



# Mt. Vernon Voices

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

## Presidents' Corner



Greetings and a happy Valentine's Day to a great group of women! As we sail into February let us not forget our New Year Resolutions – especially our resolutions to be happy and healthy and to try to make our community

and our world a better place. **Remember: AAUW women working together can make a positive difference.**

One of the many catalogs received during the holidays was "The Great Courses" which are taught by "passionate, erudite, living-legend lecturers." Did you know that a large number of these truly great courses are available on loan from our own Fairfax County Public Library? Do yourself a favor and rediscover the

joy of being a university student again. Just ask the reference librarian where The Great Courses are shelved.

Looking back, our January 19 meeting featured Erin Prangle, AAUW's Associate Director of Government Relations, and she provided insight on how AAUW develops, prioritizes, and disseminates public policy.

Looking forward, mark your calendar for February 16 when we will have as our guest speaker the author and AAUW LAF Program Manager, **Holly Kearl**, who will speak on the topic, "Keeping the Streets Safe: Stop Street Harassment." We look forward to seeing you there.

*Cathy Krebs & Saundra Prince*

## Warm Up at AAUW Meeting



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS INTERESTING AND TIMELY  
BRANCH PRESENTATION**

**February 16, 7:00**

**Mt. Vernon Government Center**

**2511 Parkers Lane**

Our speaker is **Holly Kearl**. Holly works as a program manager for AAUW in the Legal Advocacy Fund department. She recently co-authored AAUW's report ***Crossing the Line: Sexual Harassment at School***. Outside of her job, she founded the website

[www.StopStreetHarassment.org](http://www.StopStreetHarassment.org) and wrote a book on street harassment in 2010. She received a master's degree from George Washington University and bachelor's degrees from Santa Clara University.

Holly will talk about sexual harassment at school and on the streets, looking at the findings of both AAUW's report ***Crossing the Line: Sexual Harassment at School*** and her book ***Stop Street Harassment: Making Public Places Safe and Welcoming for Women***.

(Read more on page 2)

**FEBRUARY  
16**

**Branch  
Meeting**

**7:00 pm**

**Mt. Vernon  
Governmental  
Center  
Parker's Lane**

**Speaker:  
Holly Kearl,  
Author &  
LAF  
Program  
Manager**

## Get ready for the branch meeting on February 16!

Speaker **Holly Kearn's** topic, sexual harassment, is one that has been widely discussed in the media and at AAUW. Head to the website at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) and right there on the homepage you will see many headlines to click and read. AAUW Dialog (AAUW's blog) has had many great essays on sexual harassment as well. Many of these are personal stories. The archives contain at least 4 pages of these blogs. Below are the links to some good ones.

<http://blog-aauw.org/2011/08/17/why-i-participated-in-slutwalk-d-c/>

<http://blog-aauw.org/2011/08/18/re-action-event-on-slutwalks/>

<http://blog-aauw.org/2011/08/26/getting-uncomfortable-for-equity%e2%80%99s-sake/>

<http://blog-aauw.org/category/sexual-harassment/page/4/> I am Sexy Glamorous. I am 10.

<http://blog-aauw.org/category/sexual-harassment/page/4/> Sexual Harassment Versus Bullying

<http://blog-aauw.org/2011/11/09/i-like-your-butt-in-those-shorts/>

<http://blog-aauw.org/2011/11/10/sexual-harassment-hurts-boys-too/>

<http://blog-aauw.org/2012/01/12/crossing-the-line-sparks-important-dialogue/>

## 2011-12 Branch Board & Activity Contacts

<p><b><u>Co-Presidents:</u></b></p> <p>Cathy Krebs 703/765-2751 catherinekrebs@yahoo.com</p> <p>Sandra Prince 703/360-5012 saundratexan@att.blackberry.net</p> <p><b><u>Program Vice Presidents:</u></b></p> <p>Ericka Kinsey 703/660-0713 ekinsey@cox.net</p> <p>Joanne Clark 703/768-8996 jclark@meridian.org</p> <p><b><u>Membership Vice President:</u></b></p> <p>Kelly Morris 703/360-7476 kellymorris74@hotmail.com</p> <p><b><u>Treasurer:</u></b></p> <p>Trish Smith 703/803-0252 trish-smith@cox.net</p> <p><b><u>Secretary:</u></b></p> <p>Mary Beth O'Donnell 703/765-4908 maryo25@verizon.net</p>	<p><b><u>Communications:</u></b></p> <p>Patsy Quick 703/360-8678 pnquick@cox.net</p> <p><b><u>Newsletter/Directory Distribution</u></b></p> <p>Cynthia Gindlesperger 703/619-5262 uli_g@verizon.net</p> <p>Mary Ellen Mehler 703/780-8494 memehler@msn.com</p> <p><b><u>AAUW Funds:</u></b></p> <p>Edith Appel 703/780-3343 djaea@cox.net</p> <p><b><u>Public Policy:</u></b></p> <p>Gerry Pratsch 703/329-1050 gpratsch7@gmail.com</p> <p><b><u>International Affairs:</u></b></p> <p>Joanne Clark 703/768-8996 jclark@meridian.org</p> <p><b><u>Bylaws:</u></b></p> <p>Elaine Kolish 703/360-7319 dmfedk@cox.net</p>	<p><b><u>Hospitality:</u></b></p> <p>Joanne Malkin 703/360-7725 jbmalkin@verizon.net</p> <p>Shirley Richey 703/960-9017 shirley97@verizon.net</p> <p><b><u>Nominating Committee Chair</u></b></p> <p>Lois Passman 703/781-7626 LMPassman@msn.com</p> <p><b><u>Book Group:</u></b></p> <p>Edith Appel 703-/780-3343 djaea@cox.net</p> <p><b><u>Dining Out:</u></b></p> <p>Elizabeth Lonoff 202/564-1607 elonoff@msn.com</p> <p><b><u>Gourmet Too:</u></b></p> <p>Shirley Richey 703/780-0834 shirley97@verizon.net</p> <p><b><u>Game Night:</u></b></p> <p>Barbara Mann speech.solutions@verizon.net</p>
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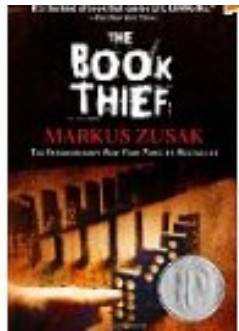
New  
Number!

## Book Group

Please let the hostess know whether or not you plan to attend. **NOTE CHANGE OF HOSTESS.**

**DATE:** Monday, February 20, 7:30

**HOSTESS:** Elaine Kolish  
920 Emerald Dr.  
Alexandria, 22308  
703/780-5026  
dmfedk@cox.net



**CO-HOSTESS:** Liz Promen

**Book:** The Book Thief  
by Marcus Zusak

**Reviewer:** Joanne Malkin

**Next Book:** Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet  
by Jamie Ford

## Game Night

The next Game Night will be March 30 at 7:15  
at the home of Patsy Quick:

5508 Old Mill Road, Alexandria 22309

*Please respond to the email that will ask for your RSVP.*

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



Of Wine & Words

Friday, March 9

Tickets available February 6

Jarrett J. Krosoczka, Author of Lunch Lady Graphic Novels

Literary Honoree

## Honorees Selected

**Edith Appel**

Each year the Mt. Vernon Branch Board selects **Named Honorees** who have contributed to the success of our branch during this past year. For every \$500 contributed to AAUW Funds we can name an honoree. Our total contributions of \$2900 for 2011 entitles us to honor the following five members of our branch at our 2012 Annual Meeting: Co- Presidents **Cathy Krebs** and **Sandra Prince**; **Barbara Mann**, for initiating a new group: Game Night; **Edith Appel**, for her longtime work as AAUW Funds Chair; and a special award in memory of **Alice Pickering**. We will honor these members at our **Annual Meeting and Brunch on March 17 at Mt. Vernon Country Club.**



The first days of 2012 have brought good news for women. President Obama announced that the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Cecilia Munoz, will now serve as the Director of the Domestic Policy Council. Ms. Munoz will coordinate the policy-making process and supervise the execution of domestic policy in the White House. We're delighted that Cecilia will be assuming this critical role.

In addition, Senior Advisor to the President and Chair of the Council on Women and Girls, Valerie Jarrett, participated in a number of calls with the Department of Justice to announce a major step forward to combat rape. Lynn Rosenthal, White House Advisor on Violence Against Women, shares more about this historic news in her latest

blog at:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2012/01/06/justice-department-announces-major-step-forward-combat-rape>

The President has also issued a number of important proclamations ( <http://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/proclamation>.) that are particularly significant for women, including National Mentorship Month, National Stalking Awareness Month, and National Slavery and Human Trafficking Month, to list a few.

We'd also like to remind you to save the date for the President's State of the Union Address, scheduled for 9:00 p.m. EST on Tuesday, January 24th.

## Legal Advocacy Fund: Breaking Barriers

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to combat sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace. Since 1981, LAF has disbursed nearly two millions dollars to more than 100 plaintiffs to help offset their legal fees in sex discrimination cases. Prior to 2009, LAF only supported cases in academia, but now LAF supports select cases in any workplace.

LAF provides case support to cases focused on a sex discrimination issue in the workplace or in academia that have the potential to make a difference for all women. Individuals can suggest such cases to LAF to support on a year-round, rolling basis at [laf@aauw.org](mailto:laf@aauw.org).

Other LAF initiatives include community and campus outreach programs, a resource library and online advocacy tools, a Legal Referral Network, and various research reports.

**LAF operates as a restricted fund of AAUW's 501(c)(3) charitable structure, which means that donors may specifically direct their support to LAF and their donations to LAF are, and will continue to be, tax deductible on donors' personal federal tax returns.**

**Two publications** provide updates on the work of the Legal Advocacy Fund:

**LAF Express** is an e-bulletin designed to keep states and branches informed on the latest activities, deadlines,

and programming resources of the Legal Advocacy Fund. *LAF Express* is posted in PDF format.

**LAF Update** provides details on cases adopted by the Legal Advocacy Fund. *LAF Update* is posted in PDF format.

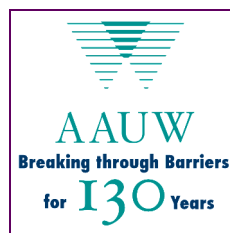
If you wish to receive these publications via email, make your request at [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org)

You may read them online at <http://www.aauw.org/learn/publications/updates/index.cfm>

To read more about LAF log onto: [http://www.aauw.org/member\\_center/briefings/LAF\\_120408.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/member_center/briefings/LAF_120408.cfm)

The establishment and implementation of LAF reflects AAUW's philosophical commitment to advancing gender equity as described in the **AAUW Value Promise**:

**By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.**



**This past September, the Mt. Vernon Branch raised \$535 to send to the Legal Advocacy Fund.**

## **AAUW of Virginia's STATE LOBBY DAY is in Richmond on Wednesday on February 1, 2011**

**Ideally, every branch will be represented at this event!  
Branch Public Policy Chairs and all interested AAUW members are encouraged to attend.**

Come and learn about your state government and current issues. Become familiar with your state capital and the General Assembly buildings.

**We will meet at the regular Wednesday morning Women's Legislative Roundtable Session at:**

**8:30 on the 7th Floor West Conference Room,  
General Assembly Building**

**To let them know you are coming, please contact:**

**Dianne Blais**, VA Federal Public Policy Chair  
5211 Gunpowder Road  
Fairfax, VA 22030  
Branch: Fairfax City  
703/830-1998  
[dianneblais@aol.com](mailto:dianneblais@aol.com)

**Laura Wimmer**, VA State Public Policy Chair  
11485 Otter Run Drive  
Ashland, VA 23005  
Branch: Richmond  
804/496-6124  
[lwimmeraauw@aol.com](mailto:lwimmeraauw@aol.com)

### **Northern District News**

**Sandra Lawrence**

The State board conference call meeting was on January 4, 2012. Much of the meeting was focused on the upcoming conference. Things are coming together and the conference looks to be outstanding. There will be lots of conference information in the upcoming Winter/Spring *Vision*. The *Vision* will also have the Voter Guide, Public Policy Priorities, Proposed Bylaws Amendments and the candidates for state office. **This is a historical *Vision* as it includes the information for the first ever VA One Member/One Vote, so please read it AND SAVE IT when you receive it. Voting will be after the April State Conference.** Everyone will get this issue of the *Vision* in the mail, but it will also be posted on-line, so check [www.aauwofva.org](http://www.aauwofva.org).

### **HAVE YOU... Reviewed your information in the AAUW Member Services Database?**

If you have haven't reviewed your information in Member Services Data Base (MSD) recently, put it on your to-do list today. It's easy to do, go to <http://www.aauw.org/login.cfm> and log in. Once logged in, click on 'my profile' to check your information and make any changes. Your member number is needed and can be found on the mailing label, above your name on the *Vision*. Also, getting your member number takes just seconds at the same link above.



Sandra Lawrence  
AAUW of Virginia  
Northern District Representative



## Branch Meeting January 19



On January 19, **Erin Prangley**, Associate Director of Government Relations at AAUW, spoke to us about current AAUW activities on the Hill. She was an engaging and interesting speaker! AAUW's Public Policy Priorities are member-determined. To learn more go to [www.aauw.org/act/issue\\_advocacy/principles\\_priorities.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/act/issue_advocacy/principles_priorities.cfm)



### Woman to Woman: How to Get Heard!

Join AAUW of Capitol Hill to learn from **Erin Prangley** share her expertise on "**Women to Women: How to Get Heard**" on Thursday, February 9, 2012 at Noon for a brown bag Lunch and Learn event to be held at the VFW Conference Room, 2nd & Maryland NE.

Learn more from Erin at this meeting.

Capitol Hill AAUW is a branch of the American Association of University Women. **Capitol Hill AAUW Invites You to Join Us to Explore How We Can Expand the Impact of Women's Concerns on the Hill and in the World. RSVP [capitolhillaauw@gmail.com](mailto:capitolhillaauw@gmail.com).**

**Questions call Kat Braeman at 202-549-3696.**

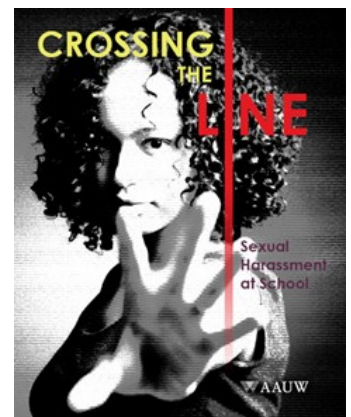
### Read Crossing the Line: Sexual Harassment at School

Based on findings from a nationally representative survey conducted in May and June, 2011, this report presents the most comprehensive research to date on sexual harassment in grades 7-12 and reveals some sobering statistics about the prevalence of sexual harassment and the negative impact it has on students' education.

There are several ways to read a copy: Download a copy free; open and read a copy online; or download the shorter Executive Summary, all at:

<http://www.aauw.org/learn/research/crossingtheline.cfm>

Request a hard copy from ShopAAUW.



## 2011-2012 Mt. Vernon Branch Program Year

Meeting Date and Place	Focus/Activity
Thursday, February 16, 2012 Time: 7:00 Place: Mt. Vernon Gov. Center	Author: Holly Kearl, 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
April 20-22 Newport News, Virginia	AAUW of Virginia State Conference MAKING WAVES
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

### SAVE THESE DATES

AAUW STATE LOBBY DAY, RICHMOND, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2012

AAUW FEDERAL LOBBY DAY, WASHINGTON, D.C., THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2012

THE READING CONNECTION: OF WINE & WORDS , FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 2012

**MAKING WAVES  
AAUW OF VIRGINIA  
APRIL 20-22, 2012**

**Tickets for the Little  
Theatre of  
Alexandria fundraiser  
will be coming soon!**

**Call for Nominations for 2012-14  
Treasurer & Secretary  
Call or email Lois Passman  
703/781-7626**

## AAUW Mt Vernon

Cynthia Gindlesperger  
915 Neal Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22308

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

## First Class



# February 2012

- **1 State Lobby Day**  
Richmond
- **7 Board Meeting, 7:30**  
Cathy Krebs's home  
703/765-2751
- **16 Branch Meeting, 7:00**  
Call Patsy Quick  
703/360-8678
- **20 Book Group, 7:30**  
Call Elaine Kolish  
703/360-7319
- **24 Game Night, 7:15**  
Contact Barbara Mann  
[speech.solutions@verizon.net](mailto:speech.solutions@verizon.net)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 State Lobby Day	2	3	4
5	6	7 Board Meeting	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 	15	16 Branch Meeting	17	18
19	20 Book Group	21	22	23	24 Game Night	25
26	27	28	29			