



THE BRANCH

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

Volume 32, Number 8

Follow us at www.facebook.com/AAUWPoughkeepsie2014

63rd year of publication

<http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org>

April 2019

Special Performance – Writers’ Tea & Benefit Auction

VASSAR COLLEGE NIGHT OWLS

A CAPPELLA GROUP

Maria DeWald mfdewald@yahoo.com



To help celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Writer’s Tea and Benefit Auction, AAUW Poughkeepsie wanted to add something special to this year’s event. **We think we have found a perfect match in a performance by the Vassar College Night Owls.**

The all-women *Night Owls*, are the oldest of the twelve Vassar a cappella groups and one of the oldest in the country and, in so many ways, mirror our organization’s history. **AAUW, founded first under the name of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae in 1881**, had a mission of breaking educational barriers for women and addressing career options for college-educated females, rare in those days. They eventually merged with the Southern Association of College Women, as well as some independent organizations such as the Western Association of Collegiate Alumnae (their first fellowship being awarded to a Vassar alumna!), to become AAUW. **Vassar College was founded in 1861 as the first degree-granting institute of higher education for women in the United States** and is still consistently noted as one of the premier liberal arts colleges in the USA as well as being a great supporter and partner of AAUW, including as a College/University member.

Continued on Page 5 Night Owls...

Writers' Tea & Benefit Auction

This event helps support our local and national scholarships and our Community Service Initiatives!

Sunday, April 14, 2019

2:30 ~ 6:00 pm

Reservation Deadline

April 2, 2019

The Links at Union Vale

153 North Parliman Rd., Lagrangeville, NY



Writers

Michael Korda

“Alone: Britain, Churchill, and Dunkirk: Defeat into Victory”

Irene O’Garden

“Risking the Rapids: How my Wilderness Adventure Healed my Childhood”

High Tea

We will be welcomed with champagne, light drinks and hors d’oeuvres as we arrive and browse the silent auction items. The writers’ presentations will be accompanied by high tea. GLUTEN FREE OPTION IS AVAILABLE WHEN YOU MAKE YOUR RESERVATION.

Silent Auction

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

See page 4 for reservation details.

See page 8 for directions & seating.

See page 3, 5 & 8 for menu & program.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION AND ONE FOR A FRIEND TODAY! ■

APRIL CALENDAR

Online Calendar at www.aaupoughkeepsie.org

Contact: Kathy Friedman kfriedman33@gmail.com

Mar 25 Deadline to register for AAUW-NYS Convention

Mar 29 Deadline for auction items to Linda Roberts

227-5287 or olsen241@aol.com

April

- 1 **Word Games:** 1:30 pm
Hostess: Betsy Vivas (b.betsymike@verizon.net)
Coordinator: Susan Doyle (914/474-1232)
 - 2 **Equal Pay Day, page 3**
 - 2 **World Travelers:** 7:00 pm
Russian Riverboat from Moscow to St. Petersburg
Hostess: Kathy Friedman (485-8671)
kfriedman33@gmail.com
Presenters: Kathy Friedman & Rita Minnerly
Reservations: Bonnie Auchincloss (635-5191)
bauchincloss@gmail.com
 - 4 **Board Meeting:** 7:00 pm
Vassar Hospital, Radiology Conference Room, 2nd floor
 - 8 **All those books...:** 2:30 pm
The Sound and the Fury by William Faulkner
Hostess: Ruth Kava, kavarul@verizon.net
Coordinator: Carol Loizides (452-3208)
 - 9 **Movie Night:** *Time late afternoon TBD by show*
Movie will be followed by discussion at a nearby diner.
Theater and movie choice will be announced Thursday of the previous week and will be based on what is available at that time.
Director: Linnea Masson (883-7726)
Producer: Ellen Zelig ellenzeligcrs@aol.com
 - 10 **"The Branch" deadline for May newsletter.**
 - 11 **Canasta:** 1:00 pm
Hostess: Linda Lurie (229-9397)
Coordinator: Barbara Cohen (barbco451@gmail.com)
 - 12 **Daytime Literature:** 10:00 am
Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate
The Manor at Woodside, 168 Academy, Pok.
Coordinators: Kathy Friedman (485-8671) & Susan Fink sbudson@aol.com (473-3168)
 - 13 **Bridge III:** 10:00 am
Hostess: Contact coordinator
Coordinator: Donna Reichner
donnababy25@hotmail.com
 - 14 **Writers' Tea & Benefit Auction:** 2:30 – 6:00 pm
All members are encouraged to attend
– see details on pages 1, 3, 4, 5, 8.
 - 15 **Manderley Literary Society:** 6:30 pm
Killers of the Flower Moon by David Gann
Hostess: Shelly Friedman rfriedman5@gmail.com
Coordinator: Shelly Friedman (462-4996)
 - 16 **Cuisine:** 6:30 pm
Cuisine of Greece
Hostess: Suzi Stoller (462-6798)
Coordinator: Barbara Lemberger
brleberger@yahoo.com
 - 17 **Bridge I:** 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Hostess: Linda Ronayne Linronay@optonline.net
Coordinator: Linda Ronayne (897-9745)
 - 18 **Aventures en Soleil:** 9:30 am
Dutchess County Scenic and Historic Driving Tour
In and around Rhinebeck and Redhook.
Contact: Barbara Van Itallie, bvanitallie@yahoo.com
Coordinator: Janna Whearty (546-9190)
 - 20 **Days for Girls:** 1:30-4:30 pm
Friends Meeting House, Hooker Avenue
Chair: Sabashnee Govender (914/850-0195)
poughkeepsieny@daysforgirls.org
 - 23 **Gourmet: Out & About:** 6:30 pm
Restaurant TBA
Contacts: Mary Ann Boylan (462-2504)
Kay Saderholm (229-8545) ksaderholm@aol.com
 - 24 **Mah Jongg:** Noon - 4:00 pm
Antonella's Restaurant, Route 9, Wappingers Falls
Contact Blanche (462-3955) by two days before.
Coordinator: BlancheBergman@gmail.com
 - 24 **Contemporary Literature:** 7:30 pm
Educated by Tara Westover
Hostess: Contact Coordinators
Coordinators: Ann Wade (229-5267) & Linda Freisitzer (266-5427)
 - 24 **Extending Girls' Horizons:** 5:00 - 6:30 pm
Map and Compass Skills, Bowdoin Park
Contact Chair to volunteer to help
Chair: Peggy Kelland smkell45@aol.com
 - 25 **Bridge II:** 12:00-4:00 pm
Red Lobster, Route 9, Poughkeepsie
Coordinator: Cathy Kinn cathy@kinn.org
 - 25 **Pins & Needles:** 7:00 pm
Project: *Paper Basket*
Hostess: Mary Ann Williams (868-7465)
Coordinators: Pat Luczai (463-4662) & Mary Ann Williams (868-7465)
 - 26 **Art on the Go:** *Contact coordinator*
FLLAC Vassar
Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)
mwcoiteux@gmail.com
- 26-28 AAUW New York State Convention, see p 5
- Pedal Pushers:** *Watch for our return in May.*
Coordinator: Sheila Zweifler sheilaz@optonline.net
- Photography Club:** *Returns in the spring*
Coordinator: Carol Demicco (845-204-9553)
- Poetry and Plays - Emily D to Tennessee:**
No meeting this month.
Coordinators: Jackie Sweeney (518/947-6682) & Barbara Hugo BHugo2@gmail.com
- Trekkers:** *Returns in warmer weather*
Coordinator: Tori Smith (345-0043)
torilsmith.home@gmail.com

LOOKING AHEAD

May 7: **Woman of Song**, Goldee Green & Tom McCoy, p. 7

Jun 13: **Annual Meeting**, Poughkeepsie Grand, p. 6

Oct 27: **Woman of the Year**, Dutchess Manor, p. 5

Nov 2: **Live Your Dream Girls' Conference**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Diane Jablonski *834-3378* DLJab@live.com

April 2nd is Equal Pay Day – the day when women's earnings will equal what men earned in the previous year. This year we successfully requested **the Dutchess County Legislature to proclaim April 2nd as Equal Pay Day in Dutchess County.**

The proclamation is posted on our website and has information and statistics about the pay gaps that exist. This is first step in gaining visibility for an issue that affects every woman's life – from the time she enters the workforce through retirement.

www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

There are many steps that must be taken to achieve pay equity. **A major recommendation coming from many sources is to teach women how to better negotiate for salaries and promotions** as highlighted in the NYS Department of Labor report on Gender Pay Equity. AAUW recognized this in their strategic plan and set goals to train 10 million women in salary negotiation by 2022 and achieve pay equity by 2030. While these might seem challenging goals, with the support of AAUW members across the nation they are achievable.

Recognizing the challenge to directly reach 10 million women in hands-on workshops, AAUW **obtained a large grant from the Coca-Cola Corporation to develop and administer an online version of the WorkSmart salary negotiation training program.** This **FREE** program is in modules that allow users to go to sections that best suit their current situation – whether looking for a promotion or applying for a new job. As you take the training, simulations demonstrate the principles in action. The total course is 75 minutes long and a workbook to download is provided. Users can go back to the program at any time for a refresher of the whole course or any individual module.

We in Poughkeepsie AAUW can help achieve the goal of training 10 million women by supporting the online WorkSmart program. Here's what you can do:

- **Go to salary.aauw.org and at least get a feel for the training.** You don't have to go through all the sections, but you will be a better advocate when you ask others to take the training. I personally found it enlightening and also helpful as I talk to my daughter about her current career change.
- **Send the link to the training to your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, friends and neighbors** and encourage them to take a look at the training.
- **Talk to women and friends about it.** We will have bookmarks available as pictured below – carry them in your purse, take them to groups and organizations, and make them available in public spaces.
- Distribute to professional organizations to which you belong.

And on April 2nd, find at least one opportunity to highlight the issue of equal pay and let people know it is a problem.

Each of us probably has at least one story from our time in the workplace where we felt undervalued. We need to speak out, be strong, and support women in the workplace as they strive for pay equity. ■



This event helps support all the wonderful projects and events that you have grown to love as part of Poughkeepsie AAUW. A great deal of work has gone into making this a lovely afternoon, all we need now is your presence! **Please come and bring your friends (men and women will enjoy this event).**

Some items you can expect from the Auction!



- ◆ **Overnight at Bykenhulle House!**
- ◆ **Wine baskets!**
- ◆ **Restaurant Certificates!**
- ◆ **Jewelry & clothing!**

Auction items are still needed and will be accepted until March 29!

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

Catalog of Selected Items

Please take a look at the *Catalog of Selected Items* for the auction that you can find online. It is a “feast for your eyes” and you will want to be at the auction with your friends to enjoy an hour or so of amazing shopping for true values. Go to our website www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org and you will find the link to *Catalog of Selected Items* on the home page. ■



Negotiating your salary or benefits? Preparing for a promotion? **Don't leave money on the table!**

TAKE AAUW'S FREE ONLINE SALARY NEGOTIATION COURSE TODAY!

salary.aauw.org



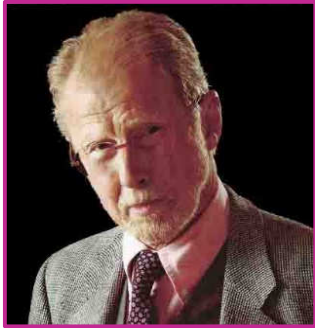
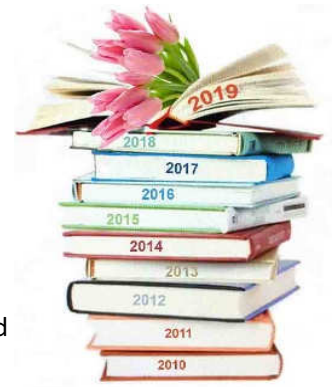
10th Annual Writers' Tea & Benefit Auction

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

Sunday, April 14, 2019 2:30 ~ 6:00 pm

The Links at Union Vale

153 North Parliman Rd., Lagrangeville, NY



Michael Korda is the author of numerous bestselling books and Editor-in-Chief Emeritus for Simon & Schuster. Beginning in the 2000s, Korda wrote a number of history and biography books on the Hungarian Revolution, Dwight Eisenhower, T.E. Lawrence and Robert E. Lee. On writing histories Korda said, "I've always wanted to write history, and it was only the accident of going to work for a book publisher in 1958 ... that slowed me down." He will discuss his latest book *Alone: Britain, Churchill, and Dunkirk: Defeat into Victory*.



Irene O'Garden has won or been nominated for prizes in nearly every writing category from stage to e-screen, hardcovers, as well as literary magazines and anthologies. Her critically-acclaimed play, *Women on Fire*, played to sold-out houses at Off-Broadway's Cherry Lane Theatre and was nominated for a Lucille Lortel Award. We will learn more of her life through her new book *Risking the Rapids: How my Wilderness Adventure Healed my Childhood*.

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. GLUTEN FREE OPTION IS AVAILABLE WITH RESERVATION

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, 2019

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, on the home page or 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 (indicated by a pencil), click in that box and type tea, your phone number and the full name of those included in your reservation. 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.

If you are unable to attend but would like to support our scholarship funds, community service initiatives and events please write a check payable to "Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc." and mail it to Patricia DeLeo at the address above or use PayPal (denote donation). Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW, Inc. is a nonprofit organization [501(c)(3)] that works to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

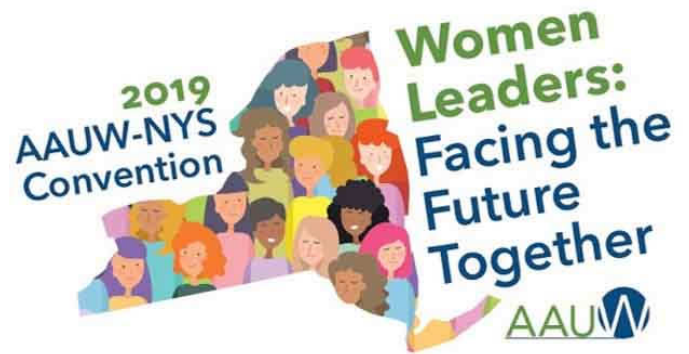
Continued from Page 1...

NIGHT OWLS

A **cappella** as a form has been around a long time but has been, and still is, a fairly male-oriented genre. In fact, the oldest college/university all-male cappella group, Yale's *Whiffenpoof*, accepted its first female member just this year! **We are so fortunate to have one of the nation's premier groups, from one of the nation's premier colleges, right in our own backyard and coming to entertain us at the Tea.**

According to legend, the *Night Owls* were founded during a polio epidemic of 1942, when the entire student community was quarantined. No one was allowed to leave her dorm except to attend classes with everything else, including long standing traditions, abandoned. Amid all this turmoil, sixteen intrepid women, dressed all in black, snuck out of their dorms, met secretly in the basement of the library where they sang late into the night, and traveled all around the campus to serenade their ailing classmates. Now, 75 years later, the *Night Owls* still dress in black for each performance to commemorate those founding women.

The group performs a variety of music, but are known for their arrangements of jazz standards and jazzy renditions of more contemporary songs with influences ranging from Ella Fitzgerald and Aretha Franklin to Ray Charles and Bobby Darin to Beyoncé and Adele. Some highlights of their history range from having Meryl Streep as part of their group, to a CBS broadcast, to their performance at Bill Clinton's inauguration! How pleased we are to have them now join us as part of their 75th Anniversary celebration as we celebrate our 10th Anniversary of the Tea...both in support of AAUW's long-standing celebration of women and education. Join us!!!! ■



APRIL 26-28, 2019

The spring issue of the AAUW-NYS FOCUS has full information about the Convention in Cooperstown at the Otesaga. Go to www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org and you will find a link to the state newsletter just below the link to our monthly newsletter. Registration information is at www.aauw-nys.org

Deadline to register without penalty is March 25.

CONTINUED COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Leading to Reading

Betty Harrel *462-2141@ bharrel28@gmail.com

We've been very fortunate to have ongoing support for many of our community projects. Once again, **Central Hudson has donated funds to the *Leading to Reading* project.** Money will be used to purchase additional books for the *Books for Babies program.*



Every family leaving the birthing center at Vassar Brothers Medical Center receives a new book and information on the importance of reading to very young children. The AAUW packet is part of the take-home packet presented to each new parent.

We truly appreciate Central Hudson's continued support.

AUCTION ITEM

Set of 2 Vera Bradley Luggage: Rolling carry-on and rolling duffel. Plenty of pockets and zippers for the well-organized traveler that you are! Value \$ 350. Set or \$175 each



SAVE THE DATE!

WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2019

It is with great pleasure that our committee announces

The Honorable Joan S. Posner

Dutchess County Family Court Judge
and Acting Supreme Court Justice

is the AAUW 2019 Woman of the Year

**Dutchess Manor
Sunday, October 27, 2019
12:00 noon to 3:30 pm ■**

Mary Lou Davis & Margie Quart, Chairpersons

ANNUAL MEETING SPEAKER

Sabrina Jaar Marzouka

Diane Jablonski *834-3378* DLJab@live.com

We are pleased to announce that **Sabrina Jaar Marzouka** will be the speaker at our annual meeting:

June 13, 2019
Poughkeepsie Grand

Sabrina holds a Bachelor degree in Political Science from Trinity College, and a Master's in Public Health from the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health. She was the Executive Director of the Catherine Street Community Center which resulted in the Marist College President Award. Since March 2015, she has served as the **Commissioner for the Dutchess County Department of Community & Family Services.** ■



"HATS OFF"

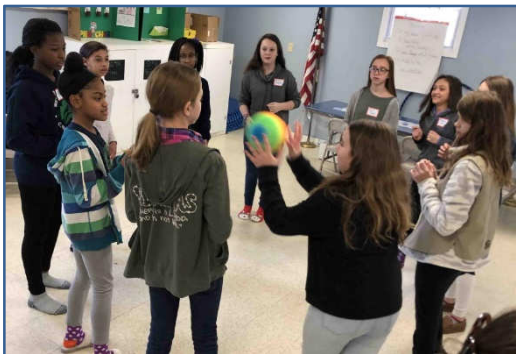
Mary Coiteux *226-8275* mcoiteux@frontiernet.net

An expression of admiration for someone's achievement or contribution and our acknowledgment for it.

Hats off to Erica Salzmann-Talbi on her recent election to the *Eleanor Roosevelt Val-Kill* board. Ericka has volunteered for many years with the **Girls Leadership Worldwide conference which is held each summer for girls 14-16 years old.** For further information and application go to www.ervk.org

Hats off to Cynthia Averill for a terrific February AAUW newsletter, *The Branch*, and thanks to her for stepping up to take over for our editor.

Hats off to Gwen Higgins and Peggy Kelland for their presentation of the Girl Scout Journey "A-Maze" as a full day program at Fanny Fay House in Beacon. In February they presented it to 30 sixth graders and a week later they presented it to 20 different sixth graders. This program addresses the complexities of relationships, including first impressions, friendships, peer pressure, cliques, conflict resolution, and bullying, through alternating games and small group discussions. "A-Maze" is presented as part of *Extending Girls Horizons*, a Community Service Initiative of AAUW. ■



MEMBERSHIP COUNTS

Susie Blecker *462-7074* iblecker@aol.com

Sheila Zweifler *462-6478* sheilaz@optonline.net

Happy Spring to all our members. April is the month when our branch begins to look forward to two important annual events. The first is our **Annual Writers' Tea & Benefit Auction** which will be on **Sunday, April 14th at the Links in Union Vale.** We rely on the monies we receive from this, our biggest fundraiser, to support our many programs and initiatives throughout the year. **Your support of the Tea is vital to the success**

of our organization. Other details can be found in the newsletter and at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org.

Our second event is that it's AAUW membership renewal time for the coming year, which runs from July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020. **The notices will be mailed the end of April and you should be receiving them at the beginning of May.** The annual dues are **\$88 and three free memberships are available.** We will have a drawing for these freebies from the names of those who will have paid their dues at the annual dinner in June. Make life easy for yourself and the membership committee by immediately writing out a check or paying your dues through PayPal. The board has decided that if a member has not paid her **dues by Sept 15th**, she will not receive *The Branch*, our newsletter, nor be able to participate in any AAUW activities nor be listed in the Membership Directory. Once a member pays, her AAUW privileges will be reinstated. Thanking you in advance for your help and cooperation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call or email us.

■



AAUW ATTENDS THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY DINNER



Pictured above is Lea Bishop (WPN) with AAUW members Marcine Humphrey, Marti Madory and Gwen Higgins. Diane Jablonski and Wendy Maragh Taylor were also present at the March 5th event at the Poughkeepsie Grand.

PUBLIC POLICY

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

Punctuation Stresses the Point

Torch bearer Gloria Steinem says social change takes one hundred years and we are well into the first hundred. So how are we faring? **What is the State of the Union for women?** The times they are a changing, but in what direction?

As Women in NY get the Reproductive Health Act, women in under developed countries revel in the acquisition of feminine hygiene products and related job opportunities. Retired military officers share their Me Too stories; NASA announces the first all women space crew. The Trump administration minimizes the definition of both domestic violence and sexual assault while lawmakers lobby to update the Paycheck Fairness Act. A record number of women join the House and Senate while voting fraud takes center stage in national challenges. **The torch burns bright.**

A woman in NYS is no longer reliant on Roe v Wade protections with the 2019 passing of the Reproductive Health Act. She has the right to abortion upon request up to the 24th week of pregnancy and after the 24th week, if the abortion is “necessary to protect the patient’s life or health,” in the absence of “fetal viability” or the ability of a fetus to “survive out of the womb.” Meanwhile, halfway around the world women celebrate the ability to create and utilize feminine hygiene products.

The Hollywood lights mesmerized Movieland as women claimed a record setting fifteen Oscars for their work in the entertainment field. Their achievements were extended into the production and tech fields, STEM occupations in many cases. **Period. End of Sentence.** The award winning documentary, produced and directed by women, focuses on the limitations placed on women in developing countries while menstruating. There are few to no products available. Women rely on rags, leaves, and discarded materials. Menstruating girls and women are prevented from attending school and work and live in unsanitary conditions. **The invention of a machine that makes affordable, biodegradable pads from locally sourced materials is changing lives.** The machine does more than just supply girls with pads: it allows girls to continue their education and generates a steady income for the women in the area who want to work. **While the light shines in Hollywood, women on the other side gain access to a century old product.**

Newly elected Martha McSally shocked everyone with her disclosure of being raped by a superior officer while in the Air Force. She did not report it at the time as she had no faith in a system that would only publicly humiliate and violate her for reporting. Why now? The strength and courage of the women who put themselves in harm’s way for the #Me Too movement gave her the impetus to light a torch in defense of those suffering and in hope of future prevention. **Contrary to the treatment of Dr. Christine Blakey Ford and other persecuted women, no one questions, criticizes, doubts, or denies her word.** Simultaneously, while the military addresses

its issues of sexual abuse and misconduct, NASA announces its first all women space crew for space walk at the International Space Station.

Back in USA, the Trump Justice Department determined physical harm, constituting a felony or misdemeanor, to be the new definition of domestic violence – meaning other forms of domestic violence such as psychological abuse, coercive control and manipulation - no longer falls under the legal definition. This could/should be re-evaluated now that a record number of women have seats in Washington. **2019:** 127 (106D, 21R) women hold seats in the United States Congress. Twenty five in the U.S. Senate (<http://cawp.rutgers.edu/women-us-senate-2019>), and 102 women serve in the U.S. House of Representatives (<http://cawp.rutgers.edu/women-us-house-representatives-2019>). Four women non-voting delegates (2D, 2R) also represent American interests. Throughout the country, voter fraud is under investigation as many elections are challenged because of redlining, illegal interference, gerrymandering. **One step back, in this scenario, one step forward.**

When asked to whom she would pass the torch, Gloria Steinem replied “no one.” She was keeping her torch as she needed to light as many torches as she could. How else can we all see our way? **Period. End of Sentence.** Or is it **Question mark? What is Next? ■**



Women
of
SONG

Diverse Divas in Opera, Jazz & Musical

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

Goldee Greene, Vocal Artist
Tom McCoy, Music Director

Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 7:00 pm
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie

Get up close and personal with such opera divas as Cleopatra, Tosca and Delilah as well as real-life prima donna’s like Bessie Smith, Ethel Waters, Mae West and Marlene Dietrich. All this and more as award-winning singer/actor and Off-Broadway playwright **Goldee Greene** offers *Women of Song: Diverse Divas in Opera, Jazz & Musical*. She will be accompanied by **Tom McCoy**, a versatile pianist, arranger and composer, moving seamlessly between the worlds of classical, jazz, theater and pop. ■

“AS THE ‘TABLE’ TURNS”

An explanation of seating at the Writers’ Tea & Benefit Auction

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

Just so everyone is comfortable at our Writers’ Tea, we wanted to remind you of the seating arrangement. There are no reserved tables (except for the authors, of course) just **OPEN SEATING**.

Please still get a group of friends from your AAUW interest group or project, family members, colleagues, neighbors, etc.

together and come a bit early and claim your own seats. There will be slips of paper available for you to write your name and place it on the plate at the seat of your choice. On the other hand, coming on your own has the advantage of meeting someone new in AAUW or the community!

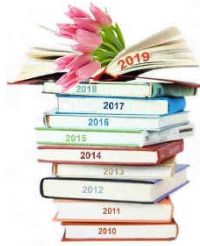
The dining room will be open when you arrive. You should first “stake your claim” on a seat and then proceed to the wonderful auction area. ■

WRITERS’ TEA & BENEFIT AUCTION 2019

TEA IN THE AFTERNOON- Schedule & Menu

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

- ◆ **Our tea starts at 2:30** in the afternoon.
- ◆ You will be greeted by our wonderful team from “Leading to Reading” and with a glass of champagne or light drinks
- ◆ You may then proceed to the dining room and **select your seat** for the afternoon (slips of paper will be provided on which you will write your name and place it on a plate at the table of your choice).
- ◆ Please immediately continue to the **auction area** where a selection of hors d’oeuvres **will be passed to our guests**. This is your only opportunity for bidding. No bidding after the program starts nor at intermission – just raffle tickets.
- ◆ Once the program starts, **your first course will be scones** with clotted cream and jam accompanied by tea from Harney & Sons Fine Teas.
- ◆ Following the first author there will be an intermission with entertainment by the **Vassar Night Owls (p. 1, 5)** and time for final raffle tickets sales.
- ◆ Then back for **more food** in the form of a variety of tea sandwiches. A garden crudité will be included. **There will be a gluten free option (chicken salad on bed of lettuce) but must be ordered when you make your reservation.**
- ◆ Following the second author, we will have **dessert and fruit**.
- ◆ The afternoon concludes with the awarding of the auction items. **Remember you may pay by cash, check or credit card and be sure to pick up any items that you have won. ■**



TRAVEL TO THE TEA!

Margaret Nijhuis margaretnijhuis@gmail.com

- ♣ Set your GPS for
153 North Parliman Road, Union Vale, NY 12540
-OR-
- ♣ Go to www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org and click on
Writers’ Tea & Benefit Auction Directions
-OR-
- ♣ Follow these directions:
 - After the intersection of the Taconic State Parkway and Route 55, follow Route 55 east and take a left at the first light onto Route 82 north
 - Make a right onto County Route 89
 - Take the first right onto North Parliman Road (1 mile).
 - The Links Golf Course is 1/2 mile on right. ■

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.

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Marti Madory, Chair *471-8577* marti67138@gmail.com

Raising the International Profile: I represented AAUW at the annual Academic World Quest sponsored on March 2 by the World Affairs Council of the Mid-Hudson Valley at the Wallace Center of the FDR Library. It was a competition involving students from eight local high schools, and they were asked some tough questions! We also had a strong presence at the Women’s Professional Network’s dinner celebrating International Women’s Day on March 5. Turnout was 50% higher than last year’s, and we were impressed by the diversity and energy of the attendees.

AAUW presents at the UN Commission on the Status of Women: Several Branch members will be attending this annual meeting on March 14th in NYC. I’m determined to acquire better advance information for the 2020 session.

International Calendar: The World Affairs Council is interested in working with us on the Mid-Hudson Calendar of International Activities. We are seeking a graphic designer who can prepare a logo/link that participating organizations can use on their own web sites and correspondence to drive readers to our site for the purpose of learning about international events. This serves the branch by exposing readers to our own activities, described on the first page of the site, as well as those listed by other organizations on the international calendar.

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CTAUN Conference: Committee member Peggy Kelland will be attending the annual conference of the Committee on Teaching about the United Nations (CTAUN) on April 5 in New York City. If you'd like to go, too, get in touch with Peggy about coordinating travel plans.

Global Friends Sharing Circles: A second Global Friends sharing circle will be held at Gloria Ghedini's home on April 10. International guests scheduled to attend are from Colombia, Germany, Yemen, Senegal, and Japan. Gloria can accommodate one more AAUW member for this circle; other interested members can ask to be placed on a wait list or pre-register for the May 16 gathering, which will be held at Gwen Higgins' house.

International Hospitality: Ellie Charwat has contacted the Committee about our International Hospitality effort, pointing out that Poughkeepsie's new Oaxaca Sister City program will involve teacher exchanges, and there will be a need for host homes. We are planning a panel presentation for the January membership meeting that will make the case for supporting international students.

Tuesday, May 7, Planning Session: The Hospitality discussion will take place at the Committee's Tuesday, May 7, planning session, to be held again at my house. Please RSVP by Monday, May 6, if you plan to attend. See contact above. ■

NCCWSL SCHOLARSHIPS

Marcine Humphrey marcine.humphrey@gmail.com

The Irene Keyes Memorial Fund Committee is pleased to announce that we are sending two remarkable local college women to the National Conference for College Women Leaders this year. Kayla Bowen and Alyssa Covelli came to our attention through their work on the *Live Your Dream Girls Conference*. The Committee wishes to thank the family of Irene Keyes and the women of AAUW for supporting this fund. NCCWSL is a transformative conference for young women from all over the country. Each young woman we send has come home inspired, skilled, and enthusiastic about the future.

Below is a brief introduction to each of the girls, more details are at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org **Scholarship/Irene Keyes Memorial Fund.**



Kayla Bowen, SUNY New Paltz

Kayla Bowen is currently a Digital Media Production student at SUNY New Paltz and serves as Public Relations Coordinator for a body positivity club on campus called Project HEAL (Help to Eat, Accept & Live). Kayla loves to keep busy and stay involved in her community. We first

met Kayla in 2017 at the Live Your Dream Girls Conference where she served as a "Big Sister."



Alyssa Covelli, Dutchess Community College

Alyssa Covelli's spirit, enthusiasm and desire to attend NCCWSL simply bubbled off the page as one committee member commented. Lori Scolaro, Co-Coordinator of the *Live Your Dream Girls Conference*, describes her as brilliant, fun-loving, helpful, compassionate and cooperative. As a student at

DCC she has begun to truly expand her leadership potential. When she joined the *Live Your Dream Big Sisters* she actively began conducting outreach to potential Big Sisters to coordinate firm commitments and training session attendance.

While on our website www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org read the update on the **Aileen Rizo case**. You will find that under **Public Policy/Legal Advocacy Fund**. Aileen was a presenter at the AAUW-NYS Convention last year. ■

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. Officers 2018-2019

President	Diane Jablonski	834-3378
Program Co-VPs	Monique Jones	849-1692
	Sandy Lash	227-4650
Membership Co-VPs	Susie Blecker	462-7074
	Sheila Zweifler	462-6478
Development VP	position will be filled in June.	
Communications VP	Bonnie Auchincloss	635-5191
Secretary	Ruth Sheets	473-6202
Treasurer	Patricia Luczai	463-4662
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

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

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.

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