

UPCOMING EVENTS

Second Wednesday of the Month ~ Book Club Uno Panera's at the Glen		2 pm
April 15-17, 2016	Virginia AAUW State Conference, Hyatt Dulles	
May 12	Federal Lobby Day, Capitol Hill	
May 14	Salad Desert Luncheon Meet Our Science Fair Winners & Their Parents Location Sara Anderson's Home	Noon- 2:30 pm
June 4	Planning Session for 2016-2017 Occoquan Room, McCoart Building	9:00 am -1:30
March 18, 2017	27th Annual "Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS!" Conference	

President's Message



APRIL IS BLOOMING WITH ACTIVITES

Flowers and plants are full of energy as they bloom in the spring sunshine. Our branch is also full of energy as we have our signature events. Thank you to all the members who judged the science fair and assisted with the SUCCESS! Conference. After two years of planning the state conference is right around the corner. Thanks to Ali & Carol and all the volunteers. And, look for our Prince William County basket put together by Barbara B, at the conference. There is so much to celebrate in PWC.

Now is the time to find the recipe for that killer-delicious dessert or salad for our spring luncheon, at Sara's home. We will welcome our Science Fair winners and their parents, as the students share their projects. Hopefully, our returning members can attend, too. This is also our annual meeting and we will be having elections- so it is important for everyone to attend.

Sandy Lawrence sandyaauw@juno.com
President

APRIL PROGRAMS

Happy springtime! I hope you had a wonderful Easter. Well I said it last month and I will say it again- what a great month for AAUW Woodbridge members! And, it begins with the exciting SUCCESS! Conference!



Many thanks to all who came out to support our March Program. It was a great turnout to hear our featured speaker, **Ms. Nancy Stegon**, M.P.H., R.D, Family and Consumer Extension Agent, Virginia Cooperative Extension. She gave a very interesting and informative presentation on “What’s Up with Nutrition These Days? Lots of Questions, Answers?” We did have a lot of questions and we got a lot of answers! She was a very good teacher, by the end of the program we were identifying the red, yellow, and green lights for building good eating habits. The handout is posted on our website in case you missed it.

In October **2014**, the Northern District gathered for its quarterly meeting. One of the topics of discussion was the AAUW VA State Conference to be held in Northern Virginia in April of **2016**. I remember thinking at that time how far away it was and we were off to such a great start! Well, the time and almost two years quickly passed and here we are about to host this event with so many exciting speakers, guests, and workshops. Caroline Pickens and Bunny Jarrett displayed outstanding leadership to ensure a successful Conference. The Local Arrangement Committee met during the past year to contribute to the details of this event. It was a wonderful opportunity for Ali and me to work with other AAUW Northern District members. One of the unique advantages of staffing the Registration Desk is that Ali, Jeanne, Dorothy, Martha and I will be able to meet and greet members from all over the State as they arrive for this stimulating event!

This year, too, has flown by so quickly; soon our **Spring Salad & Desert Luncheon** will be here- Saturday, **May 14, from 12:00 -2:30 pm**. Thanks to Sara Anderson for hosting this delightful event. For new members, this is a pot luck luncheon, followed by a short business meeting, and elections. Our Science Fair winners and their parents are also invited to share their award-winning Science projects. We have gift raffles that are fun. Please consider bringing a guest as our wonderful branch is highlighted. More details to follow in next month’s newsletter, including directions.

A **planning session** for next year’s programs will be held on **Saturday, June 4 from 9:00 am to 11:30 am at the Occoquan Room in the McCoart Building**. I suggested this idea two years ago, and it seems to be really helpful. So, if you have any thoughts or ideas to get us started, please email them to me at breeze053@aol.com so we can begin this process. We also have some topics from last year’s session that we may revisit.

I hope you enjoy this month and appreciate all that **AAUW, AAUW Virginia, and AAUW Woodbridge** have to offer! Thanks to all who have supported our programs this year.

Regards,

Carol Campbell Breeze053@aol.com

Vice-President, Programs

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Member News

Sometimes you don't need to have your elevator speech ready for AAUW- sometimes you are asked by someone who wants to continue their membership, having moved from another state, like our Dorothy and others. ☺ When I was picking up the materials from the "Keep Prince William Beautiful" office for the SUCCESS! Conference, the new director, Claudia, was holding the program I had sent her from last year. She introduced herself and said, "Do you know who I can contact about joining the Woodbridge Branch of American Association of University Women? My professor at my college in Florida, who encouraged our college student membership, said to be sure that we find a branch at our next phase of our lives."

I smiled and told her the person was standing right in front of her. She was so relieved and excited! She would attend our luncheon but she's getting married that weekend, so I have forwarded her our newsletter and she hopefully, will join us for now and next year, with the special rate.

At SUCCESS! on April 2nd, all of the parents and presenters received membership brochures and booklets from AAUW's storehouse of materials. The presenters also received the executive summary books on "Solving the Equation". One of the available booklets, "Why So Few?"- were also part of packets for the students. Our new member, Dana, attended with her daughter and is seen here in a photo with Carol Campbell. ☺ I am also pleased to report that many of brochures from AAUW that were on our table were picked up by interested folks- the box carrying them was much lighter going home...



Last month, I reported to you that we've re-enrolled Susan Farmer (seen here with Sally Ride's autographed photo and me after she presented at SUCCESS!). Irene Cromer also supported us, reprising her role of several years ago as photographer #2 at SUCCESS! Saturday.

New member Lee Vannett secured an awesome presenter for us and also assisted at the conference. Elaine Cash shared her good friend, Lois, as a presenter, too.



Our treasurer, Karen Wolf (working on presenter gift bags at the conference in this photo) and I have been tasked by Association with contacting previous Woodbridge Branch members to encourage them to rejoin. We've identified women we know to contact ourselves, but need your help with some who are unfamiliar to us. Do you know Bell, Anna; Wilson, Kim; Rubenstein, Debbie; and/or Marsh, Susan to contact them? (I've written the names in the previous formatting to hopefully disallow Google searches, since our newsletters are on-line.)

Anyone who joins would be considered a **new member** and can be offered the **national dues discount of \$24.50** under the "Shape the Future" campaign. Hmm, perhaps a guest you invite to the salad luncheon will consider joining us, too. Let me know, so we can all help to strengthen our branch.



Aren't we a great group? With Susan Farmer, Irene Cromer, and Elaine Cash added to our "presence", a third of our branch were "in the house" at SUCCESS! !

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

BRANCH MEMBERS JUDGE AT THE PW-MANASSAS MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR

Our role as an organizational judging team continued this year where we once again identified category as well as other organizations' winning projects for our individual choices and our team's winners. The team of **Suzanne Harvey, Barbara Ondo, John Starsiak, and Susan Bardenhagen** selected four outstanding projects on Saturday, March 12th, at the Kelly Leadership Center.

The first place winner, **Eleanor** from Benton Middle School, is "our" Piper's younger sister. Two years ago, as a 5th Eleanor also was the grand prize winner at the Junior Science Fair. This year she earned first place in her category of Engineering and was also selected as the grand prize winner of the Middle School Fair! She received one of five "Office of Naval Research" prizes, too. (In this photo she is on the end.) Her project and presentation, entitled "Rockets and Nozzles and Thrusts...Oh My!" was absolutely wonderful. Her knowledge of the physics and chemistry of rocket science shows her interest in becoming an aerospace engineer and an astronaut, as she listed on her SUCCESS! Conference registration form. ☺ She attended the conference with her sister, Della (who is coordinating SUCCESS! "sister" event with the Greater Richmond AAUW Branch in June), who presented "Who Runs the World? Designers".



The second place winner, **Jacqueline**, from Reagan Middle School, submitted her project, "The Effect of Different Magnet Strengths on the Number of Rotations Made on a Pinwheel" in the Physics category. Her innovative idea to explore using magnets to help wind turbines initiate their movement was unique. Explaining her purpose as looking for a way to secure as much energy as possible from wind turbines, she is passionate about the environment. Jacqueline attended the SUCCESS! Conference and listed aerospace engineer as her career endeavor.

Third place honors went to the team of **Wamia** and **Elena** from Reagan Middle School. Their Environmental Science project, "The Effect of Bio-Waste on the Concentration of Heavy Metals in Water," demonstrated excellent teamwork. The team examined compost to collect data and found new results which could present an application to our region's environmental department. They received first place in their category as well as awards from Federal Water Quality, PW Service Authority, and the VA Fish & Wildlife Service. Wamia attended the SUCCESS! Conference with her parents and

sister, listing her career goal to study medicine. (Just an editorial note, the four projects that received second through honorable mention awards for the category were all male students' projects.)

Awarded our honorable mention prize, **Stephanie**, from Parkside Middle School, was the category winner in Computer Science. Her project was entitled, "The Effect of Program Length on Execution Speed," with a purpose of streamlining a spaceflight's efficiency for the humans on board. Stephanie attended the SUCCESS! Conference and listed her career aspiration as "virtual reality innovator"!



It is validating to know that projects that we had judged separately, looking for ones for the team to consider for our awards, were recognized with accolades from the category judges and other organizations. For example, the strongest project by our judge identified in Behavioral Sciences earned second in her category; in Math, our judge gave high marks to a project that earned a third place award; the three strong projects in both Animal Sciences and Earth & Space Sciences each received first through third place in their respective categories. When we narrowed our top individual choices to six for team review, the sixth project in Plant Sciences won her category.

Our winners and their parents will be invited to our May 14th luncheon to share their projects. Our judging team is proud that you will get to meet them, too.

Susan Bardenhagen & Suzanne Harvey Harvey.suzannel@gmail.com
SUCCESS! Coordinator; Branch Science Fair Coordinator

26th Annual SUCCESS! Conference Lives up to its Name!

Final count – 424 students, moms, dads, aunts, nanas, family friends, Science Fair winners, teachers, presenters, and guests attended Marsteller Middle School on Saturday, April 2nd for the 26th annual "Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS!" Conference.



Our **Katherine Nelson-Tracy**, the New Dominion Choraliers director, and my Arts Council colleague, Ellen Carleton, helped get the special dedication to honor our former member, **Sheila Mason School**. They arranged to have a 5-female voice a cappella quintet from the Choraliers sing. Sheila so enjoyed singing alto with them. They premiered a beautiful hymn, which will be on the program of NDC's concert at the Hylton Chapel in May. (Let Susan B. know if you'd like to

attend. 🎵)

Sheila's best friend, Jane Touchet, and our League colleague, an AAUW member-at-large, Carol Noggle, helped me prepare the program notes. Several branch members know our sister League members. (See Jane and Elaine in this photo.)



Two hundred plus students chose from over 76 sessions to attend for their five workshops. Their parents and teachers chose among 36 for their four workshops. We had 50 presenters, who shared their STEAM careers with students and enlightened the adults with workshops on Math anxiety, STEM and STEAM education, and supporting girls to achieve their aspirations.

For the women's history portion of our program- Lillian Garland reenacted her role as Elizabeth Keckley (Mary Todd Lincoln's personal assistant) and her husband, John Davis, portrayed his great-grandfather- a runaway slave and harness maker from southwestern Virginia. Lillian also presented her role as the catalyst for the Family Medical Leave Act, having lost her job due to her pregnancy in 1982. Alice Reagan who has presented to our branch before, presented on women's suffrage in Virginia to both students and adults. The secondary theme of our conference, from our poster and bookmark supplier The National Women's History Project in California, was "Working to Form a More Perfect Union: Honoring Women in Public Service and Government." Our own **Jeanette Rishell**, running for Mayor of Manassas Park this year, provided her annual update on "Women in State and National Elected Offices" for all of the participants' packets. And, importantly, **Sheila Mason School**, was the co-founder of the Prince William League of Women Voters, adding to the reasons we honored her this year. ☺ Sheila and I taught together, too.



We had one presenter reprise her role from the first conference in 1991, Dr. JoAnne Gutlioph, who happens to be my sister's sister-in-law. JoAnne and several others have presented in the 1990s through the new millennium. (Can you see the first 14 years of t-shirts in this photo? ☺)

Seventeen presenters were new and now alumni. One presenter contacted me through the conference website www.successconference.net to say she had attended in middle school in 1997 and gone on to earn her industrial engineering degree- how exciting is that?! Carol Campbell's daughter, Christine, had presented previously, about finance, and now works for BAE Systems as a financial analyst with her MBA. Five presenters have gotten involved through being moms of my former students. One of my former students attended with her father, she's so grown up as a sixth grader! Many of you may not know that I taught Carol's sons "back in the day" and got her to present. From her first SUCCESS! Conference, Carol has always helped with registration, helping to make over twenty years SUCCESSful!

Beville Middle School had 38 students and Godwin Middle School had 20- they hired a bus again, to bring all of their students and some parents. Susan Weimer (pictured here in rainbow stripes) encouraged 27 students from Pennington Traditional School in grades 5-8. Several other Prince William



County schools had groups of six to thirteen attending; in all 44 PWC schools were represented, as were two private schools, and Manassas Park.

Our major corporate sponsors: **Micron Foundation; Lockheed Martin; ProChain Solutions, Inc.; and NOVEC** donated over \$3000! Both Micron and NOVEC provided a wealth of items for the participants- from puzzle pens to the students' backpacks to the adults' nightlights. **Belvoir Federal Credit Union** and multiple time presenter **Janice Sutton** provided bags for the presenters and adults. Also sponsors, **Vulcan Materials Company** and **Northside Auto Sales** contributed to both the teachers' complimentary registrations and the building services fee for our longtime "man of the hour", Marsteller's building engineer- Frank Turner, whose daughter is so excited to "officially" be able to attend the 2017 conference as a fifth grader. (She is the youngest in the photo of the Ruri-Teens.)

Marsteller's Ruri-Teens (a youth branch of the Ruritans) under the dedicated service of parent, Katja Fyock, were invaluable to the conference again this year. They helped pack all 250 student, 150 adult, 20 teacher, and 50 presenter "goody bags" and then the same number packets in assembly line format the Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday of conference week. Then, many of them returned early Saturday morning to don the 2016 shirts as presenters' assistants and ambassadors to the conference!



We wouldn't have been ready for Saturday morning without the help of members **Carol Campbell, Karen Wolf, John Starsiak, and Barbara Ondo** on Friday night. We couldn't have gotten through checking in with the over 400 at 8 am at the conference and getting the conference underway without **Sandy Lawrence, Carol Campbell, Karen Wolf, John Starsiak, Barbara Ondo, Elaine Cash, and Dorothy Salesses**; and getting set up for the t-shirts, distributing the shirts and collecting evaluation forms, and winding down without them and, **Lee Vannett** and **Jeanne Elmore**. Please check out our "class" photo in the membership article.

Speaking of photos, thank you so much to **Karen Wolf** and **Carol Campbell** for all of their photos which are awesome, virtual memories of the day.



Susan Bardenhagen successSTEAMconference@gmail.com
Conference Coordinator since 1992,
Presenter "Gatherer" in 1991: Looking for **Non-Traditional Roles for Women**

FEDERAL LOBBY DAY

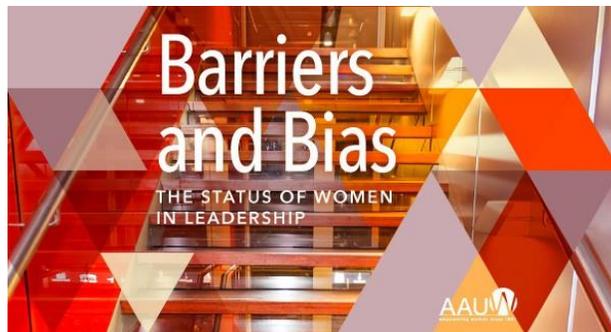


This year's Federal Lobby Day, which is held under the auspices of the AAUW Lobby Corps, is **Thursday, May 12, 2016**. AAUW of Virginia members will be matched up with experienced AAUW Lobby Corps members and assigned offices to visit that day. Although it is too early for the schedule to be finalized, please anticipate that we will be getting an early start.

Please let me know by **April 23, 2016, the names and email addresses of anyone coming**. Also, if anyone is coming in from out-of-town and would like to spend the night of May 11 in town, please let me know as soon as possible so I can try to make overnight arrangements with one of our Northern Virginia members for you.

Thanks a lot.

Leslie Tourigny 571 970-1782
AAUW of VA Public Policy VP



AAUW launch its latest research report, *Barriers and Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership*, held March 30 at the Newseum in Washington, D.C. The panel included (Left to right): Charles Bolden, NASA administrator; Salli Frattini, awards show executive producer; Cokie Roberts, moderator and journalist; Anna Han, behavioral scientist; Diane Linen Powell, an adviser to startups and nonprofit organizations; and Rosie Rios, treasurer of the United States; Not pictured: Marion Blakey, president and chief executive officer of Rolls-Royce North America



VA Co-Presidents Sandy Lawrence & Patsy Quick, and other AAUW of VA members, pictured above, attended the event. We're curious, did you add your data to the survey sent out by AAUW recently? We learned about unconscious bias, senior management must make a concentrated effort to identify and combat this bias and women need to mentor other women and be their champions. You can see the discussion at <https://youtu.be/lcp23hetT78>

Sandy Lawrence sandyaauw@juno.com
Woodbridge Branch President
VA AAUW Co-President



Our Elections are Coming, Our Elections are Coming!

Our branch's by-laws have us voting for staggered two-year terms for our officers. This year, we elect **Program Vice-President** and **Treasurer**. As chair of the nominating committee, I am so pleased to announce that both Carol Campbell and Karen Wolf have agreed to be our nominees and, if elected, continued in their present roles. Of course, at the annual meeting on May 14th during the spring luncheon, nominations from the floor can be made.

Thank you to branch members who helped support Carol and Karen, encouraging them to keep our momentum going. Both women were highly recommended to the committee.

Susan Bardenhagen susanmbee@juno.com
Chair, Nominating Committee

Some more photos from SUCCESS! 2016....



Firefighter Pam with her workshop~~ Presenter Donna & Daughter~~Full House of Participants Ready for their Day!

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

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