



JEFFREY T. SAMMONS

Introducing the second of our two authors to be featured at the

Writers' Tea & Auction

May 15, 2016

2:30 – 6:00 pm

The Links at Union Vale

<http://patch.com/new-york/gardencity/>

Jeffrey T. Sammons, Ph.D., is a professor of history at New York University (NYU) where he has taught since 1989. Before joining

NYU, he taught at the University of Houston and worked as a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. Dr. Sammons has also taught at Princeton University and at Hollins University as a Jessie Ball duPont Scholar.

In 1987, Dr. Sammons was named a Henry Rutgers Research Fellow at Rutgers University-Camden where he authored his critically acclaimed book *Beyond the Ring: The Role of Boxing in American Society*. Dr. Sammons received a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship in 2001, following a research fellowship he received at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in 2001. This research led him to co-author the book *Harlem's Rattlers and the Great War: The Undaunted 369th Regiment and the African American Quest for Equality* with John H. Morrow, Jr. Currently, he is working on a book about race and golf.



Dr. Sammons is also a national senator of the Phi Beta Kappa Society and a member of the Museum and Library Committee of the United States Golf Association.

Additional information is linked from the home page at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

Join Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW and the World Affairs Council:

PUSHING BEYOND the CHADOR in IRAN

Presented by: Susan Sprachman

Thursday, March 10, 2016

7:00 pm

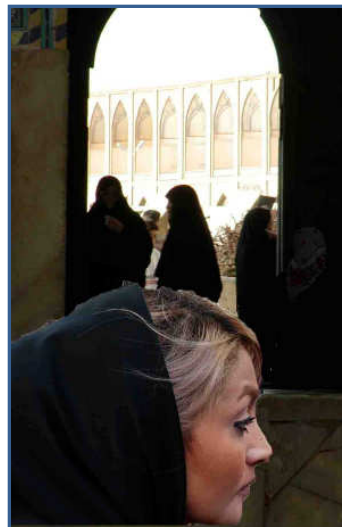
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall
67 South Randolph Ave., Poughkeepsie



March's program is a must see. Susan Sprachman, our speaker, in retirement is focusing on her photography. She spent four years in Iran from 1974 – 1977 and has returned regularly since 2001.

In her words about her presentation: *“The beauty of its countryside, tiled mosques, and complex bazaars strikes travelers to Iran. It is easy to look at the coverings required of women and see only black. Yet, during each visit to Iran I am fascinated by the ways in which women's clothing can reflect a sense of self that cannot be suppressed, and how these choices can reflect the politics of the moment.”*

In her presentation, Susan will introduce us to the topography, villages and cities of Iran and will show us how women in tribal areas make choices in the way they dress and interpret the imposed clothing restrictions.



Continued page 3

MARCH CALENDAR

Online Calendar at www.aaupoughkeepsie.org

Contact: Kathy Friedman kfriedman33@gmail.com

- 1 **World Travelers: 7:00 pm**
TBA
Reservations: Jeanette Cantwell (452-4188)
AAUWtravelers@gmail.com
 - 2 **The Ediss Book Group: 7:00 pm**
Book: *The Signature of All Things* by Elizabeth Gilbert
Hostess: Cathy Lane (229-1036)
Coordinator: Celia Serotsky (473-8426)
 - 3 **Board Meeting: 7:00 pm**
St. John's Lutheran Church, Wilbur Blvd., Poughkeepsie
 - 4 **Extending Girls' Horizons: 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm**
"Project Paper and Print." See page 4
 - 5 **International Women's Day: 8:30-11:00 am**
Details page 5.
 - 7 **Live Your Dream Girls' Conference Planning: 7:00 pm** St. John's Lutheran Church
 - 7 **Word Games: 2:00 pm**
Hostess: Maria Ong (592-1637)
Coordinator: Betsy Vivas (485-2379)
 - 8 **Gourmet: Out & About: 6:30 pm**
The Mill, 46 Vassar Road, Poughkeepsie
Contact: Mary Ann Boylan (462-2504)
Kay Saderholm (229-8545) Ksaderholm@aol.com
 - 8 **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
 - 10 **"The Branch" deadline for April.**
 - 10 **General Membership Program: 7:00 pm**
All members are invited and encouraged to attend – see details on page 1.
 - 11 **Daytime Literature: 10:00 am**
Book: *Fortune's Children: The Fall of the House of Vanderbilt* by Arthur Vanderbilt
The Manor at Woodside, 168 Academy, Pok.
Coordinators: : Leona Miller (471-0777) & Vicki Greenberg (462-6763)
 - 11 **Woman of the Year Nominations deadline see page 6.**
 - 13 **Aventures en Soleil: 12:00 pm**
Clove Creek Dinner Theater, Outlet Mall, Fishkill
Contact: Linda Ronayne, (897-9745) or inronay@optonline.net
Coordinator: Ruth Sheets (473-6202)
 - 14 **All those books...: 2:30 pm**
Book: *Kidnapped* by Robert Louis Stevenson
Hostess: Peggy Kelland smkell45@aol.com
Coordinator: Carol Loizides (452-3208)
 - 15 **Cuisine: 6:30 pm**
Pi (In recognition of Pi Day 3/14)
Recipes: Barbara Lemberger, brleberger@yahoo.com
Hostess: Gabriella Drasny (471-5406) & Ann Smith (229-9862)
Coordinator: Barbara Lemberger
brleberger@yahoo.com
 - 16 **Bridge I: 1:00 - 4:00 pm**
Hostess: Lillian DePasquale (462-4729)
Coordinators: Linda Ronayne (897-9745) & Mary Ann Ryan (897-9679)
 - 16 **Bus trip to CSW in New York City.** Details page 7.
 - 18 **Poetry & Play Readings: 2:00 pm**
Selected Poetry Readings
Hostess: Pat Luczai, pat.luczai@gmail.com
Coordinators: Jackie Sweeney & Carol Loizides e.loizides@verizon.net
 - 18 **Diversity, One Out of Many People: 5:30 pm**
LGBTB Panel Discussion
DCC, Taconic Hall, Room 103
Coordinator: Jacqueline Goffe-McNish (471-7220)
mcnish@suny dutchess.edu
 - 19 **Bridge 3: 10:00 am**
Hostess: Roni Cavalla (462-4878)
Coordinator: Donna Reichner dlr0804@verizon.net
 - 21 **CSW Workshop presented by Geeta Desai – join us.** Details page 7.
 - 21 **Manderley Literary Society: 7:30 pm**
Book: *The Art of Hearing Heartbeats* by Jan-Philipp Sendker
Hostess: Helen Buhler (473-0665)
Coordinator: Rochelle Friedman (462-4996)
 - 23 **Mah Jongg: Noon - 4:00 pm**
Uno Chicago Grill – Lunch
Contact Blanche (462-3955) by March 21
Coordinator: Blanche Bergman
blanchebergman@gmail.com
 - 23 **Contemporary Literature: 7:30 pm**
Book: *The Girl You Left Behind* by JoJo Moyes
Hostess: TBA
Coordinators: Ann Wade (229-5267) & Linda Freisitzer (266-5427)
 - 24 **Bridge II: 12:00-4:00 pm**
Uno Chicago Grill – Lunch (\$15)
Coordinator: Cathy Kinn cathy@kinn.org
 - 24 **Pins & Needles: 7:00 pm**
UFP's – Unfinished Products
Hostess: Dina Gleeson (229-8458)
Coordinators: Arlene Seligman (297-0006) & Mary Ann Williams (868-7465)
 - 31 **Court Monitors Training: 9:00 am - 4:30 pm**
Boardman Road Library. See page 4
- Art on the Go: No meeting in March**
Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)
- Pedal Pushers:**
Watch for our return on April 6.
Meeting Point:
Route:
Coordinator: Sheila Zweifler sheilaz@optonline.net
- Trekkers:**
Back on the trails in April!
Organizer:
Coordinator: Tori Smith (345-0043)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

Saratoga in the Spring

AAUW NEW YORK STATE CONVENTION
Holiday Inn, Saratoga Springs,
April 15-17, 2016

Make your reservations and pack your bag to attend the AAUW New York State Convention this year in Saratoga Springs New York. It will be held **Friday through Sunday, April 15 to 17**. The weekend will be filled with panels and speakers on topics of importance to us in AAUW, the state elections, fun activities and a chance to meet other AAUW members from around the state.

Some highlights:

Our own **Geeta Desai will be running for the office of State Program Vice President**. Geeta is a past-president of Poughkeepsie Branch and a recognized speaker on global women's issues. The election is held during the business meeting on Saturday morning.

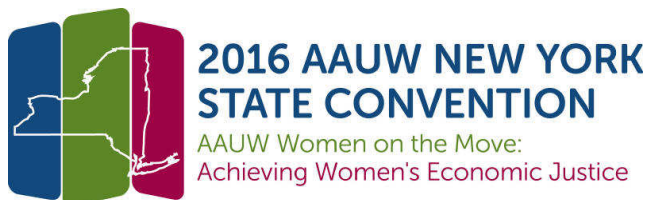
Beverly Neufeld, Founder of PowHerNY, will be the keynote speaker on Friday evening as well as part of a Saturday morning panel, "The Path Towards Women's Economic Achievement". PowHer New York is an inclusive statewide network committed to securing economic equality for all New York women. The panel will also include the training director for a Sheet Metal Workers Union, a director at the Workforce Development Institute and the Orange County YWCA Executive Director.

On Saturday afternoon there will be a **number of breakout sessions** on topics such as achieving paid sick leave in New York State, an update on the status of legislation impacting women and families in New York, how to get women into STEM careers and strategies for lifting women out of poverty.

At the Saturday evening dinner state awards are presented; our branch is always in the running for several awards. Be there to cheer us on! The keynote speaker at the dinner is **Sheila Abdus-Salaam, Associate Justice of the NYS Court of Appeals**.

Saratoga Springs is about a two hour drive from Poughkeepsie. As you know, Saratoga Springs is a charming town in itself. **The convention is also the Soleil trip for April so you will be hearing more about this from Soleil**. If you cannot come for the entire weekend, consider one or two days.

Registration details are on the AAUW-NYS website, <http://www.aauw-nys.org/convention.htm>. The registration deadline is March 30. Please let me know if you plan to attend.



Scenes of Saratoga Springs

Continued from page 1 Column 2

SUSAN SPRACHMAN

Susan Sprachman became full-time resident of the Hudson Valley after retiring from a position as Senior Survey Researcher at Mathematica Policy Research in Princeton, NJ in 2014. In this position she led the development and implementation of major research projects looking at early childhood development and education. She was able to indulge her passion for travel when she and her husband joined the Peace Corps and spent two years in Afghanistan. Afghanistan was followed by graduate school at the University of Chicago where she completed a Divisional Masters in Social Science, combining her interests in the Middle East and child development.

Her travels have taken her to India, Turkey, Tunisia, Morocco, China, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Burma, Ethiopia, Kenya, and most countries of Europe.

She has shown her work in juried shows at the Woodstock Artists Association and Museum and the Art Society of Kingston, and gave an earlier version of this presentation for Arts Mid-Hudson. She is a trustee of the Ulster County Historical Society, a member of the Marletown Historic Preservation Commission, and a volunteer with the Court Appointed Special Advocates of Ulster County (CASA).

Questions: Sandy Goldberg, 297-7670 sajgold@aol.com & Betsy Kopstein-Stuts, 485-7044 bkopstein@hotmail.com

SAVE THE DATE!!

Summer Leadership Conference
July 22-24, 2016
Cazenovia, NY

- ▶ 3 days of learning, planning and fun
- ▶ AAUW members from across the state
 - ▶ beautiful upstate location
 - ▶ all members of AAUW are invited

Questions: Betty Harrel (462-2141) or Margaret Nijhuis (635-8612)

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, Marge Barton, Mary Ann Boylan
Joan Cordani, Patricia DeLeo, Lillian DePasquale,
Ruth Gau, Gloria Gibbs, Sandy Goldberg,
Jacqueline Prusak, Terry Schneider

Sponsors (\$10 or more)

Ann Wade

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

"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 Sue Doyle who will be inducted into the Dutchess Community College Alumni Hall of Fame at their gala on March 19. Congratulations, Sue!

Hats Off to Lila Meade whose Haiti Project continues to grow with an Haitian Art & Handcraft Sale in Washington, DC on Feb 5-7.

Hats Off to Betty Harrel and the women of "Leading to Reading" who have received over \$7,000 and 100 books in the last two months. See page 8

IRENE KEYES MEMORIAL FUND

SCHOLARSHIP from Poughkeepsie AAUW

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

We are advertizing, emailing and calling on educators to spread the word about this wonderful scholarship. **The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) is scheduled for June 2-4, 2016 at the University of Maryland, College Park.**

The scholarship we offer covers the registration fee as well as all scheduled meals and housing from Thursday to Saturday. A travel stipend will also be included. This conference helps college and university women develop leadership skills, network with other student leaders and interact with women who hold leadership positions. **The 2015 Woman of Distinction is Debbie Sterling, engineer and founder of the innovative toy company Goldie Blox, who aims to disrupt the pink aisle and inspire the next generation of engineers!** <https://www.nccwsl.org/2015/02/26/debbie-sterling/>

Please help spread the word about this wonderful opportunity. "Word of mouth" is very powerful! Please call with questions or recommendations.

EXTENDING GIRLS' HORIZONS

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

In March we again repeat a successful program from two years ago. On **Friday, March 4**, we are presenting "**Project Paper and Print**," a variety of crafts for girls. Last time we had more than twenty stations, and most of the girls completed 3-5 projects of their choice. We will be meeting at R.C. Ketcham High School in the cafeteria from 6:30-8:30. We are seeking AAUW members to assist that evening. All directions will be provided - or you can teach a craft of your own.



Friday, April 15, brings "**Wild!**" a series of games that teach about wildlife and the balance of nature. Last spring Gwen Higgins, Mary Ann Boylan, Marcine Humphrey, and I took the training offered by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation at Greenvale Park in order to share this program with the girls. Come join the fun.

Thank You to Our Members

On January 8, **Gwen Higgins, Mary Ann Boylan, and Lynda Bryne** presented "The View From You". Then on January 31 **Gwen and Peggy** took last year's successful middle school age Cadette Journey "Amaze" to the Girl Scouts of Larchmont. They were most appreciative and were interested in attending Poughkeepsie's upcoming Girls' Conference. We will be returning to Larchmont on February 13 to lead the second part of this series on dealing with first impressions, stereotyping, friendships, cliques, peer pressure, and bullying.

February 7 saw a repeat of the popular Jewelry Workshop at New Hackensack Reformed Church to benefit the annual Piggy Bank Bazaar, a low cost holiday shopping experience for children. Almost thirty girls took part, along with adult volunteers from the Girl Scouts and AAUW.

Poughkeepsie AAUW members plan the programs and provide presenters, while the Girl Scouts arrange for venues, girls, chaperones, and insurance.

REMINDER FOR THOSE WISHING TO TRAIN TO BE COURT MONITORS

Please email Ann Pinna, ajpinna@aol.com as soon as possible (if you have not already done so) if you wish to be trained to become a court monitor.



The date of training will be **Thursday, March 31, 2016 from 9 AM - 4:30 PM at the Boardman Road Library.**

DIVERSITY: WHAT IS IT?

Jacqueline Goffe-McNish mcnish@sunydutchess.edu

Recently State University of New York requested **all SUNY campuses to designate someone as a diversity director**. We have created a diversity council at DCC which meets regularly to address issues and propose plans for fostering respect for differences. **AAUW has a diversity committee** which creates multiple programs for our local group. During September, October, and November the **Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-kill sponsored a variety of diversity workshops** and have vowed to continue the conversation. These are a few of the activities with which I am familiar addressing and have actively participated. **I leave each activity**, still wondering if this will make a difference how we see each other, how we live together, and how we respect each other. What can we do to make diversity more than simply a topic of discussion?

1. **We can learn about different people and lifestyles.**

This does not mean that we have to embrace different lifestyles but we must learn to respect people and their choices. This should include serious study of the culture of the people. As AAUW, we can provide access to this information and a forum for discussion.

2. **We could recognize that each person has value.** As Hopson and Hopson in their sociology text writes, we are different and wonderful. This would mean that we would reject stereotypes and accept people for who they are without labeling them. This would force us to look beyond our narrow view of the world.

3. **We could force ourselves to step beyond ourselves.** Most time we enter situations with a foregone conclusion about that particular setting. It is really easy to live in a box to pretend that uncomfortable situations do not exist.

4. **We could remember that diversity is not "less than."** Diverse people, women, immigrants, underrepresented minorities, people of color, Latinos, GBLT, non-Christians do not occupy an inferior place. It is not a place for "outsiders." It is not even an exotic place or people. It is part of our everyday existence. We have a symbiotic existence. We help each other to be our "best selves."

5. **Finally, we can participate in activities created to bring us together.** These activities are meant to educate us and help us to find a common good in everyone. This is not meant to create privilege but level the playing ground for all participants.

AAUW Poughkeepsie, let us declare 2016 the year of real inclusion.



CTAUN CONFERENCE

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

Gwen Higgins, Joan Monk, and I went to the United Nations on January 22 for the annual conference of the **Committee for Teaching About the United Nations (CTAUN)**. This year's topic, *Sustainable Development*, was timely and informative. You can personally learn more on this topic by attending the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), on **March 16 and March 21 (See page 7)**. I hope many of you are able to take advantage of this opportunity.

SALUTE TO INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Sabashnee Govender *914/850-0195* Sabashnee@aol.com

Please join fellow AAUW Poughkeepsie Branch members to celebrate International Women's Day to support our mission of advancing equity for women and girls. **Questions:** Contact Sabashnee.

Saturday, March 5, 2016 - 8:30-11:00 am

at

Walkway Over The Hudson (Poughkeepsie)

International Women's Day is both a celebration of women around the world and an opportunity to educate people about the plight of women in other countries. Thousands of events occur not just on these days, but throughout March to mark the economic, political and social achievements of women.

This year's theme is "Fit Women make Fit Leaders." **Dr. Pamela Edington of DCC is the keynote speaker. Krista Jones of Sparrow's Nest is the guest speaker** and will announce the 2016 nonprofit of the year.



The candidates for 2016 nonprofit of the year are:

Astor Services for Children & Families, Children's Home of Poughkeepsie, Eleanor Roosevelt Leadership Center at Val-Kill, Girl Scouts - Heart of the Hudson, and Omega Women's Leadership Center

There will be entertainment provided by the Poughkeepsie High School Choir conducted by Joe North, Kyleigh Rothmand and Evergreen Chorus of the Sweet Adelines.

Shuttle service will be provided between the Highland and Poughkeepsie side of the walkway by The Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel & Conference Center.

Refreshments provided by Sam's Club.

Samples provided by Hudson Valley Skin Care.

LOOKING AHEAD

Apr 12: Wine Bowl at Piano Piano Bar, Fishkill, 3-6 pm
Page 8.

Apr 14: Maria Itoni, Hudson Valley & Westchester Area Director, The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. She will focus on suicide, depression and symptoms for all of us to beware of before the situation becomes dire.

Apr 15 - 17: AAUW-NYS Convention, Saratoga,
this page column 1

May 15: Writers' Tea & Auction, page 1, 6, 8 and 9.

Jun 9: Annual Dinner, Poughkeepsie Grand,
Speaker: **Lisa Ghartey**, page 6.

Jul 22-24: Summer Leadership Conference, see page 3

Nov 5: "Live Your Dream Girls' Conference" at DCC

It's Time Already to Think About WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2016

Co-chairs: Carol Barmann 845-229-9063
cbargirl@aol.com
& Joanne Long 845-229-0664
nanajo851027@aol.com



***Please submit your nominations for
2016 Woman of the Year by
Friday March 11, 2016 !!***

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 2016, please use the form to print and mail found on our website:
<http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org> under Resources/Woman of the Year or use the search function. Mail to:

Carol Barmann, 22 Julia Drive, Hyde Park, NY 12538

OR

Joanne Long, 106 Roosevelt Road, Hyde Park, NY 12538

You may also send your nomination to: Carol Barmann or Joanne Long by email: cbargirl@aol.com or nanajo851027@aol.com. Be sure to include the information requested on the online form.

If you encounter difficulty downloading the form, feel free to contact either Carol or Joanne for assistance.

THE AUCTION IS COMING!!

We need your wonderful items and ideas!

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

Winter is almost over and Spring not far behind! That means that our annual **Writers' Tea and Auction May 15** will be here before you know it.

Our Auction committee is diligently working to make this event our most successful one yet. **Remember, it is our only fundraiser and supports so many of our Branch's Programs.** We need the help and support of our many bright and talented members to reach our goals.

The list of donated items for the Auction is growing every day but we need a lot more. If you may be thinking about putting together a basket for a group that you are in or on your own, check out the many ideas by getting an app for Pinterest or at <http://giftbaskethelp.com/gbb/gift-basket-ideas.shtml>. Original art always sells well, so many of our members are very talented artists who generously donate their work every year.

Continued on page 8...

MEMBERSHIP COUNTS

Susie Blecker *462-7074* iblecker@aol.com

It's hard to believe it's already March. With no bitter cold weather or snow on the ground, the leaves on my trees are starting to bud and it's only St. Patrick's Day! It looks like the groundhog was right, and Spring will arrive early this year and we can start looking forward to warmer weather and the Writers' Tea!

I am thrilled to report that as of this week, we have a total of thirty-four new AAUW members who have joined our organization since last summer. AAUW has a great deal to offer, and it's rewarding to see women in the Poughkeepsie area becoming part of our branch. On that note, it gives me great pleasure to welcome new member:

Ruth Wally

In addition we want to welcome back members

**Diana Babington
Ruth Kava**

We are so pleased that you have decided to renew your AAUW membership. You have been missed.

All of our new members are anxious to get involved in the many activities we offer. **Please invite them to join you at an interest group or initiative meeting or at one of the fabulous general membership programs we have coming up this Spring. Encourage them to attend the Writers' Tea on May 15th and the Annual Dinner at the Poughkeepsie Grand on June 9th.**

This month we also have some **updates to the directory**. This list is attached to the email announcing the publication of the newsletter. Please print and put with your 2015-2016 directory.

Finally, I want to welcome **Sheila Zweifler** who will be my **assistant** starting immediately. Being the membership chair of AAUW is a very rewarding job, but it also is a lot work. Sheila will be working with me for now on and I am thrilled to have her help, advice and support. **Thanks Sheila for volunteering to be my "right hand woman"!**

ANNUAL DINNER

**Thursday, June 9, 2016
at 6:00 pm**

The Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel

Guest speaker will be **Lisa Ghartey** who is the Assistant Commissioner, Child Welfare and Community Services of the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)





Sabashnee Govender *914/850-0195* Sabashnee@aol.com

Meet us on the bus: March 16, 2016

There has been a lot of enthusiasm by our members to join The Bus trip to the UN to attend the Parallel events of CSW 60 (Commission on the Status of Women 60th year). The Trip is scheduled for March 16, 2016. This coincides with the National AAUW presentation. The presentation will address the theme of CSW 60: *Women's Empowerment / Sustainable Development*.

For a brief history on CSW please check out this link: www.unwomen.org/en/csw/brief-history.

Here is the information for the bus trip:

- Depart Place:** Poughkeepsie Plaza
2600 South Rd,
Poughkeepsie, NY
- Depart Date:** Wednesday – March 16, 2016
- Depart Time:** 7:30 am
- Destination:** United Nations Visitors Center
(The bus will drop us off and pick us up here)
- Return Time:** 7:30 pm (Approximate)
- Cost:** Members **\$24**
Non-members **\$26**

The Parallel events for CSW60 will be held in the Church Center Building, Salvation Army and Thai Cultural Center in NYC. The Schedule for the parallel events will be available around February 15, 2016. You may attend 3-4 sessions.

Please let me know ASAP if you would like to join us. Seats are still available but going fast. The trip is now open to non-members. **Please feel free to invite your interested family and friends.**

You can e-mail me at Sabashnee@aol.com should you have questions or would like to RSVP.

Please make your check payable to Poughkeepsie AAUW Branch, Inc and mail them to:

**Sabashnee Govender
8 Maplebrook Lane
New Paltz, New York, 12561.**

Please send your check to me by **February 26, 2016.**

A follow up meeting to share our experiences of attending the parallel events as well as a **viewing of a documentary on women street vendors in Vietnam is planned for April or May 2016.**

CSW DAY TWO – MARCH 21

Sabashnee Govender *914/850-0195* Sabashnee@aol.com

For those of you who are unable to join us on the trip on March 16 but would like to attend on another date may I suggest March 21, 2016.

AAUW Poughkeepsie member **Geeta Desai** will be presenting on behalf of Women Graduates - USA on the **“Elimination of Street Sexual Harassment of Women”** on

Monday 21, at 2:30 pm.

This is a panel discussion that will use India as a lens through which to see a problem that is seen as a benign problem in patriarchal societies but which in fact is linked to serious crimes against women including rape. Panelists are expected from India as well as the Permanent Mission of India to the UN.

Some of our members are planning to attend this session as well so let me know if this date suits your schedule better.

STACKS AND STACKS OF BOOKS!

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

Picture crates filled with bright, colorful books. Picture AAUW members sorting, counting, labeling and packing these books. Picture bags of books being delivered to agencies throughout Dutchess County.

Picture members reading to young children, eliciting giggles, smiles and a great deal of enthusiasm. Now you've got a vision of Leading to Reading!



In the past two months, we have been fortunate to receive overwhelming support from the community. Please let our dedicated sponsors know how much we appreciate them.

Adams provided 200 bags with handles to carry the books to each of our partner agencies.

Five members of **Kohl's Associates in Action** joined us in gift wrapping toys and books for children in a temporary shelter, Hudson River Lodging. The company donated \$500 in support of their efforts.

The **Wappingers Congress of Retired Teachers** donated \$100 in promotion of our early literacy program.

The **McCann Charitable Trust** gave us a \$5,000 grant to support our community outreach project.

Following a party hosted by **Leading to Reading member Janna Whearty, Paintbrushes and Party** donated \$155 to our program.

The **Greenspan Charitable Trust** gave us \$1500 to purchase books and reading packet materials.

Books for Kids, along with sponsor Barnes and Noble, allowed us to select 100 new books.

A HUGE thank you to all of our members and community supporters. Due to all of you, over the years 21,000 books have been distributed and hundreds of children had the opportunity to share reading activities with our celebrity readers!

Continued from page 6..

THE AUCTION IS COMING!!

Let's try to think out of the box to come up with things we haven't done before. One member is putting together a **Game Night for 8 people** complete with food and drink. Someone else mentioned possibly offering a "**Bread of the Month Club.**" How about three months of cakes for you bakers? Try to get all the businesses and people you frequent on a regular basis to donate something; your salon, restaurant, club, etc. For example, we have many theater choices in this area, maybe some of them would want to donate tickets to performances.

We will also continue with our Raffle Basket. Tickets will be sold at the Tea and our committee members will have them for sale ahead of time. We will also have our Cash and Carry section. **Remember, we will only accept cash or checks in payment for auction items.**

So, please **come to the Tea and help with the Auction.** If you have ideas or suggestions for us or want to know what else you can do to help, please contact me or someone on my committee, their names are listed below. All contact information is in the directory.

Lula Allen	Susan Fink	Gloria Gibbs
Marcine Humphrey	Doris Kelly	Ginny Marcus
Barbara Mindel	Donna Reichner	Linda Roberts
Vivian Rose	Suzie Stoller	

Thank all of you for your continued support!

PUBLIC POLICY

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

Be Lysistrata!

Wine Bowl for Equal Pay!

Background: *The Branch*, February 2016, page 4.

The women of Greece, under the leadership of Lysistrata, dedicated themselves to ending war. They met around wine bowls and pledged to boycott sex until peace reigned. Maybe this could work for Equal Pay Day.

Can you be Greek for just one day?

In the spirit of the Greek heroines, be a goddess and join us at

Piano Piano Bar

281 Main Street in Fishkill

Tuesday, April 12, 3:00-6:00

to share a wine bowl happy hour and support Equal Pay Day. Let's end the 22 cent gap. Celebrate the progress made on fair pay and commit to bringing equality to women's pay in the workplace.


AAUW Poughkeepsie is the recipient of a county wide proclamation recognizing the unfair and unequal pay women receive in the workplace. NY has passed recent legislation that includes measures to toughen protections against sexual harassment in the workplace and stop employers from basing pay decisions on gender. NY Progress for Women's Rights also includes protecting pregnant women from discrimination in the workplace, tougher penalties against human trafficking and a law preventing discrimination against domestic violence victims in public housing. **But it's not enough.** AAUW remains committed to its pursuit of passing the Paycheck Fairness Act, the companion to the federal Lily Ledbetter Act, and Family Leave Act.

Share olives, cheeses and other light snacks while you sip wine (or a substitute beverage) and 22 cents will be donated to local women's causes for every beverage sold. Sign a postcard to remind our politicians we are watching them and that you are monitoring their actions toward equal pay. **But most importantly, share in the casual discussion and recognition of Equal Pay Day.** We don't have to be quiet or shy about salary anymore. The invitation is open, but a heads up count would help the kitchen with food preparation pattide2@optonline.net. Feel free to bring a friend!

Remember Lysistrata and the women of Greece. If they could do it, we can too, and remember what not to do on April 12...

Presented by
American Association of University Women
and Association of Women at Dutchess Community College

Saturday, November 5, 2016
8:30am - 2:30pm
at Dutchess Community College



For 6th and 7th Grade Girls

<p>Explore</p> <p>Connect</p> <p>Dream</p>	<p>Conference Mission</p> <p>To provide a forum for girls from diverse backgrounds that will promote sisterhood, foster healthy decision-making, nurture a vision for the future and strengthen each girl's confidence.</p>	<p>Discover</p> <p>Imagine</p> <p>Create</p>
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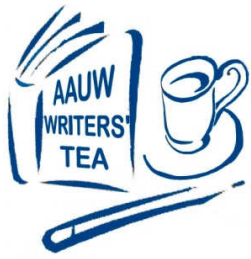
Space is limited!

Contact Lori Scolaro at lori.scolaro@sunydutchess.edu to reserve your space.

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. Officers 2015-2016

President	Barbara Van Itallie	462-3924
Program V.P.	Sandy Goldberg	297-7670
	Betsy Kopstein-Stuts	485-7044
Membership V.P.	Susie Blecker	462-7074
Educ. Foundation V.P.	Linda Roberts	227-5287
Secretary	Katherine Friedman	485-8671
Treasurer	Diane Jablonski	485-6228
Membership Treasurer	Mary Anne Hogarty	221-0203

Association website: www.aauw.org
NY State website: www.aauw-nys.org
Poughkeepsie Branch website: www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org



7th Annual Writers' Tea & Auction

Sunday, May 15, 2016
2:30 ~ 6:00 pm

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

Featured Writers

Meet two area 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.



Lucinda Franks
"Timeless: Love, Morgenthau, and Me"



Jeffrey T. Sammons
"Harlem's Rattlers and the Great War:
The Undaunted 369th Regiment and the
Quest for African American Equality"

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 May 5, 2016

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


Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____

If you making reservations for more than one person list all additional names. _____

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

Make checks payable to: "Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc." [\$20 of the fee is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law]
Mail to: Patricia DeLeo, PO Box 542, Plattekill, NY 12568

To make reservations using **PayPal**, go to www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org, select the link to the tea from the home page, then select the PayPal button,  follow the onscreen directions. When PayPal asks for **special instructions to Seller**, click in that



box and type tea, your phone number and the full name of everyone you are including in your reservation. Your reservation details will be forwarded to the Tea Committee. You do not have to contact them separately.

Questions: 845/883-5181, event@aauwpoughkeepsie.org Open seating, no table reservations.

If you are unable to attend but would like to support our scholarship funds, community initiatives and events please write a check payable to "Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc." and mail it to Patricia DeLeo 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.