



ROCKLAND COUNTY (NY) BRANCH



FACETS

September 2017

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research

Co-presidents:

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Editor:

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Dates to Remember

Saturday, September 9

Elmwood Playhouse Fundraiser 8:00 PM
"The Odd Couple" SOLD OUT

Tuesday, September 12

****VOTE****

Tuesday, October 3

Board Meeting 7:00 PM
Host -Charlotte Sorger

Tuesday, October 10

Kick-Off Branch Meeting 6:00 PM
OPEN HOUSE - New Member Welcome
Nyack Library – Sign up for refreshments
(details within)

Saturday, October 21 or 28

District V Conference 10:00 AM
Venue (TBD)

Sunday, October 29

Candidates' Forum 2:00 PM
JCC| W. Nyack Road| W. Nyack

Tuesday, November 7

****VOTE****

Wednesday, November 8

Board Meeting 7:00 PM
Host – Myrna Silberman

Wednesday, November 15

Branch Meeting 7:00 PM
Women's Suffrage NY Centennial Celebration
Nanuet Library

President's Message ...

Happy New AAUW Year to the members of AAUW Rockland Branch. As we embark on this new year of activism, I want to remind you that you the members of AAUW are the reason that we matter.

A question posited at Cazenovia this summer had to do with the value of AAUW in any community. If our AAUW branch no longer existed, would it make a difference? Would it? Do we matter in our community? Are we doing all that we can to make ourselves relevant and of value so that we would be missed if we no longer existed. That needs to be this year's theme. **Do We Matter?**

As we start off the year with our annual opening meeting on October 17th at the Nanuet Library, we are also planning other interesting and exciting programs throughout 2017 and 2018 that we hope will encourage you to participate and more importantly invite others to participate as well. We are only as strong as our membership; we are only relevant **if we matter.**

I look forward to this coming year as we will continue to collaborate with other Rockland community organizations that share our mission and goals, but most of all I look forward to seeing and working with all of you to continue our mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, research and philanthropy.

Suzanne Young-Mercer

**Please Contact Kathleen Sullivan to let her know what you plan to bring to the
Kickoff Meeting on
OCTOBER 10 at the NYACK Library (845) 735-3824**



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ROCKLAND COUNTY
26 N. DeBaun Ave. Unit 104 | Suffern, NY 10901

Our annual Candidates' Forum will be held on Sunday, October 29th from 2:00 to 4:30 pm at the JCC Rockland in West Nyack. We have invited all the primary candidates running for the offices of **County Executive, Clarkstown Supervisor, Orangetown Supervisor, and Ramapo Supervisor. This event is free and open to the public and is** co-sponsored by the following volunteer, non partisan organizations. ...

JCC Rockland | AARP, Rockland Chapter | [American Association of University Women, Rockland Chapter](#)
League of Women Voters, Rockland Chapter | National Council of Jewish Women, Rockland Section
Rockland Chapter of the Statewide Senior Action Council | Rockland Children's Advocacy Network
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. NY

We never support candidates or parties but do take positions on issues after study and member discussion.
PLEASE COME OUT TO SHOW SUPPORT. WE MATTER – and our votes COUNT!
For more information: Linda Berns, LWV at 845.357.3568 or 845.354.4933



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E.O.F. The EOF summer fundraiser luncheon was held on Saturday, August 12. All who attended had a lovely afternoon of great food, good wine and even better conversations! Thank you Patricia Lopez for bringing us the delicious Italian dishes and wine. I want to thank everyone who so generously contributed to the EOF fundraiser. Over \$350 was collected at the luncheon! For those who could not attend, you can still send your contribution to AAUW Funds, EOF, care of Sandy Blasy| 29 Hickory Hill Lane| Tappan, NY 10983 Plans for the holiday party are already underway! More information to follow.... Thank you, Ellie Grossman for hosting the luncheon!

L.A.F. Prince George's County, Maryland will pay civil engineer, Joanna Smith approximately \$140,000 in damages and increase her salary. Smith works for the PG County DOE and made attempts to negotiate a high salary, but was unsuccessful. The county subsequently hired men to perform a job similar to Smith's – but for higher pay. According to the supervisory trial attorney, "We filed this law suit because Prince George's County not only refused Ms. Smith's efforts to negotiate a higher salary commensurate with her experience and education, it then continually paid her less than it paid her male colleagues even though she did equal and in some cases, more complex and superior work."

MEMBERSHIP- At the June Branch meeting renewing members Pam Guerara, Patricia Lopez and Sherry Jackson were selected to win FREE national dues! In August, our branch participated in the Non-Profit Community Fair held at the Nyack Library. Our newest member, Maria Daggett-Eskinazi joined that evening! WELCOME MARIA!!! N.B. **If you have not renewed, please send in your dues promptly.** Thank you Sandy Masiello and Myrna Silberman for handling our table!

PUBLIC POLICY – Choice - Paid Family Leave – Pay Equity - These are the major issues of importance to women today. The branch is seeking to establish a rapport with local elected officials to help promote our mission.

STEM –The branch received \$470.00 in grant money from the NY AAUW to underwrite our annual High School Engineering Program.

On July 31st at the invitation of Bernadette Connors, Professor of Biology at Dominican College, AAUW STEM Committee representatives Bach Tuyet Pham, Joyce Brown, and Amy MacDermott, participated in an organizational meeting to develop an authentic research experience program for high school students. Steve Burns, Professor of Chemistry at St. Thomas Aquinas College (STAC) and Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, and representatives from the Spring Valley NAACP were also in attendance. The proposed program was initiated by Lamont Doherty (Columbia University) to expand the existing program to include local underrepresented high school students in Rockland County. The branch will be working closely with Dominican, STAC and Lamont to determine how we can further contribute to this partnership.

CAZENOVIA 2017 ~



April Biggs, Colleen Biavati, Karen Martin, Charlotte Sorger, Sylvia Miller, Suzanne Young - Mercer, and Bach Tuyet Pham all attended the Leadership Conference this year! They unanimously agree that every single one of the workshops was excellent and they valued the opportunity they had for fellowship and to get to know each other better.

Way to REPRESENT!!!!
SAVE THE DATE for next year... July 20-22, 2018 in
Corning, New York

JOIN AAUW Rockland Branch

AAUW Membership is open to anyone with an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited college or university. To join, please complete the form and send a check payable to "AAUW Rockland Branch" to the address listed below or visit <http://rocklandcounty-ny.aauw.net/membership/> to join online.

Dues for 2017-18 are \$80, of which \$77 are tax deductible. When you join the Rockland County 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- Rockland's activities on our branch record form.

Name: _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____
E-mail _____

College/ University, degree,
Graduation Year

*Please send check and/or
branch record form request to:*

AAUW Rockland County Branch
P.O. Box 962
Monsey, NY 10952-0962

OR email:
aauwrockland62@gmail.com
or phone (845) 358-8240

AAUW HISTORY - Women in Politics from Charlotte Sorger

AAUW has been advocating for women to run for political office since its founding in 1881. The practice really took hold in the 1920s, shortly after women received the right to vote. An article in the ACA Journal, November 1920, entitled "Politics as a Profession" encouraged Association members to pursue a career in politics and described the variety of positions available and why women would make ideal candidates. She underscored the positive changes women could make by becoming involved and suggested the relatively new option of studying or majoring in political science in college or university.

Throughout the following decades, AAUW leaders created and distributed lists or "rosters" of women qualified for public office to political parties and administration officials looking to appoint women.

All of this work went officially on record in 1947 at the Dallas convention when AAUW members passed a resolution in favor of "seeking out and supporting women for office."

Many women elected to Congress gained experience in leadership as AAUW members including the first woman ever elected, Rep. Jeanette Rankin (R-MT) who served in Congress from 1917-1919 and again from 1941-1943.

WELCOME HOME Peggy Whitson – Record Breaker from Doria E. Hillsman

Astronaut and bio-chemist Peggy Whitson recently returned to Earth wrapping up a record-breaking flight that catapulted her to first place for US space endurance.

Whitson's total of 655 days off the planet (288 days on this mission) exceeds any other American and any other woman worldwide. She is the oldest spacewoman (57) and most experienced female spacewalker. She is also the first woman to command the space station twice. Other astronauts on the Soyuz MS-04, launched on April 20, 2017 were cosmonaut Fyodor Yurchikhin and NASA astronaut Jack Fischer. The space craft landed in Kazakhstan early on Sunday, September 3, 2017 (Kazakhstan time).



Peggy is shown here holding a bouquet of flowers she received upon her arrival back to Earth.

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In and About Town....



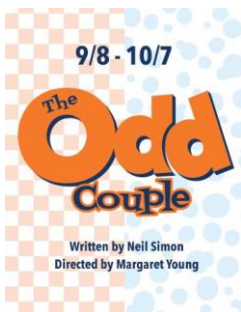
Contact Phyllis Frank pbfrank@aol.com / 845.358.3696 for information on upcoming workshops.



September 16, 2017 - The Great Nyack Get-Together A FREE community event in Memorial Park .
Visit <http://nyack-ny.gov/> for more information



October 20, 2017 – The Spring Valley NAACP will host its annual Gala honoring “Unsung Heroes” in the Rockland Community. The event will be held at Town and County 922 Route 9W, Congers . Tickets \$90.00 before 10/1
Call 845.362.6227 or SpValleyNAACP@aol.com for more information.



Even if you missed out on the branch fundraiser, there is still plenty of time to see this timeless classic at Elmwood Theater. The show runs through October 7. Go to <http://elmwoodplayhouse.com/>

P.O. Box 962 Monsey, NY 10952-0962
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<http://rocklandcounty-ny.aauro.net>