

Mt. Vernon Voices

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

Volume 58 Issue 3 November 2014
Mt. Vernon Branch



PRESIDENTS' CORNER

VOTER REGISTRATION



Kudos to those 15 branch members who took the Fairfax County voter registration training and spent time at various Mt. Vernon locations to

register new voters. Our members assisted the non-partisan *Mt. Vernon Registrars* as they distributed registration materials to eligible, non-registered voters in front of such places as post offices, grocery stores, the metro, etc. Participants reported that they encountered a lot of interesting "human nature" in the form of welcomes, indifference, gratitude, challenges, and questions.

Well done, Mt. Vernon Branch!

As a branch, we should all be proud of the way so many of our members participated in the voter registration efforts during the last two months. We do not need to remind ourselves that voting, which ultimately determines the laws and rights by which we

live, relates directly to AAUW's efforts to further the progress of women and girls.

Our members are of all political persuasions. What these diverse members have in common is the sure knowledge that **VOTING MATTERS**. They know that women had no vote for more than a century after formation of our government. The recognition of women's right to vote in 1920 was a hard-won struggle. I would like to think the early Suffragettes would be gratified to see our efforts.

Thanks especially to **Joanna Crane** for organizing the volunteers. Thanks, also, to **Elizabeth Lonoff** for connecting our branch to the *Fairfax League of Women Voters* to help sponsor a non-partisan Candidate's Night for local office seekers on October 21. **It all proves again that AAUW members are educated women who are informed and who VOTE.**

MARY ELLEN MEHLER

BRANCH PROGRAM – NOVEMBER 20

JOIN US FOR OUR BRANCH PROGRAM.
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO INVITE
YOUR SIGNIFICANT OTHER OR A FRIEND!

SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND BULLYING
—A NEW TWIST—

November 20th - 7:00 PM
Sherwood Regional Library -
- Conference Room 4 - upstairs -
2501 Sherwood Hall Lane

LOURDES NEILAN
DIVERSITY OFFICER FOR THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
SUSAN ASHCRAFT
FORMER POLICE OFFICER AND DEPARTMENT CHIEF

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS ON PAGE 6



NOVEMBER
20
THURSDAY

7:00 PM

Branch
Program

SEXUAL
HARASSMENT

AND

BULLYING

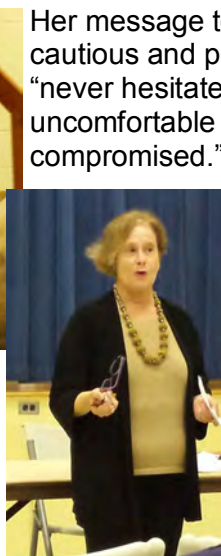
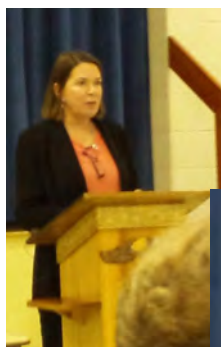
SHERWOOD
REGIONAL
LIBRARY

VALUABLE INFORMATION FROM THE OCTOBER 16 MEETING

Program VP **Joanna Crane** introducing speaker **Debbie Diener**.

Attendees at the October 16 Branch Program were fascinated by the speaker's perspective on our vulnerability to scams, identity theft, and invasion of privacy that is now occurring in our digital age.

Debbie Diener, who writes and blogs on "*Staying Safe in the Digital Age*," is an attorney and an experienced professional in the area of digital privacy. She has worked with both government agencies and private industry on issues related to the topic. She gave examples of our most vulnerable situations and current scams.



Her message to the group was that they must be cautious and pro-active to protect themselves and "never hesitate to change your card when you feel uncomfortable that your information may have been compromised."

Ms. Diener's blog, PrivacyMadeSimple.net, covers a wide range of privacy, identity management and related issues. She also recommends the following websites for more information and insight:

www.bbb.org Better Business Bureau has a blog devoted completely to scams and related information; www.ftc.gov Federal

Trade Commission; and www.ic3.gov Internet Crime Complaint Center:

BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2014 – 2015

Co-Presidents:

Barbara Mann 703/360-3880
speech.solutions@verizon.net

Mary Ellen Mehler 703/780-8494
memehler@msn.com

Program Vice Presidents:

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

Joanna Crane 703/718-8892
joanna.p.crane@gmail.com

Membership Vice President:

Edie Bartlett 703/780-6809
redsse@aol.com

Treasurer:

Trish Smith 703/803-0252
trish-smith@cox.net

Secretary:

Shirley Richey 703/780-0834
shirley97@verizon.net

Newsletter/Website:

Bianca Daugherty 571/332-8371
d4bnjk@aol.com

Newletter/Directory Distribution:

Cynthia Gindlesperger 703/619-5262
ngindlesperger@verizon.net

Mary Ellen Mehler 703/780-8494
memehler@msn.com

AAUW Funds:

Joanne Malkin 703/360-7725
jbmalkin@verizon.net

Public Policy:

VACANT

International Affairs:

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

Bylaws:

VACANT

Hospitality:

Cathy Krebs 703/765-2751
catherinekkrebs@yahoo.com

Nominating Committee Chair

Lois Passman 703/781-7626
LMPassman@msn.com

Book Group:

Louise Meade 703/960-0073
meadelt@cox.net

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

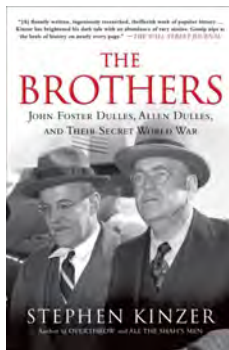
BOOK GROUP

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

DATE: Monday, November 17, 7:30 PM

HOSTESS: Barbara Mann
8716 Falkstone Lane
Alexandria, 22309
Speech.solutions@verizon.net

CO-HOSTESS: Elaine Kolish



BOOK: The Brothers: John Foster Dulles, Allen Dulles, and Their Secret World War
by Stephen Kinzer

REVIEWER: Joanne Clark

NEXT BOOK: Orphan Train
by Christina Kline

GAME NIGHT



Game Night

November 28, 2014

7:30 PM

Home of Barbara Mann / Watch for email.



Join us for a fun evening with various games and light snacks!
Contact **Bianca Daugherty** if you would like to join the group (d4bnjk@aol.com)

**COMING
SOON!**

RESERVE THE DATE!

The holiday luncheon will be held at the Mount Vernon Country Club at 11:30 am on Saturday, December 6.

Details on cost and menu will be coming soon from **Joanne Clark.**



There is still time to contribute to AAUW Funds!

The Legal Advocacy Fund #3999 (LAF) provides financial and organizational support for a select number of cases in the workplace and in academia that have the potential to provide significant protection for all women.

The Educational Opportunities Fund #4336 supports educational and life-long learning opportunities that give women a chance for a lifetime of success.

Send your **tax-deductible** donation to **Joanne Malkin**—8339 Orange Court, Alexandria, VA 22309

Make check payable to Legal Advocacy Fund #3999 or Educational Opportunities Fund #4336.

Put Mt. Vernon Branch on the Memo line.



REPORT FROM THE NORTHERN DISTRICT MEETING

At the annual **Virginia Northern District Meeting in Burke on October 18**, a fascinating panel of women experienced in the political process—either as campaign manager or candidates in Virginia elections—discussed their insight and experience. They revealed their own personal motivation for political involvement, experience with fundraising, challenges, and sources of strength as candidates for public office. All agreed that women in politics have particular hurdles related to money and the perception of women's capabilities to govern.

Melissa Jackowski, the panel moderator, has had extensive experience as campaign manager and fundraiser for various political candidates. **Jeanette Rishell** is active in local Manassas politics. She now serves on the Manassas Park City Council and is contemplating a run for mayor next year. **Margi Vanderhye**, now serving as Executive Director for the Virginia Commission for the Arts, has served in various appointed political offices and served one term as State Representative in the Virginia State Assembly. She waged an unsuccessful campaign against Barbara Comstock in the last election, which she lost by only 365 votes. Both **Margi** and **Jeanette** praised Emily's List as a source of financing and mentoring.

Patsy Quick described the Virginia State AAUW Project **"From Vision to Reality—Mission Possible"** that was introduced at the Summer Leaders Meeting in July.

Caroline Pickens discussed early plans for the Virginia State Conference, which will be held in Northern Virginia in 2016. All Northern District branches will have assigned duties for the 2016 conference.

Other items of note from the meeting:

The 2015 State Conference will be held in Charlottesville on April 18-19.

AAUW State Lobby Day is February 4, 2015, and Federal Lobby Day is May 7, 2015.

Webmaster **Leslie Vandivere** encouraged members to visit the **AAUW Facebook** website and to like and/or share it.

Three state positions are open: Membership VP, Finance VP, and Recording Secretary. **Nominations are to be submitted by December 1, 2014, to Caroline Pickens.**

AAUW of Virginia will turn 90 in 2015. Birthday wishes sent to **Patsy Quick** or **Sandy Lawrence** will be displayed at the 2015 State Conference.



Above: Co-Presidents Sandy Lawrence and Patsy Quick



Left: from left Panelists Margi Vanderhye and Jeanette Rishell, moderator Melissa Jackowski and Northern District co-rep Jeanne Elmore

SIGN THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING PETITION

Human trafficking is an international disgrace. It forces an estimated 27 million people worldwide into prostitution or involuntary labor. The Polaris Project, which tracks federal and state laws on human trafficking, recommends that Virginia pass laws to provide assistance to human trafficking survivors, including creating "safe harbors" for sexually exploited minors. **We want to make sure our Virginia lawmakers in Richmond know this-- and do something about it.**

We have embarked on a petition drive and need the support of all our branches to ensure success.

Although our goal is to collect 1000 signatures, we should be able to collect many more signatures through our collective "woman power." After all, we have until January 30, 2015, to collect signatures.

The petition reads:

We the Undersigned join with the American Association of University Women (AAUW) in urging you to support legislation improving assistance for human trafficking survivors in Virginia.

Human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery that forces an estimated 27 million people worldwide – including people in the United States- into prostitution or involuntary labor.



**HUMAN
TRAFFICKING
NOW**

The National Human Trafficking Resource Center reports that it received 742 phone calls from individuals seeking help in Virginia in 2013 — the sixth highest number of calls among all states and Washington, D.C. that year.

The link for our petition is <http://bit.ly/1F56cLG>. "Sign" it online and then email the link to your friends, family and other organiza-

tions to "sign" and pass on. Let's make it go viral! I

A copy of the petition will be at the next Mt. Vernon Branch meeting. You can sign it there or at the link above on line. Please just sign it once! The petitions will be taken to our state legislators on Lobby Day in Richmond, February 4. Hope you can join us there!

Leslie Tourigny
AAUW of Virginia
Public Policy VP

AAUW PUBLIC POLICY

RECEIVE FREE PUBLIC POLICY E-PUBLICATIONS!

Washington Update is AAUW's free, members-only weekly e-bulletin. It offers an insider's view on the legislative process, the latest policy news, resources for advocates, programming ideas, and updates from the Public Policy and Government Relations Department.

To stay up-to-date on all issues important to our mission, all AAUW members, including college and university partners, are encouraged to subscribe.

To subscribe visit the AAUW website <http://www.aauw.org/resource/washington-update/>

Take Action—Become a Two Minute Activist

Receive urgent e-mail notices to contact your members of Congress right in your inbox. Join the AAUW Action Network today!

Subscribe at the AAUW website:

<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>

MEET OUR SPEAKERS FOR NOVEMBER 20 PROGRAM



Captain Lourdes Neilan is a graduate of the University of Florida, where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering and was a Navy ROTC student. She has been with the US Navy for almost 30 years.

Presently, she is the Special Assistant to the Chief of Naval Operations for Diversity.

Her previous tours were in Norfolk, VA, serving as Knowledge Manager and N6, Subject Matter Expert in Fleet Communications, and IT readiness Assistant Chief of Staff for Information Dominance.

Her career as a navy officer included assignments in Hawaii and Naples, Italy.

Capt. Neilan holds two Master of Science degrees: IT Management from Naval Postgraduate School and National Resource Strategy from National Defense University's Industrial College of the Armed Forces.



Susan Ashcraft is a graduate of the University of Texas where she received a Bachelor's degree in Sociology. She served as a police officer with the police department in Houston Texas from 1980 to 1987.

She was a Special Agent, Supervisory Special Agent, Office of Professional Responsibility, and Chief with the Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration. She retired in 2012.

She received an Honorary Doctorate in Theology and is an ordained Pastor at Faith in Action International Ministries.

Presently Susan works with Kids Konnection (ministry to inner city kids) and volunteers with Kairos Prison Ministry.

She is the President of Logical Solutions that Work, a consulting company.

Susan is a member of our Mt. Vernon Branch!!!

Successful Collaboration with the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area - Candidate Meet and Greet -



IT'S MY
VOTE
I WILL BE HEARD
AAUW ACTION FUND



Eighth District Congressional Candidates and LWVFA Moderator **Anne Kanter** at the non-partisan **Meet and Greet** event in Kingstowne on Tuesday, October 21st.

After a brief address by LWVFA Moderator **Anne Kanter**, the candidates had the opportunity to introduce themselves before they answered questions from the audience. **Mary Ellen Mehler** and **Patsy Quick** assisted by vetting questions for the candidates. The event was well organized and remained friendly!

The event was videotaped and is posted on the LWVFA website:

<http://www.lwv-fairfax.org/2014MeetandGreet.html>

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 Fiona's Irish Pub 5810 Kingstowne Center Alexandria, VA 22315	Kickoff Dinner with Speaker on Voter ID Laws Speaker: Sherry Zachry and Sue Worden of Fairfax Area LWV Speaker's Bureau
Thursday, October 16, 2014, 7:00 pm Heritage Presbyterian Church 8513 Fort Hunt Road	Privacy in the Digital Age Speaker: Debbie Diener , of Privacy Made Simple
Thursday, November 20, 2014, 7:00 pm Sherwood Regional Library 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane Alexandria, VA 22306	Sexual Harassment and Bullying Speakers: Lourdes Neilan and Susan Ashcraft
Saturday, December 6, 2014 Mt. Vernon Country Club	Holiday Party
Thursday, January 15, 2015 Time & Location TBD	Women in Leadership
Thursday, February 19, 2015 Time & Location TBD	Gardening: Either Container/ Winter/ Wildlife/Sustainable Speaker: Eileen Powell Master Gardener, Author
Saturday, March 21, 2015 Mt. Vernon Country Club	Annual Meeting
Friday, April 24, 2015 Little Theater of Alexandria	Little Theater Fundraiser "The Odd Couple" (female version)
Thursday, May 21, 2015 Location TBD	Annual Pot Luck Dinner
Saturday, June 6, 2015 Joanna Crane's house	Annual Planning Session (Brunch)

Other Important Dates to Remember:

February 4, 2015	State Lobby Day, Richmond
April 18-19, 2015	AAUW of Virginia Conference, Charlottesville
June 18-21, 2015	AAUW National Convention, San Diego



WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT

Prepared by
The League of Women Voters® of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) Education Fund
--a 501(c)(3) organization--

General Election – Tuesday, November 4, 2014

Polls open 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

For information on the general election, voter registration, or district and precinct contact:

Fairfax County General Registrar	(703) 222-0776	www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections
City of Fairfax General Registrar	(703) 385-7890	www.fairfaxva.gov/government/general-registrar
Virginia Department of Elections	(800) 552-9745	www.elections.virginia.gov

(D) = Democrat
(IG) = Independent Green

(G) = Green
(L) = Libertarian
(*) = Incumbent

(I) = Independent
(R) = Republican

The candidates appear in the order they will appear on the ballot as determined at the SBE by lot drawing.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

For the United States Senate

Ed W. Gillespie (R)
<http://www.edforsenate.com>

Mark R. Warner* (D)
<http://www.markwarnerva.com>

Robert C. Sarvis (L)
<http://www.robertsarvis.com>

For the United States House of Representatives

8th District
Micah K. Edmond (R)
<http://www.micahedmond.com>

Donald S. Beyer, Jr. (D)
<http://www.friendsofdonbeyer.com>

Jeffrey S. Carson (L)
<http://www.jeffreycarson.com>

Gerard C. "Gerry" Blais III (IG)
<http://www.votejoinrun.us>

Gwendolyn J. Beck (I)
<http://www.gwendolynbeck.com>

10th District
Barbara J. Comstock (R)
<http://www.barbaracomstockforcongress.com>

John W. Foust (D)
<http://www.foustforvirginia.com>

William B. Redpath (L)
<http://www.billredpath.com>

Dianne L. Blais (IG)
<http://www.votejoinrun.us/blais.html>

Brad A. Eickholt (I)
<http://www.eickholt4congress.com>

11th District
Suzanne K. Scholte (R)
<http://www.suzannescholteforcongress.com>

Gerald E. "Gerry" Connolly* (D)
<http://www.gerryconnolly.com>

Joe F. Galdo (G)
<http://www.joegaldo.com>

Marc M. Harrold (L)
<http://www.marcharold4congress.com>

BALLOT QUESTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE

Fall 2014 Voters' Guide: The League sent questionnaires to the candidates for U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. All candidates queried are those whose names were certified for the General and Special Election ballot. Responses can be read in the Fall 2014 Voters' Guide to be published in *The Fairfax County Times* newspaper the week of October 24, 2014, and online on the LWVFA website, www.LWV-Fairfax.org, at LWVUS www.vote411.org, or our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/lwvfairfax.

The Voter Registration deadline for the November 2014 election is Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

NEW THIS YEAR: YOU MUST SHOW AN ACCEPTABLE PHOTO ID AT THE PRECINCT

Questions on the Ballot:

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT:

Property tax exemption for certain veterans and surviving spouses of soldiers killed in action.

Ballot Question: Shall Section 6-A of Article X (Taxation and Finance) of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to allow the General Assembly to exempt from taxation the real property of the surviving spouse of any member of the armed forces of the United States who was killed in action, where the surviving spouse occupies the real property as his or her principal place of residence and has not remarried? YES/NO

TRANSPORTATION BONDS:

Shall the Board of Supervisors contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds of Fairfax County, Virginia, in addition to bonds previously authorized for transportation improvements and facilities, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$100,000,000 for the purpose of providing funds to finance the cost of constructing, reconstructing, improving and acquiring transportation facilities, including improvements to primary and secondary State highways, improvements related to transit, improvements for pedestrians and bicycles, and ancillary related improvements and facilities? YES/NO

CITY OF FAIRFAX - ADVISORY REFERENDUM

Do you support changing the length of the terms of office for City Council members, the Mayor, and the members of the School Board from the current two (2) years to four (4) years? YES/NO

NEW THIS YEAR: YOU MUST SHOW AN ACCEPTABLE PHOTO ID AT THE PRECINCT

You must be registered at your current address,
with your current surname
to register or update your registration online,
providing your DMV ID number
www.vote.virginia.gov

OR

Print application (also available from the library)
and mail it in before 5:00 p.m., October 14, 2014

ACCEPTABLE PHOTO IDs

- * U.S. passport/passport card
- * Federal, Virginia, or local government ID w/photo (military IDs OK)
- * Virginia driver's license/ID
- * Employee ID w/photo
- * Virginia higher education institution student ID w/photo
- * Virginia public (not private) high school ID w/photo
- * Voter photo ID card, free from Virginia Dept of Elections

*ALL IDs MUST BE VALID, GENUINE,
INCLUDE A PHOTO OF THE VOTER,
AND, IF BEARING A DATE,
NOT BE EXPIRED FOR MORE THAN 12 MONTHS

NEED A PHOTO ID??

You must be a registered voter in Virginia.
You may register online, then apply for a photo ID.
You may register in person and apply for a photo ID at the same time. Either way, the photo ID will be mailed after the registration is confirmed.

WALK IN TO GET A FREE PHOTO ID

AT

FAIRFAX COUNTY OFFICE OF ELECTIONS

12000 Government Center Parkway
Suite 323, Fairfax, Virginia 22035
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections>
703-222-0776

OR

CITY OF FAIRFAX GENERAL REGISTRAR

10455 Armstrong Street, Fairfax, VA 22030
<http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/general-registrar>
703-385-7890

OR ANY OTHER REGISTRAR'S OFFICE CALL TO CONFIRM OPENING DAYS AND TIMES

1. Complete and sign an application form.
2. Wait while the Registrar or staff confirms your information in the voter registration system.
3. Have your photo taken at the office.
4. Sign your name on the signature device.
5. Receive your photo ID in the mail.

Voters without a photo ID can cast a **provisional** ballot, then get a temporary photo ID at the Elections Office or bring, mail, e-mail or fax a copy of an acceptable photo ID by **noon Friday, November 7**, to have their ballots counted.

YOU MAY GET A TEMPORARY PHOTO ID IF YOU APPLY TOO LATE TO RECEIVE YOUR ID IN THE MAIL

Disclaimer: The contact information provided in "What's on the Ballot?" was furnished by the campaigns to the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA), obtained from the Fairfax County Office of Elections, or official websites. The LWVFA is not responsible for any changes or inaccuracies in the listings; the information was current as of August 26, 2014. This is not an official publication for any campaign or candidate, but information only. The LWVFA can be reached at 703-658-9150, on the web at www.LWV-Fairfax.org, on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/lwvfairfax, or at LWVUS www.vote411.org.

Mt.Vernon

Cynthia Gindlesperger
915 Neal Drive
Alexandria, VA 22308

www.aauwofva.org

mtvernon-va.aauw.net

First Class



- **5 Board Meeting,**
- **17 Book Group, 7:30**
Contact Barbara Mann
703/360-3880
- **20 Branch Program, 7:00**
Sherwood Regional Library
Contact Edie Bartlett
703/780-6809
- **28 Game Night, 7:30**
Contact Bianca Daugherty
571/332-8371

NOVEMBER 2014

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