

Susan J. Ragusa  
Corresponding Secretary, Rhinebeck Democrats Club

Susan has been in the Hudson Valley for 38 years, first as a weekender from New York City and then became a full-time resident of Rhinebeck in the middle of the 2008 financial crisis. She received her BA from Queens College/City University of New York and her MA in Education from New York University.

In approach, she draws from the diverse experience that has shaped her career. As a former educator, she understands learning is a process that builds by steps and layers. As a nonprofit consultant her mantra has long been the declaration, “We can do better.”

Living in the Hudson Valley she has learned the importance of “place” — that being sensitive to community mores is key to productive relationships and is the driving force for her involvement with the Rhinebeck Democrats Club. She believes that it’s always possible to improve, to find ways to be more efficient and effective working with your community.

Susan has served as a board member for Astor Services. She is currently a *Friend of the Kingston Library* and co-founder of the Hudson Valley Nonprofit Consultants.