



the AAUW BRIEFS

SOUTHERN NEW YORK BINGHAMTON AREA BRANCH

VOLUME 56 ISSUE 4 FEBRUARY - MARCH 2012

FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL

Dear Southern NY/ Binghamton Area Branch Members,

We were all saddened by the November passing of Libby Knapp. Libby was a branch icon and a wealth of information about all things AAUW. We shall all miss her sage advice and wonderful stories!

Naturally our program committee has not been resting. Donna Spearman who just put together a marvelous Martin Luther King celebration at her church is now working on our February program. The program will be at the Endicott Visitor Center and should be very interesting. I hope we will see you all there for refreshments and an informative speaker.

When March rolls around our "flooded out" fall District III Conference was rescheduled for March 31st. We look forward to seeing members from our District.

On the New York State level there has been a change in the Public Policy Director position. Susan Hoover, who has been working with Marilyn Tedeschi on the state convention, will serve as Kathleen Gorr resigned. Come to the NY State Convention April 20-22 and meet this talented woman. A packet about the convention registration, schedule of events, speakers and hotel package is available with a discount for online registration.

On the Association level AAUW is making a big effort to get women to vote this year. I assume you all received their mailing. We must make a special effort to inform women about the issues that affect them and then encourage them to cast votes that are in the best interests of women and children. Anyone with ideas on this issue should contact a board member.

Presidential Council

Mitzi Manning, Ruth Allstadt, Jan Cattarin

Save the Date

AAUW NYS Convention

April 20-22, 2012

Rochester, NY

Details and registration on line at

www.aauw-nys.org

February Program

Wednesday

February 15, 2012

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Blenda Smith

Helping Haiti Heal

Endicott Visitor Center

7 PM

Refreshments at 6:45 PM

Directions to Endicott Visitor Center:
17 C West. Then, take a right at Lincoln Ave. (1st light after UE High School). The Visitor Center is the large, white building on the left. Parking is available on the street and at the Baptist Church.

District III Conference

Saturday

March 31, 2012

**Riverwalk Hotel &
Conference Center**

Watson Room

**225 Water Street,
Binghamton, NY**

8:45 AM Registration

See flyer for details

Use the registration form



FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Out to Lunch – Thursday, February 9. Meet at 11:30 at Chat-a-Wyle, Rte 434, Apalachin. Please contact Ruth Allstadt if you plan to attend.

Night at the Movies – Monday, February 13. Please call Rosalyn Anechiarico after the movie section of the newspaper comes out on the previous Thursday for this month's movie choice and time. **Join us for dinner and a movie.**

Branch Meeting - Wednesday, February 15. Endicott Visitor Center. See article in *Briefs* p. 3.

Current Books – Thursday, February 23, 7:00 pm. Mary Cleary will lead our discussion of *Look Again* by Lisa Scottoline. Hostess: Rosalyn Anechiarico, **by the previous Sunday**, if you plan to attend.

Daytime Books/Modern Literature – Monday, February 27. 2:00-4:00 PM at the Vestal Public Library. We will discuss *Kric Krac* by Edwidge Danticat. Contact person: Freddie Miller



MARCH CALENDAR

Out to Lunch – Thursday, March 8. Meet at 11:30 am at Consol's, 1101 Bunn Hill Rd., Vestal. If you plan to join us please contact Ruth Allstadt

Night at the Movies – Monday, March 12. Please call Rosalyn Anechiarico after the movie section of the newspaper comes out on the previous Thursday for this month's movie choice and time. **Join us for dinner and a movie.**

Current Books – Thursday, March 22, 7:00 pm. Rosalyn Anechiarico will lead our discussion of *The Revenge of the Radioactive Lady* by Elizabeth Stuckey-French. Hostess: Betty Sabo (at her daughter Sharon's house). Please contact Betty, **by the previous Sunday**, if you plan to attend.

Daytime Books/Modern Literature – Monday, March 26, 2:00 - 4:00 PM at the Vestal Public Library. We will discuss *Infidel* by Ayaan Hirsi Ali. Contact person: Freddie Miller

District Conference - Saturday, March 31. Riverwalk Hotel. See article in *Briefs* p. 2, use the flyer registration form to reserve the date.

AAUW NYS CONVENTION

Rochester, NY

April 20-22, 2012

This year's state convention theme, "In Their Footsteps", will celebrate the historic women's rights movement centered in New York State. It will begin with a Friday afternoon tour of the Susan B. Anthony House and continue on Saturday with a dialogue between impersonators of Anthony and of Matilda Joslyn Gage.

The keynote speeches given by Cathy Kelm, head of AAUW's Lobby Corps in Washington, and by Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, will then become an extended mission throughout the world with our featured international speaker, Jane Roberts.

By popular demand we will again have military bridge on Friday evening, an exercise session (yoga this year!) on Saturday afternoon, musical entertainment on Saturday evening, and opportunities for swimming, walking, and bidding on LAF offerings (purses this year!). As a special treat, the Branch Showcase will be a presentation by the Bath Branch of the play "MoMoirs" on Sunday morning. Register on line at www.aauw-nys.org.

Peggy Kelland

AAUW-NYS V.P. Program

AAUW DISTRICT III CONFERENCE

Riverwalk Hotel & Conference Center

March 31, 2012

Keynote Speaker: George Cummings
Women's Roles In 18th Century Colonial Life in America-How Did They Do It All?

George Cummings is an avid student of history whose story telling skills, authentic props and costumes will take us back to 18th century colonial America where women's work was never done. He will inform us of the tasks done by women and how they were accomplished with many an interesting anecdote thrown in "just for fun". Through the eyes of this story teller we can view our 18th century pioneer sisters who were really not so different from ourselves.

AAUW Southern NY/Binghamton is host of this conference, Join us for the District III Conference. Show your support for our branch and the hours of work by committee members to make this successful day.

Eileen Cooley, Betty Sabo, Mitzi Manning
Program - District III

Legal Advocacy Fund

AAUW New York State Convention

April 20-22, 2012

This year we are asked to contribute "Purses" for the LAF Auction to honor the memory of Susan B. Anthony.

"Woman must have a purse of her own, & how can this be, so long as the wife is denied the right to her individual and joint earnings." ~S B Anthony

The Southern NY/Binghamton Branch will donate three purses, supplied by Mildred DeWitt. I am asking for cash donations so that I may add items to the purses to make them more appealing. Please consider a cash donation (\$5 or \$10) so that our purses will be attractive. I will be at the February 15 meeting and the March 31 Conference, willing and able to accept all donations.

Mildred DeWitt

COMMUNITY

SOS Shelter

Thanks to the generosity of our AAUW members, a donation of \$125 was made to the SOS Shelter this year. As always, our support is very important to the shelter and those that use their services.

Gift Wrap

We had a very successful gift wrapping fundraiser at Barnes & Noble in December this year. A total of \$194 (Dec. 15th and 16th) was raised for the scholarship fund.

I would especially like to thank all of our talented "wrappers" - Karen Galli, Ruth Giese, Lois Minnich, Sylvia Diamond, Irene Maney, Ruth Allstadt, Eileen Cooley, Mary Alice Edson, Mary Cleary, Marguerite Ireland, Donna Spearman, Mildred Dewitt, Barb Schmidt, Nancy Kuehnemund, Peggy Galkowski, and our double shift volunteers: Betty Sabo, Rosalyn Anechiarico, Mitzi Manning, Rita Yeates and Lois Minnich.

JoAnne Edson, Community Chair

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FUND

Holiday Cookie Raffle

Now that we are well into our AAUW year, thanks again for your support of the Educational Opportunities Fund. This year the Holiday Cookie Raffle was better than ever and netted the Branch \$245 to help support the AAUW scholarships and grants.

Sue McLain
EOF VP

AAUW PROGRAM

Wednesday, February 15, 2012 - 7 PM

Helping Haiti Heal

Blenda Smith, Ph.D., FNP, RN will be our keynote speaker. Dr. Smith plans to share her story about Haiti in pictures taken in the aftermath of Haiti's earthquake of January 2010. The pictures she will share were taken during her two work trips to Haiti during October, 2010 and November 2011. Some of the earthquake's destruction of downtown Port-au-Prince as well as rural areas. In addition we will see photos of work sites where rebuilding has occurred and pictures of children at the United Methodist School where work teams lived during their stay.

Dr. Smith is a balanced combination of education, knowledge, compassion, and action. She earned a Master's of Science in nursing from The State University of New York at Binghamton, and a Ph.D in Human Service Studies with concentrations in Curriculum Development and Program Evaluation from Cornell University. Dr. Smith holds the title of Professor Emeritus of the Decker School of Nursing, Binghamton University (SUNY). Currently, she is a part-time Nurse Practitioner at the Broome County Health Department's Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic.

Community involvement is an important part of Dr. Smith's life. Volunteer in Mission (VIM) trips (Zimbabwe, Haiti twice, Louisiana twice for Katrina work, Guinea, local Binghamton flood work in 2006 and 2010); designed and presented numerous anti-racism workshops for churches and community; Peace with Justice Committee of the Broome County Council of Churches; and board member of the Samaritan Counseling Center are a few of her community involvements. Dr. Smith truly puts her talk into action.

Plan on arriving by 6:45 PM for refreshments and a social gathering of our members.

Program Committee

Donna Spearman

*Send a Fellowgram to enhance an occasion.
Birthday - Get Well - Congratulations - Sympathy*

When you send a Fellowgram you contribute to the AAUW Education Fund that financially enable outstanding women to continue their advanced studies and projects.

Contact Sue McLain

