

MT. VERNON VOICES

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

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Mt. Vernon Branch



PRESIDENTS' CORNER



I have read so many truly positive and truly negative reviews of author Sheryl Sandberg's philosophy that I had to read her book: Lean In. My opinion: this is one of the most important books I have read recently. Whether you agree with the author or not, she brings up issues career/ professional women are now dealing with every day. May I recom-

mend you try to get Lean In out of the library – or even buy it – and read it before our March Annual Meeting where Lean In will be the topic of discussion. The meeting will be on Saturday, March 15th at the Mt. Vernon Inn.

Kelly Morris has arranged for a panel of three professional, career-focused (military, government and private sector) women to speak at the meeting about their experiences "Leaning In." No matter whether the goal to be a Fortune 500 CEO, Partner, successful military officer, career civil servant executive, or simply to understand the thinking of those who have these goals, I think this is a not-to-be-missed meeting. We live in an area where

there are a lot of women who are caught in the challenges that family and career present. Knowing how real women at the executive level are handling things should be helpful to all of us, whether we know anyone experiencing this dichotomy or not. "Lean in" inspires us to achieve our goals and be ambitious in anything we pursue.

Lots of questions. Lots of decisions for today's women. Looking forward to more insight at the Annual Meeting. See you there on March 15th.

Barbara Mann

PS - I must admit to being surprised and very pleased recently at an a cappella concert. The lead singer of one group sat at our table after their appearance. I asked her what she did, since several of the songs were about galaxies, stars and the universe...a slightly unusual song choice for an a cappella group. She did write the songs and, it turned out, is an astrophysicist at the Goddard Space Center. She is in charge of 125 scientists. Talk about leaning in! She sure is on her way.

**FEBRUARY
11
TUESDAY**

Little Theatre
Of
Alexandria

7:00 PM
Reception
8:00 PM
Performance

FUNDRAISER FUN!



It's here! Our annual fundraiser co-sponsored with the Alexandria Branch.

Ragtime

Little Theatre of Alexandria
600 Wolfe Street
Alexandria, Virginia

Join us for a reception at 7:00 in the Green Room
The performance begins at 8:00 PM
Basket Raffle is at intermission.

It is the night we have been looking forward to...

Tickets have been sold, savories delivered (**You are bringing one, right?**), and baskets are ready! See you on February 11! Thanks for your support of this, our only fundraiser. Your purchase of tickets and/or donations will help us make a generous donation in the name of the branch to AAUW Funds, as well as extending community outreach to United Communities Ministries (UCM) and Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services (GSHFS).

Don't forget to bring some extra cash: Basket Raffle tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10.

See you at the Theatre!

AAUW OF VIRGINIA IN THE NEWS



AAUW of Virginia President, **Caroline Pickens** (McLean Branch), recently had a letter to the editor published in the Virginian-Pilot newspaper (Tidewater area). The letter concerned an editorial that was in the newspaper about the pay gap, which cited AAUW several times. The editorial (December 16, 2013) can be read here:

<http://news.vocus.com/ct?haid=ae29b627c6cd363013871717720427b5a94c0a73440e>

Here is Caroline's response which was published on December 20, 2013:

I applaud the Pilot for calling attention to the crucial issue of eliminating the pay gap for women. As the editorial rightly pointed out, equal pay is about more than fairness--it's an economic and quality of life issue. A record number of women are in the workforce, and two-thirds of women are functioning as primary or co-breadwinners for their family.

Even worse than the wage gap is the reality that few women actually know if they are being paid unfairly. Some don't feel safe asking those questions for fear of retaliation from their bosses.

The American Association of University Women wants to ensure women are being paid fairly. We are calling on the General Assembly to pass legislation to protect workers who share or ask about salary information. It's time to finally enable Virginia women to bring home the pay they have rightfully earned.

Caroline Pickens
State President, AAUW of Virginia
McLean

BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2013 – 2014

<p><u>Co-Presidents:</u> Barbara Mann 703/360-3880 speech.solutions@verizon.net Mary Ellen Mehler 703/780-8494 memehler@msn.com</p> <p><u>Program Vice Presidents:</u> Joanne Clark 703/768-8996 jclark@meridian.org Joanna Crane 703/718-8892 joanna.p.crane@gmail.com</p> <p><u>Membership Vice President:</u> Edie Bartlett 703/780-6809 redsse@aol.com</p> <p><u>Treasurer:</u> Trish Smith 703/803-0252 trish-smith@cox.net</p> <p><u>Secretary:</u> Shirley Richey 703/780-0834 shirley97@verizon.net</p>	<p><u>Newsletter/Website:</u> Patsy Quick 703/360-8678 pnquick@cox.net</p> <p><u>Newletter/Directory Distribution</u> Cynthia Gindlesperger 703/619-5262 uli_g@verizon.net Mary Ellen Mehler 703/780-8494 memehler@msn.com</p> <p><u>AAUW Funds:</u> Joanne Malkin 703/360-7725 jbmalkin@verizon.net</p> <p><u>Public Policy:</u> VACANT</p> <p><u>International Affairs:</u> Joanne Clark 703/768-8996 jclark@meridian.org</p> <p><u>Bylaws:</u> VACANT</p>	<p><u>Hospitality:</u> Cathy Krebs 703/765-2751 catherinekkrebs@yahoo.com</p> <p><u>Nominating Committee Chair</u> Lois Passman 703/781-7626 LMPassman@msn.com</p> <p><u>Book Group:</u> Louise Meade 703/960-0073 meadelt@cox.net Liz Promen 703/780-7342 epromen@cox.net</p> <p><u>ImpromptEvents</u> Joanne Clark 703/768-8996 jclark@meridian.org</p> <p><u>Game Night</u> Bianca Daugherty 571/332-8371 D4BNJK@aol.com</p>
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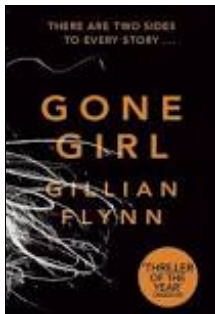
BOOK GROUP

Please inform the hostess whether or not you plan to attend.

DATE: Monday, February 17. 7:30 PM

HOSTESS: **Ebba Jo Spettel**
3003 Cunningham Drive
Alexandria, 22309
ebbajo@verizon.net

CO-HOSTESS: Joanne Malkin



BOOK: Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn

REVIEWER: DeJuana Jones

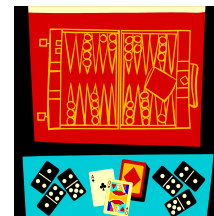
Next Book: The Hare with the Amber Eyes: A Hidden Inheritance
by Edmund deWaal

GAME NIGHT

Game Night

Join us on February 27, 7:30

Home of **Barbara Mann**
8716 Falkstone Lane
Alexandria, 22309



Contact **Bianca Daugherty** if you would like to join the group. D4BNJK@aol.com

YOU NEED TO KNOW...

Mt. Vernon Branch Nominations Announcement



Edie Bartlett has agreed to remain in her position as Membership Vice President for another term.

Trish Smith will also remain as Treasurer.

Thank you!!



Equal Pay Day Conference Call

AAUW National is opening up the monthly **State Public Policy Chair Conference Call on February 12 at 8:30 p.m.** to anyone who is interested in participating because it will be devoted entirely to preparing for Equal Pay Day. They'll go over a checklist of items to think of and prepare for your Equal Pay Day activities. Please mark your calendars and once I receive the dial-in instructions, I'll forward them on.

Leslie Tourigny
Vice President Public Policy
AAUW of Virginia



ANNUAL LUNCHEON, MARCH 15

IT IS TIME TO PLAN FOR OUR ANNUAL MARCH LUNCHEON.



We will be gathering at the lovely Mt. Vernon Inn on Saturday, March 15 for a relaxing and convivial meal, followed by a panel discussion on Women in Leadership, planned by **Kelly Morris**. (See box below.)

Please arrive at 11:30 for drinks and socializing. Lunch will be served at 12:00.

The menu allows us to choose between three entrees. (Coffee, tea, soft drinks, and dessert are included.) The cost of the meal is \$34.00 inclusive of tax and gratuities. There will be a cash bar for those who wish to imbibe the spirits!!

Please take a look at the menu and fill out the form below and mail by February 14.

MENU: \$34.00 inclusive of tax and gratuity:

Please choose one entrée:

- **Rosemary Roasted Chicken**
- **Grilled Chicken and Bacon Caesar Salad**
- **Vegetarian Lasagna**

Dessert

Apple Pie

(FYI: The Mount Vernon Country Club, our usual location is undergoing renovations and is closed.)

MARCH LUNCHEON RESERVATION

Please make your check for \$34.00 out to AAUW Mt. Vernon and mail by February 14 to:
Joanna Crane, 6511 Princeton Drive, Alexandria, VA 22307

Name _____

Please check your preferences:

Choose one:

_____ Rosemary Roasted Chicken _____ Grilled Chicken & Bacon Caesar Salad _____ Vegetarian Lasagna

I will be bringing a friend. _____

LEAN IN, MARCH 15

THE ANNUAL LUNCHEON AT THE MT. VERNON INN, ON MARCH 15, IS UNIQUE IN SEVERAL WAYS:

- Mt. Vernon Inn requires us to send in our reservation numbers earlier than our usual location. The February 14 deadline is a reality!!
- The size of the room is smaller than our usual location so space, though plenty for our group, is limited to a first-come/first-serve basis. Don't miss out!!
- **Sheryl Sandberg's** national best-selling book, "**Lean In Women, Work, and the Will to Lead**," has inspired many women to examine barriers in the work place and in their lives, which prevent them from moving ahead in their careers. She describes her own career and success, some common sense solutions for moving ahead, and how men can be supportive of women at work and at home.
Join the conversation at our March 15th luncheon when you will hear from a panel of three smart, career oriented women and how they overcame barriers and "leaned in" to sit at the leadership table. They all represent different perspectives. Colonel Emily Swain, USMC is our military leader; Ms. Donna Jenkins, Senior Executive Service, GSA, represents the government civilian perspective. Ms. Deb Kotulich is a partner at IBM.

Don't miss this opportunity to Lean In! Mail your reservation today!

STATE AAUW LOBBY DAY IS AROUND THE CORNER

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 (dedicated to the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment) for a joint **State Lobby Day in Richmond**. In addition to lobbying our lawmakers about some of the bills introduced in the General Assembly, we will also be dropping off our Equal Pay Petitions.

All of the Lobby Day details have not been finalized, but a general overview is provided below for planning purposes.

Night before Lobby Day: Several members from the AAUW Greater Richmond Branch will graciously be opening their homes to members participating in Lobby Day who want to arrive on February 4th and spend the night. Any member who would like to spend the night of February 4th in Richmond **needs to email Kathy Kelley, Public Policy Chair of the Greater Richmond Branch, at bookie002@yahoo.com** by January 15, 2014.

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

Because we will be preparing packets of information for members to drop off at lawmakers' offices, please let Leslie Tourigny know at itsles@cox.net or 757 410-4812 by **January 23, 2014**, if you will be participating.

In the meantime, you can find out who your lawmakers are in Richmond, as well as track the status of legislation, by going to www.richmondsunlight.com.

Leslie Tourigny
AAUW of Virginia Public
Policy Vice President



AAUW OF VIRGINIA 2014 VOTING ANNOUNCEMENT



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.

- Branches can encourage online voting by bringing laptops or tablets to the May branch meeting to allow members to vote there.

- **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 2014 Winter/Spring edition of the **Virginia Vision**.

**If this is for you,
act now while
you are thinking
about it!**

AAUW of Virginia
Voting and Elections Committee
December 2013

MT. VERNON BRANCH IN ACTION



The January 16 program on **FAIR Girls** was a huge success! We had a large and very generous crowd who were wowed by our energetic speaker, **Teresa Tomassini**, Director of Programs for FAIR Girls, INC and **Amoy Stephen**, a client (and Joanne Clark's mentee with Empowered Women International).

This message is from Teresa Tomassini, "Your audience was quite generous last night and all donations will be going directly to our case management fund which allows us to continue providing direct services for survivors. Thank you. It means so much to me personally, to our entire team, and most importantly to the young people we work with."

Photo, left to right: Amoy Stephen, Teresa Tomassini, Joanne Clark

Patsy Quick, Joanne Clark, and Cathy Krebs shared an ImpromptuEvent in December. After reading The Greater Journey: Americans in Paris 1830-1900, for book group, they toured the exhibit called "Charles Marville: Photographer of Paris" at the West Building of the National Gallery. Lunch in the museum café and shopping at the museum gift store were added highlights! (Photo right)



NORTHERN DISTRICT REP NEEDED

This is the official notice for candidates for the position of AAUW of Virginia Northern District Representative. Northern District is one of the four districts in Virginia.

The District Representative (DR) is a member of the state Board of Directors. She serves as a conduit between district branch members and the state board. The DR also facilitates communication among branches in the district and coordinates at least one meeting in the district each year. A full list of responsibilities can be found in the AAUW of Virginia Board of Directors Handbook at <http://aauw-va.aauw.net/files/2012/12/VABoardHandbook.pdf>

This position may be held by two people as Co-District Reps. Co-holders of a position share responsibilities and have one vote at board meetings.

Being the Northern District Representative has been very

fulfilling and I've enjoyed every minute. I've met amazing members, worked with remarkable board members, and learned so much about the impressive activities AAUW is doing at the branch and state level. If I could run for a third term, I would have my "hat in the ring" today.

If you are interested, please send your biography to the chair (**Sandy Lawrence**, slawrence4@juno.com) by March 15. Elections will be held at the district meeting on April 6, 2014 at the State conference at Smith Mountain Lake. Please consider **throwing your hat in the ring!**

Sandy Lawrence
Northern District Representative
AAUW of VA
slawrence4@juno.com
703/569 1588

2013 - 2014 MT. VERNON BRANCH PROGRAM YEAR

MT. VERNON AUUW 2013-2014 Program Schedule

Meeting Date & Location	Focus/Activity
Thursday, SEPTEMBER 19, 6:30 pm Pema's Restaurant 8430 Richmond Hwy	Kick Off Dinner
Thursday, OCTOBER 17, 7:00 pm Heritage Presbyterian Church 8503 Fort Hunt Road	Food Safety and Nutrition Elaine Gibson, Leah Tasman, and Dr. Sarina Grosswald, Ed.D
Sunday, NOVEMBER 17, 1:00 pm Cameron Station Clubhouse 200 Cameron Station Blvd. Alexandria, VA 22304	The Affordable Care Act: What does its implementation mean for you? Joint program with Alexandria Branch
Saturday, DECEMBER 7, 11:30 am Mt. Vernon Country Club 5111 Old Mill Rd., 22309	HOLIDAY LUNCHEON
Thursday, JANUARY 16, 7:00 pm Sherwood Regional Library 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, 22306	Fair Girls: Anti-trafficking Support Programs Teresa Tomassini, Director of Programs
Tuesday, FEBRUARY 11 Little Theatre of Alexandria 7:00 Reception, 8:00 Performance	Little Theater Fundraiser "Ragtime"
Saturday, MARCH 15 Mount Vernon Inn 3200 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy.	Annual Luncheon Panel on Women in Leadership (Lean In)
APRIL (date and location TBD)	Annual Business Meeting Wine and Cheese Gathering
Thursday, MAY 15, 6:30 pm Joanna Crane's House: 6511 Princeton Drive, 22307	ANNUAL POTLUCK
Saturday, JUNE 7, 9:30 AM Location TBD	2014-2015 PLANNING BRUNCH

AAUW of Virginia Dates to Remember

February 5, 2014

State Lobby Day, Richmond

April 4-6, 2014

AAUW of Virginia Conference, Smith Mountain Lake

Mt. Vernon

Cynthia Gindlesperger
915 Neal Drive
Alexandria, VA 22308

www.aauwofva.org
mtvernon-va.aauw.net

First Class



- **4 Board Meeting, 7:30**
Mary Ellen Mehler's Home
- **5 State Lobby Day,**
Richmond See page 4.
- **11 Fundraiser at Little Theatre of Alexandria, 7:00PM**
Contact Patsy Quick
703/360-8678
- **20 Book Group, 7:30**
Contact Ebba Jo Spettel
703/780-0841
- **24 Game Night, 7:30**
Contact Bianca Daugherty
571/332-8371

FEBRUARY 2014

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