



THE BRANCH

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

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64th year of publication

www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org
January 2020

Extending Hospitality to Diverse Students at Dutchess Community College

*Presented in partnership with the International-Diversity
Committee*

7pm, Thursday, January 9, 2020

Unitarian Universal Fellowship of Poughkeepsie
67 South Randolph Ave., Poughkeepsie



Also at our January 9 meeting Program Preview: Oaxaca Teacher Exchange

In August 2019, three Dutchess County educators – Blanca Calderon, Franky Perez, and Joyette Walton – traveled to Oaxaca, Mexico, under the sponsorship of the Poughkeepsie-Oaxaca Friendship Committee, which organized the trip. Oaxaca is the native state of many Mexicans who live in Dutchess County.

During their trip, the teachers met public officials and toured the local school district, gathering significant insight into the backgrounds of the growing number of Mexican children now attending schools in Dutchess County.

Poughkeepsie Middle School teacher Joyette Walton and counselor Franky Perez will speak about their experience as part of this teacher exchange. They will also present two brief videos that capture their interactions with the Oaxaca school district and highlight Oaxacan children enrolled in Dutchess County schools. Their accounts will also offer a glimpse at what our community can do to welcome the contributions of Oaxacans and incorporate aspects of their culture into our own.

AAUW member Ellie Charwat, who chairs the Friendship Committee, recently spoke to the Wappingers Rotary Club on the subject, and has written an article about it for the Fall 2019 Road Scholar Alumni Magazine. The Friendship Committee hopes to organize a reciprocal trip in 2020 in which Mexican teachers visit Dutchess County schools.

We welcome Tomasine Oliphant, Dutchess Community College (DCC) Student Resource Navigator, who will discuss the demographic changes in today’s student population and DCC’s efforts to respond to these shifts. This thoughtful look at DCC’s experience will also help illustrate the need and opportunity to establish a community-wide Hospitality Resource to welcome the area’s minority and international residents and visitors.



Tomasine Oliphant, MSW, is DCC’s first Student Resource Navigator. A graduate of Suffolk Community College, Ms. Oliphant earned bachelors and masters degrees from SUNY

Stony Brook. She manages DCC CARES (Campus Assessment, Response, Evaluation and Support) and other initiatives that connect students in need with on- and

off-campus resources and grant-supported emergency funds to help them stay in school.

Previously, she served as Hudson Valley Regional Director for Adoptive and Foster Family Coalition of New York and as a Family Specialist with the Mental Health Association in Ulster County.

Special program preview: We will also get a preview of an upcoming special program that reports on the recent teacher exchange arranged by AAUW member Ellie Charwat’s Poughkeepsie-Oaxaca Friendship Committee. *(details at left)*





JANUARY CALENDAR

Online Calendar at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org
 Contact: Kathy Friedman kfriedman33@gmail.com

- 6 Word Games: 1:30 pm**
 Hostess: Betsy Vivas (485-2379)
 Coordinator: Sue Doyle (914-474-1232)
suedoyle1@aol.com
- 7 World Travelers: 7:00 pm**
Mongolia
 Hostess: Lillian DePasquale (462-4729)
 Presenter: Mary Lou Davis
 Coordinator: Bonnie Auchincloss
 (635-5191) bauchincloss@gmail.com
- 8 Gourmet: Out & About: 6:30**
Joe Willy's Fish House, Wappingers Falls
 Contact: Jo Ann Abraskin, (901-0373)
- 9 General Membership Program: 7:00 pm**
*All members are invited and encouraged to attend
 – see details, p. 1*
- 9 Canasta: 1-4 pm**
 Hostess: TBA
 Coordinator: Barbara Cohen barbco451@gmail.com
- 10 Deadline for February 2020 Branch articles**
- 10 Daytime Literature: 10 am**
*The Bar Harbor Retirement Home for Famous Writers
 (and their Muses)*, by Terri-lynn DeFino
 The Manor at Woodside
 Coordinators: Kathy Friedman (485-8671) and Susan
 Fink (473-3168)
- 13 All those books...: 2:30 pm**
The Japanese Lover, by Isabel Allende
 Hostess: Carol Loizides e.loizides@verizon.net
 Coordinator: Carol Loizides (452-3208)
e.loizides@verizon.net
- 14 Movie Night: Time late afternoon TBD by show**
 Movie will be followed by discussion at a nearby diner.
 Theater and movie choice will be announced Thursday of
 the previous week and will be based on what is available
 at that time.
 Director: Linnea Masson (883-7726)
 Producer: Ellen Zelig ellenzeligcrs@aol.com
- 15 Bridge I: 1:00 - 4:00 pm**
 Hostess: Mary Lou Davis (223-5544)
 Coordinator: Linda Ronayne (897-9745)
Linronay@optonline.net

- 16 Aventures en Soleil: 12:30 pm**
Planning meeting, Community Room at the Galleria
 Contact: Coordinator: Terry Jackel
aauwsoleil@gmail.com
- 17 Poetry & Play Readings: 1:45 pm**
 Topic and Hostess TBA
 Coordinators: Cathy Kinn (462-3196) & Jackie Sweeney
 (518-947-6682)
- 18 Days for Girls: 1-4 pm**
 Friends Meeting House, Hooker Ave. Poughkeepsie
 Contact: Sabashnee Govender, Sabashnee@aol.com
- 21 Cuisine: 6:30 pm**
Dinner Out TBA
 Contact Coordinator: Barbara Lemberger,
brleberger@yahoo.com
- 22 Mah Jongg: Noon - 4:00 pm**
 Antonella's Restaurant, Route 9, Wappingers Falls
 Contact: Blanche Bergman by 2 days before (462-3955)
blanchebergman@gmail.com
- 22 Contemporary Literature: 4:00 pm**
Inheritance, by Dani Shapiro
 Hostess: Betty Harrel (462-2114)
 Coordinators: Ann Wade (229-5267) and Linda Freisitzer
 (266-5427)
- 23 Bridge II: 12:00-4:00 pm**
 Red Lobster, Route 9, Poughkeepsie
 Coordinator: Cathy Kinn cathy@kinn.org
- 23 Pins & Needles: 7:00 pm**
Using your button stash
 Hostess: Carol DeMicco (204-9553)
 Coordinators: Pat Luczai pat.luczai@gmail.com and
 Mary Ann Williams maryannwms@optonline.net
- 24 Art on the Go: Louise Bourgeois "Ode to Forgetting"**
 exhibition at Francis Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar
 Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)

Trekkers 10 am TBA
 Coordinator: Tori Smith (345-0043)

Board meeting: No meeting in January; February's meeting
 will be a conference call.
Manderley: No meeting this month.

*Please report any changes in contact information to Sue Doyle,
 Membership Treasurer, 914/474-1232 or suedoyle1@aol.com*

LOOKING AHEAD

April 16: Food of the Future

*Presenter: Allison Righter, MSPH, RDN
 Assistant Professor, School of Culinary Science and
 Nutrition, Culinary Institute of America*

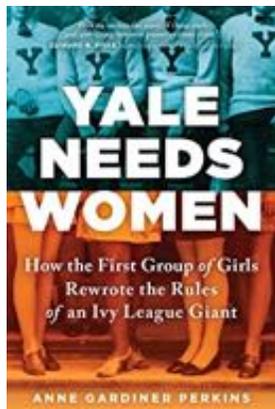
Apr 24 - 26, 2020: AAUW-NYS Convention, Rochester

Oct 18, 2020: A Novel Affair, Le Chambord

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Diane Jablonski *834-3378* DLJab@live.com

Around Thanksgiving, I finished reading Yale Needs Women by Anne Gardiner Perkins. The book was totally engrossing, taking me back to the late 60's and early 70's, describing not only the status of women in higher education, but also the political and racial unrest of the times. I sometimes bemoan the fact that there is still no pay equity for women – a disparity even more evidenced by minority women; that women still do not equal the number of men in tenured faculty positions and as CEOs and members of boards of directors; that sexual assault and harassment is pervasive; that in professional arenas, particularly technology and science, women are still a minority; that male elected officials outnumber female elected officials.



The power of Yale Needs Women was that it made me remember how far women have come. And it made me appreciate the contributions of the women first accepted at Yale and the battles they had to fight. After being admitted, their first days at Yale only emphasized the limitations and discrimination they faced as women – lack of women's bathrooms (and locks on the few bathrooms designated for women); ineligibility for sports and the marching band; the constant demands of being one of few women in a male dominated environment and the associated dating and sexual pressure; the lack of respect from the faculty. The list goes on and on. It was so inspiring to read how the women fought back – each in their own way – and the impact they had in changing Yale, New Haven, and Connecticut.

I know that in my own small way I was fighting for equality at IBM when I had a child and wanted to return to work; when I qualified for an assignment in Germany and the higher-ups tried to talk me out of it because I had a child; when I sought a transfer to another location and upper management kept holding my family up as a reason I should not accept the transfer; when a manager told me he couldn't send me on a business trip because I had a child. The thousand slights that we endure as women, and that we each fight back against in small, continuing battles need to be recognized as the basis for where women are today.

Yale Needs Women is a microcosm of what many of us fought for in the past and continue to fight for today. I know we each have your own story to tell and I think we need to share our stories with our daughters and granddaughters, as well and our sons and grandsons to continue to move the fight ahead. AAUW continues that fight – providing workshops on salary negotiation; funding fellowships for women in graduate programs; lobbying for pay equity and gender equality in all aspects of life.

As we start a new year, let one of our resolutions be to continue the fight for women's equality, to tell our stories, and to speak up whenever we see gender discrimination.

MEMBERSHIP COUNTS

Mary Scalise-Annis *635-2109* nicevalley@aol.com
Sheila Zweifler *462-6478* sheilaz@optonline.net

We want to wish everyone a Happy New Year and hope you had a healthy holiday season.

The membership directories were mailed. If you have not received yours or if you have found an error, please let us know and corrections will be sent out in February.

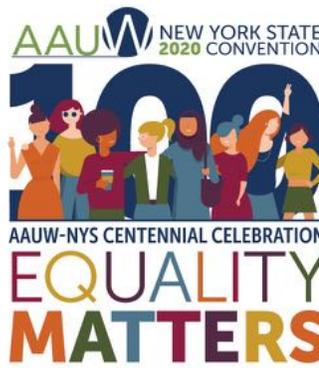
To our new members, if you have not yet joined an interest group or community initiative, the information can be found on our website, www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org. On the home page, select programs on the menu bar at the top. In the dropdown list, you will see Interest Groups, Community Initiatives, Membership Meetings and Annual Events. By clicking on any of these you will find information about that group and how to contact the leader.

Our next membership meeting is on Thursday, January 9 at 7:00PM at the Unitarian Fellowship. The topic is "Extending Hospitality to 21st Century Students at DCC." We hope you can attend.

It's the time for New Year's resolutions!! Why not resolve to attend the monthly membership meeting and participate in an interest group or community initiative program. It will make 2020 a fuller and richer year.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW 2019 MEMBERS:

Linda Babas
Kele Baker
Kim Butwell
Linda Ciano
Miriam Cohen
Alyssa Covelli
Judy Cummins
Mary Gall
Philippa Goodman
Sarah Hathaway
Janet Houston
Leanne Lawson
Mary Jo Mann
Nancy Marrine
Sabrina Jaar Marzouka
Joanne McCullen
Gael Morey
Patricia Murphy
Cynthia Nguyen
Tricia Sims
Breanna Syslo
Gayle Turowski
Norma Vazquez
Beatrice Wong
Darlene Yerdon
Nadine Zaritsky



Save the date!
Apr 24 - 26, 2020
Rochester

PROGRAM NOTES: FEBRUARY PREVIEW

Sandy Lash sjlash@optonline.net; Monique Jones myj712@aol.com

Asylum and the Role of Counsel

Speaker: Rob Horne, Esq.

Managing Attorney, Regional Immigration Assistance Center 4 Hudson Valley Region

February 13, 2020

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie

The perilous situation of asylum seekers at the border and of non-documented and other non-citizens living in the US has garnered headlines and filled the news. What is actually happening and how can the situation be addressed?

Join us in February when immigration attorney Rob Horne will address the fundamentals of an asylum application and the role of counsel, current issues in asylum law and at the border; consequences of criminal convictions and resources available to non-citizens charged with crimes.



Rob Horne has over 25 years of experience in private practice representing non-citizens in a wide variety of matters in Federal, State and Local criminal court and immigration court. He has a B.A. from Boston University and graduated from Pace Law School. Rob opened the Regional Immigration Assistance Center in 2016 and has served as the Managing Attorney and senior counsel ever since. The Center is sponsored by the Legal Aid Society of Westchester County and covers nine counties in the Hudson Valley, including Westchester, Rockland, Dutchess, Putnam, Ulster, Columbia, Greene, Orange and Sullivan. The Center provides expert legal advice and trains attorneys representing non-citizens on the immigration consequences of criminal convictions and family court matters.

EXTENDING GIRLS' HORIZONS

Peggy Kelland *264-9085* SMKell45@aol.com

The next event is "New Cuisines," held in the Zion Episcopal Church Parish Hall. All members are welcome to join us.

Jan 10	New Cuisines	Zion	5:00-8:30
Jan 25	A-Maze	Scout House	8:45-3:30
Feb 1	A-Maze	Scout House	8:45-3:30
Feb 7	Special Agent	RCK	6:30-8:30
March 6	Woodworker	RCK	6:30-8:30
March 20*	Drama Queen	RCK	6:30-8:30
April (TBA)	Map and Compass Skills	Bowdoin Park	5:00-6:30

RCK = R.C. Ketcham High School Library
 Zion = Zion Episcopal Church Parish Hall, Wappingers Falls
 Scout House = Fanny Fay Scout House, Beacon

MEMBER NEWS

The Poughkeepsie Branch was saddened at the loss of two members in December. Both former educators, they were valued members of our branch and will be missed.

Sandra (Sandy) Sherman played an active role in our community initiatives. As a member of Court Watch, she took part in extensive training and attended numerous Family Court hearings. As a member of Leading to Reading, she was on the planning committee and was a regular participant in work sessions and special events. She was an enthusiastic volunteer and always had a ready smile.



Obituary:

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/poughkeepsiejournal/obituary.aspx?n=sandra-sherman&pid=194656468&fhid=22176>

After retiring as principal of Noxon Road Elementary School, **Linda Roy** joined our branch where she was a dedicated Leading to Reading volunteer. She was part of the planning committee and was instrumental in starting the Books for Babies program that provides a book to every baby born at Vassar Brothers Medical Center.



Obituary:

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/poughkeepsiejournal/obituary.aspx?n=linda-margaret-roy&pid=194603608&fhid=2854>

LEADING TO READING

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

Thanks to Holiday Helping Hand!

For the first time, Leading to Reading is part of the Holiday Helping Hand program! Sponsored by the Poughkeepsie Journal and United Way of Dutchess-Orange Region, Helping Hand provides extra holiday cheer to local families.

Local residents donate funds to support area programs, including special meals, holiday parties, food cards, and gifts.

**HOLIDAY
 HELPING
 HAND**



Through a United Way grant, Leading to Reading provided new books to all the children living at Hudson River Lodging. Families stay in this temporary shelter while a parent is involved in counseling, training, or education programs.

The books were wrapped by AAUW volunteers and distributed by center staff members. A big THANK YOU to all who helped make this annual holiday program a success!

INTERNATIONAL/DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

Marti Madory *471-8577* marti67138@gmail.com

Global Friends Sharing Circle on

January 22

Norma Vazquez will host our next Global Friends Sharing Circle at her home, 12 Valley View Road, in the Town of Poughkeepsie, at 3 pm on Wednesday, Jan. 22. Members who would like to participate should email Norma. Attendance will be limited to space available; members with experience or interest in living abroad may find these meetings particularly interesting. International guests are also welcome; Marti will extend invitations to anyone you recommend. Norma will provide beverages; snack contributions from members will be appreciated.



Peer Education in Tolerance fostered by Anne Frank Trust

Global Friends alumnae Cacilia Wyman, who grew up in East Germany and teaches now in Pine Plains, and Bintou Hinds, a Senegal native who has lived in several Middle Eastern countries, recently hosted three informational meetings to assess interest in the organization of a local peer education program in tolerance, racism, and acceptance under the guidance of the Anne Frank Trust. The meetings were attended by a variety of individuals from the community; there is hope for a Fall 2020 launch. The program involves the display of a portable exhibit in a school setting, with students trained as docents for tours. More details can be obtained in a short video at <https://vimeo.com/313799631> and an article at <https://tribaltribune.org/11131-2/>. AAUW members Muriel Horowitz, Marti Madory, and Ann Pinna are involved in developing the initial proposal that will be submitted to Dutchess County school districts.

CAP Mentoring Program

AAUW members Betty Olson, Mary Coiteux, Carmen McGill, and Marti Madory have completed training as mentors for Poughkeepsie High School students applying for college. Working with the Marist Liberty Partnerships Program (LPP), they have met with their prospective mentees, and in January will be assigned to juniors who need to begin applications and meet deadlines. This is an experimental program. If it is determined to be a success, additional mentors may be trained in the Fall of 2020.

International Women's Day Dinner on March 10

Join women of the Mid-Hudson Valley in celebrating the women of the world at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel on Tuesday, March 10. Organized by the Women's Professional Network (WPN), it offers a banquet, a motivational speaker, some word games, the chance to bid on one of many themed gift baskets, and lots of networking opportunities. A real chance to expand the perspectives of AAUW members as well as women who are our neighbors, customers, clients, and employers. Watch this column for reservation information.

**A Celebration of African Humanity:
Honoring the Enslaved Africans of Poughkeepsie**

Organizing and research is ongoing for a new group spearheaded by AAUW member Carmen McGill that plans to prepare and place markers throughout the county honoring the slaves of Poughkeepsie. Members who would like to participate in the research and planning for this effort can contact Carmen.

TIMELESS TIDBITS

Barbara Hesperheide, Historian 452-3241

The world came to Poughkeepsie in the summer of 1958. Vassar College, Poughkeepsie AAUW and Schenectady AAUW hosted the **International Council of University Women**—100 delegates from 38 countries. This was the first US location of a Council meeting in 27 years. Members of the committee met delegates at the Poughkeepsie train station at all hours of the day and night. In addition to meetings, the delegates toured West Point, the Education Building of IBM, FDR's home and Schenectady. Local AAUW members had visits from delegates "where experiences and ideas were exchanged regardless of a few language handicaps." Letters of thanks commented on the careful planning and organization plus the gracious welcome all delegates received.



MISS AMY RUSTOMJEE, left, Bombay, India, a second vice president of the International Federation of University Women now in convention at Vassar college, chats with delegates, left to right, DR. MERIBETH E. CAMERON, South Hadley, Mass., also a second vice president, and MRS. DONALD M. ALLARDYCE, arrangements chairman for the Poughkeepsie branch of the American Association of University Women, an IFUW affiliate, and MRS. JOHN CAYO, Poughkeepsie branch chairman of tour arrangements. Tours for the delegates from 38 nations included a stop at St. James Episcopal church where the above photo was taken at supper for delegates at the parish hall. Poughkeepsie New Yorker Photo

The Poughkeepsie Branch of AAUW welcomes you to the historic Hudson Valley

Handwritten notes on a map of the Hudson Valley region, including locations like Schenectady, Albany, Hudson, Poughkeepsie, and New York City.

Monday, August 4
12:00 PM The American Association of University Women will entertain Council members at a reception. Transportation furnished by local members.

Tuesday, August 5
12:00 PM The American Association of University Women will entertain Council members at a reception. Transportation furnished by local members.

Wednesday, August 6
12:00 PM Delegates will be entertained in home of Poughkeepsie Branch members.

Thursday, August 7
12:00 AM Trip to Schenectady, NY, arranged by Schenectady Branch.

Friday, August 8
12:00 PM Tour of Education Building of International Business Machines Corporation following which delegates will be guests of IBM for

Saturday, August 9
12:00 PM Informal party at home of Sarah Ellen Blanding, President of Poughkeepsie Branch.

Sunday, August 10
12:00 PM Informal party at home of Sarah Ellen Blanding, President of Poughkeepsie Branch.

Co-Chairmen of Arrangements:
Mrs. Donald Allardyce
Mrs. James S. Ingle

MEMBERSHIP

Here's another look at our new 2019 members. Let's make them feel welcome!



Linda Ciano



Sarah Hathaway



Cynthia Nguyen



Alyssa Covelli



Janet Houston



Tricia Sims



Mary Gall



Leanne Lawson



Breanna Syslo



Philippa Goodman



Nancy Marrine



Norma Vasquez



Gael Morey

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)

Lula Allen, Verna Carr, Pat DeLeo, Ruth Gau, Sandra Goldberg, Shaileen Kopec, Margaret Nijhuis, Mary Ann Ryan, Terry Schneider

Sponsors (\$10 or more)

To add your name to the list, mail a check payable: "Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc." to Cyd Averill, 14 Farm View Road, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. Officers 2019-2020

President	Diane Jablonski	834-3378
Program Co-VPs	Monique Jones	849-1692
	Sandy Lash	227-4650
Membership Co-VPs	Mary Scalise-Annis	635-2109
	Sheila Zweifler	462-6478
Development VP	Lula Allen	284-2331
Communications VP	Bonnie Auchincloss	635-5191
Secretary	Ruth Sheets	473-6202
Treasurer	Patricia Luczai	463-4662
Membership Treasurer	Susan Doyle	914-474-1232

Association website: www.aauw.org

NY State website: www.aauw-nys.org

Poughkeepsie Branch website: www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.

The Branch is published ten times a year, September through June, by the Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW, Inc. Send articles to the editor: Cyd Averill, 485-2866, averille@optonline.net