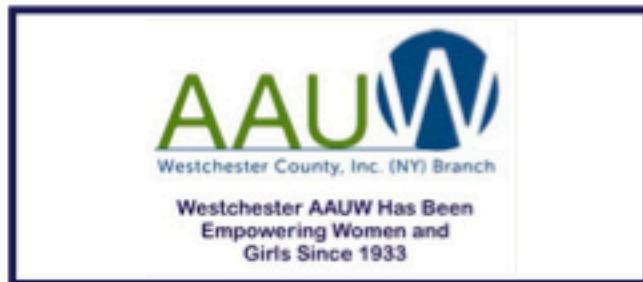


CHIPS

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



APRIL CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Abby Hirsch and Judith Walsh



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; it’s the only thing that ever has.” This is a quote from anthropologist Margaret Mead, and it has significant importance today.

Many of us watch the changes being made in our government and country and feel anger, fear, and disconnectedness. Are there actions we can take? Are there things that we can do? AAUW weighs in on many

different policies and has positions on economic security, civil rights, and education. For each, there is a suggestion on how each of us can make a difference. A few of these are listed below:

1. Call or write a letter to our congressional representatives to protect students from cuts to Pell Grants.
2. Call or write a letter to Congress leadership on protecting and preserving public access to federal data.
3. Call or write a letter to President Trump opposing the executive order targeting transgender, nonbinary and intersex individuals.
4. Call or write a letter to Congress urging support and investment in caregiving work.
5. Call or write a letter to congress opposing the ban on transgender, intersex and non-binary youth from school sports.

It is also important to examine women in leadership roles. This is an important topic for AAUW as well as for our local organization. Women have made many gains in leadership, and yet there are still many barriers. The wage gap is certainly one. According to the US Census Bureau, for every dollar a man earns, a woman makes only 80 cents. One main reason for this is that women are often balancing careers with caregiving duties. This makes it hard for many to succeed.

There are many other factors that continue to make it hard for women to achieve leadership in politics, academia, and business. A major one is that women have fewer connections or networks in these areas with people who can serve as sponsors or mentors to champion their advancement. Sexual harrassment and hostile work environments are still obstacles for women as they look to pursue opportunities in these areas. It is also difficult for many to balance work and family challenges that keep them from attaining leadership roles.

Our organization is sponsoring many programs to help young women be successful in these areas. On April 22 we will take part in the scholarship luncheon at WCC.

(cont'd on next page)

| <i>In this Issue</i> | |
|---|----------|
| Presidents' Message | 1 |
| Branch Meeting Flyer | 2 |
| Attention! branch elections..... | 5 |
| Proposed Budget 2025-26 | 6 |
| AAUW Scholarship Luncheon | 7 |
| Women's International Day 2025..... | 8 |
| From our Readers | 8 |
| April Calendar..... | 9 |

(Continued from previous page)

The money that we raise will give scholarships to students who will pursue their education and enter a STEM career. Our Running and Winning Conference will be held on April 30th. This conference is sponsored jointly with the League of Women Voters. It connects high school girls with female elected officials throughout the country. The leaders discuss their paths and their careers and hopefully many of these students will be inspired to follow.

We can be proud of the work of our organization. We reach and support many women throughout the year. We had many female role models in our lives who helped to lead the successful and productive lives that we enjoy; AAUW is doing this for many others.



Celebrating Earth Day ~ in April & every day!
Learn about the history, current state, and future
of the Hudson River from Riverkeeper's Science Director.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| SPEAKER: | Dr. Shannon Roback, Science Director, Riverkeeper |
| WHEN: | Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 5:30pm; social time at 5pm |
| WHERE: | Greenburgh Public Library, 300 Tarrytown Rd, Elmsford and via Zoom. Visit www.greenburghlibrary.libcal.com to register for the Zoom link. |



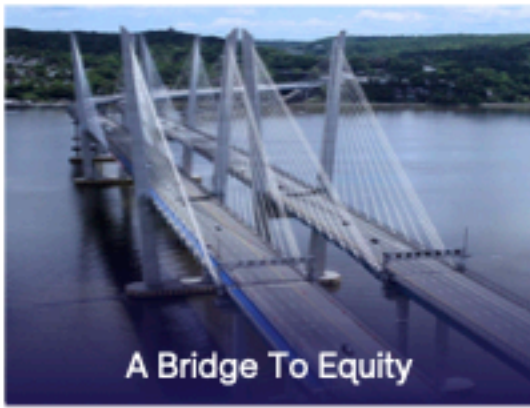
Shannon Roback has worked with a number of water agencies and tribes assisting with the improvement of water treatment technologies, expansion of monitoring programs, development of new analytical methods for the measurement of water contaminants, creation of platforms for data sharing and analysis, determining and adapting to the effects of climate change on water systems, engaging under-resourced and under-represented communities, and public outreach and education. She has an M.S. and a PhD in Environmental Health Science and Environmental Science and Engineering from UCLA and teaches in the Citizen Science Program at Bard College.

Riverkeeper protects and restores the Hudson River from source to sea and safeguards drinking water supplies through advocacy rooted in community partnerships, science and law.



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

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



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

aauwnys.org

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 April 15, contact Mary Schenck for the zoom link.

ART INTEREST GROUP

We will not be meeting this month



Did You Know



Occupations with the lowest percentage of women are electricians (2%) welders (5.3%) and mechanical engineers (9.3%).

source: U.S. Department of Labor, Women's Bureau

Have you visited our website?

westchester-ny.aauw.net

Board minutes are posted on the web page

Visit our Facebook Page: AAUW Westchester NY

CURRENT ISSUES GROUP

The Current Issues Group meets each month to offer stimulating discussions on noteworthy topics. We will meet via zoom on Friday April 4 at 10 a.m. The topic will be, "What outside influences impact your life." Join us and expand your horizons! Contact Ellen Leuner for the zoom link.



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 April 8 via zoom. Barbara McNear will lead a discussion of James McBride's historical fiction, "The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store". **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, April 16 at the Lexington Square Cafe in Mt. Kisco. Elaine Barbakoff will lead the discussion of "Lady Tan's Circle of Women" by Lisa See. 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.**

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

AAUW Financial Report & Proposed Budget

| | ACTUAL | | BUDGET | | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | 3rdQ-2024 | 4thQ-2024 | 1stQ-2025 | 2ndQ-2025 | 2024-2025 Annual | 2025-2026 Annual |
| INCOME | | | | | | |
| Total Branch Dues | \$5,278.12 | \$5,226.12 | \$5,226.12 | \$5,226.12 | \$4,060.00 | \$4,060.00 |
| Contributions for Sr. Awards | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$500.00 | \$500.00 |
| Donations | \$445.00 | \$622.87 | \$622.87 | \$622.87 | | |
| Fundraiser for WCC Scholarship Fund | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,800.00 | \$1,800.00 |
| Proceeds from Spring Fling | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$3,000.00 | \$3,000.00 |
| Proceeds from Holiday Lunch | \$0.00 | \$1,598.00 | \$1,598.00 | \$1,598.00 | \$1,925.00 | \$1,925.00 |
| Total Income | \$5,723.12 | \$7,446.99 | \$7,446.99 | \$7,446.99 | \$11,285.00 | \$11,285.00 |
| EXPENSES | | | | | | |
| BRANCH ACTIVITIES | | | | | | |
| 8th Grade Educational awards | \$29.22 | \$29.22 | \$29.22 | \$29.22 | \$300.00 | \$300.00 |
| Sr. Educational Awards | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$850.00 | \$850.00 |
| Public Policy (Running & Winning) | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$200.00 | \$250.00 |
| Westchester Women's Agenda | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$100.00 | \$100.00 |
| AAUW Student Leadership Conference | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$600.00 | \$600.00 |
| Total Branch Activities | \$29.22 | \$29.22 | \$29.22 | \$29.22 | \$2,050.00 | \$2,100.00 |
| CONFERENCES/CONVENTIONS | | | | | | |
| Delegates - State or National | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$200.00 | \$200.00 |
| Total Conferences/Conventions | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$200.00 | \$200.00 |
| GENERAL MEETINGS & SOCIALS | | | | | | |
| Hospitality | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$150.00 | \$150.00 |
| Programs | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$150.00 | \$150.00 |
| Fundraiser for WCC Scholarship Fund | \$0.00 | \$396.00 | \$396.00 | \$396.00 | \$1,800.00 | \$1,800.00 |
| Spring Fling Expenses | \$0.00 | \$420.46 | \$420.46 | \$420.46 | \$2,900.00 | \$2,900.00 |
| Holiday Lunch Expenses/Toy Drive | \$0.00 | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 | \$1,400.00 | \$1,400.00 |
| Rental & Custodial Fees (\$300 to library) | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$300.00 | \$300.00 |
| Total General Meetings & Socials | \$0.00 | \$2,316.46 | \$2,316.46 | \$2,316.46 | \$6,700.00 | \$6,700.00 |
| OPERATING EXPENSES | | | | | | |
| Corres.Sec./Sunshine Fund | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$50.00 | \$50.00 |
| Insurance | \$0.00 | \$200.00 | \$200.00 | \$200.00 | \$600.00 | \$600.00 |
| Membership | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$75.00 | \$75.00 |
| Newsletter/Postage | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$300.00 | \$300.00 |
| Board Expenses [zoom, fees,...] | \$61.76 | \$175.05 | \$175.05 | \$175.05 | \$600.00 | \$600.00 |
| Publicity/Branch Brochure | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$200.00 | \$200.00 |
| Yearbook/Postage | \$0.00 | \$680.00 | \$680.00 | \$680.00 | \$950.00 | \$950.00 |
| AAUW Funds Mailing | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$200.00 | \$200.00 |
| Constant Contact | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$120.00 | \$120.00 |
| Intern Expenses | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$100.00 | \$100.00 |
| Total Operating Expenses | \$61.76 | \$1,055.05 | \$1,055.05 | \$1,055.05 | \$3,195.00 | \$3,195.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$90.98 | \$3,400.73 | \$3,400.73 | \$3,400.73 | \$12,145.00 | \$12,195.00 |
| NET INCOME | \$4,187.24 | \$4,046.26 | \$4,046.26 | \$4,046.26 | -\$860.00 | -\$910.00 |
| Girls for STEM | | | | | | |
| Girls for STEM/EYO Income | \$426.41 | \$426.41 | \$426.41 | \$426.41 | | |
| Girls for STEM/EYO Expenses | \$0.00 | \$50.00 | \$50.00 | \$50.00 | | |
| NET Girls for STEM/EYO Income - Expe | \$426.41 | \$376.41 | \$376.41 | \$376.41 | | |
| Chase Account Balances | | | Restricted Funds | | | |
| Checking | \$52,228.63 | | EYO/stem | | \$14,524.57 | |
| CD | \$5,705.82 | | Start Smart | | \$650.00 | |
| Total | \$57,934.45 | | Wiz Girls | | \$1,028.30 | |
| | | | Total Restricted Funds | | \$16,202.87 | |

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 time 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



Don't Miss our AAUW Scholarship Luncheon

Please join us on Tuesday, April 22, to support our Beverly Jordan AAUW-Westchester Endowment. We will enjoy an exceptional gourmet luncheon prepared and served by students in Westchester Community College's Culinary and Hospitality Department. Scholarships will be awarded to two current female students majoring in STEM fields at WCC. The recipients will be invited to speak at our Spring Fling Dinner in June.

Lunch will be served at 11:30 at WCC's Viking Cafe. Guests are welcome but be sure reserve early because seating is limited. Sign up using the coupon below.



SAVE THE DATE - BRING A FRIEND

AAUW Local Scholarship Luncheon

Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 11:30 a.m. Viking Cafe Westchester Community College
75 Grasslands Road, Valhalla - Student Center-Parking Lot #8

Name: _____

Phone #: _____ Email _____

Address: _____

of People attending ____ x \$38 = \$_____ (\$23 of \$38 is tax deductible)

Additional Contribution \$ _____ (fully tax deductible)

Please make checks payable to AAUW – Westchester with "scholarship" on memo line.

Mail to Marilee Scheuneman, 27 Hillside Drive, Yonkers, NY 10705

PLEASE RETURN BY APRIL 19

International Women's Day 2025

by Selena Barron

International Women's Day (IWD) took place on March 8, during the U.S. Women's History Month. The campaign theme this year is Accelerate Action. This theme, expressing urgency, is based on a number of issues that women continue to face. Fighting for decades for gender equality has not succeeded in removing barriers such as unequal pay, limited access to education, lack of inclusion in the workplace, and under-representation in leadership.

The COVID-19 pandemic has especially hurt women in terms of job loss, caregiving burdens, and lack of childcare. This year's campaign focuses on immediate action and encourages wide involvement in activism and engagement. Individuals, organizations, and corporations are urged to seek long-term solutions for equality for women based on measurable outcomes. The following quotes from successful, well-known women, provide a strong basis for equity and the need for immediate action for all women.

"There is no limit to what we, as women, can accomplish." Michele Obama

"Women belong in all places where decisions are being made." Ruth Bader Ginsberg

"Women are the largest untapped resource in the world." Hilary Clinton

"The most alluring thing that women can have is confidence." Beyonce

"The only thing that separates women of color from anyone else is opportunity." Viola Davis

"I never dreamed of success; I worked for it." Estee Lauder

"I never lose. I either win or learn." Oprah Winfrey

"One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world." Malala Yousafzai

"Every woman's success should be an inspiration to another. We should raise each other up." Serena Williams

The rise of global movements such as #MeToo and the publicity about gender inequity that women face has created a sense of urgency to root out biases and systems that should be outdated. Accelerated Action is fighting for the end of these systemic barriers!

From our Readers

I loved the "Thoughts on Joining a Book Club" in the March CHIPS. Perhaps one of the best things about retirement for me was that I had an opportunity to join a Book Club (finally) and I carefully researched what book clubs were available. I was lucky to know a few people in the AAUW's Tuesday Lit Group, from other places and other times ...so I checked out the reading lists - how great to discover provocative, exciting and powerful choices for books. We began by going to people's homes for the meetings, but when COVID appeared it made more sense to meet on Zoom.

Wilma is one amazing lady - she keeps everyone on track and moves the meetings along, etc. Also, the members of this Club are filled with great ideas and thoughts that go with each of the readings. It's always so uplifting to see each of the devoted members monthly. So, I appreciate your good experience and hope you might pick our Lit Group and join. It's all so good!

-Annette Wallach Cohen

Let's hear from the Evening Lit Group! ... Ed.



April



APRIL 2025 CALENDAR

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 4/4 10 AM | Current Issues Group | Zoom |
| 4/8 10 AM | Tuesday Lit Group | Zoom |
| 4/9 5:30 PM | Branch Meeting and Voting | Greenburgh Library |
| 4/10 | DEADLINE for May Newsletter | |
| 4/12 | Passover begins at sundown |  |
| 4/15 1:30 PM | Poetry Interest Group | Zoom |
| 4/16 6 PM | Evening Lit Group | Lexington Sq Cafe Mt. Kisco |
| 4/20 | Easter |  |
| 4/22 11:30 AM | AAUW Scholarship Luncheon | WCC Viking Cafe |
| 4/22 | Earth Day | |
| 4/30 8:30 AM | Running and Winning | Manhattanville University |