

AAUW FALLS CHURCH FLASH

Volume 65, Number 5

May 2, 2016

May Meeting

When: Monday, May 9 at 7:30pm

Where: Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls St.

What: Scholarship Award Night!!

Agenda: Annual scholarship awards. Special speakers: AVID program. See more details inside.



President's Letter

Thank you for your support of the book sale.

Right now, my thoughts are still focused on the book sale and conference.

Thanks to all! Your hard work before, during, and after the sale brought us a profit of \$16,725, of which half (\$8362) will fund the endowment we are building to create a [Career Development Grant](#) to help women advance their careers, change careers, or reenter the workforce. With this year's donation, we are very close to fully fund that grant at the \$75,000 level (only \$6000 remains). Based on our track record of the last several years, we should complete that endowment with next year's sale. The rest of our profits will be split to fund next year's local scholarships and grants.

Speaking of local scholarships, the May meeting will feature our current group of recipients whose scholarships are funded by the 2015 sale. The AVID program at Jeb Stuart HS (which has produced many of our scholarship recipients in the past) will speak and we'll recognize this year's FC AAUW scholarship winners. This is an inspiring program you won't want to miss.

Our June meeting will focus on planning next year's programs. So, be thinking about what programs you might want and contacts for them. Our new program vice presidents appreciate your support!

AAUW VA State Conference

Falls Church branch was well represented at the AAUW VA state conference, held in Herndon this year. Bunny Jarrett, our Falls Church past president, co-chaired the event, so you know it ran with a smooth grace; and Diane Bodeen prepared the name tags for convention attendees. Six other branch members (Kitty Richardson, Martha Trunk, Anne Baxter, Susan Conklin, Becky Gaul and myself) attended part or all of the conference. The conference gave us all the opportunity to learn more about AAUW and to make or renew friendships with women from other branches.

I was able to attend on Saturday. The Honorable Jane Roush opened the convention with a discussion of her service as an interim appointment to the VA Supreme Court. Kathryn Thornton, a former astronaut and now professor at UVA, talked about her career with NASA which began when she took her 2-month old baby with her to astronaut school in Dallas and included four flights and multiple space walks. The most humorous session of the day was on the topic of “body language.” Chris Ulrich particularly addressed the importance of body language for Lobby Corp members, but his insights were useful to anyone – from stance, to hand gestures, to the “proper” way to shake hands, he added a light touch to it all.

I also attended a workshop on fundraising (are you surprised?). Interestingly enough, one of the fundraising ideas was one that Kristan and I had discussed earlier this year as a branch program: hosting a movie that taps into the AAUW mission. Several other branches expressed interest in the idea, so a partnership is a definite possibility here. For hosting movies, the workshop recommended the AAUW partner tugg (<https://www.tugg.com/>). If you find this idea intriguing, contact me (MollieJewell2@gmail.com) or Kristan McMahon (kkcmahon@gmail.com).



Becky Gaul attended the Saturday workshop on ***What's New in LAF***, given by Molly Lam of AAUW National. LAF is the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund, an important, but not well known AAUW component. LAF challenges sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace using resources ranging from community outreach to backing major cases with in-person case support, travel grants, and friend of the court legal briefs. Find more details at <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/>. Raffling off our gift basket and those from other branches raised more than \$2000 for LAF from conference attendees.

Keynote speaker at the Saturday luncheon was the Honorable Jane Marum Roush, Fairfax Circuit Court judge from 1993-2015 and interim appointee to Virginia Supreme Court for 7 months. Judge Roush's appointment ended this past February, when our Republican-led legislature refused to keep her on the bench. She was an entertaining speaker, leaving everyone hoping to hear that she'll be back on the bench soon. Read more about her at https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/virginia-politics/time-runs-out--again--for-mcauliffes-supreme-court-pick/2016/02/13/0092903c-d192-11e5-b2bc-988409ee911b_story.html

Online Voting for AAUW VA

If you haven't voted for the VA state officers, the proposed bylaws/resolutions and the proposed public policy priorities, you probably received a reminder on Thursday, April 28. Go ahead and vote using the link provided to you in the email. Voting closes May 20.

Book sale by the numbers:

Using the “numbers” might be a good way to look back on the very successful “book year.” So here they are, starting with that very important “bottom line.”

- \$16, 725 profit (on a gross sales of \$21,960.95) which is about \$50 more than 2015 despite the adverse sorting and weather conditions.
- 600+ boxes of books left-over
- 142 people charged \$6004 by credit card
- 43 branch members helped with the sale, including collection, sorting, publicity, setup, cleanup, and sales.
- 21 high school students helped with setup
- 16+ family and friends of branch members helped
- 5 crew members loaded books into the center
- 2 truckloads of books brought to the sale
- 1 pickup truck of left-over boxes



Book collection and sorting started last fall, little did we know that would be the last decent sorting weather! We “closed up” at Thanksgiving and restarted collection and sorting in March. Becky Gaul established the book bin in the Falls Church Community Center for the months of October and March; and Brian Connolly (yes, son of Marybeth), Aida Loomis, Bunny Jarrett and others were kept busy emptying it.

Chuck and Mary Youman hosted the books once again, and picked up books at the Lantern book store. Book sorting was touch-and-go in March because of the cold weather and threats of rain. Various members helped keep the Youman’s driveway clear during sorting: Patrick Ferree hauled away all the “trash” books and various members recycled cardboard. Finally, we did manage to get all the books sorted. Meanwhile, we had used some of that rainy weather to work on publicity – via print ads, radio, TV, and posters. Closer to the sale, the Gauls put up the banners in Falls Church and Becky planted a garden of “real estate”-sized signs around Falls Church.

On the day before the sale, Becky and Sarah John setup tables in the community center to get ready to accept books while Mary and Patrick supervised a crew of 5 in loading two trucks with the books. Pam Martinov marshaled all the volunteers from Jeb Stuart, the FC library, and George Mason to help us setup the sale and sort the “big” and last-minute books. Meanwhile, Kitty Richardson sent over recruitment materials and Martha and Becky got the financial end going – change, charge cards, etc.

On book sale day, we had the usual long line of buyers haunting the halls of the Community Center before the sale opened. Then (oh no), the sale opened very slowly, at noon Martha reported that we were “down” something like \$2000 compared to the previous year. But sales picked up in the late afternoon and evening. But on Saturday, it SNOWED and attendance at the farmers market was low – which usually reflects in our sales. Still by the final tally, we were \$50 ahead of last year.

Clean up went well, too. A few students returned to help us as did many members and their families. The books were gone by 5:30. Sharon Zackula and Jeff hauled away the recycling while the Gauls and

Youmans piled their trucks and vans with signs, shelving, etc. By 6:00, the tables pulled away from the parking lot and the sale was officially over. Then on to the celebration dinner attended by more than 20 members and assorted friends where we learned the good news about the total.

Wrap-up is almost done. All the signs are back in storage at Becky Gaul's and the t-shirts washed. If you see a sign or have a t-shirt, please bring it (we might have missed one or two). The Youman's garage is even cleaned up (at least on one side) and the Youman's van is back in its old spot. If you have evaluations or comments, please send them to SConklin00@aol.com with "AAUW book sale" in the subject line.

2016 Falls Church AAUW Book Sale in Pictures



Sorting started out cold and rainy. So we worked inside on publicity (Kitty, Martha and Bunny shown here) and dodged the raindrops to make boxes.. Finally, we just had to get out and sort in all kinds of weather.



Because, as Chuck Youman shows, the pile of books was g-r-o-w-i-n-g at a rapid pace.



Finally, the books were all delivered to the center and the sale began.



\$16,725 profit



News from the Nominating Committee



In June we welcome new officers to their positions and thank them for their contribution of time and energy with a promise of our wholehearted help and support. These members come to our organization with varied experiences and backgrounds. Here is some information about our new President, Kristan McMahon and one of our co-VPs for Programs, Dianne Bodeen.

Kristan is well known to our members for her diligent work as co-VP for Programs the past two years. Her thorough and precise work on programs and other projects, such as bylaws, indicates she is quite capable to steer through the next two years as president. Here is information from her professional CV:

Kristan K. McMahon has both law firm and in-house counsel experience with a focus on antitrust law. Kristan served as Counsel-Antitrust for Verizon for more than nine years. Her practice focused on government merger work, litigation, and antitrust training for the Verizon entities. Prior to joining Verizon in 2006, Kristan was a staff attorney at Howrey, LLP, focusing on antitrust litigation and government merger work.

She graduated with honors from St. Bonaventure University with a double major in Journalism/Mass

Communication and political science in 1997. Kristan earned her juris doctorate from The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law in 2000, with a certificate from its Telecommunications Law Institute. She is a member of the Virginia and District of Columbia bars as well as the Bar of United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

She currently serves as president of St. Bonaventure's National Alumni Association Board, co-chair of the Journalism Advisory Council, and is a member of the presidential search committee. She is president-elect of AAUW-Falls Church (VA) branch and resides in Annandale, Virginia.

Dianne Bodeen has been a member of our branch for close to 15 yrs. and held many offices. Some of her history is: "After graduating from Occidental College and a year at theological seminary, I went to Singapore with the Foreign Service, where I met my American husband. Back to the US where I got a masters in Choral Conducting at Washington Univ. (St.Louis). In 1974 Virgil joined the Foreign Service, and we (plus 2 children) began most of 27 years abroad with the US Information Agency. During those years I was on school boards, joined women's groups, and did some school music teaching. But my main love was creating or inheriting amateur choral groups, in Africa, Romania, and Singapore. Back in the US in 2000, I joined AAUW in Queens, then in Falls Church. In recent years my joy has been my grandchildren, singing in chamber choirs, learning to garden, and involvement in our church. I'm interested in Theology, am a bit of a political junkie, and love to travel—even after all those years of moving regularly. I have been enriched by my membership in FCAAUW."

Scholarship Awards Celebration

Please join us on Monday, May 9, at 7:30 P.M. as we give awards to our 2016 Outstanding College Bound Scholarship winners from local high schools. Come meet and encourage these young women and see how we invest our book sale profits. The Scholarship Committee (Anne Baxter, Elizabeth Kessel, Sharon Zackula, and Mary Ellen Gannon) selected seven young women for scholarships, totaling \$7,000. This year there were 14 applicants from the three high schools (Falls Church, George Mason, and JEB Stuart). All your hard work on the Annual book Sale funds these scholarships!

All dedicated Fall Church AAUW members, welcome these young women, their families, and high school counselors at our wonderful scholarship night. Let's recognize their past achievements and encourage them as they head for post-secondary education in the fall.

Book Club News

Please join Book Group on **Tuesday, May 24th, 7:30 pm at Anne Baxter's home**. We're reading **The Nature of the Beast: A Chief Inspector Gamache Novel (mystery) by Louise Penny**. Library Journal review said: "A strong sense of place, a multilayered plot, and well-crafted (and for Penny's fans, familiar) characters combine for a thoughtful, intriguing tale. More than a simple mystery, Penny's novel peels away the emotional and psychological layers of the inhabitants of Three Pines." Suggestions for future months are always welcome.

Please consider stepping up to be the Book Group contact person for 2016-2017. Becky Gaul has done this task for several years and is ready to pass it on.

Welcome to our New Member – Julie Randall, of Gainesville, VA.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 9	7:30 PM	FC AAUW Branch Annual Scholarship Awards Evening Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls St
June 13	6:00 PM	To be confirmed (Cherry Hill Park)

CONTACT US

- President: [Mollie Jewell](#)
 - Co-Vice Presidents for Programs: [Peggy Montgomery](#) and [Kristan McMahon](#)
 - Membership: Kitty Richardson
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