



**Elmira - Corning
Branch
News & Views**

empowering women since 1881

September 2015

Dr. Geraldine Wolfe and Barbara Luther, Co-Presidents

Calendar

- Sat., Sept. 19, 2015, 2:00 pm - Books & Bites, Steele Memorial Library
- Thurs., Oct. 8, 2015, 6:30 pm - Joint Meeting with Chemung Co. League of Women Voters on "Political Climate Today" Dr. Jim Twombly, Asst. Prof. Political Science at Elmira College
- Sat., Oct. 17, 2015, 2:00 pm - Books & Bites, Steele Memorial Library
- Sun., Oct. 25, 2015, 1:30 to 3:30 pm - Fall Fashion Show, Riverview Holiday Inn, Elmira, NY

Presidents' Message

I would like to welcome our 83 members, including 5 new members, to what appears to be a busy and engaging year.

The Board met on Monday, the 14th of September, and already, yesterday, September 17th, we held our first membership meeting of the fall.

After a joint meeting in early October with the League of Women Voters, we will embark upon fundraisers to support our mission. On Sunday, October 25, we will hold our Annual Fall Fashion Show and Fundraiser under the auspices of Janet Winfield, and on Sunday, November 15, Norma Doane will host our annual Silver Bowl Tea. The proceeds from both

(Continued on page 5)



**CASH Program
Seeks
Volunteers**
Julia Lavarney

The Southern Tier CASH (Creating Assets Savings and Hope) a free to clients IRS VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program, is seeking volunteer tax preparers, receptionists, and screeners for the 2015 tax filing season. Training will begin in November, and tax preparation will begin in late January.

Volunteer tax preparers must possess basic math skills, and some experience doing taxes is helpful but not required. All preparers receive IRS training, and are required to certify with the IRS, attend site orientation, complete practice re-

(Continued on page 3)

Books & Bites

Betty Reiter, Chair



Books and Bites, your book interest group is meeting this year on the third Saturday of each month, Sept - May.

Just to remind you of what we do, it's VERY INFORMAL. By that I mean we come together to talk about any books we have been reading and compare notes with others. It's fun to hear what others have been reading and to find new ideas of books and authors to read. Sometimes it's enough to hear about a book to learn what's being read by others. NOBODY has time to read every book desired.

So, please consider joining us on the third Saturdays for a relaxing time when we can just talk about books.

Next meeting will be Oct. 17 at the Steele Memorial Library in the small conference room. We meet from 2 to 4 PM. Hope to see you there.

MEMBER HANDBOOKS

Ann Brouse

The 2015-16 Member handbooks are now available. Members who did not receive their copy at the September 15 Board meeting or the meeting and tour of the National Soaring Museum on September 17 will be receiving the handbook in the mail during the week of September 21-26.



AAUW Websites

AAUW - USA

<http://www.aauw.org/>

AAUW - NYS

<http://www.aauw-nys.org/>

AAUW Elmira-Corning

<http://elmiracorning-ny.aauw.net/>

AAUW NYS Diversity

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.

There shall be no barriers so to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

AAUW's mission statement emphasizes its determination to meet the needs of women of all ages, cultures and abilities. Bringing a diverse population into programs and membership is the feature that results in an influential organization that mirrors the community.

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

AAUW VISION STATEMENT

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting on the lives of women and girls.

CASH Program

(Continued from page 1)

turns in the tax preparation software and do their first returns under direct supervision. The Volunteer Protection Act of 1997 protects volunteers against liability for returns prepared within their scope of IRS certification.

Volunteer receptionists and screeners greet taxpayers and must have good people skills. Training and orientation will be provided prior to the tax season.

All volunteers may choose the location and hours that are most convenient for them. Daytime, evening, or Saturday shifts are available at most sites. Shifts are typically three to four hours long.

Most information about the Southern Tier CASH program, including volunteer opportunities, is available on the Southern Tier CASH website at www.stcash.org or on the 2-1-1 Helpline site at www.211helpline.org.

Interested volunteers may sign up by following the links above or by emailing CASH@STcash.org.

Southern Tier CASH provides free tax assistance for individuals and families making less than \$60,000, at sites across Chemung, Schuyler and Steuben Counties. Last year, program volunteers com-

pleted returns for more than 5,400 individuals and families, bringing back more than \$7.9 million in refunds to the community.

CASH sponsored, in part, by grants from the Internal Revenue Service Stakeholder Partnerships Education and Communication (SPEC) Division, and United Way of the Southern Tier.

The CASH program is supported by numerous coalition partners throughout the three county area.

Last year we served 5205 clients throughout Steuben, Schuyler and Chemung counties. This is the link to our end of year report: <http://www.stcash.org/usr/2014-2015%20Year-End%20Report.pdf>

Bon-Ton Community Days Fundraiser

**Thursday, November 11-
Saturday, November 14**

This fall AAUW Elmira-Corning Branch will once again be taking part in the Bon-Ton Community Days event. It was a very successful fundraiser for us last year. We raised just shy of \$2000 (\$1983.24)! How were we able to have such a huge success? Because many of you stepped up to the plate and participated. We cannot thank you enough!

Once again we will be selling the coupon booklets for \$5.00 each. We keep the entire \$5.00.

(Continued on page 5)

2015 AAUW National Election - Election Results

Board Chair

Patricia Fae Ho

Board Vice-Chair

Alicia Hetman

Board Finance Vice-Chair (appointed)

Janet Bungler

Board Secretary (appointed)

Eileen S. Hartmann

Directors

Joanna Amberger (appointed)

Susan Barley

Malinda Gaul

Anthony Hill (appointed)

Ellie Hill

Traci Jensen

Melissa Johnsen

Dot McLane

Rebecca Norlander

Glenda D. Price

Pam Thiel

AAUW Bylaws

Proposal Topic	Yes	No	Did Not Vote
1. Eliminating degree requirement	40.91%	55.51%	3.58%
2. Filling board vacancies	88.72%	3.98%	7.30%
3. Changing leadership titles	82.34%	8.52%	9.13%
4. Vice president term	84.92%	8.01%	7.07%
5. Committee member terms	88.27%	5.43%	6.30%

AAUW Public Policy Program

Proposal Topic	Yes	No	Did Not Vote
1. Women and other underrepresented populations	89.29%	5.10%	5.61%
2. High-quality public education; freedom from sexual assault	91.26%	1.64%	7.11%
3. Safe housing; reproductive health care	91.50%	2.60%	5.90%
4. Campaign finance reform; fair elections	83.95%	8.76%	7.30%
5. Diversity and inclusion	90.34%	2.32%	7.34%
6. Placement of ERA and campaign finance reform	83.64%	7.86%	8.49%
7. Arts and humanities	69.64%	21.62%	8.73%
8. Ratification of CEDAW	86.31%	2.85%	10.84%
9. National priorities	88.31%	2.37%	9.32%
10. Title IX enforcement	89.98%	1.80%	8.22%
11. Health care access	88.25%	3.20%	8.56%
12. Passage of ERA	89.75%	2.52%	7.74%

Presidents' Message

(Continued from page 1)

events will be used to help finance our Return to Learning Scholarships. In addition, the Bon Ton Fundraiser, under the direction of Carolyn Clack and Louise O'Dell, is already underway. Details of these events will appear throughout the newsletter which, once again, will be organized by JoAnne Krolak.

I am grateful for the time and effort that they all expend and sincerely hope that you will come out and support them, as your schedules permit.

The focus of our membership meetings this year is STEM. During yesterday's meeting at the National Soaring Museum, we witnessed the evolution of aviation from the Wright brothers up to the Schweizer brothers. We also gleaned information re: the opportunity for students to learn about aviation firsthand at the aerospace camps and the soaring encampment that take place throughout the year at the museum. The Eileen Collins Aerospace Camp is a weeklong camp during which campers soar in gliders, fly in a Cessna, practice piloting skills in flight simulators, plus more. The Overnight Soaring Encampment al-

(Continued on page 6)

Bon-Ton Fundraiser

(Continued from page 3)

Pure profit! It is our hope that each of you will purchase between 2-5 booklets to sell to friends and family. Be sure to buy one for yourself!

The booklets became available at our first program meeting on Thursday, September 17th at the National Soaring Museum. If you were unable to attend that program, we will be contacting you in the next few weeks so that each of you will have the opportunity to participate. We will accept cash or check (made payable to AAUW Elmira-Corning Branch).

We will also be selling booklets in the Bon-Ton store in the days prior to the event. Then, based on all of our advanced sales, we will be given the opportunity to sell booklets at the store during the November 11th-14th event.

Let's all work together to make this fundraiser a success once again.

Since many other community groups will be participating, it is imperative that we act quickly.

Thank you!
Carolyn Clack
Louise O'Dell
Co-Chairs



Membership Corner News

Welcome back. We are off to another good year. We have several new members. Some were introduced in our late spring News n Views while others will be introduced in next month's News n Views. Our new members for 2015 - 2016 are: Janice Barr, Dian Gerstel, Dr Rosemarie Rynkiewicz, JoAnne Sarli, Donna Winsor and Pat Schramm.

If you know anyone who would like to become a member of our branch, our yearly dues are still \$73.00 with \$49.00 of the dues being tax deductible.

Hope to see everyone at our October Fashion Show.

Membership Committee

Lenore Lewis
Barb Friedman
Maureen Gladke

President's Message

lows students to sit in an actual cockpit and work the controls, as well as fly in the flight simulator. Efforts are underway to allow campers to engage in conversation with astronauts in existing space stations

In March, a meeting has been scheduled with Finn Academy, Elmira's new charter school, whose curricular focus is STEM, and In April, a tour of the new addition to the Corning Museum of Glass.

Finally, we are in need of someone to take over the maintenance of our website. If you have the skills/ability and are willing to do so, please contact me or Barb Luther, co-president. We would be most grateful.

Gerry Wolfe

AAUW MEMBERS SOAR Ann Brouse

Our chapter's first meeting of the 2015-16 year convened at the National Soaring Museum on Harris Hill, Thursday, September 17. Director of Educational Activities, Kay Norton introduced the group to the wonders of this very special place. She began with a description of the many terrific programs the Museum staff provides for youth groups and individuals. These include science camps, Eileen Collins

Aerospace Camp and "Sleeping with the Sailplanes." A bonus was Kay's demonstration of the Museum's 3D printer on which she had made us an AAUW standing logo. This was followed by a short walking tour of the Museum that included many references to local people important to the history of aviation and gliding from Glenn Curtiss to Eileen Collins and the Schweizer brothers. Some of our group completed the evening with dinner at the Cracker Barrel.