



Volume XLII Issue 4

**President's Pen**

***Where were you on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017?***

*Here are a few personal accounts from our members...*

***“Four Stars for the Women's March on Washington. What a joyful, determined group to be a part of. People energized, signs clever and speakers inspiring.”***  
***– Roberta Sherman***



***“It was both awesome and inspiring that so many people from all over the country gathered in support of Women's Rights, which as we know, are important for everyone on the planet.”*** – Judi Ornoff



***“We are being inundated with technological changes, globalization and climate change. Yet all Americans need to adapt to these changes in order to survive. Women, the 51%, must be part of that change by being well educated particularly***



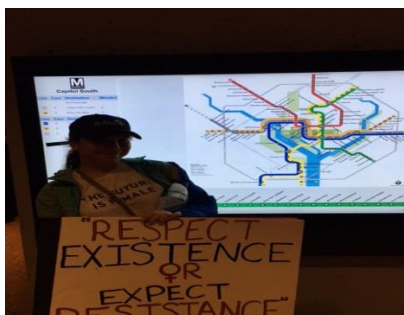
Volume XLII Issue 4

***in STEM fields, controlling their reproduction, having access to affordable housing, healthcare, equal pay and paid leave. But this doesn't just benefit women it empowers families and our society. And it makes practical sense, that the majority of our people have equal rights and opportunities. I marched to give voice to this struggle.” – Judi Polizzotti***

***“Amazing experience. I was so proud to be taking part in it.” - Stephanie Abbott***

***“I called it a "marchless march," as when I got to Third St. beside the American Indian Museum - supposedly the starting point - I could go no further, the crowd was so great. So I stood without moving for several hours, packed in with thousands of friendly people from many places carrying signs of all types - all very creative, many quite raunchy. It was definitely one of the best things I have ever participated in because it showed the almost unbelievably strong and yet peaceful opposition to the new president and what he stands for, and also that great numbers of people, mostly women, are waking up to realize that while we cannot support him we must get involved to work to keep the many good things we have in our country. I am proud that AAUW provides one way to channel our efforts.” – Marilyn Silvey***

***Thank you for speaking out and representing all women!***





## ***Branch Updates...***

### ***A reminder from Roberta Sherman, Branch VP about Board openings...***

We are fortunate to have an active branch on many levels. Thank you to those members who have stepped up to leadership roles over the years. We are at a crossroads to engage all of our members to step up to ensure the viability of our branch in our community.

There are four positions to fill for the next term of 2017-2019: President, Vice President, Membership Chair and Program Chair. Ruth Ruttenberg and Sharon Gillman will be staying on the board as Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

Serving on the Board is a way to help further AAUW's vision and a rewarding venue to engage with like-minded women. Please consider a role that you can support our branch and its future success. Remember that all Board positions can be shared positions. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Gail. The slate will be posted in late April.

AAUW's national conference will be held in DC on June 14-17 and those who are elected to serve will be eligible for financial assistance for conference expenses from both the AAUW VA State Board and our branch.

**shermanrs1@aol.com**

***Membership*** – Please welcome new member, Mary Blizzard, and returning member, Jackie Brown. Be on the lookout for them at upcoming events. There are a few potential new or returning members on the horizon over the next few months.

***Study Series on Combating Human Trafficking (HT)*** – Although our efforts to require HT education in schools were not successful in the last State Legislative session, Judy Skirbunt achieved a major step forward on the educational forefront. She gained the support of the South Lakes High School PTSA to engage Dr. Elizabeth Payne, Fairfax County Public Schools, Coordinator, Health, Physical Education, and Family Life Education, to present a program addressing human trafficking and teenagers on April 19 at SLHS. Prior to that date, we hope to meet with a State House Delegate and/or Senator to examine specific steps to promote legislation that results in law enforcement funding and victim assistance. We offer many thanks to Al Zane on law



Reston-Herndon Area (VA) Branch

Volume XLII Issue 4

enforcement and legislative initiatives to keep HT on the community radar.

### ***Request from Artemis House...***

Artemis House wanted to share a story with us about how helpful our past donations of underwear and pajamas have been. They recently had a disabled client who was raped and entered the program from the hospital with literally nothing. They were able to provide her these basic necessities until they could coordinate taking her to a clothing resource for additional items. Many times clients come into their program from domestic abuse and have nothing to sleep in their first evening. Being able to help clients who have just experienced significant trauma is a small step but important to know that help is there for them.

Cyndi Shanahan has been asked for larger size pajamas and smaller sizes of underwear. Hip hugger or low riding underwear is preferred. If you can donate any of these items, Cyndi will be collecting them over the next few weeks. Please feel free to leave any contributions on her porch, or call her and she can pick them up.

Thank you!

Cyndi Shanahan

[703-945-9817](tel:703-945-9817)

11903 Fawn Ridge Lane  
Reston, VA

***Our Lobby Corps traveling to Capitol Hill every Thursday that Congress is in session.***







Reston-Herndon Area (VA) Branch

Volume XLII Issue 4

### ***Upcoming Events...***

**Saturday, Mar. 11, 9:30am – Noon "What Can I do: Civic Engagement Workshop"**

hosted by State Delegate Ken Plum. Various organizations including our AAUW Branch will have booths where they will share their mission of involving citizens in our community to improve quality of life. Langston Hughes Middle School, 11401 Ridge Heights Road, Reston.

**Thursday, Mar. 16, 7:00pm – Branch Business Meeting & Presentation by Author, Laura Zelman, "In My Father's Words: The World War II Letters of an Army Doctor"**

Listen to the author's journey in publishing letters between her parents during WWII while her father was serving overseas. Location: No. County Govt. Center, Reston. Dessert will be served! Evite sent.

**Thursday, Apr. 20, 7:00pm – Presentation by Na'ama Gold** A Technion Israeli government "facilitator" for high-tech start-ups. Technion is currently building a facility on Roosevelt Island--off Manhattan--in conjunction with a university to nurture and develop high-tech innovations. Na'ama will speak about her youth in Israel, the education system and how promising youth are channeled through their Army service. Location: No. County Govt. Center - Reston. **Look for the EVITE the week of Mar. 20<sup>th</sup>!**

**Saturday, Apr. 22, Noon – Joint AAUW and NCNW Mother-Daughter-Granddaughter Luncheon, Mon Ami Gabi Restaurant, Reston**

Create a legacy of Women's Advocacy. Introduce your daughters and granddaughters to AAUW and NCNW. Paula Young Shelton is the author of "Child of the Civil Rights Movement". As the daughter of Civil Rights activist Andrew Young, she brings a child's unique perspective to an important chapter in America's history. **Look for the EVITE the week of Mar. 20<sup>th</sup>.**

**Wednesday, Apr. 26, Noon Matinee** – Scholarship Fundraiser at Arena Stage in Washington, DC.

INSIGHTFUL COMEDY-DRAMA

**SMART PEOPLE**

Tickets would normally be \$63 (including fees) however we are offering them at \$53.50. We have a block of 10 seats available. Please contact [gailiff90@gmail.com](mailto:gailiff90@gmail.com) if you wish to purchase tickets ***no later than March 20<sup>th</sup>.***



Reston-Herndon Area (VA) Branch

Volume XLII Issue 4

**Thursday, May 11, 7:00pm General Membership Meeting, Election on Board of Directors, Dinner and Program**

We are delighted to have **Allyson Hamlin**, quarterback for the national champion **D.C. Divas** and Homicide Detective in Prince George's County, as our speaker. Location will be announced at a later date. **Look for EVITE the week of April 7<sup>th</sup>.**

**June 14-17 – AAUW National Convention – Washington, DC** – Go to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

and click on the heading "Convention". The next page will have information about registration, agenda, speakers, etc. There are discounts on convention costs based on when you register. The earlier you register, the more cost effective!

***News from other Branches...***

- **Alexandria**

**Women at Work: Achieving Gender Equality**

**By Sanola A. Daley**

**Sunday March 19, 2017 2:00-4:00 PM**

**Cameron Station Clubhouse, 200 Cameron Station Blvd. Alexandria, VA 22304**

As more companies in the United States and around the world start to understand the importance and impact of gender equality in the workplace, questions still remain regarding how to create lasting change. In this discussion, we will look at the challenges a company may face and how to sell the business case for gender equality to corporate leadership. We'll also look at innovative global solutions and identify actions companies and employees can take to ensure organizations are on the path to achieving lasting equality. Share your experiences in an exciting interactive discussion with Sanola, one of our very own Branch members.



Sanola A. Daley is the Diversity & Inclusion Advisor at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) where she coordinates the IDB's strategy on gender, diversity and inclusion in Human Resources. From 2012 to mid- 2016, she served as the Gender Specialist advising IDB's private sector clients in Latin America and the Caribbean on gender equality and women's leadership across all sectors. Sanola holds a Masters Degree in International Development focused on Private Sector Development from George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and a Bachelor's Degree in International Politics and Latin American Studies from New York University. From 2008-2012, Sanola was a Researcher and Project Manager at the INCAE Business School in Costa Rica where she



Reston-Herndon Area (VA) Branch

Volume XLII Issue 4

coordinated initiatives on Women's Leadership, Sustainable Business Development, Tourism and Microfinance. She has also previously consulted at the Organization of American States in the areas of Competitiveness and Foreign Trade Information. Sanola is from Kingston, Jamaica.

***Bring a friend or family member.  
Our meetings are open to the public.  
Light refreshments available.***

- **Falls Church Book Sale**

**March Collection - Cleaning-up? Down-sizing?**

The Falls Church Area Branch is collecting books in March at the book collection bin at the Falls Church Community Center (223 Little Falls Street, just off Route 7 in the city of Falls Church) for the annual book sale which benefits scholarship/grant programs for women, including local Falls Church high school girls.

**April Sale -**

Come to the book sale on Friday, April 7 (9am-9pm) and Saturday, April 8 (9am-4pm) at the Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls Street, just off Route 7 in the city of Falls Church. There will be more than 40,000 books for browsing and buying. It will be a huge selection of hardback, paperbacks, fiction, and non-fiction of all kinds. Most books priced at \$3 or less. For more information about the book sale, visit <http://fallschurcharea-va.aauw.net/booksale> or call (703) 941-5643.

*gail Parsons*  
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Volume XLII Issue 4

***A Photo Gallery of our members out and about...***

