



# Mt. Vernon Voices

*AAUW advances equity for women and girls through,  
advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.*

## Presidents' Corner



Now that we have left summer and vacations behind us, the wonderful weather we are having should give us the time and enthusiasm to participate in AAUW activities.

**Ruth Bennett** from the AAUW Alexandria Branch, joined us for the September board meeting. Most of us were not aware the Alexandria Branch produces a Channel 10 program regarding women's issues. Their span of interest is broad and quite exciting and we were informed we were welcome to participate. Specifics are available for anyone interested.

Twelve determined women did not allow the rain to discourage them and joined **Elaine Kolish** to walk for the homeless.

Some members still need to renew and we hope those of you who have been too busy to do so will find the time soon and join us for another rewarding year. We do not want to publish the membership booklet yet as we want your name in it!

Mark your calendar for our **Holiday Luncheon December 3 at the Mt. Vernon Country Club**. This is a wonderful opportunity to maximize our time for being social.

We look forward seeing you at the November 10 meeting to hear **Malcom Peck**, a well-known Middle East speaker, discuss the role of women who live in the Middle East.

*Cathy Krebs & Saundra Prince*

## Branch Meeting, November 10

**The Mt. Vernon Branch of AAUW will hold its November meeting on Thursday, November 10, from 7:00 – 9:00 at the Mt. Vernon Government Center on Parkers Lane in Alexandria.**

Our speaker is a noted Middle East scholar, **Dr. Malcolm Peck**, who will present "The Impact of the Arab Spring on the Role of Women in Arab Cultures: Evolution or Status-Quo." Dr. Peck, educated at Harvard University (BA and MA) and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy (MA, MALD, and Ph.D.), has taught at the University of Chattanooga (now the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga); was a post-doctoral fellow at the Harvard University Center for Middle Eastern Studies; and, from 1970 to 1981, was assistant to the president and director of programs at the Middle East Insti-

tute in Washington, D.C. He served as the Arabian Peninsula affairs analyst at the U.S. Department of State from 1981 to 1983. Dr. Peck has written on Persian/Arabian Gulf and Arabian Peninsula issues in chapters contributed to nine books and in a number of articles. He is the author of *The United Arab Emirates: A Venture in Unity* (1986) as well as the *Historical Dictionary of the Gulf Arab States* (1997) and is a contributor to *Arabies Trends*, the *Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East*, *Microsoft Encarta*, and *The World Book*. Peck is a co-founder and secretary of the Society for Gulf Arab Studies.

**Please invite your significant other, neighbors, and friends to this very interesting and timely presentation.**

**NOVEMBER  
10**

**Mt. Vernon  
Governmental  
Center**

**Celebrate  
130 Years of  
AAUW**

**Noted Scholar  
Malcolm Peck  
Speaks on the  
Middle East**

**7:00 pm**

## Coming in December...

Mark your calendars for our annual holiday luncheon at the Mt. Vernon Country Club: Saturday, December 3, 11:30 pm. Menu and exact costs (not to exceed \$30) will be forthcoming.

Reservations must be made with **Joanne Clark** by Friday, November 25. Look for more details in the next Mt. Vernon Voices or contact Joanne at [jclark@meridian.org](mailto:jclark@meridian.org) or at 703-768-8996.

Dear AAUW Members,

An acknowledgement arrived today from Doctors Without Borders of a contribution from AAUW in memory of my husband, Noel. In times of grief, such touching gestures bring comfort and heartfelt appreciation. After the November 6th memorial service, I hope to have more time to enjoy AAUW. Again, thank you.

In gratitude,  
Jeanne Gayler

**In Memory of Alice Pickering** No one is truly gone while they are still remembered. Rather than observe a moment of silence, let us plant a bulb or bulbs in memory of Alice Pickering and look for her smile in the bloom of spring. Narcissus bulbs were provided at the October board meeting and at the October 22 Suffragist tour and tea. These should be planted about 5" deep and before the first frost. It helps to add a little bone meal in the dirt and some mulch on top.



## 2011-2012 Branch Board Members

### Co-Presidents:

Cathy Krebs 703/765-2751  
[catherinekkrebs@yahoo.com](mailto:catherinekkrebs@yahoo.com)

Sandra Prince 703/360-5012  
[saundratexan@att.blackberry.net](mailto:saundratexan@att.blackberry.net)

### Program Vice Presidents:

Ericka Kinsey 703/660-0713  
[ekinsey@cox.net](mailto:ekinsey@cox.net)

Joanne Clark 703/768-8996  
[jclark@meridian.org](mailto:jclark@meridian.org)

### Membership Vice President:

Kelly Morris 703/360-7476  
[kellymorris74@hotmail.com](mailto:kellymorris74@hotmail.com)

### Treasurer:

Trish Smith 703/803-0252  
[trish-smith@cox.net](mailto:trish-smith@cox.net)

### Secretary:

Mary Beth O'Donnell 703/765-4908  
[maryo25@verizon.net](mailto:maryo25@verizon.net)

### Communications:

Patsy Quick 703/360-8678  
[pnquick@cox.net](mailto:pnquick@cox.net)

### Newletter/Directory Distribution

Cynthia Gindlesperger 703/619-5262  
[uli\\_g@verizon.net](mailto:uli_g@verizon.net)

Mary Ellen Mehler 703/780-8494  
[memehler@msn.com](mailto:memehler@msn.com)

### AAUW Funds:

Edith Appel 703/780-3343  
[djaea@cox.net](mailto:djaea@cox.net)

### Public Policy:

Gerry Pratsch 703/329-1050  
[gpratsch7@gmail.com](mailto:gpratsch7@gmail.com)

### International Affairs:

Joanne Clark 703/768-8996  
[jclark@meridian.org](mailto:jclark@meridian.org)

### Bylaws:

Elaine Kolish 703/360-7319  
[dmfedk@cox.net](mailto:dmfedk@cox.net)

### Hospitality:

Joanne Malkin 703/360-7725  
[jbmalkin@verizon.net](mailto:jbmalkin@verizon.net)

Shirley Richey 703/960-9017  
[shirley97@verizon.net](mailto:shirley97@verizon.net)

### Nominating Committee Chair

Lois Passman 703/780-4236  
[LMPassman@msn.com](mailto:LMPassman@msn.com)

### Book Group:

Edith Appel 703-/80-3343  
[djaea@cox.net](mailto:djaea@cox.net)

### Dining Out:

Elizabeth Lonoff 703/765-2634  
[elonoff@msn.com](mailto:elonoff@msn.com)

### Gourmet Too:

Shirley Richey 703/780-0834  
[shirley97@verizon.net](mailto:shirley97@verizon.net)

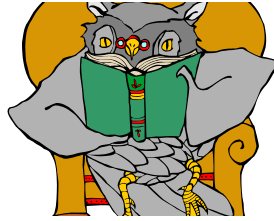
## Book Group

Please let the hostess know whether or not you plan to attend.

**DATE:** Monday, November 21, 7:30 pm

**HOSTESS:** Mary Ellen Mehler  
2002 Old Stage Rd.  
Alexandria, 22308

703/780-8994    [memehler@msn.com](mailto:memehler@msn.com)



**CO-HOSTESS:** Sue Rardin

**Book:** Major Pettigrew's Last Stand  
by Helen Simonson

**Reviewer:** Joan Howerton

**Next Book:** Elegance of the Hedgehog  
by Muriel Barbery

## Game Night



Game night is October 28 at Edie Bartlett's home. The next Game Night will be in January.

Please contact Barbara Mann at  
[speech.solutions@verizon.net](mailto:speech.solutions@verizon.net)  
if you'd like to join the group.

## Fairfax City Book and Author Luncheon

**WHEN:** Saturday, November 5th, 11 am to 2 pm  
**WHERE:** Country Club of Fairfax, Fairfax  
**TICKETS:** \$38 per person  
**CONTACT:** Suzanne Mahoney: 703-978-3258  
8313 Chapel Lake Ct., Annandale, VA 22003  
e-mail: [suzanne070946@mac.com](mailto:suzanne070946@mac.com)

### THE FOLLOWING AUTHORS ARE FEATURED

Amy Stolls, *The Ninth Wife: A Novel*  
Grace Hale, *A Nation of Outsiders: How the Middle Class Fell in Love with Rebellion in Postwar America*  
Louis Bayard, *The School of Night: A Novel*  
Wolfgang Samuel, *German Boy: A Child in War*  
Yolanda Yates and others: *Fourth Sunday: The Journey of a Book*



# Busy October

## Mini-Walk, October 1

A group of 19 members and friends showed up at **Elaine Kolish's** home to walk in the sprinkling rain on October 1 for the Mini-Walk for the homeless.

**Thank you to all who contributed to helping UCM raise funds.**



## Branch Outing, October 22



On October 22, ten members of the Mt. Vernon Branch traveled to the **Lorton Workhouse Museum** where we visited the still-evolving exhibition of the history of the workhouse as a prison, with an emphasis for our benefit on the years that activist suffragettes, 1916-19, were imprisoned and brutalized for picketing President Woodrow Wilson's White House after we had entered WWI. The women were labeled traitors to their country and treated accordingly. Of note, ignored by the anti-suffragists, were the slogans held by the picketers - all taken from speech's by President Wilson, using his words to promote democracy and freedom for all people's.

After the museum visit, everyone went to **Trish Smith's** home to watch the 2004 movie, "Iron Jawed Angels", with Angelica Huston and Hilary Swank, an HBO movie detailing the events we about which we had just learned. The synergy between the two program elements made for a great day.

**Thanks to Trish Smith for opening her house to us and for providing delicious food and drink.**

## AAUW of Virginia Survey

**Gerry Pratsch**

This program year AAUW of Virginia is one of two states (California the other) that will be voting in the One Member One Vote initiative by having available to its members the voting ballot on-line. The Spring 2012 elections will include the election of officers, bylaws changes, and public policy approval.

Online voting has become an alternative to the paper ballot as a cost cutting measure. AAUW understands that many members may not have email addresses or be comfortable in voting online. Paper ballots and voter guides will be offered to those members.

**This fall AAUW of Virginia will survey the membership who have email addresses about on line voting. Be sure to respond to this survey if you are comfortable**

**with online voting. If you wish to vote online, ask one of the tech savvy branch members for a tutorial or assistance in voting online. Either way your voice will be heard with One Member One Vote.**

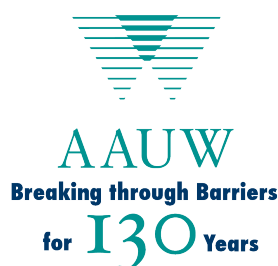
### Call for Nominations

The positions available for officers of the State Board for the Spring 2012 elections are President, Vice President for Program, Vice President for Communications, and Vice President(s) for Public Policy. All positions may be held as a "co" position with two people. The term in office is from July 1, 2012 until June 30, 2014. A detailed description of the positions are at <http://www.aauwofva.org/board.htm> and click on "Bylaws".



## AAUW Funds

Edith Appel



This year our Branch focused its fund raising efforts on two AAUW Funds, the Legal Advocacy Fund and the Educational Opportunities Fund. With individual contributions collected for LAF at our September Kick-Off dinner, we were able to send \$535 to the National Office. Our \$2185 contribution to the Educational Opportunities Fund consisted of \$2000 from our General Fund and \$185 from individual contributions. Thank you for your generous support!

The fiscal year ends December 31; therefore, it is not too late to donate to these two funds, if you have not already done so. Please send checks to **Edith Appel**, at 9312 Boothe Street, Alexandria 22309. Make checks out to AAUW Funds and indicate either LAF or Educational Opportunities Fund and Mt. Vernon Branch at the bottom of your check.

## Empowered Women International

Joanne Clark

On October 29, Empowered Women International, one of our community-outreach organizations, is hosting an open house to be followed by a concert of Sephardic music by Flory Jagoda, renowned Sephardic singer. Flory Jagoda was born into the musical Altaras family in Sarajevo, Bosnia and is known as the "Keeper of the Flame" for her steadfast commitment to continuing her family's musical heritage.

She has had a distinguished career as an international singer and composer of Sephardic music, one of Judaism's richest cultural traditions. These songs serve as a lyrical history of the Sephardim, the Spanish and Portuguese Jews who fled the Iberian Peninsula as a result of the Inquisition beginning in 1492. Many of these exiles settled in the Ottoman Empire, including the former Yugoslavia. Flory was honored with an NEA National Heritage Fellowship in September 2002 and served as a Master Artist in the Folklife Apprenticeship Program at the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. In March 2003 she was the soloist performer in a ceremony at Auschwitz, Poland, commemorating the Sephardim who perished there during the Holocaust. She is also the proud recipient of the 2003 Immigrant Achievement Award. Flory's music is circulated through 5 recordings and in The Flory Jagoda Songbook. A documentary about her life, *The Key From Spain*, has been featured in national and international film festivals.

Jagoda's recording *Kantikas Di Mi Nona* (Songs of My Grandmother) consists of songs her grandmother, a Sephardic folksinger, taught her as a young girl. Following the release of her second recording, *Memories of Sarajevo*, she recorded *La Nona Kanta* (The Grandmother Songs), songs she herself wrote for her grandchildren. Through stories and music, Flory, now 88, will share her immigration journey from Bosnia to the United States, and the stories of the Sephardic people she grew up with and met along her journey.



**Open House:** 3:00 – 5:00

**Concert:** 5:15

**Meet the artists:** 6:15 – 7:00

**Address:** 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA 22302 **Ticket information** found at:  
<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=dewmqybab&oeidk=a07e4ug6fzk35cd4495>

All proceeds from the concert benefit EWI's entrepreneurial and life-changing programs for immigrant, refugee and low-income women.

Watch for the e-survey coming soon from AAUW of Virginia, asking if you are willing to vote online this spring and/or receive your copy of Virginia *Vision* online beginning with the summer 2012 issue. Click YES to help save on printing and postal costs.

## 2011-2012 Mt. Vernon Branch Program Year

Meeting Date and Place	Focus/Activity
Thursday, November 10, 2011 Time: 7:00 p.m. Place: Mt. Vernon Gov. Center	Malcolm Peck  Speaker on Middle East with focus on the women there.
Saturday, December 3, 2011 Time: 11:30 a.m. Place: Mt. Vernon Country Club	Holiday Luncheon Possible EF recipients as guests
Thursday, January 19, 2012 Time: 7:00 Place: Mt. Vernon Gov. Center	Erin Pringley, Associate Director of Government Relations for AAUW
Thursday, February 16, 2012 Time: 7:00 Place: Mt. Vernon Gov. Center	Author: Holly Kearn, AAUW LAF Program Manager "Keeping the Streets Safe: Stop Street Harassment"
Saturday, March 17, 2012 Time: 9:30 AM Place: Mt. Vernon Country Club	Annual Meeting & Brunch
Tuesday, April 24, 2012 Time: 7:00 Place: Little Theater of Alexandria	LITTLE THEATER FUNDRAISER "Witness for the Prosecution (Tickets distributed in February)"
Thursday, May 17, 2012 (time) TBD (place) TBD	Branch Potluck
Saturday, June 9, 2012 (time) TBD (place) TBD	Annual Planning Meeting



*As we in AAUW celebrate 130 years, November has been declared AAUW Month.*

*At our meeting on November 10, we will celebrate with special refreshments and offer a toast to AAUW. Be sure you are there!*

## AAUW Mt Vernon

Cynthia Gindlesperger  
915 Neal Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22308

[www.aauwofva.org](http://www.aauwofva.org)

## First Class



# November 2011

- **1 Board Meeting, 7:30**  
Saundra Prince's home  
703/360-5012
- **10 Branch Meeting**  
Call Joanne Clark  
703/768-8996
- **21 Book Group, 6:30**  
Call Mary Ellen Mehler  
703/780-8494
- **25 Reservation Deadline**  
for Holiday Luncheon  
Call Joanne Clark  
703/768-8996
- **December 3 Holiday Luncheon**  
Call Joanne Clark  
703/768-8996

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Board Meet- ing	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Branch Meeting	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Book Group	22	23		25 Reserve Lunch	26
27	28	29	30			