

AAUW FALLS CHURCH FLASH



Volume 67, Number 9

November 7, 2018

November Branch Meeting

When: Monday Nov 12, at 7:30 pm

Where: Falls Church Community Center

What: - Dalia Palchik, Fairfax County School Board Member, will discuss programs for girls
- Funds Allocation Task Force recommendations will come forward as motions for a branch membership vote



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy November!

First let me say a heartfelt thank you to our branch board who so capably and skillfully handled all business while I was away. My adventure would not have been possible without their care and dedication.

Please pay close attention to the recommendations of the Funds Allocation Task Force. This is the first of two important decisions for our branch in the upcoming months – how shall we divide the proceeds of our fundraising efforts. We will have a robust discussion at our next branch meeting, culminating in a vote on the Task Force's motions.

I look forward to seeing you all on Monday for our program, our discussion, and vote.
Kristan

Funds Allocation Task Force: Motions for November Meeting

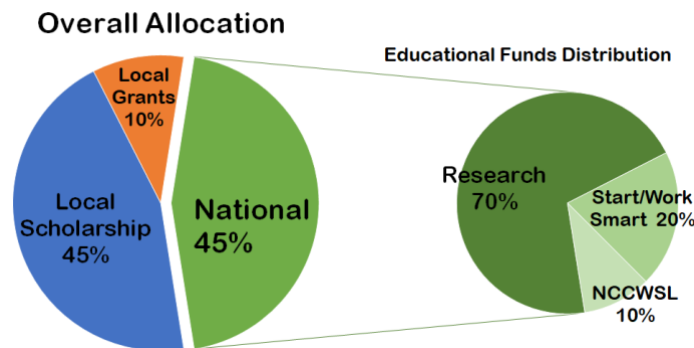
The Funds Allocation Task Force is making the following recommendations for spending the proceeds of the branch fund raiser for approval by the branch. The time is ripe for this review because in 2017 we finished funding our national Career Development endowment grant (our branch's second complete endowment).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

November branch meeting vote. The recommendations will come forward as motions for a branch membership vote at the November branch meeting.

The Funds Allocation Task Force has three recommendations covering the allocation of funds between AAUW national and Falls Church local as well as for the allocation of the national funds.

- (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 Funds (EF) distribution.** Recommend distribution of the 45% of funds donated to AAUW national Educational Funds in the following proportions: Research reports- 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.

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).

Public Policy

Human Trafficking Initiative

The Alexandria Branch of AAUW is beginning a project to help human trafficking victims escape and find freedom from violence. The plan is to develop the AAUW Angel App for smart phones. An individual would set up an AAUW Angel account and fill out a form for law enforcement officials. The app/account would store that information. If the individual was taken, she/he could tap a couple of buttons on the phone and hit an "angel alert," which would send the form to law enforcement officials and start a tracker on the phone. Victims could also log into their account from a desktop or laptop computer or any other device that allows them to go online and send the form to law enforcement and initiate the tracker to the device they were using. The Alexandria Branch intends to publicize this app through various forms of social media.

You can help with this project in several ways: 1) Getting in contact with law enforcement officials who work with human trafficking victims; 2) Getting volunteers and helping to establish community partnerships throughout Virginia; 3) Getting sponsors to pay the App fee. If you're interested in assisting with this initiative or need additional information, contact our Branch's Public Policy Chair, Marilyn Falksen, by telephone 703-534-8740 or email falksen@yahoo.com.

Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment

AAUW of Virginia has made ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment by the Virginia General Assembly during its 2019 session a public policy priority. Only one more state needs to ratify the ERA for it to become a part of the United States Constitution, and AAUW of Virginia wants Virginia to be that state. As part of this effort, AAUW of Virginia has prepared a booklet entitled "Unfinished Business" about the ERA. The booklet includes the history of the ERA, the reasons for including such an amendment in the constitution, and steps AAUW members can take to encourage members of the General Assembly to pass a resolution ratifying this important amendment. The booklet can be accessed and downloaded from the AAUW of Virginia's website <https://aauw-va.aauw.net/>. Please share this link so that this information has wide distribution. This website also has other links that provide additional information about the ERA and efforts to ensure its ratification by the General Assembly.

All AAUW of Virginia branch members have been asked to send postcards to their State Delegate and Senator at their district offices in early November expressing the need for ratification of the ERA by the Virginia General Assembly. Members are also asked to send post-cards to the Speaker of the House urging him to ensure that the resolution to ratify the ERA gets a vote by the full House and to the Senate Majority Leader, urging him to assign the ERA resolution to Senator Vogel, Chair of the Senate Privileges and Elections Committee. (Historically, she and her committee ensured all Virginians were represented

during a full Senate vote on the ERA.) Additionally, members are asked to send a second round of postcards to their local legislators urging them to vote “yes” on House Joint Resolution 579, to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment, in December/January. Special AAUW postcards, talking points, and addresses for legislators will be available at the Branch meeting on November 12. If you want to send postcards but are unable to attend the Branch meeting, contact Public Policy Chair Marilyn Falksen.

ERA Ratification Bus Tour: Sunday November 11

AAUW of Virginia has made ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) by the Virginia Legislature in 2019 its top public policy priority and has joined with other groups in the VA ratify ERA Campaign. As part of that effort, the chief patrons of HJ Resolution 579, Delegate Jennifer Carroll Foy and Senator Glen Sturtevant, are conducting a 10-day bus tour with 16 stops around the state. On Sunday, November 11, the bus will be in Falls Church at Liberty BBQ on Broad Street at approximately 2 p.m. Delegate Carroll Foy, Delegate Marcus Simon, Karen Bate (founder of Awesome Women Entrepreneurs) and others will be speaking. The back section of the restaurant has been reserved for this event, and attendees can order their own food and/or beverages from the menu if they want to eat or drink while there. The event is expected to last about an hour.

LWV-VA Pre-session Legislative Roundtable

The League of Women Voters-Virginia (LWV-VA) will hold its annual Legislative Roundtable on **Wednesday, December 5, 2018**, at John Marshall Virginia Ballroom, 101 N. 5th Street, Richmond, Virginia. Sign in for the event begins at 8:30 a.m. with the program starting at 9 a.m. Each year, League members and coalition partners look forward to the first Wednesday of December for this eye-opening experience open to the public. A parade of issue experts – roughly 20 experienced leaders, skilled lobbyists, and thoughtful activists – share their insights about the agenda for the upcoming Virginia General Assembly.

This year presenters have a maximum of ten minutes to outline proposed bills and expected General Assembly actions in their areas of expertise. We will hear about the state’s financial position, redistricting, election security, ERA ratification, fracking, pipelines, sea levels, transportation, schools, implementation of Medicaid expansion, and more. After the morning session League members and other attendees continue networking over lunch, including presentations and Q&A with administration officials. The buffet lunch offers choices of Caesar salad, beef and vegetable stew, stuffed chicken breast, vegetable penne pasta, whipped potatoes, roasted vegetables, artisan rolls, and pecan, lemon chess, or chocolate chess pie. To enjoy the buffet and participate in the luncheon discussion with administration officials, pre-registration is required by **Friday, November 23**, the day after Thanksgiving. Seating is limited. **The fee is \$35.00/person non-refundable.** All pre-registrations are online. Payment can be made via PayPal (no account required) or by mailing a check. Register online for lunch at <http://bit.ly/2ILs9qC>.

If you would like to participate in this interesting event, please call or email Marilyn Falksen, so Branch attendees can arrange to car pool to Richmond on December 5.

AAUW Public Policy Priorities Comment Period Is Now Open

AAUW National opened the comment period for the 2019-2021 Public Policy Priorities. This is an opportunity for all members to submit feedback to support of the PPP or to propose changes in them. The comment period runs through 11 January 2019. Please use this link - <https://www.aauw.org/policy-priority/public-policy-priorities/>

Northern Virginia District Meeting Report

One Virginia 2021 (redistricting), Start Smart/Work Smart, AAUW Strategic Plan, Legislative Focus

This fall's AAUW Northern Virginia Districts Meeting (held October 20) had a jam-packed schedule with major speakers covering One Virginia 2021 (redistricting), Start Smart/Work Smart, AAUW Strategic Plan, Legislative Focus.

The Start Smart presentation. Sue Christie (McLean branch) leads of a group of NoVA branches working to get Start Smart onto northern Virginia campuses representing 5,000 women college graduates each year. She described the varying progress and the obstacles.

Sue explained that they have made the most progress with George Mason that has already scheduled a demonstration session. At Mary Mount, the team has a scheduled meeting with the President and Dean of Student Affairs. And unfortunately, NOVA doesn't have the staff to participate as an institution, but the NOVA career center may well be interested.

The major lessons learned for moving this effort statewide is that working with institution requires a very determined and dedicated point person. Universities have no money and no time to fund this effort and are skeptical that students will sit through the 2-hour session. Business involvement is a dual win because it raises the company's awareness and starts to ease them into pay fairness.

Caroline Pickens added that AAUW will shortly release a free, online version of Work Smart and urged all members to take it to get familiar with the project.

AAUW Strategic Plan. Caroline Pickens briefed the group on the Strategic Plan's four pillars: Education and Training, Economic Security, Leadership, and Governance and Sustainability.

Legislative Focus. Pay equity and Virginia ratification of the ERA are the highest priorities for Virginia AAUW this year. (And, interested members are invited to take the opportunity to write a few post cards at lunch time at book sorting on Nov. 3).

Redistricting. Brian Cannon of One Virginia 2012 described his organization's efforts to reach a fair plan for redistricting in Virginia. Three key pillars are: transparent process, clear rules, and non-politicians drawing the maps.

Programs

On **November 12, 2018**, the Falls Church Branch of AAUW will host Dalia Palchik as our speaker at the Falls Church Community Center. The Presentation starts at 7:30 pm.

Dalia Palchik represents the Providence District as a member of the Fairfax County School Board. At 35 she is one of the younger members. Dalia was born in Argentina and came to the US as a child. She graduated from Fairfax County Public Schools. Ms. Palchik is a world language teacher and community development professional. She has taught Spanish, English, and French to students from kindergarten to post-college. She has also worked as a communications and media director in international development.

Ms. Palchik will be speaking on Fairfax County School Board education priorities for young women and girls. She will address new programs and how you can be involved or volunteer.

October 8th Branch Meeting - Dr. Urmilla Khanna, Author of *Boundaries of the Wind*



BRANCH HOLIDAY PARTY: Sunday December 16, 2018

Time: 3 - 6 pm

Hosts: Sharon Zackula/Jeff Rogers

Address: 1433 Pathfinder Lane

Mclean, VA 22101

Spouses/Significant Others are invited. Details to follow in December Flash.



Book Club News

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* by Tara Westover** (Goodreads Author)

4.49 · Rating details · 81,492 Ratings · 11,264 Reviews

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. GET A COPY:

- Kindle Store \$12.99
- Amazon
- Stores

Hardcover, 334 pages, Published February 20th 2018 by Random House

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- November 12** Branch Meeting, 7:30 pm, Falls Church Community Center
- November 20** Book Club Meeting, Starbucks at Harris Teeter, 301 W. Broad St., FC at 7:30 PM
- December 5** League of Women Voters Pre-Session Women's Legislative Roundtable
Richmond, VA
- December 16** Falls Church Branch Holiday Party, 3-6 pm, Sharon Zackula's home
- February 7, 2019** AAUW of Virginia State Lobby Day, Richmond, VA

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>

