



# Elmira - Corning Branch News & Views

empowering women since 1881

April 2015

**Jan Cummings and Dr. Geraldine Wolfe, Co-Presidents**

## Calendar

Sat., April 18, 2015, 2:00 pm - Books & Bites, Steele Memorial Library

Sun., May 3, 2015, 1:30 pm - Spring Theater at the Holiday Inn,  
Elmira, NY

Sat., May 16, 2015, 2:00 pm - Books & Bites, Steele Memorial Library

Thurs., May 21, 2015, 4:00-5:00 pm - "What is STEM? presented by  
CW Turner at Steele Memorial Library

Weds., June 10, 2015 - Annual Meeting & Spring Luncheon, Elmira  
Country Club, Elmira, NY

## Presidents' Message

Well ladies, it would appear that spring has finally arrived! I have seen robins and even some flowers and buds, so, hopefully, we have made it through the dreadful winter and can look forward to some warmth and sunshine!

We have some good things to look forward to within our branch next month. Our Spring Play/Tea will be held on Sunday, May 3 at the Riverview Holiday Inn. Once again Julia Lavarnway has prepared a special presentation for us. With thanks to the Friends of the Woodlawn Cemetery, Julia and her group will present six portrayals of local residents buried in the cemetery. These programs have always been wonderful

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## 2015 AAUW Theater and Tea

Sunday, May 3rd, the AAUW will have an afternoon tea and entertainment to raise money for our scholarships. It will be at the Holiday Inn at Riverside in Elmira. The tickets are \$15 per person and will help out women scholars in need. Courtesy of the Friends of Woodlawn Cemetery, we will have six portrayals of local people buried in the cemetery. They are Col. John Hendy, Col. Joseph UpdeGraff, Esther Steele, Harriet Converse, Thomas "Buttons" Botts, and Elizabeth Adams. Come and see these Ghosts of our Past come alive thanks to these talented actors.

These are the characters

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## Books & Bites

Betty Reiter, Chair



At the March meeting of Books and Bites, we talked about many books of interest. Some included: Hickory Dock by Agatha Christie, Hunt for Atlantis by Andy McDermott, Terminal City by Linda Fairstein, Stuff Matters by Mark Miodownik, Murder at the Universe by Daniel Edward Craig, Outlander by Diana Gabaldon, Oregon Country by T. J. Hanson, Morgan's Run by Colleen McCullough, Killing Patton by Bill O'Reilly, several by Dana Moby, A Family Secrets ed. by Benjamin Grifon, The Sundry Philosophy Club by Alexander McCall Smith, How to be Danish by Patrick Kingsly, Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout, A Red Death by Walter Mosely, Lucurgh's Cup by Joseph Thomas Rossetter, Thereby Hangs A Tail by Spencer Quinn, Glitter and the Glue by Kelly Corrigand, The Secret Rooms by Catherine Baely, and The Italian American by Maria Laurino.

Our last two meeting of the Spring will be on April 18 and May 16 at the Steele Memorial Library from 2 to 4PM. I do hope you can come and enjoy a relaxing time for all to talk about books.



## 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.

## 2015 AAUW Theater and Tea

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who will appear and the actors/actresses who will portray them:

- ♦ **Esther Baker Steele** (1839-1911) was instrumental in the founding of Steele Memorial Library, contributing more than 6,000 books from her personal library. With her husband, Joel Dorman Steele, Esther researched, wrote and published many teaching guides and textbooks. She is portrayed by Gail Lewis, an actress who has appeared in numerous area productions.
- ♦ **Elizabeth Adams** (died 1860), also known as Lear Green, escaped from slavery in the South by hiding in a trunk on a Philadelphia-bound ship. From there, she traveled by the Underground Railroad to Elmira. She is portrayed by Vicie Rollins, author, poet and performance artist.
- ♦ **Harriet Maxwell Converse** (1838-1903) was a poet, author and passionate advocate for Native Americans. She became the first woman named as a chief of the Six Nations. She married Frank Converse, a wealthy musician who invented the banjo. Portrayed by Margaret Kasper Reed, who is a published poet herself.
- ♦ **Colonel John Hendy** (1757-1840) was a Revolutionary

War Veteran who was born of immigrants from the island of Hende off Ireland. After the war, he wanted more adventure and took his family upriver from Tioga Point to settle the town that was to become Elmira in 1788. He is portrayed by Michael Lavarney, a local actor, director, musician and composer.

- ♦ **Col. Joseph UpdeGraff** of the Union Army and **Thomas A. "Buttons" Botts** of the Confederate Army will be portrayed by Robert F. Lavarney III. Rob is known from many area stages – the Clemens Center, Corning Community College, The Havana Glen Courthouse – to name a few.

### Chapter Member Honored

Ann Brouse

Elmira-Corning AAUW member, Janet Winfield, was honored by the Chemung Council of Women at a dinner held at the Riverside Holiday Inn on March 26 in Elmira. One of seven women's organization nominees to be honored, Janet was presented as our chapter's honoree at this biennial dinner. Janet served as co-president of the chapter from 2011 through 2014. She is also known for her excellent fundraising skills, especially by creating spectacular raffle baskets for our semi-annual scholarship fundraising events.



## Membership Corner News

We thank our members who have already renewed their dues for the 2015 - 2016 membership year. Remember, our dues are \$73.00 for the year with \$46.00 being tax deductible. Send your renewal checks to Pat Stadelmaier. As a member, you are one of 170,000 AAUW members who make the future for women and girls brighter every day.

Do you know a soon-to-be college graduate? What better way to celebrate their achievement than giving them an AAUW membership? Call Lenore Lewis at 739-2290 for more information.

### New Member Introductions

We would like to introduce our two newest branch members. They are **Dr. Rosemarie Rynkiewicz, D.P.M.** and **Dian Gerstel**. Both of our newest members took advantage of our Spring 2015 Membership Special, which combines our spring 2015 membership with our 2016 traditional membership both for \$73.00.

**Dr. Rosemarie Rynkiewicz, D.P.M.** is a Podiatric Surgeon. She earned her BS degree in 1979, at Temple University in Medical Technology and is Certified by the American Association of Clinical pathologists. Rosemarie earned her Doctorate degree in 1984 also

from Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery. She did her Surgical residency at Hershey Med, Harrisburg and VAMC at Lebanon, Pa.

She learned about our branch in a very unusual way. One day a notice came across our local weather station during a snow storm indicating that our AAUW branch meeting had been cancelled. Hearing about our AAUW branch sparked her interest so she did a little research on the web and found our branch website worth reviewing. She had never realized there was a local AAUW branch in our area.

Rose is married to Paul Mosher and they have one daughter. Their daughter, Alex, will graduate from Elmira College in May of 2015. Her major is Business. Their daughter, Alex, is also the President of Enactus at Elmira College.

Together they train, ride and breed show horses mainly German breeding Trakhener, Holstein and Hanoverian performance horses for jumping and dressage on their 26 acre farm. At the horse farm they offer lessons and training for new or advanced riders.

Rose has been in the medical practice for over 30 years doing reconstruction of the foot, treating children and adults. She has been on the medical and surgical staffing at Robert

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## Membership Corner News

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Packer Hospital since 1987.

Rose, we welcome you to our branch and are happy that you took time away from your busy schedule to join our branch.

Our second new member is **Dian Gerstel** who is a retired psychotherapist. Dian worked with Family Services of Chemung County. She mostly treated people who suffered from addictions and co dependency issues. She was an undergraduate student at Corning Community College and Elmira College. Dian earned her graduate degree at the University at Buffalo. She has lived in the area since 1957 when she became a student here and married. She did move to Corning from 1980 to 2010 before returning to Elmira. She's been aware of AAUW for many years as her Mother, who graduated from Bryn Mawr, was also an AAUW member. (I wonder how many other members are members of our branch because their mothers introduced them to AAUW?). This is something we must remember for our daughters' benefits. Barb Luther introduced Dian to our branch. Among her interests are gardening and visiting her children. She likes to listen to books on CD or other digital means as her eyes begin to tire

when reading. Dian is Involved with her synagogue, she's starting yoga, and plans to volunteer in her field. Currently Dian is very involved with remodeling her home. Welcome to our branch Dian, we're happy that you have made time to become a member of our branch.

Membership Committee:

*Lenore Lewis*

*Barb Friedman*

*Maureen Gladke*

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### **How to Be an AAUW Advocacy Rock Star**

AAUW's Public Policy and Government Relations Department has compiled a set of how-to resources to guide you in advocating for women and girls, whether it's through a meeting with your elected official or a social media campaign. Use these how-tos to familiarize yourself with tried-and-true techniques, explore new ways to make your events a success, or train new members and leaders who want to get involved in advocacy. <http://www.aauw.org/article/how-to-be-an-aauw-advocacy-rock-star/>

Learn here about the "state tracker" program and the keywords used in the program. Come back often and learn how this tool can help YOU to help shape the future!

Source: <http://www.aauw-nys.org/pp.htm>

## Even in High-Paying STEM Fields, Women Are Shortchanged

AAUW's new research report, *Solving the Equation: The Variables for Women's Success in Engineering and Computing*, found that even in the two STEM fields with the most and highest-paying job opportunities, women face a pay gap.

An AAUW analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2013 American Community Survey data found that overall, women in computer and mathematical occupations were paid 87 percent of what their male counterparts were paid. And in engineering and architecture, women were typically paid 82 percent of what their male counterparts were paid, or about \$65,000 annually, compared to \$79,000 for men. It seems that entering a high-paying field like engineering or computing still does not protect women against the pay gap.

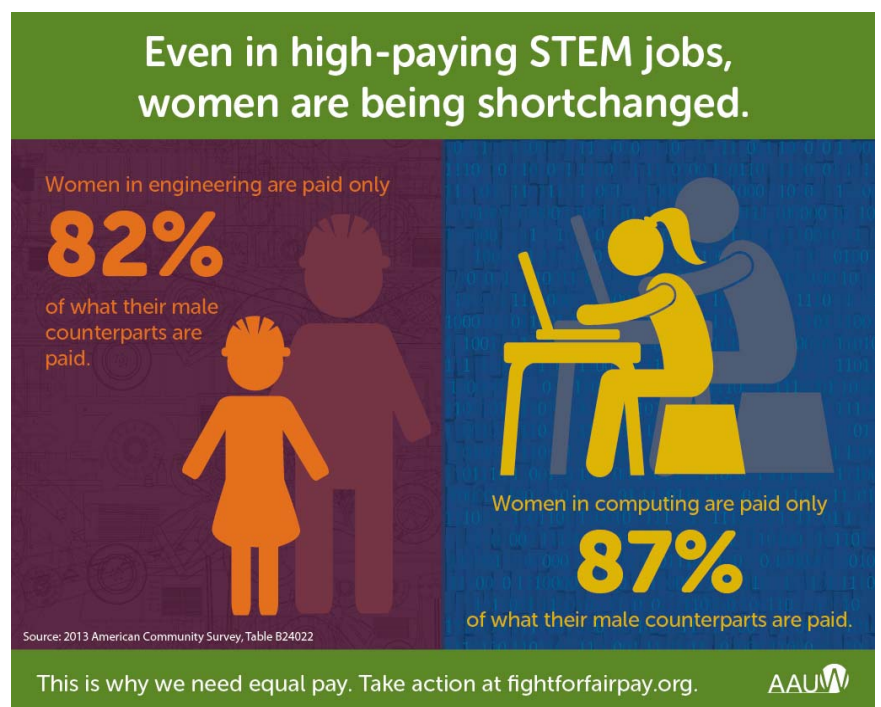
In addition, the pay gap only gets worse as women dedicate more time to their careers. According to one study, today's women are even more achievement-oriented than men are, yet women's paychecks tell a different story. One study, highlighted in *Solving the Equation*, found that po-

tential employers were willing to offer male applicants a higher salary for a science lab manager position than they would offer to equally qualified female applicants.

There's plenty we can do to help close the gender pay gap in STEM, and in all fields. Companies can conduct job audits to ensure fairness and make their salary levels transparent. Women can also advocate on their own behalf by honing their negotiation skills and increasing their knowledge of the job market. We can all urge Congress to move on the long-stalled Paycheck Fairness Act. And of course you can join AAUW, where we'll keep focusing on achieving pay equity for women in all fields — however long it takes.

This post was written by AAUW Social Media Manager Renee Davidson.

Source: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)



## Presidents' Message

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and highly entertaining, and we're sure this one will be as well.

On Thursday, May 21, AAUW member CW Turner will give a presentation on STEM at the Steele Memorial Library from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM. This is a topic that is very current and of interest to many of us. We hope many of you will be able to join us that afternoon for this very interesting program.

The Ithaca Branch of AAUW has invited us to join them for their Annual Dinner on May 20 at the Moakley House on the Cornell Golf Course. They will gather at 6 and sit down to eat at 6:30. Their guest speaker will be Dr. Liz Droge, who you might remember as our speaker at the Silver Bowl Tea. Those of you who wish to hear her speak again should send a check made out to AAUW-Ithaca Branch, with Annual Dinner written in the memo line. Your check should be sent to:

Madeleine Hemmings  
18 Ryans Way  
Ithaca, NY 14850

And finally, AAUW National has "slipped in" a change to the by-laws **Removing the Degree Requirement** for membership in AAUW. We are each entitled to one vote on matters like this, so

if you have a strong opinion about this issue, please take the time to go to the AAUW National web-site and make your voice heard. Please vote on this important issue. The feeling among some members is that national believes members will not take the time to vote, and they will be able to push this through with little opposition.

See you this Sunday at the Annual Jewish Food Festival!

Jan & Gerry

### **Slate of Officers/Committees 2015 - 2016**

#### Co-Presidents

Dr. Geraldine Wolfe (2 yr. Term:  
2014-2016)  
Barbara Luther

#### Co-Secretaries

Diane Wilbur  
Louise O'Dell

#### Treasurer

Patricia Stadelmaier

#### Program Committee

Julie Biviano  
Joy Perry  
Diane Woodhouse  
Jan Altilio

#### Membership

Lenore Lewis  
Barbara Friedman  
Maureen Gladke

#### Nominating Committee

Joan Russen  
June Ford



Please join us for Elmira-Corning AAUW's  
**Annual Meeting & Spring Luncheon at the Elmira Country Club**

**Wednesday, June 10, 2015**  
**Social Time: 11:30 a.m.**  
**Luncheon: 12 Noon**

Buffet Menu:

Fresh Breads/Rolls/Muffins with Whipped Butter  
Mixed Greens Tossed Salad with Ranch or Italian Dressing  
Baby Spinach Salad with Seasonal Fruit, Candied Nuts and  
Crumbly Bleu Cheese  
Pasta Salad  
Fresh Fruit Bowl  
Chef's Choice of Fresh Seasonal Vegetable  
Chicken, Broccoli and Rice Casserole  
Bacon and Tomato Strata  
Asparagus and Cheese Strata  
Coffee, Tea and Iced Tea  
Cookies and Brownies

**Price: \$20.00 per person, including tax and gratuity**

Please send a check for \$20 payable to AAUW Elmira-Corning  
Branch to:

Ms. Pat Buttolph  
104 Morningside Drive  
Elmira, NY 14905

**Deadline for reservations is June 1st.** Your check payable to  
AAUW Elmira Corning will serve as your reservation. Call Pat  
Buttolph at 734-3394 with questions.