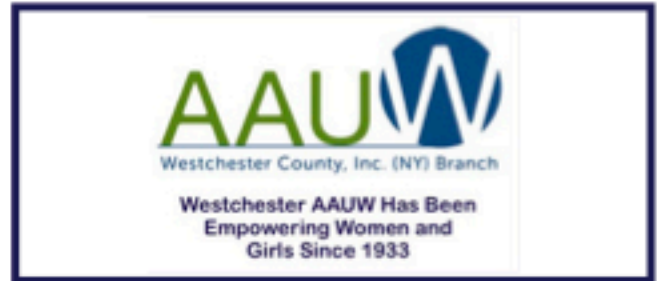


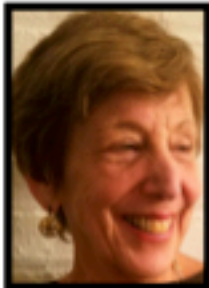
CHIPS

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



OCTOBER CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Abby Hirsch and Judith Walsh



We are part of a wonderful organization, the National Association of University Women. This organization was founded in 1923. The vision of AAUW is “Equity for All”, and our chapter’s theme is “Westchester Women Envisioning the Future.” What exactly do these two messages mean to each of us? We can see these as both individual challenges for us and as organizational challenges.

This will be an exciting and important fall since it is an election year. Our State AAUW is leading a campaign about the importance of voting. We all

know that this is very important. Do we know people who do not vote for any reason? Do we know young people who are approaching voting age and need to register? One way that we can envision our future is to encourage more people to register and to vote. Through our vote, we can make a difference and can help to ensure equity for all. By doing this we are joining our other AAUW chapters in the state and can become more empowered.

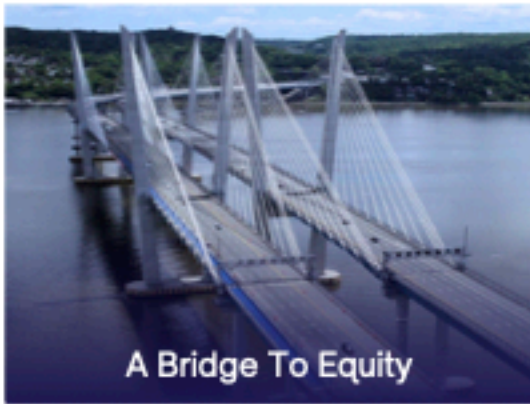
As we envision our future, what are the issues that are most important to us? For some it may be education and equal educational opportunities for all. For some it may be climate change. For some it may be affordable housing for everyone. For some it may be to protect LGBTQ rights. The list can go on and on. It becomes important to find candidates on the local, state, and federal levels and support them. By supporting these candidates, we are guaranteeing that we will have representatives in the “pipeline” who can help us with these issues as they move to higher levels of government. Right now, we have more women in Congress than ever before. We can envision a future when this number will be even higher.

One issue that we all probably support and feel strongly about is the importance of reproductive rights for women. The New York State ERA is on the ballot this fall and an important part of this is to guarantee, through an amendment, that reproductive rights will be safeguarded in our state. If passed, our state will never have an abortion ban, and insurance companies will not be able to refuse women any necessary procedures related to their reproductive care.

The ERA will protect and prevent any discrimination based on race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, and age. In addition, it protects people with disabilities and LGBTQ individuals. These are things that we support and are in line with the mission of our national organization as well as our local chapter.

This will be an exciting election season. There are groups that oppose the Amendment and will fight to have it defeated. Groups in our community are being formed to see that it passes. We must remind our friends and family members to FLIP THE BALLOT. The Amendment is on the back.

Passing this amendment will certainly help to support the mission of our organization. It also will be a step for all of us to support the goal of our organization. Through this we are helping “Westchester Women Envisioning the Future”. We will have a wonderful future as we continue to work together throughout this year.



A Bridge To Equity

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

VISION: Equity for ALL

OUR VALUES: Intersectional. Inclusive. Intergenerational. Empowering. We are nonpartisan but not values-neutral: We fight barriers and biases that impede 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 discrimination.

BRANCH OFFICERS

Co-Presidents

Abby Hirsch & Judith Walsh

Program Co-Vice Presidents

Diana Lennon & Teresa N. Neal

Membership Co-Vice Presidents

Thea Jacobs & Joni Sims

Recording Secretary

Susan Appel

Corresponding Secretary

Susan Ferris Rights

Treasurer

Susan Gardner

CHIPS Editor

Susan Goodwin

Constant Contact

Susan Lambert

Branch Website

westchester-ny.aauw.net

State Website

aauw-nys.net

National Website

aauw.org

Poetry Interest Group



Looking for a lovely way to spend an afternoon? Our poetry interest group may be just what you've been searching for. You need not be a poet or literary expert. At our zoom meetings, held on the third Tuesday from 1:30 to 3:30, we take turns reading the poems aloud and talking about them. Our discussions are lively, enlightening, and intellectually stimulating. At the end of each session we select the poet for next time. If you can join us on October 15, contact Mary Schenck for the zoom link.

ART INTEREST GROUP

On Thursday, October 17th the Art Interest Group will have a private tour of the exhibits at the American Folk Art Museum. If you would like to join us, please email Shelli Pines.



Did You Know

57% of men try to negotiate their salary but only 7% of women do

source: AAUW NYC newsletter

Have you visited our website?

westchester-ny.aauw.net

Board minutes are posted on the web page

Visit our Facebook Page: AAUW Westchester NY

Come Early to the Branch Meeting!

Please join us at **5 p.m.** for a reception to get acquainted and renew old friendships. Socialization is essential for our health and well-being. The Pandemic has had a long-term negative effect of isolating us from one another and we need to get back into the routines of physically going to meetings. Come and reconnect and enjoy light refreshments, courtesy of the Current Issues Group. We will all be richer for the experience. See the flyer below for details of the Branch Meeting.



Program: Issues Impacting Local Women

State Senator Shelley Mayer will give us a pre-election update and discuss the potential impact of the election results for women.

SPEAKER:	State Senator Shelley Mayer, NY 37th District
WHEN:	Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 5:30pm
WHERE:	Greenburgh Public Library, 300 Tarrytown Rd, Elmsford and via Zoom. Visit www.greenburghlibrary.libcal.com to register for the Zoom link.



State Senator Shelley Mayer is an experienced and progressive leader who has spent her career as an advocate for New Yorkers.

She was elected to the New York State Senate to represent the 37th District in an April 2018 Special Election, and was subsequently re-elected in November 2018 and 2020.

Prior to her time in the State Senate, she served in the State Assembly for six years. Senator Mayer received a JD from SUNY Buffalo School of Law in 1979 and a Bachelor of Arts from UCLA in 1975.

The AAUW mission is to advance gender equality for women & girls through research, education and advocacy.

www.aauw.org ~ www.westchester-ny.aauw.net

CURRENT ISSUES GROUP

The Current Issues Group offers our members stimulating discussions on noteworthy topics. We meet via zoom on the first Friday of each month at 10 a.m. Our next meeting will be on Friday, October 4. A week or so before each meeting, our presenters



decide on items for discussion. September's topics included an update on state and local candidates as well as public charter schools. All are welcome. Contact **Ellen Leuner** for the zoom link.



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 visit: westchester-ny.aauw.net

BRIDGE MEET UP GROUP



Bridge group meets each Monday at 1 p.m. on zoom. Contact Elaine Barbakoff for details and the zoom link.

LITERATURE GROUPS



TUESDAY MORNING LIT GROUP

The Tuesday Morning Lit Group will meet at 10 a.m. on October 15 via zoom. Annette Cohen will lead the discussion of All the Beauty in the World by Patrick Bringley. **Please contact Wilma Gitchel if you'd like to join us.**

EVENING LITERATURE GROUP

The Evening Lit Group will meet at 6 p.m. on Wednesday October 23 at the Lexington Square Cafe in Mt. Kisco. Sue Lambert will lead the discussion of Frozen River by Ariel Lawhon. Please contact Marsha Savino by phone, e-mail or text if you plan to attend. New members are welcome. **For more information, contact Sue Lambert at slamb47@aol.com.**

Scattered Papers Tell a Story

by Selena Barron

Jayna Josefson, a processing archivist in the Smithsonian archives of American Art, recently wrote an article about a project she has been working on, the organizing and digitizing of small personal material collections kept by women in the arts. The collection includes material kept by 271 women: art administrators, art historians, designers, educators, sculptors, and painters. Five stories from the findings in the women's personal materials are listed below.

Painter, art critic, and Minestonian Frances Connor Grenman donated a draft of her autobiography. One event she described was a recollection of Tony Pastor coming to Lillian Russel with a contract for her to sign which gave her an extra \$5,000.00 if she would wear tights in the second act. Lillian was outraged at the thought. However, just as Lillian was about to leave, Lillian's mother said, "Don't let that man get out of the room with five thousand dollars!" Lillian became a sensation in the tights.

Painter Helene Weiss kept loose notes which served as a diary and her thoughts about her subject matter and painting. For example in 1984 she wrote "Started painting again last night. To wait for the moment to flow with the painting is like a burning eternity. Cats have seemed to enter my work - obviously I'm living with them."

Before becoming a painter, Lenita Manry was a debutante and model. She became assistant director of the Hans Hoffman School of Fine Arts in Provincetown, Massachusetts. Her personal records included photographs of her changing lifestyles.

Ohio born Louise Medbury von Brockdorff studied at Vassar and worked as a secretary to pay for art courses. She went to Europe to study art in 1910 and married a Count. She survived World War I by being a card shark, winning money from the nobility at parties to make enough money to eat. She moved back to the United States without the Count and supported herself through the Depression by providing mail order astrology charts and teaching art classes with the WPA. One of her charts is in her personal papers.

In 1975 Artist May Stevens submitted a formal complaint to the City of New York Commissioner on Human Rights Against the Frick Museum Library for denying her admittance because she was wearing pants.

The study highlights the courage, the resolution, and grit of these women told through the stories their personal scattered papers revealed. Through the efforts of the Smithsonian their stories will be preserved and available online.

LADIES WHO LUNCH

The Ladies Who Lunch Group has a decades-long history of exploring the culinary delights of Westchester and nearby Fairfield (CT) counties.

The group meets at 12:30 p.m. on the third Friday of the month and members take turns selecting and contacting the restaurants involved. For more information contact Jean Havens.



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

If you know 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



On August 11, a group from our Westchester Branch saw the hit show SUFFS. We laughed, we cried, and were inspired!



October



OCTOBER 2024 CALENDER

10/4 10AM	Current Issues Discussion Group	Zoom
10/9 4PM	Board Meeting	
10/9 5:30PM	Branch Meeting	
10/10	Deadline for November issue of CHIPS	
10/15 10AM	Tuesday Morning Literature Group	Zoom
10/17	Art Interest Group	
10/18	Ladies Who Lunch	Contact Jean Havens
10/23 6PM	Evening Literature Group	Mt Kisco Cafe
10/26	Early voting begins	Through November 3



“Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes, including you.”
Ann Lamott



Are you someone with any accounting skills or knowledge? Do you have strong computer skills? Do you like to work with numbers? If so, we have a position for you. Our chapter is in need of a co-treasurer. **For details, please contact Abby Hirsch or Judy Walsh.**