

BOOKS! BOOKS!

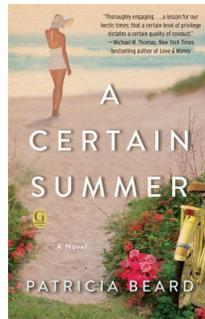
Reviews of the books that our authors will present
at the Writers' Tea, April 26, 2015

Margaret Nijhuis, Editor

A Certain Summer by Patricia Beard

<http://www.goodreads.com/>

"Nothing ever changes at Wauregan. That mystique is the tradition of the idyllic island colony off the shore of Long Island, the comforting tradition that its summer dwellers have lived by for over half a century. But in the summer of 1948, after a world war has claimed countless men; even those who came home; the time has come to deal with history's indelible scars.



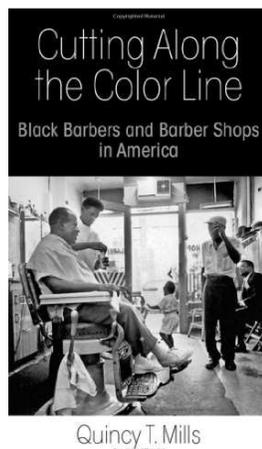
Helen Wadsworth's husband, Arthur, was declared missing in action during an OSS operation in France, but the official explanation was mysteriously nebulous. Now raising a teenage son who longs to know the truth about his father, Helen turns to Frank Hartman; her husband's best friend and his partner on the mission when he disappeared. Frank, however, seems more intent on filling the void in Helen's life that Arthur's absence has left. As Helen's affection for Frank grows, so does her guilt, especially when Peter Gavin, a handsome Marine who was brutally tortured by the Japanese and has returned with a faithful war dog, unexpectedly stirs new desires. With her heart pulled in multiple directions, Helen doesn't know whom to trust; especially when a shocking discovery forever alters her perception of both love and war.

Part mystery, part love story, and part insider's view of a very private world, *A Certain Summer* resonates in the heart long after the last page is turned.

Cutting Along the Color Line: Black Barbers and Barber Shops in America
by Quincy T Mills

<http://www.publishersweekly.com/>

Interviews, archival research, and examples plucked from film, and literature invigorate historian Mills's enlightening chronicle of the American barber shop from 1830 to 1970. The book follows the rise of a tradition, "historically dominated by blacks," and the complicated role of barber shops as public spaces at different historical moments. While antebellum barbers
Continued on page 5



Poughkeepsie AAUW will join with the Poughkeepsie Library District in presenting the program:

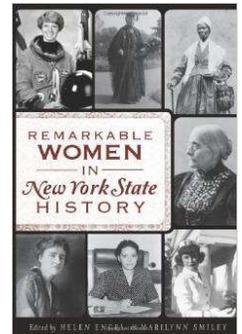
HISTORICAL JOURNEY OF REMARKABLE WOMEN IN THE HUDSON VALLEY

Thursday, March 12, 2015

7:00 pm

Unitarian Fellowship Hall
67 South Randolph Avenue,
Poughkeepsie

The evening's program will focus on the section in, *Remarkable Women in New York State History*, edited by Helen Engel and Marilyn J. Smiley, concerning women from the Hudson Valley. The speakers and their subjects will include:



Wendy Maragh Taylor - *Madame Catharyna Brett*
Rita Alterman - *Maria Salmon Mitchell*
Kathleen Durham - *Eleanor Roosevelt*
Wendy Maragh Taylor - *Jane Matilda Bolin*
Barbara Mindel - *Anna Buchholtz**
Barbara Mindel - *Lucille Pattison**

This program is free and open to the public and is presented in celebration of Women's History Month.

"The significant events in New York State history are well known to educators, students and New Yorkers alike. But often, the role that women played in these events has been overlooked. In this book, members of the American Association of University Women in New York State have meticulously researched the lives and actions of some of New York's finest women."** Some of the book's contributors about women from the Hudson Valley were members of the Poughkeepsie Branch of AAUW.

Helen Engel is a retired laboratory supervisor for the City of Oswego, New York Water Department and former teacher in the biology departments at SUNY Oswego and Onondaga Community College. A Distinguished Teacher Professor, Marilyn Smiley teaches courses in music history and literature at SUNY Oswego. With AAUW, both have had many roles at the local and state levels. The most recent as co-historians for AAUW-NYS.

*Honorees: Poughkeepsie AAUW Woman of the Year award.
**From the book jacket of *Remarkable Women of New York State*, edited by Helen Engel and Marilyn J. Smiley and available at <http://www.BarnesandNoble.com> and www.amazon.com

Questions: Mary Coiteux 226-8275 mcoiteux@frontiernet.net
Susie Blecker 462-7074 jblecker@aol.com ■

MARCH CALENDAR

Online Calendar at www.aaupoughkeepsie.org

Contact: Kathy Friedman kfriedman33@gmail.com

- 2 Word Games: 2:00 pm**
Hostess: Carol Loizides (452-3208)
Coordinator: Ellie Charwat (462-7061)
- 4 The Ediss Book Group: 7:00 pm**
Book: *Longbourn* by Jo Baker
Hostess: Cathy Kinn (462-3196)
Coordinator: Celia Serotsky (473-8426)
- 5 Board Meeting: 7:00 pm**
St. John's Lutheran Church, Wilbur Blvd., Poughkeepsie
- 7 International Women's Day.** See page 8.
- 7 Trekkers: 9:00 am.** Meet at Toys-R-Us, Route 9
Walk along the Rondout at Sleightsburgh Park Scenic Hudson property, Esopus, Ulster County
Leader: Pat Luczai
Coordinator: Karen Haynes (297-5700)
- 9 All those books...: 2:30 pm**
Book: *The Overcoat* by Nikolai Gogol & *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton
Hostess: Karin Fein (485-7186)
Coordinator: Carol Loizides (452-3208)
- 9-20 Commission on Status of Women.** See page 10.
- 10 "The Branch" deadline for April**
- 10 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 General Membership Meeting: 7:00 pm**
All members are invited and encouraged to attend – see details on page 1.
- 13 Daytime Literature: 10:00 am**
Book: *Where'd You Go Bernadette* by Maria Semple
The Manor at Woodside, 168 Academy, Pok.
Coordinators: Diana Gleeson (229-8458) & Jackie Prusak (226-6049)
- 14 Bridge 3: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**
Hostess: Shirley Granda (452-2686)
Coordinator: Donna Reichner djr0804@verizon.net
- 16 Manderley Literary Society: 7:30 pm**
Book: *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kid
Hostess: Linda Lurie (229-9397)
Coordinator: Rochelle Friedman (462-4996)
- 17 Cuisine: 6:30 pm**
Theme: *Irish*
Recipes: Blanche Bergman (462-3955)
blanchbergman@gmail.com
Hostess: Barbara Van Itallie (461-3924)
Coordinator: Barbara Lemberger
brleberger@yahoo.com
- 18 Bridge I: 1:00 - 4:00 pm**
Hostess: Margaret Nijhuis (635-8612)
Coordinators: Linda Ronayne (897-9745) & Mary Ann Ryan (897-9679)
- 19 Aventures en Soleil:**
Morgan Library & Museum, New York City
Contact: Kathy Friedman (485-8671)
Send Check for \$10 (senior) or \$15 (adult) by Feb 17 made out to *Katherine Friedman*, 118 Kingwood Park, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. There will be additional charges for the tour.
Coordinator: Ruth Sheets (473-6202)
- 19 Gourmet: Out & About: 6:30 pm**
Le Express Bistro, 1820 New Hackensack Rd, WFs
Contact: Kay Saderholm (229-8545)
Ksaderholm@aol.com
- 20 Poetry & Play Readings: 2:00 pm**
Hostess: Cathy Kinn (462-3196) cathy@kinn.org
Coordinators: Jackie Sweeney & Carol Loizides e.loizides@verizon.net
- 21 Symposium** to celebrate 200 birthday of Elizabeth Stanton Cady. See page 8.
- 21 Trekkers: 9:00 am.** Meet at Toys-R-Us, Route 9
Maldava Farms Maple Weekend & Soukup Farms Hike, Dover Plains
Leader: Pat Luczai (463-4662)
Coordinator: Karen Haynes (297-5700)
- 24 Diversity, Out of One Many People: 5:30 pm**
Career Planning and Exploration
DCC, Browne Hall Room 122
Coordinator: Jacqueline Goffe-McNish
mcnish@suny dutchess.edu
- 25 Mah Jongg: Noon - 4:00 pm**
Uno Chicago Grill – Lunch
Contact Blanche (226-6049) by 3/23
Coordinator: Blanche Bergman (462-3955)
- 25 Contemporary Literature: 7:30 pm**
Book: *Mud Bound* by Hilary Jordan
Hostess: TBA
Coordinators: Ann Wade (229-5267) & Linda Freisitzer (266-5427)
- 26 Bridge II: 12:00-4:00 pm**
Uno Chicago Grill, Poughkeepsie
Coordinator: Cathy Kinn cathy@kinn.org
- 26 Pins & Needles: 7:00 pm**
Project: *Shambala Bracelets*
Hostess: Karen Haynes (297-5700)
Coordinators: Arlene Seligman (297-0006) & Jane Toll (463-2712)
- 27 Art on the Go:**
TBA
Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)
- 28 Trekkers: 9:00 am** at Toys-R-Us location or meet at 9:30 am at Tymor Park parking lot
Tymor Park Hike, Town of Union Vale
Leader: Karen Haynes (297-5700)
Coordinator: Karen Haynes (297-5700)
- Pedal Pushers: Watch for our return on April 8.**
Coordinator: Sheila Zweifler sheilaz@optonline.net
- World Travelers:**
No meeting in March, see you in April
Coordinator: Jeanette Cantwell (452-4188)
AAUWtravelers@gmail.com

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

6th Annual Writers' Tea

Sunday, April 26, 2015

2:30 - 6:00 p.m.

*The Links at Union Vale
153 North Parlman Rd., Lagrangeville, NY*

Featured Writers

*Meet two Hudson Valley authors who will share stories from their books and their lives.
Before the tea the authors will be available for questions and with their books for purchase and signing.*

*Quincy T. Mills,
author of "Cutting Along the Color Lines"
and
Patricia Beard,
author of "A Certain Summer"*

High Tea

We will be welcomed with champagne, light drinks and hors d'oeuvres as we arrive and browse the silent auction items. The writers' presentations will be accompanied by high tea.

Silent Auction

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

Reservations

Please RSVP by April 16, 2015

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.

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 to the fullest extent of the law]

Mail to: Mariellen Pangia, 109 Sleight Plass Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Questions: 845/473-3545 or mariellen109@gmail.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 Mariellen Pangia at the address above.

Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW, Inc. is a nonprofit organization [501(c)(3)] that works to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

When you join the Poughkeepsie Branch, you become a member of National AAUW as well. The national organization provides advocacy and research on issues of importance to women and girls, and offers grants and assistance for education and programming.

AAUW advocates for us on a national level. The AAUW Public Policy and Government Relations Department, with input from the member leaders, leads AAUW's lobbying and grassroots efforts. In recent years, AAUW was involved in the passage of legislation such as the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Shepard/Byrd Hate Crimes Prevention Act, and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. As a member you are provided with the weekly Washington Update on legislative issues. You can make your voice heard on these issues by joining the AAUW Action Network. **Anne Hedgepeth, AAUW's Government Relations Manager, is scheduled to speak to us in April about sexual abuse on college campuses.** See page 9.

AAUW conducts research on a number of gender related issues. Their work influences the national discussion on topics like the pay gap between women and men, sexual harassment in schools and on college campuses, and the underrepresentation of women in science and engineering. For example, last fall AAUW published the report *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap* addressing this issue by going beyond the widely reported 78 percent statistic. You can read the full report at www.aauw.org or on our local website www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org – see Fast Facts.

In the last year AAUW awarded close to \$4 million in fellowships and grants to 245 scholars, researchers and community based programs for women and girls. Campus Outreach grants made it possible for AAUW to work with college campuses on issues of Title IX, workplace discrimination and sexual assault. Several STEM programs, supported by grants obtained from outside organizations, were held across the county and internationally.

And there is more. The Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to challenge sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace. Resources range from community outreach programs to backing of major cases. AAUW is a leader in advocating for women in STEM careers; for example the upcoming research report *Solving the Equation: Women in Engineering and Computing* will look at why women are so underrepresented in engineering and computer science fields. As a member you receive that national publication *Outlook*, covering pressing issues that women face today.

Two of our local members are involved at the National level as well. **Betty Harrel serves on the Governance Committee and Mary Lou Davis is on the STEM Task Force.** Be sure to go to the website www.aauw.org to learn more about the national organization to which all of you belong. ■

A NOTE FROM OUR JANUARY PROGRAM

SPEAKERS *Vassar Haiti Project*

Dear Susie and Mary,

What a thrill it was to present to the wonderful women of AAUW! It was an amazing evening, despite the extreme cold. We are so appreciative of the brave women who ventured out to hear us speak. Thank you so much for the opportunity of speaking to your group. Sahara, Robyn and I are really impressed (we shouldn't be) at the caliber of intellect in the room. AAUW is remarkable and unique to the organizations we have presented to – the questions, the interest, the concerns and the connections have resonated with us.

Also, thank you for your kind check as well. We didn't expect anything and are so appreciative. We'll put the money towards our women's initiative!

If there is any chance that we can collaborate at the Feb. 4th event at Vassar, it would be wonderful. You will also have a chance to meet some of our other wonderful students who are on break right now. I would really like many of them to consider joining AAUW. I'm joining myself this weekend. I look forward to being in community with women who want to impact our world.

Best, Lila Meade ■

WRITERS' TEA AUCTION NEWS

Linda Roberts *227-5287* olsen241@aol.com

Spring will be here before you know it and so will our Annual Writers' Tea and Silent Auction! There is still time to go out and get or make items for the Auction.

This year we find it necessary to **get all items to us on or before April 10th.** There is a lot to do before the Auction to get everything ready so we need time for our committee to list, value and categorize the items. We also need to produce a finalized list of the items for the Program. This needs to be completed in enough time for it to get printed. We are working on a more organized way to get items to the auction winners at the end of the Tea instead of our usual 20 frenzied minutes!

We have been receiving many interesting items. We are very excited to tell you that a **week in a Time-Share** has been donated! We still need a lot more, so be creative!

Two forms have been put on our website

www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org for everyone's use. First is a letter to give to potential donors. This letter explains who we are and about our programs supported by this fundraiser. The second one is a simple tax form for donors. We don't assign the value of the item, that is up to the donor.

Please remember that this is the only fundraiser we have for the entire year. We need the support of our membership.

Thank you all so much. ■



Continued from page 1...

BOOKS! BOOKS!

Cutting Along the Color Line: Black Barbers and Barber Shops in America

treaded the edge "between service and servitude" to white aristocrats, the profession was often a means for social and economic independence. James Thomas, the first black man to achieve both freedom and residency in Nashville, owned a barber shop. Post-war, many "color-line" barbers continued to serve an all-white clientele at the expense of potential black patrons. Zora Neale Hurston witnessed such tensions as a manicurist in a D.C. shop during the summer of 1918. Other obstacles examined include new competition from white barbers, modernizations like the commercial safety razor, outside regulation, and even the financial impacts of popular hairstyles. Most intriguing is Mills's discussion of barber shop desegregation within the black freedom movement. As he stresses, "Black college students entered white barber shops for haircuts just as they entered lunch counters for hamburgers." The shop transforms with each generation in this vivid account.

More reviews and information are available on our website at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org, search on **Writers' Tea**. ■

TEA INVITATIONS – please help!

Janna Wheaty has produced a beautiful invitation to the Writers' Tea. You will receive one in the mail and there are more for you to give/mail to friends. The extra invitations will be available through all Interest Group Coordinators, at Membership Programs in February and March or by contacting Margaret Nijhuis 635-8612 or MargaretNijhuis@gmail.com.

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, Lula Allen, Mary G. Bagley, Mary Ann Boylan, Sharon Clarke, Lillian DePasquale, Ruth Gau, Gloria Gibbs, Sandra Goldberg, Elizabeth Harrel, Shaileen Kopec, Catherine Pété, Terry Schneider

Sponsors (\$10 or more)

Marguerite Cotter, Christina Houghtaling, Cathleen Kinn

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

LOOKING AHEAD

Apr 16, 2015: AAUW-NYS Convention, Byblos Niagara Resort and Spa on Grand Island, Buffalo. See page 7. Registration available at www.aauw-nys.com

April 26, 2015: *Writers' Tea*. See pages 1, 3, 4, 5, & 6.

April 28, 2015: *Sexual Abuse On Campus*, 7:00 pm.
Anne Hedgpath, AAUW's government relations manager, Freedom Plains Presbyterian Church, Rt 55, across from Arlington High School. Reception will follow. See page 9.

June 11, 2015: *Annual Dinner*, 6:00 – 9:00 pm, Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Cathy Kinn, Interest Group Coordinator, cathy@kinn.org

A note from Jackie Sweeney to the members of the new interest group Poetry & Play Reading

Hello All,

What a great group of women we have for this wonderful sharing experience with poetry! You are givers and questioners and open minded receivers. I'm so pleased with the whole experience and I know Peggy (Hansen) would have been as well. I like to think she was "around" cheering us onward to deep, creative experiences.

Mostly, I loved your enthusiasm and willingness to let the group grow and form its momentum organically - as we go. I'm so looking forward to next time where we will bring one poem we love to share - and offer one or two to grow on - poems for the pot where we might choose two or three to study and explore in depth. All as we go!

Let's stick with poetry for as long as we wish to do so, and then bring in drama when the time seems right. We can chat a bit about drama each time, so I can fine tune from your input for the future. No rush! Let's enjoy each meeting and go where it leads us.

And as for Casey*, Elise (Pattison), what a delight he is - the innocent bubbling babbler with the deep eyes and sweet nature. How could we not assimilate his small commentaries into our pastiche of words, when his words are so certain in their delivery as he uniquely adds to our group? Talk about babbling? I just read that last sentence.

And the ambience, Carol (Loizides), and quiet comments of your own, were perfect. You are a great partner in literary "crime," and I'm happy to co-co this with you. And the cake! There is the matter of that delicious cake.

Everyone, please keep all ideas and comments coming!

If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Jackie Sweeney (518/947-6682) or Carol Loizides (452-3208) ■

*Casey is Elise's son.

PUBLIC POLICY

Patricia DeLeo *883-5181* pattide2@optonline.net

Share In the Spotlight



STEM education was in the spotlight this month as science teachers across the country taught impromptu lessons on forensic science, air pressure, compressed gas, shrinkage, and the effects of hot and cold weather on footballs. And to our surprise, the NFL invested \$4.5 million for its **"Say No More" PSA**, that is "say NO MORE" to domestic violence and sexual assault, public service announcements.

Thank you, NFL.

While the Patriots deflected responsibility for "deflate gate," a different story unfolded for soccer player Hope Solo. Based on a pattern of poor decision making, the Federation suspended Solo. Solo's reaction: "I accept and respect the Federation's decision, and more importantly, I apologize for disappointing my teammates, coaches and the Federation who have always supported me. I think it's best for me to take a break, decompress from the stress of the last several months, and come back mentally and physically ready to positively contribute to the team." **No deflection here.**

Thank you Title IX.

Michele Obama created a social media frenzy when she attended the funeral of Saudi King not wearing a head covering although Hillary Clinton, Laura Bush, Madeline Albright, and Condoleezza Rice abstained from head coverings on their diplomatic missions. Politics at play or much ado about nothing? **There is nothing apolitical about FLOTUS (First Lady of the United States).** **Thank you world media.**

The spotlight moves to Hollywood. The Golden Globes provided a shift from its red carpet focus to women's issues. Julianne Moore shared that studios advised her *no one wanted to see a movie about a middle aged woman*, but she and Alzheimer's took the statue. Amy Adams and Patricia Arquette praised the efforts of single mothers and commended contemporary actresses for providing positive role models for young women. Amal Almodin Clooney eclipsed George Clooney's life time achievement award as Tina Fey and Amy Poehler catalogued her record as a champion for international human rights. Sexual assault awareness was on their agenda as the man behind the myth, Cosby, was debunked. **Thank you, ladies of Hollywood.**

Now shine the spotlight on yourself. Keep AAUW issues in the public arena. Utilize the **Two Minute Activist.** "Friend" your local, state and federal politicians. Visit their websites. Comment on their voting records and offer input on legislation. Agree or disagree; be in the conversation. Message Senator Gillibrand about her bipartisan Campus Accountability and Safety Act. A simple "thank you" or acknowledgement of action is all she needs. Senator Chris Gibson took a recent stance on education and criticized the governor. **Share your reaction on his website. The spotlight is yours. Take aim! ■**

WHAT IS HIGH TEA?

<http://www.afternoontea.co.uk/information/what-is-high-tea/>

Margaret Nijhuis, Editor

The drinking of tea not only became a social event for the upper classes, it altered the time and manner in which they took tea. Afternoon Tea became the bridge between meals because many wouldn't eat their evening meal until maybe 8 pm. As such, Afternoon Tea became a 'mini meal' in itself.



This was all well and good for the upper classes, but the working classes ran to a different schedule and a different budget. Tea was still quite expensive at the time and the working classes could not afford to waste it on anything other than necessities. A wearied factory worker wouldn't arrive home until six in the evening, and when he did, he was famished! Thus, in the industrial areas of the UK (northern England and southern Scotland), the working classes evening meal evolved: high tea.

English High Tea usually involved a mug of tea, bread, vegetables, cheese and occasionally meat. Variations on high tea could include the addition of pies, potatoes and crackers.

So while Afternoon Tea was largely a social event for their upper class counterparts, high tea was a necessary meal in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. This traditional high tea still exists for some parts of the North and Scotland.

Why is it called 'high tea'?

A possible explanation why this type of meal was called high tea is the fact that it was eaten at a table. In comparison, Afternoon Tea was taken whilst seating in low, comfortable chairs or sofas. Of course, soon after, the upper classes developed their own variation and also called it 'high tea'. It was a meal that could be eaten when their servants were away or not available, as it was so easy to prepare. *The upper class 'high tea' involved the amalgamation of Afternoon Tea and high tea, with the addition of pigeon, veal, salmon and fruit.*

It is important to add that the Afternoon Tea menu served in the UK today is often referred to as high tea in many other parts of the world. Because of this some hotels, such as The Ritz in London, use the term 'High tea in London' to advertise their Afternoon Tea because a large proportion of their customers are from overseas.

Editor: Using the above explanation our Writers' Tea is an afternoon tea similar to what you would receive in a London hotel. Watch for the menu in the April newsletter. ■

2015 AAUW-NYS CONVENTION

AAUW Leading the Way: Women Leadership in the 21st Century

Registration forms are now available on the AAUW-NYS website. www.aauw-nys.org. Join other women from Poughkeepsie AAUW for a great week-end. Questions contact **Mary Lou Davis 223-5544** or MaryLouDavis125@gmail.com

WHEN: April 17-19, 2015

WHERE: Byblos Niagara Resort, Grand Island, NY

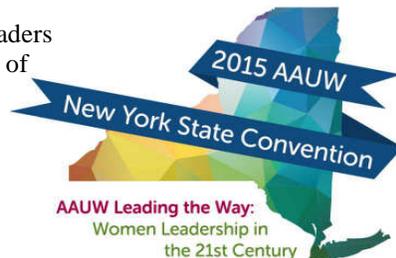
Special Recognition:

A celebration of the 125th Anniversary of the Buffalo Branch.

Workshops will address topics such as:

- 21st Century Education Issues
- The Trials, Tribulations, and Triumphs of Women Elected Officials:
- Women Leading NYS into the 21st Century
- Countdown to the Century of Women's Right to Vote in the US
- Domestic Violence and Women's Self-Empowerment
- And more!

AAUW develops women leaders by strengthening their sense of empowerment. Don't miss this exciting opportunity! ■



BOOKS FOR BABIES GAINS ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Betty Harrell *462-2141*

Leading to Reading's newest outreach, *Books for Babies*, is off to a great start. The first delivery of reading packets for all new mothers was made in early January, and a second one will be brought to Vassar



Brothers Medical Center shortly. Through a generous donation from **Central Hudson**, the program will be able to continue supplying books and parent information on reading to newborns.

The support of Central Hudson, as well as our other community partners, is greatly appreciated! ■

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

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

Please give a warm welcome to the following who have joined AAUW during this cold winter season:

Cathy Bokor
Patricia Joel
Joanne P. Long
Lila Meade
Sally Kemink
Gail McGuinness

I have had an opportunity to speak with each of our new members and they are very eager to get involved with the many activities we offer. Please invite them to come with you to an interest group meeting, a general membership program or an initiative meeting. There are many events coming up in the next few months. **Of special note is April 26, the date of our annual Writers' Tea**, a very important event because it is our major fund raiser. Invite our new members to attend with you.

Members joining at this time of year have the advantage that their dues will carry them through to June 2016. It is a chance to get 15+ months for the price of 12. A great deal! If you have friends who have expressed an interest in joining AAUW, this is the time to do it. Have them contact me and I will send them the necessary information.

A membership directory update is included as an attachment to the email announcing this March newsletter. Please print a copy and put it with your directory. It is only available with the email. It is not available online. ■

EXTENDING GIRLS' HORIZONS

Peggy Kelland *297-0507* Peggy.Kelland@gmail.com

Girl Scout Journey "Amaze" was held on **January 25 and February 1** at Zion Episcopal Church in Wappingers Falls. Thirty-two girls in grades 5-8 registered for 6 hours about the "maze" of first impressions, stereotypes, friendships, cliques, and bullying. The format of large group interactive games followed by small group discussions and individual reflection proved both popular and effective. Much thanks goes to Gwen Higgins who led the games and to Mary Ann Boylan who facilitated.

Sunday, **February 8**, forty girls in grades 5-12 came to New Hackensack Reformed Church for a workshop in making jewelry to keep or donate to the Piggy Bank Bazaar, a community service for children to shop for holiday presents. Carol Ray and Joan and Paul Kavanaugh, assisted by additional members of the church, taught the girls beading and wire techniques.

Upcoming programs are a **Room Decor Workshop on February 13**, a **Pins and Needles Sampler on March 13**, and **Environmental Games and Crafts on April 10**. All are on 6:30-8:30 pm at R.C. Ketcham High School on Myers Corners Road. We always welcome more AAUW members, and would especially like some extra hands on March 13. ■

JOIN US ON THE BRIDGE

Salute to International Women's Day

Cecilia Dinio-Durkin womensworkbw@yahoo.com

**Saturday, March 7
9 - 11:30 am**

**61 Parker Ave.,
Poughkeepsie**

International Women's Day is a celebration of women around the world and an opportunity to educate people about women's issues. **Join us to hear inspirational speeches, learn how to get involved and walk together in solidarity across the Walkway Over the Hudson.** The keynote address will be delivered by Vassar College President Catharine Bond Hill.



The picture above is of the wristlet made by Women's Work's Cambodian group and helps to foster the livelihood of women with disabilities. They will be given to the first 300 people to arrive at the Bridge on March 7. ■

THANK YOU POUGHKEEPSIE DAY SCHOOL!

Betty Harrell *462-2141*

Students from the school have been involved with the *Leading to Reading* project for several years. They have visited pre-school classrooms, put together family reading kits, and brainstormed questions to place in our books. **Their most recent event was a book drive in which parents could donate a book to the project.** The new books were delivered in January and will soon be distributed throughout Dutchess County.

Their support is greatly appreciated! ■



HAPPY 200th BIRTHDAY!

ELIZABETH CADY STANTON

AAUW-NYS District IV Conference

Peggy Kelland *297-0507* Peggy.Kelland@gmail.com

Symposium "Her Story - 2015: Our History is Our Strength"

March 21, 2015

8:30 am – 3:30 pm

BOCES VOTEC

2755 RT 67, Johnstown, NY

The conference for women is being presented by the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium (ECSWC). Members of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) from the Schenectady, Albany, Poughkeepsie and Kingston branches are expected to attend the Symposium which will also serve as the AAUW-NYS District IV Conference.



This year celebrates the 200th anniversary of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's birth. Stanton, the leader in the Women's Suffrage movement, was born and raised in Johnstown, NY.

There will be 3 workshop sessions with three choices each. One workshop will be offered by **Greta Nettleton**, author of *The Quack's Daughter, A true story about the private life of a Victorian college girl*. Nettleton's great grandmother, Dr. Rebecca J. Keck, was the "Quack" physician referred to in the title of the book. The true story came from the diaries of Rebecca's daughter, Cora Keck, who attended Vassar College in 1886. The luncheon program will be a conversation with **Coline Jenkins, the Great-Great Granddaughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton** conducted by Stanton biographer Penny Coleman.

The registration fee of \$35 (made out to ECSWC) is due by March 6 to

**Laurie Kozakiewicz
PO Box 760, Caroga Lake, NY 12032.**

Additional information on the workshops at the Symposium may be downloaded and printed by going to our website www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

Special note from Peggy:

I will be driving to Johnstown on March 21st and will be happy to give you a ride or arrange car pools. Please let me know if you plan to attend as we need to know numbers for special AAUW activities.

ANTI-BULLYING WALKATHON

Diane Jablonski *485-6228*

Speak Up! Speak Out! You Matter!

**Saturday, April 25, 2015
Walkway Over the Hudson**

The Mediation Center of Dutchess County is sponsoring their fourth Anti-Bullying Walkathon on **April 25th on the Walkway Over the Hudson. Registration begins at 8:00 am and the walk commences at 9:00 am.** This is only one of the activities sponsored by the Mediation Center to counteract bullying. An annual Anti-Bullying Youth Summit is held in October, a conference where students participate in workshops and develop strategies to prevent and respond to bullying in their schools. In addition, the Center is working within several area schools to provide the renowned Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, an evidence-based whole school program that has been shown to reduce bullying up to 70 percent.

The theme for this year's Walkathon is **Speak Up! Speak Out! You Matter!** Mediation Center programs provide young women with the tools and support to help maintain their self-esteem and take initiatives to counteract bullying. Bullying is now recognized as a major health problem and we encourage you to let people know about the work being done to address a problem that more and more young people encounter. Jody Miller, Executive Director of the Mediation Center said: "In story after story, people described painful experiences and frustration in addressing bullying effectively. They asked for information and training to effectively address bullying, a go-to resource in Dutchess County that would involve the whole community." Everyone is welcome and we especially invite AAUW members to participate in the Walkathon or form teams to support the effort. More information can be found at <http://dutchessmediation.org/>

AAUW Members: Diane Jablonski, Board President, Jody Miller Executive Director, Mary Lou Heissenbuttel, former Board President. ■

HELP WANTED! HELP WANTED!

Maria DeWald, Community Liaison Chair

A column to suggest ways you might volunteer in AAUW for our many community initiatives and events. This column will appear as needed.

The annual **Writers' Tea and auction** needs you! This is AAUW Poughkeepsie's major fundraiser and supports the efforts of the organization's community initiatives plus several scholarships. The auction at the Tea provides the majority of the funds raised. **Please help to procure an auction item or help with organization and setup to make this the most successful auction ever! Please come too!!** Contact Linda Roberts, 227-5287 or olsen241@aol.com . ■



SEXUAL ABUSE ON CAMPUS

Susie Blecker 462-7074 iblecker@aol.com

Poughkeepsie AAUW will join with the **Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church** and **Shir Chadash Synagogue** in presenting an informational program regarding Safety on Campus for Young Women, Model Campus Programs, and Legislative Issues regarding this issue.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2015
7:00 PM**

**FREEDOM PLAINS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
Route 55, opposite Arlington HS



The speaker at this program will be **Anne Hedgepeth, AAUW's government relations manager.** Anne has become the AAUW spokesperson and congressional representative regarding sexual abuse on campus.

Also, as a part of her advocacy work, Anne establishes relationships with key congressional offices, the presidential administration, coalition partners, and AAUW's network of members and supporters. Anne amplifies AAUW's voice on public policy priorities including paid sick days, paid leave, the Family and Medical Leave Act, career and technical education, workforce training, community colleges, higher education, nontraditional occupations for women, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and the Violence Against Women Act. She also manages the AAUW Action Fund Capitol Hill Lobby Corps, which organizes more than 30 local AAUW members and students who speak out on Capitol Hill weekly. She has a bachelor of arts in economics from Davidson College and a master of public policy from George Mason University.

Copy and paste this link into your browser to hear Anne speak at the NYS Summer Conference

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-pV0HhLZ9Z0> or go to www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org and view the video from our home page. ■

CTAUN - Committee For Teaching About The United Nations Conference Peggy Kelland*297-0507*

On January 30, Mary Lou Davis, Joan Monk, Mary Ann Boylan, Gwen Higgins, and I attended the CTAUN conference at the UN in New York City. The theme this year was "The UN at 70: Making a Difference," with the keynote address by Bob Clark, the Acting Director of the FDR Presidential Library. He spoke about Franklin Roosevelt's steps to establish the United Nations from as early as 1939, and of Eleanor's key efforts in creating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Other speakers included UN staff and the ambassadors from Sri Lanka and Palau. They addressed peacekeeping to protect noncombatants and peace building to end conflicts. Advances in education were a positive note, while on the other hand we were reminded of the ongoing threats of climate change and of nuclear weapons. This annual conference is always informative and inspiring. It has long had many AAUW members both on the planning committee and as attendees. ■

WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2015

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

Please submit your nominations for 2015 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 2015, please use the form found on our website: <http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org> under Resources/Woman of the Year or use the search function.

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. ■

HUDSON VALLEY PHILHARMONIC STRING COMPETITION

Barbara Van Itallie bvanitallie@yahoo.com

Please join AAUW members Barbara Mindel, Barbara Van Itallie, 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 21-22**. 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 on Saturday from about 9:00 am to 4:00 pm with each competitor playing brief selections from the required repertoire; the semi-final round is Sunday 10:00 am – noon. The final round is Sunday, starting at 3:00 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 Van Itallie at bvanitallie@yahoo.com . ■

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN'S CONFERENCE (CSW)

Join us for a day of the parallel events!!

Christie VanHorne *337-6090* christievanhorne@gmail.com

The fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women will take place at United Nations Headquarters in New York from **March 9 – 20, 2015**.

For the past 2 years, Poughkeepsie AAUW members have attended parallel events organized by NGOs taking place outside United Nations premises, in the Church Center (located at the intersection of 44th Street and First Avenue, across from the UN Secretariat building) or other locations.

A new procedure this year, everyone must pre-register for the events (this is a general registration not for a particular event). If you're interested in going, please register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ngo-csw-forum-registration-13715889595>. You can join the organization if you'd like or just register for the event for free.

As of yet, there is no list of side events, so as in previous years, we will pick a day to go and attend the presentations offered on that day.

As of now we do not have enough interest for a bus as we did in the past two years. However, we are planning to pick a day and go by train to attend the parallel events.

If you are interested, please send your email to Christie VanHorne christievanhorne@gmail.com and she will contact you when a date has been chosen.

Of course, you are free to go any day you wish, but you might **enjoy the camaraderie of a group and the discussion on the way home.**

We look forward to hearing from you, Christie and Cecilia ■

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. Officers 2014-2015

President	Barbara Van Itallie	462-3924
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	Katherine Friedman	485-8671
Treasurer	Diane Jablonski	485-6228
Membership 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.

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).