

AAUW FALLS CHURCH FLASH

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May 12, Monday

Scholarship Awards Celebration

Please join us on Monday, May 12, at 7:30 P.M. as we give awards to our 2014 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 in the best possible way: educating young women.



The Scholarship Committee (Anne Baxter, Susan Hesser, and Elizabeth Kessel) selected nine young women for scholarships, totaling \$10,000. This year there were 17 applicants from the three high schools (Falls Church, George Mason, and JEB Stuart).

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.

Guest speaker for the meeting is Sharmeen Mustafa. She is a 2010 \$1000 scholarship recipient from Falls Church High School. Sharmeen attends George Washington University and will be graduated on May 18. Such accomplishment will surely be inspiring to this year's winners.

June Annual Picnic and Program Planning

The annual picnic will be held June 9th, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Not too early to begin planning what you will bring to this always fun and tasty pot luck. Utensils, plates and beverages will be provided but the rest is up to you.

And, because we never miss an opportunity to share ideas, we'll be brainstorming program topics for 2014-2015 meetings. **Please read Bunny's letter** below to focus your suggestions on AAUW-relevant topics.

What's Inside

How did we do on this year's Book Sale? What are the results of the Book Sale evaluation and what will they mean to us? What book should you read for the May Book Group? Is the Museum of Women in the Arts tour on your calendar? Can you give an AAUW Elevator Speech? Learn more about these hot topics inside! Don't overlook the SPECIAL BOOK SALE PAGES!

From the President

I represented our branch at the AAUW of Virginia State Conference April 5-6 at Smith Mountain Lake. The theme of the conference was “Charting Our Future – Full Speed Ahead.” From the early morning bird walk to the keynote address to the awards banquet, I was immersed in relevant information, intelligent discussion, and friendly interaction with a group of women on the move. This was a very inspirational experience, and I urge each of you to consider attending future state meetings and conferences.

We heard about *The Secrets Exposed* report that gives useful information from a recent member survey. The top reason members over 50 say they joined AAUW was “to connect with women of similar interests.” Members under 50 say they joined because they “believe in AAUW’s mission.” The #1 reason all members rejoin AAUW is that they believe in the mission.

WHAT THESE STATISTICS SEEM TO SAY: If we are looking to grow and retain members, we need to serve their interests by providing programs and activities that focus on AAUW’s mission. For all ages and member types, the top missions are:

- Pay equity
- STEM careers for women and girls
- Elimination of sex discrimination in the workplace

You have an opportunity to suggest programs for next year at our branch Planning Picnic June 9th. Think about what we can do to connect with interesting women and attract and retain members with mission-based programming.

A couple of thoughts to leave you with from a conference panel commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act: “We would not have had a civil rights movement were it not for women.” “When will there be no more hate and bias? It’s going to take as long as we allow it to take.”

I am glad I am a member of an organization that is not going to allow hate and bias to go unchecked.

Bunny Jarrett, President

From the Board

The Board met on Monday, April 28th. Present were Bunny Jarrett, Kitty Richardson, Sharon Zackula, Martha Trunk, Elizabeth Kessel, Becky Gaul, Marilyn Falksen, and Susan Conklin.

Book Sale Evaluation: The first item on the agenda was a review of the Book Sale. Susan Conklin reported the results of an evaluation survey members completed following the sale. Many useful suggestions were given and several items were identified that could be addressed in the Fall in preparation for the April sale. A meeting of interested members is scheduled for May 19th to address the report recommendations.

VP for Programs: Sharon reported that she is contacting several scholarship awardees to find a speaker for the May 12 Scholarship Meeting. Anne Baxter, Chair of the Scholarship Committee, will lead the meeting. The trip to the National Museum for Women in the Arts will be May 17th with ten members scheduled to go. Others who wish to go should contact Sharon.

VP for Membership: Kitty reported that we got two new members at the Book Sale. Several potential members signed up to receive information about AAUW and our branch. There was much interest in the publications on the membership table and in talking with members “womaning” the table.

Treasurer: Martha reported that the gross income from the Book Sale was \$20,222.67. She asked that everyone turn in their expenses for the sale so that she can determine our profits.

By-laws Committee: Martha reported that our bylaws have been revised and approved by AAUW-VA. The revisions are required by the state and do not need approval by the membership.

Public Policy: Marilyn reviewed the policy literature available at the Book Sale. She noted that particularly young women were outraged when they learned of the pay gap.

Scholarship Committee: Elizabeth reported that the committee awarded nine scholarships with awardees from George Mason, Fairfax, and J.E.B. Stuart high schools. The girls and their families and counselors have been invited to the May meeting. Elizabeth said that the anonymous donation from a member of \$2,500 enabled the committee to award additional scholarships this year.

State and District Meetings: Bunny reported on the AAUW-VA Conference she attended in April. She also announced that the state Summer Leadership Meeting will be in Charlottesville on July 26. She encouraged officers to attend.

Future Meetings: The Book Sale Planning Meeting will be scheduled in May in place of the May Board meeting. The June Board meeting will be June 23 at Bunny’s.

Complete your Ballot - Help Our Branch Win Recognition

Watch your email for the voting instructions for AAUW of Virginia’s online state elections and approval of Bylaws changes and Public Policy Priorities for 2014-2016. **It is very important that you vote and help AAUW-VA make their quorum!** Although your vote is private, AAUW-VA will have statistics and will be recognizing all branches with over 40% of eligible members voting and especially those with the highest percent voting.

The state election process opens on April 29 and closes on May 29. Those who requested paper ballots by April 9 will be able to vote by mail. All others will vote on line. The process should be quick and easy!

Donation to our Branch Scholarship Fund

Our Falls Church Area Branch has received an anonymous donation of \$2,500.00 to the Local Scholarship Fund. This money was added to the fund in April and will provide additional support to our local scholarship winners this year. On behalf of the branch members, President Bunny Jarrett extends her heartfelt thanks to the member who made this generous donation.

Your Elevator Speech

We had many opportunities at the Book Sale to give our “elevator speech” to potential new members. What can we say in a short time that will describe what AAUW is and why people should join? Here is a sample speech that uses factual information to tell the story of AAUW.

AAUW – the American Association of University Women - is an association of women who have a two- or four-year degree from a college or university. We bring people together for the common goal of breaking through educational and economic barriers for women and girls. AAUW was established in 1881 and has over 171,000 members and supporters today. Last year, AAUW gave \$3.7 million in scholarships. Our volunteer Lobby Corps members made over 1500 visits to Senators and Congressmen. We actively supported the Equal Pay Proclamation made by the Governor of Virginia. Our Falls Church Area Branch regularly holds informational meetings about local issues. I would like to have your email so that I can send you more information about AAUW/information about when we have our meetings.

Falls Church Honorees

At the Awards Banquet on Saturday night of the Virginia State Conference, the names of those honored for their service to their branch were read. Each branch was able to honor one member for each \$500 they donated to AAUW funds. The members honored by our Falls Church Branch are listed below. Each member will receive a certificate of appreciation.

Anne Baxter	Sally Brett	Susan Conklin
Marilyn Falksen	Becky Gaul	Susan Hesser
Peggy Howard	Bunny Jarrett	Molly Jewell
Sarah Johns	Elizabeth Kessel	Renee Klish
Kitty Richardson	Mellen Tanamly	Martha Trunk
Mary Youman	Sharon Zackula	Jean Zapple

Member Dues: A Note from Martha

Annual dues of \$77 (National, state and local) are due **by July 1, 2014**. The preferred method and easiest way to renew is online. You will receive an invoice from EONSupport@AAUW.org.

This invoice will contain your membership number. The invoice will have a prompt that will direct you to AAUW.org and provide instructions to pay your dues. You will need to login into the home page, using your member id and your password. (if you don't have or remember your password, there is the standard help instructions) When you're successfully logged in, the login button at the top will say Hello and your name. Then follow the rest of the prompts on the invoice. Click on Member Tools and then Member Services Database, and then renew your membership. You will then provide your credit card information.

If you'd prefer to pay by check, you can mail your check payable to Falls Church AAUW to Martha Trunk, 6571 Snowbell Lane, Falls Church, VA 22042. **If you have any questions**, please contact Martha Trunk at 703-533-0706.

Branch Tour of Women in the Arts Museum

On May 17, 2014, the branch will have lunch downtown at Cafe Mozart at 12:00 p.m. and tour the permanent collection of the National Museum of Women in the Arts at 1:30 p.m. Members have signed up and tickets have been purchased. However, we have room for a few more members if you are interested. If interested, please contact Sharon Zackula at zack2913@verizon.net.

The museum is located at 1250 North New York Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20005. Cafe Mozart is located across the street from the museum. Those of us going to lunch together will meet at East Falls Church Metro at 11:25, purchase fare cards if needed, and then will immediately get on the Orange line to downtown. We will get off at Metro Center and walk to Cafe Mozart for our noon lunch, and will depart Cafe Mozart at 1:15.

If you are joining us at the museum, please meet us in the lobby at 1:20. Tickets are \$12.00, \$10 if you are a senior and \$6.00 if you are a member of the museum.

Northern District (ND) Meeting News

Sandy Lawrence notes the following items were presented at the ND meeting held at the State conference:

- The Summer Leaders Session will be held on July 26 at the English Inn, 2000 Morton Dr, Charlottesville in the Queen Ann room. More details to follow, but I hope every branch sends one or two leaders/members.
- The 2016 State Conference will be hosted by ND branches.
- Voting for State officers, bylaws and public policy continues. Paper ballots must be postmarked by May 24 and on-line voting closes May 29 at midnight. Vote and make a suffragist smile.
- ND Co-Representatives were elected. Congratulations to **Jeanne Elmore** (Woodbridge) and **Caroline Pickens** (McLean). I have worked with them on branch and state boards and I know they will do an outstanding job as your representatives. Please congratulate them when you see them.

Sandy adds: Thank you for your support these past four years. I've enjoyed meeting so many members and seeing/hearing about the great things ND branches are doing. You are a member of a powerful, awesome, tremendous group and it has been an honor to serve you.

Member Notes

Sally Brett thanks all who have sent notes to her and her husband in his recent hospitalization. George will be undergoing therapy--radiation, chemo, and physical—for the next two months and, as their condo is not wheelchair accessible, he will not be home during that time. Sally would like to remind you to consider now a plan for aging in place.

Kristan McMahon, Co-VP for Membership elect, expects to spend a few more weeks in rehab, recovering from a serious illness. She appreciates the cards and messages sent by so many members. You can contact her at 202-277-3360.

Book Group's May Selection

Our May selection is the 2013 National Book Award winner: ***The Good Lord Bird*** by James McBride. It's the story of a boy born a slave who joins John Brown's antislavery crusade—and who must pass as a girl to survive. The group meets May 20 at Becky Gaul's house, at 7:30 p.m. New members and book suggestions are always welcome!

Movie Blog

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 for information.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 12	Falls Church AAUW Scholarship Awards, 7:30 p.m. Community Center
May 17	Noon – 1:15 Pre-tour lunch at Cafe Mozart 1:30 – 2:30 Branch tour of National Women in the Arts Museum
May 20	7:30 p.m. Book Group meets Becky Gaul's home
May 24	Last day to cast your AAUW of Virginia Vote via paper ballot
May 29	Last day to cast your AAUW of Virginia Vote online
June 1	Book sale book collection resumes (yes, really)
June 9	6:30 p.m. Annual AAUW Falls Church Picnic, Cherry Hill Park, Falls Church
July 1	Annual membership dues payment deadline



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>

BOOK SALE UPDATE from Mollie and Mary

Give yourself a pat on the back! The book sale gross sales from our April book sale were \$20,267 – that's a lot of books and a lot of work.

Thanks to so many people, almost all of our members, for your help and support. Clearly we couldn't achieve this level of success in helping so many women and girls without lots of work.

This is a year-round effort. In preparing for the sale, many of you helped with collecting and sorting books (both spring and fall) and with a myriad of all-important publicity jobs.



The work certainly focuses on the sale week. A good crew arrived to setup the sale on Thursday night to do more sorting and lots of toting, aided by student helpers from George Mason and JEB Stuart High Schools as well as Aurora House. We estimated that this year we had between 20,000 to 25,000 books; and this was fewer than normal because of the bad winter weather.



All of this was to prepare for the onslaught of buyers on Friday and Saturday... Hundreds of buyers bought thousands of books. The sale was busy with customers

of all ages. Friday morning brings the serious buyers and on Saturday Falls Church families flow in from the Farmers Market.



At 4pm on Saturday, the sale closed and we loaded the 600 boxes of left-over books onto a truck – a bulk book dealer buys them for various purposes. Then off to the celebration dinner and thoughts of improvements for next year. Thanks to all of you to all who helped with the sale – we couldn't do it without you! Hope to see you next year, and don't forget the May scholarship awards



Some final thoughts. We are still tallying up the expenses to determine the profits. Anyone who has any outstanding receipts from the sale, please send them to Martha Trunk, Mtrunk1@verizon.net. And plans are starting up for next year's sale. Susan Conklin is compiling all the evaluations from the sale and the committee is meeting May 19 at Becky Gaul's to work on those. Book collection resumes on June 1.