



# **ARLINGTON BRANCH REPORT AAUW OF VIRGINIA**

May, 2017  
Volume 73, Issue 69



*SPRING HAS SPRUNG!*



## **ARLINGTON AAUW PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE**

My 12 year old granddaughter, Samantha, is an avid soccer player! She pretty much lives and breathes the sport and plays on her school team, a travel team and an Olympic-training team. My other granddaughter, 11 year old (5'9") Clara, is totally focused on basketball and plays on two different teams and believes she will be a pro-basketball player. They are both also very bright students and both do well in school. This is all great – but- they are both also very aware of inequities in fair pay for women athletes and inequities in fair pay for women in many professional fields. Samantha made a video of the differences in pay for professional athletes as well as professional engineers. Clara is in advanced classes and has told me about some older boys in her class who have said girls can't be scientists. Both girls were devastated by not seeing the first female president in our recent elections and seem dejected by current events.

All this is to bring home the thinking of our young girls and women in our own lives and communities. The reason AAUW exists is to empower women and raise awareness. Hopefully, we

all joined AAUW in part because we want to see great possibilities for the future of the young women we know and love. We in AAUW are engaged in public policy issues, leadership training, support of Title IX, educational opportunities and equal pay support. How can we stay involved?

Have you gone to the national website, [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) to sign up for AAUW's Two Minute Activist? Action Network is the cornerstone of AAUW's e-advocacy efforts. By signing on, you will join the network and receive e-mail notices on how to contact your elected officials on specific issues.

Please take a few minutes to sign-on and help make the future for our young women an equitable one!!

**Meg Tuccillo**

Co-President

## **2017 AAUW National Convention**

The AAUW National Convention will be held in **Washington, DC** **this year from June 14-17**.

Every two years, 1,000 women leaders from across the country gather to discover new ways to empower themselves and their community. AAUW's national convention is a unique opportunity



to learn new skills, gain insight and inspiration, and connect with other women leaders.

Remember to register online by going to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) and clicking on "Convention"!

# **Arlington Branch AAUW SPRING AWARDS EVENT**

***THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF ARLINGTON***

***700 S. BUCHANAN ST***

***ARLINGTON, VA 22204***

***Monday, April 24, 2017 - 7:00 PM***

***HORS D'OEUVRES AND BEVERAGES PROVIDED***

***No Charge***

Come attend this annual Arlington Branch AAUW Spring Awards Event to honor recipients of the: Elizabeth Campbell Award for Advancement of the Arts in Arlington, A Student in the Arts, Lunch Bunch Scholarship Recipient, Educator of the Year

## **Introducing AAUW's New CEO, Kimberly Churches**

**April 06, 2017**

AAUW is excited to announce that Kimberly Churches will be our chief executive officer starting June 1, 2017. Kimberly comes to AAUW from the Brookings Institution, where she strategically guided the public policy organization, providing vision and problem-solving skills, expansive partnerships and external relations, and fundraising, as the managing director. Before joining Brookings, Kimberly was an associate vice chancellor at the University of Denver, a director of development at the University of North Florida, and a division director at the American Heart Association. She has extensive experience working collaboratively on education (K-12 and higher education) as well as capacity building among grassroots groups and national and international nonprofits. Churches earned her BA at Florida State University in English Education and the Certified Fund Raising Executive affiliation in 2002.



## **Get Informed: AAUW Membership -National Office**

### **STUDENT MEMBERSHIPS**

Many of you live near colleges and universities that are affiliates with AAUW. Please remember that the students can join AAUW National as e-members for free if they go to an affiliate college/university, and that they can join for only \$17 if they go to college/university that is not currently an affiliate.

#### **Here is the link**

for them to join: <https://ww2.aauw.org/student-join/>

In addition, for anyone who knows a person who will be graduating this year, or graduated last year - please consider the Give A Grad A Gift program where the graduate can be given a free membership to AAUW National for one year.

#### **Here is a link**

to that program: <http://www.aauw.org/resource/give-a-grad-a-gift/>

### **YOUNGER WOMEN**

For other younger women that you know, who may be interested in AAUW, and would like to surround themselves with other young women think about introducing them to the Younger Women's Task Force.

**The application** for this can be found at <https://ww2.aauw.org/national-join/?appealcode=M14AAUWYWTF>

**The web link** to the locations for Younger Women's Task Force is <http://www.aauw.org/membership/ywtf/where-we-are/> Finally, Work Smart and Start Smart are wonderful programs for young women.

**Locations around DC** where these programs are available can be found at: <http://www.aauw.org/work-smart-dc/#locate>

### **TWO MINUTE ACTIVIST**

Also encourage your friends and family to get involved with AAUW through the 2-minute activist. Anyone (member or non-member) can sign up for the 2-minute activist.

**Here is the link** for that program: <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>

### **SHAPE THE FUTURE PROGRAM**

Joining now provides your new members with membership in AAUW through the remainder of this year and to June 30, 2018. In addition if your new members join at your branch event they become a part of the Shape the Future Program. For every two members who join in this way, you gain one free National membership (up to 5 free memberships), that you can use in any way you wish. Some ideas for these free national memberships are: to use them as an incentive to become a leader -- to free National membership for the new President of your branch, etc.

- Offer them as an incentive for the second and third year members to continue their membership. We know that if you can keep your members through the 4th year it is likely that you have a member for life!
- Use them as an incentive to come to one of your important meetings. Raffle off the free National membership for all who come to one of your important meetings.

### **Branch Membership**

### **New members find us through your invitation!**

We all go about our busy lives during the summer (when AAUW Arlington Branch traditionally does not have branch meetings), we have opportunities to visit with many friends and colleagues whom we may not see during the fall, winter, and spring. Most of us learned about AAUW and joined because someone asked us to attend a meeting and to join.

So, as you enjoy time with your friends who are interested in our issues, please consider, and make yourself a mental (or physical) note of whom you'll invite to attend one or more of our community activities starting in the fall.

This is our most valuable pool of potential members! Thanks!  
**Carol Dabbs**, Membership VP

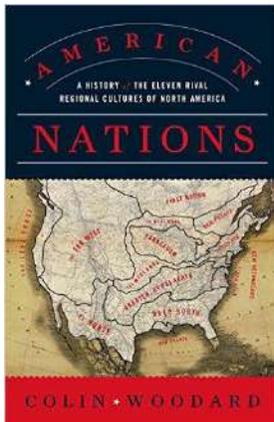
### **AAUW HIGHLIGHTS IN 2016**

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

**AAUW DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

### **LET'S TALK ABOUT BOOKS**

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



The second Wednesday, May 10 at 2 pm, at the home of **Sylvia Daneel**, 3800 Fairfax Drive, Apt 1209. Arlington, VA 22203, 703-527-8879, [sylviadaneel@gmail.com](mailto:sylviadaneel@gmail.com) and

the fourth Tuesday, May 23 at 2 pm, at the home of **Gloria Rothman**, 6502 Lily Dhu Lane, Falls Church, VA 22044, 703-256-0853, [grothman1@cox.net](mailto:grothman1@cox.net).

Our book selection for May is **American Nations** by **Colin Woodard**.

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

**Barbara Gallagher** [Bgallag2@gmail.com](mailto:Bgallag2@gmail.com)

## **ARLINGTON INTERNATIONAL COFFEE GROUP**

Please join us for the last two coffees of the year:  
May 10-10:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the home of  
**Mercedes Guevara**, a diplomat from Colombia in  
Vienna.



May 24-10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the home of **Karen Russo**  
in McLean

**Arlene Shapiro**, Chairperson

[arleneshapiro@yahoo.com](mailto:arleneshapiro@yahoo.com)

[703-719-5467](tel:703-719-5467)

## **AAUW LUNCH BUNCH**

### **Lunch Bunch 2016/17 Overview**

This year's theme, "Reaching Your Dream" was defined as an appropriate sequence to the prior year's work and was developed with the input and support of the LB sponsors, principal, **Barbara Thompson** and counselor, **Patricia Sanguinetti**. Our first meeting was kicked off with a goal setting activity in which the girls, aided by LB sponsors, began the identification of two educational and two personal goals as well as the specific steps to reach those goals. As support to the girls in reaching their personal goals, each month a presenter shared information on community resources available to help them reach their personal goals.

At the October meeting, our first presenter, **Hareth Andrade-Ayala**, Dream Project Coordinator and a "Dreamer" herself, set the stage by sharing her story and providing specific information about the Dream Project and encouraging the girls to participate, maintain focus on their educational goals and apply for financial support to advance their education beyond the high school level.

The following month, a panel discussion included a former student and a young entrepreneur who started her own business while going through school.. The message from "How They Reached Their Dreams" was one of inspiration, encouragement, and the importance of focus, consistency and resilience in the face of adversity.

In December, **Patricia Sanguinetti** and **Rachel Schroeder**, counselors, and our sponsors worked with the girls in continuing to define and revise their goals and ways in which to reach them. The winter months brought

with them many concerns on the part of the students related to immigration issues, financial and other stressful situations.

At the January meeting, **Nagmeh Merck**, social worker identified how to receive help through community resources.

For our post Valentine's Day February meeting, **Ashley Emerson**, Community Involvement Ambassador from the Arlington Community Credit Union, addressed the topic "Love Yourself, Pay Yourself First", by sharing specific financial strategies to encourage the girls to save and focus on continuing education beyond the high school level.

The March meeting presenters, **Jeana Martin** and **Kevin Early** from the Department of Human Services discussed medical and mental health services available to 18-29 year olds.. The top 10 ways for reducing stress were discussed and handouts provided on medical and mental ` health services available through the Department.

On April 20 - **Marcela von Vacano**, Retired Arlington Public Schools ESOL/HILT Specialist, was the guest speaker. She discuss the topic, "Know Your Rights." All people, including undocumented immigrants have certain protected Constitutional Rights in the U.S. Marcela discussed certain protections, the power of attorney, and DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals).

On May 18 - An End of the Year Celebration will be held. there will be a look back at each student's goals to see if they were met or continue to reach for their dreams. Gift cards will be rewarded to the top three students for Best Attendance.

In addition, one deserving senior, **Veronica Olivera Rojas** was awarded a \$500 scholarship and acknowledged at the Arlington Branch AAUW Awards Event in April. Her school Principal, **Barbara Thompson**, and Counselor, **Patricia Sanguinetti**, were invited to attend

## **Active Members of Lunch Bunch 2016-17**

**Michele Milden**

**Virginia Sorkin**

**Susan Rushton**

**Betty Dunn**

**Dorothy Miller**

**Susan Senn**

**Mary Ann Ullrich**

**Marcy Leverenz**

**Barbara Thompson**, Principal, Arlington Community High School

**Patricia Sanguinetti**, Counselor ACHS

## **Issues of Concern to Students**

Serious level of anxiety among student body related to deportation and immigration issues.

Students are fearful of accepting support from county agencies because of being targeted by ICE.

Health issues, sometimes frequent at this time of year, are not being addressed because of fear of immigration policy if identified as undocumented.

Borderline homelessness results from students moving from one location to another due to fear of being identified by ICE.

Absenteeism had for the most part disappeared but has increased due to fears relating to immigration policy.

## **Positive Aspects of Student Life at Arlington Community High School.**

There is support from the County Board, the Superintendent, and the School Board for the immigrant population throughout the school system.

Arlington Community High School and its staff (like other schools in Arlington) welcomes all students including immigrant students and cares deeply about their safety, educational, physical, mental and social wellbeing.

Arlington Community High School offers students dual enrollment in college level Mathematics and English to inspire students to continue education beyond high school, to challenge them and develop pride in the fact that they can take and pass college level courses.

The move toward competency based curriculum and options for alternative testing on the part of the administration and teaching staff sends a clear message that "seat time" is not sufficient nor adequate to prepare for future endeavors. It sets an expectation for excellence that brings pride.

In conclusion, all of us in AAUW have been proud for the opportunity to work with the staff and students at Arlington Community High School.

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

## **Here are our Arlington Branch Leaders for 2017-19!**

The slate of officers for 2017 is as follows:

Co-Presidents:	<b>Meg Tuccillo</b> <b>Carol Dabbs</b>
Co-Vice Presidents for programs:	<b>Mary Beth Pelos</b> <b>Susan Nelson</b>
Secretary:	<b>Chris White</b>
Treasurer:	<b>Betty Dunn</b> (for rest of term 2017-18)
Assistant Treasurer:	<b>Susan Senn</b> (for rest of term 2017-18) (The Asst. Treasurer also does the website which <b>Susan</b> has been doing this year. )
Vice President for Membership:	<b>STILL LOOKING FOR YOU</b> (To fill position <b>Carol Dabbs</b> is leaving.)

### WANTED/NEEDED

It's baseball season, let's step up to the plate. Our branch needs leaders to make it go forward and continue.

Here is what you as a branch member need:

Vice President for Membership

Without members the branch will not exist. Please consider this position now.

Marcy, [mleverenz@comcast.net](mailto:mleverenz@comcast.net), or Meg,  
[mtuccillo4@comcast.net](mailto:mtuccillo4@comcast.net).  
Co-Presidents

### **Cece Michelotti** - Editor's note:

It's been almost a year since I came on as your Newsletter Editor.

I'm having a good time with this and feel like I'm making a contribution. As my husband and I are talking and planning for some time away in the coming days, I realize that I may be away when the newsletter comes due at some time. I don't expect this often, if at all, but I want to be prepared.

SO, here's my concern, I think that now that you are sending me your articles via g-mail, I can put the newsletter together fairly quickly and send it out via email, all except for the 8 ladies who require the newsletter to be mailed via US mail.

SO HERE'S MY NEED:

This involves:

1. going to STAPLES and having 8 copies black and white, two sided and stapled - made.
2. folding and stuffing envelopes (which I will provide.)
3. affixing 2 stamps on each envelope (which I will provide)
4. putting an address label on each envelope (which I will provide)
5. Mailing.

If you're thinking, "I think I could do this with little hassle" please call me so that I can assure you that this is so true. Thanks ahead of time



## **WHAT MAJOR AAUW EVENT HAPPENS EVERY SIX YEARS IN WASHINGTON, D.C.?**

### **The National AAUW Convention!**

And that time is now! The AAUW National Convention will be in our backyard, in Washington, D.C., **June 14-17, 2017**. The nearly 1,000 attendees will hear inspiring speakers, attend informative workshops, network with other members and staff, and eat delicious food. Along with all that, there are opportunities to lobby Congress, tour AAUW national headquarters, and visit historical sites in the area.

Thinking about the expense? Here are some ways to save money:

- The state board will give \$400 to each branch that sends at least one branch member full-time attendee at the National Convention for the branch to divide among attendees.

- Want to drive but don't want to pay for parking? Members can park their cars at Northern District members' houses and take metro to the convention.
- Need a hotel roommate? We can connect you with a roomie.

On top of this, you save the cost of an airline ticket since this is local travel. We've checked around, and the hotel rates that AAUW negotiated at the Renaissance Hotel are actually excellent! Book your room early. They fill fast!

So sign up today! Let's have a huge Virginia turnout!

<http://convention.aauw.org/>

Arlington Branch Newsletter  
 American Association of University Women  
 6325 19th Street North  
 Arlington, VA 22205

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 **June, 2017 Branch Report** should be mailed or emailed by **May 15, 2017** to

Editor **Cece Michelotti**  
 cecemich@gmail.com

**NOTIFY ME IF YOU NEED MORE TIME, PLEASE.**

Address changes or corrections should be made to **Elizabeth Dunn.**

betty.dunn3@verizon.net

## *Calendar of Events*

Branch Members meeting dates to consider:

### **GENERAL MEETINGS**

**April 24 7pm Awards night**

**June 14-17 National AAUW MT in DC**

### **BOARD MEETINGS**

May 16

July 18

### ***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.*