

AAUW FALLS CHURCH FLASH

Volume 66, Number 3 April 3, 2017



May Meeting

When: Monday, May, 8, 7:30pm

Where: Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls Road

What: AAUW Scholarship Awards

The May meeting will be held Monday, May 8 at 7:30 pm at the Falls Church Community Center. Falls Church AAUW scholarship awards will be announced at this meeting. Our speakers will be young women in the J.E.B. Stuart High School AVID program, which is supported by our branch. AVID is a globally nonprofit organization dedicated to closing the achievement gap by preparing all students for college and other post-secondary training.

President's Letter

Dear Members,

I hope the start to your Spring has been warm and inspiring. First and foremost, dozens of you already have my deep gratitude. We had a rough Winter, which wreaked some havoc with our book sorting efforts. For the last three weekends, dozens of you have pitched in and handily worked through all of the backlog. In addition, many of you have been advertising the sale at the Farmers' Market and collecting books from the Community Center. Finally, the Book Sale could not function without its organizers extraordinaire – Mollie Jewell and Mary Youman (not to mention Chuck and the Youman garage.)

We have now reached the culminating moment of all these efforts – the fabulous AAUW Falls Church Book Sale. The Falls Church community looks forward to this every year. Make sure you've signed up for your Book Sale tasks. Tell your friends, your neighbors, your co-workers...basically every one you meet this week. (I hyped it to some Congressional staffers last week during LobbyCorps.) Let Mollie know if you need more publicity materials. Remember, this enables us to fulfill one of our fundamental purposes – scholarships for Falls Church high school young women. The more we sell, the more money we have for scholarships.

I look forward to spending considerable time with you all at the Book Sale.

Warmly,
Kristan

Book sale- April 7 and 8

Come to the book sale April 7-8 in Falls Church supporting education for women and girls.

--- Friday April 7 (9 am - 9 pm)

--- Saturday April 8 (9 am - 4 pm)

Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls Street, just off Route 7 in the city of Falls Church, sponsored by the American Association of University Women, AAUW.

More than 40,000 books for browsing and buying. Huge selection of hardback, paperbacks, fiction, and non-fiction of all kinds. Most books priced at \$3 or less. The book sale benefits scholarship/grant programs for women, including local Falls Church high school girls.

For more information about the book sale, visit <http://fallschurcharea-va.aauw.net/booksale> or call (703) 941-5643, molliejewell2@gmail.com.

Book sale Volunteers – Use the link to signup



Yes, I counted them all: 200 jobs and some are still available. Many of you have already signed up for jobs, but we need MORE! You can:

- Setup the sale..... Thursday, April 6 almost any time from 3-9pm.
- Selling books... at sale (April 7 and 8)
- Posting publicity ... April 1-April 8.

Sign up using this link - <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044eaaab22abf49-2017> – or call Mollie Jewell 703/941-5643, molliejewell2@gmail.com by Wed April 5. If you didn't receive the email with the link to your individual online sign-up, contact Mollie Jewell (703-941-5643) or gjewell@cox.net. In any case, JUST COME AND HELP!

Publicity

Publicity is key, because it draws paying customers. Distribute book marks NOW. And hang the posters the week of April 1. This year we are trying to increase our online publicity. If your organization has an online presence, please copy and send the “blurb” below above. Send it now so you don't forget.

At sale jobs

We have several different jobs at the sale. The two main jobs are selling and straightening books. Both are covered by the job title of Book Handler on the signup sheet.

Book straighteners keep things looking good, tempting buyers to stay longer. Pick a table that is fairly empty of buyers; smile and tell customers what you are doing and go to it! Face the spines in the same direction and tighten loose boxes. If there is space, spread out the boxes enough that people don't have to crowd to see them. Make the sale easy and inviting for buyers.

Selling books is comparable to retail clerking. If you like books, people, or money, it's really rewarding. There are 70 distinct jobs during the sale, so sign up for at least one 3-hour shift!

April 8 – Saturday night Book Sale Celebration Dinner



After helping out at the book sale, plan to attend the annual Book Sale Celebration on Saturday night, April 7 at Panjir restaurant in Falls Church (still at their original location: 924 W Broad St, Falls Church, VA 22046). Don't miss this very special (and fun) event -- it's a great chance to celebrate our success. Sharon Zackula is hosting this event. Just come, no sign-up required.

Book Drive Closed

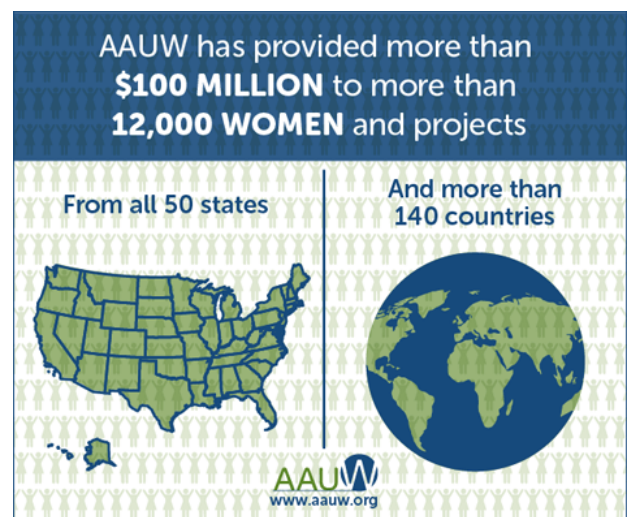
You probably already realize this, but book collection...ended April 1. If your friends or neighbors ask, we will be collecting again in early summer.

AAUW Educational Foundation

Our book sale helps... women and girls.

Are you wondering where our money goes? Well, our branch provides scholarships to local high schools girls and grants to local organizations helping educate girls. We also donate generously to the AAUW Fellowships (third largest donor in Virginia in 2016).

AAUW is the largest source of funding exclusively for graduate women in the world, supports aspiring scholars around the globe, teachers and activists in local communities, women at critical stages of their careers, and those pursuing professions where women are underrepresented. AAUW awarded \$3.7 million in funding for more than 230 fellowships and grants to outstanding women and nonprofit organizations in the 2016–17 academic year.



Falls Church AAUW expects to complete funding the endowment for a career development grant with this sale, at which point this grant will help women return to university for education to advance their careers. It will join our fully funded American Fellowship grant.

Our American fellowship grant is supporting Monish Roa's fellowship at American University this year. Monisha's goal is to work as a prosecutor on litigating sexual assault and domestic violence cases.

Increase in Dues

The board is recommending a raise in our branch dues by \$5.00 for the fiscal year July 1, 2018 – June 2019. The branch bylaws require at least 60-days notice prior to a vote. This is your notice. We will vote at the June Planning Picnic.

Rationale:

Our branch dues have not increased in more than 20 years. In those years, we have eliminated the costs of the newsletter and directory. Administrative costs have risen to fill that gap.

Our members generously provide refreshments for meetings which reduce our hospitality cost. Members also subsidize the general operations with donations for the gift basket and newsletter expense and other miscellaneous expenses. Board members pay their own ways to state and national conferences.

We are solvent because of a \$500 transfer from the booksale in 2012, an increase in membership in 2013 (most did not renew), and fund-raising effort at Jimmy's Pottery.

Our membership numbers have varied from 40-44 in those years. New members recruited at the book sale typically do not renew, so we cannot predict sustained membership increases year-over-year.

We have run a deficit for the past 3 years and we are projecting a deficit of \$172 for fiscal year 2017-2018. A \$5 increase will cover this deficit, prevent deficits for the foreseeable future, and allow the board flexibility to take on new initiatives, especially in the area of membership and community outreach.

Reminder: We will vote on the above proposed dues increase at the June 2017 Planning Picnic.

Equal Pay Day

Each year, the American Association of University Women recognizes Equal Pay Day, the day on which the pay of an average woman working full time finally catches up to what a white man was paid the previous year. This year Equal Pay Day falls on April 4. Yes, it takes a woman three extra months to make the same amount of money as the average man!

The gender pay gap is a primary issue for AAUW and one that the organization has been working on for years. As early as 1922, AAUW's legislative program called for a reclassification of the U.S. Civil Service and repeal of salary restrictions in the Women's Bureau. In 1955, AAUW supported a bill introduced by Representatives Edith Green (D-OR) and Edith Rogers (R-MA) requiring "equal pay for work of comparable value requiring comparable skills." Congress finally enacted the Equal Pay Act, a version of the 1955 bill, in 1963. AAUW's 2015-2017 Public Policy Program states that AAUW is committed to supporting "fairness in compensation, equitable access and advancement in employment, and vigorous enforcement of employment antidiscrimination statutes."

Despite the Equal Pay Act, the wage gap persists; women are typically paid just 80 cents on average for every dollar paid to men — and that number has barely budged in a decade. Although enforcement of the Equal Pay Act and other civil rights laws has helped to narrow the wage gap, significant disparities still must be addressed. To improve the Equal Pay Act and narrow and eventually eliminate the gender pay gap, AAUW advocates for legislation that would give employers stronger incentives to follow the law, enhance federal enforcement efforts, and prohibit retaliation against workers asking about wage practices. To that end, the AAUW Lobby Corps lobbied House of Representative members in support of the Paycheck Fairness Act and the Fair Pay Act on March 30. Five Falls Church members — Becky Gaul, Marilyn Falksen, Pam Martinov, Aida Loomis, and Kristan McMahon -- participated in that effort.

Additionally, on March 30 the Falls Church News Press published a letter from our president about the gender wage gap and the negative effects it has on women and their families. A copy of her letter follows on the next page. (Note from Kristan: A big thanks to Marilyn Falksen for taking the lead on drafting the letter.)



Guest Commentary: Equal Pay Day

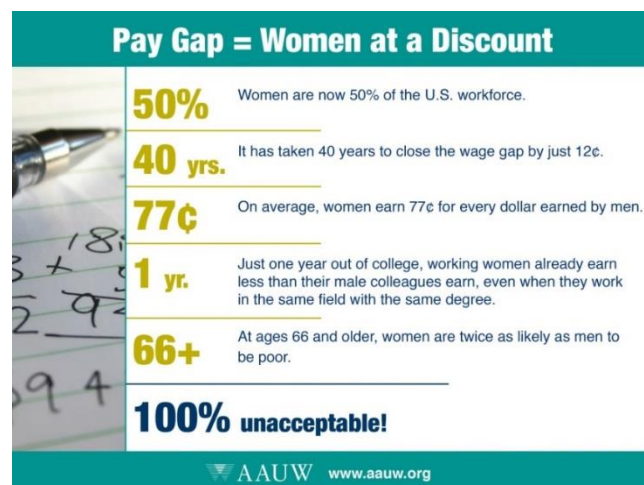
On Tuesday, April 4, 2017, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will recognize Equal Pay Day, the symbolic day when women's earnings finally catch up to what white men earned in 2016. According to U.S. Census Bureau statistics, the median earnings for women working full time, year-round is only 80 percent of what white men working full time, year-round make. The situation is even worse for most women of color. African American women make just 63 percent, Native American women make about 58 percent, and Latina women make only 54 percent of what men make.

The wage gap between men and women isn't just a number; it's an economic issue for many families. A 2013 Pew Research Center study found that in 40 percent of households with children under the age of 18, the mother is the sole or primary wage earner. Pay equity is the key to families making ends meet and moving working families into and then keeping them in the middle class.

The pay gap is not caused solely by differences in career and lifestyle choices made by men and women. AAUW's 2012 report, *Graduating to a Pay Gap: The Earnings of Women and Men One Year after College Graduation*, controlled for many factors such as college major, occupation, industry, region, workplace flexibility, parenthood, and hours worked and found that one year after graduating from college, women still earned 7 percent less than their male counterparts. AAUW's Spring 2017 report, *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap*, shows that the one-year-after graduation gap still exists, and ten years after graduation, the gap widens to 12 percent.

In our own Commonwealth of Virginia, women earn 78 percent of what a man earns in Virginia. (Virginia ranks a dismal 35th in pay equity.) In real terms, this translates into less money for feeding families, health care, paying off student loans, and saving for retirement. Passing a federal law like the Paycheck Fairness Act would help protect everyone in all states. But until that happens, each state will continue operating under antiquated regulations and piecemeal state and local laws to combat unequal pay. As we wait for Congress to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, Virginia AAUW members will continue to urge the state legislature to make improvements to Virginia's equal pay laws so that fair pay is an accessible reality for everyone. I encourage all Virginians to join us and advocate for equal pay now!

Kristan McMahon, President
AAUW Falls Church Area Branch



“Well Behaved Women Seldom Make History” Falls Church Women’s Walk

Many a good idea has been given a pass because there simply was not enough time. This could have been the case with the Women’s Walk in Falls Church on Sunday, March 26th. However when the women of the Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation led by [Nikki Graves Henderson](#) conceived the idea of the march in honor of Women’s History Month they became the driving force to propel the Women’s Walk into a successful community event. The Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation members joined forces with our own AAUW member, Vice-Mayor Marybeth Connelly who poured her considerable energies into the project. They were joined by five other women elected to office in Falls Church: Jody Acosta, Erin Gill, Letty Hardi, Karen Oliver, and Margaret Ward. Our branch officially sponsored the event along with the American Council on Exercise.

Falls Church News-Press estimated about 300 people participated in the one-mile walk from the Tinner Hill Arch to the Falls Church Community Center. Along the way, walkers could stop at 16 information stations to learn about women abolitionists, educators, and visionaries who lived in and helped shape Falls Church. For the conclusion at the FC Community Center, walkers were greeted with food, drink, and a community resource fair. AAUW and the Falls Church League of Women Voters, along with other organizations, enjoyed visibility at the community resource fair and provided information about their organizations.

More information and pictures are posted on Marybeth’s Facebook at:
https://www.facebook.com/MB4FC/?hc_ref=SEARCH

Community Opportunity

H.A.C.A.N , Hispanics Against Child Abuse & Neglect, is a community organization that works with parents and children to empower youth and prevent child abuse and neglect through education, intervention, and advocacy. We could 3 volunteers, who would work on a program every 3 months. In the past our branch sponsored middle school girls, who attended a local AAUW STEM workshop.

Morning STAR is one of the programs offered to children in grades K-6. Students meet Saturday mornings from 10-12 at the Woodrow Wilson Library in Falls Church. Among the activities planned are discussion of current events. Our branch has been asked to help present a holiday program about once every two month. Memorial Day activities will be our first effort. Pam Martinov, our retired in-house historian, has volunteered to work with Anne Baxter on the first

program. If you can help with the upcoming Memorial Day program or in the future, contact Anne Baxter at vabaxter@verizon.net

Book Club

The AAUW Falls Church book club will not meet in April so that we can concentrate all of our efforts on the book sale. Our next meeting will be Tuesday May 16th at 7:30 PM, location TBA. We will be discussing *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance.

Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis by J.D. Vance

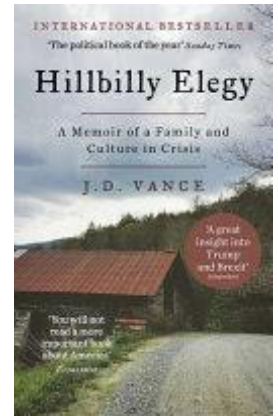
From a former Marine and Yale Law School Graduate, a poignant account of growing up in a poor Appalachian town, that offers a broader, probing look at the struggles of America's white working class. Part memoir, part historical and social analysis, J. D. Vance's *Hillbilly Elegy* is a fascinating consideration of class, culture, and the American dream.

Hardcover, 272 pages, Published June 28th 2016 by Harper

ISBN 0062300547 (ISBN13: 9780062300546)

Goodreads Choice Award Nominee for Memoir & Autobiography (2016)

Come and join in the discussion even if you haven't read the book. Also in May each member will be able to nominate a book for the Fall selections.



AAUW's Equal Pay Day (un)happy Hour



April 4, 2017

Time: 5:30–7:30 p.m. ET

Location: [Sauf Haus](#), 1216 18th St NW, Suite B, Washington, D.C.

No cost

Event Description:

Tuesday, April 4, is [Equal Pay Day](#), the symbolic day when American women's pay "catches up" to what men took home by December 31 of the previous year. The date represents the fact that women working full time, year-round in the United States are typically [paid just 80 percent of what men are paid](#), which amounts to a gap of 20 percent. At the current rate, the [gender pay gap won't close until 2152](#)—and we're not happy about it!

Help AAUW "celebrate" Equal Pay Day with the best "(un)happy hour" in D.C.! Twenty percent of all drink sales will be donated to AAUW and [our tireless work](#) to close the gender pay gap. Bring your friends and colleagues because we'll award a special prize to the group with the most people. RSVP for your chance to win

Featuring

- Feminist swag giveaways
- Pop-up shop
- Prize for the largest group
- Photo booth and Instagram activities (follow [@AAUW](#) on Twitter, [@aauwnational](#) on Instagram, and use hashtag #unhappyhour2017)
- Information about [AAUW Work Smart in D.C.](#), our salary negotiation workshop program offered at no cost for D.C. women.



Upcoming Events at George Mason University

Make Your Own Damn Sandwich – An Equal Pay Day Event

April 4, 2016
2:30 – 4:30 p.m.
HUB Ballroom

Make Your Own Damn Sandwich is an Equal Pay Day event where you go around to stations collecting different layers of your sandwich as you learn about the wage gap. After you visit all tables, you will have assembled your own sandwich.

Women Faculty Brownbag

Shannon Davis and Lauren Cattaneo

April 19th, 2017
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
SUB 1 Room Meeting Room 3A

Join us in welcoming core and affiliate faculty as they discuss their current Women & Gender Studies influenced research interests with affiliate faculty members Associate Professor in Sociology Shannon Davis and Associate Professor in Psychology, Lauren Cattaneo.

Women & Gender Studies Fourth Annual Conference

Politics of Gender 7 Justice: The Intersection of Identity and Disciplines

April 20 - 21, 2017
Registration starts: 8:30 a.m.
Merten Hall 1201

A two day conference hosted by the Women and Gender Studies department at George Mason University, gathers artists, activists, scholars, intellectuals, community members, and others together to critically and creatively examine how gender and justice are intertwined.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 4 - Equal Pay Day in the Commonwealth of Virginia

April 6 - Book Sale Set-Up afternoon, Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls Road

April 7-8 - Falls Church AAUW Book Sale, Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls Road

April 8 - Book sale Celebration Dinner, Panjir, 924 W Broad St, Falls Church, VA 22046

May 8 - Branch meeting at the Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls Road, 7:30pm

May 16 - Book Club, 7:30 pm, location TBA



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>