



Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc Cornerstone Award 2022

The Cornerstone Award is designed so that our branch has the opportunity to honor a member who represents the “foundation” of AAUW. She has contributed her energy and effort over an extended period to ensure that the Branch fulfills its mission. The recipient might be found working in the background, away from the limelight, and/or stepping forward to provide leadership for key activities. These individuals are often repositories for the institutional knowledge of the organization – readily offering advice and counsel to officers, leaders of initiatives, and interest groups.

This year we are pleased to honor Diane Jablonski

Diane has been an AAUW member since 2010. Diane served as Poughkeepsie Branch President from 2018- 2020, as Branch treasurer for 2 terms and AAUW State Treasurer for 3 years as well as being a member of the AAUW-NYS Board. She has also participated in the Travelers, Trekkers and Aventures en Soleil, where she has planned many trips. She was active on both the Writers’ Tea and the Woman of the Year Committees. Diane was instrumental in getting the Dutchess County Legislature to proclaim an Equal Pay Day in 2019 and 2020. In February 2020 when Covid swept the country and all in person Branch activities were canceled, Diane obtained a Zoom membership for Poughkeepsie AAUW and held the first membership meeting by Zoom in March. By June the monthly meetings were regularly held on Zoom and most interest groups were meeting virtually as well.

Diane is a graduate of the University of Delaware with a degree in Mathematics. She retired after 37 years in management at IBM and as a consultant and director for Cap Gemini Ernst and Young. Diane served a 4 year term as Dutchess County Comptroller and was appointed to a 5 year term as a Commissioner of the New York State Bridge Authority. In 2015, she ran for Dutchess County Executive. Diane is an advocate and mentor for other women running for office. She is active in the Dutchess County Mediation Center as a mediator and board member, participates in the Dutchess Democratic Women’s Caucus, and serves on the leadership team of her church.

Diane has once again stepped up to serve AAUW. She has been nominated to serve as branch treasurer for 2022-2024.

Our congratulations to Diane and our appreciation for her service to Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW. Diane exemplifies the very best of AAUW.