

June 2024

# 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



## JUNE CO-PRESIDENT MESSAGE

**Abby Hirsch and Marcia Keizs**

Our year is coming to a close and this is a time to reflect on our AAUW year. Without a doubt, most of us will agree that we have had a most successful year filled with wonderful programs. Many thanks to our Vice-Presidents of Programming Diana Lemmon and Teresa Neal . Each month we met at the Greenburgh library or on Zoom and were greeted with timely and interesting discussions. We learned more about the upcoming vote on the ERA amendment, Alzheimer's disease, famous African American Westchester women, women in higher education to name just a few. During this month of May, we were entertained by musicians from the New Westchester Orchestra.

Social events are enjoyed by many of our members. Selena Baron and Susan Gardner helped to host and organize our annual holiday luncheon at the Crabtree Restaurant in Chappaqua. We enjoyed great discussions and of course great food. In addition, thanks to the work of Laurie Austin. Our toy drive was a huge success.

AAUW continues to have a close relationship with Westchester Community College. We have an annual scholarship fund which is under the direction and leadership of Marilee Scheuneman. Money is raised to assist in the education of a young woman who will enter a STEM career. At our scholarship fundraiser we came together for a delicious lunch which is prepared and served by the culinary art students at WCC.

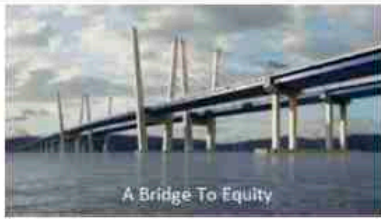
We also had two important annual events for middle school and high school young women. Lorrin Johnson and her committee, with the help of the University of Mount Saint Vincent, held a very successful STEM conference for about sixty 7th and 8th grade girls. They each had the opportunity to attend two different workshops where they learned from professors and other experts in the STEM field. This conference has been in existence for over 20 years, and we look forward to the contributions that many of these young women will make in the future.

Joni Sims was our AAUW leader for the annual Running and Winning event, which is a partnership with the League of Women Voters. At this event high school girls from schools throughout our area are given the opportunity to meet with various elected officials and learn about their positions and the importance of civic engagement. Many of these young women will be our future leaders.

Our interest groups have also had a busy and successful year. The art interest group had many outings to various museums, the current events group continued to discuss important topics of the day, the bridge group met weekly online, both literature groups read and discussed various books, the Ladies Who Lunch ate well and our poetry group continues to meet monthly on Zoom.

For many years, both Barbara Sarver and Susan Lambert have given so much to our organization. Barbara has been our branch record keeper and Yearbook editor. Susan has been our CHIPS editor and delivers this to us each month. They have each volunteered in these positions for over 20 years and feel that it is time to step down. Very understandable and indeed somewhat sad for us. Many many thanks to both Barbara and Susan for all that they have done, and we know that their commitment to AAUW will continue.

Our Spring Fling is being held on June 12th at St. Andrews Golf Club. We look forward to seeing everyone there at 5. Please do send your check for \$60 to Susan Gardner. With all of your support and assistance AAUW will continue to grow and work on our mission to advance gender equity through research, education and advocacy.



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

**VISION:** Equity for All

**OUR VALUES:** Intersectional. Inclusive. Intergenerational. Empowering. Though we are nonpartisan, we are not values-neutral: We fight to remove the barriers and biases that stand in the way of gender equity. We train women to negotiate for pay and benefits and to pursue leadership roles. And we advocate for federal, state and local laws and policies to ensure equity and end discrimination.

**BRANCH OFFICERS**

**Co-Presidents**

*Abby Hirsch & Marcia Keizs*

**Program Co-Vice Presidents**

*Diana Lennon & Teresa N. Neal*

**Membership Co-Vice Presidents**

*Thea Jacobs & Mary Schenck*

**Recording Co-Secretaries**

*Susan Appel & Elaine Weiss*

**Corresponding Secretary**

*Susan Ferris Rights*

**Co-Treasurers**

*Susan Gardner & Judith Kessler*

**CHIPS Editor**

*Sue Lambert slamb47@aol.com*

**Branch Web Site**

[westchester-ny.aauw.net](http://westchester-ny.aauw.net)

**State Web Site**

[www.aauw-nys.org](http://www.aauw-nys.org)

**National Web Site**

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

**Facebook**

AAUW Westchester NY

*Bridge Photo from NY State Thruway Authority*

# Westchester AAUW



**Wednesday, June 12 at 5 p.m.  
St. Andrew's Golf Club in Hastings on  
Hudson, NY**

## COME AND ENJOY!

**Cost of \$60 per person includes:**

Upon Arrival:

Cheese, Fruit, & Vegetable Display  
With Assorted Crackers & Dip

First Course

Arnold Palmers on table

Warm Bread and Butter Basket

Saint Andrew's House salad Balsamic Vinaigrette

Entrée (combo)

Organic Roasted Chicken Breast &

Pan Seared Salmon, Chardonnay Sauce

Seasonal Vegetables

Roasted Fingerling Potatoes

Dessert:

Key Lime Pie

Coffee and Tea

(a cash bar will be available)

**Your check to Susan Gardner is your RSVP!  
Make check for \$60 to AAUW Westchester  
Branch and send to**

**Susan Gardner 19 Robbie Rd. Cortlandt Manor,  
NY 10567**

**Please reply by Tuesday, June 4th**

## CURRENT ISSUES INTEREST GROUP



This month the Current Interest Group will meet on June 2nd at 10 am. via zoom.

Come join this informative forum. If you are interested and would like to join us, contact Ellen Leuner.

## ART INTEREST GROUP

On Thursday, June 6, the Art Interest Group will have a private tour at the Rubin Museum of Art, led by our member, Annette Cohen, who is a Rubin docent.

If you would like to come, please email Shelli Pines.

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, via Zoom, on June 11 at 10 a.m. Our book will be Bonnie Garmus's historical fiction, Lessons in Chemistry. Carol McMillan will lead our conversation.

Please contact Wilma Gitchel if you are interested in joining our group.

## EVENING LITERATURE GROUP

The Evening Lit Group will meet for its end of the year picnic on Monday, June 17 at 5 p.m. at the home of Barbara Wright. We will choose our books for next year. Please let Barbara know whether you will be attending and what you plan to bring.

If you have questions about this group phone Ellen Eschmann, the group leader. New members are welcome.



**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, Susan Ferris Rights at [susanferris123@gmail.com](mailto:susanferris123@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. Dues for a new member are \$98 for the first year of membership, a \$10 reduction from regular membership dues, which are \$108/year. When you join the Westchester Branch of AAUW, you also become a member of the AAUW New York State and National organizations.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City:State:Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

College/University, Degree, Graduation Year:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

To join send a check to: Westchester AAUW, 455 Tarrytown Rd. #1354, White Plains, NY 10607 or to get more information go the Westchester AAUW Website ([westchester-ny.aauw.net](http://westchester-ny.aauw.net)).

## 2024 RUNNING AND WINNING WORKSHOP submitted by Joni Sims

At the Running and Winning workshop on April 18<sup>th</sup>, Westchester County High School Girls were able to hear from local elected Women, then spend some quality time learning about what it takes to be a successful public official.

After an opening session where students and a moderator questioned our elected officials, everyone broke off into small groups where girls were able to talk to the politicians about their experiences. There were several sessions of interviewing, then elected officials stepped out and the girls began to put together a political campaign.

Three pre-selected topics were provided, to give the girls a place to begin their campaign. The 4-6 girls per table had to quickly decide who would be the candidate, and who would hold other roles such as speech writers, communication directors and campaign manager. Once these roles were decided, each group chose their campaign issue:

- Build and staff an *Immigrant Support Services Center*
- Build, staff and run a *Community Mental Health Center*, or
- Implement a *Community Composting Program*

After lunch, the students presented their candidate and issue. Amazing campaigns were created in a such a short time!

AAUW-Westchester joins the League of Women Voters as a co-sponsor of this event.



Marcia Keizs concentrating as Elected Officials spoke

### Some Highlights of the Event!



Abby Hirsch (back center) talks with girls as they work on their campaign



Marilee Schueneman poses with one of her elected officials



Group photo of elected officials who spent the morning with us.



Campaign staff supporting Mental Health Center officials

**WOMEN WINNERS OF THE 2024 PULITZER PRIZES**  
**Submitted by Selena Barron**

Honored in the field of drama, Moises Kaufman and Amanda Gronich of the Tectonic Theater Project won for their docudrama titled “Here There Are Blueberries”. The play is currently running off Broadway at the New York Theater Workshop until June 16, 2024.



Women also won several awards for outstanding journalism.

In Public Service, ProPublica, for the work of Joshua Kaplan, Justin Elliott, Brett Murphy, Alex Mierjeski, and Kristen Berg. They conducted groundbreaking reporting that exposed the secretive interactions between politically influential billionaires and Supreme Court justices. Their reporting led to the Court adopting its first code of conduct.

For Breaking News the staff of Lookout Santa Cruz, California won a Pulitzer for their detailed, community-focused coverage of catastrophic flooding and mudslides that caused the destruction of over 1,000 homes and businesses and displaced thousands of residents.

For Investigative Reporting, Hannah Dreier of the New York Times won for revealing the extensive use of migrant child labor across the United States which has led to serious injuries and even the death of some of these young workers. Ms. Drier highlighted the failures, both corporate and governmental, that have made it impossible to stop this practice.

The staff of Bloomberg won a Pulitzer for their intensive investigation into how the U.S. government aided the global spread of gun violence. In response the Biden administration has halted most gun exports for 90 days so they can review the federal government’s relationship with gun manufacturers.

Congratulations to all the dedicated, outstanding, women who received these prestigious awards. Women have certainly come a long way from the past when they were sent to cover teas and charity balls sponsored by wealthy socialites.

**Welcome to AAUW of New  
York State**  
**WHAT’S HAPPENING!**

**The 2024 annual meeting** will be held June 28-29, 2024 at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, 40 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Details will be posted on the NY AAUW website as plans are finalized. There is no separate convention registration and there is not a reserved “AAUW block” of rooms, so make your room reservations now!



**WELCOME**  
**NEW MEMBERS**  
**MIRIAM OCASIO**  
**SHIRLEY ROE**  
**VALERIE TAPLIN**



## AAUW DUES RENEWAL TIME!

**AAUW Dues Renewal time!** Thank you all for supporting AAUW. Your support has been vital. Membership in the AAUW Westchester Branch expires at the end of June, so it's time to spring into action and renew. Please remember that your dues are tax deductible except for \$3 which supports the AAUW Action Fund that lobbies for our mission "to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy".

**You will notice that there is the "Additional Donation/Contribution" line. If you can make an additional contribution to AAUW Westchester, it will be greatly appreciated.**

You may pay via check or online. If you pay via check, please send a check **payable to AAUW Westchester Branch to:**  
**Judith Kessler, 50 Quail Close,  
 Irvington, NY 10533.**

To pay online with a credit card, go to our website <https://westchester-ny.aauw.net>.  
 (Click on the Member tab and select membership renewal). A \$2.75 service charge will apply to defer the cost of using PayPal. You do not need to have a PayPal account. You can sign in as a guest.

**Members \$108**  
**Life Members \$36**  
**New Members \$98**

**Additional  
 (Donation/Contribution) \_\_\_\_\_**

**Total \_\_\_\_\_**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_**

**FYI: In order for your name to be included in our 2024-2025 Yearbook your dues must be received by July 31, 2024.**

**Since our Westchester Branch's main source of revenue to support our many programs is our dues [we only keep \$29 of your membership dues – \$72 goes to National and \$7 to NY State], please consider making an additional donation. Either include your donation in your dues check or make a donation on our website westchester-ny.aauw.net. Click on the Donate button (top right corner) and use your credit card to complete the transaction**

**Thank you for your continued support of AAUW.**

### May 10th Book Award Wrapping at Diana Kent's Home



AAUW members wrap books and certificates for senior girls who receive awards for "Outstanding Student" and "Excellence in Writing". Afterwards they enjoy lunch together. This year thirty five Westchester Schools participated in our award program.



**SWAN SONG FROM THE OUTGOING EDITOR OF CHIPS  
-by Sue Lambert**

A swan song is an ancient belief that swans burst into song at the end of their lives. I have reached the end of my twenty seven years as editor of CHIPS, the Westchester AAUW newsletter.

While I'm not dying and I promise I won't sing, I am sharing some of my thoughts about my tenure. It's been my honor to put together the newsletter of our very active branch of AAUW. The members who write for the newsletter are pleasure to work with and I thank them all formally for their contributions, suggestions and encouragement throughout the years. I have a fan club who have taken time over the years to praise my efforts, which means a lot to me so I also thank you! I will be the first to acknowledge that I have made editing mistakes, but I did try to get it right!

The goals of AAUW are important to me and I appreciate the opportunity to report the activities, accomplishments and progress of our branch. We need to continue to strive to advance our mission of equality for women and girls. I encourage all of you to support our branch in whatever you way are able. I will continue to be as active as possible.

I leave CHIPS in the very capable hands of Susan Goodwin who will be the next editor of our newsletter. Welcome her warmly, encourage her profusely and give her some good news to report!



**JUNE 2024**

6/7	Current Issues Discussion Group	Zoom	10 a.m.
6/11	Tuesday Morning Literature Group	Zoom	10 a.m.
6/12	Spring Fling	St.AndrewsClub	5 p.m.
6/13	Art Interest Group	Rubin Museum of Art	
6/14	Joint Board Meeting	Sue Lambert's Home	10:30 a.m.
6/17	Evening Literature Group Picnic	Barbara Wright's Home	4:30 p.m.
6/18	Poetry Interest Group	Zoom	1:30 p.m.
6/28-29	AAUW NY State Annual Meeting	Poughkeepsie, NY	

*Bridge - every Monday at 11 a.m. in person and/or 1 p.m. online*