



VIRGINIA



Vision

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One Member, One Vote

Finding Your AAUW Voice

If you are a branch member as I am, you have probably voted for *branch* officers, bylaws and policy changes. As a branch member you may have voted for delegates to attend AAUW National and/or Virginia state conventions and represent you during the voting. As branch members we have had it pretty easy with others voting for us. But did they truly represent your opinion?

As I am writing this article, AAUW National is in the midst of the first ever direct vote by members. You have the opportunity to vote online or by mail for national officers, national bylaws and national public policy changes. Now you have the right and the responsibility as a member of AAUW to express your opinion directly through the One Member One Vote.

AAUW of Virginia, your state organization, will offer you that same right and responsibility starting in Spring 2012. You will be able to vote for new state officers and any state public policy or state bylaws changes that may be on the ballot.

The Virginia One Member One Vote task force has been working on making this happen and thus far has made the following recommendations to the board:

- ◆ Voting will be available to all members either online or by paper ballot. [Paper ballots will be discontinued by 2015.]
- ◆ E-mail and mailing addresses for Virginia members will be obtained from the AAUW National Member Database
- ◆ All AAUW of Virginia members will receive a USPS mailing and those with e-mail addresses will also get an e-mail. Both will provide an access code or PIN number to allow you to vote and assure that you vote only once.

- ◆ To allow for open discussion and amendment of proposed bylaws changes and public policy priorities before the voting, voting in Virginia will be conducted immediately after the annual meeting. This will allow for officers to be elected in time to take office on July 1.

- ◆ Voting in Virginia will not be conducted at the annual meeting due to the cost of providing computers and network connections at the conference.

The task force still has much to do to define the timeline for elections, select a service provider, and identify the processes that will be used to put One Member One Vote into action in Virginia. You will be able to voice your opinion at both the national, state and branch levels and help direct AAUW into the future. Contact the task force at OMOV4VA@gmail.com

Jane Newell, One Member, One Vote Chair
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AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

A Publication of
AAUW of Virginia
Vol. 87, No. 3

News from National

Have You Voted Yet?

This is the first time that all dues paying members can vote directly for AAUW President, Vice President, and members of the Board of Directors. Members will also be voting on proposed amendments to the by-laws and the Public Policy Program. In mid-April, you were mailed a paper ballot from National with a deadline of May 31, 2011. If you have already voted, great. If not, by time you get this issue of the Vision it will be too late to vote by mail. **But do not despair!** It will be tight but hopefully you can still make the deadline of June 17 at

Please see ONLINE on Page 3

**AAUW of Virginia
Elected Officers
2011-2012**

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Deadline for Vision:
January 15
May 15
September 1

Please send all copy to
Nancy Morgan
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From Your President

LOOK BACK: Usually the words we hear in AAUW are ones like “Look to the Future” and “Spring Forward.” But I’d like us to take a minute and “Look Back.” AAUW is 130 years old this year, and our past is an inspiration. Our history made us what we are today.

We all know the story of how AAUW’s first research in the 1880’s refuted the prevailing opinion that women’s health was too delicate to withstand the rigors of four years of college. That was only the beginning of AAUW’s groundbreaking studies and projects that were often ahead of the times. Consider a few:

- Almost 100 years ago AAUW issued its first pay equity study in 1913.
- In 1921 we lobbied for independent citizenship for married women (!).
- 1932 saw us lobbying for access to contraceptives for married women and in 1935 to legalize dispensing of contraceptive information by physicians.
- Long before museums did it, AAUW promoted public education on the arts by organizing exhibits in the late 1930’s that traveled throughout the U.S. to towns and small cities that didn’t have an art museum.
- AAUW set up a Refugee Aid Fund in 1940 to assist university women fleeing European dictatorships, for which AAUW had a letter of thanks from Albert Einstein.
- AAUW leader Virginia Gildersleeve was the sole female member of the group that wrote the United Nations Charter after WWII, and she led in creating the UN Commission on Human Rights. AAUW’s early and ardent support for the UN was awarded with Permanent UN Observer status.
- In 1949, 16 years before the Civil Rights Act, convention delegates amended the AAUW Bylaws to clearly state that all college women graduates were eligible for membership, regardless of race.
- AAUW began lobbying in 1969 for a woman appointee to the Supreme Court (took 12 years to get Sandra Day O’Connor).
- In 1972 AAUW was instrumental in the passage of Title IX with AAUW member Patsy Mink (HI) co-authoring the bill.
- In 1983 we began seven years of lobbying for the Family & Medical Leave Act. 1991 saw the release of “Shortchanging Girls, Shortchanging America,” which generated enormous publicity. AAUW’s Initiative for Educational Equity was the national catalyst for major changes in the education of girls in our schools.

We should be very proud of AAUW’s past achievements, but honoring our past doesn’t mean resting on our laurels. AAUW’s history must motivate us to keep moving forward. This organization was founded by women who knew you have to educate and lobby and act to move women along. That is still our mission: keep pushing and breaking the barriers to women’s education and equity. So Look Back at what our AAUW foremothers accomplished and keep building on that foundation.



Caroline Pickens

Caroline Pickens

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Membership

It's Everyone's Job!

I am excited to be serving as your incoming Vice President for Membership and Branch Development. I am fortunate to have been communicating with Mary Kate Black, who has so ably served in this role on the state board. I will continue to work with her to ensure a smooth transition as we change officers in July. I look forward to working with our President Caroline Pickens and the rest of the board, as well as all of the branch officers and members statewide.

I am familiar with the challenges and realities that we face in today's economy, as I have served as the Norfolk branch Membership Vice President for the last four years. I have learned that recruiting new members requires creativity and perseverance. Within the last year, the Norfolk branch is very proud to have started "AAUW at ODU" (Old Dominion University), which is the first e-student affiliate at a College/University partner school in Virginia. This is a terrific group of young women who embody the ideas of AAUW.

As we all know, membership is the job of every AAUW of Virginia member and together we can accomplish great things. I have some ideas for membership and development programs that look towards the future. I want to hear from you about the ideas you have that we can implement as well. Please feel free to contact me.

Sally Sledge, Vice President for Membership
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Online Voting Is Important

(Continued from page 1)

9 p.m. for on-line voting.

To vote online after entering AAUW.org, you will need your member number AND a PIN number. You can get your PIN number one of two different ways:

1. from your paper ballot;
2. by request from AAUW National by sending them your name, member number and address either by E-mail at connect@aauw.org or by telephone 800/826-2289.

It is important for us to vote. This opportunity for direct voting had been a long time coming and is designed to provide members with more of a say and more involvement. AAUW is our organization. Its work is important and needs our support, now more than ever.

Nancy Morgan, Vision Editor
703/465-1245, nhmorgan.va@gmail.com

Give New Graduates Free AAUW Membership

AAUW members can give a recent grad — a friend, daughter, son, granddaughter, grandson, niece, or nephew — a free AAUW membership within two years of graduation at no cost to you or them. Expose the grad to the power that comes from belonging to a national women-led organization of more than 100,000 members who believe in and advance equity and education for women and girls.



Expand their networking opportunities through career development opportunities and community action projects. They will experience the rewards of working with and learning from successful AAUW mentors.

Keep them current on the events and people that affect their life as they receive Mission & Action, AAUW Outlook, Action Network alerts, and more.

Increase their buying power with access to discounts at The Princeton Review, Barnes&Noble.com, health and life insurance, auto insurance, AAUW research reports, credit cards and other members-only benefits such as Career-BUILDER.com and TravelSmart.

Best of all, she/he will receive a free one-year AAUW membership at no cost to you or them! So send no money! Remember, only members can take advantage of this offer. Complete the online membership application now at <https://svc.aauw.org/join/gradgift.cfm>

If you have questions or would like help with the online form, please contact your branch membership vice president.

Stay Current With AAUW

To insure that you receive your *Virginia Vision* as well as other materials from AAUW, your mailing and email addresses need to be kept current.

To change any of this information, go online to http://www.aauw.org/member_center/forms/recordchange.cfm

Members without computers may call the helpline: 800/326-AAUW, or write

AAUW Records Office
1111 Sixteenth St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

Public Policy Update:

Workshop, Lobby Day, D.C. Convention Are Highlights

1) **GA101** : In Wytheville, Laura, in conjunction with Representative Annie B. Crockett-Stark, who represents the Sixth Congressional District in the Virginia House of Delegates, presented GA101 to about fifty attendees. The workshop included information on the legislative process in Virginia and a day in the life of an elected representative in the Virginia General Assembly.

2) **Federal Lobby Day and the Healthy Families Act (HFA)**: On May 5, a small group of Virginia AAUW members joined with the Lobby Corps for Federal Lobby Day. Everyone met at 9:30 a.m. for a briefing on the topic that the AAUW staff had chosen for AAUW lobbyists for that day - the Healthy Families Act (HFA). The HFA requires businesses with 15 or more employees to provide up to seven days of paid sick leave each year.

Three components of the bill are of significant benefit to women as the paid leave covers:

- Recovery from routine illness or care for an ill family member
- Doctor's appointments and other preventative care
- Time spent seeking help and services for victims of domestic violence, stalking, or sexual assault

Representative Rosa DeLauro, representing Connecticut 3rd District, has introduced the HFA numerous times. DeLauro's chief of staff thanked AAUW's Lobby Corps for its work and consistency.

3) **Lobbying at National Convention June 18, 2011**

Seth Chase (national staff) held a conference call about getting attendees to national convention appointments with their representatives.

4) **Impact Grant Application**

Seth Chase (national staff) held a conference call about the impact grants that national will be awarding for 2011/12. After soliciting and being promised help by each of our four districts with this significant voter effort, Laura filled out the application form for Virginia by the May 13th deadline.



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Co-Vice Presidents for State and Federal Public Policy



Communications

Get National Visibility for Your Branch

At the State Conference in Wytheville during the first session of the technology workshop, there was a discussion of how the national AAUW website could become more branch member friendly. Members complained that there was very little on the national website about branches. They said that what was there was difficult to find. After the conference a variety of AAUW staff emailed me vowing to address the concerns. While we wait for that to happen, it IS important to let our branch stories be known. How can we go about that?

There is a page on the AAUW website that offers us all the opportunity to tell the AAUW story from the **branch** point of view. (To get there, yes, it takes a number of clicks, but taking the time to go there may result in the kind of the attention we want.) Here is step-by-step way to let your voices be heard:

- ◆ Go to www.aauw.org and click on **Member Benefits** at the very top of the homepage.
- ◆ Once there, look at the menu on the left. At the bottom you will see **Our Stories**. Click on that to find **Story Bank**. Here is what AAUW says about this section: "Share your story about why membership in AAUW matters to you and how AAUW is breaking through barriers for women and girls. MORE."
- ◆ Click on **MORE** and the message continues: "Whether it's a story of challenge or of victory over challenges, personal stories are one of the most powerful ways to share the continued need to break through barriers for women and girls. If you have a compelling story, we **invite you to share it.**" The last line invites you to "...include a story on what it has meant to you to be part of

the AAUW community as a member, donor, activist, fellowship or grant recipient, or student leader."

AAUW says, "We plan to post many of the stories we receive on our website, so please let us know if we can share your story here. We recommend that stories submitted be approximately 250 to 500 words in length. Please include your name, city and state, and a way that we may contact you, if necessary. Only your name and city/state information will be included with your story if we post it online in the Story Bank. Send your stories to media@aauw.org."

Wouldn't it be great if AAUW heard from each branch in Virginia? I challenge you to do it!

Patsy Quick

Vice President for Communications

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At one of the workshops, "Your Gifts at Work," two AAUW Fellows studying at Virginia Tech spoke about the advanced studies they were doing. Above, left, AAUW of Virginia Funds Chair Mary Swain talks with Maria Guadalupe Bravo-Vinaja, from Mexico, who is working on a project about Golden Eagles. At right, Past AAUW of Virginia President Peggy Stotz visits with Wafa Mohsen Saleh Al-Daily from Yemen. Stotz is a member of the McLean Area Branch, which endowed the fellowship under which Wafa was studying.

2010-11 AAUW Funds Named Honorees

AAUW Funds named honorees recognizes branch members and others who have contributed their time and energy to AAUW projects and causes. Each branch is entitled to name an honoree for every \$500 contributed to AAUW Funds. Congratulations to these branches and the nominees.

Alexandria: Peggy Gross, Rita Rutsohn, Ruth Bennett, Mary Hartzler, Cathlene William

Arlington: Cecelia Michelotti, Marjorie Hobart, Susan Senn. Michele Milden, Susan Zajac, Chrystia Sonevtsky, Cynthia Almand, Martha Swaim, Cordelia Scruggs

Fairfax City: Jean Arnold, Anne Sharp, Barbara Klementz

Falls Church Area: Leah Porzel, Mary Rose, Mollie Jewell, Barbara Haska, Kitty Richardson, Anne Baxter, Jean Zappel, Ann Peabody, Diane Bodeen, Mary Youman

Hampton: The Hampton Branch

Lynchburg: Kathryn Manning, Ida Powell.

McLean Area: Virginia MacEwen, Betsy Reddaway, Anne Studner, Trianthe Dakolias

Mt. Vernon: Paul Mehler, Colleen (Kelly) Morris, Mary Beth O'Donnell, the Mt. Vernon Branch Reading Connection Team.

Newport News: The Newport News Branch

Portsmouth: Evelyn Thomson

Reston-Herndon Area: Gail Parsons, Mary Zane, Suzanne Cook, Marilyn Silvey

Roanoke Valley: Roc Bruzgul, Dane Victorine, Robert Newman, Cheri Hughes Clare Newman, HelenRuth Burch, STEM Seminar Committee, Mary Sinclair (In Memoriam) and Ginny Craig (In Memoriam)

Springfield-Annandale: Ann Sauberman, Rose Clark, Deborah Dodd, Spring Fling Committee Members 2001-2011, Patricia Twilde (In Memoriam)

Suffolk Fran Alwood

Vienna Area: Suzanne Rothwell, Kristin Vogt, Beverly Larson

Virginia Beach: Chris Medlin, Martha Sorenson

Winchester: Suzan Herskowitz, Jennifer Shea-Roop.

Woodbridge: Elizabeth Blindauer

Mary Swain, AAUW Funds Chair
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Many thanks to all of the members who contributed tote bags at the state conference for the OAR (Offender Aid and Restoration) project. We collected a whopping 184 bags! I delivered them to the OAR in Arlington and got a personal thank you from the executive director for the donations. They will be used to hold personal items given to ex offenders after they have been released. It will help in a small way to show that everyone should have a second chance.

Nancy D. Joyner
Co-Representative, Northern District
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Meeting in Wytheville

State Conference Is True “Mountain High”

AAUW of Virginia held its first State Conference, which will now replace the Convention every other year, On April 8-9, 2011. The Wytheville branch had volunteered to host the convention for 2011 and proceeded with developing a plan for a state conference that would highlight the best of the state convention and leadership activities.

The plan was to provide AAUW members a new experience which incorporated both fun and learning in the beauty of the Blue Ridge Mountains of southwest Virginia. It was a huge success. The number of registrations exceeded 120 with an additional 16 guests. How did this happen? The enticements included a \$50 registration fee which included reception, lunch and dinner along with \$100 rebates provided by the

board using a surplus from the 2010 convention. It all culminated with a unique event enjoyed by everyone.



David Kirkwood

women in education at the university level. David Kirkwood from the national AAUW board flew from Minneapolis to address our conference. Both he and Dr. Hyer received ratings of “excellent” in the evaluations.

New officers, elected in the last “conference” election before One Member One Vote takes effect, are **Sally Sledge**, Norfolk Branch, Vice President for Membership and Branch Development, **Nancy Thompson**, Reston-Herndon Branch-Vice President for Finance, and **Ann Johnson**, Smith Mountain Branch, Recording Secretary.

The conference also included four informative workshops. They covered a variety of topics of interest to our members and branches. The topics were technology, public policy, membership and AAUW funds.

The entire event was filled with fun activities as well. The Friday Dessert Reception included Bingo, Blackjack, Corn Toss and a wonderful psychic to entertain the membership. College T-shirts were sported by many which added to the relaxed atmosphere. Saturday afternoon offered museum tours, bus tours and afternoon tea as well. A good time was enjoyed by all. The conference concluded with a Country

Buffet Dinner and entertainment of Appalachian Music by local artist, Leigh Beamer. The conference was held at Wytheville Community College. Dr. Charlie White, president of the college, spoke before the dinner. He then joined his wife Peggy, a branch member, at a dinner table.



Dr. Pat Hyer

The success of this conference really lies in the early planning and promotion across the state both by personal visits from our VP of Program, Anita Aymer, and distribution of information. In addition to the AAUW *Virginia Vision*, materials were sent from the Wytheville board to branch presidents and program chairs promoting the conference and encouraging a strong representation. Over 60 members and guests traveled 5 – 6 hours to support the Wytheville efforts and were rewarded with a wonderful experience.

Next spring, our biennial AAUW State Convention will be in Newport News. We can all gather again and create new memories.

Anita Aymer, VP for Programs
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Editor's Note: Kudos to the Wytheville Branch for doing a terrific job. It was a great introduction to a southwestern part of Virginia that many members may not have been familiar with.



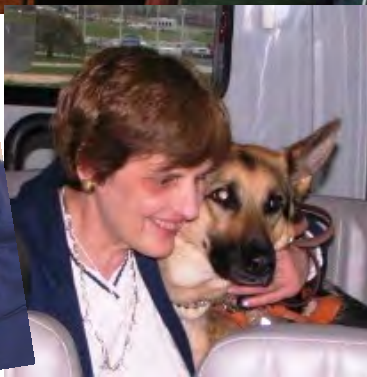
Dinner entertainment was provided by this outstanding local blue grass duo, Jim Lloyd and Leigh Beamer

Paparazzi at the State Conference

Alma mater T's were the uniform for game night even if you designed your own... Corn hole toss winners got Susan B. Anthony Silver dollars. Below, Wytheville mayor Trent Crewe welcomes

AAUW.

Bottom right: Chair Anita doubled as the driver of the shuttle.



Branches in Action

Alexandria Focuses On Travel, Outreach

What better way to spend a cold winter's evening than with good company, interesting cuisine, superb wine, and talk of travel! AAUW members love to travel and our branch has a wealth of knowledge about the travel process as well as exciting experiences to share with members. Members were recruited to share their travel experiences at our January meeting.



Alexandria members met in the party room of a member's condo to share travel experiences. The evening began with a short presentation by AAA describing domestic and international travel services available to members. Interspersed between hors d'oeuvres, a potluck supper, and dessert, members shared their travel escapades augmented with scrapbooks, artifacts, and PowerPoint presentations. Our members' presentations took those present to the Galapagos, Istanbul, Italy, France, Iran, India, Egypt, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Argentina, China,



Arctic Ocean, a wedding in Scotland, and travel in third world countries as well as travel to major U.S. cities and national parks. The program was well attended by members, spouses and guests, and members are already asking when we'll offer the next travel program!

One of our goals this year was to reach out to the community above and beyond what we've done before. We co-sponsored a public meeting with the League of Women Voters on the suffragist movement and the long struggle of women to win the right to vote. We sought ways to assist Gadsby's Tavern Museum's to restore one of only a very few commercial ice wells in the country, and felt what we could do best was to feature the project on our *On the Go With AAUW* monthly thirty-minute cable TV show. Numerous other causes and organizations were also assisted through our cable TV programs. AAUW Alexandria also continues to support Christ House with quarterly dinners and to donate toiletries to area shelters.

Peggy Gross, President
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Ashburn-Leesburg Pursues Knowledge and History

Ashburn/Leesburg Area Branch is composed of members who share a passion for knowledge and history. Our members continue to enjoy our Great Decisions and Great Courses interest groups.

In the fall, we were delighted to have author Veronica Li speak to us about her life and her book *Journey Across the Four Seas: A Chinese Woman's Search for Home*. In addition, this year, we toured Oatlands, a historic Leesburg site. It was a working plantation built in 1804 by George Carter, the great-grandson of colonialist Robert "King" Carter.

We toured the Thomas Balch Library in Leesburg which contains a plethora of materials on regional and Virginia history and on military history with a focus on the Civil War. The Balch Library is renowned for its collection of genealogy documents, including census records, cemetery records, deeds, and wills. On another occasion, we had a speaker at the Balch Library discuss how to research family genealogies and biographical information about historic Virginians. One of our meetings was a movie night where we viewed and discussed the suffragette movie, *Iron Jawed Angels*. As a branch, we have decided to bring to each meeting donations for the women's shelter in our area.

Pam Gershkoff, President
703/729-6535, positivelypam@hotmail.com

Charlottesville/UVA Screens "License to Thrive: Title IX at 35"

On Sunday March 27th, members of the Charlottesville/UVA branch and the Charlottesville community gathered to consider the history and impact of Title IX via a multi-media presentation and discussion. First, Dr. Christian Steinmetz, a University of Virginia professor and branch board member, gave a talk about the history of women on American college and university campuses. "The discussion reminded me of how far we as women and girls have come. Women before me endured many hardships and discrimination that are foreign to me. I see now how much I took for granted," said Marla Capper, a board member. The group then watched a documentary entitled "License to Thrive: Title IX at 35" which was followed by a Q&A session with the film maker, Theresa Moore in New York. The Q&A was conducted via Skype, an Internet video and telephone service. Commenting on the conference with Theresa Moore, branch board member Ellen Markowitz said, "It was really special hearing her share some of her insights and perspectives gained from making the film."

(Please see Charlottesville/UVA on Page 9)

Arlington Shares Programs With Other Organizations

Arlington Branch co-sponsored four programs with various other Arlington County groups. In December, we joined the League of Women Voters in showing *Iron Javed Angels*. January was our annual legislative meeting with our state delegation.

In February we joined Arlington's Sister Cities program to "visit" Aachen, Germany; Reims, France; Coyocan, Mexico; San Miguel, El Salvador and Ivano-Frankivsk; Ukraine.

With the Arlington County Diversity Initiative *Tell Arlington's Story*, which celebrates Arlington's rich cultural diversity, we had third and fourth generation African American Arlingtonians share family history and their personal stories. Storytellers included branch member Mattie Walker, a former student and teacher at the old Hoffman Boston, a counselor in Arlington Public Schools and former Arlington Education Association President.

Our first STEM program for middle school students was held in March in collaboration with Arlington Public Schools Departments of Instruction and School and Community. Key-note speaker was NASA Astronaut Captain Heidi Stefanyshyn-Piper, USN.

Our final joint meeting was with The Transitional Network of the Washington, DC, area: "Women 50 years plus: Perspectives in a Changing World - Coming Together to Harness our Energy, Share our Wisdom, and Make New Connections." A panel of women from diverse backgrounds addressed issues that impact us individually as well as collectively and will explore how our diverse perspectives and strengths can be harnessed to benefit us all.

Barbara L. Olivere, President
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Charlottesville-UVA

(Continued from page #)

The event coincided with the University's anniversary of 40 years of undergraduate women students on campus and the inaugural year of its first female president, Theresa Sullivan.

Lauren Germain, President
315/430-3608, lfg9b@virginia.edu



Barbra Schell, Nancy Thompson, Carol Hurlburt and Bea Malone greet students registering for the Reston-Herndon 20th GEMS Conference.

GEMS Continues to Excite Reston-Herndon After 20 Years

On March 5, 2011, eager students hurried in the doors of Dogwood Elementary School to take part in the Girls Excelling in Math and Science Conference. They were ready to participate in an exciting round of hands-on workshops and meet the inspiring women professionals who gave them. Meanwhile, their parents were looking forward to attending group sessions which would give them information on Middle School and High School curriculum, where to obtain financial aid, ways to encourage students at home, how to find resource materials, and more. As you passed students and parents in the halls between workshops, you could hear excited and enthusiastic voices talking about the last session.

Our Reston/Herndon Branch of AAUW started the GEMS Conference 20 years ago with a small group of enthusiastic volunteers. We are still involved, helping it to succeed by providing ideas, volunteers, workshop presenters and materials to the event. This year we had 25 Branch members and friends of Branch members involved with the Conference. With over 200 5th and 6th grade girls plus 50 workshop presenters/aides, 150+ parents and numerous volunteers from our Branch as well as other organizations, Dogwood Elementary School was filled to overflowing on Saturday. Our Reston/Herndon Branch continues to have a wonderful group of volunteers participating each year. They make the event a successful one.

The idea of GEMS is still growing with more students joining current GEMS Clubs and new GEMS groups forming in schools throughout Fairfax County. There are also three other GEMS Conferences starting in McLean, Springfield and Alexandria.

Judy Helmich, Co-President
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Fran Lovaas, GEMS Coordinator
703/318-9628, franlovaas@comcast.net

More Branches in Action



Virginia Beach promoted AAUW and raised money for its local scholarship with a plant sale.

Virginia Beach Raises Funds in Many Ways

Virginia Beach Branch had a successful program year with a wide variety of speakers and presentations from Health Reform to Public Broadcasting.

As a special treat, Laura McCulty Stepp and Cordy Galligan provided a wonderful presentation on AAUW Fundraising at our January meeting.

This fall we are planning to hold a membership “tea” event, to attract and recruit new members. We will once again hold our annual yard sale as well as our resort raffle, both fundraisers to benefit our local scholarships. In addition, we are looking into hosting a Wine Tasting event to support AAUW Funds and our local scholarship.

Tammie Mullins-Rice, President
757/482-7303, trice@cox.net

Fall Branches in Action

The next issue of *Vision*, due out in October, will feature Northern District, Fairfax City, Harrisonburg, Mt. Vernon, Norton-Wise, Norfolk, Roanoke Valley, Smith Mountain, Suffolk and Vienna Area branches. Photos are encouraged. Please share successes and ideas that other branches might be able to use. Email them to nhmorgan.va@gmail.com no later than September 15.

Woodbridge Marks 20 Years Of Middle School Program

Girls + Math+Science=Success celebrated its twentieth year this year under the direction of member and educator Susan Bardenhagen. Several hundred middle school girls and their parents attended the Saturday morning career conference on March 26 to meet inspiring women in nontraditional fields. The branch also judged and awarded prizes to several young women at the Prince William County Science Fair.

This year the branch awarded a \$250 scholarship to an adult student at Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) whose essay demonstrated an understanding of equity issues. The recipient is pursuing a degree in nutrition.

In October members met both the Independent candidate Chris DeCarlo and George Burke, the representative for the 11th District incumbent Congressional candidate. In November the program was *Creating, Managing, and Preserving Wealth in Challenging Economic Times*. Another stimulating program was *Gender Bias in Marketing Toys to Children*, presented by a local college student whose research reveals an industry-wide lack of focus on portraying girls enjoying math, science, space technology, and sports in television, catalog, and packaging advertising. In March NOVA Professor Alice Reagan spoke on *African-American Women's Response to the Civil War and Emancipation*. In April members heard from the director of the county's Volunteer Services Office.

The branch honored member Elizabeth Blindauer with a \$500 donation to AAUW Funds in her name. This money was raised through raffles, donations, paybacks from a restaurant when members ate there as a group, and through group attendance at a community theater where the price of a ticket included a donation to AAUW.

Five members attended the State Conference in Wytheville.
Karen Wolf, Vice-President for Programs
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Breaking through Barriers

for **130**  **Years**

News from the Northwest District

We've all been very busy. Three members from the Northwest District attended the Spring Fling. Many of our Charlottesville Branch members were attending a conference in New Orleans that weekend.

Joan Johnson of the Winchester Branch has been awarded with the 2011 "Outstanding Virginia Library Friend" award presented by the Virginia Public Library Director's Association. For anyone that knows Joan, she is outstanding. Congratulations to Joan!

Winchester raised money for their annual Woman of the Year award by selling seats at the Apple Blossom Parade. Judge Elizabeth B. Kellas was this year's honoree. The Woman of the Year presentation garners good publicity and goodwill for AAUW in the local community.

Charlottesville Branch president Lauren Germain's play Telling Our Story, was recently performed as part of a program by the AAUW Buffalo (NY) Branch, joined with the State University of New York, Buffalo's Wellness Education Services, the school's Gender Institute, and Western New York's Family Justice Center. Congratulations to Lauren!

Suzan Herskowitz, Northwest District Representative
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Calendar

June 2011



- 16-19 AAUW Convention , Washington DC
- 17 National Electronic Voting Ends
- 30 Year-end Financial Statement
Vice President for Finance

July 2011

- 1 Branch dues reports due to AAUW
Branch financial officers

Watch for a new calendar in the next issue!

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PAID
DULLES, 20101
PERMIT # 119

Vision (ISSN 0897-2257) is published three times a year by the American Association of University Women of Virginia. Subscription paid at Dulles, VA 20101

All mailing labels are prepared at AAUW headquarters. Please send changes or corrections directly to:
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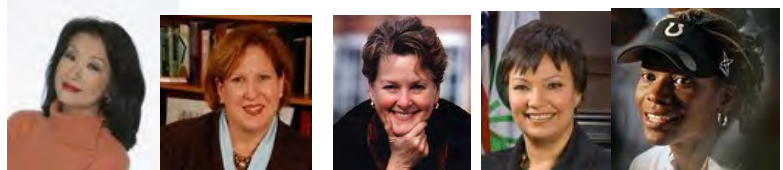
AAUW Congressional Action Line:
202/785-7786

VA AAUW Website:
<http://www.aauwofva.org>

VA Legislators Action Line:
800/889-0229

NCCWSL Names Women of Distinction

The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, held the first week in June, presented its Women of Distinction Awards to



**Connie Chung, Marsha A. Guenzler-Stevens, Swanee Hunt,
Lisa P. Jackson and Natalie Randolph.**

The women selected for this honor represent a diversity of professional fields, personal characteristics, and life experiences. The award winners are leaders in their fields, innovators of unique programs and services, and lifelong advocates for promoting equity for women and girls everywhere.

For more information please visit the AAUW website announcement :
<http://www.nccwsl.org/Pages/wod.aspx>