



empowering women since 1881

# Ithaca Insights

November 2018

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## AAUW MISSION:

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

## VISION:

Equity for all.

## The AAUW Legal Advocacy

Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

## The AAUW Educational

Opportunities Fund provides funds to advance education, research and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.

## The AAUW Fund

allows AAUW to put resources where they are most needed.

## DANGEROUS AND BANNED BOOKS, NOVEMBER 3

At 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 3, librarian Margaret Nichols will treat us to a show and tell on some of the many dangerous and (previously) banned books in the Cornell Library. The talk will be held in the Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections at Kroch Library (directions are below). After the talk, those who would like to can go to lunch at Banfi's, the restaurant at the Statler Hotel, which is just a short walk from the library.

As it turns out, many books that were initially controversial have since come to be regarded as important classics. Some were banned by the Catholic Church, others by local or federal governments; still others were not banned, but were nonetheless radical in their time, and changed the way people saw the world. We will look at books ranging from Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* to works by Copernicus, Galileo, Voltaire, Mary Wollstonecraft, Nabokov, and others, with side excursions to a few related manuscripts, engravings, and photographs, and some historical gossip about the lives of some of the authors. Our tour through literary history will end with a novel which had tongues wagging at Cornell in the 1970s.

To get to the talk, you can take any one of the buses that go to Cornell on the weekends (see <http://tcatbus.com>), or drive. If you drive, you can park in the lot that runs past the Johnson Art Museum on University Avenue, or behind Sibley Hall (turn into the second driveway past the art museum as you go east on University Avenue). Walk over to Olin Library, which is the beige building with a black roof, just across the sidewalk from the clock tower. Once inside Olin Library, walk straight ahead all the way to the end of the hall, and take the elevator (or the stairs) down to level B2. Margaret will meet you there.



## Dates to Remember

**November 3:** "Dangerous and Banned Books"  
at Kroch Library 10:30 p.m.

**November 6: Election Day**



**November 12:** Book group discusses *Hidden Figures* at the home of home of Muriel Everhart

**December 9:** Holiday get-together at the home of Sharon Barrie 2 p.m.

**January 27:** Theater group attends *The Roommate* at the Kitchen Theatre

**February 9:** Book group discusses *Make Trouble*



# A WOMAN'S PLACE IS LEADING THE REVOLUTION

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am in awe of our two outstanding speakers this fall, and in awe of our intrepid program vps, Kathy Earnest-Koons and Margaret Nichols, for organizing these programs. Some 20 of us gathered at the History Center on a wet September afternoon to hear Professor Risa Lieberwitz remind us that "justice is a constant struggle."

Dr. Lieberwitz is a professor of Labor and Employment Law in the School of Industrial and Labor Relations. She pointed out that we have legal rights because of collective action—those rights were won because many individuals banded together to fight for them. She spoke of the myth of individualism. Organizing and collective action are essential. "No one does it on their own." The collective supports the individual, and it is important to speak out against injustice. "A woman's place," she said, "is leading the revolution."



On a beautiful warm evening in October, more of us were at the Tompkins County Public Library to meet Dr. Orinthia Montague, the first woman to become president of Tompkins Cortland Community College. In her talk on women and education, she pointed out that for the first time, all three of the area's colleges, Cornell, Ithaca College, and TC3, have women presidents. She said their friendship and the opportunity to share ideas have been very helpful.

New at TC3 since she arrived has been the addition of a lactation room, and the college is building a new childcare center that will have two infant care rooms. Those are important as 55 percent of the staff and faculty are women, and 56 percent of the students are women. She thanked us for bringing food to donate to their food pantry on campus. Some 40 percent of their students are food insecure.

Let us hope for a sunny Saturday, November 3, when Dr. Margaret Nichols gives us a Rare Book Look at Dangerous and Banned Books. And a crisp sunny Sunday afternoon, December 9, for our holiday get-together.

Jeanette Knapp, 272-3367 or [jdk4@cornell.edu](mailto:jdk4@cornell.edu)

## PROGRAM NEWS

### Upcoming Happenings

On Saturday, November 3rd at 10:30 a.m., our very own Margaret Nichols, reference librarian, will present a talk on "Dangerous and Banned Books" at Kroch Library on the Cornell campus. Information on page 1.

On Sunday, December 9th at 2 p.m., members will gather for a holiday get-together at the home of Sharon Barrie. It is always fun to reminisce about our individual holiday celebrations and family celebrations. We will also be collecting canned goods for the TC3 student food pantry and animal food for the Tompkins County SPCA.

### Coming in 2019

Need some fun and exciting things to do to brighten up your winter? Well we've got two such things coming your way.

On Sunday, January 27th our theatre group will attend the performance of "The Roommate" at the Kitchen Theatre. The Kitchen describes the play as follows: "Sharon, a fifty-something recent divorcee, and Robyn, her mysterious new roommate from the Bronx. As they learn to live with each other—and their baggage—in Sharon's Iowa City home, they start to see what's missing in their lives. It's a laugh-out-loud comedy of moving boxes, new beginnings, questionable business ventures, and a little bit of marijuana." Should be fun for everyone.

On Saturday, February 9th our Book Group will sponsor a discussion of *Make Trouble*, a memoir by Cecile Richards at the TCPL. So put this book on your gift wish list and get an early start on reading it before our meeting.



At Dr. Montague's talk we collected non-perishable food items for the student-run TC3 food bank. Thanks so much for your contributions.

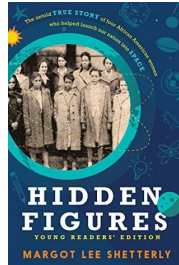
# AAUW BOOK GROUP NEWS



## Book Group is Reading *Hidden Figures*

The AAUW has long been concerned about women and equity. This month the Book Group will consider the lives of remarkable people who, before this book, had been ignored because they were women and because they were black.

The true story of the black female mathematicians at NASA whose calculations helped fuel some of America's greatest achievements in space, *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly, will be the book for discussion on Monday, November 12.



Muriel Everhart will lead the group's discussion. We will meet at her home about 7:00 for tea and conversation and then will begin the discussion at 7:30. For more information about the AAUW book group, please contact Betta Hedlund, [bhedlund@mindspring.com](mailto:bhedlund@mindspring.com).

Reading ahead for December: "Dear Committee Members" a novel by Julie Schumacher. A winner of the Thurber Prize for American Humor, this might be the perfect entertainment for the hectic month of holidays – great fun!



**Thank you** to seven members of the Book Group who volunteered at the Friends of the Library Book Sale on Saturday, October 20. They worked as pricers, greeter, cashier, floater, and in collector's corner during one of busiest shifts of the entire sale. The sale provides significant financial support to our local public libraries and recycles thousands of books back into the community of readers at a very reasonable price.

## 2018 - 2019 Book Group Selections

Looking for a good read? Here are the books the Book Group is reading this year:

September: *Elizabeth The Queen*  
by Sally Bedell Smith

October: *The Rules of Magic*  
by Alice Hoffman

November: *Hidden Figures*  
by Margot Lee Shetterly

December: *Dear Committee Members*  
by Julie Schumacher

January: *The Dispossessed*  
by Ursula K. Le Guin

February: *Make Trouble*  
by Cecile Richards

March: *Our Souls at Night*  
by Kent Haruf

April: *The Boys in the Boat*  
by Daniel James Brown

May: *Raven Black*  
by Ann Cleeves

June: *Tracks*  
by Robyn Davidson



once known as the hops-growing capital of North America

To learn more about hops growing, harvesting, drying, pressing, and bailing and about the crop's history in the Cooperstown Area, please plan to join us for our Friday, April 26th, afternoon event being held at both the Farmers' Museum and Fenimore Art Museum. The Farmers' Museum currently has an exhibit on display called Hops On Tap, with a friendly innkeeper in their 1790's tavern sharing the history of hops. Registration for the Friday, April 26th, afternoon event will be on the convention registration form with a registration deadline of Sunday, April 14, 2019.

If you enjoy visiting wineries, micro-breweries or distilleries, then schedule some extra time before or after the **April 26-28, 2019 AAUW NYS Convention in Cooperstown** to visit Cooperstown Beverage Trail Attractions. Long before people visited Cooperstown for the Baseball Hall of Fame, people traveled to Cooperstown for fine world-class adult beverages. Cooperstown was





## TECH TREK—WEEKLONG STEM CAMPS FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS

Marie Wolbach, a long-time, very, active AAUW member and former STEM Taskforce Liaison representing California, applied for an AAUW Community Action Grant in 1997. The grant application was for a science and math camp for middle school girls on the Stanford University Campus, which became the founding idea for the *Tech Trek* Program in 1998. The goal was to expose middle school girls to STEM career opportunities during a weeklong summer program and to track these students throughout their academic careers.

Tech Trek is a weeklong, overnight summer camp on university campuses for middle school girls who are nominated by their science and math teachers. The nominated students then apply for the program. The students are selected by a committee. Often the students nominated are average students whose parents did not attend college.

During *Tech Trek* Week, students take daily core STEM courses, and participate in hands-on activities and field trips. The instructors for the program include top STEM role models who interact with the girls.

Over the years, the program expanded to nine California campuses, including University of California at San Diego, at Davis, at Santa Barbara and at Irvine, California State University at Fresno, Mills College, and Whittier College.

By 2012, over 8,000 California girls had attended a *Tech Trek* Program. A valuable component of the overall program has been the tracking of the camp alumnae and inviting the girls back to participate in the ongoing program. Longitudinal data from camp alumnae has been used for a variety of purposes, including tracking to what happened to them and the careers they chose. The information has also been used to seek-out additional funding for the program.

Starting in 2013, *Tech Trek* became an AAUW National Program and camps were held in Florida, Oklahoma, Washington, Alabama, New Mexico, Iowa, Ohio and Oregon on university campuses.

On post-event *surveys*, 73% of alumnae respondents indicated that camp introduced them to STEM college majors and careers which they were previously unaware. The longer term, positive effects of the program are demonstrated by the fact *Tech Trek* alumnae surpass the national average for most advanced math and science course grades.

If you would like to contribute to the *Tech Trek* Program to allow more middle school girls to have a transformational week on a university campus, please designate your AAUW Action Funds towards *Tech Trek* Program. Thank you! Happy Thanksgiving!

Kim Edgar  
Branch Action Fund Chair

# IT'S MY VOTE

♀♂♀♂ I WILL BE HEARD ♂♀♀♂

A A U W A C T I O N F U N D

