

AAUW FALLS CHURCH FLASH

Volume 67, Number 1 February 5, 2018



February Meeting

When: February 11, 2018 at 2:30 pm

Where: American Legion Post 130 Hall located at 400 North Oak Street, Falls Church

What: WorkSmart and StartSmart- about negotiating pay equity

President's Letter

Happy February everyone!

Well, the groundhog has told us to expect six more weeks of winter. However, this gives us an excellent opportunity to spend time together and learn how we can help those in our area to get off to or improve their salary-negotiating prowess. This is an important part of accepting a job that most women are not only not trained to do, but actually feel bad doing.

When I received my offer to start at Verizon, it was lower than what I had been making at the law firm, which I expected, but the amount of the gap was a concern for me since I was paying off loans and trying to save for a house. I contacted the person who made the offer and explained my challenges with the offer and remember hearing a little surprise in his voice, but also respect. (And heaven knows I was nervous about making that request.) I remember thinking I'd be happy if they just halved the difference, but the adjusted offer came back just about two percent less than I was making. This was important because all additional money at Verizon was based on my salary – long term incentives, yearly bonuses, plus additional pay increases – because it was all calculated as a percentage of my base. If I had settled for the lesser amount, I would have been at a disadvantage my entire career. We need to know how to help others avoid this misstep.

Also, please read the note from the Nominations Committee below. Have you been looking for an opportunity to get more involved? Have you been seeking ways to channel your talents to help others? Look no further than our Branch governance. We need you!

I look forward to seeing you all on Sunday, February 11 at 2:30.

Kristan

February 2018 Meeting

In November, your Board voted to support with a substantial donation the AAUW workshops educating women about negotiating pay equity, WorkSmart and StartSmart. About that same time, we asked AAUW to speak at our February meeting about those programs--how they started, why they are considered successful, and especially what can be done to add Virginia to the now only four states offering these workshops to recent college graduates and career women. Both of these comprise the background to a February meeting you will not want to miss--and indeed may want to bring other AAUW branch members too.

It is an informative session, intended to raise awareness among not only branches but also with other stakeholders, such as our Partners in higher education.

Here's how we describe it to other branches and stakeholders in a recent email blast:

"Maybe you read the recent article in the *Washington Post* about inspiring salary negotiation workshops in Boston--conducted by the AAUW. You may then have looked at the AAUW web site <https://salary.aauw.org/about/> to investigate and discovered there are no Smart Start or Work Smart workshops offered to working women or college seniors in Virginia.

Want to learn more about these workshops? Want to learn how they began? How their success is quantified and verified? Want to include your branch members in that inquiry?

So do we, and that's why we have asked **Jesse Rauch of AAUW to speak on Smart Start and Work Smart at the American Legion Post 130 on SUNDAY 11 February. The Post is located at [400 North Oak Street](#) in Falls Church, the meeting begins at 2:30 p.m., and we hope you all will join us for an informative session."**

(As we learned in January, the AAUW Northern Virginia regional meeting in February will also feature these workshops. Perhaps with our branch funding as a start, we will see Virginia women learn to negotiate pay equity!!)

January Meeting Recap

Our new year started off with a terrific meeting, thanks to our dynamic speaker Brian Cannon (executive director of OneVirginia2021) and to our generous members who supplied an audience of about 50 with tablesful of delicious refreshments. The timely topic of gerrymandering was fully discussed in both the video presentation and the ensuing question and answer session. Many in the audience were community leaders and our colleagues from the League of Women Voters. Thanks to all who helped to disseminate the fliers advertising this meeting and who attended. Special thanks to Polly Rosenstein and her team--much appreciated.



Grab a Bite after the Sunday, Feb. 11th. Meeting?

There is a new Egyptian restaurant in the Safeway shopping center on Lee Highway at West St. Its name is Fava Pot and serves very good falafel according to Sarah who has already dined there. Consider if you would like to repair to the Fava Pot after the meeting for a chat and some food. Check out the website at: <https://www.favapot.com> Yelp contributors love it with many 5 star ratings.

Nominating Committee 2018

The essential job of the Nominating Committee is about to start. Offices of President, Secretary and Program VP are filled in the even years. Treasurer and Membership VP are elected on odd years. Terms are for two years.

Another position to be filled this year is the vitally important function of Communications VP who manages our website. We have been fortunate to have Becky followed by Anna to skillfully manage our communication piece over recent years.

Branch bylaws state the Membership VP (Kitty) is to chair the Nominating Committee. In January or early February she asks three or four members to serve on the Nominating Committee. A meeting or conference call is arranged to review the membership list to identify members qualified to serve in needed positions. Committee members then contact possible candidates to encourage their participation.

The slate of candidates is to be presented to the full membership in the March newsletter and to be voted on at the March annual business meeting. If you are contacted by a member of the committee, please give your cooperation in the process. Please be brutally honest with us (and yourself) about your time constraints and your interest in serving.

Book Sale dates: April 13 and 14. Setup April 12.

Book sale organizing brunch - Sat. Feb 24

Sign up early (and often) for book sale jobs!

Yes, it's book sale time again. Come to the brunch on Saturday, Feb 24 to learn more about this year's sale, catch up with your friends, and volunteer for book sale jobs. You can also bring books if you have been collecting them this winter.

The book sale organizing brunch will be Saturday, February 24 at 11:30am. The location, familiar to many, is at Mary Youman's at 4410 N. 18th Street, Arlington. It's a potluck affair, so bring a dish to share if you can. Call Mary for details at 703-528-8993.

The objective of the brunch is to get the book juices flowing. There is plenty of work to be done, starting with sorting, publicity and staffing, then culminating with selling; so, we will be asking people to sign up for the many jobs. Even if you can't come, there are still plenty of opportunities. I'm using SignupGenius for jobs at the sale itself. Look for a link via email soon. And we will have paper sign-up sheets at meetings, brunch, and book sorting. Or call Mollie Jewell 703-941-5643.

Mark your calendar:

Book Sorting Saturdays in March
April 12
sale – April 13-14



**Setup -
Book**

Book sale time is coming, and sorting starts on Saturday March 3, weather permitting. Aside from good weather, our biggest need is **your energy and enthusiasm**. Despite the tremendous sorting efforts last fall, we'll have lots of books to sort before the sale. The garage is once again filling up! Just come on the sorting dates (4419 N. 18th Street, Arlington), no sign-up needed!

We sort from 10am to 4pm in the Youman's driveway, so dress for the weather. No experience is necessary, we offer on-the-job training or check out the [Book Sale Spring Fact Sheet](#). And we invite all book sorters to share in a simple lunch each week, so you don't have to worry about getting hungry. And, remember, book sorters get first crack at the books!

Talk to Mollie Jewell 703-941-5643 with your questions or to volunteer.

Book sale Volunteers - Don't be shy

Staffing the book sale and related activities is a challenge for a small branch like ours. As always, we need your help with the book sale! Our biggest need is for you.

- Sort booksSaturdays in March (some Sundays in case of rain)
- Sell books..... at sale (April 13 and 14)
- Post publicity. April 9-April 14.



Book Sorting

Sorting is our biggest effort starting in March. The job is straightforward: sort books and box them by subject. Even a few hours of your time helps get the job done. Come to Mary Youman's (near Ballston at 4419 N. 18th Street) any time between 10am and 4pm on Saturdays in March. We sort in the driveway, so dress appropriately.

Publicity

We need to get the word out all-around town and PUBLICITY is key to drawing paying customers. Pick up your posters at the next meeting or sorting session and sign up for a convenient location. And, starting April 9, hang the posters. Send online announcements to everyone you can think of. Here's what I am telling people:

Book Enthusiasts

For book bargains and selection, plan to shop the AAUW used book sale on Friday April 13 (9 a.m. - 9 p.m.) and Saturday April 14 (9 a.m. - 4 p.m.) at the Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls Street, Falls Church, just off Route 7.

More than 30,000 books for browsing and buying. Huge selection. Most books priced at \$3 or less. Proceeds benefit scholarships and grants for women and girls.

Buy a book, send a girl to college.

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

Sales

Selling books is what it's all about! The job is comparable to retail clerking; if you like books, people, or money, it's really rewarding. There are 70 distinct jobs during the sale alone. So, sign up for at least one 3-hour shift!



Volunteer for many jobs!

Remember, you don't need to limit yourself to just one job. We're recruiting people to help with almost 200 distinct tasks to prepare for and run the book sale. So, in a branch of less than 50 people, we could sure use your help in more than one way. Sign-up at the meeting or respond to the Signup Genius request. If you have any questions or suggestions, or wish to volunteer, call Mollie Jewell 703-941-5643.

AAUW Foundation

Our book sale helps...women and girls

Wondering what we do with the money we earn? Well, our branch provides scholarships to local high school girls and grants to local organizations helping educate girls. We also donate generously to AAUW's Foundation.

The AAUW Foundation, which 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. Last year, AAUW awarded \$3.7 million in grants and fellowships to 241 scholars, researchers, and community-based programs.

Last year, our branch completed funding the endowment for a career development grant (\$75,000), this grant helps women return to university for education to advance their careers. It joins our previously funded fellowship in empowering women. See [FC 50th Anniversary American Fellowship winners](#) for a list of our past recipients.

Book donations

Book collection starts Feb 24

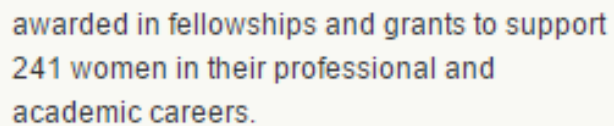
Starting Feb 24, we will resume accepting books at the Youmans, 4419 N. 18th Street, Arlington: call ahead to make arrangements 703-528-8993. If you have a friend or neighbor whose spring cleaning includes some good books, please approach them about donating to our sale.

Book deposit at Community Center

In case people ask, we expect to be collecting books at the Falls Church Community Center again this year. Expect to start collection about March 1. So, once again, we will need volunteers to transport books from the center to the Youmans – another opportunity to help with the sale! We'd prefer that donors take books directly to the Youmans, but the collection bin at the FC Community Center is an option.




\$3.7 million



awarded in fellowships and grants to support
241 women in their professional and
academic careers.

Guidelines for book donations: Avoid magazines, textbooks, encyclopedias, old reference books, and books that are damaged, moldy or in poor condition. Please tell donors that we are accepting only saleable books in good condition and remind them about the list of things we can't accept.

If you are accepting book donations from your friends, you can cut out and give them the following receipt:

<p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p>AAUW Educational Equity Book Sale Falls Church Community Center April 13 and 14 <i>Promoting education and equity for women and girls</i></p> <p>Thank you for your donation of:</p> <p>_____ Soft cover books</p> <p>_____ Hard cover books</p> <p>_____ Other: Value to be established by donor. 50% Tax deductible. Profits to AAUW scholarships for girls.</p> <p>_____ Falls Church Area AAUW Date _____ (703) 941-5643 http://fallschurcharea-va.aauw.net/booksale/ Falls Church AAUW 2016</p>

Public Policy

Lobby Corps Spring Training

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, February 21, the date of the AAUW Lobby Corps spring training session at AAUW Headquarters, 1310 L Street, NW, Suite 1000. The training will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. and will end at 11:30 p.m. An RSVP form will be circulated in the coming week, which you must complete in order to attend.

Lobby Corps is made up of AAUW members in the metro area who meet with Members of Congress and/or their staffs on a regular basis. Whether fighting for gender equity in education, championing moderate jurists for federal courts, or supporting measures to improve economic security for women and their families, the AAUW Lobby Corps is on the scene. Since its formation in 1972, the Lobby Corps has made tens of thousands of visits to congressional offices, making AAUW a familiar and respected name among Members of Congress and their staffs.

Attending the training is a great way to learn more about Lobby Corps and how to become an integral part of AAUW's efforts to make a meaningful and significant impact on legislation pertaining to issues of concern to women and their families.

If you have questions or want additional information about Lobby Corps or the training, please email Marilyn Falksen at fcaauwpublicpolicy@gmail.com

Two-Minute Activist

Become a two-minute activist and let your voice be heard on issues important to you and AAUW! It's easy. Just sign up by going to



http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/salsa/web/common/public/signup?organization_KEY=50796&table=supporter&Email=

This will bring you to a form to complete with your name, zip code, and email. Once signed up, you will receive email notices when your advocacy is needed. You will receive a prepared letter which you are able to modify to personalize, if you wish. Then, with a push of a button, it's on its way. If time is of the essence, you may receive a request to make telephone calls and will be provided with talking points. If you wish, you may also provide your cell phone number and receive text messages.

New Member Interview: Chris White

Chris knows AAUW – she is a member of the Arlington Branch and serves on their board. She says: “I decided to also join Falls Church since I have always liked your book sales and noticed that you have a movie group.”

Chris grew up in South Jersey in Haddon Township and spent summers at the Jersey Shore in Wildwood Crest.

Chris received a B.A. from Caldwell College for Women in NJ with a Psychology major. She continued on to receive an M.A. at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY with an emphasis on college student personnel and counseling.

This education led to a long career involving the legal community. She was first Assistant Dean for Career Services at Villanova University’s School of Law. Then she was the founding member of NALP, a non profit for those involved in legal career counseling and professional development. Chris then moved on to become Chief Officer and held executive positions at 4 large law firms including Steptoe & Johnson, Wilmer/Hale, K&L Gates, Nixon Peabody.

After “retiring” in 2010 from the law firm world she worked as Director of Government Training for Graduate School USA. Then she “retired” again to help with twin grandchildren.

Chris has one daughter who is the mother of twin grandchildren - Hunter and Abby. She lived in North Arlington for 39 years and recently downsized . She now lives in The Savoy Park in a condo (in Falls Church in the Baileys Crossroads area).

Chris has attended Lobby Corps occasionally. She says: “ I guess what I am looking from in AAUW is to be involved in issues that are important as well to have fun . After many decades in hard-charging environments, I’d love to have just fun without work deadlines.”

Welcome Chris!

Book Club

Book Club meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM. The meeting dates are Feb. 20, Mar. 20 and May 15. We will be meeting in Feb. At the HOME OF ANNE BAXTER, 6337 HILLCREST PLACE, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22312. Please join us on a regular basis or just drop in whenever you want even if you haven't read the book. We are growing and love to have new faces.

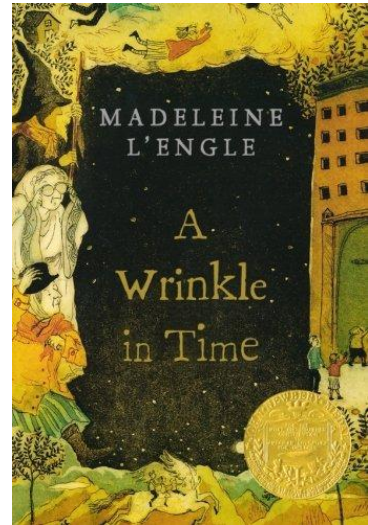
The Falls Church AAUW book clubbers have picked our selections for the Winter/Spring 2018 season. Here are the results:

FEBRUARY 20 Potpourri: A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle

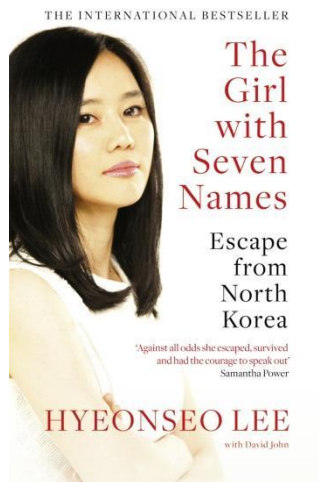
It was a dark and stormy night; Meg Murry, her small brother Charles Wallace, and her mother had come down to the kitchen for a midnight snack when they were upset by the arrival of a most disturbing stranger.

"Wild nights are my glory," the unearthly stranger told them. "I just got caught in a downdraft and blown off course. Let me be on my way. Speaking of way, by the way, there is such a thing as a tesseract".

Meg's father had been experimenting with this fifth dimension of time travel when he mysteriously disappeared. Now the time has come for Meg, her friend Calvin, and Charles Wallace to rescue him. But can they outwit the forces of evil they will encounter on their heart-stopping journey through space?



MARCH 20 Bio: The Girl With Seven Names: A North Korean Defector's Story by Hyeonseo Lee



An extraordinary insight into life under one of the world's most ruthless and secretive dictatorships – and the story of one woman's terrifying struggle to avoid capture/repatriation and guide her family to freedom.

As a child growing up in North Korea, Hyeonseo Lee was one of millions trapped by a secretive and brutal totalitarian regime. Her home on the border with China gave her some exposure to the world beyond the confines of the Hermit Kingdom and, as the famine of the 1990s struck, she began to wonder, question and to realize that she had been brainwashed her entire life. Given the repression, poverty and starvation she witnessed surely her country could not be, as she had been told "the best on the planet"?

Aged seventeen, she decided to escape North Korea. She could not have imagined that it would be twelve years before she was reunited with her family.

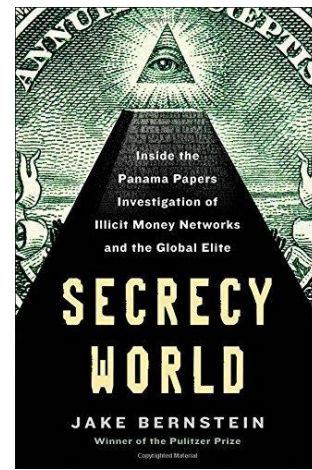
She could not return, since rumors of her escape were spreading, and she and her family could incur the punishments of the government authorities – involving imprisonment, torture, and possible public execution. Hyeonseo instead remained in China and rapidly learned Chinese in an effort to adapt and survive. Twelve years and two lifetimes later, she would return to the North Korean border in a daring mission to spirit her mother and brother to South Korea, on one of the most arduous, costly and dangerous journeys imaginable.

This is the unique story not only of Hyeonseo's escape from the darkness into the light, but also of her coming of age, education and the resolve she found to rebuild her life – not once, but twice – first in China, then in South Korea. Strong, brave and eloquent, this memoir is a triumph of her remarkable spirit.

MAY 15 History: [Secrecy World: Inside the Panama Papers](#) by Jake Bernstein

A two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist takes us inside the world revealed by the Panama Papers, a landscape of illicit money, political corruption, and fraud on a global scale. A hidden circulatory system flows beneath the surface of global finance, carrying trillions of dollars from drug trafficking, tax evasion, bribery, and other illegal enterprises. This network masks the identities of the individuals who benefit from these activities, aided by bankers, lawyers, and auditors who get paid to look the other way.

In [Secrecy World](#), the Pulitzer Prize winning investigative reporter Jake Bernstein explores this shadow economy and how it evolved, drawing on millions of leaked documents from the files of the Panamanian law firm Mossack Fonseca--a trove now known as the Panama Papers--as well as other journalistic and government investigations. Bernstein shows how shell companies operate, how they allow the super-wealthy and celebrities to escape taxes, and how they provide cover for illicit activities on a massive scale by crime bosses and corrupt politicians across the globe.



Bernstein traveled to the Caribbean, Latin America, Europe, and within the United States to uncover how these strands fit together--who is involved, how they operate, and the real-world impact. He recounts how Mossack Fonseca was exposed and what lies ahead for the corporations, banks, law firms, individuals, and governments that are implicated.

[Secrecy World](#) offers a disturbing and sobering view of how the world really works and raises critical questions about financial and legal institutions we may once have trusted.

Movie Group

Our movie group usually meets on Wednesdays for several reasons. One is because some members participate in Lobby Corps on Capitol Hill on Thursdays. Another is Wednesday is "Paid Your Dues" day at Cinema Arts theater when the admission is \$5.50 all day for folks over 55. Angelika does have a senior day special all day Thursday for \$8.

That said we have also gone to some special films on a weekend day.

Several folks recently asked me about setting a movie date on a weekend – possibly a Sunday afternoon. So we started thinking about that possibility. We could start with one day a month to see how it goes.

Another idea is that the Book Club is reading [A Wrinkle in Time](#) by Madeleine L'Engle for the February selection. Disney has made a movie of this book which is due for release on March 9th. [See: <http://movies.disney.com/a-wrinkle-in-time>]. It is almost impossible to find out which theater will have a film until close to the opening date. One has to rely on the website, Fandango or in theater advertising. So we will give our best effort and keep you posted.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 2:00 pm Branch Meeting, American Legion Post 130 Hall, 400 North Oak Street, Falls Church, VA
- 7:30pm Book Club at Anne Baxter's home at 6337 Hillcrest Place, Alexandria, VA 22312
- 9:30am AAUW Lobby Corps Spring Training Session at AAUW Headquarters, 1310 L Street, NW, Suite 1000, Washington, D.C.
- February 24 11:30am Book Sale Organizing Brunch at Mary Youman's home at 4410 N. 18th Street, Arlington, VA



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>