inez was an active member of the Jamestown community and has held many positions in our branch including President from 1996-2000. Inez has relocated to Buffalo to live with her son.

Her new address is 72 William Price Parkway, Buffalo, NY 14214. Congratulations Inez!

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.

Membership Social, May 1st

-- By Alicia Mae Hodnett and Barbara Russell,
Membership Co-VPs

The annual AAUW Jamestown Branch Membership Social will be held on Thursday, May 1st at 7:00 PM at the Sheldon House. If anyone is interested in finding out more about AAUW, the mission, and what we have accomplished as a branch, this is the event to attend. We are active. We make a difference.

This event begins with a few moments to “socialize,” mingle with others, get your questions answered. We will then have a short business meeting that will highlight the past years events and the introduction of new officers for the upcoming 2014-2015 year. The evening will continue by announcing and honoring this year's scholarship recipients. The guest speaker of the evening will be Rosanne Johanson, VicePresident of Jamestown Business College (JBC). As a women and a leader who has been a positive influence in the communities in which she serves, Rosanne represents a women who has overcome barriers, been empowered and continues to make a difference.

Come out! Be inspired! Invite others with a two year degree or greater that have a desire to empower women. A new member can join at this event for the special rate of \$45.50 and the referring member will earn an entry into the drawing for a free membership. The evening promises to be enjoyable. We hope to see you there!

Scholarship Winners

Megan Bowman - JCC, Fine Arts/Studio Arts, continuing studies to become an art teacher. While attending JCC she was the President of the Earth Awareness Club, did bird banding including owls, and education outreach with fourth and fifth graders.

Kathleen Carolous - JCC, Nursing. She would like to work as an RN first and then become a nurse practitioner. Kathleen was involved in the JCC nursing club including several health screenings on campus. She has done an internship at Roswell Park Hospital and ran the Akron Half Marathon and the James Prendergast run for literacy race.

Caitlin Cusimano - JCC, Communications/Public Relations. She would like to work as a public relations director for an organization. While attending

Nomination Slate of Officers

-- By Kathy Colby, AAUW Nominating Committee Chair

Below is the Nomination Slate of 2014-2016 Officers for election on Thursday, May 1st, at the AAUW Social. I hope you plan to attend the Social.

1. President: Maggie Irwin
2. Membership: Alicia Hodnett
3. Recording Secretary: Ruth Wahl
4. LAF VPs: Laurie Holthouse; Linda Fellows

2014-2015 Officers:

1. Program VPs: Reni Bob and Janet Forbes



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.

JCC she performed with the JCC Uncommoners, was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, a student ambassador, and a peer mentor.

Daphne Crawford - JBC, Business Administration-Management. She would like to become a financial planner and teach others how to manage their income. While attending JBC she is working at Heritage Park planning activities for residents.

Heather King - Recipient of the Pat Moldovan AAUW Scholarship, JCC, Early Childhood. She would like to teach grades 1-6 and eventually own her own daycare learning center. While attending JCC Heather was a tutor at JCC Main Street.

(Continued from p. 3 Scholarship Recipients)

Maria Sena - JCC, Biotechnology. Maria would like to do cancer research. While attending JCC, Maria has been a student ambassador, President of the DNA Club, and a Biotechnology Student Intern.

Taylor Storer - JCC, Individual Studies in physical education. Taylor has been a member of the JCC Women's Basketball Team while attending JCC and has been a presenter for Get in the Game. Taylor would like to teach children about staying active and the importance of doing the right thing.

Carrie Swart - JCC, Nursing. She would like to become a women's health nurse practitioner. She has been the secretary of the nursing club while attending JCC and has worked at Bath and Body Works and the Athenaeum.

Misty McChesney - JCC, Engineering Science/Electrical Engineering. She would like to work at Cummins Engine as an engineer. Misty has been a member of PTK while attending JCC and a student ambassador.

Brianna Nelson - JCC, Liberal Arts-Social Sciences with a concentration in psychology. She would like to become a clinical psychologist or pursue a care in psychology and law. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and of the Flow Arts Club at JCC.

Public Policy

-- *By B. Dolores Thompson, Public Policy VP*

April 8th was the 2013 designated Pay Equity Day. Our branch took note of the event in several ways.

The Post-Journal published my op-ed on Sunday, the 6th. Maggie's article on the restaurants' participation appeared on April 2nd. I appreciate the newspaper's cooperation with this event and the many other articles they always publish on our activities.

Maggie and I publicized the event on Saturday, the 5th at the Breakfast Party, which is broadcast from Friendly's Restaurant, and Maggie also appeared on Jim Roseli's morning program.

Five restaurants took note of the day, offering a 20% discount for women on lunch or dinner. Please patronize them and thank them: Cibo, Babalu Café, Shawbuck's the Press Room, Labyrinth Press

Sara Elifritz - JCC, Occupational Therapy Assisting. She would like to work in a school district or early intervention. She would like to become an advocate for children and legal issues. While at JCC she was the vice president of the SOTA club in 2013 and a member of Phi Theta Kappa.

Stephanie Feneran - JBC, Business Administration. Stephanie keeps very busy besides her school work...she works full time and is a mother of four teenage boys as well as a wife! She wants to help other people understand the importance of an education.

Ellen Reed - 2014 AAUW Athletic Scholarship, JCC student and a member of the JCC Women's Basketball team. Ellen is majoring in math science pre-nursing and would like to transfer to a pre-medicine program. Ellen volunteered for Get in the Game this year and helped with fundraising for WCA hospital as well as ringing the bell for the Salvation Army.

Be Inspired



Company, and the Landmark Restaurant. Cibo reported about a 50% increase in lunch patrons that day.

Samuel Teresi, Jamestown's mayor, issued a proclamation. The Prendergast Library let us set up a table near the front entrance for 2 hours in the afternoon. Dixie Siegel handed out information and signed up 8 persons for the 2-minute Activist. At JCC, Greg Rabb is distributing this information to his Political Science classes. Greg has been attending some AAUW events.

We hope to increase restaurant participation in the coming years...if you can help with this project, it would be deeply appreciated.

Chinese Proverb: When Sleeping Women Wake, Mountains Move...

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Membership Renewals

-- By *Alicia Mae Hodnett, Membership Co-VP*

It's that time of year; membership renewals have been sent! If you have not received your letter, it should be there within the next day or so. Please take a moment on the backside of your letter to let us know your areas of interest. If by chance we have missed your interest area, let us know.

We have had some awesome events this year. The AAUW Day at Chautauqua (August), What's New Fair (November), and Get in the Game (March) events were exceptional. We had many other events that were well received by the community, but I can't possibly name them all. I don't know about you, but I am looking forward to the 2014-2015 Membership year!

Renew by June 1st and be entered into the drawing for a free membership. The 2014-2015 Membership cost is only \$70.00. What a bargain! When you consider the positive impact we make to

help women and girls overcome barriers, membership is well worth it.

In addition, any member who refers someone who becomes a new member at one of our events between now and June 2014 will get an additional drawing entry for a free membership. The incoming "new" member will be able to join at the reduced cost of \$45.50. Their membership will be valid until June 30, 2015. Membership is open to anyone with a two year associate degree or higher. I am looking forward to serving you during the 2014-2015 Membership year.

Get in the Game--Another Success

-- By *Wendy Present, Get in the Game Co-Chair*

The 15th annual "Get in the Game" event was held on Saturday, March 9th at Jamestown Community College for girls in grades 4-7. Approximately 110 girls from area schools participated in interactive, hands-on stations focusing on various sports. The Jamestown Branch of the AAUW sponsored the local event in support of National Girls and Women in Sports Day along with sponsorship from JCC.

This year's event consisted of 8 interactive stations where girls could experience a wide variety of sports. Local teen and adult women athletes' demonstrated basketball, soccer, rugby, Zumba, track, self-defense, Judo, and kayaking. The girls were able to speak with and ask questions from the athletes, as well as personally participate in each activity. The Babes of Wrath did a roller derby demo at lunch. The purpose of the event is to encourage girls to participate in sports, raise self-esteem through sports, highlight local young female athletes, promote gender equality, and form coalitions with community agencies to support girls and women in sports.

Janet Forbes applied for a grant from the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation for \$500.00. This grant helped cover the cost of food and t-shirts for the girls who participated in GITG. When asked what they learned, girls stated that "All girls can do all sports; It was awesome and very interesting...fun!"

Member Birthdays

Melda Palmer	May 21
Frances Fair	June 12
Linda Burgess	June 15
Barb Russell	June 16
Deb Illig	June 18
Terri Klein	July 3
Mary Swanson	July 11
Tory Irgang	July 17
Ruth Wahl	July 26
Ginny Greene	August 8
Ida Knight	August 8
Maxine Castiglione	August 18
Carol Wayne	August 21
Kathy Stanton	August 27
Jade Boice	August 30

*send your birthday (month/day)
to Maggie Irwin

Educational Opportunities Fund Garage Sale

-- By Frances Fair, EOF VP

Summer will be here before we know it and so will our annual Garage Sale scheduled this year for Friday and Saturday, June 27 and 28. It will again be held at Elaine Damsteegt's home at 186 Hallock Street (on the corner of Hallock and Ellis). All proceeds from this fundraiser will go to our EOF Jamestown Career Development Fund Grant #1445 which each year provides a grant to a woman pursuing her graduate studies.

You may drop off your items at Elaine's front porch any time BEFORE June 24. (She already has

some donations piled in her garage!) If you have large items and prefer to have her open the garage, you can call her at 483-0858 before bringing things to make sure she's home. This is a great way to donate to an EOF project and clear out the clutter at the same time.

If you can spare the time (even as little as 2 or 3 hours), we could use help with pricing, marking, and arranging items during the week before the sale and/or helping at the sale. Call me at 526-4118 if you can help.

We really appreciate any time and/or donations you may be able to give to the sale.

AAUW Member Honored by Westfield YWCA

-- By Maggie Irwin, President

Loreen Ginnitti received the 2013 YWCA Woman of Distinction Award at a ceremony and reception on April 22nd at the Westfield YWCA. Laurie Ginnitti is a retired teacher and a longtime supporter of the YWCA where she has served on the board in several capacities, including two terms as chair and a term as secretary. Laurie has been a member of the Westfield Memorial Hospital Auxiliary for 30 years, serving as a Board Member for nine years and during that time holding positions of Secretary for six years and Membership Vice President for two years. As a 16-year-member of the Union Relief Association, she has served as secretary for 10 of them.



As a Chautauqua-Westfield Branch AAUW Member for 35 years, Laurie held various executive positions for 33 years. She worked with the girls program of the YWCA to organize three AAUW inter-generational programs: A Career Night, a personality Workshop, and a hobby discovery night, and she brought an "Awareness Theater" Workshop on bullying to the girls long before it became a national issue. In 2004 she chaired a Women's History Month research art project and contest with the after school girls that was sponsored by Chautauqua Westfield AAUW.

In the Jamestown AAUW Branch, Laurie has served as Legal Advocacy Vice President and is currently serving as International Affairs Chair for the Branch. Congratulations to Laurie Ginnitti for a well-deserved award.

Save the Date

-- By Kat Colvin and Mary Lee Talbot, What's New Fair Co-Chairs

The 58th What's New Fair will be November 8 & 9
Jamestown Community College
Hamilton Collegiate Center

In 2013 we raised \$10,500 to give as scholarships to women going on for more education. Come and be part of the excitement this year. We need volunteers in every aspect of the Fair, both in advance and on the days of the Fair. Please set aside time to be part of this great event.

Family Literacy Fund

-- By Linda Fellows

The Prendergast Library has a continuous book sale to help raise money for its ongoing needs. My husband wanted to donate money to help children get books, but there was no mechanism to do so. He spoke to Janet Forbes who was volunteering at the library, and she said that perhaps we could donate the money to the YWCA. We did that, and the various classes walked to the library and were able to purchase books.

Janet, my husband, and I have talked to the library, and it is planned that a Family Literacy Fund

AAUW New York State Convention

-- By Maggie Irwin, President



Linda Fellows, me (Maggie Irwin), Elaine Damsteegt, Laurie Ginnitti, and Dolores Thompson recently came home after attending the AAUW New York State Convention. Our branch received these awards:

The highest level, **Platinum Branch**, for Marketing the Mission with outstanding 2013-2014 programming.

We also received the:

1. AAUW-NYS Award of Distinction for Social Media in 2013-2014
2. AAUW-NYS AAUW Ward of Distinction for Communications/Visibility (Website) in 2013-2014

National Website: www.aauw.org

State Website: www.aauw-nys.org

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

will be established at the library for the purpose of helping nonprofit groups such as school associated groups, YWCA, Girls Scouts, Boy Scouts etc. to purchase books. The library will receive money and provide vouchers to the groups for purchase of its sale books. A very simple application for a voucher will be available at the library. A modest donation of seed money has been given to start the project.

The project will start late May or early June. We hope for your donations of books or money to the library, and applications for vouchers for your groups.

3. AAUW-NYS Visibility Award of Distinction in all categories of website, newsletters, print media and social media.
4. AAUW-NYS 21st Century Communications Award of Distinction for Newsletters and Print Media 2013-2014

Congratulations to Kathi Clark and Kathy Colby for your work producing our branch newsletter, website, Facebook, and Twitter.

Funds awards we earned:

1. One of AAUW-NYS top ten branches for Total Unrestricted AAUW Funds Contributions
2. AAUW-NYS Legal Advocacy Fund Star Branch for contribution of \$5 per capita or more.

Public Policy Awards and recognition we received:

1. Gold Star Public Policy Action Award for 2014
2. Recognition for consistent efforts to educate members about public policy issues through the Branch newsletter.
3. Recognition for best use of op-eds to educate the community.
4. 2014 Equal Pay Day Action Award
5. B. Dolores Thompson, our branch Public Policy Chair, received a Special Leadership Recognition Award.

Congratulations to our members who contributed to all our efforts.



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: **Barbara Russell**
(716) 763-3346

Branch Leadership

Executive Board--(Elected Officers)

President:	Maggie Irwin
Program VP:	Candy Johnson
Membership VPs:	Barbara Russell Alicia Hodnett
EOF VP:	Frances Fair
LAF VPs:	Mary Keeney Patricia Luciani
Treasurer:	Shirley Sanfilippo
Recording Secretary:	Phoebe Forbes

State Representatives

NYS Membr./Finance Liason:	Phoebe Forbes
District 1 Coordinators:	Elaine Damsteegt Kathi Clark

Committee Chairs

Public Policy:	B. Dolores Thompson
Communications:	
<i>Publicity Writer:</i>	Mary Lee Talbot
<i>TWIGS Editor:</i>	Kathi R. Clark
<i>Directory:</i>	Debra Eck
<i>Calling:</i>	Holly Gatto
<i>Social Media:</i>	Kathy Colby
Social:	Linda Fellows Dixie Siegel
Scholarship:	Wendy Present Kathy Stedman Kathi Clark Terry Klein
Historian:	Elaine Rissel
Corresponding Secretary:	Vange Morris
College/University Partners:	Christina Marsh Alicia Hodnett
International Affairs Chair:	Loreen Ginnitti