



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

Vision: 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.

Value Statement: By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance. *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.*

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STATE WEB SITE

www.aauw-nys.org

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AAUW Westchester NY

The AAUW

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

provides funding and a support system for individuals seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

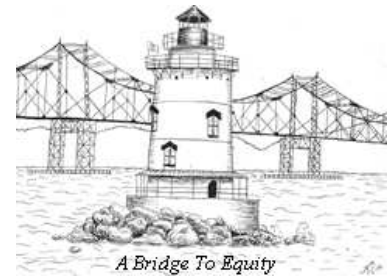
The AAUW EDUCATIONAL

OPPORTUNITIES FUND

provides fellowships and grants to aspiring graduate women scholars in the US and around the globe.

Vol. LIX, No. 7/March 2015

CHIPS



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

Local Scholarship (or the Starfish Parable)

– by Marilee Scheuneman

A girl is walking along the beach and sees thousands of starfish lying in the sand. She bends down and picks up one starfish after the other, carefully throwing them back into the ocean. An old man stops by and asks her why she is doing this. "Because the sun is up and the tide is going out, and they would die if they didn't get back into the water," she replies. "There are miles of beach and millions of starfish; you can't save them all," he says. "What difference can it make?" Then she bends down and throws another starfish into the ocean. "It made a difference to that one!" she says.

Our branch's local scholarship project, established around 1992, makes a small difference to three women graduates of Westchester Community College (WCC) every year. The recipients, selected by the college, will use the money when they enroll in a four year college to complete their undergraduate degrees. Recipients must have maintained a GPA of 3.0 or higher, and have demonstrated leadership qualities and concern for women's issues.

The three winners are invited to our Spring Fling dinner in June, and are asked to make a short speech telling us about their background and plans for further college. These young women have always impressed us with their stories and their erudition.

On Tuesday April 28, we will hold the annual scholarship luncheon fundraiser. Served in the attractive sunny café in the Student Center Building on the WCC campus in Valhalla, the gourmet meal will be prepared by senior students in the Culinary Arts and Management Program Practicum: Buffet Catering. Prof. Phil McGrath, whose students wowed us last year, is teaching this class again. The price of the lunch is \$29, of which \$21 is tax deductible. Additional contributions are fully tax deductible. Reply early to assure your place.

MARCH BRANCH MEETING



Wednesday March 4th at 6 pm in the Greenburgh Public Library.

We are honored to welcome as our speaker the AAUW NY State President Edwina Frances Martin. Ms. Martin will share her personal story and how it connected her to AAUW, her Goals for AAUW, a preview of the 2015 AAUW NY State Convention, and will provide answers to your questions and comments about AAUW. Don't miss this opportunity to hear our dynamic State President.



AAUW BOOK GROUP MEETINGS!

DAYTIME LITERATURE GROUP



The Daytime Literature Group will meet at 10 a.m. on March 26. Little Failure by Gary Shteyngart will be discussed at the Ossining Library and Garden of Evening Mists by Tan Twan Eng will be discussed at Janice Rabinowitz's home. Contact Jan Ruotolo for further information.

TUESDAY MORNING LIT GROUP

The Tuesday Morning Lit Group will meet on March 10 in a conference room in the Greenburgh Library. We'll discuss the novel, The Lowland, by Jhumpa Lahiri. Unfortunately, our group is closed to new members. We're glad to report that Natasha Rose has formed a new group and would welcome your inquiry.

EVENING LITERATURE GROUP

The Evening Literature Group will meet at The Mt. Kisco Diner at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11. Ellen Eschmann will lead the discussion of The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd. Please let Ellen Eschmann know if you plan to attend.

NEW THURSDAY MORNING BOOK GROUP

The New Thursday Morning Book Group will be meeting on March 5, 2015 at 10 a.m. to discuss The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot. The meeting will be at the home of Ruth Hardy, 7 Ridgecrest East in Scarsdale. All are welcome to join us. For more information please contact Natasha Rose at Nancyhope22@gmail.com or 914-472-9186.

(continued from page 1)

Thanks to the support of our members, last year we were able to raise the amount of our scholarship award from \$1000 per recipient to \$1500. Checks are payable to the WCC Foundation with a note in the memo line, "AAUW Scholarship

LUNCHEON RESERVATION

Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 11:30 sharp



Westchester Community College
75 Grasslands Road, Valhalla
Student Center - Parking Lot #8



Name: _____

Number attending ____ x \$29 = \$____ (\$21 of \$29 is tax deductible)

Additional Contribution: \$____ (fully tax deductible)

Please make checks payable to WCC Foundation with
"AAUW Scholarship" on the memo line.

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

ART INTEREST GROUP



On Friday, March 13, the Art Interest group will visit the NY Historical Society to view these exhibits: Annie Leibovitz's Pilgrimage, Chinese American: Exclusion/Inclusion, and more.. For details, contact marilee@scheuneman.com.

COMMON CORE INTEREST GROUP

Common Core Discussion Group Meeting – Friday, February 27, 10 a.m., Greenburgh Public Library Lobby – Sandra Flank will provide a lesson in science/math that follows Common Core standards. Should be an interesting, instructive discussion. We will discuss upcoming topics. RSVP to Jane Pendergast, jpendergast2@msn.com or 914-671-8442 or just show up.



CHASING CULTURE

CHASING CULTURE March EVENT in the works! In Hastings EVER REST - 49 Washington Avenue Jasper Cropsey House.. 25 Cropsey Place bought by Frederic Church 914 478-7990. Tours are by appointment only; I am in process of conferring with the office.. I have set aside March 24, March 25 and March 31 as possible days: if you think you might want to join us, please let me know. Lunch will be somewhere local and transportation will be via carpool. Pam Margand marpat142@hotmail.com



CURRENT ISSUES GROUP



The Current Issues Interest Group will meet on Friday Morning March 6 at 10 a.m. in Selena Barron's home in Hartsdale. . Last month we had to postpone our meeting because of the snow, so our March topic will be Cuba: U.S. and Cuban Relations, Past, Present and Future.

All are welcome to attend. If you would like to help with the presentation, or have questions, please contact Selena Barron, the group's leader for this session: selenabarron@optonline.net

THE PLAY READING GROUP

The Play Reading Group will meet on Tuesday, Mar. 10 at 1 pm at the Mt. Pleasant Public Library. We will be reading two plays from "24 Favorite One Act Plays". Contact Joyce Koyner for more information: jkoyner@gmail.com



POETRY INTEREST GROUP



The Poetry Interest Group will meet on Tuesday February 24 at 1:30 p.m. in the home of Janice Rabinowitz. We will start a four month series on FAITH and Doubt in Poetry. For further information, please call Mary Ellen LeClair, the group's leader : 914 762 4208

STEM INTEREST GROUP

The STEM Interest Group will meet at 10 a.m on Wednesday Morning March 11 in the Greenburgh Public Library. We will continue our discussion of DNA, focusing on the Biology of DNA and Genetic Counseling. There will be some prepared presentations and time for your contributions and questions. Contact Sandy Flank sflank@pace.edu for further information.



In the event of inclement weather, listen for news of any meeting cancellation or delay on radio stations WHUD (100.7 FM) and WFAS (103.9 FM).





WESTCHESTER AAUW 2015-2016 PROPOSED BUDGET



<u>Proposed Budget 2014-2015</u>					
		Proposed Budget 2015-16	Budget 2014-15	Year-end Total 2013-14	Year end Total 2012-13
INCOME					
	Branch Dues -	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,057	\$4,305
	Contributions for Sr. Awards	\$500	\$0	\$336	\$61
	Other Contributions	\$500			
	Grants	\$500			
	Incentives				
	Interest from CD				
	Mailing Fees & Ads for CHIPS	\$30			\$20
	Holiday Lunch	\$150	\$150	\$75	\$165
	Spring Fling	\$200	\$150	\$367	\$378
	Ways/Means & Other Fund Raising				
	TOTAL INCOME	\$5,880	\$4,300	\$4,835	\$4,929
EXPENSES					
BRANCH ACTIVITIES					
	8th Grade Educational awards	\$375	\$375	\$241	\$290
	Equity in Education				
	Sr. Educational Awards	\$1,000	\$475	\$363	\$568
	Public Policy (Running & Winning)	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
	Exploring Your Opportunities (EYO)	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
	Women's Club & Other Assns. Dues	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
	AAUW Student Leadership Conference	\$500	\$200	\$200	
	Special Projects - Start Smart, STEM camp, etc.	\$600	\$600	\$375	
	WCC Scholarship Fund	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
	Total BRANCH ACTIVITIES EXPENSES	\$3,425	\$2,600	\$2,129	\$1,808
CONFERENCES/CONVENTIONS					
	Delegates - State or National	\$400	\$400	\$50	\$200
	District V				
	Total CONF./CONVENTIONS EXPENSES	\$400	\$400	\$50	\$200
GENERAL MEETINGS & SOCIALS					
	Hospitality	\$250	\$250	\$137	\$98
	Holiday Lunch				
	Spring Fling Dinner				
	Programs	\$200	\$200		\$177
	Rental & Custodial Fees (inc. \$300 to library)	\$500	\$620	\$600	\$620
	Total GEN. MTGS & SOCIAL EXPENSES	\$950	\$1,070	\$737	\$895
OPERATING EXPENSES					
	Corres.Sec./Sunshine Fund	\$50	\$50		
	Insurance	\$200	\$200	\$170	\$160
	Membership	\$100	\$150	\$94	\$297
	Newsletter/Postage	\$300	\$300	\$357	\$283
	Other Council/Branch expense inc. web	\$50	\$250	\$368	\$506
	Publicity/Branch Brochure	\$375	\$200	\$158	\$429
	Yearbook/Postage	\$500	\$500	\$450	\$497
	AAUW Funds Mailing	\$150	\$150	\$69	\$90
	Miscellaneous (LAF baskets)	\$50		\$10	
	Bank Charges		\$50		\$76
	Intern Expenses	\$100			
	Total OPERATING EXPENSES	\$1,875	\$1,850	\$1,676	\$2,338
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$6,650	\$5,920	\$4,592	\$5,241
	Net Income	-\$770	-\$1,620	\$243	-\$312
Budget Notes for 2014-15					
\$2930 in Prepaid membership dues for 2013-14 included in dues total					
\$2414 in prepaid membership dues for 2012-13- included in dues total					
Dues for 2015-16 - Dues remain at \$85 - \$49 National, \$13 - NY State, \$23 for branch - \$10 discount for new members -					

If you are unable to attend the April 1 annual meeting to vote on the budget, an absentee ballot is provided on page 6.

OSSINING MATTERS

-by Angel Gierisch, SUNY Purchase AAUW Intern

February's branch meeting played host to two guest speakers: Diana Lennon, Vice President of local education foundation Ossining MATTERS ("OM") and Jennifer Forsberg, Assistant Director of Technology for the Ossining School District. Lennon kicked off the meeting by telling us a brief history of OM. The organization was formed in 2003 as a 501(c)3 nonprofit by six moms who wanted to combat school budget challenges. It is entirely volunteer run, and currently, totals around 300 members.

OM's mission is to support and enrich learning opportunities for all children in the Ossining School District. The goal of the foundation is to provide an ongoing source of funds, through grants and other fundraising efforts, to augment the programs offered in the Ossining Public Schools. The funds will be used to develop and support programs in academics, cultural arts and athletics.



Though OM will fund projects in any field, their focus is on STEM programs. According to Lennon, nine out of the fourteen programs OM funded last year were STEM projects. A total of \$83,000 was used to fund projects for the 2013-2014 school year, bringing donations since OM's inception to over \$825,000.

Since 2003 contributions have funded numerous projects and have reached countless students. OM works with six district schools from preschool to high school. A major project is to supply Chromebooks, Kindles, and iPads to classrooms in order to enrich learning. Non-techie teachers adapt with the help of Forsberg whose role is to provide training to teachers both in small classes as well as on a one-on-one basis, making sure they understand the programs before applying it to the classroom.

With help from technology provided by OM, Ossining schools are bringing more of the classroom experience online. Students are learning how to use Google programs such as docs, forms, and presentation. This allows students to not just work in the classroom, but to access their assignments from any computer or device. With features like group chats, students can work together from home, which teachers find students love to do. Forsberg even mentioned a group that did an entire project on Ecuador on their own, which was not required. "Students are continuing doing work after school and on weekends," Forsberg says. Another advantage is a teacher's ability to give online, real time feedback to students in the margins of the document they are working on.



Other programs utilized in the classrooms include Glogster, an online program where students and teachers combine videos, music, pictures, text, and graphs to create a virtual poster. Another learning tool is called MaKey MaKey - an invention kit that allows students to create, for example, a trackpad by using everyday objects such as bananas or play-doh.

Recently, a grant was given to the high school library for a makerspace dubbed "Omega Hub." This is a learning environment where students can tinker, design, and create together. The hub includes a 3D printer, a programming station, a robotics station, and arduino computer chip kits. OM also funded the launch of a two-

week Summer Innovation Academy for 3rd through 8th graders that covers topics such as introduction to robotics, “Game Maker”, magnetic kits, “littleBits” circuit boards, and more.

Forsberg says that getting the technology right in the classroom involves, “a lot of hard work and sharing, and trying new things.” In a world that is becoming more reliant on technology, students that know how to work together as well as know these programs inside and out at such a young age will have a leg up on others who might not have had similar opportunities.

2015-2016

BRANCH OFFICERS SLATE

Co-Presidents

Diona Koerner and Roli Wendorf

Program Co-Vice Presidents

Selena Barron and Stephanie Lemnios

Membership Co-Vice Presidents

Adelaide DiGiorgi and Ann Sheridan

Recording Co-Secretaries

Natasha Rose and Linda Swann

Corresponding Secretary

Adie Shore

Co-Treasurers

Carol McMillan and Jane Pendergast

The slate of officers will be voted on at the April 1 Annual Branch Meeting, or by US mail.

If you cannot attend the April 1 annual meeting, it is important that you mail in your vote:

AAUW-Westchester Branch BALLOT

In favor of the slate presented for 2015	Yes	No
In favor of the budget presented for 2015	Yes	No

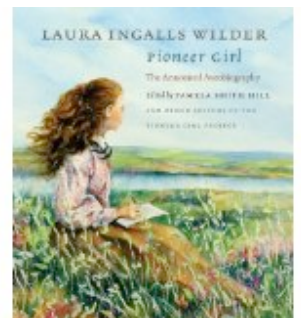
Member Signature _____

Mail to Jean Havens, Election Committee Chair
40 Kisco Park Drive Mount Kisco, NY 10549

The proposed budget is on page 4.

Chasing Culture - January Excursion -by Pat Margand

Manhattan put on its brightest January sparkle welcoming several literature enthusiasts to the GROlier CLUB exhibit One Hundred Famous Children's books. Original copies of Little Red Riding Hood, Peter Pan, and Heidi were displayed behind locked cabinets but later editions were available to peruse and read, including Pat the Bunny, a Pam favorite.



Lunch at La Bonne Soupe provided the opportunity for further discussion and conversation nourished by French bread, soup and salad.

F.Y.I - FOR THOSE CHASING CULTURE IN OUR AREA

Each Thursday evening at 8PM, PBS presents NYC-ARTS moderated by Paula Zahn, Philippe de Montebello and Christina Ha. Viewers are introduced to current exhibits around the greater metropolitan area which often include interviews with patrons such as Leonard Lauder discussing the gift of his Cubist collection to MMA.



PUBLIC POLICY - THE PAY GAP

-by Selena Barron



Our AAUW branch will have its annual Scholarship Luncheon on April 28th at 11:30 a.m. at Westchester Community College. Please come for a delicious meal prepared and served by the culinary students at WCC. The proceeds will help raise money for the three \$1000 scholarships we give each year to women who are continuing their education at four year institutions. The luncheon also gives our members the latest news on the gender pay gap and the opportunity to find out how to advocate for equal pay with red ribbons.

Believe it or not, equal pay for women is a relatively new concept! An AAUW article entitled “A Look back at where Pay Equity has Been and where it’s Going” reveals that in the 1930’s, the federal government required that its female workers were to be paid 25% less than male workers in the same job. Not until 1963 did legislation, the Equal Pay Act, pass Congress and was signed by President John F. Kennedy. As more women graduated from college and had longer careers, pay progress was made. However, in recent years closure of the pay gap has come to a near halt.

AAUW has received much publicity and provided the basis for education and discussion with its research on the pay gap. The research finding that women on average earn 78 cents for every dollar a man makes has become an icon for advocating for eliminating the pay gap. From the article “The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap”, the following facts, based on AAUW research for 2013, document the issues.

- Women in every state experience the pay gap. However, there is not equality across the states. Washington, D.C. is the best workplace, with women earning 91% of what men earned. Louisiana had the largest pay gap with women earning 66% of what men earned.
- The pay gap is larger for women of color. Asian American women have the smallest gap at 90% of a white man’s earnings. Hispanic women have the largest gap at 54% of white men’s earnings. White men were used as a benchmark because they make up the largest demographic group in the labor force.
- Women suffer a pay gap in almost every occupation. Women are paid less than men in female-dominated, gender-balanced, and male-dominated positions.
- More education is effective in increasing earnings but not in fighting the pay gap. Despite academic achievement, women’s median earnings are less than men’s earnings, and in some cases the pay gap is larger at higher levels of education. Even at higher levels of education black and Hispanic women earn less than their white and Asian peers do.
- Women without children also face the pay gap. AAUW research found that one year after college graduation, full time women workers, nearly all of whom were childless, were paid just 82% of what male workers were paid.

What can help close the Wage Gap?

- Companies can adopt flexible work schedules and conduct audits to assure equity.
- Schools can encourage girls and young women to enter higher paying fields such as engineering and computing.

- Policy Advocates can urge for more child care resources, urge Congress to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act
- Individuals can learn to develop skills to negotiate for equal pay.

AAUW Westchester branch sponsors many action groups. Explore Your Opportunities for 12 years organizes a conference for 7th grade girls introducing them to careers in Science Technology, Engineering and Math. 12th grade High School Awards honors students for service to their school, academic achievement and potential future service to their community, and for excellence in writing. 8th grade awards are given to two girls at each school for excellence in math and science. Branch mentors work with students at the College of Mount St. Vincent and we mentor a student intern at the branch. \$tart \$mart workshops at colleges help students become aware of the pay gap and how to develop pay negotiation skills. Running and Winning gives high school girls the opportunity to explore public service as a career.

If you can, volunteer for one of these programs. As an AAUW member you are making a difference!

APRIL BRANCH PROGRAM: UPDATE ON THE NEW NY BRIDGE **by Selena Barron**

On Wednesday, April 1st at 6 p.m. at the Greenburgh Public Library, 300 Tarrytown Road in Elmsford our speaker will be Brian Conybeare, special advisor to Governor Cuomo on the New NY Bridge which is scheduled to replace the Tappan Zee Bridge. The meeting is being co-sponsored by AAUW, the Greenburgh Nature Center and the Greenburgh Public Library.



Mr. Conybeare, who spoke at one of our meetings last year, will present an update which will include construction progress, funding sources, and current projections for costs. He will also answer questions from the audience. The bridge project is an important part of infrastructure plans for NY State. In the January 29th issue of the Central Westchester-Sound Shore Express Governor Coumo is quoted as saying “We’re going to continue upgrading our infrastructure statewide.” “We’re going to invest in the Thruway to keep the tolls constant...because we want that traffic....And we’ll also be investing in the construction of the Tappan Zee Bridge to keep that toll down when the new bridge is constructed.”

Prior to his current appointment, Mr. Conybeare was an anchor for the News 12 Evening Edition. He was also a co-anchor on the weekly political talk show “Newsmakers” and hosted the station’s local election debates and live town meetings.

He has an impressive background as a journalist. Mr. Conybeare received a 2011 New York Emmy Award for his exclusive story on a parking ticket scam called “Rental Rip-off”. In 2009, he won a national award from the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ). His ground-breaking reporting on corruption in the promotions department of the Yonkers Raceway Casino led directly to a criminal probe and three arrests. It also won him the highly respected Sigma Delta Chi Award from the SPJ. He has also been honored with two other New York Emmy Awards, five Edward R. Murrow Regional Awards, and five New York Associated Press Awards.

Mr. Conybeare is a knowledgeable, informative speaker who has an entertaining presentation style. As a Westchester resident and Tappan Zee Bridge user, you will be affected by the New NY Bridge. This is your opportunity to become informed about the bridge and to separate fact from fiction. Don’t miss this meeting!

EYO CONFERENCE UPDATE

-by Wilma Gitchell Co-Director



As I write this, we are fast approaching the day of our 12th annual conference for seventh-grade girls: "Explore Your Opportunities—The Sky's the Limit!" on Saturday March 21, at the College of Mount Saint Vincent in Riverdale. Feverish work on our Mystery Women booklet and on our conference journal are underway. Last minute reviews of the materials and equipment needed for our workshops are being made. The menus for breakfast and lunch for 250 students, 80 accompanying adults and over 100 volunteers are being refined. Financial contributions are still coming in.

If you want to be part of the exciting day, there's still time to talk to Mary Kay Olson or Carol McMillan about volunteering. You don't have to be a scientist or mathematician—we need people to help at the registration table, to direct the students to their classrooms, and supervise the lunch lines.


We are so grateful for the wonderful support the members of our branch give to this unique opportunity for young women to meet many role models in the form of women studying and working in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.


Over the eleven years we've been doing this we've already introduced over 1850 young women to the idea that they can imagine thriving in careers in these fields.


Thank you for making this possible, and for helping to make a significant difference in the lives of these young women.


"Explore Your Opportunities - The Sky's The Limit!" Conference
Help AAUW Celebrate a Legacy of Leadership Through Service!

Yes . . . I want to help the American Association of University Women and the College of Mount Saint Vincent interest girls in opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) through the Explore Your Opportunities—The Sky's the Limit! Conference. Here is my tax deductible contribution for: \$ _____


 **Benefactor (\$500 or more)**

 **Friend (\$25)**

 **Supporter (\$100)**

 **Other \$ _____**

 **Contributor (\$50)**



Donations totaling \$25 or more, received by February 25, 2015, will be included in our Conference Journal

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please indicate below how your name should appear in the Conference Journal

Your contribution to the EYO conference is tax deductible within the limits prescribed by law.
Please mail completed form and check payable to "AAUW Westchester Branch" with EYO on the memo line to:
Carol McMillan, 14 Lyon St., Rye Brook NY 10573
Making a Difference - AAUW in partnership with the College of Mount Saint Vincent

c/ o **Barbara Sarver**
34 Scenic Circle
Croton on Hudson, NY 10520



MARCH 2015

3/2	Monday Bridge Group			12 p.m.
3/4	Board Meeting	Greenburgh Library		4:30 p.m.
3/4	Branch Meeting	Greenburgh Library		6 p.m.
3/5	Thursday Bridge Group			1 p.m.
3/6	Current Issues Discussion Group	Selean Barron's Home		10 a.m.
3/6	EYO Planning Meeting			1:30 p.m.
3/9	Monday Bridge Group			12 p.m.
3/10	Deadline for submitting for CHIPS			
3/10	Tuesday Morning Literature Group	Greenburgh Library		10 a.m.
3/10	Play Reading Group	Mt. Pleasant Libibrary		1 p.m.
3/11	STEM Interest Group	Greenburgh Library		10 a.m.
3/11	Evening Literature Group	Mt. Kisco Diner		6 p.m.
3/12	Thursday Bridge Group			1 p.m.
3/13	Art Interest Group	NY Historical Society		
3/16	Monday Bridge Group			12 p.m.
3/17	Financial Interest Study Group	Inge Clark's Home		10 a.m.
3/17	Poetry Interest Group	Janice Rabinowitz's Home		1:30 p.m.
3/19	Thursday Bridge Group			1 p.m.
3/19	Materials Assembling Day and EYO Conference	1 p.m.		
3/20	Pay Equity Group			2 p.m.
3/21	Explore Your Opportunities Conf.	College of Mt. St. Vincent		8:30 a.m.
3/23	Monday Bridge Group			12 p.m.
3/26	Daytime Literature Group	Ossining Lib. & Janice Rabinowitz's' Home		10 a.m.
3/26	Thursday Bridge Group			1 p.m.
3/30	Monday Bridge Group			12 p.m.