

**Branch Fortieth Anniversary Celebration  
Saturday, September 21  
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
Fairfax Art League Village Gallery  
3950 University Drive  
Fairfax City, VA**

**Program**

Welcome and Introduction of Charter Members  
and Current Board

Trudi Arnold and Kay Corbett,  
Program Co-Chairs

Report on AAUW National Convention

New Orleans, Summer 2013

Dianne Blais, Co-President

Brief Business Meeting

Dianne Blais and Diana DeLano,  
Co-Presidents

*Remembering 16 Years of  
Book and Author Luncheons*

Barbara Klementz, Book and Author Chair

*Leading Middle School Girls Toward  
Technology: Futures Unlimited*

Olga Burns, Major Event Co-Chair

Time for Conversation, Refreshments, Viewing  
Memorabilia and TFU T-Shirts

B&A Book Swap

**Directions:** The Village Gallery is located at 3950 University Drive in the Old Town Plaza within the City of Fairfax near Route 123. Free parking is available.



**Aha! That's Why ... Let's Stay With It; We're Not Done Yet!**

By Trudi Arnold

“The gift of hope, the ongoing thread of optimism” is a quote from the *AAUW 1975-77 Topic Guide*. I've been looking at my assorted papers from the early years of our branch.

The year 1973 was the right time for me to reach out for help to get the Fairfax City Branch started. I had just moved here, leaving my good friends in the very active Bowie, Maryland, branch clear on the other side of the new beltway. To my surprise there was no nearby AAUW branch. This prompted me to call the AAUW National offices at 16th Street in D.C.

**In this issue:**

Book Swap	2
About T:FU	2
Anniversary View	3
Salon	4
Condolences	4
Vacation	4
Branch Website	5
Calendar	5
Interest Groups	6

I learned from them that there were other women in the Fairfax City area hoping to start a branch. They sent me all the information about steps to take to begin a new branch and the names they had of others in the area who would join me. Two of them were the late Adele Failmetzger and Dorothy Hall. We also got the help of Julie Squier, Virginia state membership chair and a member of the Springfield-Annandale branch, living in nearby Middleridge.



Charter Member Trudi Arnold

We received state approval to form the Fairfax City Branch. It was noted that 15 was the required minimum number for membership. Julie Squier came to the first organizational meeting to act as the moderator and to appoint temporary officers: Trudi Arnold, president; Helen Albanese, vice-president; Jean Lederer, treasurer; and Joan Reid, recording secretary.

The meeting was held at the Fairfax City Central Library on March 20, 1973. At the next meeting on April 24, the bylaws were discussed and accepted. We completed membership forms and paid our annual dues of \$12.50. So, we got underway. We were now ready to “participate in the creative process by stimulating imagination, self-expression and individual growth: to apply the creative process to social needs, problems and opportunities; to nurture the social environment . . .” (*AAUW Topic Guide*, which we followed that year).

So let’s continue to reach and do and learn. We must also congratulate ourselves on the many, many achievements of the 40 years of worthwhile and stimulating endeavors of the Fairfax City Branch. I believe that AAUW has touched a personal dimension of my life, opened

my eyes to many issues, given me more confidence to speak my mind, enjoy more books, hear more ideas, given more encouragement toward creativity, and most certainly brought more dear friendships and memories to treasure.

## \$\$ Book Lovers’ Book Swap \$\$

By Barbara Klementz

As we celebrate our 40th anniversary and the many achievements of our branch, let’s remember the 80+ authors who participated in our Book and Author Luncheons. Of course, these annual luncheons are all about raising scholarship funds, and an anniversary celebration provides the perfect opportunity for a small fund raiser such as a book swap.

The book swap will take place at our September branch meeting at a cost of \$1 per book. So dig out any of the books from your collection from past luncheons and plan to swap them for “new” ones. What a great way to boost your personal book collection and do some good at the same time!

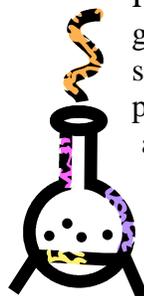
Editor’s note: Barbara Klementz is chair of our annual Book and Author luncheon. She has been serving in this capacity for the past 16 years. Through her efforts and those of the Fairfax City Branch members, thousands of dollars have been collected and contributed to worthy scholarship recipients.

## About T:FU

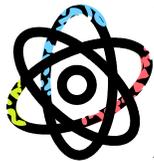
By Olga Burns

T:FU or Technology:Futures Unlimited held its first conference sponsored by the Fairfax City Branch of AAUW on May 9, 1992, at Robinson High School. There were fewer than 100 girls in attendance to learn about careers in science and math from about 18 professional women. Then, as now, they attended three workshops which opened their horizons to careers they might not have considered pursuing.

There have been many changes over the years. For example, attendance of



Middle School girls together with their parents has increased, along with the number of tech-oriented subjects featured at these conferences. Students have the opportunity to meet and talk with female role models who work in the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) professions. If not for this conference, many of the girls would not realize that these STEM careers are available and open to them.



There continues to be a need for high school graduates to enter STEM fields and this need provides the incentive for our Fairfax City Branch to sponsor these conferences, and to make a meaningful contribution to our community.

## T:FU T-Shirts

We ask that branch members who volunteered during our many conferences bring their T:FU t-shirt to our branch meeting on Saturday, September 21. These t-shirts, with their many designs through the years, will be displayed as we celebrate our 40th anniversary as well as your participation as branch members to advance the education of women.

Please inscribe your name on your t-shirt and remember to take it with you after the meeting.

## A 40th Anniversary View of AAUW

By Dianne Blais

After all the AAUW conventions, meetings, and events I have attended, plus the many hours spent writing and reading AAUW newsletters and articles; one might think this would be easy to write. It is not. But here are my thoughts.

I wish that everyone could and would derive the benefits that I have from membership in AAUW. I have so enjoyed the special interest groups such as the book clubs, along with the interesting speakers at our meetings.

Based on how wonderful AAUW has been to me, one might think we are a huge and growing institution. But AAUW is seeing a decline in membership. Why? I believe there are two reasons: 1) working women and 2) the role computers play in our lives. While AAUW helped women into the work place, the effect of this successful goal has produced a deficit in membership. Many women find they cannot keep up with outside activities when working and caring for their families. Also, some believe that because women are working, there is no longer much need to pursue equality in employment. Unfortunately, many do not recognize or care about the extent of the gap in pay or the prevalence of gender inequality.

In addition to the demands on women in their everyday lives, the increased use and capabilities of computers serve to connect people in their homes and around the world. I believe that this “cocooning” will increase for a growing number of women, and computers will provide their needed connection to the outside world.

But regardless of how computer-connected or how busy people are, I still believe AAUW will survive. Women want to connect socially and help others learn and prosper; hence our scholarships and political efforts for wage equality. AAUW provides the means to meet these goals.

Why is AAUW unique? There are many organizations to which one might belong. But AAUW provides the opportunity not only for social interaction but also for support for “pocketbook” issues” such as scholarship and wage equality.

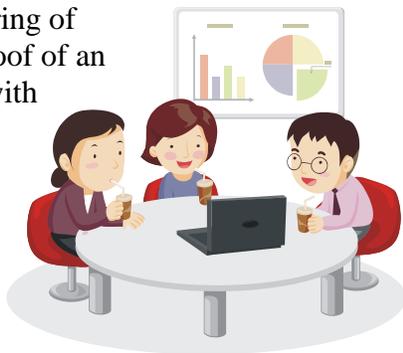
National AAUW is making every effort to grow with the times. Recently they sponsored an exhibit at the Newseum and made a huge effort to Get OutThe Vote (GOTV). They have updated their computer systems and are working to provide information to members through their website. They also partner with various organizations such as CARE and the National Museum of Women in the Arts.

I appreciate how AAUW has made an attempt to modernize. It is using many social media tools to publicize AAUW. They are active on Facebook and numerous blogs. I also applaud their efforts to modernize the annual collection of dues. AAUW actively encourages donations. The staff is growing where other women's organizations seem to be shrinking. I am proud to be a member of the largest supporter of graduate scholarships for women. I hope you are too!

## The History of Salon

By Kathleen Henry

A **salon** is a gathering of people under the roof of an inspiring hostess with the purpose of amusing one another and refining one's taste and increasing one's knowledge through conversation and readings.



Our branch has brought this concept up to date. Originally, Salon was led by Amy Fielder until 1996. This was followed by Kay Corbett until 2006 and Kathleen Henry until 2013. The Salon discussion group has addressed many relevant and even poignant topics such as organ donation, growing older, the prison system, poverty, and racial prejudice, and lighter subjects such as inheritance issues and starter marriage. Upon occasion, our topic was inspired by a personal experience of the leader: Kay Corbett lead a discussion based on her trip to Cuba and Dianne Blais told us about an experience only she among our members has had: running for public office. Are we prescient? In 2001, we were asked to predict the political party, the year, and the name of the first woman president. The group predicted Democratic, 2016—and Hillary Clinton. This communication of ideas is something our group has found beneficial and exciting as well as fun.

## Condolences

The members of our Fairfax City Branch send our deepest sympathies and condolences to long-time member Marjorie Rowley for the loss of her husband Charles. Charles Rowley, Ph.D., was lost to cancer after a brief hospital stay in August. Our thoughts and sympathies are with Marjorie and her loving family during this difficult time.

Since joining Fairfax City AAUW, Marjorie has been an active member in many interest groups, made it possible for branch members to attend certain practice sessions of the National Symphony Orchestra at Wolf Trapp Farm Park and served as branch co-president along with Anne Brown. As avid readers, she and husband Charles were major supporters of our Annual Book and Author Luncheon.

## My Summer Vacation

By Jan Humphrey

My husband David and I spent three delightful weeks in England in the early summer. We wanted a break from traveling with a crowd on an itinerary planned by a tour company, so we set our own schedule, stayed in B&Bs we had checked out on the Web, and visited spots that appealed to us, not necessarily the “must-sees.” We spent time in London, Bath, Cornwall, the Cotswolds, northern Wales, and York. Because our time and money had limits, we had to make a series of choices to finalize our route. We gave up the Lake District to go to Wales, for example, and opted for Salisbury Cathedral over Stonehenge. You can't see it all, even though, as Kelly Espy says, “It's all good.”



Stone circle at Boscawen

I was strangely attracted by the two stone circles we saw in Cornwall of the hundreds still

standing in England. Most were constructed between roughly 3000 and 1500 BC. An air of mystery still surrounds them, as their original purpose is unclear. If you use your imagination, you can hear pipes playing and see processions of dancers celebrating or commemorating some special occasion.

Some highlights:

- Scariest road sign: “Oncoming traffic in middle of road.”
- Oddest road sign: “Catseyes removed.” (These are the reflectors marking the center of the road.)
- Best freebie: The walking tour of the city of Bath, conducted by trained local history experts.
- Favorite cathedral: York Minster, hands down.
- Biggest disappointment: The Tate Modern. Although the building is interesting, the art was utterly incomprehensible.
- Favorite meal: Ploughman’s platter in the Three Horseshoes pub in Frampton-on-Severn: three or four cheeses, ham, bread, and a lovely fresh salad, with apple slices and chutney on the side.
- Biggest regret: I didn’t keep track of the names of all the draft beers I sampled. They were varied and original.
- Biggest surprise: All the modern architecture in London. The Shard, the Gherkin, and City Hall stand out in my memory.
- Second biggest surprise: The canals: I had no idea! Originally used to transport coal, lumber, and other heavy materials, many are still maintained for tourists.



York Minster Gargoyle



New and old: The Gherkin and the Tower of London

## Branch Website

By Leslie Vandivere

Check out the branch website at <http://fairfaxcity-va.aauw.net/>. The 2013-2014 program calendar as well as lots of pictures have been posted. The branch directory and the branch board minutes are posted in the members-only section. The password is the name of the branch newsletter.

## Calendar

### Branch Meeting

Saturday, Sept. 21, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.  
Fairfax Art League Gallery  
3950 University Drive, Fairfax City

### Northern District Meeting

Saturday, Oct. 26, 12:30 p.m.  
Oakton Public Library  
10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton, VA

### Book and Author Luncheon

Saturday, November 2, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.  
Country Club of Fairfax  
1110 Ox Road, Fairfax, VA

## Interest Groups

### Bridge

The bridge group will continue to meet on a regular basis. Anyone interested in more information should contact Shirley Dwelley, 703/352-0846 or [HLDwelley@aol.com](mailto:HLDwelley@aol.com).



### Salon Discussion Group

Friday, September 13, at 12 noon  
Home of Kay Corbett  
7226 Clifton Rd., Clifton  
703/222-6012 or [Kaycorbett1@msn.com](mailto:Kaycorbett1@msn.com)

We look forward to a very informative and interesting year as we continue our Great Decisions 2013. Dottie Joslin will lead our discussion of Myanmar and will present a 30-minute DVD on the subject. The Great Decisions booklet and DVD are published by the Foreign Policy Association. Since the DVD gives an overview of the subject matter as presented by experts in their field, it is not necessary to have read the material to participate in the discussions. The Great Decisions program gives us a better understanding of other countries and their impact on our own society.

Please bring your snack lunch; drinks and dessert will be provided by the hostess. If possible, let Kay know that you will be attending.

### Night Owls Book Discussion Group

Tuesday, September 10, at 6:30 p.m.  
Home of Leslie Vandivere  
13825 Baywood Court, Centreville  
517/213-6384 or [lvandivere@cox.net](mailto:lvandivere@cox.net)

The book for September is *Code Name Verity* by Elizabeth Wein, and the moderator is Paulette Miller. Please let Leslie know that you will attend.

Night Owls meets regularly on the second Tuesday of each month. If you have any questions about the Night Owls Book Group, please feel free to contact Paulette Miller at 703/250-0876 or [psmiller10847@verizon.net](mailto:psmiller10847@verizon.net)

### Afternoon Literature

**Wednesday, September 18 at 1 p.m.**

Home of Prativa Prasad  
9030 Scott St., Springfield  
703/866-4038 or [balramprasad@gmail.com](mailto:balramprasad@gmail.com)

Do join us as we discuss Amy Waldman's *The Submission*. Please let Prativa know you plan to attend.

### Musical Notes

Musical Notes will not meet in September since three members will be out of town. However, we will meet on Friday, October 25. Check your *Focus* for details.

This year, AAUW awarded women  
scholars and leaders



**\$3.7  
million**

# Directory Update:

## New Member

Maria Patente            202/340-4117 (C)  
 179 Holden Drive      [mpatente@msn.com](mailto:mpatente@msn.com)  
 Manassas Park, VA 20111  
 J.D. American University  
 MBA San Francisco State University



**AAUW—FAIRFAX CITY BRANCH  
 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Membership is open to holders of an associate’s or equivalent, bachelor’s, or higher degree from a qualified institution.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree: \_\_\_\_\_ College: \_\_\_\_\_ Field: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree: \_\_\_\_\_ College: \_\_\_\_\_ Field: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional: Name of spouse or significant other: \_\_\_\_\_

This information will be published in our directory and newsletter, unless you indicate items to omit.

DUES: \$82 (\$49 national, \$15 state, \$18 branch) for membership through June 30, 2014.

Note: \$46 of the national dues is tax deductible.

If transferring from national membership or another branch, contact Marilyn Parker ([marilyparker8812@gmail.com](mailto:marilyparker8812@gmail.com)) for dues amount. AAUW ID #, if known \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to AAUW—Fairfax City Branch.

Send this form and your check to the treasurer:

Kelly Espy  
 5814 Spruce Grove Court  
 Haymarket, VA 20169

**Branch Website:** <http://fairfaxcity-va.aauw.net/>

**Officers:**

- Co-President: Dianne Blais  
[dianneblais@aol.com](mailto:dianneblais@aol.com)
- Co-President: Diana DeLano  
[gdk125@verizon.net](mailto:gdk125@verizon.net)
- Co-Program Vice President: Kay Corbett  
[kaycorbett1@msn.com](mailto:kaycorbett1@msn.com)
- Co-Program Vice President: Trudi Arnold  
[Trudia1@juno.com](mailto:Trudia1@juno.com)
- Membership Vice President: Marilyn Parker  
[marilynparser8812@gmail.com](mailto:marilynparser8812@gmail.com)
- Treasurer: Kelly Espy  
[KellyEspy@aol.com](mailto:KellyEspy@aol.com)
- AAUW Funds and Scholarship: Cindy Greenspan  
[cindy@dbls.com](mailto:cindy@dbls.com)
- Public Policy: Renee Prasad  
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- Newsletter Editor: Charlene Comtois  
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- Web Manager: Leslie Vandivere  
[lvandivere@cox.net](mailto:lvandivere@cox.net)

**Branch and Major Event Chairs**

- Book and Author Luncheon:  
Barbara Klementz  
[brbklm5@verizon.net](mailto:brbklm5@verizon.net)  
Suzanne Mahoney  
[suzanne070946@mac.com](mailto:suzanne070946@mac.com)
- Career Day for Middle School Girls:  
Coordinator: Suzanne Mahoney  
[suzanne070946@mac.com](mailto:suzanne070946@mac.com)  
Olga Burns  
[rubato12@aol.com](mailto:rubato12@aol.com)

**Interest Group Chairs**

- Bridge: Shirley Dwelley  
[HLDwelley@aol.com](mailto:HLDwelley@aol.com)
- Afternoon Literature: Renee Prasad  
[reneemprasad@hotmail.com](mailto:reneemprasad@hotmail.com)
- Night Owls: Paulette Miller  
[psmiller10847@verizon.net](mailto:psmiller10847@verizon.net)
- Salon Discussion Group : Kay Corbett  
[kaycorbett1@msn.com](mailto:kaycorbett1@msn.com)
- Musical Notes: Olga Burns  
[rubato12@aol.com](mailto:rubato12@aol.com)



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**ATTORNEY AT LAW**

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