



Woodbridge Wisdom

Since 1972

Volume 41 Number 1

Woodbridge, VA Branch Newsletter

September 2013

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sep. 18	Potluck Ali Cohen's House	7pm
Oct. 26	Issues affecting women in the VA election -Old Town Sports Pub, Manassas	Lunch @ 12, meeting at 1 pm

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Woodbridge Doesn't Stop for the Summer

Many branches take the summer off. But not Woodbridge! Its members and leaders have been busy.

- We teamed with the League of Women Voters for voter registration and AAUW membership drive at the Dale City July 4th Family Day. See pictures at <http://woodbridge-va.aauw.net/programs/gotv/>
- Several of us attended Women's Equality Day events at the Lorton Workhouse Prison Museum.
- We had our first AAUW Funds event with Macy's Shop for a Cause.
- Angela and I attended the National Convention in New Orleans and the AAUW of VA Summer Leaders Workshop. Karen, Jeanne, and I attended the Northern District Leaders session. Look for information on in this and future *Wisdoms*.

And it only gets better now that it's fall. Our Program Vice Presidents have great programs and activities planned. Northern Virginia Community College has re-joined as a College/University Partner and we will be working with the Woodbridge campus to plan events for the upcoming year.

So hold onto you hats, it's going to be an exciting, energizing year.

Sandy Lawrence, President

Women's Equality Day

Members of the AAUW-Woodbridge branch visited the Lorton Workhouse Prison museums to celebrate Women's Equality Day. Alice Reagan, NVCC, gave an excellent talk about the suffrage prisoners at Lorton and Kathleen Pablo of the Turning Point Suffrage Memorial.



Karen, Jeanne and Sandy with some of the AAUW members



Mrs. Robert "Mimi" Walker

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to our 2013-2014 year of exciting programs and get-togethers! Hope you all had a wonderful summer. We are very happy to welcome new members Leslie Gren and Alison Thimblin and returning member Sheila School. Leslie joined at the Spring Membership Salad Luncheon and jumped right in to assist as Co-Vice President for Membership. Leslie has served as membership chair for other organizations over the years so she will definitely be an asset to us. Way to go Leslie! Thanks to Susan Fairey for meeting with us to share her incredible wealth of knowledge about AAUW membership.

For the upcoming year, Leslie and I will focus on the following AAUW themes:

“Keys to the Future: A Member-Get-a-Member Campaign”-AAUW branch members can introduce friends, family, colleagues, and acquaintances to AAUW and receive recognition for their recruitment efforts through the AAUW Keys to the Future: A Member-Get-a-Member Campaign.

“Shape the Future Membership Campaign”-This Campaign is designed to help branches recruit and retain members. New members and students join at 50 percent off the national dues rate when they join at a public event. For every two new members who join, the branch earns one free national membership, up to a maximum of five free memberships per year. The five free memberships can be given to existing members.

If you have any family, friends, or co-workers who are interested in membership for the upcoming year, please email their contact information to Leslie or myself at the addresses below. We will be sure that they receive information and invited to the September Potluck Dinner.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Leslie Gren (lesgren@yahoo.com) Carol Campbell (breeze053@aol.com)

Co-Vice Presidents, Membership

SEPTEMBER POTLUCK DINNER

Home of **Ali Cohen** on Wednesday September 18 at 7 p.m.

We begin our 41st year with a visit from special guest **Peggy Stotz**, Virginia Chair for Funds. Peggy has been a member of AAUW for many years and in four states and is committed to maintaining the financial side of the organization so that women can be empowered through education. The money we raise through our dues and various fundraisers support women in many different ways such as through educational opportunities, research on gender equity and legal advocacy for workplace and school equality. Peggy will tell members about some recent changes to the Funds programs and update us on future plans for making our money work even harder to further the mission of AAUW. It will be a great beginning to another year!

Please email me at kleewolf@verizon.net to RSVP and tell me what you plan to bring to the potluck. The board is planning to use a telephone tree so we will call you if I don't hear from you during the first week after the newsletter goes out.

Directions to Ali's :

- **4287 Newbold Court in Woodbridge near the McCoart Building. Ali's phone number is 703-878-3460**
- **Three roads intersect where you will be traveling... Ridgefield Road (from Dale City), Prince William Parkway (coming from Lake Ridge) and Greatbridge which is directly across from where Ridgefield Road intersects the Parkway from the south. Directions here are given as if one were to be driving from Lake Ridge.**
- **At the intersection of PWC Parkway and Greatbridge (Ruby Tuesday will be on your left on the corner) ; turn right and go to the roundabout.**
- **Take the first right off of the roundabout (Asdee Lane).**
- **Follow Asdee until it T intersects with Coventry Glen Drive.**
- **Turn right on Coventry Glen and follow it until it T intersects @Tideswell Mill Court.**
- **Turn right onto Tideswell Mill Ct.**
- **Follow Tideswell Mill Ct. to the first (and only) left which is Newbold Court.**
- **Turn left onto Newbold. Ali's home is on the right hand side where the cul de sac begins. The number is 4287. She asks that members "Please CAR POOL!!!!"**

BRANCH MEMBER SURVEYS

First, I want to thank everyone who completed a survey at our May luncheon. I received 13 surveys that included sixteen interesting suggested topics for programs! Some interesting topics that you may see next year include a speaker on the political process and running a campaign; AAUW history, national focus and funds; and a speaker

on the history of women's right to vote. All of your suggestions will certainly help Karen and me plan the 2013-14 programs.

Feedback on preferred meeting days showed that many members expressed interest in meeting Saturday afternoons, so we will consider planning several Saturday afternoon luncheon/programs instead of all Wednesday evening programs. First, we will need to find a restaurant that has a meeting room. If anyone knows of such a restaurant, please let me know. Wednesday evening continues to be the most popular choice for weekday meetings, so we will plan to have several programs on that evening as well.

As far as a new meeting place, I have looked into scheduling the PWC library for meetings, but it seems to be solidly booked for Wednesday evenings, so I will try to reserve a room at either McCoart or the Ferlazzo building for Wednesday evening programs.

Stay tuned for what we hope will be an interesting 2013-14 year!

Jeanne Elmore

AAUW FUNDS

We started off our fundraising year with the Macy's Shop for A Cause coupons. We made around \$100.00 on this fundraiser. I plan to do the Holiday raffle in December, one Castaway Production, and the raffle and silent auction at the May luncheon. If you have any suggestions for easy fundraisers, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Barbara Blindauer
Fundraising Chair
barbblindauer@comcast.net
703/490-0517

NATIONAL CONVENTION

This was the first National Convention I attended and it was a fast paced three days. The workshops focused on topics of interest to branches, such as membership, programs, and public policy (including a GOTV workshop co-presented by Angela Booker). Workshop presentation can be found at <http://www.aauw.org/resource/national-convention-presentations/>. There were also inspirational speakers such as Lily Ledbetter, Cynthia D'Amour and Olympia Snowe. I better understood what AAUW is doing at the branch, state and national levels. Look for articles on the Convention in the Fall *Vision*.

Sandy Lawrence

AAUW of Virginia

From the letter sent by Caroline Pickens to all branch presidents:

• **What's our focus?** For 2013-14 AAUW of Virginia is focusing on encouraging and supporting our branches in three areas: **STEM projects, Equal Pay projects and programs, and Get Out the Vote** for the November state elections. Get Out the Vote continues from last year when we registered hundreds of new voters. We hope that every branch will undertake at least one program or project from these three areas, and your branch can get a grant for up to \$100. The form is on the website at <http://aauw-va.aauw.net>.

• **State Officers Needed!** Candidates for state president and vice presidents for program, communications, and public policy are needed. Only the president must have previously served on the board. More information will be

in the Fall Vision or on the Board of Directors Handbook at <http://aauw-va.aauw.net/files/2012/12/VABoardHandbook.pdf>. Recommendations should be sent to Sandy Lawrence, Nominating Committee chair, at slawrence4@juno.com or 703/569-1588. **Deadline Dec. 1.**

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

This is my first newsletter! For those of you who only know me as Vanna White, my real name is Elizabeth Blindauer. I graduated from East Carolina University with a degree in History and Secondary Education in 2007. However, I made the drastic change of careers and am now working for a small cyber security company. With the company, I mainly work with our non-profit program which provides education, training and job placement in the cyber security field for veterans.

When I am not playing Vanna White, I am usually training for some sort of race. Currently, I am training for the 2013 Marine Corps Marathon! My goal is to run a race in every state and a few different countries (Berlin Marathon 2015, here I come!) I have also trained for races with Team in Training raising funds for the Leukemia, Lymphoma Society and when I don't train with them, I also enjoy volunteering at the different races they participate in. If you are ever interested in having a running, biking or swimming buddy, just let me know!



2012 Marine Corps Marathon, I was cheering everyone in a banana suit

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Life is not a dress rehearsal."

-Rose Tremain

Woodbridge homepage: <http://woodbridge-va.aauw.net/>
VA AAUW homepage <http://aauw-va.aauw.net>

AAUW homepage: <http://www.aauw.org>