

MT. VERNON VOICES

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

Volume 58 Issue 6 March 2014
Mt. Vernon Branch



PRESIDENTS' CORNER



It's time to pat ourselves on the back! Aren't we proud of the job done by all the competent, hard working women in our branch who came together to put on that extremely successful fundraiser at Little Theater on February 11? We also owe a big "Well Done" to our Alexandria branch partners.

Yes, it was truly a lot of work to earn that \$3500 plus profit that will keep our branch afloat for another year. **Patsy Quick** worked for weeks to distribute the tickets and follow up on all aspects of sales. Then there were the talented basket creators on **Shirley Rich-ey's** team, our generous food donators, the people who set up the food table and the basket display, the people who jumped in at the last minute to keep things moving smoothly by distributing flyers or selling raffle tickets, the team that cleaned up after the play, even the impromptu bartender, etc., etc. —and don't forget the anonymous donors who let us resell tickets they couldn't use or who simply

made a cash donation to further the effort.

There is much more to come this spring. For the March 15 Annual Meeting, we have a fascinating panel of women speakers who have achieved the highest level of success in their government, military, and corporate careers. (Shades of the *Lean In* book by Sheryl Sandberg). Please send your reservation to **Joanna Crane** right away.

April brings us to the AAUW State Conference at Smith Mountain Lake on April 4-6. Here is the opportunity to visit this famous resort while participating in our own state conference. Watch for registration information in the latest *Virginia Vision*.

Because we will not have time for a business meeting at the March Annual Meeting, we are planning another follow up event to address our business issues and plans for the future. Stay tuned for that—maybe a wine and cheese reception at a members house—more on this later.

Thanks and congratulations to all.

Mary Ellen Mehler

**MARCH
15
SATURDAY**

**Mt. Vernon
Inn
11:30 AM**

**\$34
Cash Bar**



ANNUAL LUNCHEON, MARCH 15

JOIN US AT 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 bottom of page 3.)

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 and two desserts. (Coffee, tea, soft drinks 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!!

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

Please take a look at the menu and fill out the form on page 2 and mail by March 7.

MENU: \$34.00 inclusive of tax and gratuity:

Please choose one entrée & one dessert:

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

Dessert

Apple Pie or Cherry Pie

LUNCHEON RESERVATION (CLIP AND MAIL)

MARCH LUNCHEON RESERVATION

Please make your check for \$34.00 out to AAUW Mt. Vernon and mail by March 7 to:
Joanna Crane, 6511 Princeton Drive, Alexandria, VA 22307

Name _____ Please check your preferences:

Choose one entrée and one dessert:

_____ Rosemary Roasted Chicken _____ Grilled Chicken & Bacon Caesar Salad _____ Vegetarian Lasagna
_____ Cherry Pie _____ Apple Pie

I will be bringing a friend. _____



Susan Nathanson Fairey, 66, of the Woodbridge Branch, passed away February 15, 2014 after losing a courageous battle with cancer. Susan was a longtime, passionate member of AAUW and made it to all state and local gatherings, even when her health was poor. Donations in her memory may be made to the Susan Nathanson Fairey Research and Projects Grant #4176/AAUW Woodbridge Branch, c/o Barbara Ondo, 5033 Softwood Lane, Woodbridge, VA 22192-8321.

BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2013 – 2014

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catherinekkrebs@yahoo.com

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Book Group:

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meadelt@cox.net

Liz Promen 703/780-7342
epromen@cox.net

Impromptu Events

Joanne Clark 703/768-8996
jclark@meridian.org

Game Night

Bianca Daugherty 571/332-8371
D4BNJK@aol.com

BOOK GROUP

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

DATE: Monday, March 18, 7:30 PM

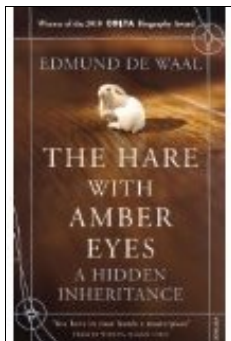
HOSTESS: Diane Watts

4303 Robertson Blvd.

Alexandria, 22309

dianewatts8@gmail.com

CO-HOSTESS: Barbara Mann



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

REVIEWER: Patsy Quick

Next Book: Past Imperfect by Julian Fellowes

GAME NIGHT

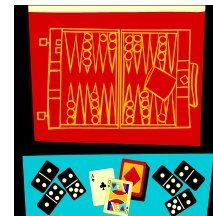
Game Night

Join us on March 27, 7:30

Home of
Shirley Richey

3126 Battersea Lane

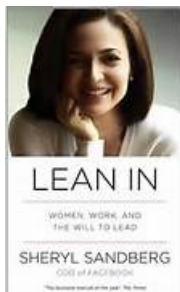
Alexandria, 22309



SPEAKERS AT MARCH LUNCHEON

THE ANNUAL LUNCHEON AT THE MT. VERNON INN, ON MARCH 15, WILL BE AN INSPIRING EVENT:

Kelly Morris has planned a special panel for our luncheon:



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.

- The size of the room at the Mt. Vernon Inn 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!!**

A REASON TO LOOK BACK

MARY ELLEN MEHLER

I met a true feminist leader on January 30—a seemingly unlikely leader whose early life gave no hint that she would play such a heroic role in the struggle for equality for American women. Her story gives us a powerful and poignant reason to look back and measure our progress. I was fortunate enough to attend the reception for **Lilly Ledbetter** at AAUW Headquarters and to receive a copy of her book, **Grace and Grit**. (Incidentally, a movie of the book is now in the making).

Lilly was born in a house without electricity or water in Possum Trot, Alabama. Education was not a priority in her family, and she finished high school only after marrying at the age of 17. With no thought of a “career” at first, she worked in a variety of jobs simply to supplement the family income and give her two children the college education that was denied her. Then in 1979 she got her “dream job” as a night supervisor at Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company. As the only woman in production management, she faced daily discrimination and sexual harassment. After 19 years at Goodyear, she discovered that she had always been paid less than all men doing exactly the same job.

Most of us think of Lilly as the feminist heroine who sued Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. for sex-based wage discrimination and who inspired the Lilly Ledbetter Act, one of the first bills signed by President Obama after he took office in 2009. Many of us have forgotten or did not know that Lilly actually lost her case against Goodyear when, after a 10-year battle, the case landed in the Supreme Court. She never collected a penny in back pay or injury compensation from Goodyear because the time allowed for such wage discrimination complaints had passed—even though she had not had the information needed to file her claim until after the expiration date.

Through the long legal battle, she had unswerving faith that she was doing the right thing for herself and other women as she pressed her case with “grace and grit” in the face of all the legal resources of a Fortune 500 company. She is certainly a winner now—one with a bill named after her, a book, and an upcoming movie! At the reception for Lilly on January 30, she was effusive in her praise of AAUW for all the assistance she got from the organization throughout her long battle against sex-based wage discrimination. As the president was signing the Lilly Ledbetter Act into law five years ago, AAUW Director Linda Hallman and other AAUW staff watched proudly from front-row reserved seats.

Lilly’s story provides the absolute best reason to look back in order to measure how far we have come. It inspires us to keep pressing forward because the battle for true equality is not over. It has just “gone underground” with some of the more blatant aspects now hidden but attitudes persisting.



Left: Bianca Daugherty and Lilly Ledbetter at the reception.

Right: Sandy Lawrence, (Northern District Rep.) Lilly Ledbetter, and Bea Malone (AAUW Lobby Corps.)



AAUW ART CONTEST: VOTE FOR KELLY!

Voting in the annual AAUW Art Contest is now open!

Support women in the arts and have a say in whose work will be on our spring note cards. Vote for your favorite member art today. <http://www.aauw.org/contests/>.

We know of two VA AAUW members who have submitted artwork for the AAUW Art Contest:

Kelly Morris (Mt Vernon Branch): Peachy Iris and Hibiscus for Hanis
Trudi Arnold (Fairfax City): Temple Light

The winning six end up as note cards. Last year one was selected to be AAUW's 2013 holiday card.

Voting closes Feb. 28!

STATE LOBBY DAY SUCCESS



AAUW of Virginia state Lobby Day, February 5, was well-organized and well-attended. Visits were arranged with the Speaker of the House and the Lt. Governor. **Caroline Pickens** and **Sandy Lawrence** had a successful meeting with Secretary of Education Holton.

Sandy writes: In the Senate, when the Lt Gov. asked AAUW members to stand up, I would say over 1/3 of the people in the gallery were AAUW members. What a tremendous sight!! And I think everyone took notice that AAUW is a force.

In conjunction with our State Lobby Day activities, a copy of our signed **Equal Pay Petition** was dropped off in the Governor's Office. The exciting news is that Governor McAuliffe will be signing an Equal Pay Day Proclamation on **April 8, 2014, at 1:00 p.m. in Richmond, and we can have representation at the signing event.**

So that we can gauge interest in how many people are interested in attending the event, please let **Leslie Tourigny** (itsles@cox.net) know by March 21 if you'll like to attend. She will work with the Governor's Office to try to accommodate as many people as possible and get back in touch with further information as it becomes available.



Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates William J. Howell receives our Equal Pay Petition for the House.



Lieutenant Governor and President of the Virginia Senate Ralph Northam receives our Equal Pay Petition for the Senate.

OBTAINING A PAPER BALLOT

Paper Ballots only by request this year. Voting for our state officers, proposed bylaws amendments, and the 2014-16 Public Policy Priorities will be online this year. However, if a member prefers a paper ballot by mail, she/he may request it by contacting Mary K Johnson **by April 9** (johnsons7703@verizon.net; 703/913-9790; 7703 Griffin Pond Ct, Springfield 22153).

This change is because the cost of printing and mailing more than 800 paper ballots last year was huge, and less than 15% were used. The vast majority of our members voted online. Every member with an email address in the MSD will receive an online ballot, so we also need your help in ensuring those email addresses are entered and correct. Your treasurer has the access to do that.

Slate of Officers for AAUW of Virginia

Co-Presidents: Sandy Lawrence (Woodbridge) & Patsy Quick (Mt. Vernon)

Co-Vice Presidents for Program: Kathy Batkin (Portsmouth) & Maureen Dwyer (Reston-Herndon)

Vice President for Communications: Susan Conklin (Falls Church)

Vice President for Public Policy: Leslie Tourigny (Virginia Beach)



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. Smith Mountain Lake (SML) is about a four hour drive from anywhere in the state.

If you have never been to SML, you now have a great reason to visit! 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: aauw-va.aauw.net or the Smith Mountain web site: smithmountain-va.aauw.net. Register NOW! **The rate for registration goes up after March 15.**

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: All listed on the websites mentioned above, and on the conference "brochure" that was emailed to you.

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.

We hope to see you there to meet with old friends, find new ones, share ideas, and just have a good time! Smith Mountain Lake is conveniently located between Roanoke and Lynchburg in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Directions are in the *Virginia Vision* and on the websites mentioned.

**Ann Johnson and Karen DeLaCroix
Co-Chairs of the AAUW of VA Conference
Smith Mountain Lake**

Every branch that attends the state conference April 4-6 will receive \$50 to defray expenses. This is a wonderful *destination* conference, so members may want to bring their families, too.

See the Winter Spring issue of the *Virginia Vision* for details and registration form, or visit the websites listed above!

WOODBIDGE AAUW STEM CONFERENCE



The "Girls+Science+Math = Success" Conference is **March 22** at Marsteller Middle School, 14000 Sudley Manor Drive, Bristow, VA 20136. It runs from 8 am until noon. You can learn more at its web site <http://www.successconference.net/>. There is also info on the Woodbridge AAUW Branch website:

(<http://woodbridge-va.aauw.net>) under programs.

In their 24th year, the SUCCESS Conference is an annual event held each Spring where students in grades 5-12 in Prince William County, Manassas, and Manassas Park Public Schools, are treated to a day of workshops with professionals working in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

Contact **Patsy Quick** (pnquick@cox.net) if you are interested in attending.

RAGTIME REPORT

PATSY QUICK

Congratulations to the Mt. Vernon Branch for another successful fundraiser!



The play this year was excellent and the contributions from our members were outstanding! **Thank you** to **Shirley Richey** and her raffle basket committee, **Cathy Krebs, Marvel Luykx**, for gathering and putting together such wonderful baskets. **Thank you** to everyone who donated basket items. The raffle netted us \$377.50!

Thank you to **Mary Ellen Mehler** for heading the food committee and to all who brought the delicious savories and wine. **Thank you** to those who served on the clean up committee: **Mary Ellen Mehler, Cathy Krebs & Patsy Quick**. We certainly made short work of that. And **thanks** to **Joanne Clark**, bartender; **Sandra Prince**, program hand-outs; and **Louise Priest**, raffle seller, who stepped in at the last minute to do things needed before the play.

Thank you to everyone who bought and sold tickets or made donations. We were able to double the value of many of our tickets thanks to members who paid for, then returned tickets, which we were able to resell to the public. Our gross return on ticket sales and donations was \$3865. **After expenses, we have over \$3500 in profit!! This is a record for the LTA fundraiser.**

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!

Win a trip to the Luxurious Casa de Campo Resort in the Dominican Republic!

Support UCM by purchasing raffle tickets for the fabulous 4-day, three-night get-away at a five-star resort on the southeastern coast of the Dominican Republic. The raffle package includes:

- An elite room for two
- All-inclusive food and drinks at the resorts restaurants, bars, and lounges
- Vouchers for 2 coach round trip tickets on American Airlines from anywhere in the lower 48 and airport transfer fees
- A touring cart for your personal use on the property
- Complimentary horseback riding and use of non-motorized water sports

Winning ticket will be drawn at UCM's Gala, March 29. You do not have to be present to win. No more than 500 tickets will be sold. (Value of package is about \$6000.)

For more information or to purchase a ticket for \$25, contact Patsy Quick pnquick@cox.net.

Or go to www.ucmagency.org and click on Spring Gala 2014.

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

March 22, 2014	Woodbridge Branch Success Conference
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 pm**
Barbara Mann's
Home
- **15 Annual Luncheon, 11:30**
Mt. Vernon Inn
Contact Joanna Crane
703/718-8892
- **17 Book Group, 7:30 pm**
Contact Diane Watts
703/780-1753
- **22 Woodbridge Success
Conference, 8 am-noon**
Contact Patsy Quick
703/360-8678
- **28 Game Night, 7:30 pm**
Contact Bianca Daugherty
571/332-8371

MARCH 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4 Board Meeting	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Annual Luncheon
16	17 Book Group	18	19		21	22 Success Conference
23 30	24 31	25	26	27	28 Game Night	29