

# Woodbridge Wisdom Since 1972

# Vol 44, Number 6 ~~ Woodbridge, VA Branch Newsletter ~~ February, 2017

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

February 18, 2017 <i>Saturday</i>	Spring Luncheon at <i>Madigan's Grill</i> in Occoquan 201 Mill Street, Occoquan, 22125	noon
February 25, 2017 Saturday	Northern District Branch Leaders Meeting King's Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke, VA	1:30 – 3:30 pm
February 28, 2017 <i>Tuesday</i>	Virtual BINGO Night President's Speech to the Nation	evening
March 11, 2017 Saturday	Prince William Regional Science Fair, AAUW Judging Kelly Leadership Center, Prince William County Schools	8 am
March 17, 2017 Friday	<u>Set-up</u> for SUCCESS! Conference Marsteller Middle School, Bristow	7:30 - 10 pm
March 18, 2017 <i>Saturday</i>	27 <sup>th</sup> Annual <mark>"Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS!" Conference</mark> STEAM Careers, Marsteller Middle School, Bristow	7:30 am -1 pm



# **President's Message:** LEADERSHIP IS THE KEY

The key to any successful organization is good leadership. Woodbridge AAUW has been blessed to have had fantastic members in leadership positions. I have been honored to lead this fabulous branch for the past 4 years.

But on June 30, 2017, I step down as president and a new leader comes on-board. I am asking each one of you to seriously consider running for President. It is not hard-just a few board meetings, interacting with State and National officials, and representing the branch at local events. And, there can be co-presidents to split the work. I will be around to help out and provide advice, as needed.

Not sure about being president? We are also looking for a VP for Programs. Again this can be a co-position. Or, if you want to do one program/event, that would be great.

Think about it and say, "Yes."

## Sandy Lawrence sandyaauw@juno.com

# February Programs – One Traditional, One 21st Century!



Tired of the cold and cloudy days? Then join us to celebrate the coming of spring at our Annual Luncheon. It will be Saturday, February 18, at 12:00 pm at Madigan's in Occoquan. This is an enjoyable get-together to encourage Spring and to highlight AAUW events in March and April. Please rsvp to Sandy (<u>sandyaauw@juno.com</u>) by February 15<sup>th</sup>, if you plan to attend. We need to reserve our seats and tables with the restaurant. As always, friends and family are invited.

AAUW Debate BINGO night was so much fun that we'd like to do it again. This time for the President's Speech scheduled for the evening of Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>- virtually, with interested members on a "school/work night" cuddled up with family/pets/blankies and AAUW's specially prepared BINGO cards. Contact Susansusanmbee@juno.com if you wish to receive your e-BINGO card. Then, e-Susan the evening of February 28<sup>th</sup> or next morning, with your results. We'll award prizes at the April program and the May luncheon!!!

### Branch Movie Afternoon and Planning Ahead to May



Thanks to Ali for hosting our January movie program. After the recent election, it was topical to have two movies on women fighting to get the vote. First, we watched "**Forward into the Light**" a short bio on Inez Milholland, the American suffragette known for riding a white horse at numerous Suffragette marches, including the D.C. march in 1916.

We then watched "Suffragette", which depicts the efforts to get the vote for women in Britain. Both were powerful movies that remind us the tremendous sacrifices our fore-mothers made to get the vote. Photo includes attendees: John & Barbara, Sandy, hostess Ali, Eileen, Karen, Joyce, and Dorothy.

We have set the date for our May luncheon for Saturday, May  $13^{th}$ . Traditionally, this is when we invite our Science Fair winners and their parents and have our elections. The date has been on our calendar since August, but we do not have a venue yet.... Hint, hint? If you would like to hostess the luncheon, please let one of the board members know soon; if you would like to hostess, but the date is not the best for you, let us know that, too! Our wonderful branch will provide the great food; we promise. O

# Book Club Uno and Beyond to One More Page!

Our next Book Club Uno meeting is Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm at Panera's in "The Glen" in Lake Ridge. Please let Karen know if you will be attending, so she knows what size table we should share.

From our friends at One More Page bookstore in Falls Church:



Sun, Feb 5 at 3 pm: Author, photographer Beatrice Hamblett discusses her book DAILY BREAD: Stories from Rural Greece, a collection of stories and photographs from her 10 years of road trips through rural Greece. Beatrice brings a multitude of voices to this beautiful book - farmers, bakers, fisherman living simple lives rich in family life and age-old traditions. She shares the exhilaration of the road trip and recount tales of fending off wild dogs, photographing at mass gypsy baptisms, the ecstasy of summer light, and her quest to find a deeper understanding of an ancient culture as it moves into the 21st century.

# Karen Wolf kleewolf@verizon.net

www.onemorepagebooks.com

# Public Policy ~~ Local, State, & National Local

Ali is coordinating our efforts to present an "Equal Pay Proclamation" for the Prince William County Board of Supervisors. If you would like to join Joyce, Sandy, and Susan with Ali in preparing for this, please contact Ali. Thanks!

#### State

The Virginia General Assembly will meet in Regular Session in Richmond from January 11-February 27, 2017. You'll be able to find out lots of useful information about the lawmakers and proposed legislation at the following websites: http://virginiageneralassembly.gov and http://lis.virginia.gov.

#### Get Ready for Equal Pay Day on April 4

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

# 27<sup>th</sup> Annual "Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS!" Conference (with updates)

It's that time of year, again! Today, I delivered nearly 100 packets of the SPARK's office cover letter of support for the conference with registration forms for teachers and students with their parents to the PWC courier office to be delivered to every school in the county housing fifth through twelfth grades! Manassas City will disseminate the forms to their schools through their Science and Math specialists and I expect to deliver forms to Manassas Park's schools next week. We're on a roll! Last year's presenters have checked in to present again!

Even more overwhelming, is the fact that since 1991, Prince William County has had the benefits of the AAUW research, "Shortchanging Girls, Shortchanging America"-inspired conference providing an integral role in supporting middle and high school females and their parents/teachers. From non-traditional Math & Science careers to STEAM careers, we have offered role models in hundreds of career opportunities, women's history, and strategy sessions for the adults in our students' lives on how to support the dreams and aspirations of our future leaders and workforce.

March 18, 2017 at our fourteenth hosting by Marsteller Middle School, in Bristow, is this year's event! Our four major corporate sponsors are already on track- Micron Technology, Lockheed Martin, ProChain Solutions, and NOVEC- but as the number of attendees has grown, we need more corporate sponsorship. You can help with this with suggestions to Susan. We are always wishing to update our database of several hundred possible presenters to include unique and fresh faces, please consider yourself, friends, colleagues, and family members.

Our conference will have a bittersweet tribute to Sara Anderson, who volunteered at the conference and supported AAUW's mission, with an ACTS award bestowed upon her just two weeks before she succumbed to lung cancer on October 31<sup>st</sup>. We will include her family and friends and have selected the new color- Helconia (a purplish pink reminiscent of the color scheme of the flowers and centerpieces at Sara and Art's anniversary celebration in August, based on her sister's and daughter's special colors <sup>(2)</sup>) with purple t-shirt sleeve and program dedication. Our t-shirt printer already has the artwork being prepared.

We need branch member support to help set up the cafeteria on Friday evening, March 17th, from 7:30-10 pm and lots of help the day of the conference between 7:30 am and 1 pm- in shifts for registration, preparing t-shirts for attendees, and the closing with evaluation collection and shirt distribution. Please contact me with volunteer times, presenter contacts, and ideas. Thank you so much!

Susan Bardenhagensuccessconference@juno.comConference Coordinator and STEM Chair, VP- Membership successconference@juno.com www.successconference.net



# WOMEN'S MARCH in DC on JANUARY 21st

#### AAUW has determined that the point of the march meets AAUW's Mission standard: "Women's rights are human rights."

It is one thing to see the pictures or read the articles. It was a totally different experience being part of the women's March. The crowd was

huge, filled with women, men, and children of all ages, races, and heritages. Woodbridge branch members attending the march included: Sandy Lawrence, Barbara Ondo, John Starsiak, Barbara Blindauer, and her daughter (former member), Elizabeth Blindauer. If I missed anyone, please let me know. My friend Carol flew in from Minnesota to participate.

AAUW members from across the country along with AAUW staff gathered at the Newseum to walk together to the March site. It was a great day, seeing people with those huge AAUW buttons everywhere. The crowd was enormous, but calm, polite. and committed. The large crowd made it impossible to do the planned march route, so the crowd took various paths to ensure their message was heard. It was a great day, but just the start. We need to remain committed to empowering Women and Girls. ~~ Sandy Lawrence ~~



Patsy Quick & Sandy Lawrence, VA State Co-Presidents



Patricia Fae Ho, AAUW President with Members



Marchers going down Pennsylvania Avenue

### **Northern District News**

Please let us know if you wish to join our branch leaders' event for Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> in Burke.

Susan Burkburksu@aol.comCaroline Pickenscarolineaauw@gmail.comNorthern District Co-Representatives

#### MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

We sadly share the passing of our former branch president's husband in Texas, in January.

James Medric Belec, age 73, left his earthly body and transitioned on January 3. 2017 from his home in Ingram, TX. His wife, Marguerite, is a former AAUW Woodbridge branch past-president and member. Several of our branch members have continued to be in touch with her. Sandy sent a personal email with Marguerite's address; if you wish to also have it, please contact her.

The SUCCESS! Conference's history includes connections to two more men who died in January. First, Senator Charles Colgan, longest serving state Senator in Virginia, whose former company- Colgan Air- sponsored the conference in the 1990s. He also put me in touch with female pilots. © Second, NOVEC's community engagement specialist, Shirley Rice, lost her husband, John. Together, they also supported many of the county's arts organizations. Shirley has helped to coordinate donations, including t-shirt sponsorship for nearly the whole 27 years of the conference. Our condolences go out to both families.

## **COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY CONNECTIONS**

In keeping with our look at famous women from our very own universities, this month we've chosen the *State University* of New York at Cortland. Our branch president, Sandy, graduated from Cortland State in 1976 with a B.S. of Education degree in Physical Education. Our vice-president for membership, Susan, graduated from Cortland State in 1974 with a B.A. degree in Music and in 1975 with her M.S. in Education. Another connection for these two branch officers, is that they both graduated from the two high schools in the Massapequa Public School District on Long Island, New York (over 300 miles away from the campus). Sandy went to high school with the actor Baldwin brothers and Susan's high school had her as the drama club's costume mistress for Jerry Seinfeld in Romeo & Juliet with the Baldwin father as her homeroom teacher. In her retirement, Susan has been substitute teaching in Fauquier County; one of the teachers she's subbed for graduated from Cortland, too- although in this new millennium. <sup>(i)</sup>

The State University of New York College at Cortland was founded in 1868 as the **Cortland Normal School**, providing teacher education courses. Over time, the campus grew, and in 1941, by an act of legislature and the Board of Regents, the institution became a four-year college providing courses leading to the bachelor's degree and soon was widely acknowledged as *Cortland State Teachers College*. In 1948, Cortland was a founding member of the SUNY system.



**Ann E. Dunwoody**, class of 1975 with a degree in physical education, became the first female four-star officer in the history of the US Armed Services in the US Army in 2008. In 2011 she was the NCAA Theodore Roosevelt Award winner. At its commencement exercises in 2015, Princeton University awarded one of six honorary degrees to General Dunwoody, along with Harry Belafonte, John Paul Stevens, and others. Dunwoody retired in 2012 after a 37 year career, having led the largest global logistics command in the Army with 69,000 military and civilian personnel in all fifth states and more than 140 countries. She is president of "First 2 Four, LLC," a leadership mentoring and strategic advisory services company. Dunwoody was an executive-in-residence at SUNY Cortland in 2016.

Retired police officer and police officer's wife Carolyn Buchanan Whiting, class of 1982,

is the co-author of <u>The Crazy Lives of Police Wives</u>. In her book, which is sold on Amazon to raise money for a policerelated charity, Carolyn offers a peek into law enforcement families, "the heart of the badge." "Our law enforcement husbands are our heroes, we love them dearly and we wouldn't trade them for the world, but being a law enforcement officer's wife comes with its own set of challenges," she writes.

**Karen Collier Flewelling**, class of 1964, has served as a humanitarian in developing countries in Central/South America and Africa. She's made 20 trips to 14 countries to help establish water wells and to deliver donated animals and school supplies, soccer equipment, and medical supplies as well as and stipends for education and funding for obstetric care. Most recently, she continued her work in Rwanda and Tanzania. Karen's book, <u>Drilling for Hope: One Woman's Work to Provide Clean Water</u>, is compiled from all of her trip journals.



**Mary Joy Greene Sherlach**, class of 1978, a school psychologist since 1994, was one of six adults and 20 first-grade children killed December 14, 2012 during a shooting spree that shocked the world. She was one of the school officials who ran toward the gunman in an effort to protect Sandy Hook's children and became one of the massacre's first casualties. Sherlach, the school psychologist, threw herself into the danger when the shots rang out; she and the school's principal ran toward the shooter. They lost their own lives, rushing toward him. Even as Sherlach neared retirement, her job at Sandy Hook was one she loved. Those who knew her called her a wonderful neighbor, a beautiful person, a dedicated educator. Mary met her husband, Bill Sherlach '80, at the College, graduated cum laude with a degree in psychology and was an active member of SUNY

Cortland's alumni family. She and her husband frequently visited campus and returned annually for Cortaca Jug football games. Their most recent visit was less than a month before the attack. The College held two well-attended public "teach-ins" on gun control and mental health issues in Sherlach's memory and the Student Government Association renamed its annual children's festival in her honor.

**Wendee Wallach-Levy** is a graduate of the class of 1970 with a Bachelor of Science in Education. She is an astronomer, author, and co-host of an internet radio program called, "Let's Talk Stars." Wallach-Levy has discovered 28 asteroids and is married to fellow astronomer David H. Levy. She has co-authored: <u>David H. Levy's Guide to the Stars, Cosmic Discoveries: The Wonders of the Stars</u>, and <u>Making Friends with the Stars</u>. In 2004, she named an asteroid after SUNY Cortland.



### AAUW Woodbridge Science Fair Judging (instant replay from January's newsletter)

For over a decade, our branch members have supported the Prince William-Manassas Regional Science Fair as organizational judges. We annually join many other organizations- the EPA, AIAA, Naval Research Center, Federal Water Quality, Northern VA Dental Association, and more- by judging projects relevant to our mission and awarding prizes to outstanding STEM students. In addition to identifying outstanding middle school, grades 7 and 8, female projects in all categories for consideration, we disseminate information about the SUCCESS! Conference.

Please consider joining the team for this year's event on <u>March 11, 2017</u>, from 8 am until 1 pm. A team of six members is optimum- we usually have over one hundred projects to judge. Contact us for more information, too. For those who do not wish to limit their interaction/support to our targeted group, the Science Fair coordinator for the whole event welcomes category judges. (Contact Susan if you would like to do this instead. It's all for promoting STEM education and careers.)

Suzanne Harveyharvey.suzannel@gmail.comScience Fair Judging CoordinatorSusan Bardenhagensusanmbee@juno.com

#### February Highlights in US Women's History

1, 1978 – First postage stamp to honor a black woman, Harriet Tubman, is issued.

4, 1987 - First "National Women in Sports Day" is celebrated by Presidential Proclamation.

11, 1989 – Rev. Barbara Harris became the first woman bishop in the American Episcopal Church.

12, 1869 - The Utah Territorial Legislature passes a bill allowing women to vote.

15, 1921 - The Suffrage Monument, depicting Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucretia Mott, sculpted by Adelaide Johnson, is dedicated

at the U.S. Capitol and 1953 - Tenley Albright became the first American woman to win the World Figure Skating championship.

17, 1870 – Esther Hobart Morris in Wyoming became the first American woman Justice of the Peace.

24, 1912 – Henrietta Szold founds Hadassah, the largest Jewish organization in American history, focusing on healthcare and education in the Israel and

the U.S. and 1967 – Jocelyn Bell Burnell makes the first discovery of a pulsar, a rapidly rotating neutron star.

27, 1922 – U.S. Supreme Court upholds the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, which guarantees women the right to vote.

#### February Birthdays

1, 1878 (1950) – Hattie Wyatt Caraway, first woman elected to the U.S. Senate (1932, D-AR), first woman to preside over the Senate (1943) and 1910 (1988) – Ursula Nordstrom, children's book editor, worked at Harper & Brothers after secretarial course in 1931, where she edited landmark books and 1930 (1986) – Ruth Ross, magazine editor, helped found inaugural issue of "Essence" (1970), which included articles of leading African-American scholars and writers; however the Black Perspective, first to address issue of race in the media, feared advertising losses and removed her so the magazine became "less black".

3, 1821 (1910) – Elizabeth Blackwell, the first fully accredited female doctor in the U.S. (1849), along with her sister Emily, founded the first medical school for women <u>and</u> 1874 (1946) – Gertrude Stein, poet, "A rose is a rose is a rose"

4, 1865 (1921) – Lila Valentine, Southern suffrage leader, recognized health needs with the Visiting Nurse Association fighting tuberculosis, supported the Equal Suffrage League of Virginia and the National American Woman Suffrage <u>and</u> 1913 (2005) – Rosa Parks, "Mother of the Civil Rights Movement," and 1921 (2006) – Betty Friedan, author and activist, cofounded NOW in 1966.

5, 1905 (1999) – Mirra Komaroysky, Russian born, studied effect of male unemployment in families and conflicts in women's lives.

6, 1887 (1985) – Florence Luscomb, architect and reformer, first woman to graduate from MIT in 1909, gave 222 speeches for woman suffrage in 14 weeks, learned to drive & repair her party's touring car, ardent outdoorswoman, joined ACLU in 1919, and much more.

7, 1867 (1957) – Laura Ingalls Wilder, author of beloved Little House books <u>and</u> 1918 (1997) – Ruth Sager, scientist, studied cancer research after 1975, became professor of cellular genetics and chief of the Cancer Genetics Division at Harvard Medical School.

8, 1911 (1979) – Elizabeth Bishop, poet and writer, graduate of Vassar, won the Pulitzer Prize in 1956 <u>and</u> 1849 (1941) – Laura Clay, anti-slavery proponent from childhood, woman's rights advocate from 1869, president of Kentucky Woman Suffrage Association.

9, 1944 – Alice Walker, writer, first African-American woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for fiction, for The Color Purple (1983).

10, 1883 (1959) – Edith Clarke, first woman to earn an M.S. in electrical engineering from MIT (1919), first woman professor of electrical engineering, invented the Clarke Calculator, a graphical device for solving power transmission line equations <u>and</u> 1907 (1992) – Grace Hamilton, first African-American in the Deep South when elected to the Georgia General Assembly <u>and</u> 1927 – Leontyne Price, Grammy Award winning opera singer.

11, 1925 (1998) – Aki Kurose, Japanese American interned in 1942, the American Friends Service Committee funded her college work, projects included treatment for cancer victims of Hiroshima, taught peace education in Seattle schools where she used Dr. King's nonviolent example.

13, 1906 (1990) - Pauline Frederick, journalist, first woman network radio correspondent and to moderate a presidential debate.

14, 1847 (1919) - Anna Howard Shaw, woman suffrage leader, graduated as M.D. in 1886, awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for her work

during World War I <u>and</u> 1891 (1977) – Katherine Stinson, 4<sup>th</sup> licensed woman pilot in US, first woman to fly in Asia <u>and</u> 1914 (1976) – Nancy Love, pilot, ferried planes to Canada during World War II as Commander of the WAFS which transitioned into the WASPs.

15, 1820 (1906) – Susan B. Anthony, leader of 19th century women's right movement, national suffrage strategist, lecturer, activist <u>and</u> 1935 – Susan Brownmiller, writer, also known as Susan Warhaftig, writes novels and conducts historical research, including Against Our Will: Men, Woman and Rape (1975) and a memoir, In Our Time.

16, 1870 (1927) – Leonora O'Reilly, labor organizer, founding member of the Woman's Trade Union League, helped found NAACP <u>and</u> 1905 (1988) – Louise Larson, first Chinese American and first Asian American reporter in a mainstream daily paper(1926).

18, 1931 – Toni Morrison, Pulitzer Prize winning novelist, first African-American to win the Nobel Prize for Literature (1993).

19, 1952 - Amy Tan, novelist, mother-daughter relationships are subject of The Joy Luck Club, now in 35 languages.

20, 1805 (1879) – Angelina Grimké, abolitionist, joined the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society in 1835 and addressed "mixed" audiences in 1837 and 1902 (1995) – Katharine Way, Ph. D. in nuclear theory at the University of North Carolina (1938).

**21, 1855 (1902)** – **Alice Freeman Palmer**, educator, founded the predecessor organization to AAUW in 1881 *and* **1936 (1996)** – **Barbara Jordan**, politician, served in Texas state legislature, elected to the House of Representatives where she sponsored expanding the coverage of the Voting Rights Act, awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1994).

22, 1876 (1938) - Gertrude Bonnin (Zitkala-Sha), writer; Sioux Indian activist, founded the National Council of American Indians.

26, 1859 (1953) – Louise Bowen, Chicago philanthropist, saved Hull House financially in 1935, demanded removal of health hazards from Pullman Company, obtained minimum wage for women at International Harvester Company and raised \$12,000 for families of strikers <u>and</u> 1921 (1985) – Wilma Heide, educator and women's studies pioneer,

27, 1890 (1989) – Mabel Staupers, graduate of Freedman's Hospital of Nursing (now Howard University) in 1917, led Harlem Committee of the New York Tuberculosis and Health Association, organized health education, public lectures, free exams and dental care for school children, fought for full racial integration with the help of Frances Bolton, integrated Army and Navy nurses <u>and</u> 1897 (1993) – Marian Anderson, opera singer, first African-American member of the New York Metropolitan Opera.

Edited from "National Women's History Project" Calendar <u>www.nwhp.org</u> {proud that AAUW firsts are included on their site @}

# **Advanced Planning Calendar for 2017**

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March 28 or 29 Tuesday or Wednesday	Gourmet Night Out		
April 1, 2017	AAUW of Virginia Annual Business Meeting		
April 4, 2017	Equal Pay Day – We're working on a Proclamation for Prince Wm. County		
April 18 Tuesday	Monthly Meeting & Program (TBA) McCoart Building	7 pm	
May 13 Saturday	Spring Dessert Luncheon Location TBA	1:30 pm	
May 31	Gourmet Night Out & Planning Session for 2017-2018		
June 14 – 17, 2017 Wednesday thru Satur	National AAUW Convention, Washington, DC day		

In recognition of Black History Month, AAUW applauds **ImeIme Umana**, who made history this week by becoming the first black woman to serve as president of the Harvard Law Review. She is expected to receive her Harvard law degree in 2018.

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