

September 2016



Greater Richmond (VA) Branch



Breaking through Barriers for Women and Girls • <http://richmond-va.aauw.net>

President's Message

We are now making plans for the coming year and taking your recommendations into consideration right at the very beginning of the fall season. Please read the summary of the survey results that you participated in this last spring later in this newsletter.

Our first meeting of the year will be Tues. Sept. 13th and it will be a potluck dinner at Bon Air Public Library at 7:00 pm. We will be seated around tables in groups of 6-8 with random assigned seating. During dessert we will share our school and work experiences especially as it relates to STEM and/or the Pay Gap. It was suggested in the survey that we could all learn a lot from and about each other as we share. Each table will have a designated spokesperson to share briefly with the total membership in attendance about some of the more unique aspects from their table. In addition, we will have a chance to meet our scholarship winner from the Great Expectations program!

In addition to our potluck and sharing we will have a sign up table for all of our activities/committees such as STEAM, \$START \$MART, Great Expectations, Wine Tasting, Lunch Bunch, Book Group, Gourmet, Bridge, Public Policy, AAUW Funds, Scholarships, Publicity and refreshments for our upcoming meetings. Be thinking about which groups you wish to be involved in and if you are willing to serve as Chair of the \$Start \$mart, Great Expectations, Lunch Bunch, Bridge, Public Policy, and Publicity committees/groups.

They all need leaders/coordinators.

One of the other recommendations that we are trying to follow is to break up the Book Group into both daytime and evening meetings. The book group from this past year has met and decided upon a schedule of books they will read. The plan for this first year is to have anyone who wishes to participate in a book discussion of these books during the daytime to sign up on a sheet at the Sept. meeting and indicate your preferred times for regular meeting and/or times that you are not available. So, if you have not participated in the past because you did not wish to attend in the evening, now is your chance to join in during the day. The groups will meet together for the poetry sharing in December and planning in August. Members may attend either day or evening or both discussions each month. Be sure to contact DeAnn Lineberry if you are interested in the day discussion group but cannot attend the Sept. meeting to sign up.

I look forward to your participation in and support of our many activities this year! If for some reason you have not yet paid your dues of \$85, please do so or plan to bring your check with you at the Sept. meeting.

Stay cool these next few weeks!
We look forward to seeing you on Sept. 13th!

Carol Stephens

Public Policy Kathy Kelley, Chair

We are registering voters again and we need help. Last year the Board voted to target registering a total of 1000 new voters by end of registration in Oct. 2016. I still need volunteers for:

Forest Hill Farmer's Market:

9/10, 9/17, 10/01 and 10/08

7:30-10:00AM

2 volunteers each day

Forest Hill Farmer's Market:

9/10, 9/17, 10/01

10:00 to 12:00 PM

2 volunteers each day

43rd St. Art Festival

9/17

9:30- 11:30, 11:30 - 1:30, and 1:30 - 3:30

Two volunteers needed per shift

Forest Hill Neighborhood Mayoral Forum

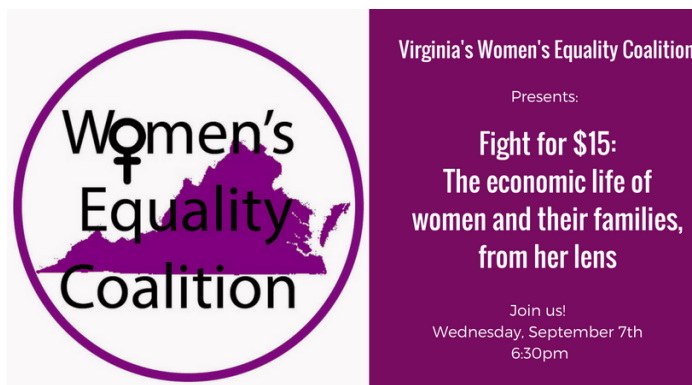
9/20

Forest Hill Presbyterian Church 6:40 - 8:00 PM

One more volunteer needed

Please consider helping with one or more of these activities as it is greatly needed! Also, If you have a table or tent canopy for over the table for shade that we can use, please let Kathy Kelley know!

It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard 2016 GOTV Skill Trainings- Check out the three training Webinars from National at <http://bit.ly/2bqcsTS>



WEC Webinar: Fight for \$15

Register and learn more with the link below!

<http://bit.ly/2bX2xaF>



Dates for In-Person Registration

Sept. 8, 2016 - 7:30pm – 9:00pm

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College

1651 E Parham Rd.

Richmond, Virginia 23228

Upcoming!

Register for the latest ¡Adelante! Webinar September 28

Features the authors of *The Ones I Bring with Me/Los Que Llevo Conmigo*

Register using the link below!

<http://bit.ly/2b8tNVB>

Wine Tasting Fundraiser, 6 - 8 PM on Friday, November 11, Forest Hill Presbyterian Church

Sign up sheets to volunteer will be available at our Sept. 13th meeting. Please contact Lesin Dippold, Barbara Strohman, or Carol Swartz if you have suggestions or would like to be part of the fundraising team!

Don't Be Anti-Social!

Be sure to follow our national organization on your preferred social media platforms. This will keep you up to date on trending issues, articles of interest, and other ways of promoting AAUW.

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.National>

<https://twitter.com/AAUW>

<http://aauw.tumblr.com/>

<https://www.instagram.com/>



Branch Activity

Fall

Meetings:

Tuesday, September 13 - Bon Air Library, 9103 Rattlesnake Road North Chesterfield
Tuesday, October 11 - St. Matthias Church
November 11 - **no meeting** - Wine Tasting event at Forest Hill Presbyterian Church

Programs:

September 13: Potluck Dinner and "Share Your Story", Bon Air Library
October 11: AAUW Speaker, St. Matthias Church
November 11: Wine Tasting Fundraiser

GRAAUW Officers 2016-17

President - Carol Stephens
VP Program - Georgianna Ball
VP Membership - Marian Seigla
Secretary - Katie Garnett
Treasurer - Connie Sorrell

Committee Chairs

Website - Cheryl Kapec
Newsletter - Tracie Mooneyham
Facebook - Kathy Kelley
Public Policy - Kathy Kelley
Community Outreach - Laura Wimmer
AAUW Funds/ Scholarship - Lesin Dippold
Hospitality - Barb Strohmman
Book Group - DeAnn Lineberry

And We Have A Winner!

The 2016 GRAAUW Scholarship of \$1500 has been awarded to Great Expectations student, **Tiffany Haynes**. Tiffany is a 23 year old former foster youth. She has a 5 year old son and works 25-30 hours a week as a cafeteria associate. Tiffany completed her paralegal career studies certificate in May 2016. However, she will be a full time student this fall as she continues coursework to finish an associates in business administration, specializing in paralegal studies.

Book Group DeAnn Lineberry, Chair

Continuing a more than 35-year tradition, our Book Group meets on the **third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.** All GRAAUW members and their guests are welcome. Attend just one meeting whose book interests you OR join us on a regular basis.

Please Note! The Branch is hoping to launch a daytime Book Group this Fall. At the September 13 meeting, members will be able to sign up for the new group, which will follow the same reading schedule as existing evening group for now. We hope the new group will have its first daytime meeting in October. If you are interested in participating in a daytime GRAAUW Book Group but cannot attend the September meeting, please contact DeAnn Lineberry deann.lineberry@yahoo.com or phone 233-5352.

September 15, 2016

Flight Behavior, by Barbara Kingsolver (2012, 464 pages).

Amazon's Best Book of November 2012.

Hostess: Catherine Luckey

Discussion Leader: Lesin Dippold

October 20, 2016

Riding the Bus With My Sister, A True life Journey, by Rachel Simon (2002, 256 pages).

Recommended by Carol Stephens; also an AAUW Adalente Book Club selection.

"This heartwarming book about the unbreakable bond between two very different sisters takes the reader on an inspirational journey at once unique and universal. to live in the moment, how to pay attention to what really matters, how to change, how to love—and how to slow down and enjoy the ride."

<http://amzn.to/2bGqLF8>

National News

National AAUW Convention 2017

National AAUW Convention will be held in Washington DC in summer 2017, from June 14-17th! Since travel is low-cost, please consider attending! <http://bit.ly/1EO591f>

Survey Summary 2015-2016

"Unfortunately, we only received **13 surveys from 50 members**, so we do have to consider the small number of responses, which is 26%.

Meeting location and times - The majority felt the way we are dividing it between St. Matthias and Kroger Center is the best balance. A few said that one or the other was too far, or they did not like to drive at night. However other members work during the day and cannot attend daytime meetings.

Interest Groups - **The most active interest groups are Book Club, Lunch Bunch, and Gourmet Group.** Three expressed interest in joining Gourmet Group. Some expressed a desire to form a daytime Book group to allow those who do not like to drive at night to participate as well as to allow discussion groups to be smaller by being divided in 2 groups.

Other **areas of interest** expressed was for **Day Trips** and for **volunteering as a group** for Orchard House or a needy public school and for other type of cards or games other than Bridge.

In the ranking of past programs, **Title IX, Richmond Women in Civil War, and Branch Outreach** were the top three while the School Board Candidate Forum and Christmas Tea were the least liked.

In the ranking of **possible future programs** **History/Cultural Topic** with local author or expert as well as **Potluck Dinner/Sharing our Own Career Stories** and a **Speaker from National AAUW office** were the top three. The least liked were Pay Equity, Autism Awareness, and Strategies for Success for Working Parents.

The **top two reasons that members joined AAUW** were for *meeting other professional women for social purposes* and to **support AAUW's work locally and nationally.**

The major criticism of our organization was that **we are unable to get the bulk of members actively involved and are unable to generate interest for our programs outside of our own membership.**

The **Wine Tasting Committee** is using the results of that part of the survey as guidance as well. The only clear consensus was that the Silent Auction had seen its last bit of usefulness. We are exploring other possibilities, so stay tuned for that change in the Wine Tasting event.

The **Sunshine Fund** survey seemed to show that folks wanted to acknowledge deaths and illnesses with emails and cards and to honor the death of a member with a small monetary award to our local scholarship fund or AAUW Funds.

We hope this summary has been helpful and if you did not answer the survey perhaps you will next time! The board was hoping to use the results for guidance for the future and will incorporate what we feel is doable, but feel the small participation in the survey detracts from its validity."

Carol Stephens