

MAY BRANCH MEETING

WHAT: May Banquet

WHEN: Wednesday, May 19-gather at 6PM/dinner at 6:30 PM

WHERE: East Shore Café

Our May banquet will be held on Wednesday, May 19, at the East Shore Café, 1638 East Shore Drive (about 4 miles north of the High School on East Shore Dr., Route 34 North). We will gather beginning at 6:00, with a buffet dinner to start at 6:30. After dinner and our usual short business meeting, we will be treated to a performance by the voice and lute/guitar duo Mignarda. Consisting of Donna Stewart and Ron Andrico, Mignarda won the 2009 Just Plain Folks award in the Classical Voice/Opera Solo category. The duo's music is beautiful and deeply relaxing, evoking an earlier, more leisured era. Although they specialize in 16th-century lute songs, Donna and Ron also sing modern folk songs, and they will treat us to some of those as well. Their Web site is at <http://www.mignarda.com/>.

This will make a very nice introduction to AAUW for someone new, so I hope you'll bring a friend!



DATES TO REMEMBER

May 10-Book Discussion-"Water for Elephants" by Sara Gruen.

May 13-Art Group visits glass artist, Margaret Neher

May 15-dinner reservations due

May 19-Annual dinner at the East Shore Café. 6 PM

June 14-Book Group meets-"My Life in France" by Julia Child

July 9-11 -Leadership Conference at Cazenovia College



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

Ithaca Insights

ITHACA, NY BRANCH NEWSLETTER

May, 2010

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<http://www@AAUW-Ithaca.org>

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

The AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At our April program, Jean Gortzig introduced George Ferrari and Karen Macier, who spoke about the Community Foundation of Tompkins County and its Women's Fund. The Community Foundation works to bring donors together with organizations or projects that match their interests, so as to improve our community. Partners in its philanthropic projects can be individuals, businesses, government entities, or other groups. The Foundation is doing some very interesting work, including building the Women's Fund, which both supports women and provides a means to honor women as philanthropists and leaders. The speakers noted that a person does not have to be wealthy to make a meaningful contribution to a good cause.

The other big AAUW event of last month was the New York State AAUW convention, held at the lovely Otesaga Hotel in Cooperstown from April 23-25. Jeanette Knapp and I went, and we had a great time. The plenary speakers included the eloquent Claire Schuster, still pursuing a sex discrimination lawsuit against Berea College, and Gina Torry, an officer of UNIFEM, the UN's Development Fund for Women. Author Rhoda Lerman also treated us to a reading of excerpts from *Eleanor: A Novel*, her book about Eleanor Roosevelt. (Jeanette bought a copy on the spot!) Our Branch garnered awards for our contributions to LAF, and for our newsletter (for the third year in a row!). We had named gifts to EF in memory of Connie Reps and Germaine Colvin. In short, we are small but mighty!

Margaret Nichols

BOOK GROUP



The Book Group will meet on Monday, May 10 for a discussion of "Water for Elephants" by Sara Gruen. This novel about the world of a traveling circus during the Great Depression is filled with heroes, villains, romance, and a wild-animal stampede. Marianne Mellinger will lead the discussion. We will meet at Betta Hedlund's house, 110 Homestead Road.

Come at 7:00 for coffee/tea, cookies and conversation.

The discussion starts about 7:30. For directions call Betta, 273-5645, or email bhedlund@mindspring.com.

In June, the Book Group will conclude this year's discussions with food and fun. We will read and talk about "My Life in France" by Julia Child. The cheerful memoir by the famous cookbook author and television personality was the basis of the recent film "Julie & Julia". In the spirit of the film, members of the book group are encouraged to also prepare something from one of Julia Child's cookbooks, maybe "Mastering the Art of French Cooking", and bring it for the group to share (and discuss). We will meet on Monday, June 14 at 7:00 at Ginny Mistry's house. Jeanette Knapp will lead the discussion.

Choosing books for the next year. Bring suggestions to the May and June meetings. We will be considering both fiction and nonfiction titles for the list. Since the first discussion in 2001, of "The Red Tent" by Anita Diamant, the group has tried to read books by women, about women and women's issues, or about third world cultures. It is helpful if the books are readily available, preferably in paperback. We would like to choose at least part of the list for 2010-2011 at the May meeting. We can then try to find some copies at the Friends of the Library Book Sale this month. To see the list of books we read this year, go to the website, <http://www@AAUW-Ithaca.org>.

ART GROUP



The Art Group will visit the studio of Margaret Neher who creates flame worked glassware-jewelry, fruit, gift items, and wedding toppers. (She is #28 on the Art Trail brochure.)

We will meet at 10:15 AM on Thursday, May 13 at the K-mart parking lot to carpool. The studio is at 329 S. Titus Ave.

After our visit we will have lunch at The Heights Café. Call Lenore Bandler at 564-3379 or email lenore@bandlers.com for lunch reservations and arrangements for drivers.

Lenore Bandler

AAUW New York State Convention News

Thank YOU for LAF Basket Donations

The Ithaca Branch contributed a beautiful basket of sewing goodies to the silent auction to benefit the Legal Advocacy Foundation at the AAUW New York State Convention in Cooperstown. I contributed the basket, fabric, and a mug. Thank you to Margaret Nichols for adding a bottle of Treleaven wine and tea, to Sharon Turecek for thread, needles, and many sewing notions, to Betta Hedlund for a beautiful bird house sewing box, to Pat Sims for fabric and a quilting trilogy, and to Ginny Mistry for a quilting book and seam binding. Our basket raised \$25 for LAF and benefits all women who are suing for fair pay and working conditions.

The Ithaca Branch was 8th out of 44 New York branches for per capita gifts to the Legal Advocacy Fund and was honored as a star branch for gifts averaging \$10 to \$15 per member.

Educational Fund, Newsletter, Website Awards

Our branch was thanked at the Educational Fund dinner for our named gifts in memory of Connie Reps and Germaine Colvin.

Pat Sims, the editor of our *Ithaca Insights* newsletter, received an Award of Excellence for our noteworthy newsletter. Alene Wyatt, who created and manages our website, www.aauw-ithaca.org, won Website Award. Only 13 New York State branches have current websites. Thank you and congratulations to Pat and Alene for keeping the Ithaca Branch so visible and up-to-date.

The AAUW Summer Leadership Conference will be at Cazenovia College in Skaneateles this year, July 9-11. Plan to attend if you can. This is an inexpensive weekend away, and it is great fun and inspirational to meet dynamic AAUW members from across the state. For more information contact Margaret Nichols or me.

—Jeanette Knapp

June Board Meeting & Nominating Committee News

All members are invited to our Board Meeting on June 16. This will be a dish-to-pass dinner and strategic planning evening. If you are a new board member, you come as a guest and don't have to cook. We are looking for one or two people for Program Vice President

and a Public Policy Chair. If you are interested, call Margaret Nichols at mnr1@cornell.edu (273-3772). Call Jeanette Knapp at 272-3367 (jdk4@cornell.edu) if you plan to come to the board meeting. Time: 6 p.m. Place: 1143 Ellis Hollow Road.

BASKETS TO BENEFIT BRANCH

Bring your checkbooks to the May Annual Dinner. We will be auctioning off gift baskets to benefit our branch. There will be several beautiful baskets to bid on created by individuals and our interest groups. Feel free to create one yourself and bring it along May 19 as your donation to the Branch. Our expenses were higher than our dues this year so we thought this would be a fun way to balance the budget. And bring a friend to the dinner to encourage her to join. More members are the best way to benefit our bottom line.

RENEW NOW TO ENTER MEMBERSHIP RAFFLE

Three new members have joined our branch this year through AAUW's Shape the Future Campaign. That entitles our branch to a free Association membership for next year. You could be the lucky winner and save \$49 on your dues.

How can you enter our membership raffle? Mail your dues to our treasurer on or before **May 15**. You will earn **3 chances** on our lottery to have \$49 of your dues returned. Send your dues by **May 19** and you will earn **2 raffle tickets**. Send your dues by **June 1** and you will receive **1 chance**. The drawing will be held at our board meeting on June 16. If you are the winner, we'll send you a check for \$49.

Dues for 2010-11 are \$49 for the Association, \$10 for AAUW New York State and \$18 for the Ithaca Branch for a total of \$77. Make your dues check out to AAUW Ithaca Branch. Mail to our treasurer, Sharon Turecek, 91 Genung Road, Ithaca, NY 14850. You can use the coupon on page 4. Questions? Call me at 272-3367 or jdk4@cornell.edu.

Jeanette Knapp, Membership VP

**MAY 19TH BANQUET RESERVATIONS
&
2010-2011 MEMBERSHIP DUES NOTICE**

Please fill out the form below to make your banquet reservation and/or renew your AAUW dues.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Work Phone: _____ (Include in directory? Yes ___ No ___)

AAUW Program Interest: _____

Banquet: (See details on page 1)

The cost of the dinner and entertainment is \$25.00, which includes tax and gratuity. To make your reservations, please send a check payable to **AAUW Ithaca Branch** for \$25 x the number of reservations you wish to Sharon Turecek, 91 Genung Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850. **Your check needs to be received by Saturday, May 15.** You may also contact Sharon at 277-0859, or email her at sturecek@gmail.com.

_____ number attending @ \$25.00 per person for a total of _____

Choice of chicken _____ or vegetarian pasta _____ with the Buffet

_____ I need a ride

Membership Dues for 2010-2011

Send your dues by May 15 & earn 3 chances to earn \$49

Send your dues by May 19 & earn 2 chances

Send your dues by June 1 & earn 1 chance

Regular Memberships

Association dues	\$49
New York State	\$10
Ithaca Branch	<u>\$18</u>
Total =	\$77

Special Memberships

Student Affiliate (undergraduate)	\$17
Graduate Student	\$59

Make checks out to **AAUW Ithaca Branch**. Mail to Sharon Turecek, 91 Genung Road, Ithaca, NY 14850.