



THE BRANCH

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



Volume 26, Number 7

Our 57th year of publication

<http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org>

March 2013

MARCH CALENDAR

Online Calendar at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

- 4 Word Games: 2:00 pm**
Hostess: Ellie Charwat (462-7061)
Coordinator: Ellie Charwat (462-7061)
- 6 The Ediss Book Group: 7:00 pm**
Book: *The Art of Fielding*
by: Chad Harbach
Hostess: Celia Serotsky (473-8426)
Coordinator: Celia Serotsky (473-8426)
- 7 Board Meeting: 7:00 pm**
Bethel Missionary Baptist Church
- 8 Daytime Literature: 10:00 am**
Book: *Home Front*
by Kristin Hannah
The Manor at Woodside, 168 Academy, Pok.
Coordinators: Diana Gleeson (229-8458)
& Tiz Hanson (229-9394)
- 9 Bridge 3: 10:00 am**
Hostess: Patty Cerniglia (298-7655)
Coordinator: Donna Reichner
dlr0804@verizon.net
- 10 "The Branch" deadline for April**
- 11 Movie Night: Time TBD by show**
Movie: Group members will be notified the
Thursday before - sign up with Sue.
Discussion: *Eveready Diner*, Rt. 9, Hyde Park
Director: Susan Osterhoudt (889-4469)
Producer: Diana Gleeson
- 12 World Travelers: 7:00 pm**
Presentation: *Vietnam* by Maria DeWald
Hostess: Nancy Grucza
Coordinator: Jeanette Cantwell (452-4188)
AAUWtravelers@gmail.com
- 14 General Membership Meeting: 7:00 pm**
*All members are invited and encouraged to
attend – see details in the next column.*
- 16 Trekkers: 9:00 am**
*Hike the Farmlands around Stewart Airport
in Orange County*
Organizer: Pat Luczai (463-4662) and Karen
Coordinator: Karen Haynes (297-5700)
- 18 Manderley Literary Society: 7:30 pm**
Book: *Figures in Silk*
by Vanora Bennett
Hostess: Jacqueline Klein (485-6530)
Coordinator: Ellie Burch (297-7828)

Calendar continued on page 2...

*A Membership Meeting to Empower your Spirit, Expand your Horizons
and Reinforce your Faith in Womankind*

GEETA DESAI – the International Federation of University
Women's representative to the United Nations, and Past President of
Poughkeepsie AAUW, will moderate the program ~

March 14, 2013

7:00 pm

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie
67 S Randolph Ave.
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 (Directions page 4)



Retracing Our Steps to Improve Our Lives

You've heard the saying, "Sometimes you have to take a step back in order to move forward"? Well, that's exactly what we will be doing at our March Membership Meeting (**open to the public**).

If we, American women, are to secure a future for ourselves that provides gender equality, financial stability, access to quality education, physical safety, social justice and clean air, water and food, we must take a giant step back to reach the poorest women in some of the world's oldest countries and cultures – women that time itself has forgotten.

With these women, we hold the key to the future we desire in this country.

Geeta understands that this premise might seem counter-intuitive, but she says we are not alone. A generation ago, we grew up believing that industrialized countries were destined to lead the world. Now, we must understand, for ourselves, and for the sake of our children and their children that the world has changed in the most surprising ways and to learn more about this phenomenon, we must journey back to when and where conventional wisdom ceased to hold us in good stead.

In order to help us retrace our steps, Geeta will invite some of our very own intrepid AAUW members to share their recent experiences at the UN (March 6, 2013) where they will have encountered hundreds of women from countries around the world and will have been privy to wide – ranging discussions about the treatment of women in developing countries; and the central role that these women can potentially play in driving the global economy, peace and security and environmental sustainability. In fact these women are the drivers of most changes we would like to see in our American communities.

Continued on page 4...

Calendar Continued from page 1...

Online Calendar at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

19 **Cuisine:** 6:30 pm

The Cuisine of India

Recipes: Betty Olson BettyOlsonHomes@aol.com

Hostess: Nancy Smith (691-7547)

Coordinator: Barbara Van Itallie (462-3924)

20 **Bridge I:** 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Hostess: Lillian DePasquale (462-4729)

Coordinators: Linda Ronayne (897-9745) &

Mary Ann Ryan (897-9679)

20 **Gourmet: Out & About:** 6:30 pm

Mary Kelly's Restaurant, Beacon

Contact: Kay Saderholm (229-8545)

Ksaderholm@aol.com

21 **All those books...:** 7:00 pm

Book: *Siddhartha*

by Hermann Hesse

Hostess: Susan Osterhoudt (889-4469)

Coordinator: Carol Loizides (452-3208)

23 **Friends of Trekkers:** *Meet early, full day*

FDR Four Freedoms Park, Roosevelt Island NYC

Organizer: Pat Luczai (463-4662) or Karen Haynes

Coordinator: Karen Haynes (297-5700)

25 **Contemporary Literature:** 7:30 pm

Book: *Defending Jacob*

by William Landay

Dinner meeting, call coordinators for details.

Coordinators: Ann Wade (229-5267) &

Linda Freisitzer (266-5427)

26 **Women's Personal & Professional Development:**

5:30-7:30 pm, DCC,

See page 6 or www.aauwpougkeepsie.org for details.

Coordinator: Jacqueline Goffe-McNish

mcnish@sunydutchess.edu

27 **Mah Jongg:** 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Hostess: Linda Roy (471-9498)

Coordinators: Amy Schwed (462-2269) &

Gerry DiPompei (635-2050)

28 **Pins & Needles:** 7:00 pm

Project: *Bring your current project or problems*

Hostess: Karen Haynes (297-5700)

Coordinators: Arlene Seligman (297-0006) &

Jane Toll (463-2712)

28 **Bridge II:** noon - 3:30 pm

Uno (on the arterial) - Lunch (\$15)

Coordinators: Cathy Kinn cathy@kinn.org &

Janet White (462-6675)

Art on the Go: *No March Plans*

Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)

Aventures en Soleil: *No March Plans*

See page 6 for April plans.

Coordinators: Peggy Lombardi (635-9091)

& Ruth Sheets (473-6202)

Tee Off: *Play will continue in June, 2012.*

Coordinators: Terry Schneider (849-1122) &

Carol Mastropietro (221-8862)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jacqueline Goffe-McNish *471-7220* mcnish@sunydutchess.edu

Jackie's Vision

The AAUW has adopted as its mission for the year to "Broaden our Borders". This necessitates a discussion of the goals and more specifically the objectives for the Branch. Each group has been encouraged to develop its goals and objectives to match the mission for the next two years. I want to suggest ways to make this mission authentic – **here is my vision for our work over the next few years.**

Mission: Broaden our Borders

Goals:

1. To create an atmosphere that respects diversity.
2. To respect the voices of all the members in the Branch.
3. To provide opportunities that enhance total development of all the women in the Branch.
4. To facilitate discussions that honor the opinions and ideas of all the different constituents in the Branch.

Objectives:

1. The branch will provide opportunities in which at least 80 percent of the members can actively participate.
2. The Branch will create at least one program for each of following: the social, emotional, economical, psychological, spiritual, and physical development of the members.
3. The Branch will utilize the standing committee structure to increase the number of individuals who participate in the decision making process.
4. The Branch will facilitate at least four open forums for the year which will encourage members to share their successes and concerns in an effort to address the diversity of ideas among the members.

Activities:

1. Meetings in a variety of venues at different times.
2. Wide selection of speakers.
3. A mentoring program for new members
4. Standing committees in all areas with members being restricted to two committees.

And so we begin... let me hear from you...what are your suggestions...your wishes...your vision!

LOOKING AHEAD

Apr 7 Writers' Tea, The Links at Union Vale,

see page 3 also go to: www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org for additional information.

Apr 26-28 AAUW-NYS Convention,

High Peaks Resort, Lake Placid, AAUW-NYS Convention is open to all members – you do not need to be a board member. There are interesting workshops and terrific speakers.

Details contact Margaret Nijhuis (635-8612) or

www.aauw-nys.org/convention.htm



Supporters of *The Branch*!!

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

Patrons (\$25 or more)

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Sponsors (\$10 or more)

Brenda Schaffer

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

MYRA YOUNG ARMSTEAD

Margaret White *462-8052* mgwhitecsw@aol.com



Myra Young Armstead, the author of *Freedom's Gardener: James F. Brown, Horticulture, and the Hudson Valley in Antebellum America*, will be one of the three authors at the AAUW's Fourth Annual Writer's Tea. It will be held at The Links at Union Vale in LaGrangeville, NY on Sunday, April 7, 2013.

Dr. Armstead holds a B.A. from Cornell University, and a M.A. and PhD from the University of Chicago. She has been a professor of history at Bard College since 1985.

Myra Young Armstead was born in New York State and raised in the part of the Catskills once called “The Borscht Belt”—a summer resort region for most of the last century through the early 1970s. Her maternal grandparents operated a rooming house, barbershop, beauty salon, and informal employment service for African Americans from the South who labored in the area's bungalow colonies and hotels. This upbringing helped to spark the subject of her first book, *“Lord, Please Don't Take Me in August”: African Americans in Newport and Saratoga Springs*, about the black communities of the two leading American resort towns—Newport, Rhode Island and Saratoga Springs, New York. In *Freedom's Gardener*, she investigates the ways in which life for African Americans in tourist towns was similar to and dissimilar from black experiences in the more common settings of either the rural South or big-city North. Growing up in a resort town—a pastoral retreat that served a bustling, urban clientele—also fueled Myra's larger teaching and writing interests in urban history, and the relationship between the city and the country. After starting a family, Myra decided to focus on the Hudson Valley for research and writing in order to have relatively convenient access to historical sources from her base at Bard College.

In 2005 Myra was hired as a consultant to help create educational programs for Mount Gulian, a National Historic Landmark Museum in Beacon. On a tour given by Elaine Hayes, the executive director, Myra inquired about a book sitting on a table in the room. She was told that it was a diary kept by a gardener in the 1800's named James F. Brown. When Ms. Hayes added that he was an African American, Myra stated, “Immediately, I knew I had to look at it.”

Dr. Armstead went on to write a book that is more than a story of an African American gardener. It is an important look at the Hudson Valley in the pre-Civil War period through the eyes of a man who worked at the Verplanck Estate, not only as the estate gardener, but also as a coachman, general laborer and chief diarist.

The guests at the Tea will have an opportunity to experience our beautiful Hudson Valley and gain further insight into a time prior to the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, which ended slavery 150 years ago.

MORE BOOKS!

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

The “Leading to Reading Project” was invited to take part in the Books For Kids Program. Through this program, Barnes and Noble customers were offered the opportunity to purchase a book for a needy child in our area. Our members were able to select a number of beautiful new books which are currently being processed and delivered. Many thanks to Ellen Rubin, who coordinated the Books For Kids program, and all of those who took part!!

We also just received some books from Scholastic, Inc. Thanks to a contact by **Cecilia Dinio-Durkin**, they have sent us several boxes of books over the last few months. The donations are truly appreciated!

SPECIALIZED TUTORING

Cathy Lane, one of our “Leading to Reading” volunteers, is helping to coordinate a special tutoring project. **The Dutchess County Office of Probation and Community Corrections has found a need for focused reading tutoring** - to help a client read a handbook, master material for an exam, or read and complete an employment application. All tutoring would be during the day and would be done in a supervised setting at the Probation Department. For further information, please contact Cathy at clane@co.dutchess.ny.us or 486-2600.

This program provides one more way for us to foster literacy in our area.

Back to the Future: *Continued from page 1...*



Geeta will facilitate a discussion in which we will learn how and why our lives intersect with the lives of these women and the potential held in this intersection. We will learn the ways in which women in developing countries can help in our uniquely American struggle and how we can play a role in empowering them to

become self-sufficient and successful.

We invite you to come along as Geeta takes us on an exciting exploration of the issues that affect us the most, and then to feel the power we have to act on our own behalf.

Directions: 67 South Randolph Ave. can be accessed from Hooker Ave. or take Route 9 to Sharon Dr (near Holiday Inn). At the end of Sharon turn left onto Beechwood then the first right onto Ferris Lane, next an immediate left to S. Randolph. The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie is on the right.

ONLY 6 SEATS LEFT ON THE BUS!!

My Sister's Keeper of the Poughkeepsie AAUW
Invites you to

Commission on the Status of Women: *A Day of International Understanding, Hope and Action*

Come be a part of the excitement on **Wednesday, March 6, 2013**, as 3,000 women from across the world come together in NYC to share their experiences, stories, work and plans for gender equity.

- Be inspired by the women who led the reconstruction of Rwanda at the end of the worst genocide in the history of the world
- Share your compassion with the women from the Democratic Republic of the Congo where rape is a weapon of war
- Learn how women's groups in India brought the world's largest democracy to its knees following a deadly assault on a young girl
- Understand exactly where and why your life intersects with the lives of the poorest women in the world and the transformative power of this intersection
- Learn how to become involved in the global conversation so that you can make a better life for yourself, your family and community

For a backdrop to this trip, read Geeta's Blog "An Informed Life" on page 7.

Bus Transportation: Leaving at approximately 8:00 am and returning at approximately 6:00 pm.

Cost: \$ 12 round trip per person for transportation.

Admission to CSW meetings is free.

Registration deadline: Monday, February 25, 2013. Call or

Email Geeta: geetadesai@optonline.net

Other details and day's schedule will be available closer to departure date.

HUDSON VALLEY PHILHARMONIC STRING COMPETITION

Barbara Van Itallie bvanitallie@yahoo.com

Please join AAUW members Barbara Van Itallie, Ginny Swartz and Miriam Zimet Aaron for a weekend of beautiful music and a lively competition as well. The annual Hudson Valley Philharmonic String Competition will be held at Skinner Hall on the Vassar College campus on Saturday and Sunday, March 9-10. Approximately 20 college age conservatory students compete for cash prizes and the opportunity to perform as soloist with the Hudson Valley Philharmonic the following season. You will see, hear and support some of the best young violinists, cellists, and violists in the world, many of whom will go on to outstanding professional careers.

The first round is Saturday from about 9 am to 4 pm with each competitor playing brief selections from the required repertoire; the semi-final round is Sunday 10 am – 12 pm. The final round is Sunday, starting at 3 pm with the three finalists each playing a concerto at the recital. There is no admission charge although donations are welcome.

For more information or to volunteer to help, contact Barbara at bvanitallie@yahoo.com

WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2013 – DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS!

Marge Barton *897-0164* margelyman1@aol.com

We are encouraging our members to **think about nominees for our up-coming WOTY recognition luncheon**, and submit them to us.

There are so many women who have contributed to the community through organizations other than AAUWthose who are the "unsung heroes" who have made our community a better place to live - not only through their jobs, but through their volunteer work.

The DEADLINE for nomination submissions is April 15.

Send e-mail nominations to: margelyman1@aol.com , or **snail mail to:** Marge Barton, 543 Regency Drive, Fishkill, NY 12524. If you have questions, please contact Marge at: 845-897-0164

"HATS OFF"

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

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

"Hats Off" to member **Carol Wolf** (Woman of the Year 2009) for her leadership and efforts towards visual literacy for Dutchess County youth through the Mill Street Loft and Dutchess Arts Camp programs. The "Dual Visions" exhibition at Vassar College's Palmer Gallery, January 15 - February 13, was the second exhibition for high school student artists. "The Palmer Gallery's curator decided that the Mill Street Loft's students' work was so good that it deserved a second show." said Phil Ehrensaft of *Country Wisdom News*.

CUISINE CELEBRATES 40 YEARS

Remembrances by Joann Clark

This year marks the 40th anniversary of our Poughkeepsie Branch's' Cuisine Group. As one of the present members who has been a part of Cuisine for the longest period of time I thought I would share some of its history and my own thoughts.

I joined the Poughkeepsie Branch in 1989 when I first relocated from Tokyo. Prior to living there for 5 years, I had worked and lived in NYC. So when I heard that Big Blue wanted my husband back in Poughkeepsie, my first reaction was to cry. Poughkeepsie, I so erroneously thought, would hold no glamour, no mystery and probably no foodies.

As with many of my predictions all of those before mentions were wrong. Well, glamour let's just say I'm still searching for that one.

But foodies were found in abundance. In 1989, Cuisine took itself quite seriously with research into historic meals, authentic recipes from vintage cookbooks and few if any short cuts.

We turned to every European nation for a recipe, as well as any recipe related to any holiday ranging from Bastille Day to Generals Polanski's birthday dinner party.

There were a number of stay at home professional women, but even the "9 to 5" ones got those marinated dishes made on the weekend. We had demonstrations from bakers and confectioners to sushi chefs. We recreated a dinner that George Washington ate (I really don't remember anything outstanding about it but there was a lot of it).

The first year I joined I remembered the June dinner was "Men's Night to Barbeque." The husbands of the member cooked the food we prepared; rather a throwback to 1950 vs 1990. If the group had to reassemble there sure wouldn't be as many men present.

Glad we dropped that idea from our present day dinners.

We tried French recipes from Julia Child's books, and Escoffier's tomb. Ingredients were sought in every shop, but like today Adams was the usual trove for our treasures. There were soufflés that succeeded and those that flopped, but we ate everything with pleasure and compliments were distributed to wanna-be chefs.

Twenty four years may have changed some things, we seem to be more relaxed (or is it because I'm now 24 years older and wiser) more equitable regarding paying for our own wine (and thank heaven we still have it at each dinner), and as always forgiving for taking short cuts. The day I got stuck in New Jersey and could not bake a lemon pound cake, Starbucks came through like a trooper and everyone loved it.

Continued in the next column...

Remembrances continued...

Our recipes are not as complicated, some coming from member's home countries, others from the revised Joy of Cooking. We just had a Nouvelle Thanksgiving dinner, a twist on tradition – which is what Cuisine has embraced but still holds true to its roots.

What has remained the same are the laughter, stories shared, food enjoyed, friendships made, support given, and enjoying each other's company but with FOOD. Below is one of our favorite recipes from the 2012 meal, "My Favorite Chef".

Figs in a Blanket – Mark Bittman

Heat the broiler (you can grill these, too). In a small pot, bring a cup of red wine, a few tablespoons of honey, a cinnamon stick and a sprig of rosemary to a boil. Wrap half of a fresh fig in a half slice of bacon. Arrange on an oven-safe pan (broiling pan suggested) and broil for several (6 or 7) minutes per side, until well browned. Serve with the reduced sauce.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Kay Saderholm *229-8545* ksaderholm@aol.com

Many members would like to have an overview of all the various programs our AAUW branch offers. Our website has all that information available at your fingertips in our "Membership Booklet." To find it, log onto our website, <http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org> look on the left of the home page and you will see "Fast Facts," in the second bullet you will find "Membership Booklet 2012." This is formatted for easy printing.

Open this booklet. Everything you need to know about AAUW and our chapter is found here. It includes a description of AAUW, a letter from the chapter president, a list of the interest groups, when they meet, and the coordinators of each group, the community outreach/initiatives and coordinators, annual events, monthly membership meetings, scholarships, communications contacts, and a list of officers and appointed board members.

This is the information that is given in a booklet to the new members who joined us at the September Open House. Several "seasoned members" have asked for the booklet. Now you will be able to access it on our website – and print out your very own copy.



MARK TWAIN AND HARRIET BEECHER STOWE

Brenda Schaffer 914/475-9415 brendaschaffer@optonline.net

Join **Aventures en Soleil** to tour the beautifully restored homes of Mark Twain and Harriet Beecher Stowe, learn about their lives and discover how two Hartford neighbors changed literature and continue to shape a nation's view of itself.

Friday, April 19, 2013

We will meet 8:15 am in front of the Shoprite at Fishkill's Shoprite Mall, Route 9, Fishkill.

The day will begin with a tour of the **Harriet Beecher Stowe home at 11:00 am** at the Visitor Center, 77 Forest Street, Hartford, CT. The tour is approximately \$8.00-MUST PAY IN CASH. When you arrive identify yourself as part of AAUW.

Lunch will be a **catered box lunch of sandwiches, couscous, dessert, drinks** - cost-- \$10.18-MUST PAY IN CASH

The second tour is of the **Mark Twain House across from Stowe's at 351 Farmington Avenue**. This tour begins after lunch and cost-about \$11.00-MUST PAY IN CASH

Please note that the entire day (2 tours and lunch) cost \$29.18 total all must be paid in cash.

PLEASE RSVP TO BRENDA SCHAFFER
brendaschaffer@optonline.net 914-475-9415

ANN MULDORF

Linda Rashba lindarashba@optonline.net

We sadly tell you that AAUW member Ann Muldorf passed away on January 26, 2013 after a long illness. Ann was a graduate of SUNY New Paltz and a long time Poughkeepsie resident. Ann was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother whose home was always the central place for family holidays and celebrations. She truly valued friendships, and regarded her friends as 'family.' Ann was an active member of Hadassah, leading the Youth Aliyah Project for many years to help disadvantaged children in Israel. Her positive outlook on life never faltered despite her medical challenges. She will be sorely missed.

She is survived by her husband, Dr. Les Muldorf, known by many of you from computer graphics presentations to AAUW and the Center for Lifetime Studies.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Cecilia Dinio-Durkin *849-1858* womensworkbw@yahoo.com

The Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce is hosting the 3rd Annual International Women's Day Walk over the Walkway, expected to exceed last year's 500 plus walkers in recognition and celebration of the accomplishments of women around the world.

Continued in the next column...

International Women's Day Continued...

This year's theme is THE GENDER AGENDA: GAINING MOMENTUM. We have certainly made progress in terms of equal rights but we need to remain vigilant and tenacious to secure sustainable change and continue to gain momentum on a global scale to champion equal rights, equal pay, and equal opportunity for women.

Planning is currently underway to solidify event details but the tentative schedule is:

Friday, March 8, 2013

2:30 pm Registration begins

3:45 pm Inspirational speeches/acknowledgments

4:15 pm Walk begins

As in the past, the International Women's Day Walk over the Walkway will be highly publicized and widely attended with outreach to girls and women across the entire Hudson Valley. The day's activities are free and open to the general public. To learn more about International Women's Day, please visit: <http://internationalwomensday.com> . For local event information, please visit: www.wlahv.org .

We do hope you can join our AAUW contingent for this inspirational day.

WOMEN'S PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL

Jacqueline Goffe-McNish *471-7220* mcnish@sunydutchess.edu

Motivation: The Drive to Move Forward using the Self-Determination Model by Paula Perez

Tuesday, February 26, 2013 5:30 - 7:30 pm
Washington Hall, Room 138
Dutchess Community College

Before we can begin a meaningful discussion on Self-Determination and Motivation we need to articulate to ourselves what is important to us...what we want to achieve! At some point we got lost in our day to day, most of what we do every day is because we are "supposed" to do it. It's just who we are. Teacher, mother, sister, daughter, girl friend....I could go on! We walk into the classroom prepared to dispense knowledge, teach a skill, and prepare students for the world ahead. Sometimes we are rewarded with the acknowledgment or affirmation of the fruits of our labor. More times than not though, we receive little feedback and then tend to get caught up on the outside issues or politics of our environment.

My discussion is for those who have a goal in mind, one they desire, feel the work involved is worth it and most importantly believe it's attainable. Without putting into words what you want, the likelihood of attaining it runs the risk of getting lost, put on the backburner and sometimes forgotten.

The workshop is designed to harness your strengths, acknowledge your challenges and set a plan in motion, so that you will achieve your goals.

AN INFORMED LIFE

Geeta's Blog

Geeta Desai *297-7589* geetadesai@optonline.net

I'm delighted to tell you that 37 women have signed up for our AAUW trip to the UN. If you've missed the information, here it is again: On Wednesday, March 6, we will be attending panel discussions that will be held in parallel with the UN Committee on the Status of Women meetings. More than a thousand women from countries around the world will also be in attendance, speaking about the treatment of women in developing countries, gender equality and policies to promote women's empowerment worldwide. I expect it will be a day of emotional highs and lows, as we dare to imagine a future that is free of violence and discrimination against women. Importantly, as educated, forward-looking women, we will listen for global dilemmas and solutions that we can endorse in an effort to help the women who need our help and in helping them, help ourselves.

Indeed, many of the issues that we will hear about may seem daunting by their very nature: complex, global and seemingly entrenched in time and place. We may even feel helpless in the face of such insurmountable odds. But, I think that we should remember that a) we are not alone in the pursuit of solutions. In fact, we're in very good company: there are literally thousands of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), women's groups like ours, UN agencies, country governments and development groups dedicated to resolving the most recalcitrant problems and b) our best response to many of these problems is to become thoroughly informed about them and to disseminate the information to as wide an audience as possible. In time, with enough discussion with friends and allies, our unique problem-solving role will become apparent.

It is my hope (and that of AAUW's) that this trip will become the starting point of a thoughtful dialogue about the issues that concern us the most. For some time now, I have held to the belief that the distinction between women's issues in America and those of women in other parts of the world is false and misleading. My hope is that we can begin to view these issues through our individual lenses instead of relying on a mixed bag of messages from the media and other similarly-vested interests. And, my hope is that in the company of our peers, we can become emboldened to form our own opinions on the state of the world and the role that we want to play in building an equitable future for all women.

The overwhelming response to this trip has reminded me, once again, of my great admiration for our AAUW members, not the least of which has to do with their consistent intellectual curiosity about women's issues and their unflinching courage in exploring the unfamiliar: both laudable and necessary traits. If you would like to go to the UN with us, do let me know. It's not too late- yet.

AAUW LOGOS THROUGH THE YEARS

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

Each of you have recently received the announcement from AAUW National that our logo will be changing. I have incorporated this new logo in our newsletter masthead. I hope you will enjoy the new look. In case you did not see the announcement from National, I thought you might like a look at our logos through the years.



1898



1979



1982



1990

IRENE KEYES MEMORIAL FUND AND NCCWSL

Marcine.humphrey@gmail.com

It is time again to award one talented young woman a scholarship to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. (NCCWSL).

Each year, The Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. offers a grant for one sophomore or junior college woman to attend the annual National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. Hosted by AAUW and NASPA, the conference features inspiring keynote speakers, nearly 50 dynamic workshops on a variety of topics. AAUW provides the registration fee for one young woman. The registration fee includes: all programming from Thursday, May 30 to Saturday, June 1. Registration also includes the scheduled meals of Thursday lunch and dinner, Friday breakfast and lunch, and Saturday breakfast as well as housing from Thursday, May 30 to Saturday, June 1, 2013. The recipient is responsible for transportation costs.

This exciting annual event draws more than 500 campus student leaders to the University of Maryland, College Park. Since 1985, the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) has provided a platform to help thousands of college and university women develop leadership skills, network with other student leaders, and interact with women who hold leadership positions. Read last year's recipient, Domonique Garrett's reflections from 2012 on our website www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org.

College women interested in attending NCCWSL should **contact Marcine Humphrey at 845 485 7697 or marcine.humphrey@gmail.com** as soon as possible.

Applications will be available on the Poughkeepsie AAUW website www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org. Help spread the word! If you have any contacts with college women in Dutchess County, pass on the information.

PUBLIC POLICY

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Women, History, Title IX

“No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance...”

No legislative act has had a greater impact on the lives of girls and women, yet it is often misunderstood. Title IX is synonymous with equality in women’s sports, but its origins had nothing to do with athletics.

Reading an old *Ms Magazine*, I found an article on Bernice Sandler and wondered how many of us know about this woman? By 1969, Sandler was turned down three times for three different jobs as a professor. In 1969, the word sexism was rarely, if at all, used but Bernice knew what had happened to her “was immoral” (*Ms*, March 2001). She began her fight, by going to the Civil Rights Act, The Equal Pay Act, and calling the Department of Labor’s Office of Federal Contract Compliance.

Her research led her to The Women’s Equity Action League (WEAL) who filed a class action complaint against all colleges and universities with federal contracts and launched a nationwide campaign. Congress passed Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Richard Nixon signed the Act into law. “He’s not thinking Title IX is a big deal, it’s just a little thing in there,” Bernice Sandler said. It is also interesting to note that sexual harassment was not originally discussed during the drafting of the legislation, in fact, the phrase “Sexual Harassment” did not even exist until around 1975. In 2001, *Ms Magazine* reported that “Sex segregation persists in career and vocational education (CTE).”

40 years have passed.

Despite progress, a recent report from AAUW states that “challenges to equity in education still exist. “Advancement in some areas, including computer science and engineering has stagnated or even declined in recent years. Pregnant and parenting students are frequently subjected to unlawful policies and practices that deter them from completing their education.”

Nearly half of all middle and high school students reported being sexually harassed in school. Remember, “Title IX offers both male and female students protection against sex-based harassment, protects girls’ and women’s rights to equality in STEM education, mandates equity in career and technical education programs including those traditionally dominated by men.”

Continued in the next column...

Women, History, Title IX continued..

AAUW is proud of women and girls’ educational achievements, but too many women and girls still face sex discrimination in the course of their education. “AAUW is committed to protecting and defending Title IX, and pursuing its vigorous enforcement, to ensure our nation’s commitment to moving toward full and equal educational opportunities for all students.”

[Patsy Mink is the first woman of color and the first Asian American woman elected to Congress and the first Asian American to seek the presidential nomination of the Democratic Party in the 1972 election. In recognition of her contributions towards equal rights, Congress named the Title IX Amendment of the Higher Education Act the "Patsy T. Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act".]

Make your reservation for the Writers’ Tea today. You will find the form with this newsletter or at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

Your attendance will support all of Poughkeepsie AAUW’s scholarships and projects!

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. Officers 2012-2013

President	Jacqueline Goffe-McNish	471-7220
Program V.P.	Barbara Hugo	876-6686
	Shelby Outwater	206-2083
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Association website: www.aauw.org

NY State website: www.aauw-nys.org

Poughkeepsie Branch website: www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

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.

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, MargaretNijhuis@gmail.com (635-8612).

Poughkeepsie Branch of the
American Association of University Women, Inc.



Writers' Tea

April 7, 2013

3:00 – 6:00 pm

Mary Coiteux

The Links at Union Vale

153 North Parliman Road, Lagrangeville

Directions and more details at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org



Wendy MaraghTaylor
This Part of the Sky

Dr. Myra B. Young Armstead
Freedom's Garden



Jacqueline Sweeney
Selected Poems



Featured Writers

Meet three Hudson Valley authors who will share stories from their books, poems and their lives. The authors will be available before the tea for questions and with their books for purchase and signing.

High Tea

You will be welcomed with champagne, light drinks and hors d'oeuvres as you arrive and browse the silent auction items. The writers' presentations will be accompanied by tea, scones, assorted tea sandwiches and petite desserts.

Silent Auction

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



Reservations [Deadline: March 31, 2013]

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

Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____

If you are making reservations for more than one person, please list all additional names on the back of this form.

How did you hear about this event? _____

The cost is \$50 per person. Enclosed \$ _____ for _____ attendee(s).

Make checks payable to: **Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.** [\$20 of the admission fee is tax-deductible]

Mail to: Karen Gomba, 75 St. Andrews Lane, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533

Questions: 845/226-2867 or Karengomba@me.com Open seating, no table reservations.

If you are unable to attend but would like to support our scholarship funds, community initiatives and events then please write a check payable to "Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc." and mail it to Karen Gomba at the address above.