

AAUW FALLS CHURCH FLASH

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Front row: Susan Conklin. In rear, variously, left to right: Bunny Jarrett, Marilyn Falksen, Kitty Richardson, and Becky Gaul. Why this assembly? Read Marilyn's article inside for the scoop. See page 3 .

What's Inside?

Our February meeting is the final Visioning discussion; please make plans to attend.

More details inside From the President. Susan reports on the newly formed and growing Travel Group. Remember Special Projects applications are due by March 1st. You can use the "old" application; new forms and policies will discussed at the March meeting. Book Sale activities are gearing up—read all about that inside. Do you have a civil rights story to tell? For this and much, much more, turn the page.



From the President

Dear AAUWFC Members,

Many of you have attended the first two workshops of our Branch Visioning Project. These workshops have been facilitated by the AAUW-US Leadership Development Department. The last workshop is scheduled for our next meeting, Sunday, February 9th, 2:00-4:00 at the Community Center.

The Board developed a Statement of Purpose for the February meeting to guide Deepti Gudapati and Denise Decker, the workshop facilitators.

We would like to increase the visibility of the Branch to attract a more diverse membership, increase attendance at Branch meetings, and serve the community through our Branch activities.

In order to address our needs, Deepti and Denise will focus on best practices in marketing and recruitment. In addition to the tools and technology ideas they will bring, our members can share strategies that they have seen work for AAUW or for other organizations to which they belong.

I would like to issue a special invitation to those of you who have been members of other AAUW branches to join us at the February meeting. Come share a tried and true marketing or recruitment activity that worked in your branch that we might try here in Falls Church.

This is a time to be creative and try new marketing and recruitment strategies. Come out to the meeting on February 9th, and let's work together to make our branch a better branch!

Bunny Jarrett, President

Special Projects = Publicity = Members

VA State President Caroline Pickens and Sandy Lawrence recently sent a link to area branch presidents noting the successful STEM projects of Charlottesville's relatively new branch. To read this exemplary publicity, go to

<http://www.newsplex.com/home/headlines/239865951.html>

Caroline noted "Excellent publicity for the Charlottesville/UVA Branch and their STEM project. UVA is one of our newest branches and is primarily grad students and some faculty members. It is a challenge for a branch where a number of the members

complete degrees and move on. It was started and nurtured four years ago by Lauren Germain, a grad student who ended up serving on our state board as C/U chair, received an AAUW fellowship in her last year, had a baby, and is now at Syracuse University. The UVA branch lost so many members that they were down to about six, but they are getting new members and have great programs going. This is a great example of how even a small branch can maintain vitality. **Good programming=members.**

More news of what branches in Virginia are doing for STEM projects will be in the Virginia Vision which will be coming to you in February. If YOU think a bit, you might conceive a modest STEM project or similar effort that could be funded (up to \$500) by a Falls Church AAUW Special Projects award. Special Projects were begun as a way of encouraging all members, who share in the work of the book sale, to share in the philanthropy of the book sale. **Mellen Tannamly** led the committee proposing Special Projects and the formula for the percentage of book sale monies for them.

One of the **several Special Projects recently sponsored by our branch with funds from the Book Sale** is sending a George Mason coed to the National College Conference for Women Student Leaders held annually by the AAUW. Last year's attendee, Dani Kreigh, wrote: "I had a wonderful experience meeting people from other states and being surrounded by so many other young feminists. The workshops were also enlightening in the sense that they provided a lot of useful tips for being a powerful woman. I really enjoyed the conference and would recommend it to other people."

Think of a program—sports, science, college prep—that would benefit young women and girls in our area. Then complete a Special Projects Application this week!!

Lilly Ledbetter Honored

On Thursday, January 30, five members of the Falls Church Branch of AAUW (pictured on page 1 of this issue) participated in a reception honoring Lilly Ledbetter at AAUW headquarters in Washington, D.C. The reception also celebrated the five-year anniversary of the enactment of the Lilly Ledbetter Act, which restored the long-standing interpretation of civil rights law that allowed employees to challenge every discriminatory paycheck.

AAUW's 7th floor conference room was filled and overflowing as AAUW members and friends listened to Ledbetter speak about her experiences and call upon Congress to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, the necessary companion legislation to the Ledbetter Act. As Ledbetter has said "**Giving women my Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act without the Paycheck Fairness Act is like giving them a nail without the hammer.**" The Paycheck Fairness Act would help create stronger incentives for employers to pay workers fairly, empower women to negotiate for equal pay, and prohibit retaliation against employees who share salary information.

Prior to the reception, Falls Church Lobby Corps members visited Senate offices to seek cosponsors for the Paycheck Fairness Act.

From the Board

The AAUW of the Falls Church Area Board met Monday, January 27, 2014. Board members in attendance were Bunny Jarrett, Sharon Zackula, Kitty Richardson, Elizabeth Kessel, Martha Trunk, Marilyn Falksen and Becky Gaul.

Program VP: Sharon suggested that we use the first part of the February 9th meeting as a social time. It was decided to socialize from 2:00-2:30 followed by the final Visioning Workshop 2:30-4:00.

Membership VP: Kitty Richardson reported that the phone tree to new members was not well received. Members indicated that they knew when the meetings were scheduled and did not need the reminder.

Treasurer: Martha reported that the national roster for our branch is current and correct. She urged Board members to turn in any reimbursed and unreimbursed expenses as soon as possible. She will be preparing the budget for 2014-2015 and needs current expenditures. Martha has sent money to national for our Career Development Grant that we support from book sale proceeds.

Book Sale: Mollie reported that the Book Sale Brunch would be held at Mary Youman's on Sunday, February 16th at 12:30. All members are invited. Donations of food for the brunch are welcomed. Members can sign up for book sale jobs at the brunch or at the February branch meeting. Mollie will ask members to serve on the Book Sale Committee as needs arise between now and the sale in April.

Communications: Becky announced that Kristan McMahon would help with communication, especially with social media.

Public Policy: Marilyn reported that we have collected about 50 signatures on the Equal Pay Day Petition for Virginia. There are still a few days to sign the petition online. She is exploring stickers or brochures from AAUW-US that we could distribute for Equal Pay Day, April 8th.

Scholarship Committee: The Scholarship Committee comprises Susan Hesser, Anne Baxter, Elizabeth Kessel and Ruth Nowjack-Raymer (Shadow member). In the next few weeks, they will choose a chair and begin the application process for local high school seniors.

Bylaws Committee: Martha reported that there are a number of required changes to the Bylaws that do not require a vote by the membership. She will distribute the amended Bylaws for the March 10th Annual Meeting.

Special Projects: The Board reviewed the criteria for Special Projects grants. They recommended that the grants continue to be for programs in the greater Falls Church area and expanded the area to include Northern Virginia. Several changes in the process of applying for and awarding grants were made. The revised criteria and process will be distributed to members for a vote at the Annual Meeting, March 10th.

Nominating Committee: The committee will be chaired by the Membership VP Kitty Richardson. Members of the committee will be Marilyn Falksen and Anne Baxter. Nominations for President, Program VP, and Secretary will be sent to members two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting: Bunny reviewed the agenda for the Annual Meeting as required by our Branch Bylaws: approval of annual budget; election of President, Program VP, and secretary; report of the Bylaws Committee; officers' reports. In addition, there will be a report of the Visioning Project and a discussion of how we can use the results of the project in our planning for the coming year.

Board Meetings: As no issues are anticipated that need Board discussion and decision, the February Board meeting will be held via email. The next Board meetings will be March 24 and April 28.

Member Notes

News from Carol Anne Davis, our former membership VP who moved to North Carolina in June: Carol Anne says she misses her friends in AAUW but loves being near her sons, daughters in law and grandboys. I love seeing each one about once a week. Aiden is 5 and in kindergarten, Benjamin is 3 1/2 and quite verbal, Hollis is 2 1/2 and I visit him in Daycare. Contact Carol Anne at davisca9@yahoo.com.

Travel Group

Susan Hesser reports the travel group's meeting on January 20th was quite successful, as the group looked at websites and magazines and discussed

- How to make credit card points work for you, how to move points around
- Websites for air and hotel like Kayak, booking, hotels .com
- Vacationstogo.com and onlinevacationcenter.com and travel agents for cruises, tours and safaris
- Experiences on cruise lines and tours

Other members are invited to bring slides etc. to the next meeting Feb. 17th. Send your name and what you want to do and when to seffhess@usa.net.

Travel Group meets again on February 17 at 2912 Rosemary Lane Falls Church.

The Treasurer Wants To Hear From You

To assist in the preparation for next year's budget, please submit reimbursable expenses to Martha Trunk, 6571 Snowbell Lane, Falls Church, VA 22042 as soon as possible.

The board knows that many generous members chose to donate their expenses. We greatly appreciate this generosity. Because we would like to know how much it costs to actually run the branch, we would appreciate an estimate of these donations."

Support "The Actual Dance" and Cancer Research

The Falls Church Area Branch of AAUW is **one of the community co-sponsors** of the production of *The Actual Dance*. Get together with a fellow AAUW member and take in one of the performances.

The Actual Dance, written and performed by Sam Simon, is a dramatic exploration of the emotional and spiritual journey of confronting the possibility of being with the person you have loved most in the world through the end of life. In the spring of 2000, Sam's wife, Susan, was diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer. That diagnosis and subsequent treatments took both of them on a roller coaster ride that moved from elation to despair and back again. *The Actual Dance* is a presentation of that ride from Sam's perspective.

There will be two performances of this one-person play on **Sunday, February 23, 2014** at Creative Cauldron, 410 S Maple Avenue. Performance times are 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$25.00 each.

Tickets can be purchased at <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/strange-bedfellow-presents-the-actual-dance-tickets-10345454533?aff=rss>

All ticket fees and contributions will go directly to Living with Cancer. Tickets are purchased through Living with Cancer's INOVA credit card processing. Therefore, the **entire ticket cost is totally deductible for tax purposes.**

Are You a Part of Virginia's Civil Rights History?

Congressman Gerry Connolly is asking northern Virginians to volunteer their personal stories about the struggles they faced, the successes they achieved, and their other experiences related to the civil rights movement, as part of the commemoration of the signing of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Please visit Connolly's web site at www.connolly.house.gov to record your written testimonial for posterity and participate in this public history project. If you have any questions about how to make your contribution, please call his office at 703-670-4989.

AAUW of Virginia Conference April 4 – 6

Join members of AAUW from around the state at Smith Mountain Lake, location of the 2014 AAUW of Virginia Conference, April 4-6. Smith Mountain Lake (SML) is less than a four hour drive from anywhere in the state.

If you have never been to SML, you now have a great reason to visit! This will be a very enjoyable and informative *destination* weekend!

The complete details of this conference are located at the State web site: aauw-va.aauw.net or the Smith Mountain web site: smithmountain-va.aauw.net. Print out the “brochure” that is there, or just the registration form! But, register NOW! ***The rate for registration goes up after March 15.***

What can you expect at this conference?

- **Welcome Reception Friday Night:** “Moonshine and Poppy Cock” (local entertainment, desserts, hors d’oeuvres and a cash wine bar)
- **Keynote Speaker:** Rebecca Norlander, national AAUW Board member and owner of a technology company, whose goal is to change the world for the better through technology.
- **Workshops: Synergy of Programming and Membership; Promoting Pay Equity & STEM - How do we do it? ; AAUW Funds – What is the point?**
- **Exciting Excursions, Basket Raffle, Book Chatter, Movie “Lake Effect” inspired by and filmed at SML:** All listed on the websites mentioned above, and on the conference “brochure” that your branch president will send to you.
- **Saturday Night Banquet:** Woman of Achievement Awardee Dr. Barbara Ryder, Department of Computer Science Chair and only woman among 54 named professorships in VA Tech’s College of Engineering; head of National Center for Women and Information Technology program to increase women in technology and computing.

Smith Mountain Lake is conveniently located between Roanoke and Lynchburg in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Directions are in the **upcoming issue of the *Virginia Vision*** and on the websites mentioned.

Movie Blog

Just a reminder for those of you who have been content to sit by the fireplace: The Movie Group is still viewing the latest from Hollywood! If you want to read one member’s take on the films of the day, go to Susan Conklin’s blog <http://suzismovies.blogspot.com/>

Book Sale: What You Need to Know

The book sale date is fast approaching: Fri and Sat. April 11 and 12, 2014 in the Falls Church Community Center. Profits help us break barriers for women and girls by funding AAUW fellowships, scholarships for Falls Church area high school girls, and Special Projects in the greater Falls Church area.

• Organizing Brunch

This informal brunch is a great opportunity to learn more about the jobs available (and to sign up for one). Come to Mary Youman's (**4419 N. 18th Street**) on **Sunday, Feb. 16 at 12:30**. We'll iron out some of the details of the sale. Please come; bring a dish to share, or just come; everyone is welcome. Below is a **sample of the jobs** that are available:

- "Current and choice" pricer – 1pm to 4pm on sorting days, price new books.
- Sorting lunch hostess – 11am to 1pm on sorting days, purchase (we provide the \$)/setup lunch.
- Setup coordinator – coordinates setup in the Community Center on April 10
- Publicity coordinator – help with book sale publicity
- Label making and postcard mailing.
- Book collection

If you want to help, pick one (or more) jobs and sign up at the February meeting or brunch, or call Mollie Jewell 703/941-5643.

• About Sorting

We'll start sort books again in March (earlier if we have a mild day). We sort books, storing them in boxes by subject. Even in a short time, you can accomplish a lot. Come to Mary Youman's (near Ballston) any time between 10am and 3pm on Saturdays in March. Sign up and we'll give you a reminder call or email. Call Mollie Jewell at 703/941-5643 or Mary Youman at 703/528-8993 to find out more about sorting. (They have a 2-page flyer that "tells all.") It's not all work; we have fun socializing, too.

• Are We Collecting Books Now?

Our storage shelves are starting to fill, but we are looking for more good books. Our book drive starts soon with announcements in the local media. We will be collecting books in a bin at the Falls Church Community Center and at the Youman's during sorting sessions.

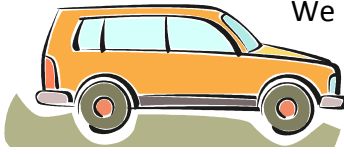


To streamline processing, we are asking donors to wait until March to give us books, if possible.

To reduce the amount of trash, we are selective about the books we accept. So, please remind your donors about the **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. So please

explain to people that we accept only saleable books in good condition. The other books should be recycled.

- **Collection**



We need members to collect books from our bin at the Falls Church Community Center and/or to be "on call" to pick up books and take them to storage at Mary Youman's garage near Ballston. No denying it, this job does require some heavy lifting! Talk with Mollie or sign up for this task at the member meeting or brunch.

- **Receipts for books you collect**

If you are **accepting book donations from your friends**, you can cut out and give them the following receipt:



Educational Equity Book sale
Falls Church Community Center
April 11 and 12, 2014

Promoting education and equity for women and girls

Thank you for your donation of:

_____ Soft cover books

_____ Hard cover books

_____ Other (DVD, video, magazine, audio book, _____)

Value to be established by donor.

Date _____ 2014

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wed., Jan. 1	Half dues for new members until July!
Weds., Feb. 5	State Lobby Day in Richmond VA
Sun. , Feb. 9	2 p.m. Member social followed at 2:30 by Branch Focus Workshop (Final Visioning session)
Sun., Feb. 16	12:30 p.m. Book Sale Organizing Brunch, 4419 N. 18th Street, Arlington
Mon., Feb. 17	7 p.m. Travel Group, 2912 Rosemary Lane Falls Church.
Sun., Feb. 23	2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. <i>The Actual Dance</i> , sponsored by Falls Church AAUW and other community organizations. Creative Cauldron, 410 S Maple Avenue
March	Begin collecting books from individual donors for Book Sale
March 15	Discounted State Conference registration deadline
April 4 - 6	Virginia AAUW State Conference, Smith Mountain Lake

Mark your calendars: Our famous book sale is April 11-12, with setup on April 10.



Empowering Women Since 1881

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. 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.

<http://aauw-va.aauw.net>