



UPCOMING EVENTS & “Save the Dates”

June 18-21	AAUW National Convention, San Diego, CA	
July 18	Summer Leaders Meeting Williamsburg, VA	10:00 am – 4:30 pm
Sunday, September 20	Branch Luncheon Ali Cohen’s Home	1:30 pm
Saturday, April 2, 2016	26th Annual “Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS!” Conference	

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Many of you are putting your AAUW items away and bringing out your bathing suit and summer books. But, AAUW events are going on throughout the summer. **Carol led us in brainstorming** ideas for branch programs and events for the upcoming year. More information in this newsletter and in the upcoming weeks. If you have an idea for a program, a fun thing to do (dining out, going to an event in PWC, golf) please let Carol know.

June is the National **Convention**. This is my second convention, but first as state Co-President. I’m looking forward to the energy, information and fun that always come when AAUW members meet.

The **Summer Leaders Meeting** is July 18 from 10 am till 4:30 pm (see the registration form on the last page.) The room is bigger than last year and we have a great buffet lunch and fantastic presenters, headlined by AAUW’s Deepti Gutipati. All members are invited. Start making your car pool plans today to attend.

Sandy Lawrence
President
SandyAAUW@juno.com

PROGRAMS

Greetings! As AAUW Woodbridge Branch's 2014-2015 year draws to a close, I would like to thank Sandy, Karen, Susan, John, Ali, Joyce, and our members for their outstanding support of our programs and activities this year. Even though we cancelled two of our events due to snow, our spirit was not dampened. Also, I would like to thank Caroline Pickens and Jeannie for their liaison efforts as the Northern District Representatives. I enjoyed participating in the District meetings.

Thank you to Joyce and all members who attended the Salad Desert Luncheon on May 16, 2015, and especially our new member, Dolores. We also had a great turnout of Science Fair winners and their parents. The food was delicious as usual and the gift raffle was fun. (And, we raised \$84 for AAUW's Education Foundation!)

Also, thank you to Sandy, Susan, Ali, Joyce, and Jeannie for their active participation during our Planning Session for next year's programs held on Saturday, May 30, 2015. Many great ideas were captured by brainstorming and input from the surveys. So, thank you to all those who completed the surveys! This support our efforts and we listened! Watch for the upcoming calendar of events in the newsletter and website and I hope you will find it as exciting as we do.

Have a great summer and safe travels wherever you go.

Carol Campbell
Vice-President, Programs
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PHOTOS FROM THE LUNCHEON



Science Fair Winner



SUCCESS! Conference Team Presenters



**John, Carol, Ali with their Honoree certificates
Sandy with John Fairey's certificate**

MEMBERSHIP IS KEY to OUR SUCCESS!

Those who attended the May 16th luncheon at Joyce's home were able to meet our new transfer member, Dorothy. I believe that all of the parents who attended were able to see our proactive programs for their children in STEM.

As this fiscal year-connected membership end comes to a close on June 30th, we hope to include all of our present members in our 2015-2016 roster, add former members, and enroll new members. While this is my "job title" as Membership Vice-President, it is not **just my** role. This is a task for all of us. Sandy has done such an excellent job encouraging us all to have an elevator speech for encouraging new members as well as supporting AAUW's mission and ideals.

Please review this past year's newsletters for all of the membership recruiting (it's really not a "bad" word!) ideas presented to you. It's never too late to share some of the great things we've accomplished with a friend, relative, or colleague. It's not too late to look through "old" membership directories to reconnect with a former member.

And, BTW- by the way, have you renewed yet on-line? Ask Ali, it's easy! =) I have to admit, it sometimes has become the task we put off until the September meeting when things have typically gotten going again. Not this summer though! Sandy, Carol, Karen, John, and I- as your executive committee members are already working on ways to keep you included. I want to begin more intense work on SUCCESS! so we have so many more members being able to participate- even virtually! The VA AAUW Leadership workshop in Williamsburg sounds like a great carpooling and/or mini weekend vacation idea!

We are planning to find out more ways to connect with our community- in the Arts, for one. Our Castaways Repertory Theatre fund-raising for AAUW Education Foundation should continue and can be expanded to activities in which many of us participate- the Manassas Symphony Orchestra concerts, events at both the Fairfax and Prince William George Mason University campuses, and there are group rates for Arts events in DC. As a musician, I love that some members have attended my concerts; as a "drama princess" I love attending theater productions to laugh and cry with friends; as a reader who longs for making time to read more, I'd love to share books again with friends; and attending choral concerts or sing-a-longs is uplifting- to mention a few ideas.....

All of our named gift honorees this year were nominated by branch members and were recognized because of their involvement with our branch's programs and MEMBERS! **John Fairey** shared Susan with us for so many years, most recently joining us in setting up and preparing for the SUCCESS! Conferences since 2004. **Ali Cohen** has hit the ground running and been such an awesome Public Policy chair! **Carol Campbell** has stepped up to co-chair the membership tasks and then led the way for fantastic programs, too. **John Starsiak** continues to support our branch as our secretary; he's more than just our member's husband! **Jeanette Rishell** has presented at the SUCCESS! Conference developing a wonderful women's history presentation including her grandmother, prepared documents on women's involvement in government (News Flash! – Next year's National Women's History Project Theme is, "Working to Form a More Perfect Union: Honoring Women in Public Service and Government"), has presented both at Woodbridge and District meetings, and continues to be an integral part of our local community government as city councilwoman for Manassas Park. These Honorees' membership-driven involvement supports all aspects of our branch and AAUW.

So, renew your membership soon! Encourage a new member to join! Use the free membership link as a present for the recent college grad in your life- I'm gifting Della, the big sister of "our" Piper this way in hopes that she can join Richmond and maybe dually with Woodbridge! Here's the link again: <http://www.aauw.org/resource/give-a-grad-a-gift/> Hmm, how about family members who live in other states? Research the branches where they live and follow up for them! (a new idea that I should have worked on a long time ago! I thought of it as I was listing all of my family members I listed as possible SUCCESS! presenters for 2016.)

Susan Bardenhagen

VP, Membership

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NEW MEMBER: Dorothy Salesses

Dorothy was born and raised in northwestern Montana. She attended Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington and completed her B.A. degree at the University of California, Riverside and M.A. degree at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She spent 48 years in teaching and administration in elementary schools in California, Pennsylvania and Minnesota and has been an adjunct faculty member at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. Susan and Dorothy shared favorite grade levels to teach- upper elementary is wonderful!

She and her husband, Will, who passed away five years ago, have three children and five grandchildren, all of whom live in Virginia, which is the reason she has recently relocated to the area. She lives in Montclair.

Dorothy has been an active member in various organizations in Minnesota including the St. Paul Branch of AAUW. This branch had 400 (!) members, meeting every Tuesday from 11-2 pm with two speakers and lunch. Both of the twin cities' branches owned their own houses where people could have weddings and other special events. She has transferred her membership to the Woodbridge Branch. Her interests include music, theatre, history, reading and all things educational.

Her email is dosalesses@comcast.net. Please add to your member's directory.



PAYING MEMBERSHIP DUES ON-LINE IS HERE

Tired of bringing a check to the spring luncheon for dues? Keep forgetting to send a membership check and realize September is not close? You can pay your 2015-16 dues on-line from **anywhere** via your computer or smart phone. Here's how:

1. Go to Member Services Database (MSD) on the AAUW Web site.
2. Once in MSD, go to the bottom left to **Membership Payment Program (MPP)**
3. Click on **Renew My Membership**. **Enter your credit card information** and in less than 2 minutes you have paid your National, State and branch dues! OR.....!

I am pleased to announce that the Membership Payment Program is now active for the Woodbridge Branch. Members can now save a stamp, save a check, and maybe apply points to a credit card! It's been years in the making but electronic payment is here! I generated an email from AAUW on 5/1 that Sandy forwarded to you all, which allows you to simply click a link and begin the process.

Please check that your current information is correct when you renew. The system allows you to add gift money to "Funds" as you so desire. In the past the branch has supported **Fund #4176-the Susan Nathanson Fairey Fund**. That fund sponsors Community Action Grants. There is a section in the donation portion of the process whereby if you wish to designate to this fund you can type this number into the "Note" section. This is what is known as a restricted fund. However, your donation dollars can support all kinds of programs. You can read about them from this link:

<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/>

You will see that the dues of \$76 pay for National, State, **and** Branch dues. \$46 of the dues is tax-deductible. I will of course still accept dues by check and mailed to my home address Just let me know, if you have questions. ☺

Karen Wolf
Treasurer
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PUBLIC POLICY

This year's focus will be on Title IX. I will be "getting smart" on the issues over the summer. Look forward to email snippets and articles in our newsletters to keep you "up and running" on this critical legislation.

Any suggestions, comments, or concerns you have regarding Title IX are welcome.

The Board has a wonderfully active and creative year planned for us! See you soon!

Ali Cohen
Public Policy Chair
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From STEM to STEAM – Our Branch Leading the Way!

Without realizing the course upon which we were embarking, the “Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS!” Conference has evolved from the AAUW “Shortchanging Girls, Shortchanging America” objective to bring role models for young women to meet in **non-traditional** career fields in Mathematics and Science. In 1991, the Manassas Branch recruited a chemical engineer, an obstetrician/gynecologist, an accountant who preached entrepreneurship, a landscape architect, a stock broker, an engineer, and more career fields in which women were not only underrepresented, but often non-existent. Facing uncharted territory, the chemical engineer’s title was, “Hard Hat in a Dress”!

In 1992, the conference’s presenters began including both non-traditional and traditional career fields for women- adding teachers, nurses, chemists, and biologists. We caught the ear of the Math & Science Instructional Supervisor who helped create a forum with school board members to look at the ratio of males to females in advanced Science and Math courses in Prince William County Schools. Pooling the statistics, the members were cautiously proud of almost equal numbers, until I asked about the breakdown among, at the time, the top four advanced Math and Science courses (Advanced Placement courses). Biology and Chemistry were nearly 70% female enrolled- courses for nurses and lab technicians. Physics and Computer Science were less than 20% female enrolled- courses for engineers! An eye-opening experience which sparked including gender equity in the professional development teacher coaching classes offered by the County.

As the Woodbridge Branch became involved with SUCCESS! in 1995- visual artists, interior designers, and environmental architects were invited to present. Our thought was that these careers all involved Math and/or Science, which met the objective. When STEM (Science, Technology, Math, and Science) became the focus, we added it to the subtitle of the conference in the program and on the t-shirts. But, we already had STEM careers!

As STEAM (adding the Arts to STEM) has become the new focus, again we were already there- in 2000, when the Woodbridge branch went “solo” on presenting the conference we added musicians, communications personnel (who needed drama training), and women’s history authors. Yes, these careers need STEM facets, but the Arts are also an integral part of developing the whole brain. How is this relevant to June of 2015?

First, I will be presenting at the National Council of Girls’ Schools “From STEM to STEAM: Girls’ Schools Leading the Way Summit” in Richmond, June 22-24th. My teammate presenter, Dr. Abigail James, has written two books which we’ve also covered in our SUCCESS! Conference topics for the adults who participate- female and male brains develop and ARE different. Our presentation will include her brain research and my experience with both SUCCESS! and AAUW with the importance of STEAM infusion into all instruction. I’m looking forward to attending a workshop on coding.

Last Tuesday, June 2nd, one of our 2015 presenters and sister of our 2013-2015 presenter Piper, Della, organized a meeting with leaders of the Greater Richmond AAUW branch and me. She was so inspired by the SUCCESS! Conference that she wants to create a “satellite” program. I brought programs, t-shirts, and expertise. Della gathered information about education and mentor connections, sponsorship ideas, and even a title- “Full STEAM Ahead!” A recent graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University’s Arts program- with her 5th grade sister winning the grand prize at the 2014 PWC Junior Science Fair (for 5th and 6th graders) and “our” own (her sister) Piper, who is a pilot, recently completing her first year at MIT majoring in aerospace engineering, and now interning with SpaceX in California-

Della knows well how important STEAM subjects are! The Richmond branch leaders, Della, and I will be meeting again to further plan a spring program, after I finish with the NCGS summit.

The 26th annual (25th anniversary- mathematically this is incorrect) “Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS!” Conference is scheduled for April 2nd, the fifth time spring break has preempted us from March and Women’s History month to April. This does not preempt our presentation of women’s history and hopefully, will include dance and choreography as a STEAM career, too. I have been striving to include as many of my female relatives as can present for this event- my youngest sister the chemical engineer was the hard hat-wearing presenter in 1991 and financial analyst in 1992, my next sister- a physical therapist assistant- and her sister-in-law, a nursing supervisor, both presented in 2003. My third sister is a horse farmer with all of the skills to be an equine specialist, my goddaughter is a pediatric nurse and mom to four, another niece is a physical therapist, my nephew’s wife is a school and on-line instructor of technology, my horse sister has one daughter who is a large animal veterinarian and the other an environmental engineer, and plus- there are cousins who are in the medical fields..... What a great birthday present for me to have them be presenters for SUCCESS! 2016, huh? =>

Susan Bardenhagen

SUCCESS! Conference Coordinator, Branch STEM Liaison

successconference@juno.com

Woodbridge Branch Homepage: <http://woodbridge-va.aauw.net/>

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

AAUW of VA Homepage: <http://aauw-va.aauw.net>

SUCCESS! Conference: <http://www.successconference.net/>

The last page of the newsletter is the registration form for the Summer Leaders Meeting on July 18th in Williamsburg. Check it out!



Join AAUW of Virginia As We Get Fired Up!



Summer Leaders Meeting

July 18, 2015

10:00 am - 4:30pm

Clarion Hotel Historic District

351 York Street

Williamsburg, VA 23185

Agenda

Welcome

Let's Get Fired Up: Discussion of Issues We All Face

The Sparks are Flying: Making Connections from Issues to Solutions

Putting People to Work: Managing Volunteers (Deepti Gutipati, AAUW)

Lunch

Taming the Beast AKA Email

The Spark That Ignites the Fire: Public Policy

We Have the Answers: Let's Talk

We Knew It: Presentation of Ideas

Contractual Agreements

Sending the Sparks out to Branches

EVERYONE
WELCOMED!

Registration Form

Name _____ AAUW Branch _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Saturday Deluxe Salad Bar Buffet Lunch \$20.00 x number attending _____ \$ _____

Make check payable to AAUW of VA (no refunds after July 13)

Mail Registration form and check by July 4 to:

Patsy Quick, 5508 Old Mill Road, Alexandria, VA 22309