



December 2019 / January 2020 Newsletter

President's Letter

To all our members I wish a Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving with family and friends. November was wonderful with the success of our Wine Tasting Event. We will be awarding two scholarships this year once again.. Thank you to Connie Sorrell and her committee for a job well done and to each and everyone of the members that came, brought food to share and helped with whatever they could by selling tickets and sharing such a special occasion. I am very proud of your commitment to improve education and the welfare of women.

We will be having a luncheon with our Great Expectations at Sargent Reynolds Community College another year and because of your generosity those students coming out of foster care and pursuing their education will have a Holiday Party. Please volunteer to bring food, \$10 gift certificate to hand down to the students or donate so those in charge of the event can make the necessary purchases or bake some cookies that we will package before the luncheon. More information in this Newsletter. Call Carol Stephens at (678)206-4929 or email her at _____ and let her know how you can help. Its a wonderful experience just being there, so come if you can.

Going into the Holidays I wish you and yours the best of times. Please enjoy family and friend's company and make time for them in the business that occupies this time of the year.

Also I hope you make time to call your representatives and/or send cards to them to encourage them to vote for the passing of the ERA, so women can finally become equal under the law. No matter what your political views



may be Women Issues are for all of us and our future generations. It will unite us in our search for justice and equality.

I look forward to seeing you at our first meeting of 2020 at the Jan. 11th meeting at 10:30 a.m. at Westover Hills Library

Happy Holidays each and everyone of you and your families.

Your President
Dulce M. Lawrence

Great Expectations Lunch Dec. 12th

Set Up 10:00 - noon Bring Food by 12:00
Serving will start at 12:30 Clean up 3:00 - 4:00

Place: J Sarge Reynolds Community College
Parham 1651 E. Parham Road 23228
Campus Workforce Development and
Conference Center

Contact Carol Stephens to let her know what you will bring or need picked up. FOOD FOOD FOOD we need it! Christmas cookies are needed too! We have 20 hungry students.

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Mayor Stoney proclaims November 20th Latina Equal Pay Day

Trish Wallace succeeds in getting Richmond to recognize Latina Equal Pay Day. Can you imagine having to work until Nov. 20th of the next year to make exactly what a male makes in one year? Our nation can do better!



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At Request of GRAAUW, Latina Equal Pay Day Recognized by RVA Mayor!

At the request of the Greater Richmond branch of AAUW, Richmond Mayor Levar M. Stoney proclaimed November 20, 2019, to be Latina Equal Pay Day. The day symbolized how far into 2019 Latinas must work to earn what men earned during 2018. This year Latinas had to work almost two years to catch up with men, longer than any other ethnic class of women.

GRAAUW Public Policy Chair Trish Wallace explained that it was especially important to recognize Latina Pay Day because it fell so much later in the year than did All Women's Equal Pay Day, which occurred on April 2, 2019. The ratio of Latina women's earnings to white men's earnings (53%) is startlingly less than the female-to-male earnings ratios of Native American (58%), Black or African American (61%), non-Latina white (77%), Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (62%); and Asian women (85%).

The gender pay gap affects not only women but also their families and their communities. Over half of Latina mothers are the key breadwinners for their families according to a 2018 survey by Lake Research Partners and American Viewpoint.

HOSPITALITY NEEDS YOU FOR JANUARY OR FEBRUARY PROGRAM MEETINGS!

Barb Strohman needs to hear from you if you can bring some fruit, pastries, or cheese/yogurt, or juice for our 10:30 a.m. meeting on January 11th at Westover Hills Library. Barb is unable to attend the meeting as she is helping a sister with knee surgery recovery in Nashua NH then. She wants to be sure she has the goodies covered before she leaves town. Please text her or call her at (804) 380-0637 if you can help. If you cannot do January, but can help for the February 8th meeting at 10:30 at Glen Allen Library, please let her know that too!

Public Policy Legislative Calendar

- Dec. 4 League of Women Voters Legislative Pre-session 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
John Marshall Ballrooms, Hotel John Marshall 101 North 5th Street
Luncheon Speaker: Claire Gastañaga, Executive Director of ACLU of Virginia
Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pre-session-tickets-77142534397>
- Jan. 7 Women's Equality Legislative Summit (details to follow)
- Jan. 8 Session Convenes
- Jan. 8 deadline to register for AAUW of VA Lobby Day and Reception for Women Legislators
- Jan. 11 - discussion of legislation related to AAUW mission led by Trish W.
- Jan. 14 - AAUW of VA Reception for Women Legislators
- Jan. 15 - AAUW of VA Lobby Day 1
- Feb. 11 - Crossover Day
- Feb. 15 - AAUW of VA Lobby Day 2 joining LWV and others
- Mar. 7 - Session adjourns

See page at end of Newsletter for summary of bills presently introduced that align with AAUW Public Policy Priorities and mission

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Lunch Bunch

GRAAUW's Lunch Bunch gathers on the second Thursday each month at 1:30 p.m. in restaurants around RVA. **Lunch Bunch** began a few years ago as a way for members to meet for informal socializing. For information about the group, contact DeAnn Lineberry at deann.lineberry@yahoo.com

On **Wednesday, December 12**, we'll meet at **Hanover Tavern**, . 13181 Hanover Courthouse Rd, Hanover, VA 23069 across Route 301 from Hanover Courthouse. Please contact Pat Geerdes at 804-364-3828 if you plan to attend. Carpooling can be arranged. We will be planning the remainder of the 2019-2020 lunches at our Dec. meeting.

Book Group

Continuing a 45-year tradition, our Book Groups meet on the third Thursday of each month. We have two groups: Daytime Book Group, meeting at 1 PM, and Evening Group meeting at 7 PM. Both groups read the same books, enabling members to attend whichever time is more convenient month-to-month. **All GRAAUW members and their guests are welcome.** Join us any time our book interests you OR come every month. For more information, please contact DeAnn Lineberry: deann.lineberry@yahoo.com or call 804-233-5352.

Thursday, December 19

Evening Group and **Daytime Group** will meet together at 1:00 p.m. at Kathy Kelley's condo, 5100 Monument Ave., for our annual Christmas celebration. Members are asked to bring a poem to share and a gently used book wrapped in holiday wrapping for gift exchange. Please call Kathy at 330-5588 if you plan to attend.

Book Group (continued)

Thursday, January 16

Evening Group meeting location TBA.

Daytime Group will meet at our standing location, **Ginter Park Library**, 1200 Westbrook Avenue.

BOOK: *Where the Crawdads Sing*, by Delia Owens. Long on best seller lists, this novel is perfect for fans of Barbar Kingsolver. An ode to the natural world, a coming-of-age story, and a tale of possible murder, Owens reminds us we are forever shaped by the children we once were.

FUNDRAISING EVENT A SUCCESS!

With over 100 attendees, the annual Wine Tasting Fundraiser was a great success! Based on preliminary numbers, the estimated revenue is over \$4,500.00. This will insure that we have enough funding for our two scholarships plus a significant donation to AAUW funds. Thanks to our Corporate Sponsor, Wegmans who provided a grant of \$500.00. Everyone enjoyed the great wine selection and the food was so good, it disappeared from the tables almost as soon as it was served! And, we had another evening of lovely music by Jeff Sulik, who has come to be a great supporter of our event and organization.

The raffle was great fun with 9 baskets, including baskets for dog and cat lovers! The raffle sales were brisk and provided a significant amount of revenue. This year, for the first time, our ABC license made it possible to sell the unopened wine that was left over after the tasting! Jane will be providing the final numbers in the next budget report. **If you have not yet sent in receipts for reimbursement or you have not yet sent in your donation, please do so now!**

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FUNDRAISING EVENT A SUCCESS!

(continued)

A special thank you to the committee members who did so much work in organizing the event and insuring its success. Members were Laura Wimmer, Kathy Kelley, Diane Reale, Nora Narum, Carol Stephens, Jane Newell, Diane Reale, Georgiana Ball, and Marcia Phillips.

A very special thank you to everyone in the branch who participated. Over half of our members participated in some way, by donating funds for funds for food, selling tickets, buying tickets, providing publicity, setting up the Eventbrite site, making delicious dishes, attending, setting up the event and cleaning up.

The Bon Air Presbyterian Church facility was a great venue. We had lots of room in the main event and the kitchen facilities were very spacious.

Connie Sorrell, Chair

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS FOR 2020-2022 ARE OPEN!

In our March Annual Business Meeting we will be voting for a new President and a new VP of Programs. Regrettably, neither Dulce nor Adah feel they can give the time and energy needed for another 2 years. We also need to elect a Secretary for 2 years. Hortense Liberti Mitchell is willing to continue to serve as Secretary!

Thank you, Hortense! So, please give serious thought to whom you want to nominate to serve as President and VP of Programs. Carol Stephens will serve as the Chair of the Nominating Committee, but we need 2 other folks to serve on the committee with her. If you are willing to serve, please let Dulce know. The Board must appoint the 2 other members of the committee in January.

Committee Chairs are also needed for the following: Diversity and Inclusion, AAUW Funds, College/University Partners, and Scholarship Committee. If you are willing to serve in any of these capacities, please let Dulce know!

AAUW Board offers Matching Grant!

From now until Dec. 31st, the AAUW Board of Directors is offering a \$68,800 matching grant to funds raised for the AAUW Fund Greatest Need. Please donate on Giving Tuesday or anytime in December! If our branch can finalize its wine tasting funds, it can also contribute for the matching funds. Send your contribution to Jane Newell right now!

If you wish to be a sustaining member for AAUW efforts to bring about equality for women and girls in many different ways, you can sign up to give a monthly contribution, just like you do for other worthy causes you support. If \$10 is deducted from your checking account each month, you will probably never notice it, but if many women do just that, it will be hugely noticed at AAUW and make a difference in what we can do as a group force! If you are not sure how to do this, please ask Jane Newell or Carol Stephens.

Does GRAAUW wish to change Districts?

AAUW of VA is interested in trying to make the 4 Districts in Virginia a bit more even. The Northwest District has only 2 branches, Winchester and Harrisonburg. The Southeast District has 6 branches all in the Tidewater area, and then us, GRAAUW. We are being asked if we are willing to move to the NW District. The trip to a meeting in Harrisonburg will take about the same amount of time as one to a meeting in the SE District. Please give this serious thought and make your voice heard at our January 11th meeting.

AAUW of VA State Conference April 18 - 19 in Alexandria, VA

We have a wonderful opportunity to attend our State Conference right on the outskirts of DC and at a greatly reduced hotel room price. Think about making this an extended spring vacation and visit the African American History Museum as well as many other DC sites! Save the Date!

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***Bills to Watch Out For –
Virginia General Assembly 2020***

The following table lists by category bills and resolutions that relate to AAUW’s mission to advance equity for women and girls. We will update the list periodically.

Category	No.	Description
Education	HB 12	Adds to VA Code: Dep’t of Education shall establish procedure for receipt, investigation, and resolution of student complaints alleging discrimination on the basis of sex as prohibited by Title IX.
Health	HB 42	Health care providers; screening of patients for prenatal and postpartum depression; training. Directs the Boards of Medicine and Nursing to adopt regulations requiring licensees who provide primary, maternity, obstetrical, or gynecological health care services to complete a training program on prenatal and postnatal depression in women. Such training program shall include information on risk factors for and signs and symptoms of prenatal and postnatal depression, resources for the treatment and management of prenatal and postnatal depression, and steps the practitioner can take to link patients to such resources. The bill also requires the Board of Medicine to adopt regulations requiring licensees who provide primary, maternity, obstetrical, or gynecological health care services to screen all patients who are pregnant or who have been pregnant within the previous five years for prenatal or postnatal depression or other depression, as appropriate.
	SB 21	Provision of abortion; parental consent requirement; ultrasound requirement; hospital regulations. Removes the requirement that a pregnant minor seeking an abortion obtain either parental consent or judicial authorization. The bill removes the requirement that a pregnant woman seeking to obtain an abortion undergo a fetal transabdominal ultrasound prior to obtaining an abortion at least 24 hours prior to obtaining an abortion, or at least two hours prior to obtaining an abortion if the pregnant woman lives at least 100 miles from the facility where the abortion is to be performed. The bill also removes language classifying facilities that perform five or more first-trimester abortions per month as hospitals for the purpose of complying with regulations establishing minimum standards for hospitals.

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Category	No.	Description
Housing	HB 23	Adds discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity to list of unlawful discriminatory housing practices; <i>see also</i> Labor & Employment.
	SB 23	Adds discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity to list of unlawful discriminatory housing practices; <i>see also</i> Labor & Employment.
Labor & Employment	HB 23	Codifies existing prohibited discrimination in public employment on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, age, marital status, disability, or status as a veteran; <i>see also</i> Housing.
	SB 23	Codifies existing prohibited discrimination in public employment on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, age, marital status, disability, or status as a veteran; <i>see also</i> Housing.
Prisons		
U.S. Gov't	HJ 1	Ratifies ERA
	SJ 1	Ratifies ERA

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