

**AAUW** advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. AAUW, founded in 1881, is open to all graduates who hold an associate or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

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.

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## Birthday Wishes for AAUW of Virginia!

On March 27–28, 1925, there assembled in Williamsburg, Virginia, a group of Virginia women, called together as delegates from the already existing local branches of the American Association of University Women, with the intent to form a Virginia State Division of the organization. ... At the morning session on the 28th the motion was made and passed to form a state organization. When the meeting adjourned that afternoon, the Virginia Division of AAUW was a reality.

Neola Waller, Historian  
*Celebrating 75 Years of Excellence:  
The History of AAUW of Virginia*  
<http://aauw-va.aauw.net/aauw/history/>

**In 2015, AAUW of Virginia will celebrate 90 years, advocating for women and girls!** What’s frustrating is that some of the issues for which we worked those many years ago are still unfinished, but relevant today.

**What is your wish for AAUW of Virginia as we celebrate our 90th birthday?** Send your wishes to Sandy Lawrence ([sandyaauw@juno.com](mailto:sandyaauw@juno.com)) or Patsy Quick ([pnquick@cox.net](mailto:pnquick@cox.net)). They will be displayed at the state conference, April 18, 2015, in Charlottesville. Join us there as we celebrate our heritage and get fired up to continue our work in the coming years.



## AAUW of Virginia Elected Officers

### Co-Presidents

Sandy Lawrence  
sandyaaauw@juno.com

Patsy Quick  
pnquick@cox.net

### Co-Vice Presidents for Program

Kathy Batkin  
kbatkin@verizon.net

Maureen Dwyer  
maureen.dwyer@realitydirect.com

### Vice President for Membership and Branch Development

Sally Sledge  
sasledge@msn.com

### Vice President for Finance

Nancy Thompson  
nancygva41@gmail.com

### Vice President for Public Policy

Leslie Tourigny  
ltourigny@gmail.com

### Vice President for Communications and Public Information

Susan Conklin  
sconklin00@aol.com

### Recording Secretary

Sherry Warren  
varrtl@aol.com

**Deadlines for Vision:**  
**January 15**  
**May 15**

**Please send all copy to**  
Erin Nabors  
eln0102@aol.com

## From Your Co-Presidents

# What a Summer for AAUW of Virginia!

For many branches, summer is time off for AAUW members, but not for your state leaders. We stayed busy!

In June, many of us attended the opening session of the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders at the University of Maryland. We met with recipients of AAUW scholarships and felt their excitement and appreciation. It was an inspiring session, with Chelsea Clinton as the keynote speaker. Her words of encouragement meant a lot to the student leaders as well as to your AAUW of Virginia leaders in attendance.

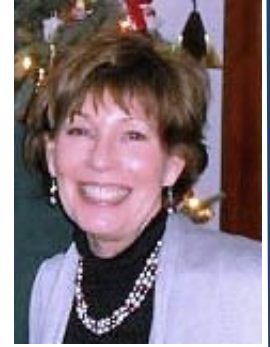
Thanks to the hard work of **Leslie Tourigny**, **Maureen Dwyer**, and **Kathy Batkin**, we were one of nine states to receive a Public Policy Impact Grant from National. Our topics are STEM and human trafficking. More information on program ideas and events, as well as how branches can apply for a grant, are in this issue of the *Vision*.

Almost 70 branch members participated in the July Summer Leaders Meeting in Charlottesville. Erica Stout led us in techniques to determine a branch's vision and how to implement that vision. These techniques are now part of an AAUW of Virginia project called "**From Vision to Reality.**" The goal is to provide facilitators (if desired) to branches so that members can use the techniques to **rejuvenate, energize, and promote each branch's uniqueness**. An article about this is on page 5.

Planning is well underway for the state conference, April 18, 2015, at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Charlottesville. It will be hosted by the Northwest District and AAUW of West Virginia. We will also be celebrating AAUW of Virginia's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary at this conference. It will be a must-attend event!

From the All-Member Survey, two things we heard loud and clear from AAUW of Virginia members are that you like the communication between branches and state and that you want to be more involved with state public policy activities in Richmond and Washington. (Survey article is on page 12.) We will be collecting signatures for a human trafficking petition to present to legislators at our State Lobby Day in February. And we continue GOTV activities and candidates' nights before the November 4, 2014, election. We hope that you will be inspired to participate in both of these initiatives.

*Continued on page 3.*



## District Representatives

### Northern

Jeanne Elmore  
jeanneelmore@yahoo.com  
Caroline Pickens  
carolineaaauw@gmail.com

### Northwest

Sylvia Rogers  
srogers1nm@aol.com

### Southeast

Marilyn Riddle  
mriddle@cox.net

### Southwest

Julie Kause  
jkause@embarqmail.com

## **From Your Co-Presidents, continued**

As co-presidents, our goals are to increase the visibility of AAUW around the state and to rally members to action. Since 1881, AAUW members have been in the forefront of many of the same causes we currently advocate. It is time to get the deeds done!

We are honored to be your co-presidents, but we don't have all the answers. We don't even know all the questions, but we do welcome your ideas, comments, and suggestions.

*Patsy Quick and Sandy Lawrence*

## **Voting and Elections**

The returns are in for our third One Member/One Vote election. Congratulations to our new officers: Co-Presidents Sandy Lawrence and Patsy Quick; Co-Vice Presidents for Programs Kathy Batkin and Maureen Dwyer; Vice President for Communications Susan Conklin; and Vice President for Public Policy Leslie Tourigny. All were elected by a margin of more than 97% of the votes cast.

Voters adopted the proposed Public Priorities by a substantial majority (230 yes, 3 no, 2 abstentions). The 2014–2016 AAUW of Virginia Public Policy Priorities are the following:

- Gender equity in education, employment, pay, retirement benefits, and public appointments
- Public funds for elementary and secondary education to be used only for schools that adhere to the civil rights and accountability standards required of public schools
- Access to quality health care and family planning support, including individual choice in reproductive decisions and equity in women's health research and treatment
- Freedom from violence, bullying, sexual harassment, and human trafficking
- Access to quality dependent care
- Programs that provide women with edu-

cation, training, and support for success in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fields, the work force, and society

- Enforcement of Title IX and all other civil rights laws pertaining to education
- Enforcement of and full access to civil and constitutional rights, including protection of voting rights

The bylaws amendments were also approved. Proposal 1, adding district representatives to the state board, passed with 234 yes votes and one abstention. Proposal 2, specifying the date by which new members must have joined to be eligible to vote, received 222 yes votes, 10 no, and 3 abstentions.

Seventeen percent (235) of our 1,351 eligible voters participated in this year's election, a decline from 32.8% in 2012 and 23.5% in 2013. Much of the decline can be attributed to the decision to have members request paper ballots rather than have them sent automatically to those who did not agree to vote online. This decision saved almost \$1,000, but only 3 of this year's 235 voters used paper ballots. Last year, 98 members mailed in their ballots.

Congratulations to the three branches that had more than 25% of their members voting: Newport News with 35%, Woodbridge with 32%, and Mt. Vernon with 28%.

*Elizabeth J. Lipscomb*  
Voting and Elections Chair  
[cllipscomb@ntelos.net](mailto:cllipscomb@ntelos.net)

## Program

# **Educating Women and Girls for the Future: STEM Activities**

## **Protecting Women and Girls: Human Trafficking Activities**

This year AAUW of Virginia branches should concentrate their program energy on STEM and human trafficking activities and projects. Those are two focus areas specified in the \$1,000 Impact Grant AAUW of Virginia received and branches are eligible to apply for \$100 mini-grants to defray expenses.

Some branches have successful STEM programs already in the works. Others are looking for a new way to affect STEM activities and efforts in their area. Recent emails to branches laid out several possibilities, including the following:

- Find out whether computer science classes are offered in your area schools. If not, educate your school board and school administrators about the need by using the resources at <http://code.org>.
- Encourage schools to celebrate Computer Science Education Week on December 8–14.
- Educate the educators about the video and other resources at <http://csedweek.org>.
- Go to [www.congressweb.com/Code/2](http://www.congressweb.com/Code/2) to tell your U.S. Senators and Congressmen that you support the Computer Science Education and Jobs Act (S 1407) and the Computer Science Education Act (HR 2536). Mark Warner co-sponsors S 1407.
- Remember Dr. Barbara Ryder, Virginia Tech's computer science department head who received our Woman of Achievement Award this year? She chairs the VA/DC Aspirations in Computing committee of NCWIT and has asked that we visit [www.aspirations.org/volunteer-support/volunteer](http://www.aspirations.org/volunteer-support/volunteer)



Photo courtesy of AAUW

to lend our support. Aspirations in Computing honors high school girls who excel in technology and computer science.

- Working to end human trafficking is a new area for program focus. This is a problem that exists in secret throughout the Commonwealth and refers to both sexual and labor exploitation. This appears to be a bi-partisan issue so we feel we can be successful in asking the General Assembly to work with us toward that goal.
- Collect 1,000 signatures throughout Virginia on an on-line and off-line petition
- Prepare and send letters to the editor
- Participate in State Lobby Day on February 4, 2015
- Hold a meeting where the presenter can explain the signs of trafficking
- Distribute hotline number posters in the community
- Work with providers to refill supplies
- Publicize Human Trafficking Day on January 11, 2015

We want to know what STEM and human trafficking projects and activities you have planned and so does National. Thanks for all you do to further AAUW's mission and public priorities and make life better for women and girls.

Kathy Batkin  
[kbatkin@verizon.net](mailto:kbatkin@verizon.net)

Maureen Dwyer  
[maureen.dwyer@realtymdirect.com](mailto:maureen.dwyer@realtymdirect.com)

Co-Vice Presidents for Program

## Membership

# Membership Season

Membership season is upon us again. This time of year, many people are joining new organizations and trying out new interests. Please be sure your branch is including programming to reach new members as well as returning members.

- As of July 19, 2014, AAUW of Virginia membership totaled 1,410 branch members and 1,136 National Members in the state, for a grand total of 2,546.
- Once again, AAUW of Virginia applied for and won an Impact Grant from AAUW. This is great news! As part of the grant, we are able to offer ten \$100 branch grants this year for branch programs in the following areas: STEM, human trafficking, and Get Out the Vote. If you are interested in applying, please see the AAUW of Virginia website member-

ship page or contact me directly for the short one-page form at [sasledge@msn.com](mailto:sasledge@msn.com).

- We will continue to look for mentors and protégés for our Mentor Program. The mentor forms (for members) and protégé forms (for college students) are on the AAUW of Virginia website membership page. Please go in and sign up as a mentor and encourage Virginia college students to sign up as protégés. This will be a great way to reach areas in the state where branch presence is minimal and to reach members who want to stay in the virtual world.

As always, contact me with your ideas or suggestions at [sasledge@msn.com](mailto:sasledge@msn.com).

Sally Sledge  
Membership Vice President  
[sasledge@msn.com](mailto:sasledge@msn.com)



## *From Vision to Reality: Mission Possible*

At the Summer Leaders Meeting, Erica Stout, AAUW Manager of Member Leadership Training and Programs, presented techniques to determine a branch's vision and then how to implement that vision to almost 70 branch members.

These techniques are now part of an AAUW of Virginia project called From Vision to Reality.

The goal is to provide tools and techniques to branches so they can rejuvenate, energize, and promote their branch uniqueness. This is a positive means for branches to strengthen their own dynamic for growth and adaptability over time.

By focusing on their individuality, branches will be better able to market themselves for new members, leaders, and branch actions. Branch members would commit to participate in the project by engaging in several planning sessions.

The project, *From Vision to Reality*, includes three parts:



Defining a branch focus or mission statement that incorporates what members identify as being important to them



Determining action steps to achieve their vision



Creating a marketing plan to showcase their branch and stand out in the crowd

AAUW of Virginia has revised the summer leaders meeting presentation into a streamlined version, based on participants' evaluation responses. We will email the *From Vision to Reality* project information to branch presidents soon. We will also provide facilitators to support branch efforts and we will offer mini-grants of \$20 on a first come/first serve basis.

Contact Sandy Lawrence ([sandyaaun@juno.com](mailto:sandyaaun@juno.com))  
or Patsy Quick ([pnquick@cox.net](mailto:pnquick@cox.net))  
for more information.

## **AAUW Funds**

# **LOOKING TO THE FUTURE WITH AAUW FUNDS**

*Words cannot express my sincerest gratitude for providing me with the opportunity to attend this conference (NCCWSL). Without your sponsorship, I would have been unable to attend. ... I was able to step out of my comfort zone.*

Summer has been a busy time with planning meetings, conferences, and leaders meetings. I trust all of these things have helped you realize how important AAUW Funds are for the equity for women and girls.

A great example is the National Conference of Collegiate Women Student Leaders, NCCWSL, held in June at the University of Maryland. It was most successful with almost 900 women attending. For many of these students who received the scholarships, it was the only way they could attend. **Virginia Branches and the state donated \$7,000** to this endeavor.



With the growth of the conference comes a challenge. More students than ever before applied for a scholarship. **You** are the reason more students were offered scholarships. The impact you have made in the lives of the women sponsored in Virginia is immeasurable. **You** are empowering the next generation of women leaders. **Let's keep up this great work for 2014.**

NCCWSL attendees from Virginia attend George Mason University, Marymount University, Northern Virginia Community College, Tidewater Community College, University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, and Virginia Wesleyan University. These women make fantastic program participants and their stories are moving. For more details of the attendees, contact me by email or phone, 703-734-8932.

*Peggy Stotz*  
AAUW Funds Chair  
[pstotz@aol.com](mailto:pstotz@aol.com)

## **Finance**

# **2014–2015 Budget**

The budget for 2014–2015 was approved with minor changes at the summer 2014 board meeting.

The opening checking account balance was \$14,269.48, including \$3,698.00 dues income received last year for the current fiscal year. This balance also includes \$751.96 from previous grants and a \$250.00 gift toward publication of our history. No funds were withdrawn from the investment account this past year. The investment balance as of July 1, 2014 was \$28,429.86.

The predicted/budgeted income from dues, investment dividends, checking account interest, and the return from the state meeting is \$24,009.78. No withdrawal of investment funds is in the budget this year. The budgeted income also does not include the impact grant awarded

this summer.

The projected disbursements including board meetings, travel, insurance, and newsletter are \$25,872.78. It also includes NCCWSL support of \$2000, mini grants to branches implementing ideas from the Summer Leadership Meeting, \$5,100 for the AAUW National Convention in 2015, and \$1,000 for publication of the AAUW of Virginia history. There is also a set aside of \$3,229.78 for branches for the annual meeting. It does not include grants to branches for STEM, Equal Pay, GOTV, and human trafficking projects that are applied for and paid from our grant funds.

If you would like more information, or a detailed budget, please email me.

*Nancy Thompson*  
Vice President for Finance

## Public Policy

### Midterm Elections

AAUW's 2012 It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard campaign was a huge success in registering and turning out millennial women voters. With the critical upcoming midterm elections on **November 4, 2014**, AAUW has launched It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard 2014—Getting Out The Midterm Vote.

AAUW of Virginia's Get Out The Vote (GOTV) goals under our AAUW Public Policy Impact grant are **1) At least half of the active branches participate in at least one GOTV activity, such as voter registration drives, candidate forums, etc.; and 2) We register at least 500 voters.** These GOTV activities can be planned and carried out by branches on their own or in conjunction with other organizations, such as the League of Women Voters and our college/university partners.

The obvious first-step to GOTV is to register voters. October 14, 2014, is the deadline to register voters for the elections. Click on <http://www.aauw.org/resource/organize-a-voter-registration-drive/> for AAUW's "how to" information on conducting a voter registration drive.

**Remember that legal restrictions prevent the use of advocacy materials, such as voter guides or issue fact sheets, in conjunction with a voter registration drive.** However, you can hand out AAUW's new recruitment postcard at your GOTV activities. You can request these postcards from Connect2AAUW by calling 800/326-2289 or emailing [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org).

Also, the Virginia Department of Elections has posted **mandatory** "Guidelines for Conducting Voter Registration Drives." Here is the link to these guidelines:

<http://sbe.virginia.gov/index.php/registration/voter-registration-guidelines/>

**After each voter registration event, please send me the number of voters you registered so we can track progress towards our goal.**

Another important GOTV activity is to sponsor nonpartisan [issue](#) or [candidate](#) forums. At these, you can provide [fact sheets](#) on key issues that affect AAUW policy priorities as well as distribute [voter guides](#). 2014 AAUW Action Fund Voter Guides will be coming soon.

The final measure of our impact is how many people actually vote, so don't forget to call your friends and family to remind them to vote!

### Dates to Remember

#### October 2014

- 6 First day of the 2014–2015 U.S. Supreme Court term
- 14 Last day to register to vote for the November mid-term elections

#### November 2014

- 4 Election Day

#### December 2014

- 3- League of Women Voters Pre-Session Roundtable in Richmond
- 8–14 Computer Science Education Week

#### January 2015

- 11 Human Trafficking Awareness Day
- 14 Virginia General Assembly convenes

#### February 2015

- 4 State Lobby Day (Richmond)
- 18 State General Assembly Call-In Day (**tentative date**)
- 28 Virginia General Assembly adjourns

#### April 2015

- 14 Equal Pay Day

#### May 2015

- 7 Federal Lobby Day (**tentative date**)



Leslie Tourigny  
Vice President for Public Policy  
[ltourigny@gmail.com](mailto:ltourigny@gmail.com)



An **elevator pitch** or **elevator speech** is a quick, succinct summation of what AAUW is all about. Spoken, it should not last longer than 30 seconds! You want to say enough to cause someone to say, “Tell me more!”

**Use this template to create your speech.** Choose the statements you like, write them down, and then rehearse your elevator speech to be ready to use it enthusiastically anytime, anywhere. It has been known to work in recruiting new AAUW members!

### 1. Start with a Snappy Intro:

- American Association of University Women is an organization that has been empowering women and girls since 1881.
- The American Association of University Women is the nation’s leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls.
- In American Association of University Women we examine and take positions on the fundamental issues of the day—educational, social, economic, and political. We have been doing this since our founding in 1881.
- We are a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization with 170,000 members and supporters, 1,000 branches, 800 university partners.

### 2. Add one/two specific actions that make AAUW unique. Tailor it to a person’s age/ interests:

#### NATIONAL

- One of the world’s largest **sources of funding** for graduate women, \$3.7 million in 2013–14
- Awarded **six types of fellowships and grants** to 245 women and non-profit organizations (*American Fellowships, International Fellowships, Career Development Grants, Community Action Grants, International Projects Grants, Selected Professions Fellowships*)
- AAUW’s **research reports** analyze equal opportunity for girls in schools, the pay gap, sexual harassment, and why there are so few women in the STEM fields
- In 2013, **Lobby Corp volunteers** made over 1,500 visits to congressional offices to lobby on bills and issues such as Paycheck

Fairness Act, Sexual Assault in the military, and the Healthy Families Act

- For 29 years, we have hosted **America’s premier conference for college women** aspiring to be leaders (NCCWSL: National Conference for College Women Student Leaders–2014, nearly 1,000 college women from every state and from around the world)

#### STATE

- Donated over \$2,000 to the Turning Point Suffragette Memorial
- Received Impact Grant from national to help branches with STEM and Equal Pay activities
- Registered over 1,200 voters through our “Get Out the Vote” campaign in 2012
- Sponsored annual State and Federal Lobby Days

### 3. Then get more personal: “Personally, I enjoy ...”

**BRANCH** Include something that your branch has achieved and is proud of:

- STEM activity
- Support a C/U partner school
- Programs on \_\_\_\_\_
- Book, theater, dining, discussion, game groups
- Other programs and community outreach that put AAUW’s research into action

### 4. End with: “If I can have your email, I will send you our newsletter and let you know when our next program/activity is.”

*Continued on next page.*



## Example Elevator Speech

AAUW is a nonpartisan nonprofit that is a leading voice for equity for women and girls and has been since 1881. As one of the world's largest sources of funding for graduate and post-graduate women, we gave \$3.7 million in fellowships and grants in 2013-14. In 2013, Lobby Corp volunteers made over 1,500 visits to congressional offices to lobby on bills and issues such as the Paycheck Fairness Act, sexual assault in the military, and the Healthy Families Act. I am proud that my branch offered a screening of *Invisible War* to the public



this fall. I especially enjoy the book group and the great women who participate in my branch. If I can have your email address, I'll send you our newsletter and let you know when the next meeting is.

This elevator speech actually takes 45 seconds to say. Can you find ways to shorten it?

### Now Here Is What You Do:

- Copy and paste a statement from 1 and 2 of the template into a document of your own
- Add something personal from 3
- Copy and paste statement 4
- Read and adapt it to match your way of speaking. Then, read it, time it, and make other adjustments that work for you.
- Once you have your own speech completed, rehearse and time it again. Rehearse it multiple times so it sounds natural and conversational when you say it. After that, you will be ready to take into the world!
- Don't forget to adapt your speech to the interests of your listener and update when new AAUW actions occur

Go to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) to learn more about AAUW if you want other information for your elevator speech.

## Call for Proposed State Bylaws Amendments, Call for Proposed Resolutions

The chair of the Bylaws/Resolutions Committee has issued a call for proposed amendments to the State Bylaws and for proposed resolutions to be presented at the State Conference in April in Charlottesville. These will be voted on under the One Member, One Vote initiative.

The deadline for submission is December 1, 2014.

Proposed bylaws amendments must state the specific section of the bylaws being amended, the specific wording of the amendment, and a statement of the rationale for the amendment. Each proposed resolution must include the specific wording of the resolution, a statement of the rationale for the proposed resolution, and a proposed plan for the implementation of the resolution.

Bylaws amendments and resolutions are to be submitted to the chair of the committee by mail or email using the contact information provided below.

Joanna Crane  
Bylaws/Resolutions Chair  
[Joanna.p.crane@gmail.com](mailto:Joanna.p.crane@gmail.com)

## Nominating Committee

### Call for Nominations

**Wanted:** AAUW members willing to serve on our state board in the following positions:

- **Recording Secretary:** Responsible for minutes from both board and state meetings. Files all written reports presented at state meetings and maintains record books of state board documents and minutes. The recording secretary is the board liaison to the Voting and Elections Committee.
- **Vice President for Finance:** Collects dues, disburses funds per the *Board of Directors Handbook*, keeps an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements, submits an annual written financial report, and prepares an annual budget.
- **Vice President for Membership and Branch Development:** Endeavors to increase and retain membership in the state by assisting branch membership chairs in the development of successful membership procedures and orientation programs.

#### **Commitments:**

- Attend all board meetings (summer, fall, winter conference call, and state conference meeting)
- Prepare reports for board meetings and the *Vision*

#### **Benefits:**

- Mileage reimbursement
- All meals at board meetings included
- Partial hotel reimbursement
- It is fun, rewarding, and a chance to make a difference!

For detailed descriptions of these positions, please see [www.aauwof.org](http://www.aauwof.org) and click "Bylaws."

The positions will be voted on by all state members via online and paper ballots, sometime after the state meeting. The positions will be held from July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2017.

Nominations must be submitted by December 1, 2014, to Julie Krause.

Julie Krause  
Nominating Chair  
[jkrause@embarqmail.com](mailto:jkrause@embarqmail.com)

## Historian

### New History of AAUW of Virginia

For the past five years, State Historian Neola Waller has collected AAUW of Virginia newsletters, minutes of state meetings, and financial statements of AAUW of Virginia. She has spoken with members to gain additional information and to locate photographs of events. And then she wrote.

What emerged from all this is *The History of the American Association of University Women of Virginia, 1925–2010*, which is being printed as you read this. The state board voted at its fall meeting to give a complimentary copy to each branch. Additional copies will be offered for sale at the 2015 state meeting.

The book, written in three parts, contains the 1925–1960 portion written by Dr. E. Marion Smith of Hollins College, the 1960–1970 segment written by Mary Thrasher of Norfolk and B Lovitt of Virginia Beach, and the newest part, 1970–2010,

written by Waller. Thrasher, Lovitt, and Waller, also of Virginia Beach, served as state AAUW presidents.

The narrative is a testimony to the interest, dedication, perseverance, and accomplishments of our members, branches, and state boards in spreading the AAUW mission and working for equity and education for women and girls across our Commonwealth during our organization's first 85 years.

Waller says, "My goal has been to capture the enthusiasm demonstrated by our members as they worked to empower women. They rejoiced over their successes and were not deterred by setbacks. It has been a labor of love for me to research and write this book, and I am so proud to be a member of AAUW of Virginia."

Neola Waller  
Historian  
[Wallerwn1@gmail.com](mailto:Wallerwn1@gmail.com)

## **Communication**

### **Is Your Email Address Correct?**

Just getting into this job and I got hit with a technological roadblock—is your email correct? Is that a 1 or a lower case l? Is there an \_ (underscore) or not? So, I have to admit defeat and say that Sandy and Patsy were right when they encouraged me to send everyone to the Member Services Database (MSD) and check their personal information. I know this will not ensure 100% correct information, but it will go a long way.

Go to AAUW.org and scroll down to the bottom of the home page and log in to view your data. You will need your AAUW member number to log in. What—you don't know your membership number?

There are three ways to find your number:

- Look on the label of your *AAUW Outlook* magazine.
- Go to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) and click on "Login" at the top. At the Login page, click on "Forgot AAUW Member ID?" and enter required information to get your number.
- Contact AAUW at 800-326-AAUW and ask for your number if you do not have access to a computer.

To enter or edit your address, email, and phone number in the AAUW Member Services Database (MSD):

- Go to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)
- Go to bottom of the page and click on "Member Tools."
- Log into Member Tools (see above if you don't have your member number at hand).
- Once in Member Tools, click on "Visit Here" at the Member Services Database at the bottom.
- Click on "Enter Member Services Database."
- Alternatively you can call AAUW at 800-326-AAUW and ask that your contact information be corrected.

It is important that you keep this information updated. Your mailing label for *Outlook* and the *Virginia Vision* comes from this list, plus the address for all emails you receive from AAUW or AAUW of Virginia is pulled from the MSD.

While you are there reviewing your data, go to profile and you can print out an AAUW membership card with one click. You can use this card as verification of your membership number and for other proof of membership.

When you get back to the home page, scroll down to the bottom right side and look for AAUW Updates. Fill in your email and, BAM, you will get the newest and greatest information.

Susan Conklin  
Vice President for Communications  
[sconklin00@aol.com](mailto:sconklin00@aol.com)

# IT'S MY VOTE

 I WILL BE HEARD 

A A U W A C T I O N F U N D

## **AAUW of Virginia All Member Survey 2014**

### **What Did You Say?**

**Thank you** to all of the AAUW of Virginia members who filled out a survey at the Smith Mountain State Conference or online. A total of 166 members submitted a survey. Below is a quick tally of the top three responses.

What is the most important reason you remain an AAUW Member? And what would you tell someone when encouraging them to join AAUW?

- AAUW Mission
- Friends/fellowship/like-minded Women
- Branch Activities

Which AAUW Public Policy issues would you like to see AAUW of Virginia most involved with?

- Gender Pay Gap
- Bullying/Sexual Harassment/Human Trafficking
- STEM

What AAUW programs would you like to know more about?

- AAUW Research
- Bullying/Sexual Harassment/Human

- Trafficking
- STEM

What do you see as the top responsibilities of the AAUW state board?

- Support branch activities/ leadership
- Communications
- Public Policy Advocacy

What state activities do you consider of value to branch branches?

- Communications
- Program/Membership Resources and Assistance
- Conferences

In what areas do you perceive that the state board is doing a good job?

- Support branch activities/leadership
- Communications
- Public Policy Advocacy

Contact Patsy Quick ([pnquick@cox.net](mailto:pnquick@cox.net)) or Sandy Lawrence ([sandyaauw@juno.com](mailto:sandyaauw@juno.com)) if you would like more information. Thanks again for your participation.

## **Legacy Circle**

### **AAUW and You**

Every one of us is a part of AAUW and AAUW is a part of us. As AAUW members, we feel great pride in our history of empowering women since 1881 and knowing that we are the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls.

It is because we care about AAUW that we ask what we can do to ensure that AAUW's work continues long into the future.

One way is to become a Legacy Circle member. Our regional Legacy Circle Team member, Neola Waller of the Virginia Beach (VA) Branch, has become a Legacy Circle member in part because she found this to be one of the best ways to provide for AAUW for years to come. She says, "It is a way I can support our mission and

empower women and girls not only now but in the future as well." Neola would like to speak with you about how to make your gift a reality. You can call her any time at 757/217.2356 or write [wallerwn1@gmail.com](mailto:wallerwn1@gmail.com).

The simplest form of a legacy gift is a bequest which names AAUW as a beneficiary in your will. There are other ways, too, to become a Legacy Circle member, even one that provides you with tax savings and income during your lifetime.

For more information, call Catherine Heffernan at the AAUW Planned Giving Office at 877/357-5587 or email her at [heffernanc@auw.org](mailto:heffernanc@auw.org).

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National Legacy Circle Team Member  
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## 2015 AAUW Virginia State Conference



*Courtesy ALH-House-Rick Stillings*

The Northwest District AAUW branches cordially invite you to beautiful Charlottesville for the 2015 AAUW State “Short” Conference, which will convene on April 18, 2015, at the Doubletree Inn. AAUW West Virginia members will also be joining us for the occasion.

Our theme, inspired by the conference’s historic location, will place AAUW’s 132-year-old heritage in the context of the future as we envision continuing to empower women in the twenty-first century.

The program, which will include an opening address, a panel presentation, workshops, lunch, and a reception and dinner with keynote speaker, will be announced later this fall.

Saturday’s meeting will be followed Sunday morning, April 19, with the opportunity to enjoy a private tour of James Monroe’s home, Ash Lawn-Highland, replete with a box lunch in the garden and spectacular views of the Central Valley and the Blue Ridge Mountains.



*Courtesy Doubletree Inn.*



*Courtesy Doubletree Inn.*

The Doubletree Inn, a gracious facility with a helpful, friendly staff, offers rooms and suites that are comfortable and fully furnished. Amenities include a full restaurant and bar, an exercise room, and a pool with lounging area. Our conference and breakout rooms adjoin a stone-paved patio overlooking green hills and the Rappahannock River. Parking is free. Vans are available to take you wherever you plan to sightsee, shop, or sample the excellent locovore dining and the wine and brewery venues Charlottesville is noted for.

The hotel is located near the University of Virginia campus with its famous Rotunda, the historic Downtown Mall on Main Street, once a Monacan hunting path, and the Barracks Road complex of upscale shops. The hands-on Children’s Discovery Museum is close by. Within a short distance are Monticello and its new exhibit “Landscape of Slavery—Mulberry Row,” Ash Lawn-Highland, and Montpelier.

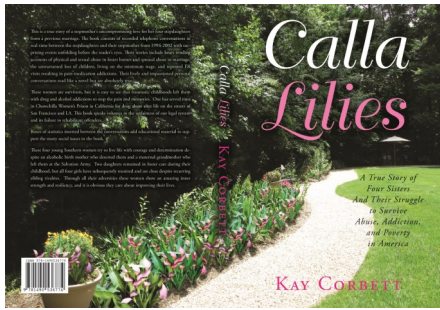
Hiking trails abound in the Shenandoah National Park. Fishing or rafting on the James River in Scottsville is an exciting excursion. Without question, Charlottesville is the ideal setting for a family inclusive weekend.

**Save the date!** We look forward to welcoming you next April to the 2015 AAUW Virginia State Conference.



*Courtesy Doubletree Inn.*

# Branches in Action



We have many accomplished members in our branch, but not many published authors. Long-time **Fairfax City Branch** member, Kay Corbett,

came out with a book a few months ago that she has worked on for many years. Please go to the website ([www.callaliliesatruestory.com](http://www.callaliliesatruestory.com)) for more information on this incisive look into challenges many Americans face.

Although Kay's book is this upcoming December's ¡Adelante! Book of the Month, authors for our upcoming Book and Author had already been asked when Kay's book came out.

Again this year, as many years in the past, our Book and Author will be the first Saturday in November from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is the **only** fundraiser our branch does. The following five authors are speaking about their books:

- Sarah Pekkanen, *The Best of Us: A Novel*. Four college friends reunite on a luxurious vacation in Jamaica, and the closeness reveals truths about all their lives.
- Mary Kay Zuravieff, *Man Alive!: A Novel*. A family is changed drastically when a bolt of lightning strikes one of its members.
- John Muller, *Mark Twain in Washington, D.C.: The Adventures of a Capital Correspondent*.
- Jan Neuharth, *The Kill: A Hunt Country Suspense Novel*.
- Daniel Stashower, *The Hour of Peril: The Secret Plot to Murder Lincoln*.

Please do come to our Book and Author! The money supports our scholarships and you'll have a fun, informative experience.

Dianne Blais  
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In recent years, the **Harrisonburg Branch** has focused fundraising on behalf of AAUW's Legal Advocacy mission. Inspired by the creative ideas of LAF chair, Jan Leach, this effort has

evolved into an annual holiday tea held the first Saturday in December. Gracious hosts Jan and husband Tom welcome members and guests into their splendidly decorated home. It is a highly anticipated gathering, and everyone contributes festive finger food to the well-attended event.

Tina Updike, program chair, enhances the spirit of the tea with a speaker or other entertainment appropriate for the season. Last year, The Blue Ridge Mountain Dulcimer Club, to which treasurer Rosemarie Palmer belongs, played as we caroled.



The Blue Ridge Mountain  
Dulcimer Club

This year, our own soprano, Lucy Hoyt, will provide the musical interlude. Another benefit of the occasion is that guests often choose to become members, as I did when I first attended the tea in 2012.

However, the central focus of the tea is the auctioning of ingeniously themed gift baskets to benefit the LAF. The baskets are handcrafted by Jan, who gathers "found" objects for them throughout the year. Members also supply items, which Jan then weaves into her eight baskets like threads in a tapestry. Last year, bids and donations given in honor of former or present members raised \$242 for the fund.

In appreciation for her successful efforts as our LAF chair, Jan Leach was honored as the 2013 Member of the Year.

Sylvia Rogers  
President  
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Recently, the three **Northwest District branches** have been juggling several projects. **Harrisonburg** hosted the Northwest District Meeting on September 20, 2014, attended by 15 members of the Harrisonburg and **Winchester** branches. Caroline Pickens came as the Board Liaison with Harrisonburg. Sandra Lawrence addressed the group with information about forthcoming programs. Maureen Dwyer presented a

# Branches in Action



Northwest District Meeting

and Chair of the Harrisonburg Democratic Committee, talked about the structures and processes of voter registration.

At Harrisonburg's members and guests reception in August, two of the guests became members. Fall programs include a performance by the Heifetz Strings Ensemble, and a holiday tea and LAF fundraiser. In September, Winchester featured a VISTA graduate who stressed the value of AAUW's STEM policy. In October, Winchester will conduct a candidates' forum, followed in November by a discussion of women in the U.S. military, and an overview of AAUW Programs in a Box in December.

Preparatory to the sponsorship by the Northwest District and AAUW of West Virginia of the 2015 State Conference in Charlottesville, I drafted a plan outlining each sponsors' role. As of now, Winchester will manage registration, Charlottesville venue logistics, and Harrisonburg, program publication. West Virginia's role is to be determined. I also prepared a preliminary budget for review at the November Board meeting.

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The **Norton-Wise Branch** of AAUW has scheduled events for the 2014–2015 year, starting with a planning session and luncheon hosted by member Sally Baird at her home. AAUW will meet at the Second Story Café in the Little Bookstore of Big Stone Gap, and Dr. Wendy Welch, Executive Director of the Southwest Virginia Graduate Medical Education Consortium, author, and bookstore owner, will be our first speaker of the year.

We will have a book sale at the Wise Fall Fling

workshop on Stellar Messaging using visual resources from the Summer Leaders Meeting training session. Debra Fitzgerald, a local branch member

in October, and the Chancellor of UVA-Wise, Dr. Donna Henry, will host the branch in November and be our speaker. In February, we will be meeting at the newly restored Wise Inn and in March we will have our Annual Joyce Winston Writing Contest for all school age children in the county.

We are hoping to also host our "Girls in the Middle" project in April for eighth graders to help pre-plan college and careers. We are planning to meet with interested college students this semester to discuss beginning a college branch of AAUW at UVA-Wise.

*Teresa Adkins*  
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Science is fun and the **Suffolk Branch** is getting the message out to girls who attend the Boys & Girls Club of Suffolk (BGCS) program. Amy Wilkerson, branch member and College of William and Mary scientist, along with two volunteer college students presented a mini-spectrometer workshop for 36 BGCS members. The workshop introduced the girls to the exciting topic of *Visible Light Spectroscopy*. The girls built their own mini-spectrometer, learned how to analyze the spectrum of light source, and were allowed to take the instruments home to further explore the many applications.

Amy Wilkerson, project leader, stated that the program fulfills one of the AAUW tenets by exposing young women's minds to science and giving them the fundamental skills and confidence to become scientists.



Mini-Spectrometer Workshop

The spectrometer workshop was jointly funded by the William and Mary IDEA grant and the AAUW STEM grant awarded by the AAUW of Virginia.

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## Important Dates for AAUW of Virginia

| Month/Date    | Event  | Attendees   | Comment                                     |
|---------------|--|---|---|
| October 1     | Call for candidates for state offices to branch presidents for dissemination |   | POC: State Nominating Committee Chair       |
| October 1     | Call for state resolutions and bylaws amendments from branches and members   |   | POC: State Bylaws/Resolutions Chair         |
| October 18    | Northern District program  | All ND members  | POC: Northern District Co-Representatives   |
| Oct 28        | Southeast District meeting   | All SE members  | POC: SE District Representative             |
| November 1–2  | State board meeting  | Board members   | Staunton                                    |
| November 28   | AAUW birthday  |   |   |
| November 30   | Removal of unpaid members from membership                                    |   | POC: Membership Vice President              |
| December 1    | Deadline for receipt of proposed resolutions and bylaws amendments           |   | POC: State Bylaws/Resolutions Chairs        |
| December 1    | Deadline for state board nominations to nominating committee                 |   | POC: State Nominating Committee Chair       |
| December 8–14 | Computer Science Week  |   |   |
| December 30   | Deadline for actual receipt at national AAUW of branch AAUW Funds reports    |   | POC: Branch Funds Chair/President           |
| January 1     | Half dues for new members begin  |   |   |
| Jan TBD       | Southwest District meeting   | All SW members  | POC: SW District Representative             |
| January 8     | State board conference call  | State Board members   |   |
| January 11    | Human Trafficking Awareness Day  |   |   |
| January 15    | Deadline for <i>Vision</i> articles  | Alexandria, Arlington, Ashburn-Leesburg, Bedford County, Charlottesville-UVA, Greater Manassas, Reston-Herndon, Greater Richmond, Virginia Beach, Wytheville, Northern District | POC: Vision Editor                          |
| February 4    | State Lobby Day Richmond   | All AAUW VA members   | POC: VP for Public Policy                   |
| March 1       | Deadline for slate of nominees for state offices to branch presidents        |   | POC: State Nominating Committee Chair       |
| March 1       | Required reports due to the State Conference Program Booklet Chair           | State board members   | POC: State Conference Program Booklet Chair |



|            |  |   |   |
|------------|--|---|---|
| March 15   | Half dues end for new members (new members after March 15 pay full dues, which are good through June 30, 2015) |   |   |
| Spring TBD | One Member/One Vote voting deadlines   |   | POC: Voting & Elections Chair                     |
| April 17   | State board meeting<br>NW District   | Board members   |   |
| April 18   | AAUW VA Conference<br>NW District  | All AAUW VA members   |   |
| April TBD  | Pay Equity Day   | All AAUW VA members   |   |
| May 7      | Federal Lobby Day (tentative date)   | All AAUW VA members   | POC: VPs for Public Policy                        |
| May 15     | Deadline for <i>Vision</i> articles  | Falls Church Area, Hampton, Lynchburg, McLean Area, Newport News, Portsmouth, Springfield-Annandale, Winchester, Woodbridge. Southeast District, Southwest District |   |
| May TBD    | AAUW VA elections voting   | All AAUW VA members   |   |
| June 1     | Roster of branch officers due to National AAUW and state president   |   | POCs: Branch Presidents                           |
| June 18–21 | AAUW National Convention<br>San Diego, CA  | All AAUW VA members   |   |
| June 30    | Deadline for year-end financial statement  |   | POCs: Branch and State Finance VPs/<br>Treasurers |
| June 30    | Deadline to submit branch officers to MSD  |   | POCs: Branch Presidents                           |
| July 1     | Branch dues reports due to National and state Finance VP   |   | POCs: Branch Finance VPs/<br>Treasurers           |

## Get the Facts

The gender pay gap is real, and it hurts women and families.

- [Among full-time, year-round workers, women are typically paid 78 percent of what men are paid.](#)
- [The pay gap is worse for women of color.](#)
- [When you account for all factors known to affect pay, women are still paid almost 7 percent less than men just one year after college — and the gap only grows from there.](#)
- [The pay gap has barely budged in the last decade.](#)
- [Louisiana has the worst pay gap in the United State](#)

The last time Congress did anything about the gender pay gap.

Go to [www.aauw.org/research/the-simple-truth-about-the-gender-pay-gap/](http://www.aauw.org/research/the-simple-truth-about-the-gender-pay-gap/)

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# *Happy Birthday*



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