

Happy
New Year
2024



American Association
of University Women

BATH
BRANCH

JANUARY
2024

January 31, 2024

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Our first in person meeting of 2024 will be on March 5th. We are meeting at the Bath Haverling High School Library at 5:30pm for social time. Our meeting begins at 6pm. Parking is behind the high school next to the athletic fields at 41 Robie St.

Our presenter is Carrie House, the Director of Domestic Violence Services, Steuben County and Domestic Violence Shelter for women and children in Bath.

-Submitted by Program co-chairs Lisa Herrick and Linda Haley

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Full STEAHM Ahead

by Jennifer Sellers

5:30pm social time, presentation at 6pm

Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83949922589?pwd=R5mBNGLkPHL3KewapVbryROUdwl29c.1>

Meeting ID: 839 4992 2589

Passcode: AAUW



Full STEAHM Ahead is for 4th and 5th grade girls. The program fee is \$100, which includes daily lunches. Scholarships and transportation are available by request and dependent on available funds. For a news story about this program click one of the links below.

<https://www.mytwintiers.com/news-cat/top-stories/steahm-summer-workshop-coming-to-ccc/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3b7VW59Xsu4>

President's Message

From the desk of Suzanne Curran.

Happy New Year, Everyone!

*"Yesterday is gone.
Tomorrow has not yet come.
We have only today.
Let us begin."
- Mother Teresa*

May 2024 treat we women of AAUW kindly! I wish you all a healthy and happy 2024! I am writing this message on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 2024. May peace surround us.

Volunteers will be needed!! Will you help us fulfill our goals in 2024? We are beginning discussions about a possible 2024 Hammondsport area house tour and need your support to make this happen!

We will be hosting an inaugural production of the play titled At Seventy written by Rochester playwright Barbara Murphy Saturday October 5th, 2024 at The First Presbyterian Church in Bath NY in their lovely community room!

Mary and Ann are going to need lots of drivers and vehicles to load and drive the beautiful flowering baskets back to the Hammondsport Fire Hall on May 11th. This is our signature money making event in support of our Educational Opportunity Fund.

Will you serve on our Bath Branch Board?: Our Bath Branch local election will be held in April 2024. Please consider serving!! As always, in accordance with our bylaws, we have a number of slots to fill and the Nominating Committee will be reaching out to you. The success of our Branch is incumbent on our members stepping up to serve.

We are a caring, supportive group and it's an honor to be in community with such bright and stimulating women. It's fun and a pleasure working together. Elected positions to be filled include President, President Elect, Secretary, Co-Vice President of EOF. Chairwoman slots include at least one opening in Diversity.

With enthusiasm at our core let's soar in 2024!

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

Brought to you by: DEI Co-Chairs Linda Haley and Sally Jacoby Murphy



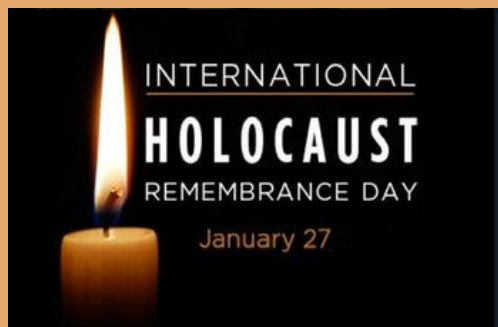
Inclusion and belonging make diversity work.

Diversity is having a seat at the table, inclusion is having a voice, and belonging is having that voice be heard. Belonging is when we all truly buy into the notion that they we are all welcome to bring our full perspectives and true selves to the table.

When your insights and contributions are valued, you feel a sense of belonging in your gut. A sense of belonging means that people can bring their full selves to our organization, and not feel like they're a different person there than at home or at work. It's not enough to simply include people at the table, but it's imperative to amplify everyone's voices, clear barriers and appreciate each other for our unique backgrounds.

Our members have a sense of belong when they are seen for their unique contributions, connected to our members, supported at our meetings and activities, and proud of our organization's values and purpose.

<https://hbr.org/2021/06/what-does-it-take-to-build-a-culture-of-belonging>



The United Nations General Assembly designated January 27—the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau—as International Holocaust Remembrance Day, a time to remember the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust and the millions of other victims of Nazi persecution. Holocaust victims are remembered by reading their names, by lighting candles, and by learning about the Holocaust. All of us can mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day by sharing the truth of the Holocaust and by confronting antisemitism and hate in our daily lives.

<https://www.ushmm.org/remember/international-holocaust-remembrance-day>

Minutes of AAUW January Meeting

Secretary-Deanna Tompkins

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

5:30pm social half hour/6:00 pm meeting

On Zoom

6:00 p.m.

Speaker Laurie Mault who works for Rural Health Network spoke about Girls on the Run of the Southern Tier.

President Curran opened the meeting at 6:51 p.m.

On a motion made by Linda Haley, seconded by Nancy Cole and carried, all voting Aye to accept the Minutes as published in the November Newsletter.

Presidents Report

President Curran received a note from Loaves and Fishes thanking AAUW for donating 16 lbs. of feminine products.

A few people are meeting at the Library to talk about how our local branch can write up a Branch Impact Survey which is part of the 5 Star Program.

On January 30th a presenter at RIT will be speaking about King's Legacy.

Treasurer Report

Juanita Rosenbloom reported that the beginning balance as of November 24th was \$3159.03 and the ending balance as of December 22nd was \$2923.03 We currently have 42 members. During this period checks and cash were deposited from the holiday dinner of which \$845 was paid to Timberstone. A check for \$48 was provided to the EOF scholarship fund as it was excess from members at the holiday dinner.

Programs:

Linda Haley reported that February's speaker on Zoom will be CW Turner. She will be talking about STEAHM.

Membership:

We have one new member, Jennifer Taylor.

EOF:

Mary White reported that there is \$586.54 in the checking account. The CD will mature at the end of January.

Action Fund:

Bonnie Taggart explained that the AAUW Action Fund advances equity for women and girls through member activism and voter mobilization. In 1885 AAUW debunked that education was bad for women's health.

Communications:

Send info to Bridget and Annie by January 15, 2024.

DEI:

Sally asked if anyone knows of someone with a housing for a Ukrainian refugee to let her know.

Public Policy: No update

Bylaws: No update

Social Media: No update

Old Business

House Tours: Suzanne will send out an email to the membership about having a meeting for those who are interested in planning the hours tours.

Play: Jerine is working on a venue for the play in October.

New Business

Memorial purchase in honor of Martha Treichler:

It is our tradition to purchase a library book in memory of a deceased member. Martha Treichler loved poetry and history. Elfriede will ask Rachel Treichler about a book that Martha may have liked.

There will be a Memorial gathering for Martha in the downstairs Community Room at the Hammondspport Public Library 2:00-4:00 Saturday January 13th, 2024.

<https://www.aclystoverfuneralhome.com/obituary/Martha-Treichler>

Girls on The Run: Member's should think about participating in Girls on the Run. We could earmark money for the organization or volunteer.

On a motion made by Terry Underhill, seconded by Bonnie Taggart and carried, all voting to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deanna Tompkins

Save the Date!



Thursday, February 29 at 6:00 pm

Unlock the Power of Equality! Join us on February 29 at 6:00 pm for a groundbreaking Zoom presentation by Erica Smitka, Deputy Director of the League of Women Voters of New York State.

Discover why the ERA NY is crucial. New York State needs YOU!

Did you know that our state constitution currently lacks protection against sex discrimination, because it only offers protection against racial and religious discrimination. New York state has laws against sex discrimination, but they can easily be repealed, Amendments however provide lasting protection. It's in our hands to change that. The NY state legislature has passed the ERANY and now this November it's on the ballot for voter ratification. Learn how this amendment to the constitution is our key to lasting change. This isn't just another law; it's our chance to make history. The ERA NY is NOT the federal ERA - it's an exclusive safeguard for New Yorkers.

AAUW members, friends, and family, mark your calendars and be part of the movement for equality!

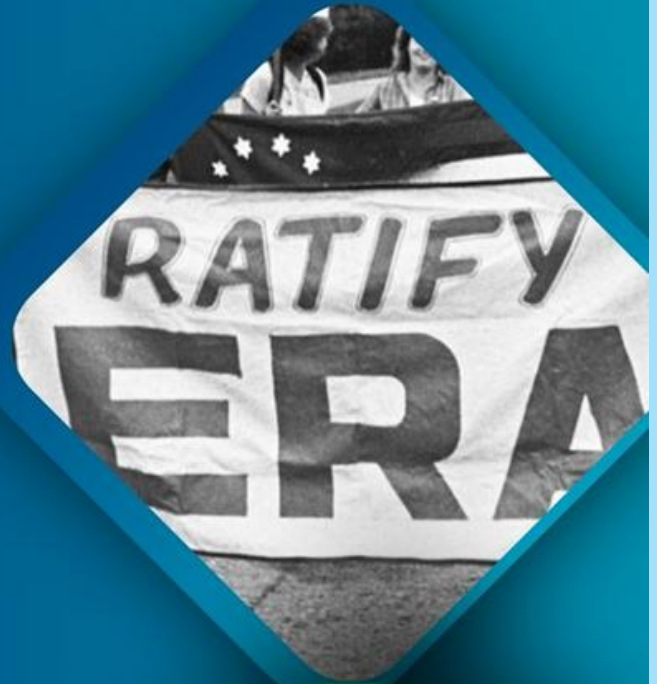
Sandy Camillo

AAUW NYS VP Public Policy

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VOTE ERA NY NOW



- ✓ On the ballot in November 2024
- ✓ Be informed! Join us for the discussion

February 29, 2024 6:00pm

Presentation by:

Erika Smitka
Deputy Director, LWV-NYS

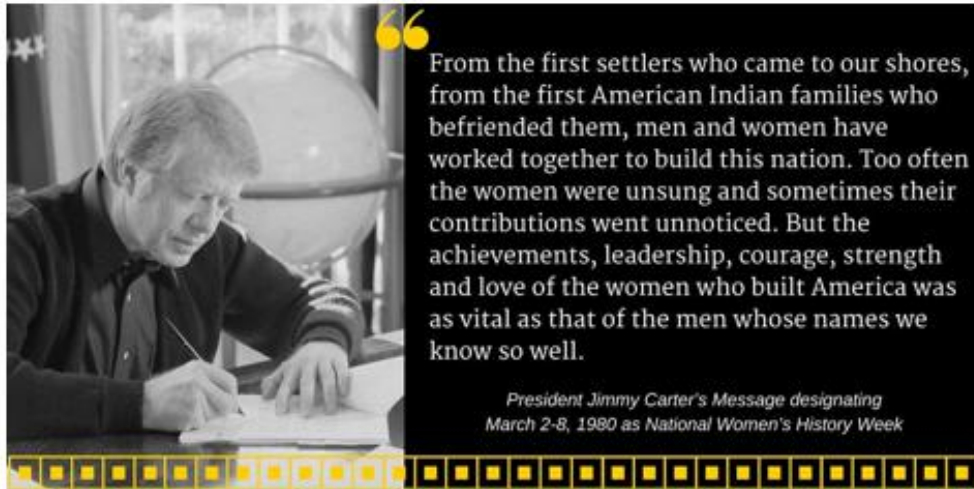


Website: <https://aauw-nys.org>

Save the Date!

March 9, 2024

Every year, March is designated Women's History Month by presidential proclamation. The month is set aside to honor women's contributions in American history.



“From the first settlers who came to our shores, from the first American Indian families who befriended them, men and women have worked together to build this nation. Too often the women were unsung and sometimes their contributions went unnoticed. But the achievements, leadership, courage, strength and love of the women who built America was as vital as that of the men whose names we know so well.

*President Jimmy Carter's Message designating
March 2-8, 1980 as National Women's History Week*

Celebrate Women's History with other AAUW-Bath Branch members in Seneca Falls on March 9th (inclement weather date – March 23) with a field trip to: The Women's Rights National Historical Park, 136 Fall Street, Seneca Falls, NY 13148. **(315) 568-0024**

This park consists of the Wesleyan Chapel, where the first women's rights convention took place, and a visitor center/museum about women's rights. Admission is free. Hours are 10am – 4pm Thurs – Sun. <https://www.nps.gov/wori/index.htm>.



Lunch at Cafe XIX, 20 E. Bayard St. Seneca Falls(315) 568-1183 <https://xixcafe.com/>



ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS

On Saturday December 9, four of us attended the "Open Books-Open Minds" program presented by the Ithaca Branch of AAUW. The morning program was a panel discussion with three women and a moderator discussing issues related to the increase in the challenges of certain library books, which could lead to that book being banned in public, electronic or school libraries. That was followed by lunch featuring Table Talk discussions of current AAUW Public Policy issues. After lunch we were treated to a guided tour of Cornell's Johnson Museum of Art.

Below are some take aways from the day.

Linda: I was thoroughly impressed with the process of handling a book challenge. People's concerns are given serious attention and thought. In working through the challenge process almost all challenges in our area are resolved without removing the book in question.

(Some additional info from Linda)

America's first banned book was written by Massachusetts settler Thomas Morton. New English Canaan was published in 1637. Check out the links below to learn more.

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/how-americas-first-banned-book-survived-and-became-an-anti-authoritarian-icon-180982971/>

<https://www.npr.org/2023/12/07/1198908282/the-lord-of-misrule>

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/americas-first-banned-book>

Nancy: I am soooo impressed with Librarians! They handled all inquiries with openness and restraint! They were well prepared with forms for members to fill out with details of their grievances, beginning with "Have you read the book?" "What pages did you find offensive?" Courtesy and civility were the atmosphere of the meetings. Bottom line: the "grievers" felt heard and the books stayed on the shelves.

ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS (CONT.)

Jerine: Regarding the Book Ban presentation, while there was a wealth of information and action items, I was most intrigued by the statistics. Here are a few that stood out for me: The book challenges in 2022 (2,571) nearly doubled the challenges reported in 2021 (1,858) indicating this is a fast growing, hot topic. The other interesting fact was that "90% of the book banning was done by a well organized movement that distributes book lists used to initiate mass challenges to empty the shelves of a library." In other words, this group rallies on certain events, *i.e.* Gay Pride month, clearing the shelves of any gay pride materials so that patrons cannot check these items out.

I was also not familiar with the seven Library Bill of Rights, one in particular, "Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of ALL people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation."

Bonnie: I was somewhat reassured to learn that in addition to such groups as "Moms For Liberty" and others that are vocal minorities, there are groups which have been formed to counteract them. You may want to google "Stop Moms for Liberty", "Grandmas for Love", "Dads Against Moms for Liberty" for more information.

Also I learned that at Tompkins County Library, their diverse staff is utilized in picking books for their library collection in the hope that there will be a balanced variety of books available. The Art museum was a nice end to the day, such a lovely place and so close. I have learned over the years that AAUW events are so worthwhile and it's inspiring to be in a room full of smart women.

-submitted by Bonnie Taggart

ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS (CONT.)

Check out the following Webinar Link:

The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act at 15 and the Future of Pay Equity

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nv19MeLS1c4>

-Submitted by Suzanne Curran

Our Bath Branch of AAUW would like to fill a table of eight at the Fund for Women 10th annual Inspire Event. Please let Suzanne know if you would like to join us. The cost is \$125 per person. A few of our members have attended events put on by Fund For Women and they have been enjoyable. It's a wonderful opportunity to network and meet some of the amazing women that live and work and volunteer in our local communities. We hope you can join us!

The 10th ANNUAL INSPIRE Dinner

Thursday, June 13, 2024

5:00 - 10:00 PM

Corning Museum of Glass

An evening of cocktails, dinner, silent auction, and reception

<https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=fund4women&id=82>



-Submitted by Suzanne Curran

ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS (CONT.)



-Submitted by Suzanne Curran