

April/May 2017



Greater Richmond (VA) Branch



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

President's Message

Happy Spring to All! It is difficult for me to believe that we are now officially in spring! What a strange winter we had! We are now winding down on our year and it has been a productive one. However, we still need your involvement in the STEAM conference being held at the Math Science Information Center on Wed. June 21st! See article in the newsletter for more details. In addition, and most immediately, is a need for your involvement in Equal Pay Day April 4th. See Kathy Kelley's post under Public Policy for more information.

We had two very informative programs in January and February. January's program centered on Sexual Harassment and Abuse. Leslie Rubio spoke about services offered at Safe Harbor for Sexual Abuse and Fatima Smith spoke about the policy and resources at VCU regarding campus Sexual Harassment/Abuse. Our last program of the year in April is on a lighter note, a discussion of Mary Cassat and other women artists. See Program for more details.

I am so grateful for the wonderful leadership and service that Connie Sorrell and Marian Seigla have given our GRAAUW branch the two years that I have served as President. We will be honoring their service at our May Banquet as well as installing our newly elected Treasurer, Jane Newell, and VP of Membership, Tracie Mooneyham. Be sure to mail your checks to Connie for your banquet tickets. See more detail on this in the newsletter.

I look forward to attending the AAUW-VA State Business Meeting in Charlottesville Sat. April 1st with Laura Wimmer, Kathy Kelley, Barb Strohman, Marian Seigla, and Katie Garnett. Thank you, Ladies, for representing our branch at the meeting!

We will have one more issue of our newsletter which will be our summer issue to keep you informed of important information and dates over the summer. Remember to mail your \$85 membership dues to Connie Sorrell by June 30th or pay them when you purchase your banquet tickets.

See you at the banquet!

Carol Stephens

President GRAAUW

STEAM Ahead-We Need YOU!

We are excited to announce STEAM Ahead will be held on June 21st at the Math Science Innovation Center from 8:30-4:00. However, we need help from you in the following ways:

- distribution of brochures to Title I schools, local libraries, community centers, etc. These will be handed out at the April Program meeting.
- stuffing the backpacks/gym bags with items before the conference
- printing name tags for participants
- the day of the conference we need help with registration, lunch distribution, guiding girls workshop to workshop, collecting forms, & assisting in workshops

Please contact Laura Wimmer, Lesin Dippold, or Carol Stephens if you can help out in any way!

Annual Branch Banquet

Please plan to attend our annual banquet, as an outstanding program has been planned by Georgiana Ball, our branch VP for Programs! (balloeg@gmail.com)

Meadowbrook Country Club will host & Sandra Treadway, author, historian and Library of Virginia State archivist, will talk about the field of women's history; how it began, the work done on the history of Virginia women over the past 30 years, and the challenges that still exist in having the stories and experiences of women included in the larger historical narrative.

Dinner service will begin at 6:00 pm, with a cash bar made available to members and their guests. If you would like to stroll around the Gillette Garden before dinner, you are welcome to do so. We will be a larger room on the main floor so feel free to bring guest, spouses, and prospective members!

The cost of dinner is **\$30.00**. This includes the buffet of salad, soup, two entrees and several sides and selection of desserts. *Approximately, \$5.00 of each dinner is a contribution to the local scholarship fund.*

To make your reservation, please send your check no later than May 1, so the final reservation with the Club can be placed. Make your check payable to GRAAUW and mail it to:

Connie Sorrell
3100 Mount Hill Drive
Midlothian, VA. 23113.

In Memoriam

It is with sorrow that we announce the death of former Richmond AAUW member who was active with us for many years, Dr. Virgie M. Binford. She was a teacher, supervisor and consultant with RPS, faculty member of J. Sarge, as well as the first black woman to serve as moderator of Hanover Presbytery;

Public Policy

“On **Tuesday, April 4, 2017** thousands of women across Virginia will join in a national day of action against unfair pay called Equal Pay Day. April is symbolic of the point into the new year that a woman must work in order to earn the wages paid to a man in the previous year. According to the National Partnership for Women and Families, Virginia women are paid 80 cents for every dollar paid to men. This leads to an average annual wage gap of \$10,419.”

This is an excerpt from a letter sent by the Richmond Women’s Law students at the University of Richmond to Mayor Stoney urging him to proclaim **April 4th as Equal Pay Day** for Richmond. They set up a table to gather signatures and were successful in gathering 98! GRAAUW has also requested that **Mayor Stoney** declare April 4th as Equal Pay Day and requested an opportunity to meet with him to discuss ways the city can help to narrow the wage gap.

On April 4th, the Richmond Women’s Law group will be spearheading a letter writing campaign in the commons of the Law School. Students will write their hometown Delegates to urge them to support **Delegate Jennifer Boysko’s bill HB2314** which requires equal pay for equal work for state employees. Now is the time to write your Delegate!

Kathy has been trying to find a local business that would allow a table outside their establishment to hand out information about the Pay Gap, but also to bring attention by handing out free bags of popcorn; full size to women and 80% that size for men. We hope to raise awareness of the public in a tangible fashion. If you are able to volunteer an hour or two to help at the table, please contact **Kathy Kelley**. kjk325@verizon.net or 804-305-0669(c)

Branch Activity

Spring

Meetings:

April 6: *Board Meeting*

10:30 AM at Gayton Library Meeting Room, 10600 Gayton Rd.

April 11: *Program Meeting - "Berthe Morisot and the Impressionist Image of Women"*

Jeffrey Allison, VMFA

7:30 PM at St. Matthias Episcopal
11300 W Huguenot Rd.

May 10: *Annual Banquet*

6:00 PM Meadowbrook Country Club

Interest Groups:

April 13: *Lunch Bunch*

1:30 PM Hostess: Kathy Kelley
Capital Ale House Midlothian
13831 Village Place Drive

April 19: *Monthly Social*

6:00 - 8:30 PM TBD

April 20: *Day and Evening Book Group*

1:00 PM Ginter Park Library

7:00 PM Kathy Learnard's home

April 26: *Bridge Group*

7:00 PM Flo Tromater's home

Lunch Bunch will resume in June

May 18: *Day and Evening Book Group*

1:00 PM Ginter Park Library

7:00 PM Bon Air Presbyterian

May 24: *Bridge Group*

7:00 PM Carol Stephens' home

Book Group

DeAnn Lineberry

Continuing a nearly 40-year tradition, our Book Group meets on the third Thursday of each month. We have two groups: Daytime Book Group meeting **1 PM**, at **Ginter Park Library, 1200 Westbrook Avenue, Richmond 23227**. Evening Group meeting **7 PM**, at **Bon Air Presbyterian Church, Huguenot Road**. Both groups will read the same books, enabling members to attend whichever time is more convenient month-to-month. *All GRAAUW members and their guests are welcome.*

For more information, please contact DeAnn:
deann.lineberry@yahoo.com
804-233-5352.

Schedule:

April 20 - *I Have Always Loved You: A Novel*
by Robin Oliveira <http://amzn.to/2nYdMY8>

"Robin Oliveira brilliantly re-creates the irresistible world of Belle Époque Paris, writing with grace and uncommon insight into the passion and foibles of the human heart. The young Mary Cassatt never thought moving to Paris after the Civil War to be an artist was going to be easy, but when, after a decade of work, her submission to the Paris Salon is rejected, Mary's fierce determination wavers... Then one evening a friend introduces her to Edgar Degas and her life changes forever."

May 18 - *Something Must Be Done About Prince Edward County: A Family, a Virginia Town, a Civil Rights Battle* by Kristen Green
<http://amzn.to/2n9VhME>

"Combining hard-hitting investigative journalism and a sweeping family narrative, this provocative true story reveals a little-known chapter of American history: the period after the Brown v. Board of Education decision when one Virginia school system refused to integrate. In the wake of the Supreme Court's unanimous Brown v. Board of Education decision, Virginia's Prince Edward County refused to obey the law."





AAUW CONVENTION

Register NOW! <http://bit.ly/2jTkQDu>

Judy Woodruff, anchor for PBS Newshour, will be the keynote speaker at the AAUW National Convention!

Book your hotel room online before **May 22, 2017** to lock in the discounted rate!
<http://convention.aauw.org/plan-trip/>

Update: The hotel is currently at capacity for the night of Monday, June 12th and Tuesday, June 13th. We recommend beginning your stay at the hotel on Wednesday, June 14th. If you have any trouble with your reservation please email convention@aauw.org.

Membership Memo

The Richmond Branch as of the end of March had a total of **46 members**, including six Life Members. We are always happy to receive new members, so tell them why you joined and all the benefits they get from joining our organization! Refer them to aauw.org, which will direct them to National & Local branches.

Membership ends June 30, 2017.

2017-2018 dues can be renewed at any time before then. Make dues payable to AAUW for \$85.00 and send to the Finance Officer.

If paying before 6/30/17: Connie Sorrell - 300 Mt. Hill Dr. N, Chesterfield, VA 23111

If paying AFTER 6/30/17: Jane Newell - 509 South Cherry Street, Richmond, VA 23220

Know a graduating senior? Gift them with a free membership! Follow the link to learn more:
<http://bit.ly/2orQ6rv>

FULL Calendar of Events

April 1 (Sat) - State AAUW VA Annual Business Meeting in Charlottesville

April 6 (Thur) - GRAAUW Board Meeting 7:00 pm Carol's Home (#19)

April 11 (Tues) - GRAAUW Program Meeting 7:00 pm at St. Mathias Church - VMFA Speaker on Mary Cassatt

April 13 (Thur) - Lunch Bunch 1:30 pm

April 20 (Thur) - Book Group(s) 1:00 pm at Ginter Park Library & 7:00 pm Kathy Learnard's

April 26 (Wed) - GRAAUW Bridge 7:00 pm at Flo Tromater's

May 10 (Wed) - Annual Spring Installation Banquet - Meadowbrook CC 6:00 pm

May 18 (Thur) - Book Group 1:00 pm at Ginter Park Library & 7:00 pm at Bon Air Presbyterian

May 24 (Wed) - Bridge 7:00 pm at Carol Stephen's home #19

June 14-17 - AAUW National Convention in DC

June 15 (Thur) - Lobby Day! Come and join us at the Capitol (email to be sent closer to date)

June 21 (Wed) - STEAM Conference at MSIC for Middle School Girls 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

June 30 (Fri) - RENEW YOUR DUES for 2017-2018 year

July 29 (Thur) - AAUW VA Summer Leadership Conference - Salem Museum in Roanoke