

The Branch

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



Volume 22, Number 9

Our 54th year of publication.

<http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org>

May 2009

MAY CALENDAR

Online Calendar at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

- 2 **Trekkers:** 9:00 am
Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery
Organizer: (297-5700)
Coordinator: Karen Haynes (297-5700)
- 4 **Word Games:** 2:00 pm
Hostess: Pam Gartland (452-0812)
Coordinator: Eleanor Aronstein (462-6452)
- 5 **Gourmet: Out & About:** 6:30 pm
La Puerta Azul, Salt Point
Reservations: Jeanette Cantwell (452-4188)
AAUWgourmet@msn.com
- 6 **Board Meeting:** 7:00 pm
Hostess: Gloria Gibbs (454-72620)
Notify Barbara Van Itallie if you plan to attend.
- 8 **Daytime Literature:** 10:00 am
Book: *Water for Elephants*
by Sara Gruen
Hostess: Raina Maisel (297-4045)
Coordinators: Diana Gleeson (229-8458) &
Tiz Hanson (229-9394)
- 10 **"The Branch" deadline for June.**
- 11 **Art on the Go:** 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
TBA - weather dependent
Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)
- 14 **Aventures en Soleil:** 8:00 am
New York Botanical Gardens (deadline April 23)
Reservations: Margaret Nijhuis (635-8612)
Coordinator: Sue Osterhoudt (889-4469) or
sosterhoudt@yahoo.com
- 18 **Manderley Literary Society:** 7:30 pm
Book: *Three Cups of Tea*
by Greg Mortenson & David Relin
Hostess: Catherine Monian (454-0228)
Coordinator: Ellie Burch (297-7828)
- 19 **Cuisine:** 6:30 pm
Hawaiian Luau
Recipes: Betty Olson (889-4836)
Hostess: Betty Olson (889-4836)
Coordinator: Carol Loizides (452-3208)
Assistant Coordinator: Betty Olson (889-4836)
- 20 **Bridge:** 1:00 pm
Hostess: Lillian DePasquale (462-4729)
Coordinators: Linda Ronayne (897-9745) &
Mary Ann Ryan (897-9679)
- 27 **Contemporary Literature:** 7:30 pm
Book: *Hidden Children of the Holocaust*
by Suzanne Vroman (will attend the meeting)
Hostess: Linda Freisitzer (266-5427)
Coordinator: Linda Freisitzer (266-5427)

Calendar continued on page 2.

"AAUW Activists and the Founding of Dutchess Community College" & Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 12, 2009
Arrive 6:00 Dinner 6:30 Cash Bar
Uno Chicago Grill*



PROGRAM FOR THE EVENING:

- ❖ **Guest Speaker: Dr. Andrew C. Rieser, Ph.D.**, Chairman, Department of History, Government, and Economics Dutchess Community College, "AAUW (Poughkeepsie) Activists and the Founding of Dutchess Community College."
- ❖ **Annual Meeting** which includes the election and installation of officers (see March newsletter page 2), vote on budget for 2009-2010, and announcement of new Board appointees.
- ❖ **Special Presentations:**
 - Introduction of our named **EF scholarship honorees** (page 6).
 - Welcome our two **DCC scholarship recipients**.
 - Bid Bon Voyage to **Lila Mitchell** (page 4).
 - Bergie Lebovitch on **Membership Matters**

Cost: \$26.00

Make checks payable "Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc."
Mail by May 7th to:

Ms. Trish Prunty, DCC Foundation
53 Pendell Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Indicate on your check, your choice of:

- Baked Chicken Spinoccoli,
- Seared Sirloin Tips over Rice Pilaf, or
- Roasted Vegetable Penne

***Directions:** Intersection of Route 44 & 55 in the Arlington Area.

**DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR "FUZZY FRIENDS" TO
THE ANNUAL MEETING!**

Calendar Continued

Online Calendar at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

- 27 **Mah Jongg:** 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Hostess: Mary-Jo Cottrell (635-5175)
Coordinator: Amy Schwed (462-2269)
- 28 **Pins & Needles:** 7:30 pm
Planning Meeting and Show & Tell
Hostess: Celia Serotsky (473-8426)
Coordinators: Jane Toll (463-2712) &
Sue Osterhoudt (889-4469)
- 28 **Novice Bridge:** 1:00 - 4:00 pm **See page 3.**
Hostess: Gloria Gibbs (454-7262)
Coaches: Cathy Kinn & Judy Foote
Coordinator: Jane White (462-6675)
- 30 **Trekkers:** 8:30 am at the Poughkeepsie Plaza
Thomas Cole National Historic Site, Catskill
Organizer: Karen Haynes (297-5700)
Coordinator: Karen Haynes (297-5700)
- Tee Off Play will resume June 4th. See page 5.**
Coordinators: Dorothy Evangelista (677-9046) &
Linda Ronayne (897-9745)

LOOKING AHEAD

May 10 Deadline for June Branch - any Interest Groups meeting in July & August need to send plans for those months as well as June.

May 28, 4:30 - 6:30 pm, Wallace Center. The Diversity Committee invites you to a reading, book signing and reception for AAUW member Padmini (Mini) Murthy on the publication of her book, *Women's Global Health and Human Rights*. **See "Book Published" page 5.**

June 10 Program Planning Meeting, St John's Lutheran Church, Wilbur Blvd., Poughkeepsie

Supporters of The Branch!!

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

Patrons

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Sponsors

Sweet Wellness Journey LLC/
www.sweetwellnessjourney.com

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

THEY DID IT!!!!

Betty Harrel and **Irene Keyes** secured a 501(c)(3) status for Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW. They wrote the application and filed all the papers. This task is most often performed by a lawyer. We are just waiting for the papers that say we do not have to pay sales tax but starting March 6 our status is "public charity" and Poughkeepsie donations are tax-deductible.

Our congratulations to two more
AAUW Super Women!!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Linda Beyer *462-0345* imbchanel@aol.com

I am very much intrigued by our upcoming April 30th program, Medieval Medley, hosted by **Carol Loizides** and the **Cuisine Group**. What fun to contemplate medieval "food and spirits", music, and dance! Will someone turn up in medieval costume? Will someone please bring a camera.....?

It's now official; we are a tax-exempt organization, according to a recent mailing from the IRS. The Board is busy reading documents to understand more fully all the details. See page 6 for an article which will answer your questions about what this means to you as an AAUW member. Many thanks to **Irene Keyes** and **Betty Harrel** for nearly a year's worth of effort and patient handling of a great deal of paperwork in order to accomplish this task.

At the April meeting of the Board, a new policy was enacted regarding reservations for monthly general membership events at restaurants. Since restaurants request the number of people they should prepare food for by a definite date and then charge us for that number, we will not be able to refund money after that date. The member who is coordinating the event with the restaurant can give you the date agreed upon with the restaurant. Please understand, when money cannot be refunded to you it is because we are still being required to cover the cost of your meal.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at our annual meeting on May 12th. Come and celebrate our branch and its achievements and congratulate our new Board members for 2009-2010. This year our Dutchess Community College scholarship winners have been invited to join us and actually meet those who have raised the funds for their scholarships. In addition, Dr. Andrew Rieser, chairman of the History, Government, and Economics Department will be our guest speaker. Dr. Rieser will discuss the role of local AAUW women who participated in bringing the college into being. He has written an article on this topic for the Dutchess County Historical Society Yearbook published in 2008 on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the college. Will you recognize the names of your sister AAUW members who felt so strongly about bringing educational opportunities to local residents through a community college? See you there on May 12th!

ON OUR WEBSITE

Please take time to go to www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org and select "2009 Economic Stimulus Package" in the left column.

Geeta Desai has researched and written a document that could help all of us understand what the 2009 Economic Stimulus plan means to our personal and household finances.

In Geeta's words "It's a pastiche of research of articles, websites and, of course, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (my favorite bedtime reading). I tried to stick to personal and family stuff and I stayed away from talking about the parts of the Act that concern infrastructure projects, defense spending, etc."

You will find it very useful reading and once again emphasis how fortunate our branch is to have Geeta as a member.

While on the website, read the wonderful bios under "Notable Women." The home page has a new look and many of the pages have been updated. We also have found information on some of our earlier Women of Year and this has been placed on the website as well. If you have any information on the women that do not have bios, please contact Margaret Nijhuis (635-8612) or RNijhuis@hvc.rr.com.

HELLO ART LOVERS AND LOCAL HISTORY BUFFS!

Marcine Humphrey marcine.humphrey@worldnet.att.net

On a cold and windy day in March, twelve intrepid art lovers toured the city of Poughkeepsie and explored the public art with **FRANC PALAIA**, muralist and founder/director of G.A.S, a visual Art & Performance Space in Poughkeepsie at 214 Main St. Who knew there was so much public art in Poughkeepsie! Franc's enthusiasm and passion for public art was infectious. As part of our tour, we stopped in at the Gallery and learned about up coming events for the special Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadrcentennial Celebrations.

The first of these is an exhibit called "Bridges and the Span of Time" which celebrates the Poughkeepsie Highland Railroad Bridge, Hudson Valley bridges, and the 2009 opening of the Walkway Over the Hudson, the world's longest pedestrian bridge. This exhibit is also part of the official festivities of the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadrcentennial, 1609- 2009. The group exhibition will be presented at G.A.S and at the Salvation Arts Gallery at 214 Main St. (a few doors east of G.A.S). It will consist of approximately 140 works which includes paintings, photographs, sculptures, photo-light boxes, drawings, prints, archival photos and mixed media works on the theme of bridges. Video and archival film footage will also be presented.

In September, local author Carleton Mabee, will present a slide lecture and talk about the history and the local and global

Continued in the next column

importance of the P.H. Railroad bridge. Later that month, photographer Greg Miller, will discuss his new book, "The Hudson Valley - An American Treasure." Near the end of September, Fred Schaeffer, Director of Walkway Over the Hudson, is to give a presentation on the history of the bridge and provide updated information on the opening of the pedestrian bridge as part of the Quadrcentennial in November 2009.

Watch for other events, such as the musical presentation and discussion of "Bridge Music" by composer Joseph Bertolozzi.

The exhibitions, lectures and film screenings will be presented at G.A.S Visual Art and Performance Gallery. For details and exact dates of the presentations contact Franc Palaia 845-486-1378, Fpalaia@earthlink.net or www.galleryandstudio.org.

"NEW" AAUW NOVICE BRIDGE

There has been an increased interest of our members to play bridge and currently we can not accommodate those needs with the one existing group. We are announcing the formation of a new Novice Bridge Group beginning in May.

Coordinator: Janet White (452-6675) many1960@yahoo.com

Coaches will be Judy Foote and Cathy Kinn. They are both American Contract Bridge League life masters. They are super players and also patient. Roz Warner, also a life master, will be available at some of the games.

Although this group is primarily for novice players and members of the current AAUW Bridge substitute list, more experienced players are invited to join as mentors.

First meeting and game is Thurs, May 28, 2009 1-4 PM.

Hostess: **Gloria Gibbs (454-7262) gmaygibbs@aol.com.**

Please contact Gloria if you plan to join.

TECH TIP

Irene Keyes *227-6686* ickeyes@frontiernet.net

Make your passwords more secure and easier to remember

Most passwords require both numbers and letters. Combining these in unique ways help to make your password more secure.

Putting some numbers at the end of your favorite password, especially numbers representing your birthday or that of a family member is not doing much for security.

Here is a suggestion to create a password that is secure and means something to you. Take a phrase that you like and then get creative with the use of word spellings and numbers. For example, "happy to know you" could be typed as *happy2knowu* or *happy2noyou* or *happy2nou* or *happy2nou2* or *ha2py2n0u* (using a number zero for a letter o).

The more numbers you can insert non-sequentially the better. And please, if changing your password, do not use any of the above now published examples!

FYI MAY

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

The Medieval Medley, on April 30th, has me thinking about food. It is not only a basic human need, but also a culturally important part of daily life. We are lucky that we live in a land of plenty and that we have so much and such variety of foods. However, in developing nations, gathering the materials for fuel and the options for cooking can be limited, time consuming and dangerous. Women and children are especially at risk. In refugee camps the dangers often involve rape, torture and death.

It was with great interest that I read an article on solar cookers. Although there are many prototypes, they all have the same basic requirements. The materials used in the construction of the cookers should be as inexpensive as possible and built from materials available in the local community. The community's needs and customs must be taken into account in the design of the cookers. One very promising style is made from cardboard and aluminum foil. Although it takes longer for foods to cook, it does cook thoroughly. It can be used to boil water, a significant part of disease control.

Women who have been using them report that the time freed up from gathering fuel and cooking food can be put to use in learning to read, do crafts, and often results in products for sale, augmenting family incomes. Solar cookers offer their users increased safety and economic help in an environmentally sustainable way. If you are interested in knowing more about solar cookers a good reference is *Heaven's Flame: A Guide to Solar Cookers* by Joseph Radabaugh. In the mean time, a hearty AAUW toast to solar cookers!

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Gloria Ghedini gloriaghedini@cs.com

After a recent faculty meeting at DCC, I noticed a nun waiting for the German professor. I struck a conversation with her and found she (I will call her Sister M) had come straight from El Salvador. She does not drive and is given a ride to DCC by her neighbor, the German professor. I learned that indeed there is much poverty in her Central American country and that girls in rural areas marry at 14 or 15, because there is no money for school. In urban areas some girls are proceeding to university. Sister M had a partial scholarship but during her second year received a call to religious life and was sent to St. Aloysius in Hopewell Junction. There are others at St. Aloysius from El Salvador and Honduras. El Salvador has a president now, as opposed to dictators in the past, and there is a middle class. The very rich do very little for the very poor. In fact, Sister M told me that American organizations help the poor in El Salvador much more than their own very rich. Coffee and sugar are exported, but there are not enough bananas to export.

I recalled that Adrienne Germain told us that El Salvador is one of the four countries in the world to prohibit abortion, but of course, I did not discuss this with Sister M. I do aim to have further discussions.

BUDGET

Carol Loizides *452-3208* eloizides@verizon.net

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. Proposed Budget 09-10

	2008-09 Budget	2008-09 Actuals as of 3/31/09	2009-10 Proposed Budget
General Fund Receipts			
Dues 08-09 245x\$75	\$16,500.00	\$6,688.50	\$18,375.00
Interest	\$200.00	\$171.69	\$200.00
NYS Membership Awards	\$100.00	\$115.00	\$100.00
From Unreserved Funds	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Total	\$17,800.00	\$7,975.19	\$18,675.00
General Fund Expenses			
Dues 08-09 245x \$59	\$12,980.00	\$2,610.50	\$14,455.00
Administration	\$1,300.00	\$1,609.45	\$450.00
Programs / Special Events	\$1,100.00	\$256.58	\$1,100.00
Membership	\$350.00	\$444.94	\$400.00
Communication/Hosting	\$280.00	\$0.00	\$280.00
Directory	\$300.00	\$324.45	\$325.00
Convention	\$450.00	\$50.00	\$450.00
Community (G.Conf/Div/LTR)	\$500.00	\$201.02	\$600.00
Awards/Gifts	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Education	\$170.00	\$0.00	\$170.00
Insurance	\$200.00	\$275.00	\$275.00
Historian	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$20.00
Voter Education	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Total Gen Fund Expenses	\$17,800.00	\$5,771.94	\$18,675.00
Income less Expense	\$0.00	\$2,203.25	\$0.00
Total Dedicated Funds Income	\$0.00	\$17,158.00	\$12,710.00
Total Dedicated Funds Expense	\$0.00	\$14,905.00	\$12,710.00
AAUW Total Income	\$17,800.00	\$25,133.19	\$31,385.00
AAUW Total Expense	\$17,800.00	\$20,676.94	\$31,385.00
AAUW Income less Expense	\$0.00	\$4,456.25	\$0.00

The budget vote will be taken at the Annual Meeting.

OUR "NEWEST" FIFTY YEAR MEMBER

Catherine Albanese, a life-long resident the Poughkeepsie community, has been a member of Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW for 50 years. We will be celebrating her AAUW career at the Annual Meeting. Catherine "has loved being a member from the very beginning. It has been a wonderful trip through some very difficult times with many changes...." Catherine and Joan Fay began the Daytime Literature group, low those many years ago. Also, she served as the Community liaison in establishing the day care program at the Community Methodist Church in Poughkeepsie. As our historian, she initiated the archival preservation of the records of the Poughkeepsie Branch at the Adriance Library. Many tales of politicians, urban renewal, formal dances and authors presentations await us at the May meeting.

BON VOYAGE!

Lila Mitchell, President of Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW from 1971 - 73, and her husband, John, will be leaving their Fishkill home in May.

Lila continued her contributions to AAUW in all the years since her term as president. We are grateful for her service in the over 50 years she has been a member of our branch.

We wish Lila and John good luck and good health as they move to their new home.

GIVE A GRAD A GIFT

Bergie Lebovitch *298-4045* blebokuvi@yahoo.com
NYS & Poughkeepsie Membership VP

It is that time of year, when we start thinking about the college graduations of our friends, daughters, granddaughters, etc. What to give them.....? How about a free membership in your favorite organization! As a member, you are entitled to a gift of a one year's Association (national) membership for your graduate. That is a \$49.00 value and think about all of the networking power such a new member will get.... Go to www.aauw.org, click on the member center, scroll down the left-hand side and click on *Give a Grad a Gift*, fill out the boxes and hit the send button. What could be easier?

If you know where your graduate is going to be "settling" think about increasing the gift with the state fee plus the local branch fee to start her off in our powerful organization. If you need any additional assistance, please contact me.

Karleen Dorn,

a member of the AAUW Interest Group, "Art on the Go," is displaying her floral watercolors at the East Fishkill Library for the month of May. She will be having an opening reception on May 1st from 7:30-8:30pm and all AAUW members are welcomed.



BOOK PUBLISHED!

AAUW Member, **Padmini (Mini) Murthy**, MD, New York University and **Clyde Smith**, MD, Albert Einstein College of Medicine are authors of a new book, *Women's Global Health and Human Rights*. According to Jones & Bartlett Publishers this book "serves as an overview of the challenges faced by women in different regions of the world. ...This book discusses the similarities and differences in health and human rights challenges that are faced by women globally. Best practices and success stories are also included in this timely and important text."

LITERARY NOTES

Cathy Kinn cathy@kinn.org

When I am dead, I hope it may be said: "His sins were scarlet, but his books were read."

Hilaire Belloc

EQUITY FOR LIFE

Irene Keyes *227-6686* ickeys@frontiernet.net

"Equity for Life" met on March 10th, and created a list of grants that we can apply to for funding the Equity for Life projects. We were working to establish a direction for our committee in anticipation of our branch obtaining a tax-exempt status. Now that we have the approval from the IRS we can go ahead with our plans. If you know of any grant or other funding that might be available to assist in keeping our Poughkeepsie AAUW, Inc. community projects alive, please contact Irene Keyes.

The goals of "Equity for Life" are:

We strive to have equity in all we do:

1. We provide learning experiences for young children so they have enrichment opportunities and can prepare for school success.
2. We work with school-aged children to expand their horizons and help them to see the world around them.
3. We interact with girls to help them make good choices and become aware of opportunities
4. We mentor women to support them in achieving pay equity
5. We encourage community members to achieve their educational goals and help them to establish fulfilling roles.

Poughkeepsie AAUW, Inc. sees equity as a lifelong process. Our community outreach program helps children, teens, women and men reach their full potential. Our "Equity for Life" initiative will involve local agencies, colleges and area businesses in supporting and expanding opportunities for community members. Through collaborative efforts, our purpose will be to coordinate our equity programs, seek funding sources, and work together to achieve mutual goals.

TEE OFF - GOLF INTEREST GROUP

We will be having an organizational meeting and play on **Thurs. June 4th, 2009 at Vassar College Golf Course- 9:30 AM**. All those members interested in joining this group should notify **Dorothy Evangelista** jaedo50@hotmail.com (677-9046) or **Linda Ronayne** linronay@optonline.net (897-9745) after May 15th and before June 4th. The date may change depending on the Golf Course League schedule or our personal schedules. While we welcome all levels of ability players, please keep in mind **these are not golf lessons** and all players should have some basic experience even though you may not be a good player. The days of play will be up to the convenience of the majority of the group. Looking forward to a fun time this summer on the links!

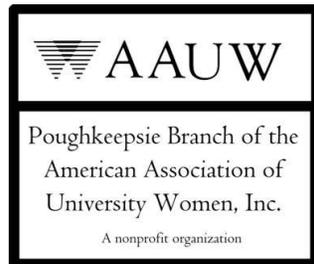
WELCOME TO POUGHKEEPSIE BRANCH AAUW INC., A NONPROFIT 501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION!

Irene Keyes *227-6686* ickeyes@frontiernet.net
Betty Harrel *462-2141* bharrel28@msn.com

The Branch Board recently voted to incorporate our branch and achieve tax-exempt status. Following our first official meeting of the corporation in December, an application for 501(c)(3) status was filed with the IRS along with a New York State form to become a charitable organization.

Over the past several months, information has been presented to the board which approved the process and allocated funds. Meetings were held with an attorney and accountant. We received an EIN (Employer Identification Number) from the IRS. Forms were filed with the Internal Revenue Service, New York State Department of Law, New York State Education Department and New York State Department of Taxation. The total cost to our branch for both processes was approximately \$1400.

Our incorporation was official on October 22, 2008 and federal tax-exempt status was achieved on March 6, 2009. The last step was to submit a copy of the IRS approval to the NYS Department of Taxation to obtain an NYS Tax Exempt number. By May 1, 2009, we should have this number.



What does this mean to you? Any donations to Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW Inc. will be tax-deductible. We will now be eligible to apply for grants and foundation funds for our many projects and programs. If you purchase any items for AAUW activities (such as printing or materials) your purchase will be tax exempt. You must submit a tax-exempt form to the business where you are making a purchase at the time of purchase. The form must be dated and have the signature of the current treasurer. Forms will be available from the Treasurer, Carol Loizides

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Cathy Lane *229-1036* akitalane@optonline.net

Each year we have the pleasure of honoring women who have contributed to AAUW by sending in named scholarships in the amount of \$500.00 to the Educational Foundation. This year we were able to send three \$500.00 named scholarships in honor of **Geeta Desai, Gloria Gibbs and Irene Keyes** and another \$500.00 scholarship in memory of **Vivian Erdreich**. There is so much to say about each of these remarkable women, that this brief article can only capture a small piece of what makes them so special.

Continued in the next column

Geeta Desai, a 1995 AAUW Woman of the Year, joined AAUW about three years ago. In that short time, she has served as the chair of the Diversity Committee and is currently the Women's Issues Chair. Geeta and her Diversity Committee planned and presented a very important multicultural conference, *Beyond the Rhetoric*, in 2008. Geeta likes being a part of AAUW because she meets so many amazing women who are committed to community development and making a difference. She also loves the collegiality and has met women who are forthcoming with opinions and support. She loves the mission of the organization: "Working for equity between men and women and by extension girls." Finally, Geeta is grateful to AAUW because it "gives me a forum to voice my ideas on the empowerment and personal and professional development of minorities and women."

Gloria Gibbs first joined AAUW about forty years ago. She then followed a very interesting career path which involved living in Florida, Tennessee and Ithaca. Gloria joined AAUW again about six years ago after retiring from teaching. Gloria participates in numerous interest groups and serves on the Diversity Committee. She is an appointed branch officer as the chair of the Nominating Committee. Gloria can always be found working tirelessly to help with conferences and community events. She said that she gets a lot out of AAUW and believes in the mission of the organization. She also finds that she can keep very busy developing her interests, meeting interesting women and supporting the AAUW mission through her work in community events. I can also thank Gloria for helping to rally friends for input on Vivian and her accomplishments.

Irene Keyes joined AAUW in 1990 after her oldest son was born. She has served as a Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. officer in a variety of positions over the years, and was one of the creators of the Eleanor Roosevelt quilt. Irene is an active participant in a variety of interest groups. Most recently, Irene served as our Branch president from 2006 to 2008. Of her many accomplishments, Irene is most proud of being a part of our expanding membership and the growth of our community projects through Equity for Life. Irene also has been instrumental in incorporating our branch, which will put us in position to qualify for grants and will benefit our fundraising efforts.

Vivian Erdreich had many friends who all remark on her enthusiasm for the arts, cooking, and entertaining as well as her humor and honesty. A former librarian, Vivian was an active member of Daytime Literature and was known for her insightful discussions about books. Vivian was described as a person who possessed unusual strength. Her presence is still so vivid in her friends' memories. She was a friend and English teacher of Naoko Ojio, who said she learned so much from Vivian about life. Naoko said she cannot see her anymore, but she is always in her heart. As Carol Loizides described Vivian, she "personified the meaning of her name in Latin... alive." It is clear to me that Vivian's memories are so very alive to those who had the honor to know her. I really got to know Vivian through her friends.

AAUW AT THE DC SCIENCE FAIR

Ginny Marcus *223-5246* ginny68@optonline.net

On Saturday, April 4, the DC Regional Science Fair was held at Dutchess Community College. Once again our branch chose one seventh and one eighth grade girl as winners. The judges were: **Leslie Leventhal, Flo Mondanaro, Marilyn Walsh and myself.** We were so impressed with all the science projects, and the girls' enthusiasm for discovery and learning!

For the seventh grade prize, we chose **Jenna M. LaColla**, from St. Mary's in Fishkill. Her experiment dealt with comparing the amount of CO2 naturally occurring in the air, the emissions from gasoline powered cars, and diesel powered cars. Her way of collecting and measuring the CO2 was very ingenious. She used a straw, some Playdough, and balloons to collect the CO2 from each of the vehicles. She wants to try this again some time, this time in a congested city to see if her results would be different.

For the eighth grade prize, we chose **Sharmeen Azher**, from Orville Todd Middle School, in Spackenkill. Her experiment was about fingerprints, and how sibling fingerprints can have commonalities, as compared with the general population. She wanted to learn more after reading a newspaper article about how one man spent years in prison for a crime his brother had committed, based on fingerprint evidence. Although fingerprints are unique, mistakes can be made! We asked her if she wanted a career in law enforcement...she wasn't sure, perhaps the medical field instead. She has plenty of time to decide!

Both girls received an award from AAUW, as well as a \$25 gift certificate from Barnes and Noble.

My thanks go out to my fellow judges, and to all the girls who worked so hard.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Bergie Lebovitch *298-4045* blebokuvi@yahoo.com

It's that time of year again! April 20th, we will be mailing out the annual dues renewal notices. The National dues have stayed at \$49, the State remains at \$10 and our Branch is still a bargain at \$16.

Just how lucky are you feeling? Please put pen to check and mail both the completed renewal form and the new survey form (on the back) to Liz Moesel's address. This year, if your dues are received by June 1st, your name will be "put in a hat" for a drawing for a free National dues - or what will be a reimbursement of \$49.

We are at 281 members and growing daily. We are growing because of 19 members who have referred over 50 new members, this year, in the Member-get-a-Member campaign. Many have brought in more than one or two members and will be honored at the annual meeting on the 12th of May.

Continued in the next column

Our Member-get-a Member Honorees:

**Linda Beyer-1 Roz Baker-1 Jeanette Cantwell-1
Joan Cordani-1 Mary Lou Davis-3 Gloria Ghedini-1
Gloria Gibbs-5 Dina Gleeson-1 Jackie Green-1
Barbara Hespenheide-3 Irene Keyes-1 Cathy Kinn-1
Bergie Lebovitch-12 Carol Mastropietro-1
Elizabeth Moesel-3 Emily Moran-2 Carol Peterson-1
Amy Schwed-9 Joanne Scolaro-1 Wendy Maragh Taylor-1**

There is still time to "get in on the action". Think about non-members who also might be as intrigued as you with the fabulous Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW, Inc. Member-get-a-Member is beginning it's 4th year on the first of July, '09. We will be having an Open House again in September. To send your friends and colleagues invitations, you will need to provide the names and contact information before August 15th. Keep in mind, that the Platinum Poughkeepsie Branch has been #1 in the NATION for 2 years in a row....What are YOU going to do to keep us there???

"You are the M VIP's....I'll just do the paperwork!"

Please join me in welcoming..

Kathleen Braun	Patricia Davis	Sharon Haugh
Erika Kastel	Barbara Katz	Susan Kemp
Barbara Lemberger	May Mamiya	Brenda Moore-Frazier
Patricia Mellen	Violet Mensah	Teresa Quinn
Marnelle Thomsen	Carole Wolf	

Check your email each day!!

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. Officers 2008-2009

President	Linda Beyer	462-0345
Program V.P.	Patricia Luczai	463-4662
Membership V.P.	Bergie Lebovitch	298-4045
Educ. Foundation V.P.	Catherine Lane	229-1036
Secretary	Barbara VanItallie	462-3924
Treasurer	Carol Loizides	452-3208
Assistant Treasurer	Veronica Schuster	471-3354

Association website: www.aauw.org

NY State website: www.aauw-nys.org

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, 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, RNijhuis@hvc.rr.com (635-8612).