

AAUW FALLS CHURCH FLASH



Volume 67, Number 4

May 1, 2018

May Meeting

When: **Monday May 14, at 7:00 pm**

Where: Woodrow Wilson Library, 6101 Knollwood, near Bailey's Crossroads

What: Scholarship Award Ceremony

President's Letter

Happy May y'all,

It's hard to believe that we are nearly at the end of another successful program year. I look forward to seeing all of you at the Scholarship Award Ceremony on May 14. It always warms my heart to see who all of the hard work of sorting and selling benefits. These young ladies have worked hard and have undergone a rigorous review to be awarded one of our scholarships. Come meet these amazing young women in person.

April was an eventful month for us as well. We made it through the book sale with flying colors. Rumor has it we had more books this year than last year, and it truly is a testament to the hard work of Mollie Jewell and Mary Youman as the co-chairs, not to mention all of the members who have sorted this year and worked at the sale. You can get a good sense of the scope of the endeavor from this picture taken from the Youman's upstairs. We also accepted a proclamation from the Falls Church City Council in recognition of Equal Pay Day and had an opinion piece in the *Falls Church News-Press*. Marilyn wrote a great one this year.



Bird's eye view of sorting at the Youman's

Pam Martinov is looking for people to help proctor IB tests over the next couple weeks. Please see the Opportunity section on page 7 for more information and to sign-up to help. Please also mark your calendars for the June planning picnic. Come with your great ideas on the activities and programs that will tickle your fancy and stimulate your minds next year.

Cheers!
Kristan

Book Sale News

Another successful book sale - thank you to your hard work. I'm not sure of the total, but we made almost \$24,000. Now we have to subtract expenses for room, tables, truck, and publicity, but I'm sure it will be a good sum.

The book collection, storage and sorting began at the Youman's last summer. Thanks to Mary who hosted many a sorting lunch, Chuck who steadfastly hauled/organized books and sorted "big's," and Rich who hauled all the non-sellers out to the curb every week for the bulk buyer. And to Anne Baxter and Becky Gaul who got all those boxes and Martha Trunk who arranged for the hauler. And to Aida Loomis, Bunny Jarrett, Sarah John and others who kept up with all the donations in our bin at the Community center.



**Book Sorting
Fun on our one
sunny day!**

As usual, we got the books into the gym on Thursday. Becky Gaul and company got the tables up in good order, ready for the truck arrival. And with the help of very many high school students (recruited by Pam Martinov and Marybeth Connelly) and the pre-sort of some of the "big" books, we managed to be pretty much done with setup by 6pm. That may have been a record!



Friday morning, the sale opened to the usual throng of buyers who mobbed the "specials" first thing giving Renee Klish and her crew (Nonie Spevacek, Lee Roussel, Chris White, Elizabeth Kessel, and Edward Levine) a busy time. Sales were brisk all day on Friday, as you can see from the picture of Mary Youman, Sharon Zackula, Susan Conklin,



Becky Gaul and Anne Baxter selling books.



Kitty Richardson and Shannon LaBarbera staffed the membership table through most of the sale. That encouraged a former scholarship winner (2004) to talk to Kitty Richardson about how we started her on the road to her current profession – she is a dentist in Hampton VA. We hope to have her come speak to us one day.

Saturday, we had a good turnout too, despite the sunny weather that kept some book-buyers in their yards. Then an amazing number of students came back to help with cleanup, table removal (Jeff Rogers) and box breakdown (John Traub)– which we finished at 5pm! In just one long hour.

All just in time for the celebration dinner that Sharon organized at Panjshir – in celebration of the hard work and outstanding accomplishment of the book sale!



Thanks to all who helped. The members and friends who helped with the sale (or at least those who signed up) included Anne Baxter, Becky Gaul, Bunny Jarrett, Debbie Pawlak, Dianne Bodeen, Elizabeth Kessel, Joe Pawlak, Kathleen Gerrity, Kim Weirick, Kitty Richardson, Kristan McMahon, Lee Roussel, Linda Garvelink, Madalyn Cafruny, Marilyn Falksen, Martha Trunk, Mary Youman, Chuck Youman, Rich Youman, Marybeth Connelly, Mellen Tanamly, Millie Schreiber, Mollie Jewell, Nonie Spevacek, Pam Martinov, Polly Rosenstein, Renee Klish, Sally Brett, Sarah John, Shannon LaBarbera, Susan Conklin, Susan Hesser, Jim Gaul, Edward Levine, John Traub, and Jeff Rogers.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mollie Jewell and Mary Youman,
Box crafters



Reminder: Please submit book sale expenses to Anne Baxter, 6337 Hillcrest Pl., Alexandria VA 22312, by **May 15** so we can finalize figures and allocate funds to our national and local scholarships and projects.

Programs

May Meeting:

All members are encouraged to be present at the May 14th meeting, when we introduce our 2018 Scholarship Winners. Our speaker will be Kathy Duong, one of our former recipients.

Kathy was a winner in 2013, and is a graduate of Virginia Tech. She is presently in Lynchburg, preparing a Doctorate in Physical therapy. In response to our invitation to speak, she said "I am grateful to AAUW for supporting my journey at Virginia Tech, and I would love to speak at the next meeting!" We will love meeting her again after all these years.

Please note: the meeting will be at the Woodrow Wilson Library, 6101 Knollwood, near Bailey's Crossroads, and will begin at 7:00. We used this location several years ago for this same meeting, and it was a good place to acknowledge scholarship! See you there!

Equal Pay Day

On Monday April 9, the Falls Church City Council issued a proclamation recognizing the importance of equal pay and encouraging the Falls Church business to assess their pay practices and make changes to implement fair pay regardless of gender. Mary Beth Connelly drafted a thorough proclamation, which she also read on behalf of the City Council, and Mayor Tarter signed it. Ten members of our branch were on hand to receive the proclamation. We were featured in the *Falls Church News-Press* - <https://fcnp.com/2018/04/11/equal-pay-day-recognized-f-c/>

In addition to our members, three elementary school students also joined us and then interviewed branch members after the proclamation. Constance, Emily, and Jenna are in the fifth grade at Thomas Jefferson Elementary School. Their questions were well researched, thoughtful, and prompted a lively discussion among the members. I think the three of them were surprised by some of the stories they heard. Thank you to all those who were able to participate in this discussion – Anne Baxter, Sally Brett, Marilyn Falksen, Becky Gaul, Bunny Jarrett, Mollie Jewell, Pam Martinov, and Sharon Zackula. Photo credit to Edward Levine.



In addition to the proclamation, the branch had an opinion piece in the *Falls Church News-Press* highlighting the need for more attention to equal pay, not only in the federal government, but in the Virginia State legislature as well. This is a challenge that should be tackled on every possible front. If you missed the letter to the editor, you can find it at <https://fcnp.com/2018/04/05/letters-editor-time-improve-virginias-equal-pay-laws/>. Thank you to Marilyn Falksen for her thoughtful writing.

Treasurer's Message

IT'S EASY TO PAY AAUW DUES

By now you've read the email reminder from National AAUW about paying your 2018-19 dues. To **easily** renew click on the credit card link, provide your credit card information, click on **SUBMIT**, and you done!

If you prefer, send a check for \$89 to Anne Baxter, 6337 Hillcrest Pl., Alexandria, VA 22312. Dues should be paid by July 1, 2018. Thanks for your prompt payment of dues.



New Members

Welcome to our two new Branch members--Joan Hession and Linda Lawrence!

Public Policy

LOBBY CORPS RECRUITMENT DAY

Lobby Corps is using a new method of recruiting members this year. Rather than having separate training days to which new people are invited, potential Lobby Corps members will see Lobby Corps in action by actually going to Capitol Hill and visiting Members of Congress and their staffs. New people will be paired with experienced Lobby Corps members who will act as mentors and guide the “newbies” as they make their visits. The next Lobby Corps recruitment day will be Thursday, June 21. As the number of new people will be limited to 10, interested individuals will need to register in advance by going to <http://bit.ly/JoinLobbyCorps> and providing the requested information. If you would like to learn more about Lobby Corps, check out the AAUW website <https://www.aauwaction.org/lobby-corps/>, contact Marilyn Falksen at falksen@yahoo.com, or talk with one of the Lobby Corps members.

9th Circuit Court of Appeals Decision on Equal Pay

On April 9, just in time for Equal Pay Day on April 10, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit ruled that employers cannot justify paying a woman less than a man for doing similar work based on her salary history. In the case of Rizo v. Fresno County Office of Education, the Court ruled in favor of a California math consultant. Aileen Rizo, who sued the Fresno Office of Education when she learned that she was paid less than her male co-workers who had less experience than she had. The Fresno County Office of Education admitted that Rizo was paid less but justified the lower salary by saying that the Office based the starting pay of its employees on their previous salaries. It also argued that using a job applicant's previous salary did not violate the Equal Pay Act of 1963 because the Act allowed a “differential based on any other factor other than sex”, and salary history was not based on gender.

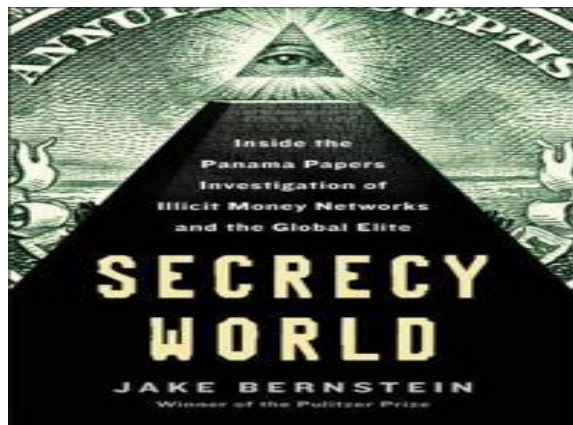
The Court disagreed. Judge Stephen Reinhardt, writing for the court, stated: “The Equal Pay Act stands for a principle as simple as it is just: Men and women should receive equal pay for equal work regardless of sex. The question before us is also simple: Can an employer justify a wage differential between male and female employees by relying on prior salary? Based on the text, history and purpose of the Equal Pay Act, the answer is clear: No.” The Judge went on to say: “Before this decision, our law was unclear whether an employer could consider prior salary, either alone or in combination with other factors, when setting its employees’ salaries.... [W]e now hold that prior salary alone or in combination with other factors cannot justify a wage differential.”

As Equal Pay Day points out, women are paid less than men, and basing their salaries on previous job history merely exacerbates the discrepancy. This decision is an important step toward eliminating the gender pay gap. Additionally, Massachusetts, California, Delaware, Oregon and Puerto Rico have passed laws that block managers from requesting an applicant's prior salary.

Book Club News

Our Falls Church AAUW book club will meet on Tuesday 5/15 at 7:30 PM at the Starbucks in Harris Teeter, 301 West Broad St., Falls Church. Please join us for a lively discussion of our History pick: *Secrecy World*. Come even if you haven't read the book; we're witty and fun!

Secrecy World: Inside the Panama Papers Investigation of Illicit Money Networks and the Global Elite by Jake Bernstein (Goodreads Author) · [24 Reviews](#)



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 superwealthy 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.

Hardcover, 352 pages

Also we will be discussing our format for next year. Let us know if you liked choosing books in different categories. If so, are there any categories that you would add or delete? If you can't make the meeting and have some thoughts on this, let Polly or Kathleen know your ideas on this. prosenstein@hotmail.com or gerrityk@verizon.net.

The May meeting will be our last book club meeting until September as we break for the summer.

2018 Virginia State Conference - Northern District Report

Susan Burk and Caroline Pickens submitted the below report as the Northern District's co-Representatives. Two new co-Representatives have been selected for the 2018-2020 term – Kate McLeod (Vienna Branch) and Sara Anderson (Arlington Branch).

Northern District Report

The Northern District has been energetically supporting AAUW's mission and having a good time doing it! In October 2016, district members met to hear Melissa Richmond, Vice President of Running Start (partnered with AAUW on Elect Her until that program was ended), and Melissa Jackowski, former AAUW Grass Roots Advocacy manager discuss ***"Gender Bias in Politics: Is it Real?"*** (It is!) Our February 2017 district meeting addressed persistent branch membership challenges and offered inputs for Cyndi Shanahan, AAUW of VA's VP for Membership, who developed a successful strategy for increasing and retaining members. AAUW of VA's VP for Public Policy, Leslie Tourigny, updated members on public policy issues and led a brainstorming session that contributed to the establishment of state-wide Public Policy Sub-Committees on fair redistricting and pay equity. AAUW's new CEO, Kim Churches, introduced herself and her vision for AAUW at our October 2017 district meeting. Under her leadership, AAUW is being organized to concentrate on areas where it can provide unique, value-added support and advocacy. Most recently, the Northern District focused on AAUW's Start Smart/Work Smart programs. Start Smart and Work Smart are aimed at women entering the working force, and those already employed, respectively. These programs teach women how to negotiate salaries for a first or a subsequent job, as well as for earned raises or promotions. Northern District branches will be pursuing inter-branch cooperation to build on the McLean Branch's successful program supporting Start Smart.

The past two years have afforded other opportunities for district branches to work together including voter registration drives, Federal and State Lobby Days, and participation in the January 2017 Women's March in Washington. Branches have begun to routinely share their newsletters, calendars and programs information with other district branches. This cross-fertilization among the branches ensures that good ideas are shared beyond their immediate branch and encourages greater inter-branch engagement. It has been a good way to expand our AAUW network in the district.

We have thoroughly enjoyed our time as Co-Representatives for the Northern District and look forward to an exciting future.

Caroline Pickens and Susan Burk

Opportunity

IB testing begins Friday April 27 around the world. There is still need for adult volunteers to help proctor various IB exams at Stuart HS. If you have weekday free time between Friday, April 27 and May 17, please take a look at the IB sign up on Signupgenius or contact Pam Martinov.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d49a5a82ba46-may2018>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 14 Branch Annual Scholarship Award Meeting, 7:00 pm, Woodrow Wilson Library,
6101 Knollwood, near Bailey's Crossroads
- May 15 Book Club Meeting Starbucks at Harris Teeter, 301 W. Broad St., FC at 7:30 PM.



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>