

Mt. Vernon Voices

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

Volume 58 Issue 7 March 2015
Mt. Vernon Branch



PRESIDENTS' CORNER

We are justifiably proud of all we hear and read about the representation provided by our AAUW national and state leaders as they work to further the position of women and girls. We are so glad to have them watching out for us in Congress and the Virginia State Assembly. But as I reflect on the strength of our AAUW organization, I realize that the real strength is in the individuals in our branches - those who do all the "smaller" things that keep each branch going and thereby maintain the state and national structure.

This came to mind as I filled out my reservation for the upcoming state conference being held in Charlottesville on April 18. I thought about the branch members of the Northwest District in Charlottesville and Harrisburg who, along with the state staff, will be doing all the things necessary to host the conference. It's a lot of work!

Then I thought about the unsung heroes in our own branch who faithfully do what it takes to keep us going. The minutes of the board meetings come out every month. Our reports to National and funds transfers get done on schedule. The financial affairs of the branch are handled so smoothly that nobody would guess the time required. Our Membership Chair never stops recruiting. A professional-



looking newsletter comes out each and every month and gets mailed, even to those needing a printed copy. There is always a slate of prospective officers ready for voting on at the Annual Meeting and the telephone tree always gets activated as needed. The annual LTA fundraiser is

accomplished successfully each year after all the planning, meetings, heavy lifting, and work involved by the committee. Consider what work goes into our monthly programs. With the help of member with local contacts, our Program Chairs always manage to organize an interesting monthly meeting at a convenient location with tempting refreshments every time. And

when we have an opportunity to participate in some special event, such as a partnership with LWV or a fundraiser for UCM, someone in the branch always steps up to manage it and provide hospitality. Somehow our interest groups such as Book Group, Dining Out Group, Game Night, etc. always find a manager. Then there are all the other things I am forgetting to mention.

So - LET'S HAVE A ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR THE WORKER BEES.

MARY ELLEN MEHLER

**SATURDAY
MARCH 21**

**ANNUAL
MEETING
AND
BREAKFAST**

9:00 AM

**Mt. Vernon
Country Club**

\$25

BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING

It's That Time Again:

**AAUW MT. VERNON BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING
Saturday, March 21, 2015**

Speaker: Jeanne Elmore - From Vision to Reality

Mount Vernon Country Club, 5111 Old Mill Road, Alexandria

BUFFET BREAKFAST: 9:00 – 10:00 am BUSINESS MEETING 10:00 am– noon
(Just think – Spring flowers will be blooming, the temperatures will be warm(er).



- RESERVATION FORM ON PAGE 3 -

BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING

It is election time!

The Branch has a complete slate of officer nominations for the 2 year term of 2015-2017. The following members have agreed to be nominated:

For Co-Presidents: Mary Ellen Mehler and Joanna Crane
For Vice President Program: Joanne Clark
For Secretary: Shirley Richey



Nominations may also be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee.



The Mount Vernon Branch is fortunate to have State Board Member and Northern District Representative **Jeanne Elmore** as our Annual Meeting speaker. **Jeanne** will introduce the branch to the **From Vision to Reality** project. The Visioning Project, which originated with National AAUW, leads branch members through plans for strengthening, changing and growing the branch. The Visioning Project has three parts, **Part I** of which **Jeanne** will introduce on **March 21**. Part I elicits ideas from members to define the focus and mission of the branch. Members consider exactly what is most important to them and what the role of the branch should be as we move forward. **Part II** will be scheduled for the Planning Meeting on June 6 and **Part III** will be held in the 2015-2016 program year.

Please come. We NEED you there. And the breakfast is always delicious!!

BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2014 – 2015

<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> Bianca Daugherty 571/332-8371 d4bnjk@aol.com</p> <p><u>Newsletter/Directory Distribution:</u> Cynthia Gindlesperger 703/619-5262 ngindlesperger@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>ImpromptEvent</u> Joanne Clark 703/768-8996 jclark@meridian.org</p> <p><u>Dining Out:</u> Elizabeth Lonoff 703/765-2634 elonoff@msn.com</p> <p><u>Game Night:</u> Bianca Daugherty 571/332-8371 d4bnjk@aol.com</p>
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RESERVATION FOR ANNUAL MEETING AND BREAKFAST

Please RSVP no later than March 17!
Price for buffet breakfast is \$25 all inclusive

Clip and
mail!

I, _____ plan to attend the **Annual Meeting on March 21.**
Check for \$25 made out to AAUW Mt Vernon is enclosed.

Breakfast buffet items:

- Coffee and Hot Tea/Iced Tea Station
- Bagels with Cream Cheese
- Fluffy Scrambled Eggs
- Country Sausage and Bacon
- Assorted Danish and Muffins
- Toaster Available with Jelly/Butter
- Homemade Hash Brown Potatoes
- Sliced and Cubed Fresh Fruit



Mail together with check to : Joanne Clark 6607 10th Street, Apt A2, Alexandria VA 22307

See you all there!

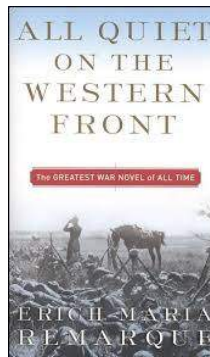
BOOK GROUP

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

DATE: Monday, March 16, 7:30 PM

HOSTESS: **Dianne Watts**
4403 Robertson Blvd
Alexandria, VA 22309
703/780-1753

Co-Host: **DeJuana Jones**



BOOK: All Quiet on the Western Front
by Erich Maria Remarque

REVIEWER: Betty Demarest

NEXT BOOK:

Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity
by Katherine Boo

GAME NIGHT



Game Night

Friday, March 27, 2015

7:30 PM

Home of Shirley Richey / Watch for email.



Join us for fun and games! Light snacks will be served!

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

Board Meeting
AAUW Mt. Vernon Branch
February 3, 2015

1. Co-president Barbara Mann called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m. Present were Daugherty, Krebs, Malkin, Mann, Mehler, Passman, Richey, and Smith.
2. **Minutes of January meeting** were read and approved as submitted.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** There is presently a balance of \$6,594.44 in the bank. This will change as LTA checks begin to come in.
4. **Membership:** One new member – Kathleen Fitzgerald – has told us she sent her check and membership form in to Trish on Monday February 2. This means we have **60 members**.
5. **January 17 Northern VA. Regional Meeting:** Mary Ellen's full report was emailed to members. She also reported that the 2016 State Conference will be held at the Hyatt Dulles in Herndon.
6. **January 23rd LTA meeting with Alexandria Branch:** Shirley reported that she and Mary Ellen met with members of Alexandria Branch and determined that Alexandria branch would do savories, coffee and water and clean up this year while Mt. Vernon will do set-up, sweets, and wine as well as paper products. Each branch will have 3 baskets for raffle. Raffle tickets will be \$5 each or 5 for \$20.
7. **Report on AAUW booth at January 31st Town Hall Meeting:** Mary Ellen reported that she, Joanna Crane, Patsy, and Shirley talked with many people and had 6 or 7 people who signed up for more information.
8. **February 19th monthly meeting:** Shirley will start telephone tree the weekend before the meeting. Cathy Krebs will be out of town, but Patsy and Joanna Crane have offered to do refreshments.
9. **March 21st Annual Meeting:** "Mission Possible" will be presented by Jeanne Elmore. As this meeting is usually well attended it should provide a sizeable audience. We will also need to have the business meeting for budget presentation and elections, as well as to present honorees for the year. Barbara will contact Joanne Clark to see about the menu choice. Joanne later confirmed that we will have our annual buffet brunch.
10. **Nominating Committee:** Lois Passman reported that Shirley Richey agreed to be nominated for another term as Secretary. Edie Bartlett has agreed to complete the second year of Trish Smith's position as Treasurer. Mary Ellen Mehler agreed to be nominated as Co-President. Remaining board positions are co-president, co-program vice presidents, and a membership replacement for Edith Bartlett. Several names were discussed and Lois will contact them.
11. **Follow-through on support for STEM project at Walt Whitman:** Kristy Collins is trying to get a \$7,000 grant from AAUW National, we would add \$2,000. Kristy should hear about the grant from National in April. Barbara Mann met someone who represents a business which may give a donation, however, as the Branch is not a charitable 501.c(3) group and we felt it would not work. It was then suggested that we look for community partners as co-sponsors. Mary Ellen also discussed the workshop tools used for experiments and suggested we think about how we might supply these workshop materials.
12. **Additional Items for Information:** a. Yearly schedule seems clear to all. b. State Conference in Charlottesville in April – Mary Ellen shared the registration form and schedule for this.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Newsletter deadline is February 15th.

Next meeting is March 3 at Mary Ellen Mehler's home.

ANNUAL MT. VERNON TOWN HALL MEETING



AAUW Mt. Vernon Branch participates in the annual Mt. Vernon Town Meeting

On January 31, the Mt. Vernon Branch participated for the first time in the annual Town Meeting hosted at Mt Vernon High School by Supervisor Gerry Hyland. Along with a host of community organizations and county service providers, the branch manned a booth where we could display our AAUW banner and hand out literature. Along with an opportunity to recruit members, the booth demonstrated our presence in the community and gave us a chance to chat with participants and explain our mission.

From left: **Joanna Crane, Patsy Quick, Shirley Richey and Mary Ellen Mehler**

NEW DATE FOR FEBRUARY BRANCH MEETING!

Due to cold temperatures and icy paths, February's Branch Program

"Creating a Beautiful Container Garden"

was rescheduled to

Thursday, March 5, 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Mount Vernon Government Center
2511 Parker's Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306



We know many of you were looking forward to this presentation but were worried about the conditions outside. Our speaker, **Eileen Powell**, has worked hard on this presentation, which is sure to be terrific.

Eileen will be there at **6:30 pm** with copies of her latest book to sign and sell. We hope all of you will come and make this a great evening. Guests are welcome!

Another Great Opportunity to Join our Board!

Edie Bartlett has agreed to accept a Board appointment as Treasurer to complete the two year 2014-2016 term because **Trish Smith** is moving from the Mount Vernon area.

Thus, the Board seeks a Branch member to complete the Membership VP second year of the 2014-2016 term (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016).

If you are interested please contact Nomination Committee Chair **Lois Passman** (LMPasman@msn.com) or Co-Presidents **Mary Ellen Mehler** (memehler@msn.com) or **Barbara Mann** (speech.solutions@verizon.net).



AAUW STATE CONFERENCE



TIME IS TICKING AWAY UNTIL THE CONFERENCE

The AAUW-VA Conference on 18-19 April is getting close and time will be running out to **get the discounted registration rate by 27 March**. The conference speakers focus on our state priorities and issues that are relevant to women and girls.

Geoffrey Skelley, media relations coordinator for the University of Virginia Center for Politics and associate editor of Sabato's Crystal Ball which is the Center's non-partisan newsletter on American campaigns and elections will be discussing the implication of the 2014 elections. What does he foresee as our political priorities leading to the 2016 elections. How will this shape our national and state priorities?

Virginia does have Human Trafficking, and **Lara Powers** of the Polaris's National Human Trafficking Resource Center will address that issue. As a Regional Specialist for the Mid-Atlantic region of the United States, she oversees and manages the anti-trafficking responses to calls originating in the region's seven states that includes Virginia.

Campus Domestic Violence is another hot topic at the conference. **Mary Ann Sprouse**, Director of George Mason University's Wellness, Alcohol and Violence Education and Services, along with **JoAnn Bautti**, Assistant Director, Old Dominion University Women's Center, will speak on Preventing Campus Domestic Violence.

This is also a great opportunity to get up to speed on AAUW. **Suzanne Gould**, AAUW Archivist will discuss our rich history and significant milestones. **Linda Hallman**, AAUW Executive Director, will answer your questions on AAUW's Impact. In another session she discusses our future.

There is also some play involved like the Ash Lawn-Highland tour of James Monroe's home. You will help us build a cake with your wishes for AAUW. Actually, there isn't enough space to list all the fun events so you just have to come and see for yourself.

Don't forget to buy your copy of **The History of AAUW of Virginia** for only \$10.00. The author **Neola Waller** will accept cash and checks.

Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate AAUW of VA' 90th anniversary. Get all the information you need at <http://aauw-va.aauw.net/>

SEE YOU IN CHARLOTTESVILLE!!



Build-a-Cake!



We are proud and excited to be celebrating **90 years of AAUW of Virginia** this year! Through the decades we have had many challenges and many successes! But, there are also many things left to do! We can't wait to create an even stronger future for women and girls. Join the celebration! What do you wish for the next 90 years?

We will build-a-cake with your wishes at the Conference. There are two ways to participate:

- Write down your wish at the State Conference in Charlottesville at the birthday table.
- Send a wish early by email by April 15 to pnquick@cox.net, or sandyaaauw@juno.com.

Show your pride and your hope for the future! Help us build-a-cake!

Registration AAUW VA/WVA State Conference April 18-19, 2015

DoubleTree Hilton, Charlottesville

Name _____ AAUW Branch _____
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Check all that apply:

First Time Attendee? _____ Current Branch President? _____ Student Affiliate? _____
Past State President? _____ Current State Board Member? _____ Presenter? _____

Conference Registration (includes Saturday luncheon)

Received by March 27: \$80 Received after March 27: \$90 \$ _____

Saturday Buffet Dinner and Cash Bar \$28.00 x number attending _____ \$ _____

Special needs: _____

Lodging Information: DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Charlottesville

990 Hilton Heights Road, Charlottesville, VA 22901 1-434-973-2121

http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/C/CHOSHDT-AAW-20150417/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Or call 800/222-8733 and request the AAUW rate. Or go to doubletree.com and use code AAW.

Exclusive AAUW Virginia rate: Standard room \$139.00 (plus tax) **Not included in registration.**

Sunday James and Elizabeth Monroe's Ash Lawn-Highland Tour

10:00 to 12:00 noon

Tour departs from the DoubleTree at 9:15 a.m.

Tour and Box Lunch \$20 x number attending: _____ \$ _____

(Note: lunch choices below. Please check your choice.)

Total Check Amount \$ _____

Make check payable to AAUW Virginia NW District (Note: No refunds after April 10)

Mail registration form and check to: Mary Froehlich, 112 Oak Ridge Dr., Stephens City, VA 22655

(h) 540/869-1728 froeh@comcast.net

Saturday Workshops (choose one)

A. Human Trafficking _____ B. Branch Archives _____ C. Campus Sexual Violence _____

Sunday Breakfast Meeting (Cost of breakfast buffet not included)

Counterparts Meeting: Your office? _____

Sunday Ashlawn-Highlands Tour Box Lunch Selections. Indicate selection/s.

Served with 8-oz bottled water and fruit salad, choice of potato or pasta salad (circle one), and a brownie.

Dietary Restrictions? _____

- English Derby** | Roast Beef, Havarti cheese, romaine lettuce, tomato, Vidalia onion on an onion roll _____
- The Chickadee** | Sliced grilled chicken, romaine, herb cream cheese, sundried tomato pesto on wheat Kaiser roll _____
- The Hammer** | Black Forest ham, Havarti cheese, romaine lettuce and tomato on sub roll _____
- The Roma** | Mozzarella, romaine lettuce, tomato, basil pesto and olive oil on sub roll _____
- The Henny Penny** | Grilled chicken, Monterey Jack, whole grain mayonnaise, romaine, tomato on ciabatta roll _____

STATE LOBBY DAY FEBRUARY 4

AAUW Members Meet with Governor, Lieutenant Governor on Lobby Day

At the annual **AAUW of Virginia Lobby Day**, 20 AAUW members met with **Gov. Terry McAuliffe** and **Lt. Governor Ralph Northam** to deliver 1,200 petition signatures in support of increased assistance to human trafficking survivors. In a 30-minute sit-down with the governor, they also discussed campus sexual violence and equal pay. The lobby day also included a meeting with the VA House Speaker's chief of staff in which they delivered the petition and discussed campus sexual violence and Medicaid expansion; individual meetings between AAUW members and the elected officials for their districts; and formal recognition of AAUW of Virginia in the galleries of both houses of the General Assembly. Congrats to AAUW of Virginia members on a successful day!

AAUW Washington Update, February 6, 2015



*Delivering the human trafficking petition to **Governor Terry McAuliffe** during Lobby Day.*



Discussing public policy with the Governor.



*AAUW of Virginia members met with **Lieutenant Governor Ralph Northam** during State Lobby Day in Richmond on February 4, 2015, to deliver the human trafficking petition.*

No Legislative Call-in Day on February 18, 2015

As everyone knows, we had tentatively planned a legislative call-in day for February 18, 2015. This was one of the actions we anticipated would be helpful as part of our advocacy efforts concerning human trafficking under our AAUW Public Policy Impact Grant. **However, both houses of the General Assembly have passed by unanimous votes a bill addressing commercial sex trafficking penalties (SB1188)** <http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?ses=151&typ=bil&val=sb1188> . Although this is not the perfect bill, it does improve State law penalizing sex traffickers and addresses some other voids in our laws. Because the bill has already passed both houses, and no new bills can be introduced, there is obviously no reason for us to call our delegates and senators about human trafficking at this point. For this reason, we will not be going ahead with our call-in day.

*Leslie Tourigny
AAUW of VA Public Policy VP*

2014 - 2015 MT. VERNON BRANCH PROGRAM YEAR

MT. VERNON AAUW 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, 11:30 am Mt. Vernon Country Club 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	Holiday Luncheon
Thursday, January 15, 2015, 6:30–8:30 pm Mount Vernon Government Center 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306	Women in Leadership Speakers: Jessica Grounds , Co-founder of Running Start, and Kate C. Farrar , VP of AAUW Campus Leadership Programs
NEW: Thursday, March 5, 2015, 7:00 pm Mount Vernon Government Center 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306	Gardening: Creating a Beautiful Container Garden Speaker: Eileen Powell Master Gardener, Author
Saturday, March 21, 2015, 9:00 am Mt. Vernon Country Club 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	Annual Meeting From Vision to Reality: Mission Possible Speaker: Jeanne Elmore
Friday, April 24, 2015 7 pm Reception - 8 pm Performance Little Theater of Alexandria	Little Theater Fundraiser "The Odd Couple" (female version)
Thursday, May 21, 2015 Home of Cathy Krebs	Annual Pot Luck Dinner
Saturday, June 6, 2015 Home of Joanna Crane	Annual Planning Session (Brunch)

Other Important Dates to Remember:

April 18-19, 2015	AAUW of Virginia Conference, Charlottesville
June 18-21, 2015	AAUW National Convention, San Diego

AAUW Mt.Vernon

Cynthia Gindlesperger
 915 Neal Drive
 Alexandria, VA 22308

<http://aauw-va.aauw.net/>
<http://mtvernon-va.aauw.net/>

First Class



MARCH 2015

- **3 Board Meeting, 7:30 pm**
 Mary Ellen Mehler's home
 703/780-8494
- **5 Branch Meeting 7:00 pm (rescheduled from Feb)**
 Contact Joanna Crane
 703/718-8892
- **16 Book Group, 7:00 pm**
 Contact Dianne Watts
 703/360-7725
- **21 Annual Meeting, 9:00 am**
 Contact Joanne Clark
 703/780-1753
- **27 Game Night, 7:30 pm**
 Contact Shirley Richey
 703/780-7099

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

