



# WORDS TO THE

# WISE<sup>2</sup>

*WOMEN IN SEARCH OF EDUCATION AND EQUITY*

**Volume 23, Issue 5**

**February, 2019**



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

### **Winchester, Virginia, Branch**

<http://aauw-va.aauw.net/branches/winchester>

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#### *WORDS TO THE WISE<sup>2</sup> EDITOR*

**MARTHA PRUSCH (667-7991)**

## **BOARD MEETING**

**Tuesday, March 5, 2019**

*(Please note change of day.)*

**Office of Marsha Gochenour  
Fabritek**

**6:00 p.m. Pizza**

*Board meetings are open to all members.  
There is always plenty of pizza, so don't  
hesitate to join us.*

## *Memories of Vietnam and Cambodia*

*Speaker: Diane Walker*

**Saturday, February 9, 2019**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Perkins Restaurant  
711 Millwood Avenue  
Winchester, VA 22601**

We will return to Perkins Restaurant for our February meeting on Saturday, February 9. Those who wish to order breakfast should be there by 9:30. The program will begin at 10:00.

Diane Walker is a nurse practitioner who has been working in the community since 2000. She is currently employed by Shenandoah Valley Westminster Canterbury. She enjoys seeing the world by bicycle and looks forward to sharing memories and photos from her recent trip to Vietnam and Cambodia.

### *Save the Date!*

**Alamo Drafthouse Cinema  
Fundraiser**

**Saturday March 16, 11:00 a.m.**

*Proposed Movie:*

***Thelma and Louise***

**Tickets \$10.00**

**Benefit: NCCWSL scholarship**

This fundraiser is scheduled for the day after our Woman of the Year Reception. Details and flyer will be in March newsletter.

## *Woman of the Year Reception*

**Friday, March 15, 2019**

**6:00 p.m. Light Refreshments  
Frederick County  
Board of Supervisors Room  
107 North Kent Street  
Winchester, VA**

We will be honoring Beth Coyne, our selected Woman of the Year, with a reception in March, Women's History Month. Also at this time we will reveal our named gift honoree for AAUW Funds.

Volunteers are needed to bring refreshments, organize decorations, and help with set-up and clean-up. A sign-up sheet will be available at the February meeting. The following are needed for the reception: appetizers, tea sandwiches, cookies, chips & dip, cheese & crackers, nuts, mints and punch. (The following are already being provided: paper products, punch bowls, and tablecloths.) Please contact Marsha (533-8069 or [mgochen@yahoo.com](mailto:mgochen@yahoo.com)) and let her know what you will bring. Everyone's help is needed!

## **April Meeting**

Dr. Cee Ann Davis who was to be our speaker for the February meeting has been rescheduled for our April 13 meeting which will again be held at Perkins.

## President's Message



Mary Froehlich

Just at a time when we wonder daily will we freeze outside, drown in the rain, or get blown away, we are invited to our February meeting to hear about a woman who has completed a bicycling trip in Southeast Asia. Let's prepare for a change of pace and welcome Diane Walker!

We will mark March as Women's History Month by lifting up our Woman of the Year for 2019. As in the last few years we will proceed from this late night activity to a mid-morning sponsorship of a movie at the Alamo Drafthouse to benefit our fourth scholarship for AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). Details are elsewhere in this newsletter.

It's not easy to change our pace. Let's continue to support each other and keep the progress of the branch moving forward. Your board of directors will continue to lead the way!

*Mary Froehlich*

## Treasurer's Report



Marsha Gochenour

As of January 26, 2019:

\$1,918.25	Checking
4,119.31	Savings
1,582.78	Scholarship (local)
73.05	AAUW Funds
78.82	Legal Advocacy Fund
260.00	NCCWSL

Income: \$55.00 LAF raffle  
Expenses: \$90.14 newsletter;  
\$600.00 AAUW Funds

## Woman of the Year Program

The local chapter of the Business and Professional Women (BPW) began the Woman of the Year program in 1983 by recognizing Judy Burtner, Extension Agent for Frederick County. Awards continued annually until the BPW group closed in 2007. In 2009, several former BPW members who were also AAUW members suggested that our branch take up the project and we have continued lifting up active women in the community. Last year's recipient was Allison Major, who brought "Girls on the Run" to the Northern Shenandoah Valley.

A candidate for Woman of the Year should be outstanding in her field, family and community-minded, an advocate for social justice and equality, and a real role model for the women of the area. She may be well known, or work behind the scenes.

This year's program is scheduled for Friday, March 15, at 6:00 p.m. at the Frederick County Board of Supervisors Room, 107 N. Kent Street. Members are asked to bring food for the reception.

## CLEO

(Classy Ladies Eating Out)

Marsha Gochenour

Monday, Feb. 25, 2019

6:00 p.m.

Jin Zhou Garden  
1848 Berryville Pike  
jinzhougarden.com



Call Marsha (533-8069) if you plan to attend so she will have a count.

## Branch Elections

It is time to elect a branch President for 2019-2021. At the January 16 board meeting our current President, **Mary Froehlich**, agreed to serve another term. A Vice President for Program is also needed. **Rosemary Green** agreed to continue in that position. We are still in need of a Recording Secretary. Elections will be held at the May meeting.

Looking ahead, we would like more members to become active with branch board activities. Our next board meeting will be Tuesday, March 5. Join us!

## Evening Book Group

Marsha Gochenour

Monday, February 18, 2019

6:00 p.m.

The Greene Turtle Bar and Grill

<https://thegreenturtle.com>

385 Kernstown Commons Blvd.  
Hostess; Belinda Pugh  
Order from the menu.



We will be discussing two books at our February book club. We canceled the January meeting due to bad weather. Belinda has reserved the private dining room at The Greene Turtle for our discussion. We will order from the menu. The restaurant is located right beside the Alamo Drafthouse Cinema, so there is plenty of lighted, level parking. We will be discussing the following two books:

### ***A Gentleman in Moscow***

Author: Amor Towles

*Book for January (Synopsis was in last newsletter.)*

### ***Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI***

Author: David Grann

*In the 1920s, the richest people per capita in the world were members of the Osage Indian nation in Oklahoma. After oil was discovered beneath their land, they rode in chauffeured automobiles, built mansions, and sent their children to study in Europe. Then, one by one, the Osage began to be killed off. The family of an Osage woman, Mollie Burkhart, became a prime target. Her relatives were shot and poisoned. And it was just the beginning, as more and more members of the tribe began to die under mysterious circumstances.*

*As the death toll climbed to more than twenty-four, the FBI took up the case. It was one of the organization's first major homicide investigations and the bureau badly bungled the case. In desperation, the young director, J. Edgar Hoover, turned to a former Texas Ranger named Tom White to unravel the mystery. White put together an undercover team, including one of the only American Indian agents in the bureau. The agents infiltrated the region, struggling to adopt the latest techniques of detection. Together with the Osage they began to expose one of the most chilling conspiracies in American history. It is a searing indictment of the callousness and prejudice toward American Indians that allowed the murderers to operate with impunity for so long.*

Monday, March 18, 2019

6:00 p.m.

Home of Mary Froehlich

### ***News of the World: A Novel***

Author: Paulette Jiles

We will be selecting the books for the remainder of the year at this March meeting. We will need seven selections. Please send suggestions to Marsha so a synopsis will be available for review before choosing.

## **AAUW@SU News**

**Rosemary Green**

AAUW@SU is planning its biggest event of the academic year: the AAUW@SU Etiquette Dinner the evening of April 11 at the home of SU President Tracy Fitzsimmons. A group of about 20 SU women students will have the opportunity to practice social decorum in a formal dinner setting. Ms. Robyn Schroth, SU Dance Faculty and Director of the Blue Ridge Junior Cotillion, has agreed to act as etiquette coach. The event will cost approximately \$800, and AAUW@SU students will start fundraising efforts soon.

## **VIRGINIA NEWS**

### **State Lobby Day - AAUW of Virginia**

AAUW of Virginia had a very successful ERA Lobby Day on January 19 with 20 members in Richmond to hand-deliver copies of "Unfinished Business" which details the story of the Equal Rights Amendment to every Virginia delegate and senator (139 offices in total).

Next up is our annual State Lobby Day in Richmond on **Thursday, February 7, 2019**. AAUW of Virginia will host its second annual reception in honor of Virginia's women legislators on February 6, 2019, the evening before Lobby Day. Members of the state board and Greater Richmond area AAUW members work hard on these activities on our behalf.

## **ERA in the Virginia Legislature**

### **Equal Rights Amendment**

**Section 1.** Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

**Section 2.** The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

**Section 3.** This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

The State Senate has passed the ERA resolution. Now action is with the House of Delegates and it will be a challenge to make Virginia the 38th state to ratify the ERA. Although voted down in a subcommittee on Tuesday, January 22, the vote to come out of the Privileges and Election Committee could have come as early as January 25 but the chairman, Delegate Mark Cole, continues to hold it hostage. The Senate bill will be included with other crossovers on February 5. There is a slim chance it could still be passed.

AAUW members have been asked to contact their representatives. [Just a comment that you support a floor vote is sufficient.](#) Senator Jill Vogel (804-698-7527) [district27@senate.virginia.gov](mailto:district27@senate.virginia.gov) has been a supporter. Delegate Chris Collins (804-698-1033) [DelCCollins@house.virginia.gov](mailto:DelCCollins@house.virginia.gov) does not support, but was very cordial in a meeting with Theresa Merkel and Mary Froehlich on January 4. Delegate Dave LaRock (804-698-1033) [DelDLaRock@house.virginia.gov](mailto:DelDLaRock@house.virginia.gov) does not support. You may also contact Speaker Kirk Cox (804-698-1066), [DelKCox@house.virginia.gov](mailto:DelKCox@house.virginia.gov), and ask for a floor vote. [Contact him every day!](#) For daily updates subscribe to [VAratifyERA.org](http://VAratifyERA.org).

**AAUW – Winchester Branch Meeting**  
**Saturday, December 8, 2018**  
**10:00 a.m. Home of Martha Prusch**

A Holiday Social was held at Martha's house which was fully decorated in red and green. About 20 members were in attendance and brought treats to share. Gift/book bags were raffled to support LAF in the amount of \$55.00. Cathy Loranger, Heidi Colberg and Eydie Orndoff were guests. Mary Froehlich called the group together to have a robust discussion on the status of the local scholarship at Lord Fairfax Community College. Post cards were also prepared in support of the Equal Rights Amendment in the Virginia Legislature.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Froehlich

### **WISE<sup>2</sup> Women in Winchester**

- ☞ As Shenandoah University Provost, **Adrienne Bloss**, was featured in a *Winchester Star* article on December 11. "Grace, service dog-in-training, learns with help from SU staff and students." As a puppy trainer for the Veterans Moving Forward program, Adrienne reached out to the Shenandoah Student Veterans to keep Grace on campus and attending classes when she herself needs to be away. A wonderful, heartwarming story!
- ☞ **Bev Clark** participated in a series of organ concerts to support WATTS on Sunday, December 30. *The Winchester Star* on December 27 invited the community to three downtown churches. Bev played at First Presbyterian on the Loudoun Street Mall.
- ☞ We extend our sympathy to **Jane Parrish** upon the recent death of her sister-in-law, **Evelyn Lederer**. Evelyn was a former member of the branch and had been living at Westminster Canterbury. Evelyn died on January 4, 2019, at age 99.
- ☞ Sympathy is also extended to **Dorothy Clark**, whose mother, Ruth Donald Gardner, died on December 4, 2018. Dorothy, you were a devoted daughter for so many years.
- ☞ **Jackie Ruff** broke her foot on December 7 but is healing nicely. Jackie, we know you are doing lots of reading while you are recuperating!
- ☞ Best wishes for **Chris Oxford** as she undergoes a knee replacement on February 4. We look forward to her speedy recovery.

### **Strong Women**

Author Linda Sittig has spoken to our branch on two occasions regarding books she has written on strong women. She writes a monthly blog which you might enjoy. Go to this website: <http://strongwomeninhistory.com/> to find the current story. On the right of the page is a listing of former entries. To subscribe, click the appropriate box.

### **CALENDAR**

February 7, 2019	State Lobby Day in Richmond
February 9, 2019	February Meeting, 10:00 a.m., Perkins Restaurant, 711 Millwood Avenue
February 18, 2019	Book Group, 6:00 p.m., Greene Turtle Bar and Grill, 385 Kernstown Commons Blvd.
February 20, 2019	Deadline for March issue of <i>Words to the WISE<sup>2</sup></i>
February 25, 2019	CLEO, Jin Zhou Garden, 1848 Berryville Pike, 6:00 p.m.
March 5, 2019	Board Meeting, (Tuesday) 6:00 p.m., Fabritek (Please note new day.)

**AAUW—Winchester Branch Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, January 16, 2019**  
**5:00 p.m. Fabritek**

Present: Marsha Gochenour, Mary Ruos, Diana McHenry, Rosemary Green, Sherry Lloyd, Martha Prusch, Mary Froehlich

During the pizza meal we discussed the status of the Equal Rights Amendment in the Virginia Legislature. It has come out of committee in the Senate and passed on a floor vote. It is still in the Privileges and Elections Committee in the House. AAUW of Virginia is a strong presence along with VARatifyERA.

The minutes of the December 8 branch meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was given and will be included in the February newsletter. Sherry Lloyd will ask Heidi Colberg to join for 2019-2020.

Rosemary Green announced a change for the February 9 meeting. Diane Walker will speak to us about her recent biking trip to Vietnam and Cambodia. Cee Ann Davis had a scheduling conflict and will speak at our April 13 meeting. Suggestions were made for a location for the May brunch.

Marsha, Mary F. and Theresa Merkel will be the committee for the Woman of the Year. Mary will write an article for the newsletter about how the program began. Candidates were suggested.

Reflecting on the discussion at the December meeting the board recommended that we do not offer a scholarship at Lord Fairfax this year. We will continue taking suggestions on how to make the LFCC scholarship application more successful. Consensus is to continue giving it to a woman and to continue giving it by the branch.

Rosemary will begin a process to select applicants for the NCCWSL student from Shenandoah University. Marsha will work with Andy at the Alamo Drafthouse to select a movie as a fundraiser. Best date: Saturday, March 23.

Nominations for 2019-2021 were discussed. Mary Froehlich agreed to continue as branch president. Rosemary Green agreed to continue as program vice president, assisted by Mary Ruos. A recording secretary is still needed.

The AAUW of Virginia 2019 Conference will be in Vinton on April 6. Marsha and Mary F. are the Northwest District representatives and will attend with their expenses paid by AAUW of Virginia.

Announcements were made of CLEO on January 28 and the book club dates. Due to impending cold and icy weather, the January book club meeting will be cancelled. The next board meeting will be on Tuesday, March 5, at 6:00 p.m. at Fabritek. (note change from Wednesday)

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Froehlich

## LOCAL AAUW ERA EVENT

Thursday, January 3, 2019, delivered a surprise to nine members of AAUW who had signed up to meet with Delegate Chris Collins and encourage his support of the ERA Amendment in the Virginia House of Delegates. At about 10:30, Theresa Merkel received a telephone call from Delegate Collins saying that the meeting had been posted on Facebook as an invitation to an open forum. Delegate Collins was concerned because the meeting was scheduled in his office which had a conference room that would accommodate 10 people. He also said he was surprised by and not willing to do an open forum for which he was not prepared. After a discussion, and many assurances that AAUW was not blind-siding him, it was decided that the best resolution was to cancel the meeting which was done immediately by email to AAUW members. Suzan Herskowitz was knowledgeable enough to post the cancelation of the meeting (forum) on Facebook for AAUW.

Later in the day, an invitation was issued by Delegate Collins to Theresa for a few members of AAUW to meet with him. Mary Froehlich, Tim Merkel and Theresa Merkel met with him on Friday. The discussion was very informative. Delegate Collins expressed two reservations about the ERA. First that it was significantly past its deadline for ratification by the States. More important, Delegate Collins expressed concerns that the ERA Amendment would nullify Title IX thereby reducing the number of scholarships for female athletes. Both arguments were skillfully rebutted as Mary and Theresa were both well prepared for this discussion. Tim shared personal observations as to why the ERA should be passed. The three left the meeting hopeful that Delegate Collins will rethink his position and vote for the ERA Amendment if it comes to the floor this year. Most of us agree that the opposition to the ERA has been focused especially on the abortion issue, same-sex bathrooms and women in the military.

On January 25, Delegate Cole of the Privileges and Elections subcommittee decided not to allow the resolution out of committee and to the floor for a vote by the full House of Delegates. Getting the ERA passed in another state may be the last hope for this year. In anticipating the general election in November, when all delegates are up for re-election, encourage family, friends, colleagues and anyone else you meet to vote for candidates who support the ERA.

[VARatifyERA.org](http://VARatifyERA.org) is an excellent resource for staying current on what is happening with the ERA Amendment in Virginia. Sign up for it today.

You would have been extremely proud of your president, Mary Froehlich, who was well-researched and firm in her rebuttals in the meeting with Chris Collins.

Theresa Merkel

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