



April/May 2025



Co-President's Letter

Spring has finally decided to appear and with it we are gearing up for our Annual Meeting and catered Brunch on April 26th. See more info later in the newsletter. Five of us are on the train heading to Alexandria to attend the AAUW VA state conference which is celebrating its 100th year Anniversary. Lisa made a huge raffle basket with all of our contributions and is carrying it on the train. Thank you, Lisa!

The nominations committee, headed by Marian Seigla is seeking someone who will be the VP of Membership. This is a vital position to the future health of our branch. Please consider serving! Let Marian know if you are willing!

Our last service effort will be hosting a packing party for Sylvia's Sisters. When shopping pick up some period products like tampons, pads, panty liners to donate to our effort. It will be held on May 17th. If you cannot attend then, you can bring your donations to the Annual Meeting.

We are winding down a very busy and productive 2024-2025 year. Sincere congratulations to our Board and to you!

We are very happy that we made enough money from our Gramophone fund raiser to offer 2 scholarships of \$1000 each. If you are willing to serve on the Scholarship Committee to help with choosing the recipients from our applications, please let Lisa or I know.

Also a huge thank you for Teri Weston, Laura Wimmer and Musau Wakabonga for serving on the STEM for Girls planning team and for their help with the event. Also thank you to Laurie Coulter, Kathy Kelley, and Barb Strohman for helping with serving the lunches. We had 36 girls sign up, 4 girls who had to cancel and a total of 18 girls attend. It felt good to finally get it off the ground! We are looking forward to an even better event next year.

Sincerely, Carol Stephens, Co President

Important Dates for your calendar

April 26th - Annual Spring Brunch and Business Meeting Bring your completed questionnaire

May 17th - Sylvia Sisters period products packing party

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Nominations open for GRAAUW Board Positions

Your Nominations Committee, Marian Seigla and Laurie Coulter are charged with finding candidates to fill the following elected positions: Treasurer and VP of Membership. If you are willing to serve in either of these positions or to share the responsibilities with another member, please contact Marian Seigla. If you are asked to serve, please be open to the possibility!

Public Policy

June 17th is the Primary Election for Governor, Lt. Governor, and Attorney General. For the first time both parties have females running for Governor! It is important to get out the vote for the primary. Early voting starts May 2nd. When we hear of postcard efforts to get out the vote we will let you know. Hopefully we can hand them out at the Annual Meeting Brunch. We will definitely be post carding again this fall!

The General Assembly is meeting April 2nd to address the vetos of the Governor and his changes to the budget. We are happy that he approved HB 1904 which supports maternal health care in rural hospitals and HB 2222/SB1255 which ends indiscriminate shackling of youth in court. Unfortunately, he vetoed HB 1625 which raises the minimum wage and HB 1921 that provides for Paid Sick Days. AAUW of VA has been lobbying for Paid Sick Leave for over 10 years now!

Continuation of DEI

CEO Ben & Jerry's
530 Community Dr. Suite 1
South Burlington, VT05403

April 26th 10:30 - 1:00 Brunch and Annual Business Meeting

We will meet at St. Matthias Episcopal Church for a catered brunch buffet and hold our election and installation of new officers.

Order your ticket today! american-association-of-university-women-of-greater-richmond.square.site

Also, at the end of the newsletter is a questionnaire that Marian Seigla, our Membership VP created for us to answer. Bring your answers to the questionnaire with you to the meeting.

Public Policy (continued)

One of the branches in VA created postcards for us to send to the CEO's of corporations to express our disappointment in their elimination of DEI or to express our support for their resistance to eliminating DEI. If you wish to write postcards here is the information:

Discontinued DEI -

Board of Directors Ford Motor Company
Customer Relationship Center
PO Box 6248, Dearborn, MI. 48126

Target CEO, Mr. Brian Cornell
1000 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Walmart CEO Mr. Doug McMillon
702 SW.8th St.
Bentonville, AR 72712

PepsiCo CEO Indra K. Nooyi
700 Anderson Hill Rd.
Purchase, NY 10577

Continuation of DEI

Mr. Tim Cook CEO
Apple Corporate Office
1 Infinite Loop
Cupertino, CA 95014

Mr. Ron Vachris
Costco Corporate Office Headquarters
999 Lake Dr.
Issaquah, WA 98027

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Book Group

Continuing a 50-year tradition, our Book Group meets at **2 p.m.** on the third Thursday of each 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, April 17

BOOK: *Nightbloom* by Peace Adzo Medie, an AAUW Grant recipient. Meeting place TBD.

Thursday, May 15

BOOK: *The Librarian of Burned Books* by Brianna Labuskes Meeting place TBD.

Birthday Corner

We would like to recognize the folks who will be celebrating their birthdays in **April** and **May**. Please let them know you are thinking of them on their special day!

April

Laurie Coulter - 4/1
Dulce Lawrence 4/7
Teri Weston 4/19
Laura Wimmer 4/22

May

Isata Turay 5/6

Lunch Bunch

GRAAUW's Lunch Bunch normally 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

April 10th we'll enjoy good ole American diner food at **Dot's Back Inn**, 4030 Macarthur Ave., Richmond 23227, in the Northside. Contact DeAnn Lineberry if you plan to attend.

May 8th, we'll celebrate Cinco de Mayo a few days late at Mexico Restaurant at 7162 Mechanicsville Turnpike, Mechanicsville 23111. Contact DeAnn if you plan to attend.

Birthday Corner

We also want to recognize our members who have birthdays during the summer when we do not publish a newsletter.

June - Ellen Rennels 6/18
Marcia Phillips 6/22
Hortense Mitchell Liberti 6/29

July - Tess Evans 7/27

August - Connie Sorrell 8/24



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"Getting to Know You"... [Fill in the blank]

How much do you really know about our organization? You may use all resources to answer the questions. The person with the most correct answers wins a small token for being an attentive member and researcher.

In case of a tie, I shall ask a tie breaking question. Remember to bring your answers to our next meeting on April 26th.

1. Who are the current Presidents of GRAAUW? _____
2. Who has been a member of AAUW the most years? _____
3. In what year was the Richmond Virginia AAUW branch founded? _____
4. Who received an undergraduate degree from a state or country other than Virginia?

5. How many members have a BA or BS degree? _____
6. How many members have a MA or MS degree? _____
7. How many members have a PhD degree? _____
8. What members live in Hanover County? _____
9. The name of the State President of Virginia AAUW? _____
10. In what district is GRAAUW? _____
11. Who is a new member? _____
12. Date of Branch and Annual Business meeting this year? _____
13. Name two 2024/2025 projects in which GRAAUW has been involved? _____
14. Total amount of money raised during our Wine Tasting Fundraising Event at Gramophone?

15. What was the last book read in Book Group? _____

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