



FALLS CHURCH FLASH

Volume 62, Number 9

Falls Church Area AAUW Newsletter

July 2013

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT....

We certainly have had a busy and rewarding year, and, as they say, time flies when you are having fun! We always have fun visiting with fellow members during our various branch activities, and I can say it is a pleasure to engage in learning activities with our group of competent, intelligent women.

This year we learned about women's suffrage with a suffragist re-enactor and visited the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial. We heard a cogent analysis of the election results from the perspective of women and girls. Once again, our Holiday Party was a great success and sent us into the holiday season with appreciation for our friends in AAUW. April brought us another very successful book sale. The highlight for many members was the scholarship awards meeting where we celebrated the future of young girls made possible by book sale.

The business of the branch demanded a good deal of our attention this year. We reviewed and acted on the Report of the Book Sale Task Force and the Report of the Scholarship Committee. We increased support of branch administration through budget reform. We thoroughly reviewed and amended our branch bylaws. As we accomplished all of this, we continued with our book and movie groups and organized a new travel group.

The activities of the branch will be recorded in detail in year-end reports of the board members at the end of June. These reports represent a reflective process that will strengthen our branch in the coming year. I will compile these reports and make them available to members who wish to review them. The reports, as well as other important branch materials, will be archived in the Falls Church Mary Riley Styles Public Library at the end of the year.

Bunny Jarrett, President

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS NIGHT



(Dana Cazan, Susan Hesser, Mellen Tanamly, Anne Baxter, Melat Tesema, Hilina Tesema, Nebiha Ahmed, Aydee Ferrufino and Katherin Duong. Also receiving scholarships but not shown in the picture were Eliza Adhikari and Ghita Elidriss) **Photo by George Brett**

Our annual May Scholarship Awards meeting was again a joyful event. Dianne Bodeen, Membership Co-Vice President, introduced Dana Cazan, a 2008 branch scholarship awardee, who recently completed her Master Degree in Education from Mary Washington University. Dana gave her tips to this year's scholarship winners on how to benefit from college life. Her suggestions were:

- Include family and friends in everything you do
- Use the perks of you student ID (for a concert or pizza at the end of busy week)
- Say thank you to professors
- Find your "third place," a place of comfort for you when needed
- Find your passion in your studies

Dana was a lively and assured speaker

Mellen Tanamly, Scholarship Committee Chair, welcomed scholarship awardees and their family members. Mellen noted that scholarship funds come from the hard work of branch members. She particularly recognized Book Sale Co-Chairs Mollie Jewell and Mary Youman, who were both present. Mellen then recognized each awardee and noted her particular academic strengths, community/ school activities, college and career plans, and noteworthy personal traits mentioned by teachers. Each awardee received an Award Certificate and a round of applause from the audience. Certificates were awarded by Anne Baxter and Susan Hesser, Scholarship Committee members. The awardees in attendance were: Nebiha Ahmed, Hilina Tesema, Melat Tesema from JEB Stuart H.S. and Katherin Duong and Aydee Ferrufino, Falls Church H.S. Eliza Adhikari and Ghita Elidrissi from JEB Stuart H.S. were also awarded scholarships but were unable to attend.

Thank you to George Brett, husband of past President Sally Brett, for taking pictures of the awardees and their families.

WELCOME

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FROM THE BOARD....

The Board did not meet during April or May due to the heavy schedule of activities of the Book Sale and the Scholarship Meeting. Business of the board was accomplished via email as needed.

The Board met for the last meeting of 2013-2014 on June 17, 2013. Newly elected officers were welcomed to the Board: **Kitty Richardson**-Membership Vice President and **Martha Trunk**-Treasurer. Thanks to Kitty and Martha for stepping up to fill this critical jobs.

Programs: Sharon Zackula reported that the Planning Picnic on June 17 was a big success. Many new and continuing members socialized and ate good food. Sharon reported that she has received many Program Topic Surveys from the Planning Picnic and from the emailed survey sent to members. She will collate the results and report program topics of most interest to the membership. She also will use the survey results in meeting with other branches at the Northern Virginia Planning Meeting on June 29th.

The Falls Church Community Center has been reserved for branch meetings on September 9, October 14, and November 11.

Membership: Dianne Bodeen reported that we have thirteen new members, many of them recruited at the book sale. The branch directory will be updated by Kitty and Bunny during the summer. Bunny will develop a new volunteer form that will be sent out to the membership. The free national membership that the branch earned through new member recruitment in 2011-2012 was awarded to new member Vicki Hendershot.

Treasurer: An audit of the books was performed by Mary Youman in June. All was in order. In a written communication, Stasia indicated that she and Martha have met and the books have been turned over to Martha. About half of the membership has paid their dues for 2013-2014. Stasia sent an invoice to each non-paying member, using the national membership database's automated format. It included instructions for paying dues online.

Secretary: Elizabeth Kessel reported that she and Bunny will submit branch records for archiving at the Falls Church Mary Riley Styles Public Library.

Book Sale: Mollie Jewell reported that she has reserved the Community Center for April 11-12, 2014.

Newsletter: Sharon Strand is unable to continue as editor of the newsletter. Anne Baxter has volunteered to edit the July issue. A new editor will be sought for the coming year.

FROM THE BOARD (contd.)....

Communications: Becky Gaul will update the website with the new officers and contact information for applicants for membership. Next year we will identify members who will have responsibility for various aspects of communication, for example, submitting articles to the FC News Press.

Scholarship: Mellen Tanamaly completes her term on the Scholarship Committee this year. Elizabeth Kessel was appointed as the new shadow member of the committee.

Leadership: Bunny will attend the AAUW-VA Leadership Meeting on July 13th in Charlottesville.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUT GOING OFFICERS

As Branch President, I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you who participated in our Falls Church branch activities this year. The percentage of our members, who are active participants in the branch, is remarkable. A special thanks goes to those of you who assumed responsibility for essential activities of the branch, both big and small. The board members deserve special recognition for their work - and for enduring some long board meetings.



We have three members who are going off the board this year, and I want to give them special recognition. **Stasia Gilford** has served as Treasurer for the past four years. She has done an excellent job of ensuring members pay their dues in a timely manner and filing the financial reports required by AAUW-VA and AAUW-US throughout the year.

Dianne Bodeen and **Carol Anne Davis** are stepping down as Membership Co-Vice Presidents. They have performed their duties well and with great good cheer. A testament to their work is the thirteen new members who have joined our branch this year. Thirteen! Our jump in membership is due in large part to recruitment done by Dianne and Carol Anne and other members at the book sale. The membership tri-fold done by Dianne was very effective in communicating the various aspects of AAUW to potential members at the book sale.

Carol Anne is leaving our area to move to Wilmington, NC. We will miss her ready smile and her willingness to help out wherever needed. We wish her luck in her new home and hope she finds an active AAUW branch there. Keep in touch, Carol Anne!

Carol Anne's email (davisca@yahoo.com) remains the same. Her new address is _____.



Newsletter Editor: We need an editor for our branch newsletter. This year's editor, Sharon Strand, has done a terrific job, but is unable to continue next year. The newsletter comes out at the first of the month from September through June. Articles are sent to the editor by board members and committee chairs. The editor includes occasional news items from AAUW-VA and AAUW-US publications and from newsletters or announcements from other local branches. The format for the newsletter is established and there are several past editors ready and willing to help a new editor. This is an opportunity for someone. Is that someone you?

Hospitality Chair: We need someone to schedule volunteers to bring refreshments for the branch meetings. This is done by emailing a schedule or passing around the schedule for volunteer sign up at a meeting and then calling members to fill in the blank spaces. The volunteers coordinate among themselves to decide on what to bring and if they want to add decorations or music or other festive items. Thanks to Debbie Pawlak for keeping us well fed and entertained this year. Now it is your turn!

Public Policy Chair: The Board decided to initiate a new position this year. We would like a volunteer to give a 5-minute public policy report at each meeting. The information for the report can be drawn from AAUW-VA and AAUW-US publications. The idea is to draw attention to AAUW research and policy work that may be of interest to members. This position is a good way to get your foot in the public policy door.

Contact President Bunny Jarrett if you would like to volunteer for one of these positions (positions can have co-chairs) : mjarrett@gwmail.gwu.edu or 703 533-8230.

NEW MEMBER TEA

Many members, including many of our new members, expressed an interest in a tea for new members. Becky Gaul will host the tea on Sunday, August 25th, 3:00 - 4:30p.m. The tea will be an opportunity for new members to meet several members and be briefed on the programs and mission of AAUW locally, state-wide, and nationally. We are especially lucky to be able to draw on the resources of the national AAUW staff, who are located in Washington, DC, for information and programs. In addition, participation in Lobby Corps is available to our members. AAUW's Lobby Corp is a rational, thoughtful and well-informed voice on Capitol Hill. Come and learn more about how great AAUW really is. See you on August 25!



AAUW PROGRAM SURVEY PICKS!

The survey results from our June picnic are in and collated. **Thank you** for all the great suggestions and feedback. A number of you indicated support for programs coordinated with another branch.



There were two or three program ideas that garnered a number of votes. Many of you expressed a desire to have a program dealing with communication issues, discussing differing communication styles between men and women, especially in the workplace (or the political arena), and perhaps also the differences in communication styles among generations. A second focus was a program featuring some of our members regarding their experiences and the experiences of other women who have either served in the military or worked closely with the military as volunteers overseas or in the U.S. There are additional resources in the community that we could include as part of the program. A third topic that received a significant number of votes is a program featuring one or more of the recipients of the AAUW Falls Church 50th Anniversary Fund scholarship, a scholarship for graduate studies. The speaker(s) would discuss their graduate research and future plans.

There were three events that received about an equal number of votes. The suggestion that we hold a gourmet dinner and spend more time getting to know each other was popular. We could plan to do that, with assigned dishes, to allow everyone to contribute and keep the costs down. A field trip to the Portrait Gallery or another Smithsonian to coincide with a special exhibit of interest to our members also was a popular choice. In addition, many of you indicated that you would be interested in a field trip to the Women's Museum, combined with lunch downtown.

Finally, our branch members indicated an interest in supporting GMU's Turn off the Violence Week, planned for the fall of 2014. As we receive more information, we will determine what role we can take and where we can volunteer to support our university partner, further AAUW's mission, and engage and interact with our future members. Stay tuned! More details to follow on September's meeting and other events!

BOOK CLUB

A Summer Reading Suggestion for you

Sonia Sotomayor's recent book, *My Beloved World*, is the choice for the next Book Discussion meeting in September, tentatively set for Tuesday, Sept 17, at 7:30pm, place TBA. Amazon says "the first Hispanic and third woman appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court Sonia Sotomayor has become an instant American icon. ...she recounts her life from a Bronx housing project to the federal bench, a journey that offers an inspiring testament to her own extraordinary determination and the power of believing in oneself." Suggestions for future books are always welcome. We will not meet in June, July and August, but start thinking of what books you would like to read next year and let Olivia Cedillo know your ideas

FALLS CHURCH AAUW NEWS CORNER

Sharon Zackula received the following thank you note from the Recovering Warriors at Walter Reed Hospital to whom she sent 2 boxes of adventure books left over from the book sale.

Thank you for the books as they have been put to good use. It's not often that someone sends us books, and we appreciated it so much. Thanks again for thinking of us wounded warriors -- the US Army calls us that. Thanks again for the books -- we especially liked the Tom Clancy books

Get Well Wishes to Sharon Strand, who has been under the weather.

Our Membership Vice President Kitty Richardson will assume the role of AAUW-VA Vice President for State and Federal Public Policy for the coming year. Kitty is a longtime member of Lobby Corps and has worked in the policy arena of AAUW in various capacities for many years. Congratulations, Kitty!

If you missed the documentary *The Invisible War*, you can watch it on July 29 at 10:00 pm on WETA, Chanel 26. This film explores the epidemic of rape and sexual assault within the ranks of the US military. An American female soldier in a combat zone is more likely to be raped by a fellow soldier than killed by enemy fire. A culture of impunity has resulted in few prosecutions and the isolation of women who report the crimes.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA PLANNING MEETING, JUNE 29, 2012

Our branch was represented at the Northern Virginia Planning Meeting by Bunny Jarrett, Sharon Zackula, Kitty Richardson, and Elizabeth Kessel. Participants divided into three groups to discuss identifying branch leaders, recruiting new members, and co-sponsoring branch meetings. Many useful ideas were generated which our representatives will share during the coming year. Attendees from other branches were especially interested in how we were able to recruit 13 new members this year. We attributed it to the focused information on the recruitment tri-fold used at the book sale and to the one-on-one recruitment efforts of many of our members.

The following announcements were made at the meeting:

1. AAUW-VA has received one of ten Impact Grants in the US. Virginia will focus on pay equity and STEM. Look for information in coming issues of the VA Vision on how we might participate in the grant.
2. Northern Virginia Community College is now a university partner in addition to George Mason University and Marymount University. There will be opportunities for branches to work with these schools and communicate AAUW's mission and policy positions beginning next fall.
3. Caroline Pickens, AAUW-VA President, reminded us that everything a branch does is "program", not just what the branch does at their meetings.

DUES ARE DUE ASAP

Join us for a year of learning, networking, and fun. Members received an invoice in June. Members have the option to

1. Complete the form below and send payment by **ASAP** to Treasurer Martha Trunk at the address indicated
2. pay online (see directions below)

If you have questions about your payment, please contact Martha 703-533-0706 or mtrunk1@verizon.net.

PAY BY CHECK AND MAIL TO TREASURER

Falls Church AAUW Branch Dues (July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014)

Send \$77 to Martha Trunk, Treasurer
6571 Snowbell Lane
Falls Church, VA 22042

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Numbers: (h) _____

(w) _____

Email: _____

College/University: _____



HOW TO PAY YOUR DUES ON LINE

Go to <http://www.aauw.org/>, Click **LOGIN** at the top of the page. Enter your **MEMBER ID** (your member number is listed in the Branch Handbook under your name) and **PASSWORD**. If you don't have a password yet, follow the directions to set one up. **When successfully logged in**, the Login button now displays **HELLO and YOUR NAME**. Scroll to the bottom of any page, click **Member Tools**, then click **Member Services Database**, then **Renew My Membership** to renew via credit card! It's convenient and saves paper!



TRAVEL CLUB

The first presentation of the Travel Group will be in September. Susan Hesser will talk on her trip through the Fjords in Norway and sailing the Arctic Ocean. This spring members travelled to many new places. So there are interesting discussions are in store for the future.

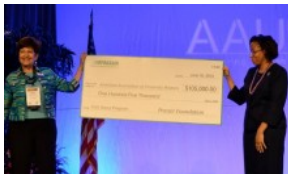


AAUW NATIONAL CONVENTION 2013 HIGHLIGHTS

LEADING ACROSS GENERATIONS
JUNE 9-12, 2013 NEW ORLEANS

Members Embrace New Convention Format and Focus

While past conventions dealt largely with AAUW business, this year's program emphasizes individual and state and branch development, a change that has been well-received by attendees.



AAUW, Praxair Celebrate Expansion of STEM Programs

At Monday's luncheon, AAUW's ongoing work to introduce girls to careers in math and science got a huge boost from Praxair, one of the world's largest industrial gas companies. Praxair donated \$105,000 to support the expansion of [Tech Savvy](#), a program that teaches girls and their parents about STEM careers. AAUW will use the donation to create national Tech

Savvy pilot programs at 10 new sites.

Panel Marks the 50th Anniversary of the Equal Pay Act

"If the Paycheck Fairness Act had been law while I was working, I wouldn't be here today," pay equity champion Lilly Ledbetter told AAUW members at Monday's panel marking the pay equity champion Lilly Ledbetter told AAUW members at Monday's panel marking the [50th anniversary of the Equal Pay Act](#).



A Star-Studded Banquet

Retired Senator Olympia Snowe from Maine received the AAUW Achievement Award for her outstanding political career, which has been defined by nonpartisan compromise.

One Member, One Vote: The Results Are In!

Meet Your New Officers: AAUW President--Patricia Fae Ho,
AAUW Vice President-- Julia T. Brown

In addition to selecting the new board, AAUW members also voted to approve all the proposed changes to the AAUW Public Policy Program, as well as one change to the AAUW Bylaws. **Thank you for voting!**





CURRENT ISSUES AND ACTIONS

PAY EQUITY

Louisiana Equal Pay Act Signed

AAUW Convention attendees from around the country joined their fellow AAUW members in Louisiana in calling Gov. Jindal to sign the Equal Pay for Women Act – and our hundreds of calls worked! Recently Gov. Jindal signed the bill into law, making it the state's first gender pay equity law. Congratulations to AAUW of Louisiana advocates on this important victory, and thank you to everyone who joined them in the final stretch of this push!

New York State Assembly Passes Women's Equality Act

The hard work by AAUW of New York State and its coalition partners paid off Thursday with the state Assembly's [passage](#) of the Women's Equality Act. The Assembly passed all 10 points proposed by the governor at the June 4 rally and lobby day. The Women's Equality Act includes provisions that will help close the wage gap, end workplace discrimination, and protect victims of domestic violence.

THE ONE THING YOU MUST DO...

The interest rate on certain federal student loans doubled on July 1. Contact your Representatives to support passage of efforts to retroactively set the rate at 3.4%, the rate in effect for the last year.

PENTAGON MOVES TO ALLOW WOMEN IN COMBAT ROLES

The Associated Press reported recently that the Pentagon plans to start training women as Army Rangers by mid-2015 and as Navy Seals by mid-2016. The Pentagon released its plans for ending the longstanding combat exclusion at the end of June.

FOLLOWUP ON TWO RECENT SUPREME COURT DECISIONS

With regards to the two cases cited AAUW will work to ensure Congress develops bipartisan responses to protect the rights of employees and voters. You may remember that the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act was a direct response to a 2007 Supreme Court decision – AAUW joined with interested groups and Lilly in fighting for congressional action.

- ***Vance v. Ball State University***: The court [redefined](#) the meaning of "supervisor" in a way that frees employers from responsibility for sexual harassment committed by employees who do not have the power to hire or fire.
- ***Shelby County, Alabama v. Holder***: The Supreme Court struck down the section of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that enables the federal government to monitor states with a history of voter discrimination more closely than other states

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sat., July 13 AAUW of Virginia, Summer Leaders Meeting, 12:30-4:30 p.m., Charlottesville
- Sun., Aug. 25 New Member Tea, 3-4:30p.m., Becky Gaul's home, 6119 18th Rd North, Arlington
- Mon., Sept. 9 Branch Meeting, 7:30p.m., FC Community Center
- Tues. Sept 17 Book Group, 7:30pm, Sonia Sotomayor's recent book *My Beloved World*, Place TBA
- Mon., Oct. 14 Branch Meeting, 7:30p.m., FC Community Center
- Mon., Nov. 11 Branch Meeting, 7:30p.m., FC Community Center
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Empowering Women Since 1881

For membership information contact: Kitty Richardson 703-573-3489 or w.richardson@wap.org

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.