

## **AAUW of Virginia Northern District Meeting**

**Saturday, March 3**

**Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke**

**Gather at 1:30; Program Starts Promptly at 2:00**

Join your fellow AAUW members for two presentations:

- AAUW staff has reorganized under our new CEO, Kim Churches, with four senior vice presidents: Research & Programs, Communications & Outreach, Public Policy & Research, and Advancement & Partnerships. As the new Senior VP for the latter, Kendra Davis heads up the team for member dues and contributions, major donors, corporate donors, and planned giving. Kendra has some very interesting statistics to share with us.
- What's the difference between Start Smart and Work Smart? What does it take for a branch to sponsor a program? How could we work together on these workshops, which facilitate AAUW's major focus on pay equity? Sue Christie will start the discussion because the McLean Area Branch has started Work Smart and will soon initiate Start Smart. Can you imagine the impact of training thousands of women at our local colleges?

Bring announcements to share with all of us on your branch's upcoming programs and events. See you there!

### **STEMtastics**

With deep regret, the STEMtastics 2018 Planning Committee has cancelled STEMtastics 2018, scheduled for March 10, because of problems with the delivery of the registration materials to the students. This problem resulted in an unexpectedly low number of registrations, making it impossible to proceed with the event. We plan on working out these issues in preparation for STEMtastics 2019.

After discussion with the Board, we are advising all members that Fairfax City will no longer co-sponsor STEMtastics next year unless we find a member who is willing to act as Co-Chair on the Committee. This does not mean we will stop donating funds, advertising the event, or requesting volunteers from our members. It simply means that the current members of the Board can't manage what needs to be done to run the branch, run Book & Author, **and** run STEMtastics without more help. If you would be willing to step up for a couple of years, please let me know. Thanks.

—Gale Rogers, President



## Happy Women's History Month!

The National Women's History Project has announced its theme for  
National Women's History Month, March 2018

### ***NEVERTHELESS SHE PERSISTED: Honoring Women Who Fight All Forms of Discrimination Against Women***

The Project has named 15 women honorees who persisted in their efforts to eradicate discrimination on the basis of gender. Many of these women are unfamiliar to us, but that is exactly why we need to honor them: to recognize their valuable work on behalf of all of us.

**Susan Burton** founded a nonprofit group in Los Angeles, that provides housing, legal and employment assistance, and other resources to women who have been incarcerated.

**Margaret Dunkle** of Maryland played a key role in documenting the need for and implementing Title IX. She also did significant work in health policy and was Director of AAUW's Education Foundation.

**Geraldine Ferraro** (1935–2010) of New York was a congressmember, Democratic Party vice presidential candidate, and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations on Human Rights.

**Jill Moss Greenberg**, who lives in Maryland, has been a trailblazer in addressing the intersection of women's rights and history through working for the passage of Title IX and implementing multicultural education.

**Roma Guy** of San Francisco is a social justice activist and policy leader on homelessness, public health, poverty, LGBTQI rights, immigrant rights, and women's rights.

**Cristina Jiménez** of New York was instrumental in forming the DACA movement and is Executive Director and Co-founder of United We Dream, the largest immigrant youth-led organization in the country.

**Saru Jayaraman**, a national labor leader and researcher, responded to the 9/11 tragedy by organizing displaced World Trade Center workers in New York and co-founding Restaurant Opportunities Centers United.

**Marty Langelan** of Washington, D.C., is a leader in the global effort to end sexual harassment and gender-based violence. She pioneered feminist self-defense training and bystander tactics.

**Pat Maginnis** is one of the earliest abortion rights activists, beginning by handing out leaflets in the late 1950s, and still active at age 89.

**Arlene Mayerson** of California has been a leading attorney advocate in disability rights law, including playing a key role in drafting and negotiating the Americans with Disabilities Act and amendments to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

**Pauli Murray** (1910–1985) was a civil rights and women's rights activist, the first African American awarded a law doctorate from Yale, and the first African American woman to be ordained an Episcopal priest.

**Elizabeth Peratrovich (Kaaxal.gat)** (1911–1958), an Alaska Native of the Tlingit nation, was a civil rights leader whose activism led to passage of the Alaska Territory's first anti-discrimination act in 1945.

**Loretta J. Ross** of Washington, D.C., has dedicated her career to feminist issues with a focus on women of color and the issue of reproductive justice.

**Angelica Salas** is a key strategist and leader in the national movement for immigrant rights and policy reform, working in California to build coalitions among unions, faith groups, and students.

**Linda Spoonster Schwartz**, a retired Air Force Nurse now working in Connecticut, is one of the nation's leading veterans' advocates, focusing particularly on the need for programs for women veterans and survivors of sexual trauma.

For more information on Women's History Month and these honorees, go to  
<http://www.nwhp.org/2018-theme-honorees/>

### Membership

I hope you have all taken a look at the upcoming events for the next few months and the prospect of a new project on pay equity. We have some really interesting and relevant programs coming up. Please invite your friends and family to join us at Kings Park Library. If anyone joins AAUW now, they will only have to pay for a half year. Now more than ever, women need to speak up and be involved. AAUW is a great way to do this! As you know, the Fairfax City branch raises funds to help women further their education, so for little time and money, we can make a difference! If any of you would like to be involved, but don't want a major commitment, why not join a planning committee? We are looking for people who would like to contribute their ideas to the Book & Author Luncheon and to future programs. Let anyone on the board know if this is something you might be willing to do. Feel free to contact me at any time for more information and tell your friends about us!

—Sue Manganiello (703/475-7007 or [smango54@yahoo.com](mailto:smango54@yahoo.com))



### Changing the Climate for Women and Girls

AAUW of Virginia Conference

Portsmouth Renaissance Hotel

April 20–22, 2018

Online Registration available <https://aauw-va.aauw.net/>

Hotel reservations 757-673-3000 or toll free 888-839-1775

The Conference program, workshop descriptions, speaker biographies, and free-time activity suggestions are all given in the Winter/Spring issue of *Virginia Vision*.

**I am starting to think I will never be old enough to know better.**

**Book and Author Luncheon**

It is never too early to start thinking about our big scholarship fund raiser event on **November 3, 2018**.

I am enlisting volunteers for any and all of the pieces that it takes to put this event together. Please think about what you would like to help with. It will really take all of us working together to pull this together. Here are some possibilities: silent auction, both collecting items and putting together the baskets; possible local authors to invite; hosting and introducing authors; publicity; reservations; table decorations.

Please contact me to volunteer at [psmiller10847@verizon.net](mailto:psmiller10847@verizon.net) or 703/250-0876. I plan to have an organizational meeting of volunteers in March.

—Paulette Miller



The AAUW National Board of Directors has voted to put three proposals for bylaws amendments before the membership for a vote this spring. The board strongly supports the proposed amendments that we believe will help keep AAUW vital as an organization and enable us to increase our impact in advancing equity for women and girls.

The proposed amendments address creating three-year staggered board terms, opening board service to those outside of the AAUW membership, and eliminating the degree requirement for membership. While rationale and details for each proposed amendment can be found on the [AAUW website](#), the overarching motivation for these changes at this time is to uphold and advance AAUW's mission and ensure optimal execution at the national board level.

The first two proposals would bring AAUW's board governance structure more in line with nationally accepted nonprofit best practices and the needs of the organization. The third proposal — to eliminate the degree requirement for membership — has come before the membership for vote a number of times. The board feels strongly that while the degree requirement made perfect sense at AAUW's inception, this requirement is now perceived by many as counter to our mission and limits our ability to build the capacity needed to increase our impact as an organization.

The board recognizes that we have not traditionally put proposals up for vote outside our AAUW National Election, but these proposed changes have been under consideration for several years by both the Governance Committee and the board, and we believe it is important to move forward without delay to position the organization for greater growth.

**Members can comment on the proposed amendments and submit their own proposals from February 22, 2018, through March 22, 2018, at 11:59 p.m. ET. Voting will open on April 25, 2018, and close June 9, 2018, at 9 p.m. ET.**

We encourage you all to engage in respectful debate that has always been a hallmark of the AAUW community, exercise your vote, and encourage fellow members to do the same. You can direct any questions or concerns to [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org).

Respectfully,

Your AAUW National Board of Directors

Note: By all means, check out [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) and read the wording of the amendments, the rationale, and the comments of AAUW members. Add your own comments. You won't fully understand the amendments unless you have a sense of why they were proposed in the first place. —The Editor



### The Opioid Crisis in Fairfax County

At our February branch meeting Lauren Nickum of the Fairfax County Services Board gave us a very informative look at how the nationwide opioid crisis affects us in our own backyard and discussed some of the county services available.



Opioids are a class of drug prescribed to relieve pain, such as morphine, oxycodone, hydrocodone, tramadol, methadone, and fentanyl. The illicit drug heroin is also an opioid. Fentanyl is ten times more potent than heroin. Another opioid, carfentanil, is used in veterinary medicine for large animals and is 100 times more potent than fentanyl. The presence of both fentanyl and carfentanil on the streets has grown tremendously in the past several years.

The effect of opioids is to alter the chemistry in the brain to produce a euphoric feeling. Physically they constrict the pupils, narrowing them to pinpoints; decrease breathing rate; induce sleepiness (called “nodding”) or unresponsiveness; and decrease appetite. Flu-like symptoms occur during withdrawal. Symptoms of an opioid overdose are more extreme and include shallow or no breathing, deep snoring, unresponsiveness, and bluish lips or fingers.

In Virginia in 2016 there were 1,100 deaths from opioid overdoses, with 80 in Fairfax County. The county had more drug-related deaths (more than 100) than any other county in Virginia.

Help is available. Through the County Services Board, the county provides a helpline for finding treatment (703/383-8500). People with substance use disorders can go to the detox center at 8221 Willow Oaks Corporate Drive, Fairfax, on weekdays from 9 to 5.

Most important, we can save the lives of people who have overdosed on opioids. An immediate dose of naloxone (brand name Narcan) can save a life. First responders are equipped with naloxone, and members of the public can learn to use it. If a family member or someone you know uses opioids, you should attend one of the county's free Revive! training sessions. For more information on naloxone and other resources, go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/community-services-board](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/community-services-board).

### What's Wrong With Virginia?

Once again, the Virginia legislature has declined to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the U.S. Constitution. Five times in the last seven years, the Virginia Senate passed the ERA, and the House of Delegates did not. This year, despite the current climate, even the state Senate declined to pass it.

Congress passed the ERA in 1972 and set a deadline of 1982 for 38 states to ratify it, the number necessary for it to become part of the constitution. In 2017 Nevada became the 36th state to ratify it.

In neither house of the legislature, did the ERA make it out of committee. The amendment was called "out of order" and "improper" because the deadline for ratification has passed. This disregards the possibility that Congress could at any time extend the deadline and is an insult to Virginia women. Voters need to remember this in November.

Source: Patricia Sullivan, *Washington Post*, 2-9-18.



### National AAUW Dues Increase

The AAUW Board of Directors voted in June 2017 to enact the first dues change in almost a decade. Effective March 16, 2018, national dues will increase from \$49 to \$59. Of the new amount, \$56 is tax deductible as a charitable contribution. The remaining \$3 is not tax deductible because it supports the AAUW Action Fund's Capitol Hill Lobby Corps and get-out-the-vote activities.

Annual dues currently account for 13 percent of AAUW's annual budget. They help to sustain and expand AAUW's programs and work that advances equity for women and girls. A combination of dues, donations, and corporate and foundation funding is critical to supporting AAUW's [salary negotiation workshops](#), groundbreaking [research, advocacy](#) efforts, [campus leadership programs](#), and so much more.

The national dues increase brings the total dues for next year to \$87 (National, \$59; State, \$15; Branch, \$13). Dues for renewals and new memberships submitted after March 15 will reflect this increase. Memberships for 2018–2019 will expire on June 30, 2019.

Please recall that a year ago we reduced the Fairfax City Branch dues by \$5, so total dues for membership renewals will be only \$5 more than members paid for several years. Supporting AAUW's mission and the programs offered by National are worth the small increase in dues.

—Dottie Joslin

### In It for Life? Make It Official!

Put your values into action and empower women and girls for generations to come! Contact AAUW to upgrade from annual to lifetime membership (at [www.aauw.org/resource/in-it-for-life/](http://www.aauw.org/resource/in-it-for-life/)) today and you will receive a letter of recognition, a certificate, and a lapel pin that you can wear proudly, knowing that you've put your values into action to advance AAUW's mission. Lifetime membership in AAUW is a one-time, fully tax-deductible gift of \$980. **Take advantage of this opportunity to become a life member at this rate before March 16!**



### Student AAUW Membership

Do you know any college students? Encourage them to join AAUW and make use of AAUW's benefits and resources. AAUW is changing the definition of "student" to undergraduate and degree-seeking graduate students in full-time or part-time programs. This definition will take effect on March 16. Students who attend a College/University partner institution can join National AAUW free as an e-student affiliate. Dues will be \$18.81 for students whose institution is not a C/U partner. It's easy for students to join online at [aauw.org](http://aauw.org).

—Dottie Joslin

### More Legislative Defeats for Women

The Virginia legislature has produced plenty of disheartening news for women's rights advocates this session. Of particular interest to AAUW members is the defeat of an equal pay bill, introduced by Jennifer Boysko (D–Fairfax). It failed to come out of a committee in the House. The Co-President of AAUW of Virginia, Patsy Quick, spoke to the press on this occasion. "By voting against equal pay for equal work, the message to Virginia women is loud and clear: Our lawmakers in Richmond do not consider us first-class citizens," she said. "Unfortunately, the reality is that in 2016, Virginia women working full time made 80 cents for every dollar made by men—a pay gap of 20 percent. As bad as this is, it is even worse for women of color."

AAUW has long made equal pay one of its primary issues for advocacy. The Association's research on the issue has been ground breaking. See, for example, our publication "The Simple Truth About the Gender Pay Gap."

### Title IX Lawsuit

Several civil rights groups have filed a lawsuit in California against U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos for rescinding the protections granted to accusers in cases involving sexual assault on school, college, and university campuses. Last fall DeVos raised the standard of proof for sexual assault, saying that requiring "a preponderance of the evidence" gave an unfair advantage to the accuser, rather than insisting on evidence of assault that is "clear and convincing." The lawsuit says this change is discriminatory, violates federal law, and is having a "chilling effect" on reports of sexual assault. The acting assistant secretary for civil rights at the time, Candice Jackson, said that "90 percent" of assaults on school campuses 'fall into the category of 'we were both drunk.'" This is not an issue that will be settled anytime soon.

Source: Mary Papenfuss, *Huffington Post*, 1-27-18.

### Women in Elective Office in 2018

Office	Number in 2018	Percentage
U.S. House of Representatives	84 of 435	19.8
U.S. Senate	22 of 100	22
Governor	6 of 50	12
Lieutenant Governor	12 of 50	24
State Legislature	1,871 of 7,383	23
Mayor, City Over 100,000 Population	58 of 284	20.4
Mayor, City Over 30,000 Population	286 of 1,362	21

### Percentages of Women in Elective Office in Earlier Years

Year	U.S. Congress	Statewide Elective Offices	State Legislatures
1975	4	10	8
1981	4	11	12
1987	5	14	16
1993	10.5	22.2	20.5
1999	12.1	27.6	22.4
2005	15.0	25.7	22.4
2011	16.8	22.1	23.7
2016	19.6	24.0	24.5

Source for this data: Center for American Women and Politics ([www.cawp.rutgers.edu/women-elective-office-2018](http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/women-elective-office-2018)).

### Interest Groups

Joining an interest group and attending on a regular basis is a great way to get to know your fellow branch members. Chat with them in an informal, small group setting, exchange ideas about topics you're interested in. Fellowship in common causes is one of the hallmarks of our branch.

#### Afternoon Lit

Wednesday, March 21, at 1 p.m.

Home of Dottie Joslin

11110 Del Rio Dr., Fairfax, VA 22030

[jjoslin3@verizon.net](mailto:jjoslin3@verizon.net),

703-591-9035



The group will discuss the biography, *Queen Victoria's Mysterious Daughter* by Lucinda Hawksley. Please let Dottie know by Sunday, March 18, if you plan to attend.

**Great Decisions—Salon Discussion Group**

Friday, March 16, at 12 noon  
Home of Kay Corbett  
7226 Clifton Rd., Clifton  
[Kaycorbett1@msn.com](mailto:Kaycorbett1@msn.com)  
703/222-6012

We will have our final Great Decisions discussion on Friday, March 16th. At that time we will discuss the seventh and eighth topics in the 2017 edition of the Foreign Policy Association's briefing book. The topics will be Afghanistan/Pakistan and nuclear security. We will listen to a 30-minute DVD on each topic followed by a short discussion. All members are welcome to attend.

Please let the hostess know if you will be attending. The hostess will provide dessert, drinks and snacks.

**Lunch Bunch**

The next lunch bunch is scheduled for Wednesday, April 4, 11 a.m., at First Watch at 9600 Main Street, Fairfax. Please email [gale.rogers63@gmail.com](mailto:gale.rogers63@gmail.com) if you plan to attend.

**Musical Notes**

Thursday, March 22, at 1 p.m.  
Home of Olga Burns  
10623 Timberidge Road, Fairfax Station  
[rubato12@aol.com](mailto:rubato12@aol.com)  
703/239-2876



Please note that we are moving our meeting day to the fourth Thursday of the month. We will be watching "Pagliacci" by Leoncavallo with Teresa Stratas and Placido Domingo. Do let Olga know if you can come.

**Night Owls**

Tuesday, March 13, at 6:30 p.m.  
Home of Joyce Grimes  
8550 Fisher Woods Drive, Lorton  
[joyce\\_grimes@cox.net](mailto:joyce_grimes@cox.net)  
703/550-8722

A light supper will be followed by our discussion of *LaRose*, by Louise Erdrich, led by Joan Dimengo. Please let Joyce know if you will be attending.

In April we will discuss *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane*, by Lisa See. New members are always welcome! Please contact Paulette Miller for more information (703/250-0876; [psmiller10847@verizon.net](mailto:psmiller10847@verizon.net)).

I can't believe how old people my age are.

**Our Mission:**

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

**AAUW—FAIRFAX CITY BRANCH  
HALF-YEAR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION****For New or Lapsed Members**

Membership is open to all graduates who have a two-year or a more advanced degree from an accredited institution. AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Name of member who introduced you to AAUW \_\_\_\_\_

DUES amount enclosed (See below): \_\_\_\_\_

**For new or lapsed AAUW members\* only**, half-year membership dues, **\$38.50** (\$24.50 national, \$7.50 state, \$6.50 branch) for membership through June 30, 2018 will be in effect for dues paid from January 1 through March 15. Note: \$23 of the national dues is tax deductible.

**For only new or lapsed AAUW members\* who join at a branch meeting from January 1 through March 15**, half-year dues combined with AAUW's Shape the Future discount reduce dues to only **\$26.25** (\$12.25 national, \$7.50 state, \$6.50 branch). Note: \$11.25 of the national dues is tax deductible.

\*A lapsed AAUW member has not been an AAUW member for two or more years.

Make check payable to *AAUW—Fairfax City Branch*.

Send this form and your check to the treasurer:

Dottie Joslin  
11110 Del Rio Drive  
Fairfax, VA 22030-5339

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

**Officers:**

President: Gale Rogers  
[gale.rogers63@gmail.com](mailto:gale.rogers63@gmail.com)

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Membership Vice President:  
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Secretary: Anita Light  
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**Branch Event Chairs:**

Book and Author Luncheon:  
Paulette Miller  
[psmiller10847@verizon.net](mailto:psmiller10847@verizon.net)

STEMtastics: Gale Rogers  
[gale.rogers63@gmail.com](mailto:gale.rogers63@gmail.com)

**Interest Group Chairs:**

Afternoon Literature: Jean Arnold  
[arnoldjh52@aol.com](mailto:arnoldjh52@aol.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)

Lunch Bunch: Gale Rogers  
[gale.rogers63@gmail.com](mailto:gale.rogers63@gmail.com)



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