



*A R L I N G T O N*  
*BRANCH REPORT*

AAUW OF VIRGINIA

March 2015

Volume 71, Issue 7

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**Annual Meeting**  
**March 14, 2015 10 am**  
**Shirlington Library**

The Arlington Branch annual meeting will be held 10 am at the Shirlington Branch Library. Our meeting and election of officers will be followed by a post-Session Legislative Forum we are co-sponsoring with the League of Women Voters of Arlington. Participating are Senators Adam Ebbin, Barbara Favola, Janet Howell and Delegates Patrick Hope, Rip Sullivan and Alfonso Lopez. They will give an update on the legislation that passed, and some that didn't pass during the 2015 session. The Delegates and Senators will take questions from the audience. Branch responsibilities include publicity and providing a moderator and time keeper. We will also bring light refreshments for those attending. Please contact the Sara Anderson if you are able to help with this event.

**Officer Nominees for Election at Annual Meeting**

The Nominating Committee has met, considered carefully, and contacted Branch members about filling five elected positions. We nominate Meg Tuccillo and Marcy Leverenz as Co-Presidents; Carol Dabbs for Membership Vice President and Cece Michelotti as Treasurer. These are two-year terms beginning July 1, 2015. The Committee continues to work to identify a Program Vice President and Secretary. These will be one-year terms, filling out the terms of officers who have resigned at the end of this program year. Members will be notified as soon as possible of these nominees. Nominations from the floor, with the approval of the nominee, may be offered at the Annual Meeting.

I want to thank Barbara Gallagher, Carol Dabbs, Gloria Rothman and Robin Strub for their dedicated work on this important task.

Marjorie Hobart  
Nominating Committee Chair

## President's Message

March. Many words may spring to mind when you hear the name of the month. Mad Hatter. Ides of. Mud. Wind. Lion v. Lamb. Many less than pleasant connotations. However, March is also the month of the Spring Equinox, and as Hal Borland once pointed out in a *New York Times* editorial, "March is neither sinister nor mad; it is old endings and new beginnings." Perhaps this is one reason the beginning of spring is often a time of thorough cleaning and of renewing determination to make positive changes. In many cultures, the Spring Equinox was the time to honor deities, such as the Goddesses Ianna and Demeter, who made plants grow in spring.

In the United States, March has been designated Women's History Month thanks to the efforts of the group of women who began the Women's History Project in 1980. They chose March because March 8 is International Women's Day, and promote a multicultural perspective in their theme, which this year is Weaving the Stories of Women's Lives. International Women's Day grew out of the Socialist movement in Europe, and was first celebrated on March 19, 1911. A couple weeks later, the disastrous fire at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in New York focused attention on the plight of women factory workers. Since then, International Women's Day has spread to many developed and developing nations. Recognizing that the status of women in many nations has improved greatly, while much still needs to be done, organizers have altered the tone and nature of IWD from being a reminder of the negatives to a celebration of the positives.

Annually on 8 March, thousands of events are held throughout the world to inspire women and celebrate achievements. A global web of rich and diverse local activity connects women from all around the world ranging from political rallies, business conferences, government activities and networking events through to local women's craft markets, theatrical performances, fashion parades and more.

The Arlington Branch of AAUW designates March as the month for our annual meeting at which we elect new officers, approve a budget for the upcoming fiscal year, recognize the work of our Branch, and honor and remember members who have died since the last Annual Meeting. Thus, our schedule fits into the month's historic past, and gives us the opportunity to look both backwards and forward. Please mark your calendar for Saturday, March 14 at 10:00 am in the Campbell Room of the Shirlington Branch Library so you will celebrate all the meanings of March by attending our Annual Meeting.

Other items of interest:

- On Wednesday, February 4, Virginia AAUW members presented the Virginia General Assembly with 1200 signatures on the petition supporting action against human trafficking.
- On April 18, AAUW of Virginia and West Virginia members will meet in Charlottesville, Virginia, for the 2015 Virginia/West Virginia States Conference. We will be *Celebrating our Past and Creating our Future* as a global force for the empowerment of women. A rich agenda highlights the achievements of AAUW during its past 133 years and illuminates strategic direction for our goals in years to come. See the notice elsewhere in this Report for more information and directions for registering. We will take names at the Annual Meeting of those planning to go, so we can arrange car-pools.
- Equal Pay Day is Tuesday, April 14, 2015. AAUW describes it as “the symbolic day when women’s earnings (78 cents to men’s dollar) finally catch up to men’s earnings from the previous year. Equal Pay Day is a powerful occasion to raise awareness and organize action around the gender pay gap in our communities.” In Virginia, latest figures show that women do slightly better than the national figures, but earning 79 cents to every dollar men earn is nothing to celebrate. Our Virginia AAUW officers suggest members write letters to the editors of local papers to call attention to Equal Pay Day.
- Senator Barbara Favola reports from the General Assembly - Three bills addressing sexual assault on college campuses passed the Senate unanimously on Tuesday (SB 712, SB 1329, and SB 1192). After much negotiation, the Senate Courts Committee rolled my bill establishing MOUs with local sexual assault crisis clinics into Senator Black’s (SB 712) and accepted my re-write of Senator Black’s bill to eliminate mandatory reporting but require that local law enforcement be part of the universities’ Threat Assessment Teams. Senator Favola has been heavily involved in crafting the best possible legislation for this issue. The Senate and House sexual assault legislation have some minor differences, but overall are substantially similar, and she is proud of the work we’ve accomplished.

I hope to see many of you at our meeting and the post-session legislative forum which will follow immediately after it on March 14!

Enjoy March and the coming of Spring, and whatever else this season means to you.

*Sara Anderson*

## Membership News

Meet new member - **Chris White** has worked in education as well as the private sector. She was Assistant Dean at Villanova University School of Law and in 1971 was a founder of a national educational association, The Association for Legal Career Professionals ("NALP"). She made many improvements to career counseling including creating the "NALP Form," which provided counselors and students with consistent data on various legal employers.

After Villanova, Chris served as Chief Officer or in director-level positions at four law firms: Steptoe & Johnson, WilmerHale, Nixon Peabody and K&L Gates. She also had a consulting business, White Svihart & Associates, where she was consulted by more than 100 law firms nationwide. She wrote two books and more than 25 articles on career counseling, recruiting, and professional development issues. In 2010, Chris returned to the education field and served as Director of Government Training at the Graduate School USA, until she retired.



Chris has one daughter and two grandchildren and has lived in Arlington since 1977. While her daughter was in Arlington Public Schools, she served as H-B Woodlawn's PAC Chair and on the Advisory Council on Instruction, Futures Planning task force, among other volunteer initiatives.

Chris is a member of the Falls Church Garden Club, Wildwood Historical Society (NJ) and enjoys photography, art history, and roaming around antique stores.

Chris was awarded a BA in psychology from Caldwell University (NJ) and MA in counseling and college personnel administration from Cornell University. In 1988 Caldwell presented its prestigious Veritas Award, for leadership, excellence, and significant contributions in her profession. Chris has volunteered to be AAUW's Advisory Council on Instruction alternate.

### Spring Membership Tea

The Spring Membership Tea will take place on Sunday afternoon, April 12, 2015 at Susan Senn's home in Arlington. The Executive Board agreed to change the name from The New Members' Tea because, by April, the new members have been part of the branch for most of the calendar year. We felt it would be nice to expand the attendees to include potential new members who have been invited to attend the tea along with both the 2014-2015 new members and the general membership. An idea was proposed to host a New Members' Tea in the fall season



so as to introduce any current new members and to share with them information about all the various groups within the Arlington Branch. So, put the date in your calendar and begin thinking about who of your acquaintances might be interested in hearing about all the wonderful and important work AAUW does.

## Upcoming Events

### Let's Talk About Books

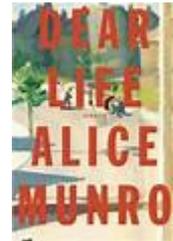
Our March meetings will be at the following times and locations:

- The second Monday, at 2 pm, at the home of Kathryn Scruggs, 935 N Liberty Street 703/536-9148, kscruggs0@gmail.com
- the fourth Tuesday, at 2 pm, at the home of Betty Dunn, 1964 Rockingham Street, McLean, 703/536-4930, bbkldunn@verizon.net

Our book selection for March is *Dear Life* by Alice Munro.

Be sure to let the hostess know if you are planning to attend the session at her home.

Barbara A Gallagher  
bgallag2@gmail.com



### International Coffee

The THIS/AAUW International Coffee Group starts out the new year with two coffees in February

- March 11 at the home of Juanita Cullen in Vienna – a St Patrick's day party
- March 25 at the home of Lynne Shank in Arlington.

Branch members are welcome. For further information please contact Priscilla Becker at JBecker841@aol.com or 703/841-0647.



## **Arlington Mill Lunch Bunch**

The Arlington Mill High School Lunch Bunch will meet on March 19, from 12:40-1:20 in the Library at the Career Center, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive, Arlington. Lunch is served and lively discussion is encouraged.

If you would like to attend this inspirational group, or be a speaker at one of the lunches, please contact Mary Ann Ullrich or Michele Milden. We look forward to seeing you at one of our Lunch Bunch programs this year.

Lunch Bunch Coordinators,

Michele Milden	Mary Ann Ullrich
mbmilden@aol.com	maryann.ullrich.va@gmail.com
703/820-7794	703/573-2002

## **STEM Update**

Arlington AAUW has been offered the opportunity to join with Alexandria AAUW and, hopefully, another branch in Northern Virginia to plan and implement an all-day Tech Savvy Conference for 6-9th grade girls. Tech Savvy is a day-long STEM Career Conference designed to attract young women to the fields and is sponsored by National AAUW. In this case, BAE Systems, an international defense system company, on the same order as Northrop- Grumman and Lockheed-Martin, is fully funding this conference for \$30,000. The conference will occur mid-October-mid-November, 2015. One interesting fact - we will not have to collect fees for the conference as that will be taken care of online. Our Executive Committee agreed to support this endeavor. We have to have 4 branch members to participate in the planning. I have agreed to chair our 4-person group. Another member has already agreed to be one of the other three members. Our tasks will be identical, of sorts, to our other three STEM Conferences except that we will be working at with at least one other branch. The fact that it is fully-funded and that we will not have to go through what we've been through collecting fees makes my heart sing. I am all in. Who amongst you will agree to be the other 2 branch members who plan this event?

Here is a link to National AAUW information on Tech Savvy:

<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/stem-education/tech-savvy/>

Let me hear from you soon!

Susan Senn

## **Of Interest: Improving Firearm Safety in Virginia**

“For the third year in a row, more Virginians died due to firearms than traffic accidents. While no law can prevent every firearm death, there are key areas in which Virginia’s laws could be improved to help significantly lower the risk of death by firearm.” Thus begins the third in a series of LWVFA studies on gun safety. This time it is a call to action, spelling out with precision exactly what changes in Virginia law would make Virginians safer. Its focus is on protecting victims of domestic violence from firearms and strengthening child access prevention laws, an area where Virginia’s laws are among the weakest in the country.

Join The League of Women Voters® of the Fairfax Area at the forum on Sunday, March 22, 2015 from 2:00 to 3:30 pm at Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road (off the Old Keene Road) Burke, VA 22015 (703/644-7333)



### **2013-2014 Executive Committee**

<b>President:</b>	<b>Sara Anderson</b> , 532-3830, sfpaaauw6382 at aol.com
<b>Vice-President for Programs:</b>	<b>Arlene Shapiro</b> , 719-5467 arleneshapiro at yahoo.com
<b>Vice-President for Membership:</b>	<b>Susan Senn</b> , 243-0913, sennsu at Verizon.net
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Cindy Almand</b> , 533-9223, calmond47 at aol.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Carol Dabbs</b> , 379-6840, carol_dabbs at yahoo.com
<b>Assistant Treasurer:</b>	<b>Nancy Morgan</b> , 465-1245, nhmorgan.va at gmail.com
<b>Public Policy Chair:</b>	<b>Marcy Leverenz</b> , 521-3174, mleverenz at comcast.net
<b>Past President:</b>	<b>Arlene Wilson</b> , 534-6837, arlenewilson at verizon.net

Arlington Branch  
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

***Mission of AAUW- Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.***

***In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.***

The Arlington *Branch Report* is published monthly from September through June by the Arlington Branch of the American Association of University Women. Articles for the April 2015 *Branch Report* should be mailed or emailed by March 10 to Editor Barbara Oliver at 5901 2nd St S, Arlington, VA 22204 or [blolivere@aol.com](mailto:blolivere@aol.com).

Address changes or corrections should be made to Nancy Morgan.

### Calendar of Coming Events

March 9	2:00 Book Club
March 11	10:00 International Coffee
March 14	10:00 Branch Meeting
March 19	12:30 Lunch Bunch
March 24	2:00 Book Club
March 25	10:00 International Coffee
April 18	State Convention
May 2	Spring Luncheon

