

## Holiday Party

All AAUW Falls Church branch members and their friends are welcome to attend the branch **Holiday Party Dec. 9 from 4 – 6 pm**. Becky and Jim Gaul have graciously agreed to host the party at their home which is located at **6119 18<sup>th</sup> Road North, Arlington, VA (phone 703-356-2166)**.

All are asked to bring an appetizer to feed 6 – 8; other refreshments, including beverages will be available. Contact Sharon Zackula at [skzmom@aol.com](mailto:skzmom@aol.com) or 703-475-4310 if you have not already indicated that you will attend or have questions or would like to bring something other than a food contribution. See you there!!!

## Book Group

The book group will be on vacation until Jan. 22, 2013 when they will be discussing *Mission to Paris* by Alan Furst. In Feb. they will be reading *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* by Junot Diaz. Both meetings will be held at the home of Olivia Cedillo, 2856 Franklin Walk, Falls Church.



## Attend a Holiday Play with AAUW

Falls Church AAUW members have the opportunity to attend the play *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* by Barbara Robinson and performed by the Providence Players of Falls Church **Sun. Dec. 9 at 2 pm at the Lee Graham Center, 2855 Annandale Road, FC**. Tickets are \$15 per person. If you would like to join the group but have not signed up to attend, contact Sharon Zackula at [skzmom@aol.com](mailto:skzmom@aol.com) or 703-475-4310 so she can order enough tickets. This special production will benefit The Young Hearts <http://youngheartsltn.org> a group of teens who raise funds to battle blood cancers and other diseases.

## Special Project Grants Available

If you are interested in obtaining a Special Project grant for an issue or agency that advocates for women and girls, go to the branch website for information and the application form.

## From the President

Greetings!

It is hard to believe that 2012 will soon be over. Our AAUW branch has had a busy Fall. Members have supported branch activities from sorting books, attending branch meetings, and participating in the recent trip to the Occoquan Workhouse Prison Museum.

Eight members visited the museum and the site of the future Turning Point Suffragist Memorial on November 17<sup>th</sup>. The museum tells the story of the 1917 women suffragists who were force fed at the Workhouse after being sent there for protesting in front of the White House.



For those of you who attended the November 12<sup>th</sup> branch meeting, you heard AAUW-VA President Caroline Pickens announce that AAUW-VA plans to raise funds to donate \$1000 to

become a founding member of the Suffragist Memorial. We will wait to hear what AAUW-VA is going to do in the coming months, but the members who visited the Lorton site suggested that each of us give at least one dollar to the memorial fund. You'll hear more on this as we learn how and when AAUW will be fundraising.

I look forward to seeing all of you and your guests at our Holiday Party and the Providence Players on December 9th. It is always good to take time to visit with our fellow members and celebrate the organization that brings us all together.

Sending warm wishes of peace and happiness this holiday season!

Bunny Jarrett  
Branch President

## Book Collection Suspended for the Holidays

We will not be collecting book donations until after Jan. 15. If you or your friends have good books, we will accept them, but we won't be actively soliciting book donations. If at all possible, keep any donated books at your own place until Jan., but if you have a large donation, contact Mary Youman at 703-528-8993 to arrange a drop-off

### Guidelines for book donations.

Our customers don't buy magazines, textbooks, encyclopedias, old reference books, or books that are damaged, moldy or in poor condition – no matter how meaningful they are to the donor. We accept only saleable books in good condition; other books, unfortunately, should be put in the trash (paperbacks can be recycled).

## From the Board

The AAUW-FC Board met on Monday, November 26, 2012. The major task was to review reports from the Scholarship Committee, the Book Sale Task Force, and the Treasurer prior to presenting these reports to the membership for discussion at the January branch meeting.

The Book Sale report was submitted to the Board in March and the Scholarship report in August. Members of both committees attended the Board meeting and led the discussion of the reports: Book Sale – Anne Baxter, Martha Trunk, and Becky Gaul; Scholarship – Mellen Tanamly, Becky Gaul, Susan Hesser, Bunny Jarrett (shadow member). Both reports with recommendations from the Board will be sent to members by email in January for review before the business meeting at 2:00 on Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>.

The Treasurer's Report included the monthly report of the Book Sale and Membership accounts. Additionally, an estimate of unreimbursed expenses of branch members developed by the Board during a previous meeting was reviewed. At the January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, the membership will be asked which expenses they would like to see the branch assume as part of administrative costs of the branch. They subsequently will discuss where the money should come from to support the branch, either by raising dues, using a percentage of the book sale profits, or another suggested solution from the membership.

The Board approved two Special Projects applications. Five hundred dollars was awarded to the Homestretch

Teenstretch Program which supports teens to succeed in school. An additional \$500 was awarded to a Homestretch client who is pursuing a nursing degree at NOVA and needs support to complete her final semester.

## AAUW of VA Announces Cost Saving Measures

During the 2012 AAUW-VA voting process 85% who received paper ballots in the mail did not use them – a waste of \$871 of your dues. In order to rectify this problem, all members who still receive AAUW-VA publications by mail will receive a survey giving them the opportunity to immediately say they will opt-out of paper for voting purposes and for the state newsletter *Vision*. Further, in anticipation of sending paper copies of the state newsletter only to members with no email address, AAUW-VA has announced a reorganization of the state website and newsletter. The website is being transferred to an AAUW Site-Resources website. Kay Koehler, the longtime webmaster of the current website, is stepping down to be replaced by Leslie Vandivere of Fairfax City. Leslie will work with Erin Nabors of the Reston-Herndon branch who will share the duties of publishing the newsletter.

## It's Always Giving Tuesday for AAUW

AAUW is highly rated by groups which evaluate organizations for the work that they do with the philanthropic contributions they receive. Read the AAUW Dialog at <https://blog-aauw.org/2012/11/27/celebrate-gift-giving-tuesday> to check out six inspiring stories made possible by AAUW donors and to make your contributions.

## Northern District Virginia AAUW News

Our Northern District Representative recently visited the Newseum to see the display about the Presidential elections. She found the AAUW display very well done, interesting, and informative. She reports that the students who were touring the museum were really excited by the exhibit which is there through Jan. 27, 2013. She recommends that if you get a chance – GO!!

On October 24, a special screening of “The Invisible War” was shown at Fairfax Cinema Art Theater. Christina Soto (AAUW National) and I worked the AAUW table. Over 45 people attended the screening. After the movie Holly Kearl (AAUW National) and I led a Q&A discussion. Thanks for your continuing support of this important issue.



State projects have been a great success. The completed **Get Out The Vote** resulted in VA AAUW branches registering over 1,021 people and provided voter information to many more. Most of the registrants were in the millennial age group. The Turning Point Memorial project continues. Thanks to the many branches that had Turning Point Memorial presentations at their meetings and toured the Lorton

Workhouse Prison Museum and Art Center. Look for additional information on this project.

State board members continue to work two of the biggest issues voiced by branches, getting more and younger members and members taking leadership position. There was much brain storming and discussion of these issues at the fall state board meeting. I ask you to seriously consider taking a leadership position at all level of AAUW. It truly is a great experience.

Save April 13, 2013 for the state conference near the Richmond Airport. The theme of the conference is “Every ONE Counts”. Some of us toured the conference hotel during the board meeting and it a great facility. Have a wonderful holiday season and a safe and enjoyable 2013.

Sandy Lawrence  
Northern District Representative  
[slawrence4@juno.com](mailto:slawrence4@juno.com)  
703 569 1588

## AAUW Urges Action on the Violence Against Women Act

Now that Congress is back in session, we need to urge our Representatives to pass the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) reauthorization immediately. The Senate passed this reauthorization in April in a bipartisan vote – now the House must act. Since its enactment in 1994, VAWA has saved lives and money. Though the programs continue to run, the current authorization expired almost two years ago. Reauthorization is long overdue.

## AAUW QUIZ

Do you know these famous AAUW members?

- AAUW Fellow and astronaut killed in the Challenger explosion. Members raised more than \$100,000 to endow a fellowship in her name.
- 1956 AAUW Achievement Awardee; marine biologist whose work advanced the environmental movement, especially her book on the effect of pesticides, Silent Spring.

Go to the AAUW Archives at <https://svc.aauw.org/museum/history/index.cfm> to find the answer to these questions.

Here are the answers to the previous quizzes: Marion Talbot gathered 16 friends in Boston in 1881 to start what became AAUW; Ellen Swallow Richards was a member of the group that started AAUW, the first woman admitted to MIT, the founder of the discipline of home economics, and coined the term “ecology;” Margaret Mead is the famous archeologist and advocate for women’s rights and an AAUW Achievement Awardee in 1978; Jenny Bramley was an AAUW Fellow, inventor of the cathode ray tube, and McLean Area Branch member in the 1970s and 1980s.

## We Can Be Thankful For . . .

In honor of Thanksgiving, the AAUW Action Network outlined some of the achievements in our ongoing struggle to achieve equity for women and girls. Highlights include

- As of Nov. 2012 women have gained back 51% of their total jobs lost in the recession while

men have regained 52% of jobs lost;

- A record number of women were elected to Congress in this election – 20 in the Senate and 78 representatives and 3 delegates in the House. Several states elected their first female Senators – Hawaii, Massachusetts, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Wisconsin;
- All new health insurance plans are now required to include coverage without cost sharing of an additional eight women’s preventative care services, including contraception, testing for sexually transmitted infections, and breastfeeding support.
- The US Olympic Team sent more female athletes than male athletes for the first time in history, winning 29 of the US teams’ 46 gold medals.

## Where are the Women Committee Chairs?

Women showed up at the polls on Nov. 6, and women were elected to the House and Senate in record numbers this year. Yet, when the House leadership announced the chairs of the major committees for the 113th Congress, no women were named to be chairs of the major committees. Two House Committees – the Committee on House Administration and the Ethics Committee – still need chairs. Tell Speaker John Boehner to fill those committee chairperson slots with women by sending him a message at <https://capwiz.com/aauw/home>

## National President Commends AAUW Members for Their Work on the Recent Elections

Our National AAUW President, Carolyn Garfein, in an email sent Nov. 7 thanked the membership for all the hard work put in by the membership in getting out the vote for the Presidential election and placing issues that affect women and girls on local and states ballots. She concludes “Although our work to advance education and equity for women and girls is far from over, today we can sit back and give ourselves a pat on the back for a job well done. Analysis of yesterday’s vote showed that women were 53 percent of the electorate and voters under the age of 29 were 19 percent. I know the *It’s My Vote: I Will Be Heard* campaign can claim a part of that.”

## AAUW Biennial Action Priorities

Biennial priorities for federal action are chosen according to the criteria of viability, critical need, strong member support, and potential for distinctive AAUW contribution or leadership. Included among the priorities is the following:

**To support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity, AAUW advocates**

- Adequate and equitable funding for quality public education for all students;
- Opposition to the use of public funds for nonpublic elementary and secondary education and to charter schools that do not adhere to the same civil rights and accountability standards as required of other public schools;
- Protection of programs that meet the needs of girls and women in elementary, secondary, and postsecondary education, including vigorous enforcement of Title IX and other civil rights laws pertaining to education;
- Increased support for access to higher education for women and disadvantaged populations;
- Increased support for programs that break through barriers for women and girls in science, technology, engineering, and Math (STEM) fields.

## Jkjkkm, Upcoming Important Dates

Sun. Dec. 9 2 pm. *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, Lee Graham Center. Contact Sharon Zackula for tickets

Sun. Dec. 9 4 – 6 pm. Holiday Party at Jim and Becky Gaul’s home, 6119 18<sup>th</sup> Road North, Arlington. Contact Sharon Zackula to attend.

Thurs. Jan 3 Deadline for next newsletter

Mon. Jan. 7 AAUW FC Board meeting

Sun. Jan. 13 2:00 pm, Branch Business Meeting, Falls Church Community Center

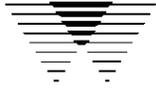
Tues. Jan 22 7:30 pm, Book Club

Mon. Jan 28 7:30 p.m. Board Meeting

Tues. Jan 29 Deadline for next newsletter

Sat. Feb. 9 State Lobby Day in Richmond

Sun. Feb. 10 2 pm, Branch Meeting, Falls Church Community Center



AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY  
WOMEN

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The American Association of University Women promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change. In principle and practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.

The AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.

AAUW encourages and trains women to run for— and win —elected office through the Elect Her programs.

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