



# THE BRANCH

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

**BROADEN OUR BORDERS**

Volume 27, Number 7

Our 58<sup>th</sup> year of publication

<http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org>

March 2014

## POUGHKEEPSIE UN WOMEN INITIATIVE

**Bus Trip to UN on March 12, 2014**



On March 12, our Second Annual bus trip to the United Nations during the Commission on the Status of Women will leave from the Hudson Plaza at 7:30 am and leave from the UN at 5:30 pm. All sessions/workshops/presentations are free to the public. The bus trip will cost **members \$20** and **nonmembers \$22**.

Please bring your lunch and be prepared to experience a day of awakening, awareness, activism and empowerment in issues concerning women and girls around the world.

The sessions will not take place in the UN but in buildings directly across the street and in the general area so your passport is not necessary.

For all those who have signed up, we will have a meeting discussing the workshops and presentations that will be available by the end of February.

Seats are still available but members are strongly encouraged to reserve their seats as soon as possible. For more information, please email Cecilia Dinio-Durkin (Committee Chair) at [womensworkbw@yahoo.com](mailto:womensworkbw@yahoo.com) or send your check made payable to **Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc** and mailed to:

**Cecilia Dinio Durkin  
8 Jonathan Lane  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.**

**Support Poughkeepsie AAUW's scholarships and project by making your reservation for the Writers' Tea, page 7.**



Sabrina Jaar-Marzouka



Christie VanHorne

**March 13, 2014 at 7 pm**

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie  
67 S Randolph Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York

### **Public Health in Dutchess County**

**Sabrina Jaar Marzouka, JD, MPH,  
Assistant Commissioner for Admin. DC Dept Health**

Mrs. Marzouka's office has been working on the development of a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) for community planning which brings together diverse interests to determine the most effective way to improve community health. The CHIP is based on a Community Health Assessment (CHA) involving the ongoing process of regular and systematic collection, assembly, analysis, and distribution of information on the health needs of the community. The sharing of findings with key stakeholders enables and mobilizes community members to work collaboratively towards building a healthier community. Healthcare is a critically important equity issue for families in Dutchess County. She will address important healthcare issues facing Dutchess County residents.

**Christie VanHorne, Institute for Family Health**

Poughkeepsie Branch member, Christie VanHorne, will discuss the Affordable Care Act and the effect it is having on women's health. Ms. Van Horne has a BA and MA from Manhattanville College, a Masters in Public Health from Monash University and currently works for the Institute for Family Health in Dutchess County. She has experience managing national health programs, as well as local women's health initiatives.

The goal of the March program is to raise AAUW members' and the community's awareness of healthcare issues in the Poughkeepsie area as well the services that are available when dealing with them.

For more information visit [www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org) or [facebook.com/AAUWPoughkeepsie2014](https://www.facebook.com/AAUWPoughkeepsie2014)

## MARCH CALENDAR

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

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

- 3 Word Games: 2:00 pm**  
Hostess: Linda Lurie (229-9397)  
Coordinator: Ellie Charwat (462-7061)
- 4 World Travelers: 7:00 pm**  
Presentation: *Greenland*, Regina Reilly-Lydon  
Coordinator: Jeanette Cantwell (452-4188)  
[AAUWtravelers@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWtravelers@gmail.com)
- 5 The Ediss Book Group: 7:00 pm**  
Book: *Jayber Crow* by Wendell Berry  
Hostess: Cathy Kinn (462-3196)  
Coordinator: Celia Serotsky (473-8426)
- 6 Board Meeting: 7:00 pm**  
Home of Jacqueline Goffe-McNish  
29 Wood Street, Poughkeepsie
- 8 Bridge 3: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**  
Hostess: Shirley Granda (452-2686)  
Coordinator: Donna Reichner [dlr0804@verizon.net](mailto:dlr0804@verizon.net)
- 8 International Women's Day.** See page 5&6.
- 8 Trekkers: 9:00 am**  
*Falling Waters, Saugerties Hike*  
Leaders: Jeanette Cantwell (452-4188)  
and Pat Luczai (463-4662)  
Coordinator: Karen Haynes (297-5700)
- 10 "The Branch" deadline for April.**
- 11 Movie Night: Time TBD by show**  
Movie: Group members will be notified the  
Thursday before - sign up with Sue.  
Discussion: *Eveready Diner*, Rt. 9, Hyde Park  
Director: Susan Osterhoudt (889-4469)  
Producer: Diana Gleeson
- 12 Bus Trip to UN.** See page 1
- 13 General Membership Meeting: 7:00 pm**  
*All members are invited and encouraged to attend.*  
*See details on page 1.*
- 14 Daytime Literature: 10:00 am**  
Book: *We Band of Angels* by Elizabeth Norman  
*The Manor at Woodside*, 168 Academy, Pok.  
Coordinators: Pat Dogil (454-5441)  
& Diana Gleeson (229-8458)
- 17 Manderley Literary Society: 7:30 pm**  
Book: *The Orchardest* by Amanda Coplin  
Hostess: Patti Ricketts (345-9568) and Pat Poggi  
Coordinator: Ellie Burch (297-7828)
- 18 Cuisine: 6:30 pm**  
*Malaysia, Singapore and South China*  
Recipes: Barbara VanItalie (462-3924)  
Hostess: Barbara Lemberger, [brlemberger@yahoo.com](mailto:brlemberger@yahoo.com)  
Coordinator: Barbara Lemberger  
[brlemberger@yahoo.com](mailto:brlemberger@yahoo.com)
- 19 Bridge I: 1:00 - 4:00 pm**  
Hostess: Margaret Nijhuis (635-8612)  
Coordinators: Linda Ronayne (897-9745) &  
Mary Ann Ryan (897-9679)
- 19 Gourmet: Out & About: 6:30 pm**  
*Coyote Grill*, 2629 South Road, Poughkeepsie  
Contact: Kay Saderholm (229-8545)  
[Ksaderholm@aol.com](mailto:Ksaderholm@aol.com)
- 21 Aventures en Soleil: 2:00 pm**  
*Rhinebeck Episcopal Church Tiffany Windows*  
Church of the Messiah, 6436 Montgomery St. Rhinebeck  
Contact: Joan Cordani (855-5259)  
Send check for \$7 made out to Joan Cordani,  
38 Old Route 55, Pawling NY 12564 by March 7  
Coordinator: Ruth Sheets (473-6202) &  
Peggy Lombardi (635-9091)
- 22 Trekkers: 10:30 am (Toys-R-Us)**  
*Mavdava Farms Sweet Treat Dover Hike*  
Leaders: Linda Beyer (462-0345) &  
Pat Luczai (463-4662)  
Coordinator: Karen Haynes (297-5700)
- 24 All those books...: 7:00 pm**  
Book: *Midnight's Children* by Salman Rushdie  
Hostess: Sue Osterhoudt (889-4469)  
Coordinator: Carol Loizides (452-3208)
- 25 Women's Personal & Professional Development:**  
*Writing Memoirs*  
Presenter: Professor Ruth Kushner  
5:30-7:30 pm, DCC, Washington Hall Room 138  
Coordinator: Jacqueline Goffe-McNish  
[mcnish@sunydutchess.edu](mailto:mcnish@sunydutchess.edu)
- 26 Mah Jongg: Noon - 4:00 pm**  
*Uno Chicago Grill – Lunch (\$15)*  
Contact Jackie Prusak: [JRPrusak@aol.com](mailto:JRPrusak@aol.com) (226-6049)  
by March 24  
Coordinator: Amy Schwed (462-2269)
- 26 Contemporary Literature: 7:30 pm**  
Book: *The Light between the Oceans* by M. L. Stedman  
Hostess: Contact Coordinators  
Coordinators: Ann Wade (229-5267) &  
Linda Freisitzer (266-5427)
- 27 Bridge II: 12:15-4:00 pm**  
Lesson and Game, \$10.00  
The Bridge Center – 24 Park Avenue  
(Hellenic Community Center)  
Coordinators: Cathy Kinn [cathy@kinn.org](mailto:cathy@kinn.org) &  
Jackie Prusak (226-6049)
- 27 Pins & Needles: 7:00 pm**  
Project: *Filet Crochet*  
Hostess: Jane Toll (463-2712)  
Coordinators: Arlene Seligman (297-0006) &  
Jane Toll (463-2712)
- 28 Art on the Go: 10:00 am**  
Francis Lehman Loeb Art Center, **Open Drawing Session.** Any dry medium. *Art on the Go has been taking advantage of cultural opportunities at the Francis Lehman Loeb Art Center at Vassar College. Free to the public, we have been on the center's tours, lectures and other experiences. The March visit will be an opportunity to do actual drawing in front of the art works. Participants may use any dry medium...no wet materials are allowed.*  
Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jacqueline Goffe-McNish \*471-7220\* [mcnish@sunydutchess.edu](mailto:mcnish@sunydutchess.edu)

During the February Board meeting we approved the slate of officers for the 2014-2016 term. This will be presented for voting to the membership during the May Annual Meeting. This is an exciting moment for the organization as we get ready to invite new ideas and new energy into the circle in order to move the organization forward. I have certainly enjoyed my journey as president for the past one and a half years and I am looking forward to continuing the positive leadership I have provided. I have learned many lessons and would like to share some with the membership.

Two things I have learned about this organization that I feel have kept this organization vibrant and made it one of the largest in the nation are; the organization's commitment to supporting diverse ideas and people and the organization's willingness to promote members to leadership positions who are not just popular, but eminently qualified.

My introduction to the Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW was through a Diversity Conference. This conference successfully brought together women from Dutchess County to discuss diversity issues. This interest in diversity did not end with the conference. The programs presented over the last two years have been sensitive to race, religion, age, country of origin, and personal preferences. This attempt to include diverse voices in the organization will continue to strengthen the organization.

I can clearly remember the morning when I was called by the chair of the nominating committee and asked if I were willingly to serve as the president of the Branch. I decided to read about the Branch on the web site so that I would be able to make an informed decision. I was conscious that I was relatively unknown to most of the members. I had served on local, state, and national boards and had chaired most of those committees. I was impressed that the Branch was interested in experienced knowledgeable leadership. This has ensured that there are always new ideas being incorporated into the programming of the organization. I know we will continue to find novel ways to incorporate the expertise that abounds within the organization.

### LOOKING AHEAD

**April 6** *Writers' Tea*. Page 7



**April 8** *Equal Pay Day*. Page 5

**April 25 – 27** *AAUW-NYS Convention*, Honor's Haven, Ellenville, NY. Only 1 hour from Poughkeepsie. Mark your calendar and plan to attend. Information at [www.aauw-nys.org](http://www.aauw-nys.org)

**May 6** *Annual Dinner* Christo's

## HUDSON VALLEY PHILHARMONIC STRING COMPETITION

Please join AAUW members **Barbara Mindel, Ginny Swartz, Barbara Van Itallie, and Miriam Zimet-Aaron** for a weekend of beautiful music and a lively competition as well. The annual Hudson Valley Philharmonic String Competition will



Dahae Kim, a past winner

be held at Skinner Hall on the Vassar College campus on Saturday and Sunday, March 15-16. Typically 20 college age conservatory students compete for cash prizes and the opportunity to perform as soloist with the Hudson Valley Philharmonic the following season. You will see, hear and support some of the best young violinists, cellists, and violists in the world, many of whom will go on to outstanding professional careers.

The first round is on Saturday from about 9 am to 4 pm with each competitor playing brief selections from the required repertoire; the semi-final round is Sunday 10 am – 12 pm. The final round is Sunday, starting at 3 pm with the three finalists each playing a concerto at the recital. There is no admission charge although donations are welcome.

For more information or to volunteer to help, contact Barbara Van Itallie at [bvanitallie@yahoo.com](mailto:bvanitallie@yahoo.com).

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2014 - 2016

It is with pleasure that the Nominating Committee presents the following slate of Officers for 2014-16 (2 year term). Election will take place at the annual meeting at Christo's, May 6<sup>th</sup> where nominations may be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee.

**OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED** May 6, 2014 for 2014-2016

President	Barbara Van Itallie
Secretary	Kathy Friedman
Treasurer	Diane Jablonski

**OFFICERS CONTINUING UNTIL MAY 2015**

Program Co-VP's	Suzi Blecker, Mary Coiteux
Membership VP	Kay Saderholm
Educ. Opp. Fund VP	Linda Roberts
Assistant Treasurer	Jeanette Cantwell

**Nominating Committee:** Chair Mary Lou Davis, Gloria Gibbs, Peggy Hansen, Eileen Hayden, Pat Luczai.

"I believe when women  
succeed, America succeeds."  
---President Barack Obama

## Supporters of *The Branch*!!

Annual contributions from members help defray the expense of publishing *The Branch* and other communication expenses. All patrons and sponsors are listed in each monthly newsletter unless anonymity is requested.

### Patrons (\$25 or more)

Catherine Albanese, Mary G. Bagley, Joan Cordani, Marguerite Cotter, Lillian DePasquale, Marion Effron, Joan Fay, Ruth Gau, Gloria Gibbs, Sandra Goldberg, Doris Kelly, Peggy Lombardi, Jean Miller, Jacqueline Prusak, Margaret Ruggeri (In Memoriam), Brenda Schaffer, Terry Schneider, Barbara Van Itallie

### Sponsors (\$10 or more)

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

## “HATS OFF”

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

“**Hat's Off**” to **Susie Blecker** for being chosen as the Poughkeepsie Branch 2014 “Emerging Leader” Many thanks for the work she has done for Programming.

“**Hat's Off**” to **Christie Van Horne** for presenting the effects the Affordable Care Act is having on women's health at our upcoming March membership meeting.

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Kay Saderholm \*229-8545\* [ksaderholm@aol.com](mailto:ksaderholm@aol.com)

Give a warm welcome to three new members who joined us during the cold month of January. They are:

**Nancy Crocker**  
**Sheridan Goldstein**  
**Mary Pagonos**

We hope that they will join us at our monthly membership meetings and at our interest group events. I encourage all our members to come to these events. It is challenging to go outside in the cold weather but our membership meetings are certainly worth the effort. March brings spring and many wonderful AAUW activities. Find an interest group or two to attend in the coming weeks – chatting with friends is a wonderful way to chase away the winter blues and welcome spring. April will bring two outstanding events of the year – our Writers' Tea on April 6 and the AAUW-NYS Convention, April 25 – 27 at Honor's Haven, Ellenville, NY.

## STAND UP TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

### *Court Monitoring Initiative*

Court Monitoring Team:  
Ann Pinna - 845-462-3140 – [ajpinna@aol.com](mailto:ajpinna@aol.com) ,  
Karen Gomba, Carol Foy,  
Judy Lombardi - Grace Smith House,  
Leah Feldman - Family Services



Every month, court monitors are busy attending Family Court proceedings to observe judges, attorneys, and families in cases pertaining to domestic violence. Court monitors witness cases involving Orders of Protection, custody battles, visitation rights, substance abuse, and acts of both physical and mental abuse. They are trained to fill out pertinent items on designated observation forms which are later recorded, tallied, and analyzed. Ultimately, significant observations are shared with the judges in an attempt to correct or improve systemic problems in the judicial system.

Monitors also meet regularly as a team to share their findings, make observations, and offer supportive suggestions for improving their court monitoring experience. Besides regular collaborative training, speakers are invited to develop and enhance monitors' knowledge and understanding of courtroom protocols and methods of operation.

Recent guest lecturers have included Lisa Rubenstein, Court Attorney Referee; Bonnie Allen, representative from the Mediation Center; Tom Angell, Esq., Public Defender; and Maureen Brierton, Senior Family Court Attorney.

According to one monitor, “Court monitoring can be very disconcerting, but knowing that one is helping to alleviate prejudice against women in the court system is very purposeful and extremely uplifting.”

If you are interested in becoming a court monitor, please contact Ann Pinna. Training sessions for new monitors will be announced later in the year.

# Happy Birthday

## LEADING TO READING!

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

In 2004, a small group of Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW members met to talk about starting a branch literacy project. Ten years later we're still going strong!



Our focus has been on children from low and moderate income families in the local area. Our initial goal was to provide reading centers at one day care facility. Since that time we have expanded greatly and now have a multi-faceted literacy program reaching adults and children of all ages.

Watch for more news about our activities and accomplishments. We'd love to have you join us!

## PUBLIC POLICY

Doris Kelly [mscw12@aol.com](mailto:mscw12@aol.com)

Two very important dates are coming up during March and April. **International Women's Day will be celebrated on March 8 and Equal Pay Day on April 8.**

**International Women's Day** has become a day of recognition and celebration in both developed and developing countries around the world. Women's organizations and governments across the globe have observed International Women's Day on March 8 by holding events that honor the advancement of women, while reminding us of the need for action to ensure that women's equality is gained in all aspects of life. On **International Women's Day, Saturday, March 8, AAUW members will have a chance to participate in the fourth annual rally and march across the Walkway Over the Hudson sponsored by the Women's Alliance of the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce.** This is an opportunity for us to learn more about women's issues and to share in the solidarity with women around the world.

**Equal Pay Day** symbolizes how far into 2014 women must work to earn what men earned in 2013. It's hard to believe that women are still receiving only \$0.77 on the dollar in comparison to men doing comparable work. On this day, we can educate others about the need to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act. The Paycheck Fairness Act (S. 84/H.R. 377), which would expand upon the original scope of the Equal Pay Act. It has had a difficult history in our Congress:

Passed by the House in January 2009 with a bipartisan vote (256-163), the Paycheck Fairness Act was defeated in the Senate on a procedural vote in November 2010. The bill was reintroduced in the 112th Congress on April 12, 2011, in the same form that nearly succeeded previously. On May 31, 2012, the House voted (233-180) against considering the Paycheck Fairness Act. The Senate took a procedural vote (52-47) on June 5, 2012 and voted not to consider the Paycheck Fairness Act. The Paycheck Fairness Act was reintroduced in the 113th Congress on January 23, 2013; the bill numbers are H.R. 377 and S. 84.

Another bill in Congress which is important for women and their families is the **Fair Minimum Wage Act**. AAUW has joined with 40 other organizations to urge Congress to increase the federal minimum wage to a fair, livable income. The Fair Minimum Wage Act would increase the minimum wage over the next three years from the current \$7.25 per hour to \$10.10 per hour. In the late 1950s, the minimum wage was \$1.00/hour. Costs of housing, food, and other necessities have greatly outpaced the increase in the minimum wage during the last 60 years.

*“For women, families, and the U.S. economy, the benefits of raising the minimum wage are real. The Fair Minimum Wage Act would increase incomes for about 30 million workers, 16.8 million of them women. The Fair Minimum Wage Act is also*

*Continued in the next column...*

## Public Policy continued...

*good news for the economy — with higher wages, gross domestic product is expected to grow by about \$32.6 billion by July 2015, which will bring even more women and families out of poverty.*

*AAUW believes that everyone deserves fair pay, and we hope that the Fair Minimum Wage Act will pass and bring us one step closer to an equitable system. Stand with us and ask your representatives in Congress to support the Fair Minimum Wage Act.”- AAUW Public Policy Intern Cate Domino*

## WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2014

Pat Luczai \*845-463-4662\* [pat.luczai@gmail.com](mailto:pat.luczai@gmail.com)

**Please submit your nominations for 2014 Woman of the Year!!!!**

Criteria for Poughkeepsie AAUW Woman of the Year:

- She has made outstanding contributions to the community in either a voluntary or paid capacity. (Most recipients have served in both capacities.)
- She reflects the AAUW mission: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.



Note: Qualifications should not be based solely on accomplishments within AAUW.

To nominate an outstanding woman for 2014, please use the form found on our Website: <http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org> under Resources / Woman of the Year

**Return your nomination to:**  
**Pat Luczai by email [pat.luczai@gmail.com](mailto:pat.luczai@gmail.com)**  
**or mail to:**  
**9 Bridgewater Way,**  
**Poughkeepsie, NY 12601**

If you encounter difficulty downloading the form, feel free to contact Pat Luczai for assistance.

**All nominations for 2014 need to be submitted anew using the new form. We will no longer consider nominations made in previous years, but your 2014 nomination will be considered current for two years after submission.**

***Join us on April 6 at The Links for a wonderful afternoon of literature, shopping, good food and good conversation!!! See page 7.***

## LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND FUNDRAISER NYS CONVENTION April 25 – 27, 2014

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

The LAF Fundraiser has become a fun tradition at the convention, providing a social venue, friendly competition, and an opportunity to raise funds for women fighting sex discrimination in the workplace and in higher education through LAF Programs. **Branches bring baskets filled with items that fit a theme.** Women bid, as in a silent auction, and the proceeds are sent to the LAF fund, with credit to the Branch.

I am proposing we donate a basket called **“Book Groups Greatest Hits.”** We have so many book groups. It would be great if each group or individual members could submit some of the best books they have read. I would request that “someone” write a brief, personal note about why this book went over well with the group. If a book was really popular, but no one has a copy to donate, I will try to get a used copy myself to put with your note. I will provide and prepare the basket. Anyone can donate a book and note.

Our second LAF basket is a basket of recipes and unusual spices or “ingredients.” Have you ever gotten a recipe from a friend or read a recipe in a cook book that has an ingredient (spice) that you do not have on your spice rack or in your pantry? Once I attempted a new recipe that called for low fat coconut milk – out to the store I had to go! This basket will be called, **“Cuisine Groups Spice up Life”** (keeping with the idea that the interest groups can provide fun for all members). I know the Cuisine groups can come up with some ideas and would appreciate their input. I would also take recipes with special ingredients from any “foodie” out there! I might throw in a few cute cooking utensils to make it look interesting.

**This is a fun way to support the Legal Advocacy Fund. I can arrange pick up of items. Give me a call 845 485 7697. I need to put the basket together by April 20.**

## LADIES' NIGHT OUT

Marge Barton \*897-0164\* [margelyman1@aol.com](mailto:margelyman1@aol.com)

**On March 27, 2014, Relay for Life is sponsoring A Ladies Night Out event to support the American Cancer Society.**

This will be held at the Grandview in Poughkeepsie from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. Tickets will be available at the door for \$25.00 (totally tax deductible). The evening will host local vendors, offer food and provide a stress-free evening of fun for women of all ages! Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Each attendee will receive 3 luminary bags which will be lit on June 6th at Dutchess Stadium where all local teams will gather to walk to remember those who have lost their struggle with cancer, those who are currently undergoing treatment, and those who have overcome this insidious disease.

If you have any questions, please contact Marge Barton at 897-0164 or email me at [margelyman1@aol.com](mailto:margelyman1@aol.com)

## JOIN US ON THE BRIDGE



**Saturday, March 8**

**9:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

61 Parker Ave., Poughkeepsie  
Walkway Over the Hudson

**“Inspiring Change”**

To register: [www.wlahv.org](http://www.wlahv.org) or call (845) 454-1700 ext. 1000

International Women’s Day is a celebration of women around the world and an opportunity to educate people about women’s issues

Join The Women’s Leadership Alliance (WLA) of the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce to hear inspirational speeches, learn how to get involved and walk together in solidarity across the Walkway Over the Hudson.

The keynote address will be delivered by NYS Commissioner of Diversity Mecca Santana. As Chief Diversity Officer, Santana is tasked with reforming and strengthening the State’s programs and efforts to encourage the growth of minority-owned and women-owned business enterprises (MWBs) as well as advising the Governor on policies relating to workforce diversity.

The event will begin on the Poughkeepsie side of the bridge at 9 a.m. Shuttle buses will be provided for participants who wish to park on the Highland side of the river. Parking on the Poughkeepsie side of the river is limited.

The first to attend will receive a special handcrafted gift from Woman for Woman, a group of Cambodian women challenged with physical disabilities. In a country without social services, the purchase of these gifts by the WLA will support their program for a full year.

# 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Writers' Tea

April 6, 2014

2:30 – 6:00 pm



Mary Coiteux



**Frances F. Dunwell**  
*The Hudson: America's River*



**Sarah Bracey White**  
*Primary Lessons: A Memoir*



## *The Links at Union Vale*

153 North Parliman Road, Lagrangeville

Directions and more details at [www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org)

## *Featured Writers*

Meet four Hudson Valley authors who will share stories from their books and their lives. Before the tea the authors will be available for questions and with their books for purchase and signing.

## *High Tea*

We will be welcomed with champagne, light drinks and hors d'oeuvres as we arrive and browse the silent auction items. The writers' presentations will be accompanied by tea, scones, assorted tea sandwiches and petite desserts.

## *Silent Auction*

A silent auction of hand-crafted items and services donated by our members, local businesses and craftsmen. **Checks or cash only.**

## *Reservations* [Deadline: March 31, 2014]

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

How did you hear about this event? \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

[\$20 of the admission fee is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law]

**Mail to: Diane Jablonski, 41 Parkwood Blvd., Poughkeepsie, NY 12603**

**Questions: 845/485-6228 or [dianejablonski@gmail.com](mailto:dianejablonski@gmail.com)**

Open seating, no table reservations.

If you are unable to attend but would like to support our scholarship funds, community initiatives and events then please write a check payable to "Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc." and mail it to Diane Jablonski at the address above.

Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW, Inc. is a nonprofit organization [501(c)(3)] that works to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. [www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org)

## AAUW GIRL SCOUT PROJECT

Peggy Kelland \*297-0507\* [smkell45@aol.com](mailto:smkell45@aol.com)

On Friday, **February 7**, we held the rescheduled **cooking event** for 45 Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors (grades 6-12) at Zion Episcopal Church. Chef Liz Briggs of the Culinary Institute of America and 5 of her students led the girls in making a delicious lasagna from scratch, accompanied by a healthy salad with local ingredients, garlic bread, an Italian fruit punch, and chocolate chip cookies.

The same age group was invited to a **jewelry workshop** on Saturday morning, **February 15**, at New Hackensack Reformed Church to make several varieties of bracelets, necklaces, etc. for next year's Piggy Bank Bazaar, where children from the entire community can shop independently for inexpensive holiday gifts for their families.

"**Girlltopia**," the four session biweekly Girl Scout Journey for grades 9 and 10, **began on January 26**, when Gwen Higgins and I asked the girls to envision a perfect world for women and girls. They then broke into small groups to rate different rights and opportunities in importance as they saw them. **The second session on February 9** was introduced by a slide presentation on Juliette Gordon Low by Girl Scout Leader Chris Petty with technical assistance from Mary Ann Boylan, followed by an illuminating presentation on the history of women's rights in the United States during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries by Marist History Professor Sally Dwyer-McNulty. **At the third session on February 23**, Joan Monk and Wendy Taylor will share the challenges faced by women and girls in countries around the world. **The fourth session on March 9** will inform the girls about service opportunities to help women and girls. If you work for or belong to an organization or agency who could use help from high school girls and would like to be included in this session, please let me know. All members are welcome to join us at any of the "Girlltopia" sessions, held on Sunday afternoons from 3:00-4:00 pm at Zion Episcopal Church in Wappingers Falls.

Other upcoming programs include **scrapbooking on March 21**, **storytelling on April 11**, and **fiber crafts on May 16**, all on Friday evenings from 6:30-8:30 pm at R.C. Ketcham High School on Myers Corners Road. Again, we welcome everyone's assistance.

## The Eleanor Roosevelt Leadership Center

*From Passion to Purpose  
Discovering the Difference  
Your Life Makes*

Maureen Peters Gittelman [maureen322@gmail.com](mailto:maureen322@gmail.com)



Renowned Purpose Coach & Counselor **James Porter** will lead a dynamic workshop that will help you discover a compelling sense of purpose for your life.

**Saturday, March 22, 2014, 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**

For more information, please visit [www.erleadership.org](http://www.erleadership.org)

## HALF MOON THEATRE

*A Special Discount on Thursday Evenings*

Joann Flynn, Admin. Asst. Half Moon Theatre

This year we are starting a new **"7 pm Thursday night curtain"** on our production of **"Side by Side by Sondheim"**. We would love to offer members of the AAUW Poughkeepsie a special promotion of **\$19.62** tickets to these shows, which is 33% off the regular ticket price. In order to use the promotion please visit our website at [www.halfmoontheatre.org](http://www.halfmoontheatre.org), click on the **buy tickets** link and select one of the Thursday night performances, click on the link that says **"password or discount code"** when a box appears type **Thursday** into the box and click "show available tickets."

You will then see a ticket option appear that is \$18.00 and \$19.62 w/ service fee. That is the ticket you should select.

**Mar. 21- Apr. 5: "Side by Side by Sondheim"** This dazzling musical revue of some of Sondheim's best-known songs features numbers from landmark shows that revolutionized musical theatre with their masterful craft and astounding creativity: *Company*, *Follies*, *A Little Night Music*, *Anyone Can Whistle*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, and *Pacific Overtures*. Thurs. 7 pm, Fri/Sat. 8 pm, Sun. 2 pm \$28-30 Half Moon Theatre, 2515 South Rd. Oakwood Commons, Poughkeepsie 845-235-9885 or [www.halfmoontheatre](http://www.halfmoontheatre).

We hope to see you at the Theatre!

### Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. Officers 2013-2014

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

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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.*

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