

## **R. Patricia Poggi, Woman of the Year 1999**

Pat is a lifelong educator who is presently working as Library/Media Specialist at Haviland Middle School in Hyde Park. Previously, she was an adjunct career counselor and instructor at Dutchess Community College, SUNY New Paltz, Mount St. Mary College and Vassar College. She was also the Director of Instructional Services at Rockland County BOCES. For over seventeen years, Pat has maintained a private practice as a career counselor.

For over thirty years, Pat has lived in Pleasant Valley with her husband, Dr. Peter Poggi, a veterinarian. After graduating from Cornell University, Pat married Peter, became a mother of four sons and worked as a business manager for Peter's animal hospital. While fulfilling these responsibilities, she returned to school, obtained a masters degree from SUNY New Paltz and a second masters and doctorate from Columbia University. An example of someone living the AAUW goal of lifelong education, Pat is currently taking Spanish lessons and is enrolled in a two year Spiritual Directions course.

In the 1970's, she was a winner of a women's equity grant to bring girls' to non-traditional career fields, and later was instrumental in obtaining a grant for DCC to encourage girls in non-traditional math and science careers. At DCC, Pat worked with women enrolled in the PACE program and developed a new course to help to acculturate underprepared students to higher education. Presently, at Haviland, Pat is the advisor to SUCCESS, an after-school study program. Pat has been on the board of the Pleasant Valley Library and the Area Fund. She was an active member of the Junior League, Cornell alumni, and American Cancer Society. Through her professional career, volunteer activities and personal life, Pat is an excellent example of someone who promotes the AAUW goals of equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.