

WRITERS' TEA, APRIL 6, 2014

Our third and final author is a team of authors.

Retired educators **Barbara and Wes Gottlock** became fascinated with Hudson Valley historic sites when



they began researching Bannerman's Island. That research was included in their first book, *Bannerman Castle*, written with Thom Johnson. They followed that with *New York's Palisades Interstate Park* and *Lost Towns of the Hudson Valley*. *Lost Amusement Parks of the Hudson Valley*, released in 2011, chronicles the rise and demise of amusement parks that lined the Hudson River from the turn of the twentieth century through the 1950's, including Woodcliff Pleasure Park in Poughkeepsie. Their latest release is *Lost Amusement Parks of New York City: Beyond Coney Island* (History Press; 2013).

At the tea they will discuss "Woodcliff: Lost Amusement Park of Poughkeepsie" from their book *Lost Amusement Parks of the Hudson Valley*.

Both Barbara and Wes are still active volunteers with Bannerman's Island. Wes is an island docent and coordinates all the public tours. Barbara is also a docent, a board member, and coordinator of volunteers. They have presented nearly 150 lectures throughout the Hudson Valley covering the topics in their books. They both participate in river clean-up projects and fundraisers benefiting various Hudson Valley causes. They also find time to spend with their two children and five grandchildren. Barbara and Wes reside in New Windsor overlooking the Hudson River.

***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.

Dear Members & Friends,

For our February meeting, we are celebrating international women with a

Festival of Food, Song & Dance

February 13, 2014

7:00 PM

*The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
67 S. Randolph Ave**

We start the evening with some tasty tidbits provided by the Cuisine Group which will be followed by a short business meeting.

Our program features:

Livia Vanaver,

Dance Director of Vanaver Caravan.



She will do a presentation about her recent experiences dancing with women in India. Vanaver Caravan's goal is creating community through dance. The group is committed to promoting peace and cross-cultural understanding through live dance and music. Ms Vanaver recognizes that cultural and traditional differences can divide. She says "let's celebrate the differences in an effort to unite the world and give hope to our communities."

*After the performance, Cecilia Dinio-Durkin will review upcoming events for AAUW's **International Initiative** and participation in the Commission on the Status of Women meetings being convened at the UN in March.*

*Our program will conclude with a poem "**The Song of the Banana Man**" by Evan Jones. It will be read by **Jacqueline Goffe-McNish**.*

We hope that you will join us,

Susie Blecker & Mary Coiteux, Program Co-chairs

****Directions at bottom of column 1.***

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Online Calendar at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

Contact: Kathy Friedman kfriedman33@gmail.com

- 3 Word Games: 2:00 pm**
Hostess: Pat Luczai (463-4662)
Coordinator: Ellie Charwat (462-7061)
- 4 World Travelers: 7:00 pm**
Presentation: *Tanzania*
Coordinator: Jeanette Cantwell (452-4188)
AAUWtravelers@gmail.com
- 5 Aventures en Soleil: 11:15 am**
CIA Luncheon – Caterina de Medici Restaurant
Meet at Main Building
Reservations: Betty Harrel bharrel@gmail.com
Coordinator: Ruth Sheets (473-6202)
- 5 The Ediss Book Group: 7:00 pm**
Book: *The Burgess Boys* by Elizabeth Strout
Hostess: Celia Serotsky (473-8426)
Coordinator: Celia Serotsky (473-8426)
- 6 Board Meeting: 7:00 pm**
Bethel Missionary Baptist Church
- 8 Bridge 3: 10:00 am**
Hostess: Patty Cerniglia (298-7655)
Coordinator: Donna Reichner dlr0804@verizon.net
- 10 “The Branch” deadline for March.**
- 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
- 13 General Membership Meeting: 7:00 pm**
All members are invited and encouraged to attend. Details on page 1.
- 14 Daytime Literature: 10:00 am**
Book: *Prague Winter* by Madeline Albright
The Manor at Woodside, 168 Academy, Pok.
Coordinators: Pat Dogil (454-5441)
& Diana Gleeson (229-8458)
- 17 Manderley Literary Society: 7:30 pm**
Book: *The Language of Flowers* by Banessa Difenbaugh
Hostess: Jackie Klein (485-6530)Book:
Coordinator: Ellie Burch (297-7828)
- 18 Cuisine: 6:30 pm**
Barefoot Contessa
Recipes and Hostess: Mariellen Pangia,
mariellen109@gmail.com
Coordinator: Barbara Van Itallie (462-3924)
bvanitallie@yahoo.com
- 19 Bridge I: 1:00 - 4:00 pm**
Hostess: Jeanette Cantwell (452-4188)
Coordinators: Linda Ronayne (897-9745) &
Mary Ann Ryan (897-9679)
- 19 Gourmet: Out & About: 6:30 pm**
Asian Temptation, 718 Dutchess Tpke, Poughkeepsie
Contact: Kay Saderholm (229-8545)
Ksaderholm@aol.com
- 22 Trekkers: 10:30 am** at Toys-R-U's and Stop & Shop Rt 9
Rosendale Trestle Bridge Walk
Organizer: Pat Luczai (463-4662) pat.luczai@gmail.com
Coordinator: Karen Haynes (297-5700)
- 24 All those books...: 7:00 pm**
Book: *War and Peace* by Leo Tolstoy
Hostess: Gita Seevaratnam (632-6121)
Coordinator: Carol Loizides (452-3208)
- 25 Women’s Personal & Professional Development:**
Juggling Career and Motherhood: A Success Story
Presenter: Professor Rose Wiley
5:30-7:30 pm, DCC, Washington Hall Room 138
Coordinator: Jacqueline Goffe-McNish
mcnish@sunydutchess.edu
- 26 Mah Jongg: Noon - 4:00 pm**
Uno Chicago Grill – Lunch (\$15)
Contact: Jackie Prusak: JRPrusak@aol.com
(226-6049) by February 24.
Coordinator: Amy Schwed (462-2269)
Coordinator needed for Winter months.
- 26 Contemporary Literature: 7:30 pm**
Book: *The Round House* by Louise Erdrich
Hostess: *Contact Coordinators*
Coordinators: Ann Wade (229-5267) &
Linda Freisitzer (266-5427)
- 27 Bridge II: 12:15-4:00 pm**
Lesson and Game, \$10.00
The Bridge Center – 24 Park Avenue
(Hellenic Community Center)
Coordinators: Cathy Kinn cathy@kinn.org &
Jackie Prusak (226-6049)
- 27 Pins & Needles: 7:00 pm**
Project: *Maureen’s Felt Cardinal*
Hostess: Dina Gleeson (229-8458)
Coordinators: Arlene Seligman (297-0006) &
Jane Toll (463-2712)
- Art on the Go: Will not meet in February!**
Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)

LOOKING AHEAD

March 12 Bus Trip to UN for Commission on Status of Women. Page 4.

March 13 Health Care Issues in DC, Sabrina Jaar Marzouka, JD, MPH, Assistant Commissioner for Administration DC Dept of Health

April 6 Writers’ Tea. Page 1.

April 25 – 27 AAUW-NYS Convention
“A World of Wellness.” Page 6.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

Exceptional Programming

Our branch has been the fortunate recipient of outstanding programs throughout the fall. Please mark your calendar for the second Thursday of each month and plan to be with us.

On January 9, 2014, the monthly meeting of the Branch featured a presentation by Michael Lord entitled "Slavery in the Hudson Valley." Mr. Lord traced the presence of Africans in New York from 1741 to the present. He totally destroyed the myth that slavery was only a Southern phenomenon as he proved that Africans lived in this area as enslaved individuals from Columbus' second visit to the west. He discussed the influences of Africa on the culture of New Yorkers as he reminded us that although Africans came "empty handed they were not empty headed." We, he said, are the "stuff Africa created." These evidences can be seen in our language, music, and stories. This meeting was well attended and Mr. Lord's presentation was very well received. This was an exciting moment for me and caused me to pause and reflect on the theme we have adopted for the year, "Broaden Our Borders" and how this is being shown in the activities of the Branch.

Interim Reports for the Poughkeepsie Branch

Next month, interim reports are due from **all board members and chairs of community initiative and events in the Branch**. These will include an outline of the goals for the year, the working objectives, the activities that have been completed, and the activities that are still to be completed. So what would such a report look like for the entire Branch? Here is a sample:

Goal: To Broaden our Borders.

Objectives:

1. To present programs which discuss a wide variety of issues.
2. To create opportunities for the involvement of a wide variety of members.
3. To facilitate activities which will expose members to diverse events.

Completed Activities:

1. Monthly meetings which provided programs information about multiple issues (e.g. December: Slavery in the Hudson Valley).
2. Actively recruited members from varying educational, backgrounds, careers, races, ages, and preferences (e.g. The creation of the community college student group).
3. Created new initiatives and interest groups which introduce members to different activities (e.g. The new health care initiative which provides opportunities to work with low income parents and their children).

Activities to be Completed:

1. Visit to the United Nations in March which will immerse members in discussions about global issues.
2. Facilitation of the annual writers' tea will present texts from a diverse group of men and women.
3. Continuation of monthly programs which present a variety of issues and ideas.
4. Use of a theme emphasizing the appreciation of diversity for the annual meeting in June.

IRENE KEYES MEMORIAL FUND

Marcine Humphrey *485-7697* marcine.humphrey@gmail.com

In 2011, we lost a leader and a dear friend. **Irene Keyes** passed away suddenly. Irene, a long standing member of AAUW was a very successful branch president. Her leadership role in our Branch enabled the local chapter to earn a 501(c)(3) designation, laying the foundation for their long-term vision to achieve gender equity. She wrote grants to create an umbrella program called "Equity For Life" to fund initiatives like the regional Girls' Conference, the "Leading To Reading" literacy project, and the "Let's Read Math" tutoring programs. Irene was thorough, imaginative, artistic and fun. Just as Irene was a good leader, she was a wonderful friend. "Her death is more than a source of grief to all of us who love her; it is an irreplaceable loss to the whole community."

A Memorial Fund was established in her name. This fund is supporting a yearly grant to send young women to the National Conference for Student Women Leaders (NCCWSL). We honor Irene's legacy helping young women reach their fullest potential. Please, take a moment to visit the web page www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org and read about her and the comments from the young women we have sponsored. Contributions to the Irene Keyes Memorial Fund are always welcome as we hope to continue sending young college women from our area to the conference. Make checks payable to *Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.*; put Irene Keyes Memorial Fund on the memo line and mail to:

Barbara Van Itallie
17 Croft Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR COLLEGE WOMEN STUDENT LEADERS (NCCWSL)

June 05 – June 07, 2014
University of Maryland, College Park, MD

We are now accepting applications for a scholarship to attend NCCWSL which provides a transformative experience for attendees. Students return home ready to improve their campuses and their communities. It is a fast-paced, two-and-a-half day event that addresses the needs of current and aspiring women student leaders—like the many you know!

A scholarship is available to cover the cost of registration including:

- all programming from Thursday, June 5-7, 2014
- the scheduled meals of Thursday lunch & dinner
- Friday breakfast and lunch & Saturday breakfast
- housing from Thursday, June 5-7, 2014.

Contact: Marcine Humphrey at (845 485 7697) marcine.humphrey@gmail.com or visit www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org Select Scholarships and Irene Keyes. **Application Deadline is March 7, 2014.**

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)

Catherine Albanese, Joan Cordani, Marguerite Cotter, Lillian DePasquale, Marion Effron, Joan Fay, Ruth Gau, Gloria Gibbs, Sandra Goldberg, Doris Kelly, Peggy Lombardi, Jean Miller, Jacqueline Prusak, Margaret Ruggeri (In Memoriam), Brenda Schaffer, Terry Schneider, Barbara Van Itallie

Sponsors (\$10 or more)

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

POUGHKEEPSIE AAUW ON FACEBOOK

Our thanks to **Christie Van Horne** for designing and launching the official Poughkeepsie AAUW Facebook page. It is beautiful and we appreciate her work in bringing us into the age of social media.

To view the page click on the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUWPoughkeepsie2014>

You may view this page even if you are not a registered member of Facebook but to post you must be a Facebook member or you may send Christie the information that you would like posted and she will do it for you.

ChristieVanHorne@gmail.com

PEDAL PUSHERS

A New Interest Group

Sheila Zweifler sheilaz@optonline.net

A new interest group called Pedal Pushers will start on the **second Wednesday in May (May 14th)**. It is for women who have some experience biking. We will be biking approximately 15 miles on rail trails. We will start at 10 AM (9 AM when the weather is warmer) and the ride should last about 2 hours. Bikers should bring a helmet, water, and a snack if desired. Please send me your e-mail if you have any interest in joining the group.



Looking forward to riding together, Sheila

BLACK HISTORY MONTH: Why February?

<http://www.nwhp.org/news/february.php>

Black History Month recognizes and honors important people and events in the history of African-American history. In 1926 noted historian, Carter G. Woodson, originated the idea of "Negro History Week." Woodson chose the second week of February because it marked the birthdays of two Americans who greatly influenced the lives and social condition of African Americans - former President Abraham Lincoln and abolitionist Frederick Douglass.

The tradition of what became **Black History Month** greatly influenced the expansion of academic scholarship and the corresponding recognition of the rich history of African Americans

February Highlights in US Women's History

- February 1, 1978 - First postage stamp to honor a black woman, **Harriet Tubman**, is issued in Washington, DC
- February 4, 1987 - First "**National Women in Sports Day**" is celebrated by Presidential Proclamation
- February 12, 1869 - The **Utah** Territorial Legislature passes a bill **allowing women to vote**
- February 15, 1921 - **The Suffrage Monument**, depicting Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucretia Mott, sculpted by Adelaide Johnson, is dedicated at the U.S. Capitol
- February 15, 1953 - **Tenley Albright** became the first American woman to win the World Figure Skating championship
- February 17, 1870 - **Esther Hobart Morris** in Wyoming became the first American woman Justice of the Peace
- February 24, 1912 - Henrietta Szold founds **Hadassah**, the largest Jewish organization in American history, focusing on healthcare and education in Israel and the U.S.
- February 27, 1922 - U.S. Supreme Court upholds the **19th Amendment to the Constitution, which guarantees women the right to vote.**

BUS TRIP TO UN FOR CSW

March 12

Cecilia Dinio-Durkin



Join the UN Women's Initiative for our **Second Annual Bus Trip to the United Nations, March 12**, during the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) between March 10-21, 2014. The bus trip begins in Poughkeepsie, leaving around 7:00 am, drops off and departs from the United Nations. The workshops and presentations are Free, and the bus costs about \$20 for members, \$22 for non-members. You may attend the CSW on any other day during these 2 weeks but we will have only the one bus trip.

SEATS ARE LIMITED

Members are encouraged to sign up for reserved seating no later than February 12. Please email Cecilia Dinio-Durkin (Committee Chair) at womensworkbw@yahoo.com

PUBLIC POLICY

Marcine.humphrey@gmail.com

Women and the Judicial System

Imagine, for a moment, that you are a college student working a part time job or a young mother working to provide for her family and you suddenly find out that "birth control" is no longer covered under your company's health insurance. Of course, each woman can use such coverage based on her own moral and religious views, but should a boss decide for a woman?

The Supreme Court is about to take on Hobby Lobby's refusal to provide birth control coverage to its employees. If it sides with the craft retailer, it won't just let companies deny women access to birth control — it will set a constitutional precedent for workers to be barred coverage for anything that qualifies as a religious objection. Think about the 58 percent of women who use birth control for reasons other than preventing pregnancy (ex. reducing menstrual pain & side effects, acne, and endometriosis). Now think of the thousands of men and women whose coverage is in jeopardy thanks to Hobby Lobby's lawsuit.

DNC chair, Debbie Wasserman Schultz put it so clearly:

No woman should have her health care dictated to her by her boss. The overwhelming majority of American women use birth control to stay healthy and plan their families. This is basic access to health care and a decision that belongs to a woman, to be made in consultation with her doctor, not her employer. This isn't just a health care issue, it is an economic issue. The decision to require insurance policies to cover full preventive care saves many women and their families hundreds of dollars each year. If the Supreme Court rules against this policy that is supported by the majority of Americans, it would expose other medical procedures to the whims of an employer, such as vaccines, surgeries and mental health care.

Please, join us in calling on Hobby Lobby to drop its suit before the Supreme Court. I will not shop in this store and as a "crafty" gal this will be a hard choice! You can write to your local store: Hobby Lobby at 1895 South Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 or call 845-298-3235.



Many thanks to the following ladies who thoughtfully brought refreshments to Membership Meeting. **Susie Becker, Carole Demicco, Lillian DePasquale, Nancy Grucza**, and a special thank you to **Kay Saderholm**, who not only brought cookies, but went out and bought hot drink cups so we wouldn't run out, and **Mary Ann Boylan**, who took the initiative and called people and asked them to bring food to the meeting. You helped to make our January meeting a big success.

Poughkeepsie AAUW, Inc.

BOARD NEWS AND NOTES

Betty Harrel *462-2141* bharrel128@gmail.com

December Board Meeting Summary:

Projects discussed included the Community Mothers' Group, which is an activity in our Health Care Initiative, a new international relations project to be determined later, the creation of a new branch Facebook page, and a mini-conference requested by the Poughkeepsie City School District as a follow-up to our *Live Your Dream Girls'* Conference. It was decided to enlist the help of a tax consultant to complete all the forms required as part of our 501(c)3 tax exempt status.

Our branch will be donating \$3000 to the AAUW Education Opportunities Fund. The names of those being honored will be discussed at the January board meeting.

Full minutes of Poughkeepsie AAUW board meetings and business meetings of the membership (twice each year) can be found on the website:

www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org About Us / Leadership / Minutes.



Dear AAUW Women,

Thank you so much for the honor of being named "Woman of the Year." I was overwhelmed by your kindness and the beautiful luncheon also.

Please know that your donation was used for my Thanksgiving Dinner for our "Needy Neighbors" where we treated 500 people to a wonderful dining experience.

Thank you again for helping me to continue my work to help others.

May God richly bless you and your families!!

Sincerely,
Patti Peck

REFLECTIONS ON CONVENTION

Marcine Humphrey, LAF Chair



April 25 – 27, 2014 AAUW-NYS Convention

I encourage many of you to attend this year's state convention. When I was a newly retired person and a new member of AAUW, I decided that the state convention might be fun. WOW. First of all, I liked the idea of a two day mini vacation at a "hotel/resort." Off to Saratoga I went. I loved being in the company of so many intelligent women. I sat with women from my own Branch and made new friends. By attending the business meeting and listening to dinner and lunch speakers, I learned so much about AAUW and began to want to be more involved.

Each year we arrive, find our rooms and head for the bar/restaurant for lunch and the giggles begin! AAUW women really know how to "lunch." **Over the next two days, I meet women from other branches, and after 5 years, I find myself looking for them each year to "catch up."** As a new member, I became aware of the far reaching effect AAUW has and can have. I felt a new sense of pride in membership.

Yes, we do business, attend interesting workshops and panel discussions, but it is the conversations at the coffee and snack bar, in line at the lunch buffet, or over a glass of wine on Saturday night that bring me back every year. **It is great to hear about the lives of women in other parts of the state. Since the convention is in our back yard this year, I encourage you to attend. By the way, the car pool ride is always a good bit of fun, too!**

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

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

Winter Doldrums

We have reached the time of the year when the daylight hours are slowly increasing – making us eager for spring. But the early morning temperatures – and even the midday temperatures – tell us that there is much time that must pass before that happens. So the winter doldrums settle in.

But let us find a way to escape them – and make some new discoveries. We all know that the Poughkeepsie Branch has many interest groups – 20 of them – plus several initiatives. **This would be a great time to go to a meeting of one or more that we haven't yet discovered.**

Take a look at the monthly calendar, find a new group to investigate, and plan to attend the next meeting of the group. It is a chance to chase the winter blues and to meet some of our 400 members whom you have not yet met. And, who knows, you may find that you become a regular member of the group.

So, as the days get longer – slowly, and the temperature climbs – slowly, and with luck we will have no more winter snow storms – **expand your horizons and meet new friends.**



WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2014

Pat Luczai *845-463-4662* pat.luczai@gmail.com

Please submit your nominations for 2014 Woman of the Year!!!!

Criteria for Poughkeepsie AAUW Woman of the Year:

- She has made outstanding contributions to the community in either a voluntary or paid capacity. (Most recipients have served in both capacities.)
- She reflects the AAUW mission: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.



Note: Qualifications should not be based solely on accomplishments within AAUW.

To nominate an outstanding woman for 2014, please use the form found on our Website:
<http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org> under Resources / Woman of the Year

Return your nomination to:

Pat Luczai by email pat.luczai@gmail.com

or mail to:

9 Bridgewater Way,
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

If you encounter difficulty downloading the form, feel free to contact Pat Luczai for assistance.

All nominations for 2014 need to be submitted anew using the form. We will no longer consider nominations made in previous years, but your 2014 nomination will be considered current for two years after submission.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Poughkeepsie – largest branch in NYS

Jeanette Cantwell, Assistant Treasurer

As of December 31, 2013, we have a total of **406 members**, which includes 57 new members who have joined us this past year. I am proud to report that we remain **the largest AAUW Branch in New York State.**

A very special thank you to the following members who generously included donations to our Branch in 2013, along with their annual dues: Susan Doyle, Catherine Gleason, Betty Harrel, Mary Jo Mann, and Margaret Nijhuis.

The NY/NJ AAUW "WILD" Women Project

(Women In Leadership Development)

"Embracing Eleanor in the 21st Century"

Joan Monk, AAUW-NYS District Director

1) "Leadership the Eleanor Roosevelt Way"

- Robin Gerber's keynote resonated with the membership at the June AAUW National Convention in New Orleans. She agreed to support us in a year long/month by month/chapter by chapter study of her book "Leadership the Eleanor Roosevelt Way."
- Branch participation is encouraged via conference call by:
 - having from one to six members sharing calls and reporting back
 - Westchester Branch is mentoring college students with this book
- This initiative will begin in late January 2014 for AAUW-NYS.
- If book groups are interested in reading this book, there is a reading guide by Robin.

2) Celebrating the International Day of the Girl on October 11th

- Roosevelt than promoting this celebration of girls that falls on her birthday, October 11. There is no better way to honor the legacy of Eleanor In 2014 we will mark the third year of the event and we want to spread the word.
- The YouTube videos "The Girl Effect" is a good way to educate your members of the plight of young girls in developing countries.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WlvmE4_KMNw
- Be sure to visit The Girl Effect website for more information. www.girleffect.org
- Build on the last two years to create a platform for this program – Girls Speak Out; 11 Days of Action; Celebrate Girls on 11th of Every Month
- For many branches, this may be their first introduction to this special day. Remember to **start small/expand gradually/think in terms of a year.**

3) Developing your own Branch "UN Women" Initiative

- It is our hope that branches will take these ideas and design programs/projects that speak to their membership and community.
- We have two AAUW NYS members working at the UN – Melissa Guardaro, the AAUW Representative and Geeta Desai, on the Membership Committee of the IFUW (International Federation of University Women).
- Geeta is also the Public Policy Convener for Women Graduates – USA and has a blog that focuses on current issues facing women and girls. Here is the website for interested members– www.wg-usa.org/advocacyblog.
- The CTAUN Conference this year is on Friday, 1/31/14 and members are welcome to attend. Its focus is "Promoting Peace through Education." (www.ctaun.org)
- Mark your calendars: you are cordially invited to attend the parallel events that will accompany the Committee on the Status of Women (CSW) meetings from March 10-21 (see page 4).

Interested in becoming a WILD Woman?
Contact Joan Monk, AAUW NYS District Director
ftmaven@gmail.com or 914-245-7704

AAUW GIRL SCOUT PROJECT

Peggy Kelland *297-0507* smkell45@aol.com

We are presenting a four session biweekly series for grades 9 and 10, the Senior Girl Scout Journey "Girldtopia," on Sunday afternoons from 3:00-4:00 P.M. at Zion Episcopal Church across from Grinnell Library in Wappingers Falls. The first session on **January 26** will ask the girls to envision an ideal world for women and girls. The second, on **February 9**, will relate the advances women have made in the last 150 years here in the United States. The third, on **February 23**, will discover the problems women and girls confront around the world. The final session on **March 9** will explore various possible service projects the girls can undertake to help women and girls. Suggestions for speakers (including yourself) are always welcomed.

On Saturday, **February 15**, from 9:00-12:00, Poughkeepsie AAUW and the Girl Scouts will be holding a **jewelry workshop** for Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors (grades 6-12) at New Hackensack Reformed Church on Route 376 to make several varieties of bracelets and necklaces for next year's Piggy Bank Bazaar, where children can buy inexpensive gifts for their families. Future monthly events include storytelling, scrapbooking, and fiber crafts. As always, AAUW members are invited to all these events to help teach the girls.

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. Officers 2013-2014

President	Jacqueline Goffe-McNish	471-7220
Program V.P.	Susie Blecker	462-7074
	Mary Coiteux	226-8275
Membership V.P.	Kay Saderholm	229-8545
Educ. Foundation V.P.	Linda Roberts	227-5287
Secretary	Elizabeth Harrel	462-2141
Treasurer	Barbara Van Itallie	462-3924
Assistant Treasurer	Jeanette Cantwell	452-4188

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).