

The Rockland County Branch of the
American Association of University Women, Inc.

Rockland County Branch AAUW
P. O. Box 962, Monsey, NY 10952-0962
OUR WEB SITE: aauw.rockland.county.ny
AAUW/rockland.publicpolicy@yahoo.com

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

President: Suzanne Young Mercer
smymaaauw@gmail.com

Editor: Sylvia Miller (845) 358-1680
aauwsam@optonline.net

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, December 1 AAUW 'Rockland Readers Book Club' at 1:00 p.m.
Barnes & Noble NANUET
*The Monopolists: Obsession, Fury and the Scandal Behind the World's
Favorite Board Game* by Mary Pilon

Tuesday, December 6 AAUW Board Meeting at Karen Martin's home at 7:00 p.m.
Be sure to let Karen know if you will or will not attend.

Tuesday, December 13 **HOLIDAY BUFFET & CHINESE AUCTION 6:15 p.m.**
At Rosemary Waltzer's home
16 Sandusky Road, New City, NY 10956
Please e-mail ROSEMARY at rosescorf@gmail.com or phone (845) 634-7928 by Friday, Dec. 9 to let her
know what food item you will bring.

Directions to Rosemary's home and more details about the Chinese Auction are on page 3.

Monday, December 19 AAUW Book Group New City Library
NO MEETING this month

Friday, December 23 AAUW HOLIDAY WRAP at Barnes & Noble NANUET
Volunteers needed. See details within.

Saturday, December 24 AAUW HOLIDAY WRAP at Barnes & Noble NANUET
Volunteers needed. See details within.

Have a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanza

Tuesday, January 3, 2017 AAUW Board Meeting CONFERENCE CALL at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 5, 2017 AAUW 'Rockland Readers Book Club' at 1:00 p.m.
Barnes & Noble NANUET
The Marriage of Opposites by Alice Hoffman

VISION STATEMENT: AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT: In principle and 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.

AAUW VALUE PROMISE: *By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.*

PRESIDENTS'S MESSAGE

We are coming to the close of 2016 and I don't know about you but this has been a year that began full of hope and change but for me ended in trepidation.

As an AAUW member we strive to ensure that we do what we can to change the lives of women and girls for the better. We try to encourage through our advocacy, education, philanthropy and research that the lives of women and girls have value and therefore, we must be able to share equally in the opportunities that are afforded to others.

It will be very important to stay vigilant as we see a new President get sworn into office, that the strides we have made toward equity in our society are not turned around by individuals who would want to turn back to a time that would not allow America to live up to its creed that all men/women are created equal. In 2017 the Women's Suffragist Movement will celebrate 100 years of working to ensure that women have access to the equality that men have always enjoyed. From April 21 to 23, 2017 the NYS AAUW Convention will be held near Seneca Falls, the birth place of the Women's movement with the theme "Women and Power." In addition, AAUW National will hold their convention from June 14 to 17, 2017 in Washington, D.C. Please save the dates. We know we still have a lot to do and we will need all hands on deck to get it done.

I wish you all the blessing of this Holiday Season and a bright, healthy and Happy New Year.



Suzanne Young-Mercer
2016

BRANCH NOTES

Get-well wishes to **Ellie Grossman** after her surgery. She will be in the hospital for another week or so. Do give her a call at (845) 642-5226.

Thank you **STEM Engineering Conference Committee** for another successful conference. Well Done!

SCHOLARSHIPS

Since we did not have a special fundraising event this year, we want to remind you that **contributions to the Mimi Korb Scholarship** (tax deductible) can be made to honor any occasion or to generously support this most worthwhile endeavor as you have in the past.*

* Please make your tax deductible check payable to AAUW Rockland County Branch and put **Mimi Korb Scholarship** on the detail line. Mail your check to AAUW Rockland County Branch, P. O. Box 962, Monsey, NY 10952-0962.

Thank you.

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE

AAUW HOLIDAY BUFFET DINNER AND CHINESE AUCTION FUNDRAISER

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13 AT 6:15 P.M. AT
ROSEMARY WALTZER'S HOME, 16 Sandusky Road, New City, NY 10956**

We're trying *something new* this year.

CHINESE AUCTION aka Tricky Tray

Guests buy tickets at the door and place the tickets in a container next to the item they would like to win. Items can be a single item or a small basket of items. Once everyone has had the opportunity to place their tickets in the container, the drawing for the prizes will begin. If your number matches the winning number drawn, you win the prize.

Tickets will be sold at the door by Sandy Masiello. 6 tickets for \$5.00 and 13 tickets for \$10.00. At the \$10.00 level, you can write a tax deductible check to AAUW Funds with EOF number 4336 in the detail line.

Auction items can be new or unused re-gifted items OR gift cards for restaurant or movies, all things chocolate, spa/bath items, adult coloring books with colored pencils, wine with glasses, etc., etc., etc. **Please drop your item off at Sylvia Miller's home, 98 Foxwood Road, West Nyack, NY 10994 on Friday, December 9 or Saturday, December 10 between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. This will allow the committee time to prepare the items for display at the dinner.**

Sylvia's phone is (845) 358-1680 if you have any questions.

HOLIDAY BUFFET/POT LUCK DINNER

RSVP Please contact Rosemary at rosesorf@gmail.com (preferred) or phone (845) 634-7928 by Friday, December 9, to let her know what food item you will bring. Suggestions are appetizers, main dishes, salads, sides, and wine. Please bring your dish **fully assembled**. Your contribution should serve 8 portions. As a courtesy to our wonderful hostess, please let her know your plan **by Friday, December 9 at the latest** so arrangements can be made, and there is a call list in case of unexpected cancellation. The sooner you contact Rosemary, the better choice you will have for your food contribution.

Directions to Rosemary's home: Take Route 304 north out of New City beyond Squadron Boulevard. Turn left on Ridge Road, ROUTE 23 NORTH (second stop light) after Squadron. Turn left on Sandusky Road, the first street on the left on Ridge. Rosemary's house is #16 on the right past the island.

This event is our primary EOF (Education Opportunities Fund) winter fundraiser to benefit our \$25/member contribution requested by National. It is a great opportunity to spend a fun evening with new and current members. **DO JOIN US!!**

STEM

STEM at Summit Park Elementary School is STEAMING along. The most amazing things are happening. Previously we were amazed at the number of couples who are participating in the program. This year we have added more men, mothers of faculty and staff members, and daughters of faculty and staff. That's a great sign and affirmation of the value of our program. More coaches are pushing into classrooms. More students, however, are in need of individual help, therefore, private space is still very important. We service approximately 400 students in the school covering both remedial and enrichment student needs.

The clubs are all up and running: Arts, the Book Club, and Chess Club for both 2nd and 3rd graders and, new this year, a Knitting Club for 3rd graders. Six wonderful women come to Summit Park every Wednesday to teach girls and boys simple knitting skills. Session I will end (6 meetings) on Wednesday, December 21, 2016. The participants will have completed a project that reflects their new skills. We welcome new ideas for clubs. The students enjoy them immensely.

STEM Sub-Committee for Engineering, AAUW Rockland Chapter;

Members: Bach Tuyet Pham, Marie Horton, Peter Arvanites and Amy MacDermott, Chair.

On November 7th, 2016, the seventh annual Engineering Conference for High School Students was held at the Nanuet Library. As usual, it was hosted by AAUW and the New York Society of Professional Engineers, Rockland Chapter. The conference was organized and run by the STEM Program Subcommittee for Engineering, AAUW Rockland Chapter. This conference was dedicated to the memory of our subcommittee's former Chair, Dr. Renee Brilliant Donn, who passed away earlier this year. She was the driving force that guided our committee through the first six years of planning and decisions, resulting in the evolution of the Engineering Conference for Rockland's high school students into what it is today. The conference this year began with an introduction to AAUW's commitment to STEM and STEM education for girls by AAUW Rockland Chapter President Suzanne Young-Mercer. This was followed by an introduction to the different fields of engineering, called Engineering 101, by a local engineer, Megan Busch from Brooking Engineering. The keynote speaker was a chemical engineer from Regeneron Pharmaceuticals who discussed the goals of her company as well as her education and career choices that led to her current job. A short break followed this presentation, allowing all of the students and adults to help themselves to a buffet lunch. After everyone was seated with their lunches, the meeting resumed with a question and answer period between the students and a panel of five Rockland County engineers representing a variety of fields. Overall, it was a highly successful day with a robust turnout of nearly ninety people, including sixty-four students from Rockland County School districts accompanied by teachers, guidance counselors, and a few parents.

Amy MacDermott, PhD

HOLIDAY WRAPPING AT BARNES & NOBLE, NANUET

Our **holiday** fund raiser is here again. AAUW needs volunteers to wrap presents at Barnes & Noble, NANUET for the holiday season. The dates are Friday, Dec. 23 and Saturday, Dec. 24. Select dates for your time to volunteer; just a couple hours would be a great help.

Times are:	<u>Dec. 23</u>	<u>Dec. 24</u>	
	9 - 11 am	9 - 11 am	Come out and enjoy your fellow AAUW members, meet
	11 - 1 pm	11 - 1 pm	the shoppers. Just have fun while you are helping
	1 - 3 pm	1 - 3 pm	AAUW continue its mission.
	3 - 5 pm	3 - 5 pm	Contact Suzanne Young-Mercer at smymaauw@gmail.com with the
	5 - 7 pm	5 - 6 pm	times that you can help. Thank you.
	7 - 9/10 pm		

WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT: Time for Nominations

Each year at our Annual Dinner in May, our branch recognizes a ***Rockland County woman who has affected a positive change in our community.*** Branch members are asked to submit their nominations for this award in the form of a one-page biography and reason for recommendation (approximately 100 words). Send to Sylvia Miller, 98 Foxwood Road, West Nyack, NY 10994 or aauwsam@optonline.net by December 31, 2016. Thank you.

