

AAUW FALLS CHURCH FLASH

Volume 67, Number 7 October 1, 2018



October Meeting

When: Monday, October 8, 7:30 pm
Where: Falls Church Community Center
What: Author of *Boundaries of the Wind*, Urmilla Khanna.

President's Letter

What a lively discussion there was at the September meeting about the work of our two Task Forces! Thank you for your input.

Mollie Jewell, Allocation Task Force convener, discusses the recommendations and approval time frame in an article in this newsletter. Martha Trunk, Fund Raising Allocation Task Force convener, plans to have the task force recommendations for branch review in November and a suggested time frame for branch approval.

Thanks to members of the two Task Forces for their diligent work over the summer months.

Plan to hear the story of Dr. Urmilla Khanna's journey from Pakistan to Pediatrician in Fairfax, VA and author at our October 8th meeting.

We've managed to "clean out" the Youman's garage with our 2 sorting sessions in September. You can still help at the last session planned for November 3. See you there!

Your Board members for Kristan McMahan, President

October 8 Meeting

Join us for the author of *Boundaries of the Wind*, Urmilla Khanna. This is the compelling memoir of a remarkable woman—wife, mother, homemaker, and medical doctor. Her story is of a woman's struggle to achieve her career goals in the context of the traditional expectations of an Indian woman. Urmilla came to the United States as a young bride in 1963. She became a board certified pediatrician in 1974, had a successful career in pediatrics in Fairfax, Virginia, and retired in 2000. Khanna began writing as a hobby after her husband's death in 2003.

SAVE THE DATE

The fall AAUW Northern District meeting is Saturday, October 20th. It will be at the Burke Center branch of Fairfax County Library from 1:00 until 4:30. The program includes speakers on **Start Smart/Work Smart efforts in Northern Virginia**. Our branch heard about this national AAUW program last January. Now the Northern Virginia AAUW branches will work jointly to sponsor programs locally for graduates of colleges/universities such as George Mason, Marymount, and NVCC.

In addition, we will hear from Brian Canon of VA2021 (he spoke to us last winter) about how to prevent gerrymandering in 2021. The Virginia Legislature is currently deadlocked on how to redraw districts as order by the courts. Update your information about the status of this important effort. Mark this meeting on your calendar. Let's have a large turnout!.

Public Policy

Legal Advocacy Fund Call

At the beginning of every Supreme Court term, the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund provides a preview of some of the cases the Court might hear during that term via a call-in conference. This year, the call is scheduled for Tuesday, October 30, and the conversation will also include discussion about the Congressional landscape and the potential impact on AAUW policy priorities. If you wish to participate in this informative call, you must register before **October 24** to obtain call-in information. [Sign up here to reserve your spot on the call!](#) Additionally, as Marilyn Falksen, Branch Public Policy Chair, will be out of town on the 30th, she's looking for someone to take notes on the discussion so that the information provided can be shared with the Branch members. Contact Marilyn at fcaauwpublicpolicy@gmail.com if you're interested in participating in the call and sharing what you learn with the rest of the Branch.

AAUW/VA Federal Lobby Day

On Thursday, September 27, 2018, 10 AAUW-VA members from across Virginia, and as far away as Virginia Beach, joined 25 seasoned AAUW Action Fund Lobby Corps members on Capitol Hill for Federal Lobby Day. Falls Church was well represented by six experienced Lobby Corps members – Marty Behr, Becky Gaul, Marilyn Falksen, Bunny Jarrett, Kitty Richardson, Kim Weirick -- and two Branch members – Joan Hession and Rachel Ledon --who were experiencing the excitement of lobbying for the first time.

With Dr. Christine Blasey Ford and Judge Brett Kavanaugh appearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee, the topic was timely. The participants urged the Senators and staff they visited to oppose the confirmation of Judge Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court. The 35 AAUW members, in groups of two or three, visited 96 of the 100 Senate offices and delivered a letter clearly describing why AAUW opposes his confirmation. Based on a careful review of his available record, AAUW is concerned that Judge Kavanaugh's confirmation would do grave harm by undermining AAUW's policy priorities and the health, education, and economic security of women and girls. Lobby Corps members also urged the Senators to

call for a full, fair, and nonpartisan FBI investigation into the sexual assault allegations made against Judge Kavanaugh.

Fall Festival – the Rain held off!

Luckily, the weather held off for the Falls Church Fall Festival and we able to attend. Our branch distributed free books and talked to festival-goers about AAUW. As a result, about 15 people signed up to get our newsletter! So many that I'm sure Shannon will need help to meet and greet all these people.

If you can help Shannon, contact her at smodell3@hotmail.com, (H)(916) 844-5969

Thanks to the AAUW reps at the Fall Festival: Mollie Jewell, Anne Baxter, Shannon LaBarbera, Sarah John, Marilyn Falksen, Martha Trunk, and Sally Brett for their enthusiastic representation of AAUW at the Festival!



Shannon LaBarbera and Anne Baxter at the Fall Festival

Branch Hospitality Volunteers and Coordinator

Recruiting branch members to bring snacks to meetings. We are asking members to sign up to bring food or drinks to one meeting this year. There are still plenty of openings; you can volunteer via the [Hospitality Sign-up Sheet](#).

Coordinator Needed. The opportunity to serve the branch as Hospitality coordinator remains open. The coordinator recruits members (2-4) to supply snacks and drinks at each branch meetings for the program year. Follows up monthly with volunteers to make sure they can still help. She buys supplies as needed. Estimated time commitment is 2 hours monthly. The Hospitality sign-up has already begun [Hospitality Sign-up Sheet](#).

Book sorting Notice! – Oct 6 sorting CANCELLED

That's Right! It's not a typo!

CANCELLED

We had a good day and a good turnout for the September sorting, and we sorted every last book in the garage!

So we are CANCELLING the October book sorting session. That's right – don't come to Mary's on Oct 6, the session is cancelled. I hope it's a good day and you can get out and enjoy it!

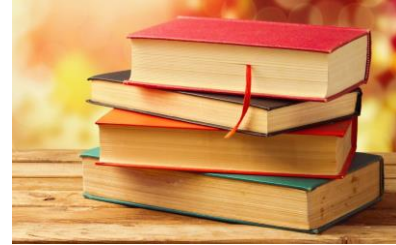
While we aren't actively publicizing for books this fall, we are accepting them. If you have good, saleable books, contact Mary Youman 703-528-8993 to arrange a drop off time. The next book sorting is scheduled for November 3, by then we should have enough books to hold a sorting session.

Next sorting - November 3

Place: 4419 N. 18th Street, Arlington

Date: Nov 3, Saturday

Time: 10am to 3pm (or until we finish)



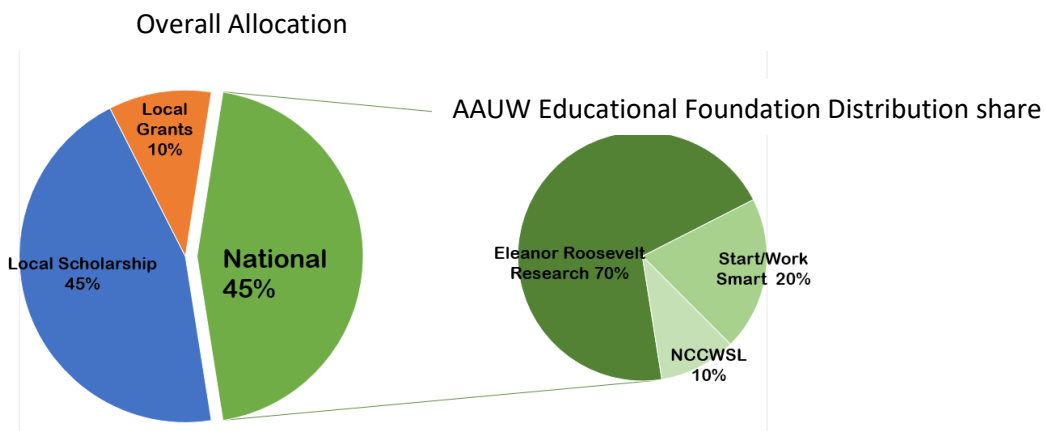
Funds Allocation Task Force Recommendations

The Funds Allocation Task Force has developed the following recommendations for spending the proceeds of the branch fund raiser for approval by the branch. The time is ripe for this review because in 2017 we finished funding our national Career Development endowment grant (our branch's second complete endowment). By completing the endowment, we can now freely allocate the funds sent to the national Educational Foundation. The following recommendations have been presented to the board and introduced at the September meeting. They will come forward for a branch membership vote at the November branch meeting.

The Funds Allocation Task Force is making recommendations both for the allocation of funds between AAUW national and Falls Church local as well as for the allocation of the national funds. The Task Force has four recommendations:

- (1) **Overall Allocation.** Recommend that FC AAUW allocate the book sale profits per the following percentages: AAUW national Educational Foundation (45%); Falls Church local scholarships (45%); and Falls Church local grants (10%), effective with the profits of the April 2018 book sale.
- (2) **National Educational Foundation (EF) distribution.** Recommend distribution of the 45% of funds donated to AAUW national Educational Foundation in the following proportions: Research reports (via Eleanor Roosevelt Fund) - 70%; Start Smart/Work Smart - 20%; and NCCWSL Scholarship Support - 10%.

The following graphs illustrate the relationship of the overall allocation and the national EF distribution (Recommendations 1 and 2).



(3) **Duration.** Recommend that the overall distribution of funds shall remain in place until the Branch votes to change the programs receiving support. Further recommend that the distribution of funds from the National slice would be reviewed annually.

(4) **Tax Status Review.** Recommend that the Falls Church Area Branch Board, by Dec. 30, 2018, designate one or more members to explore acquiring 501(c)3 status for proceeds from branch fundraising activities.

Rationale:

The task force recommendations for distribution were made to align with the AAUW Mission, Strategic Plan, and interests of branch members.

- Mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.
- Strategic Plan. The recommendations support the goals and strategies of the Strategic Plan in the areas Education and Training, Economic Security, and Leadership.
- The recommendations are guided by the interests and passions of the members of the Falls Church Area Branch and the demonstrated need for local scholarships.

For more information, contact one of the Task Force members: Marilyn Falksen, Becky Gaul, Susan Hesser, Bunny Jarrett, Mellen Tanamly, Mary Youman, and Mollie Jewell (convener).

Book Club News

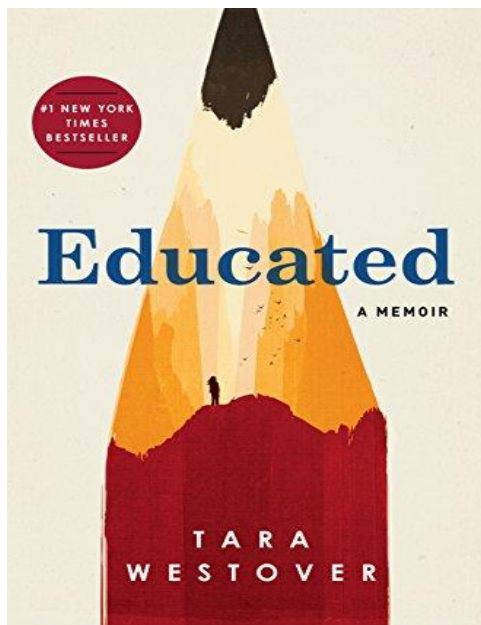
For October our Book Club will go to the Sunday Matinee for *Lovers and Executioners* at 2:00 PM at James Lee Community Center on October 14 presented by the Providence Players. If you want to go let Polly Rosenstein (prosenstein@hotmail.com) know no later than 10/6 and I will buy tickets for us. Tickets are adults \$20 and Seniors (62+) \$17.

For those who want to do so, we will have dinner afterwards and discuss the play.

For November we will meet at Starbucks in Harris Teeter, 301 W. Broad St., Falls Church, VA 22046 on Tuesday November 20th at 7:30 PM. Join us for cookies and coffee. Our book selection is *Educated: A Memoir* by Tara Westover. Come for the cookies and conversation even if you haven't read the book.

Educated: A Memoir

Tara Westover



An unforgettable memoir in the tradition of *The Glass Castle* about a young girl who, kept out of school, leaves her survivalist family and goes on to earn a PhD from Cambridge University. Tara Westover was 17 the first time she set foot in a classroom. Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, she prepared for the end of the world by stockpiling home-canned peaches and sleeping with her "head-for-the-hills bag". In the summer she stewed herbs for her mother, a midwife and healer, and in the winter she salvaged in her father's junkyard. Her father forbade hospitals, so Tara never saw a doctor or nurse. Gashes and concussions, even burns from explosions, were all treated at home with herbalism. The family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education and no one to intervene

when one of Tara's older brothers became violent. Then, lacking any formal education, Tara began to educate herself. She taught herself enough mathematics and grammar to be admitted to Brigham Young University, where she studied history, learning for the first time about important world events like the Holocaust and the civil rights movement. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge. Only then would she wonder if she'd traveled too far, if there was still a way home. *Educated* is an account of the struggle for self-invention. It is a tale of fierce family loyalty and of the grief that

comes with severing the closest of ties. With the acute insight that distinguishes all great writers, Westover has crafted a universal coming-of-age story that gets to the heart of what an education is and what it offers: the perspective to see one's life through new eyes and the will to change it.

New Members

Adrienne Formentos was born and raised in San Francisco, CA. She completed her BAs in Political Science with an International Relations concentration and Creative Writing from Dominican University of California in San Rafael, CA. Adrienne moved to the DC area in 2015 for graduate school at Georgetown University, where she completed her MS in Global Health in 2017.

Adrienne began her career in public health during the year she volunteered with the Vincentian Service Corps, which is under the AmeriCorps umbrella. Since then, she has worked in clinical healthcare settings in patient relations, and volunteered at a free health clinic and with the American Red Cross as a disaster responder. She has both professional and personal interests in mental health research, equitable access to healthcare and medicines, and global health security.

Adrienne recently learned about AAUW while attending a salary negotiation workshop in June 2018. After speaking with one of the members of the DC branch and learning about the mission of AAUW, Adrienne knew she wanted to get involved. She is very interested in women's rights, equality in the workplace, and encouraging young girls to choose careers in sciences and the arts. Adrienne hopes to help in this capacity by supporting other young women, and is looking forward to mentorship and guidance in work-life balance and pressures.

In her spare time, Adrienne enjoys running long distances, playing volleyball, swimming, and working out. Not only is *she* active, but she loves encouraging *others* to get active as well. When not "on the move," Adrienne loves sitting down to read books.

Welcome, Adrienne!



Terry Myers Zawacki, who grew up in Peoria, IL, also lived in El Paso, TX and Long Island, NY before relocating to Northern Virginia. She and her husband have one son, who lives with his wife and two children (8 and 5) in Westover.

Terry, now retired, earned a BA, MA, and PhD, and spent her career at the university level as a professor at George Mason University. She directed the Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) program and the University Writing Center, while also leading the university writing assessment. Terry, an accomplished author, has received multiple awards and recognitions in her field, and continues to share her expertise by giving workshops and presentations at universities in the US and overseas.

Although Terry has always known about AAUW and our mission, she learned about AAUW from a friend at the gym, Madelyn Cafuny. Terry is also involved with the League of Women Voters, so she is looking forward to opportunities in political outreach with like-minded women. While also interested in the book sale, Terry is actually trying to downsize her book collection, and prefers to check out books from the local library, where she recently served on the Board of Trustees.

Terry enjoys gardening, cooking, traveling, and reading (memoir, history, mysteries by women authors, and ethnographies).

Welcome, Terry!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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| October 6 | CANCELLED- Book Sorting at Youman's |
| October 8 | Branch Meeting, 7:30pm, Falls Church Community Center- Dr. Urmilla Khama discusses her memoir, <u>Boundaries of the Wind</u> |
| October 14 | Sunday Matinee for Lovers and Executioners at 2:00 PM at James Lee Community Center |
| October 20 | Northern Virginia AAUW District Meeting, 1-30-4:00 pm, Burke Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road Burke |
| October 22 | Branch Board meeting, 7:30 pm, A. Baxter's home, 6337 Hillcrest Pl., Alexandria, |
| October 24 | Deadline for Registration for Legal Advocacy Fund Call- See newsletter for further information |

- October 30 Legal Advocacy Fund Call- See newsletter or Marilyn Falksen for more information
- November 3 Book Sorting at Youman's, 10am-2pm, 4419 18th Street , North, Arlington, VA
- November 12 Branch Meeting, 7:30 pm, Falls Church Community Center- Dalia Palchik , Providence District member of the Fairfax County School & teacher, Find out about Key Issues for the Fairfax County Schools
- November 20 November Book Club Meeting, 7:30 pm at Starbucks at Harris Teeter, 301 W. Broad St., Falls Church, VA 22046



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>