

EXTENDING GIRLS' HORIZONS
Annual Report 2022-23
Peggy Kelland, Chair

After a shortened 2019-2020, an inactive 2020-2021, and a reduced 2021-2022 (all due to the pandemic), we resumed a full year's schedule of programming. Despite the need to reschedule two events due to weather, and the last minute scramble to replace sick key volunteers at four events, all programs were successful.

We decided to hold our indoor activities at Zion Episcopal Church in Wappingers Falls rather than at Ketcham High School. The school frequently preempted us for school events so that we were switched back and forth between the cafeteria and the library regardless of the appropriateness of the room for the planned activity. The church afforded us with moveable tables, a flexible space, ground floor access, adjacent bathrooms, and kitchen space.

Events:

- Sept. 27, 2022 "Maps and Compasses" at Bowdoin Park with Dave Beck
two Girl Scout troops (12 girls, 3 leaders), AAUW member Peggy Kelland
- Oct. 18, 2022 same program; one G.S. troop (8 girls, 2 leaders), AAUW member Peggy Kelland
- Nov. 18, 2022 "International Games" - cooperative games, and math and language board games
five G.S. troops (27 girls, 5 leaders), AAUW members Gwen Higgins, Sue Doyle, Peggy Kelland
- Dec. 9, 2022 "Woodworking" - string art plaque with Heather and Andrew Wilantewicz
three G.S. troops (12 girls, 4 leaders), AAUW members Gwen Higgins, Norma Vazquez, Lynda Byrne, Peggy Kelland
- Feb. 4, 2023 "A-Maze" - exploring social relationships through large group games, small group discussions, and journaling
six G.S. troops (32 girls, 7 leaders), AAUW members Gwen Higgins, Peggy Kelland
- Mar. 10, 2023 "New Cuisines" -historical, regional, and international recipes prepared by the girls with Jennifer Weisel (food manager at Fishkill School)
four G.S. troops (23 girls, 5 leaders), AAUW members Kathy Friedman, Ann Pinna, Norma Vazquez, Sue Doyle, Peggy Kelland
- April 14, 2023 "Animal Helpers" - with Marilyn Hill (therapy dog trainer) and the lieutenant in charge of training the K-9 Units for the sheriff's dept.
five G.S. troops (42 girls, 6 leaders), AAUW members Gwen Higgins, Peggy Kelland, Kathy Friedman
- April 28, 2023 "Special Agent" - forensic science experiments
three G.S. troops (23 girls, 4 leaders), AAUW members Lynda Byrne, Kathy Friedman, Norma Vazquez, Peggy Kelland

More details are found in the five articles I submitted to the newsletter and the website. No Girl Scout troop attended all events; many came to just one or two depending on their interests and schedules. The troops came from all over southern Dutchess County, but our reputation extends much farther. Last summer the interim executive director of the seven county Heart of the Hudson Girl Scout Council at a Council-wide conference praised Poughkeepsie AAUW for this program. Nearer to home, during intermission at the John Jay H.S. performance of "Beauty and the Beast", a leader with all her uniformed Junior troop came up to me and said, "Girls, I want you to meet Mrs. Kelland; next year we're going to her events."