Honorable Judge Joan S. Posner
Dutchess County Family Court Judge
Acting Supreme Court Justice
Retired

Sunday, October 27, 2019
12-3 pm
Dutchess Manor
263 Route 9D, Beacon, NY

Details on page 4 and at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS
Open House/Reunion
Thursday
September 12, 2019
7:00 pm
Freedom Plains Presbyterian Church*
1168 State Rt. 55, Lagrangeville

Reconnect with all your AAUW friends and colleagues and welcome our guests.
Introduce our guests and prospective members to all the joys of AAUW: our 19 Interest Groups and our 8 Community Service Initiatives.
Learn about our monthly programs and our other special events of the year.
Enjoy dessert, furnished by our members, and tea and coffee.

There is still time to send Sheila names and contacts of friends, family and acquaintances so they can receive a special invitation to this event. Sheila Zweifler sheilaz@optonline.net

At Open House, members will be able to pay your dues, if you have not done so, by cash, check, or credit card.

*Directions: Take State Rt. 55 eastbound. The church is located opposite Arlington High School. The entrance to the parking lot is opposite Zoe’s Ice Cream Barn.

Questions: Mary Scalise-Annis, 635-2109 nicevalley@aol.com
Sheila Zweifler 462-6478 sheilaz@optonline.net

Gender Bias in Healthcare:
A Long History

Christie VanHorne, M. Ed., MPH

October 10, 2019

Children’s Home of Poughkeepsie
10 Children’s Way
Poughkeepsie

7:00 pm

Have you ever felt dismissed, ignored, and left a doctor’s appointment with more questions than answers? You are not alone. After a look back in history, we will discuss how the problem persists. You will leave with an understanding of how our healthcare system continues to leave women sick, misdiagnosed and dismissed.
SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Online Calendar at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org
Contact: Kathy Friedman kfriedman33@gmail.com

5 Board Meeting: 7:00 pm
Vassar Hospital, Radiology Conference Room, 2nd floor

9 All those books...: 2:30 pm
East of Eden by John Steinbeck
Hostess: Pat Gullick pguillick@aol.com
Coordinator: Carol Loizides (452-3208)

10 “The Branch” deadline for October.

10 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 based on what is available at
that time.
Director: Linnea Masson (883-7726)
Producer: Ellen Zelig ellenzeligers@aol.com

11 Pedal Pushers: 9:30 am
Bike from Amenia to Millerton, 16 miles
Meeting point: Rail Trail parking lot, Rt. 343, Amenia
Leader: Sheila Zweifler (cell: 845-246-8800)
Coordinator: Sheila Zweifler sheilaz@optonline.net

12 General Membership Program: Expand Your
Horizons, Open House/Reunion
All members are invited and encouraged to attend
– see details on page 1.

12 Canasta: 1:00 pm
Hostess: TBA
Coordinator: Barbara Cohen barbco451@gmail.com

13 Daytime Literature: 10:00 am
Nicholas and Alexandra by Robert Massie
The Manor at Woodside, 168 Academy, Pok.
Coordinators: Kathy Friedman (485-8671) &
Susan Fink sbudson@aol.com (473-3168)

15 Gourmet: Out & About: 11:00 am
Sunday Brunch at Shadows on the Hudson
176 Rinaldi Blvd., Poughkeepsie
Contacts: Mary Ann Boylan (462-2504)
Kay Saderholm (229-8545) Ksaderholm@aol.com

16 Manderley Literary Society: 6:30 pm
The Righteous Mind by Jonathan Haidt
Hostess: Ellie Burch (297-7828)
Coordinator: Shelly Friedman (462-4996)

17 Cuisine: 6:30 pm
Hudson Valley Farm Stand Favorites
Hostess: Maria DeWald
Coordinator: Barbara Lemberger blemberger@yahoo.com

18 Bridge I: 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Hostess: Jeanette Cantwell (452-4188)
Coordinator: Linda Ronayne (897-9745)

20 Poetry and Plays - Emily D to Tennessee: 1:45 pm
Hostess: TBA
Coordinators: Cathy Kinn (462-3196) &
Jackie Sweeney (518/947-6682)

21 Days for Girls: 1:30-4:30 pm
Friends Meeting House, Hooker Avenue
Chairs: Judy Longacre & Sabashnee Govender
(914/850-0195) poughkeepsieny@dagsforgirls.org

25 Mah Jong: Noon - 4:00 pm
Antonella’s Restaurant, Route 9, Wappingers Falls
Contact Blanche by 2 days before (462-3955)
Coordinator: Blanche Bergman (462-3955)

25 Contemporary Literature: 7:30 pm
 Burning Bright by Ron Rash
Hostess: Betty Harrel (462-2141):
Coordinators: Ann Wade (229-5267) &
Linda Freisitzer (266-5427)

26 Bridge II: 12:00-4:00 pm
Red Lobster, Route 9, Poughkeepsie
Coordinator: Cathy Kinn cathy@kinn.org

26 Pins & Needles: 7:00 pm
Knitted Dishcloths
Hostess: Kay Saderholm (229-8545)
Coordinators: Pat Luczai (463-4662) &
Mary Ann Williams (868-7465)

27 Art on the Go:
TBA
Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)

Contact Coordinator for Date, Time & Plans:

Aventures en Soleil:
Coordinator: Janna Whearty (546-9190)

Trekkers:
Coordinator: Tori Smith text or call 914-805-8046
torilsmith.home@gmail.com

No Meeting in September:

Extending Girls’ Horizons:
Chair: Peggy Kelland smkell45@aol.com

World Games:
Coordinator: Susan Doyle (914/474-1232)

World Travelers:
Reservations: Bonnie Auchincloss (635-5191)
bauchincloss@gmail.com

Check your email for all AAUW information.
Please report any changes in contact information
to Sue Doyle, Membership Treasurer, 914/474-
1232 or suedoyle1@aol.com

LOOKING AHEAD

Oct 10: Gender Bias in Healthcare: A Long History
Oct 20: AAUW-NYS District IV, organized by Kingston, p. 6
Oct 27: Woman of the Year, Dutchess Manor, p. 1, 4
Nov 2: Live Your Dream Girls’ Conference, p. 6
Apr 24 - 26, 2020: AAUW-NYS Convention, Rochester
Oct 18, 2020: Author’s Luncheon, Le Chambord
At the start of another exciting year for the Poughkeepsie Branch, it’s always wonderful to come together after the summer holidays, share experiences, and move into the fall activities. I hope to see you all at the Open House and that you will bring some friends with you and introduce them to all the great opportunities our Branch offers.

Change is always part of an organization that is growing and evolving. I encourage you to watch the video posted on our website from Kim Churches, CEO of AAUW about the actions and changes she initiated since she took office 2 years ago. Kim has taken risks and made tough decisions as she took a hard look at AAUW, what is and what it can be. I applaud her willingness to look within the organization and take steps to keep AAUW vital and strong in the 21st century.

We in the Poughkeepsie Branch are also changing. After 10 years of success with spring Writer’s Tea and Auction ably led by Lula Allen and Linda Roberts, a large group met to discuss what our next steps should be in raising the funds we need for our initiatives. Two members at the meeting stepped forward and volunteered to lead an event, which will be in the fall. The first time the event will be held is in October 2020; the Woman of the Year event for 2020 will be moved to the spring. I thank Janna Wheetey and Carol Mencken for stepping up to lead the new fall fundraiser, and I hope you will give them your support. The success of the Writer’s Tea and the funds it raised to support our community initiatives was always dependent on the many efforts of our members; I hope you offer Carol and Janna the same support you gave to Lula and Linda.

As I consider the changes initiated at the national level and our local branch, the importance of leadership in embracing risk and change comes to mind. Moving forward and stepping outside the “we’ve always done it this way” mentality isn’t always easy. But I’ve been in AAUW long enough to know that AAUW offers the opportunity for women to explore leadership positions within the organization, develop skills and take risks. Whether leading a large organization like AAUW National, running for President as a woman, being active in local organizations as either board members or volunteers, women leaders are taking risks and making a mark. The Live Your Dream Conference we sponsor for middle school girls sets the stage for the women leaders of tomorrow – asking them to live their dreams and encouraging them to take the risks to attain them. The scholarships we give each year and the funds it raised to support our community initiatives were an important part of our leadership team.

In this coming year, I encourage you all to take those small steps to move outside your comfort level – whether it’s just speaking to someone you don’t know at a program meeting, acting as a mentor for a younger woman, supporting the political candidate of your choice, or stepping up to lead an activity. We are all leaders – and AAUW gives us the tools and support to continue to grow and sometimes fail – no matter our age.
Please join the Poughkeepsie Branch of the American Association of University Women, Inc. to:

Honor our Woman of the Year 2019
Hon. Joan S. Posner
Dutchess County Family Court Judge & Acting Supreme Court Justice
Retired

Sunday, October 27, 2019
12-3 pm
Dutchess Manor
263 Route 9D, Beacon, NY

Directions and Complete Biography at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org
Event Chairs: Mary Lou Davis, Margie Ouart 896-6928 & Gail Sisti 564-4268

Cash Bar & Hot Luncheon

Name ____________________________________________
Phone __________________________________________
Email ____________________________________________

If you are making reservations for more than one person, please list all additional names and choices on back.

Meal Choice:
Pan seared Mediterranean bronzino fillet, toasted almond butter ______
Breast of free range chicken, picatta style with capers & citrus white wine sauce ______
Medallions of pork, sautéed apples & a calvados scented Demi-glacé ______

**If you have any dietary concerns, please let us know:
Vegetarian _______ Gluten Free _______

Price: $50 (includes gratuity)
$52 if using PayPal or Credit Card.

Reservations and checks due: October 17, 2019

Make checks payable to “Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.”
Mail to:
Betty Harrel, 28 Laffin Lane,
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Questions: Call Betty Harrel 845/462-2141 or bharrel28@gmail.com

To make reservations using PayPal or Credit Card go to www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

Joan S. Posner served as Dutchess County Family Court Judge and as Acting Supreme Court Justice from 2009 until 2018. In addition to her duties as Family Court Judge, she presided over the Dutchess County Integrated Domestic Violence Court.

While on the bench, she was the lead judge for Dutchess County for the Child Welfare Court Improvement Project. In that capacity she was instrumental in establishing procedures and protocols for the Court, which directly and positively impacted the lives of children, as well as their caregivers. She also served on statewide and local committees, including the Family Court Advisory and Rules Committee, the Family Court Judges’ Curriculum Committee and the Advisory Committee on Attorneys for Children and the Family Court Child Care Center Advisory Board.

In 2015, Judge Posner was instrumental in getting legislation passed which added a much-needed fourth Family Court Judge in Dutchess County.

Prior to being elected, she worked as the Court Attorney for Family Court Judge Damian Amodeo for 20 years. In that capacity she was involved in projects to enhance the Court’s response in matters involving domestic violence. She served on both the Universal Response to Domestic Violence Steering Committee and the Dutchess County Legislature’s Citizens’ Advisory Committee. She was also the principal author the Dutchess County Domestic Violence Bench Manual for Town and Village Justices, which became a state-wide model.

Judge Posner has received numerous awards for her work, including from the Mediation Center of Dutchess County, the Westchester County Bar Association, the Grace Smith House and the Coalition against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Now retired, Judge Posner continues to serve on the Family Court Advisory and Rules Committee, a committee of the Chief Judge, which writes, reviews and recommends family law legislation to be included in the Court’s legislative agenda. She is a graduate of Cornell University and New York University School of Law. She has a son and daughter, four grandsons and a fifth on the way.
DCC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS
Diane Jablonski  *834-3378* DLJab@live.com

On May 15th, two AAUW Poughkeepsie Branch scholarships were awarded to two young women who are graduating and continuing their education at 4-year schools. Diane Jablonski and Jackie Goffe McNish presented the scholarships to Imani Somers (left) and Samarra Graiser (right). Imani will be attending SUNY New Paltz, majoring in communications. Samarra Graiser will be attending SUNY Binghamton, majoring in physics. Your donations to the scholarship fund and the Writer's Tea & Benefit Auction support these scholarships that we give annually.

The event was most interesting and we were struck by the diversity - both culturally and in chosen field of study - of the recipients of our scholarships, as well as other recipients we met at the luncheon.

LOCAL SUPPORT
Betty Harrel bharrel28@gmail.com

Once again, Daniel Clark, owner of Prime Print Shop, has supported our Leading to Reading community outreach program. His latest donation was laminated posters for the Laundromat Libraries, our joint project with the Friends of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District. Daniel says he “likes to see people doing good things for our community.” We thank him for his excellent service and ongoing support for our organization.

MEMBERSHIP COUNTS
Mary Scalise-Annis *635-2109* nicevalley@aol.com
Sheila Zweifler *462-6478* sheilaz@optonline.net

Welcome fall! We hope that everyone had a wonderful summer and is now ready to start another great year with AAUW. Please join us at our annual Open House on Thursday, September 12, 2019@ 7:00 at Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church, 1168 State Rt. 55, Lagrangeville. Enjoy refreshments provided by our members and learn about our Interest Groups, Community Initiatives, Annual Events, and monthly meetings.

If you have a friend, neighbor, or relative who might enjoy our organization, please send their name and address, or email to Sheila Zweifler at sheilaz@optonline.net and an invitation will be sent to them. Please tell them of the Special Offer for New Members only. If they join by October 15th, their dues will be $58.50, instead of $88. This is a savings of $29.50.

DAYS FOR GIRLS
Sabashnee Govender *635-8612*
poughkeepsieny@daysforgirls.org

Thank you to all our branch members for your very generous cash and in-kind donations of washcloths, underwear and Ziploc bags collected at our May 2019 membership meeting. Our team has been working hard to prepare for the Days for Girls International (DFGi) Refugee Project, a multi-country partnership with World Vision International!

Days for Girls, World Vision Australia, World Vision Canada, and World Vision USA are sending 33,000 feminine hygiene kits to refugee centers in Lebanon, Afghanistan, South Sudan and Somalia! Our team pledged 50 Days for Girls kits for this project. For more information please visit https://aauwpoughkeepsie.org/index.php?page=Days_for_Girls and like us on Facebook.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS:
Mary Jo Mann  Nancy Marrine

A reminder….membership renewal ends on September 15th. If you have not renewed by that date, you will not be able to participate in interest groups, receive the monthly Branch Newsletter, or be listed in the Membership Directory. Of course, if you rejoin, and we hope you will, you will be able to participate in all activities. At the Open House, you will have the opportunity to pay your dues with cash, check, or credit card.
LIVE YOUR DREAM GIRLS CONFERENCE
Diana Babington *471-5385*
Liveyourdreamgirlsconference@gmail.com

NOVEMBER 2, 2019

Coming off of the “high” of another successful Live Your Dream Conference in November 2018, Lori and Diana are beginning to make plans for the 2019 edition of Live Your Dream. Our conference this year will be November 2, 2019 and will be held again at Dutchess Community College. Last year we added an invitation to eighth grade girls with great success and will continue it this year. Last year’s conference was so well received that we have already had questions about when it will happen again. Success depends on planning and we will begin planning this August at Dutchess Community College. We will be meeting at 7 pm in Room 315, Hudson Hall, Dutchess Community College this year and since we have a working template that is successful, our meetings should be short and sweet. Our meetings are scheduled for September 19, October 17, and October 31, in preparation for our conference on November 2nd.

If you cannot make a commitment to our meetings, perhaps you would be willing to volunteer as the point person for a nearby middle or elementary school in our county. Registering middle school girls to attend is the major factor in a successful event. In addition, we are asking our members who would like to volunteer to work the day of the conference to email us at Liveyourdreamgirlsconference@gmail.com.

If you are intrigued by what and how we did it; love working and inspiring young girls and young women; and have lots of energy then why not join us. You don’t have to come to every meeting, but we do need women to help with every aspect of our event.

For more information or to volunteer on our committee, email Diana Babington at Liveyourdreamgirlsconference@gmail.com or call her at 471-5385.

To sponsor a girl’s attendance to our conference see your email, www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org or page 8 below.

POUGHKEEPSIE BRANCH AAUW
Programs October - January
Sandy Lash sjlash@optonline.net; Monique Jones myj712@aol.com

Program Committee 2019 – 2020
Maria DeWald, Barbara Durniak, Christine Eidel, Betty Harrel, Gwen Higgins, Diane Jablonski, Marticia Madory, Chairs
Sandy Lash and Monique Jones.

October 10th – Gender Bias in Healthcare: A Long History
Presented by Christie VanHome, M. Ed., MPH
Program will be held at the Children’s Home of Poughkeepsie, 10 Children’s Way, Poughkeepsie, NY

November 14th – The Appalachian Trail and Bluegrass Music
Presented by Rich Keyes, with Bluegrass-inspired music performed by Rich Keyes and Kevin and Carol Becker

This program is presented in partnership with The NEA Big Read and highlights this year’s book selection, Burning Bright, by Ron Rash. The NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest. Program will be held at the Unitarian Universal Fellowship of Poughkeepsie

December 12th – Grace Smith House: An Open Door for Victims of Domestic Violence
Presented by Branka Bryan, PsyD and Marjorie Smith, JD
Program will be held at the Unitarian Universal Fellowship of Poughkeepsie

January 9th – Extending Hospitality to 21st Century International Students at Dutchess Community College
Program will be held at the Unitarian Universal Fellowship of Poughkeepsie

AAUW-NYS DISTRICT IV CONFERENCE
STEMming the Tide: How Women and Girls Are Changing the World

Sunday, October 20, 2019
11 am - 2 pm
Stonehedge Restaurant, 1694 Rte 9W, West Park, NY

Join members from branches in District 4 (Adirondack, Amsterdam/Gloversville/Johnstown, Kingston, Poughkeepsie and Schenectady) to explore the role women are playing in various environmental endeavors in our region. Speakers will include Janice Brown, AAUW-NYS president; Laura Petit, Ulster County Legislator; Beth Roessler, NYS DED; and Aliza Krevolin from FeedHV. There will be ample time to mingle and meet our speakers and members of the community who are having a positive impact on the Ulster County environment.
New York State continues to make progress in the struggle to achieve pay equity for women, as well as for specific minority groups. On July 10, 2019, Governor Cuomo signed into law two of the four bills that both the Senate and Assembly passed in June. The first bill extends pay equity protections beyond those based on gender, to include disparities in equal pay caused by age, race, sexual orientation, disability, and domestic violence victim status. Though some pay differentials are still allowed, this law also lowers the burden of proof for claimants by changing the strict requirement from “equal pay for equal work” to “substantially similar work under similar working conditions.” The law takes effect on October 8, 2019.


The second bill the Governor signed into law on July 10 is the ban on salary history inquiries. No longer will an employer be permitted to ask about a potential employee’s prior salary history, or set a potential salary based on prior salary history, even if that information is discovered accidentally or volunteered by the potential employee. The bill includes protections against retaliation on the part of the employer, and the ability to file civil action for violations. (Salary history inquiries have been prohibited since October 2017 in New York City, Suffolk and Westchester Counties). The state-wide ban becomes effective January 6, 2020.


As important as these changes are, there is still much to be done to improve the lives of women, and their children, who are living in poverty and being left behind, or even forgotten. They cannot reap the benefits of these laws until they have better access to quality public education and higher education opportunities. Actions that can advance these goals can be reviewed in the 2019-2021 AAUW Public Policy Priorities. https://www.aauw.org/files/2019/06/Public-Policy-Priorities-2019-2021-nsa.pdf

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)
Pat DeLeo, Ruth Gau, Shaileen Kopec, Margaret Nijhuis, Mary Ann Ryan, Terry Schneider

Sponsors ($10 or more)
To add your name to the list, mail a check payable: “Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.” to Cyd Averill, 14 Farm View Road, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590
International in Our Own Backyard
In light of the recent tragic events in America, the Committee’s continuing efforts to pursue this theme become even more poignant and necessary. Our discussions at Global Friends Sharing Circles can serve as an outlet for expressing our feelings of grief and also inspire us to take action toward hopeful solutions. If you would like to host a Circle in your own home this fall, please contact the Chair. The May session welcomed guests from Algeria, Finland, and Colombia. Hostesses need only provide seating for a maximum of 12 people, some snacks, and a beverage. We’d appreciate hearing your suggestions of international guests to invite (we’ll extend the official invitations), and please let us know if you would like to participate in the discussions, which are open to all Branch members.

January 9 Membership Meeting
The committee is preparing a program for the January 9 membership meeting. We plan to illustrate needs of international members of the Mid-Hudson community that might be met by an AAUW International Hospitality Resource. All Branch members will be invited to join in this hospitality effort, which could involve mentoring new arrivals as they establish their new homes here, participating in informal conversational English practice sessions, or hosting foreign students during school breaks. The Committee is also hoping to play a supporting role in Poughkeepsie’s new teacher-exchange program with Oaxaca, Mexico.

First Global Friends Ethnic Pot Luck Picnic
Fifteen of us gathered at Betty Olson’s beautiful home in June to discuss the January 9 meeting and share ethnic picnic dishes, including Romanian meatballs, Russian dumplings, Madras lentils and rice, and Cuban rum cake. The meal was blessed by the singing of graces remembered by several former Girl Scouts in the group. It was a meaningful discussion, with valuable suggestions from two Dutchess Community College staff members as well as a new idea expressed by Mary Lou Davis in connection with her service at The Children’s Home.

Mid-Hudson Calendar of International Activities
Please share with the committee news of international activities open to the public in the Mid-Hudson area. Fall dates of cultural and academic events, including language classes and lectures, will be particularly appreciated. Check out this month’s entries, along with the continuing series of questions that must be answered by candidates for United States citizenship. See how many correct answers you can come up with! This is found at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org then select Programs/Board Committees/International.