

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc Cornerstone Award 2023

The Cornerstone Award is an opportunity for our branch to honor a member who represents the "foundation" of AAUW. This award is given to a member who has contributed her energy and effort over an extended period to ensure that the Branch fulfills its mission. The recipient may 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 Patricia Luczai

Pat joined Poughkeepsie AAUW in 2003. She very quickly took positions of leadership, serving as Vice President for Programming from 2006 to 2008, followed by Vice President for Educational Foundation (now Development) from 2009 to 2011. Pat served as Treasurer from 2018 to 2022 and is currently the chair of the Nominating Committee. For many years, Pat been coordinator of Pins and Needles and this year became coordinator for Pedal Pushers, as well. She also participates in Travelers, Trekkers and Aventures en Soleil groups, where she has planned many trips. She was active with the Writers' Tea – providing wonderful workshops to be auctioned. Pat is an outstanding photographer and is one of the photographers for AAUW. She is always happy to do tasks such as taking reservations, making suggestions for programs and planning activities for our branch.

Pat is from New Paltz and graduated from Our Lady of Lourdes High School, where she was an honor student. She continued her studies at the University of Notre Dame, St Mary's College, securing a BA in Art Studies and from University of Notre Dame, Mendoza College of Business, obtaining an MBA. After her studies, Pat joined IBM and worked for many years in data analysis, leading teams across the globe. In recent years she has served as an independent contractor with various organizations.

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