

## PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT

Sandy Goldberg, VP Programming – 845-297-7670

Betsy Kopstein, VP Programming - 845-485-7044

Although there continue to be many exciting AAUW events coming up, including our June Annual Meeting, and all the ongoing activities, our Program meetings for this year now draw to a close.

We want to thank our committee members for all of their input and ideas that helped make this a most interesting, informative and fun programming year. It takes everyone's contribution to bring forward worthwhile programs for all of our membership. We hope you have enjoyed them as much as we have enjoyed planning them.

We began the year with our new membership meeting in October where the featured presenter, Sue McLane, did a program on the "Victorian Lady" that received rave reviews from our membership. This was followed by a most interesting program in November about "What a Women Can Do With an Auto" – American Women in the Early Automotive Era. This presentation was done by Carla Lesh, an archivist and historian associated with the Dutchess County Historical Society. December saw the return of our "Fun and Friends" evening.

We especially want to thank Maria DeWald for all the work she did on our Common Core program in January, Gloria Ghedini who made the initial suggestion and contact with Susan Sprachman for our Women in Iran program, Terry Schneider and Jean Miller for their suggestion on bringing Maria Idoni to speak to us on signs of suicide and what to do when faced with someone struggling, and especially our outgoing President, Barbara VanItallie, that always was there with a helping hand.

We also want to thank Mary Coiteux and Susie Blecker, the outgoing Vice Presidents for Programming for all their advice and direction they provided throughout the year.

We would be remiss not to mention the entire committee as it was through their discussion, brainstorming and direction that made our programs work. In addition to the names listed above, they are Betty Harrel, Irene Milliken, Megan Murray,

Roberta Tracy, Carole Wolf, Janna Whearty, Gwen Higgins, Barbara Durniak, Muriel Horowitz, and Anthula Natsoulas.

Of course, we need to thank Barbara Lemberger, our Hospitality Chair, her assistants, Joann Clark and Laura Coons and all who contributed our delicious refreshments month after month.

As we look forward to 2016 – 2017, we hope to have a year filled with many more exciting programs to share with all of you. We already have the opening program in October set, bringing back Sue McLane (Victorian Lady) with an entirely new program, but presented in a similar fashion. She will open up our programming year with “Utopia” which will examine alternative societies in NYS in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and how they flourished and died.

We look forward to a program committee initial planning meeting soon and welcome anyone who would like to join us. Just give Besty or I a call.

Sandy Goldberg, VP Programming – 845-297-7670

Betsy Kopstein, VP Programming - 845-485-7044