

# 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



In August I was on a marvelous trip, *The Great Journey Through Europe*, that was endorsed by AAUW. But – surprise – my husband and I were the only people with AAUW name-tags on.

Everyone else had a college or other non-profit affiliation on their name-tags. My husband got questions: "So what do you do with AAUW?" He referred everyone to me.

Imagine my surprise when two women from the University of Texas looked at my name tag and asked: "What is AAUW? I have never heard of it." I was absolutely taken aback that female college graduates did not know about

AAUW and I'm sure I stuttered my answer. However, after we talked, the gorgeous blonde lawyer (and Texas graduate) said she was VERY interested in AAUW. I sent her the information thanks to Patsy. The other person was the 30<sup>th</sup> University of Texas alumni marketing team member who was responsible for the University of Texas alumni on board. She, too, had NEVER heard of AAUW and was interested in receiving information, which she now has in hand. She feels the alumni would be interested in AAUW.

Had I known about the **AAUW elevator speech** (which **Patsy Quick** sent out several weeks ago), I would not have felt as unprepared as I did.

(Continued on page 2)

**OCTOBER  
16  
THURSDAY**

**7:00 PM**

**Branch  
Program**

**PRIVACY  
IN THE  
DIGITAL  
AGE**

**Heritage  
Presbyterian  
Church**

**Ft. Hunt Road**

## BRANCH PROGRAM – OCTOBER 16



### **STAYING SAFE IN THE DIGITAL AGE**

You have probably recently heard about the nude celebrity photos that were hacked and posted online, or the Home Depot credit card data breach. Could you be affected? How can you protect yourself from this kind of thing? Can you spot a scam? Find out the answer to these questions and more at our next program meeting!

Come hear **Debbie Diener**, Privacy Expert and Author, speak about "**Privacy in the Digital Age.**" Debbie will explain how these incidents occur, why they are increasing, and how you can stay safe.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn from a nationally recognized expert who specializes in making privacy matters simple and easy to understand! **The meeting will be on October 16 at 7:00 pm, at the Heritage Presbyterian Church at 8513 Fort Hunt Road.**



**Please bring a friend!**

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)



### What is an elevator speech?

An elevator speech is a quick summary of what AAUW is about – 30 seconds tops. The goal is to have the listener say "Tell me more!" That is exactly what happened to me. It was the "tell me more" that I had the problem with.

If I had it to do over again I would have been prepared with an elevator speech and said something like this:

AAUW is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization for women\* graduates of 4 and 2 year colleges. AAUW examines and takes positions on fundamental issues of the day including education, social, economic, and political issues. Right now AAUW is focusing on pay equity. There are other significant issues that are important to women that are coming up that AAUW is focusing on. Each branch in the

country chooses the issues they want to concentrate on through their programs and activities.

This fall, for example, our branch is focusing on sexual harassment, STEM education, and staying safe in the digital age. But we're not all work and no play. We have a fabulous book group, a gourmet group and a Game Night group that includes husbands and significant others. We try to have something for everyone so that all can learn, contribute and be part of the group.

I can send you a copy of our newsletter, if you'd like (get their email address). And, if you'd like, I can give you a call about our next meeting and perhaps we can go together. (Get their phone number and name)

For more about Elevator Speeches, go to <http://AAUW-va.aauw.net> and scroll down to the bottom of the page.

\*Yes, I know men can join but that makes a long talk even longer

## BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2014 – 2015

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speech.solutions@verizon.net

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### Program Vice Presidents:

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### Bylaws:

**VACANT**

### Hospitality:

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### Nominating Committee Chair

Lois Passman 703/781-7626  
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Liz Promen 703/780-7342  
epromen@cox.net

### ImpromptEvent

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

### Dining Out:

Elizabeth Lonoff 703/765-2634  
elonoff@msn.com

### 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, October 18, 7:30 PM

**HOSTESS:** Joan Winslow  
3706 Carriage House Court  
Alexandria, 2230  
winfaster@verizon.net



**BOOK:** The Lowland

by Jhumpa Lahiri

**REVIEWER:** Joanna Crane

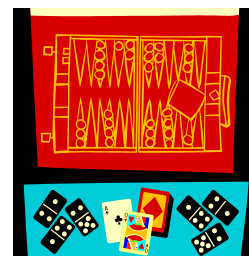
## GAME NIGHT

### Game Night

October 24, 2014

7:30 PM

Home of Shannon Dubicki / Watch for email.



Join us for light snacks and fun!

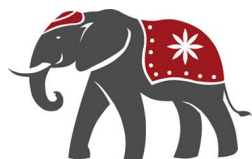
Contact **Bianca Daugherty** if you would like to join the group ([d4bnjk@aol.com](mailto:d4bnjk@aol.com))

## DINING OUT

NEXT DINING OUT WILL BE ON

**7 P.M. ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH**

**Shakthi South Asian Cuisine**  
3807 Mount Vernon Avenue  
Alexandria, VA 22305



**Shakthi**  
South Asian Cuisine  
Sri Lankan \* Indian \* Thai  
The first Sri Lankan restaurant in the DC metropolitan area!

Shakthi opened last fall, the first Sri Lankan restaurant in the DC Metro area. It also serves Indian and Thai cuisine. Shakthi can make most of its dishes to each patron's spice preference (mild, medium, spicy, or extra spicy), has ample parking, is handicap accessible.

**Menu:** <http://shakthicuisine.com/menus>

### Reviews:

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/goingoutguide/at-shakthi-south-asian-cuisine-the-heat-may-vary-but-the-deliciousness-doesnt/2014/08/14/b7422920-1e6d-11e4-82f9-2cd6fa8da5c4\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/goingoutguide/at-shakthi-south-asian-cuisine-the-heat-may-vary-but-the-deliciousness-doesnt/2014/08/14/b7422920-1e6d-11e4-82f9-2cd6fa8da5c4_story.html)

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/volokh-conspiracy/wp/2014/07/29/delicious-sri-lankan-food-in-the-d-c-area-shakthi-south-asian-cuisine/>

<http://www.yelp.com/biz/shakthi-south-asian-cuisine-alexandria>

**Please contact Elizabeth Lonoff**  
**([elonoff@msn.com](mailto:elonoff@msn.com)) by Oct. 31st**  
**to reserve a seat.**

**Please feel free to invite a spouse or friend!**



## KICKOFF DINNER A HUGE SUCCESS

On Thursday, September 11, 38 branch members congregated at Fiona's Irish Restaurant in Kingstowne for a very lively dinner to kick off our 2014-2015 year. This is one of the largest turnouts our branch has had. Thanks to everybody who came, ate Irish and shared summer news with each other. **Joanna Crane** arranged for two speakers from the **League of Women Voters** to help us all to understand the new voter identification rules put in place by the Virginia legislature. Thanks very much to **Susan Zachry** and **Sue Worden** for a valiant effort to inform our somewhat raucous and happy group. As a reminder, a number of branch members have signed up to help register voters this fall and this is an effort of which we can be really proud.

**Thanks again for a great kickoff! Now on to the business of the year. See you in October!**



LWV speaker  
Sue Worden



LWV speaker  
Susan Zachry



Mary Ellen Mehler presents Susan Zachry with AAUW mug



Trish Smith presents the 2014/2015 budget





# NORTHERN DISTRICT MEETING, OCTOBER 18

## THE UPS (AND DOWNS) OF ELECTING WOMEN

NORTHERN DISTRICT MEETING

OCT. 18; 1-3:30 PM

BURKE CENTER LIBRARY

5935 FRED'S OAK ROAD, BURKE



- ⇒ **What are the challenges and barriers facing women running for office today?**
- ⇒ **Is being defeated the end of the world?**
- ⇒ **What's the current status of women in elected office on local, state, and national levels?**

Join fellow members from the 12 branches in Northern Virginia for a fascinating panel discussion: **Jeanette Rishell**, Manassas Park Councilmember; **Margi Vanderhye**, former Virginia House of Delegates member; and **Melissa Jackowski**, National AAUW Grassroots Advocacy Manager. Learn what's going on with the state and our local branches plus enjoy meeting other members. **See you there!**

Jeanne Elmore and Caroline Pickens  
Co-Northern District Reps

# MEET AND GREET THE CANDIDATES, OCTOBER 21

## Meet and Greet for 8th District Candidates

**Tuesday, October 21, 7-9 PM**  
**Kingstowne Center for Active Adults**  
**6488 Landsdowne Center, Kingstowne**  
*(in the shopping center behind the Kingstowne library)*

Wonder what the candidates who are running to represent you in the U.S. Congress think? Looking for an opportunity to interact with them or their representatives in an informal setting? **Then this event is for you!**

Our Branch again is joining the League of Women Voters, along with AARP, the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans of Virginia, the Lee District Association of Civic Organizations, and the Mason District Council, for the League's local Meet and Greet event. The following certified candidates of the 8th Congressional District are expected to participate: **Micah Edmond (R)**, **Don Beyer (D)**, **Jeffrey Carson (L)**, **Gerry Blais (Independent Green)**, and **Gwendolyn Beck (I)**.



Following brief remarks from candidates or their representatives, there will be an opportunity to ask questions of candidates and then to meet with them one-on-one.

The McLean Branch is cosponsoring a similar Meet and Greet including the 8th Congressional District candidates at the McLean Community Center on Thursday, October 9th.

See <http://www.lwv-fairfax.org/2014MeetandGreet.html> for the full schedule of Meet and Greets for Congressional Districts 8, 10, and 11. **Jim Southworth**, The Inside Scoop executive producer, will videotape all of the Meet and Greets and upload them to YouTube. (Our Branch contributed to the League's honorarium for him.) You already can watch the August 18th telecast of The Inside Scoop covering the Meet and Greet partners, voter registration, and the new voter id. law at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V4iPcH-ZGFw&feature=youtu.be>. Also, candidate positions in response to a League survey will be posted on <http://www.lwv-fairfax.org/VOTERSGUIDE.html> in late October.

# 2014 - 2015 MT. VERNON BRANCH PROGRAM YEAR

## MT. VERNON AUUW 2014-2015 Program Schedule

Meeting Date and Place	Focus/Activity
Thursday, September 11, 2014, 6:30 pm <b>Fiona's Irish Pub</b> 5810 Kingstowne Center Alexandria, VA 22315	<b>Kickoff Dinner</b> with Speaker on Voter ID Laws <b>Speaker: Sherry Zachry and Sue Worden</b> of Fairfax Area LWV Speaker's Bureau
Thursday, October 16, 2014, 7:00 pm Heritage Presbyterian Church 8513 Fort Hunt Road	<b>Privacy in the Digital Age</b> Speaker: <b>Debbie Diener</b> , of Privacy Made Simple
Thursday, November 20, 2014 Sherwood Regional Library	<b>Sexual Harassment and Bullying</b> Speakers: <b>Lourdes Neilan and Susan Ashcraft</b>
Saturday, December 6, 2014 Mt. Vernon Country Club	<b>Holiday Party</b>
Thursday, January 15, 2015 Time & Location TBD	<b>Women in Leadership</b>
Thursday, February 19, 2015 Time & Location TBD	<b>Gardening:</b> Either Container/ Winter/ Wildlife/Sustainable Speaker: <b>Eileen Powell</b> Master Gardener, Author
Saturday, March 21, 2015 Mt. Vernon Country Club	<b>Annual Meeting</b>
Friday, April 24, 2015 Little Theater of Alexandria	<b>Little Theater Fundraiser</b> "The Odd Couple" (female version)
Thursday, May 21, 2015 Location TBD	<b>Annual Pot Luck Dinner</b>
Saturday, June 6, 2015 Joanna Crane's house	<b>Annual Planning Session (Brunch)</b>

### Other Important Dates to Remember:

October 18, 2014 Northern District Meeting, 1:00 pm, Burke Center Library

October 21, 2014 Candidate Meet and Greet, 7 - 9 pm, Kingstowne Center for Active Adults

## Mt.Vernon

Cynthia Gindlesperger  
915 Neal Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22308

[www.aauwofva.org](http://www.aauwofva.org)  
[mtvernon-va.aauw.net](mailto:mtvernon-va.aauw.net)

## First Class



- **7 Board Meeting, 7:30**  
Barbara Mann's home  
703/360-3880
- **16 Branch Program, 7:00**  
Heritage Presbyterian Church  
Contact Joanna Crane  
703/718-8892
- **18 Northern District Meeting, 1:00**  
Burke Center Library
- **20 Book Group, 7:30**  
Contact Joan Winslow  
703/780-7810
- **21 Meet and Greet the Candidates, 7:00**  
Kingstowne Center for Active Adults
- **24 Game Night, 7:30**  
Contact Bianca Daugherty  
571/332-8371

# OCTOBER 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Board Meeting	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Branch Program	17	18 Northern District Meeting
19	20 Book Group	21 Candidate Meet and Greet	22	23	24 Game Night	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 	