the AAUW BRIEFS

SOUTHERN NEW YORK BRANCH

VOLUME 54 ISSUE 2 OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2009

FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL

Dear Southern NY Branch Members,

We've already had a busy month. Our annual book sale at the Endicott Apple Fest was a success as usual. Carole Cassidy gave us much to think about when she spoke to us about the SOS Shelter at our last branch meeting. Our Branch By-laws Committee worked diligently and was able to update our by-laws so that they now conform to the newly passed AAUW Association by-laws.

In October we look forward to our branch meeting when our speaker will be Scott Carver, an engineering professor at Binghamton University. Scott will be visiting the White House this month as he was recently awarded the federal government's highest award for scientists, the ECASE award and a $1 Million grant for his work in information security. Please feel free to invite spouses and friends to Scott's talk at the Vestal Library on October 14th. The District III Conference will be held on October 24 in Skaneateles.

November's activities include the Status of Women Council's Achievement Dinner where we will honor Mildred DeWitt, and our November branch meeting where we will learn everything we want to know about pharmaceutical drugs.

There was sad news this summer with the death of Senator Ted Kennedy, who sponsored the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and much other legislation important to women. We were disgusted this August when it was discovered that corporate lobbyists for the coal industry had presented forged letters from AAUW and many other national groups pressing Congress to vote against the Clean Energy & Security Act ("cap & trade legislation.") AAUW does not advocate for or against energy policy. There was good news too with the induction of our newest Supreme Court Justice, Sonia Sotomayor!
See you soon.

Presidential Council
Ruth Allstadt, Mitzi Manning, Jan Cattarin

OCTOBER PROGRAM

Wednesday, October 14, 2009
Vestal Library

7 PM
Refreshments
7:30 PM
Program

Scott Craver

Winner of the one million dollar
Early **C**areer **A**ward for **S**cientists and **E**ngineers.

The ECASE is the highest honor awarded by the U.S. Government to young professionals in the early stages of their independent research careers.

Please join us as Scott Craver speaks about the impact of receiving a million dollar award on the Triple Cities community and the entire nation.

Eileen Cooley
Program Committee

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Tuesday, November 10, 2009
Vestal Library

7 PM
Refreshments

7:30 PM
Program

Lisa Lambe
CVS Pharmacist

Answering your questions regarding meds that you, your family members or friends may be taking.

Please join us as Lisa will be updating us on the latest and newest medications that are available.

Rita Yeates
Program Committee

CALENDAR

Out to Lunch – Wednesday, October 7. Meet at 11:30 AM at The Red Lobster, 1200 Vestal Parkway, Vestal. Call Karen Galli if attending.

Branch Meeting – Wednesday, October 14. Vestal Library at 7:00 PM. See details in *Briefs*.

Board Meeting - Monday, October 19. Vestal Library - small room at 7:00 PM.

Film Discussion Group – Wednesday, October 21. Art Mission Theater. Details TBA. Chair Mildred Dewitt

Current Books – Thursday, October 22. Meet at 7:00 PM at Dunkin Donuts on Country Club Road, Endwell. We will be discussing *Home Repairs* by local author Liz Rosenberg. Liz will be our guest at this meeting. If you plan to attend, notify Nancy Kuehnemund:

District Meeting – Saturday, October 24. See Flyer.

Night at the Movies – Monday, October 26. Please call Jan Cattarin or 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.

Daytime Books/Modern Literature – Tuesday, October 27. Meet at 10:00 AM at the Vestal Library. We will discuss *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows.

APPLE FEST BOOK SALE

Our AAUW Book Sale at Endicott Apple Fest on September 19th was a great success. We had wonderful weather and a great crowd. So many of our customers look forward to our being there each year. This is our 16th year at Apple Fest! Hard to believe! Counting our first three years at the Hooper School, next year will be our 20th Anniversary of AAUW book sales!

We have attracted quite a following thanks to all of your donations and all the members willing to sort and deliver the books and work at the sale. This year we made a profit of $861. Needless to say we are pleased with the money made for scholarships, LAF and Ed Foundation. (**Continued**)

CALENDAR

Status of Women Dinner – Wednesday, November 4. Owego Treadway Inn. See tear-off Page 5.

Branch Meeting – Tuesday, November 10. Vestal Library at 7:00 PM. See details in *Briefs*.

Out to Lunch – Wednesday, November 11. Meet at 11:30 AM at The Lost Dog Cafe, 222 Water Street, Binghamton. Call Karen Galli if attending.

Night at the Movies – Monday, November 16. Please call Jan Cattarin or 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.

Daytime Books/Modern Literature – Tuesday, November 17. Meet at 10:00 AM at the Vestal Library. We will discuss a yet to be chosen John Updike book. Call Freddie Miller for the choice of book. *Note: This is the third Wednesday not the fourth.*

Film Discussion Group – Wednesday, November 25. Art Mission Theater. Details TBA. Chair Mildred Dewitt

Current Books – Thursday, December 3. Meet at 7:00 PM at Dunkin Donuts on Country Club Road, Endwell. Jan Cattarin will lead the discussion of *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows. Call Nancy if you plan to attend.

SAVE THE DATE

Holiday Luncheon - Saturday, December 5, 2009

Barnes & Noble - Gift Wrapping - Dec. 17, 18, 2009

Branch Meeting - January 11, 2010

APPLE FEST (Continued)

However having the appreciation of the community and interacting with old and new friends is also a great incentive to continue our book sale and take part in a great community activity.

A special thanks to Dennis Smith who owns the Allstate Insurance office on Washington Avenue for letting us use one of his rooms to sort the books and keep the books there before and a few days after the sale. Thank him if you happen to know him or might be passing his office.

Our thanks to all AAUW members and friends who contributed to the ongoing success of this AAUW Fundraising Activity.

Betty Sabo, Mitzi Manning
Book Sale Co-Chairs

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

I hope you are all enjoying the beautiful fall weather. It is great for all of us to get back into the swing of things, attending AAUW events and most of all, working to support LAF.

LAF continues to take action supporting women's issues in the workplace and academia. On the academic front, LAF is crafting a manual and a Program in a Box focused on campus sexual assault policies in collaboration with the AAUW Research Department, Harvard University law professor and Title IX expert Diane Rosenfeld, her students, and Students Active for Ending Rape. The materials will be released in winter 2009/10.

In addition, as a collaborative effort with the AAUW Research Department and the Legal Aid Society of San Francisco, LAF plans to release a new tool kit and Program in a Box in the fall on Title IX enforcement in high school athletics. These are examples of important steps LAF is taking to improve the lives of young women.

I would like to thank everyone who donated books and time to the annual book sale this year. Your donations were greatly appreciated.

LAF continues to take more cases. If you know a woman needing legal assistance due to discrimination in the workplace and would like to make a case recommendation, please contact laf@aauw.org. Recommendation forms are accepted on a rolling basis.

You can make a cash donation at any time. If you wish to do so, please feel free to contact me at (607) 625-2571 or mrezeski@stny.rr.com. All donations are tax deductible.

Mary Rezeski
LAF VP

BROOME COUNTY

STATUS OF WOMEN COUNCIL 2009 Woman of Achievement Mildred DeWitt

The Southern New York AAUW branch is proud to announce that Mildred DeWitt is our nominee for this year's *Status of Women Council Woman of Achievement Award.* We have been fortunate the past few years to have Mildred as editor of our Branch Briefs. She has also been very involved with membership, program committee, LAF and as chair and organizer of our film discussion group.

Mildred is also President of the AAUW Manhattan Branch and is the AAUW New York State Legal Advocacy Fund Vice President.

Please join us in honoring Mildred at the Status of Women Council Dinner on November 4th at 6 pm at the Owego Treadway. Tickets must be purchased before October 19th and are available by contacting Cathy McGowan.

Cathy McGowan
Status of Women Council Delegate

STAUS OF WOMEN DINNER - NOVEMBER 4

The Southern New York Branch donates a basket for raffle at the Status of Women Dinner. This year the basket theme is ***ITALIAN APPETITE.***

Please bring items to the October 14 Branch Meeting, the October 19 Board Meeting or District III Conference on October 24.

Suggestions: Italian olives, wine, pasta, sauce, olive oil, jarred mushrooms, artichokes, peppers, cheeses, napkins, placemats, table cloths w/ Italian theme.

Contact - Cathy McGowan

COMMUNITY

Chow Hunger Walk

Just a reminder- the 27th Annual CHOW Hunger Walk will be held Sunday, October 18th at Binghamton University. It is not too late to sign up for this event. For information contact the program director at eblaine@broomecouncil.net.

Barnes & Noble Gift Wrapping

Save the date - our annual gift wrapping fundraiser will be on Thursday December 17th and Friday, December 18th at the Barnes & Noble Bookstore in the Vestal Town Square. We need wrappers and shoppers throughout the day.
More details will be announced in the next newsletter.

Thank you for your support of these programs.

JoAnne Edson
Community Chair

AAUW LAF2009

Show your commitment by wearing the AAUW LAF Pin. The 2009 Pin is available.
It can be yours for a donation of $100.
Mail your check payable to AAUW LAF to: AAUW, Planetarium Station, PO Box 390, NYC 10024-0390

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

When you send a Fellowgram you contribute to the AAUW Educational Foundation, programs that financially enable outstanding women to continue their advanced studies and projects.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Campus Action Projects (CAP) enable student leaders and campus faculty to design and implement effective programs that enhance campus offerings, promote leadership, and improve academic and career outcomes.

The following Campus Action Projects are outstanding examples of how the grant money from AAUW was used to promote equity for women on their campus. They demonstrate the range of ideas for projects and illustrate ways to carry them out, from creating poster advertisements to implementation. These projects all focus on women's economic security in some way, particularly towards ending the pay gap.

Documentaries, podcasts, and an interactive website are three examples of past projects that involved multimedia. They are *Dreams to Reality* by Alfred University, NY, 2008; *Women Helping Women Succeed* by University of Maryland, Baltimore, 2007; and *Mentoring podcasts* by Purdue University-Calumet, IN, 2008.

Many teams held a conference, workshop, or fair focused on exposing young girls and young women to nontraditional career fields, pay negotiation, and financial planning. Three recent examples are *Girls Play Fair* by Bucknell University, PA, 2008; *How to be Ms. Independent* by College of Staten Island, NY, 2007; and *CSI: Careers, Salary, and Inspiration Conference* by Rogue Community College, WA, 2008.

The 2009-10 Campus Action Project (CAP) **Breaking through Barriers in STEM for Women and Girls** focuses on the issues raised by AAUW's upcoming 2010 research report, *Breaking through Barriers: Women and Girls in **S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering and **M**athematics (**STEM**)*.

Continued

PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW believes that health care is a basic right, and that women in the United States are in particular need of health reform legislation. Specifically, AAUW believes that any health reform legislation must include the following three tenets: an end to the practice of gender rating; coverage of reproductive health services; and access to and coverage of preventive services and care. If you haven't yet done so, urge your members of Congress to make these three critical pieces a part of the final health care reform bill. For more information, read AAUW's full position paper on health care.

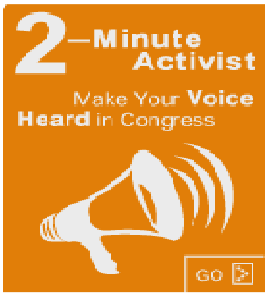
Suzanne Conmy
Public Policy Chair

Educational Foundation (Continued)

The report will highlight key findings from recent research on women and girls in middle and high school, college and university, and the workplace. Although women and girls have made significant progress in **STEM**, they are still underrepresented in certain fields and barriers to their full participation remain. Progress has been made, but the goal of achieving equity has yet to be reached.

The information above was taken from the AAUW Website http://AAUW.org/education/cap.

Sue McLain
Educational Foundation VP



MEMBERSHIP

Membership News

AAUW is continuing their successful Membership Campaigns again this year. AAUW is in Phase Three of the Member Get A Member Campaign. You can visit the Hall of Fame on-line and see all the Southern NY members who have participated in this campaign. Currently there are 15 Southern New York members listed and they have recruited a total of 20 new members since this campaign began!

Asking friends to join AAUW is a great way to get new members. Help to keep Southern New York functioning as a vital branch by bringing in new members! Look for more information on-line or contact Suzy Conmy at 785-1540. Thanks for your hard work!

Suzy Conmy
Membership VP

Southern NY High School Scholarship Winners

I wish to thank our branch's Scholarship committee members: Marguerite Ireland, Ruth Giese, Kathy Rezeski, Bridget Sheahan, and Pat Puccio, Treasurer for an excellent job.

Our committee chose two outstanding Seniors, each receiving $400.

- Hannah Martin, from Binghamton City High School, is attending King's College this fall.
- Jessica Burrell, from Owego Free Academy, is attending Ithaca College.

Cheryl Papa
Scholarship Committee

AAUW Southern NY
http://home.att.net/~JSMCL-endny/aauwmp.htm