

The Branch

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



Volume 23, Number 4

Our 55th year of publication.

<http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org>

December 2009

DECEMBER CALENDAR

Online Calendar at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

- 1 **Membership Meeting** - see next column
- 2 **Board Meeting:** 7:00 pm
Hostess: Amy Schwed (462-2269)
- 3 **Pins & Needles:** 7:30 pm (Change of Date)
Temari Balls led by Jane Toll
Hostess: Jane Toll (463-2712)
Coordinators: Jane Toll (463-2712) &
Sue Osterhoudt (889-4469)
- 5 **Trekkers:** 8:00 am Dutchess Mall - carpool
NYC Walk the High Line & lunch & shop
Organizer: Karen Haynes (297-5700)
Coordinator: Karen Haynes (297-5700)
- 6 **Gourmet: Out & About:** 2:00 pm
Holiday Luncheon
Horton House, Wappingers Falls
Contact: Jeanette Cantwell (452-4188)
AAUWgourmet@msn.com
- 6 **Athena Award Brunch** - see page 7
Among the honorees are AAUW members
Eleanor Charwat and Clara Lou Gould
Call 845-454-1700 for reservations
- 7 **Word Games:** 2:00 pm
Hostess: Barbara Van Itallie (462-3924)
Coordinator: Eleanor Aronstein (462-6452)
- 8 **Aventures en Soleil:** 11:00 am
A. Dürer: Impressions of the Renaissance
Loeb Art Center, Vassar College & Lunch
Reservations: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)
Coordinators: Peggy Lombardi (635-9091)
& Ruth Sheets (473-6202)
- 9 **Contemporary Literature:** 7:30 pm
Book: *Olive Ketteridge*
by Elizabeth Strout
Hostess: Anne Valentino (221-2591)
Coordinator: Ann Wade (229-5267)
- 9 **Mah Jongg:** 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Hostess: Carol Loizides (452-3208)
Coordinator: Amy Schwed (462-2269)
- 10 **"The Branch" deadline for January**
- 11 **Daytime Literature:** 10:00 am
Book: *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society*
by May Ann Shaffer & Annie Burrows
Hostess: Debbie Luders (223-7397)
Coordinators: Diana Gleeson (229-8458) &
Tiz Hanson (229-9394)

Calendar continued on page 2...

"Great Minds do NOT Think Alike!"



December 1, 2009
7:15 pm

Poughkeepsie Friends Meeting

249 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie
(near Grand Avenue)

Renee Weisman*

Owner of Winning at Work Consulting
Author of *Winning in a Man's World*
Member of Poughkeepsie AAUW, Inc.

How men and women do not think alike?

They solve problems differently.

They hear the same words differently.

They respond to praise and criticism differently.

It's genetic; it's environmental; it's inevitable! Understanding these differences can make you, your team, your relationships, and your business more effective. Every woman competing in a man's world, every man working with women, and everyone who has to get along with members of the opposite gender will benefit from this lively and informative discussion.

* See page 4.

New Member Reception - December 1, 6:15 pm Come One, Come All

We'd like to extend a warm welcome and celebrate our new members this year. We hope each of you – new members, board members and all other members of Poughkeepsie's Platinum Branch - will come together on Tuesday, December 1, 2009, 6:15 pm at Poughkeepsie Friends Meeting. At that time, we'll share some delicious yummys, and it will be the perfect opportunity for everyone to get to know each other. Following the New Member Reception will be our guest speaker, Renee Weisman, who herself is a new member this year! Her excellent program, "Great Minds do NOT Think Alike" will begin at 7:15PM. You won't want to miss any part of this evening!

Calendar Continued...

Online Calendar at www.aaupoughkeepsie.org

- 14 It's a Wrap:** 9:30 - 11:30 am
Holiday gift wrapping - page 4
- 15 Cuisine:** 7:00 pm
Restaurant Visit
Reservations: Gerri Battista (229-2115)
Coordinator: Betty Olson (889-4836)
- 15 It's a Wrap:** 9:30 - 11:30
Holiday gift wrapping - page 4
- 16 Bridge I:** 12:00 pm (Lunch and Bridge)
Uno's - call coordinators for reservations.
Coordinators: Linda Ronayne (897-9745) &
Mary Ann Ryan (897-9679)
- 17 All those books...:** 7:00 pm
Book: *The Marble Faun*
by Nathaniel Hawthorne
Hostess: Carol Loizides (452-3208)
Coordinator: Carol Loizides (452-3208)
- 18 Art on the Go:** 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
TBA - weather dependent
Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)
- 21 Manderley Literary Society:** 7:30 pm
Book: *Little Chapel On The River*
by Gwendolyn Bouads
Hostess: Diane Sipos (452-0742)
Coordinator: Ellie Burch (297-7828)
- Bridge II: No Meeting**
Enjoy the Holidays!!!
Coordinators: Cathy Kinn cathy@kinn.org &
Janet White (462-6675)
- Tee Off** *Play will continue in the Spring.*
Coordinators: Dorothy Evangelista (677-9046) &
Linda Ronayne (897-9745)

LOOKING AHEAD

Jan 13 Dr. Les Muldorf "returns by popular demand"
to do a workshop on Photo Shop Elements to
improve our pictures.

Apr. 18 Writer's Tea page 4

Apr. 23-25 AAUW-NYS Convention page 2

Share the spirit of the season:

BE AN AAUW VOLUNTEER!!!

Donate Funds, page 3

Ribfest, page 4

Share the Fun, page 5

Wrapping Gifts, page 4

Writers' Tea, page 4

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

Our Fall has surely been community-centered with activities and plans to benefit education, independence and self-confidence for girls, career building strategies for college women, and fundraising to support our efforts.

Many thanks to Marcine Humphrey and her committee for a wonderful *Live Your Dream* Girls' Conference at DCC, which benefitted 68 middle school age girls. Many of our AAUW members appeared that day to lend a hand while others had contributed money and their time to organize the days' activities.

Our fundraiser at Amici's to benefit scholarship and LAF was a "delicious" success! Pat Luczai, Trish Prunty, and Linda Roberts are to be thanked for their work in planning and organizing the event.

Mary Louise Van Winkle has informed us that the Funding Advisory Committee has now received \$1075 in donations for the DCC Endowment Fund. All this was received in just 6 weeks! Our generous membership is right on target to meet our goal of \$10,000. Keep those dollars coming! We need contributions from everyone. Remember, donations are tax deductible and are made in honor of Ellenora's 100th birthday this year. Send your check to Mary Louise Van Winkle.

Now, as we approach Thanksgiving, I wish you every reason to be thankful in your own lives. And I wish you to know that each of you is giving others things to be thankful for in theirs. That's our AAUW!

AAUW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KEYNOTES THE NYS CONVENTION APRIL 23-25, 2010

Mary Lou Davis *223-5544*

Linda D. Hallman, AAUW Executive Director, will be the keynote speaker at the AAUW-NYS 2010 State Convention at the **Otesaga** (Cooperstown) the weekend of April 23 to 25.

Linda joined AAUW in January 2008 as its new executive director. She has a long history of executive-level association and foundation experience in the Washington, D.C., area. Before coming to AAUW, she served as vice president of policy and government strategy, external and member relations, with the National Alliance for Health Information Technology (NAHIT) in Washington, D.C. She was executive director of the American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) and AMWA Foundation, as well as president and chief executive officer of the American Horticultural Society. She served in the United States Army and U.S. Army Band and Chorus at Fort Myer, Virginia.

Linda earned a master's degree in organizational management from George Washington University and a bachelor's degree in music education from Indiana University.

Mark your calendars now to come to the **Otesaga!** More program information in future newsletters.

REPORT FROM THE FUNDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DCC Endowed Scholarship

Our first major effort as a new 501 (c)(3) organization was to establish an AAUW endowed scholarship at Dutchess Community College. Remember that this year the donations to the DCC Scholarship Endowment will be in honor of the 100th birthday of long time AAUW member, Ellenora Oberhofer. We're proud to announce that, as of the end of October, the fund has grown to \$1075!!! We will be keeping you posted on our progress towards our long term goal of \$10,000 with our Fundraising Thermometer, which shows the total of our current donations as of the November Board meeting.

We invite all of you to join your sisters in the Poughkeepsie Branch of AAUW in donating to honor Ellenora on the occasion of her 100th birthday! To do so, please make out your check to: **Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW, Inc.**, with "DCC Endowment" in the memo line and send to:

Mary Louise Van Winkle
61 High Acres Drive
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Note: Donate now to take advantage of the tax deduction for the 2009 tax year!

A Holiday Gift Opportunity

In this holiday gift giving season, give the gift of education!!! As you search for a holiday or birthday gift for that special person on your list, consider giving to the AAUW Endowed Scholarship in her or his name. The Funding Advisory Committee will be glad to send out a card announcing your gift to that very special person. Just send us the name, address, and preferred greeting, along with your check made out to: **Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW, Inc.** with DCC Endowment in the memo line to Mary Louise at the address above.

Other Fundraising News

Pat Luczai, Trish Prunty, Linda Roberts

Dinner at Amici's with Chef Joel Trocino raised over **\$1000** for LAF (Legal Advocacy Fund) and scholarship. This sold out interactive dinner gave the members and friends who attended a cooking demonstration for each of the delicious dishes that we had, plus a file of recipes for us to try to duplicate our favorites at home. Thank you to everyone who helped make the event such a success!

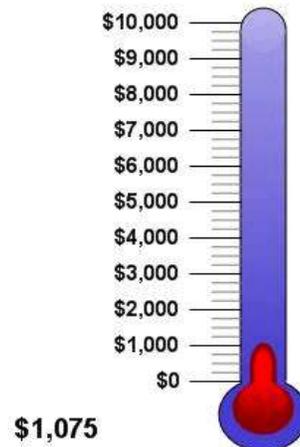
Look for more information on our major Spring fund raising event planned for April. And contact Lula Allen lulaallen@aol.com 845-832-7140 to help on the committees that are planning this event.

Continued in next column...

Please continue to contact members of the Fundraising Committee or the co-chairs listed below with your ideas and to volunteer to help with planning and/or working on the Branch's fundraising activities.

Mary Louise Van Winkle (471-3680) mlvanwink@att.net or
Trish Prunty prunty@sunydutchess.edu

DCC Endowment Fund



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Gloria Ghedini gloriaghedini@cs.com

More on Brazil

See September *The Branch* page 5.

After writing my previous article about education in Brazil, I received further information from a Brazilian public school teacher. Public school teachers working for the federal government are the worst remunerated, and their salaries vary from one region to another. The northeast areas are the poorest and those teachers are paid much less than in the southern areas. Those employed by the state receive slightly more than those teaching for the federal schools. Salaries for those in Divinopolis (more towards the south and in the prosperous state of Belo Horizonte) earn \$350 per week for a 25 hour week. I verified this pathetic salary with others and this is a fact! No surprise that there was a strike and the result was a 5% increase. Private school teachers earn 40% more. The reason is that private schools are undoubtedly superior to the public schools, whereas the exact opposite occurs on the university level. This has been already explained in my September article.

From "La Repubblica," an Italian newspaper

Queen Rania of Jordan recently visited Rome and she declared her conviction that especially girls must be instructed. In her words: "Education makes the difference between an economic recovery and poverty, between life and death. The women of the world will be the ones to save the world from the financial crisis." This attractive woman received an award from the President of the Italian House, Gianfranco Fini, for her constant struggle on behalf of children and women.

RENEE WEISMAN

Renee Weisman, owner of Winning at Work Consulting, charted new territory as one of the first woman engineers, managers, executives, and working mothers in the male-dominated semiconductor industry. Over her 40 years in education and industry, she learned to make gender differences work for her – and teaches others how to do the same. A frequent speaker at corporations and conferences around the US, she teaches classes tailored to enhance women in their careers and to enable male managers to better understand how to capitalize on the differences between men and women in business. Renee became a member of Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. this fall.

Renee was a Distinguished Engineer and Director of Engineering at IBM Corporation prior to retiring in 2007. Her experience included executive level and technical leadership roles in engineering as well as a history of fostering women in technology. She is the author of *Winning in a Man's World*, and a featured writer for www.womenco.com, www.smallbizlink.monster.com and the *Poughkeepsie Journal*. You can read some of her articles at www.winning-at-work.net/articles.

IT'S A WRAP!

Patty Cerniglia *298-7655* pattycerniglia@optonline.net

AAUW members have been asked to wrap gifts again this year for the children at Hudson River Lodging. Run by Hudson River Housing in the former Edison Motor Inn, the complex is a temporary home for families including approximately 60 children. When you come bring wrapping paper, ribbon, gifts tags, and laughter and the agency will provide donated gifts to wrap.

As a special gift, we will be giving each child a NEW book. The center has also asked for gently used books for their adult clients to place in the lobby library. If you would like to donate either, you may bring it with you to the gift wrapping or drop it off at the home of Ellie Burch, 13 Oakwood Drive, Wappingers Falls (297-7828 or reburch@verizon.net).

Time: Monday, December 14, 9:30 - 11:30 am and
Tuesday, December 15, 9:30 - 11:30 am

Place: Hudson River Lodging, 387 Manchester Road
(Route 55 opposite Page Lumber)

RSVP: Patty Cerniglia pattycerniglia@optonline.net
or 298-7655

REMINDER: Checks written to our organization should be made out to:
“Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.”

WOW!! RIBFEST RESULTS!!!

Sharon Clarke *473-9468* sclarke5@hvc.rr.com

Congratulations to Sharon Clarke and her “merry clan” who raised **\$362** for LAF by having fun and eating ribs at the Hudson Valley Ribfest. This ribfest was originated by the hard work and organization of AAUW member, Stephanie King, and her Rotary Club of Highland. We all send our thanks to the Rotary for this opportunity to raise funds. Join us next year!

AAUW Members and friends who worked at the ribfest:

Lula Allen	Bonnie Kieffer
Linda Beyer	Carol Mastropietro
Sharon Clarke	Rolf & Margaret Nijhuis
David & Mary Lou Davis	Linda Roberts
Vicki Greenbeerg	Amy Schwed
Bill & Betty Harrel	Sandy Sherman
Barbara & Erich Hespeneheide	

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 Sharon Clarke
Joan Cordani Joan Fay Elizabeth Harrel
Margaret Ruggeri Sarah Shouse Phyllis Teasdale
Mary Louise Van Winkle

Sponsors (\$10 or more)

Marion Effron Cathy Kinn Margaret Lombardi
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

Mark your calendar!

The Poughkeepsie AAUW event of the year!

Sunday, April 18, 2010
3:00 - 6:00 pm

Locust Grove

Champagne Reception
Published authors
Entertainment
High Tea



Contact Lula Allen 832-7140 lulaallen@aol.com
to volunteer to help!

LITERARY NOTES

Cathy Kinn cathy@kinn.org

Diane Browne-Sterdt, guest columnist

So many of us lament the lack of time for reading. For your consideration in such situations, (or just because you love them) there are excellent short story collections. I have taken four short-story classes at CLS (Center for Lifetime Studies) from Diane Browne-Sterdt. I was planning to start a series for our newsletter about the elements of a short story and asked Diane if I could use my notes from her classes. Well, voila! not only has Diane joined AAUW but she has also agreed to write about short stories for us. Diane was a school psychologist in our area for thirty-two years. Cathy.

So much can be conveyed in so few pages.

The authors of well-written short stories give their readers the gifts of original three-dimensional characters, the finer nuances and mysteries of relationships, and the personal victories and losses that we all recognize as Life brings its inevitable "ups and downs." This can all be accomplished in twenty-five pages or less, memorably so, and readers can be transported from the beginning to the end in a finite amount of time. The skillful writer draws us in with a few compelling sentences, and ends his or her story with words that resonate, haunt, pierce one's heart or simply remain with us as we venture back to the details and demands of our present, immediate lives.

Grace Paley once said that she wrote short stories because her life was too "interruptible" for novels.

I hope to touch upon a broad selection of short story literature in this column. The Chekhovs of the suburbs and rural America (John Cheever, Richard Russo, Sherwood Anderson), the Harlem Renaissance writers, (Richard Wright, Langston Hughes), the large tales of seemingly small lives (Tillie Olson, Grace Paley, Gish Jen, Toni Cade Bambara, Willa Cather, Richard Bausch, John Steinbeck), the unapologetically "edgy" (Joyce Carol Oates, Dorothy Parker, John Updike), the "southern gothic stories" (Eudora Welty, William Faulkner, Flannery O'Connor) and the creators of "magical realism" (Isabel Allende, Louise Erdrich, Gabriel Garcia Marquez).....will all be discussed, among others.

I would like to recommend two collections this month, one by a new, contemporary writer and another by an established artist. Alice Walker's *In Love and Trouble* and Kevin Wilson's *Tunneling to the Center of The Earth* are both excellent.

Thank you, Cathy Kinn, for the opportunity to write this column. Diane Browne-Sterdt

Check your email each day!!!

SHARE THE FUN

Bonnie Kieffer *297-4245* bikpr5000@aol.com

What brought each of us to AAUW? Did you want to meet people? Did you want activities? Did you want speakers with something to say? Did you want to help and get involved in a particular area? Did you want to have some fun?

I want members to share their fun and experiences in AAUW with other members. One way to do this is by having mentor members call newer members once a month to keep them updated on the multitude of activities in AAUW. The variety of activities, interests, and causes should be lauded, applauded and communicated to our members in a personal communication: a quick call to check in with another member is a wonderful method of keeping in touch, keeping them informed, and sharing in the fun and activities of AAUW.

How may you do this? Contact me (information above) or Gloria Gibbs (454-7262 gmg24@cornell.edu) to let one of us know you are willing to call your AAUW colleagues and who you will be calling. Call these two, three, or more people once a month, keep them in the loop, and share the fun that is AAUW.

LIVES OF DUTCH COLONIAL WOMEN

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

Our October General Meeting featured Marguerite Berger, an historian of Dutchess County and the Dutch in America. She spoke to us about the lives of Dutch Women in Colonial American society. She gave us numerous examples of the "ferocious" love the Dutch had for equality of men and women in all parts of their lives, including their domestic lives, their business dealings, and even their love lives! She reported that the Dutch emphasized education for both genders and had a belief in freedom of religion and "a fairly cheerful tolerance for diversity." She felt that they gave us their love of a Republic and dislike for Monarchy. Many of the qualities that characterize us as Americans today were inherited from our Dutch foremothers (and forefathers). If her talk whetted your appetite for more information on our Dutch Colonial foremothers, she shared the short bibliography below to get you started:

Bonomi, Patricia U., *A Factious People, Politics and Society in Colonial New York*. New York: Columbia Univ. Press, 1971
Fabend, Firth Haring, *A Dutch Family in the Middle Colonies, 1660-1800*. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers Univ. Press, 1991
Gherke, Michael, "Toward a More Inclusive History of Early American Women", *The Hudson Valley Review*, Poughkeepsie, NY: Marist College, Vol. 23, No. 2
Kammon, Michael, *Colonial New York: A History*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1975
Barrett, David E., *Inheritance and Family Life in Colonial New York City*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1992
Zimmerman, Jean, *Women of the House*. New York: Harcourt Books, 2006

AAUW MEMBER WINS NOBEL PRIZE

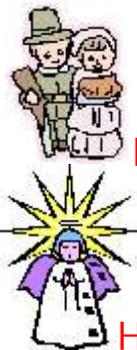
Carol Grader Shares Prestigious Award for Physiology or Medicine

AAUW celebrates Carol Grader, AAUW member-at-large and winner of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine along with her two colleagues, Elizabeth Blackburn and Jack Szostak. Grader has been a member of AAUW since 2002.

Grader, Blackburn, and Szostak "discovered that telomeres are made up of simple, repeating blocks of DNA building blocks and are found in all organisms," according to a Johns Hopkins University announcement. Understanding this biological process has paved the way to deeper knowledge of cancer and cellular aging.

"AAUW has a long history of supporting women in the sciences, and we are thrilled to count another Nobel Prize winner among our ranks," said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE. In 1920, AAUW awarded two-time Nobel Prize recipient Marie Curie a grant to assist with her groundbreaking research on radium. AAUW member, Greg Mortenson, author of *Three Cups of Tea*, was nominated for the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize for his work supporting education for girls in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

"Grader and Blackburn have shown that women can break through barriers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics," said AAUW President Carolyn H. Garfein. "Their accomplishment serves as an excellent example of women making valuable contributions and the need that exists for supporting and encouraging great female minds, as AAUW does with our fellowships, grants, and community of successful women."



Happy Thanksgiving!

Happy Hanukkah!

Merry Christmas!

Happy Kwanzaa!

FYI DECEMBER CULTURAL EVENTS

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

A recent study by the nonprofit Center for Arts Education is the latest in numerous reports that show that high schools with the highest graduation rates also offer their students the most access to Arts Education. (Full report www.caenyc.org) This theme shapes the FYI calendar for December and highlights educational fun for the whole family.

12/5 FDR Home. Springwood is decorated according to Roosevelt family tradition. FDR impersonator reads passages from Dickens's "A Christmas Carol" 3-5pm.

Continued in next column...

12/5 Val-Kill Open House. Eleanor Roosevelt NHS (Val-Kill) Open House 4-7pm. Must take shuttle from the Wallace Center at FDR Site. Refreshments and music. www.nps.gov/hofr

12/5 Children's Reading Festival & Open House. Children's authors read passages from their books and autograph them. Make holiday cards for servicemen and women. Dog On Fleas musicians at 4pm. Refreshments 12-5pm. Free. FDR Library and Museum, Wallace Center, HP www.FDRLibrary.marist.edu

12/6 A Service of Lessons and Carols. Vassar College Choir, Women's Chorus, Madrigal Singers, and Cappella Festiva Chamber and Treble Choir. 7pm. Free. Vassar College Chapel. www.Vassar.edu

12/6 Winter Festival Concerts. Winter Festival concerts. 2pm & 7pm. \$15, sr./\$10. Marist College St. Ctr., Nelly Goletti Theatre, 3rd floor www.Marist.edu

12/18 Mid-Hudson Community Orchestra Concert. The college-community ensemble gives a concert of seasonal musical favorites. Free. 7:30pm. DCC, Dutchess Hall Theatre, www.SunyDutchess.edu

12/29 Holidays at Van Wyck. Music, decorations, & refreshments served by the fire in the 1732 kitchen. Children's activities for the various holidays. 6:30-9pm. Free. Van Wyck Homestead Museum, 504 Rt. 9 Fishkill

Holiday Art making events sponsored by two of our AAUW Poughkeepsie Branch's "Women of the Year" recipients.

12/18 Gingerbread House Decorating Workshop. (Dianne Pedevillano 2007) Create edible, decorated gingerbread houses or pick up house kits to create at home. Call for reservations. 2pm and 4pm. \$20/house includes all decorating materials. Mid-Hudson Children's Museum, www.MHCM.org

12/28-30 Holiday Arts Camps. (Carol Wolf 2008) Three full days of creative arts activities for children ages 6 to 12. Fun with painting, pottery, collage, fiber arts, mask making & more. 9am-4pm. Fees. Mill Street Loft, Poughkeepsie & Red Hook www.MillStreetLoft.org

Other holiday events for the family that include fees:

12/12-13 New Paltz Ballet Theatre's The Nutcracker. Sat. 2pm & 7:30pm, Sun. 3pm \$27, \$24. st./sr. www.Bardavon.org

12/11-13 Sugar Plums and Nutcrackers. Fri.-Sat. 8pm & Sun. 3pm. \$20; \$18/sr. & children. Center for Performing Arts, 661 Rte. 308 Rhinebeck www.Centerforperformingarts.org

12/11-20 Holiday Happening. The hilarious "Every Christmas Story Ever Told," music and more! Fri.-Sat. 8pm, Sun. 3pm. \$14, \$12/sr./st. Cunneen Hackett Arts Center, 12 Vassar St. Poughkeepsie www.CunneenHackett.org

12/6-20 A Hunt for 'Twas the Night Before Christmas. Family scavenger hunt and storytelling performance by Lorraine Hartin-Gelardi. Sun. noon-4pm. Performance times: 1:30pm, 2:30pm, and 3:30pm. \$10, \$7/child. Locust Grove Estate, www.LGNY.org

12/19 A Christmas Carol by The Puppet People. Saturday Morning Family Series. 11am. \$9/\$7 in advance; \$8/\$6 at door. Center for Performing Arts, 661 Rte. 308 Rhinebeck www.Centerforperformingarts.org

12/26-27 Sounds of Bells: A Winter Concert for the Classical Guitar. Guitarist and composer David Temple presents international music. Sat. 8pm, Sun. 3pm. \$18; \$16/sr & children. Center for Performing Arts, 661 Rt. 308, Rhinebeck.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

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

The Holidays are upon us, and soon our families will be gathering from hither and yon...please allow me to take a moment in your hectic schedules to let you know a few things about your Platinum Poughkeepsie Branch. We have 58 new members and many of them have already started to refer some of their friends! Therefore, it's time for some of my "old timers" to get busy and find some more new members. The Branch is entering into another phase of application acceptance, so it is imperative that we have not only name and address of the potential member, but also their daytime phone number so that I can let them know about any special offers before they sign up.

We need our more senior members to become mentors and "big sisters" to our newer members. Please let Gloria Gibbs and/or Bonnie Kieffer know of your willingness to donate a few minutes a month to Your AAUW. Remember; Membership is an every member position....we'll just do the paperwork! HUGS and HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

"Sunshine on my Shoulder makes me happy...."

Eleanor Aronstein, Sunshine Committee Chair
eleanoraronstein@aol.com, 462-6452

November 4th, your Platinum Poughkeepsie Branch Board voted to start up a Sunshine Committee headed by Eleanor Aronstein. Spontaneous financial support came from the attendees at the meeting! This is what we're all about. It's the caring, giving and sharing that makes our Branch a "beacon of exemplar collegiality." We care about you and we want to be there in supporting anyone who is undergoing any kind of medical issues. **Please notify Eleanor if you know of anyone who "needs a hug" from all of us.** Wishing you and yours a healthy and safe holiday season.

AN INVITATION TO THE GLEBE HOUSE DECEMBER GALA

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

Marguerite Berger (our October speaker) graciously invited us to the Glebe House Gala on Sunday, December 6, which starts about 2:00 and continues to 4:30. Glebe House is at 635 Main Street in Poughkeepsie, about two blocks east of Clinton House, 549 Main Street. If you would like more information about the Gala call the Glebe House at 454-0605. Marguerite would love to see some of us from AAUW at their Gala, but would appreciate having an idea of how many might attend. Please give me a call at 471-3680, or email me at mlvanwink@att.net so that I can let Marguerite know how many of us might be there.

VOYAGE EN FRANCE

Miriam Zimet Aaron *462-8179* zimetama@gmail.com

Bonjour, tout le monde! Have you always dreamed of visiting Paris? Or perhaps you've been to France and would like to refresh those memories. Here is your chance! Miriam Zimet Aaron (retired Spackenkill French teacher and AAUW member) is organizing a trip to France for October, 2010. Included in the ten-day tour will be Paris, Chartres, the chateaux of Chambord and Chenonceau in the Loire Valley, Caen and the D-Day beaches of Normandy, and Mont St. Michel. The price without airfare is \$2124, or with airfare \$3495. These prices are guaranteed to our group until December. Therefore, you need to act now! There will be an **informational meeting at Spackenkill High School on Monday, November 30, at 4:00 pm** in room 110. If you are considering participating in our "Voyage en France," this meeting will answer all your questions. **Registration and deposit** for the trip will be due by **Monday, December 14**. The decision to run the trip will be made shortly after, if enough registrations are received by that date. In case of questions, you may contact Miriam at: zimetama@gmail.com or 462-8179. A bientot!

AAUW MEMBERS in the NEWS

Eleanor Charwat and Clara Lou Gould both members of AAUW and pass Woman of the Year recipients will be honored on **Dec. 6 at the Grandview by the Athena Award**. This award is given to "individuals who serve their communities, achieve excellence in business and assist women in achieving professional goals." Call 454-1700 for more information on the brunch and join in the celebration.

New member, **Naava Koblenz**, is having a solo exhibition of her art work at **Babycakes Café in Arlington**. Her paintings are there now and will be on display until December 8th. Please go and enjoy the talents of an Israeli-born and trained artist, now residing in Poughkeepsie.

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

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

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