

The Roanoke Valley View

Roanoke Valley Branch | AAUW

Chartered in 1923



Branch Newsletter

March 2014

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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.

Letter from the Roanoke Valley Branch Co-Presidents

We write this with the hope that spring is finally on the way! It has been quite a winter in the Roanoke Valley and surrounding area. We've had plenty of snowed in reading time!

Our first order of business is to congratulate **Vicky Piper** and the STEM Committee for an outstanding event. The 4th Annual AAUW STEM workshops were held at American National University this year and the layout lent itself well to our activities. Workshops ran the gamut from economic self-sufficiency to rocket construction to crime solving. The 30+ young women in attendance had a wonderful time and reported learning something....exactly the outcome the STEM Committee was working toward. Thanks for a job well done, all!

Second order of business, scholarships! The Branch has had a successful sales year in our book business. **Cheri Hughes, Peggy Shifflett** and the industrious Book Sale Committee members have really moved our book sales up a couple of professional notches with successful bi-annual sales and really profitable internet sales. At the Annual Meeting April 12th we will give the fruits of that hard work to our scholarship winners. This is one of the most rewarding meetings of the year for us. It is the reminder of why we joined AAUW in the first place...to support the education of women! We are really looking forward to meeting the talented ones being assisted with our AAUW scholarships!

And finally, a reminder that the **AAUW of Virginia Conference** is being held this year in our own backyard. **Date and place: April 4-6 at the W. E. Skelton 4H Educational Center at Smith Mountain Lake.** The workshop topics include pay equity, STEM, membership and funds. There will, of course, be time for fun and socializing starting with the Friday night reception, Moonshine and Poppycok. We hope to see many members from the Roanoke Valley Branch at the conference. Check the website for more info!

Peace,

Paula Prince, PhD
Co-President
Roanoke Valley Branch

Pam Kestner, MSW
Co-President
Roanoke Valley Branch



Time to Pay 2014-2015 Membership Dues

Total dues for the July 1, 2014—June 30, 2015 year are \$75.00, comprised of \$49 National dues, \$15 State dues and \$11 Local branch dues. Our branch treasurer, **Judy Goodwin**, will be delighted to accept your check at the Annual Meeting April 12th. Please make your check out to AAUW-RV. Alternatively, you can send the check to Judy's home address at 3132 Clayview Cir, Salem, VA 24153.

Thank you—**Charlotte Seth and the Membership Committee**

April 12th Annual Meeting—Nominees for Office

The nominating committee met on February 16th, 2014 and approached a number of individuals to fill the various roles up for election this year: President, Vice President of Program, and 3 nominating committee members. The slate of officers to be presented to the membership are:

Co-Presidents:

Charlotte Seth and Peggy Shifflett

Charlotte Seth is presently serving as VP Membership of the AAUW-RV branch. She served as chair of the scholarship committee and currently co-chairs the morning book group with **Nora Smith**. Charlotte retired from a 21-year position with the Unitarian Universalist Church, enjoys reading, helping with the AAUW book space, traveling, volunteering at RAM and reading to children at Head Start. She enjoys making cards and writing letters (including a 50-year pen pal relationship in Ireland and Finland).

Peggy Shifflett is presently serving as co-chair for the Book Sale Committee with **Cheri Hughes**. In the past, she served as archivist and treasurer for the branch. Peggy retired in 2006 from a 38-year career as an educator, most recently at Radford University. She is active in Salem Kiwanis, Salem Garden Club and Herb Society, and enjoys reading, swimming, walking her dog, and traveling.



Co-Vice Presidents for Program:

Sandra Brown-Kelley and Peggy Pearson

Sandra Brown-Kelley graduated from Hollins University with bachelor and masters degrees. Retired from Roanoke Times, she is an adjunct instructor and library reference specialist at Virginia Western Community College.

Peg Pearson was a member of the Roanoke Valley Branch and previously served as President and VP of Program. She is a graduate of the University of Louisville and currently owns and operates two branches of Liberty Tax Service.



Nominating Committee:

Carmen Garrido, HelenRuth Burch, and Heddie Sumner

Carmen Garrido has been an active member of the branch since 2004, serving as Treasurer and on various committees including Public Policy and Scholarship. Though Carmen is originally from Spain, she has been a U.S. citizen since 1976.

HelenRuth Burch has been a member since 2000 and has served in numerous leadership roles including Past Co-President, Membership VP and Diversity Chair of Roanoke Valley Branch. Outside of the branch, HelenRuth has served as State Membership VP and SW District Rep.

Heddie Sumner is a 1975 graduate of the University of Virginia with a BSN degree. She has been active in AAUW since the late 1970's in Michigan and, among other roles, served as branch president for the Midland, Michigan branch.

Women History Month

The Women's History Month website posted images of the following ladies being represented this year:

Sally Ride, Astronaut
 Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Activist
 Josephine Baker, Performer
 Virginia Woolf, Novelist
 "Rosie the Riveter"
 Alice Paul, Suffragist
 Hillary Clinton, Secretary of State
 Frida Kahlo, Artist
 Amelia Earhart, Aviator
 Wilma Rudolph, Athlete

International Women's Day

Each year International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated on March 8. The first International Women's Day was held in 1911. Thousands of events occur to mark the economic, political and social achievements of women. Organizations, governments, charities, educational institutions, women's groups, corporations and the media celebrate the day.

New Member:

Angela Kreyenbuhl-Conroy
 728 Ferrum School Road
 Ferrum, VA 24088

aconroy10@gmail.com
 cell 540-243-1188

BDay 7/27
 Univ. of Maryland MBA
 Univ. of Maryland MS Environmental Management
 Virginia Tech Graduate Studies,
 Urban and Regional Planning
 Ferrum College BS Environmental Science

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 April 5 **Doris Egge** will review [*Martha Jefferson Randolph, Daughter of Monticello: Her Life and Times*](#) by Cynthia A. Kierner

On May 7 **Lucy Stinson** will review [*Cry the Beloved Country*](#) by Alan Paton

On June 4 **Nora Smith** will review [*Drinking with Men*](#) by Rosie Schaap

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 April 15 **Dorothy Provine** will review [*Never Let Me Go*](#) by Kazuo Ishiguo

On May 20 **Nora Smith** will review [*Circle of Friends*](#) by Maeve Binchy

On June 17 **Vicky Piper** will review [*The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion*](#) by Fannie Flagg



Evening Book Group

Coordinator: Lotty Hebblethwaite,
776-8011

The evening book group meets in the Community Room at **Brandon Oaks Retirement community** on Brandon Rd at **7 p.m.** on the **second Monday** of each month.

On April 14 **Doris Egge** will lead the discussion of [*Every Last One*](#) by Anna Quindlen

On May 12 **Kay Koehler** will lead the discussion of [*Cutting for Stone*](#) by Abraham Verghese

On June 9 **Peggy Shifflett** will lead the discussion of [*Flight Behavior*](#) by Barbara Kingsolver



Theater Group—OKLAHOMA!

Coordinator: Gloria Elliott

Attic Productions is featuring Rodgers & Hammerstein's **Oklahoma!** on July 24, 25, 26, 31; and August 1, 2, 7, 8, 9.

Set in Oklahoma Territory outside the town of Claremore in 1906, it tells the story of cowboy Curly McLain and his romance with farm girl Laurey Williams.



If you are interested in attending this as a group, please contact Gloria by emailing rvaauw@gmail.com and indicate your preferred dates. This will help her firm up the details which we can then announce to our membership.

Additional information about Attic Productions' schedule this year, visit <http://www.atticproductions.info>



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!

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.

Winter Book Sale and its "Secondary" Mission

A big "thank you" to all of our branch members for such a successful February Sale! We made more money in the "short" sale than in previous Winter Sales. Adding this to our on-line sales has made this post-September months very profitable for the Branch.

Another aspect of our February Sale is the donation of books and materials to various non-profit organizations in and around the Valley. We have done this for several years and it is very successful and appreciated by those who receive the books. Peggy and I would like to put some names and faces to those who we help.

This year, seven organizations participated. **Denise Yopp** and **Jenny Neal** came from *Bethany Hall*. They gathered books for the children, mothers and materials for the staff to better serve their clients.

Russ Merritt came from *Blue Ridge Literacy* to gather books for be used in serving their growing refugee clients in developing language skills for all ages. **Charlotte Seth** helped to gather books, puzzles and games for the clients at *RAM in the Day Shelter*. The *Adult Day Care Center* (across from the VA Medical Center) came to gather materials for the 85 clients that they serve daily.



A newcomer to our program is *Family Services of Roanoke, Inc.* who sent **Jenny Lee** to collect materials. She has sent us a great letter thanking us for including them and listing their goals for the Valley and their clients. We are really making an impact with this "second" mission for books. An old-timer that comes every year is **Officer Charles Minucie** from the *Roanoke County Jail*. He is the librarian at the Jail. He spends hours getting books for the inmates. They now request certain authors for him to find. If it wasn't for the inmates, science fiction would not move very much and Stuart Woods would not be so popular.

One of our best legacies is our donations to the *YMCA Magic Place* and **Deidre Ross**, Director of Childcare for the Y. This year they were able to repurpose 12 cases of children's and Young Adult hardback books from the Downtown Library. These books are being used in the 19 Centers that they have around town and also in their Summer Camp locations. Deidre also plans to let parents and students take some of them home.

Please try to find time in your busy schedules to help us prepare for the September Sale through sorting and also helping locate sources of donated books. We have so many ways that they help all residents of the Valley.

Sorting days are Tuesday and Thursday 10-4 and after May 1st we will add Saturday 10-2. Please call Peggy and Cheri if you have questions or need to arrange a large book pick-up. Thank you for your help and support.

Cheri Hughes and Peggy Shifflett
Co-Chairs Book Sale

March 8 Roanoke Valley AAUW STEM Conference

On March 8th, American National University was buzzing with activity. 33 young girls ranging in age from 11 to 14 attended the third annual STEM conference hosted by the Roanoke Valley Branch of AAUW.

The girls were treated to six different sessions throughout the day with each girl attending three:

Karla Sharrer of *Salem City Schools* taught the girls about Newton's Laws and had them build foam rockets.

Jonathan Arnold of *Better Building Works* shared the concepts of energy and how it relates to building dynamics.

Vianne Greek of *Edward Jones* led a discussion about money: spending (budgeting), saving, donating, and investing.

Christopher Fielder of *American National University* exposed the girls to the world of CyberSecurity in his class.

After a lunch of cheese pizzas and cookies the girls continued the day with a two-hour long session in forensic science and anthropology.

Dr. Diana Willeman-Buckelew of *Jefferson College of Health Sciences* set up a crime scene and taught the girls how to use forensic science techniques to solve the crime.

Drs. Cliff and Donna Boyd of *Radford University* led an interactive session with trays of bones and artifacts, teaching the girls about basic osteology and forensic anthropology.

Lead by the talented **Vicky Piper**, a team of **Cathy Wright, Lydia Celin, HelenRuth Burch, Thayer Walker, Judy Goodwin, Peggy Shifflett** and **Vianne Greek** planned and coordinated the event. Several other branch members joined the committee to assist the speakers and supervise the sessions. **Our thanks to them all.**

AAUW values the importance of supporting girls in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) as part of our mission to break through barriers for women and girls.



STEM Science, Technology,
Engineering, Mathematics

Roanoke Valley Branch | AAUW

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

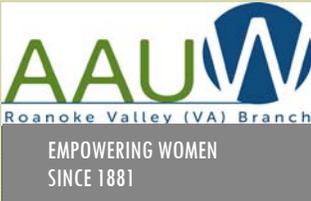
CO-PRESIDENTS:

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 Date

AAUW of Virginia State Conference April 4-6, 2014

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

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

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.

*"If you do not tell the truth
about yourself you cannot tell it
about other people."
— Virginia Woolf*

**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**