



Woodbridge Wisdom

Since 1972

Volume 42 Number 3

Woodbridge, VA Branch Newsletter

November, 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS

Second Wednesday	Book Club Uno	Panera's At The Glen	7:30 pm
In Shopping Center at intersection of Old Bridge Road & Pr. Wm. Parkway			
Nov 18	Branch Program	Susan W. Farmer, STEM Activities	7:00 pm
Edward L. Kelly Leadership Center, Room <u>3011</u>			
14715 Bristow Road, Manassas, VA 20112 (703) 791-7408			
Dec 10	Holiday Dinner	Occoquan Inn, 301 Mill Street	7:00 pm
Occoquan, VA 22125 (703) 491-1888			

PRESIDENT'S LETTER: WHAT YOU CAN DO IN A NEW YORK MINUTE

We all have busy lives, lots of commitments, too little time. We want to support AAUW, but is there anything I can do for AAUW Woodbridge that is easy and fast?

YES!!!

Do you have an **Elevator speech**? It is a great way to tell folks about AAUW and get new branch members. If you don't have, check out how to create one on page 8 in the Fall *Vision*.

AAUW of VA is collecting signatures on a **Human Trafficking petition**. Print out the petition on the last page of this newsletter and take to your group events. I took it to my golf league luncheon and got over 24 signatures.

Are you a **two-minute activist**? This is a quick and easy way to let your Congressional representatives know how you feel about issues important to women and girls. Sign up at <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>. And coming soon, a two-minute activist for the Virginia legislature.

So take a NY minute and do something for AAUW today.

Sandy Lawrence
President
SandyAAUW@juno.com

PROGRAMS

Greetings!

Hope you are enjoying this wonderful fall weather as you prepare for Thanksgiving. The beauty of nature, as the leaves change colors, never ceases to amaze me! As I travel Linton Hall Road in Bristow, that transformation is spectacular right now. However, that is not the only transformation in Bristow that is spectacular as Derrick Riggins, Director of Government and Community Relations, Youth for Tomorrow (YFT), explained at the October program. Derrick gave an excellent presentation on “Girls on a Journey” and how YFT is helping several young ladies, who have been victims of human trafficking, turn their lives around. He explained how we can look for signs of human trafficking right in our own neighborhoods.

November Program

On Tuesday, **November 18**, 2014, at 7:00 pm. **Ms. Susan W. Farmer**, Ed.S, Physical Science Teacher and Science Department Chair, at Parkside Middle School, Manassas, VA, will give us an update on STEM activities at the middle school level and how they are preparing students to meet the challenges of high school STEM. Susan has been a middle school science teacher in PW County for 17 years as well an instructional specialist in the Science Office. She also teaches a STEM class.

We have a **new location for our November meeting and program**. It is at the **Edward L. Kelly Leadership Center, 14715 Bristow Road, Manassas, VA 20112, in Room 3011**. (703) 791-7408.

Directions:

From I 95 / Rte. 1:

VA-234 N/DUMFRIES RD N. 7.9 mi

Turn LEFT onto VA-619. 0.4 mi

End at 14715 Bristow Rd Manassas, VA 20112-3945

December Program

Our December Holiday Dinner will be on **Wednesday, December 10, 7:00 PM**, at the **Occoquan Inn**. Please put the date on your calendar and plan to attend! It is always wonderful to take time out of our busy schedules and share an evening of comradery with our special AAUW friends.

I hope that you have a great Thanksgiving with your family and friends!

Carol Campbell

VP Programs

BOOK CLUB

Don't forget our Book Club. We have moved from Wegman's to Panera's at the Glen, where Old Bridge Rd and the Parkway meet. Time: 7:30 pm. We meet the second Wednesday (**November 12th**) of the month. Bring your favorite books to discuss.

Tania Iwanowski

tania.iwanowski@yahoo.com

FINANCE

At the October branch meeting, the budget for 2014-15 was approved. The budget is below

AAUW of Woodbridge Budget 2014-2015 (As of 9/30/2014)

ASSETS

Cash on Hand	\$868.18
Dues in Hand	<u>\$300.00</u>
Total	\$1,168.18

EXPENSES

Officers	\$175.00
Conferences	\$300.00
Insurance	\$180.00
Programs	\$100.00
Newsletter	\$100.00
Membership	\$100.00
Directory	\$100.00
District	\$10.00
Contingency	<u>\$103.18</u>
Total	\$1,168.18

Karen Wolf
VP for Finance

BRANCH MEMBERSHIP NEWS

From our October meeting's attendees, two college student/interns joined AAUW as College/University e-members. They will be included in our e-news as well. This is exciting!

As of our Executive Committee meeting reports presented on November 3rd, there are still a few members who are not current on their dues. By separate e-mail, I will send reminders. It's important that your membership not lapse with National's data base- Karen will have to file paperwork to reinstate you. Please send your dues to her as soon as possible. Thank you.

I am so pleased to report that the longstanding, excellent program, G.E.M.S. – Girls Excelling in Math and Science- has been introduced in Prince William County Schools. It is a program that, like our Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS! Conference, was started in the early 1990s; in Fairfax County Schools where clubs were set up in elementary schools which are still active.

This is exciting news because the programs include both teachers and parents who support gender equity and STEM – two important issues of AAUW. I've contacted people to find out how many schools are involved and plan to include them all in both the 2015 SUCCESS! Conference and with AAUW membership materials.

Please share the important programs and wonderful membership benefits we have with our Woodbridge Branch so we may continue our community involvement and enrich our branch's roster. Please contact me with questions or contacts, at successconference@juno.com.

Susan Bardenhagen
VP Membership

UPCOMING PROGRAMS in 2015

- Saturday, January 24 Meeting/Movie at Ali's—"Girls on a Journey"
- Saturday, February 21 Spring Luncheon-Madigan's Waterfront, Occoquan
- Saturday, March 14 Regional Science Fair
- Saturday, March 21 25th Annual "Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS!" Conference
- Saturday, April 11 Tour of the Manassas Marie Corps Museum
(Highlight women in the Marine Corps)
- Saturday, May 16 Spring Salad/Desert Luncheon

OCTOBER PROGRAM



Derrick Riggins presented an informative and enlightening program on girls and human trafficking. YFT's "Girls on a Journey" program provides residential, counseling and education to girls who were victims to human trafficking. These girls are as young as 13 years old. Many are victimized by family members, although gang controlled trafficking is the fastest growing type of trafficking. Mr. Riggins stated that California is number one in human trafficking while Virginia is in the top five. He was very excited to hear about AAUW of Virginia petition to get human trafficking laws enacted in Virginia.

CLIFTON DAY "Get Out the Vote"

On October 12, several branch members helped the League of Women voters register voters and pass out voter information. Thank you to branch members, **Ali Cohen, Jeanne Elmore, Lyndsay Wilshaw, and Sandy Lawrence** for volunteering. (See photos on next page.) Lois Page, of LWV, noted that there were more AAUW members than from LWV at the event. This and our voter registration effort at the Dale City Family day in July contributed to AAUW of Virginia signing up over 480 new voters. The state's goal was 500, this is so close. Bravo to all.

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

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



Sandy, Ali with Lois Page



Lyndsay helping a new voter to register

NORTHERN DISTRICT NEWS

Remember our goal is to collect 1000 signatures on the Human Trafficking petition. All signatures must be collected by the end of Jan 2015, and the petition can be found on: <http://bit.ly/1F56cLG> .

Heads up: We plan to have our district Presidents, VP of Programs, and Membership Chair meeting Saturday, Jan 17, at Kings Park Library in Fairfax County (directions forthcoming) from 1:00-3:00. Please let us know what you would like to have on the agenda, as this is your meeting.

State Lobby Day is February 4, 2015, in Richmond. We had a great time last year!

The State conference with WVA will be April 18-19 in Charlottesville. Our theme this year is "Celebrate Our Past: Create Our Future". Save this weekend for lots of fun!

Jeanne Elmore and Caroline Pickens
Co-Northern District Reps



DATES TO REMEMBER

- Feb 4 State Lobby Day, Richmond, VA
- Mar 14 Prince William Regional Science Fair
- Mar 21 “Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS!” Conference
- Apr 18 - 19 AAUW of VA State Conference, Charlottesville, VA
- Jun 18-21 AAUW National Convention, San Diego, CA



PETITION: Improve Assistance for Human Trafficking Survivors

We the undersigned join with the American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Virginia in urging you to support legislation improving assistance for human trafficking survivors in Virginia.

Human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery that forces an estimated 27 million people worldwide—including people in the United States—into prostitution or involuntary labor. The National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) reports that it received 742 phone calls from individuals seeking help in Virginia in 2013—the sixth-highest number of calls among all states and Washington, D.C., that year.

The Polaris Project, which runs the NHTRC and tracks federal and state laws on human trafficking, recommends that Virginia pass laws to provide assistance to human trafficking survivors, including creating "safe harbors" for sexually exploited minors.

We join with AAUW of Virginia in urging you to support legislation that would strengthen our state's laws in these areas.

NAME: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL: _____ Sign me up to receive updates about this issue and other key policies!

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When petition is completed, scan and e-mail to advocacy@aauw.org, or mail to Deborah Swerdlow at AAUW, 1111 Sixteenth St NW, Washington, DC 20036.