



Woodbridge Wisdom

Since 1972

Lunch at Ali's 9-27

Volume 43, Number 3 ~ Woodbridge, VA Branch Newsletter ~ November, 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS

Second Wednesday of the Month ~ Book Club Uno	Panera's at the Glen	2 pm
November 17	Major Mandy Lambert, Regional Adult Detention Center (ADC) Cedar Run Room, McCoart Building	7 pm
December 15	Holiday Dinner, Occoquan Inn	6:30 pm
January 23	Movie at Ali's house	
February. 3	State Lobby Day, Richmond	
February 20	Spring Luncheon at Madigan's	
March 12	Prince William Regional Science Fair	8am – noon
April 2, 2016	Girls + Math + Science= SUCCESS! Conference Marsteller Middle School, Bristow	8 am -noon

President's Message

Thank you to **Ali, Sara, Susan, and Lyndsay** for staffing the table with me at the “Stand for Women NOW: Voter Registration & Equality Rally.” Look for articles and pictures in this newsletter. A **special thanks to Sara** who help us be part of this event. Our branch participation in community events, such as this one is a critical way to get new members and let the community know about AAUW. If you know of upcoming events, please let me and the board members know.

November program is on a topic we have not discussed in the past, but very much part of AAUW mission. Please come, and bring family and friends. **If you need a ride, let me know and we can arrange car pooling.** And come early to eat together- what is AAUW without food?

Sandy Lawrence sandyaauw@juno.com
President

PROGRAMS

October once again burst with the splendor of nature! I traveled to Pittsburgh via the Turnpike but came back on I-68. The leaves between Morgantown and Cumberland were spectacular during the Columbus holiday weekend.

The 7th Annual Greater Manassas Veterans' Day Parade is almost here and I can't wait! It is Saturday, November 7, at 11:00 a.m., in Old Town Manassas and honors "Women in the Military". **We thank you Sandy and all our female veterans for your service to our Country.**

Our November Program will feature **Major Mandy Lambert**, a 30-year veteran of the **Regional Adult Detention Center (ADC)**. She will update us on major initiatives at the ADC to include new practices for evidence-based decision making, mental illness, long-term and short-term strategic goals, education, and human trafficking. If you have any questions or concerns in regards to the ADC, please forward them to me by Thursday, November 12, and I will prepare a consolidated list to forward to Major Lambert. The Cedar Run Room in the McCoart Building has been reserved for this event on Tuesday, November 17, at 7:00 pm. Our meeting will follow. **If you would like to have dinner at Ruby Tuesdays, Prince William Parkway, prior to going to the McCoart Building, please come around 5:30 pm. This is not a fundraiser but simply an opportunity to socialize with other members. Please let me know if you are interested by Sunday, November 15, at 6:00 pm.**

The **Mount Vernon Branch** has extended an invitation to attend their **November 19** Program featuring Lisa Maatz, Vice President, Government Relations. It is at 7:00 pm at the Mt. Vernon Governmental Center, 2511 *Parkers Lane*, Alexandria, VA 22306. (Near Sherwood Hall Regional Library). Hope to see you there!

Our Holiday Dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 15th at 6:30 pm at the Occoquan Inn. Mark your calendars now. Once again we will have the gift raffle. This is an important fundraiser for our Branch and members may bring a gift (\$10-\$15) to exchange. Many look forward to the excitement of opening a gift. Tickets may be purchased for \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

In January we will meet at Ali's house on January 23 to have our meeting and view a movie. If you have any suggestions for a film to view, please let me know. Otherwise, we will watch "Not My Life" which I had purchased last year. It is narrated by Glenn Close.

Happy Thanksgiving to all! I hope you have a wonderful holiday with family and friends.

Carol Campbell Breeze053@aol.com
Vice-President, 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 2 PM, usually second Wednesday of the month.

Tania Iwanowski tania.iwanowski@yahoo.com

Our October Event!

The October meeting was our participation in the PWC NOW Stand for Women NOW Voter Registration & Equality Rally on October 10. The PWC NOW chapter started about a year ago and this event was held at Pfitzner Stadium. From 2-4 pm, organizations set up tables with displays outside the stadium. Our booth was next to the League of Women Voters and we networked with other participants and recruited new member. The following members staffed the booth: Sandy Lawrence, Susan Bardenhagen, Ali Cohen, Lyndsay Wilshaw, and Sara B. Anderson. At 4pm the rally began inside the stadium with a welcome from Hala Ayala, president of PWC NOW. There were many speakers including Eleanor Smeal, Co-Founder of the Feminist Majority, Jennifer Lawless, Professor of Government at American University, Bonnie Grabenhofer, National NOW VP, Tarina Keene, NARAL VA Executive Director, Pat Wirth, Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Executive Director and several others. Local candidates running for office in the November 3 election were introduced. This Stand for Women Rally was the first ever and PWC NOW hopes it will become an annual event.

Sara Anderson
Past Branch President



Networking Builds Membership Contacts – A Case in Point

I wasn't sure what to expect at the Prince William NOW Event, "Stand for Women NOW: Voter Registration & Equality Rally," on October 10th. Who would be there? What would we be doing? What should I bring/wear? I was looking forward to the day and the weather was absolutely perfect! Sara Anderson knew we should be part of this event and "sponsored" us.

Sara, Sandy, Ali, Lyndsay, and I shared representing our branch's table area- a prime location, I might add- from 1:30 until 5. We had a wide variety of AAUW literature- something for everyone- and SUCCESS! Conference items to share. We were bookended by a PWC School Board member and the League of Women Voters. Across the walkway, usually used by Potomac Nationals fans to enter Pfitzner Stadium, we were greeted by a fellow musician and lawyer, as well as a woman who works with Joyce Eagles and has her own business. Other groups included many political ones, a cool titled "Damsel in Defense", Mary Kay cosmetics, and health professionals.

The wonderful part was the networking among the groups. The visitors included political candidates mainly, with their families- we all chatted and shared. I was able to share with many who stopped at our table about the SUCCESS! Conference and our STEM outreach. All of us wear many hats and while our objective was to garner interested people to become AAUW Woodbridge members, our expertise in preserving history, the arts, education, and lobbying came in handy for connecting with those in attendance. Networking made for new contacts and we were able to share much of AAUW's mission.

We met women from the Richmond area who are excited to get in touch with our "satellite" SUCCESS! program- Della and the Greater Richmond branch's "Full STEAM Ahead!" in June. Two interested women from Stafford and Fauquier locations are seriously considering coming a bit north like Lindsay to join a branch closer, and most importantly- active. ☺ Three more Prince William women signed up as prospective members and I hope to include many of the aforementioned on our rosters soon. The variety of our programs and days/settings are appealing!

The program began in the stadium, opened by a Girl Scout troop's color guard with PWC Supervisor Jenkins leading the invocation, noting he is "running for re-election." The event chair, Hala Ayala, was exhilarated as she introduced speakers and shared the vision her PWC NOW board members have. The Vice-President of NOW, Bonnie Grabenhofer, presented current statistics- did you know that 2/3 of the minimum wage earners are women? I didn't.

From VA NOW, Diana Egozcue countered the argument that the 14th amendment which is often "offered" to women as "all that is needed," does NOT speak for women, as she championed the ratification of the ERA- Equal Rights Amendment. Next, nine candidates (or their representatives) gave brief campaign speeches. Feminist Majority's Eleanor Smeal reminded the about 100+ audience members that family planning is an everyone issue, only 11 votes made Mark Herring our Virginia attorney general, and the ERA passed the Senate four times. Tarina Keene, of VA NARAL and past president of VA NOW, surprised us with the data that there have been more attacks on women's rights in the last five years than in the last forty years. 49/140 of Virginia's General Assembly are pro-choice, all three of VA's top leaders (governor, lieutenant governor, and attorney general) elected in 2013 are as well.

Emerge Virginia's Kate reported the disappointing percentages of women in elected offices in Virginia and nationally- something our member, Manassas Park City Councilwoman Jeanette Rishell has

compiled for us at the SUCCESS! Conference for several years now. Pat Wirth, Turning Point Suffrage Memorial in Lorton, shared a video on suffrage that I believe needs to be shared with EVERYONE! Maybe for our movie day? =)

The keynote speaker, Jennifer Lawless, works to empower women to run for elected office and try to counteract the feelings that many women have- that they are less qualified. "Put yourselves forward!" This is another theme our branch has championed, not only for us, but our northern Virginia district, with Jeanette's leadership.

Susan Bardenhagen successconference@juno.com
Vice-President, Membership

AAUW Woodbridge Programs for 2015-2016



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Tuesday, December 15	Holiday Dinner, Occoquan Inn	6:30 pm
Saturday, January 23	Movie at Ali's house	
Wednesday, February 3	State Lobby Day in Richmond	
Saturday, February 20	Spring Luncheon at Madigan's	
Saturday, March 12	Prince William Regional Science Fair	
Wednesday, March 15 or Saturday, March 19	Update on Campus Violence Location: TBD	
Saturday, April 2	SUCCESS! CONFERENCE	
Friday, April 15 to Sunday, April 17	AAUW State Conference at Dulles Hyatt	
Saturday, May 14	Spring Dessert Luncheon	
Saturday, June 4	Planning Session for 2016-2017	

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