PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

I find myself at a loss for words after the happenings of the last couple of days. Now we need to continue working on furthering the Mission and Vision of AAUW.

I hope to see you all on November 19 at the Tompkins County Library for the discussion of the book “Alleghany Dream”. Don’t forget to bring a friend.

Pat Sims
President

VISIT OUR NEW WEB SITE!

Thanks to our tech savvy member and webmaster, Alene Wyatt, our AAUW Ithaca Branch website is up and running.
Have you checked it out?

Dates to Remember

November 14th- Community Read The New Jim Crow - 6:00 pm at BJM
November 19th - Book Group - 11:00 a.m. the Borg Warner Room of the TCPL
November 24th - Happy Thanksgiving

December 4th - Cookie Exchange - 3:00 pm at the home of Sharon Barrie
April 1, 2017 - Tech Savvy
Allegheny Dream Is Haunting Family Novel

The AAUW Book Group is co-sponsoring a public discussion of Allegheny Dream by Lisa Harris with the Tompkins County Public Library on Saturday morning, November 19. The author will be there to read from her book and answer our questions. Lisa is a local author who is moving to Dryden and is our newest branch member.

Allegheny Dream, Lisa’s second novel, is set in rural Pennsylvania, where she grew up. It is a haunting family novel about three generations of women who must overcome the trauma of cruelty, sudden death, and the destruction of their mountain valleys. Myth and reality blend in sharply etched scenes that capture the beauty and pain of uncovering the past.

Our program is at 11:00 a.m. on Nov. 19 in the Borg Warner Room of the public library in downtown Ithaca. Invite friends and neighbors. After the program the Book Group is taking Lisa to lunch at Coltivare. If you would like to join us for lunch, make reservations by Wednesday, Nov. 16 by email or phone with Sarah Johnson: sljithaca@aol.com or 272-3336.

Lisa Harris taught at Ithaca High School and Ithaca College. She is a school administrator and associate fellow at Bard College’s Institute of Writing and Thinking. Her first novel is Geechee Girls. You can order Allegheny Dream from Amazon or Ravenna Press. The library also has a copy.

For December we are reading In the Bleak Midwinter by Julia Spencer-Fleming. Our discussion will be December 12th at the home of Betta Hedlund.

New Book for February
We are reading The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness by Michelle Alexander in February, which is a change from our September schedule. The New Jim Crow is Ithaca’s Community Read book for 2016-17. Our discussion is February 13. On February 21, the author will be speaking in Ithaca at the State Theatre. There are many other community events in the next several months related to this book. Check out the schedule at: multiculturalresourcecenter.org/bookread/

In March we will read We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves. We have postponed Someone Knows My Name until next September.

Read on.
Jeanette Knapp, 272-3367 or jdk4@cornell.edu

Work Continues on 2017 Tech Savvy

Members of the Ithaca and Cortland branches of AAUW have been hard at work planning the next Tech Savvy, which will be held April 1, 2017, at Tompkins Cortland Community College. Proposals and fundraising letters have been sent out and STEM workshops, sessions, and activities are being developed for both the 6th to 9th grade girls and caregivers who will attend the event that day.

Interested in learning more or getting involved? Volunteers are still needed to help with curriculum, fundraising, marketing and outreach, and recruiting volunteers. Please contact Sarah at SLJithaca@aol.com for more information.

AAUW FOODIES

On September 9th members of the foodies group took a post election day trip to Syracuse. Stops were made at Trader Joes, Samir's Middle Eastern Market, and finally Phoebe’s Restaurant for lunch.

Thank you Norma Goldberg for organizing this exciting and savory adventure.

In December, the Food Group will participate in the Holiday Cookie Exchange. Some of the Foodies will be preparing non-sweet items for the cookie trays.
MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Some nice news to share with you: Another new member has joined our branch this fall. Her name is Lisa Harris.

Lisa earned a B.A. from Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY. She holds an M. Ed from Armstrong Atlantic University, Savannah, GA, and an M.F.A. from Avery Graduate School of the Arts, (Bard College).

She will be moving here from Butler, PA in mid November. Her email is: Lisaharris.harris52@gmail.com.

Lisa will be our guest author at our book club discussion on November 19th, when we discuss her book, “Allegheny Dream.”

Lisa is interested in art, books, education, equal pay, and theater. We are fortunate that she has joined our branch, and look forward to meeting her in November.

Also, I am so happy to tell you that Jean Gortzig has been awarded a Certificate for Honorary Life Membership in AAUW. That means that Jean has been a member of AAUW for 50 years!

Jean has been a devoted, active member of our branch and her contributions have been invaluable. Her work with Planned Parenthood in Ithaca has been instrumental in the establishment of one of the most valuable facilities serving the health needs of women and girls in New York State. Please congratulate her when you see her next.

One last thing: If you bring a guest to one of our branch programs, and she joins our branch at that event, her national dues will be at half price for the current year. That means, $21.00 instead of $42.00. Please call me at 277-0859 if you have questions.

Hope to see you at one of our events or activities soon!
Sharon Turecek.

FIRST 2016/2017 ITHACA BRANCH MEETING

Leslie Danks Burke gave an informal talk about why she is running for office and what she thinks are the most important women's issues facing the legislature. The talk was followed with a dish-to-pass dinner at Jeanette Knapp’s house.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

Carolyn McPherson receives certificate for Honorary Life Membership. She has been a devoted member of AAUW for 50 years.
CONTRIBUTIONS TO AAUW FUNDS UNDERWAY

Each year members of the Ithaca Branch make generous gifts to AAUW initiatives: the Educational Opportunities Fund (EOF) and the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF). This year we have an opportunity to support these funds, plus a new third fund, the AAUW Fund. This is a general fund that allows AAUW to put resources where they are most needed. It supports all of AAUW’s 501(c)(3) charitable programs.

Many thanks to the 25% of branch members who have contributed so far to these AAUW Funds! We are on our way to our 2016 goal of $1,000. As always the Educational Opportunity [scholarships] Fund and the Legal Advocacy Fund received several contributions, but the new AAUW Fund that gives support where it is needed most has also been included. Our branch receives NY State and AAUW National recognition for any contributions we make. Please contact Margaret Nichols if you didn't receive the information letter and form pertinent to this effort to support women everywhere. Or see Margaret or me at our November 19th meeting.

Muriel Everhart
Treasure Ithaca Branch AAUW

NEW JIM CROW COMMUNITY READ

Next week, the New Jim Crow Community Read is expecting another standing room only event. So, we’re moving to a bigger venue -- the Beverly J. Martin (BJM) School Gym.

This month’s event, Roundup, Locked Up: What’s the Point of Knowing Your Rights? will be held on Monday, November 14th at 6:00pm -- please note the start time is 6:00pm, not 5:30pm.

November’s event is hosted by Edwin Santiago, Lead Mentor of the Ultimate Re-Entry Opportunity Initiative and Mayor Svante Myrick of the City of Ithaca. Roundup, Locked Up corresponds with themes in chapter 2 of The New Jim Crow. As always, You do not need to have read The New Jim Crow to attend Monday’s event. Monthly public discussions are intended to be open to all community members, regardless of whether you have read the book.

500 More Books Available!
Thanks to the generosity of a funder, an additional 500 copies of The New Jim Crow will be available on Monday, November 14th for pick up at the November event and at the Multicultural Resource Center at 615 Willow Ave, Ithaca. The first 1,500 books went fast! Be sure to arrive early on Monday to get a copy.


HOLIDAY COOKIE EXCHANGE

For the past few years Ithaca branch members have gathered to share our special cookie recipes, exchange cookies and prepare platters to be delivered to various human services agencies around Ithaca. This year our annual cookie exchange will be held on Sunday December 4th at 3:00. Please join us at the home of Sharon Barrie:
1151 Ellis Hollow Road, Ithaca, NY. Email spibarrie@hotmail.com or call 272-1341 if you need directions.