

AAUW FALLS CHURCH FLASH

Volume 66, Number 5 June 2, 2017



June Meeting - Program Planning

When: Monday, June 12 at 5pm

Where: Cherry Hill Picnic Pavilion, adjacent to the Community Center, 223 Little Falls Road

What: Social and Planning for 2016-2017. Potluck picnic, bring a dish to share

President's Letter

Happy June all!

It is almost that time of year again. The time where our branch goes on summer hiatus...but not before we brainstorm for the upcoming year. Please make sure to join us for the June 12 brainstorming potluck. You can find additional details on the Summer Program Planning Picnic above. I look forward to seeing each of you there and hearing your ideas for the upcoming year.

I am looking for volunteers for a couple of committees. One, to investigate discussion whether the Branch should become a 501(c)(3) non-profit rather than stay as a 501(c)(4). (We tabled this discussion a couple of years ago.) Two, it is time to re-look at whether the Book Sale is the best fundraiser for us for the next 3-5 years or whether we should look into alternate sources of revenue. If either of these interest you, please let me know.

Thank you also to all of those who attended the Scholarship Awards evening. This meeting is always my favorite since we get to see who all of the Book Sale efforts benefit. The awardees are always stellar; and the chance to meet them and their families is rewarding. Thank you especially to Sharon Zackula, Mary Ellen Gannon, Elizabeth Kessel, and Pam Martinov who reviewed all of the applications and brought forth so many deserving recipients. Please see below for a write-up of the event.

I cannot wait to hear your thoughts on what programming will speak to you. See you on June 12.

Cheers,
Kristan

FC AAUW Announces Scholarship Winners for 2017



Falls Church's American Association of University Women awarded twelve young women, graduating from area high schools, its 2017 scholarships. Pictured at a recent awards ceremony Front row from left to right: Anny Arroyo-Pena, Alyssa Marshall, Elsy Arias, Anelva Corcos Beltran, Aysan Yazdanpanah, Arly Villanueva, Vy Phan, Bakhtawar Khan, Salma Moutei, Bezawit Bogale. Not

pictured: Diana Guidel and Tien Le. Back row from left to right: AAUW members Pam Martinov, Mary Ellen Gannon, Sharon Zackula and Elizabeth Kessel. AAUW raises money for scholarships through their annual book sale held in the Falls Church Community Center each April. (Photo: Edward Levine)

Thanks to all who helped out with last evening's meeting and selection of the winners:

- Sharon Zackula, Elizabeth Kessel, Mary Ellen Gannon and Pam Martinov, Scholarship Committee members, for wading through mounds of paper, negotiating the selection of winners, greeting our guests, and completing meeting logistics.
- Edward Levine (Elizabeth Kessel's husband) for his wonderful photos.
- Kitty Richardson for providing AAUW student membership information.
- Eric Welch and Pam Martinov for arranging the talks by AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) participants, including young women in the program today and Layla Fawaz(2016) and Claudia Valenzuela (2011), who previously earned scholarships from FC AAUW.
- Polly Rosenstein and donating members for the wonderful refreshments.
- Martha Trunk for paying all of the colleges and universities of our scholarship awardees.
- All the high school counselors, Career Center Specialists, and teachers who promoted our scholarships.
- All our members for their ongoing support of the local scholarship program and attendance at the Scholarship Awards night.

We are all energized by the accomplishments of these young women and their plans for future education.

Book sale news

Mark your calendars for the 2018 book sale: April 13-14, setup April 12

Are you recovered from the book sale yet? I hope so! Because we've starting planning for 2018. We have received confirmation from the Community Center of the 2018 dates: SALE – April 13-14, SETUP April 12. Mark your calendars now and plan accordingly.

Book collection to start in August

We will be formally kicking off book collection in August, although people have been donating books ever since the sale. That being said, we'd like to put off donations until August, where possible. We will be publicizing AAUW membership and sale at the Fall Festival/Taste of Falls Church in September and will have the collection bin at the Community Center in October following the Fall Festival.



Bottom line – if someone asks, tell them August, but if they insist ... they can DELIVER books to the Youmans at 4419 N. 18th Street, Arlington, by appointment ([703/528-8993](tel:7035288993)).

Dues are coming due

It's that time of year again. Time to renew your membership by playing dues for Fiscal Year 2017-2018. The national dues are \$49, state dues are \$15 and our local dues are \$13. There are two options for paying: online or by check.

To pay online click on the link in the email you receive. It will link to your account in the Member Data Base. Put in your credit card number and you're done. Unless you'd like to contribute either to the an AAUW fund or to our Career Development Grant #4350, which is in the dropdown menu, add the amount you'd like to contribute.

If you'd like to pay by check, please make it payable to AAUW and mail to Martha Trunk at 6571 Snowbell Lane, Falls Church, VA 22042 before June 30, 2017 or to Anne Baxter at 6337 Hillcrest Drive, Alexandria, VA after July 1, 2017.

Note: There will be a vote for an increase of National dues at the convention and our branch will also vote on an increase in dues in June. Both increases, if approved, would be for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

Time to Vote in the 2017 AAUW Election



In April and May, you should have received emails from Mark Hopkins, AAUW Interim Chief Executive Officer, inviting you to vote in the 2017 AAUW Election. The emails have a link to the ballot and include your member ID and unique voter PIN. All AAUW members in good standing are eligible and encouraged to vote. If you have not already done so,

be sure to cast your ballot before June 15 at 9 p.m. ET, when voting ends.

In addition to voting on candidates for the AAUW Board of Directors, you are able to vote on amendments to the AAUW Bylaws, proposed resolutions, and proposed changes to the AAUW Public Policy Program. Issues on this year's ballot include adding gun violence as a public health concern to AAUW's Public Policy Program, resolutions on the Equal Rights Amendment and human trafficking, changing AAUW's membership requirements in the bylaws, and changing the name of the Public Policy Program to Public Policy Priorities. This last proposed change is in response to comments from AAUW members about an earlier draft of the bylaw which would have eliminated the requirement that the entire membership vote on the Public Policy Program. By making this change, members retain the right to vote on the issues for which AAUW will advocate. Information about the candidates and ballot issues are available on the AAUW website, www.aauw.org and in the spring copy of *Outlook* magazine.

If you are an AAUW member in good standing and did not get an email, call 800-326-2289 weekdays between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. or email connect@aauw.org for assistance. And, be sure to vote by 9 p.m. on June 15!

Interview with New Member, Jennifer Lucas

Jennifer was raised in Illinois, in a suburb of Chicago. She is the proud daughter of dairy farmers although she wasn't raised on a farm. She attended DePaul University and Northwestern University.

Jennifer has 21 years of federal service in national security. She currently works at the Department of the Treasury and serves as Chief Learning Officer for an office of approximately 800 employees. Most of her career focused on counterterrorism but she was a high school language and adult ESL instructor before joining federal service. She also served in a couple of

teaching capacities during her federal career. She would describe her current role of managing a learning function as her dream job.

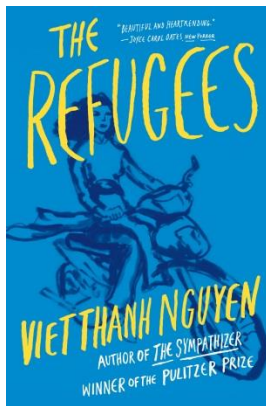
Jennifer heard about AAUW when a community listserv advertised the annual book sale. She did some research on the group and decided she'd like to join. She is looking for opportunities to give back. She has achieved a point of balance in her career and has time to pursue other interests. Community service is important to her, particularly encouraging young girls to pursue their dreams.

Jennifer's interests include exploring global cultures since the first 15 years of her career/life were spent travelling the world and studying languages. She enjoys reading quality fiction and swimming for exercise. She used to enjoy gardening until she bought a house with a half-acre of land. It's a lot of work! She would rather be at the pool or reaching a good book. She recently started studying bookbinding as she has a number of family books that require repair.

Book Club

Our branch book club will take a break for the summer and will resume meeting in September. We have voted on our selections for September, October and November. We meet the third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM. Our meeting dates will be 9/15, 10/17 and 11/21. Location TBA. Please join us any time.

SEPTEMBER selection: THE REFUGEES by Viet Thanh Nguyen



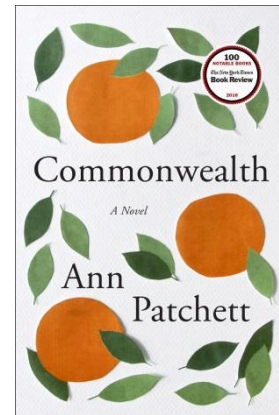
With the coruscating gaze that informed *The Sympathizer*, in *The Refugees* Viet Thanh Nguyen gives voice to lives led between two worlds, the adopted homeland and the country of birth. From a young Vietnamese refugee who suffers profound culture shock when he comes to live with two gay men in San Francisco, to a woman whose husband is suffering from dementia and starts to confuse her for a former lover, to a girl living in Ho Chi Minh City whose older half-sister comes back from America having seemingly accomplished everything she never will, the stories are a captivating testament to the dreams and hardships of immigration.

This second piece of fiction by a major new voice in American letters, *The Refugees* is a beautifully written and sharply observed book about the aspirations of those who leave one country for another, and the relationships and desires for self-fulfillment that define our lives.

OCTOBER selection: COMMONWEALTH by Ann Patchett

One Sunday afternoon in Southern California, Bert Cousins shows up at Franny Keating's christening party uninvited. Before evening falls, he has kissed Franny's mother, Beverly—thus setting in motion the dissolution of their marriages and the joining of two families. Spanning five

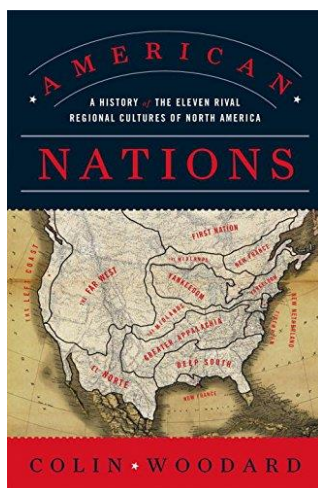
decades, *Commonwealth* explores how this chance encounter reverberates through the lives of the four parents and six children involved. Spending summers together in Virginia, the Keating and Cousins children forge a lasting bond that is based on a shared disillusionment with their parents and the strange and genuine affection that grows up between them. When, in her twenties, Franny begins an affair with the legendary author Leon Posen and tells him about her family, the story of her siblings is no longer hers to control. Their childhood becomes the basis for his wildly successful book, ultimately forcing them to come to terms with their losses, their guilt, and the deeply loyal connection they feel for one another.



Told with equal measures of humor and heartbreak, Commonwealth is a meditation on inspiration, interpretation, and the ownership of stories. It is a brilliant and tender tale of the far-reaching ties of love and responsibility that bind us together.

NOVEMBER Selection: AMERICAN NATIONS: A HISTORY OF THE ELEVEN REGIONAL CULTURES OF NORTH AMERICA by Colin Woodard

An illuminating history of North America's eleven rival cultural regions that explodes the red state-blue state myth. North America was settled by people with distinct religious, political, and ethnographic characteristics, creating regional cultures that have been at odds with one another ever since. Subsequent immigrants didn't confront or assimilate into an "American" or "Canadian" culture, but rather into one of the eleven distinct regional ones that spread over the continent each staking out mutually exclusive territory.



In American Nations, Colin Woodard leads us on a journey through the history of our fractured continent, and the rivalries and alliances between its component nations, which conform to neither state nor international boundaries. He illustrates and explains why "American" values vary sharply from one region to another. Woodard reveals how intranational differences have played a pivotal role at every point in the continent's history, from the American Revolution and the Civil War to the tumultuous sixties and the "blue county/red county" maps of recent presidential elections. American Nations is a revolutionary and revelatory take on America's myriad identities and how the conflicts between them have shaped our past and are molding our future.

You May Be Interested In...

Please join us on Thursday, June 15 at 6:30 pm at the Arlington County Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St., for three short films aimed at combating Islamophobia and dispelling myths about Muslim refugees. Remarks to follow by Rep. Don Beyer (invited), Naureen Shah, Director of



Campaigns for Amnesty International USA, and Rev. David Lindsey of Little River United Church of Christ, which was vandalized in April because of its visible opposition to anti-Muslim bigotry.

There will also be a similar program at Little River United Church of Christ on Sunday, June 11 at 6:30 pm in case you cannot make the June 15 program. The speakers will be different. (Little River United Church of Christ is located at 8410 Little River Turnpike, Annandale.)

Many thanks!

Gay Gardner, Co-coordinator, Amnesty International of Northern VA & Secretary, Interfaith Action for Human Rights

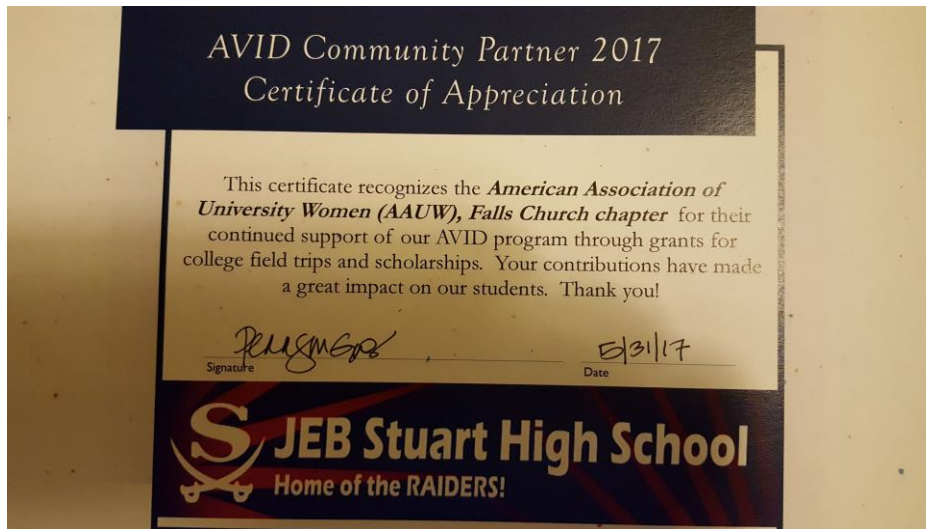
Community Opportunity

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 discussions of current events. Our branch has been asked to help present a holiday program about once every two months. If you can help in the future, contact Anne Baxter at vabaxter@verizon.net

May Scholarship Award Snapshots (Thanks to Edward Levine!)





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | | |
|---------|---------|---|
| June 6 | 5:00pm | Present Restaurant 6678 Arlington Boulevard, Falls Church, VA 22042 |
| June 12 | 5:00 pm | Potluck Picnic, Cherry Hill Park. Bring a dish to share. |



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>