### ***AAUW FALLS CHURCH FLASH A logo with blue and green letters Description automatically generated***

### **Volume 76, Number 1**

### **January 1, 2025**

# Presidents’ Messsage

A gavel on a book

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Happy New Year and welcome to 2025, the 75th anniversary year of our AAUW Falls Church branch!

We hope that you’ve had a good holiday season and are geared up for the 2025 AAUW Falls Church Program Year.  The first few months are usually filled with some new projects and completion of old ones.  We’ll be finishing some preparation for the 2025 State Conference, attending the VA Lobby Day in Richmond, and planning for our March elections meeting.

Please let us know if:

* You are going to go to Lobby Day so we can carpool.
* You might attend some/all of the State Conference March 27-28.  Some fees may paid by the branch.
* You might consider a Falls Church AAUW office.  We are recruiting for **Vice-President Membership** and **Treasurer**.
* You might be interested in joining the Scholarship Committee to select those, who receive our branch scholarships.

Your enthusiasm and commitment help make our branch vibrant.

***Anne Baxter, Mary Youman***

***Co-Presidents***

***AAUW Falls Church Area Branch***

*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 January 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.*

# save the date

**AAUW-FC HOLIDAY PARTY, SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025, 2:00- 4:00 PM**

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Come join us at the AAUW Holiday Party on Sunday, January 5, 2025, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. We will be welcoming in the new year at the home of Sharon Zackula and Jeff Rogers, 1433 Pathfinder Lane, McLean 22201. Your spouse, significant other, or a friend is welcome. Please bring a “finger” dish to share, or you could choose to bring a bottle of wine or a non-alcoholic drink.  Please let us know.

If you have not RSVP’d, there is still time. Call or text Bunny Jarrett at 703 887-7355 or email her at [marianjarrett84@gmail.com](mailto:marianjarrett84@gmail.com). Tell her how many are coming and what you will contribute to the party refreshments.

Many of you attended our November meeting and heard the moving presentation by the Executive Director of Homestretch. Our branch has chosen to focus our donations on Homestretch this holiday season.

If you are coming to the party or not, and if you are able, we are encouraging a donation to Homestretch in Falls Church and will have a collection box at the party.  You can go online and see their wish list at:  [http://www.homestretch.org](http://www.homestretch.org/).  You can also consider a monetary donation.

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| |  | | --- | | ***Parking for January 5 party at Sharon Zackula and Jeff Roger’s home:***  ***1433 Pathfinder Lane, McLean:***   1. ***Parking is allowed on house side but prohibited on the other side of Pathfinder directly across from the house.*** 2. ***You can turn left at the stop sign just beyond the house, go up on Enterprise and park on both sides of Enterprise.*** 3. ***You can also continue straight on Pathfinder after stop sign and park on both sides.*** | |

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# Public policy updates

**AAUW-VA Lobby Day**

Just a reminder that **Thursday, January 16,** is AAUW-VA’s 2025 Lobby Day.  Join AAUW members from across Virginia as they meet with their legislators to discuss issues and policies important to women and their families and to request the legislators’ support for legislation related to those issues and policies.  Additionally, there will be a reception the prior evening (Wednesday, January 15) at which there will be a speaker, and AAUW members will have the opportunity to talk with each other and with legislators and their staff in a less formal setting.

AAUW-VA has secured a block of rooms at the Hampton Inn and Suites in downtown Richmond near the Capitol for those who wish to spend the night of January 15 in Richmond.  Go to <https://group.hamptoninn.com/78zjxv> to make reservations at the AAUW-VA reduced rate of $157 plus a 2% mandatory tourism fee and applicable taxes.  If you plan to attend Lobby Day and/or the reception, please register by going to <https://forms.gle/BiyqescmtjqS9ctc8> and filling out the registration form with your name, email address, and information about your Delegate and Senator.

If you have questions about Lobby Day or problems accessing the links, please contact Marilyn Falksen at [fcaauw@publicpolicy.com](mailto:fcaauw@publicpolicy.com)

**Virtual Lobby Corps Training**

For more than 50 years Lobby Corps has put a face to AAUW’s mission of advancing equality for women and girls by meeting with Senators and Representative to share AAUW’s position on legislation that impacts women and their families.  You, too, can become part of Lobby Corps.  Join the virtual training session on Thursday, January 9, to learn more about Lobby Corps.

**Event:** AAUW Virtual Lobby Corps Training  
**Date:** January 9th, 2025  
**Time:** 11am to 12pm EST  
**Location:** [Register here](https://click.everyaction.com/k/98979012/518452184/675317649?id=a0lQr0000013MppIAE&nvep=ew0KICAiVGVuYW50VXJpIjogIm5ncHZhbjovL3Zhbi9FQS9FQTAwNS8xLzc2OTU1IiwNCiAgIkRpc3RyaWJ1dGlvblVuaXF1ZUlkIjogImM5YTNjNGE1LTUwYmUtZWYxMS04OGNlLTAwMjI0ODJhOTNhZiIsDQogICJFbWFpbEFkZHJlc3MiOiAiZmFsa3NlbkB5YWhvby5jb20iDQp9&hmac=gLcB-HaJnxBAA2Z4Y9WvXKLoLLR_AHxtXQC5NYxtHt4=&emci=21ae54ae-4dbe-ef11-88ce-0022482a93af&emdi=c9a3c4a5-50be-ef11-88ce-0022482a93af&ceid=915541)

If you have any questions, please reach out to [advocacy@aauw.org](mailto:advocacy@aauw.org)or Becky Gaul ([beckygaul@verizon.net](mailto:beckygaul@verizon.net)).

**Lobby Corps is AAUW in action!**

# fundraising news

A decorated christmas tree in front of a window

Description automatically generatedOur AAUW-FC “Dream Tree” was the winner of the **Peoples’ Choice Most Beautiful Tree** at the Village Preservation and Improvement Society Festival of Trees this year!

Participation in this annual event offers the opportunity to demonstrate our contributions to our community while also raising funds for our education fund. This year our tree was auctioned for $125, and we received $40 in donations.

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# movies and books

**Let’s Go to the Movies**

**A poster for a movie

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**Virtual Movie Club**

**Jimmy Carter's Call to Action on Women's Rights**

**Why I Believe the Mistreatment of Women Is the Number One Human Rights Abuse**

**Wednesday, January 22, 2025,**

**7:00 PM via ZOOM**

**A group of people standing around a table

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With the recent passing of Jimmy Carter last month, I thought learning about his dedication to women's equality would be fitting. Since leaving the White House in 1981, Carter has been one of our most active Presidents. Along with his wife Rosalyn Carter he founded The Carter Center, He was dedicated to advancing peace and health worldwide, democracy and human rights and promoting social and economic development, President Carter wrote more than 30 books. At our pop up sale, we sold a couple of Jimmy Carter's first edition, signed books. And who can forget his lifetime work with Habitat for Humanity building houses. What may be less known about the former President is his commitment to the unaddressed challenges of global discrimination and abuse of women and girls. I selected two videos to watch but I am sure there are many more.

Here are the links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3hDdbdGKa00>  Runtime is less than 30 minutes.

[https://www.ted.com/talks/jimmy\_carter\_why\_i\_believe\_the\_mistreatment\_of\_wom\_is\_the\_number\_one\_human\_rights\_abuse?subtitle=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/jimmy_carter_why_i_believe_the_mistreatment_of_women_is_the_number_one_human_rights_abuse?subtitle=en)   Runtime is less than 20 minutes.

Join the group via Zoom on **Wednesday January 22nd at 7:00 PM**.  Please call or text Aida at 703 966 8050 if you are interested in joining any of our film discussion evenings.  All are welcome.

**Book Club**

A book cover of a red fire hydrant

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The Book Group will meet on **Zoom on January 28, 2025 at 7:30 pm.** We’ll read and discuss ***Red Head by the Side of the Road by Anne Tyler***.  This is our second book from the Books on the Go from Mary Styles Library in Falls Church.  There are 8 books available for you to pick up and read.  You can contact me and set up a time/place for us to meet.  If some books are available by January 5, I’ll bring them to the Holiday Open House.   Discussion questions are included in the packet.  Come and join us!

# Calendar

**January 5, 2:00-4:00 pm, AAUW FC Holiday Party**

**January 11, 10;30 AM, Mount Vernon branch program, AI Unleashed, Sherwood Regional Library, Alexandria**

**January 15-16, Lobby Day in Richmond**

**January 28, Book Club on Zoom at 7:30 pm**

**February 9, 2:30, Branch Meeting, *Introduction to AI: What Can AI Do for You?*Zoom Presentation Josh Jarrett, SVP AI Growth, Wiley, a global publishing firm**

**March 16, 2:30, Branch Meeting**

# In Other News

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| |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | A person in an orange vest  Description automatically generated   |  | | --- | | **Thank you for standing with AAUW in 2024!**    Your unwavering support means the world to us. Because of you, we’ve made strides in: |  |  | | --- | | * Expanding opportunities in education * Training women in financial literacy and salary negotiation * Fighting for laws that uplift and empower women |  |  | | --- | | Last month, AAUW celebrated its 143rd anniversary. We wouldn’t be able to stay in the fight for women and girls without you, so please accept my deepest gratitude for your support. |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | **Looking ahead to 2025:**    Warm wishes to you and your loved ones for a festive holiday season as we enter 2025 with hope and renewed passion for the challenges that may lie ahead. We're prepared to fight and start the year strong with an agenda that we will present to Congress based on AAUW’s values.    Let’s keep fighting for women’s and girls’ equity in 2025 — together. | | |

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**In Memorium**

It is with sadness that we share the news that Millie Schreiber’s husband Bob Schreiber passed away early Thursday morning, December 12. He was 94 years old. A Celebration of Life for Bob is being planned for the afternoon of Saturday, January 18th (his birthday) at the Everly Funeral Home in Falls Church. Contact Anne Baxter or Mollie Jewell if you have questions.

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***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.***