



# Jamestown Branch

Volume 20, Issue 2

November/December 2014

## From the Editor

There are two timely items I want you to take note of in this *Twigs* Issue:

AAUW What's New Fair articles and

**Page 3: LAF Wreath Fundraiser** with order form. Remember to cut out the order form and give it to Linda Fellows this weekend!

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## Calendar of Branch Events

**Nov. 8 and 9, 2014; Sat./Sun.**

**Program:** AAUW What's New Fair  
**Place:** JCC Hamilton Collegiate Center  
**Time:** Sat: 10 AM - 5 PM, Sun: 10 AM - 4 PM

**Nov. 14, 2014; Fri.**

**Program:** New Member/What's New Fair Party  
**Place:** Reni Bob, host, 571 Front Street, Jamestown  
**Time:** 5:30 - 8:00 PM

**Nov. 19, 2014; Wed.**

**Program:** Dining Divas  
**Place:** See-Zurh House, 14 Main Street, Bemus Point  
**Time:** 7:00 PM  
RSVP: Kathy Colby, kjcolby@hotmail.com, 720-0234

Mark these meetings on your calendar.

**Dec. 9, 2014; Tues.**

**Program:** Holiday Gathering  
**Place:** Marvin House  
**Time:** 5:30 PM  
**Speakers:** Women4Women-Knitting4Peace & Little Angels of Honduras



**Dec. 16, 2014, Tues.**

**Board Meeting**  
**Place:** Celoron Community Center  
**Time:** 6:00 - 7:30 PM



## Board Message

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-- By Janet Forbes, Program VP

Our AAUW Jamestown Branch Board of Directors is working well together to provide leadership for our Branch during this year of transition without a Branch President. At our first BOD meeting of the year in September, Laurie Ginnitti served as facilitator as we worked together to create a shared leadership structure for this year. We are fortunate to have many experienced, skilled, and committed BOD members who are stepping up to lead the Branch in new and expanded ways. We also enjoy guidance and support from AAUW NYS leaders. We are rotating the role of chairing BOD meetings among the Executive Board members, which gives each leader the opportunity to experience this role, gain leadership experience, and guide the Branch from the BOD meeting chaired until the next BOD meeting. Janet Forbes chaired the September meeting, Linda Fellows the October meeting, and Alicia Mae Hodnett will chair the December meeting. We are off to a good, solid start

for our AAUW year. We are focused on our AAUW Value Promise - "By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance." We are glad that you are part of this community along with us.

Our Branch is in need of a Publicity Chairperson who will create and submit press releases to local media outlets for our major programs. This does not include publicity for the What's New Fair or Get In the Game.

If you are interested in considering this role or would like more information, please contact Janet Forbes [jlforbes@hotmail.com](mailto:jlforbes@hotmail.com) or #664-3499.

## Public Policy

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-- By B. Dolores Thompson, Public Policy VP

A fundamental right of most of the citizens of the modern-day world is the right to choose the leaders of their communities - from the smallest village to the top level of government of their country. It is a right of relatively recent times . . . and one that has been fought for rather than having been granted by a benevolent leadership in power.

Late 18th century men living in the English colonies of North America along the Atlantic Ocean believed they should be able to govern themselves and not be subjects of a king on the other side of that ocean. A little over a half century later, the women of the now free country believed they should have a voice in the government to which they paid taxes and whose laws they were expected to obey. Acquiring that voice proved to be a lengthy and arduous endeavor.

Today, nearly a century later, women not only vote in equal numbers with men, they have begun to seek the offices for which they vote, though not yet in equal numbers. And one day, the United States will

*(Continued on P. 3)*

### 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.

*Public Policy (continued from P. 2)*

join the enlightened nations of the world with a woman as head of state.

In the meantime, we do our best to encourage everyone to vote and to inform them about the issues currently in the forefront. Jamestown AAUW offered voter registration opportunities at St. Susan's Center, the Eastside YMCA, and at the Prendergast Library.

We again joined with the League of Women Voters to offer a Candidate Forum, which attracted

40-50 attendees. Each candidate for New York State Assembly, Chautauqua County Legislature District 12, Chautauqua County Sheriff, and Family Court Judge presented a brief statement and then answered questions posed by the Forum organizers as well as from the audience. Seeing the candidates and hearing them speak offers a different perspective from the printed word. I have more than once reached a decision or changed my mind after that more personal experience.

**ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH . . . VOTE!!!**

**Legal Advocacy Fund Holiday Fundraiser**

*-- By Laurie Holthouse, LAF Co-VP*

New this year--An LAF 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 [deliver your order form and money to Linda Fellows at the AAUW What's New Fair Table November 8 and 9](#). Checks are to be made out to Laurie Holthouse. Money is due at the time of order.

Please consider purchasing some for yourself and feel free to ask family and friends to place orders so we can meet our LAF goal for the year. Wreaths will be ready to be picked up December 10 at Elaine Damsteegt's home, 186 Hallock Street, Jamestown.



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 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 \_\_\_\_\_

## The 59th Annual AAUW What's New Fair

-- By Mary Lee Talbot, WNF Co-Chair

Can you believe it is almost time again for Gingerbread cookies and AAUW goodies? Can you believe that we have been raising money for scholarships for women to continue their education and reach their dreams for almost 60 years? Well it is that time, and we hope this is the best AAUW What's New Fair ever.

The Fair will take place on November 8 and 9 at the Hamilton Center at Jamestown Community College. Hours from the Fair are Saturday, November 8 from 10:00 until 5:00 and Sunday, November 9 from 10:00 until 4:00.

We always hope that we will have a great Fair and raise enough money to help the women from Jamestown Community College and Jamestown Business College reach their goals. That is the reason we do the Fair, but we also do it to have fun together and to get to know each other. AAUW makes money from the Fair in several ways: Admissions tickets and raffle tickets are the most obvious means to raising scholarship money. Also, our merchant vendors rent space for their displays. (We do not ask for a cut of their profits). The AAUW Table raises money for general AAUW operating costs. The Sweet Shoppe and Gingerbread House contribute to the scholarship funds. And of course the Membership Table reaches out to women to invite them to join our efforts.

Kat Colvin and Mary Lee Talbot are the co-chairs. Kat handles all the relationships with the merchant vendors who will be at the Fair. There will be at least 70 merchants and quite a few new ones this year. Too many names to mention them all, but there will be a great variety of merchandise for holiday buying. Kat has been on the look out for new vendors and new crafts people as well as welcoming back so many of the stalwarts who come year and after year and bring so many people back to the Fair each year.

Mary Lee oversees everything else and works with the committee chairs to make sure they have what they need to make their areas a success.

After a brief hiatus, Terry Klein will be back at the Fair overseeing the Admissions Tables.

Kathi Clark, Holly Gatto, and Becky Nystrom have been working to secure prizes for the raffle table.

Maggie Irwin has been overseeing the radio and newspaper publicity. Linda Burgess has taken on the initiative to reach out to people in the northern part of Chautauqua County to get them to the Fair.

Many members took posters and signs at our first meeting in September to get them around the county. Kathi Clark, Kathy Colby, Rita Brown, Linda Burgess, Mary Lee Talbot and Maggie Irwin have put out yard signs.

Kathy Colby, Shirley San Filippo and Theresa Levandowski are heading the Sweet Shoppe again. Please remember to bake some extra special goods.

Candy Johnson, Rosemary Hedberg, and Valerie Champlin are getting the Gingerbread House ready.

Alice O'Grady, Dixie Siegel, and Janet Forbes will be providing the hospitality to merchants and volunteers during the Fair (with a lot of help from some of our younger volunteers.)

Patty Lindquist and Dolores Thompson have been calling all of you to set times for your participation in the Fair. Please say "yes" and come and enjoy this great event!

Alicia Mae Hodnett will greet people at the Membership Table. Maggie Irwin will be helping her.

Elaine Damsteegt and Linda Fellows are looking for your contributions to the AAUW Table. New or re-gifted items that make great stocking stuffers and hostess gifts are always needed.

Santa and Mrs. Santa will be there again. There will be door prizes given out every half hour during the Fair. You have to be present to win. Raffle prizes will be drawn on Sunday afternoon at 3:30 and you need not be present to win.

And if you happen to get hungry, JCC's student cafeteria will be open for breakfast and lunch both days.

## AAUW What's New Fair Raffle Table

-- By Kathi R. Clark, WNF Raffle Co-Chair

Thank you to those who have already turned in your checks for AAUW What's New Fair raffle and admissions tickets. If you have not done so, we would appreciate receiving your checks in advance of the Fair to make managing and keeping track of everything a bit easier.

Since last year's raffle was such a success, we again are having individual bags for each prize, so you can specifically place your tickets into the bags of the prizes you want most. The following are the raffle prizes for this year:

Contented Inn Bed and Breakfast two night stay, YMCA six month membership, Chautauqua Institution two Day and Evening Passes with parking, Chautauqua Insitution Golf Club two Greens fees

with cart, Summer Wind Cruise two Sunday brunch cruises, See Zurh House \$50 gift card, Hare 'N Hound Restaurant \$50 gift card, one hour Wanda Lucariello Massage, JCC Faculty Association Filled JayHawk Duffle bag--\$150 value, Roger Tory Institute Puzzle, Cala Lily Yarn Shop \$75 Gift Basket, Lakewood Apothecary \$50 gift certificate, Fenton History Center Family Membership, Urban Cycling gift certificate, Lucille Ball Little Theatre two tickets, Jamestown Audubon \$65 gift bag, Fort Restaurant \$50 gift card, Wing City Grill three \$10 gift cards, Girton's Flowers & Gifts \$25 gift certificate, Move Fitness & Dance Studio \$60 class package, Urban Cycling and Performance Exercise Studio gift certificate, gift basket donated by Rosemary Hedburg, Blue Fin bracelet, Spa basket donated by Maggie Irwin, Chautauqua Water Shed Conservancy-2 Animal Adoption Conservation Kits (with stuffed animal) each valued at \$25, Dirty Pretty Things Jewelry valued at \$120.

### CALLING ALL AAUW MEMBERS

-- By Elaine Damsteegt, AAUW Table Co-Chair

Linda Fellows and I are "down-on-our-knees desperate" for nice saleable items for the **AAUW What's New Fair Table**.

We have received some very nice items, but not enough to make the \$600 we are expected to earn from our Table.

In order to do so, we have to have more things to sell.

We are counting on you and know you will come through.

The box on Elaine's porch at **186 Hallock Street** is available for you to put things in any time.

If you'd rather call me at **483-0858**, we can arrange to be home so your contributions can come inside immediately. (We'll even come to your house to pick them up if you need us to.)

It really helps to have everything ahead of time so we can have them all marked and figure out how to display them.

Please try to have your things here by Wed., Nov. 5.

(We will, however, still take things on Fri. evening at JCC while setting up between 4 and 6 if you find it impossible to get them to me before that.)

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

## Holiday Gathering Program

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-- By Janet Forbes, Program VP

Our Holiday Gathering will be held on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 5:30 pm at the Marvin House. It will be a celebration of women and men who give their time and talents to help those in need both in the US and around the globe. Following dinner, our guest speakers will be Susan Cala, owner of Cala Lily Yarn Shop, active supporter of Women4Women-Knitting4Peace and leader of the local W4W-K4P Peace Pod; and Emily Davis, Community Director for Little Angels of Honduras. Both women will share information about their organizations, the work that is being done

to improve the lives of women and children, and how we can support these efforts. To learn more about these organizations, visit <http://www.knitting4peace.org> and <http://littleangellofhonduras.org>

In lieu of a gift exchange, we will be accepting donations to our Educational Opportunities and Legal Advocacy Funds. More details about the Holiday meeting and reservation information will be emailed in mid November.

We look forward to celebrating with holiday season with you on the 9th. Happy holidays!!

## The Circle of Distinction

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-- By B. Dolores Thompson, Public Policy VP

The Circle of Distinction was established in 1982 to recognize the women of our community who were pioneers in one way or another. In the ensuing 25 years, we celebrated the lives of the women of our community who had made a difference in the lives of local women and also those local women who had contributed to the advancement of women's rights in our nation's history. Only two women were recognized while they were still living - they were too important to not be honored during their lifetimes.

In 1988 the Circle honored Edith Ainge and the Political Equality Club. The women's right to vote movement began in 1848 in Seneca Falls, NY. It quickly gained the support of many women and a significant number of men. Political equality clubs sprang up across the country, but not until 1887 in

Jamestown. Clubs soon formed elsewhere in Chautauqua County and, in 1888, representatives of all of them met in Jamestown at Allen's Opera House (now Little Theatre). They joined together as the Chautauqua County Political Equality Club. It was the first county-wide group in New York State and for several years the largest club in the entire nation.

Jamestown resident Edith Ainge was active in Washington D.C. where she served as treasurer of the National Organization and at times held forth at the national headquarters. She picketed the White House, marched in numerous parades, and served time in jail for defying city ordinances.

The City of Jamestown recognized the Equality Club with an historical marker in 2013. It is placed in the small park next to the Little Theatre building.

## AAUW has special consultative status at the United Nations

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What does that mean? As a nongovernmental organization (NGO), AAUW has special consultative status with the U.N. Department of Economic and Social Affairs. AAUW's board-appointed main representative, Melissa Guardaro of AAUW NYS and our two youth representatives attend briefings, organize events, and form coalitions to take action on women's issues like girls' empowerment, human trafficking, and women's opportunities in science, tech-

nology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

Additionally, every year in March AAUW's representatives, staff, and members participate in the Commission on the Status of Women - the international body exclusively dedicated to promoting gender equality and empowering women.

## District 1 Meeting

-- By Janet Forbes, Program VP

This year's District 1 meeting was hosted by the AAUW Dunkirk-Fredonia Branch and held at the new SUNY Fredonia Science Center. AAUW leaders and Branch members from Buffalo, Jamestown, and Dunkirk-Fredonia Branches enjoyed a tour of the new Center, panel discussion with women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) careers, and networking. Dr. Virginia Shafer Horvath, SUNY Fredonia President and AAUW member, welcomed the group, talked about women's approach to problem solving - "women untangle calmly," and gave an overview of the design philosophy in the development of the Science Center, which encourages interaction among and across disciplines. "There is a lot of light in this building" intended to engage the natural and man-made elements.

Kimberly Hayes Pollard, AAUW Regional Field Representative, met with Branch leaders to discuss AAUW's greatest challenges and opportunities - membership and leadership. The discussion included recruitment and retention ideas and resources, leadership development, College/University program development, and strategies to increase diversity in our membership.



## Membership News

-- By Alicia Mae Hodnett, Membership VP

I invite you to our AAUW What's New Fair New Member Celebration on Friday, November 14th at 5:30 - 8:00 PM, hosted by Reni Bob, 571 Front Street, Jamestown. Please bring a dish to pass or beverage to share. This will be an opportunity to relax and meet other members. We hope to see you there! RSVP by November 12th: (716) 720-1730 or amhodnett@gmail.com.

If you are new to our AAUW Jamestown Branch,

we'd like the opportunity to introduce you to the rest of our members in our *TWIGS* Newsletter. Please submit a short bio that includes your education, profession, and special interests. Send your bio to amhodnett@gmail.com. If you have any questions, call (716) 720-1730.

**Reminder:** New members who join the AAUW Jamestown Branch at the What's New Fair can join for \$45.50. And, members who refer people who join get to be in a drawing for a free membership for next year.

## Give the Gift of Reading

The Prendergast Library is now selling \$5 and \$10 gift certificates for its book sale, including some that are decorated for the holidays. Customers may use cash, checks, or credit cards to buy certificates in \$5 or \$10 amounts. Holiday and non-holiday designs are available. Certificates are good for one year from the purchase date and must be used in their entirety when redeemed.

The library now offers a daily book sale and makes items available as soon donations are received. Thousands of gently used books are available including high quality books for children and teens, large print, adult non-fiction and fiction, audio books, DVDs and CDs. Shoppers may browse for items year-round from 9 AM to 8:30 PM

Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM on Saturday, and 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

Regular prices are \$2 for adult hardcover books and \$1 each for adult paperbacks, young adult books, and children's books. Prendergast Library is located at 509 Cherry St., Jamestown. For information, call 484-7135.



Visit the Library's website for details about donating to the Family Literacy Fund. <http://www.prendergastlibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Donation-Information.pdf>. *Volume 20, Issue 1, Page 7*



*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 VPs:	Janet Forbes and Reni Bob
Membership VP:	Alicia Mae Hodnett
EOF VP:	Frances Fair
LAF VPs:	Linda Fellows and Laurie Holthouse
Treasurer:	Shirley Sanfilippo
Recording Secretary:	Ruth Wahl

*State Representatives*

NYS Member/Finance Liason: Phoebe Forbes

*Committee Chairs*

Public Policy:	B. Dolores Thompson
Communications:	
<i>Publicity:</i>	TBA
<i>TWIGS Editor:</i>	Kathi R. Clark
<i>Directory:</i>	Debra Eck
<i>Social Media:</i>	Kathy Colby
<i>Member Communications:</i>	Holly Gatto
Social:	Mary Keeney
Scholarship:	Wendy Present Kathi Clark Frieda Fairburn Linda Burgess
Historian:	Elaine Rissel
Interclub Council:	Rita Brown
Circle of Distinction:	B. Dolores Thompson
Education Partnerships:	Maggie Irwin and Christina Marsh
International Affairs Chair:	Laurie Ginnitti