

Vol 44, Number 4 ~~ Woodbridge, VA Branch Newsletter ~~ December, 2016

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 6 <i>Tuesday</i>	Holiday Dinner @ The Occoquan Inn <i>Please note RSVP and additional information in newsletter. ☺</i>	6:30 pm
December 14 <i>Wednesday</i>	Book Club Uno Panera's at the Glen, Lake Ridge	2 pm
January 22, 2017 <i>Sunday</i>	At the Movies at Ali's Home "Suffragettes"	afternoon

President's Message ~~ REMEMBERING SARA

Lynday, Susan, Sandy, Ali, & Sara (9-2015)



Sara B. Anderson passed away on October 31, 2016. She was a long time AAUW member and the immediate past president of our branch. She was a tremendous advocate for equality for women and girls. She often told the story of her not getting a bonus that her school system provided to teachers who were the sole provider of their family. Sara qualified as Art was a full time graduate student. But the school system said no, as the bonus was only for MALE teachers. We were all proud of Sara's invite to the White House to tell that story.

Sara was a branch Named Honoree in 2015 for the great work she did, especially at the PWC NOW Stand for Women NOW Voter Registration & Equality Rally last

October. She coordinated and provided funds for the branch to have a table at the event at Pfitzner Stadium. Above is a picture from the event of our branch's team that Saturday. Sara, you will be missed.

See all of you at our December holiday dinner. Bring a grab bag gift and bring a friend!

Sandy Lawrence sandyaauw@juno.com

Programs for Winter

As the holiday season quickly approaches, my best wishes are for Woodbridge members to enjoy a safe and happy holiday season. We also remember those in a special way that we have loved and lost this past year, especially Sara Anderson.

Our annual Holiday Dinner is on Tuesday, December 6, 2016, 6:30 pm, at the Occoquan Inn, 301 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA 22125 (703) 491-1888. This is a relaxing evening as we take a break from getting ready for the holidays and enjoy each other's company. 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. Guests are always welcome at our Holiday Dinner. **Please RSVP to me at breeze053@aol.com no later than Sunday, December 4 if you plan to attend. Thank you!**

On Sunday, January 22, 2017, we will meet at Ali's house to have our meeting, view "Suffragettes", and, of course, enjoy snacks. Here's hoping the weather cooperates!

Our Annual Spring Luncheon will be held on Saturday, February 18, 2017, at Madigan's in Occoquan. This is also a very enjoyable get-together as we begin to welcome Spring and all the exciting events that follow in March and April!

Thank you for your support of AAUW Woodbridge Programs this past year!

Carol Campbell breeze053@aol.com
V.P. Programs

Branch November Program

Dr. Angela Hattery and Dr. Earl Smith spoke on their book project "Gender, Power and Violence". They discussed their research on gender based violence in five social institutions: the military, prisons, fraternities, sports, and the Catholic Church. These five institutions share a set of characteristics that result in high rates of gender based violence: sex segregation, hyper masculinity, fraternal nature (loyalty to the institution above loyalty to the person) and internal systems of justice. There is variation among the institutions with regards to these characteristics. Both Angela and Earl provided several examples of gender based violence and branch members provided great insights and ideas.



Book Club Uno and Beyond to One More Page!

Our next Book Club Uno is on Wednesday, December 14, 2016, at the Panera's in The Glen in Lake Ridge. Please let Karen know if you plan to join us for the first time or as one of our regular cohort. Some of the topics we discussed at the November meeting are on the calendar at www.onemorepagebooks.com. ☺

Karen Wolf kleewolf@verizon.net

Public Policy ~~ Local, State, & National

This is the start of a new series that looks at public policy from an entirely different angle. The focus will be on the female “movers and shakers” from our institutions of higher learning. All too often we look for validation in places that do not directly resonate with us. The spring 2016 issue of my undergraduate alumni magazine brought this notion to the forefront of my mind. Inspiration, innovation, and world changing people are in your “backyard” so to speak. Your “backyard” “being the university (ties) from which you graduated.

Some, like Paul Ryan (Miami University class of '92) are directly involved in public policy. Others, like the subject of this article, change a mindset by their invention /innovation which, in turn, shifts a societal paradigm. The Miamian Magazine (Miami University, Oxford Ohio) highlights a futuristic thinker and do-er from the class of 2008. Azmara Asefa designs clothes for “women warriors”. But it’s not what you think! “Her clients are women in the 30s and 40s, ‘go getters and self-starters’, who often identify with the arts and major cities;” modern corporate warriors one and all. The design retains the wearers’ femininity while the textures and materials send a clear message of being ‘battle ready’ if necessary.

Azmara’s father was a refugee from Ethiopia determined to make the American dream his and for his family. In order for his family to truly understand their American life, each was required to live in a refugee camp before arriving here. In addition to designing for her corporate clientele, Azmara blends her degrees in fashion and architectures with her refugee camp experiences, Azmara created “wearable architecture” for the Horn of Africa so that people in a crisis situation could, quite literally, pack up and move out at a moment’s notice. This innovation has proven to be particularly helpful to the refugee women as they are targets for abuse and rape.

Best of all, ten (10) percent of her sales go to the non-profit Women’s Refugee Commission!

Ali Cohen ali.cohen@verizon.net
Public Policy Chair

DC EVENT on JANUARY 21st

AAUW has received several questions about the possible Women’s March in Washington, DC scheduled to take place on January 21, 2017. Details about the march have been regrettably scarce. While we hope AAUW will be able to support such an event, we need a lot more information before confirming our involvement – a decision that will rely on whether the march is nonpartisan, its logistics, security, inclusiveness, etc. Our staff continues to reach out to the march’s organizers, and will share more with our membership as soon as we have confirmable, reliable information.

While it’s likely that a women’s gathering will take place in Washington on January 21, as well as other locations around the nation, please note that the logistics of the march are not yet confirmed. To our knowledge, the event organizers have not yet secured the necessary permits from the National Park Service or DC Metropolitan Police Department to hold the event as scheduled. At this stage, we encourage AAUW members interested in attending in their personal capacity to make refundable arrangements.

We look forward to collecting more details and sharing them as soon as is appropriate. Please don’t hesitate to reach out with any additional information you learn, as well. If you have any questions, please reach out to myself, Lisa Maatz, or Elizabeth Holden at advocacy@aauw.org.

News and Updates ~~ Members and Friends



Our dear friend, Sara Anderson, succumbed to her brave battle against cancer on October 31, 2016. Born on May 28, 1939, Sara was a champion for families in her work with ACTS in Prince William County, an activist for women's rights with her support of NOW's Prince William Chapter, and an educator in her role for the historical commission in our region. Our Woodbridge branch has celebrated our year-end luncheons often at Sara and Art's home, most recently this year when Sara's health had her suffering pain, but delighted to share her home with our Science Fair awardees and their moms. We celebrated Art and Sara's 56th wedding anniversary on August 28th, and became even more aware of Sara's wealth of impact on our community with so many colleagues also being in attendance. ☺ On that day, we also got to share in her family's love for the mother, wife, sister, aunt, and grandmother. Sara's family had a funeral service at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Woodbridge on Friday, November 4th at 2 pm with a reception following.

AAUW member Jeanette Rishell, Woodbridge (VA) branch, was elected Mayor of Manassas Park, the second woman to be elected mayor in the city's history. Democratic Councilmember Jeanette Rishell beat Mayor Frank Jones, an independent, by a 61.98-percent to 37.02-percent margin. Jones has been mayor since 2004, and his race against Rishell was just his second contested campaign.

"The next several years will be challenging for the city," Rishell said. "I respect Mayor Jones' service to the city, but I believe it's time for a change and a fresh perspective." Manassas Park is an independent jurisdiction in Northern Virginia, formed in 1957, approximately 30 miles southwest of Washington, DC. Manassas Park has an estimated (July 2014) population of 15,427 within the city's 2.6 square mile area.



From AAUW: Despite recent historic gains, the percentage of women running for Congress has plateaued.

Many states have yet to elect a woman governor or woman senator, and only two women of color, Mazie Hirono and Carol Moseley Braun, have ever served in the U.S. Senate. Research shows that stereotypes and gender bias are largely to blame for keeping women out of leadership positions. In 2017, there will be 21 women serving in the U.S. Senate—the highest number in history. The chamber will also feature a record number of women of color. Senators-elect Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV), and Kamala Harris (D-CA) made history by becoming the first Thai American, first Latina, and first biracial woman, respectively, to serve in the U.S. Senate.

"Our" **Piper** is in her junior year at MIT. When asked how she was doing, she replied, "I'm doing pretty well; this semester has been ridiculously busy... Rocket Team should have a launch in a couple of weeks- first one I will be able to go to this semester. I am also going to be in Kazakhstan this January to teach a class in physics! I'm very excited for the chance to practice Russian in an immersive environment, and try teaching in a more classroom like setting :)"



Rocket Nozzle Research Propels Teen to Big Win- Competition brought 30 middle-school researchers to the nation's capital.....

An update on our Science Fair winner, **Eleanor**, (Piper's sister). She WON the Broadcom MASTERS National Science Competition and a prize of \$25,000! Eleanor is in the center of the photo in the red dress. (MASTERS stands for Math, Applied Science, Technology and Engineering for Rising Stars.) The program was created by Society for Science & the Public (SSP), which publishes *Science News for Students*. The Samueli Foundation provided Eleanor's winnings. Students qualified to take part in the competition on the basis of a middle-school science

fair project. Those projects fall within the fields of science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM).

Northern District News



Wendi Manuel-Scott, Director of African American Studies at George Mason University, will be the Guest Speaker on “Authentic Leadership” December 6th, 2016, 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm, GMU- Merten Hall, Room #1204.

The “Women ELearning in Leadership Affiliated with the Women and Gender Studies Program” at GMU Event is co-sponsored by: American Association of University Women (AAUW). Come learn about WELL’s Student Union organization and how to join us! Refreshments Provided! Check us out on Facebook: Women E-Learning in Leadership (WELL) Contact us at: Wellforpeace.org

Dr. Manuel-Scott received her PhD. from Howard University. Professor Manuel-Scott started the Paul Robeson Saturday Leadership Academy at Mason, a Saturday STEM program for 7th to 10th grade students that are underrepresented in the STEM fields. Students participate in game design, robotic programming, ebook design, leadership development, goal setting workshops, and time management activities. A video of one Saturday session can be viewed here <http://vimeo.com/59770987>.

Susan Burk burksu@aol.com
Caroline Pickens carolineaauw@gmail.com
Northern District Co-Representatives

STEM UPDATES and WOMEN’S HISTORY NEWS

From AAUW: Just 12 percent of engineers are women, and the number of women in computing has fallen from 35 percent in 1990 to just 26 percent today. **The numbers are especially low for Hispanic, African American, and American Indian women. The situation is dire. In less than 10 years, the United States will need 1.7 million more engineers and computing professionals. We simply can’t afford to ignore the perspectives or the talent of half the population.**

From the Smithsonian:

http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/ten-historic-female-scientists-you-should-know-84028788/?utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20161107-daily-responsive&spMailingID=27002434&spUserID=NzQwNDU1MTE5OTAS1&spJobID=921296047&spReportId=OTIxMjk2MDQ3S0

{I hadn’t heard of 7 of the 10. How is your women’s history knowledge? –Susan ☺}

“None of us can know what we are capable of until we are tested.”
— Elizabeth Blackwell, first woman to receive a medical degree in the United States

Recapping the 2016 ballot measures on AAUW’s radar-

This week, several states voted on ballot measures related to AAUW’s priority issues. Voters in Maine, Colorado, Washington, and Arizona voted to increase their state minimum wages. Arizona and Washington also approved new paid sick leave programs. In Missouri, a ballot question (opposed by AAUW of Missouri) on raising the cigarette tax to help fund a school voucher system failed. AAUW is disappointed to see that the state passed a measure requiring government-issued photo IDs in future elections. Alaska passed an AAUW-supported initiative to automatically register all qualified voters when they apply for a Permanent Fund

dividend. In addition, California passed a number of AAUW-supported ballot initiatives, including wins for community college funding and improving health coverage for low income Californians.

Making the STEM Workforce Smarter: AAUW on the Hill “Increasing diversity in our STEM fields will make us smarter.” AAUW Associate Director of Government Relations Erin Prangley opened with these words at the Women in STEM: Ways to Address Gender Inequity to Advance U.S. Global Competitiveness congressional staff briefing on May 13, 2016. Cohosted by AAUW, the National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education, the Association for Women in Science, and the Society of Women Engineers and coordinated with the office of Senator Mazie Hirono (D-HI), the briefing set out to educate U.S. House and Senate staff about the importance of including women and people of color in STEM fields. Read the rest of the briefing on our blog and learn about the 13 actions federal agencies can take to address the underrepresentation of women in STEM research.

Campus Leaders Confront STEM Stereotypes In the world of STEM, one question remains as pressing as ever: **Where are the women?** Ten schools earned 2015–16 AAUW Campus Action Project grants to tackle that question head on this spring. Inspired by AAUW’s research report *Solving the Equation: The Variables for Women’s Success in Engineering and Computing*, students implemented projects to empower women and girls in STEM fields, where women are particularly underrepresented.

AAUW believes that women deserve a seat at the table in peace negotiations. This week, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the bipartisan Women, Peace, and Security Act (WPS Act), which would ensure that women's voices are heard when decisions about conflict prevention are being made. Research shows that women's involvement in peace processes has led to a 20 percent increase in the probability of an agreement lasting at least two years, and a 35 percent increase in the probability of an agreement lasting at least 15 years. Despite their obvious success, women only make up 10 percent of negotiators in peace agreements. The Women, Peace, and Security Act would empower women by giving them a seat at the negotiating table, ensuring that their voices are heard and their concerns are addressed in the peace process. Women's inclusion in peace and security processes is vital to the effectiveness and long-term sustainability of these efforts, yet by and large, women continue to be systematically excluded!



*National Women's
History Project*

On December 14, 2014, Congress passed H.R. 3979, establishing a congressional commission to study the potential for an American museum of women's history. Specifically, this Commission was tasked to independently examine the threshold question of whether the country needs a museum of this nature in our nation's capital.

11/2016- After eighteen months of deliberate study, the Congressional Commission on the **American Museum of Women's History** is honored to announce the submission of its official report to the

President, Congress, and the American People. This report contains the Commission's ultimate recommendations on, among other items, the location, content, and governance structure of the future American Museum of Women's History in Washington, D.C. This is an exciting step in a long overdue effort to acknowledge the historical experiences and accomplishments of our nation's daughters - sending a message to all Americans that the stories of our nation's women matter.

AAUW Cheer of the Week (from 11/2016) ♪↑

On Tuesday, the bipartisan Congressional Commission on the American Museum of Women’s History presented a proposal for a new Smithsonian museum dedicated to women’s history. In its 10-year strategic plan, the commission notes, “America needs and deserves a physical national museum dedicated to showcasing the historical experiences and impact of women in this country.” AAUW has long been a leading proponent of the museum. In fact, the formation of this commission was a direct result of AAUW’s Capitol Hill Lobby Day in 2011. {Again, AAUW and NWHP are in synch!}

Susan Bardenhagen susanmbec@juno.com
SUCCESS! Conference Coordinator

December Highlights in US Women's History

December 1, 1955 – Rosa Parks refuses to give up her seat on a bus to a white person; her arrest sparks the modern civil rights movement in the US
December 5, 1935 – Mary McLeod Bethune creates the National Council of Negro Women
December 7, 1941 – Capt. Annie Fox receives the first Purple Heart awarded to a woman for her service while under attack at Pearl Harbor
December 10, 1869 – Wyoming is the first territory to give women the right to vote & **1938** – Pearl S. Buck receives the Nobel Prize for Literature
December 13, 1993 – Susan A. Maxman becomes first woman president of the American Institute of Architects in its 135 year history
December 14, 1961 – President's Commission on the Status of Women is established to examine discrimination of women and ways to eliminate it
December 14, 1985 – Wilma Mankiller is sworn in as principal chief of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma – the first woman in modern
December 17, 1993 – Judith Rodin is named president of Univ. of Pennsylvania, the first woman to head an Ivy League institution
December 28, 1967 – Muriel Siebert becomes the first woman to own a seat on the N.Y. Stock Exchange

December Birthdays

1st 1893 (1981) – Dorothy Detzer, worked at Hull House where she investigated child labor infringements for several years
2nd 1886 (1976) – Josephine Roche invited the United Mine Workers to organize workers and get contracts, supervised the Public Health Service as part of FDR's administration, made recommendations for 1935 Social Security and tried to encourage universal health coverage and **1911 (1991)** – Harriet Pilpel, lawyer, worked with the Guttmacher Institute to support family planning
3rd 1842 (1911) – Ellen Swallow Richards, first woman to graduate from MIT (1873), recognized as the creator of the fields of ecology and home economics, co-founder of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, which became the **American Association of University Women** and **1895 (1995)** – Te Ate, interpreter of Cherokee, Chickasaw, Creek, Choctaw and other tribes
6th 1815 (1884) – Jane Swisshelm, suffragist, wrote articles papers against slavery, for women's rights, and against legal inequities, close friendship with Mary Todd Lincoln and **1927 (2002)** – Patsy Mink wrote the Women's Educational Equity Act and **1967** Helen Greiner a co-founder of iRobot and currently CEO of CyPhyWorksm a Trustee of the Museum of Science
8th 1919 (1985) – Julia Robinson, her logic and number theory resulted in theorems she discovered solving Hilbert's Tenth Problem about 1970, assumed the presidency of the American Mathematical Society
9th 1906 (1997) – Esther Peterson, as head of the Commission on the Status of Women was the most powerful woman in the Kennedy administration, fought for women's rights, especially improvements in working women's conditions and **1906 (1992)** – Rear Admiral Grace Murray Hopper, pioneering computer scientist who invented the compiler and co-invented COBOL,
14th 1897 (1995) – Margaret Chase Smith, first woman elected to both houses of Congress and **1955**. Jill Pipher, president of the Association of Women in Mathematics. first director of the Institute for Computational & Experimental Research in Math.
16th, 1844 (1928) – Fanny Garrison Villard, suffragist and philanthropist, provided financial support for certified milk and **1901 (1978)** – Margaret Mead, renowned cultural anthropologist, author, lecturer
21st, 1959 (1998) – Florence Griffith Joyner, Olympic track and field champion, won 3 gold medals & 1 silver in 1988 Summer games
22nd, 1912 (2007) – Claudia "Lady Bird" Taylor Johnson, First Lady (1963-69), advocate for civil rights, National Chair of Head Start, led "Beautification" efforts across the country involving environmentalism, conservation, and anti-pollution
23rd, 1867 (1919) – Sarah "Madam C. J." Walker, entrepreneur and philanthropist, first woman and first African American woman self-made millionaire, revolutionized hair care and cosmetics industry in early 20th century and **1912 (1998)** – Anna Jane Harrison, chemistry professor at Mount Holyoke College (1945-89), continued research on ultraviolet spectroscopy
24th, 1951 (1998) – Marsha Gomez, activist, used pottery and sculpture from her Choctaw ancestry to teach and demand rights **25th, 1806 (1875)** – Martha Wright, called the first Woman's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls in 1848 with her sister Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Stanton and others and **1821 (1912)** – Clara Barton, founder and president of American Red Cross, 1881-1904
28th, 1894 (1988) – Burnita Matthews, suffragist, as a young law student in the District of Columbia learned that she could carry a banner outside the White House but would be arrested for not having a permit if she spoke, stayed silent and avoided arrest,

Edited from "National Women's History Project" Calendar www.nwhp.org {proud that AAUW firsts are included ☺}

I'm impressed with the longevity of so many of the above listed women! SMB ☺

Each November, the AAUW Public Policy team reflects on some of the milestones achieved by women over the last year. This Thanksgiving, we'd like to share some of the moments and people for which we are most thankful from 2016.

January : Iowa elects first woman as Speaker of the House - The election of Speaker Upmeyer means that the presiding officers in both the Iowa House and Senate are led by women.

February: First Native American woman confirmed as U.S. District Court judge in Arizona - Diane Humetewa, a member of the Hopi tribe, is the third Native American to be named to the federal bench.

March: Paid sick days make progress in the states - Vermont became the **fifth state** to require employers to provide paid sick days.

April: Historic Sewall-Belmont House becomes nation's newest national monument - On Equal Pay Day, President Barack Obama designated the new monument, named after suffragist Alva Belmont, former president of the National Woman's Party (NWP), and Alice Paul, NWP founder and author of the **Equal Rights Amendment**.

May: Women pilots' inurnment rights restored at Arlington National Cemetery

June: U.S. Supreme Court upholds affirmative action program in *Fisher v. University of Texas* - **AAUW signed** onto an **amicus brief** urging the court to uphold the compelling interest of colleges in promoting diversity, including racial diversity, as a factor in college admissions.

July: Department of Justice announces implicit bias trainings - AAUW research shows that **uncovering implicit biases** can be the first step to eliminating them.

August: New innovative efforts to boost voter registration

September: First female and African American Chief Librarian of the Library of Congress sworn in

October: Historic Sexual Assault Survivors' 'Bill of Rights' signed into law - The measure currently applies to the federal rights of over 25 million survivors.

Advanced Planning Calendar for 2017

Come Storm the Capitol at Convention!

Registration is open for the 2017 AAUW National Convention in Washington, DC. Get the best deal by registering before January 14th.....

With 2017 in sight, we're writing today regarding the 2017 Lobby Corps training session. We ask that members "save the date" for Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 10:00am for the event that will be hosted at AAUW's offices.

January 22, 2017 <i>Sunday</i>	"At the Movies" at Ali's Home "Suffragettes"	afternoon
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February 1, 2017 <i>Wednesday</i>	State Lobby Day in Richmond
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Tentative First Day on Capitol Hill: Thursday, February 2, 2017

February 18, 2017 <i>Saturday</i>	Spring Luncheon at Madigan's Waterfront in Occoquan	noon
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March 11, 2017 <i>Saturday</i>	Prince William Regional Science Fair, AAUW Judging Kelly Leadership Center, Prince William County Schools	8 am
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March 17, 2017 <i>Friday</i>	Set-up for SUCCESS! Conference Marsteller Middle School, Bristow	7-10 pm
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March 18, 2017 <i>Saturday</i>	27th Annual "Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS!" Conference STEAM Careers, Marsteller Middle School, Bristow	7:30 am -1 pm
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March 28 or 29 <i>Tuesday or Wednesday</i>	Gourmet Night Out
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April 18 <i>Tuesday</i>	Monthly Meeting & Program Update on Bullying and School Violence	7 pm
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May 13 <i>Saturday</i>	Spring Dessert Luncheon Location TBA	1:30 pm
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May 31	Gourmet Night Out & Planning Session for 2017-2018
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June 14 – 17, 2017 <i>Wednesday thru Saturday</i>	National AAUW Convention, Washington, DC
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Woodbridge homepage: <http://woodbridge-va.aauw.net/>
AAUW of VA homepage <http://aauw-va.aauw.net>

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