

The AAUW Poughkeepsie Branch is pleased to announce the establishment of a new honor:

The CORNERSTONE Award

This award may be given annually to a member who contributes 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. Such women are truly the cornerstones of our organization. As we enjoy the fruits of their work, let us applaud their fine efforts on behalf of AAUW and us all.

Our first CORNERSTONE honoree is:



Margaret Nijhuis

Margaret joined in 1968, and has made AAUW a focus of her life. Her contributions surround us and keep us in touch with the organization and each other, most recently through our newsletter, website, and database. She is the moving force behind the Membership Directory and our new Photography Committee, and she contributes mightily to the Writer's Tea. Margaret has served as President of the Branch and has occupied many positions, some formally established, some not, on the Poughkeepsie and New York State Boards. She has been involved with no fewer than 10 Interest Groups and Branch Initiatives. Over the years, Margaret has been a mentor to many women, offering her time and extraordinary problem-solving ability with signature sensitivity and good humor to anyone who calls and many do.

Margaret is our "guiding light", and we thank and honor her for her wisdom, creativity, unending kindness and generosity of spirit.