

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Dear Members,

We had a busy and very successful May and we should celebrate that in June! Our June gathering is dinner on the outdoor patio at Ireland's Four Provinces on Monday, June 12 at 6:00 p.m. (Note the earlier time!)



On May 8, 2023, we recognized 17 highly accomplished young women at our May scholarship meeting.

Awarding these scholarships is fun and one of the activities that has defined us as a branch. The recipients, all Falls Church area graduating senior young women, have a bright future ahead of them. We hope the scholarships help them fulfill their dreams. They give us hope for the future. From Sharon: On May 18, we set up an experiment, a modified book sale, held the sale on May 19 and 20 and grossed approximately \$15,000. A wonderful result! Many thanks and a round of congratulations to the Book Sale chairs, Aida Loomis, Sarah John and Clare O'Sheel. Linda Lawrence, our Treasurer, also deserves our thanks and appreciation for working at the book sale nearly all hours it was open and making the runs with the funds. Thanks also to Mollie J for the early booksale tutorial, SignUp Genius assistance and other hours. To ALL who brought books, sorted them, helped set up the sale and smiled and took the money, thank you as well. Finally, thanks to the Loomis family members—Brad, Coleen and Julie--for so many hours of volunteer labor, including weekly trips to a used book store down the road to sell excess books.

We continue to look at fundraising ideas. Bunny Jarrett and Mary Ellen Gannon are organizing a jewelry and accessories sale. Please bring jewelry, purses and scarves in saleable condition to the dinner at Ireland's Four Provinces, where Bunny and Mary Ellen will collect them. We want to bring a movie to your attention that was identified by Aida for the Movie Group meeting on May 24. We think everyone who is interested in our public policy and our goals will find this movie, "Picture A Scientist," very interesting. It is on Netflix and available for 2-3 more weeks. In the documentary, leading women scientists discuss the inequalities they have faced. Some have seen some positive resolution. The movie includes a very useful graphic about sexual and gender discrimination that shows how such discrimination includes a wide range of behaviors beyond overt sexual overtures and rape. (See graphic on next page) One of the scientists featured is an MIT molecular biologist who raised a number of issues at MIT and became part of a group blessed by the MIT administration to gather data and publish their findings and recommendations. *A Study on the Status of Women Faculty in Science at MIT*, MIT, 1999; <https://web.mit.edu/fnl/women/women.html>

We continue to be very grateful for Pam Martinov and Clare O'Sheel, who continue to publish a fabulous newsletter every month in addition to their many other contributions!

Looking forward to seeing you on June 12.

Aida Loomis and Sharon K. Zackula
Co-Presidents

We are only as strong as our membership. If we want to make a difference and have an impact on policies that are important to us, we cannot let up on building our branch. Please help by inviting a friend to come to the June 12 program, another program or an AAUW movie or book group. Consider asking a friend to join AAUW. Explain to your friends the many aspects of AAUW and the positive contributions of AAUW to the community, the state and the nation.



JUNE BRANCH MEETING

Next year's planning season has begun, and we will kick it off with a program planning session at our June 12th "picnic" at Ireland of the Four Provinces. To get your creative juices flowing here is a link to a program planning form Susan Conklin, our program chair, has created for you.

https://1drv.ms/w/s!Ap3sRp_QwoNRgUHYS8cvkYWB_7Mx. **Either print it out and bring it to the picnic if you are coming (filled in with your ideas!) or fill it out online if you are not coming and email it to Susan at sconklin00@gmail.com.** No limits, let the ideas flow!



As we begin planning for the 2023-2024 program year, we offer here a few ideas that are already percolating and ask that you put on your thinking caps and let us know what ideas you have to enrich the year ahead. We will review these and hopefully more ideas generated by all of you at our June 12th planning "picnic" at Ireland of the Four Provinces.

Based on your input we hope to expand Special interest/Social groups this year to include a Foodie Group to explore on a monthly basis local restaurants, and a Real-time Movie Group that will go to the movies monthly. These will be in addition to our already existing Virtual Book Group and the Virtual Movie Group. Ideas for new social groups where people can join together to enjoy similar interests are infinite, from a walking group to a needlework group to a political discussion group. The sky's the limit, so bring your ideas to the June 12th planning meeting and off we go!



Below are some ideas already on the table to discuss. Please bring your ideas for all of these categories on June 12!

Monthly Program Ideas Social Groups

*Current and Social Issues
politics...let us know*

Quick & Easy Ways to Keep an Active Mind
Our Role in Human Trafficking
Thankful We Can Enrich Young Women's
Education

Special Events

One-time Events

Local tours
Party with a Purpose fundraising
events
Community social events

Special Interest

Movies, books, food,

Foodie Group
Go-to-the Movies Group

UPDATE FOR ON-LINE RENEWAL PROCESS FOR ANNUAL AAUW DUES

The membership department at National planned to send three separate notices to members encouraging renewal of membership using the online process before July 1, 2023.

The first notice went out April 24, 2023, but was not received by all members. According to Angie Cooper, AAUW National Membership Relations Manager, if you have ever "unsubscribed" from any AAUW mailings, this removed your name from the primary mailing list that Membership uses to send the renewal reminders. Please send an email to connect@aauw.org with your name, member no., and contact information to request that your name be added to the primary email list.

During a recent webinar, Ms. Cooper was made aware that some Falls Church Branch members had still not received the first notice even though an email had previously been sent to "Connect".

National has established a new procedure to ensure these emails are "worked" in a timely manner. If you have not renewed yet, look for a second reminder in your inbox in early June (no exact date). Please check your "spam" folders also.

Members can always renew without a reminder notice. Log-in to the AAUW.org website and access your "Personal Snapshot" page. Verify, correct or change any contact information and then click the "Renew" button at the bottom of your Snapshot. This takes you through a simple process utilizing a credit card for payment. A confirming email receipt will be sent for your records.



APRIL MEETING

Change the World, Change One Person's Life: Won't You Consider Volunteering?

At our April 18 meeting, we heard about two significant endeavors in our community that are very reliant on volunteers to make things happen: Welcoming Falls Church, offering a panoply of services by volunteers to aid immigrant families resettling, and Graham Road Elementary School, a Title One school in Falls Church, seeking to provide a full educational experience and a safe haven for a school population that is almost entirely low income. Graham Road volunteers help the school when parents, often working two jobs, cannot contribute. We collaborated with AAUW McLean in identifying these charities and we hope this collaboration will allow us to make a greater impact on our community. We urge our members to consider joining with other AAUW Falls Church Area and AAUW McLean members in making Graham Road Elementary School and Welcoming Falls Church more successful through your volunteer efforts! Won't you consider volunteering?

MAY MEETING- MEET THE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

Dear members of the Falls Church AAUW,
Thank you so much for selecting me as one of the recipients of the 2023 Educational Equity scholarship. I was beyond delighted when I received the email and equally grateful to attend the award ceremony. It was lovely to meet the members of AAUW as well as the other scholarship recipients. As mentioned in the ceremony, I am so thankful to announce I am attending the University of Virginia with your support. I look forward to being involved in future AAUW activities.
Best,
Isabella Fazio

We met in person on May 8, at the FC Community Center to honor our scholarship recipients for 2023. Scholarship Chairperson, Mary Youman introduced the other members of the committee- Marilyn Falksen and Pam Martinov. Mary explained the committee's process which involved reading applications, transcripts, recommendations and personal statements. Each young woman was invited to the front of the room to be recognized with a framed certificate and an AAUW mug. Hearty congratulations, photos and applause followed.

The scholarship recipients were: Raihana Akther, Nour Alashlem, Farah Al-Naser, Katherine Bedoya, Isabella Fazio, Anisa Ga'al, Khalida Hashimi, Dena Huynh, Aileen Mendieta, Rihan Mohammed, Mariana Perez Rivera, Amy Romero, Emma Roncoroni, Catherine Salazar, Tahira Seid, Shahida Sultani and Milenka Terceros-Granado.



First row (kneeling, from left to right): Tahira Seid, Dena Huynh, Katherine Bedoya, Mariana Perez Rivera, Nourelhoda Alashlem

Second row (standing from left to right): Amy Romero, Raihana Akther, Milenka Terceros-Granado, Farah Al-Naser, Isabella Fazio, Anisa Ga'al, Emma Roncoroni, Aileen Mendieta Villarroel



USED BOOK SALE SUCCESS!



Faced with greatly reduced fundraising options after a decision last spring to discontinue the annual used book sale, and the desire to continue providing scholarships, it was proposed in February that the branch resurrect the book sale on a smaller scale and in partnership with the Village Preservation and Improvement Society looking to downsize their own annual fundraising event. Based on the offer of free storage space by Beyer Automotive we planned to



collect and manage 20% of last year's book volume over the course of only three months, to reduce the number of genres, and to limit selection within those genres to only those in pristine condition. Our goal was to raise \$6000 and ensure a 2024 scholarship fund.

It worked! With 20% of the volume in books we grossed half of last year's gross sales income with a whopping \$15,000, and after expenses will be able to contribute more than \$11,000 to the education fund.

In addition, we added two new members during the sale with the possibility of three more.

IT TOOK A VILLAGE. Thank you to the many, many volunteers who helped with sorting, set-up, breakdown,

Back in 1883

*Very few women would you see In college
or university*

"Harms their health was the decree

But late in 1881

A group of women, all alums

Had met to see what they could do

To meet the needs of this bright crew

Then in 1882

Was founded AAUW

National and branches too

All Saw what they needed to do

For many years we saw the need

For BA's, BS's to take the lead.

Now changing times have seen us ask

For AA's, RN's (eg) help with the task.

We're busy with issues of equity

Barriers to girls, advocacy

Justice for women and girls our will

Taking some members up to the "Hill"

So buy a book or two or three

Tell local girls all they can be

Provide the chance for scholarship

And by so doing the scales we'll tip!

pricing, signs, publicity, cashiering, book handling, membership recruitment, and overall dogsbodies. A special thank you to our treasurer, Linda Lawrence, not only for handling all the finances, but for creating the signboard she wore at the farmers' market every Saturday in the weeks preceding the sale, and for all the special signs she artfully created for the sale. And to Dianne Bodeen for the terrific membership table displays and materials. A tip of our hats to you all!

Book Sale Chairs

Sarah John, Aida Loomis and Clare O'Sheel

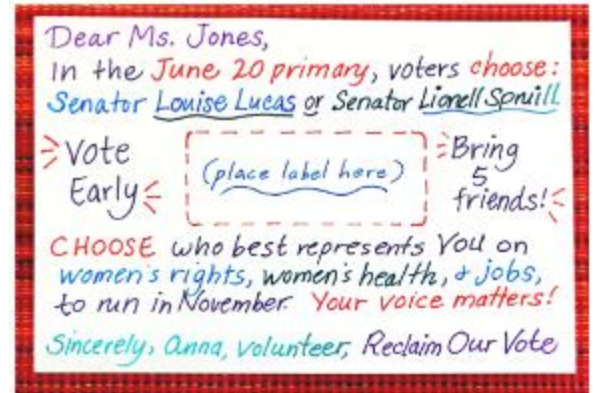


POSTCARD WRITING FOR VA PRIMARY IN CHESAPEAKE CITY

For the Virginia primaries, we are writing get-out-the-vote postcards to registered Black women voters in Senate District 18 to alert them to this crucial primary. And this one aligns with many of AAUW's objectives. Check out the message!

In Chesapeake City, a majority/ minority district, 80% of BIPOC voters do not generally vote in primaries, leaving women underrepresented in the General Election. Primary voting promotes consistent voting habits, and greatly increases the likelihood of voting in the fall. Our postcards inform voters of where and when to vote, and key issues at stake.

As always, our postcards are non-partisan, mentioning both candidates by name. But you may be aware that the two SD18 primary candidates have shown distinctly different records, issues, and behaviors. FYI, one of the candidates, Louise Lucas, is the first Black and first female President Pro Tem of the VA State Senate. If elected, she would also be the first Black and first female Chair of Finance and Appropriations in the Commonwealth of Virginia, again making history.



PUBLIC POLICY UPDATES



Is your locality participating in the Primary Election?

Find out if your locality is voting in the [June 2023 Primary Election](#). Or, contact your local [voter registration office](#) for more information.

Deadline to apply for a ballot to be mailed to you: **June 9, 2023**. Your request must be received by your [local voter registration office](#) by 5:00 p.m.

Voter registration offices open for early voting: **Saturday, June 10, 2023**.

The last day of in-person early voting at your [local voter registration office](#): **Saturday, June 17, 2023** at 5:00 p.m.

See who is on your ballot by viewing the [candidate lists](#).

Register to vote or apply for an absentee ballot online using the [Citizen Portal](#).

Be sure to vote. Our elected officials routinely make decisions about issues that directly impact all of us. Remember, our vote is our voice!

ACCESSORIZE WITH AAUW



Our Falls Church Area Branch is planning a ***Jewelry and Accessories Sale*** on a Saturday in September or October at the Fall Festival or during the Falls Church Farmers Market. We plan to sell used jewelry, craft jewelry, scarves, and small/cocktail purses. We are offering you the opportunity to clear out your jewelry box, empty your scarf drawer, and move out those purses hanging in your closet.

We need your help to make donations, sort jewelry, and work during the sale. You can begin by bringing jewelry, scarves, and purses to the Annual Programming Picnic, June 12 at Ireland's Four Provinces. We will have shopping bags for donations so we don't interfere with the dinner service. Help us fill the shopping bags! We will continue to take donations throughout the summer and early fall, as well as loans of display racks and trees for jewelry and hand or stand mirrors

Mary Ellen Gannon and Bunny Jarrett, Jewelry and Accessories Sale Co-Chairs

BRANCH NEWS AROUND THE NORTHERN DISTRICT

Arlington Chapter

Framing Your Financial Future- Free Hybrid Event- Tuesday, June 6th, 7:00-8:30pm

We are pleased to co-sponsor this useful event for women looking to make the most of their financial resources with the Arlington Commission on the Status of Women, Arlington Chapter of The Links, Inc., and Marymount University Center for Optimal Aging.

This panel discussion aims to provide information on how to plan for your future and arrange your finances. The goal is to empower women to save more for today and retirement tomorrow, and be more mindful of financial pitfalls.



[Click here to Register.](#) Registration closes 5 pm June 5th. Marymount Ballston Campus, 1000 North Glebe Rd, Arlington, VA. Zoom link will be sent after completing registration.

Most other local chapters are having planning or business meetings along with a lunch or picnic, as we are.



MOVIE AND BOOK GROUPS

The virtual film group will be taking a pause for the summer. We will resume meeting in September. In the meantime, is there a film that you have watched that the film group should consider? Please pass it along! Is there a streaming service that you have discovered that has additional choices? Let us know!. Recently I



discovered that Kanopy is now available through the Fairfax County Public Library System. Kanopy offers choices that you typically do not see on popular streaming choices such as Netflix and Amazon. Kanopy is available for free with your Fairfax County Public Library Card, You can learn more about Kanopy at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branch-out/introducing-kanopy-video-streaming-service>.

In May, the film group watched and discussed **Picture A Scientist**. It really hits so many points that we discuss in AAUW, The film run time is less than 2 hours. Check it out before it leaves Netflix.

Feel free to reach out to Aida at 703 966 8050 if you have any questions or suggestions. All are welcome!



Save The Dates:
Sept 27 @ 7:00 PM
Oct 25 @ 7:00 PM
Nov 22 or 29 @ 7:00 PM

The Book Club will reconvene in Sept.



CALENDAR

- **June 12, 6:00 pm:** Branch Meeting (in person), Ireland's Four Provinces, 105 W. Broad Street, Falls Church, VA.
- **June 26 7:30 pm:** Board Meeting (Zoom)



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 based on age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.