

AAUW FALLS CHURCH FLASH

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What's Inside?

*The painting above is by Martha Trunk; find out where and when you can see her work (and others') under Member Notes. Letter from Bunny with **exciting news** about our being selected for the national project in **Leadership Development** – find out how YOU can be part of this innovative step forward. And more about your AAUW group, read on!*

November Member Meeting: Travel and Visioning

Please plan to attend the November 11, 2013 meeting (Falls Church Community Center, 7:30 p.m.). For the first part of our program, we will be treated to Susan Hesser's discussion of her exotic travels and the ideas for the travel special interest group. Our membership has many interesting travel experiences to exotic and interesting places to share! Let's also discuss what you would like to see next for the travel group.

For the second part of our program, as Bunny writes in greater detail in her president's letter (see next page), our branch has been invited to participate in a pilot project by the AAUW national office. We will be joined by members of the Member Leadership Program, and AAUW member Denise Decker, who is part of the working group established to support the pilot program, in the first part of our participation in piloting this program. Our major task will be to determine the focus or vision of our branch, through a collaborative process of all members.

We look forward to hearing more about the pilot and participating in a program led by the Member Leadership Program. What is your focus/vision for the branch? Why did you join? **Which parts of AAUW are most interesting to you?**

Holiday Party December 8

The Holiday party will be Sunday, December 8, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Jim and Becky Gaul's. All members and spouses are invited, as are friends who are interested in AAUW. Everyone will be asked to contribute their favorite finger food or dessert, and we will also be looking for volunteers to help with a few event details-- such as paper goods, utensils, a bottle of wine or your favorite Christmas ale or beer, etc.

Pre-Party Holiday Performance. The pre-party holiday performance this year will be at Creative Cauldron, Falls Church and is the Christmas Cabin of Carnaween. Creative Cauldron describes the play as a classic Irish folktale, which is back by popular demand "for one final engagement!" This is an Irish folktale, about a tinker's daughter who yearns to have her own cabin. The "little people intervene," and apparently, this intervention is accompanied by live Irish music, which should be a lot of fun and very lively.

Details: Creative Cauldron on December 8, at 2:00 p.m.

Address: 410 South Maple Avenue (Parking is available at 410 or 412 South Maple Avenue) (near Orso Restaurant)

Ticket Pricing: \$18 (Seniors \$15). (Sharon Zackula will buy the tickets in advance.)

Note: Transportation for you can be arranged if you would like to share a ride, which is more fun anyway!

Sign-Up for the Party and/or the Play

For The Holiday Party. A signup sheet will be circulated during the November meeting for you to indicate information about the Holiday Party: (1) If you will attend the party (Y or N); (2) Number of persons (1 or 2 for example); (3) Will you bring finger food/dessert? (Savory or sweet); (4) Is there anything else you would care to bring? (Wine, Beer, Ice?)

For the Play. The signup sheet will also ask you to indicate: (1) Will you attend the play, Christmas Cabin of Carnaween (Y or N) at Creative Cauldron; (2) If yes, how many persons; and (3) Price \$18 per persons (unless you qualify for senior ticketing @ \$15/persons). (Note: Sharon Zackula will purchase the tickets in advance, so we make sure we have tickets for everyone. You must pay for the tickets in advance unless you make other arrangements with Sharon.) Contact Sharon Zackula at zack2913@verizon.net or at 703 475-4310 if you have questions.



From the President

Our Falls Church Area Branch has been invited to participate in a pilot project by the AAUW national office. The Member **Leadership Department at AAUW** is gearing up to launch a nationwide program that supports branches in becoming the best they can be. Before the official launch, AAUW is piloting various components of the program to learn what works best. Our Falls Church Board has agreed to participate in this pilot phase! We can do some good work for our branch, while at the same time helping the **Leadership Department develop an effective program with real impact for members.**

On October 28th, two members of the Member Leadership Department, Program Manager Stephanie Kraemer and Director Deepti Gudipati, **attended our Board meeting** to discuss ways the branch can participate in the pilot program. They were joined by AAUW member (DC and Arlington branches) Denise Decker, who is part of the working group established to support the pilot program.

After considering the needs of the branch, the time available to devote to the project, and the desire to have a tangible outcome in a short amount of time, the Board made the following decisions. **Our involvement in the pilot project will be November 1 through February 28.** Our major task will be to determine the focus or vision of our branch. This will be done through a collaborative process of all members. The first step in the process will be **a facilitated session by the AAUW staff and working group member at our November 11th branch meeting.** A description of this session will be

sent out to members before the November meeting.

Once our focus/vision is determined, we will develop the steps necessary to achieve this vision. Board members suggested **areas we should consider: targeted recruitment and retention of members, development of a leader mentoring program, and increased presence in the community.** AAUW, through Stephanie, Deepti, and Denise, will provide training and guidance as we work through the planning process during January and February. We anticipate a report of this visioning project to the membership at the branch business meeting in March. And, we anticipate **useful feedback to AAUW about what worked, what didn't work, and what needs to be changed** before the project goes nationwide in 2014.

Our future planning and programming will be guided by our vision, but this does not mean we will give up parts of our branch that we value. We will continue to have programs in a variety of interest areas, read books, attend movies, socialize with friends, and sort and sell books! I anticipate that we will become a stronger, more visible branch with satisfied members who are working together to achieve the goals we set for ourselves.

I look forward to seeing each and every one of you at the November 11th meeting.
Your input is valuable and your input counts!

Bunny Jarrett, President

Save the Dates!

Book Group Meetings

Please note the new 7:30 pm time, changed from some previously distributed calendars.

If you'd like to plan ahead, we will be reading and discussing the following books for coming months:

- *Testament of Mary* by Colm Toibin for **November 12 at Anne Baxter's**
- *Middlemarch* by George Eliot for January
- *TransAtlantic* by Colum McCann for February.

New members are always welcome! Contact Olivia with questions. olyced@gmail.com or [571-224-3612](tel:571-224-3612).

Thanks to branch members, old and new, who worked to sort books for the book sale in September and October. The books will slumber over the winter but come Spring we will convene at Mary's once again to socialize and sort. We are able to fund Special Projects, scholarships, and national grants for working women from our book sales. Good work!!

Member Notes and News

We have added a puppy to our family so I'm walking more now. You will be able to see our dog, Bach, and my grandkids on the **Puppy Bowl**, which is on the **Animal Planet running continuously on Super Bowl Sunday**. When my daughter-in-law Jessi Baden-Campbell went up to New York to film this year's event, she met Bach and he has joined our family.

Sharon Strand

I've been taking painting classes through Arlington County Senior Programs and a couple of one in Fairfax. We are having an exhibit of the classes work at **Fairlington**. We are having an opening reception of **November 5 from 3-5**. So after you vote, if you have time, please stop by. Otherwise check it out at your leisure; it will be there through December 30.

Martha Trunk

Falls Church is again involved in a **project for Haiti** and asks for your help. The Rotary Club of Centreville and Chantilly, the Rotary Club of Falls Church, along with six other Rotary Clubs in Northern Virginia were awarded a generous \$16,000 grant from Rotary District 7610 but the grant will not cover the entire costs. **So we have a crowd-funding site on Indiegogo**. The url is: <http://igg.me/at/chantalschool>. **We hope that people will please visit that site and decide to participate with us.**

The project will construct a **septic system and bathroom for a school with 600 students from K - 12 in the village of Chantal, Haiti**. Their school has no bathroom, toilets or sinks, just a 4 - hole open latrine that overflows when it rains. It's a health hazard for the surrounding village as well as a threat to the nearby river that provides water. Girls at the school have no privacy or ability to take care of themselves at school when they have their periods so they often leave school when they reach puberty. We believe that a real bathroom will help **retain girls in school**. It will improve sanitation in the village, protect the river from sewage contamination, and will **reduce the spread of illnesses** like parasites, dysentery, and cholera.

Funds will also be used to purchase a modern refrigerator to **store vaccines** for the traveling nuns who conduct vaccination clinics in over 30 mountain villages. Their current refrigerator is from the 1950s and the compressor has failed. **Sarah John**

Dianne and Virgil Bodeen spent almost five weeks in Spain this summer. The first week they were conversationalists in an **English immersion program called Pueblo Ingles** that houses and feeds you at no expense once you have gotten yourself to Madrid. If you'd like to know more about this, Dianne can provide more details. They followed that with time in Madrid and Toledo, but the bulk of the trip was in Andalucia—a region of **incredible historical interest and an endless supply of sights to see**. Dianne put the trip together using guide books and the internet. The Bodeens recommend Spain as a delightful travel destination—and relatively easy and inexpensive. **Diane Bodeen**

Sharon Zackula new email address zack2913@verizon.net.

Lobby Corps Open House November 7

If you have a yen to roam the hall of Congress for *Truth, Justice and the AAUW Way* or just interested in what Lobby Corp members have been advocating for, the **Lobby Corps Open House** is for you.

Sandy Lawrence, our NoVA representative notes: This is my first year in Lobby Corp and it has been a fascinating and fulfilling experience. The AAUW Lobby staff ensures we receive comprehensive training and briefings on the key issues we lobby for such as education, civil rights and economic security.

The open house is from 10AM-2:00PM (Lunch will be served) at AAUW headquarters, 1111 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036. For more information, contact VoterEd@aauw.org or 202-785-7724. Anyone who would like to go with a Lobby Corps member from our branch should contact Bunny Jarrett.

From the Board . . .

The AAUW of the Falls Church Area Board met Monday, October 28, 2013. Board members in attendance were Bunny Jarrett, Sharon Zackula, Kitty Richardson, Elizabeth Kessel, Martha Trunk, and Becky Gaul. Also in attendance were Stephanie Kraemer and Deepti Gudipati of AAUW and Denise Decker of DC and Arlington AAUW.

Program VP: Sharon Zackula, in consultation with the Board, decided that the program for November 11th will comprise Susan Hesser's presentation on her recent travels with a discussion about the Travel Club and a workshop by the Leadership Development staff of AAUW to guide members in identifying a unifying focus of our Falls Church Area branch.

Membership VP: Kitty Richardson reported the names of members she is going to ask to join her on the Membership Committee. Other members who would like to volunteer should contact Kitty. She also is establishing a Phone Tree to invite new members to our Branch meetings.

Treasurer: Martha Trunk reported that we have \$1064 in the Branch account and \$23,332.77 in the Book Sale account. She will write a check to national for the Career Development Grant that we support from the book sale proceeds. Martha also reported that **November 30 is the date that members who have not paid their dues will be removed from the rolls by the national office.** If you have not paid your 2013-2014 dues, send a check to Martha now while you think of it.

Book Sale: Mollie Jewell reported that all books collected thus far have been sorted and stored in Mary Youman's garage. Several new and continuing members have pitched in

to sort books this fall. Mollie will ask members to serve on the Book Sale Committee as needs arise between now and the sale in April.

Communications: Becky Gaul encouraged Board members to review the website and submit changes and additions to her. The website is to serve as our most current information about the branch and branch members. Becky shared names of members she will invite to join the Communications Committee with specific jobs for getting the word out about our branch activities.

Scholarship Committee: Bunny Jarrett announced that she is appointing Ruth Nowjack-Raymer as the Shadow Member of the Scholarship Committee. Ruth will move into full committee membership in 2014-2015.

Special Projects: It was decided that the Board will review the criteria for Special Projects grants rather than establish a separate review committee. The recommendations of the Board will be brought before the membership for a vote. Members will be encouraged to submit Special Project applications at the November meeting.

The date of the next Board Meeting was changed from Monday, November 25th to Saturday, November 23rd from 3:00 to 5:00, at Martha Trunk's house.

Lorton Workhouse Prison Museum Expanded

The Workhouse Prison Museum has been expanded to two rooms, including one dedicated to the story of the more than 70 suffragists imprisoned there. **The Workhouse Prison Museum is free and open Wednesday-Friday from noon until 3 pm and on Saturday and Sunday from noon until 4 pm.** For more information, go to www.workhousearts.org/about-workhouse-arts-center.

What Is Your Special Project?

Every branch member can submit an application for a Special Project, for amounts up to \$500. It was a Special Projects award from Sally Brett that first paid the College and University Partner fees for George Mason University. Thanks to Special Project application from Pam Martinov and Anne Baxter, students from local high schools have been able to visit college campuses and middle school students have attended science workshops. For the past four years, a scholarship funded by a Special Projects request has paid full fees for a George Mason U. coed to attend the National College Conference for Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL).

What good can you do, with the support of our branch? Learn more at the November 11th branch meeting or go to the branch Web site.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Thurs., Nov. 7 AAUW Lobby Corps Open House, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., AAUW Headquarters,
- Mon., Nov. 11 Branch Meeting, 7:30 p.m., FC Community Center
- Tues. Nov. 12 Book Group, 7:30 p.m., 6337 Hillcrest, Alexandria 22312
- Sat., Nov. 23 Board Meeting, 3 – 5 p.m., Trunk residence
- Sun., Dec. 8 Holiday Party, 4:30 – 6 p.m., 6119 18th Road North, Arlington 22205
Pre-Party Plays (see Program notes on page 3)



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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.

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 Washington Update:

http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/salsa/web/common/public/signup?signup_page_KEY=7067