

Category: (Please circle or highlight the category for which this program is being submitted.)
- Women ✓ Education ✓ Community - International - Cultural - Diversity ✓ Public Policy

Title: A Tour of the Old Nassau County Courthouse

Part I:

- Other community groups** involved, if any (list):(5 points) 0
- Number of members** involved in **planning or putting on** the program (5 points) 5
- Number of nonmembers** involved in the program (5 points) 4
- Number of members who attended or benefitted** (5 points) 23
- Number of nonmembers** who attended or benefitted (5 points) 1
- Number of new members** who joined (if any)(5 points) 0

Part II:

Describe your project/ program/ event in 75-150 **words**. Be sure to include:

- how the project addressed **AAUW's mission** (15 points) *see back of page*
- branch goals** in doing this program (10 points) *see back of page*
- specific action steps** in planning this program (15 points) *same*
- steps taken for **community visibility** (Attach newsletter and newspaper articles.)(10 points) *see back*
- measurable **impact on the community** (10 points) *see back*
- lessons learned** for future programs/ projects/ events (10 points) *see back*

Attach copies of newsletter and newspaper articles about this project/ program/ event.

(No more than 4 pages maximum)

Mail or email the original of your entire application with supporting materials to:

- Peggy Kelland, AAUW-NYS Program Vice President
- 13 Susan Lane, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

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Questions? (845)297-0507

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AAUW Mission:

The tour of the Old Nassau County Courthouse on Nov. 13, 2009 educated the participants about the history of the County and the structure and duties of the County Legislature.

Branch Goals:

The goals of the Garden City Branch were successfully achieved by giving participants an opportunity to meet with our Legislator from District 8, Vincent Mucarella, and discussing matters of importance to the residents of this suburban area in a convivial atmosphere.

Specific Action Steps in planning this program

I went to the Courthouse in early September to see if a tour was possible. I met with Mr. Mucarella's secretary and she asked that a letter requesting the trip be sent, identifying the organization. This was done and she called and the date was arranged. I made it a point to check the building for bathrooms, elevator, access for the disabled, and parking. An article was ~~placed~~ ^{placed} for the AAUW November bulletin. The publicity coordinator placed an article in the Garden City News, + Announcements (were made at AAUW meetings). Twenty three people came on the excursion and the Nassau County Historian, Edward Smith, took us through this architectural gem. A follow up luncheon was arranged at the nearby Bar Association immediately after the tour for anyone who wanted to go. The cost was nominal. The 18 hungry luncheon guests sat at three tables and talked about what they had seen and heard earlier in the day.

Impact on the Community:

Most favorable! Many non-members wanted to attend but the trip was arranged for 24 people. It was with regret that several people were told that we reached the maximum number. The "courthouse" is a working government building and business was conducted while we inspected the murals, the Teddy Roosevelt Memorabilia and the press office.

Lessons Learned

The lessons learned were very simple. Activities should be novel, diverse, entertaining and stimulating. Keep things within an easy travel distance and always end with food!

Old Nassau County Court House

On Nov. 13, more than one third of the Garden City branch members of AAUW visited The old Nassau County Courthouse that was originally dedicated by then N.Y, Governor Theodore Roosevelt in July , 1900. Our tour was arranged by our County Legislator, Vincent Muscarella and conducted by Nassau County's Historian Edward J. Smits. The beautifully restored building now serves as the Theodore Roosevelt Executive and Legislative Office Building. We were able to visit many of the offices that are used by our County lawmakers as well as learn about Long Island's history and address questions to Mr. Muscarella, who took the time to escort our group. It was a wonderful learning experience and great fun for the 23 members who attended.