



Jamestown Branch

Volume 20, Issue 4

March/April 2015

From the Editor

AAUW New York State Convention has come to our “neck of the woods” offering a wonderful opportunity for us to gather together with other vibrant women across the State. If you are able, seriously consider attending this year’s convention, April 17 - 19, in Grand Island, NY.

Inside This Issue

- P. 1: • Calendar
- P. 2: • Board Message
 - Help us with State Convention
- P. 3: • International Women’s Day
 - Get in the Game
- P. 4: • Program Update
 - LAF Speaker at Convention
- P. 5: • Educational Opportunities Fund
 - Membership News
- P. 6: • Education Partners Committee
 - Public Policy
- P. 7: • NYS Convention News
- P.8 • Branch Leadership

Calendar of Branch Events

March 6, 2015; Fri.

Program: International Women’s Day Dinner
Topic: “Elected Public Servants: A Positive Perspective”
Place: JCC Sarita Weeks Room, Arts and Science Building
Time: 6:00 PM
Co-Sponsor: AAUW Jamestown Branch, Zonta Club of Jamestown, and Jamestown Community College

March 7, 2015; Sat.

Program: Get in the Game
Place: JCC Athletic Complex
Time: 8:30 - 4 PM

Mark these meetings on your calendar.

April 14, 2015; Tues.

Program: Pay Equity Restaurant Day
Places: TBA

April 17 - 19, 2015; Fri. - Sun.

AAUW New York State Convention
Place: Grand Island, New York



April 22, 2015; Wed.

Program: League of Women Voters’ Drug Forum (co-sponsor)
Place: Moonbrook Country Club
Time: Luncheon Meeting

April 30, 2015; Thurs.

Program: Membership Social
Place: Sheldon House
Time: 7 PM
Speaker: Dr. Lillian Vitanza Ney



Board Message

-- By Janet Forbes, Program VP

Highlights from Board of Directors Meeting on Tues., January 20, 2015

- Funds from proceeds of What's New Fair to be used for scholarships - \$10,500
- Linda Fellows, Legal Advocacy VP, has agreed to chair Nominating Committee
- Board meeting dates changed to 2nd Wednesdays of each month - same location
- Note: Wed., March 11 Board meeting will be held at home of Reni Bob
- Educational Fund Named Honorees selected - Holly Gatto and Alicia Mae Hodnett
- Emerging Leader selected - Linda Fellows
- 21st Century Program Award Application - Approved submission of Get in the Game 2014
- Membership update - 5 new members at WNF and 1 renewal

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 - Thurs., April 30, 2015 at Sheldon House - Alicia Mae Hodnett will chair
- Educational Opportunities Fund VP - Elaine Damsteegt accepted interim appointment

Highlights from Board of Directors Meeting on Wed., Feb. 11, 2015

- Educational Partnerships - 3 workshops to be presented at JCC in April for students
- Program updates - AAUW will co-sponsor League of Women Voters Drug Forum at Moonbrook Country Club on Wed., April 22, 2015. Luncheon meeting.
- Branch will have 3 voting delegates to AAUW NYS Convention. Will select delegates at March meeting.
- Educational Opportunities/Legal Advocacy VPs - Will create basket for Convention.
- AAUW Day at Chautauqua - Maggie Irwin will chair this event again this year with help from Barb Russell.
- Next meeting Wed., March 11th at 6:30 pm at home of Reni Bob, 571 Front Street. Reni will chair the meeting.

HELP US WITH AAUW STATE CONVENTION

Our Jamestown Branch has agreed to help the Buffalo Branch prepare for the AAUW NY State convention by putting together the convention packets.

We will assemble the various items (e.g. program book, speaker bios, etc.) into envelopes labeled with attendees' names. We are looking for about six AAUW members to help with this task during the week of April 10th. The convention starts on April 17th. If you can help, please call or email Maggie Irwin (MlIrwin@stny.rr.com; 483-5448) with your availability. Maggie will set a time and place where we can get the packets put together.

International Women's Day Dinner Program

-- By Loreen Ginnitti, International Affairs Chair

“Elected Public Servants: A Positive Perspective”

One of the AAUW public policy priorities for more than five years has been to ensure not only that women vote but that viable educated women run for political office. Women must assume a more proactive role to help identify, mentor, support, and elect more women to local, state, and national government. The progress of women in the last century has dramatically increased the opportunities available to women, yet women's participation in positions of public influence continues to lag behind.

Research shows that while American women have been voting at higher rates than men since the 1980s, women's voices and interests continue to be underrepresented on the local and national stage. The gender gap in political engagement has remained stagnant. Statistically, women are less likely to: write to their representatives, speak up at town hall meetings, be interested in learning about and discussing politics, and run for public office.

But when women run, they are just as likely as men to win -- but they are not running. Despite their low numbers, female elected officials make a difference in the: issues they prioritize, the bills they sponsor and cosponsor, are more responsive to their constituents, and are more focused on cooperation and less on hierarchy.

Get in the Game

-- By Rae Lynn DeAngelo, C-Chair

Our 16th Annual Get in the Game event is this Saturday, March 7, 2015 from 8 AM to 4 PM at JCC.

What is Get in the Game? Created by the AAUW Jamestown Branch, it is our local celebration of National Girls and Women in Sports Day and has been a huge success for the past 15 years. Girls in grades 4-7 spend the day at JCC rotating through several different sports sessions, trying them out, and

They are more actively involved and advocate more in gender-salient issues: women's health, reproductive rights, childcare, and the economy.

Our collaborator, Zonta International, agrees with AAUW and believes that young women are the key to women's advancement in the field of public service. Young girls can't be what they can't see -- it's a vicious circle.

AAUW's Elect Her-Campus Women Win program encourages, trains, and empowers college women to run for student government and future political office. 78% of these trained young women who run win their race.

The earlier women have success in elective office, the more likely they are to continue to be involved in positions of public influence in their communities.

If you know a capable, engaged woman, encourage her to be the voice of other women in a “representative” government where women and women's issues are less prominent. Financially support viable women candidates who often have less available funds to run a campaign because of the gender pay gap and consider the skills and attributes that women candidates can bring to government just because they are women.

International Women's Day Dinner is this Friday, March 6, 2015, at JCC's Sarita Weeks Room, 6 PM, cosponsored by AAUW and Zonta Club.

learning new skills. They also create new friendships and develop self-confidence. This year we are working on including GITG favorites like kayaking, basketball, rugby, track, gymnastics, self-defense, and others.

If you have never participated in Get in the Game, you will NOT be disappointed! Email Rae Lynn DeAngelo at rreimondo@stny.rr.com or call her at 386-2052 if you are able to volunteer or would like more information.

Volume 20, Issue 4, Page 3

Program Update

-- By Janet Forbes, Program VP

We have lots of exciting programming ahead over the next couple of months. We hope that you will participate in as many events as possible and invite potential AAUW members to attend as well.

March 14, 2015, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm - Tech Savvy 10 - "Tech Savvy Girls.....Brilliant and Resilient!" SUNY Buffalo North Campus Student Union. Award winning program of AAUW Buffalo Branch. We have promoted this program in Chautauqua County, encouraging middle and high school girls and adults to attend Tech Savvy. For more info: <http://aauw-nys.org/techsavvybuffalo>

March 18, 2015, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm - STEM Wars - at JCC's Physical Education Complex. This event hosts high school students and tech teachers from across the county. AAUW has been invited to have a table at this event focused on girls in STEM. For more info: <http://www.didiwny.com/stemwars.html>

April 7, 2015 - Pay Equity Day - in partnership with local restaurants. Details to follow.

LAF Speaker at the New York State Convention

-- By Laurie Holthouse, LAF Co-VP

Michelle Jaureguito Henley is this year's speaker for the LAF luncheon at the AAUW New York State Convention. She is one of three former employees of Feather River Community College in California who filed whistleblower lawsuits against the college in 2006. The lawsuits alleged the college violated Title IX by retaliating against them for lodging complaints concerning sex discrimination, among other claims.

Michelle is the former Upward Bound Director at the college. She and another staff member turned in an Upward Bound program staff member who sexually assaulted several female students. The staff member who was turned in is the son of a prominent professor at the college.

Shortly after reporting the complaints, Jaureguito was charged with disciplinary action over an event that was baseless and was eventually dismissed. She continued to be harassed by staff. She reported the harassment several times, but it continued. She finally was forced to quit her job in 2006.

April 17-19, 2015 - AAUW NYS Convention - "AAUW Leading the Way: Women Leadership in the 21st Century." Convention will be held at the Byblos Niagara Resort and Spa, Grand Island, NY. The Buffalo Branch will be celebrating their 125th anniversary! Convention is a great opportunity to learn about AAUW, meet leaders from throughout the state, and enjoy networking and fun with amazing women leaders. Our Branch is entitled to 3 voting delegates. We would like newer, and perhaps first time attendees to consider serving as our delegates. For more info: <http://www.aauwnys.org/convention.htm>

April 22, 2015, mid-day, Drug Forum - League of Women Voters Chautauqua County and AAUW will co-sponsor a Drug Forum at the LWV monthly luncheon meeting, Moonbrook Country Club. Details to follow.

April 30, 2015, 7:00 pm - Membership Social - at Sheldon House - Alicia Mae Hodnett, Membership VP, will chair. Dr. Lillian Ney will lead a conversation with two women friends about leadership.

Michelle and the other two claimants related to Feather River filed suit in late 2006, which was eventually referred to California's State Personnel Board. A judge issued a decision in their favor in 2009 ordering each of their reinstatement as well as back pay and damages. The college appealed the decision. The full State Personnel Board upheld the decision in the plaintiffs' favor.

This case matters because Civil Rights Laws only are effective as far as they are enforced. Title IX is not of much use without faculty and staff who are willing to fight for fairness. AAUW's LAF fund assisted in this case as well as many others by providing financial and organizational assistance and backing for plaintiffs who are fighting sex discrimination in education and in the workplace.

Attend this year's New York State Convention April 17 - 19 and hear Michelle Jaureguito's story firsthand.

Educational Opportunities Fund

-- By Elaine Damsteegt, EOF VP

I'm filing out the remainder of Fran Fair's term as Educational Opportunities Fund Vice President. First of all, I'm pleased to announce that your Board has decided to name Alicia Hodnett and Holly Gatto as our Educational Opportunities Fund HONOREES for this year. Each has shown her worthiness for this honor by the leadership roles she has assumed and has carried out so well. It is because we sent a little over \$1000 to National for EOF that we may honor 2 of our members in this way. NYS AAUW will honor them as well, with their names in a booklet, which we will receive at the NYS Convention.

I also want to update you on a few EOF facts:

- EOF is one of the world's largest sources of funding for graduate women. AAUW is providing more than \$3.7 million in funding for more than 244 fellowships and grants to outstanding women and non profit organizations in the 2014-15 academic year.
- YOU can apply for some of this funding! See the national website for application instructions: http://www.aauw.org/learn/fellowships_grants/index.cfm
- Due to the longstanding, generous contributions of AAUW members, a broader community of women continues to gain access to educational and economic

Membership News

-- By Alicia Mae Hodnett, Membership VP

The 2015 AAUW Jamestown Branch Membership Social will be held on Thursday, April 30th at 7:00 PM at the Sheldon House. We will be honoring the 2014 Scholarship winners as well as our new AAUW Members.

This year's speaker will be Dr. Lillian Ney, a powerful woman in our local community whose expertise and leadership contributions are deeply rooted in JAMA and the WCA Hospital. To further denote her passion for our local community as well her passion for urban design, the Renaissance Center was named - Lillian Vitanza Ney Renaissance Center. As a women in leadership, Dr. Ney's message about "Women in Leadership" at different ages and stages

opportunities - breaking through barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

- AAUW conducts groundbreaking Research on issues related to gender equity in education and the workplace. Our work influences the national discussion on topics like the pay gap between women and men, sexual harassment in schools and on college campuses, and the underrepresentation of women in science and engineering. Through new and traditional media, targeted outreach to policymakers, and member efforts, AAUW Research serves as a catalyst for action.
- Latest Research Projects have been:
 - * Graduating to a Pay Gap: The Earnings of Women and Men One Year after College Graduation (2012),
 - * Women in Community Colleges: Access to Success (2013),
 - * The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap (Spring 2015).
- Upcoming Research Project: Solving the Equation: The Variables for Women's Success in Engineering and Computing.

will make an impact on today's and tomorrow's leaders. She will be facilitating this conversation with community leaders: Tory Irgang, Executive Director, United Way of Southern Chautauqua County & AAUW member; and Katie Geise, Executive Director of the Workforce Investment Board.

In addition to hearing our speaker of the evening we will be electing the 2015-2016 slate of officers. Also, during this event, we will be offering new members a reduced price membership of \$45.50 good through June 30, 2016. Please invite friends and family members to the Social as potential members. Any AAUW member who recruits new members during this event will be entered into a drawing to receive a free 2015-2016 membership.

Volume 20, Issue 4, Page 5

Education Partners Committee

-- By Maggie Irwin, *Education Partners Committee Co-Chair*

AAUW AND JCC JOIN FORCES TO PRESENT APRIL WORKSHOPS

The AAUW Education Partners Committee is collaborating with our College Partner, Jamestown Community College, to put together our first events. The three part series, “**Hire Me!**” will be held in April. The workshops are open to all AAUW members.

As an AAUW College Partner, all JCC students are eligible to sign up for free AAUW e-memberships. We need AAUW members to volunteer to work at the AAUW table at each workshop to talk about AAUW to students and help them sign up for their free memberships.

Call or email Christina Marsh (499-0362; christina.alesia@gmail.com) or Maggie Irwin (483-5448; mirwin@stny.rr.com) to volunteer. We need volunteers to be at each venue by 6:30 pm.

HIRE ME! Part 1: Dress for Success Interview Attire Fashion Show

April 14
7:00-9:00pm
Scharmman Theater

National Website: www.aauw.org

State Website: www.aauw-nys.org

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



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.

HIRE ME! Part 2: Compensation Negotiation Workshop

April 21
7:00-9:00pm
Student Union
Instructor: Laura Corey

Laura Corey of EK Ward & Associates, a human resources consulting firm out of Buffalo with a branch office here in Jamestown, will do a talk and interactive presentation on Compensation Negotiation. She will start out talking about self-evaluation (what skills, etc. you bring to the job). Then move on to point out that it isn't just about salary negotiation, but about negotiating the entire package: benefits, vacation time, etc. And, how negotiation can vary depending on where you are in your life. Also, she'll talk about how to respond to an offer as well as how to turn down an offer-all in a professional manner.

HIRE ME! Part 3: Interview Skills and Resume Workshop

April 28
7:00-9:00pm
Weeks Room
Instructor: Rita Freeborough



Public Policy

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

To celebrate Pay Equity Day on April 14th, I am planning to attend “The Breakfast Party” at Friendly’s Restaurant on Saturday, the 11th. Please join me that morning as we take note of the fiscal disparity women face throughout their lives and which impacts their retirement years. Call me, 484-8289 or email with your questions and interest.



-- By Kathi R. Clark, *Twigs Editor*, and AAUW NYS

This year's AAUW New York State Convention is coming to our neck of the woods. It will be held at the Byblos Niagara Resort in Grand Island, NY near Buffalo. We hope to have many Jamestown Branch members attend convention this year, and the Buffalo Branch may reach out to us in planning for this huge event. So, be sure to mark your calendars, plan on attending this year's State Convention, and be willing to help if asked!

Save the Date!

The 2015 AAUW New York State Convention:

AAUW Leading the Way: Women Leadership in the 21st Century

April 17 - 19, 2015

Byblos Niagara Resort, Grand Island, NY (near Buffalo, NY)

Special Recognition:

**A celebration of the 125th Anniversary of the
AAUW Buffalo Branch**

Workshops will address topics such as:

- **21st Century Education Issues**
- **The Trials, Tribulations and Triumphs of Women Elected Officials:
Women Leading NY into the 21st Century**
- **Countdown to the Century of Women's Right to Vote in the US**
- **Domestic Violence and Women's Self Empowerment**
- **And more!**

**AAUW develops women leaders by strengthening
their sense of empowerment. Don't miss this exciting opportunity!***

***Registration information will be on the AAUW-NYS website beginning in January 2015.**



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:	Elaine Damsteegt
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