

The Branch

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



Volume 23, Number 2

Our 55th year of publication.

<http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org>

October 2009

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Online Calendar at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

- 3 “Decorate the Journals:” 1:00 - 5:00 pm**
Work session for Girls Conference
Location: Marcine Humphrey (485-7697)
- 3 Trekkers: 8:30 am at Pok Plaza**
Hudson Highlands Gateway Park,
Westchester
Organizer: Peggy Kelland (297-0507)
Coordinator: Karen Haynes (297-5700)
- 5 Word Games: 2:00 pm**
Hostess: Gloria Gibbs (454-7262)
Coordinator: Eleanor Aronstein (462-6452)
- 7 Board Meeting: 7:00 pm**
Hostess: Liz Moesel (896-9426)
- 8 Gourmet: Out & About: 6:30 pm**
Stone Creek Ranch, Hopewell Jct
Contact: Jeanette Cantwell (452-4188)
AAUWgourmet@msn.com
- 9 Daytime Literature: 10:00 am**
Book: *Three Cups of Tea*
by Greg Mortenson
Hostess: Karin Fein (485-7186)
Coordinators: Diana Gleeson (229-8458) &
Tiz Hanson (229-9394)
- 10 “The Branch” deadline for November.**
- 15 Aventures en Soleil: 8:00 am**
Hildene and lunch, Manchester Center, VT
Reservations: Carol Peterson (473-9259)
Coordinators: Peggy Lombardi (635-9091)
& Ruth Sheets (473-6202)
- 16 Art on the Go: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm**
Norrie Point - weather dependent
Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)
- 17 Trekkers: 8:30 am at Pok Plaza**
Olana Historic Site, Hudson, NY
Organizer: Cathy Lane (229-1036)
Coordinator: Karen Haynes (297-5700)
- 19 Manderley Literary Society: 7:30 pm**
Book: *Sarah’s Key*
by Tatiana de Rosnay
Hostess: Patty Cerniglia (298-7655)
Coordinator: Ellie Burch (297-7828)

Calendar continued on page 2.

*Come and Join in AAUW’s Celebration of the
Quadricentennial of Henry Hudson’s Voyage up the
Hudson River and hear about...*

The Lives of Dutch Colonial Women, Our Hudson Valley “Foremothers”

Featured Speaker:

Marguerite Berger*

*A trustee of the Dutchess County Historical Society,
Co-chair of the Glebe House Committee and a
Member of the Nieuw Nederlandt Institute*

**Wednesday, October 21, 2009
7 PM**

St. John’s Lutheran Church**
55 Wilbur Blvd.
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603



“Half Moon” in Poughkeepsie

* See page 6.

**Directions: St. John’s is on Wilbur Blvd. between Spackenkill Road, which is off route 9, and Hooker Avenue. St. John’s is near the Hooker Avenue end of Wilbur Blvd.

For more information: Mary Louise Van Winkle (471-3680) or
mlvanwink@att.net

LOOKING AHEAD



November 9, Scholarship/LAF Dinner. See page 6.

December 1, Renee Weisman, *Winning in a Man’s World* at The Friends Meeting House, Poughkeepsie.

April 23-25, 2010 AAUW-NYS Convention. See page 6.

Don’t miss the exciting news on page 7!!!

Calendar Continued

Online Calendar at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

- 20 Cuisine: 7:00 pm**
Call Coordinator for plans.
Coordinator: Betty Olson (889-4836)
- 21 Bridge I: 1:00 pm**
Hostess: Anne Valentino (221-2591)
Coordinators: Linda Ronayne (897-9745) & Mary Ann Ryan (897-9679)
- 21 General Meeting: 7:00 pm**
The Lives of Dutch Colonial Women
St John's Lutheran Church
- 22 Pins & Needles: 7:30 pm**
Cloth Christmas Tree led by Maureen Baran
Hostess: Maureen Baran (297-5398)
Coordinators: Jane Toll (463-2712) & Sue Osterhoudt (889-4469)
- 22 Bridge II: 1:00 - 3:30 pm**
Hostess: Margaret Nijhuis (635-8612)
Coordinators: Cathy Kinn cathy@kinn.org & Janet White (462-6675)
- 28 Contemporary Literature: 7:30 pm**
Book: *North River* by Pete Hamill
Hostess: Mary Lou Davis (223-5544)
Coordinator: Ann Wade (229-5267)
- 28 Mah Jongg: 1:00 - 4:00 pm**
Hostess: Susan Fink (473-3168)
Coordinator: Amy Schwed (462-2269)
- Tee Off 9:30 am Thursdays**
Vassar College Golf Course
Coordinators: Dorothy Evangelista (677-9046) & Linda Ronayne (897-9745)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

Please congratulate our centenarian, **Ellenora Oberhofer**. Ellenora's address is **141 Fulton Ave Apt. 309, Poughkeepsie 12603**. We are delighted to make this year an ongoing tribute to Ellenora by initiating a fund in her honor to support a permanent scholarship to a Dutchess Community College student (see article page 7). Do consider a donation to the fund this year to acknowledge Ellenora. All donations are tax deductible.

In keeping with this year of highlighting fundraising needs for our branch, the Woman of the Year Committee has recommended that we change the date of the event this year to October, 2010. This will provide time to combine a large fundraising effort with the celebration. The Board voted in support of this recommendation and Mary Lou Davis and her committee are working on choosing an exciting individual to be honored.

The October 21, 2009 meeting, which will focus on the role of Dutch women in the history of our area, promises to be a fascinating educational event. Join us to hear about this remarkable story, and offer to bring along a new member. See you there!

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 (\$25 or more)

Catherine Albanese Linda Beyer Joan Cordani
Elizabeth Harrel Margaret Ruggeri Phyllis Teasdale

Sponsors (\$10 or more)

Marion Effron Cathy Kinn Esther Reisman

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

LITERARY NOTES - *THE BIG READ*

Cathy Kinn cathy@kinn.org

Below you will find the remaining events of "The Big Read."

Friday, October 16

Harlem Tour w/George Stevens

George Stevens serves as tour guide for a day-long tour of Harlem and key spots of interest from the Harlem Renaissance. The cost of the tour is \$25; it includes a pre-arranged lunch at a local eatery. Your lunch check confirms your participation in the tour. Please make checks payable to Poughkeepsie Public Library District.

Sunday, October 18

Grand Reopening

Adriance Memorial Library

5 pm

The Poughkeepsie Public Library District proudly unveils the newly renovated Adriance Memorial Library on Market Street on its 111th birthday. Guest speakers will be on hand to help celebrate the Adriance's triumphant return to the downtown Poughkeepsie area.

Tuesday, October 20

Feminist Perspectives on *Their Eyes Were Watching God*

Diane Harriford

10 am Vassar College

Dr. Diane Harriford, an Associate Professor of Sociology and Director of Women's Studies at Vassar College will discuss the rediscovery and content of *Their Eyes Were Watching God* from an African American feminist perspective. Dr. Harriford has been teaching sociology, women's studies and African American studies for the last 20 years and has been actively involved in a wide range of social movements over that period

Continued on page 3...

LITERARY NOTES - *THE BIG READ*

continued from page 2...

Wednesday, October 21

Dramatic Reading, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*

6pm, The Café at Barnes and Noble

Students from Poughkeepsie High School will perform a staged reading of *Their Eyes Were Watching God* for the general public.

Friday, October 23

Screening—"Their Eyes Were Watching God"

7:30 pm—Bardavon Theater

A screening of the film adaptation of *Their Eyes Were Watching God* will take place at the Bardavon Theater.

Friday, October 23

Harlem Tour w/George Stevens

George Stevens serves as tour guide for a day-long tour of Harlem and key spots of interest from the Harlem Renaissance. The cost of the tour is \$25; it includes a pre-arranged lunch at a local eatery. Contact Poughkeepsie Public Library District.

Saturday, October 24

African-American Folktales for Children with Lorraine Hartin-Gelardi

Maple Grove Historic Site, 1:30 PM

Award winning storyteller, Lorraine Hartin-Gelardi, weaves together enchanting stories for children (and adults!) taken from the folktales of Zora Neale Hurston. Lorraine entertains her audiences with her special gift of finding inspiration and grace in traditional folktales and myths retold.

Sunday, October 25

"Why Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God* Has Survived Into the 21st Century: An Interactive Discussion" Dr. Margaret Wade Lewis

2:00 pm Adriance Memorial Library

Their Eyes Were Watching God has immediacy today because of its numerous issues and themes, among them male/female relations, "womanism," the oral tradition, and the importance of cultural continuities. Through interactive lecture/discussion with Dr. Wade Lewis these and other topics will be explored.

Monday, October 26

Friends Program

9:30 am, Arlington Branch Library

Suzanne Christensen of the Friends of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District (PPLD) hosts a book discussion.

Wednesday, October 28

Book Clubs Gathering

7:00 pm, Adriance Memorial Library, Meeting Room

Book clubs from throughout the area are invited to gather and discuss the book and life as a book club member. A moderated discussion with break-out sessions will be held. Refreshments will be served.

Continued in the next column...

Thursday, October 29

Eleanor Roosevelt and African American Women in the 30's
FDR Library

Sunday, November 1

Closing Reception for Lincoln Exhibit and the Big Read
From Abe to Zora: The African American Experience from Emancipation to the Harlem Renaissance

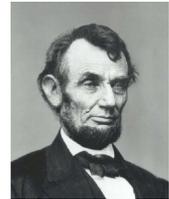
Phillip Dray, author of *Capitol Men*

2 pm Adriance Memorial Library

AVENTURES EN SOLEIL

OCTOBER 15

Hildene, the Lincoln Family Home. in Manchester. VT. Built by Robert Todd Lincoln, the only child of Mary and Abraham Lincoln to survive to adulthood. The tour will include a brief video, the house, carriage barn, gardens and unique gift shop. Lunch at the historic Equinox Resort Marsh Tavern. You may visit **The Chocolatorium**, a tasting tour exploring the world of chocolate through exhibits, a slide show, and demonstrations or shop at the outlets in Manchester Center. The cost is \$10 for the Hildene tour, payable by September 30. Make checks payable to Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. and send to **Carole Peterson, 84 Mandalay Drive, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603**. Please indicate which afternoon activity you'd like and if you're willing to drive. Riders will each chip in for gas/driving expenses. Questions: Contact Betty Harrel at bharrel28@msn.com or 462-2141 or Carole Peterson at carole@cjpeterson.us or 473-9259.



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Bergie Lebovitch *298-4045* blebokuvi@yahoo.com
and The Membership Committee

"The whole is only as good as the sum of its parts"... and what wonderful volunteer "parts" we have had working on membership and the Open House. Thanks to you all who have given so freely of your time and expertise. For "starters," Amy Schwed, Jeanette Cantwell, Elizabeth Moesel, Mary Coiteux, Sue Osterhoudt and Nancy Grucza got together with me for the first of two day-long workshops, and countless phone hours, to discuss the theme and business components of the Open House. Invitations were drafted and designed by new member, Saranne Ratner, who "just happened to have an afternoon free!"

All of the referrals you have made over the past year or two were sent invitations by another new member, Marge Barton, and her visiting friend, Susan. Coordination of all of presentations made by our interest groups was so capably handled by Cathy Lane and Margaret Nijhuis....and a BIG THANK YOU to all of the interest group coordinators and initiative chairs who made the Open House a success..... "YOU ARE the MVIPs.... We'll just do the paperwork!"

BOOKS, BOOKS AND MORE BOOKS

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

"Leading to Reading," one of Poughkeepsie AAUW's community projects, has been distributing book kits and classroom libraries to needy children in our area for five years. Recent activities included donating "Fuzzy Friend" kits to the emergency shelter at The Children's Home of Poughkeepsie, providing summer reading kits to pre-schoolers at Astor Head Start, celebrating Children's Book Week at the Community Family Development Day Care Center, and donating books to the Family Treatment Court.

Are you interested in joining us? There are two ways to take part: (1) Become part of our planning committee. We meet several times during the year to plan our programs, do community outreach, and seek outside funding. (2) Sign up for individual work sessions. Projects include putting together reading kits, selecting books and providing volunteer help at Lisa Libraries in Kingston, sponsoring literacy events, and helping to wrap gifts at Hudson River Lodging.

Please contact Betty Harrel at bharrel28@msn.com or 462-2141 and indicate which you'd like to do. Planning committee members will receive an e-mail invitation to our fall meeting. All "Leading to Reading" volunteers will be notified about work sessions, and you can sign up for as many as you'd like.

We hope you'll join in our fun!

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Gloria Ghedini gloriaghedini@cs.com

By the time this article is read, the results of the Afghan elections will have been known (or perhaps not). However, it is very inspiring to note that two women presented themselves for the Presidency. Both realize that they have no chance of winning but still made the attempt.

One is Fana, 40 years old, a doctor and the daughter of a general. Her campaign was about peace, security, freedom of the press.

The other is Shahla Ata, 42, who would never wear the burqa (or burkha). Shahla, too, is the daughter of a general and has had extensive experiences in foreign countries, such as the United States, where she practiced psychology. During her campaign, this extroverted woman wore bright red nail polish. She is quoted as saying, "People have tested men as politicians, and nothing was accomplished. Why not see what women can do?"

In the ideal world, one of these courageous women would win.



VOTER ISSUES

Jeanette Cantwell *452-4188* jntt@msn.com

2009 General Election – November 3rd
(Voting for county and local officials)

VOTER REGISTRATION FORM*

(includes new voters and change of address or name)

Mail registration

It must be postmarked no later than October 9th and received by the Board of Elections no later than October 14th to be eligible to vote in the General Election.

In person registration

You may register at the Board of Elections no later than October 9th.

ABSENTEE BALLOT*

(includes college students, travelers, disabilities, or illness)

Application to obtain absentee ballot

Last day to postmark application: October 27th

Last day to apply in person: November 2nd.

Voting with absentee ballot

Last day to postmark ballot: November 2nd.

Last day to deliver ballot in person to the Board of Elections: November 3rd.

*Registration forms and absentee applications can be obtained on the internet or in person at the Board of Elections.

Dutchess County Board of Elections

www.dutchesselections.com

47 Cannon St

Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 (486-2473)

Ulster County Board of Elections

www.co.ulster.ny.us

284 Wall St

Kingston, NY 12401 (334-5470)

NOTE: If you change your political party now, it will not take effect until after this next general election.

Volunteer for AAUW - your help is needed - whatever time you can give will be most appreciated.

Visit the online calendar at

www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org and select

“Calendar” on the left.

Check your email each day!

FALL FOLIAGE FUN ROAD RALLYE

Barbara Van Itallie *462-3924* bvanitallie@yahoo.com

Barbara Van Itallie is again organizing the Dutchess County Historical Society's annual Fall Foliage Fun Road Rallye for the afternoon of **Saturday, October 17**. The rallye is a pleasant, leisurely drive through scenic and historic areas during peak foliage season and includes games, prizes, stops for refreshments and a reception at the end. This year's rallye focuses on views of beautiful Hudson River, in honor of Hudson's Quadricentennial. Pre-registration is required; the exact starting location will be given at the time of registration. The cost is \$40 per car. For more information contact Barbara Van Itallie - phone and email above.

AAUW AND DCC PARTNER TO IMPROVE SELF ESTEEM, INSPIRE AND EMPOWER MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS

Marcine.Humphrey@att.net

State Senator Susan John will give the keynote address.

On Saturday November 7, 2009 the fourth Live Your Dream Girls' Conference will take place at Dutchess Community College.

Project Runway is back! Girls will explore and develop their creativity and self-expression and redefine beauty on their own terms. Some girls will be introduced to the art of Yoga for relaxation and good health. We have some pretty impressive facilitators for our workshops.

This year we have something extra special for the girls. A **keynote address will be delivered by Assembly Woman Susan John** who is living her dream and will share her experiences and inspire our girls. I am excited because the "role model goal" is really being met this year!

Susan V. John has represented the 131st Assembly District since 1991. Susan holds a law degree from Syracuse University Law School. Prior to her tenure in the Assembly, Susan worked as an Associate for a Rochester-based law firm. She is a member of the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence Advisory Council and served as Chair of the Assembly Committee on Labor. State Assembly Woman John recently spoke at the AAUW State Convention.

We still need helpers! We have some jobs that require a drive, shop/ pickup and deliver, and we need women to be "chaperones" and "observers" at the conference. Also, members can help spread the word to youth groups, former work mates, counselors, etc. **Added bonus is that all helpers will have the opportunity to hear Susan John.**

Registration forms for the "Live Your Dream" Girls' Conference will be available at area middle schools and libraries and posted on our web page by October 1, 2009.

DIVAS, DARLINGS AND DREAMERS!

The wonderful, generous women of AAUW have come forward again to support the Live Your Dream Girls' Conference. Each year for three years, the committee has asked women to help by sponsoring girls. How impressive are the women of AAUW! Thank you for your financial support!

If you wish to sponsor a girl, but did not do so yet, contact Marcine **There's still time to sponsor a young student.** Send your check for (\$8, \$20, \$28) payable to "Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc." to **Marcine Humphrey, 7 Lewis Rd, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590.**

Lula Allen	Cathy Lane
Rita Alterman	Peggy Lombardi
Rosalynde Baker	Judy Lombardi
Marge Barton	Barbara Markell
Fran Bonk	Marcy Marlow
Christine Brady	Kathy Maron
Helen Buhler	Carol Mastropietro
Lynda Byrne	Lila Mitchell
Sharon Clarke	Flo Mondanaro
Diane Closs	Joan Monk
Elaine Crosby	Margaret Nijhuis
Halina Danchenko	Pat Poggi
Lillian DePasquale	Esther Reisman
Marion Efron	Mary Ann Ryan
Karin Fein	Amy Schwed
Susan Fink	Sandy Sherman
Rosella Fonte	Cindy Smith
Brenda Moore-Frazier	Erin Teichman
Gloria Gibbs	Joann Tervenski
Betty Harrel	Jane Toll
Mary Lou Heissenbuttel	Allison Travis
Christina Houghtaling	Anne Valentino
Doris Kelly	Janet White
Irene Keyes	anonymous (2)
Bonnie Kieffer	Diversity Committee
Mary King	



MARGUERITE BERGER

Mary Louise Van Winkle *471-3680* mlvanwink@att.net

Our guest speaker for October, Marguerite Berger, has been involved in the study of the history of the Mid-Hudson Valley for many years. She began her training in the sixties at the New Windsor Cantonment with West Point scholar, Dr. Col. F. Todd. Following that early training, she became one of the founding members of the Fishkill Historical Society which started the research on the Quarter Master Depot, the longest encampment of the Revolutionary War.

Marguerite belongs to the Nieuw Nederlandt Institute (New Netherland Institute) located in Albany. The Institute supports a translation team which is involved in translating old Dutch records in order to gain an understanding of our early Dutch heritage. Much of the information in Marguerite's talk has been derived from the histories based on these very rich, original sources.

At present, Marguerite is a trustee of the Dutchess County Historical Society and is Co-chair of the Glebe House committee. The Dutchess County Historical Society is currently doing research into the early Tory history of Dutchess County, which gives Marguerite a unique perspective on the lives of Dutch women in America's colonial period as compared to the lives of their English counterparts.

Marguerite herself was born in Beacon, into the fourth generation of her family, the Vinalls, to live in Dutchess County. After graduating from the Beacon schools she went on to Mt. St. Mary's College and then to the University of Miami. She and her husband, Ronald, who died four years ago, together owned and operated the Marlboro Pharmacy and, as she put it, worked together 24/7! She has a son, James, and two granddaughters, Stephanie and Sara, both of whom are now at Mt. St. Mary's College.

Do join us on October 21 for a fascinating discussion of the lives of Dutch Colonial Women in the Hudson River Valley!

WE NEED.....A FEW GOOD WOMEN

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

If you appreciate the arts, like to focus on equity, enjoy coordinating projects, or have other special interests, we're looking for you! Each year, the nominating committee seeks members to fill both elected offices and appointed positions on the board. The two-year terms start on July 1, 2010. Officers selected this year include president, treasurer, and secretary. All appointed positions will also be filled.

We'll be working throughout this year to select our next AAUW board. Please let us know if you would like to serve on the board or know of someone else who would make an effective AAUW leader. Names can be sent to Betty Harrel, Nominating Committee Chair bharrel28@msn.com or 462-2141.

Your input is greatly appreciated!

SAVE THE DATE:



*Scholarship/LAF
Fundraiser*

Monday, November 9
Amici's Restaurant
Poughkeepsie

“An Interactive Chef Dinner”

SAVE THE DATE!

April 23-25, 2010

Peggy Kelland *297-0507* smkell45@aol.com
AAUW-NYS Program VP & Pok Branch Member

Next spring the AAUW-NYS Convention will be held at the historic **Otesaga Hotel** on the lake in scenic Cooperstown. The keynote speaker will be **Linda Hallman**, Executive Director of the American Association of University Women.

WANTED WANTED WANTED!!

AAUW members, friends, and family to help with registration, set up, clean up, “chaperones,” “observers,” and most of all to “spread the word.”

Live Your Dream Girls' Conference

November 7, 2009

Dutchess Community College

Contact: Marcine Humphrey (485-7697) or
Marcine.Humphrey@att.net

CHANGE OF DATE:

The **Woman of the Year** Committee requested that the board move the luncheon from January, 2010 to **October, 2010** in order to allow more time for planning the event. At the August board meeting the change was approved.

Mary Lou Davis, Woman of the Year Chairperson

ELLENORA OBERHOFER

Mary Louise Van Winkle *471-3680* mlvanwink@att.net

Ellenora Mae Pond, who was born on September 29, 1909 in Brooklyn, NY, came from a strong line of women who firmly believed in women's equity and in education for women. Her mother, after her father refused to pay for her education, worked as a seamstress to pay her way through normal school and then taught in a one room schoolhouse in Ellenville. Her grandmother, lying about her age by almost 20 years, was one of the first women auxiliary police officers in New York City during World War I. Her other grandmother, one of 11 children, left money for Ellenora to go to Adelphi College, then a women's college, in Garden City, NY, where she majored in economics.

Graduating in the Depression, Ellenora, who initially joined AAUW upon graduation, held a number of jobs in business, including records management, and also found time to volunteer as a Sunday School teacher and a Girl Scout leader. She married Norman Oberhofer and, during World War II, the couple went to Tufts College outside of Boston, where Peggy was born, and continued her volunteer work with the wives of naval officers. After the war they returned to New York where Ellenora worked as Alumnae Director of Adelphi, again in records management, and then for 20 years as a fourth grade teacher in North Bellmore.

Widowed for many years, she came to Dutchess County in 1981, where she has been an active volunteer in organizations such as Zion Episcopal Church, Church Women United, Dutchess Interfaith Council, Planned Parenthood, the Older Women's League, Fortnightly, 28 Club and, of course, AAUW! Several years ago she was named Dutchess County Senior Citizen (Female) of the Year and this year Ellenora is being honored by AAUW through our drive to establish an AAUW endowed scholarship at Dutchess Community College. Your donations to the DCC Endowed Scholarship Fund throughout 2009/2010 will be in honor of Ellenora in the year of her 100th birthday.

To contribute this year to the DCC Scholarship Fund in honor of Ellenora, please make your check payable to: **Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW, Inc.** Add "**DCC Endowment**" in the memo line.

Mail to: **Mary Louise Van Winkle**
61 High Acres Drive
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Please note: Now that our Branch is a 501 (c) (3) tax exempt organization, your contribution is tax deductible

NEW FUNDRAISING DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AND OUR FIRST INITIATIVE

Mary Louise Van Winkle *471-3680* mlvanwink@att.net

The Poughkeepsie Branch's newly established Fundraising Development Committee has been charged with coordinating our fundraising efforts for the national AAUW Educational Foundation (EF), Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF), DCC Scholarships and our

efforts to help support the various community outreach activities. These outreach activities of our branch's Equity for Life Committee include the Girls Conference, Leading to Reading and Diversity Outreach. In addition, the Committee will develop new funding initiatives and will work with the Equity for Life Committee as they facilitate the coordination of grant applications in support of specific branch projects. All of the branch's fundraising activities, including individual contributions, appeals for donations from businesses and corporations, and eligibility for many grant opportunities, will benefit from the recent designation of our branch as a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. **Many thanks to Betty Harrel and Irene Keyes for all their work to secure our 501(c)(3) status.**

Our first major effort as a new 501 (c)(3) organization, and a very special effort it is, is **to establish an AAUW endowed scholarship at Dutchess Community College.** The Poughkeepsie Branch has had very close ties with DCC from the beginning, being one of the major organizations involved in the initial efforts to create a community college in Dutchess County. Traditionally the Poughkeepsie Branch has awarded two \$500 scholarships to women students graduating from DCC to be applied to tuition at their transfer colleges. This has required that the branch sponsor fundraisers to support these scholarships each year. The board, at its August 19th meeting, unanimously approved the establishment of an endowment fund at DCC to permanently assure that one yearly scholarship would be given to a graduating DCC student for their further education. With a \$10,000 endowment, one of those scholarships would be guaranteed without the branch having to raise funds specifically for that purpose. The board voted to establish this endowment through a long term campaign to secure donations from our members. The board decided, in addition, to give members the opportunity to donate this year in honor of Ellenora Oberhofer's 100th birthday. Please see the article about Ellenora in the first column.

An exciting new fundraiser for Scholarships and LAF is planned for November (look for save the date information on page 6 and details on how to participate in the November Branch), as well as a new major fundraiser for our branch outreach activities in the spring.

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. Officers 2009-2010

President	Linda Beyer	462-0345
Program V.P.	Susan Osterhoudt	889-4469
	Diana Gleeson	229-8458
Membership V.P.	Bergie Lebovitch	298-4045
Educ. Foundation V.P.	Patricia Luczai	463-4662
	Trish Prunty	
Secretary	Barbara VanItallie	462-3924
Treasurer	Carol Loizides	452-3208
Assistant Treasurer	Elizabeth Moesel	896-9426
Association website: www.aauw.org		
NY State website: www.aauw-nys.org		

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

Editor: Margaret Nijhuis 635-8612 Rnijhuis@hvc.rr.com