

EVENTS

February 8 <i>Thursday</i>	Branch Board Meeting <i>Potomac Mills Wegman's</i>	7 pm
February 10 <i>Saturday</i>	"Looking to Spring" Luncheon for Members & Guests Madigan's Waterfront, Occoquan <i>{It's also the Occoquan Chocolate Walk Event- let's plan to carpool!}</i>	noon
February 21 <i>Wednesday</i>	Lobby Corps Spring Training AAUW Headquarters, Washington, DC	<i>{see article for details}</i>
March 10 <i>Saturday</i>	Prince William County/Manassas Regional Science Fair Judging Kelly Leadership Building	
March 17 <i>Saturday</i>	28th Annual "SUCCESS!" Conference Marstellar Middle School, Bristow	7:30 am – 1 pm

Co-Presidents' Message

The groundhog saw his shadow and this weekend it's raining like spring. This is why we look to give information to you all that can be verified and shared.



This Thursday, February 8th, at Wegman's at 7 pm, your branch Board will be meeting to plan and discuss branch programs for this year. Please contact us if you have ideas that we can add to the agenda. We would like your input.

We look forward to seeing branch members and guests next Saturday at Madigan's Waterfront in Occoquan. This is an excellent opportunity to welcome potential new members and enjoy the company of friends. Lee has sent out a reminder email to all members. Also, see article in newsletter (below).

Barbara Ondo barbaraondo@gmail.com 703-670-8546
John Starsiak jstarsiak@gmail.com
Co-Presidents

LOOKING toward SPRING LUNCHEON – Saturday, February 10th



Join branch members and guests on Saturday, February 10th, at noon! We have been having a social luncheon there for many years now. It's a beautiful setting and the food is delicious! The address is 201 Mill Street, Occoquan, 22125.

Please RSVP to Lee by Friday, so that the staff at the restaurant can have our tables ready for us! lmvannett@aol.com

Public Policy

Local

AAUW Work Smart is designed to help you negotiate for a new job, raise, or promotion. In every two-hour workshop you'll gain confidence in your negotiation style through facilitated discussion and role-play and learn

- How to identify and articulate your personal value
- How to develop an arsenal of persuasive responses and other negotiation strategies, including how to get a raise or promotion
- How to conduct objective market research to benchmark a target salary and benefits
- About the wage gap, including its long-term consequences

Check out this link for workshops near us in metro DC area: <https://salary.aauw.org/work-smart/>

Yes, we are continuing to plan for us to earn the Equal Pay Resolution's support by our Prince William County Board of Supervisors next April. Please contact Joyce Eagles jeagles2@msn.com and Sandy Lawrence if you would like to join our efforts to encourage our BOCS to support the resolution.

Regional and State

AAUW of Virginia Celebrates Virginia Women Legislators

This past November saw a record number of women elected to the Virginia General Assembly. AAUW of VA wanted to celebrate this achievement, so we had a reception in Richmond and invited them all!



Patsy and Sandy address the group

The reception was held January 8. Besides five legislators and aides, we had state board and Greater Richmond branch members in attendance. Sandy Lawrence and Patsy Quick, AAUW of VA Co-Presidents, spoke on our top legislative priorities and explained how our members can support legislative issues. Everyone agreed the reception was a success.



Conversations and Connections

Cheer of the Week (AAUW, 1.12.2018)

Governor-elect Ralph Northam (D-VA) finished filling his cabinet seats this week, creating the first majority-female cabinet in Virginia's history. Pending the legislature's approval, 8 of the 15 cabinet seats will be held by women.

Kirstjen Nielsen was confirmed as the new Secretary of Homeland Security and it is hoped that her cybersecurity background will aid in attracting cyber talent to the agency. {From American Institute of Aeronautics & Astronautics "Protocol: Aerospace Cybersecurity News, January edition}

National



FIRST WE MARCH, THEN WE TAKE ACTION

January 19, 2018 - It has been a watershed year for women and gender equity. Through programming, research, and advocacy, we pushed for equal educational opportunities, equal pay for equal work, and workplaces free of discrimination. It is work that we have been doing for over 136 years and work we will continue to do until all women and girls enjoy equity in schools and workplaces.

AAUW Action Fund Lobby Corp Training

Lobby Corps Spring Training will take place on: **Wednesday: February 21, 2017** at AAUW Headquarters, 1310 L Street, NW, Suite 1000. This year we will be breaking with tradition and host the training event after our first Lobby Corps meeting. As with all events, trainings, and materials presented and produced by your National staff, we continue to strive to ensure that we are strategic and effective (among other details, too!) This date will allow us to keep with that goal and we appreciate your flexibility. No matter what, you will continue to receive the regular reminders about lobbying activities (ie: Monday emails, Wednesday briefings, etc.) as we have done in the past the week we are meeting to ensure you are accurately prepared for Thursday morning activities. Please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

New in 2018: In addition to the amended training date, we will be unveiling few new Lobby Corps updates at our event on February 21st. Among them is the new time of the training, which will run from 9:30am – 11:30am. An RSVP form will be circulated in the coming week. As always, if there are any outstanding questions, please email or call: yuenp@aauw.org or 202-785-7712.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination that violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Very generally, sexual harassment describes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Title VII is a federal law that prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, and religion, and it applies to employers with 15 or more employees, including federal, state, and local governments. Even with Title VII's protections, many people across the country still face sexual harassment in their workplaces. If you are experiencing harassment at work you are likely overwhelmed and afraid. The important thing to remember is that you are not alone and that you do have options when coming forward.

The following resources will help you better identify sexual harassment, advocate for yourself and others, and determine your next steps. As you begin this journey it is important to remember to **DOCUMENT EVERYTHING**. Nothing is too small or trivial when it comes to calling out harassment in the workplace:

- Your experience with the harasser — time, location, details, and witnesses
- Your experience reporting the harassment — time, location, details, and witnesses
- Your productivity — safeguarding and documenting your productivity at work can be essential during and after reporting

Sandy Lawrence

sandyaauw@juno.com Public Policy Chair

AAUW'S LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund has been assisting plaintiffs who experienced discrimination, including sexual harassment, at work and school for decades.

Spencer v. Virginia State University Adopted 2017

“The admonition has always been, how dare I use my voice. How dare I speak out for others? But, most importantly, how dare I challenge and resist patriarchal and sexist oppression in the fight for equality. Most will not yield to a voice. Instead, they ensure that the *cost* of speaking/fighting takes everything from those who often only have a little. *That* is the silencing strategy.”

— Zoe Spencer, Ph.D.

Zoe Spencer, Ph.D., was the Gender Equity Task Force chair at Virginia State University, but she alleges she's been retaliated against for identifying deficits in gender equity, including unfair pay for herself and other women faculty.

View this link to see other cases from across the country: <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/strategic-case-support/laf-cases/>

Book Club Uno & Interesting Book News

Our next Book Club Uno meeting will be Monday, February 12, 2018, at 6 pm. We will meet at Panera's in “The Glen” in Lake Ridge. Karen, John, Lee, and Susan met for the new meeting time on Friday, January 19th- since weather and other meetings changed our calendars. With this day being Abraham Lincoln's actual birthdate, we may visit our 16th's president words and bios? Please consider joining us; five or six can fit nicely at our table.

From a branch member's email “inbox”:

The Prince William County Historic Preservation is once again offering our Annual History Lecture Series at the Old Manassas Courthouse located at 9248 Lee Avenue, in Manassas on the 4th Thursday of each month beginning in January through April. The lectures will be held in the upstairs ballroom at 7:00 p.m. and are free to the public. Donations will be thankfully accepted.

Because 2018 puts us squarely in the 100th Anniversary of the World War I, two of the lectures will focus on contributions made at this time. On February 22 the Historic Preservation Division will host Anna E. Keifer for *Sowing the Seeds of Victory: The Women's Land Army of America in Virginia and Washington D.C.*

In 1917, the Women's Land Army of America (WLAA) began recruiting the first of more than 20,000 women who would work the land while America's farmers were called up to serve in the Great War. The girls and women of the WLAA, also known as the Farmettes, shocked American society as they were paid equally with male farm laborers, worked eight hour days and wore pants. Eventually, Farmettes would work on family farms and orchards in 25 states including Virginia.

Please consider reading *Hidden Figures*, by Margot Lee Shetterly, from which the movie of the same name was created. In January, at “Ali's Home Theatre”, several of us viewed the movie. As an avid reader, I would say, “Please read the book. In the movie, events are moved around in time for the sake of the plot; some presentation of characters were created for effect. This is not to diminish the very real struggles that the movie portrays; it is just that I am serious about history.”

Karen Wolf kleewolf@verizon.net

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

Since 1992, the SUCCESS! Conference has displayed posters and shared newsletters/items from the National Women's History Project. For 2018, their theme is, "Nevertheless She Persisted." Chelsea Clinton's book is Nevertheless She Persisted, Barnes & Noble's email to me this morning included this title and more, and a bumper sticker I saw on a car on route 495 this afternoon said the same. This prompts me to give some more background.

In 2018, the National Women's History Project begins our 38th year of "writing women back into history." However, given the times we live in, we have had serious concerns about whether we would be able to continue our work past 2020. The future seemed somewhat daunting – until something amazing happened. The story of the National Women's History Project (NWHP) is quintessential women's history, and like women's history, it has seen cycles of successes and challenges. In 1980, we spearheaded the movement for National Women's History Week, and in 1987 for March to be officially recognized as National Women's History Month. Also beginning in 1980, as one of the few groups championing women's history, we received a series of federal grants to produce materials recognizing women's achievements. We incorporated as a non-profit and when our grant support ended we continued to fund our work through the increasing sales of women's history materials and books.

We served as clearing house because there were very few other sources for this information. The ever-expanding interest in women's history encouraged us to grow from a grassroots advocacy group to a national educational organization. Our women's history mail-order catalog expanded to 32 pages and we distributed over 100,000 copies a year. Our success did not go unnoticed. Ten years later, publishers were producing many more titles on women and the new internet giant, Amazon, began offering deep discounts. Over the course of only a few years, our sales revenue dropped by 75%. In response, we developed *A Woman's Place is the Curriculum* conferences, which were held in many states. We mobilized our **Women's History Network** and we conducted women's history training sessions for teachers and educators throughout the country.

In 2001, with the enactment of the **No Child Left Behind Act**, school districts virtually eliminated women's history from their curricula and, as a result, our revenue again dropped dramatically. Nevertheless, with the generosity of our supporters, we persisted. During one of our most challenging times, our former board member Margaret Zierdt, a lifelong teacher and volunteer librarian, helped us weather the financial storm by donating funds from the equity in her house.

And... the story gets even better

This October Nancy Skinner Nordhoff, a 2006 NWHP Honoree, sent us a check for \$25,000. To say this gift buoyed our spirits would be an understatement. It allowed us to pay off all debts and confidently embrace planning for our future. Then, in the beginning of December, Dolores Carr, a retired teacher/librarian and women's history advocate in Kansas, stepped in to substantially aid the NWHP by leaving a bequest that will help see the NWHP into the future. Dolores retired in 1985 but continued to tell the stories of women's lives and promote women's history. A few years ago, at the age of 89, Dolores gave a National Women's History Month presentation on one of her historic Kansas sisters, "Who Was Mary Elizabeth Lease: Kansas Homesteader, Mission Teacher, or Political Activist?" An "honorary president for life" of the Friends of Wellington Public Library, Dolores passed in May at age 93. She was active in the First Christian Church, Sumner County Literacy for Life, WARTA, NOW, League of Women Voters, NARVE, and OWL.

Dolores Carr's life exemplifies our 2018 theme, *Nevertheless She Persisted*. We are so grateful to have been remembered by this amazing woman. Her generous bequest of \$147,000 will enable the National Women's History Project to establish an endowment to help ensure that women's historic achievements are valued, honored, recognized and celebrated in ways that have been, until now, reserved for men's accomplishments. We deeply appreciate all the support that you and these generous benefactors have given to the NWHP. You provide us with the tools we need to take the next steps to realize our vision of a just and equal future for women.

Chelsea Clinton and her co-author have compiled a young reader's edition. Please check out this link for ideas:

<https://mail.barnesandnoble.com/H/2/v4000001616171a2559d8f236e966f4650/732d70d9-7683-4168-85e1-019292e6ddc6/HTML>

Updates from Our Treasurer & Membership VP

Soon, it will be the four year anniversary of the loss of life branch member, Susan Nathanson Fairey. Many years ago, Susan established an AAUW Fellowship Grant #4176 that reached its required distribution total before she died. Before cancer took her voice, Susan was the Woodbridge's phenomenal Membership VP.



The most recent recipient of a grant from Susan's grant:

Community Action Grants



Recipient: [Living Classrooms of the National Capital Region](#)

Project Director: Thara Taylor

Award Year: 2017-18

Award: Community Action Grant

Location: Washington, District of Columbia

Term: One-year

Project Name: Queen Beez Program

Living Classroom's Queen Beez program helps to empower underserved and disadvantaged middle school girls and provide them with the opportunity to express themselves through song, dance, leadership development, and mentorship. The program intertwines STEM, leadership skills, women's empowerment, career exploration, and technology and video production into a creative and performing arts-focused curriculum that utilizes current media trends.

Sponsors: 4273 - Susan J. Cochran; 4134 - Alice Cole; **4176 - Susan Nathanson Fairey**; 1620 - Mary Ellen Caldwell
1250 - Ardis Hitchcock

From the Living Classrooms' website we learn that Living Classrooms has served the Baltimore-Washington Community for 30 years. "Queen Beez is a program that presents girls, in elementary- through high- school, with an opportunity to uplift and express themselves through song and dance. The program uses Hip-Hop as a vehicle to build self-esteem and public speaking skills, and to address issues young people encounter in their lives. The girls meet with professional female mentors to learn about important topics such as environment and leadership during weekly workshops. The girls then transfer their new knowledge to their communities by writing, choreographing, and filming positive hip-hop videos with professional recording and film crews. The girls become involved in strengthening their communities while at the same time becoming invested in their own self-improvement.

Karen watched the video of the girls performing the song "(You Ain't Gotta) Lose Yourself." The song encourages students not to sacrifice their grades for the sake of being popular; that being cool and being smart aren't mutually exclusive. "Restoration" deals with climate change. From the song "Gravity" the lyrics "It's up to me to choose my destiny" resound. Here is a link to the Queen Beez website https://www.livingclassrooms.org/ourp_QueenBeez.php

For those members who renew and wish to add an Education Foundation donation- you can contribute to the Susan Nathanson Fairey Grant 4176. It will only be used for Community Action Grants such as "Queen Beez" that incorporate STEM principles so that Susan may "teach in perpetuity."

Karen Wolf, Treasurer

kleewolf@verizon.net

Susan Bardenhagen, VP, Membership

susanmbee@juno.com

WOMEN'S ECONOMIC SECURITY IS TIED TO MANY ISSUES

January 18, 2018, AAUW

This year marks the 45th anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court case *Roe v. Wade*, which legalized abortion in the United States. Access to safe and legal reproductive health care and information, including abortion, fosters self-sufficiency, promotes preventive health care, and protects individuals and their families from the spread of sexually transmitted infections. But control over one's reproductive life is also part and parcel to achieving economic autonomy; without reproductive choice, women cannot attain equal pay or opportunity in the workforce.



It's now a widely acknowledged fact that the typical woman working full-time brings home a paycheck that is 20 percent smaller than the typical man, and women of color tend to face larger gaps. But believe it or not, that number could be a lot worse. Lack of access to a full range of reproductive health services is one factor that contributes to those alarming statistics. Research suggests that the widespread availability and use of birth control pills in the 1980s and 1990s was partially responsible for narrowing the pay gap to where it is today.

Over a career (47 years), women's total earnings loss compared with men is \$700,000 for a high school graduate, \$1.2

million for a college graduate, and \$2 million for a professional school graduate. But women and girls who have access to reproductive health services are in a better position to tackle one element that leads to the gender pay gap. Research indicates that expanding access to reproductive services and information increases the prospect of economic security in adulthood for women. On the other hand, women who are denied abortions are more likely to receive public assistance, more likely to have an income below the federal poverty level, and less likely to be working full time.

As costs of both health care and child care skyrocket, it is paramount that women are able to control their own decisions about when, if, and how to start a family. The existing pay gap already hurts women, their families, and the economy. Limiting reproductive choices and access only compounds these issues. On the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, we celebrate our freedoms and look to a future in which increased access to critical health care leads to greater economic security and parity for women.

Bono on Gender Inequality: 'Poverty Is Sexist' (Rolling Stone, Elias Leight: January 8, 2018)

Rock Band U2's Bono penned an article for Time Magazine, "urging action from men, especially world leaders and those in other positions of power, to reduce gender inequality."

"Men can't step back and leave it to women alone to clean up the mess we've made and are still making," the U2 singer writes. "Misogyny, violence and poverty are problems we can't solve at half-strength, which is the way we've been operating for a few millennia now."

Bono credits his wife Ali and two daughters, Eve and Jordan, with teaching him about sexism and the extent of the gender gap in education and income. "As Jordan reminds me, there is nowhere on earth where women have the same opportunity as men," Bono notes. "Nowhere. Which has something to do with the fact that around the world, there are 130 million girls who are not in school... Denying girls what an education offers – a fair shot, a path out of poverty – means that women can work the land but can't own it; they can earn the money but can't bank it," he continues. "This is why poverty is sexist."

MOVIE DATE @ ALI'S HOME THEATRE!

On **Sunday afternoon, January 21st**, at 1 pm Karen, Lee, Sandy, Susan, and Susan met at Ali's home in Lake Ridge near the McCoart Building complex for our annual home theater event. Ali provided multi-flavored popcorn, ice, water, and paper products. We brought snacks and viewed "Hidden Figures." From our hostess: "Hidden Figures was the movie of choice for our annual movie afternoon. Quoting from the movie jacket, "Hidden Figures" tells the incredible untold story of Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson - "brilliant African-American



women working at NASA who served as the brains behind the launch into orbit of astronaut John Glenn, a stunning achievement that turned around the Space Race. The visionary trio crossed all gender and racial lines and inspired generations.” The after movie discussion centered on the up close and personal encounters that Susan B and Sandy L have with the story. Ask them about it; it’s good stuff! Additionally, we had the pleasure of Susan Farmer joining us- who just happens to be a member of our branch AND a career science educator- who was able to answer our space program questions.

Half of us had seen the movie, but all enjoyed the experience. One member shared, “I was happy to have the opportunity to watch this film in a salon atmosphere with women who for the most part remember the space race of the 60s and the years when women- particularly black women- struggled to overcome discrimination as they worked in predominately white male STEM employment... What a teaching tool to show those who did not experience the discrimination what it must have felt like. Separate water fountains? Separate bathrooms? I am old enough to have been alive when that was normal! The story is real and the women were real and tough and knew their value in a time when they had to prove themselves far beyond what white women would have needed to do. I could go on and on in praise of them. Thank you to Ali who provided a venue for this great film.”

28th Annual “Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS!” Conference

Since 1991, Prince William County, Manassas, and Manassas Park has celebrated the championing of gender equity with the SUCCESS! Conference. This year it will be held on Saturday, March 17th, again at Marsteller Middle School in Bristow. We plan to include an Irish green theme for what would have been my mom’s 90 birthday year; but also we have a dedication to a friend and supporter of the conference’s goals. Venus Miller also was a champion of ACTS, like our dear Sara Anderson. *This is my annual (to be repeated...) call for support from branch members.*

March 17, 2018 at our fifteenth hosting by Marsteller Middle School, in Bristow, is this year’s event! Our four major corporate sponsors have requests in their inboxes- 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. 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.

We need branch member support to help set up the cafeteria on Friday evening, March 16th, 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 Bardenhagen successconference@juno.com
Conference Coordinator and STEM Chair, VP- Membership

www.successconference.net

JUDGING the REGIONAL SCIENCE FAIR

For over a decade, our branch members have supported the Prince William-Manassas Regional Science Fair as organizational judges. We 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 **March 10, 2018, 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 Harvey harvey.suzannel@gmail.com

Susan Bardenhagen

susanmbee@juno.com

Our Member Spotlight



Dorothy Salesses earned her MA degree in Research & Supervision in Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She earned her Bachelor's degree in California and moved here to Virginia from the Great Lakes region where her AAUW branch there had hundreds of members!

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
OF PENNSYLVANIA

The University, founded in 1875 is a public research university in Indiana County, PA. It is one of the two largest universities in the PA State System of Higher Education. It was conceived as Indiana Normal School chartered in 1871- normal schools were to be private corporations in no way dependent on the state treasury. {Editor's note- SUNY Cortland where Sandy and I earned our teaching degrees also began as "Cortland Normal School."}

The school opened following the mold of the French "Ecole Normale," enrolling 225 students within a single building for events and a laboratory school for model teaching. Control and ownership of the institution passed to the Commonwealth in 1920; in 1927 it became "State Teachers College at Indiana" with the right to grant degrees. As its mission expanded and its name was changed again in 1959 to Indiana State College; and in 1965 the institution achieved university status, becoming IUP. Faculty have won nearly 60 Fulbright Exchange Awards since 1959, enabling them to study and conduct research in 27 countries; two faculty members have been awarded the Rome Prize.

The campus boasts a planetarium, museum, black box theater, extensive music library, Alleghany Arboretum working to furnish the Oak Grove with flora native to the region, and a newly remodeled Cogswell Hall for the university's music community.

Notable Alumni Include:

Gawdat Bahgat, political scientist, author, professor

Dana D. Nelson, literature professor, author, advocate for citizenship and democracy

John Stuchell Risher, governor of Pennsylvania (1927-1931)

Chad Hurley, co-founder and CEO of YouTube

Matthew Knisely, photojournalist

Farah Quinn, Indonesian celebrity chef

Patricia Robertson, NASA astronaut

Jimmy Stewart, attended grade school at the Keith Laboratory School, actor ☺

Eileen Glisan, Spanish Professor, President of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages

Lorraine E. Hricik, Vice-President, JP Morgan Treasury Services

Kim Lyttle, Vice-President, National City Bank of Pennsylvania

Marla Sabo, former president and COO of Christian Dior

M. Vashti Burr, (class of 1918), first woman attorney in Pennsylvania Department of Justice

Sarah M. Gallaher, (class of 1884), one for the first group of 8 women elected to Pennsylvania legislature, 1922

Sally Stroup, (class of 1978), Assistant Secretary US Department of Education 2002-2006

Nancy Suttentfield, (class of 1971), Vice-President of Wake Forest University 2006- present

Nellie Bly, pen name of Elizabeth Jane Cochrane who attended in 1879, journalist

Jodine Costanzo, television reporter

Trisha Rae Stahl, actress

Agnes Sligh Turnbull, (class of 1910), novelist and short story writer

Diane McCormick, (class of 1972), 1979 Pan American Games- US Women's volleyball team

Jim Self, tuba player, appeared on over 1500 movie soundtracks

Mashid Rahman, (class of 2000), special advisor to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar



It is never too soon to begin planning to attend the 2018
AAUW of Virginia Conference!
Changing the Climate for Women and Girls
April 20-22, 2018
Portsmouth Renaissance Hotel

Location, Location, Location! The Renaissance Hotel sits on the Elizabeth River flowing between Portsmouth and Norfolk. Two easy blocks away is the downtown area with shops, restaurants and museums. A quick ferry ride gets you to Norfolk.



What a perfectly perfect location!!

Hotel Reservations 855-214-4563
Group Rate \$129 \$5 per night parking 100% Water view rooms
Indoor pool, whirlpool, sundeck, and complimentary exercise facilities
Watch for more information and conference registration form in the VISION.

February Highlights in Women's History

- 1, 1978** – First postage stamp to honor a black woman, Harriet Tubman, is issued in Washington, DC
4, 1987 – First “National Women in Sports Day” is celebrated by Presidential Proclamation
12, 1869 – The Utah Territorial Legislature passes a bill allowing women to vote
15, 1921 – Suffrage Monument with Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, & Lucretia Mott, sculpted by Adelaide Johnson, dedicated at the US Capitol *and* **1953** – Tenley Albright became 1st 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 US *and* **1967** – Jocelyn Bell Burnell makes the 1st discovery of a pulsar, a rapidly rotating neutron star
27, 1922 – U.S. Supreme Court upholds the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, which guarantees women the right to vote

February Birthdays

- 1, 1878 (1950)** – Hattie Wyatt Caraway, first woman elected to the Senate (1932), first woman to preside over the Senate (1943)
3, 1821 (1910) – Elizabeth Blackwell, the first fully accredited female doctor in the US, along with her sister Emily, founded the first medical school for women In 1849, her admittance to Geneva Medical College was itself a fluke—the male student body voted to admit her as a joke. She seized the opportunity and trail-blazed a path for women in medicine *and* **1874 (1946)** – Gertrude Stein, poet, author, art critic,
4, 1865 (1921) – Lila Valentine, Southern suffrage leader, introduced kindergartens and vocational training into public education in Virginia, recognized health needs with the Visiting Nurse Association fighting tuberculosis, supported the Equal Suffrage League of Virginia and the National American Woman Suffrage Association after visiting England, realizing that many health issues required women’s voice, made 100 speeches in Virginia *and* **1913 (2005)** – Rosa Parks, “Mother of the Civil Rights Movement,” her arrest after refusing to give up her seat on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama, sparked a boycott of the bus system, which eventually led to the Supreme Court decision to integrate buses *and* **1918 (1995)** – Ida Lupino, prolific American woman director and actress, born in England, emigrated to Hollywood in the 1930’s, involved with movies dealing with social issues, bigamy, polio, unwed mothers, and rape more than 40 years before the topics were widely discussed *and* **1921 (2006)** – Betty Friedan, author and activist, wrote *The Feminine Mystique* (1963), cofounded the National Organization for Women (NOW) in 1966
5, 1905 (1999) – Mirra Komarovsky, Russian born, fled first to Kansas and then to Brooklyn, studied effect of male unemployment in families and conflicts in women’s lives, wrote *Women in the Modern World* (1953), predating Betty Friedan by 10 years *and* **1914 (1994)** – Hazel Smith, Mississippi journalist, first woman to win Pulitzer Prize for Editorial Writing (1954), although a segregationist, she supported law and justice and wrote that society must follow the law on integration, which led to bankruptcy and extreme poverty
6, 1887 (1985) – Florence Luscomb, architect and reformer, first woman to graduate from MIT (as an architectural graduate) in 1909, gave 222 speeches for woman suffrage in 14 weeks, learned to drive and repair her party’s touring car, sold copies of “The Woman’s Journal,” ardent outdoorswoman, joined ACLU in 1919, helped to derail anti-communism crusade in Massachusetts, NAACP official (1948)
7, 1867 (1957) – Laura Ingalls Wilder, author *and* **1918 (1997)** – Ruth Sager, scientist, graduate of the University of Chicago, worked on corn genetic research in plants, studied cancer research, became professor of cellular genetics & chief of the Cancer Genetics Division at Harvard
9, 1849 (1941) – Laura Clay, anti-slavery proponent from childhood, woman’s rights advocate from 1869, president of Kentucky Woman Suffrage Association (1881) and the Kentucky Equal Rights Association, popular lecturer for suffrage but states’ rights position led her to oppose the 19th amendment in Tennessee in 1920 *and* **1944** – Alice Walker, writer, first African-American woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for fiction
10, 1883 (1959) – Edith Clarke, first woman to earn an MS in electrical engineering from MIT (1919), first woman professor of electrical engineering (1947), invented the Clarke Calculator, a graphical device for solving power transmission line equations *and* **1907 (1992)** – Grace Hamilton, first African-American in the Deep South’s state government, elected to the Georgia General Assembly 1966-84, credited with Andrew Young’s victory in Georgia’s Congressional election in 1980 *and* **1927** – Leontyne Price, Grammy Award winning opera singer
13, 1906 (1990) – Pauline Frederick, journalist, first woman network radio correspondent, 1939, 1st woman to moderate a presidential debate (1976)
14, 1847 (1919) – Anna Howard Shaw, woman suffrage leader, graduated as M.D. in 1886, organizer with Massachusetts Woman Suffrage Association 1888-92, lectured in every state, beloved president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association (1904-15), awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for her work during World War I *and* **1891 (1977)** – Katherine Stinson, the fourth licensed woman pilot in the country (1912) *and* **1914 (1976)** – Nancy Love, pilot, ferried planes to Canada during WW II as Commander of the Women’s Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron
15, 1820 (1906) – Susan B. Anthony, inspirational leader of 19th century women’s right movement, national suffrage strategist, lecturer, activist *and*
16, 1870 (1927) – Leonora O’Reilly, labor organizer, founding member of the Woman’s Trade Union League, helped found NAACP
18, 1931 – Toni Morrison, Pulitzer Prize winning novelist, first African-American to win the Nobel Prize for Literature (1993) *and* **1934 (1992)** – Audre Geraldine Lorde, writer, authored a book of poetry or essay almost every year, fought sexism and homophobia, joined the struggle for civil rights & feminism, created Kitchen Table Women of Color Press in 1988, wrote *A Burst of Light* to highlight her response to liver cancer
19, 1952 – Amy Tan, novelist, mother-daughter relationships- *The Joy Luck Club*, *The Kitchen God’s Wife*, and *The Bonesetter’s Daughter* (2001)
20, 1805 (1879) – Angelina Grimké, abolitionist, joined the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society in 1835 and addressed “mixed” audiences in 1837, wrote criticizing slavery in 1836, after which a price was placed on her head should she return to South Carolina *and* **1902 (1995)** – Katharine Way, Ph. D. in nuclear theory at the University of North Carolina (1938), developed the Way-Wigner formula for fission produced decay
21, 1936 (1996) – Barbara Jordan, politician, served in Texas state legislature 1962-72, elected to the House of Representatives 1973-78 where she sponsored expanding the coverage of the Voting Rights Act, taught 17 years at University of Texas, awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom
22, 1876 (1938) – Gertrude Bonnin (Zitkala-Sha), writer; Sioux Indian activist, founded the National Council of American Indians (1926)
25, 1910 (1992) – Millicent Fenwick, fashion editor, member of the New Jersey General Assembly (1969-73), earned the nickname “Outhouse Millie” for her fight for better working conditions for migrant workers, champion of gun control, campaign spending limits, and ERA
26, 1859 (1953) – Louise Bowen, Chicago philanthropist, saved Hull House financially in 1935, funded the Woman’s Club building, 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 *and* **1921 (1985)** – Wilma Heide, educator and women’s studies pioneer, president of National Organization for Women 1971- 72 *and* **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 *and* **1897 (1993)** – Marian Anderson, opera singer, first African-American member of the New York Metropolitan Opera (1955)

Advanced Planning Calendar for 2017-2018

- March 10, 2018** **Pr. Wm.-Manassas Regional Science Fair Judging**
- March 17, 2018** **28th Annual “Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS!”
Marsteller Middle School**
- April 20-22, 2018** **Virginia AAUW State Conference
See inside this newsletter for more information
Portsmouth**
- April** **“Equal Pay” Day indicating when women in the United States
“catch up” from the year before to earn the equal salary of
their male co-workers for the SAME job**
- May 20, 2018** **Spring Brunch @ Susan’s Manassas Home**



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

Northern District Representatives: Caroline Pickens carolineaauw@gmail.com & Susan Burk burksu@aol.com

AAUW of Virginia homepage <http://aauw-va.aauw.net>