

# AAUW FALLS CHURCH FLASH

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## September 14 meeting starts at 7:00 pm

Our September meeting will include Dr. Jessie DeAro from the National Science Foundation who will speak on STEM education for women. To allow for elections and social time, we are starting earlier than usual, at 7:00. Note your calendars now, Sept. 14, 7:00pm.



## Notes on Special Election from Mollie Jewell

As Kitty told you in her notice of a special election, I am running for President of FC AAUW. After serving just one month as “branch contact,” I became convinced that the branch needs a real president.

I have two goals for my one-year term. First, I want to increase member participation across all branch activities because I can’t do this alone. When I ask for volunteers, I’m hoping you will step up to help in any number of ways. In the September meeting, I will post a number of volunteer opportunities (most of which are described elsewhere in this newsletter), PLEASE sign up for at least one.

And my second goal is to have a clear and willing candidate for FC AAUW branch presidency by the next election, March 2016. To make leadership more appealing, I believe we make our positions an exciting opportunity to support the AAUW mission and, basically, less time-consuming.

We had a lively August board meeting discussing ways to make this happen. We talked about how to identify barriers to taking leadership positions so we can explore ways to eliminate those barriers. And we talked about finding ways to enable people to take leadership positions and help them in those jobs.

As a first step, the board drafted a questionnaire to identify the core functions that are important to our branch members. You will see that questionnaire soon and please participate in this evaluation. If you are driven to just pay your dues to support AAUW, that's OK and we need to know that. If you want us to do more, tell us how you think we can do so. If you especially enjoy an AAUW activity, GREAT, tell us about it. If you've held an office, tell us how we can make that job easier.

As a result of the questionnaire, the board and any interested members will begin to identify ways to simplify and start effecting those changes.

## September 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting

We plan a conversation with Dr. Jessie DeAro of the National Science Foundation. Dr. DeAro is Program Director of the ADVANCE and ECR that is developing strategies for change in higher education that addresses implicit bias, policies and programs to help increase and advance women in STEM academic careers. She will also share some of the data showing the numbers of women in academic careers. For those who want to see statistics prior to the meetings or as background to the program, the website with the data is <http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/>.

## November 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting

HAPPY 65TH ANNIVERSARY!! Mark your calendars for a special event. On Saturday, November 7, we will celebrate the 65th anniversary of the Falls Church Branch at the Fellowship Hall of the Falls Church Episcopal Church. If you have been a care taker of branch history or memorabilia, please contact Kristan McMahan at [kkcmcmahon@gmail.com](mailto:kkcmcmahon@gmail.com) or [703-533-2111](tel:703-533-2111). We would like to showcase pieces of our long history as part of the festivities. We look forward to celebrating this momentous occasion with you all.

### 1950 Factoids!

Some prices: house- \$14,500, average income-\$3,216, milk -82 cents,  
gas -20 cents a gallon, bread-14 cents, stamp-3 cents!

Sex symbols and hotties:  
Marilyn Monroe, Lauren Bacall, Ava Gardner, Elizabeth Taylor and Lana Turner

Minute Rice appeared on shelves for the first time  
Disposable diapers invented by Marion Donovan

## Fall Book Sorting dates set: 9/26, 10/24 and 11/7

Mark your calendar for Saturdays Sept. 26 and Oct. 24 and Nov. 7 - for AAUW book sorting.

The Youmans report that the books are now accessible in their garage and there are plenty of them. So we have scheduled sorting dates for Sept. with work starting at 9am (yes, that early!). If you can come, we'd appreciate the help. We're planning to end at noon, so we won't have to bother with lunch.

Date: Saturday Sept 26

Time: 9am to noon

Place: Youmans, 4419 N. 18th Street, Arlington VA.

Phone: 703-528-8993



Sorting is a great way to meet people, spend some quality time outdoors, and get a huge sense of accomplishment. Come to Mary's any time between 9am and noon. Mary lives near Ballston at 4419 N. 18<sup>th</sup> Street in Arlington, just 2 blocks off Glebe Road. Come, even if only for a little while. If you have questions, call Mary Youman at 703-528-8993.

Our annual used book sale (held at the Falls Church Community Center in April) supports the branch's scholarship program for local high school girls and the AAUW's nationally known Educational Foundation that granted almost \$4 million in fellowships last year.

## Fall Book Collection Drive: September 21 to October 23, FC Community Center

This fall we will have a bin at the Falls Church Community Center for collecting books for our April book sale. The bin will be in place from September 21 to October 23. So, if you have friends who want to donate, they can deposit your good, clean, saleable books in the book collection bin at the Falls Church Community Center. And, as always, people are welcome to take books to Mary Youman's 4419 N. 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Arlington (703) 528-8993.

During the fall book drive, we need volunteers to pickup books from the bin at the FC Community Ctr. and take them to the Youmans 4419 N. 18th Street.

Help us keep the books from overflowing at the Community Center, sign up for one of the twice-weekly pickups: Monday or Friday. If you are collecting books, call the center before going to make sure a pickup is needed (703) 248-5077. If so, you will probably need to bring boxes to contain the books,

You can sign-up at the Sept 14 meeting or directly online by clicking on the following link, or email me with your dates (gjewell@cox.net). To use this link, right-click on the link, then click on "Open Hyperlink" [AAUW Fall book collection](#)

The book sale benefits scholarship/projects for women, including local Falls Church high school girls.

## **Dues**

If you haven't paid your yearly dues, you can bring a check for \$77 made out to AAUW to the meeting or mail it to our treasurer, Martha Trunk, 6571 Snowbell Lane, Falls Church, VA 22042.



# **Volunteer Opportunities**

## **FC Fall Festival and Taste of Falls Church AAUW participation - Volunteers needed**

Falls Church AAUW will once again be part of the Fall Festival and Taste of Falls Church on Saturday, September 19. We take this opportunity to publicize our branch and the book sale by distributing free books and bookmarks. If you'd like to attend the festival and have a couple of free hours, sign-up to staff our booth. With two people signed up for each slot, you will have the dual opportunity to talk to folks about AAUW and to browse the vendors.

The staffing needs run from 7:45am to 4:00pm for approximately 2-hour shifts. If you can help, please reply to Mollie Jewell, gjewell@cox.net or 703-941-5643, or sign up at our September 14 meeting.

## **Upcoming- Thomas Jefferson Elementary School PTA Information Fair**

Falls Church AAUW is publicizing our branch and AAUW's actions to advance education for women and girls at the Thomas Jefferson Elementary School PTA Information Fair. We need a volunteer to staff a table that we will share with the League of Women Voters. More information will follow regarding date and times either via e mail or at our first meeting, September 14.



## **Upcoming-Service Opportunities for GMHS Students**

Our branch is attending the Volunteer Service Learning Fair at GMHS to recruit students to help us setup the book sale. One or two volunteers would talk to students about the sale and follow-up with them after the fair and before the sale. You can sign-up at the Sept 14 meeting or contact Mollie Jewell (703-941-5643).

## **AAUW Scholarship Committee Shadow member needed**

Have you ever wanted to help pick the girls who receive our branch scholarships? This is your chance. The Scholarship Committee needs a volunteer as the shadow member. The committee solicits and evaluates applications for our local scholarships and then selects the scholarship winners. While the choices can sometimes be hard, the work is well worth it! We need one person to serve as a shadow member this year, to learn how we select. This person would then rotate onto the committee to serve a 3-year term from June 2016 to June 2019. Volunteer at the Sept 14 meeting or contact Mollie Jewell (703-941-5643), [gjewell@cox.net](mailto:gjewell@cox.net).

## **Communications Coordinator**

The Falls Church branch is looking for a Communications Coordinator. This is the person who keeps our branch website up-to-date and helps with publicizing branch activities – but don't turn this opportunity down just because you're not already a webmaster. Becky Gaul will help you transition into the communications job; she says this requires much more diligence than technical skill. If you have an interest in marketing or just want to help "spread the word" about AAUW, this is the job for you. Volunteer at the Sept 14 meeting or contact Mollie Jewell (703-941-5643), [gjewell@cox.net](mailto:gjewell@cox.net).

## **Hospitality Coordinator**

The branch also needs a Hospitality coordinator who recruits (and reminds) people to bring light refreshments to the branch meetings. Peggy Howard, who has been holding this position

for the last several years, will help you get started. Volunteer at the Sept 14 meeting or contact Mollie Jewell (703-941-5643), [gjewell@cox.net](mailto:gjewell@cox.net).

## By-Laws Chairman

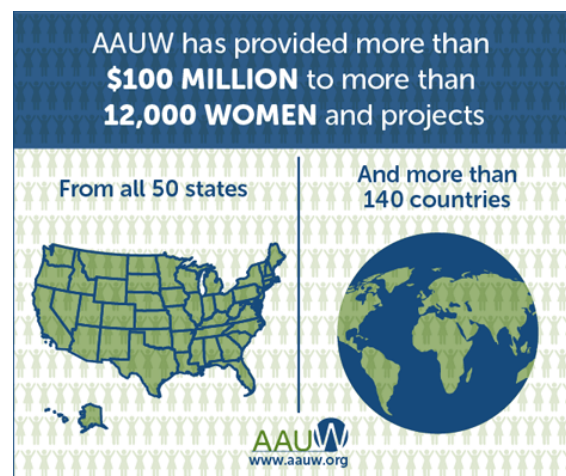
This year the branch is obligated to update our bylaws to conform with changes to the AAUW national bylaws, and we need someone to make these changes. The job isn't as daunting as it sounds because the VA state bylaws chairman sends a list of changes to be made. So, the FC bylaws chairman just needs to make the changes to our specific bylaws and send a copy back to the state. Martha Trunk did the job most recently and she is willing to help the new chairman get started.

## Volunteer at Lantern Book Store

Mary Youman and her family regularly pick up books for our Book Sale from the Lantern Bookstore in Georgetown. Lantern has asked for volunteers for Lantern. Mary says that we get a lot of books from them, many of them good books. It is a mutually helpful partnership. Anyone interested in volunteering should call Lantern at 202-333-3222. At this point they are closed on Monday, Tuesday and sometimes Wednesdays because they just don't have enough volunteers.

**Why do we volunteer? The graphic below shows part of the reason.**

For our 2015-16 class, AAUW awarded a total of 3.7 million in funding for individual women and community projects serving women and girls.



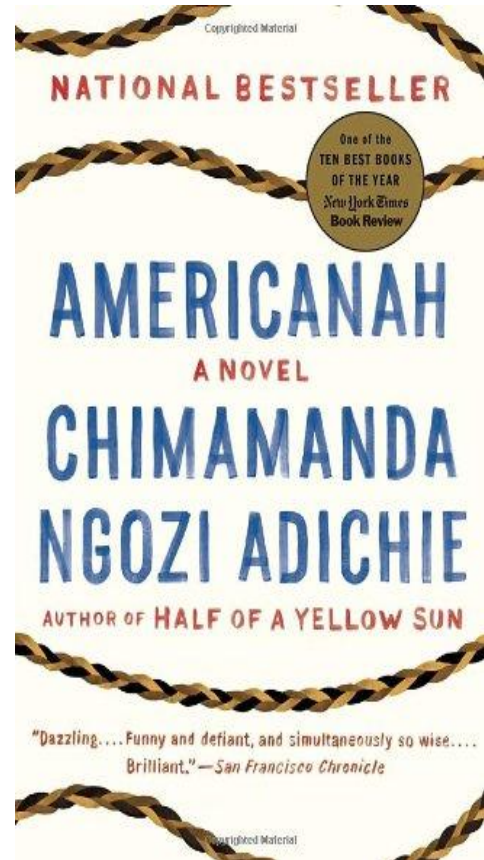
A total of 241 awardees received one of AAUW's six fellowships and grants: [American Fellowships](#), [Career Development Grants](#), [Community Action Grants](#), [International Fellowships](#), [International Project Grants](#), and [Selected Professions Fellowships](#).

**Book Group:** Becky Gaul

Thanks to all who participated in reading a variety of books this year.

For September, we're reading Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, a NY Times 10 Best Books of the Year 2014. NPR's review said it's a "knockout of a novel about immigration, American dreams, the power of first love, and the shifting meanings of skin color. . . . A marvel." We'll meet at 7:30pm on Tuesday, September 15th, at Martha Trunk's home. Please join us, even if you haven't finished the book!

Later in 2015, we're considering Down Dark by Hector Tobar (Chilean Mine rescue), Alice Walker's Possessing the Secret of Joy, The Plague by Albert Camus (re: Ebola) and looking at women's roles in Shakespeare. Everyone is welcome, even if you haven't read the book!!!



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/> And consider joining the group any Wednesday; contact Kitty Richardson [kittyrichardson6@gmail.com](mailto:kittyrichardson6@gmail.com) for information.



## **AAUW LOBBY CORPS TO HOLD OPEN HOUSE**

Are you interested in bringing AAUW's policy positions to the attention of federal policy makers? If so, AAUW Action Fund Lobby Corps can be your vehicle. Whether fighting for gender equity in education, championing moderate jurists for federal courts, or supporting measures to improve economic security, the Lobby Corps is on the scene. Once a week, volunteer members and college student interns give the AAUW Action Fund a voice and a face on Capitol Hill. Over the past forty years, the Lobby Corps has made tens of thousands of visits to congressional offices, making AAUW a familiar and respected name among members of Congress and their staffs and having a significant political impact on issues of importance to women and their families. You too can be a part of this dynamic group. No experience or expertise is necessary, and volunteers receive training and briefings on key issues before Congress.

Join the Lobby Corps for their Fall Open House to learn more about the organization and how to become an integral part of AAUW's efforts to make a meaningful and significant impact on legislation pertaining to issues of concern to women and their families. The event will be held on Thursday, October 15, 2015, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at AAUW National Headquarters, 1111 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC. Lunch will be served!

If you're interested in attending, you can register by clicking on the link below and following the prompts.

[http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/salsa/event/common/public/?event\\_KEY=4163](http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/salsa/event/common/public/?event_KEY=4163)



## Northern VA Fall District Meeting

How Will This Story End?

Come Find Out on October 3

WHO: All Northern District Branch Members

WHAT: Annual Fall District Meeting

WHERE: 2:00 pm; Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Rd.

WHY: Learn, Energize, Act



Once upon a time (1972 to be exact) Congress wisely adopted Title IX. What progress has been made in these 43 years? Many look to women's sports and the incredible changes in that arena. But Title IX is much broader than sports and covers many activities that are civil rights issues. The U.S. Department of Education has just released new guidelines and resources for public schools. That is where we AAUW members come into the picture.

Our invited speaker is Catherine Lhamon, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights in the Department of Education. Those who attended AAUW National Convention this year were captivated by this young woman and her very informative talk. Come hear how equal educational opportunities still lag behind, and how AAUW members can be an incredible partner in connecting with our school Title IX coordinators and the new guidelines for schools. Join us October 3 for the rest of this story.

Jeanne Elmore and Caroline Pickens  
Northern District Co-Representatives  
jfelmore1@gmail.com; carolineaauw@gmail.com

**TITLE IX** “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 14	7:00pm	Branch meeting- Falls Church Community Center
September 15	7:30pm	Book Club at Martha Trunk's, 6571 Snowball Lane, Falls Church
September 19	8:00am-4:00pm	Fall Festival and Taste of Falls Church
September 26	9:00am	Book sorting at Mary Youman's, 4419 N. 18th Street, Arlington VA.
October 3	2:00pm	Northern Virginia District Meeting- Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Rd., Burke, VA
October 15	10 am	Lobby Corps Open House- AAUW National Headquarters, 1111 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC
October 24	TBA	Book sorting
November 7	TBA	Book sorting

### 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>

