

The Impact of Women in Military History
Lt. Col. Marilla J. Cushman, USA (Ret.)
Thursday, April 20, 7 p.m.
Kings Park Library

Lt. Col. Cushman began her military career in the Women's Army Corps in 1972, six years before women were integrated into regular army units. Since then, she has spent much of her career promoting the achievements of service women and providing support for women in the military.



Lt. Col. Cushman

She currently serves as the public relations representative for the Women in Military Service for the American Memorial Foundation, part of the American Women's Military Memorial Museum, located on the grounds of Arlington National Cemetery. Under her leadership the Women's Military Museum has amassed a large collection of artifacts, along with stories related to their years of wearing the uniforms of our country.

Lt. Col. Cushman will make a presentation and answer questions on the impact of women in America's defense and its wars throughout its history. This meeting at the library is also open to the general public.

Membership

As I write this, it is the first day of spring! Let's hope the weather starts feeling like February did!

Our membership remains at 51. We have one more meeting on April 20 before our end-of-year banquet. Maybe we will be able to welcome another new member or two before the official end of the AAUW year.

As a side note, I would like to thank Suzanne Mahoney and Gale Rogers for all their hard work on the committee for STEMtastics. Several people who were very interested in AAUW and our branch approached me at the membership table. I have contacted them and hope they will be interested in joining. Many parents stopped to ask for information about AAUW, and many thanked us for sponsoring the event.

I hope to see you at the April 20 meeting. Bring family, a neighbor, or a friend and stop by the membership table.

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Annual Business Meeting

The Fairfax City Branch annual business meeting will be held at the end-of year banquet in May. At that time, we will vote on the branch dues reduction proposed by the board (from \$18 to \$13) and elect a Vice President for Membership.

Member Update

Welcome new member **Catherine S. Read**. Her address is as follows:

10328 Sager Ave, # 116

(c) 703-966-6960

Fairfax, VA 22030

catherine@creativeread.com

B.A. George Mason U., Govt. & Politics

Co-Vice President for Membership

OK, we haven't threatened anyone yet. No bribes have been offered. We haven't even gotten on our knees to beg. We are still in the coaxing-and-cajoling stage. But that doesn't mean we have infinite patience as we wait for someone to raise a hand. (Can you hear the fingers drumming on the tabletop in the background?)

This is a light task for someone who would like to get involved in branch activities, but doesn't want to be overwhelmed with responsibility. Sue Manganiello has agreed to take the membership vice presidency for the larger share of the year, but she needs a co-conspirator who can take over her duties for December through March when she is away. This means being at the membership table at meetings and monitoring inquiries about AAUW, encouraging and processing new members, and attending a board meeting or two.

Is this job for you? If so, please call or email Joan Dimengo (703/815-1586; jdimengo@gmail.com). You will receive our heartfelt thanks (but no money).

Falitha Ann Lee

Daughter of former member Myrna Brown

Born, Springfield, Oregon, April 26, 1976

Died, March 21, 2017

News on National Dues

The AAUW Board of Directors is considering increasing national membership dues by \$10 (from \$49 to \$59). This would be the first increase since 2008.

Predictable income from dues is much more reliable for budgeting purposes than having to project income from dues and donations of an uncertain amount from year to year. Too, the programs that AAUW supports have grown more expensive with inflation over the past nine years.

The Board will vote on the proposed increase at its meeting in June. If approved, it will become effective for the 2018–19 membership year. It looks like what the Fairfax City branch giveth, the national association will taketh away!

STEMtastics 2017

At 7 a.m. on Saturday, March 11, a "STEMtastics Drop-off and Parking" sign greeted me at the entrance to the NOVA-Annandale parking lot. Four AAUW branches (Fairfax City, Mclean Area, Springfield-Annandale, and Vienna Area) had again organized STEMtastics, a career day for middle school girls.



Registration

Thanks to the co-sponsorship of Northern Virginia Community College Systemic Solutions, STEMtastics could use the campus's Ernst Center facilities and classrooms at cost. As I walked toward the steps leading to the Ernst Center, the

driver of a car loaded with boxes and grocery bags for morning snacks asked where to unload.

In another hour almost 300 middle school students with parents in tow would ascend these steps to attend workshops about careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). The co-sponsorship of Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) allowed the STEMtastics planning committee to use their blast email capability to reach out to the parents of all middle school students. Registration had to be closed after just 15 days. School policy forbids single gender events sponsored by FCPS; boys could come, too. Less than 10 percent of the students attending were boys.



Dr. Micki Amour's Dog Brody

Inside the Ernst Center, stanchions and ropes marking the anticipated snake line of students stood silently by while early-arriving check-in and theater volunteers crowded around Judy Page's information desk for instructions. After dropping off almost 400 schedules for the students, I ventured into the theater to set up a computer for the morning's theater workshop presentations: a keynote address by a Thomas Jefferson student, FCPS resources, financial advice, and a panel composed of current STEM students.

Joan Dimengo arrived to set up the membership table in the theater's "gallery." A short time later, Paulette Miller and Barbara Klementz posted themselves near the Ernst Center entrance to greet theater workshop presenters while Ida Portland joined Judy at the information desk.

Upstairs, the volunteer check-in desk was buzzing under Marlene Chivavibul's able direction. She coordinated volunteers from the four AAUW branches plus some high school students. When I arrived many were setting up tables, making coffee, and unloading groceries. As I was attaching my name tag to my sweater, Gale Rogers rushed by, covered head-to-toe in winter attire to set up signs to guide students to their workshops.

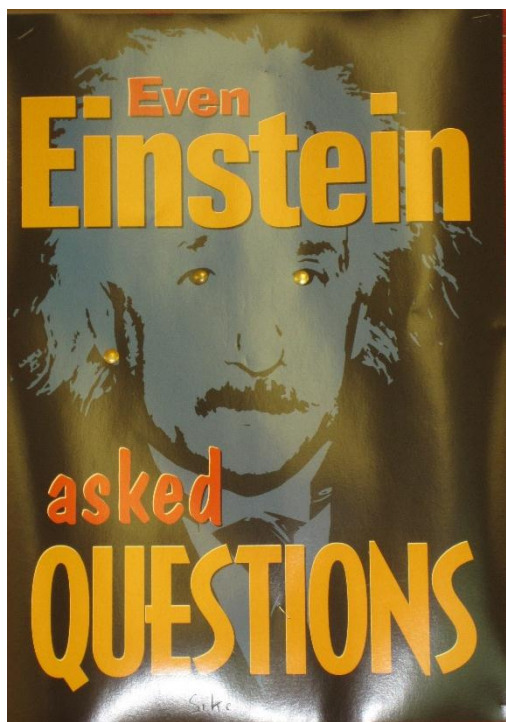


Dr. Denise Akob, Microbiologist

Following those signs to CC, the classroom building for the student workshops, I was greeted by Marilyn Parker, a hall monitor. Then, I busied myself checking on computer hook-ups. The STEMtastics planning committee members charged with managing the 23 student workshop presenters, (Susan Burk, Ginger Caress, and Ann Sauberman, all from the Springfield-Annandale branch) capably met the challenges of the morning: they assigned students scheduled for an ill presenter to other workshops, moved the presenter with hard-to-fix computer problems to the abandoned classroom; and compassionately

took care of a student missing a schedule and another with ADHD.

Jan Humphrey, Kitty Smith, Anita Light, and Dottie Joslin volunteered in four of the classrooms where they supported presenters and provided feedback to the STEMtastics committee. I had the privilege of escorting Emily Emery, our contact for FCPS, around to some of the student workshops. We watched parachute testing, heard the music of banana pianos, and peeked in on a computer programming class. Emily noted how engaged the students were in the hands-on activities and was impressed by the professional women conducting the workshops.



An apt poster on an NOVA-Annandale classroom wall

Returning to the Ernst Center, I listened to members of a student panel describe how important the support of parents and teachers is to them. In particular, they appreciated support for what the students were interested in, namely, their STEM studies.

Soon, Gale rallied her troops including Olga Burns to escort the students from the classroom building to the Ernst Center to meet their parents. With classrooms returned to their former state and evaluation forms turned in, volunteers

gathered at the Ernst Center for boxed lunches ordered by Kelly Espy.

Another successful STEMtastics was in the books. Having experience with numerous volunteer groups, Charles Britt of Systemic Solutions gives us high marks for our organizational skills in running such a large event. Looking at other STEM-related events, we are especially practiced in reaching out to so many students. Many other events don't even reach 100 students. To build on our success, we need to recruit additional volunteers for the STEMtastics Planning Committee. The tasks for each area are well defined and well documented. Planning for next year's event will begin before you know it, so please give this some consideration.

Scholarship Committee Member Needed

Here's an easy and interesting task for someone who'd like to get involved in branch activities, but can't commit to a big job over an extended time period: membership on the scholarship committee.

The timeline is simple. The deadline for applications is April 15. Once all applications are received I will compile packets for each applicant and distribute them electronically to the committee members for review along with an evaluation matrix. The committee will then meet once to discuss the applications and select the recipients. Selection will be made in time to invite the recipients to join us at the May luncheon.

We need at least one more member to complete this important committee.

Remember, this is the reason we hold the Book & Author Lunch each year. It is very rewarding to be part of helping another woman fulfill her dream of returning to school. Please contact me if you can help.

Paulette Miller

Psmiller10847@verizon.net or 703/250-0876

Attention Antiquarians, Mystery Lovers, Cooks, Historians, Children, Bargain Hunters, and Book Lovers of all Varieties

Come to the book sale on April 7–8 sponsored by the AAUW of Falls Church Branch. The sale is Friday, April 7 (9 a.m.–9 p.m.) and Saturday, April 8 (9 a.m.–4 p.m.) at the Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls Street, just off Route 7 in Falls Church.

More than 40,000 books will be available for browsing and buying. Most will be priced at \$3 or less. The book sale benefits scholarships and grant programs for women, including local Falls Church high school girls.

For more information, visit

<http://fallschurcharea-va.aauw.net/booksale>, or
contact 703/941-5643 or
molliejewell2@gmail.com.

April 4: Equal Pay Day

On April 4, women workers' wages will finally catch up to what their male counterparts earned by the end of 2016. In one year, women earn 20 percent less than men for the same work. When wage increases are granted based on a percentage of current salary, this pay gap increase every year if no additional adjustments are made. Equal pay days specifically for Asian American women, African American women, Latino women, and Native American women are in March, August, September, and October, respectively.

This is not a day to celebrate, but an occasion to remind yourself of the work still to be done to achieve equal pay for future women workers.

Calendar

Annual State Business Meeting	April 1
Branch Board Meeting	April 4
Equal Pay Day	April 4
Branch Meeting	April 20
AAUW National Convention	June 14–17
Book & Author Lunch	Oct. 28

Hurray — AAUW just hit 40,000 followers on Twitter! Do you love woman-empowering news, articles, and updates? Give us a follow.



Follow AAUW (@AAUW)

on Twitter
Don't miss a beat!
TWITTER.COM

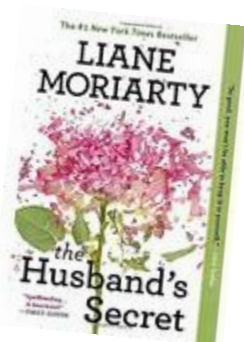
Interest Groups

Interest Groups

Afternoon Lit

Wednesday, April 19, at 1 p.m.
Home of Prativa Prasad
9030 Scott Street, Springfield
balramprasad@gmail.com
703/866-4038

Please contact Prativa by
Sunday, April 16, if you plan to attend. We will
discuss *The Husband's Secret*, by Liane Moriarty
(396 pp.).

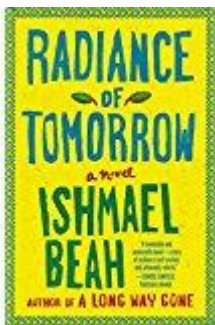


Great Decisions–Salon Discussion Group

Friday, April 14, at 12 noon
Home of Kay Corbett
7226 Clifton Road, Clifton
Kaycorbett1@msn.com
703/222-6012

In April we will continue our Great Decisions
with the 2017 edition of the Foreign Policy
Associations briefing book. The third topic is the
South China Sea. All members are invited to
attend. We will listen to the 30-minute DVD on
the topic that accompanies the briefing book.

Please let the hostess know if you will be coming.
Bring a light lunch. Ann Slomski will
provide dessert, and the hostess will
furnish drinks and snacks.



Lunch Bunch

Our April 5 Lunch Bunch will be at First Watch
in Fair City Mall at 11:00 (early to beat the crowd),
where we can decompress and share stories about
our March STEMtastics. Join us! Please email
Gale Rogers (gale.rogers@denkifuro.com) to sign
up.

Musical Notes

Friday, April 28, at 1 p.m.
Home of Olga Burns
10623 Timberidge Road,
Fairfax Station
Rubato12@aol.com
703/239-2876

We will view the first half of
Bizet's *Les Troyens* with
Jessye Norman, Tatiana
Trojanos and Placido
Domingo. Please let Olga know
you will attend.



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Night Owls

Tuesday, April 11, at 6:30 p.m.
Home of Gale Rogers,
6010 Deep Lake Way, Burke
gale.rogers@denkifuro.com
703/938-0520

A light supper will be followed by our discussion
of *The Radiance of Tomorrow* by Ishmael Beah, led
by Paulette Miller. Please let Gale know if you will
be attending.

For planning ahead purposes, our May book is
The Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison.

Contact Paulette Miller with any questions,
703/250-0876 or psmiller10847@verizon.net

Our Mission

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

AAUW Fairfax City Branch Membership and Renewal Information

AAUW membership is open to all graduates who have a two-year, RN, four-year, or higher degree from an accredited institution. AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.

You can join or renew online at www.aauw.org. Click on *Membership> Join/Renew> Branch Member*. Follow the prompts. We are "VA3042 Fairfax City."

Or, you can join or renew by completing the application below and mailing it with your check to the treasurer.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____ (C) _____

E-Mail: _____

Degree: _____ College: _____ Field: _____

Degree: _____ College: _____ Field: _____

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, 2017.

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

If transferring from National Membership or another branch, submit dues to the treasurer.

Contact Joan Dimengo (C 703/203-2765 H 703/815-1586 or email jdimengo@gmail.com) for verification of the dues amount.

AAUW ID #, if known: _____

Dues enclosed for transfer: _____ National membership expiration date: _____

Make your check payable to AAUW Fairfax City Branch and send it with this form and your check to the treasurer:

Dottie Joslin

11110 Del Rio Dr.

Fairfax, VA 22030-5339

i.joslin@verizon.net or 703/591-9035

Would you be willing to bring someone to our meetings and events if she lives in your area? Yes or No

Do you need transportation to our meetings and events? Yes or No

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gale.rogers@denkifuro.com

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Book and Author Luncheon:
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brbklm5@verizon.net
Suzanne Mahoney
suzanne070946@mac.com

STEMtastics:
Suzanne Mahoney
suzanne070946@mac.com

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arnoldjh52@aol.com

Night Owls: Paulette Miller
psmiller10847@verizon.net

Salon Discussion Group : Kay Corbett
kaycorbett1@msn.com

Musical Notes: Olga Burns
rubato12@aol.com



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