

Vol 44, Number 8 ~~ Woodbridge, VA Branch Newsletter ~~ April, 2017

EVENTS

| | | |
|--|--|----------------|
| April 1, 2017 <i>Saturday</i> | VA AAUW State Meeting | All Day |
| April 4, 2017 | Equal Pay Day | |
| April 5, 2017 <i>Wednesday</i> | Book Club Uno <i>Panera's at the Glen, Lake Ridge</i> | 2 pm |
| April 18, 2017 <i>Tuesday</i> | Clerk of Circuit Court Special Election <i>Vote at your regular Precinct or Absentee Ballot is available until 4/15.</i> | |
| April 18, 2017 <i>Tuesday</i> | "Health Matters Matter" – Branch Program <i>Development Services Building, Rooms 107 A-B</i> | 7 pm |
| May 13, 2017 <i>Saturday</i> | Spring Celebration Luncheon! <i>Joyce Eagle's Home</i> | 1:30 pm |

President's Message: *WE* ARE ACTIVISTS

When you hear the word "Activists", do you think of the Suffragettes standing in silent protest in front of the White House? Or the Freedom Marchers riding buses and non-violently protesting segregation in the southern United States?

Well, look in the mirror because you are an Activist! As a member of AAUW, you are an activist for equal education, greater job and career opportunities, Equal Pay, and other issues that affect women and girls. As a Woodbridge branch member, you are an activist in the county and community.

Just last month, members judged middle school girls' projects at the Prince William-Manassas Regional Science Fair. And, the following week members helped at the 27th annual "Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS!" Conference. Members helped set up the cafeteria on Friday evening and did a variety of tasks during the conference. Thanks to **Suzanne and Susan** for their continuing leadership in these two great events.

Thanks to the efforts of **Joyce Eagles**, the Prince William County Board of Supervisors received an Equal Pay Resolution at their April 4 meeting. Several branch members attended the March 28 BOCS meeting where Joyce, her husband Doug, Susan B, and I spoke about the pay issues women face and its damaging effects on family. We hoped that our words and Supervisor Frank Principi's comments would precipitate consideration of the proclamation. This was not to be, unfortunately. Please read further in this newsletter for what transpired, future options, and our next tasks.

Then, look in the mirror and give that Activist a smile.



Sandy Lawrence sandyaauw@juno.com

Public Policy ~~ Local, State, & National... International, Too

Local

On Tuesday evening, March 28th at 7 pm, Woodbridge Branch members Lyndsay, Sandy, Barbara, John, Joyce and her husband Doug, Susan, and Ali, filled a row and then some at the Budget hearing. We waited patiently while the chairman of the Prince William County School Board presented a detailed delineation of the district's requests, supported by some other school board members, the school superintendent, assistant superintendent of finance, and other school district staff members. Four of us signed up and spoke during citizen's time. Then, during the supervisors' comment time, Supervisor Frank Principi showed a single slide of a graph of the pay inequity. Please read the article, written by Alex Koma, published both on-line and in the April 7th print edition. It accurately documents what transpired.

http://www.insidenova.com/headlines/supervisors-order-pay-equity-study-in-prince-william/article_525032b6-1b84-11e7-a538-bbc9bc682705.html

Unfortunately, the outcome when Ali, Sandy, Susan, Joyce, Barbara, John, and Elaine met at the BOCS on April 4th at 2 pm for what we thought would be a momentous occasion with acknowledgement and a photo op with our proclamation recognized, was not to be. It brought our county national attention:

AAUW Jeer of the Week (4-4-2017): Members of the Prince William County, Virginia Board of County Supervisors blocked a proclamation recognizing Equal Pay Day in the county. The Chairman and three other board members stated that any discussion of the gender pay gap was a "political issue" not fully based in fact.

State

See information on the Women's Monument in Richmond in the newsletter.

As of today (March, 2017), there are 56 AAUW of Virginia members registered to attend the AAUW National Convention in Washington, DC in June. Way to go!!! Convention attendees will also have an opportunity to lobby up on Capitol Hill. Detailed information about the **2017 AAUW Capitol Hill Lobby Day** will be communicated in separate emails sent directly to convention participants.

Leslie Tourigny, AAUW of VA Public Policy VP

National

Electing women to political offices can change how government works. According to a recent study, which echoes the findings of past research, women legislators sponsor and pass more bills, and they secure more funding for their home districts than their male counterparts. Since 2009, the average woman member of Congress had 2.31 of her bills enacted, while the average male member of Congress had 1.57 successfully enacted bills.

The Economic Policy Institute released a report showing that the gender pay gap increases as women achieve more education. While women with high school degrees earn about 80 percent of what men with high school degrees earn,

The National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education, chaired by AAUW, [released a new report](#) about Title IX's impact on pregnant and parenting students. Learn more about the coalition's key findings and recommendations in this new resource [here!](#)

On March 22, Nevada became the **36th state to ratify** the Equal Rights Amendment, 45 years to the day after it was passed by Congress and sent to the states. The ERA first passed Congress in 1972, and was last approved by a state—Indiana—in 1977. The amendment fell three states short of being adopted into law nationwide by Congress' arbitrary deadline. Nevada's overdue ratification has reignited interest in the ERA; this week, groups across the country told stories of why women still need the ERA in order to highlight that this issue still matters.

International

Iceland plans to become the first nation to require equal pay for women by law. During a recent International Women's Day summit, Iceland's Prime Minister Bjarni Benediktsson discussed the upcoming plan to require companies with more than 25 employees to prove that they pay men and women equal pay for equal work.

Book Club Uno and Beyond to *One More Page!*

Our Book Club Uno meeting was Wednesday, April 5th, at 2 pm at Panera's in "The Glen" in Lake Ridge. Lee, John, Martha, Susan, and Karen discussed a wide variety of genres- science, mystery, political commentary, novels, costume design, history, and more. If you have the opportunity to join our diverse group, **our next meeting is May 3rd**.

Coming up (from *One More Page*) Thurs, May 4 at 7 pm: Actor and author **Ian Harding** (*Pretty Little Liars*) will be signing copies of his book **Odd Birds**, following a brief Q&A at Kenmore Middle School. Fans and birdwatchers alike will enjoy learning more about the fascinating interplay between the actor's life in Hollywood and birdwatching in this charming memoir. Ian, an [American](#) actor best known for his role as [Ezra Fitz](#) in the series [Pretty Little Liars](#), has been working with the [Lupus Foundation of America](#) to raise funds and awareness for [lupus](#) research and education to support his mother, who has been living with lupus for more than 20 years. [ABC Family television drama series Pretty Little Liars](#) is an ABC Family television series in which four girls battle against an invisible enemy after their friend's mysterious murder. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pretty-little-liars-actor-ian-harding-author-of-odd-birds-book-signing-tickets-31728440620>



Karen Wolf kleewolf@verizon.net

www.onemorepagebooks.com

AAUW Woodbridge Science Fair Judging

For nearly twenty years, our branch members have supported the Prince William-Manassas Regional Science Fair as organizational/special award 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; this year almost twenty- winners and their parents – attended with our corporate sponsor support.

Our team for this year's event on **March 11, 2017**, from 8 am until 1 pm, included **Suzanne, Susan, Barbara, John, Lee, Sandy, and Andrea** - our potential member/scientist working at George Washington University. With a seven-member team, we were able to interview students in each of the eleven categories; narrow our individual choices for shining stars, share these with the team members, revisit the top ten, and reach consensus on our winners. Whew, team work definitely comes in handy!



The regional fair staff had a printout ready for us with the projects that were being presented by females and got a judging team photo for us, too! There were over 80 judges and 37 organizations represented for the 180 middle school and 54 high school entries. (The grand prize winners at the HS level were a team of a female and a male in Engineering.)

Our first place team of Delaney and Shan in the category of Animal Sciences is a first for us- a female and male team! Their presentation, project idea, and application is stupendous- "Nature vs. Nurture: Can We Defend Our DNA?" They are 8th graders at Benton Middle School. From the category judges, they were awarded honorable mention and from the US Public Health Service- special recognition.

For second place in the category of Mathematics, Andrea, impressed us with her development of geometry formulas for finding the area of polygons- "The Polygon Pie." It is unusual and challenging to devise an experiment in this category- kudos to this young lady! An 8th grader at Graham Park Middle School, she earned first place in her category.

In the category of Medicine & Health, Alyssa garnered our third place award. “The Effect of Topical Sucrose contaminants on Blood Glucose Levels” is the result of Alyssa’s concern for a family member’s health and she plans to pursue this field. She is an 8th grader at Parkside Middle School.

For honorable mention, we chose two projects- one in the category of Plant Sciences and one in Environmental Sciences. Anya’s “Potential Pollinators” considered other insects to support the needs of farmers with the decline of bee populations. A 7th grader at Reagan Middle School, she earned first place in her category and a special award from the US Fish & Wildlife Service. Anna is an 8th grader at Marsteller Middle School. Her project is entitled, “The Effect of Soil on Water Drainage.” She received honorable mention in her category, too.



Suzanne chose special prizes for our winners- books on women in science, solar-powered butterflies, ear buds, a scientific calculator, flash drives, and i-tunes gift cards. Susan gave the awards at the 4 pm ceremony and secured parents’ email addresses so we can invite them to the May luncheon. Remember that each judge had projects that impressed them? As is almost always the case, these excellent projects also received awards. In Animal Sciences and Behavioral Sciences, two other outstanding projects we identified received third place in their categories. In Environmental Sciences, a project we noticed received honorable mention and in Medicine & Health, a second project our judge shared received first place in the category. And, in both Microbiology and Physics, our eyes were on two projects that each were awarded second place in the categories.

For the Junior Regional Fair, Lee and Susan volunteered our time to assist with judging the Animal Sciences projects of fifth and sixth graders, on March 25th. (Remember, we had a “SUCCESS!” sandwich this year? ☺) Our two judging teammates are now great contacts for SUCCESS! presenters for next year. We awarded the first and second place awards to young men; third place to a team of two young ladies; and two honorable mentions to young ladies. The grand prize winner for the whole fair went to a young lady competing in the Physics category, chosen from a field of seven female first place winners and three male. For SUCCESS! 2018, those present at the awards ceremony received a voucher for the March 24, 2018 event

Suzanne Harvey
Susan Bardenhagen

harvey.suzannel@gmail.com Science Fair Judging Coordinator
susanmbec@juno.com

27th Annual “Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS!” Conference March 18, 2017

With 170 students; 110 parents and teachers; all of our 33 + 1 K9 presenters + their daughters and students; Marsteller’s National Junior Honor Society volunteers, assistant principal, and head custodian; and branch members and friends as volunteers- the annual conference began with dedications to four people who have a special place in the conference’s history. I acknowledged my Aunt Helen and Mel Padgett, my former students’ dad and SUCCESS! presenter in the program.

Also in the program and on the t-shirt sleeves, were honors to Bettie Jane Stegall and our Sara B. Anderson. Sara’s family present to receive the program materials, shirts, and baskets of spring flowers (donated by The Flower Gallery) included: Art, her husband; Marcie, her sister and her husband; and Kristi, her daughter, with her husband, and their sons.



Sara's daughter, Marci and her family live in California- they were there in spirit, as were branch members and friends who couldn't attend the conference. My theme included "Generations", as we celebrated four now- with more to come; we already have attendees in the 90s as presenters now!

Thanks to 15x+ presenter Tina Coates, Karen, and John- we were able to get everything necessary Friday night to set up and be ready for the early start on conference morning!



Wow, so many people ready for their day!



Kathy, Mom Presenter and Mia, Daughter Attendee

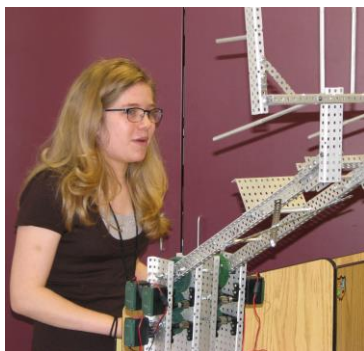


Border Patrol Beagle Hudson with Agent Jennifer



DNA Games with Biologist Kathy

For early morning support and all of the many tasks for the event we had Tammy, my teaching colleague, coordinating the presenters' check-in; presenter EJ Scott; Pennington Traditional School's Susan Weimer; Manassas City Councilwoman, Cheryl Bass; and branch members Sandy, Karen, Dorothy, and John- ensuring another SUCCESSful conference.



Science Fair Winner, Eleanor



Firefighter Rachel & Rookies!



Mulala & Lisa from Micron Technology



HS Math Teacher Donna & Student Stella, “Origami Math”



Industrial Engineer Vanessa’s Marshmallow Challenge!

At the conference’s closing, Sandy presented a VA AAUW award prepared by the state board to the conference and me- recognition is truly special. ☺

Also, in the program notes- “Fearless Girl Facing Wall Street Bull”- photo sent on March 8th by my sister, Ellen, chemical engineer/financial analyst/SUCCESS! Presenter ’91 & ’92

Susan Bardenhagen successconference@juno.com Conference Coordinator



HEALTH MATTERS Matter! – Branch Program on April 18th

Our third evening program for this year will have three parts, each addressing matters across the lifespan which impact our health and wellness. First, **Dr. Mary Jo Grote**, an audiologist and SUCCESS! Conference speaker, will present on hearing health and concerns with damage to our ears and the aging process. As a cellist in the Manassas Symphony, Mary Jo is especially keen on young and old maintaining their ability to enjoy both music and voice.

Our branch member, Lee, is involved with the American Cancer Society’s “Relay for Life.” Through her volunteer efforts, she has learned a lot about the status of cancer research, treatment, and the hope for a future which is cancer-free. Lee and an ACS staff person will briefly share information on the “c word” which has undoubtedly affected each one of us. There are opportunities that individuals can also support by volunteering.

Third, Ms. Hope Cooke, an insurance agent with Colonial Penn/Bankers Life, will present give a brief presentation, “For the Life of Your Retirement ®”. As with the aforementioned presenters, her piece will offer ideas and answer questions that affect us across the lifespan. At a rock performance last evening a very young future guitarist’s dad ensured ear protection with padded headphones for him; my best friend died from cancer when he was 13, my nana at 72 within six months of her three nights a week dancing at the Roseland in NYC; and there are employment and retirement options for us when our bodies face health concerns.

This program, “Health Matters Matter,” will be held at 7 pm, on Tuesday, April 18th, in Rooms 107 A-B, on the first floor of the Development Services Building, adjacent to the McCoart Building (in front of the Potomac Nationals’ baseball team stadium). After you enter the complex from PW Parkway, turn right and make your first left past the Development Services Building to park in the parking lot. As you enter the building, our rooms are at the end of the hall on the right before you reach the atrium and elevators. **Please RSVP to Susan by Monday, April 17th** susanmbee@juno.com

STEM, STEAM, and Advocacy News

AAUW HIGHLIGHTS IN 2016

AAUW MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

- \$3.7 million awarded in fellowships and grants in 35 countries
- 12,480 women trained to negotiate their salary through Start Smart and Work Smart
- 200,000 message sent on behalf of AAUW to state and federal legislators

Bill Nye on His 'Codebreaker' Mom and How Science Teachers Can Change the World

PBS NewsHour

"These are my people," Bill Nye said ahead of his lecture to some of the 10,000 science educators who attended the National Science Teachers Association's (NSTA) National Conference in Los Angeles last week. When Nye, the well-known 1990s television host of "Bill Nye the Science Guy," vivaciously told the hall full of teachers about how science will help "change the world," he was met with thunderous applause. But in fact, it's this group - teachers on the front lines - who deserve the credit, Nye said.

Joan Baez was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame on April 7th. From *Rolling Stone Magazine* 4/7: "While one cannot say I'm a rock & roll artist, one cannot overlook the folk music of the Sixties and the immense effect it had on popular music including rock & roll. Nor can anyone overlook the roll that I played in that phenomenon." She wrapped with an optimistic vision for the future. "Where empathy is failing and sharing has become usurped by greed and lust for power, let us double, triple and quadruple our own efforts to empathize and to give our resources and ourselves. I want my granddaughter to know that I fought against an evil tide and had the masses by my side."

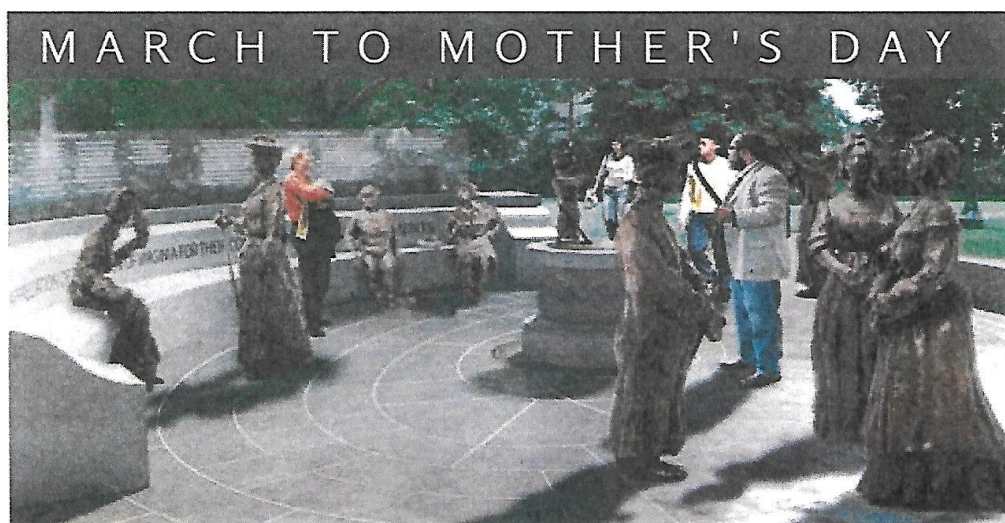
From *Rolling Stone Magazine* 2/6: In a voice as clear and unwavering as when she sang "We Shall Overcome" at the 1963 March on Washington, Joan Baez opened the San Francisco Women's March last month onstage with her acoustic guitar and a version of "No Nos Moveran," the Spanish version of "We Shall Not Be Moved." She also dedicated Bob Dylan's "Forever Young" to Barack and Michelle Obama and declared: "Women, we need to be empathetic when there is no empathy. We need to be kind when kindness is not at the forefront." {Note from newsletter editor- I went to see Joan Baez for the first time in upstate New York with my sister. After the show, my sister got Susan Faurey's book autographed and I got my 12-string guitar autographed. Joan is a strong but gentle woman, vibrant at 76.}

April 22nd Earth Day March for Science

<https://www.marchforscience.com/mission/>

The March for Science is a celebration of science. It's not only about scientists and politicians; it is about the very real role that science plays in each of our lives and the need to respect and encourage research that gives us insight into the world. Nevertheless, the march has generated a great deal of conversation around whether or not scientists should involve themselves in politics. In the face of an alarming trend toward discrediting scientific consensus and restricting scientific discovery, we might ask instead: can we afford not to speak out in its defense? Here is a partial list of the groups which are supporting the event (many have missions similar to AAUW's):

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| National Science Teachers Association | Association for the Sciences of Limnology & Oceanography | American Federation of Teachers |
| National Academy for Advancement of Science (established by Lincoln and Congress in 1863) | American Psychosomatic Society- Integrating mind, brain, body and social context in medicine since 1942 | Association of Public Health Laboratories |
| Entomological Society of America | Research America- An Alliance for Discoveries in Health | American Geographical Society |
| American Geophysical Union | American Association of Geographers | American Ethical Union |
| Society for Neuroscience | European Geosciences Union | American Humanist Association |
| Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society | UAW- now United Automobile, Aerospace & Agricultural Implement Workers of America | American Indian Science & Engineering Society |
| Earth Day Network | 500 Women Scientists | Botanical Society of America |
| Genetics Society of America | Academics for the Future of Science | Bulletin of the Atomic Sciences |
| Paleontological Society | Advocates of Science & Technology for the People | Defenders of Wildlife |
| The Nature Conservancy | Alliance for Science | Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO |
| Union of Concerned Scientists | American Academy of Social Work & Social Welfare | European Geosciences Union |
| International Federation of Professional & Technical Engineers | American Association of Physics Teachers | Firefighters United for Safety, Ethics, & Ecology |
| Carnegie Science | American Association of University Professors | Girls Who Code |
| NEXTGEN Climate America | American Astronomical Society | Government Accountability Project |
| National Center for Science Education | American College of Neuropsychopharmacology | Marie Curie Alumni Association |
| The American Society for Cell Biology | American Crystallographic Association | Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History |
| Society for Conservation Biology | American Education Research Association | MIT Press |
| SACNAS- Advancing Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science | American Epilepsy Society | National Earth Science Teachers Association |
| National Farmers Union- United to Grow Family Agriculture | | Natural History Museum |
| Consortium of Social Science Associations | | Phi Beta Kappa |
| Society for Research in Child Development | | The Tech Museum of Innovation |
| Center for Biological Diversity | | Virginia Museum of Natural History |
| | | Voices for Vaccines |



StudioEIS and The 1717 Design Group

WOMEN'S MONUMENT ON VIRGINIA'S CAPITOL SQUARE

The Women's Monument Commission in partnership with the Virginia Capital Foundation and the 2019 Commemoration present the March to Mother's Day fundraising campaign.

Honor the special woman or women in your life by making a donation today. To learn more or donate visit:

VirginiaLegacy.com

VOICES FROM THE GARDEN

Voices from the Garden is the first monument of its kind in the nation recognizing women's achievements. Voices encompasses twelve bronze statues of significant women from the state, surrounded by a glass panel, etched with names of other noteworthy Virginia women.



EJ Scott, our "SUCCESS!" Conference presenter on "Chemistry is Fun!" is on the governor's inaugural committee for this monument. Please check it out; we received this notice from VA AAUW to include in our newsletter. Isn't networking phenomenal? ☺

Northern District News

AAUW NIGHT AT D.C. DIVAS FOOTBALL GAME

Many of you will remember Allyson Hamlin, quarterback of the D.C. Divas and also Prince Georges County homicide detective, who was a huge hit on the panel of women in male-dominated professions at the 2016 AAUW State Conference at the Dulles Hyatt. A number of you said we should all go to one of the Divas games. So, we are organizing an AAUW evening to attend the D.C. Divas vs. the Boston Renegades game on **April 22 at Lee High School in Springfield.**

The Divas won the national championship in 2015 and 2016, beating the Renegades 47-21 en route to winning the Eastern Championship last year. Boston had won three of the last seven national titles, so these are archrivals. In case you are wondering, it is full contact football. These women are awesome!

The game is at 6:00 p.m. at Lee High School at 6540 Franconia Rd. Tickets are \$12 adults, \$5 seniors and students 7-17, and free under 6 with an adult. You can buy the tickets online at www.dcdivas.com until noon on April 22; tickets at the gate are cash only. Gates open at 4:30. Let's meet at 5:30 near the gate to go in. There is free parking, and tailgating is encouraged.

So grab your friends and come spend a Saturday night supporting and cheering for the women of the Washington Divas!

Susan Burk

burksu@aol.com

Caroline Pickens

carolineaauw@gmail.com

Northern District Co-Representatives

AAUW of VA 92nd Annual Business Meeting: *Join in Unity*



With AAUW National Convention in “nearby” DC in June, the state had a one-day “drive-in” state meeting at the English Inn of Charlottesville on **April 1**, starting at 10 am. The theme was “Join in Unity” and 50 members from 20 branches attended the meeting.

The meeting's keynote speaker was Dr. Sidney R. Bland, Professor Emeritus, American History, James Madison University and Board member of the TURNING POINT SUFFRAGIST MEMORIAL. He presented a short video on the suffrage movement in America, compared the woman suffrage parade of 1913 with the women's march in January 2017 and talked about Turning Point. It was a very interesting talk with a great question and answer session after the talk

We had updates from the Finance Officer and Nominating Committee Chair, as well as introducing new Legacy Circle members, Sylvia Rodgers, Suzanne Rothwell and Tammie Mullins Rice. Caroline Pickens gave us an update on AAUW activities and also talked about 13 Ways to Take Action, which is in this newsletter.

AAUW VA members truly support AAUW Funds. Donations for 2016 increased by \$14,505.82 for a grand total of \$113,986.06. Woodbridge members donated \$2,040.16 and had four “Named Honorees”:

Joyce Eagles

Jeanne Elmore

Sandy Lawrence

John Starsiak

Their certificates will be presented at the May luncheon.

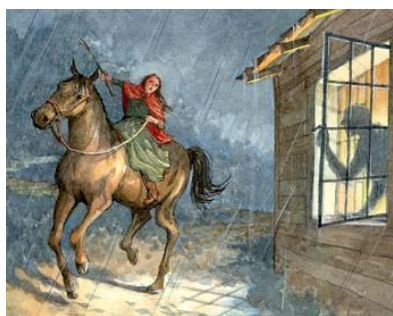
And, the South East District invited us to the 2018 VA AAUW State Conference in the Tidewater area. After the meeting, there was a boxed lunch with more awards from board members and door prizes.

Sandy Lawrence & Patsy Quick, Co-Presidents, AAUW of VA

Join in Unity: 13 WAYS TO TAKE ACTION!

1. Join **AAUW Action Alert** and become a **Two-Minute Activist**. Non-members can also join: Pass the link to anyone itching to DO something. **Two-Minute Activist** is the absolute best and quickest way to make voices heard on our legislative priorities—and we mean it when we say two minutes (or less). And for Pete's sake, really, sign up yourself if you haven't already! Go to www.aauw.org and put "Two-Minute Activist" in the search box or <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>. *In your Annual Business Meeting packet there is a signup sheet to take to branch meetings to encourage EVERYONE to sign up!*
2. Subscribe to receive the weekly AAUW **Washington Update** for the latest Public Policy news
<http://www.aauw.org/resource/washington-update/>
3. Find out your US House and Senate representatives' addresses and phone numbers to keep handy. (See our list in your Packet or find them here: <http://www.house.gov/representatives/>) **Make your voice heard!**
4. Purchase postcards to have on hand for quick way to complain or praise. Another way to make your voice heard!
5. **Write Letters-to-the-Editor** using the information and talking points from Washington Update newsletter plus *Two-Minute Activist* email alerts. Local newspapers love to get well-written and thoughtful letters. Learn how to advocate this way at www.aauw.org and enter "Letters to the Editor" in the search box.
6. Visit your Congress person in his/her local office. AAUW's *Quick Facts* on a variety of topics can be downloaded from the website www.aauw.org. Just put "quick facts" in the search box and you will see them all. Print and take with you when you visit.
7. Send a donation to AAUW's Action Network and/or any other cause you believe in.
<http://www.aauw.org/actionnetwork/>
8. Read "**Mission and Action**," the AAUW all-member newsletter that is emailed twice a month. Don't pass it by--read it for succinct info on current AAUW news and actions to take. [If you don't receive it, try updating your email address in the Membership Services Database (MSD) information at records@aauw.org.]
9. Learn how to be an **AAUW Advocacy Rock Star** at <http://www.aauw.org/article/how-to-be-an-aauw-advocacy-rock-star/> Whether it's through a meeting with your elected official or a social media campaign, use these how-tos to familiarize yourself with tried-and-true techniques,
10. Share your thoughts on AAUW's priorities and mission on Facebook and/or Twitter.
11. Mention AAUW's work in our conversations with friends and colleagues; spread the word.
12. Join AAUW Legacy Circle and make a planned gift to AAUW to affirm your commitment to the future of women and girls. <http://www.aauw.org/resource/aauw-legacy-circle/>
13. Get up to speed on the National Women's History Museum. AAUW was directly involved and a strong supporter of the bipartisan legislation that was adopted in December 2014 to create a commission to explore the creation of the National Women's History Museum in Washington, DC. The commission released its report in November 2016 with recommendations on sites on or near the Mall that are feasible, the collection and its connection to other museums, and the importance of this museum. No federal legislation has been introduced yet, but when the time comes AAUW will be alerting our members to support it. So keep an eye out for the ACTION we can take. If you would like to read a snapshot of the report, go to <http://amhm.us/report/>

**The fastest way for all things AAUW:
Go to www.aauw.org and put your topic in the search box!**



"The child performed her task, clinging to a man's saddle, and guiding her steed with only a hempen halter, as she rode through the night, bearing the news of the sack of Danbury. There is no extravagance in comparing her ride with that of Paul Revere and its midnight message. Nor was her errand less efficient than his. By daybreak, thanks to her daring, nearly the whole regiment was mustered before her father's house at Fredericksburgh."

Sybil Ludington's father Colonel Henry Ludington recalling her midnight ride of April 26th, 1777 in his memoir

April Highlights in US Women's History

- 2, 1931** – 17-year-old Jackie Mitchell, the second woman to play baseball in the all-male minor leagues, pitches an exhibition game against the N.Y. Yankees and strikes out both Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig. The next day, the Baseball Commissioner voided her contract, claiming baseball was too strenuous for women. The ban was not overturned until 1992
- 5, 1911** – 100,000 to 500,000 people march in New York City to attend the funeral of seven unidentified victims of the Triangle Shirtwaist Company fire in late March
- 7, 1805** – Sacagawea begins helping the Lewis and Clark Expedition as an interpreter *and* **1987** – Opening of the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C., the first museum devoted to women artists
- 9, 1939** – Marian Anderson sings an Easter Sunday concert for more than 75,000 at Lincoln Memorial
- 13, 1933** – Ruth Bryan Owen is the first woman to represent the U.S. as a foreign minister- appointed as envoy to Denmark
- 19, 1977** – Fifteen women in the House of Representatives formed the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues
- 28, 1993** – First "Take Our Daughters to Work" Day, sponsored by the Ms. Foundation, in 2003- "Take Our Children to Work"

April Birthdays

- 1, 1911 (1998)** – Augusta Baker, renowned storyteller in New York public libraries, created bibliography in 1939 of suitable children's books to represent African-American history and culture
- 2, 1915 (1984)** – Soia Mentschikoff, attorney, one of the first women partners in a large Wall Street law firm (1945) *and* **1937** – **Dorothy Salesses**, → Woodbridge Branch Member *and* **1953** – Susan Bardenhagen ☺
- 3, 1898 (1997)** – Katherine Esau, botanist, emigrated from Germany, studied viruses in celery, pears and carrots with use of electron microscope until 1991, wrote classic 735-page "Plant Anatomy" (1953) *and* **1899 (1979)** – Katherine Ordway, wealthy entrepreneur of St. Paul, Minnesota, established the Goodhill Foundation at age 65, which funneled grants through the Nature Conservancy to save natural land in Minnesota, Kansas, and South Dakota *and* **1934** – Jane Goodall, primatologist and conservationist, world's foremost authority on chimpanzees
- 4, 1928 (2014)** – Maya Angelou, author, poet, civil rights activist, actress, Clinton's inauguration poem, "On the Pulse of Morning"
- 5, 1901 (1968)** – Hattie Alexander, pediatrician and microbiologist, identified and studied antibiotic resistance caused by random genetic mutations in DNA, first woman elected president of the American Pediatric Society (1964) *and* **1949 (1986)** – Judith Resnik, engineer, astronaut, 2nd American woman in space, perished in the Challenger explosion in 1986
- 7, 1890 (1998)** – Marjory Douglas, writer, suffragist, women's rights advocate, environmentalist, championed culture of first Americans *and* **1891 (1978)** – Martha Eliot, pediatrician, researched and proved the beneficial effects of cod liver oil and sunbaths to prevent rickets while working with the Children's Bureau, only woman to sign the constitution of the new World Health Organization in 1947 *and* **1915 (1959)** – Billie Holiday, hailed as most influential female jazz singer
- 10, 1880 (1965)** – Frances Perkins, first woman cabinet member (1933), key contributor to the Social Security Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act *and* **1926 (1995)** – Johnnie Tillmon, director of the National Welfare Rights Organization (1963-72), worked with Gloria Steinem and Aileen Hernandez at the National Women's Conference in Houston (1977) *and* **1930** – Dolores Huerta, Chicana activist, labor organizer, founder of the United Farm Workers union
- 11, 1910 (1997)** – Annie Dodge Wauneka, elected to Navajo Tribal Council (1951-78), worked on tuberculosis epidemic using Navajo and the Bureau of Indian Affairs ideas, demanded funding for child health programs, awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1963)
- 14, 1866 (1936)** – Anne Sullivan Macy, famous teacher of Helen Keller who was blind, deaf, and mute
- 15, 1896 (1980)** – May Edward Chinn, first black woman doctor in Harlem (1936-80), worked with George Papanicolaou on the Pap smear to identify cervical cancer
- 17, 1913 (1997)** – Dorothy Fosdick, federal official (1942-1953) developing the Truman Doctrine & the Marshall Plan *and* **1917 (2007)** – Irene Morgan Kirkaldy, defied bus driver in 1944 who ordered her to give up her seat and move to the segregated back, arrested, Thurgood Marshall won her case (6-1) on grounds of promoting and protecting national travel
- 23, 1928 (2014)** – Shirley Temple Black, child actor, singer & dancer; U.S. Ambassador to Ghana and Czechoslovakia
- 25, 1917 (1996)** – Ella Fitzgerald, internationally renowned jazz singer, winner of 13 Grammy Awards
- 26, 1907 (1991)** – Julia Godman Ruuttila, union recruiter, activist and journalist, worked for the CIO
- 27, 1927 (2006)** – Coretta Scott King, civil rights, human rights, and peace activist



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

Advanced Planning Calendar for 2017

May 31 or June 3rd Gourmet Night Out & Planning Session for 2017-2018

June 14 – 17, 2017 National AAUW Convention, Washington, DC
Wednesday thru Saturday

The Fall of 2017 brings our Woodbridge Branch of AAUW's 45th Anniversary! Let's celebrate the history and esteemed roster of those who founded our branch and have graced its member roles. We are seeking ideas – get your scrapbooks, journals, and memories together. ☺

Please mark down on your calendars that our **AAUW of Virginia 2017 Federal Lobby Day is scheduled for Thursday, October 5, 2017**. As in the past, it will be held under the auspices of the AAUW Lobby Corps. AAUW of Virginia members will be matched up with experienced Lobby Corps members and assigned offices to visit that day. Of course, there is always a chance that Congress will change its calendar between now and then, which might mean rescheduling. Stay tuned!!

As of today, there are 56 AAUW of Virginia members registered to attend the AAUW National Convention in Washington, DC in June. Way to go!!! Convention attendees will also have an opportunity to lobby up on Capitol Hill. Detailed information about the **2017 AAUW Capitol Hill Lobby Day** will be communicated in separate emails sent directly to convention participants.

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

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

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