

**Vol 48, Number 3 ~ Woodbridge, VA Branch Newsletter ~ Nov.-Dec., 2020**

**Calendar of Events**

- November 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday**      **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual American Education Week "Honoring Our Educators"**  
**Celebrating K-12+ Faculty, SUCCESS! Role Models, & Mentors** ☺  
*It was a wonderful tribute program, email Susan if you wish to receive the link to view.*
- December 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday**      **Annual Holiday Social Gathering, virtually through Zoom      1:30 pm**  
*See inside newsletter for details!*
- January 23<sup>rd</sup> Saturday**      **Annual Movie Get Together, "Finish the Fight" – Pre-View      3 pm**  
**Receive the link to view and supporting materials. Discussion on zoom.**

**President’s Message**

**Our Woodbridge Branch is Making Lemonade!**



You know the old saying “If life gives you lemons, make lemonade”. Well, Woodbridge members are taking the pandemic lemon and making lemonade. We have had excellent zoom programs and meetings with great turnout. It’s good to see everyone, even if it is virtually. And no driving on 95 or in the dark to attend programs. The newsletters continue to update us on all the doings of our members, who are making lemonade each in their own unique way.

If you haven’t participated in one of the zoom events, I urge you to check out what’s coming up. See the article below for information on our December 6<sup>th</sup> "ZOOM-TOGETHER" event. Get out those Xmas sweaters and your favorite recipe; we are planning a virtual holiday dinner. We start 2021 with a movie discussion; plan to bring your favorite movie snacks.

Continue to let us know what you want to do like eighteen of us did at the November Branch zoom- now is the time to try different things. Based on your input, we will be exploring new ways to be social with distancing, but fun! Our new transfer member from Pennsylvania & New Jersey, **Colleen**, will be contacting you to update our directory (due out for a holiday gift by postal mail). When you see her **908** area code on your caller ID or receive her email in your inbox- welcome her to our Virginia lemonade, the Social Committee!

This pandemic has been a long road and there still a long way to go. Please- stay safe, keep your vigilance, and let us know how we can help.

**Sandy Lawrence**

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

## Public Policy & Advocacy

### Local

Our branch has already begun preparing for the announcement of AAUW's 2021 Equal Pay Dates (see the last page of the newsletter for 2020's) to seek support from the Prince William Board of County Supervisors for an equal pay resolution. We've been advocating for this for many years, endured scorn and misogynist statements at citizens' time presentations, and maintained and nurtured connections each year. Let's be confident that 2021 is the time! **Joyce, Eileen, Barbara B., and Mary King** would like to add your voice to theirs. **Sandy** lives in Springfield, and as our Public Policy Chair, champions advocacy- so contact her if you have a contact with a BOCS in your magisterial district. **Susan B.** lives in Manassas and prepares her statements based on the goal of the SUCCESS! Conference (for all our regional students) to ensure gender equity- which includes pay equity, too!



### National

While AAUW Action Fund Lobby Corp is not visiting Congressional offices, AAUW is still telling our leaders our concerns. These are some of the letters recently sent by AAUW Public Policy staff:

- October 14, 2020, Dear Senator: On behalf of the more than 170,000 members and supporters of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), I urge you to co-sponsor the bipartisan 2020 Census Deadline Extensions Act (S. 4571) to extend the statutory deadlines for apportionment and redistricting by 120 days each and extend the data collection timeline through October 31, 2020.
- October 8, 2020, Dear Chairman Graham and Ranking Member Feinstein, On behalf of the more than 170,000 bipartisan members and supporters of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), I urge you to oppose the confirmation of Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the United States Supreme Court. If confirmed to this lifetime appointment, Judge Barrett will have a say in the health, education, and economic security of women and girls for decades to come. After careful review of Judge Barrett's available record, including her record on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, as well as her known speeches and writings over her legal career, I am concerned that she will do grave harm by undermining positions central to AAUW's mission. Specifically, upending employment and labor rights, curtailing reproductive rights and access to healthcare, and imperiling the safety of students in educational settings.

If you want to see more, go to <https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/documents/>

And you can get the word to your legislator about issues important to AAUW.

Become a 2 minute activist. More information at <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>

**Sandy Lawrence**, Public Policy Chair [sandyaauw@juno.com](mailto:sandyaauw@juno.com)

From: Reston-Herndon AAUW



### Congressional Update

Thursday, December 10, 2020 at 2PM

Meet Anna Przebinda and others of Virginia's Senator Tim Kaine's Staff and hear what's ahead for the 117th Congress.

**The Second Wave of Feminism: The "Lavender Menace"**  
Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm EST.

Join us for a program from the National Women's History Museum on the impact of the radical Lesbians on the feminist movement.

For Zoom Links to the programs, email: [janinegrnwd@hotmail.com](mailto:janinegrnwd@hotmail.com). Attendance limited.



## FINANCIALLY SPEAKING...

Our 2020-2021 Budget Proposal was presented at the November 6<sup>th</sup> branch meeting. If you were unable to attend, or would like another view, we've posted it here. If you will not be able to join us to vote on December 6<sup>th</sup>'s Social Zoom-Together, you may send your vote to **Karen** this week, by the 5<sup>th</sup>. Thanks!

**Karen Wolf**

[kleewolf@verizon.net](mailto:kleewolf@verizon.net)

### PROPOSED BUDGET for 2020-2021

	Proposed	Actual		Proposed
Income	2019-20	2019-20		2020-21
Dues 2019-2020 (35 Members)	340.00	420.00	Dues 2020-2021 (42 Members)	504.00
United Bank Cash on Hand 09/30/19	579.78	n/a	United Bank Cash on Hand 09/30/20	1000.78
United Bank Cash on Hand 06/30/20	n/a	874.58		
Membership Initiative from VA-AAUW	38.80	38.80	Membership Initiative from VA-AAUW	n/a
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>958.58</b>	<b>1333.38</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1504.78</b>
<b>Expense Budget</b>				
Officers	70.00	0.00	Officers	70.00
State Conference	115.00	0.00	State Conference/Summer Leadership	115.00
Programs	100.00	0.00	Programs	100.00
Insurance	185.00	190.00	Insurance	196.00
Newsletter	50.00	50.00	Newsletter	50.00
Membership	50.00	50.00	Membership	100.00
Membership Initiative from VA-AAUW	38.80	38.80	Membership Initiative from VA-AAUW	0.00
State Dues-"Shape the Future" and e-grad students	0.00	37.50	State Dues for "Shape the Future" and e-grad students	90.00
Directories	50.00	50.00	Directories Printing	100.00
Northern District Dues	10.00	10.00	Northern District Dues	10.00
SUCCESS! Conference	100.00	100.00	SUCCESS! Conference	100.00
Contingency	189.78	807.08	Contingency	573.78
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>958.58</b>	<b>1333.38</b>	<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>1504.78</b>



Also, we encourage you to contribute to AAUW with the current matching grant opportunity from AAUW board members. As Funds Chair, I encourage you to support an AAUW category, using this link: As an AAUW supporter, you fought for equity in this year's election. And because of you, on many key ballot measures, equity won. As we head into the

season of giving — with a dollar-for-dollar match up to \$42,500 through December 31 — **please donate to carry on this vital work in 2021.** <https://ww2.aauw.org/donate-gift-new/?treatment=MAJMATCH20&AppealCode=F21KELXTXX2X&emci=f5a07e22-ee25-eb11-9fb4-00155d03affc&emdi=521a5a50-ad2d-eb11-9fb4-00155d43b2cd&ceid=1046213>

**Barbara Blindauer**

[barbblindauer@comcast.net](mailto:barbblindauer@comcast.net)

## **BRANCH MEETING- November 6<sup>th</sup> to a "ZOOM-TOGETHER" December 6<sup>th</sup>!**

We had two wonderful, interactive, virtual programs in September and October which included history & herstory, STEAM and research, and introduced us to literary and visual artists in our northern Virginia community. Next, it was time for us to keep this momentum going, so we met on screen to get updates from our board members, discuss ideas for a virtual holiday event, and consider some branch projects that can be done @ home. **Marlo** coordinated the zoom platform for us. EIGHTEEN members attended, it was awesome! Plus, we sent the zoom link to the branch members that you can watch at your leisure until December 5<sup>th</sup> (when the 30 days are up 😊) Munching on dinner and pets zoom bombing were part of our fun. We saluted our military service members in advance of Veteran's Day and "chat-sang" Happy Birthday to **Suhani**! It was great to see each other and brainstorm on what to do for our December social gathering!



Your board put all the ideas together and we believe we've got each idea in the "**ZOOM-Together**" plan for Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30pm. We will begin with just a touch of branch business, by voting on our proposed budget. As we partake in the shared recipes (as if we were around a dish-to-pass table setting), members and friends will share family traditions for the holidays as storytellers and do a fashion display of our special or "ugly" sweaters or outfits. So far, I have two recipes to share for noshing (crab dip & avocado salsa); two suggestions for categories in the fashion contest (dare you to wear in public & most like a Christmas tree); and three volunteers to read 'Twas the Night Before Christmas stanzas. My zoombombing Princess Sugarthumbs (check them out!) has been practicing grasping the door prize tickets for those who donated to AAUW funds this year (from 1.1 to 12.6- if you donate this week, please forward me the "thank you" email from AAUW, because they update bi-weekly). There are thirteen people so far who are entered. Princess may even claw more than one ticket since I found a package of catnip! Finally, I have a Jeopardy card game for a "chatbox" competition.



**Susan Bardenhagen** [smbaauw@gmail.com](mailto:smbaauw@gmail.com)

## **BRANCH PROJECTS**

### **Marketing Math & Science for Girls Letter Writing**

At our November 6<sup>th</sup> branch meeting, as an AAUW Woodbridge branch project, we agreed that we will support the campaign of one of our members – Paige Epler -- called *Marketing Math and Science for Girls*. Paige has presented her campaign at one of our meetings in the past, as well as presented it for the past 12 years to parents and educators at our annual SUCCESS! conference.



Paige will create letters addressed to specific contacts within various businesses/companies asking them to support *Marketing Math and Science for Girls* by the way they advertise their products. For example, when advertising toys or bedroom décor, they depict both boys and girls in their advertisements for math- and science-themed products, instead of only boys.

Once Paige drafts the letters, she will present them to our AAUW group for comments and/or modifications. She will then send the letters to us online so we can sign them electronically. She can assist anyone by phone who needs help signing electronically on the computer.

Please contact Paige if your signature hand is ready to affix your "Lady or John Hancock" to the letters. If you notice equitable or inequitable advertisements, especially during this holiday season, please forward ideas to Paige- [pepler@gmu.edu](mailto:pepler@gmu.edu) or to our member, her mom, Pam- [pcoan@gmu.edu](mailto:pcoan@gmu.edu) .

## Scholarship for Emily Jean Rishell

A scholarship has been established in our member Jeanette's daughter's honor. It will be a \$1000 scholarship for a Manassas Park High School senior who will be attending a 2-year or 4-year college/university, a business or technical school to major in business or information technology. The applicant will submit an essay addressing specific criteria, judged by a panel including the Woodbridge Branch members, educators, and community leaders, at Manassas Park High School's 2021 graduation ceremony. The funds will be forwarded to the registrar of the school the scholarship awardee attends.

The Woodbridge Branch donated \$100 as seed money for the scholarship, from our funds and scholarships savings account. Here is the information for you to donate:

Please send a check, **made payable** to the **"BELL Education Foundation, One Park Center Court, Suite A, Manassas Park, VA 20111"**. Please note **"Emily Jean Rishell Memorial Scholarship"** in the memo/note line. On the envelope, you can write, " Attn: Deanne Perez. **Please forward this information as you desire and please post on social media if you can.**



The "BELL Story" - The ringing of the BELL signifies a great accomplishment and a transitional period within the Manassas Park City Schools community. Our bell is proudly displayed at our secondary campus in front of Manassas Park High School. Students ring the bell as they transition from the primary campus to the secondary campus after completing their 5<sup>th</sup> grade school year. Students also ring the BELL after graduation to signify their completion of academic coursework. Additionally, new staff members ring the bell during their in service days to signify their commitment to the Manassas Park community. The bell is a such a huge part of our MPCS traditions that we decided to rebrand our education foundation to incorporate our bell story. BELL is an acronym for **B**usinesses **E**mpowering **L**ifelong **L**earners.

*BELL is the operating name of the Manassas Park Education Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law. Non-Discrimination Policy: BELL is committed to nondiscrimination with regard to sex, gender, race, color, national origin, disability, religion, ancestry, age, marital status, genetic information or any other characteristic protected by law. This commitment will prevail in all of its policies and practices concerning staff, students, educational programs and services, and individuals and entities with whom it does business.*

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION

### **Mini-Grant from VA AAUW!!**

Congratulations! The AAUW-VA Mini-Grant Committee has approved \$300.00 to support the Woodbridge Branch's proposal for "Starting Conversations to Address Differences with Books & Voices." This is an exciting and innovative program that strongly supports AAUW's DE&I objectives. We also will be sending out a simple form to provide an "after action" report. This will help us build a record of successful projects and lessons learned that other branches may find useful. We also ask that you include a report of this activity in the Vision, when appropriate. We would like Virginia AAUW branches to know how the mini-grant funds are being used and, in Woodbridge's case, your initiative could be a model for other branches.

With all best wishes, Susan Burk, Denise Murden, Marsha Melkonian, Nadine James-  
AAUW-VA Mini-Grant Committee

Marlo and I selected the book titles, we plan to offer audio options in addition to the print copies, and we hope to include both our branch members as discussion leaders and invite our NVCC student affiliate members to join in the conversations. The four books we have included: Hillbilly Elegy, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, Sabrina & Corina, and White Fragility. If you have any of these texts and would like to participate, please let us know. We are ordering six copies of each to share with members to join us, as a branch library lending. =)

Susan Bardenhagen [smbaauw@gmail.com](mailto:smbaauw@gmail.com) & Marlo Thomas Watson [marlo@themarlocompany.com](mailto:marlo@themarlocompany.com)

## STEM from Suhani & STEAM from Susan

### **From Suhani: Biased Algorithms**

Every day, we come across hundreds of algorithms, such as the ones used to design Facebook and Zoom. However, we rarely stop to analyze them and gloss over the inherent bias that they present. The [Coded Bias](#) documentary showcases how algorithms being trained on homogenous populations causes discrimination against many people. Since everything is being automated in our world, these algorithms are ubiquitous. They have caused competent teachers to be fired, assigned Black and Brown people a higher recidivism rate and incorrectly identified people as criminals. Currently, there are no significant federal regulations on algorithms. So, what can we do to overcome these challenges? Stop taking algorithms at face value and start considering who they exclude.

### **Focus on a Scientist from the Virginia Department of Education's Science Newsletter**

#### **Alice August Ball (1892-1916)**

It is difficult for people today to understand the fear of a highly contagious and destructive disease like leprosy. It is now quite rare in the U.S. after the first successful treatments were created in the 1940s. As is the nature of science, the discovery of treatments were the end result of many scientists working through many years searching for cures. One such scientist in this search to cure leprosy was Alice Augusta Ball.

Ball earned two bachelor's degrees in pharmaceutical chemistry and science of pharmacy from the University of Washington before pursuing graduate work at the College of Hawaii, now the University of Hawaii. In 1915, Ball became the first woman to graduate from the college, where she earned a master's degree in chemistry. She then became the first African American researcher and instructor in the College of Hawaii's chemistry department. Ball's thesis research came to the attention of Dr. Harry Hollmann, an assistant surgeon at the Kalihi Hospital in Hawaii, who recruited Ball to help isolate active ingredients for a leprosy treatment. Chaulmoogra oil was the best known treatment for leprosy at the time. However, the oil lost efficacy when given as a topical or oral treatment, and could not be easily absorbed when injected. Ball isolated compounds from the oil and chemically modified them to be water-soluble, and therefore easily absorbed by the human body while retaining their therapeutic effect. The "Ball Method" became the treatment of choice for leprosy until new antimicrobial treatments were developed in the 1940s. Ball died in 1916, when she was just 24 years old, before publishing her work. Arthur Dean, a chemist and the president of the University of Hawaii, went on to publish the research and manufacture injectable chaulmoogra oil without giving credit to Ball, according to JSTOR Daily. Hollmann published a report in 1922 that reclaimed credit for Ball, and recently, a short film called [The Ball Method](#) (2020) was released to showcase her breakthrough discovery.

LiveScience, Amazing Black Scientists (2020) <https://www.livescience.com/amazing-black-scientists.html>



### **STEAM Event with Women's History!**

#### **Suffrage in Stitches: Celebrating Women's Fight for Political Voice through Crochet**

Louisiana's Old State Capitol is hosting a free virtual program titled: "Suffrage in Stitches: Celebrating Women's Fight for Political Voice through Crochet." This program suggests that needle arts -- crochet, knitting, sewing -- are ideal for marking the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment. Speaker and scholar Katherine Durack artfully combines storytelling with original crochet designs inspired by the history and heroes of the women's suffrage movement. Durack reveals the unexpected connection between crochet and women's rights, and encourages audience members to participate in creative remembering and storytelling themselves by making their own crocheted, knitted, and home-sewn projects. **It is Sunday afternoon, December 6<sup>th</sup> @ 4pm.**

<https://louisianaoldstatecapitol.org/exhibits-events/suffrage-in-stitches-celebrating-womens-fight-for-political-voice-through-crochet>

## AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK "Honoring Our Educators"



Last year, our branch inaugurated a program to recognize the teachers, SUCCESS! Conference presenters/role models, and community stakeholders positively impacting education. This year? Our educators are virtually continuing to teach and support our students- we could honor eleven people virtually this year! Four people were celebrated in memoriam. The second annual program was "broadcast" across 11 time zones **on Sunday afternoon, November 15<sup>th</sup> @ 4 pm.** Presenters included branch members- **Susan B.**, **Tara** and her husband, Babur, PWCPS school board chair; and **Diane**; we honored **Suhani**, our newest member **Marion Lobstein**, and in memoriam, our dear **Toni**. Her brother, **Ducie**, and SUCCESS! volunteer **Tamarah** shared the script for Toni.



The certificates were "handed off" from frame to frame or phone on the screen, like the Emmys & CMAAs. We paid tribute and honor to **Myra & David Sadker** who championed gender equity and whose research sparked AAUW's "Shortchanging Girls, Shortchanging America" study and programs like our SUCCESS! Conference in 1991. David began the program with background and anecdotes; he was a SUCCESS! presenter in 2003. Other connections to SUCCESS! include **Marion** early CTE to STEM in the 1990s; **Kathy Frame** in biology; **Michelle Milligan** in the symphony; **Kathy Smaltz**- PWC Poet Laureate; Dr. **Tara**- neuroscientist and researcher at NIH; **Zuzana Steen**- Micron Technology coordinating sponsorships, presenters, and items for packets; **Dr. Alice A. Taylor**- Technology at NVCC; and **Celestine Braxton** in memoriam- supporting registration as a Manassas branch member with her daughter **Monique** accepting the certificate- she presented in the 1990s with her career as a news anchor. Member **Alison** contributed to the script honoring her NVCC-Woodbridge colleague, Dr. **Lawrence Nightingale**. **Monica Nichols**, with whom we are collaborating for an AAUW Community Action Grant for her Pink Space Theory's G.R.E.A.T. Math Minds program, presented her teacher collaborator, Dr. **Melissa Edmonds**. (Micron is also collaborating with Monica with Zuzana's support. Can you see why I was SO excited about all of the connections??) Please e-me if you couldn't attend- I will forward you the link to the recording and program details.

**Susan Bardenhagen, Program Vice-Chair**

[smbaauw@gmail.com](mailto:smbaauw@gmail.com)

### Checking in with Our Members & Friends

*Welcome to our new members- your photos will be added to the collage for our 2020-2021 Team Roster!  
Susan and Colleen will be contacting you to be sure your photos are included.*



From our partnership with Northern Virginia Community College's Manassas Campus, our branch has gained three new members: Provost **Dr. Molly Lynch**; Dean of the Science & Technologies Division **Dr. Diane Mucci**, and Professor Emerita **Marion Lobstein**. We are looking forward to sharing AAUW's Work Smart Program and the Diversity/Equity/Inclusion

webinars when their students start an AAUW Club on campus.

**Marlo's** work depends on zoom meetings, as she also assists us with setting up ours. **Susan's** been attending hundreds of zoom meetings since March – but it's a whole different story when you set up and hostess your first one + make it a webinar with panelists' links and an audience! The AEW program went ok despite her laptop misbehaving. 😊





**Elaine** is zooming with the Lifelong Learning Institute's (LLI) classes and tutoring elementary students in reading (once a teacher...once a teacher...); she is loving getting to spend time with her 6<sup>th</sup> great-grandchild. **Barbara & John** are zooming for LLI, too.



Supervisor Boddye appointed **Barbara** Blindauer as the Occoquan Library Board Trustee (once a librarian, always....).

**Elizabeth** is in Kuwait, on staff with University of Maryland's Distance Learning.

**Jeanette** has been re-elected to a second term as the Mayor of Manassas Park. Congratulations! At our 11.6 branch meeting, we honored our veterans, including **Colleen** who served in the Army National Guard.



Thank you to all of the members who participated in the Branch's Second Annual "American Education Week- Honoring Our Educators" program in our audience. Joining them were sister members from the Manassas Branch and **Angie** Hattery, our former George Mason University College/University partner who is heading up the gender studies department at the University of Delaware now.

**Susan Bardenhagen**, Membership, [smbaaaw@gmail.com](mailto:smbaaaw@gmail.com) & **Colleen Hauser**, Social Committee, [colhauser13@gmail.com](mailto:colhauser13@gmail.com)

### Annual January Movie Event: "Finish the Fight" – Pre-View & Meet to Discuss January 23<sup>rd</sup>



They were tireless organizers. Tenacious fighters. And political geniuses. They were Black and Latinx. Indigenous and immigrant. Together, they won women the right to vote and laid the cornerstone for gender equality in the United States. Yet their stories have rarely been told. Until now. {From the NY Times}

"Finish the Fight," is a Broadway performance that was supposed to open just before the pandemic- so they made lemonade, re-created it as "zoom-able" and it's amazing!!!! It presents five strong women about whom you may not have heard their story. **You can watch it at your leisure prior to January 23<sup>rd</sup> when we will zoom-together for a discussion at 3 pm. If you'd like, bring the story of a woman in history or in your life, whose herstory should be shared. Here is the link to watch; it is two hours & includes a conversation with the author, director, and one of the actresses:**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/23/theater/finish-the-fight-suffrage-centennial-performance.html>

**Veronica Chambers, the author, was highlighted at the Library of Congress' Annual National Book Festival.** I was going to share each link, instead I have the link for a whole google search page for you:

[https://www.google.com/search?q=veronica+chambers+at+the+national+book+festival+2020&rlz=1C1CHBF\\_enUS906US906&oq=veronica+chambers+at+the+national+book+festival&aqs=chrome.1.69i57j33i160.27514j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8](https://www.google.com/search?q=veronica+chambers+at+the+national+book+festival+2020&rlz=1C1CHBF_enUS906US906&oq=veronica+chambers+at+the+national+book+festival&aqs=chrome.1.69i57j33i160.27514j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8)



**November**

- November 1, 1848** – First medical school for women, the New England Female Medical School, opens; in 1874 it merges with Boston University to become one of the world’s first co-ed medical schools
- November 8, 1910** – The state of Washington passes a constitutional amendment to guarantee woman suffrage
- November 8, 1984** – Dr. Anna L. Fisher, a physician on the shuttle Discovery, becomes the first American mother and third American woman to fly into space
- November 11, 1979** – Bethune Museum and Archives opens in Washington D.C. as a center for African American women’s history, honoring Mary McLeod Bethune *{one of the women highlighted in "Finish the Fight"}*
- November 11, 1993** – The Vietnam Women’s Memorial is dedicated in Washington, D.C. after being conceived by former army combat nurse Diane Carlson Evans and sculpted by Glenna Goodacre to honor the 265,000 women who voluntarily served during the Vietnam era
- November 28, 1881** – The first organizational meeting is held for the predecessor group to the American Association of University Women (AAUW) *{Calendar Items from the National Women's History Alliance website}*

**Birthdays**

- November 2, 1936 (1999)** – Rose Elizabeth Bird, attorney, first woman in California to hold a cabinet position (Secretary of Agriculture), allowed workers to unionize, appointed Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court in 1977, defeated in 1987 by conservatives because she opposed the death penalty
- November 4, 1942** – Patricia Era Bath, ophthalmologist and inventor. Her invention of the Laserphaco Probe was an important milestone in the advent of laser cataract surgery. Bath co-founded the American Institute for the Prevention of Blindness (1976) committed to “protect, preserve, and restore sight.”
- November 7, 1909 (1980)** – Ruby Hurley, served on the committee that arranged Marian Anderson’s performance at the Lincoln Memorial after she was barred from singing at Constitution Hall; as youth secretary for NAACP increased youth membership to 25,000, investigated the murder of Emmitt Till despite personal danger
- November 8, 1920 (1998)** – Esther Rolle, one of founding members of the renowned Negro Ensemble Company in 1968, created the role of Florida Evans in “Maude,” starred in “Good Times” 1970-79
- November 9, 1918 (1995)** – Florence Chadwick, legendary female long distance swimmer, at age 10 swam the 2.5 mile channel at the mouth of San Diego Bay, swimming the English channel in 1950 she bested the existing record by 71 minutes, joined the Swimming Hall of Fame in 1970
- November 11, 1914 (1999)** – Daisy Lee Bates, mentored and advised the “Little Rock Nine” who integrated the Little Rock, Arkansas, public high school between 1959 and 1961, suffered personal, physical, economic, and professional loss, wrote autobiography in 1963, [The Long Shadow of Little Rock](#)
- November 12, 1887 (1979)** – Bertha McNeill, worked on civil rights starting in 1930 as vice-president and later president of the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom
- November 12, 1905 (1979)** – Louise Thaden, aviator who worked for Walter Beech’s Travel Aircraft, soloed in 1927, set an altitude record of 20,260 feet and a speed record of 156 mph, won many cross-continent races, founded with other competitors the Ninety-Nines, which was open to all women with a pilot license
- November 16, 1903 (1996)** – Barbara McLean, film editor, helped cut Mary Pickford’s first talkies, went on to Twentieth Century Fox with credits for “Jesse Jones” (1939), “The Black Swan” (1942), and “12 O’Clock High” (1949), when arguments arose her comment was, “If you’re going to ask me, then listen to me,” and they did
- November 17, 1903 (1977)** – Spotted Elk (Molly Alice Nelson Archambaul), international and spellbinding native Penobscot dancer, resisted assimilation while building bridges between cultures, used her knowledge of anthropology in her lecture/dance recitals
- November 17, 1923 (1988)** – Ruth Bleier, trained in neuroanatomy in 1961, worked with Maryland Committee for Peace, lost hospital privileges when she refused to testify before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, studied differences in brain structure between males and females at University of Wisconsin
- November 18, 1945 (2010)** – Wilma Mankiller, first female Chief of the Cherokee Nation, 1985-95
- November 18, 1948 (1985)** – Ana Mendieta, artist, born in Cuba and influenced by minimalist earth and body art as well as by performance art which resulted in her 1976-77 “Tree of Life” series
- November 19, 1910 (1993)** – Gladys Hobby, microbiologist whose clinical research, pathological materials, and patients with serious infections heralded the introduction of penicillin, sulfa drugs, streptomycin, and other antibiotics
- November 20, 1910 (1985)** – Pauli Murray, civil rights lawyer, Episcopal priest, first black person to earn a doctorate at Yale Law School, 1965 <http://paulimurrayproject.org/>
- November 24, 1910 (1982)** – Lucy Covington, with her heritage of many chiefs, was tribal leader who saved the Colville Indian Reservation in Washington State and made the federal government fulfill its treaty responsibilities to Indians, supported higher education and training for tribal members
- November 24, 1921 (1992)** – Yoshiko Uchida, author of more than 30 books dealing with the Japanese-American experience
- November 26, 1832 (1919)** – Mary Walker, women’s rights advocate who adopted the “Bloomer” dress reform in 1850s, won the Congressional Medal of Honor for services in the Civil War including treating patients in the South, an active suffragist she probably left medicine after the war

**December**

- December 1, 1955** – Rosa Parks refuses to give up her seat on a bus to a white person  
**December 5, 1935** – Mary McLeod Bethune creates the National Council of Negro Women  
**December 7, 1941** – Capt. Annie Fox receives the first Purple Heart awarded to a woman for her service at Pearl Harbor attack  
**December 9, 2002** – Award-winning ABC News journalist, Michele Norris, becomes the first African American female regular co-host of National Public Radio’s news magazine, *All Things Considered*, she stepped down in 2012  
**December 10, 1869** – Wyoming is the first territory to give women the right to vote  
**December 10, 1938** – Pearl S. Buck receives the Nobel Prize for Literature for *The Good Earth*  
**December 13, 1993** – Susan A. Maxman becomes first woman president of the American Institute of Architects in its 135 year history  
**December 14, 1961** – President’s Commission on the Status of Women is established to examine discrimination against women  
**December 14, 1985** – Wilma Mankiller is sworn in as principal chief of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma – the first woman in modern history to lead a major Native American tribe  
**December 17, 1993** – Judith Rodin is named president of Univ. of Pennsylvania, the first woman to head an Ivy League institution

**Birthdays**

- December 1, 1893 (1981)** – Dorothy Detzer, worked at Hull House where she investigated child labor infringements for several years, national secretary of Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (1924-46) where she became known as the “Lady Lobbyist” in Congress, respected for her research and integrity  
**December 2, 1886 (1976)** – Josephine Roche, after gaining control of her late father’s Colorado coal mine operation in 1927, invited the United Mine Workers to organize workers and get contracts, supervised the Public Health Service as part of FDR’s administration, made recommendations for 1935 Social Security and tried to encourage universal health coverage  
**December 3, 1842 (1911)** – Ellen Swallow Richards, first woman to graduate from MIT (1873), recognized as the creator of the fields of ecology & home economics, co-founder of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae → *American Association of University Women*  
**December 3, 1895 (1995)** – Te Ate, interpreter of Cherokee, Chickasawa, Creek, Choctaw, & other tribes in theater performances of these original cultures; entertained, educated, enlightened & inspired Americans like Eleanor Roosevelt & visitors like English royalty  
**December 6, 1927 (2002)** – Patsy Mink, first Japanese-American Congresswoman (D-HI), wrote the Women’s Educational Equity Act, played a key role in the enactment of Title IX, which was renamed posthumously as the “Patsy Takemoto Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act”  
**December 6, 1967** Helen Greiner a co-founder of iRobot and currently CEO of CyPhyWorks and is a Trustee of the Museum of Science (Boston); on the Computer Science Advisory Board of Worcester Polytechnic Institute; and a Director of the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA)  
**December 8, 1919 (1985)** – Julia Robinson, her logic and number theory resulted in theorems she discovered solving Hilbert’s Tenth Problem about 1970, assumed the presidency of the American Mathematical Society, awarded a MacArthur Foundation grant, elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences  
**December 11, 1892 (1982)** – Harriet Adams, after the 1930 death of her father, who had syndicated the publishing of juvenile books, she and her sister continued his practice with many titles in the Nancy Drew series which were plotted, then written by ghost writers  
**December 19, 1919 (2007)** – Sally Ann Lilienthal, founder of Ploughshares in 1981 which gave fifty million dollars in grants to promote peace, reduce and ultimately eliminate nuclear weapons  
**December 20, 1954** – Sandra Cisneros, American Latina writer best known for her acclaimed first novel *The House on Mango Street*  
**December 22, 1912 (2007)** – Claudia “Lady Bird” Taylor Johnson, First Lady (1963-69), advocate for civil rights, National Chair of Head Start, led “Beautification” efforts across the country involving environmentalism, conservation, and anti-pollution  
**December 23, 1867 (1919)** – Sarah “Madam C. J.” Walker, entrepreneur and philanthropist, first woman and first African American woman self-made millionaire, revolutionized hair care and cosmetics industry in early 20th century  
**December 23, 1912 (1998)** – Anna Jane Harrison, chemistry professor at Mount Holyoke College (1945-89), continued research on ultraviolet spectroscopy and increased public understanding of the impact of science and technology, first president of the American Chemical Society (1987)  
**December 24, 1951 (1998)** – Marsha Gomez, activist, used pottery and sculpture from her Choctaw ancestry to teach and further demand rights for indigenous women of many cultures, achieved NGO status for indigenous women in the United Nations, began the Foundation for a Compassionate Society with a group of about 20 artists  
**December 28, 1894 (1988)** – Burnita Matthews, suffragist, as a young law student in the District of Columbia learned that she could carry a banner outside the White House but would be arrested for not having a permit if she spoke, stayed silent and avoided arrest, gained admission to the bar in 1920, worked for the National Woman’s Party, chosen as Federal District Court Judge by President Truman in 1949  
**December 30, 1912 (1995)** – Margaret Wade, won state and regional championships as semi-professional basketball player, became high school coach in 1935 and set a lifetime record of 453 wins, 89 losses and 6 ties, inspired the Wade Trophy (1978) awarded annually to the best collegiate women’s team  
**December 31, 1900 (1995)** – Selma Burke, sculptor, part of the Black Renaissance under Augusta Savage, created the artwork for the “Roosevelt dime,” established the Selma Burke Art Center in the early 1970s



# AAUW Continues Branch 5-Star Recognition Program - 7.1.2019-6.30.2021

## Programs

- Host 2-4 strategic plan- related programs in FY21. **1- September 12<sup>th</sup> program on women's history & STEAM**  
**2- AEW Program 11.15 including testimonials on gender equity (The Sadkers), STEM, and DEI** **3-----**

## Advancement

- \$30 per capita (member) gift raised for greatest needs. **We need \$73 more.**  
\* Shift focus in branch giving from fellowships and grants/LAF to greatest needs or strategic plan focus areas by 50%.  
\*\* Retain 90% or more of your branch membership and submit annual dues by September 30.

## Communications & External Relations

- All existing websites and social media presences include an Economic Security Focus and Work Smart Online.
- Note: Monthly posts are required for social media; Work Smart Online must be included on the website home page.

## Public Policy & Research

- Conduct an annual meeting with U.S. representative(s) and/or state legislators around a strategic plan area of focus. An alternative elected official is acceptable if circumstances warrant. ?- PWBOCS for equal pay resolution
- Ensure a branch public policy chair is appointed who collaborates with the state public policy chair.
- Host at least one public event where Action Network sign-ups are collected.

## Governance & Sustainability

- Align planning with state and AAUW national strategic plans.
- Branch board institutes a succession plan to ensure new ideas and perspectives are included in the future leadership.

***WE ARE A 5-STAR BRANCH for 2019-2020. We're continuing to live up to our status, by striving to re-earn each star's goals for 2020-2021- highlighted.***

## Moving Forward in 2020 to 2021

~~3.5.2019 → 2.11.2020: Asian American Women's Equal Pay Day~~

~~(Asian Women v. White Men – \$0.90)~~

~~4.2.2019 → 3.31.2020: All Women's Equal Pay Day~~

~~(Women overall v. Men overall – \$0.82)~~

~~4.19.2019 → 4.9.2020: White women's equal pay day~~

~~(White Women v. White, non Hispanic Men – \$0.80)~~

~~6.10.2019 → 6.4.2020: Mom's Equal Pay Day (Moms vs Dads – \$0.70)~~

~~8.22.2019 → 8.13.2020: Black Women's Equal Pay Day~~

~~(Black Women v. White Men – \$0.62)~~

~~9.23.2019 → 10.1.2020: Native Women's Equal Pay Day~~

~~(Native Women v. White Men – \$0.57)~~

~~11.20.2019 → 10.29.2020: Latinas' Equal Pay Day – This is almost a year later. ☹️~~

~~(Latinas v. White, non Hispanic Men – \$0.55)~~

*The trend has been upward and improving from 2019, except for Native American Women. At this point, there is no way to know how the effects of addressing COVID 19 will result in a change to the above dates. WE SO HOPE NEXT YEAR'S DATES WILL SHOW GAINS FOR ALL WOMEN.*

*VA AAUW State Conference that was scheduled for in-person in March has been cancelled.*

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, or socioeconomic status.

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

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