

**Vol 46, Number 10 ~ Woodbridge, VA Branch Newsletter ~ Summer, 2019**

**Upcoming Dates for Your Calendar**

<b>Monday, July 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<i>Membership Year 2019-2020 Begins</i>	<b>midnight</b>
<b>July 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Registration Fee due for ↓</b>	
<b>Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>VA AAUW Summer Leadership Conference Harrisonburg (near James Madison University)</i>	
<b>Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<i>Fall Luncheon</i>	<b>12:30 pm</b>
	<i>Planning our year for STEM, More Science Fair Winners Sharing Susan's home in Manassas</i>	

**President's Message**

**Lazy Days of Summer, NOT!**

I can't believe it is July already and the summer is half way through. Despite this, there's a lot going on:

- AAUW new officers came onboard July 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Thanks to Barbara for her great job as branch President.
  - Thanks to John for his work as Secretary. And, thanks to Suzanne for stepping up to be Secretary for the next two years.
  - Thanks to Susan and Karen for agreeing to serve another term as VP-membership and Finance Officer, respectfully.
- We still need members to volunteer for:
  - VP Program
  - Public Policy Chair

(These can be co-chairs or a committee. If you are interested or want more information, please contact me.)

- We want to hear what activities/events you want the branch to do. We have a book group- are there other groups you want the branch to have?
  - Movie Group
  - Game night
  - Dining out
  - Bowling group
- Thank you for electing me the Woodbridge branch President for 2019-21. I'm looking forward to an exciting, productive, and fun two years.

**Sandy Lawrence**

[sandyaauw@juno.com](mailto:sandyaauw@juno.com)

## Public Policy & Advocacy

### State

#### AAUW VA Summer Leadership Meeting - July 27, 2019, Harrisonburg, VA

Pre-Meeting Activities July 26

Set Your Sails and join us at the Summer Leadership Meeting (SLM) on July 27th! [Details are here.](#)

- If you are new to your leadership role in your branch, this workshop is meant for you!!
- If you are new to AAUW or just newly retired and looking for a way to make a difference, this Summer Leadership Meeting (SLM) is meant for you!!
- If you just want to explore a new area of Virginia and combine a mini-vacation with good fellowship and stimulating conversation and ideas, this workshop is meant for you!!

We hope that each branch will be represented by at least one member, but there is no limit on the number of members that can be sent from one branch. Remember that AAUW leadership can be contributed in our community in many ways. The state website has all the information. <https://aauw-va.aauw.net/> Or, click to get details and REGISTER now: <https://aauw-va.aauw.net/summer-leadership-meeting/> ( \$20 covers the cost of lunch.) From: Patsy Quick, AAUW VA, Communications VP

**This will be a time to learn, and be inspired to begin the 2019-20 Program year with a BANG!** There are many changes and initiatives happening at AAUW national. We will spend some time discussing these and answer any questions you may have. Gather and enjoy time with AAUW friends from around the state.

### Summary of Events

**Dr. Heather Coltman**, Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs at JMU, will deliver the Keynote Address! This will be followed by six sessions for all attendees.

Our new Diversity and Inclusion Chair **Cyndi Shanahan**, will discuss what diversity and inclusion mean to AAUW of VA and how branches can contribute to our goals.

**Caroline Pickens**, our AAUW Funds Chair, will interview **Dr. Besi Muhonja**, an Associate Professor at JMU and former AAUW International Fellow.

**Patsy Quick** will describe ways that branches can utilize their websites to attract new members and will share other means of enhancing branch communication.

Another session will cover aspects of our public policy led by our Co-VPs of Public Policy, **Sylvia Rogers and Susan Burk**.

**Elizabeth Hendrix and Diane Schrier** will share what the Alexandria Branch is doing to combat human trafficking and how branches can partner with them.

### National

**On June 4, 2019** - the Senate passed a resolution celebrating the 100th anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment. The bipartisan resolution was adopted by a vote of 93-0.

*{from Smithsonian.com 6.20.2019}* On Wednesday, June 19, the Library of Congress announced the appointment of its 23rd poet laureate: Joy Harjo, a poet, author, musician, performer and activist, whose lyrical verses draw on the Native American experience through a female lens. A member of the Muscogee Creek Nation, Harjo is the first Native American poet to hold the prestigious position. “I’m still in a little bit of shock,” she tells Concepción de León of the *New York Times*. “This kind of award honors the place of Native people in this country, the place of Native people’s poetry.”

Harjo, who was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, is also the first poet laureate from that state. Once she

formally assumes the position in September, she will take over from Tracy K. Smith, who has served two terms, and join the ranks of past poet laureates such as Louise Glück, Billy Collins and Rita Dove. The duties of the poet laureate are non-specific, but the Library of Congress says that people who are awarded the honor seek to “raise the national consciousness to a greater appreciation of the reading and writing of poetry.” Smith, for instance, traveled the country to share her works. Harjo tells Hillel Italie of the *Associated Press* that she doesn’t yet have a “defined project” for her tenure—but she is ready for it. “I’ve been an unofficial poetry ambassador—on the road for poetry for years,” Harjo says. I’ve introduced many poetry audiences to Native poetry and audiences not expecting poetry to be poetry.”

Harjo, who is 68, is the author of eight poetry books, among them *The Woman Who Fell From the Sky*, which received the Oklahoma Book Arts Award, and *In Mad Love and War*, which was awarded an American Book Award. Her ninth collection, *An American Sunrise*, will be published in the fall; the poem from which the book borrows its title is a reflection on the resilience of the Native American people: “*We are still America. We know the rumors of our demise. We spit them out. They die soon.*”

Harjo is also the author of books for children and young adults, and a memoir, *Crazy Brave*, in which she chronicles the details of a difficult childhood: an alcoholic father, an abusive stepfather, teenage motherhood, poverty. But speaking to de León of the *Times*, Harjo once again emphasizes resilience: “We are flawed human beings, and yet there was love,” she says. “I made it through. We all did.”

*Input from AAUW, members, and other news outlets- Please consider supporting our Public Policy role.*

### **From the National Women’s History Alliance (formerly NWH Project)**

As many of you may recall, in November of 2016, the U.S. Congressional Commission on the study of a potential American Women’s History Museum in Washington, D.C. presented its final report to the President of the United States and the U.S. Congress. [The full report is available online.](#) For those of you that volunteered on this project and took their important survey, a special thanks to you!

In the report, the Commission ([www.amwh.us](http://www.amwh.us)) concluded that women’s history is integral to the American story, and the Smithsonian Institution, in the nation’s capital, is a natural place to honor women’s contributions to this country. The Commission also recommended that the first step should be creating the **American Women’s History Initiative at the Smithsonian**. We have good news to report! [The initiative is up and running!](#) The Smithsonian began efforts on the American Women’s History Initiative last fall and things are moving quickly now.

A National Advisory Committee is forming. The Smithsonian launched its #BecauseOfHerStory marketing campaign on March 1, and had more than 90M social media impressions in the first 10 days. The Smithsonian is also in the midst of hiring six new curators with expertise in women’s history, developing major exhibitions and public programs, publishing a landmark book and surveying its vast collection! A few signature projects to look for in 2019 and 2020 include the following:

- ***Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence*** opens at the National Portrait Gallery on March 28, 2019. This groundbreaking exhibition will celebrate the 100th anniversary of American women’s suffrage. The grand opening event, titled “Shattering the Glass Ceiling” coincidentally will take place in the National Portrait Gallery’s courtyard under the famous and gorgeous glass ceiling designed by [Norman Foster](#)!
- ***Smithsonian American Women’s History 100*** will showcase the institution’s rich collection of art and artifacts that tell the story of women’s contributions to art, history, science, culture and education in a beautifully produced book to be published in Fall 2019.
- ***Girlhood (It’s Complicated)*** opens at the National Museum of American History June 2020 for an 18-month run before a 10-city tour across the country. This exhibition will explore that crucial time when young women become politically minded and realize the power of their own ideas.

With so much to celebrate, including the 100th anniversary of American women’s right to vote, we want to keep you involved and informed. To ensure you’re hearing the latest announcements and updates on the Smithsonian Women’s History Initiative, you can simply get on their mailing list via <https://womenshistory.si.edu/join-the-community>.

## BOOK CLUB Uno, Part Deux/Dos, or ?



Karen and Susan and John, oh my, have been collecting ideas from AAUW, other book clubs/groups, members, and more. Barbara Blindauer and Susan Farmer have expressed interest but may not be able to make all meetings with other commitments. Please contact Karen with your ideas or interest. ☺

## GOURMET or JUST PLAIN TASTY OUTINGS



Our branch has two regular restaurants for our traditions as we enter our 47<sup>th</sup> year- The Occoquan Inn for December holiday get-together and Madigan's in Occoquan for February Valentine's/Presidents'/Where's Spring? luncheon. And, we have members who volunteer their homes for the Fall Luncheon in September and the Annual Luncheon/Bruncheon in May. There are SO many other holidays or just days of the week to celebrate and enjoy a good meal and good friends! Please brainstorm or share what other groups in which you are involved do for outings.



## GENDER EQUITY and SEXUAL HARASSMENT ISSUES

### **N.I.H. Director Vows to Decline Invitations to All-Male Speaking Panels:**

**“It is not enough to give lip service to equality. Leaders must demonstrate their commitment through their actions”** By Brigit Katz smithsonian.com, June 14, 2019  
*{included by newsletter editor because of Dr. Collins STEAMM connections}*

They've been called “manferences,” “himposiums,” “manels” and more: expert panels where all or a majority of the speakers are men. And now, as Pam Belluck of the *New York Times* reports, National Institutes of Health director Francis Collins has taken a major stand against what he deems the “manel tradition.” In a statement, Collins said he will decline to speak at conferences or scientific meetings where women are “conspicuously missing in the marquee speaking slots.”

When considering invitations to conferences, Collins added, he will expect “a level playing field, where scientists of all backgrounds are evaluated fairly for speaking opportunities.” Collins tells Belluck that he won't require any quotas for women speakers, but, he said, “I want to see the effort.” If an event's agenda fails to measure up to his expectations, Collins vowed that he will not take part—and he challenged other scientific leaders to do the same. The National Institutes of Health is, according to *NBC News'* Erika Edwards, the largest source of biomedical funding in the world, investing more than \$32 billion each year in medical research. Collins is thus an influential player in the scientific field, and his anti-manel pledge is already having a ripple effect. For instance, Jeremy Farrar, the director of the Wellcome Trust, tweeted at Collins that members of the trust “agree & have made a commitment & refuse to serve on panels or talk at events that do not honor the same commitment.” Lopsided gender representation at expert conferences is not limited to the medical world, and the “no-manels movement” has spread across a number of fields, as Francie Diep of *Pacific Standard* points out. Sociologist Shaul Kelner, for example, vowed years ago that he would not participate in all-male panels. Male experts in the worlds of business and technology have done the same. The manels issue, Collins suggested in his statement, is symptomatic of larger “cultural forces that tolerate gender harassment and limit the advancement of women.” In fact, the director's pledge coincided with the release of an interim report that found 21.6 percent of N.I.H. employees experienced **sexual harassment** at work over the past 12 months, with women reporting higher rates of harassment than men—26.9 percent versus 12 percent, respectively. Last year, a landmark report by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that sexual harassment was “rampant” in the STEM fields at colleges and universities. One survey revealed that nearly half of female medical students had been harassed by staff or faculty members. Changing this culture and climate, the authors of the report concluded, will require sweeping measures, including “revising organizational systems and structures to value diversity, inclusion, and respect.”

In his statement, Collins stressed that “[i]t is not enough to give lip service to equality; leaders must demonstrate their commitment through their actions.” His decision to demand more accountability from organizers of speaking panels

has been hailed by advocates. “We’ve been working on this for years, and it’s great to have someone who’s a leading figure and a man do the same thing,” Princeton neuroscientist Yael Niv, who started a website that tracks speaker compositions at neuroscience conferences, tells Belluck of the *Times*. “People really want [Collins] at a conference—he brings the crowds. So if he says, ‘I’m not coming to your conference to give the keynote speech because I don’t see adequate representation,’ that is huge.”

*{Editor’s Note: My plan was working well to complete this newsletter last Sunday, until I did not “channel surf” after CBS Sunday and just had the next broadcasting continue. Up comes Lisa Leslie, former Olympic basketball player (who I saw in ’96 in Atlanta!), coaching a men’s BIG 3 team the “Triplets”. “Wow,” I thought, as I switched from my Word file to Google and saw an email from our alumna member, General Clara Adams-Ender, with an announcement of her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party AND a CNN update, that our USA women had won the World Cup! I called General Clara and we talked about SUCCESS! and STEM/STEAM.... I read news articles and added them to my notes for this newsletter. Then, my important, time-sensitive planning for the “STEAM 6.0 – Rerooled as TEAMS 2.0” had to resume; here I am finishing it all a week later. I wish that you all could have attended the conference; it went well. Now, back to my regularly scheduled... ☺}*



## US Women's team crowned world champion after 2-0 win over the Netherlands

By Aimee Lewis, CNN 1:18 PM ET, Sun July 7, 2019

US players celebrate after winning the World Cup on Sunday, July 7. Richard Heathcote/Getty Images © *Lyon, France (CNN)*

When a [World Cup](#) novice is faced with a foe as experienced and ruthless as the USWNT, the outcome is almost inevitable and so it was on a muggy afternoon in Lyon when the reigning world champion defended its title with a comfortable 2-0 win over the Netherlands. Competing in its first World Cup final, few gave the Dutch hope. [The reigning European champion](#) it may be, but it had not yet come up against the best team in the world, the dominant force of its generation. The Netherlands held on for over an hour but two goals within eight minutes sealed the underdog's fate. In a tournament

where she has transcended her sport, [Megan Rapinoe](#) coolly drilled home a penalty before a Rose Lavelle thunderbolt made sure of a second successive title for the US. All dynasties eventually fall apart, but the US' reign has yet no true challenger.

**The New York Times** Monday, July 8, 2019 [NYTimes.com](#) » [by Maya Salam](#)

### ‘Arrogant.’ ‘Ruthless.’ And Unapologetically Themselves.

When the athletes of the United States women’s soccer team celebrated their 13 unanswered goals against Thailand in the first round, they were called “arrogant.” When they tore past France in the quarterfinals, they were called “ruthless.” And when President Trump, responding to a months-old clip of Megan Rapinoe using an expletive to say she wouldn’t visit the White House if the team won the World Cup, told her to win “before she talks,” she and her teammates continued talking. As the historian Laurel Thatcher Ulrich famously said, “Well-behaved women seldom make history.” On Sunday, the American women’s team did just that — securing a record fourth World Cup championship to maintain its reputation as the world’s greatest women’s soccer team (and one of the world’s greatest sports teams, period).

In the process, the Americans did more than shine as symbols of athleticism and teamwork; they affirmed themselves as fighters for equality on multiple fronts. Here are ways the team has elevated issues of fairness. **The fight for pay equity:** After the American women sealed their victory in Lyon, France, chants of “Equal pay! Equal pay!” began to grow inside the stadium. The American team will be awarded \$4 million for its win, while the winners of the men’s World Cup last year received \$38 million. Gianni Infantino, president of FIFA, soccer’s governing body, said the organization would double the total women’s prize for the 2023 tournament — but it’s also expected to raise the men’s award in 2022. In 2015, the United States Soccer Federation awarded the women’s team \$2 million for winning the World Cup. In 2014, the men’s team earned \$9 million even though it did not advance past the first rounds. Not surprisingly, the women’s national team is not taking

that disparity lying down. In March, all the players filed a gender discrimination lawsuit against U.S. Soccer, accusing it of years of “institutionalized gender discrimination.” They also noted that the argument that the men’s team generates more money simply isn’t true. According to the suit, the federation had expected a combined net loss for the national teams of \$429,929 from the 2016 fiscal year, but largely because of the successes of the women’s team’s, it revised its projections to a \$17.7 million profit.

**Defying the sportsmanship double standard:** As the United States team rampaged against Thailand in its first World Cup match last month, the players leapt and celebrated nearly every goal. Clare Rustad, a former player for the Canadian national team, called the celebrations “disgraceful.” Last week, striker Alex Morgan pretended to sip from a teacup after scoring against England in the semifinal. Lianne Sanderson, her former National Women’s Soccer League teammate, said the celebration was “distasteful.” “I feel that there is some sort of double standard for females in sports,” Morgan said. “We have to be humble in our successes and have to celebrate, but not too much or in a limited fashion.” ...

**July 12, 2019 from:** Deborah J. Vagins

AAUW Senior Vice President of Public Policy & Research

This past week, much of our national focus has been on the U.S. women’s soccer team’s incredible win in the World Cup. Their athletic excellence and their fight for equal pay remind us of both the progress we have made and the work yet to be done. This win is a shining example of Title IX’s success — by requiring schools to create equal opportunity for women and girls in sports, Title IX helped cultivate this generation of exceptional female athletes. The impact of Title IX is indisputable when [looking at the numbers](#): in 1972, when Title IX was passed, there were only 700 girls playing on high school soccer teams; in 2018, there were more than 390,000. This staggering statistic reveals the tangible effect Title IX has had on the ability of women and girls to fully participate in our schools, sports and society.

But this win is also a reminder that women at all levels of success face pay inequity. These players took the courageous step to [fight for their right](#) to equal pay in court. They are not only standing up for their own rights — they are also using their platform to push pay equity to the forefront of the national conversation. As we continue to advocate for the [Paycheck Fairness Act](#) to ensure strong pay equity protections nationwide, we applaud all those using their spotlight to shine a light on the larger fight for equal pay. We hope they keep up the winning streak! Onward!

## **PREPARING for WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL in the U.S.**

In 1870, a full 50 years before the 19th amendment gave women the right to vote in the United States, Louisa Swain cast a historic ballot for the general election in Laramie, Wyoming. She was voting thanks to a law passed the year before in the Territory of Wyoming, giving women over the age of 21 the right to vote and to hold public office. "Voters had to be a citizen or swear an oath that they were seeking citizenship," says Kim Viner, a docent at the [Laramie Plains Museum](#), which meant that the right did not extend to Native Americans and Chinese immigrants, who were excluded from citizenship at the time. Black women, officially, were able to vote under the law, but it's unknown if any did. "In Laramie there were only three black women in a population of just under 800," Viner says. "The Laramie [news]paper did note that 93 women voted in 1870 but did not mention any names other than Louisa Swain."

As such, Swain became the [first woman](#) to legally vote at the same level as a man in the United States. The territories of Utah (1870), Washington (1883) and Montana (1887) would follow, and, in 1890, when Wyoming was admitted to the Union, its state constitution granted women voting rights. In 1893, Colorado became the first state to pass women's suffrage into law through a referendum.

The whole act in Wyoming wasn't necessarily motivated by women's rights, though. Viner says one of the main reasons Wyoming territorial legislator William Bright introduced the bill was because he opposed giving black men the right to vote. Bright thought if they could vote, his wife should be able to as well. It was passed under similar [specious intentions](#): there were those who wanted to increase the population of the territory enough to allow for statehood and to bring in more women so men would have someone to marry, and Democrats who wanted the Republican governor to veto the bill and thereby put him and his party in a bad light. Luckily, some of the officials actually thought it was the right thing to do, too. We may never actually know, though, the real motivations behind women winning the vote. "No records were kept of the debate between Wyoming territorial lawmakers, although individuals likely asserted a myriad of motivations and intentions in supporting women's suffrage," says Wyoming Senator Affie Ellis. She also notes that the

Native Americans in the region probably had an influence on the suffrage law. "Several tribes were (and are) matriarchal societies where women held the primary power positions in political leadership, moral authority, social privilege and control of property," she says. "Navajos, for example, trace descent through the mother. There is no doubt in my mind that matriarchal Indian Nations influenced suffrage to some degree."

Regardless, Wyoming has long placed great importance on women's rights. Among other [major breakthroughs](#) such as voting rights, the state was the first to allow women to own property and sign legal documents. In 1870, Esther Hobart Morris became the first female justice of the peace, serving in South Pass City, Wyoming. That year in Wyoming also saw the country's first all-female jury, and the first woman bailiff in the world, Martha Symon Boies. Later, in 1894, Estelle Reel Meyer became Superintendent of Public Instruction, the country's first female statewide elected official. From 1920 to 1921, Jackson, Wyoming, was the first town in the U.S. governed completely by women. And from 1925 to 1927, following her husband's death, Nellie Tayloe Ross served as the country's first woman governor. She set another record in 1933 when she became the first female head of the U.S. Mint, a role she held for 20 years. In 1889, Wyoming vied for statehood—and refused to join the union if the laws giving equality to women were not upheld, [telling](#) Congress (which wanted the suffrage law rescinded) via telegram, "We will remain out of the Union 100 years rather than come in without the women." To celebrate 150 years of women's suffrage in Wyoming, and the many great women of the state's past, present and future, a slate of events and retreats is planned throughout the year and into 2020.

## **STEM and STEAM from Susan & Susan**

**At 21, Ann Montgomery Became a Lead Engineer at NASA, Managing the Cameras and Other Crucial Gear Used on the Moon - Montgomery worked closely with the Apollo astronauts to train them to use handheld tools and equipment on the moon, Kathryn Tully, SMITHSONIAN.COM. JULY 2, 2019**

The army of workers who made NASA's Apollo program possible, sending a human being to the moon for the first time, included hundreds of thousands of people—from the doctors who screened the astronauts to the crawler-transporter drivers who towed the Saturn V rocket to the launch pad. And among the nearly endless tasks that had to be completed for the Apollo lunar landing, one woman spearheaded a critical engineering project: testing all the small gear the astronauts would take with them to the moon. As a lead crew systems engineer at Kennedy Space Center during Apollo, Ann Montgomery was responsible for testing hundreds of pieces of loose equipment that the astronauts used during each mission. The gear included power cables and oxygen lines that hooked into the astronauts' space suits, flight logs, an optical site used for docking in space, and even the urinal and fecal bags used by the crew.

For Apollo 11, Montgomery processed the handheld tools, TV camera and the lunar sample return containers that Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin took to the surface of the moon. Following extensive tests in the lab, all the equipment was tested again with the astronauts in an altitude chamber, and then again on the launch pad at Kennedy Space Center before it was cleared to blast off to another world. After working on the Apollo missions, the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project and Skylab, Montgomery became facility manager of the Orbiter Processing Facility in 1979—the huge hanger where the space shuttles were prepared between missions. She processed the first ever space shuttle flight, and in 1986, she became NASA's first female flow director of a shuttle, responsible for returning the Columbia orbiter to flight after the space shuttle Challenger broke apart shortly after launch.

*Smithsonian* spoke with Ann Montgomery about what it was like to work on the Apollo missions as a 21-year-old woman, the trials and the triumphs of Apollo 11, and some of the other highlights of her 34-year NASA career. **How did you get your first job at NASA?** I luckily graduated with a degree in math at a time when the job market for technical people was wide open. At NASA, the Apollo program was in high gear, and the entire agency was hiring. I did well enough in my first interview to be sent to talk to three supervisors at Kennedy Space Center. One was in the facilities area, one was in the spacecraft computer support area, and the final one was with Harry Shoaf and the mechanical systems group. Everyone else I interviewed with, either at NASA or with commercial companies, spent their time telling me I would not have to work overtime, I would not have to hear dirty language, and I could have a secure, dull little job. The unsaid message was that until I married and quit, I could have a nice little job and probably help their diversity profile.

Harry was different. The crew systems job sounded like fun. He promised me I would get to travel and meet astronauts, and he said he had no doubts that I could do the job. I believed him and went to work for NASA a week after I graduated from college.

## HERstory – Writing Women into History for Summer Months

On June 10, 1963, AAUW members gathered in the oval office to watch President John F. Kennedy sign the Equal Pay Act into law, making it illegal for employers to pay men and women differently for the same work. Over the past half century, this groundbreaking law has helped make significant strides towards pay equity. But despite our advances, women working full time in the United States still make on average just 80 percent of what men are paid.



**On June 10, in 1922, Frances Ethel Gumm—better known as Judy Garland—was born.**

On June 11, in 1987, Margaret Thatcher secured a third consecutive term as prime minister, becoming the first British leader to do so since the early 1800s. June 11th is Jeannette Rankin's Birthday, an American politician and women's rights advocate, and the first woman to hold federal office in the United States. She was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives as a Republican from Montana in 1916, and again in 1940.



**On June 18, 1983, astronaut Sally Ride became the first American woman to enter space, on STS Challenger.** In May of 2013, Paul Bisceglia reported in Smithsonian.com about: The National Air and Space Museum honored the late pioneer astronaut Sally Ride recently with a panel discussion entitled “Sally Ride: How Her Historic Space Mission Opened Doors for Women in Science.” Ride was an outspoken advocate for women scientists and improved science education. Her highly decorated career included two trips and more than 343 hours in space, work at NASA’s headquarters, positions on the committees that investigated the *Columbia* and *Challenger* disasters and a professorship at the University of California, San Diego. In 2001, she founded Sally Ride Science, which develops science programs, books and festivals for fourth through eighth grade classrooms. “I think a lot of it is just trying to educate girls on what careers are like in those fields,” says Ochoa, an astronaut herself who followed in Ride’s footsteps as a PhD student at Stanford and believed in the possibility of being an astronaut because of her. “A lot of girls think it’s very much a solitary career. And while there are women scientists and engineers who may work alone in labs, it’s much more common that it’s more of a team effort.” Ride had such an influence, Ochoa says, because she insisted on consulting her female colleagues when she had to make decisions about accommodating women in space travel instead of answering on her own, giving women a collective voice in the industry. Also, says Ochoa, “She did such a great job on her mission that whether or not women should be assigned to flights was no longer a question. There were still a lot of people who didn’t want to see women flying in space at the time, but they couldn’t point to any good reasons after her flight.” **Sally was our 2013 honoree for the SUCCESS! Conference.**

**Receiving her patent on July 11, 1871,** a self-taught engineer, Margaret Knight bagged a valuable patent, at a time when few women held intellectual property. It’s natural to think about the processes that produced the food in your daily sack lunch, but have you ever stopped to consider the manufacturing techniques behind the sack itself? The flat-bottomed brown paper bags we encounter constantly—in the lunch context, at grocery stores, in gift shops—are as unassuming as they are ubiquitous, but the story underlying them deserves recognition. At the center of it is a precocious young woman, born in Maine on the heels of the Industrial Revolution and raised in New Hampshire. From her earliest years, Knight was a tireless tinkerer. In a scholarly article titled “The Evolution of the Grocery Bag,” engineering historian Henry Petroski mentions a few of her childhood projects, which tended to demand a certain facility for woodwork. She was “famous for her kites,” Petroski writes, and “her sleds were the envy of the town’s boys.” Also, of note, the process protected child labor from dangerous machinery. *{excerpted from Smithsonian.com March 2019}*



## Calendar for 2019 Moving Forward to 2020

~~Tuesday, March 5: Asian American Women's Equal Pay Day (Asian Women v. White, non-Hispanic Men - \$0.85)~~

~~Tuesday, April 2: All women's Equal Pay Day (Women overall v. Men overall - \$0.80)~~

~~Friday, April 19: White women's equal pay day (White, non-Hispanic Women v. White, non-Hispanic Men - \$0.77)~~

~~Monday, June 10: Moms Equal Pay Day - (\$0.69) *All have passed for this year's catch-up to last year when compared to men's 2018 pay.* ☹~~

**Thursday, August 22: Black Women's Equal Pay Day (Black Women v. White, non-Hispanic Men - \$0.61)**

**Monday, September 23: Native Women's Equal Pay Day (Native Women v. White, non-Hispanic Men - \$0.58)**

**Wednesday, November 20: Latinas' Equal Pay Day (Latinas v. White, non-Hispanic Men - \$0.53)**

**April, 2020: VA AAUW State Conference in Alexandria!**

*Our Northern District is coordinating, check with Sandy if you wish to volunteer- she'll put you in touch with the volunteer people!*

American Association of University Women's Mission:  
*To advance gender equity for women & girls through  
research, education, and advocacy.*

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.

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

Northern District Co-Representatives: **Sara Anderson** [sfpaaauw6382@aol.com](mailto:sfpaaauw6382@aol.com) and

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