



*Celebrating Our  
Legacy, Enhancing  
Our Future*

# THE BRANCH

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



Volume 31, Number 10

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62nd year of publication

<http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org>

June 2018

## SAVE THE DATE

### WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2018

Gail Sisti \*564-4268\* & Margie Quart \*896-6928\*

It is with great pleasure that our committee announces:

**Dr. Pamela R. Edington**  
**President**

**Dutchess Community College**  
the 2018 Woman of the Year.

**Dutchess Manor**  
**Sunday, October 14, 2018**  
**12:00 noon – 3:00 pm.**



An experienced educator and administrator with 35 years of service at community colleges, Pamela R. Edington, Ed.D. assumed the presidency of Dutchess Community College in August 2014.

Key educational initiatives that Dr. Edington is advancing as president include increasing the number of Dutchess students who complete a degree, developing additional programs of study to meet emerging workforce needs in the mid-Hudson Valley, growing civic and community engagement programs that offers opportunities for students to deepen their academic learning while helping to meet community-defined needs, and enhancing strategic relationships with local partners to enhance the educational pathway in Dutchess County from pre-K through college.

Dr. Edington has distinguished herself in both the community and on the DCC campus as an accessible, energetic and passionate visionary gifted in creating linkages between people and organizations to leverage resources and facilitate positive change. She enjoys engaging with students, faculty, staff and the community, and is committed to enhancing life in the mid-Hudson Valley.

Prior to leading DCC, Dr. Edington served for nine years as Dean of Academic Affairs, and then Provost, of Norwalk Community College in Connecticut. Previously, she worked for 19 years at Middlesex Community College in Massachusetts, first as an Assistant Professor of Sociology, then Division Chair and ultimately Dean of Social Science and Human Services.

Dr. Edington holds an Ed.D. in Educational Policy, Research and Administration from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, an M.A. in Sociology from the University of Notre Dame and a B.A. in Sociology from the College of St. Benedict/St. John's University, Colleagueville, MN. ■



You Are Cordially Invited to Attend our  
**POUGHKEEPSIE AAUW ANNUAL MEETING  
& INSTALLATION DINNER**

JUNE 14, 2018

The Children's Home of Poughkeepsie  
10 Children's Way  
Poughkeepsie, NY

**Speakers\*:** **Courtney Rovere**, Director of Community Based Services, and **Erin Cafarelli**, Director of Development and Public Relations both from the Children's Home.  
Also **Katherine Murray**, NCCWSL scholarship winner (see *The Branch*, May 2018) will report on her attendance at the conference.

Optional Tour of Main Building	5:30 PM
Gather and Greet	6:00 PM
Dinner and Meeting	6:30 PM

(Please note no wine or alcohol will be served at the Children's Home)

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED BY JUNE 1st: \$39.00**  
Make checks payable to: *Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.* or use PayPal (\$41) at  
[www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org)

**Mail check and meal choice to:**

Judy Linville  
PO Box 55  
Staatsburg, NY 12580

**Menu:**

Caprese Salad

**Choose One:**

Chicken Scarpariello with Roasted Red Potatoes OR  
Flounder Picatta with Roasted Red Potatoes OR  
Vegetable Lasagna (Vegetarian, Gluten Free)

Tiramisu

*Special dietary restrictions, please call Judy Linville.*

**Reservation form on page 5, \*more information page 3■**

## JUNE CALENDAR

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

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

- 2 Trekkers: 9:15 am**  
*Montgomery Place in Red Hook*  
Meet: across Route 9 from Marist College at the old Staples parking lot, close to Starbucks  
Coordinator: Tori Smith (345-0043)  
[torilsmith.home@gmail.com](mailto:torilsmith.home@gmail.com)
- 4 Word Games: 1:30 pm**  
Hostess: Sheila Zweifler (462-6478)  
Coordinator: Susan Doyle (914/474-1232)
- 5 World Travelers: 7:00 pm**  
*Historical Northern Spain*  
Presenter: Claudette Hennessy  
Hostess: Sheryl Miller  
Reservations: Jeanette Cantwell (452-4188)  
[AAUWtravelers@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWtravelers@gmail.com)
- 7 Gourmet: Out & About: 6:30 pm**  
Location: TBD  
Contacts: Mary Ann Boylan (462-2504)  
Kay Saderholm (229-8545) [Ksaderholm@aol.com](mailto:Ksaderholm@aol.com)
- 8 Daytime Literature: 11:45 am**  
Luncheon: The Mill, 46 Vassar Road, Poughkeepsie  
Coordinator: Leona Miller (471-0777)
- 9 Transition Board Meeting & Thank-you Brunch: 10:00 am**  
Location: Maria DeWald's home
- 11 All those books...: 1:00 pm**  
Lunch and book selection  
Location: contact Coordinator  
Coordinator: Carol Loizides (452-3208)
- 13 Pedal Pushers: 9:30 am**  
*Bike to Millerton, 16 miles*  
Meeting point: Rail trail parking lot, Rte. 343, Amenia  
Coordinator: Sheila Zweifler [sheilaz@optonline.net](mailto:sheilaz@optonline.net)
- 14 Canasta: 1:00-4:00 pm**  
Hostess: Emily Moran (345-9876)  
Coordinator: Barbara Cohen, [barbco451@gmail.com](mailto:barbco451@gmail.com)
- 14 Annual Meeting & Dinner:**  
*All members are invited and encouraged to attend – see details on [page 1, 3 & 5](#).*
- 15 Poetry and Plays - Emily D to Tennessee: 1:45 pm**  
*Caribbean Poetry with Jacqueline Goffe- McNish*  
Hostess: TBD  
Coordinators: Jackie Sweeney (518/947-6682) & Barbara Hugo [BHugo2@gmail.com](mailto:BHugo2@gmail.com)
- 16 Bridge III: 10:00 am**  
Hostess: Patty Cerniglia (298-7655)  
Coordinator: Donna Reichner [dlr0804@verizon.net](mailto:dlr0804@verizon.net)
- 16 Days for Girls: 1:30 – 4:30 pm**  
Quaker Church, 249 Hooker Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY  
Chair: Sabashnee Govender (914/850-0195)  
[sabashnee@aol.com](mailto:sabashnee@aol.com)
- 18 Manderley Literary Society: 6:00 pm**  
Pot Luck Dinner  
Hostess: Barbara Lemberger (635-8516)  
Coordinator: Shelly Friedman (462-4996)

- 19 Cuisine: 6:30 pm**  
*Cuisine of Mexico*  
Hostess: Maria DeWald (266-4960)  
Coordinator: Barbara Lemberger  
[brleberger@yahoo.com](mailto:brleberger@yahoo.com)
- 20 Bridge I: 1:00 - 4:00 pm**  
Hostess: Sandy Goldberg (297-7670)  
Coordinators: Linda Ronayne (897-9745)
- 21 Aventures en Soleil: 1:00 pm**  
*Ellis Island Trip – MORE LATER*  
Contact: Janna Whearty [jannawhearty@gmail.com](mailto:jannawhearty@gmail.com)  
Coordinator: Janna Whearty (546-9190)
- 22 Art on the Go: 10:00 am**  
TBD  
Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)
- 26 The Ediss Book Group: 6:00 pm**  
Book Selection, planning session, and supper  
Hostess: Betsy Kopstein-Stuts (485-7044)  
Coordinator: Celia Serotsky (473-8426)
- 27 Mah Jongg: Noon - 4:00 pm**  
*Red Lobster, Route 9, Poughkeepsie*  
Contact Blanche (462-3955) by June 25th  
Coordinator: Blanche Bergman (462-3955)
- 28 Bridge II: 12:00-4:00 pm**  
*Red Lobster, Route 9, Poughkeepsie*  
Coordinator: Cathy Kinn [cathy@kinn.org](mailto:cathy@kinn.org)
- Ediss II:**  
Book Selection  
Contact coordinator for date/time.  
Coordinator: Cyd Averill 845-485-2866.

### GROUPS NOT MEETING THIS MONTH

**Contemporary Literature:** *See you in September*

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

**Diversity: Out of One Many People:**

*Planning over the summer for fall.*

Coordinator: Jacqueline Goffe-McNish  
[mcnish@sunydutchess.edu](mailto:mcnish@sunydutchess.edu)

**Movie Night:** *Enjoy the summer!*

Director: Linnea Masson [patandlinnea@yahoo.com](mailto:patandlinnea@yahoo.com)

Producer: "Try outs" ongoing! Contact Linnea (883-7726)

**Pins & Needles:** *Get ready for September.*

Coordinators: Pat Luczai (463-4662) & Mary Ann Williams (868-7465)

**Photography Club:** *Watch for return in the fall.*

Coordinator: Carol Demicco (845-204-9553)

### LOOKING AHEAD

**Aug 26: District 4, Brunch, Women Equality Day,**  
Glen Falls, **P. 5**

**July 21 -23: AAUW-NYS Summer Conference,**  
Cazenovia, **P. 7**

**Sept 13: Tentative Date, Open House, P. 8**

**Oct 14: Woman of the Year, Dutchess Manor, P. 1**

**Nov 3: Live Your Dream Girls' Conference,**  
DCC, **P. 6, 9**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Maria DeWald \*266-4960\* [mfdewald@yahoo.com](mailto:mfdewald@yahoo.com)

Although my term as **President of our AAUW Poughkeepsie Branch will not end until June 30,**

this will be my last official letter to you. As with most roles we play in life, my first thoughts are almost always an attempt at honest assessment concerning what goals have and haven't been met, what has been successful and what hasn't, the status of the organization, transition planning, how it all went much faster than expected and how much there still is left to do. Of course, there are also a lot of very mixed feelings. Those range as always from "whew... a break is at hand" to "gosh, I will miss representing such a fine organization as AAUW." Maybe, for now, a report of the NYS Convention, a microcosm of the work AAUW does, will put that in some perspective.

**The theme of this year's convention was "Moving Onward, Empowering Women,"** not so different really than my own theme of "Celebrating Our Legacy, Enhancing Our Future" since all AAUW work is built on a rich past of working on women's issues and always pointed forward. The Convention, as is the work of our Branch, is a 'call to action.'

We heard from: the very dynamic **Kimberly Churches**, the new CEO of AAUW, on "New Horizons & Initiatives," I invite you to check out the National website for the new strategic plan outlining the many changes coming to help bring the mission into greater focus; many outstanding young women such as **Aasha Shaik**, a UN Girl Advocate and former AAUW UN Youth representative, on "Vulnerable Leadership and the Power of Girls;" an enlightening panel, including two AAUW fellows, who discussed "Advocacy in the Current Media Landscape;" and a Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) litigant, **Aileen Rizo**, whose case was finally won a few weeks before the Convention!

On that latter topic, at the dedicated LAF Luncheon, we celebrated the 40th anniversary of the "Cornell 11" case which subsequently led to the beginning of the LAF fund in 1981 by the AAUW Ithaca Branch. In 1978, eleven faculty women from Cornell University banded together to confront the university that had denied them equal pay and promotion. Among the friends that helped were Jennie Farley and Alice Cook, both professors and both AAUW Ithaca members. When the case was finally settled out of court, one of the plaintiffs said **"Without AAUW, the plaintiffs would not have had a chance at all. They would have been destroyed."** That continues to be the case, with the LAF program. AAUW-NYS was ranked #2 nationally in LAF giving for 2017 for the fourth year in a row! We have very generous members!

Of course, there were: business meetings where new officers were elected; a District IV planning meeting; a variety of workshops; opportunities to gather for yoga or a walk; a pre-convention visit the Corning Museum; a President's Dinner honoring the State's Emerging Leaders including our own **Monique Jones**; and several small but engaging fundraisers including a basket/bag auction/raffle (our LAF Chair, **Janna Whearty's** donated bag was VERY popular), a Fund Swim (yes, there is an AAUW "Merwomen"), and a living history performance on Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

At the **Program and Awards Breakfast**, our Branch received a **Platinum Program Award for our Court Watch Program** (yeah Ann Pinna and team!), a **Newsletter of Excellence Award and a Website of Excellence Award** (hip-hip- hooray for Margaret Nijhuis and her team) and, an **Excellence in Visibility Award** (so many contribute here from our Facebook page to our publicity work to our monthly programs). There was a plethora of AAUW Poughkeepsie members who were a very big part of the success of this event including **Mary Lou Davis, co-chair**, and her team of able helpers, who worked on programming, a display board, centerpieces, registration, helping with the auction, and wherever needed. **Kudos to all!**

So, yes, the convention represented a microcosm of AAUW...the serious business of supporting women's issues, advocacy training, learning from colleagues, planning, camaraderie, leadership and fun. **Indeed, this is the same thing that I have been honored to watch you do here in Poughkeepsie. I cannot thank you enough for your generous support and friendship. It has been my pleasure and my honor, truly.**

Please don't forget to vote on the **National Bylaws amendments by June 5th (see page 9)** and please make it a priority to **renew your membership for 2018-19 (see page 8)**. I hope to see many, many of you at our Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 14, at the Children's Home of Poughkeepsie where we will transition to our new leadership team. They have my full support in all ways and I have full confidence that you will be in very dedicated and capable hands.

**All best and Happy Summer! Maria ■**

## SPEAKERS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Children's Home of Poughkeepsie, established in 1847, provides a range of services and programs giving hope and healing to abused and neglected children in the Hudson River region. The Home is dedicated to providing a safe and nurturing environment that improves lives and empowers at-risk children and families in the Hudson Valley and surrounding communities. Children's Home staff members, **Courtney Rovere**, Director of Community Based Services, and **Erin Cafarelli**, Director of Development and Public Relations, will speak on **"The Importance of Community Connections,"** a discussion on the current needs and push from Residential to Community Based Services and the important role the community plays in the success of the program.

Also, since 2011, AAUW Poughkeepsie, through its **Irene Keyes Memorial Fund** and other donations, has provided an annual scholarship for a student to attend the AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in Washington, DC. This conference brings together college-age women from around the country to participate in workshops focusing on advocacy, leadership, health and wellness, and "real-world" issues such as financial literacy and life after college. We are pleased that the 2018 winner, **Katherine Murray**, a student at Marist College, will be speaking about her recent experience at the 2018 Conference. ■

## SUMMER PLANS

### Interest Groups & other Events



#### Art on the Go

**July 27 & August 24:** Throughout the summer, on the 4th Friday of the month, Art on the Go will be choosing scenic areas to paint, journal, or photograph. Anyone interested may join us. For information about the meeting locations, contact Mary.

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

#### Aventures en Soleil

**July 19:** National Geographic Encounter Ocean Odyssey in NYC

**Contact** Maria DeWald (266-4960)

**August 11:** Bannerman's Island Tour. 11 am  
Tour departs from Beacon waterfront. There is some rough terrain on the walking tour portion of the experience and also, there is a 72-step climb from the dock to the start of the tour with a rest stop along the way. \$35 per person. Advanced reservations required and are now being accepted.

Contact Bonnie Auchincloss [email: bauchincloss@gmail.com](mailto:bauchincloss@gmail.com), (H) 845-635-5191 or (C) 845-625-4925

**Coordinator:** Janna Whearty (546-9190)



#### Pedal Pushers

**July 11:** 9:00 am  
Bike to Town of Lloyd, 12-14 miles  
Meeting Point: Rail Trail parking lot on Overocker Rd.

**August 8:** 9:00 am  
Lagrange to Hopewell Jct., 16 miles  
Meeting Point: LaGrange Rail Trail parking lot on Old Manchester Rd.

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



#### Mah Jongg 12:00 – 4:00 pm

**July 25 & August 22**  
Red Lobster, Poughkeepsie.

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

#### Word Games: 1:30 – 4:00 pm

**July 2:** Bonnie Auchincloss (635-5191)

**August 6:** Susan Fink (473-3168)

**Coordinator:** Susan Doyle (914/474-1232)

#### Bridge III 10:00 am-12:30 pm

**July 14:** Joanne Dyson (297-1046)

**August 11:** Shirley Granda (297-1046)

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



#### Bridge II

**July 26 & August 23:** 12:00-4:00 pm

Red Lobster, Poughkeepsie.

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



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

**July 18:** Hostess: Sheila Zweifler (462-6478)

**August 15:** Hostess: Susan Fink (473-3168)

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

#### Trekkers

**July:** Date TBD Innisfree Garden in Millbrook

**August:** Date TBD Local

**September 8:** NYC Walking Tour

**Coordinator:** Tori Smith (914-805-8046)

[torismith.home@gmail.com](mailto:torismith.home@gmail.com)



#### "The Branch" Deadline

**August 10** for the September issue.

No July or August newsletter.



#### Ediss Book Group I 7:00 pm

**July 24:** *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis* by J. D. Vance. Gabriela Drasny (471-5406)

**August 28:** *Madame Picasso* by Anne Girard.

Mapleview Cafe

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

#### Days for Girls 1:30-4:30 pm

**July 21 & August 18** 3th Saturday of each month

Venue: Quaker Church

249 Hooker Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY

**Chair:** Sabashnee Govender (914/850-0195)

[sabashnee@aol.com](mailto:sabashnee@aol.com)

#### Gourmet: Out & About

##### July and August

There will be a few summer events planned but time and place are TBD

Contact: Kay Saderholm (229-8545) [ksaderholm@aol.com](mailto:ksaderholm@aol.com) & Mary Ann Boylan (462-2504)

#### RibFest

**August 17, 18, 19** Contact [Marcine.humphrey@gmail.com](mailto:Marcine.humphrey@gmail.com) to volunteer – see page 7.



#### Canasta: 1:00-4:00 pm

**July 12 & August 9**

Hostess: TBD

**Coordinator:** Barbara Cohen,

[barbco451@gmail.com](mailto:barbco451@gmail.com)

#### SAVE THE DATE

##### August 26

Join us for a Summer Field trip & Brunch!

#### DISTRICT IV AAUW CONFERENCE

**Host:** Adirondack Branch

**Place:** Glens Falls

On the occasion of the 98<sup>th</sup> Women's Equality Day

**RESERVATION  
POUGHKEEPSIE AAUW ANNUAL MEETING  
JUNE 14, 2018**



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Tour of Main building at 5:30 Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

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

**The cost is \$39.00 per person**

Make checks payable to Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.

Or

Credit Card (\$41) through PayPal at

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

Enclosed find \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ attendees

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

**Reservations required by June 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Check your choice of entrée:**

Chicken Scarpariello \_\_\_\_\_

Flounder Picatta \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetarian Lasagna (GF) \_\_\_\_\_

*Special dietary restrictions, please call Judy Linville.*

Mail to: **Judy Linville, PO Box 55, Staatsburg, NY 12580**

Questions? [judylinville@citlink.net](mailto:judylinville@citlink.net) or 889-4802 ■

**SAVE THE DATE**

***Join us for a Summer Field trip!***

*Car pools will be available – watch your email for more details.*

**District IV AAUW Conference**

**Host:** Adirondack Branch

**Place:** Glens Falls

**Date:** Brunch, parade & boat ride on Sunday, August 26th

***On the occasion of the 98th Women's Equality Day***

The day consists of a parade, an elegant brunch in our Tower Restaurant, the tallest building in Glens Falls, and a boat ride on Lake George on the Mini-Ha-Ha, a paddle wheel one hour cruise of the lower lake. The day begins with the parade at 10 am, brunch to follow, and boat ride at 1:30 pm. This is a whole family event including grandchildren. Who doesn't love a parade - wear your red, white and blue.

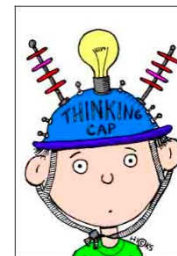
We are trying to keep the **cost of these events to \$30 for the whole day**. A bargain for summer fun!

**PROGRAM PLANNING  
MEETING REMINDER**

Sandy Lash and Monique Jones

**May 22nd, 6:30 pm**

Charwat Room of Adriaance Library



With our first year of programming for the monthly meetings drawing to a close, we would like to thank everyone who helped bring the program ideas to fruition, provided tasty refreshments, and enthusiastically filled the audience. As we look forward to another exciting year, we invite you to attend a program planning meeting for 2018-2019.

This brainstorming session will take place on Tuesday, May 22nd at 6:30 pm in the Charwat Room of Adriaance Library, 93 Market St, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601.

**Please RSVP to Monique Jones at [myj712@aol.com](mailto:myj712@aol.com) or 845-849-1692. ■**

**DUTCHESS COUNTY REGIONAL  
SCIENCE FAIR**

*Poughkeepsie AAUW picks two winners*

Kay Saderholm

**Claudette Hennessy** and **Kay Saderholm** served as judges at the 59th Annual Dutchess County Regional Science Fair at Dutchess Community College on Saturday, April 7, 2018. They reviewed the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade girl's exhibits and were impressed with the quality of the work produced. The skill, creativity, scientific thought and thoroughness shown by the more than 50 presenters was impressive. The **7<sup>th</sup> grade winner was Alyssa Lowe from St. Mary's School in Fishkill** for her project on "Synesthesia: The Sixth Sense." The **8<sup>th</sup> grade winner was Abigail Gadonniex from St. Martin de Porres School**. Her project was "Comparing Algal Biofuels and Diesel." Each young woman received a certificate and a \$50 gift card to Barnes and Noble from AAUW. ■

**JUNE IS COMING AND....**

**so are the stuffed animals!** For the past several years, members have generously donated **NEW, SMALL stuffed animals for our Leading to Reading project**. They are placed in our Fuzzy Friend Kits – a reading kit with new books, parent information, and simple craft activities related to the books. We provide them to agencies dealing with children in crisis, such as Grace Smith House or the Group Emergency Foster Care center at the Children's Home of Poughkeepsie.



Please help provide a child something warm and cuddly to hold while enjoying their new books. **They must be new and can be up to 10" tall. Bring the animals to our Annual Dinner, to be held on Thursday, June 14 at the Children's Home.**

Once again, your support is greatly appreciated! ■

## CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

**JUNE 14, 2018 – Annual Meeting**

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



**Diane Jablonski, nominee for President**, is a graduate of the University of Delaware with a degree in Mathematics. She retired after 37 years in management and software engineering at IBM and as a consultant/director for Cap Gemini Ernst and Young. Diane served four years as Dutchess County Comptroller. In 2015, she ran for Dutchess County Executive.

She was appointed by Governor Cuomo to serve as a Commissioner of the New York State Bridge Authority. She is active in the Dutchess County Mediation Center as a mediator and former board member, Dutchess Democratic Women's Caucus, and in her church. Diane has served as treasurer of the Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW for 4 years and as treasurer of AAUW-NYS for 3 years.

**Bonnie Auchincloss, nominated for her second term as Vice President of Communications**

**Vice President**, is a Dutchess County native, having graduated from Wappingers High School and Marist College with a degree in chemistry. She has worked for IBM first as a lab technician but mostly as a programmer. After an early retirement she started her own business as a computer consultant. Her next career was another business, @ Home Photos, taking photos of children and families. She has been a member of AAUW for almost four years and have enjoyed many great times with Pedal Pushers, All Those Books, Cuisine and Wordies. Bonnie has volunteered with "Live Your Dream Girls Conference" for the past two years and is always thrilled by the results of that event. With the help of Margaret Nijhuis, she set up the AAUW Amazon cloud account for storing all of our photos and documents in a safe place. She is also head of the photography committee which is responsible for making sure that all of our events are covered photographically.



**Ruth Sheets, nominee for Secretary**, received a B.S in Mathematics from Allegheny College and started her career at IBM Poughkeepsie in 1972, working for 12 years as a computer programmer and manager. In 1978 she earned her M.S. in Computer Science from Union College. Ruth was a stay-at-home mother for many years

during which time she volunteered at Dutchess Co. Interfaith Council as webmaster and board member. In recent years Ruth worked as a holistic health counselor, and later as a medical coder, retiring in 2017. She has been a member of AAUW for

11 years, primarily participating as Soleil Interest Group Co-leader/Leader for 8 years. Ruth's interests include walking, yoga, genealogy, and flower gardening.

**Pat Luczai, nominee for Treasurer**, joined AAUW in 2003 with the intention of joining a book group. Little did she know how much more involvement with the organization was in her future. First serving as Educational Foundation chair, she helped establish the endowment for a DCC scholarship. Her next role was as Program VP and later served as Woman of the Year chair. She was the first interest group leader for Gourmet: Out & About, and is currently co-leader of Pins and Needles. She has served on several committees and is also active in a number of interest groups. A retired IBM business analyst, Pat works part-time as an inventory specialist. Her education includes a BA from St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, IN and a MBA from the University of Notre Dame. ■



### MAKE A DREAM COME TRUE!

*Please Support*

*The 10th Annual Live Your Dream Girls' Conference  
 for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls*

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.

**PLEASE PRINT**

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.

**AAUW-NYS  
SUMMER CONFERENCE**

**July 20-22, 2018  
Cazenovia College Campus**



**“Real Tools for Action in Your Hometown”**

**Registration and more information at:**

[www.aauw-nys.org](http://www.aauw-nys.org) ■

**READY FOR FUN! IT'S COMING IN AUGUST!**

**Fundraising for Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF)**

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



**August 17, 18 and 19**

The Highland Rotary's Annual RibFest will be held this year on **August 17, 18 and 19 at the Ulster County Fairgrounds in New Paltz.**

The Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW has volunteered at the Hudson Valley Ribfest for 13 years to raise funds for the Legal Advocacy Fund. The Ribfest has grown in popularity and competitors come from all over the USA.

Our volunteer hours earn LAF cash based on the total hours worked. **Last year we raised over \$600!** Volunteers collect entrance fees, sell raffle tickets, sell water, clear tables in the food tents, sell tickets at the beer tent and generally have fun. After your shift you can stay and enjoy the festival. As a volunteer you are given free admission to the RibFest. More details will be available in the coming weeks.

Many of our volunteers are husband and colleagues. All are welcome and their hours count for AAUW as well!!

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact **Marcine Humphrey** at [Marcine.humphrey@gmail.com](mailto:Marcine.humphrey@gmail.com) or call 845 485 7697.

Join us for

**FUN, SUN, LIVE MUSIC & RIBS** ■

**PUBLIC POLICY**

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

***Damsels Need Not Apply.***

Two employees are in the same place, at the same meeting, watching and listening to the same interactions and dialogue. Both share similar job titles and have comparable resumes. Both attended controversial meetings where suspicious activities occurred. Both were implicated real estate felonies. One has to be terminated. One is male and one is female. One can be salvaged and the other is “disposable.” Who will be saved?

A former New York mayor suggests it be “the fine young woman.” He suggests he would ride in on his charger and run into the office with his “lance” to save her. He further suggests that America would turn on anyone who attacked her. The man? Disposable.

Today's woman doesn't need or require a medieval knight. After all, chivalry is dead. (Although, she might like to be saved by someone who would take his Lear Jet to Nova Scotia for the total eclipse of the sun). She doesn't rely on “an officer and a gentleman” to save her from the plant. She has her own credentials, education and experience to defend herself in the workplace.

Female employees do not require champions disguised as gender bias. They only need to rely on their own skills in a place that equally administers salary, expectations, standards, job performance and success to all employers regardless of sex, race and religion. If it is expected or suggested that a women should be the recipient of gender bias, why would anyone hire a woman? Sexism emerges and gender bias undermines the efforts for equity in the workplace.

Sexism in today's marketplace appears the result of personality rather than politics. However, if medieval stereotypes creep into modern day behaviors, women will surrender progress to regression.

**Women have not asked for a cavalry of knights. They ask for opportunities to equally compete in the work force and be assessed on their merits. While the image of the “White Knight” may live in romance, it has no place in the board room. Women can and are willing to stand up for themselves. Damsels need not apply.** ■

**THANK YOU TO SUPPORTERS OF THE  
BRANCH!!**

Annual contributions from members help defray the expense of publishing *The Branch* and other communication expenses. My appreciation to all but have donated this year and to the many members that have done so for many years!

**Lula Allen, Anonymous, Marge Barton,  
Mary Ann Boylan, Sharon Clarke, Lillian DePasquale,  
Ruth Gau, Gloria Gibbs, Sandy Goldberg,  
Elizabeth Harrel, Shaileen Kopec,  
Margaret Nijhuis, Jacqueline Prusak, Mary Ann Ryan**

Margaret Nijhuis, Newsletter and Website Editor

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

### Writers' Tea & Benefit Auction

April 15, 2018 was not a lovely spring day but everyone was happy and having a wonderful time as they participated in the **9th Annual Writers' Tea & Benefit Auction**. The writers were both outstanding, the food was excellent and our wonderful members were very generous at the auction. Our profit was an **all time record of \$10,684.73** for our scholarships and community service initiatives. **Again the committee would like to say a huge thank you to all of our members who donated items for the auction – many have done so for all 9 years.** And to the people who attended, without your purchase of tickets for the event and bidding at the auction all of our efforts would be in vain. We would also like to thank the many members who worked on the auction (for months ahead) and helped out on the day of the event at the auction and tea! **AND to each member of the Writers' Tea & Auction Committee – thank you for your yearlong work to make this event a success.**



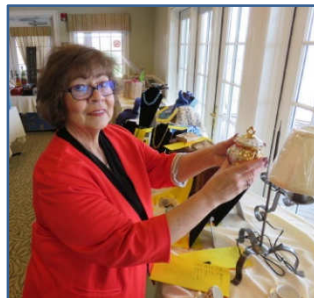
*J. Lazarre, Author, and L. Lurie friends since childhood*

Please patronize the many businesses who donated to our auction and say thank you when you are there. There is a complete list at [www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org) on the Tea page.

If you could not attend but would like to still make a contribution, please send a check payable to **Poughkeepsie AAUW, Inc.** and mail to:

**Diane Jablonski**  
5 Merlot Drive, Apt 536  
Highland, NY 12528

Or you may donate by credit card through PayPal from the homepage of our website [www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org) ■



*Clockwise, starting bottom left: Vivian Rose, Linda Roberts, Lula Allen, Pat DeLeo*

## MEMBERSHIP COUNTS

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

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

## DUES ARE DUE!!!!



By now, you should have received the dues renewal notice in the mail with a return envelope. Please send a check with your member profile to Mary Anne Hogarty or you can pay using PayPal (or your credit card) and just send your profile to her. The directions for using PayPal are on the AAUW website. [www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org) There is a \$2.00 surcharge if you use PayPal. **Returning the member profile, is very important since it is our way to update any changes and to keep track of your interests and abilities.** This way we can contact you if we can use your special skills or if there is a pending activity we think might interest you.

If you feel you cannot renew, we will be sorry to see you go. Please let us know the reason. It will help us address any issues and to improve our organization. You can check off the box on the renewal notice and return the form to Mary Anne Hogarty or call or email either Susie Blecker or Sheila Zweifler (contact information above).

**Our Annual Dinner is Thursday, June 14th. If you have not paid your dues yet, you will be able to pay with a credit card or check that evening.** There is a September 15th payment deadline. After that date, if you have not renewed for the 2018-2019 year you will no longer receive *The Branch*, our newsletter, or our monthly Alerts, or be able to participate in interest group activities or be listed in the Membership Directory. Once you renew, your privileges will be reinstated.



## ON ANOTHER IMPORTANT NOTE



Please remember, that in **September we will be having our annual Open House.** Interest groups and Community Service Initiatives set up tables to explain to prospective members what AAUW is all about. No details yet as to date and place. **But, please think of those friends, relatives, neighbors, and colleagues who may wish to join our organization.** You can submit their names, addresses, and emails to Sheila Zweifler at [sheilaz@optonline.net](mailto:sheilaz@optonline.net) .

We want to wish all our members a happy and healthy summer. Hope to see you all at our Open House. ■



## TREKKERS

### What happening and Plans

Tori Smith (914-805-8046) [torismith.home@gmail.com](mailto:torismith.home@gmail.com)

Join our group of hardy walkers/hikers. Contact Tori to be placed on the email list. We had a very enjoyable walk across the bridges last month, weather was lovely.

For June we are planning to walk/hike **Montgomery Place in Red Hook, on Saturday, June 2nd.** The House Tour is \$10 and starts at 10:30 am and runs every hour after that. We can walk first or do the tour depending on the group's desire. We will meet across Route 9 from Marist College at the old Staples parking lot, close to Starbucks, at 9:15 am. We can car pool according to who wants to do both tour and hike, or just one or the other.

In July, we are planning a walk in Innisfree Garden in Millbrook, date TBD.

August will be a local hike/walk, date TBD.

I am planning on doing a NYC walking tour on **September 8th, Saturday.** I would like opinions on which tour you prefer. I have a few ideas: **Hamilton's Haunts, \$39**, starts at Trinity church and ends at his favorite tavern; or a **Red Hook, Brooklyn tour** for about the same price, which takes a ferry to Brooklyn from Manhattan or a **walking food tour** in the Flatiron district for **\$50.**



I will be away for most of May, so no hike is planned. If you would like to go on the June hike please email me before the hike date, text /call me on my cell, 914-805-8046. Guests are welcome on all hikes, however, no person under 18 and no dogs.

Thanks, Tori

## VOTE! VOTE! You can still vote Online!

*National AAUW bylaw amendments.*

**Ends June 9 at 9 pm**

Your membership number and special voting number are on the back of summer issue of *Outlook* magazine or in an email you received April 26. Your membership number is in our directory. If you cannot find the voting number call the number listed below!

**Questions: 800/326-2289**

## GIRLS' CONFERENCE - VOLUNTEERS

Diana Babington \*845-546-1667\* [dibab@aol.com](mailto:dibab@aol.com)

### Call To Action

When I retired four years ago, I was looking for some volunteer opportunities and decided to join AAUW.

Less than six months after joining, I found myself as the co-chair of the Live Your Dream Girls' Conference with Lori Scolaro. Since I had worked in education for over 25 years, I thought it might be fun to help with a Girls' Conference and make a difference in young girl's lives. **And now, working on my third conference I am still awed by the effect the program has had, not only on the girls, but the Big Sisters as well as the adult facilitators and volunteers who join us each year.**



Many of you gladly support us through the Divas, Dreamers and Darlings program and for that we are most grateful. But I am sure there are **those of you who would like to do more outreach.** So, this little missive is a call to action to our sisters who would like to serve as a **volunteer on the day** or as a **member of our committee.** We are in need of women to help with recruitment of the girls in particular, for without them.....we have no conference. So, if you'd like to participate just a little bit more, please email or call Diana. We would love to have you join us. *Diana and Lori* ■

### Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. Officers 2017-2018

President	Maria DeWald	266-4960
Program Co-VPs	Monique Jones	849-1692
	Sandy Lash	227-4650
Membership Co-VPs	Susie Blecker	462-7074
	Sheila Zweifler	462-6478
Development VP	Jocelynn Banfield	454-5551
Communications VP	Bonnie Auchincloss	635-5191
Secretary	Katherine Friedman	485-8671
Treasurer	Diane Jablonski	485-6228
Membership Treasurer	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).