

The Roanoke Valley View

Roanoke Valley Branch | AAUW

Chartered in 1923



Branch Newsletter

January 2014

Letter from the Roanoke Valley Branch Co-Presidents

The first months of 2014 hold several exciting events for our branch – the winter book sale, the annual STEM conference and the Virginia AAUW State Conference which will be right in our backyard at Smith Mountain Lake. Of course, we also have excellent monthly programs planned – February’s program will focus on public policy and in particular women’s health. March’s international program will focus on “Gender Equity & the Role of Women in Society.”

The Winter Book Sale is just around the corner and we hope you find some time to volunteer during the sale as well as pass the word to family, friends and colleagues about the sale, which as you know is our major fundraising event and the proceeds to go to pay for scholarships for women and girls to pursue higher education. It takes considerable time and effort to organize a sale twice a year, and we’d like to thank **Peggy Shifflett** and **Cheri Hughes** for their leadership and commitment in making each book sale a success.

On January 11th several members of the Roanoke Valley Branch attended the Southwest Virginia District meeting at the W.E. Skelton 4-H Conference Center. In addition to discussing pertinent AAUW topics such as Pay Equity, STEM, programming and engaging prospective members, we were given an overview of the program for the Virginia AAUW State Conference that will be held at the conference center on April 4-6, 2014.

As with past conferences, this year’s conference will offer great opportunities for networking, learning and socializing. The Smith Mountain Lake Branch is serving as the lead in planning and organizing the event but they need our assistance with various tasks during the conference. They don’t need a significant commitment of time, just an hour or two during the conference. We’d like to show our support of their efforts by having a strong showing of Roanoke Valley Branch volunteers during the event. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact **Ann Johnson** with the Smith Mountain Lake Branch at asjjah@aol.com.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference as well as the other exciting events within our branch in the coming months!

Paula Prince, PhD
Co-President
Roanoke Valley Branch

Pam Kestner, MSW
Co-President
Roanoke Valley Branch



AAUW Virginia Awards \$100 for STEM conference

Vicky Piper, HelenRuth Burch, Lydia Celin, and Peggy Shifflett attended the January 11th Southwest Virginia District Meeting where they learned about special program grants from AAUW Virginia. They immediately applied and the STEM Committee is proud to announce a \$100.00 grant from AAUW Virginia to help fund the upcoming STEM conference on March 8.

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

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is the nation’s leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Since our founding in 1881, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political.

February 1-2 Book Sale - Volunteers Needed!

The February 2014 Book Sale is this coming weekend! Your help is vital to the success of our sale and the ability for RV-AAUW to award meaningful scholarships. Volunteers are needed to work at the sale **Saturday, February 1 and Sunday, February 2**. Volunteer shifts are in 2 1/2- 3-hour blocks. Please volunteer for one or more!

Saturday work shifts:

**9:45-12:15; 12:00-2:30; 2:15-4:45;
4:30-7:00; 6:45-9:00**

Sunday work shifts (bag sale only):

12:45-3:30; 3:15-6:00

To help cut down on sale expenses, volunteers are asked to bring their own drink – water, etc. If you can help provide snacks for the volunteers, please let us know.

Volunteers are needed to do the following:

Checkout teams are most important – One pricer and one money taker/bagger for each team (Only money taker teams are needed for the bag sale which is on Sunday from 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.)

Membership table – greeter, keeper of AAUW membership name tags, answer questions about AAUW, hand out AAUW information and encourage people to join. Help people locate book categories as needed. Maps will be available to help you direct people.

Book straightener – keep books neat, return books from checkout that were not purchased to appropriate area, replace misplaced books, and help customers. Do not move books from under tables unless directed to do so.

Back door/back room – sit/stay near back door. Only those persons with clearance are to be let out the back door with their books. Help people locate where categories of books are in the back room. Make sure no one takes books out of sets. Sets will be sold as sets.

To volunteer please contact **Tricia McMahon** at 389-1658 or **pomroomcm@aol.com** and put AAUW Book Sale in the subject line.



Membership News

Beth Ann and Steve Rossi proudly announce the birth of a new granddaughter, **Adair Addie Anderson**. She was born on November 26, 2013 weighing 7 lbs., 1 oz. with a head full of brown hair and blonde highlights. Her middle name is in honor of her two maternal grandmothers, **Adelaide** and **Aldonia**. She is the daughter of **Meghan and Tony Anderson** of Purcellville, VA.

Half-Year Dues:

Take 50–75 Percent off National Dues This Season

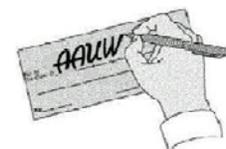
Recruit new members right now at the half-off rate, and then submit membership dues after January 1 to get the \$24.50 discounted rate.

This offer is valid **through March 15** and applies to the current 2013–14 fiscal year, so the membership will expire June 30, 2014.

And if you use the Shape the Future campaign during this same period to hold or participate in an event that's open to the public, the deal doubles!

That makes national dues just \$12.25, meaning you can offer potential new members 75 percent off AAUW national dues!

Regular student affiliate dues of \$17 are also eligible for these discounts.



This is a great deal for our new members. Granted, they will have to renew their membership July 1 but they can join for

National	12.25
State	7.50
Local	5.50
TOTAL	\$25.25

Contact **Charlotte Seth** at 774-8742 or **oldarfie@aol.com** for more information.

Online Book Sales

The directors of the book sale, **Cheri Hughes** and **Peggy Shifflett**, have moved the sale into the 21st century. We are now selling books online to 44 different book buying companies: Textbook.com, Valore Books, etc. Since the middle of August, they have sold approximately \$3,200 worth of books. The average sale price is \$6.81 per book. This has added an exciting new dimension to our book sale. The online sales fund several scholarships, or, alternatively, they are covering any costs associated with operating the two annual mall book sales, so that all the proceeds from the mall book sales can be counted as profit. Any member interested in participating in this new adventure may contact **Peggy Shifflett** at 540-580-5330.

Roanoke Valley AAUW Interest Group Updates

Morning Book Group

Coordinators: Nora Smith, 389-9474
and Charlotte Seth, 774-8742



The morning book group meets at the **Unitarian-Universalist Church** at the corner of Brandon and Grandin Roads.

Meetings will be at **10:30 a.m.** on the **first Wednesday** of each month.

On February 5 **Esther Mabry** will review *And the Mountains Echoes* by Khaled Hosseini

On March 5 **Beth Ann Rossi** will review *Moloka'i* by Alan Brennert

Afternoon Book Group

Coordinator: Melody Blankenship,
580-0185

The afternoon book group meets at the **Tanglewood Mall Community Room** next to the elevator on the second floor.

Meetings will be at **2:00 p.m.** on the **third Tuesday** of each month.

On February 18 **Melody Blankenship** will review *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyer

On March 18 **Beth Ann Rossi** will review *Moloka'i* by Alan Brennert



Evening Book Group

Coordinator: Lynne Victorine, 345-6009

The evening book group will meet in the Community Room at **Brandon Oaks Retirement community** on Brandon Rd on **February 10th at 7:00p.m.**



Lotty Hebblethwaite will lead the discussion of *Song of Solomon* by Toni Morrison

March 10 **Karen Vietmeier** will facilitate the discussion of *Moloka'i* by Alan Brennert. The location for the March meeting has not yet been confirmed.

All our meetings begin at **7:00 p.m.** A light snack is provided; beverages are BYO. Questions, directions, a ride? Call **Lynne** at 345-6009.

March 22: AAUW Travel International Delegations

Gender Equity & the Role of Women in Society

Saturday, March 22nd, 2014

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Tanglewood Mall Community Room

You may have read about AAUW's International Delegation trips in the *July 'Mission & Action'* national online newsletter or in the fall issue of *Outlook magazine*, which had an international focus.

Over the past several years, AAUW members have participated in travel delegations to Cuba (2010), South Africa (2011), China (2012), and India (2013), all focused on gender equity and the status of women in those countries.

Early this year, an AAUW delegation returned to Cuba (January 4-12, 2014) for an update on conditions for women in that nation. At our upcoming 2014 International Relations program meeting we will review the findings of these recent travel delegations and learn more about the purpose of the trips.

Please join us on March 22nd for an engaging program and small-group discussions of how women's issues in these countries compare to our experiences as women in the United States. If you have traveled to any of the delegation countries and would like to help with the discussion groups, please contact **Barbara Craig**, International Relations Chair, bac2010@verizon.net, or 540-989-1379.



Do you need a ride to book group or to meetings?

The membership committee is looking into ways to help all our members attend our meetings and/or book groups.

Could you attend if you had a ride with one of your branch members?



Please let **Cheri Hughes** know at 890-5121 or cherihughes@gmail.com. We will contact you and see what we can arrange.

Our Destination April 4-6 is Smith Mountain Lake!

Join members of AAUW from around the state at Smith Mountain Lake, location of the 2014 AAUW of Virginia Conference, April 4-6.

This will be a very enjoyable and informative destination weekend! The serene, beautiful location will inspire all who attend.

The complete details of this conference are located at the State web site: <http://aauw-va.aauw.net>. Print out the "brochure" that is there, or just the registration form! But, register NOW! The rate for registration goes up after March 15.

What can you expect at this conference?

- **Welcome Reception Friday Night:** "Moonshine and Poppy Cock" (local entertainment, desserts, hors d'oeuvres and a cash wine bar)
- **Keynote Speaker: Rebecca Norlander**, national AAUW Board member and owner of a technology company, whose goal is to change the world for the better through technology.
- **Workshops:** Synergy of Programming and Membership; Promoting Pay Equity & STEM - How do we do it? ; AAUW Funds – What is the point?
- **Exciting Excursions, Basket Raffle, Book Chatter, Movie "Lake Effect" inspired by and filmed at SML**
- **Saturday Night Banquet:** Woman of Achievement Awardee **Dr. Barbara Ryder**, Department of Computer Science Chair and only woman among 54 named professorships in VA Tech's College of Engineering; head of National Center for Women and Information Technology program to increase women in technology and computing.

AAUW of Virginia 2014 Voting and Elections Announcement: Paper Ballots vs. Online Voting

It is already time to begin thinking about AAUW of Virginia's annual one-member-one-vote election, which will take place between April 29 and May 29. Because paper ballots raise the cost considerably, all members are encouraged to vote online. Last year 787 paper ballots were mailed to members at a cost of \$811.73, over 40% of the total cost. Only 98 of these ballots were cast. On the recommendation of the Voting and Elections committee, **the Board voted for an opt-in rather than an opt-out process for receiving a paper ballot.**

Those who will need a paper ballot can request one between January 22 and April 6 by calling Mary K Johnson at 703-913-9490, emailing her at johnsons7703@verizon.net, or writing to her at 7703 Griffin Pond Court, Springfield, VA 22153. She will need each member's AAUW ID number, branch, and address.

All members who have joined by March 31, 2014, are eligible to vote. The quorum for the election is 7% of all members of AAUW of Virginia. For more details, see the winter/spring edition of the Vision.

State Lobby Day: February 5

The Virginia General Assembly will be in Regular Session from January 8-March 8, 2014. On Wednesday, February 5, 2014, AAUW of Virginia branches will be joining with the League of Women Voters (LWV), NOW, and Women Matter for a joint State Lobby Day in Richmond. All of the Lobby Day details have not been finalized, but a general overview is provided below for planning purposes.

Lobby Day Overview:

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. LWV Women's Legislative Roundtable (General Assembly Building, 3rd Floor, West Conference Room)

9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. AAUW of VA briefing to our members

9:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Lobby our senators & delegates in their offices

11:30 a.m. - 11:50 a.m. Walk across to the Capitol Building and get in line outside the House and Senate Galleries. Snap a group picture on the way.

Noon Wait for our group to be acknowledged on the House and Senate Floors

12:30 p.m. Walk to The Tobacco Company for lunch

Contact **Gloria Elliott** if you would like to attend the State Lobby Day. Her contact information is listed in the yearbook.

*"Above all, be the heroine
of your life, not the victim."
— Nora Ephron*

March 8 Roanoke Valley AAUW STEM Conference

The Roanoke Valley AAUW STEM program for students in 6th-8th grades will take place on March 8, 2014 at the American National University located in Salem, Virginia. We have a great day lined up for the girls.

They will be designing foam rockets, developing energy efficiency, becoming fiscally responsible, cyber secure, and solving crimes through Crime Scene Investigation as well as forensic anthropology.

If you are interested in helping the STEM committee make this a great experience for the girls, contact **Vicky Piper** at vcpiiper95@yahoo.com



Morning Session 1—select one:

Newton's Laws (mostly the 3rd)-design foam rockets and test your designs to see what works best. Presented by Karla Sharrer of Salem City Schools

E-Girls to the Rescue, an interactive workshop for energy efficiency. Presented by Monica Rokicki of Better Building Works

Morning Session 2—select one:

Math and Money Savvy – a budgeting and money management workshop. Presented by Vianne Greek of Edward Jones

CyberSafety – digital citizenship and practical safety tips for using the internet. Presented by Christopher Fielder of American National University

Afternoon Sessions—select one:

Forensic Science: Solving Crimes with Science
Presented by Dr. Diana Willeman-Buckelew of Jefferson College of Health Sciences

Bones—experience forensic anthropology with actual bones like 'Bones' on TV. Presented by Dr. Donna Boyd and Dr. Cliff Boyd of Radford University

Scholarship Committee Update

The Roanoke Valley branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) is funding three types of college scholarships for women who reside in the Cities of Roanoke or Salem, the counties of Roanoke, Botetourt, Craig, or the Town of Vinton.

There is a \$1000 available for high school seniors. A scholarship of \$1,500 is available for nontraditional women who are 21 years or older, who have not previously obtained a bachelor's degree. The \$1,500 Shiflett Scholarship is for women who will be attending Virginia Western Community College pursuing an Associate of Applied Science in Information Systems Technology.

To download an application form send go to: <http://roanokevalley-va.aauw.net>

Announcements and applications have been sent to counselors area high school counselors, Virginia Western Community College, Jefferson College of Health Sciences, the Higher Education Center, and Hollins University.

The scholarship committee received a letter from last year's scholarship recipient (at right). It is always a pleasure to learn what the students are doing and how they are benefiting from their scholarships.

Dear AAUW Scholarship Committee,

My name is Kelly Albert, and I was a scholarship recipient from last year. I want to thank you again for helping me with my college expenses. It meant the world to me when I won one of your scholarships. I would like to give you an update about my first semester at Radford University. I took six classes, and I received all A's. I am an accounting major. I also joined the Catholic Campus Ministry. I have made a lot of new friends, and I am very happy at Radford. Thank you again for picking me and guiding me towards success.

Wishing you the best,
Kelly Albert

Roanoke Valley Branch | AAUW

Meetings held in the
Community Room at Tanglewood Mall
4420-A Electric Rd
Roanoke, VA 24018

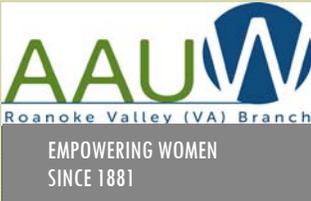
CO-PRESIDENTS:

PAM KESTNER 540/353-4264
PAULA PRINCE 540/343-6844

VP MEMBERSHIP:

CHARLOTTE SETH 540/774-8742

GROUP EMAIL: rvaauw@gmail.com



Roanoke Valley Branch | AAUW

Online at <http://roanokevalley-va.aauw.net/>

Please send suggestions for articles to Newsletter Editor: Vianne Greek vmgreek@gmail.com

Save the Dates

**Virginia Lobby & Advocacy Day
February 5, 2014**

We need as many members as possible to attend, so please indicate your interest to Public Policy Chair Gloria Elliott

**AAUW of Virginia State Conference
April 4-6, 2014**

At the W.E. Skelton 4H Educational Center
Hermitage Rd, Wirtz, Virginia

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

February 1-2
Winter Book Sale

February 22
Public Policy Program:
Disparity in Women's Health

March 8
STEM Conference

March 22
AAUW International Travel Delegations:
Gender Equity & the Role of Women in Society

April 4-6
State Conference @ Smith Mountain Lake

April 12
Annual Meeting & Scholarship Presentations

May 3
AAUW Funds/Membership & New Member Tea

Executive Committee

PAM KESTNER
PAULA PRINCE
Co Presidents

BETTY BLACK
SALLY SIZER
Co Vice Presidents for Program

CHARLOTTE SETH
Vice President for Membership

GAIL BURRUSS
Recording Secretary

JUDY GOODWIN
Treasurer

Mailing Address

The Roanoke Valley Branch now has a new mailing address.

PO Box 20636
Roanoke, VA 24018

Please update your records and begin using this address to send in your dues.

"A girl should be two things: classy and fabulous."
— Coco Chanel

THE MISSION OF AAUW, FORMERLY THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, IS TO ADVANCE EQUITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS THROUGH ADVOCACY, EDUCATION, PHILANTHROPY, AND RESEARCH