



THE BRANCH

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

Volume 33, Number 9
Follow us at www.facebook.com/AAUWPoughkeepsie2014

64th year of publication

www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org
May 2020

COVID-19 STAY-AT-HOME EDITION



AAUW CONNECTIONS

Helpful member-supplied resources for
staying-at-home, together!
aauwpoughkeepsie.org

STAY IN TOUCH WHILE STAYING APART MEET ONLINE WITH ZOOM

Poughkeepsie AAUW has set up an account on Zoom.com so interest groups, initiatives and other programs of AAUW may continue to meet and share ideas and plans. This account allows the meeting to continue for an unlimited length of time.

On the homepage of our website www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org we have posted a link to a document with step-by-step directions for how to join a Zoom meeting.

For information on using this account contact Diane Jablonski.



Watch for emails that contain information on planned Zoom meetings for the membership – 20 or more joined us on March 31 for a celebration of Equal Pay Day. Our membership Co-Chairs held a “Zoom Party” on April 15th with others to follow.

You can easily set up a personal free account of your own by going to zoom.com and choose “sign in.” They will ask for your email and a password. This will allow you to set up a meeting with family and friends at no cost but a limit of 30 minutes. If you want to set up meetings of your own, here are some links from the Zoom website that might help:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362323-How-Do-I-Change-The-Video-Layout->

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/360000005883>

Branch members Betty Harrel, Barbara Durniak, Cathy Kinn, and Diane Jablonski have all used Zoom to set up meetings and have agreed to help our members.

New York City Culture in the Jazz Age

May 14, 2020

Presenter: **Susan Ingalls Lewis Ph.D.**,
Professor Emerita, Department of
History, SUNY New Paltz

Although this meeting had to be canceled, we look forward to rescheduling this presentation next spring. Meanwhile, Professor Lewis provided some inspiring reading for our members about the history of women in New York State. *Go to page 5.*



CANCELLED

MAY CALENDAR

Online Calendar at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

Contact: Kathy Friedman kfriedman33@gmail.com

Due to coronavirus, please check with your group coordinator about how the meeting will be conducted. Many groups are using tele-conferencing or Zoom.

- 4 Word Games: 1:30 pm**
TBD – If anyone has any ideas for verbal games that we can play on Zoom please call Bonnie Auchincloss at 635-5191 or 625-4925.
Coordinator: Sue Doyle (914-474-1232)
suedoyle1@aol.com
- 5 World Travelers: 7:00 pm**
TBA – Possible Zoom Presentation
Coordinator: Bonnie Auchincloss (635-5191) bauchincloss@gmail.com
- 7 Board Meeting: 7 pm**
TBA – Zoom meeting
- 8 Daytime Literature: 10 am**
The Group, by Mary McCarthy and/or *The Gilded Years*, by Karen Tanabe – read one or both
Zoom meeting
Coordinators: Kathy Friedman (485-8671) and Susan Fink (473-3168)
- 11 All those books...: 2:30 pm**
One Hundred Years of Solitude, by Gabriel Garcia-Marquez
Hostess: Cathy Lane akitalane@optonline.net
Coordinator: Carol Loizides (452-3208)
e.loizides@verizon.net
- 12 Movie Night: TBA**
- 14 Canasta: 1-4 pm**
TBD
Coordinator: Barbara Cohen barbco451@gmail.com
- 15 Poetry & Play Readings: 2:00 pm**
Zoom meeting – topic TBD
Coordinators: Cathy Kinn (462-3196) & Jackie Sweeney (518-947-6682)
- 18 Manderley Literary Society: 7:00 pm**
Oil and Marble, by Stephanie Storey
Hostess: Mary Jo Mann mann.maryjo@gmail.com
Coordinator: Shelly Friedman (462-4996)
rfriedman5@gmail.com
- 22 Art on the Go:**
TBD
Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)
- 27 Contemporary Literature: 7:30 pm**
Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens
Meeting is TBD. Members will be contacted by email
Coordinators: Ann Wade (229-5267) and Linda Freisitzer (266-5427)
- 28 Bridge II: 12:00-4:00 pm**
All AAUW members are invited. Contact Cathy.
Held on Zoom
Coordinator: Cathy Kinn cathy@kinn.org

28 Pins & Needles: TBD Contact coordinators

Trekkers : TBA

Aventures en Soleil:

The Frick museum is cancelled for May and will be put on the list for next year

Bridge I: Games are suspended until further notice

Mah Jongg: Cancelled

Gourmet: Out & About: Canceled

Pedal Pushers: Canceled

Cuisine: Cancelled until further notice

2020 AAUW NATIONAL VOTE

Deadline to Vote is May 18

Every member should have received an email with your member number and voting ID. Please take a moment to ensure AAUW has strong leaders to guide us into the future by [voting in the AAUW National Election](#). This year, members will vote on four candidates to join AAUW's 15-person board of directors. You can read more about them and the election on the [National Election page](#) of AAUW's newly redesigned website.

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, averillc@optonline.net

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

As I write this letter in preparation for the May Branch, we are in a time of uncertainty. And because the input to the Branch is due on April 10th, who knows what will have changed by the beginning of May although we know that we must Shelter in Place till the end of April. Facing the unknown is always frightening and the anxiety is exacerbated by the social distancing requirements, the inability to physically be with friends and family, and comfort each other with our presence and hugs.

The Poughkeepsie Branch is trying to respond as quickly as we can to continue the sense of community that typifies our Branch. You will see some of our actions reflected elsewhere in the newsletter –replacement of our annual meeting with a Zoom meeting and the necessary by-laws changes to support that and making a Zoom account with unlimited time available to our interest groups and members to allow us to gather “online”. As someone said yesterday on a Zoom meeting, just the fact that we can see one another makes us feel more together than we do on a voice-only conference call. In addition, Connections orchestrated by Cathy Kinn is providing suggestions to help us all get through this time of social distancing.

We are all challenged as we deal with the stress and uncertainty of the current pandemic, the separation of families and the stories of

suffering of the unemployed and small business owners. I am in awe of those who continue to do their jobs

during the pandemic – health care workers, supermarket employees, police and fire personnel, truckers, delivery personnel – almost too many to mention. Our sacrifices in staying in home pale in comparison to their sacrifices and the risks they personally take for themselves and their families.

We don't know what the future will bring, but I believe the world will be greatly changed as we come out of the pandemic. We must be vigilant as the economy recovers that the recovery does not discriminate against women, women of color, and other minorities. AAUW's agenda for gender equality has never been more important, and we as a Branch need to be prepared to support our community and challenge our leaders to ensure an equal playing field during the recovery.

I hope you will be with us as we continue the journey of AAUW in the 21st century and post-pandemic by renewing your membership when you get the notice, and if possible, make an extra donation to support our efforts.

You are part of the AAUW community as we care for each other in these turbulent times. I hope you and your families are keeping safe.

MEMBERSHIP COUNTS

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

We hope that everyone is sheltering in place and staying healthy. This is a challenging time for our members and our organization. We have had to cancel interest groups, community initiatives, and monthly events. The Board now has a Zoom account. We encourage interest and initiative leaders to use it to keep in touch with their members.

With that in mind, Mary and I have started a virtual cocktail hour. We call it BYOL (Bring Your Own Liquid) Party. Our first get together was April 15th. You should have received an email blast with the information and directions for joining us on Zoom. If you haven't, please let us know. We will continue to have our casual get togethers on

the second Thursday of the month at 5:00. That was the date of our monthly meeting. Since we won't be getting together until it is safe, we will get together virtually.

It is time for you to renew your membership. The leadership understands how stressful these times are for everyone. AAUW is an organization of smart and resourceful women. We enjoy our social interactions as well as the help and support we give our community. AAUW wants to continue to be an integral part of your life.

You will be receiving in the mail the 2020-2021 AAUW renewal form. Please fill it out along with the Member Profile Sheet so we can update our records. Please mail your check and/or completed profile to Susan Doyle as soon as possible.

Stay safe and healthy.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW 2019 MEMBERS:

Mary Koniz Arnold
Linda Babas
Kele Baker
Kim Butwell
Alison Camp
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
Nadine Revheim
Amelia Roger
Laura Ramsey Russell
Tricia Sims
Breanna Syslo
Eileen Duffy Traslavina
Gayle Turowski
Norma Vazquez
Beatrice Wong
Darlene Yerdon
Nadine Zaritsky



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Betty Harrel 462-2141; Bharrel28@gmail.com

The Nominating Committee is very pleased to present the following slate of officers for 2020-2022:

PRESIDENT: Monique Jones



Monique joined AAUW in 2015, is in her 2nd term as Program Co-Vice President and was our Branch Emerging Leader. She's been active in the Live Your Dreams Girls' Conference, Trekkers, Soleil, and the Manderley Literary Society. She currently works for the Department of Behavioral and Community Health as an Associate Public Health Sanitarian.

PROGRAM VP (1 YR): Marcine Humphrey



Marcine's long-time AAUW activities include implementing and chairing the Live Your Dream Girls' Conference, chairing the Irene Keyes Memorial Fund Scholarship committee and serving as Women's Issues and Legal Advocacy chairs. Her creative, festive touches have been seen at many branch and state activities.

COMMUNICATIONS VP: Barbara Durniak



Barbara's communications experience was developed at Vassar College, where she was the head of library Public Services, launched their database search program, and authored several articles. Interests include the AAUW Program Committee, Dutchess Outreach Farm Stand, the Vassar College Lifelong Learning Institute, and outdoor

activities.

SECRETARY/BYLAWS: Linda Freisitzer



Linda continues to serve as the Contemporary Literature co-coordinator and is an active member of Leading to Reading both as a workshop volunteer and community reader. An avid gardener, she was secretary of the Beatrix Farrand Garden Association for six years and continues to enjoy skiing, Jazzercise and Pilates.

TREASURER: Pat Luczai



Pat spends her free time traveling and enjoying art history. She is co-leader of Pins and Needles, one of our branch photographers, a long-time volunteer for Leading to Reading and Live Your Dream Girls' Conference, and previously served as branch Program Vice President. She is completing her first term as the branch treasurer.

The election will be held at the annual meeting in June, and officers will begin their terms on July 1. Thanks to the members of the Nominating Committee for a job well done – Mary Lou Davis, Kathy Friedman, Margaret Nijhuis, and Sheila Zweifler!

ANNUAL MEETING GOES VIRTUAL

Our annual meeting is usually held in June, and plans were underway for a festive night at the Poughkeepsie Grand to celebrate this anniversary of significant events in women's rights and a look ahead to supporting the AAUW agenda in the November elections. We have chosen to cancel the in-person meeting at the Grand in the interest of everyone's safety and well-being. Instead, we will have a Zoom meeting to do the business we are required to do at our annual meeting – namely the installation and election of officers.

If you haven't participated in a Zoom meeting, I think you will find it a good way to touch base with your friends in AAUW – albeit without the hugs and greetings normal at our annual meeting. It's very easy to participate – whether you have a laptop, a tablet, or a smart phone, or a desktop with a camera and microphone. If you have none of those – don't worry, you will be able to be part of the meeting on the telephone. Since this meeting will be abbreviated and not contain all our usual agenda items, including our guest speaker, we hope in the fall at some point to get together in person at an all-member gathering. However, until the coronavirus is contained and it is safe for us to gather, there is not a specific date or plan for this gathering.

Keep watching for emails giving you details on how to connect over Zoom for the annual meeting and other events that we are planning to allow us to get in touch. I encourage you to be part of the Zoom meeting to show your support for the new officers who will guide us through the tumultuous next year. They need your support so we continue to keep AAUW a connected, caring, serving organization in the Mid-Hudson Valley.

PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES – April, 2020

The following proposed changes to the By-Laws are approved by the Board to be voted on at the annual meeting. If you have any questions about the changes, please contact Diane Jablonski.

ARTICLE VIII NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 4. Nominations may be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee.

The board recommends the following changes to Section VIII.

Replace Section 4 with the following:

Section 4. A document expressing intent and permission from the nominee to be nominated from the floor must be received by the Nominating Committee Chair no later than 7 days prior to the scheduled date for the election of officers. No nominations from the floor will be accepted if they have not provided prior notification of intent.

Add a new section for virtual meetings:

Section 7. In the event that a meeting cannot be held in person, a virtual meeting will be convened with a capability to submit nominations from the floor and an electronic proxy capability if necessary. Such mechanism will be established by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XIII. COMMITTEES

The board recommends the following change to

Section 1.A: *Replace “Educational Fund and Legal Advocacy Fund” with “Development Committee” to reflect our current organization structure, consistent with the changes at National to focus on the Greatest Needs Fund.*

Section 1.A. Committees of the corporation shall be program, membership, public policy, development, and nominating.

ARTICLE XV. MEETINGS

The board recommends the following addition to reflect current practice for the Board to approve the minutes of general business meetings.

Section 5. The minutes of the general business meetings will be referred to the Board for approval, and after approval will be made available on the branch web site.

DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Lula Allen, VP Development
Lula.h.allen@gmail.com

Thank you to all of the members who continue to show support for the AAUW mission through donations to the AAUW Funds Program. The AAUW Poughkeepsie Branch donated \$3,867.50 to the AAUW Funds Program in 2019. AAUW NYS donated \$75,088.75 to AAUW Funds in 2019. We are so very grateful to all for your continued support of the AAUW mission.

BUDGET 2020 – 2021

The following Operating Budget was approved by the board on April 2, 2020. Questions may be addressed to Pat Luczai at pat.luczai@gmail.com

Operating Budget 2020-2021

	Amount
INCOME	
Investments	275
Undesignated Contribution	800
Communication Contribution	350
Dues	28,600.00
Annual Meeting	4,000.00
Woman of the Year	3,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	37,025.00
EXPENSES	
Administration	500
Awards/Gifts	200
Caring Comm.	25
Convention	125
Dues	23,400.00
Equipment	50
Historian	20
Insurance	1,200.00
<i>Membership Activities:</i>	
Dues Collection	475
Directory	1,075.00
Open House	475
New Member Reception	175
Monthly Meetings	1,550.00
Newsletter	160
Annual Meeting	4,000.00
Woman of the Year	3,000.00
Reserve	595
TOTAL EXPENSES	37,025.00

PUBLIC POLICY

Janet Houston janethouston@earthlink.net
Gayle Garin gaylegarin@gmail.com

The following information, from the Dutchess County Board of Elections, concerns the upcoming primaries and changes due to the current Covid-19 pandemic. It includes portions of Governor Cuomo's Executive Order regarding absentee voting.

In summary, it adds **public health emergency** as the reason for requesting the absentee ballot. Check this if it fits your needs. It also allows the request to be accepted through email. In addition, it indicates that **this change applies only to the June 23rd Presidential and State Primary Election**. You may copy and complete the application through the link listed below, or request it by regular mail.

It is not known at this time how the November Presidential Election will be affected by our current situation. The best advice for now is to be patient and keep up with the latest news and updates.

From the DUTCHESS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS:

Governor Cuomo signed Executive Order No. 202.15 to enable eligible New York voters to cast their ballot by mail on the June 23rd Presidential and State Primary Elections.

For the sake of the health of our poll workers and Dutchess County voters, we are grateful that the Governor agreed with our decision of March 12th to allow for any Dutchess County voter to vote by Absentee Ballot based on a public health emergency. With the Governor's Executive Order, now all voters eligible to vote on June 23rd have the opportunity to vote by Absentee Ballots. We at the DCBOE want to encourage all voters to vote absentee, but especially anyone at greater risk of experiencing complications from the COVID-19 pandemic.

This link is to an application for an Absentee Ballot that includes "public health emergency" as a basis for obtaining an Absentee Ballot. <https://www.dutchesselections.com/absentee-application-Health-Emergency-031620.pdf> Please share this link widely and encourage everyone to apply for an Absentee Ballot. Based on the Governor's Executive Order, **we can now submit Absentee Ballot applications by email!** Please email the applications to dutchesselections@dutchessny.gov

Executive Order No. 202.15

Here are the two sections of Gov. Cuomo Executive Order related to Absentee Voting:

- Section 8-400 of the Election Law is temporarily suspended and hereby modified to provide that due to

the prevalence and community spread of COVID-19, **an absentee ballot can be granted based on temporary illness and shall include the potential for contraction of the COVID-19 virus for any election held on or before June 23, 2020.**

- Solely for any election held on or before June 23, 2020, Section 8-400 of the Election Law is hereby modified to **allow for electronic application, with no requirement for in-person signature or appearance to be able to access an absentee ballot.**



Dutchess County Board of Elections
47 Cannon Street
Poughkeepsie, New York 12601

PROGRAM NOTES: NY REDISCOVERED

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

Many thanks to our scheduled May speaker, Dr. Susan Ingalls Lewis, a Professor Emerita at the State University of New York College at New Paltz, as well as an affiliate faculty member in the Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies Program. Dr. Lewis has provided links to some of her writing:

Women Win the Right to Vote in New York State | New York Rediscovered

<https://sites.newpaltz.edu/nyrediscovered/2013/11/06/women-win-the-right-to-vote-in-new-york-state/>

November 6, 1917: Women win the right to vote in New York State. By Susan Ingalls Lewis. How did women get the right to vote in New York State? Most of my students assume that all women in the United States were granted suffrage at the same time, as the result of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, passed in 1920.

Matilda Joslyn Gage | New York Rediscovered

<https://sites.newpaltz.edu/nyrediscovered/2013/10/03/matilda-joslyn-gage/>

Matilda Joslyn Gage: New York's Neglected Suffragist. By Susan Ingalls Lewis. Most New Yorkers probably recognize the names of Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, though we may not realize that these advocates for women's rights spent most of their lives in New York State.

The Mystery of Emma Waite | New York Rediscovered

<https://sites.newpaltz.edu/nyrediscovered/2013/12/10/the-mystery-of-emma-waite/>

The "Emma Waite Diary" is an intriguing document, written by an African-American domestic servant and hotel cook who worked in Saratoga and New York City. Recorded on the pages of a small, leather-bound, printed daybook that Waite received as a gift early in 1870, it chronicles a single year in the life of this otherwise unknown individual.

NAMED HONOREES FOR AAUW FUNDS

Marge Barton, Honors and Awards Chair

National AAUW through its AAUW Funds provides fellowships and grants to women to conduct research, pursue degrees and advance their careers. For every honoree recognized by the branch, a \$500 donation is made to this Fund. Honorees are recognized at our annual meeting. This year we are honoring the following women:

Diane Jablonski has been an AAUW member since 2010. This year she is finishing up her leadership role as President. Diane has served as Branch treasurer for 2 terms and AAUW State Treasurer for 3 years as well as being a member of the State Board. She has also participated in the Travelers, Trekkers and en Soleil, where she planned several trips. Diane was also instrumental in getting the Dutchess County Legislature to proclaim an Equal Pay Day in 2019.

A Branch member for 5+ years, **Sue Doyle** has been active in many areas. She is a member of the Leading to Reading Initiative, taking books to a Laundromat and the Fishkill Food Pantry as well as being involved in work sessions. Sue is currently Membership Treasurer and has been a member of the Nominating Committee for 3 years. Her community involvement includes being a team leader, trainer and food drive coordinator for the Fishkill Food Pantry. She is also a member and past president of the Poughkeepsie-Arlington Rotary Club; member of the Birthright of Dutchess County Advisory Board; and is a volunteer at Beacon's Animal Rescue Foundation.

Ruth Sheets has been a member of AAUW for 12 years, and is currently the Board Secretary/By-laws. For 8 years she served as en Soleil Interest Group co-leader. She has also been involved in helping with the Writer's Tea, Leading to Reading, Mothers' Project, Open House and Live Your Dreams Conference. She is enjoying the Contemporary Literature Group.

Monique Jones has been very active since joining in 2015. She has volunteered at the Ribfest, and has assisted with the Girl's Conference in 2016 and 2017. Since 2017, Monique has been Program co-Vice President. She has also been very involved with Adventures en Soleil, Trekkers and the Manderlay Literary Society book club. Monique is a candidate for Branch President, 2020-2022.

Cyd Averill, a member for 30+ years, is currently Newsletter Editor, and an enthusiastic Leading to Reading Volunteer at Astor. She is a former branch president (2000-2002) and has held several Board positions, including a previous 6 year stint as Newsletter Editor. Cyd is currently the Communications/Website Liaison to the AAUW-NYS Board. She served on the state board as Development Vice President, Communications/Visibility Director, and Chair of the Nominating Committee.

THE LAST SELECTION IS A MYSTERY! STAY TUNED!

EMERGING LEADER ANNOUNCED

The Emerging Leader Award recognizes women who become members and immediately get involved in helping the Branch move forward. This year's honoree is **Alyssa Covelli**.

Alyssa joined AAUW in September 2019 as a college student. She was introduced to AAUW in 2018, when she was invited by Lori Scolari to sit in on a Live Your Dream planning meeting. Alyssa immediately became involved and participated as a Big Sister in the 2018 conference. In the Spring of 2019, Alyssa applied for and received the NCCWSL scholarship, which was a life-changing experience for her.

Since joining, Alyssa has been involved in planning for the LYD conference. This time she had an expanded role, which gave her experience in planning and executing a large-scale event. At DCC, Alyssa is Director of both the Campus Activity Board and Student Events.

LEADING TO READING

Betty Harrel 462-2141
Bharrel28@gmail.com



Once again, the staff at the Community Nursery School of PUMC held a drive for gently used books. They shared information with the parents about the Leading to Reading Laundromat Libraries and the number of children who have so few books at home. The books came pouring in! Many were favorite books their children had outgrown and most looked like new. The teachers sorted them and they were picked up in early March.

Some books have already gone to some of our sites. Currently there are 27 placements, including laundromats, barber shops, food banks, courts, and emergency medical centers. More books will be distributed after social distancing restrictions are lifted. A big thank you goes to the staff and parents for sharing their love of reading!

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, Janet Houston, Shaileen Kopec, Linnea Masson, Margaret Nijhuis, Terry Schneider

Sponsors (\$10 or more): Mary Ann Ryan

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

INTERNATIONAL/DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

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

It's a Zoom World. Even though an essential part of AAUW programming is based on interactive experiences, the Novel Coronavirus rules us for now. For the foreseeable future, we'll have to implement our mission through new means – some that hadn't even been invented until just a few years ago.

Until the virus subsides – and most importantly – until scientists develop a vaccine, our International/Diversity Committee will rely on the Branch's subscription to the Zoom app and try to develop our Global Friendships on screen and through email and snail mail.

We've already had our first request for assistance from the Student Resources Navigator at Dutchess Community College. Although classes have resumed for DCC students, their need for personal resources has not diminished. AAUW members have responded to that request by providing diapers and baby wipes for young mothers struggling to complete their education at the same time they care for their children. We've also contributed financial donations to the Dutchess Community College Foundation, which funds The Pantry that maintains a supply of food and household items for students in need.

Next, we'll try our first Global Friends Zoom meeting in May; the time and date will need to be cleared with Diane Jablonski so we don't overload the AAUW Branch's Zoom account! (It can handle just one meeting at a time, and all of our interest groups will be using it.)

We'll miss enjoying the hospitality and beautiful homes of our members, but we won't have to worry about traffic and parking the car. Besides, the format of the May 2020 Global Friends Sharing Circle will not be all that different from the touch-feely ones. Each person will be able to tell her story, each of us will be able to ask questions, and all of us will have the opportunity to gain understanding and form bonds that will eventually bloom into flesh-and-blood experiences.

Let me know if you would like to receive an invitation. Zoom is not scary: Isolation is. *If you need tips on how to participate in Zoom meetings, let me know. I'll be learning how to set this one up and manage the discussion, so it will be a mutual first experience.*

MEMBER NEWS:

Dr. Mary Louise Van Winkle Remembered

Margaret Nijhuis

Mary Louise Van Winkle, a resident of Woodland Ponds at New Paltz, passed away on March 18, 2020 at the age of 82. Dr. Van Winkle earned a BA from Wellesley College and an M.Ed and Ed.D. from Harvard University.

In addition to her outstanding academic career, Mary Louise was active in many local organizations, including

Poughkeepsie AAUW. She joined AAUW in 1993 and served on the board as Education Chair in 2009 and 10. During that tenure she put in place the effort to fund a \$12,000 scholarship endowment at DCC that gives one \$600 scholarship each year in perpetuity. The endowment was fully funded in 2011 – a lasting memorial to her efforts.



Barbara Van Itallie wrote, “Mary Louise was a very active member of Marist's Center for Lifetime Study. She served as Chair of its Social Science Curriculum Committee for many years, helping to plan a wide variety of CLS courses.”

Also among her activities was service to the Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill. April Gozza, Executive Director of ERVK wrote, “Mary Louise joined the ERVK board of directors in 2006, where she completed three consecutive terms, served as a valuable voice on a number of board committees, and held the position of 1st Vice Chair from 2012 – 2014. As former Dean of Academic Affairs at Dutchess Community College, Mary Louise's deep passion and advocacy for academic programs focused on student success was no secret. Mary Louise was a tremendous mentor and scholar, and among the greatest gifts we received from Mary Louise was her vision, leadership and tenacity in helping to establish our ECCEL program.” ECCEL (Eleanor's Community College Emerging Leaders) is a community college leadership program for men and women.

She was a longtime supporter of the Hudson Valley Philharmonic and numerous other local organizations.

Active until her very last days, Mary Louise was on the Marist College campus in early March, 2020 for a Gillespie Forum planning meeting.

Dr. Mary Louise Van Winkle was an exemplary citizen of our community and will be greatly missed by those that knew her and benefitted from her service and generosity. Dr. JoAnne Myers of Marist College and ERVK said, “She had a smile and an encouraging word for everyone!”

The following is a letter from Esther Couret, Director of Human Resources, Dutchess Community College to faculty and friends and provided to me by Gloria Ghedini, retired DCC teacher.

Dear Colleagues,

It is with deep sadness that I inform you of the passing of Dean of Academic Affairs emerita, Dr. Mary Louise Van Winkle, long time employee and benefactor of DCC and mentor and friend to many. Dean Van Winkle passed away this past week from a sudden brain trauma after a short hospitalization. Dean of Academic Affairs emeritus, Carl Denti

offers us this eulogy as a testament to her meaningful and impactful life journey:

... As the longest serving Dean of Academic Affairs at DCC, Dr. Mary Louise Van Winkle had a significant impact on the life and work of faculty, staff and students, throughout her 16 year tenure. She will be remembered for her unstinting support of ensuring opportunities for personal and professional growth, her encouragement of the development of new and relevant courses and programs, and particularly for her early awareness and strong support of the importance that technology would assume in the alternative modes of delivering instruction. Regarding the latter, the Mary Louise Van Winkle Teaching and Learning Center stands as a testament to Dr. Van Winkle's commitment as an educator to build on and to move from "what is" to "what will be". Each of these areas might well be considered the pillars of her own professional ethic and together have set strong precedents for initiatives that have continued to inform DCC's reputation for excellence.

After retiring from DCC, Dean Van Winkle was called upon by SUNY to serve in interim academic deanships at Ulster Community College and Adirondack Community College. After a brief return to the Hudson Valley, her quest for new challenges brought Mary Louise to Sitka, Alaska where she served for a year as the chief academic officer at a college whose student body consisted primarily of the Native Alaskans of the area. In recent years her time back in the Hudson Valley continued to be marked by engagement and participation in a range of activities.

Mary Louise Van Winkle's many and varied contributions to the lives of those with whom she was in contact, both personally and professionally, will endure as happy memories of having known such a splendid human being.

We are grateful to Dr. Van Winkle for her time with us and offer our sincere condolences and sympathy to her family and close friends. A celebration of her life will be scheduled in the fall, of which details will be communicated as they become available.

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NON PROFIT HELPS PRODUCE PPE

Gloria Ghedini



Branch members will remember Kelly Lyndgaard, founder of Unshattered, a nonprofit organization that trains and employs women fighting addiction. Kelly spoke to us at a general meeting last year. According to The Epoch Times (April 2, 2020) the women at Unshattered are using industrial machines to produce masks for health care workers.

Within 24 hours of the plea for protective equipment, they went to work. One of the women said, "I am thankful for the community trusting me to do such a noble task."

Everyone is working together to create hope as we battle this virus!



EARTH DAY and RACHEL CARSON

As we celebrate Earth Day, April 22, and continue to honor women, we should spend some time remembering Rachel Carson (1907-1964), scientist and author. Her ground-breaking book, SILENT SPRING, published in 1962, continues to impact our lives today. Her research on the effect of synthetic pesticides on the environment eventually led to the banning of DDT, the revising of pesticide regulations, and helped in the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency in 1970. The Medal of Freedom was bestowed on her, posthumously, in 1980.

Thank you, Pat DeLeo, for sharing this:

This shutdown is bad for everyone. But it is especially bad for men. Men are losing \$1.00 for every 79¢ that women are losing.