

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

## *President's Message*

I am delighted to be your president. AAUW stands for us; how we can grow and be better. My mom, due to family circumstances, was unable to go to college and become the history teacher she desired to be. She made me believe that I could do it, and provided a way for me to attend college and become a guidance counselor.

What do I want for my daughter (and grand- daughter)? I want them to have dreams and goals; and be able to realize them! This is what AAUW is all about. We are determined to create a fair playing field for all girls. On our National Website, three priorities are listed under the tab, "*Explore the Issues*". They are, "Removing Bias from Education", "Fighting for Fair Pay and Economic Equity", and "Advancing Women in Leadership". I will address each one individually within the coming three issues.

We just celebrated our Kick Off Meeting on September 20<sup>th</sup>. It was an opportunity to hear of each committee's past achievements and objectives for the coming business year. Our work is accomplished through these committees: if you are not ON one, you are missing the point of the branch. We invite you to the next board meeting (see calendar) to see for yourself which committee best suits your interests and talents. BTW, membership dues are past due! If you have not already done so, please renew **today** by sending a check for \$90 made out to "AAUW Rockland County Branch" to: P.O. Box 19 West Nyack, NY 10994.

September 15<sup>th</sup> thru October 15<sup>th</sup> is Hispanic Heritage month. It is an opportunity to pay tribute to generations of Hispanic Americans who have enriched our society. There were two Equal Pay Days celebrated last month (*Mom's Equal Pay Day on 9/8 and Black Women's Equal Pay Day on 9/21*). On Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, PowHer NYS will host a virtual Equity Summit which will take place from 3-6 pm (*see inside for registration info*). Contact Ann Mulligan for more information. ([amulligan125@gmail.com](mailto:amulligan125@gmail.com)) On Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2 pm, we are co-sponsoring a Candidates' Forum with the Rockland League of Women Voters. This event serves as our October Branch Meeting. Consider volunteering to help. Details are forthcoming.

Along with autumn, comes orange and yellow leaves, pumpkins, and cool, refreshing air! The latter sparked discussion about being safe in these 'post-pandemic' times. As the level of "feeling safe" is so personal, the board has decided to continue our meetings through ZOOM. Once again, our board meetings are posted on the monthly newsletter calendar and are open to all members. Contact Sylvia Miller for the ZOOM info to attend.

I look forward to our working together!

*Karen*

*"There is so much fear and hate. We must negate it with active, courageous love."*

*Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez*



*President,*  
Karen Martin  
[aauw.kmartin@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.kmartin@gmail.com)

*FACETS Editor*  
*Programming Vice-President,*  
Doria E. Hillsman

*Membership Vice-*  
*President,*  
Elda Graff

*Treasurer,*  
Sandra Blasy

*Recording Secretary,*  
Ann Kinney

*Corresponding Secretary,*  
Kimberly Weston

*Communications Chair,*  
Sylvia Miller

*EOF Chair,*  
Ellie Grossman

*LAF/ Scholarship Chair,*  
Charlotte Sorger

*Public Policy Chair,*  
Ann Mulligan

# JOIN US TODAY

Check out our [website](#) or  
Contact Membership Vice- President,  
Elda Graff at [eldagraff@gmail.com](mailto:eldagraff@gmail.com)



**N.B. Unless otherwise indicated, meetings will take place via ZOOM.**



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<b>Monday, October 10</b>	Book Club Meeting <sup>+</sup>
<b>Tuesday, October 11</b>	Executive Board Meeting*
<b>Sunday, October 23</b>	Candidates' Forum w/ LWV <sup>+</sup>
<b>Monday, November 14</b>	Book Club Meeting <sup>+</sup> <i>"I Was Better Last Night", by Harvey Feirstein</i>
<b>Tuesday, November 15</b>	Executive Board Meeting*
<b>Tuesday, November 29</b>	Branch Meeting
<b>Tuesday, December 6</b>	Executive Board Meeting*
<b>Thursday, December 8</b>	High School Engineering Conference
<b>Tuesday, December 13</b>	EOF Holiday Party

<sup>+</sup> Book Club Meeting locations will be announced monthly (3-5pm).

\*All are welcome.

***AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential. In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in the organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, sexual orientation, age, national origin, disability or class.***

***By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through economic barriers, so that all women and girls have a fair chance.***

AAUW Rockland County Branch  
PO Box 19 | West Nyack, NY 10994-0019  
[aauwrockland62@gmail.com](mailto:aauwrockland62@gmail.com)  
<http://rocklandcounty-ny.aauw.net>  
[aauw.kmartin@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.kmartin@gmail.com)



## CURRENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

# Community Action Grants

**DO you know of a local group with an interesting project?**

**Funding:** \$3,000-\$10,000

**Opens:** August 1 every year

**Deadline:** December 1 every year

Community Action Grants provide funding to individuals, AAUW branches and AAUW state organizations as well as community-based nonprofits for innovative programs that promote education and equity for women and girls. Since 1972, AAUW has provided support to hundreds of communities across the United States.

Find out more: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/fellowships-grants/current-opportunities/community-action/>

*Thanks to Patricia Lopez for contributing this information.*



## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

**AAUW Membership Renewal FY 2023**

With the renewal period ending shortly, if you haven't renewed your membership, we're asking you today to continue the legacy of moving women forward and renew your membership for \$90 payable to the AAUW Rockland County Branch.

As you renew your membership, take pride in knowing that the work being done does continue to make a difference in the lives of women and is very important. Kindly mail to:  
AAUW Membership AAUW Rockland County Branch, PO Box 19, West Nyack, NY10994

Thank you. Your Membership Committee



*Ladies Who Lunch* is back!

Contact Charlotte Sorger

[charlottesweb914@aol.com](mailto:charlottesweb914@aol.com)

# WHAT'S HAPPENING.

**FROM CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, KIMBERLY WESTON:** Please forward any information regarding special events, such as weddings, illnesses, graduations, surgeries etc. She will be happy to send a greeting card. Please forward your birthday month and date (year is NOT necessary) so that your name can be placed on her special birthday roster.

[kimberlyweston@msn.com](mailto:kimberlyweston@msn.com)

**COMMUNICATIONS:** It is DIRECTORY update time once again. Please review your personal information in the 2021-2022 Directory and let me know if any changes are required. Remember, the Directory only includes information for **paid** members. Many of you have not paid your dues yet so please do so ASAP.

**TREASURER, SANDY BLASY:** If you would like to make a donation to National, individual donations can be made directly online <https://www.aauw.org/> or by sending your check directly marking your donation with their new fund name of 'Education and Training' fund. Mail to: AAUW Development, P.O. Box 98045 Washington, D.C. 20090-8045

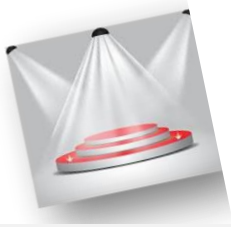
**MIMI KORB SCHOLARSHIP:** **Contributions to the Mimi Korb Scholarship** (tax- deductible) can be made to honor any one, any occasion or to generously support this most worthwhile endeavor as you have in the past. Please make your tax-deductible check payable to AAUW Rockland County Branch and write **"Mimi Korb Scholarship"** on the detail line. Mail your check to: AAUW Rockland | P.O. Box 19 | West Nyack, NY 10994-0019

**LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND:** Check out the latest court cases that AAUW publicly and financially supports <https://www.aauw.org/resources/legal/laf/> or contact LAF Chair, Charlotte Sorger.



ALL AAUW Members should be receiving ACTION ALERTS. Action Alerts are notifications sent to members regarding legislation affecting and impacting women and girls. If you have not signed up, you are not receiving this urgent and important information.

**[SIGN UP TODAY!!!](#)**



This month's Member Spotlight is on...

## Frances Riley Blauvelt

### Who is Frances Riley Blauvelt?

There are so many ways I can define myself. To begin with, I was defined by my parents. On my father's side I was a third generation California native, descended from an English Irish gold seeking "49er," as well as from 18<sup>th</sup> century English colonists. On my mother's side I descended from 19<sup>th</sup> century Czech immigrants. Genealogy and history were always interesting to me, so when I married a man who descended from the earliest founders of New Amsterdam, we both became active genealogists and historians of the Association of Blauvelt Descendants for many years.



Both my parents were teachers and quite musical. My father especially wanted me as his oldest daughter to be a musician. He taught me to play "Hot Cross Buns" on the piano at age three. We lived in San Francisco, and I planned to be a high school music teacher like him. However, I had also caught the performance bug. I graduated cum laude from San Francisco State, with elementary and secondary music teaching licenses. After a very short time teaching, I moved to New York City in 1961 to study singing at Juilliard. I needed to find out if I was capable of a singing career.

I didn't know that this move would change my life forever. Except for a family from my former church now living in Pearl River, I was completely on my own. I had to grow up fast. My experiences at Juilliard proved to me that I was capable of being a professional singer, but not enough to support myself. A favorite saying was, "A Juilliard diploma and a token will get you a ride on the subway." My experience as a teacher helped me substitute, rather than having to resort to waiting on tables. I found a full-time job in a Jr. High as a Science Lab Assistant (yes, I was totally unqualified) which allowed me to have my own apartment and get my MA at NYU in Performance.

By now, in 1972, I met my future husband, a PhD student in Composition at SUNY Buffalo. I chose to go back to my original career as an elementary school music teacher in Pittsfield, MA. Ralph Blauvelt followed me, and we were married there. The next move was to Utrecht, Netherlands, where Ralph studied computer music composing. I became pregnant, and we were running out of money. We returned to Spring Valley and have lived here ever since. We discovered that our daughter, Collette was deaf, so that defined the next part of our life. Once Collette was in school, I returned to subbing in music, from Kindergarten to High School. Ralph taught Music History at RCC for many years. Fortunately, we've had lots of opportunities to perform, as long as we didn't expect to be paid! We both continued to teach privately until the pandemic. So, who is Frances Riley Blauvelt? I'm still figuring it out!



As you prepare to vote in the November election, you may wish to confirm your voting district or polling place. New Yorkers can find this information at <https://www.vote411.org/> a resource for ALL voting information and deadlines provided by the League of Women Voters Education Fund.



### Absentee Ballot Information

- \* **October 24, 2022** is the last day for the Rockland Board of Elections to receive an application, letter, fax, email or absentee online portal request for the November 8 General Election ballot.
- \* **November 7** is the last day for an applicant or agent to **apply in person** at the Board of Elections for the November General Election absentee ballot.
- \* **November 8** is the last day to **postmark the General Election absentee ballot** by mail. **The ballot must be received by the Board of Elections no later than November 15 (7 days).**
- November 8** is the last day to **deliver the General Election absentee ballot** in person to the Board of Elections or at any poll site throughout the county, by the close of the polls on election day.

### Early Voting in Rockland

- Saturday, October 29, 2022 from 9AM until 5PM
- Sunday, October 30, 2022 from 9AM until 5PM
- Monday, October 31, 2022 from 9AM until 5PM
- Tuesday, November 1, 2022 from 12 Noon until 8PM
- Wednesday, November 2, 2022 from 9 AM until 5PM
- Thursday, November 3, 2022 from 12 Noon until 8PM
- Friday, November 4, 2022 from 9AM until 5PM
- Saturday, November 5, 2022 from 9AM until 5PM.
- Sunday, November 6, 2022 from 9AM until 5PM.



### Rockland will have Seven Early Voting Centers:

1. Clarkstown Town Hall, 10 Maple Avenue, New City, New York 10956
2. Haverstraw Town Hall, 1 Rosman Road, Garnerville, New York 10923
3. Orangetown Town Hall, 26 West Orangeburg Road, Orangeburg, New York 10962
4. Ramapo Town Hall, 237 Route 59, Suffern, New York 10901
5. Stony Point Community Center (RHO), 5 Club House Lane, Stony Point, New York 10980
6. Fire Training Center, 35 Fireman's Memorial Dr., Pomona, NY 10970
7. Pascack Community Center, 87 New Clarkstown Rd., Nanuet, NY 10954

<https://rocklandgov.com/departments/board-of-elections/extended-hours/>



The AAUW Book Club meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday from 3:00 – 5:00 PM. The October meeting will take place in the home of Betty Handelman. For details call (845) 634-8211.

October 10<sup>th</sup> – “The Sea of Tranquility”, by Emily St. John Mandel

November 14<sup>th</sup> – “I Was Better Last Night”, by Harvey Fierstein



# Equity SUMMIT

OCTOBER 13, 2022  
3:00-6:00PM EST

## FEATURED PANEL

# Creating an Equitable Economy

Explore the practices, policies and attitudes needed for New York to create a truly equitable workplace in the post-pandemic, post-Roe world.



**Tracee Wilkins**

Prince George's  
County Bureau  
Chief, NBC  
Washington



**Fatima  
Goss  
Graves**

National Women's  
Law Center



**Elizabeth  
Shuler**

AFL-CIO



**Maria  
Colacurcio**

Syndio

Register at [bit.ly/PHEquitySummit](https://bit.ly/PHEquitySummit)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](https://bit.ly/PHEquitySummit)



We are co-sponsoring a Candidates' Forum with the Rockland League of Women Voters. **Please plan to attend and/or assist in this in-person event.**

**Sunday, October 23, 2022 at 2:00 pm**  
JCC Rockland  
450 W. Nyack Road  
W. Nyack, NY 10994