

## Woman of the Year 2014 Maureen Taylor

CO-FOUNDER OF  
Habitat for Humanity  
of Southern Dutchess  
(Later Dutchess County)

**Saturday  
October 25, 2014**

**12 noon**  
Ship Lantern Inn  
1725 Rte. 9W  
Milton, NY

See page 9 for details...



## Knowledge is Power

**October 9, 2014 at 7:00 pm**

*Business meeting, including vote on bylaw changes\*, will take place prior to the program.*

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie  
67 S Randolph Avenue, Poughkeepsie \*\*\*

**Marief Fiori\*\***  
**La Voz**  
**Co-founder**  
**and**  
**Managing Editor**



## HELP GIRLS LIVE THEIR DREAMS!

Cecilia Dinio Durkin  
[Cecilia@womensworkbw.com](mailto:Cecilia@womensworkbw.com)



Join us for our 9th Annual **Live Your Dream  
7th Grade Girls' Conference** which will be held on  
**November 1, 2014** at Dutchess Community College.

- Volunteers are needed to **staff crafts tables**, to sit in and **assist workshop leaders**, and for **registration** and **check out** on the day of the event.
- **Our goal is to reach our 100** maximum capacity which can be done with the help of donations.
- **Aren't available on November 1?** That's OK. We also need donations of non-perishable food for Family Services and travel-size personal products like soap and shampoos from hotels for Planned Parenthood.

Please contact Cecilia Dinio Durkin to make arrangements to donate these items. For more information or to drop off donations, please come to the October Members Meeting where Cecilia will be give a brief history, overview and update on this year's conference.

- Your **donations** are also welcome, see page 4.
- **Girl Rising**, film used as part of the conference, will air for all AAUW members at Diversity Meeting, Oct 28, see page 2.

In advance, thank you for your support! We look forward to working with you! To find out more about LYD – visit [www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org), search on **Girls' Conference**. ■

## 10 years of *La Voz*

For the past 10 years, *La Voz, Cultura y noticias hispanas del Valle de Hudson* has been published with the objective of informing, educating, and entertaining the Spanish-speaking readers that live on both sides of the Hudson River (more precisely in Dutchess, Ulster, Orange and Columbia counties). On its web-page, [lavoz.bard.edu](http://lavoz.bard.edu), it states that they empower and inspire their readers through actionable information, since knowledge is power. Come to a presentation by *La Voz* Co-founder and Managing Editor, Marief Fiori, MBA, to learn more about how this magazine got started, some reasons for its success, what is happening with the Spanish speaking communities in the Mid-Hudson Valley (over 120,000 and counting), and the many ways that the AAUW members can be involved. This program is free and open to the public. For more information go to [www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org)

- \* Bylaw changes can be found in *The Branch* September, 2014.
- \*\* More about our presenter on page 3.

\*\*\***Directions:** 67 South Randolph Ave. can be accessed from Hooker Ave. or take Route 9 to Sharon Dr (near Holiday Inn). At the end of Sharon turn left onto Beechwood then the first right onto Ferris Lane, next an immediate left to S. Randolph. The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie is on the right. ■

## OCTOBER CALENDAR

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

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

### 1 "THE BRANCH" DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER

#### 1 The Ediss Book Group: 7:00 pm

Book: *The Round House*, by Louise Erdrich

Hostess: Barbara Markell (471-8810)

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

#### 2 Board Meeting: 7:00 pm

St. John's Lutheran Church, Wilbur Blvd., Poughkeepsie

#### 5 Trekkers: 9:00 am Meet at Dutchess Mall to car pool

*Indian Loop Trail Hike*

Sterling Forest State Park, Tuxedo NY

Leader: Pat Luczai (463-4662)

Coordinator: Karen Haynes (297-5700)

#### 6 Word Games: 2:00 pm

Hostess: Linda Lurie (229-9397)

Coordinator: Ellie Charwat (462-7061)

#### 7 World Travelers: 7:00 pm

*Sinai and the Siwah Oasis*

Presenter: Susie Blecker

Hostess: Susie Blecker

Coordinator: Jeanette Cantwell (452-4188)

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

#### 8 Pedal Pushers: 10:00 am

Meeting point: Rail Trail parking lot Rt. 343, Amenia

Route: *Bike from Amenia to Millerton, 16 miles*

Leader: Betsy Kopstein-Stuts [bkopstein@hotmail.com](mailto:bkopstein@hotmail.com)

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

#### 9 General Membership Program: 7:00 pm

All members are invited and encouraged to attend.

See details on pages 1 & 3.

#### 10 Daytime Literature: 10:00 am

Book: *The Kitchen House* by Kathleen Grissom

*The Manor at Woodside*, 168 Academy, Pok.

Coordinators: Diana Gleeson (229-8458) &

Jackie Prusak (226-6049)

#### 11 Remembrance Ceremony for Joan Fay, see page 8

#### 13 All those books...: 2:30 pm

Book: *Sister Carrie* by Theodore Dreiser

Hostess: Cathy Lane (229-1036)

Coordinator: Carol Loizides (452-3208)

#### 14 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

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

Hostess: Debbie Luders (223-7397)

Coordinators: Linda Ronayne (897-9745) &

Mary Ann Ryan (897-9679)

#### 17 Aventures en Soleil: 11 am

*Tuthilltown Distillery* - Tour, Tasting and Lunch

Gardiner, NY

Contact: Cathy Kinn (462-3196)

Coordinator: Ruth Sheets (473-6202)

#### 18 Trekkers: 9:00 am Meet at Dutchess Mall to car pool

*Harriman State Park Hike*

Leader: Roz Werner (462-0630)

Coordinator: Karen Haynes (297-5700)

#### 20 Manderley Literary Society: 7:30 pm

Book: *George Washington's Secret Six*

by Brian Kilmeade

Hostess: Roz Werner (462-0630)

Coordinator: Rochelle Friedman (462-4996)

#### 21 Cuisine: 6:30 pm

Theme *France*

Recipes: Betty Olson [bettyolsonhomes@aol.com](mailto:bettyolsonhomes@aol.com)

Hostess: Barbara Lemberger (645-8516)

Coordinator: Barbara Lemberger

[brleberger@yahoo.com](mailto:brleberger@yahoo.com)

#### 22 Mah Jongg: Noon - 4:00 pm

*Uno Chicago Grill* - Lunch

Contact *Blanche by October 20*

Coordinator: Blanche Bergman (462-3955)

#### 22 Contemporary Literature: 7:30 pm

Book: *Orphan Train* by Christine Klein

Hostess: To be determined

Coordinators: Ann Wade (229-5267) &

Linda Freisitzer (266-5427)

#### 23 Bridge II: 12:15-4:00 pm

*Uno Chicago Grill*, Arlington, lunch \$15

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

#### 23 Pins & Needles: 7:00 pm

*Greeting cards* - decorate cards and then glue on motifs.

Hostess: Arlene Seligman (297-0006)

Coordinators: Arlene Seligman (297-0006) &

Jane Toll (463-2712)

#### 24 Art on the Go: 9:00 am

*Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art*, Peekskill

Lunch at the Tea Room

Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (226-8275)

#### 24 Poetry & Play Reading: 2:30 pm

*Introductory Meeting*. Details page 4.

Hostess: Peggy Hansen

Coordinators: Peggy Hansen (473-8453) [p.hansen@att.net](mailto:p.hansen@att.net)

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

#### 25 Gourmet: Out & About: 12 noon

Members are encouraged to attend the *Woman of the Year Luncheon at Ship Lantern Inn*. See page 9.

Contact: Kay Saderholm (229-8545)

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

#### 25 Woman of the Year: 12:00 pm

Details on page 1 and 9.

#### 28 Diversity: 5:30-7:30 pm

Screening and Discussion of *Girl Rising*

DCC, Bowne 122

Coordinator: Jacqueline Goffe-McNish

[mcnish@sunydutchess.edu](mailto:mcnish@sunydutchess.edu)

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

Date to be determined.

Hostess: Shirley Granda (452-2686)

Coordinator: Donna Reichner [dlr0804@verizon.net](mailto:dlr0804@verizon.net)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

### *Implementing Our Goals*

Our board members discussed the goals for 2014-2016 for our branch at our spring retreat at Omega. We as a board will work on these and we look to our members to help us reach these goals:

**Goal:** *Increase attendance at monthly program meetings to 100.* What you can do: Be sure to attend our outstanding programs for the year held on the second Thursday of each month. Watch this newsletter for announcements and details. And bring friends, who will not only enjoy the program but might consider membership in our branch too.

**Goal:** *Raise engagement level of current members and bring more members into leadership positions.* What you can do: Volunteer to help with a community initiative, serve on a committee, or help plan an annual event. Contact the leader of any program to offer to help, or contact me.

**Goal:** *Increase funding for scholarships and community initiatives to \$8,500.* What you can do: Be sure to attend our annual major fundraiser, the Writers' Tea, next spring, and bring your friends. Offer your expertise in fund raising and grant writing. And remember, contributions are always welcome to both our local and national AAUW funds.

**Goal:** *Define capacity and what success means.* What you can do: Since we have such a large branch with so many options, we want our members to find their niche so they remain members and enjoy themselves. Be sure to find an activity or group that appeals to you.

**Goal:** *Develop a visibility plan in our community.* What you can do: Let us know what other organizations you belong to that might like to know about us, or publications that we can reach out to.

**Goal:** *Focus on diversity of membership, programs, age, culture, issues, religion.* What you can do: Attend our meetings on the Latina community, migrant workers and health care issues of the underserved. Attend our monthly diversity programs. Encourage ALL women with degrees to join.

**Goal:** *Include state and national AAUW issues at the branch level.* What you can do: Go to the national and state AAUW websites, [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) and [aauw-nys.org](http://aauw-nys.org), and also read their publications. Attend our programs that address these issues, such as Common Core, Sexual Abuse on Campus, and A Woman in a Man's World.

**My own personal goal:** *Be sure every member feels comfortable, welcome and engaged.* What you can do: Join an interest group or two if you have not done so already. Be sure to meet all of our board members at meetings and events. We welcome you!

And lastly, what you can do: let me hear from you about these or any other ideas, volunteer opportunities or concerns at 845-462-3924 or [bvanitallie@yahoo.com](mailto:bvanitallie@yahoo.com). ■

## LOOKING AHEAD

**Nov 1:** *Live your Dream Girls' Conference.* Page 1.

**Nov 13:** 7:00 pm **"Everyone at the Table"** with the Reverend Richard Witt and the Rural and Migrant Ministries' Program,

**Nov 15:** 8:30 am - 2:00 pm: "Let's Read Math," Session II workshop for classroom teachers.

**Mar 21, 2015:** The District IV meeting will celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of Elizabeth Cady Stanton at Fort Montgomery Community College

**Apr 16, 2015:** *AAUW-NYS Convention*, Byblos Niagara Resort and Spa on Grand Island, Buffalo.

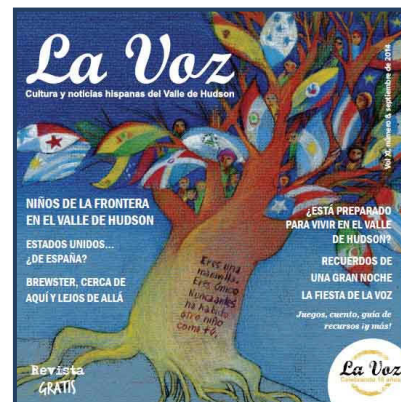
**April 26, 2015:** *Writers' Tea.*

## ABOUT THE PRESENTER, MARIEL FIORI

Mariel Fiori, MBA, is a journalist, translator, educator and an entrepreneur. Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, she co-founded and is the managing editor of the Bard-sponsored *La Voz, cultura y noticias hispanas del Valle de Hudson*. She also co-hosts a weekly Spanish language news radio show for WGXC and WHDD, and is a bilingual business counselor and instructor with WEDC-MHV (Women Enterprise Development Center Mid-Hudson Valley). Thanks to her passionate work with *La Voz*, Fiori has been the recipient of the Dutchess County Executive Arts Award in 2010, and *La Voz* has received four Ippies awards from the New York Community Media Alliance. In 2012, she was one of the recipients of the award 40 under 40 rising Latino Stars by the Hispanic Coalition of NY. In August, *La Voz* celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and received commendations from the New York State Senate and from Dutchess County Executive, Marus Molinaro, for its mission of keeping the Hudson Valley Spanish Speaking Community informed.

Ms. Fiori is a member of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists (NAHJ), the Ulster County Hispanic Advisory Board (Mano a Mano), the American Association of University Women (AAUW), and the American Translators Association (ATA).

From 2007 to 2013 she was a board member of Somos la Llave del Futuro, SLF, Inc., a Dutchess county based non-profit organization which seeks to build leadership in immigrant communities. ■



## EXTENDING GIRLS' HORIZONS

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

We have met with our Girl Scout partners and planned monthly events in S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) for our targeted audience of girls in grades 6-12. The first program this fall will be a variety of cooperative, discovery, and mathematical games on Friday, **October 17, from 6:30 to 8:30** in the cafeteria at R.C. Ketcham H. S. on Myers Corners Road in Wappingers. All AAUW members are invited to assist or just observe.

The **November** program will be crafts, with cooking in **December** and other topics every month through April. On two Sunday afternoons in **January and February** we will be presenting the Girl Scout Journey, "Amaze," about healthy relationships for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade girls at Zion Episcopal Church in Wappingers Falls.

**Extending Girls' Horizons** is an outgrowth of the Girls Conference and the reunions we held for several years. The Girl Scouts arrange for the venues, girls, chaperones, transportation, and insurance, while AAUW plans the programs and provides presenters. ■

## ANNOUNCING

### *Poetry & Play Readings—A New Interest Group*

Peggy Hansen [p.hansen@att.net](mailto:p.hansen@att.net)

*Have you ever wanted to play Hamlet? King Lear? Annie Sullivan in The Miracle Worker? Blanche DuBois in A Streetcar Named Desire?*



Is there a poem that delights you and that you'd like to share with others? Or one that puzzles and intrigues you that you'd like to discuss?

The new interest group **Poetry & Play Readings** will provide participants with these kinds of opportunities—and a lot of fun as well!

The plan is to meet once a month to read aloud poetry and plays, and to discuss the material as we go along. Springing from ancient oral traditions, both poetry and plays are meant to be heard as well as read, and readers often gain new insights when the material is presented orally.

If we have any frustrated thespians out there, here is your chance to try some dramatic reading -- with equal access to all the men's parts (which are often the best ones)!

Cathy Kinn and I will co-chair the group, which will have its first meeting on **Friday, October 24, from 2:30 to 4:30**. Thereafter, the group will meet on the **third Friday of each month at 2:30 p.m.**

Please join us! We hope to keep membership in the group limited to about 15 people. If you are interested, please let us know by emailing me [p.hansen@att.net](mailto:p.hansen@att.net) or Cathy Kinn [cathy@kinn.org](mailto:cathy@kinn.org). ■

## HELP WANTED! HELP WANTED!

Maria DeWald, Community Liaison Chair

*A column to suggest ways you might volunteer in AAUW for our many community initiatives and events. This column will appear as needed.*



► The **9<sup>th</sup> Annual Live Your Dream 7th Grade Girl's Conference** will occur on Saturday, November 1 at Dutchess Community College. AAUW Chair, Cecilia Dinio Durkin, and her Committee could use your help as follows:

- There are a few openings to distribute flyers at schools prior to the event and in many other ways help to spread the word to help achieve the goal of having 100 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls sign up.
- On the day of the Conference, you can help the young women with arts and crafts, experiments, fulfilling a day of activism, and much more.
- And, as in other years, we rely on our members sponsoring a girl to help offset the costs and keep the registration fee low. A **DIVA** Donation for \$25 covers the cost of one girl's conference, a **DREAMER** Donation for \$10 buys a girl's lunch and a **DARLING** Donation for \$8 gives a girl a journal. Checks can be made out to **Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.** and mailed to Cecilia Dinio Durkin at 8 Jonathan Lane, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603
- Please email Cecilia at [lydgirlsconference@gmail.com](mailto:lydgirlsconference@gmail.com) to volunteer or if you have questions.

► **Court Monitoring Program:** This initiative was established in 2011 whereby interested members could train to become court monitors. There are currently 9 AAUW volunteers who serve as court monitors. There will be a training for new monitors this fall contact Ann Pinna, 462-3140 or [ajpinna@aol.com](mailto:ajpinna@aol.com).

► The annual **Writers Tea auction** needs you! This is the AAUW Poughkeepsie's major fundraiser and supports the efforts of the organization's community initiatives plus several scholarships. The auction at the Tea provides the majority of the funds raised. Please help to procure an auction item or help with organization and setup to make this the most successful auction ever! Contact Linda Roberts, 227-5287 or [olsen241@aol.com](mailto:olsen241@aol.com).

► Save the date for **AAUW's Woman of the Year 2014**. This year Maureen Taylor, co-founder for Habitat for Humanity of Southern Dutchess, will be honored on **Saturday, October 25 at 12 noon at the Ship's Lantern Inn in Milton**. Please help by attending this wonderful event.

► Volunteer mentors are needed for the **GEMS (Girls for Engineering Math Science)** after school program at Van Wyck Junior High for 6th grade girls. You will work on STEM projects with the group of girls. Contact Kris Puzza at [Kpuzza@aol.com](mailto:Kpuzza@aol.com) or 845-221-3488. ■

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

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

**A warm welcome to all who joined our wonderful organization at the September Open House.** You were able to meet many of our members, learn about the many opportunities for involvement we offer – the Interest Groups, the Community Initiative and Outreach Programs – and meet the leaders of these groups. You were able to experience the diversity of our Poughkeepsie AAUW.

You selected the groups you wanted to become involved with. Then you got home and realized there was another group you wanted to experience. **Take out your Membership Booklet – it lists all the groups and programs – and the names of the leaders of these groups.** You can contact them by phone or email – and they will be only too happy to communicate with you.

**Don't forget our monthly membership program held on the second Thursday of each month** at the Unitarian Fellowship on South Randolph Avenue in Poughkeepsie.

**The September Open House would not have happened without the help** of the Membership Committee. Many thanks to Susan Ball, Mary Ann Boylan, Jeanette Cantwell, Roni Cavalla, Marguerite Cotter, Judy Dym, Judy Elkin, Sherry Goldstein, Diane Jablonski, Linda Lurie, Rita Minnerly, Mary Petteruti-Shultz, and Ann Wade. Jeanette Cantwell gets a second thank you for all the hard work she did in accepting the applications for the new members in her roll of Membership Treasurer. A thank you goes out to Margaret Nijhuis, Branch editor, for all the work she did to get this event going including publishing the Membership Booklet and producing the powerpoint; to Barbara Lemberger and Shirley Granda, Hospitality Chairs, whose committee provided the delicious refreshments; to Mary Coiteux and Susie Blecker, Program VPs, for their work and helpful suggestions; and to Barbara Van Itallie, President, whose efforts have helped to make this event occur. ■

### Welcome to our newest members:

**Kathleen Adin  
Bonnie Auchincloss  
Diana Babington  
Mackenzie Dabo  
Katherine (Kathy) Davis  
Cameen Davis-Rouse  
Beth DeFiglio  
Nancy Keenan-Rich  
Linda Kinney  
Elise Pattison  
MJ Porazzi  
Tori Smith  
Jacqueline Sweeney  
Mary Ann Williams**

## THANK YOU FOR REFRESHMENTS

We would like to thank the following members who volunteered to bring desserts, crackers and cheese and fruit to our September Membership Meeting:

Patricia Luczai	Linda Ronayne
Mary Ann Ryan	Betty Harrel
Verna Carr	Mary Jo Mann
Mary Ann Boylan	Lynda Byrne
Susan Fink	Linda Lurie

We appreciate your contributions very much! If you would like to volunteer for future months, please contact Shirley Granda (452-2686) or Barbara Lemberger [brleberger@yahoo.com](mailto:brleberger@yahoo.com).

## HEALTHCARE COMMITTEE PROJECT:

### *Poughkeepsie Mother's Group*

Lula Allen \*832-7140\* [lulaallen@aol.com](mailto:lulaallen@aol.com)

Kay Bishop \*677-8793\* [kaybishop@gmail.com](mailto:kaybishop@gmail.com)

We have made amazing progress since last year at this time, when the Poughkeepsie Mother's Group was still just an idea. We now have a twice monthly group meeting for new mothers in downtown



Poughkeepsie in a nice space. There are great snacks for the moms, an art or journal project to greet the moms each time, speakers from community organizations once a month and growing connections to other community organizations.

Each group meeting provides an educational topic on parenting, family health, or other topics of interest to new mothers. We had an art show of the mothers' art work on display at the Cunneen-Hackett Art Center through the summer.

We have generous support from AAUW through the next year to continue and expand. We will continue the art and journaling projects, and continue to bring in community speakers. The AAUW support also allows us to provide transportation to moms who need help with this.

If we are to continue and expand this excellent project, we need some more help! We need volunteers for:

- \* publicity and social media
- \* help for the snack committee
- \* help with a book project "Mom's Best Advice", collected advice from moms in the group
- \* grant writing
- \* connections to local colleges for interns/babysitters

### **MOTHER'S GROUP DATES FOR FALL 2014 WEDNESDAYS 4:30-6 PM**

October 1, 15 (no meeting on 29th)

November 5, 19

December 3, 17

For more information or to volunteer, please call Kay Bishop 797-4834 or Lula Allen 832-7140. ■

## *Lieder Lovers, Lovers of Lieder*

Come to the Howland Cultural Center  
499 Main St, Beacon

Sunday, October 5, 2014, 4:00 pm

**Thomas Meglioranza, baritone**  
**Reiko Uchida, piano**

Schubert's Die Winterreise

Called "one of America's finest young baritones," he has won many competitions including, 2005 Walter W. Naumburg and the Concert Artists Guild.

For ticket information contact Carol Loizides  
845/452-3208 [e.loizides@verizon.net](mailto:e.loizides@verizon.net)

## **LAUREEN SCIANIMANICO, 2014 Recipient of the Irene Keyes Memorial Fund**

*Excerpts from Laureen's report on her trip to the NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders). Her full report can be found at [www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org), search on "Laureen."*



I did not know what to expect for the 2014 NCCWSL conference. All I knew was that it was in Maryland, I was attending a pre-conference activity, and Chelsea Clinton was speaking. While those three things were really awesome, I did not know anything else I would be doing or learning about at the conference.

...the pre-conference activity. I went to help out at The Wider Circle, a non-profit organization that aims to end poverty in the capital region... It was truly an eye-opening experience.

...conference started. Seated in "The Grand Ballroom," we listened to many wonderful speakers. We were fortunate to hear Chelsea Clinton who spoke to us about how we need to take risks, and "Make a raucous" in order to be heard. ... Her message was strong and well-received.

My personal favorite speaker was Deanna Zandt... She shared her experiences of trying to be strong while fighting her mental illness. ... She left a very powerful and awe-inspiring message.

...I also attended some workshops that helped me learn about and form my beliefs on various topics, including women in politics and faith and how to be taken seriously as a woman. ...

NCCWSL was an experience that brought me home glowing...  
...I would highly recommend NCCWSL to anyone who is interested in learning about themselves, hearing others' points of view while formulating their own beliefs, and experiencing life on another campus. I definitely learned a great deal about myself. It is good to be surrounded by women who care so much about the future. I felt honored to be a part of something so awesome and empowering, and to be surrounded by women (and some men) from across the country. ■

## **LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND**

### ***Discrimination Case Won***

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

You may have joined AAUW to play bridge, go for walks, listen to interesting speakers, or meet women with whom you have common ground. **But remember that your membership gives you the opportunity to be part of the American Association of University Women as it advocates for women in the workplace, on campuses and in the military.** In the recent decision by the Massachusetts Commission against Discrimination (MCAD) in the case Sun v. University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. Plaintiff Lulu Sun, who received case support from the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund, was awarded significant damages, including \$200,000 for emotional distress.

"Sun, an English professor, alleged sex and race discrimination in the promotion process at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. In 2011, an MCAD hearing officer ruled that the University had unlawfully discriminated against Sun by denying her application for promotion. The hearing officer ordered the University to promote Sun to full professor with retroactive pay, pay Sun emotional distress damages, pay the Commonwealth of Massachusetts a civil penalty, and conduct an eight-hour anti-discrimination training class. The University appealed part of the hearing officer's decision. In May 2014, the full commission upheld the initial ruling in Sun's favor."

**The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund has been crucial to the success of many gender discrimination cases during its 33-year history.** The case-support program provides financial and organizational backing for plaintiffs challenging gender discrimination in education and the workplace. The funds come directly from the generous contributions of AAUW members like you!

Thanks to all who participated in the Rib Fest on August 16-17. We had fun and raised some money for LAF! Watch for news in *The Branch* of the exact amount we raised. ■

## **Supporters of *The Branch*!!**

Annual contributions from members help defray the expense of publishing *The Branch* and other communication expenses.

### **Patrons** (\$25 or more)

Catherine Albanese, Lula Allen, Mary G. Bagley, Mary Ann Boylan, Sharon Clarke, Lillian DePasquale, Ruth Gau, Gloria Gibbs, Sandra Goldberg, Elizabeth Harrel, Shaileen Kopec, Catherine Pété, Terry Schneider

### **Sponsors** (\$10 or more)

Marguerite Cotter, Christina Houghtaling, Cathleen Kinn

To add your name to the list, mail a check payable: **"Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc."** to Margaret Nijhuis

## JOAN ELIZABETH FAY (1928 - 2014)

Edited from the Poughkeepsie Journal



Joan Elizabeth Fay, passed away on August 11, 2014 after a brief illness.

Born on December 10, 1928, in Poughkeepsie, NY, she graduated from Keuka College in 1951. She married W. Michael Fay on July 7, 1951 in Poughkeepsie, NY. Her husband

predeceased her on June 20, 1995.

Joan was active in the family business. She worked alongside her husband at Bolton Surgical Co., Inc., in Poughkeepsie, NY. She loved her family and enjoyed spending as much time with them as possible. She was a two time cancer survivor.

Joan was active as a volunteer in many local organizations including the Children's Home, PTA, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Meals on Wheels, and the Mid-Hudson Library. **She was an active 60+ year member of AAUW**, a member of PEO, and a Lifetime Learner, most recently attending classes at CLS (Center for Lifetime Study). Joan loved to travel and had been around the globe to many locations, as well as traveling the local roads and byways of the beautiful Hudson Valley. She had a love for New York City and all it offered, including its museums, restaurants and of course, Broadway. She loved her adopted home of Woodland Pond in New Paltz where she gained a loving and caring community after having lived her entire life in Poughkeepsie. She made friends with everyone she met.

Surviving are two daughters, Michelle C. Sussman and Leslie E. Fay Scofield; two sons, Jonathan M. Fay and David M. Fay; a sister, Debra Beryl Elman; a sister-in-law, Shirl E. Fay; nine grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

Memorial donations may be made to: Keuka College, The Children's Home of Poughkeepsie or the Bardavon Opera House in Poughkeepsie, NY. Funeral arrangements are by Copeland Funeral Home, Inc. If anyone wishes to express condolences online please go to [www.copelandfhnp.com](http://www.copelandfhnp.com).

### Remembrance Ceremony for Joan Fay

Woodland Pond, New Paltz\*

October 11, 2014 2-4 pm

A time to share your memories of Joan.

Light refreshment

**Editor's Note:** We all remember Joan so fondly with her wonderful red hair and bubbling personality. She was active in several of our interest groups and supporting of all we do in AAUW. We will miss her so very much.

\*Directions: Cross the Mid-Hudson Bridge to Route 9W North to Highland. Turn left onto Route 299 traveling West and go approximately 5.4 miles to N. Putt Corners Road. Turn right onto N. Putt Corners Road and go approximately 1 mile to Woodland Pond entrance on left. Enter the community then turn left at stop sign and park in Lot 1. You will be directed from the main lobby.■

## ELLENORA MAE POND OBERHOFER

Edited from the Poughkeepsie Journal



Ellenora Mae Pond Oberhofer entered into rest Wednesday, September 10, 2014. She was 104.

Born in Brooklyn on September 29, 1909, she graduated from Adelphi College with a major in economics in 1931. She worked in a variety of records management positions throughout the Depression and into the

1950's. She married Norman Edward Oberhofer in 1935 and accompanied him to Boston during World War II, where she volunteered with the Naval Officers' Wives.

They moved to North Bellmore on Long Island in 1953, where Ellenora became Alumnae Director of Adelphi and later taught fourth grade for 20 years, while caring for a sick husband, a child, and elderly relatives, and also serving on the P.T.A. Board and the church vestry.

Widowed for many years, she came to Dutchess County in 1981. She started two chapters of Church Women United; served on the DC Interfaith Council and the Dutchess Child Care Council; and chaired Public Policy for the Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW. A knitter and dressmaker since childhood, she joined the Schuyler Embroiderers Guild and volunteered at the Mills Mansion, working on the reproduction of an eighteenth century tapestry for many years. She was president of the Fortnightly Club, and also participated actively in Planned Parenthood, the Older Women's League, Zion Episcopal Church, 28 Club, and AAUW book and bridge groups. In 2007 she was named DC Senior Citizen of the Year.

She leaves a daughter and son-in-law, Peggy Oberhofer Kelland and Steve Michael Kelland, two grandchildren, a great-grandson and many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Ellenora's name to Zion Episcopal Church, AAUW Public Policy Fund, or Dutchess County Interfaith Council.

**Editor's Note:** Ellenora will be remembered by all of us for her spunk, her defense of women and her effort to make us better citizens of the world. She was an inspiration to all as she learned to use the computer at over 90 year old and continued to be engaged in everything happening in the world.

### PLANNING AN AAUW EVENT

- Step 1: Check the online calendar from the Website [www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org), select *Calendar, top left on home page under Features.*
- Step 2: Contact our branch President
- Step 3: Send notification to the editor and assistant editor of the newsletter

## PUBLIC POLICY

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

### Shouts and Whispers...They Both Work

I was going to write an article with the theme "Shouts and Whispers at the Election Booth." But then the Ray Rice story broke. As the media splattered the stories of Rice's suspension and firing due to his battering of his wife, there seemed to be one important thing missing: his wife's name. "Wife" and "The Girl Friend" appeared in the headlines and runners. She has a name. It is Janay. It is not just the Ray Rice story, but the Janay and Ray Rice story. The *New York Times* refers to her as "the most famous battered wife in the country, a fierce defender of her husband, and to domestic violence experts and survivors, an extraordinary public example of the complex psychology of women abused by men." Yet the press and media diminished her to "wife" and "then girlfriend."

If we thought the Hobby Lobby decision was a refocusing tool for women's progress, this horrific story sits alongside it. The discussion is once again open. How can we help victims of domestic violence and abuse especially when they don't want help? Janay Rice asks for privacy. She proclaims to love her husband. She defends his honor and seeks council from her church.

**Is it any of my business?** The answer is yes. Yes, it is. I don't want to see any woman believe, at any point in her life, it is status quo to be beaten into a state of unconsciousness or defend the man who inflicted the violence.



**Why do victims of domestic violence stay?** The experts tell us economic dependency and financial reliance is a leading factor. Another is a long period of psychological mistreatment that results in a fear of isolation and abandonment. Third, fear of physical abuse to themselves and their children if they leave. Fourth, women feel a need to forgive and stay true to the person they love and their families. Whatever the reasons, they are complex and personal. Each case is unique. No judgments, please. No one judges Janay's reasons. But domestic violence is wrong and no woman should have to justify or be subjected to any form of physical mistreatment.

In 1984 "The Burning Bed" was the catalyst that forced lawmakers to address domestic violence. Several laws were established that protected a women's right to say no, but most importantly, the societal view on spousal abuse was no longer whispered but shouted. Twenty years ago the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) was passed. It continues to fight domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. However, VAWA only helps survivors in the U.S. Congress now needs to pass the International Violence Against Women Act, I-VAWA. It is estimated that one out of every three women will be beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused over her lifetime. In some countries, domestic violence reaches 70 percent.

**How can you shout or whisper your help?** It is easy. Address the causes and contact your senators and congressmen. Use the AAUW Two Minute Activist site to get started.

**Whisper, if that is your style.** Utilize the AAUW Two Minute Activist. It doesn't lie when it says it only takes two minutes. Currently there are several bills being drafted to help women become economically strong. Tell your senators how you feel about the Equal Pay Vote. AAUW will generate the message and see that it is delivered to your representatives. The **Women's Procurement Program Equalization** would afford women who own small businesses the opportunity to bid for a wider variety of federal contracts. The **Paycheck Fairness Act** would bring pay equality but the senate blocked a procedural vote to debate it. In the White House alone it is said that a woman makes 88 cents compared to a dollar each man makes. The Two Minute Activist will generate an email to your Senators in support of equal pay. It will be coming up for a vote again. Let your senators know you want them to support that act. Support the **Federal Minimum Wage bill** as well. President Obama recently signed to pay federal contractors \$10.10. If Congress would enact this for the federal minimum, 28 million workers would see increase. Nearly two-thirds of minimum wage earners are women.

**Shout, if that is your style.** Write a letter to the editor or directly call your representative's office. Either way, send a message. By improving a women's ability to economically be independent, you lower the chances that she will stay in an abusive relationship because of financial need. Encourage your school to become a partner with AAUW. Host an event, write an op-ed piece.

**Whether you shout or whisper, be involved.** Take action to help destroy the cycle of domestic violence. If women continue to make strides in education, economic security and civil rights, perhaps the cycle will break. All you have to do is let your name be known...after all, you do have one. You will be heard.

Visit The Two Minute Activist at [aauw.org](http://aauw.org). ■

#### Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. Officers 2014-2015

<b>President</b>	Barbara Van Itallie	462-3924
<b>Program V.P.</b>	Susie Blecker	462-7074
	Mary Coiteux	226-8275
<b>Membership V.P.</b>	Kay Saderholm	229-8545
<b>Educ. Foundation V.P.</b>	Linda Roberts	227-5287
<b>Secretary</b>	Katherine Friedman	485-8671
<b>Treasurer</b>	Diane Jablonski	485-6228
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	Jeanette Cantwell	452-4188

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

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

**Poughkeepsie Branch website:** [www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org](http://www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org)

*AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.*

*In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.*



Please join the Poughkeepsie Branch of the American Association of University Women, Inc. to:

## Honor our Woman of the Year 2014 Maureen Taylor

Saturday, October 25, 2014  
12 noon  
Ship Lantern Inn  
1725 Rte. 9W  
Milton, NY

CO-FOUNDER OF  
Habitat for Humanity of  
Southern Dutchess



Maureen Taylor, along with her husband, Richard Taylor, co-founded Habitat for Humanity of Southern Dutchess in 1994. In 1997 the organization merged with Poughkeepsie to become the Dutchess County Habitat for Humanity. Maureen has served as assistant treasurer and is presently chair of the Family Support Committee.

Besides her work on Habitat for Humanity, she has been a key supporter of the Hopewell Depot Restoration, a volunteer at the Castle Point VA Hospital, and a Sunday school teacher at the New Hackensack Reformed Church.

The Poughkeepsie Branch of AAUW, Inc. is proud to invite you to help celebrate this dedicated volunteer as our **2014 Woman of the Year!**

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### *Cash Bar & Hot Luncheon*

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

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

Meal Preference: Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Beef \_\_\_\_\_ Fish \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any other dietary concerns, please let us know.

Price: \$40 per person (includes gratuity). Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ attendee(s).

**Reservations & checks are due: October 17, 2014**

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

Mail to: **Margaret Prescott, 105 Turnberry Court, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603**

**Questions:** Call Margaret at 845-462-5363 (mrp17a@verizon.net)

If you are unable to attend and would like to make a contribution in Maureen's honor, please send it to the address above.

AAUW is a 501(c)3 organization. ■