

CHIPS

The monthly newsletter of the Westchester Branch of the American Association of University Women, Westchester County, New York



Westchester AAUW Has Been
Empowering Women and
Girls Since 1933

GIRLS for STEM

(Formerly Explore Your Opportunities – The Sky's the Limit!)

April 30, 2022 Website: aauw-girlsforstem.org

-Submitted by Lorrin Johnson



The American Association of University Women, New York City and Westchester Branches joined together 18 years ago to develop a program that would help to understand and change the fact that so few women are in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). We are presently partnering with the New York City Empire Branch and the College of Mount Saint Vincent (CMSV).

Training women early is a *must* to have them succeed in these fields. The research seems to indicate that middle school girls were the ones who could benefit most from a program like this. Meeting and interacting with women in the STEM fields was a plus for their future. The experience of being on college campuses was a significant experience for the girls to see how and what it would be like to continue on in higher education. Each girl attended two hands-on workshops taught by women who worked in fields such as medicine, zoology, cell and brain research, and food research. The girls and parents had an opportunity to talk one on one with the "Mystery Women" who worked in these fields. With a set of clues, they could guess the vocation of these women.

In April 2021, due to COVID we successfully conducted a *virtual conference*. With the help of the staff of the College of Mount St Vincent we were able to have seven workshops via zoom.

This year, again due to COVID we will have the conference virtually on Saturday morning **April 30, 2022**. Students will preregister and attend an introduction to the varieties career in the STEM field. Each student will go to a virtual workshop of their choice and do a *hands-on activity* taught by a STEM leader. We will send any necessary materials to students beforehand.

The College of Mount Saint Vincent has generously provided their staff to help with the technology. All the workshop leaders and committee members in this conference are volunteers. This conference is supported by the generous donations of friends and members. This year we would be glad to have donations and any volunteers who are interested. Our brochure and registration material with details will be available on line at our website **March 1, 2022**. We are looking forward to an exciting day.

Co-Presidents: Lorrin Johnson, Westchester Branch and Maria Ellis, Empire Branch

VOTING FOR NEXT YEAR'S OFFICERS AND BUDGET

Voting for the 2022-23 slate of officers (listed on page 2), the 2022-23 budget (shown on page 8), and the increase of dues for 22-23 (page 8) will take place at the April Branch Meeting. You can also vote via e-mail to Sue Lambert at slamb47@aol.com.

If you do not have access to email and will not be able to attend the April meeting, please vote using the ballot provided on page 4.

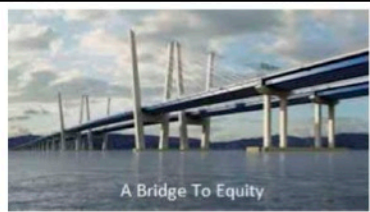
It is important that you vote so that we reach the required quorum.

DON'T MISS THIS!

March Branch Meeting

Wednesday, March 2
at 5:30 p.m.

Zoom or in person at
Greenburgh Library



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

VISION: Equity for All

VALUE STATEMENT: By joining AAUW you belong to a community that breaks educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance. AAUW is nonpartisan, fact-based, and values integrity, inclusion and intersectionality.

2021-2022 BRANCH OFFICERS

Co-Presidents

Ellen Leuner & Rene Parmar

Program Co-Vice Presidents

Marie McKellar & Sue Perko

Membership Co-Vice Presidents

Marjorie Kingsley & Judith Walsh

Recording Co-Secretaries

Marcia Keizs & Elaine Weiss

Corresponding Secretary

Abby Hirsch

Co-Treasurers

Susan Gardner & Cynthia Plater

CHIPS Editor

Sue Lambert slamb47@aol.com

Circulation

Abby Hirsch

Branch Web Site

westchester-ny.aauw.net

State Web Site

www.aauw-nys.org

National Web Site

www.aauw.org

Facebook at AAUW Westchester NY

The AAUW

Legal Advocacy Fund

provides funding and a support system for individuals seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

The AAUW Educational

Opportunities Fund

provides fellowships and grants to aspiring graduate women scholars in the US and around the globe.

Bridge Photo from NY
State Thruway Authority

March Branch Meeting

Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Greenburgh Public Library, 300 Tarrytown Rd, Elmsford

This hybrid: In-Person /Virtual Event is limited to the first 40 "In-Person" & 100 "Virtual" people that register for the event.

To register:

1. Go to the Greenburgh Public Library Website

www.greenburghlibrary.org

2. Click on the Events Tab. Select "Calendar" from the drop-down menu

3. Scroll down to see March 2 event. Click on the event.

4. Scroll down the event details page. Click on the "Begin Registration" button.

5. You will receive a confirmation email of your registration after you click submit.

6. You may also call the Reference Desk at 914-721-8225 to register.

PROGRAM: How Social Isolation Impacts the Brain

Those living alone during Covid have experienced considerable fogginess, disorientation, loss of focus, and memory issues. Learn more about why this happens and how to take care of your brain as you age.

SPEAKER:

Nancy Weiser, board vice-chair of Sharp Again Naturally, a nonprofit based in Westchester

Nancy is the Board Vice-Chair of Sharp Again Naturally and co-Founder of Weiser Choices, a provider of health and wellness coaching since 2005. A customized approach, combined with a curriculum of nutrition and lifestyle topics, enables Nancy's clients to rely less on the healthcare system while enjoying greater productivity and vibrant health. Nancy has been featured in the New York Times, Martha Stewart Radio, and appeared in the documentary film Bought. She recently appeared as a speaker for Sharp Again Naturally in the online Alzheimer's Prevention Summit and the Reverse Alzheimer's Summit.



THE 2022-2023 BRANCH BOARD MEMBERS SLATE

Co- Presidents: Susan Damplo and Rene Parmar

Program Co-Vice Presidents: Diana Lennon and Teresa H. Neal

Membership Co-Vice Presidents: Thea Jacobs and Marie Schenk

Recording Co-Secretaries: Marcia V. Keizs and Elaine Weiss

Treasurer: Cynthia Plater and Assistant Treasurer: Susan Gardner

Corresponding Secretary: Abby Hirsh

CURRENT ISSUES GROUP

The Current Issues Interest Group will have a Zoom meeting on Friday March 4 at 10 a.m. Several topics will be presented and discussed, including: "NATO without Angela Merkel."

For further information, please contact Selena Barron, Diona Koerner, or Marie McKellar.

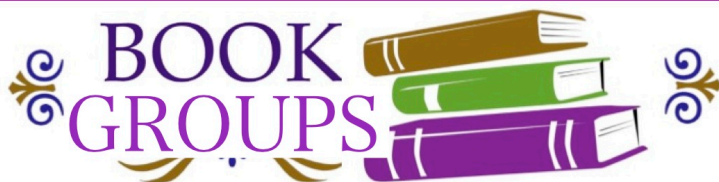
ART INTEREST GROUP

In late March, the Art Interest Group will have a tour of the fascinating exhibit "Constant Carnival: The Haas Brothers In Context" at the Katonah Museum of Art. We have not yet finalized the date, but should have that information soon.

**Have
You Seen
Our Web Site?**

westchester-ny.aauw.net

Board minutes are posted on the Web Page.



TUESDAY MORNING LIT GROUP

The Tuesday Morning Lit Group will meet on March 8, at 10 a.m. via Zoom. We'll discuss the historical fiction Moloka'i by Alan Brennert. Diona Koerner will lead the conversation.

Please contact Wilma Gitchel if you'd like to join us.

EVENING LITERATURE GROUP

The Evening Literature Group will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 9 on Zoom. Colleen Fay will lead the discussion of The Heart's Invisible Furies by John Boyne. Colleen Fay will send the Zoom invitation a few days before the meeting.

If you have questions about this group phone Ellen Eschmann, the group leader.



There are times when one of our members is dealing with an illness, a loss, or another personal crisis.

If you know of a member who should receive our well wishes or support, please send the information to our corresponding secretary, Abby Hirsch, at ahirsch03@gmail.com.

JOIN AAUW WESTCHESTER BRANCH

Membership is open to anyone with an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate, or higher degree from an accredited college or university. To join, please complete this form and send a check payable to AAUW Westchester Branch to the address below. New Member Dues for 2021-22 are \$88, of which \$85 are tax deductible. When you join the Westchester Branch of AAUW, you also become a member of the AAUW New York State and National organizations. The Membership team can also provide you with more information about AAUW-Westchester's activities on our branch record form.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City:State:Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

College/University, Degree, Graduation Year: _____

Send check and/or branch record form request to: Judith Walsh at 2 Fountain Ln. Apt. 1V, Scarsdale, NY 10583 or 734-748-9318 or email: westchesteraauw@gmail.com



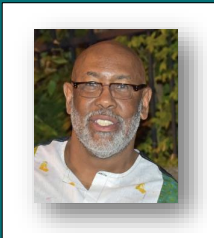
AAUW ROCKLAND COUNTY BRANCH (Virtual) 22nd Annual Diversity Brunch

African American Women In the Movement

A Family's Legacy of Women's Rights Activists

New Yorkers Addie Jackson and her daughter Beatrice Jackson joined other Black women in New York State, in the early 1900's in leading the fight for equal rights for African Americans and voting rights for all women.

Join us to hear Family Historian and Lecturer, Roger Glass's account of his ancestral discoveries!



Roger Glass, Family Historian and Lecturer

**Saturday, February 26, 2022
11:00am – 12:30pm**

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED –

REGISTER HERE

For further information call (845) 406-5156

This event is being co-sponsored by the Kingston, Poughkeepsie, and Westchester Branches of AAUW, the League of Women Voters, RCAC Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. The Rockland Chapter of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. and the Spring Valley Branch NAACP



STEM FOR GIRLS CELEBRITIES! By Susan Appel

Last year, for the first time, our STEM event had two workshops hosted by high school juniors. The STRIDES group, led by three students from the Bronx HS of Science, Aliya Fisher, Nicolas Kim, and Stephen Oguybiyi, taught seventh grade girls how to make and use foldable microscopes. Anika Puri, from Chappaqua High School, enabled the girls to create art using Artificial Intelligence. Both were amazing presentations, and received excellent reviews.

That was only the beginning of these workshop leaders' scientific careers. This fall, all four students completed excellent science projects. Aliya and Anika ranked among the top 300 scholars in this country's most prestigious science contest, the Regeneron Science Talent Search, which is open only to high school students in their senior year. In addition to the \$2,000 award that they each won, their schools also received a matching donation.

The best news is that both the STRIDES group and Anika will again present workshops at our STEM For Girls event, which will be held virtually at Mount Saint Vincent College on April 30th. Please join us!

AAUW WESTCHESTER BRANCH BALLOT

In favor of the slate for 2022-23

Yes No

In favor of the budget for 2022-23

Yes No

I accept the increase of dues for 22-23

Yes No

Name _____

Please mail your ballot to Sue Lambert at 19 Pinehurst Dr.
Purchase, NY 10577 or email your vote to
slamb47@aol.com

**We Need Your
VOTE**

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT AND AAUW

Submitted by Elaine Weiss, Branch Historian

On August 26, 1920 three quarters of American State Legislatures had ratified the 19th Amendment and American Women won full voting rights. The fact that the original Westchester Branch application is dated November 10, 1933 led to questions about the history of AAUW in New York. The main question was "Why did the Westchester Branch seek membership in AAUW in 1933, during the depths of the great depression." Records indicate that Eleanor Roosevelt played a key part.

Eleanor Roosevelt was friends with AAUW New York City Branch President Marion Dickerman. In 1926 the two women purchased the Todhunter School (later Dalton) for upper-class New York City girls. Dickerman was vice president and principal of Todhunter School and Eleanor was a teacher who made her students aware of social injustice.



Eleanor Roosevelt joined the AAUW in 1929, when she was First Lady of New York, and spoke to the AAUW New York City Branch that year on Armistice Day. In her address, Roosevelt urged the members to do everything possible to make "another war impossible." She continued, "The only real safeguard is what education can do to change the hearts of men, and I think that has to be done by women. I think that you are the women to do it." The New York Times noted that she "had just been elected to the membership in the AAUW".

As First Lady of the United States, she attended many AAUW branch meetings around the country. Her notes and observations in "My Day Column" are available online courtesy of the Eleanor Roosevelt Papers Project at George Washington University.

As first lady, Eleanor Roosevelt held White House press conferences exclusively for women reporters who were usually barred from the president's press conferences. In 1936, she invited Mary Ritter Beard, a historian and AAUW member, to speak about her efforts to write women back into history. The World Center for Women's Archives, a grand idea to collect and centralize the archival records of women's contributions to our world, held its first planning meeting with the First Lady present. Both women wanted to correct the inaccuracy of U.S. history books. At that time failed history books often failed to mention a single woman.

She was a great First Lady because of her empathy for the suffering of the Great Depression and her opposition to Jim Crow laws in our nation. She supported women's efforts to keep the home front during World War II. As a former First Lady, Eleanor Roosevelt played an active role supporting democracy during the cold war. On December 14, 1961, President John F. Kennedy appointed her to chair the Presidential Commission on the Status of Women. She chaired that commission until her death on November 7, 1962.

Eleanor Roosevelt's memory inspired many aspects of the modern women's movement. In 1989, an Eleanor Roosevelt Fund was established by AAUW to honor individuals, institutions, and organizations that make significant contributions to opportunities in education and employment for girls and women. Today, the Westchester AAUW is committed to increasing education of women in the sciences called STEM. The Leaders in the STEM program are asked to read "Leadership the Eleanor Roosevelt Way" by Robin Gerber

Thanks to Lorrin Johnson for sharing her knowledge. She has joined into the Historian. Please consider taking part in learning and sharing our History.

Please contact me to join the history group.

EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT STATUS

-by Selena Barron

An article published by a group named Equality Now includes the history and current status of The Equal Rights Amendment. Do you remember when the amendment was ratified by Congress? Some of us were even active supporters for its passage 50 years ago! The men delegated to draft the U.S. Constitution were all white, landholding, and (some slave-holding) men. They did not think of women as part of “the people” they made part of the Constitution.

The ERA is a short, clear amendment that places protection for women and other marginalized genders straight into the United States Constitution. The amendment is made up of the three, following, one sentence statements. Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article. Section 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.



When the Equal Rights Amendment was passed in 1972 it was over a battle that had lasted over almost 40 years and, unfortunately, is far from over now! The passage for the amendment required passage by three quarters or 38 states and had a 7 year deadline for ratification. Congress extended the deadline to 1982. By then the passage was only 3 states short of the necessary 38. The last three states have now been added. Nevada in 2017, Illinois in 2018 and Virginia in 2020.

In the following shortened version, a bi-lateral resolution, introduced by U.S. Senators Ben Cardin (D-Md.) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) and by U.S. Congresswoman Jackie Speier (D-Calif) and Congressman Tom Reed (R-NY) in 2021, stated that the resolution would be valid for all intents and purposes as part of the U.S. Constitution whenever ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states. If the resolution passes, the timeline will be eliminated. However, the ERA Amendment has a two year enactment clause and so even then there would be a delay before its protections take place!

The outcome is worse if the timeline is not eliminated. Votes for the ERA will have to be ratified by each state all over again. This is a real barrier because at the present time several states have said they would no longer support the amendment. The three recent states to ratify the ERA have brought a case to the District Court of Columbia demanding the incorporation of the ERA into the Constitution. Human Rights organizations have joined as amicus curiae*. Several other cases including the rights of states to rescind their passage, which is based on the support of their citizens, may go through the courts and end up in the Supreme Court. Are we the only country seeking an amendment to achieve gender equality? The answer is a resounding NO. Among 193 UN member states, 85% have a provision that specifically addresses gender equality and a further 115 have a provision that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex.

Passage of the ERA would be a strong historic victory for women's and gender equality. The amendment would provide a permanent, legal document to achieve gender equality in the United States. You can help by passing the information to your friends and elected officials that passage should take place now.

**Person or group who assists the court by furnishing information or advice regarding questions of law or fact.*



OF NEW YORK

Equity for Women and Girls

AAUW-NYS holds a state-wide business meeting every year. Prior to 2020, there was an annual [state convention](#) (and meeting) in the spring. The location varied from year to year. The pandemic of 2020 caused that convention and the one in 2021 to be held virtually in June. Moving forward there will be a virtually held summit in June, 2022.

ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES – FEBRUARY - MARCH 2022

by Jane Pendergast

POWHERNY- Sponsored Upcoming Events to Note:

- **Black Women's History Month Event 2/23 & 2/24:** [The Bluest Eye](#), a reading by luminary women of Toni Morrison's book. [RSVP for this Free Event](#) to events.literacypartners.org/bluesteye PowHerNY is proud to co-sponsor an extraordinary event.



- Equal Pay Day - March 15th - Stay tuned – and very soon go to PowHerNY for the list of events!
- March 8th - [Planned Parenthood Day of Action](#) – Virtual - go to: weareplannedparenthoodaction.org to RSVP.

This year's POWHERNY advocacy boot camp on January 27th was a big success, with in-depth presentations on our shared priorities for the upcoming state budget: accessible and affordable childcare and fair pay for homecare workers, as well as legislation to pass an inclusive Equality Amendment.

Regarding the inclusive Equality Amendment:

1. **Why do we need this?** Because our state constitution is antiquated and has been limited by state court decisions. While the federal ERA covers sex only, NYS wants to expand it for other disadvantaged communities like the LGBTQ and people of color.
2. **Senator Liz Kreuger's bill [S.1268](#)** protects against discrimination on a broad number of categories, including racial discrimination.
3. Important to know: Pregnancy and pregnancy outcomes must be included. The amendment uses very inclusive and holistic language; this is especially important as Roe is under assault.
4. **Process:** Constitutional amendments require 2 separate passages in 2 legislative cycles; the bill needs to pass this session and again in the 2023-24 session. Then it goes to the public for a vote. We must be strategic about the timing of constitutional amendments.

Salary Range Transparency Bill:

POWHER is working to advance this important legislation (see the February Advocacy article) and are looking to see which companies do have salary ranges in their job postings now. If you know of companies that list salary ranges in job postings, I would like to hear about them. Please contact me at jpendergast2@msn.com or 914-671-8442.

For details or to participate in this important advocacy work, please contact me at jpendergast2@msn.com or call me at 914-671-8442,

Westchester Women's Agenda (WWA) – At this month's meeting, several initiatives were reviewed, including a campaign to replenish \$3 billion in state funding for the Excluded Workers Fund and a number of other related measures. To learn more about this important campaign, search on Fund for Excluded Workers.



| | | | |
|------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| 3/2 | Branch Meeting | Greenburgh Library or Zoom | 5:30 p.m. |
| 3/2 | Board Meeting | Zoom | 4 p.m. |
| 3/4 | Current Issues Discussion Group | Zoom | 10 a.m. |
| 3/8 | Tuesday Morning Literature Group | Zoom | 10 a.m. |
| 3/9 | Evening Literature Group | Zoom | 5:30 p.m. |
| 3/10 | Deadline for submitting for CHIPS | | |
| 3/15 | Poetry Interest Group | Zoom | 1:30 p.m. |

On line bridge is scheduled every Monday at 1 p.m.

WESTCHESTER AAUW PROPOSED BUDGET FOR NEX YEAR
-submitted by Cynthia Plater, Treasurer



| AAUW Westchester -Proposed Budget for 2022-2023 | | |
|--|-----------|-------------------|
| INCOME | | |
| Total Branch Dues | \$ | 4,080.00 |
| Contributions for Sr. Awards | | |
| Contribution for 8th grade awards | \$ | 300.00 |
| Donations | | |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$ | 4,360.00 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| BRANCH ACTIVITIES | | |
| 8th Grade Educational awards | \$ | 300.00 |
| Sr. Educational Awards | \$ | 850.00 |
| Public Policy (Running & Winning) | \$ | 200.00 |
| Westchester Women's Agenda | \$ | 100.00 |
| AAUW Student Leadership Conference | \$ | 600.00 |
| Special Projects - Start Smart, STEM camp, etc. | | |
| WCC Scholarship Fund | \$ | 250.00 |
| Community Service Project | | |
| Total BRANCH ACTIVITIES EXPENSES | \$ | 2,300.00 |
| CONFERENCES/CONVENTIONS | | |
| Delegates - State or National | \$ | 200.00 |
| Total CONF./CONVENTIONS EXPENSES | \$ | 200.00 |
| GENERAL MEETINGS & SOCIALS | | |
| Hospitality | \$ | 150.00 |
| Programs | \$ | 150.00 |
| Rental & Custodial Fees (inc. \$300 to library) | \$ | 450.00 |
| Total GEN. MTGS & SOCIAL EXPENSES | \$ | 750.00 |
| OPERATING EXPENSES | | |
| Corres.Sec./Sunshine Fund | \$ | 50.00 |
| Insurance | \$ | 600.00 |
| Membership | \$ | 50.00 |
| Newsletter/Postage | \$ | 200.00 |
| Other Expenses [zoom, fees,...] | \$ | 600.00 |
| Publicity/Branch Brochure | \$ | 100.00 |
| Yearbook/Postage | \$ | 950.00 |
| AAUW Funds Mailing | \$ | 200.00 |
| State Convention Ad | \$ | 125.00 |
| Intern Expenses | \$ | 100.00 |
| Total OPERATING EXPENSES | \$ | 2,975.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$ | 6,225.00 |
| Net Income-Expenses | \$ | (1,865.00) |

In April the Membership will vote on the 2022-2023 Budget, and the incoming Board of Directors and the acceptance of the dues change for 2022-2023.

AAUW National is again raising our yearly dues by five dollars, bringing the total National dues to \$67. NY State dues will be \$7 this year. As a result, we have had to raise your total membership dues by five dollars to \$103.

Attached is the budget for 2022-2023. Our calendar year runs from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. When you review the budget, you will notice that we are projected to operate at a deficit, as we have done for the few past years. In order to minimize this deficit, the Board voted to include an option to allow our members to make an additional donation when they are renewing their annual membership. We hope that you will consider adding a donation to your dues. The dues renewal form will include the option of making an additional donation to support the 8th grade Educational awards, Sr. H.S. educational awards, and/or the branch's operating funds.

YEARLY DUES FOR WESTCHESTER AAUW WILL BE AS FOLLOWS.

2022-2023 \$103 (an increase of \$7)

2023-2024 \$108 (an increase of \$5)

The membership must vote to accept any increase of dues, so this is on the ballot along with the budget and the slate of officers.