

## AAUW FALLS CHURCH FLASH

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### Co- Presidents' Message

Dear All,

It is March, which means that it is time for our annual business meeting and almost time for the book sale and scholarship awards. Winter is almost over! Its an exciting time of the year! The March meeting will be March 9, 7:30 p.m. at the Falls Church Community Center. Please lend us your support. Please come to the meeting to vote for new officers and hear the latest developments regarding the book sale. We are getting a lot of books and, since it is already March, book sorting will occur every Saturday in March (March 7, 14, 21 and 28), beginning at 9:30 am, unless Dianne and Sarah otherwise notify you.



A speaker representing Aurora House, the residential facility in Falls Church for young women may make a brief presentation. The Branch has provided limited support annually to Aurora House and many of us "newer" members are interested in hearing more about this organization that has long-standing ties with the Falls Church Area Branch.

Also, the March meeting will be the annual business meeting. At this meeting, we will be electing people to the positions of President and Program VP. **(Note: The current co-Presidents have agreed to be re-nominated, but we need someone or two people to step up and be nominated for Program VPs.)**

Current officers will summarize their activities (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020) in an interim annual reports, and their written reports will be available for your review.

The Falls Church City Council is meeting Monday March 23, 2020, in the evening, to issue a proclamation recognizing that March 31, 2020 is "Equal Pay Day," the day that women, working the same job as a man, finally earn the same amount of compensation that the man earned as of December 31, 2019. We have asked the City Council to issue the proclamation, and Marilyn Faulksen has worked cooperatively with them to do so before March 31, 2020. Generally, the City Council prefers to take such symbolic actions at the beginning of their meeting. We would like the Branch to be well represented at the meeting, and have our picture taken with the proclamation and members of the Council. Please consider attending the opening minutes of the March 23 meeting (beginning at 7:30pm) to make a statement about the importance of gender pay inequity, and AAUW's historic role in advocating for pay equity.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting and sharing a beer box with you at book sorting.

Sharon Zackula and Elizabeth August Kessel  
Co-Presidents

Wanted: AAUW Falls Church Area Branch

Needs you to volunteer to serve as Vice President - Programs!

## March Meeting / Branch Election



For March: Our annual business meeting- Monday March 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm at the Falls Church Community Center. There will also be an update on the book sale and there may be a brief presentation by Aurora House. Also, please consider joining members for dinner before the business meeting at Northside Social at 6:00pm.

This year, we will be holding elections at the March business meeting for the following board positions for a 2 year term:

President

Vice President for Programs

Secretary

These offices may be held by one member or shared, i.e. Co-President. If you are interested in either one (or both) of these positions and can share your time and talent with the branch, please email Shannon LaBarbera at [smodell3@hotmail.com](mailto:smodell3@hotmail.com).



## February Meeting



On Sunday, February 9, members traveled to the National Archives in Washington, D.C. to see the exhibit, "Rightfully Hers American Women and the Vote." We came away with a rekindled and deep appreciation for those who risked much to obtain the right to vote for women and for those who worked to extend the right to vote for other disenfranchised groups.



## AAUW meeting Snacks – we need your help!



Can you bring a savory snack to the March or May meeting?

I am looking for just one more person to volunteer to bring a savory munchie to the March meeting. If you can help, please RSVP so we have just the right amount of snacks. Or signup at [AAUW Branch Hospitality 2020](#).

Thanks, Mollie Jewell, [MollieJewell2@gmail.com](mailto:MollieJewell2@gmail.com).

## AAUW of Virginia Conference

**ENJOY A SPRING GETAWAY WEEKEND!**

**April 17-19**

**Old Town Alexandria**

**What a winter we've had! Can you be more busy? You need a Spring break!**

**Come to the AAUW-VA Conference in Old Town Alexandria!**

Start out by participating in the pre-conference tour of the Alexandria Black History Museum (2:30 PM, Friday). Enjoy a get-together with other members Friday night at the hotel. Hear awesome speakers and panelists on Saturday and Sunday morning, and applaud our TWO Women of Achievement at the Saturday night banquet. Gather with women of like mind from around the state; laugh and renew friendships. Stay late on Sunday and participate in the Women's History Walking Tour (12:45 PM).

So right now... mark your calendar for a Spring Getaway weekend of fun and inspiration at the State Conference April 15-17 at the Holiday Inn & Suites Old Town Alexandria!

[Reserve Your Hotel Room.](#) [Register for the Conference.](#)

**Northern Virginia Residents:** Are you thinking you could drive back and forth each day? That's not a getaway weekend! Spend the night. Pamper yourself with no traffic worries, an awesome hotel room, and great meals you don't have to cook yourself. The hotel has a fitness center, swimming pool, and bar! Make it a Spring Getaway Weekend! **Did we mention no traffic worries?**

The [Winter/Spring Vision](#) has all the details or click to open the [Conference 2020 Brochure](#) and read all about it! Many suggestions for things to see in Old Town are provided.

**See you in Alexandria, April 17-19!**



## Public Policy

### Equality Celebration

On Sunday, March 8, which is International Women's Day, VAratifyERA is sponsoring an Equality Celebration in Richmond, Virginia, to acknowledge Virginia making history for equal rights by becoming the 38<sup>th</sup> and final state needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. The event begins at 3 p.m. in Monroe Park (620 West Main Street) with speakers and musicians. Participants will walk to the State Capitol for a photo session and return to the park (a total of 2.5 miles). During the parade, the story of equal rights will be told through four distinct eras:

(1) 1920 – 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment/women's suffrage; (2) 1970 -- Title IX; (3) 2020 -- Virginia's ratification of the ERA; (4) Future – when the ERA is added to the Constitution. Each section will tell a story through banners, parade puppets, and the participants wearing different colors for each era. For more information about this exciting event, go to the website VAratifyERA.org and click on "Celebrate!38". The drop-down menu contains links to details about the event.

### Falls Church City Council to Issue Equal Pay Day Proclamation

Equal Pay Day  
2019 Observances



How long will **we** be forced to wait to  
achieve equal pay?



Equal Pay Day (Women to Men)	<b>80¢</b>	April 2
Asian Women to White, non-Hispanic Men	<b>85¢</b>	March 5
White, non-Hispanic Women to non-Hispanic Men	<b>77¢</b>	April 19
Black Women to White, non-Hispanic Men	<b>61¢</b>	Aug. 22
Native Women to White, non-Hispanic Men	<b>58¢</b>	Sept. 23
Latinas to White, non-Hispanic Men	<b>53¢</b>	Nov. 20

\*Numbers are based on annual census figures.

On Monday, March 23, the Falls Church City Council will issue a Proclamation proclaiming March 31, 2020, as Equal Pay Day in the City of Falls Church. Equal Pay Day is the symbolic day on which the wages paid to women who worked full time finally catch up to wages paid to men the previous year. In other words, on average, it takes women 15 months to earn the same salary as men make in 12 months. **All Branch members are encouraged to attend the Council meeting to show our support for the Council's action and to reiterate the importance of gender pay equity to AAUW.** The Council meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Falls Church City Hall, 300 Park Avenue, Falls Church. The issuing of proclamations is typically the first order of business,

and Branch members will be free to leave once the proclamation is signed and given to our Presidents. They may, of course, stay for the entire meeting if they wish to do so.

### Falls Church Women's Suffrage Centennial

The theme for the Women's History Walk in Falls Church this year is the celebration of the Centennial of Women's Suffrage; the Walk will occur on May 3 (rain date May 17). To further celebrate this Centennial, the Friends of the Women's History Walk have encouraged interested Falls Church organizations/businesses to hold events relating to this seminal event and has established a website with a calendar publicizing these special events. Our trip to the National Archives was on this calendar for February. Check out the website

<https://sites.google.com/view/fc-suffrage100/calendar> to learn about local events related to the Centennial that may be of interest to you.



## BOOK SALE 2.0

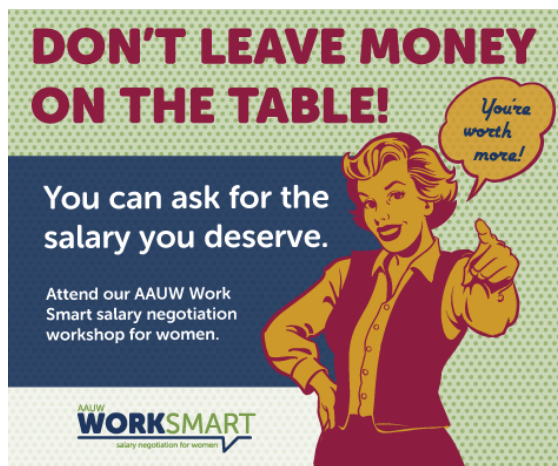
Book sorting is going well, and the planning luncheon on the 29<sup>th</sup> was productive. The members present were generous with their signups, and we will be looking for more names added during sorting days and the meeting next Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. With the help of our really experienced members like Mollie, Mary, Martha, Anne, Becky, etc... Sarah and Dianne, with all of your help, will make it through to the big day.

With limited storage and ample books, we may be looking for members who can take home a dozen sorted boxes to help out with shelving space. Give it some thought at your house.

You can find us every Saturday from now on at the Willston Cultural Center, starting at 9:00 am for set up, 9:30 am for sorting and closing (with luck) at 3:00. Come early, stay late! The dates of the book sale are Friday, April 17 and Saturday, April 18- so mark your calendars now!

Dianne and Sarah

## SMARTSTART/ WORK SMART



As you are probably aware, AAUW challenged itself to train 100,000 people in StartSmart/WorkSmart salary negotiations by August 22, 2019. <https://salary.aauw.org/> AAUW also encouraged all members to take the training and spread the word. The training is still available and the ability to negotiate on one's own behalf is always important.

AAUW writer Beth Haynes, a member of the Board of Directors said: "I thought I didn't need the training. I've been out of the workforce for more than 20 years. But then I started thinking about all of the ways that training in negotiations could have helped me in the last couple

of years. I bought a new car. I helped my 93- year-old friend secure an apartment in an assisted living facility. I'm a certified parliamentarian and I have to negotiate contracts with groups who need parliamentary services. So, the negotiating training really is designed for me." And, she said, "It's probably designed for all of your members as well, regardless of whether they are in the workforce."

We encourage you to sign up at <https://salary.aauw.org/> . It doesn't take very long and it will pay off—personally for you and your friends and family who take the training.

## Book Club News

We meet the third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 P.M. at Starbucks, 344 W. Broad St., Falls Church. All are welcome to join us in a lively discussion of books selected and suggested by members.

March 17 th Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay and a Mother's Will to Survive by Stephanie Land (memoir)

May 19 th Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens (contemporary fiction)



Here is a brief description of our March selection: Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay, and a Mother's Will to Survive by Stephanie Land.

Evicted meets Nickel and Dimed in Stephanie Land's memoir about working as a maid, a beautiful and gritty exploration of poverty in America. Includes a foreword by Barbara Ehrenreich. "My daughter learned to walk in a homeless shelter." While the gap between upper middle-class Americans and the working poor widens, grueling low-wage domestic and service work--primarily done by women--fuels the economic success of the wealthy. Stephanie Land worked for years as a maid, pulling long hours while struggling as a single mom to keep a roof over her daughter's head. In Maid, she reveals the dark truth of what it takes to survive and thrive in today's inequitable society.

## Arlington Branch

The Arlington Branch of AAUW cordially invites you to attend any of our programs.

March 21<sup>st</sup>, Saturday, 1 pm - Program and Annual Meeting. Our guest speaker on Women's Financial Security will be Ann Summerson, CFP, CDFA, Director, The Wise Investor Group in Reston. Financial planning and knowledgeable investing are important aspects of achieving personal financial stability for women. We will have an opportunity to learn from, and ask questions of, Ann during this presentation, before we start our annual meeting. Arlington Career Center, 816 S. Walter Reed Dr.(off of Columbia Pike)

April 25<sup>th</sup>, Monday, 7 pm Recognition of female Arlington Public Schools Science Fair Winners Presentation will be by NASA speaker. Arlington Career Center, see address above.

May 18<sup>th</sup>, Monday, 7 pm - Annual Spring Celebration – Join in our celebration of our high school senior winners of our Elizabeth Campbell Scholarship Award in the Arts, the scholarship winner from our Lunch Bunch mentoring program as well as our Educator of the Year Award. Women's Club of Arlington, 700 S. Buchanan St. (Take 8th Street from South George Mason Drive).



## Fairfax County Commission for Women

The **Commission's charge** is to promote the full equality of **women and girls** in the County.



### Fairfax County Women's History Month 2020 *Celebrating "Valiant Women of the Vote"*

In Recognition of Women's History Month 2020, the Fairfax County Commission for Women cordially invites you to attend a reception from 8:30-9:30 AM, on Tuesday, March 10th, in the Forum of the Fairfax County Government Center. We hope you will be able to stay for the official Women's History Month 2020 Proclamation presentation and group photo during the Board of Supervisor's meeting immediately following this reception, at 9:30 AM, in the Board Auditorium.

#### **This year's Women's History Month honorees are:**

**Jane Barker**, Vice Chair, the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association

**Cypriana McCray**, President, the Reston-Dulles Section, National Council of Negro Women

**Laura McKie**, Museum Director, the Lucy Burns Museum at the Workhouse Arts Center

Please Register for this FREE event by 4:00 PM, Thursday, March 5th, at:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fairfax-county-womens-history-month-2020-reception-tickets-95657920415>

To request a reasonable accommodation, please contact Mery Juarez directly at 703-324-5721 or [mery.juarez@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:mery.juarez@fairfaxcounty.gov).

Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax, VA 22035, [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>March 7, 14, 21 and 28</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Book Sorting, Willston Multicultural Center, 6131 Willston Dr., Falls Church</b>
March 8		International Women's Day
March 8	3:00pm	Equality Celebration, Monroe Park 620 West Main St. Richmond, VA (see VAratify ERA for details)
March 9	7:30pm	Annual Falls Church Branch business meeting, Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls Street, Falls Church
March 10	8:30 am	Reception at the Forum, Fairfax County Government Center for Women's History Month, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA
March 10	9:30am	Women's History Month Proclamation Presentation, Fairfax County Board Auditorium, 12000 Government Center, Fairfax, VA
March 17	7:30pm	Book Club, Starbucks, 344 W Broad Street, Falls Church, VA
March 23	7:30pm	Falls Church City Council Meeting, (Equal Pay Day Proclamation to be Approved!), City Hall, 300 Park Avenue, Falls Church
May 3	TBA	Women's History Walk, Falls Church

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.

