



Celebrating Our
Legacy, Enhancing
Our Future

THE BRANCH

Poughkeepsie Branch of the
American Association of University Women, Inc.
P.O. Box 1908, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601



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62nd year of publication

<http://www.aaupoughkeepsie.org>

February 2018



WRITERS' TEA & BENEFIT AUCTION

Margaret Nijhuis
margaretnijhuis@gmail.com

April 15, 2018

The Links at Union Vale

THE MANY FACES OF TRAFFICKING AND WHAT WE CAN DO

Presenter: Grace Roebuck*, Vassar

Thursday, February 8, 2018

7:00 pm

A short business meeting before the program

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie**

67 S Randolph Ave., Poughkeepsie

Introducing the first of our two authors:

Mihai Grunfeld was born in Cluj, Romania where he lived with his family until he was eighteen. In January 1969 he and his older brother traveled to Czechoslovakia and from there escaped to Austria. This was the beginning of a long journey, which took him to Israel, Italy, Sweden, and Canada in search of a home in the West. Eventually he settled in the United States.

He obtained his Ph.D. from University of California at Berkeley and is a professor of Spanish and Latin American Literature at Vassar College since 1987 where he teaches in the Hispanic Studies Department.

His autobiography *Leaving – Memories of Romania* was published in 2008, and was translated and published in Spain as *Irse* (2011). He finished work on a novel entitled “The Dressmaker’s Son,” and together with Sarah Levine Simon adapted the novel to a play entitled “The Dressmaker’s Secret,” which enjoyed a successful one month run with sold out houses in February-March 2017 at 59E59 Theaters in New York.



Grace Roebuck, a sophomore Psychology major from Vassar College will speak on the issue of Human Trafficking.

About a year ago, Grace co-founded an anti-trafficking organization at Vassar College entitled “The Underground.” Starting with a campus wide art initiative, the

Red Sand Project, Grace and her team have since gone on to develop many new projects including an anti-trafficking curriculum at a Haitian Secondary School, a theater production on sex slavery, and the return of *Red Sand* among other things.

During this presentation Grace will elaborate on the primary causes of human trafficking, as well as its many forms; effect on victims; and susceptible high risk groups. Further she will discuss new and innovative combatant techniques - as well as interesting organizations, individuals, and businesses working to combat this issue.

*More, page 4 **Grace Roebuck**

****Directions:** Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie at 67 South Randolph Ave. can be accessed from Hooker Ave. **OR** take Route 9 to Sharon Dr. (near Holiday Inn). At the end of Sharon turn left onto Beechwood then the first right onto Ferris Lane, next an immediate left to S. Randolph. The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie is on the right.

Questions:

Monique Jones, 849-1692, myj712@aol.com
Sandy Lash, 227-4650, slash@optonline.net ■

Additional information can be found on the Writers’ Tea page at www.aaupoughkeepsie.org ■

See **page 8** or www.aaupoughkeepsie.org for Writers’ Tea & Benefit Auction reservation form!!!



FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Online Calendar at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

Contact: Kathy Friedman kfriedman33@gmail.com

- 1 **Board Meeting:** 7:00 pm
Vassar Hospital Conference Room B
- 5 **Word Games:** 1:30 pm
Hostess: Carol Loizides (452-3208)
Coordinator: Susan Doyle (914/474-1232)
- 8 **General Membership Program:** 7:00 pm
*All members are invited and encouraged to attend
– see details on [page 1 & 4](#).*
- 9 **Daytime Literature:** 10:00 am
Book: *Americanah* by Chimamanda Adichie
The Manor at Woodside, 168 Academy, Pok.
Coordinator: Leona Miller (471-0777)
- 9 **Extending Girls' Horizons:** 5:30 – 8:30
*New Cuisines. **Your help is most welcomed!***
Location: Zion Episcopal Church
Chair Peggy Kelland smkell45@aol.com
- 10 **“The Branch” deadline for MARCH**
- 10 **Bridge III:** 10:00 am – 12:30 pm
Hostess: Contact Coordinator
Coordinator: Donna Reichner dlr0804@verizon.net
- 12 **All those books...:** 2:30 pm
Book: *North and South* by Elizabeth Gaskell
Hostess: Peggy Kelland smkell45@aol.com
Coordinator: Carol Loizides (452-3208)
- 13 **Movie Night:** *Time TBD by show*
Movie: Group members will be notified the
Thursday before - sign up with Sue.
Discussion: *Eveready Diner*, Rt. 9, Hyde Park
Director: Susan Osterhoudt (889-4469)
sosterhoudt@yahoo.com
Producer: Diana Gleeson
- 16 **Poetry and Plays - Emily D to Tennessee:** 1:45 pm
A salon about island poetry (Jamaica)
Hostess: Jackie Goffe-McNish (471-7220)
Coordinators: Jackie Sweeney (518/947-6682) &
Barbara Hugo BHugo2@gmail.com
- 19 **Manderley Literary Society:** 7:00 pm
Book: **Anything is Possible** by Elizabeth Strout
Hostess: Jackie Klein (485-6530)
coachjk1912@yahoo.com
Coordinator: Shelly Friedman (462-4996)
- 20 **Cuisine:** 6:30 pm
Cuisine of Morocco
Hostesses: Shelley Friedman (462-4996) &
Rita Minnerly (471-2525)
Coordinator: Barbara Lemberger
brlemlberger@yahoo.com
- 21 **Bridge I:** 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Hostess: Mary Lou Davis (223-5544)
Coordinators: Linda Ronayne (897-9745)
- 21 **Photography Club:** 7:00 pm
Hostess: **contact coordinator**
Coordinator: Carol Demicco (845-204-9553)
- 22 **Bridge II:** 12:00-4:00 pm
Red Lobster, Route 9, Poughkeepsie
Coordinator: Cathy Kinn cathy@kinn.org

- 22 **Pins & Needles:** 7:00 pm
Project: *Fabric covered bangle bracelets*
Hostess: Arlene Seligman (297-0006)
Coordinators: Pat Luczai (463-4662) &
Mary Ann Williams (868-7465)
- 23 **Art on the Go:**
Contact coordinator for time and place
Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)
- 24 **Days for Girls:** 1 – 4:00 pm
Boardman Road Library, **more on pages 6**
Chair: Sabashnee Govender (914/850-0195)
sabashnee@aol.com
- 27 **The Ediss Book Group:** 7:00 pm
Book: *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead
Hostess: Celia Serotsky (473-8426)
Coordinator: Celia Serotsky (473-8426)
- 28 **Mah Jongg & Canasta:** Noon - 4:00 pm
Red Lobster, Route 9, Poughkeepsie.
Contact Blanche (462-3955) by Feb 26
Coordinator: Blanche Bergman (462-3955)
- 28 **Contemporary Literature:** 7:30 pm
Book: *A Great Reckoning* by Louise Penny
Hostess: Susan Davis (462-1831)
Coordinators: Ann Wade (229-5267) &
Linda Freisitzer (266-5427)

NO FEBRUARY MEETING

Aventures en Soleil:

Coordinator: Janna Whearty (546-9190)

Diversity: *Out of One Many People:*

Chair: Jacqueline Goffe-McNish

mcnish@sunydutchess.edu

Gourmet: *Out & About:*

Contacts: Mary Ann Boylan (462-2504)

Kay Saderholm (229-8545) ksaderholm@aol.com

Pedal Pushers: *Watch for our return in April.*

Coordinator: Sheila Zweifler sheilaz@optonline.net

Trekkers: *Returning in warmer weather*

Coordinator: Tori Smith (345-0043)

torilsmith.home@gmail.com

World Travelers:

Reservations: Jeanette Cantwell (452-4188)

AAUWtravelers@gmail.com

LOOKING AHEAD

Mar 8: "Lean In? Lean Out? What's a Woman To Do?," Wendy Maragh Taylor, member AAUW, **p. 6**

Mar 15: Trip to NYC for Commission on Status of Women (CSW), **p. 7**

Apr 15: Writers' Tea & Benefit Auction,
The Links, **p. 1, 4, 5, 7, 8**

Apr 20-22: AAUW-NYS Convention, Cortland, **p. 3**

Nov 3: Live Your Dream Girls' Conference, DCC, **p. 4**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Maria DeWald *266-4960* mfdewald@yahoo.com

By now you all know that the theme for my presidency is represented by a musical symbol, the C clef, which most of us, including myself, were not familiar with. In this New Year, I thought it would be fun to start this message with the word for another musical symbol representing the **sixty-fourth** note! Yes, there is such a thing! I get a daily email from A.WORD.A.Day (Wordsmith.org) which is always intriguing, and which bases its selections each week on a theme, this one being run-away prefixes and long words.

The very **long** word representing this **shortest** note in music is hemidemisemiquaver! It's etymology derives from multiple languages: the Greek hemi (half), the French demi (half), the Latin semi (half), quaver (the British name for an eighth note), and, from the Middle English word "quaveran" meaning to "shake or tremble." It's earliest documented use was 1853. As you might imagine, this fastest of musical notes can **well stretch human musical technique to its limit.**



Relating this to 2018, a time for looking back and looking forward as a new beginning of sorts, or a making sense of how to fit the past into the future, this struck me in a few ways. First, sometimes we really overcomplicate things when "simple" would work just as well. Sometimes, there is no such thing as handling something simply and we need, more than ever, to act collectively. Maybe sometimes, extra embellishment can make it more appealing to others, or understandable, or just more fun and, therefore, more doable. Also, in a way, the composition of this word speaks so clearly to whom we all are...a combination of many influences and generations and cultures and occurrences. There is not one way to do or say something or to live our lives as individuals or as members of an organization or as citizens. However, we are better when we listen to the lessons of the past and combine what is good and right to mold a better "us" and a more just future. When it comes to advocacy (yes, that means politics too) for the AAUW mission, any of the above approaches could apply as long as it makes sense for that particular person and moment in time.

We in AAUW certainly have important work that needs doing! We can't be complacent if we want to grow and move forward even though sometimes that means we are **stretched to our limits** just as a musician playing a sixty-fourth note might be.

In whatever way you can, please make a resolution to act in 2018!



YOUR CHANCE TO MEET KIMBERLY CHURCHES, AAUW CEO

Roli Wendorf AAUW-NYS President

We are very excited to welcome Kimberly Churches, AAUW CEO to our AAUW-NYS convention. Please take this opportunity to attend the convention and meet our outstanding new leader.



Kimberly Churches took over as AAUW CEO on June 1, 2017. Since her arrival, she has been on a listening tour of AAUW across the country, which included a stop in New York to talk to us at AAUW-NYS. She thinks on a large scale about AAUW's future, asking us to imagine training 10 million people with Start Smart and Work Smart, or becoming the leading international organization on pay equity. Under her leadership, AAUW is embarking on an ambitious strategic planning process aimed at solidifying AAUW's position as a global leader on equity.

Prior to coming to AAUW, Kim Churches was the Managing Director at Brookings Institution, where she provided strategic guidance, vision, problem-solving skills, expansive partnerships and fundraising.

We are delighted that Kim Churches will be speaking to us at the Convention about her vision for AAUW, the strategic plan, and how we can sharpen our focus and impact.

The AAUW-NYS Convention team has an outstanding event planned for **April 20-22 in Corning**. The convention is for ALL AAUW members and is a great chance to connect, re-energize, and come away with lots of action ideas.

Registration is open – check out our website at www.aauw-nys.org

Note: Did you miss your email invitation to AAUW-NYS convention? If so go to www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org and you will see the link (Register) on the home page! ■

GRACE ROEBUCK

Currently a sophomore at Vassar College, Grace's main academic passions are psychology and education intermingled with human rights and social change. Much of Grace's activism involves combatting human trafficking, through art, education, and systemic change. This led her to found *The Underground*, an anti-trafficking organization, almost a year ago.

Grace and her team for *The Underground* have previously brought Molly Gochman's *Red Sand Project* to Vassar, supplemented with a student curated anti-trafficking exhibition and a lecture from communications director for *Free the Slaves*, Terry Fitzpatrick. This year, *The Underground* has many new projects, the first partners with *The New Dramatists and Mirage Theater Company* to create and premier "Broken Dolls" at Vassar College. This play will be supplemented with drama workshops on how to create socially conscious plays and on the interlude between art and activism, as well as a panel discussion on human trafficking. Another team from *The Underground* is working on an anti-restavek academic program for a secondary school in rural Northwestern Haiti, with expansion plans to Ethiopia and the Ukraine. *The Underground* is also in the process of bringing Kevin Bales, human trafficking expert, to speak on the relationship of religion and trafficking. In addition to running *The Underground*, Grace spends her time as the director for the Vassar Haiti Project's Education Initiative (where one of our members, Lila Meade, has done a marvelous job in building a clinic and so much else) and co-directing *unFramed*, a group dedicated to art and activism.

With a huge passion for traveling, Grace has served or attended conferences in California, Chicago, Texas, Haiti, and Boston. She is soon to fly to San Antonio, Texas to be one of fifteen nation-wide student liaisons for the Elks National Foundation. Previous accolades for Grace include 1 out of 20 from 19,000 applications nationwide to receive the Elks Foundation *Most Valuable Student Scholarship* and part of 5.4% of Girl Scouts to earn a Gold Award for her high school program *Breaking Barriers*. Grace was also an American Heart Association/ Institute of Biosciences and Bioengineering fellowship recipient, Intern for the Rhode Island School of Design Museum, and guest speaker before the Providence Performing Arts Center. ■



Auction Item: *A stay at the historic Bykenhulle House*

MEMBERSHIP COUNTS

Susie Blecker *462-7074* iblecker@aol.com
Sheila Zweifler *462-6478* sheilaz@optonline.net

As February approaches, **we hope that all our members, new and old, are participating in some of our 21 interest groups and/or in some of our initiatives.** We also hope you are attending our monthly meetings on the second Thursday of the month. There is a quite a variety of speakers and topics.

Just a reminder, March 15th marks the FIRST date that new members can join AAUW and be a member in good standing through June 30, 2019. That means that new members get one year and 4 months for the same \$78 fee. It is a great offer. So, if you know of anyone who is interested and wants to become a member of AAUW, it's a great time to join. Please have them get in touch with either of us to get an application. ■

LIVE YOUR DREAM GIRLS' CONFERENCE 2018

Margaret Nijhuis *845-635-8612*
margaretnijhuis@gmail.com



The date is set: November 3, 2018

The location is secured: Dutchess Community College
And best of all our chairs are remaining: Diana Babington and Lori Scolaro.

What we need is your help: first planning committee meeting:

Monday, March 5, 2018
5:00 pm
Dutchess Community College
Hudson Hall, Room 315.

Contacts: Diana dibab@aol.com &
Lori lori.scolaro@sunydutchess.edu ■

SUPPORTERS OF THE BRANCH!!

Annual contributions from members help defray the expense of publishing *The Branch* and other communication expenses. All patrons and sponsors are listed in each monthly newsletter unless anonymity is requested.

Patrons (\$25 or more)

Lula Allen, Anonymous, Marge Barton, Mary Ann Boylan, Sharon Clarke, Lillian DePasquale, Ruth Gau, Gloria Gibbs, Sandy Goldberg, Elizabeth Harrel, Shaileen Kopec, Margaret Nijhuis, Jacqueline Prusak, Mary Ann Ryan

Sponsors (\$10 or more)

To add your name to the list, mail a check payable: "Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc." to Margaret Nijhuis, 9 McAllister Drive, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569

PUBLIC POLICY

Patricia DeLeo *883-5181* pattide2@optonline.net

"You May Say I'm a Dreamer, But I'm not the Only One..." John Lennon

Are you a dreamer? An American dreamer? A child with a dream? Perhaps you are acquainted with one or some of the 800,000 DACA Dreamers currently living in animated suspension, limbo, pending federal action on deportation - dreamers on the verge of nightmares. Imagine.

The Open Door policies that shaped American history now barricade those seeking religious and political asylum and those hoping to escape poverty, social oppression, prejudice and discrimination. Refugees. Stateless People. A Diaspora. A conflicted world has mandated caution. We understand. But for decades America focused its acumen on the **"tired...poor...huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore."** Some came legally while others risked arrest and deportation while illegally entering the country. America became their home. Families were established. Success befell the majority. Children thrived. But now, the tempest is tossing and the Federal Government is commandeering the weather center. Suffer the children. Who would have imagined?

"AAUW is proud to be part of a community that fights for the civil rights of all Americans, including immigrants. We stand, and will continue to stand, with the nearly 800,000 Dreamers and DACA recipients."

The United States has long provided the opportunity and support for immigrants and refugees worldwide. The process to immigrate and achieve citizenship is complex, but not as complex as the emotional, physical, and psychological struggles immigrant children, specifically, confront. Feelings and fears of isolation and loneliness, deportation, discrimination, persecution, prejudice, and displacement. **Are they the new owners of a dream deferred?**

Mihai Grünfeld will share the story of his childhood experience, "Leaving- Memories of Romania," at this year's Writers' Tea & Benefit Auction. His journey will take us through many countries as he recounts his escape from a repressive political regime to become a world recognized professor of Hispanic studies. He shares that he feels "every bit as Latin American as he is Romanian and American."



**"Imagine there's no countries
It isn't hard to do
Nothing to kill or die for
And no religion too...
Imagine all the people sharing all the world,
You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one..."** John Lennon ■

YOUR TEA DOLLARS AT WORK

Margaret Nijhuis *845-635-8612* margaretnijhuis@gmail.com

Each year, for the past 8 years, the Writers' Tea & Benefit Auction has provided **funds for our contributions to scholarships** both at Dutchess Community College and at National AAUW. Also much of the **support for our Community Service Initiatives** comes from the Tea. Below is a letter from DCC expressing their appreciation for the two \$600 scholarships that we give each year.

Dear Ms. De Wald,

As a supporter of Dutchess Community College it is clear that you understand the importance of supporting an institution that provides an educational opportunity to so many students that they might otherwise not have. Read what one grateful student writes:

I wish I was able to thank you in person to show my appreciation. I would like you to know that this has changed my life and will help me throughout my journey.

Because of your generosity students at DCC continue to benefit from abundant opportunities to learn, grow and excel. You are making a difference in the lives of individual students with your gift; helping a student to gain knowledge or by supporting our faculty and staff; providing opportunities to expand on teaching and learning. These are paramount to our student's success.

Education is the key to a better life and supporting our students helps to assure that they have access to all that DCC has to offer. You can feel good knowing that you have played a role in their success. Our entire community is stronger thanks to your commitment and generosity

Thank you for supporting our students!

Sincerely,
Diana L. Pollard '97 Executive Director
Dutchess Community College Foundation

Make this year's Tea a success by:

- Attending
- Donating auction items
- Soliciting auction items
- Purchasing items at the Tea

Only with your help will we have another successful year. ■

Auction Item:
"The Entertainer" by NYC Artist, Donald Pierce. Original oil on canvas, professional framed, 18x24



See **page 8** or www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org for reservation form!

It's Time Already to Think About WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2018

Co-chairs: Gail Sisti 845/564-4268 gesisti@msn.com
Margie Quart 845/896-6928 dlodvm@aol.com



**Please submit your nominations for
2018 Woman of the Year by January 22!!**

Criteria for Poughkeepsie AAUW Woman of the Year:

- She has made outstanding contributions to the community in either a voluntary or paid capacity. Most recipients have served in both capacities.
- She reflects the AAUW mission: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

Note: Qualifications should not be based solely on accomplishments within AAUW.

To nominate an outstanding woman for 2018, please use the form found on our website: <http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org> under Resources/Woman of the Year or use the search function.

Return your nomination to: Gail Sisti gesisti@msn.com or Margie Quart dlodvm@aol.com or mail to:

**Gail Sisti, 313 Forest Rd, Wallkill, NY 12589 or
Margie Quart, 26 Broad Street, Fishkill, NY 12524**

If you encounter difficulty downloading the form, feel free to contact either Gail or Margie. ■

LEAN IN? LEAN OUT? WHAT'S A WOMAN TO DO?

**Thursday, March 8, 2018
7:00 pm
The Aula at Vassar College**

Panel discussion moderated by:
Wendy Maragh Taylor



This program will attend to the challenges women face with having a range of "noise" around us, being pulled in various directions, while having numerous choices. The program will be a moderated panel, which will feature three professionals and two students. We will hear different perspectives on the state of things for women in the current culture.

The program will begin with a welcome by Vassar's eleventh president, Elizabeth Howe Bradley. ■



COURT WATCH CONTINUES TO "SPREAD THE NEWS"

Sandy Lash has been invited to present a program about the **Poughkeepsie Branch Court Watch Initiative** at the AAUW-Westchester Branch meeting on February 7, 2018, 10:30 am, at the Greenburg Public Library, 300 Tarrytown Rd. Elmsford, NY. Their program coordinator attended the NYS Leadership Conference in Cazenovia in July 2016 and heard Sandy's presentation and thought their members might be inspired to initiate a similar program.

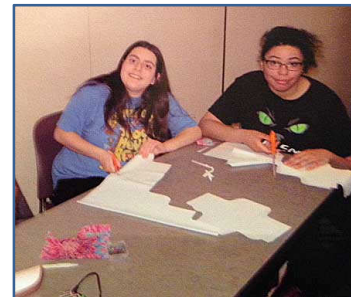


"AAUW firmly believes that the prevention of violence towards women and children and the fair and thoughtful treatment of victims within the court system are integral to our mission to promote gender equity." We hope that our program will spread to yet another area. ■

DAYS FOR GIRLS

Sabashnee Govender *914-850-0195* Sabashnee@aol.com

Thank you, **Girl Scout Troop 1116**, for your generous in-kind donations of Days for Girls Kit items. Thanks also for cutting fabric, barrier layers and bags ready for us to sew.



Just a reminder that the **Days for Girls work sessions** are now held on **4th Saturday of the month at the Boardman Road Library from 1-4 pm**. please join us. This event is open to the public. Please contact me for more information. ■

Please be sure these emails are in your contact list:

margaretnijhuis@gmail.com

joanne.scolaro@gmail.com

That way you are sure to stay in touch with all that is happening in AAUW!

THE AUCTION IS COMING!

Linda Roberts *227-5287* olsen241@aol.com

April 15th marks our ninth annual **Writers' Tea & Benefit Auction!!** We are now taking reservations and are hoping for a "full house" so **please send in your reservation (page 8) as soon as you can!** Arrangements have been made for you to pay by check or credit card both for reservations and for auction items



Auction Item: "Ribbons" by local artist, Rosemarie Chicdole. Original acrylic on canvas, professional framed, 36x24

Auction items are coming in but we can use many more of your beautiful handcrafted items and gift certificates to **name a few suggestions!** Please contact me or anyone on our committee to make arrangements for us to receive your donation. We will need a description of your item(s) to include in our program booklet. All donations must be in by March 18. This will enable us to have everything ready for you to view and bid on when you arrive at The Links.

Two forms are on our website www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org (under Upcoming Events) for everyone's use when they are soliciting items for the auction. First is a letter for potential donors explaining who we are and our programs supported by this fundraiser. The second one is a simple tax form for donors. We don't assign the value of the items - that is up to the donor but do remember we are a 501(c)(3).

The theme of this year's Raffle Basket is "For Women Only." To fill this basket we are looking for donated items from you and businesses you frequent. **Raffle tickets are available before and on the day of the Tea from committee members. During February and March, I will have raffle tickets at all events.**

For bidding, we will be using the same method as last year where you will be assigned a number to use with your name on the bidding sheets. The Auction will take place before the tea is served and the authors speak. There will be no bidding at intermission to enable us to streamline the checkout process.

Please remember that this is the only fundraiser we have for the entire year. This is your way to support our scholarships and wonderful community initiatives.

Please look for a separate email where we will list very specific help we need for the Auction as several members of our committee are dealing with health issues, and will be unable to do as much as they usually do. Thanks in advance. ■



Sabashnee Govender *914-850-0195* Sabashnee@aol.com

This year the 62nd Commission on the Status of women will be held from March 12, 2018 to March 23, 2018 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. **Representatives of Member States, UN entities, and ECOSOC-accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from all regions of the world attend these sessions.**

The priority theme is "challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls." **Review theme:** "Participation in and access of women to the media, and information and communications technologies and their impact on and use as an instrument for the advancement and empowerment of women (agreed conclusions of the forty-seventh session)."

Concurrently parallel sessions are held in venues outside the UN site which are open to the public. These are the sessions that our members have been attending for many years.

We are planning to attend: **March 15, 2018**

We chose this date as it coincides with the Artisan Fair which is to be held at the Christ Church Center of the UN from 12:30 to 4 pm. We plan to travel together by train to the city.

Please contact me if you are interested in attending the parallel sessions. You will meet and listen to inspiring women from around the world who share information about their programs, challenges and progress. ■

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. Officers 2017-2018

President	Maria DeWald	266-4960
Program Co-VPs	Monique Jones	849-1692
	Sandy Lash	227-4650
Membership Co-VPs	Susie Blecker	462-7074
	Sheila Zweifler	462-6478
Development VP	Jocelynn Banfield	454-5551
Communications VP	Bonnie Auchincloss	635-5191
Secretary	Katherine Friedman	485-8671
Treasurer	Diane Jablonski	485-6228
Membership Treasurer	Mary Anne Hogarty	221-0203

Association website: www.aauw.org

NY State website: www.aauw-nys.org

Poughkeepsie Branch website: www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

The Branch is published ten times a year, September through June, by the Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW, Inc. Send articles to the editor: Margaret Nijhuis, MargaretNijhuis@gmail.com (845-635-8612).



9th Annual Writers' Tea & Benefit Auction

A literary benefit for the AAUW Scholarship Funds,
Community Service Initiatives and Events



Sunday, April 15, 2018 2:30 ~ 6:00 pm

The Links at Union Vale

153 North Parliman Rd., Lagrangeville, NY



Mihai Grünfeld was born in Cluj, Romania where he lived with his family. In 1969, at age 18, he escaped to Austria. He has a Ph.D. from the University of California and is a professor at Vassar College. We will learn of his extraordinary life through his autobiography *Leaving – Memories of Romania*.



Jane Lazarre is a prize-winning writer of fiction and non-fiction. Her memoir, *The Communist and The Communist's Daughter*, was published in fall, 2017. Her previous memoir, *Beyond the Whiteness of Whiteness: Memoir of a White Mother of Black Sons*, will be the focus of her presentation.

High Tea

We will be welcomed with champagne, soft drinks and hors d'oeuvres as we arrive and browse the silent auction items. The writers' presentations will be accompanied by high tea.

Silent Auction

A silent auction of hand-crafted items and services donated by our members, local businesses and craftsmen. Checks, cash or credit card.

Reservations----Please RSVP by April 2, 2018

Name _____ Phone _____


Email _____

If you are making reservations for more than one person list all **additional names on the back.** _____

The cost is \$60 per person/\$62 using PayPal/Credit Card. Enclosed \$_____ for _____ attendee(s).

Make checks payable to: "Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc." [\$20 of the fee is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law]
Mail to: Patricia DeLeo, PO Box 542, Plattekill, NY 12568

- OR -

 To make reservations using **PayPal/Credit Card**, on www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org, select the homepage link to the tea, then select the yellow PayPal button and follow the onscreen directions. When PayPal asks for **special instructions to Seller**, click in that box and type tea, your phone number and the full name of those included in your reservation. You do not need a PayPal account to use this method. You do not have to contact the tea committee separately. **The cost for the event when using PayPal/Credit Card is \$62 per person.**

Questions: Patricia DeLeo, 845/883-5181, pattide2@optonline.net

Open seating, no table reservations.

Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW, Inc. is a nonprofit organization [501(c)(3)] that works to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.