



## READY, SET, GO.....TO CAZENOVIA!

Join with members from around the state at the AAUW-NYS Summer Leadership Conference! It will be held July 22-24 at Cazenovia College, Cazenovia, NY.

Features this year include a national AAUW leader presenting **Work Smart/Start Smart**, a roundtable discussion on programming for success, workshops on developing leadership skills, and the chance to share ideas with other AAUW branches.

The conference is for ALL members!

For \$105 (\$110 for submitting paper registration) you'll have an **air conditioned room in a dormitory suite (each person has a private room), 6 meals, an ice cream social, a game night, lots of fun, and many good memories.** Registration is available on the AAUW-NYS website at [www.aauw-nys.org](http://www.aauw-nys.org).

We hope to see you there!

*Cazenovia 2016 Team*

**Questions:** Betty Harrel (462-2141) [bharrel28@gmail.com](mailto:bharrel28@gmail.com) or Margaret Nijhuis (635-8612) [margaretnijhuis@gmail.com](mailto:margaretnijhuis@gmail.com) ■

### EXTRA! EXTRA!

Our thanks to our amazing members and friends who attended/shopped at/contributed to the Writers' Tea & Auction. Our attendance was 132 but they were all good shoppers so our profits are approximately \$8,000. It is **still not too late to send contributions to support our scholarships and community projects to:**

**Pat DeLeo**  
PO Box 542, Plattekill, NY 12568.

*You are cordially invited:*

## Annual Meeting and Officer Installation Dinner

with guest speaker  
**Lisa Ghartey**



**Date:** Thursday, June 9, 2016

**Time:** Cash bar: 6:00 pm

Dinner: 6:30 pm

**Place:** The Poughkeepsie

Grand Hotel

40 Civic Center Plaza

Poughkeepsie, NY

**Cost:** \$45

Reservations required.

*Officers will be elected and installed, named scholarship honorees will be recognized and more.*

Biography of Lisa Ghartey is available at [www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org) ■

### RESERVATION FOR ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 9, 2016

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

**The cost is \$45 per person.**

Enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ attendee(s).

Make checks payable to: *Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.*

**Please mail reservations to:**

Sheila Zweifler

8 Van Duzer Drive

Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

**Reservations are due by May 31<sup>st</sup>**  
**(No refunds after June 1<sup>st</sup>)**

Open seating, no table reservations.

**Questions:** 845/462-6478 or [sheilaz@optonline.net](mailto:sheilaz@optonline.net)

## JUNE CALENDAR

Online Calendar at [www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org)

Contact: Kathy Friedman [kfriedman33@gmail.com](mailto:kfriedman33@gmail.com)

- 1 **The Ediss Book Group: 7:00 pm**  
Book: *Station Eleven* by Hillary St. John Mandel  
Hostess: Cathy Lane (229-1036)  
Coordinator: Celia Serotsky (473-8426)
- 2 **Board Meeting: 6:00 pm**  
*Business meeting and transition planning*  
St. John's Lutheran Church, Wilbur Blvd., Pok.
- 3 **Aventures en Soleil: 1:30 pm**  
*Chelsea Art Galleries Tour*  
Contact: Send check payable to **Ruth Sheets**,  
17 Stonehedge Dr. Poughkeepsie, by May 23.  
Coordinator: Ruth Sheets (473-6202)
- 6 **Word Games: 2:00 pm**  
Hostess: Gloria Gibbs (454-7262)  
Coordinator: Betsy Vivas (485-2379)
- 6 **Live Your Dream Girls' Conference Planning:**  
St John's Lutheran Church 7:00 pm  
*All help welcomed!!!*  
Contact: Diana Babington (471-5385)
- 7 **World Travelers: 7:00 pm**  
*Bhutan*  
Presenter & Hostess: Margaret Nijhuis (635-8612)  
Reservations: Jeanette Cantwell (452-4188)  
[AAUWtravelers@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWtravelers@gmail.com)
- 8 **Pedal Pushers: 10:00 am**  
*Bike to Town of Lloyd, 14 miles*  
Meeting point: Rail Trail parking lot on Overocker Rd.  
Leader: Sheila Zweifler (462-6478)  
Coordinator: Sheila Zweifler [sheilaz@optonline.net](mailto:sheilaz@optonline.net)
- 9 **Annual Dinner: 6:00 pm**  
*All members are invited and encouraged to attend*  
– see details on page 1 and website.
- 10 **Daytime Literature: 10:00 am**  
*Luncheon*  
Time and place TBA  
Coordinators: Leona Miller (471-0777) &  
Vicki Greenberg (462-6763)
- 11 **Bridge 3: 10:00 am**  
Hostess: Patty Cerniglia (298-7655)  
Coordinator: Donna Reichner [dlr0804@verizon.net](mailto:dlr0804@verizon.net)
- 12 **Gourmet: Out & About: 12:30 pm**  
*Brunch: Queen City Bistro, 206 Main St., Poughkeepsie*  
Contact: Mary Ann Boylan (462-2504)  
Kay Saderholm (229-8545) [Ksaderholm@aol.com](mailto:Ksaderholm@aol.com)
- 13 **All those books...: 1:00 pm**  
*Lunch and book selection*  
Shadows on the Hudson  
Coordinator: Carol Loizides (452-3208)
- 15 **Bridge I: 1:00 - 4:00 pm**  
Hostess: Sandy Goldberg (297-7670)  
Coordinators: Linda Ronayne (897-9745) &  
Mary Ann Ryan (897-9679)
- 17 **Poetry & Play Readings: 2:00 pm**  
*Lunch and Planning Meeting*  
Shadows on the Hudson  
Coordinators: Jackie Sweeney &  
Carol Loizides [e.loizides@verizon.net](mailto:e.loizides@verizon.net)

- 20 **Manderley Literary Society: 7:30 pm**  
*Pot Luck*  
Hostess: Mariellen Pangia (473-3545)  
Coordinator: Rochelle Friedman (462-4996)
- 21 **Cuisine: 6:30 pm**  
*BBQ*  
Hostess: Maria De Wald (266-4960)  
Coordinator: Barbara Lemberger  
[brlembarger@yahoo.com](mailto:brlembarger@yahoo.com)
- 22 **Mah Jongg: Noon - 4:00 pm**  
*Uno Chicago Grill – Lunch*  
Contact *Blanche* (462-3955) by June 20  
Coordinator: Blanche Bergman (462-3955)
- 22 **The Ediss Book Group: 6:00 pm**  
*Book Selection Pot Luck*  
Hostess: Betsy Kopstein-Stutts (485-7044)  
Coordinator: Celia Serotsky (473-8426)  
[Celiaser@aol.com](mailto:Celiaser@aol.com)
- 23 **Bridge II: 12:00-4:00 pm**  
*Uno Chicago Grill*  
Coordinator: Cathy Kinn [cathy@kinn.org](mailto:cathy@kinn.org)
- 24 **Art on the Go:**  
TBA  
Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)
- 25 **Diversity, One Out of Many People: Details on page 11.**  
Trip to NYC Burial Ground, Shomberg Museum  
Chairs: Carmen McGill (471-0264) &  
Sherre Wesley (464-4945)  
Coordinator: Jacqueline Goffe-McNish  
[mcnish@sunyutichess.edu](mailto:mcnish@sunyutichess.edu)

### Trekkers

June and summer TBA

Coordinator: Tori Smith (345-0043)

[tori.smith@globalfoundries.com](mailto:tori.smith@globalfoundries.com)

### NO MEETING IN JUNE

#### Contemporary Literature:

Coordinators: Ann Wade (229-5267) &  
Linda Freisitzer (266-5427)

#### Movie Night:

Director: Susan Osterhoudt (889-4469)

Producer: Diana Gleeson

#### Pins & Needles:

Coordinators: Arlene Seligman (297-0006) &  
Mary Ann Williams (868-7465)

## LOOKING AHEAD

**Jul 17 – 23: Diversity Trip to Jamaica**

Details at [www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org).

**Jul 22-24: Summer Leadership Conference**, see page 1.

**Oct 23: Woman of the Year honoring Krista Jones**,  
see page 5.

**Nov 5: “Live Your Dream Girls’ Conference”**  
at DCC, see page 6, 7, 10.

**Apr 21-23, 2017 AAUW-NYS Convention**  
Syracuse Doubletree Inn.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Barbara Van Itallie \*462-3924\* [bvanitallie@yahoo.com](mailto:bvanitallie@yahoo.com)

This is my final message as President since my term is coming to an end June 30. It has been my honor and pleasure to lead this group. As I have said in my previous messages, I am particularly pleased and proud of the contributions we have made to our community and to our members.

I believe that if you get something out of an organization, you should give back to it as well. So I am particularly happy when members who were not previously in leadership positions came forward during my term in office. **Diane Jablonski, Kathy Friedman, Sandy Goldberg, Betsy Kopstein-Stuts, Janna Whearty, Bonnie Auchincloss, Mary Anne Hogarty, Pat De Leo and Sherre Wesley** all stepped up to leadership positions on our board during my tenure. I am particularly grateful for their service to AAUW. And to the other board members, who have served in their current or other positions for several years – **Maria, Linda R., Susie B., Jackie, Kris, Eileen, Barbara H., Barbara L., Cathy, Margaret, Betty and Mary Lou** – I am particularly thankful for your help and support.

**Sue Doyle** came to the assistance of the board as our Assistant Secretary in the last two years as did **Claudette Hennessy** who will become our Database Manager; others who continued to serve in a variety of capacities: **Sharon, Joanne S. Marcine, Mary, Mary-Jo and Mary Ann B.**

Our initiatives are our connection to our community and bring not only good work but our name out there. **Sabashnee Govender** took on the role of the leader of the International Initiative in the last year. **Diana Babington** has taken on the leadership of the Girls' Conference for our Branch. The remainder of our initiatives continue to be headed by people who have served us for several years and we should all thank them for what they are doing in our community: **Jackie, Peggy, Betty, Anthula, Christie, Lula, Kay, Kris and Ann P.**

**Sheila Zweifler** stepped forward to not only organize our annual dinner, but also to assist the Membership VP. **Carol Barmann and Joanne Long** took over for **Pat Luczai** to lead the Woman of the Year event. And **Lula and Linda** continue to run our Writers' Tea and Auction. These events are special and draw our membership together and I thank all of these leaders for their efforts.

Our interest groups, of course, are what draw in and hold our members. Several women new to branch leadership stepped forward in the past two years to lead or co-lead some of our groups: **Leona Miller, Vicky Greenberg, Jackie Sweeney-Quinn, Tori Smith, Betsy Vivas, Mary Ann Boylan, Mary Ann Williams, Shelly Friedman and Blanche Bergman.** And, of course, thanks go out to all of the other interest group leaders who have done so much for us over the past several years: **Carol, Mary, Ruth, Linda R., Mary Ann R., Donna, Ann W., Linda F., Barbara L., Celia, Kay, Sue O., Dina, Sheila, Arlene and Jeanette.**

What a large group of wonderful workers for our organization! If you are not yet among them, please consider how YOU might become involved to lead, coordinate and plan for Poughkeepsie AAUW.

*Continued next column...*

I leave you in good hands with **Maria DeWald**. She will do an outstanding job. Thanks to all of you for supporting me over the past two years. ■

## FUZZY FRIENDS

Betty Harrel \*462-2141\* [bharrel28@gmail.com](mailto:bharrel28@gmail.com)

We're hoping to see many Fuzzy Friends at our annual dinner! They belong in our Leading to Reading family reading kits and will go to children throughout Dutchess County who are in stressful situations.



**Please bring SMALL (up to 8" high) NEW stuffed animals and place them in our collection basket.**

They'll help bring smiles to little faces and will help young children cuddle something warm and comforting while they're reading our beautiful, new books.

## "HATS OFF"

Mary Coiteux \*226-8275\* [mcoiteux@frontiernet.net](mailto:mcoiteux@frontiernet.net)  
*An expression of admiration for someone's achievement or contribution and our acknowledgment for it.*

**"Hats Off"** to **Diane Jablonski** who was honored by the Dutchess Democratic Women's Caucus on May 14<sup>th</sup> as the Lucille Pattison Woman of the Year.

**"Hats Off"** to **Jackie Goffe-McNish** and her Diversity Committee for presenting Dr. Nada Hollaway speaking on "Islam."

**"Hats Off"** to **Sabashnee Govender** and the women who shared their experiences at the Commission on the Status of Women (**Mary Lou Davis, Gwen Higgins, Diane Jablonski, Margie Quart, Margaret Nijhuis, and Christie VanHorne**) and also to **Christie** for bringing us "Street Vendors of Hanoi."

**"Hats Off"** to **Ann Pinna** and the women of Court Watch: **Elaine Anderson, Joanne Dyson, Mara Goldstone, Liz Graham, Sandy Lash, Flo Mondanaro, Margaret Nijhuis, and Sandy Sherman** for their recent work with the Funds for Modern Courts and spending many, many hours to bring it to a conclusion.

**"Hats Off"** to **Barbara Hugo** who was reappointed trustee of Dutchess Community College for a term ending 2022.

**"Hats Off"** to our **Leading to Reading volunteers** who have worked hard this year to help improve literacy skills in our area. They've put together family reading packets, served as celebrity readers in pre-school classrooms, helped middle school students design bookmarks and write book reviews, wrapped piles of gifts for children in temporary shelters, included senior citizens in our project, sought outside funding, and sponsored a Children's Book Week celebration. Congratulations for many jobs well done!

**"Hats Off"** to **Lila Meade** and her Vassar Haiti Project members who have worked so hard for sustainable health care at a clinic in Chermaitre, Haiti. ■



## AAUW NAMED SCHOLARSHIP HONOREES AND EMERGING LEADER – 2016

Barbara Hugo \*876-6686\* [bhugo2@gmail.com](mailto:bhugo2@gmail.com)

*Each year, we honor members of our Branch with a donation given in their honor to the AAUW Educational Opportunities Fund. Below is a short paragraph on each recipient. Come and join us as we introduce and congratulate them at the Annual Dinner on June 9*

### Linda Roy

Linda joined AAUW in 2009, and enjoyed participating in book clubs and Word Games, but it was *Leading to Reading* that truly called out to her spirit as an educator. When she joined LTR, she packed books, did fund-raising, and scheduled people to do public readings. Linda also happily sat on the committee that led to the establishment of LTR's latest initiative, Books for Babies, which will give a book to every child born at Vassar Hospital – 2,500 babies each year! When she retired, AAUW met a real need to stay relevant and find others of like mind. Though Linda had become a school principal, "My classroom experience – teaching children to read – was the most enjoyable. So, finding *Leading to Reading* enabled me to make a difference by continuing to bring reading to the community." Linda graduated from Vassar with a BA, earned her Masters from Bank St. Graduate College of Education, and SAS from Fordham University.



*Linda reading to children*

### Ann Carmen Pinna

Ann has been a lifelong follower of the teachings and example of Eleanor Roosevelt, focused on issues of social justice and human rights. When Ann first joined AAUW, she got involved with *Leading to Reading*, an effort she still champions. More recently, however, she found a footing in the *Court Watch* program where she organized the initiative, *Stand Up to Domestic Violence*. For Ann, going into the courts is heartfelt and important. It means looking for systemic breakdowns, talking to judges about making improvements, and seeing that women are treated fairly. She has also organized a day-long training for new court monitors. Ann is very impressed with the role AAUW plays in advancing gender equality, and she loves networking at the Branch – getting to know women, their struggles, hopes, and vision. She feels tied in kinship to AAUW's members and their commitment to do "what's good and what's best" to empower others. Her legendary organization skills were put to good use 3 years ago when she helped to organize the State Convention at Honors Haven and helped with program development as well. Ann graduated from Regis College with a BA in English, earned her MA in Education from SUNY Albany, and also studied at Oxford University, Harvard, and NYU.



*Ann at monitors' training*

### Eleanor Burch

Ellie joined AAUW in the 1960's when the biggest fund-raisers were 3-day long book fairs at the old Poughkeepsie YMCA! Like many members of long standing, she left the organization for a few years to attend to work and family, and rejoined when she retired. As



*Ellie, Carol & Mary - art show*

"Corresponding Secretary", Ellie hand-carried the latest edition of the Branch to the Poughkeepsie Post Office with two little children draped over her arm, and licked hundreds of stamps each month. "That's a lot of licks," Ellie said. "Zip codes were just getting started and there was a nasty little man at the counter who was strict about how things were done." More recently, Ellie led one of the largest and most venerable Interest Groups, the Manderley Literary Society, and then passed the baton several years ago. When she moved to Poughkeepsie with her husband, she knew no one when she arrived. AAUW then became her lifeline to interesting people with similar interests. "There were not many things for young mothers to do then," she explained. The AAUW has allowed Ellie to keep up with "what's going on and what's important in the world." She has held a number of positions on the Board over the years, but clearly, the role of Corresponding Secretary was the most memorable. Ellie earned her Bachelor's and Masters degrees at SUNY New Paltz.

### Karen Haynes

Karen joined AAUW in 2005. Shortly before, she had left a long-term volunteer spot with the Girl Scouts and was looking for a compatible organization with a similar mission and philosophy. In AAUW, she found just that – "a great group of like-minded professional women with an orientation to service." In fact, she has come to think of AAUW as "the place where leaders go after Girl Scouts." Karen saw an opportunity to bring to AAUW a way for women to experience nature together, to be active in the outdoors – so she established a new Interest Group, Trekkers, and it has become an AAUW mainstay. Through Trekkers, women share their passion for the outdoors. "After all," she explains, "nature feeds body, mind and soul." Karen has made life-long friends through Trekkers, and stresses that the IG "leaves no one behind." Trekkers walk the Rail Trail as well as more challenging terrain, and "because it's such a wonderful way to meet new friends, there's always someone to walk with you." Karen also participates in Pins & Needles, World Travelers, and Movie Night. "AAUW fills my life. It brings women together, and Interest Groups are at the heart of it." In 1978, Karen graduated from the St. Francis School of Nursing in Hartford, CT, and worked for many years as an Emergency Room RN at St. Francis Hospital in Poughkeepsie. She is now a Legal Assistant in her husband's law firm.



*Karen Trekking in Central Park*

## Linda Roberts

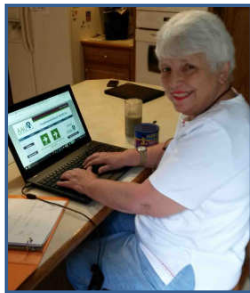
Linda joined AAUW 17 years ago, and after a hiatus to attend to her career as a teacher, resumed her membership in 2006. Her first position on the Board was as Legal Advocacy Fund Chair. Since then, she has been the New York State Convention Treasurer for 4 years, Educational Opportunities Fund Vice-President for 3 years, Co-Chair of the Writers' Tea for 5 years, and Chair of the Auction for the Writers' Tea for 7 years. "The Auction," she explains, "is a full time job." Linda loves the Poughkeepsie Branch. Whether at a Membership Meeting or the Annual Dinner, "Sometimes I look at the full room and marvel at the thousands of years of education and experience gathered together in the same place." Inspired by all the bright, engaged women who believe in what AAUW stands for locally and nationally, she is proud that the organization treats the status of women as a class issue, furthering women's rights and equal pay together. In the past, Linda has been a member of the Daytime Literature, Mah Jongg, and Poetry & Play Readings Interest Groups. She earned both her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Science degrees at SUNY New Paltz.



*Linda, Mary Lou & Pat planning the tea.*

## Mary-Jo Cottrell

When Mary-Jo retired in 2008, she moved to New York and reconnected with her dear friend, Carol Maestropietro, who ushered her into AAUW. Shortly after joining, she was recruited to help with "computer work" – the massive job of converting the Branch's pen-and-ink



*Mary-Jo working on database*

membership records into a useful digital database. Mary-Jo took on the added task of supporting Woman of the Year until 2013, when the database had reached a point where she felt called to "really get it organized – get it cleaned up and pretty." She began working with Mary and David King to build consistency throughout; making sure all the information was up to date. The team, which included Jeanette Cantwell and Mary Anne Hogarty, worked diligently to combine the Application and Member's Profile into a cohesive accurate report, and to ensure the national and local databases matched. Throughout the process, Margaret Nijhuis was her "guiding light," and Barbara Van Itallie a steady source of support. "It was fun! It was a great deal of work, but it was fun. Everyone had suggestions – there was always something that needed to be figured out." Mary-Jo appreciates the way AAUW embraces differences among members. "You can do a little or a lot. You can work individually, in small groups, or large ones. There is always a nice opportunity waiting for you." Mary-Jo received AAS degrees from both Dutchess and Brome Community Colleges.

## Emerging Leader: Kathy Friedman

Kathy Friedman speaks for many when talking about why she has become such a devoted member of AAUW. "The women in the organization are very 'real' – they're not just trying to impress. We're all making an effort to enrich our own lives and the lives of others."



*Kathy receiving award at convention*

She first joined the organization in the '80's when her children were small, but went back to work full-time as a teacher and school librarian (her first love) in the '90's. Kathy rejoined in 2011 shortly after she retired.

This was good news to those who knew how talented she was, and she was quickly tapped to become the Recording Secretary, a role she has agreed to fill for a second term. Kathy also supports the Branch's initiative, "Leading to Reading;" and coordinates the Interest Group calendar for the newsletter, saying she "really whittled that into shape." She helped recast the By-Laws as well, and very much enjoyed problem-solving with other Board members at a recent retreat.

We are so happy to recognize our richly-deserving and well-respected friend with this year's Emerging Leader award. ■

## SAVE THE DATE!!

**SUNDAY October 23, 2016**

**To Honor the 2016 Woman of the Year**

**Krista Jones**

of

**Sparrow's Nest of the Hudson Valley**

Co-chairs: Carol Barmann \*229-9063\* [cbargirl@aol.com](mailto:cbargirl@aol.com)  
& Joanne Long \*229-0664\* [nanajo851027@aol.com](mailto:nanajo851027@aol.com)

**Krista Jones** is the Founder and Executive Director of **Sparrow's Nest of the Hudson Valley**, a nonprofit charity that provides home-cooked meals for local families living with cancer. After one of her best friends died of cancer in 2010, she formed this organization in 2012, and it has grown from serving five families to over one thousand individuals with the same love and care that Krista had when she prepared meals for her sick friend. Krista works every day to improve the lives of women, children, and families in our community.



**Please save the date and join us as AAUW honors this very worthy recipient. ■**



## MEMBERSHIP COUNTS

Susie Blecker \*462-7074\* [iblecker@aol.com](mailto:iblecker@aol.com)

Sheila Zweifler [sheilaz@optonline.net](mailto:sheilaz@optonline.net)

### GET A DEAL ON DUES!!!

By now you should have received your dues notice in the mail with an addressed return envelope. Please send in your check, along with the Member Profile Sheet, so we can update our membership records. This is very important since it is our way to keep track of your interests and abilities so we can contact you if we need your special abilities or if there is some pending activity we think might interest you.

**And, even though we would be very sorry to see you go, if you feel you cannot continue your membership, please let us know as soon as possible. You can do this by checking the box on the member renewal form and returning it to Mary Ann Hogarty. Of course, you can also email or call Mary Ann, Sheila Zweifler, or myself, but please inform one of us if you are planning not to renew.**

Make life easy for those involved in branch membership records – **pay before the June 4th deadline.** You will also have a chance(s) to win free National dues (\$49) by paying on time.

Please make checks payable to: **Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.** and mail to:

**Mary Anne Hogarty  
20 Innsbruck Blvd  
Hopewell Junction, NY 12533**

**ON ANOTHER IMPORTANT NOTE**, please remember that in September we will be having our annual, **new member Open House**. No details yet, but please think of those friends, neighbors, relatives, who may wish to join our organization and submit their names and addresses to Sheila or me at the following emails:

**Susie Blecker** [iblecker@aol.com](mailto:iblecker@aol.com)  
**Sheila Zweifler** [sheilaz@optonline.net](mailto:sheilaz@optonline.net)

Finally, Sheila and I want to thank Margaret Nijhuis, Mary Ann Boylan, Jeanette Cantwell, Claudette Hennessey, Kay Saderholm, and Sheryl Miller for helping us get the membership letters printed, stuffed in envelopes and mailed in a timely fashion. Without your assistance the job would have been an overwhelming chore instead of a fun morning. ■

## LIVE YOUR DREAM GIRLS' CONFERENCE

[Marcine.humphrey@gmail.com](mailto:Marcine.humphrey@gmail.com) 845-485-7697

**Hello crafty ladies!** Once again we will be preparing the gift journals for the conference. We will meet at my house the **last week in August for some crafting, conversation, snacks and just fun.**

For new members this is a great opportunity to meet women of AAUW. If you can wrap a present, you can help!

If you are interested let me know so I can email you with the exact date and times. ■



## Irene Keyes Memorial Fund Scholarship

[Marcine.humphrey@gmail.com](mailto:Marcine.humphrey@gmail.com)

What a great year! We had so many applications! Finally, our message has reached many area college women. This year we are supporting two young women to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)!

Meet **Marissa Zuleta**, a student at Marist studying Social Work, was just elected president of the Social Work Association. Marissa has already established herself as an active, socially conscious young woman with great leadership potential. She has interned at an "Intercultural Drop in Center" in Dublin, Ireland. Marissa, as a Fulfillment Fund Scholar, has counseled at-risk high school students, sharing her own



experiences. She participated in training at the Family Services Sexual Violence Prevention Department. She is involved with the Center of Civic Engagement and Marist Campus Ministry, which has given her the chance to volunteer at Clinton Middle School and The Pines at Poughkeepsie. Marissa says that "immigrant issues are a passion of mine." Her professors observe her "passion for helping communities of all kinds" and her "strong social justice agenda." When I met her she was so excited and grateful for this opportunity.

We are also pleased to introduce **Ashley Clark-Bryant**,

Biology major at Marist College, who was recently appointed as a Resident Assistant. Ashley has been developing her leadership strength since high school. As President of the NAACP Youth Council in 2013-14, Ashley established an after-school program at the Nepperhan Community Center in Yonkers. She was selected for the Eileen Fisher Leadership Program which promotes leadership through self-empowerment, connection with others and activism in their communities. She has facilitated her own workshops. At Marist, Ashley is a member of the Student Academic Council representing the School of Science. For three years she has helped 7th grade girls experience different STEM fields focusing on medical fields of interest and doing experiments. She has facilitated workshops with Air Force personnel in education outreach and substance abuse awareness programs. Ashley's goal is to be a Physician Assistant in Pediatrics. She is described as "one of the most genuinely motivated students on campus." We were pleased to meet this bright, articulate and pleasant young woman.



Assisting these two young women in developing their leadership skills and empowering them through NCCWSL is a great pleasure and a very worthwhile way to honor the memory of our former branch President and friend Irene Keyes. Special gratitude goes to the committee members **Mary Coiteux, Mary Lou Davis, Betty Harrel and Pat Luczai.** ■

## MAKE A DREAM COME TRUE!

Diana Babington \*471-5385\* [dibab@aol.com](mailto:dibab@aol.com)

Please Support The 10th Annual Live Your Dream Girls' Conference for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls

Presented by:

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. and  
The Association of Women at DCC

Dutchess Community College

Saturday, November 5, 2016



You can help inspire a girl to be strong, smart and bold by sponsoring her attendance at the *Live Your Dream Girls' Conference* this fall. Our members' generosity in the past years has made the difference. Your help can come in many forms, but we are asking for sponsorships for individual girls.

In addition to your sponsorship, each girl will pay \$5. We feel this small fee will ensure that each girl makes a personal commitment to the conference.

Please fill out the following form and mail it with your check payable to:

**"Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc."**

To: **Diana Babington, 7 Birkdale Court,  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603**

Questions: Contact Diana at [dibab@aol.com](mailto:dibab@aol.com) or 471-5385 ■



### I would like to sponsor a girl's attendance to the "Live Your Dream" Conference.

- \*Diva \$25 Covers the cost of one girl's attendance.
- \*Dreamer \$15 Buys a girl breakfast and lunch.
- \*Darling \$10 Gives a girl a journal and a memory gift.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name will be included in the program book as a donor unless anonymity is requested.

\*This is a tax-deductible contribution. AAUW fundraising helps fund this community project.

## THANK YOU PROGRAM COMMITTEE!!!!

Sandy Goldberg, VP Programming, \*297-7670\*

Betsy Kopstein-Stuts, VP Programming, \*485-7044\*

Although there are many exciting AAUW events coming up with our May Writer's Tea, our June Annual Meeting, and all the ongoing activities, our Program meetings for this year now draw to a close.

We want to thank our committee members for all of their input and ideas that helped make this a most interesting, informative and fun programming year. It takes everyone's contribution to bring forward worthwhile programs for all of our membership. We hope you have enjoyed them as much as we have enjoyed planning them.

We especially want to thank **Maria DeWald** for all the work she did on our Common Core program, **Gloria Ghedini** who made the initial suggestion and contact with Susan Sprachman for our *Women in Iran* program, **Terry Schneider** and **Jean Miller** for their suggestion on bringing Maria Idoni to speak to us on signs of suicide and what to do when faced with someone struggling, and especially our outgoing President, **Barbara Van Itallie**, that always was there with a helping hand.

Of course, we need to thank **Barbara Lemberger**, our Hospitality Chair, her assistants, **Joann Clark** and **Laura Coons** and all who contributed our delicious refreshments month after month.

We also want to thank **Mary Coiteux** and **Susie Blecker**, the previous Vice Presidents for Programming for all their advice and direction they provided throughout the year.

We would be remiss not to mention the entire committee as it was through their discussion, brainstorming and direction that made our programs work. In addition to the names listed above, they are **Barbara Durniak**, **Betty Harrel**, **Gwen Higgins**, **Muriel Horowitz**, **Irene Milliken**, **Megan Murray**, **Anthula Natsoulas**, **Roberta Tracy**, **Janna Whearty** and **Carole Wolf**.

We have had such great input from so many people that we hope we have not left anyone off the list. We apologize if we have omitted your name.

As we look forward to 2016 – 2017, we hope to have a year filled with many more exciting programs to share with all of you. We already have the opening program in October set, bringing back Sue McLane (Victorian Lady) with an entirely new program, but presented in a similar fashion. She will open up our programming year with "Utopia" which will examine alternative societies in NYS in the 19th century and how they flourished and died.

**We look forward to a program committee initial planning meeting Tuesday, May 31st at 7 PM at Betsy Kopstein's home, 100 Frost Hill Rd, Pleasant Valley, NY and welcome anyone who would like to join us. Just give Betsy or me a call. ■**

## AAUW-NYS 2016 Convention Report

Margaret Nijhuis \*635-8612\* [margartnijhuis@gmail.com](mailto:margartnijhuis@gmail.com)

Convention opened on April 15 at the Holiday Inn in Saratoga Springs, NY. We had a beautiful week-end in Saratoga Spring with walks through Congress Park and tours of this historic area. On Friday, Poughkeepsie was represented at the state board meeting by **Cyd Averill** and **Mary Lou Davis**. On Friday night the keynote focused on an eight year state wide campaign for pay equity reform.

Saturday morning our delegation of **Cyd Averill, Mary Lou Davis, Kathy Friedman, Betty Harrel, Diane Jablonski, Geeta Desai, Bonnie Auchincloss, Mary Coiteux, Barbara Van Itallie, Kay Saderholm, Marcine Humphrey, and Margaret Nijhuis** was joined by **Linda Roberts, Maria DeWald and Janna Whearty**. The business meeting, always an important part of the convention, saw the appointment of **Diane Jablonski as treasurer** for a one year unexpired term and the election of **Geeta Desai as the AAUW-NYS VP for Programming**. **Betty Harrel** will serve on the board as the **Administrative Director** to the new President Roli Wendorf. **Mary Lou Davis** gave the Nominating Committee Chair reports for the officers and District members of the Nominating Committee.

The business meeting was followed by a panel discussion "The Path Towards Women's Economic Achievement." Programs highlighted included a sheet metal worker who earned her college degree through her union, a window-washing business run by the Orange County YWCA, careers in coding, developmentally appropriate child care opportunities, and the continued struggles for pay equity. The panel gave an amazing look at women in the workforce.

The Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) Luncheon speaker was the AAUW National LAF Committee Chair, who took us through the fund's history. Starting with the Cornell 11 in 1980, she went through other cases that have been of special interest. As one litigant stated "When AAUW came on board, I was at my breaking point. AAUW brought not only much needed funds but the emotional support I needed."

For the afternoon, our delegation divided into 4 workshops: "Achieving Paid Family Leave in NYS," "Know Your Rights," "How to Get Women in STEM Careers," and "Strategies for Lifting Women out of Poverty." Each proved to be very informative and hopefully will lead to programming ideas for our branch.

After a relaxing few minutes to meet with women from other areas, everyone headed to the evening awards banquet. There were many, many awards! Emerging Leader **Kathy Friedman** was recognized, along with **Pat DeLeo** for her public policy work. The program developed by **Mary Coiteux** and **Susie Blecker** on Campus Safety was recognized and Poughkeepsie achieved the **Platinum Branch** status. We also received the highest award for our **website, newsletter** and **overall visibility**. Our **social media (Facebook) Public Policy Equal Pay and newsletter, STEM**, were also recognized. Our contributions to the Educational Foundation put us in the top ten and our Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) was also recognized. The speaker for the evening was Leigh Ann DeLyser, Director

of Education and Research NYC Foundation for Computer Science Education. They are expanding programs into all public schools in the city.

Sunday morning started with a report from National by Eileen Hartmann, former AAUW-NYS President and current National AAUW board member. After district meetings and counterpart sessions, the convention ended with lunch and a call to 2017 convention at the **Syracuse Doubletree Inn on April 21-23**. ■

### Special Thanks to Mary-Jo Cottrell

*If there is an unsung heroine in our organization, it is **Mary-Jo**. For those of you who don't know, Mary-Jo has been our database manager for the past several years. When you submit your membership form and your member profile, all of the information is stored in our branch database, and updated as needed. Mary-Jo has done an outstanding job of keeping this detailed information in absolutely accurate shape. Our annual Membership Directory is a direct result of her work. She has been a tireless worker for our organization with little recognition. Mary-Jo is stepping down from this position at the end of her term in June. Thanks Mary-Jo for all you have done for Poughkeepsie AAUW. ■*

### PUBLIC POLICY

Patricia DeLeo \*883-5181\* [pattide2@optonline.net](mailto:pattide2@optonline.net)

### The Election Question

Many politicians search for ways to increase their popularity with voters. Some respect the multi tasking roles of women, support legislation for equal pay, equal rights and access to health and child care. And then there are others who put down women in hopes of increasing their popularity among people who think misogyny is macho, make inappropriate sexual remarks, joke about the pay gender gap, try to regulate woman's health and politically discriminate by avoiding legislation. What is popular to them is unpopular to others...and vice versa.

Our close neighbor **Governor Chris Christie vetoed New Jersey's Equal Pay Bill** that would have prohibited employers from paying women less than men for "substantially similar" work. New Jersey's bill would have restarted the statute of limitations each time an employee was given an unfair paycheck and allowed the employee to get back pay for the time she was being paid less. Christie called the bill "nonsensical" and said it would make New Jersey "very business unfriendly." It's a popular position with NJ business owners; unpopular with NJ workers.

Governor Brown in California (the strictest and most aggressive law), Governor Andrew Cuomo in New York (similar to CA), Governor Malloy in Connecticut and Governors from Illinois, Delaware, North Dakota, and Oregon **signed into law measures aimed at narrowing the gender wage gap and guaranteeing equal pay**. This is a highly popular move for incumbents seeking office?

*Continued on Page 10 "The Election Question"...*



## SUMMER PLANS

### Interest Groups



#### Art on the Go

Art on the go will meet on the 4th Friday of the month throughout the summer

**Coordinator:** Mary Coiteux (226-8275)

#### Aventures en Soleil

**July 13** 11:30 am

Whitney Museum, NY, NY

Contact: Diane Jablonski (485-6228)

[dianejablonski@gmail.com](mailto:dianejablonski@gmail.com)

**August 18**

Olana, Hudson, NY

Contact: Terry Jackrel (463-2132)

**September 9** 12:00 – 2:00 pm

“Highlights” and “Artwork” tours, St John the Divine, Manhattan. Cost \$16

Contact: Tori Smith (345-0043)

**Coordinator:** Ruth Sheets (473-6202)



#### Pedal Pushers

**July 13** 9:00 am

Bike to Hopewell Jct. 16 miles

Meeting Point: LaGrange Rail Trail parking lot on Old Manchester Rd.

**August 10** 9:30 am

Bike to Millerton, 16 miles

Meeting Point: Rail Trail parking lot, Rte. 44, Amenia

**Leader:** Sheila Zweifler (462-6478) [sheilaz@optonline.net](mailto:sheilaz@optonline.net)

#### Movie Night

Time TBD by show.

The movie group does not usually meet in the summer months, but keep an eye out for a “pop up” movie night if a really good movie comes up.

**Director:** Susan Osterhoudt

(889-4469) [sosterhoudt@yahoo.com](mailto:sosterhoudt@yahoo.com)

**Producer:** Diana Gleeson



#### Mah Jongg 12:00 – 4:00 pm

**July 27 & August 24**

Uno Chicago Grill

**Coordinator:** Blanche Bergman (462-3955)

#### Bridge 3 10:00 am-12:00 pm

**July 23** Joanne Dyson (297-1046)

**August 13** Raina Maissel (297-8466)

**Coordinator:** Donna Reichner (298-7732)

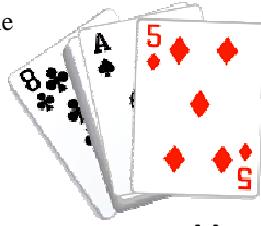


#### Bridge II

**July 28 & August 25** 12:00-4:00 pm

Uno Chicago Grill – Lunch (\$15)

**Coordinator:** Cathy Kinn [cathy@kinn.org](mailto:cathy@kinn.org)



#### Bridge I 1:00-4:00 pm

**July 20** Hostess: Gloria Gibbs (454-7262)

**August 17** Hostess: Anne Valentino (221-2591)

**Coordinators:** Linda Ronayne (897-9745) &

Mary Ann Ryan (897-9679)

#### Trekkers

Plans TBA

**Coordinator:** Tori Smith (345-0043)

[tori.smith@globalfoundries.com](mailto:tori.smith@globalfoundries.com)



#### Aug 10

“The Branch” deadline for the September issue.

#### Ediss 7:00 pm

**July 6**

*The Girl on the Train* by Paula Hawkins

Picnic, location TBD

**August 3**

*Nora Webster* by Colm Toibin

Hostess: Cyd Averill (485-2866)

**Coordinator:** Celia Serotsky (473-8426 or [Celiaser@aol.com](mailto:Celiaser@aol.com))

#### Diversity

**July 17-23** Trip to Jamaica

**Coordinator:** Jacqueline Goffe-McNish (471-7220)

### THANK YOU TO THE SUPPORTERS OF THE BRANCH 2015-16!!

Annual contributions from members help defray the expense of publishing *The Branch* and other communication expenses. A special thank you to the members listed below who gave their support this year and, in the case of most, for many years in the past.

Catherine Albanese, Lula Allen, Marge Barton, Mary Ann Boylan, Joan Cordani, Marguerite Cotter, Patricia DeLeo, Lillian DePasquale, Ruth Gau, Gloria Gibbs, Sandy Goldberg, Jacqueline Prusak, Terry Schneider, Ann Wade

To add your support for the coming year, mail a check payable: “Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.” to Margaret Nijhuis, 9 McAllister Drive, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569

# POUGHKEEPSIE AAUW BUDGET

Diane Jablonski \*485-6228\* [dianejablonski@gmail.com](mailto:dianejablonski@gmail.com)

The 2016-2017 budget was prepared and approved by the board. The budget assumes we will have 350 members. The number of members affects both our income as well as our expenses in paying dues to National and New York State. Other expenses remain about the same with some minor adjustments. The Tea income and expense is presented separately. The funds from the Tea are used to support our Community Initiatives such as Leading to Reading, Health Care, and other programs. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Diane Jablonski, Treasurer.

	Budget 2015-2016	Proposed 2016 -17
<b>INCOME</b>		
Investments	400.00	300.00
NYS Awards	0.00	0.00
Undesignated Contributions	100.00	100.00
Communications Contributions	350.00	350.00
Dues	26,676.00	27,300.00
Annual Meeting	4,000.00	4,000.00
Woman of the Year	3,000.00	3,000.00
Other	50.00	50.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>34,576.00</b>	<b>35,100.00</b>

## EXPENSES

Administration	225.00	250.00
Awards/Gifts	100.00	100.00
Caring Comm.	25.00	25.00
Convention	475.00	475.00
Directory	900.00	900.00
Donations	100.00	100.00
Dues	21,204.00	21,700.00
Equipment	50.00	50.00
Historian	20.00	20.00
Insurance	1,200.00	1,200.00
Membership/dues collection	1,000.00	1,000.00
Monthly Meetings	1,800.00	1,800.00
Newsletter	250.00	250.00
Other	120.00	120.00
Postage, Mailing	30.00	50.00
Printing, Copying	42.00	25.00

## Special Event Expenses

Annual Meeting	4,000.00	4,000.00
Woman of the Year	3,000.00	3,000.00
Supplies	35.00	35.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>34,576.00</b>	<b>35,100.00</b>
<b>Net Income/Loss</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

## Tea Income

Tea	7,750.00	7,750.00
Tea Auction	4,250.00	4,250.00
Tea Raffle	900.00	900.00
Total Tea Income	12,900.00	12,900.00
<b>Tea Expenses</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>

**Net Tea Income available for Community Projects/EOF**  
**7,900.00■**

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



**Exclusively for 6th and 7th Grade Girls**

Explore

Connect

Dream

Conference Mission

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.

Discover

Imagine

Create

[www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org)

Space is limited!

Contact Lori Scolaro at [lori.scolaro@sunydutchess.edu](mailto:lori.scolaro@sunydutchess.edu) to reserve your space.

## Continued from Page 8 "The Election Question"

However, this should not be a state by state issue. **All American women, regardless of geography, should be the beneficiaries of equal pay.** While we applaud the states that recognize the pay gap and try to assert that equal work deserves equal pay, federal legislation is needed to bring equality into the American workplace.

**The Paycheck Fairness Act is a comprehensive bill that strengthens the Equal Pay Act** by taking meaningful steps to create incentives for employers to follow the law, empower women to negotiate for equal pay, and strengthen federal outreach and enforcement efforts. The Paycheck Fairness Act is an overdue refresh to the 1963 law that will help to ensure that all working women get equal pay for equal work.

**All over the country, at the state and city level, the demand for equal pay is growing.** Members of Congress need to step up and make change for ALL families by supporting the Paycheck Fairness Act – because if Congress doesn't act, the gender pay gap won't close in our lifetimes.

Make this your popular position. Don't be a victim of unequal pay because of your address.

**To be or not to be a paid equally? That is the election. ■**

## VISIT TO AFRICAN BURIAL GROUND

Sherre Wesley \*462-4945\* [swesley@optonline.net](mailto:swesley@optonline.net)

**Saturday, June 25, 2016, 11:00 am**

**African Burial Ground National Monument Visitor Center  
290 Broadway, NYC**

Did you know 15,000 - 20,000 Africans are buried in Lower Manhattan? As recently as 25 years ago, even that question would have been greeted with disbelief. Yet in 1991, while conducting an archeological investigation prior to construction of a new Federal Building, skeletal remains in what is known as the African Burial Ground were recovered.

**AAUW's Diversity Initiative** will visit this important – and some say life changing – site. It will deepen our knowledge of and connection with the role Africans and people of African descent played in the early development of this country.

“The discovery of the African Burial Ground in Lower Manhattan resonates as one of the largest and earliest sites associated with 18th century slavery in the country,” according to the New York Preservation Archive Project. It sheds light on slavery in the northern colonies, and acknowledges the critical role Africans played in the building and functioning of New York.

We have engaged “interpreter and griot” T. Rasul Murray to help contextualize and enhance our experience. Mr. Murray will conclude with a walking tour to nearby Bowling Green.

**Contact Sherre Wesley at [swesley@optonline.net](mailto:swesley@optonline.net) or 845-462-4945 by June 15** if you would like to attend. We will provide directions, and coordinate train schedules for those wanting to travel together. **Be prepared for “airport-style security” at the building.** We invite you to join us for what promises to be a poignant yet connecting experience. ■

## FAMILY SERVICES AWARD

Betty Harrel \*462-2141\* [bharrel28@gmail.com](mailto:bharrel28@gmail.com)

As part of the Family Services award given to Rita and Barry Rothfeld, a gift was made in their honor to **Leading to Reading**. At their recent dinner, they were presented with one of our family reading packets. The money will be used to purchase books for young children. Thanks to Family Services for helping to further our mission and spread the word about our community project! ■



## WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY 2016

*The Coalition on Elder Abuse (a program of the Mediation Center of Dutchess County) presents:*

### THE FACES OF ELDER ABUSE

What do they look like?

(A Conference for Everyone)

**Friday, June 10, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Check-in at 8:30 am**

Poughkeepsie Elks Lodge #275

29 Overocker Road

Poughkeepsie NY 12603.

**Questions:** Kathy Sheehan, 475-5672, [kmsbsw@hotmail.com](mailto:kmsbsw@hotmail.com) ■

## LOVE DOWNTON ABBEY AND HISTORY?

Judith Linville \*889-4802\*

[judylinville@citiink.net](mailto:judylinville@citiink.net)



Join the docent team at Mills Mansion in Staatsburg. Volunteers can lead or help with tours; assist with school groups; or even participate in costumed interpretations. The staff will train you and accommodate your schedule because they LOVE volunteers at Mills Mansion.

**Contact Don Fraser at 889-8851 ext. 338 to join the fun. ■**

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

## Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. Officers 2015-2016

<b>President</b>	Barbara Van Itallie	462-3924
<b>Program V.P.</b>	Sandy Goldberg	297-7670
	Betsy Kopstein-Stuts	485-7044
<b>Membership V.P.</b>	Susie Blecker	462-7074
<b>Educ. Foundation V.P.</b>	Linda Roberts	227-5287
<b>Communications V.P.</b>	Bonnie Auchincloss	635-5191
<b>Secretary</b>	Katherine Friedman	485-8671
<b>Treasurer</b>	Diane Jablonski	485-6228
<b>Membership Treasurer</b>	Mary Anne Hogarty	221-0203

**Association website:** [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

**NY State website:** [www.aauw-nys.org](http://www.aauw-nys.org)

**Poughkeepsie Branch website:** [www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://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](mailto:MargaretNijhuis@gmail.com) (635-8612).