



Message from the President

HAPPY 2020, EVERYONE!

We have quite a busy year ahead of us, I think. The year 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, as well as the next U.S. election in the fall.

2020 also marks AAUW's first Convening, a series of virtual events designed to mark the 100th anniversary of women's right to vote, inform our members and supporters in a critical presidential election year, and move us all closer to a fully fair future for women and girls.

The first of these events will be a **webinar held on January 28, which will preview AAUW's plans for 2020**, including election priorities for the presidential election and AAUW's plans to recognize the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and the 55th Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act.

A second piece of the Convening series will focus on telling member stories. **"Your Story. Our Legacy."** will ask a series of questions to our AAUW members on their life experiences and work with AAUW to contribute to the AAUW archives.

Please share any suggested names of members who would be willing to share their story. I'll pass them along to National.

Closer to home, **our annual convention will be on May 1-2, at Educare Central Maine in Waterville.** We plan to celebrate the Suffrage Centennial on Friday evening. Our programs on Saturday will be centered on education. More information to come!

Yours in Joyful Defiance and Radical Optimism
Carly McCarthy
President, AAUW of Maine



Educare Central Maine is a high-quality learning and development center partnering with families and communities to ensure school readiness for children from birth to age five. The facility is impressive (there will be a tour), and their documented outcomes for children and families (primarily women-headed households) are impressive.

--Martha Arterberry, President, Waterville Branch

Photo by Martha Arterberry.



Betty-Jane at the January Waterville branch meeting when we announced that she would be inducted into the Maine Women's Hall of Fame.

Nomination of Betty-Jane Stanhope Meader to the Maine Women's Hall of Fame

By Judy Dinmore on behalf of AAUW of Maine

Betty-Jane Meader was a trailblazing educator. She initiated a course of study in Fashion Merchandising and Retail Management that equipped Maine students to realize their dreams. Betty-Jane has had a significant

statewide impact as an educator and advocate providing girls and women in Maine with the skills and support that enabled them to reach their potential. Additionally, Betty-Jane has led and collaborated with women's organizations in Maine to promote services and enrichment to surround women with encouragement and tangible assistance. The references included in this submission testify to her impact. As a result of Betty-Jane's professionalism, experience, guidance and compassion, the young women she influenced were equipped to be successful in their lives.

The enduring value of Betty-Jane's contributions to Maine girls and women resides in each individual she inspired. Lisa Udelson posted on Facebook the enduring value of having had a positive role model when Betty-Jane was her second grade teacher. Add the 8th grade students Betty-Jane mentored during the past seven years at Girls' Day at the State House. Include the students she enrolled as e-student affiliates in the American Association of University Women (AAUW), availing them of support possibilities, such as scholarships, research findings, legal advocacy and pay negotiation strategies. Lasting value starts with time and investment in individual girls and women.

In addition to students, Betty-Jane is a role model for retired women in Maine. She demonstrates the importance of post-retirement contributions in our state with many retirees. Betty-Jane was a member of the Board of Visitors at the University of Maine at Farmington for six years. She is a former state president and a board member of the Maine Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. She is membership vice president of the Kappa Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, where she is an auctioneer raising money for scholarships. She was a member of the Alliance for Maine Women for seven years until the group disbanded in June 2019. Betty-Jane was elected president of the Waterville Branch of AAUW and later state president of AAUW. One of her significant accomplishments was increasing collaboration with other organizations in Maine with similar goals. Betty-Jane has participated in tabling events, such as Equal Pay Day, the Maine Women's Summit on Economic Security and candidate forums. She obtained signatures to support computer science education. Betty-Jane promoted the use of AAUW's Two-Minute Activist to send email letters to Maine's elected officials on women's issues. Betty-Jane is serving as the first diversity chair on the state board of AAUW.

Enhancing Betty-Jane's many contributions is her personal style that creates a welcoming, warm atmosphere. She engages the people she encounters. Betty-Jane has been part of the fabric of Maine for her lifetime. The people of Maine, especially its girls and

women, are foremost in her heart. Betty-Jane Meader has earned a place in the Maine Women's Hall of Fame. AAUW of Maine is honored to nominate this outstanding woman.

Nomination of Joanne D'Arcangelo to the Maine Women's Hall of Fame

By Karen Heck

It is with great enthusiasm I submit this nomination for Joanne D'Arcangelo's admission to the Maine Women's Hall of Fame. Those of us who have been lucky enough to work with Joanne over the past 40 years—from her tenure as the first full-time lobbyist for the Maine Women's Lobby to her work supporting and strategizing with multiple campaigns for the rights of women and girls over the years—know the long-term, statewide impact that her work has had, and continues to have, on Maine women and girls.

I was chair of the Maine Women's Lobby board in 1987, the year we were making the leap from employing a lobbyist for a single legislative session to a full-time executive director who would also be our lobbyist. It was a leap of faith that we soon came to realize was made possible because of Joanne's political savvy and her passion for all things affecting women and children. With her ability to strategize and her connections within the legislature, the Maine Women's Lobby was successful on multiple levels, from fending off annual attempts to limit our reproductive lives and choices to passing the first-in-the-nation sexual harassment law requiring employers to provide education and training (which went into effect the very week Anita Hill was testifying in Congress,) and the first video display terminal protection for pregnant women. Thanks to Joanne's ability to think strategically, we were the first state to codify the protections of Roe v. Wade, and to develop the most compassionate and effective parental notification law in the nation.

After several years at the Lobby, working to strengthen both the organization and collaborative relationships with other women's organizations, Joanne left to direct political affairs, first at Maine Family Planning and later at Planned Parenthood of Northern New England. In 1999, statewide recognition of her experience, strategic planning skills, and passion resulted in Joanne being selected to coordinate opposition efforts to block a third-trimester abortion ban. Her outstanding organizing work resulted in a 15% larger-than-expected voter turnout across the state, and the referendum was soundly—and stunningly—defeated (55-44%). This was a significant victory, not just in Maine but nationwide, ensuring

continued protections for the life and health of women facing difficult pregnancy choices, and the credit rests firmly with Joanne.

Joanne’s work has always been about strategic collaboration. She is well-known and revered among those in Maine’s feminist and activist communities, yet many whose lives have been positively impacted by her extraordinary work may not know her name. She has not claimed the spotlight for herself, but rather, has worked tirelessly behind the scenes to shine a light on injustice and inequality. For her extraordinary body of work, Joanne has been the recipient of many awards for her political action on behalf of social justice, including the Maine Women’s Lobby 40th Anniversary Honoree (2018), Maine Family Planning’s Huber Award (2006), the Maine Women’s Policy Center Leadership Award (2008); the Portland YWCA’s 2001 Woman of Achievement Award; the 1999 Maine Civil Liberties Union’s Roger Baldwin Award; and the Maine Women’s Fund 1994 Annual Recognition Award. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Planned Parenthood/Maine Action Fund and the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence Board.

As a proud member of the Maine Women’s Hall of Fame, and with the support of other esteemed MWHOF members, I am proud to nominate Joanne D’Arcangelo to be similarly recognized. She has dedicated her career to positively impacting the lives of women and girls across our state and nation. There are none among us who have not benefited from her courageous, principled work.

**BETTY-JANE MEADER
& JOANNE D’ARCANGELO**
will be inducted into the
MAINE WOMEN’S HALL OF FAME

on
Saturday, March 21, 2020

1 p.m. reception and 2 p.m. ceremony

University of Maine at Augusta (place TBA)

RSVP Marilyn Ladd: (207) 873-0313 or
mvladd@colby.edu

**Maine Women’s Summit
on Economic Security**
**#MaineToo: Taking Action Against Sexual
Assault, Harassment and Exploitation**
Sponsored by MWL
(Maine Women’s Lobby) Education Fund
October 2, 2019, Augusta Civic Center

Courtesy of Cathy Lee.



Cathy Lee, sister of Beth Lee, a ceramic artist in New York, presents a gift to Tarana Burke, special guest and speaker at the summit. Burke is best known as the founder of the “Me Too” Movement in 2006. She is also a civil rights activist and the Senior Director of Girls for Gender Equity in Brooklyn.

Courtesy of Betty-Jane Meader.



AAUW members in attendance: Kristin Sweeney (Bath-Brunswick Branch); and Betty-Jane Meader and Rena Heath, Waterville Branch.

Strategic Planning Action: The Power of Two or Three

By Carolyn MacRae, Strategic Planning Chair

The other day, I went to a meeting of an organization that advocates at the state level for several issues that I care about. The guest speaker, a Senator in the Maine State Senate, presented a bill he is sponsoring in the current legislative session and talked about how we could help the bill get passed. It was simple – contact our state senators and urge them to support it.

What he said next gave me a flashback to an AAUW state convention held in Bath several years ago. The afternoon panel included a couple of Bath-Brunswick area state legislators. As one of them answered a question about how we could make a difference, she gave the same answer. They both noted that they almost never hear from their constituents; if they hear from two or three, they sit up and take notice. This is key – if we want to make a difference for women and girls in Maine, we can let our state senators and representatives know our positions on bills that matter.

Think about it. No matter the size of your branch, you can make a difference if as few as two or three of your members let the legislators for your district know your position on a particular bill. Even better, you can use resources and research from AAUW to back up your position.

How does this connect to strategic planning, you might ask. Well, it definitely helps AAUW of Maine achieve Goal I, Objective 2: AAUW of Maine and its branches will increase the level of participation in key public policy issues. It might also help address Goal II, Objective 2: AAUW of Maine and its branches will work together to implement membership development and recruitment initiatives. Many prospective members are drawn to organizations that really do make a difference. It can even help achieve Goal III, Objective 3: AAUW of Maine will implement the “Invite an Expert” pilot program for branches, with an emphasis on the areas of strategic planning, membership development, public policy, and social media technical assistance. Through participation in this pilot, you and your branch can build your skills and knowledge to help you increase your effectiveness when you contact your legislators.

So here’s the challenge: Between now and this year’s state convention, choose a bill under consideration in this legislative session that affects equity for women and girls, then line up at least two or three members to contact your Senator or Representative and voice your support (or opposition) to the bill. It really is time for us to stand up and be counted.



An Opportunity to Implement Carolyn’s Strategic Planning Action

By Kristin Sweeney

Moriah Geer, Public Policy Chair, commented, “It would be great if our AAUW membership could let their representatives know how important it would be to have the Equal Rights Amendment as part of the Maine State constitution.”

LD 433: "RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Explicitly Prohibit Discrimination Based on the Sex of an Individual" (the Maine Equal Rights Amendment), sponsored by Representative Lois Reckitt.

This bill was carried over from the last legislative session because, as a constitutional amendment, it requires the approval of two-thirds in both chambers before going to the voters for ratification. It had a significant majority in the House last session, but did not have two-thirds of the votes, which it did, however, achieve in the Senate.

Here’s a link to the voting record of Maine state representatives on L.D. 433:

<http://www.legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/rollcall.asp?ID=280071244&chamber=H&serialnumber=92>.

Diversity and Inclusion Resolutions for 2020

By D&I Chair Betty-Jane Meader

As 2020 begins, organizations and individuals are creating New Year’s resolutions. Branches of AAUW should resolve to: (1) select a diversity and inclusion chair, (2) increase conversations on diversity and inclusion, (3) educate members about the importance of diversity and inclusion in your branch, and (4) assess the diversity and inclusion progress and deficiencies in your branch.

Calling all 30+ Year Members!

By Charmen Goehring
Co-President AAUW Sacramento
AAUW CA Meeting Planner
Past President, AAUW of Maine



Recently, I was reflecting on a decision I made several years ago to commit to the AAUW Legacy Circle. I was a Director on the National Board and my assumption was that one needed to have deep pockets to join that coveted circle. While I had the time and passion to bring to AAUW, as a single mom who was a public school teacher, I

certainly did not have a bank account that most would envy. I had a chance to speak with one of our fantastic Development staff (some might remember the amazing Catherine Heffernan Gibson) and boy, did she enlighten me about not only the importance of the Legacy Circle but being a member of it. I learned that while large donors are certainly appreciated, the more sought after prize is the commitment to AAUW's future. In fact, the form to affirm your commitment to women and girls doesn't even require a dollar amount and there are several options to choose from! With this new knowledge, I immediately filled out a form, specifying that a percentage of a 401K that I own (currently small) will go to AAUW. Catherine then gifted me with the beautiful Legacy Circle pin designed by Swarovski and former AAUW Educational Foundation President Alice Ann Leidel, which I wear proudly to AAUW events.

This past spring, I wrote my 26th membership renewal check to my branches. I have been a member of this wonderful and respected organization over half of my life. It makes sense that I would want to commit to seeing it grow and thrive beyond my active participation. So, I decided to give myself a challenge this year – to help other long-time members, 30+ years, come to realize the importance of the AAUW Legacy Circle and the need for their commitment, as well. If you have been writing renewal checks, attending book and bridge group meetings, and supporting branch events year after year as I have, AAUW is important and meaningful to you. Shouldn't you care about its future for other women and girls? Planned gifts help grow AAUW's ability to make great strides in our work to advance education, leadership, and economic security for all of our future.

We have only three Legacy Circle members (Bets Brown, Kristin Sweeney, and Charmen Goehring) out of 132 branch members in Maine. Won't you commit to joining me in this important group? We have many 30+

year members and could easily do better! You may reach out to me (charminme@yahoo.com) or Kristin Sweeney (sweeneykg@gmail.com) for more information and a commitment form or use the following link to the brochure:

<https://www.aauw.org/resource/legacy-circle-packet/>

and an enrollment form:

<https://www.aauw.org/resource/legacy-circle-enrollment-form/>.

We will be so pleased to welcome you and to give you the gift of your own Legacy Circle pin.



Your Legacy Ensures a Better Future
for Women and Girls



https://www.aauw.org/files/2016/02/Simple-Truth-Update-2019_v2-002.pdf

HOW THE WAGE GAP HURTS WOMEN IN RETIREMENT

The gender pay gap, which begins as soon women enter the workforce and grows throughout their working life, continues to disadvantage women during their retirement years, according to a new analysis by the American Association of University Women.

The analysis is included in the 2019 update to AAUW's annual report, [2019 update to AAUW's annual report, The Simple Truth About the Gender Pay Gap](#), which found:

- Women collect only about 80 percent of what men do in Social Security benefits, a result of the fact that women have earned less than men throughout their lives and therefore have paid less into the Social Security system.
- Women's pension income is only 76 percent of that collected by men.
- Women's overall retirement income, which includes Social Security, pension, interest and dividend income, and other sources of income, is only 70 percent of men's retirement income.

"The gender pay gap leaves women economically insecure at a most vulnerable time in life," said Kim Churches, AAUW's Chief Executive Officer. "A wage gap is unacceptable at any stage of life, but in retirement, it feels particularly egregious. We need to double down on our efforts to close that gap to ensure that women can be as economically secure as their male counterparts, no matter what their age."

The *Simple Truth* update is based on newly released data from the data U.S. Census Bureau. The new numbers show that in 2018, women received just 82 cents for every dollar paid to a man. Women of color often face a wider gap: compared to white men, Black women make 62 cents on the dollar and Latinas make 54 cents on the dollar.

<https://www.aauw.org/article/wage-gap-hurts-women-in-retirement/?emci=03031bb3-0c21-ea11-a601-2818784d6d68&emdi=ab748d83-a222-ea11-a601-2818784d6d68&ceid=9564666>

From Maine Women's Lobby (as compiled by Martha Arterberry).

Some Notes from the Editor
By Kristin Sweeney

Thanks to Senator Cathy Breen's leadership, Maine passed **L.D. 278, "An Act Regarding Pay Equality"** and Governor Janet Mills signed it into law in 2019. It prohibits employers from asking prospective employees about past wage and salary history.

Here's a link to the voting record of Maine state senators on L.D. 278: <https://mainewomen.org/mwl/edfund/equal-pay-for-equal-work/?emci=7719aff6-01f1-e911-b5e9-2818784d6d68&emdi=ea000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000001&ceid=2938463>.

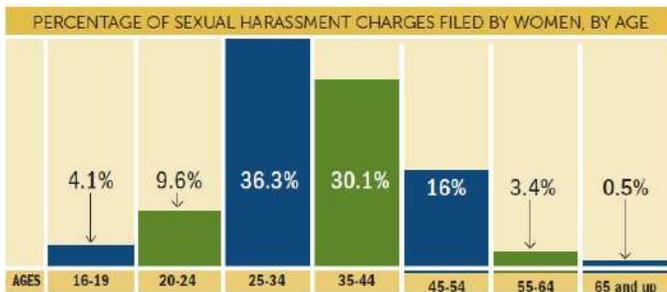
Maine Women's Lobby Education Fund launched a Pay Equity Project, an education and accountability campaign focused on Kennebec and Lincoln counties, by hosting a **Pay Equity Town Hall** in Augusta on November 23, 2019, with a panel that discussed the root causes of the wage gap in Maine and what needs to be done to address it.



<https://www.aauw.org/research/limiting-our-livelihoods//>

A new research report from the American Association of University Women (AAUW) finds that workplace sexual harassment can take a toll on women's physical and mental health, limit their job choices, reduce prospects for career development and even force them out of the workforce. These negative effects compound over time, reducing women's lifetime earnings and contributing to both the gender and retirement wage gaps, the report concludes. The report is based on an AAUW analysis of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) data, a review of academic studies on sexual harassment and an exclusive nationwide survey of AAUW members and their networks.

Limiting Our Livelihoods documents how women of all ages experience workplace sexual harassment.



Do You Know Who Frances Perkins Was?

By Kristin Sweeney

I am chagrined to admit that I learned of Frances Perkins' legacy just a few years ago. If you do not know who she was (and even if you do), you need to watch this film.

MARCH 2020: Watch your local PBS station for the premiere of the hour-long documentary, **Summoned: Frances Perkins and the General Welfare**. Access a 6-minute clip preview [here](#).

The Frances Perkins Homestead in Newcastle, which was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2014 and included on Maine Preservation's "Endangered Places" list in 2018, was very recently purchased by the Frances Perkins Center in Damariscotta, which celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2019: <http://francesperkinscenter.org>.

Photo by Gerry Maraghy.



Bath-Brunswick AAUW members Helene Maraghy, Judy Dinmore, and Kristin Sweeney posing with Frances Perkins after attending the Pre-Premiere Reception, *Celebrating Civic Leadership by Maine Women*, and viewing of the new documentary film - *Summoned: Frances Perkins and the General Welfare* at Hannaford Hall, University of Southern Maine, Portland, on October 24, 2019.

Annual AAUW Art Contest

By Carly McCarthy

The annual AAUW art contest is open! Submit your original photo or a digital image of your painting or sketch on the AAUW website by January 28, 2020.

All entries are accepted, but AAUW encourages works that speak to our mission of advancing gender equity.

AAUW members will vote on the art they'd like to see featured on a collection of notecards that will be mailed out in the spring.

Key Dates

Entry Submissions – January 7 to January 28

Voting: January 31 to February 10

View last year's submissions

Submit your artwork.

Read the **contest rules** to learn more.

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR AAUW of MAINE ANNUAL CONVENTION THIS MAY 2!

By Andrea Mercado, Program VP

I am happy to report that our state convention is shaping up to be a dynamic lineup of educational experts. The AAUW has set out a **strategic focus on educational priorities for advancing equity for women and girls**. So let's learn about the **current challenges in the public education landscape** and how we as AAUW members can use the National Strategic focus on Education, Leadership, and Economic Security to lead the charge!

As an extension of our work from last year's convention focus on financial and economic development, we will engage a panel of educational experts to help us **understand the current status of educational policy** as it pertains to fair and adequate compensation for female professionals in the field, the financial demands of furthering their education and the implications for our current young women and girls in terms of their educational aspirations and outcomes.

Our first panel will host Karen Kusiak, Director of Policy and Programs, and Angel Loredo, Director of Higher Education & Educational Support Services, at the Maine Department of Education, as well as Heather Marden, current President of the Maine Association for the Education of Young Children.

We will also **explore issues around Title IX**. According to AAUW, "Title IX requires recipients of federal education funding to evaluate their current policies and practices; adopt and publish a policy against sex discrimination, including sexual harassment and violence." Our second panel will invite experts in issues with discrimination based on gender and sexual orientation, disabilities, and cultural and linguistic diversity.

Considering the increased emphasis on the importance of quality childcare and early childhood educational experiences, many of the economic, social, and medical initiatives and policies emerging in the field of early childcare that will be presented at the convention will likely be reflected in the framework of the facility where convention will be held. To that end, we will finish the day with an introduction to the exemplary work at the Educare facility, a guided tour, and a closing question and answer session with staff from the facility.

We can't wait to see you at our convention, so make sure you **put the date on your calendar!** Our 2020 Convention will take place at 56 Drummond Ave, Waterville, ME 04901 on May 1 and 2nd.

Convention Gift Basket Raffle

By Kristin Sweeney, Funds Chair

Branches should plan on assembling the ever-popular gift baskets for the fundraising raffle at the end of convention on May 2, 2020. You may choose your own theme(s). It is **NEVER** too early to begin selling raffle tickets at your branch meetings: 6 for \$5.



Branching Out: News from Our Branches

Aroostook Branch

By Carol Pierson, Secretary

The Aroostook Branch concluded its season of meetings October 3, 2019 with a program on the Aroostook House of Comfort for hospice care in Presque Isle. Our September meeting was devoted to planning the program for 2020, including a Yankee book swap in January, which is just a social gathering, weather permitting. We have added two new members, making three for the year, not counting past president Mary Ayers, who attended the September meeting while visiting the County from her new home out West. New members have been key in generating, hosting, and presenting the programs we have planned for next year. We hope they will want to be officers as well!

Our 2020 program schedule includes programs on empowerment for young girls by Mainely Girls, May 14, and advocacy for elders, presented by the Elder Abuse Institute of Maine Aug. 6.

Bath-Brunswick Branch

By Sophie Whitehouse, Branch Secretary and Communications

Our branch reconvened for the year in September at the China Rose restaurant in Brunswick. We did not have a speaker that time as we held branch business, introduced our scholarship recipients, and reconnected with our members. In October, we hosted Mihku Paul, an indigenous writer, artist and activist raised along the Penobscot River, who told us about her education as the granddaughter of a Maliseet trapper and river guide, as well as her education in Old Town. Mihku spoke about how creativity in many forms can be a source of healing for the marginalized in our communities.

Benjamin Williamson, staff member of *DownEast* magazine, came in November to show us his work and talk about his love of photography. Among the pictures were stunning views of many of the landmarks of the Maine Coast. Some of us recognized a few pictures from the magazine, which made the presentation close to home.

In December, we held our annual Greens Event at the Curtis Library. We enjoyed Christmas fare and music and raised \$1,915 for AAUW Funds and scholarships. December ended also with some sad news as we lost one of our life members, Pat Forsyth. Pat was branch president in the mid-nineties and was a very active member, loved by all. Our branch will reconvene for a luncheon at the end of January.

Photo by Debbie Schall.



Enjoying our Greens Event on December 11, 2019 at the Curtis Memorial Library, Brunswick, were from left to right: Sophie Whitehouse, Linda Bohan, Joanne Bollinger, Sonia Lofgren, Pat Brown, and Priscilla Smith.

Penobscot Valley Branch

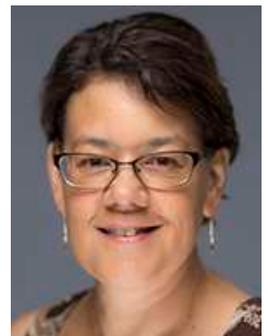
By Janet Givens, Liaison

Pictured are Janet Givens and Marlene Charron at the celebration of the 95th anniversary of the branch in September.



Member Emily Cain joined the celebration after her TIAA 2019-2020 Distinguished Honors Graduate Lecture (*The Myth of Electability: What it Really Takes for Women to Win*), attended by branch members at the University of Maine. Dr. Bonnie Newsom spoke briefly about her project.

Newsom is an assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Maine and is the recipient of an AAUW 2019-2020 fellowship. She is an indigenous archaeologist, specializing in Maine native peoples. She seeks to empower indigenous communities by interpreting their archaeological heritage. Her current project focuses on the archaeology of a World War II German prisoner of war camp on Passamaquoddy tribal land. Bonnie is excited that her team is made up of Passamaquoddy tribal members.



In November, branch members were disappointed that our Fall Forum was cancelled because of weather. We look forward to meeting in January for brunch at Dirigo Pines in Orono. Pizza and Politics continues to meet monthly at Pat's in Orono.

Waterville Branch
Martha Arterberry, President

In November, we had a branch field trip to the Maine State Museum to view the exhibit on women’s suffrage. We have renewed appreciation of the struggle for voting rights, the politics behind who does and does not get to vote, who gets to make this decision, and disparities across race and gender. If you have not visited the exhibit yet, you have the opportunity to do so until January 25, 2020.

Photo by Marta Arterberry.



Photo by Aura Moreno.



Left to Right: Carol Hurney, Martha Arterberry, Carolyn MacRae, Louise Smith, Jackie Kulik, and Veronica Romero.

Our holiday auction raised \$1436.50! Betty-Jane Meader, again, served as our auctioneer, providing comical commentary in addition to enticing people to spend money. A significant portion of the funds will be sent along to the national office.

Our Pizza and Politics “kick off” event in October was well attended, with 14 members and guests. We held a second event in early January and hope to have at least one more in the spring. Thanks Penobscot Valley Branch for this great idea!

THE AAUW 5 STAR PROGRAM

Here are a few things we learned by completing the 5-star program application.

- There are at least seven organizations in our area that have goals that align with AAUW.
- Our per capita giving rate is \$42.
- We *think* our membership retention from last year is above 90%.
- There is a local “meet the reps” event where we can meet representatives from all levels of government. The next meeting is in February.

<https://www.aauw.org/resource/five-star-national-recognition-program/>

IMPORTANT DATES

- January 28, 2020 AAUW Webinar
- February 13, 2020 Maine NEW Leadership Women of Power Reception Senator Inn & Spa, Augusta 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
- March 8, 2020 AAUW of Maine Board 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. Teleconference
- March 13, 2020 Girls’ Day at the Statehouse
- March 21, 2020 Maine Women’s Hall of Fame 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Reception and Ceremony University of Maine at Augusta
- April 9, 2020 Equal Pay Day
- May 1, 2020 AAUW of Maine Board Meeting 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. TBD, Waterville
- May 2, 2020 Convention registration and social event – TBD, Waterville 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. AAUW Maine State Convention Educare, Waterville
- May 7, 2020 Maine Women’s Fund Leadership Luncheon, Portland

Third annual Women of Power Reception



Thursday, Feb. 13, 2020 | 5-7 p.m. | Senator Inn & Spa
284 Western Ave., Augusta

- \$7,500 - Minerva Award** (limited to one donor; receives 12 tickets to event and program listing)
- \$5,000 - Advocate** (donors receive eight tickets to event and program listing)
- \$2,500 - Supporter** (donors receive four tickets to event and program listing)
- \$1,000 - Friend** (donors receive two tickets to event and program listing)
- \$500 - Ally** (donors receive one ticket to event and program listing)

Women of Power is an annual networking event held to support Maine NEW Leadership (NEWL), a nonpartisan program of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center designed to educate and empower Maine's next generation of women leaders. Women of Power celebrates Maine's women legislators, our co-hosts, providing an opportunity to celebrate and interact with those who serve us in Augusta and beyond.

On Feb. 13, we will recognize the recipient of NEWL's Minerva Award, given to a Maine woman leader who exemplifies the values of our program: leadership for the betterment of our state; a commitment to civil dialogue; and a passion for civic engagement.

The 2020 Minerva Award recipient is the Honorable Joyce Maker

Donations can be made online (our.umaine.edu/womenofpower) or by check (made out to University of Maine). Please indicate that your donation is for "Maine NEWL Women of Power" and mail to:



Susan D'Angelo
University of Maine
Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center
5784 York Complex Building 4,
Orono, ME 04469-5784



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