



empowering women since 1881

Ithaca Insights

May–June 2023

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Ithaca Insights is the monthly publication of the Ithaca, New York, Branch of AAUW

AAUW Mission

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization based on age, ability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious belief, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status.

Programs**Women Business Owners: Secrets to Success • May 16**

Join us Tuesday evening May 16, via Zoom, at 7:00 p.m. to hear from local women who are succeeding in very competitive food businesses. Carol VanDerzee, owner of Falls Restaurant & Catering in Trumansburg, will talk to us about her business, which has been family owned since 1988. We have also invited Maria Cacciotti Salino, owner of Dolce Delight, to tell us about her bakery and coffee shop at 1080 Danby Road (Route 96B). If you own or have owned a business, we especially hope you will join us.

Annual Meeting & Picnic • June 10, Noon

Join us in person on Saturday, June 10, at noon, at the small pavilion at the Ithaca Children's Garden, 121 Turtle Lane. As you head north on Route 89 (Taughannock Boulevard), look for the Children's Garden on your left before you get to Cass Park and the Hangar Theatre. You will see the giant stone turtle.

We will have an opportunity to tour and learn more about this unique community resource. We will also thank current officers and elect new officers for 2023-24. Our boxed picnic luncheon will be catered. There is no charge for lunch, but we do need your lunch reservation by June 2. Watch for email with lunch choices. Email Barbara Stewart at bbs2@cornell.edu.

Dates to Remember

Monday, May 8 • 7:00 p.m. via Zoom, Book Group

Radioactive: Marie & Pierre Curie; A Tale of Love and Fallout

Tuesday, May 16 • 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Women Business Owners: Secrets to Success

Tuesday, May 23 • AAUW Lobby Day in Albany

Saturday, June 10 • 12:00 Noon, Annual Meeting & Picnic Luncheon

Small Pavilion at the Ithaca Children's Garden

Make reservations by June 2. Email bbs2@cornell.edu

Monday, June 12 • 6:00 p.m. Book Group in person dish-to-pass Dinner & Discussion of *Gender Queer* by Maia Kobabe

Saturday, September 23 • AAUW New York State in Ithaca
Book Banning: Help plan this state meeting, see p. 3

President's Message

Thank You for a Great Year!

The Ithaca Branch had another great year thanks to our dedicated members. We have had thought-provoking programs and book group discussions. We raised AAUW Funds and added to our local TC3 Scholarship. We kept accurate and growing finances and membership records to ensure resources are available. And an often not recognized part of branch operations is our professional communications through our newsletter, website, Facebook page, minutes and Directory. Thank you to all who have contributed to the branch over the last year.

Enjoy Two More Programs

Barb Stewart has arranged for two more great programs this year. The first, **via Zoom, on Tuesday, May 16, at 7:00 p.m.** will feature women who have excelled in the highly competitive food and beverage industry. Sit down with a drink and snack to enjoy the discussion.

Our Annual Meeting will be held at the Ithaca Children's Garden Small Pavilion on **Saturday, June 10 at 12:00 noon**. Learn about this imaginative community resource and enjoy lunch on us. To thank you for your loyal membership and to recognize the branch's financial stability, the Board voted to cover the costs for the boxed lunch picnic from Adam's Corner Cafe. Be sure to make your lunch reservation by June 1. See p. 1.

Anndrea Mathers, Associate Provost for TC3, our April speaker, was very insightful about current community college students. They often do not come prepared for college and they are juggling lots of work and family issues.

Renew by June 10th & Win a Book

If you renew your membership by June 10th or before, you can choose one of the great books being donated by our Book Group members. Pick up your book at the Annual Meeting (and donate one or two of your own if you like to share more good reads). Feel free to bring your dues to the Annual Meeting. If the cost of dues is an issue this year, remember that we have funds donated by other members to cover some or all of your dues anonymously. Please reach out to Norma Goldberg to assist you with your membership renewal.

I encourage you to think about volunteering your time and expertise for the upcoming year. We have many positions available. You can co-share positions and/or do one limited-time project, such as AAUW Funds.

I wish you a wonderful, happy and healthy summer!

Kim (kimberlysedgar@gmail.com)

Membership News

Two New Members Join

Welcome to our two new members: Jessica Scott from Trumansburg and Patricia Carey from Skaneateles. Jessica is new to the area and is looking forward to meeting people. Patti was a member of the former Skaneateles branch and has been a member of AAUW since 1972. We are very pleased to have them join our branch.

BOOK GIVE-AWAY! It is easy to be a part of this in 2 easy steps. **First**, renew your 2023-2024 membership by June 10. **Second**, attend the picnic at the Children's Garden on June 10. Details about this are on Page 1 and in Kim's column. As a thank you for your renewal, choose a book donated by members of the Book Group. The group has read a variety of genres. There should be something of interest to everyone. See page 4 for the renewal form.

We are sorry to report that Elva Vollbrecht's husband, Clarke Vollbrecht, died on April 23. He was 89. Our condolences to Elva and her family.

Honor a Branch Member

This Spring we will continue the tradition of honoring a branch member who has made special contributions to the branch. See the last page of the directory for a list of previous honorees. At our Annual Meeting on June 10th we will recognize this year's honoree.

Norma Goldberg and Carolyn McPherson have agreed to review the nominations for this branch recognition honor. Please send your nomination to Norma Goldberg (ncg@twcny.rr.com) or Carolyn McPherson (cjm6@cornell.edu) by Monday, May 15. Include a brief statement outlining the reasons why your nominee should be recognized.

Community Quiltmaking for Good

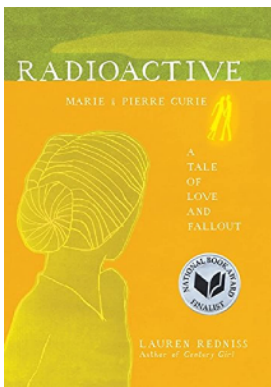
On Thursday, May 11 from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. you can join members of the Ellis Hollow Quilt Guild and the Brooktondale Community Center at the History Center in downtown Ithaca. They will share and remember decades of quilt work that has supported their community centers and initiatives. Two of our former presidents—Pat Sims and Sharon Turecek—have been avid Ellis Hollow quilters.

It is time to renew your membership! (see p. 4)

Book Group

Explore Two Graphic Books

By chance the books we will discuss in both May and June are graphic. Our May book is a biography, and our June book is a memoir. Both are imaginatively illustrated by their authors. They remind us of why we so enjoy children's picture books—we admire the art as much as the words, knowing that both are essential to tell the story. Adult and children's novels used to be illustrated with paintings by well-known artists in the days when publishers had larger budgets, so it is welcome to see art in new forms return to books.



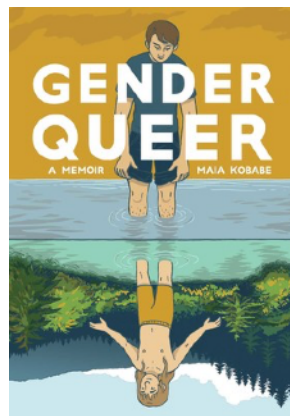
Radioactive: Marie & Pierre Currie: A Tale of Love and Fallout

Join us Monday evening, May 8, via Zoom, to discuss this unusual biography written and illustrated by Lauren Redniss. Drawings, cyanotype prints, photographs, colored pages, unusual typefaces, all contribute to the dramatic lives and

discoveries of two of the world's best-known scientists. Lin Tollefsen will lead our discussion. Join us at 7:00 p.m. for tea (yours) and conversation. Our discussion begins at 7:30. If you are on the Book Group e-list, look for the Zoom link on May 8. If you would like to be added to the list, contact Lin.

Gender Queer: A Memoir by Maia Kobabe

Join us in person on June 12 to discuss the most banned book in America. Maia Kobabe uses e/em/eir pronouns. The publisher explains that this book “started as a way to explain to eir family what it means to be nonbinary and asexual. *Gender Queer* is more than a personal story: it is a useful and touching guide on gender identity—what it means and how to think about it—for advocates, friends, and humans everywhere.”



Dinner and Discussion in June

On Monday, June 12, we will meet at the home of Jeanette Knapp, 1143 Ellis Hollow Road to discuss *Gender Queer*. We will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a dish-to-pass dinner. Bring a dish to share—a family favorite or a new creation. If it is a busy day, drinks, bread, or chips are always welcome. Our discussion will begin about 7:00 p.m. Mary-Carol Lindbloom, Diversity and Inclusion Chair, will lead our discussion. All members and guests are welcome. Just email Jeanette that you are coming.

—Lin Tollefsen (ltollefsen11@gmail.com) &
Jeanette Knapp (jdk454@gmail.com)
Book Group Co-Chairs

AAUW Lobby Day In Albany May 23

Get carpools organized to come to Albany for Tuesday, May 23. We will meet on the Capitol steps at 1:00 p.m. Our theme is "AAUW supports Higher pay for Home Health Care workers." I will have placards available for you to use as we march with other AAUW members and possibly other Home Health Care agency advocates. After our hour march, arrange to meet with your legislators to advocate for our aging population.

Remember New York State is 30th in low pay in Home Health care wages! And we are the ones who suffer if we stay in our home as we age and need help. None may be available because workers are making more in the fast food industry or elsewhere. With a HIGHER WAGE and a work force wanting to work variable hours, there will be a much greater chance to receive needed care when WE need it.

Nan Scinta, AAUWNYS Public Policy VP

AAUW NYS in Ithaca Sept, 23

We are looking for volunteers to help with an AAUW New York State program on Book Banning planned for Saturday, Sept. 23, in Ithaca. Among the panelists are Nan Scinta, AAUW NYS public policy vp, and Mary Grover, Ithaca City School District Inclusion Officer. Contact Kim Edgar at kimberlysedgar@gmail.com if you have ideas and would like to help highlight this vital issue. The banning of books you don't like impacts education for all of us, but particularly young people.

Website: ithaca-ny.aauw.net

Facebook page: [AAUW Ithaca Branch](https://www.facebook.com/AAUW-Ithaca-Branch)

It Is Time to Renew Your Membership

Dear Member,

It is time to renew your membership in AAUW. Our membership year runs from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. We are looking forward to exciting programs for the coming year. There have been many this year. Perhaps some of these will be in person. Our dues help to support efforts to improve women's lives.

There are 2 easy ways to renew your membership:

(1) Use the traditional way: Print or cut out the form below and mail it to me with your check made out to **AAUW-Ithaca Branch**. Please put your name on the form and update any information that has changed in the past year.

Or (2) Renew electronically: Go to aauw.org. Log in. You will be taken to "Personal Snapshot." Scroll to the bottom and click on "renew." Follow the prompts from there.

These are difficult times so if necessary pay whatever is comfortable for you. If you are able, please consider rounding up your dues. The extra goes into the branch treasury. This could be used to help anyone who needs a little extra support. If you choose to do this, use the traditional way of renewal.

Please renew your membership before June 30. Contact me at 272-3685 or ncg@twcny.rr.com if you have any questions. I look forward to hearing from you. (Renew by the Annual Meeting on June 10 & receive a free book!)

Sincerely,
Norma Goldberg
Membership Vice President

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ City, State, ZIP _____

Phone: Home _____ Cell _____

College/University degree(s) and year(s):

How would you like to receive **Ithaca Insights**, our branch newsletter? U.S. Mail E-Mail

Your interests? Art Books Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Education Equal Pay Food

Public Policy Publicity STEM Theater **Other?** _____

Regular Membership

Make your membership check out to **AAUW—Ithaca Branch**

Association	\$72*
State	\$7
Ithaca Branch	<u>\$3</u>
Total	\$82

Mail to: **Norma Goldberg**
1167 Ellis Hollow Road
Ithaca, NY 14850

*\$69 of the National dues are tax deductible.