

Mt. Vernon Voices

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

Volume 59 Issue 8 April 2016
Mt. Vernon Branch



PRESIDENTS' CORNER



Members present at the Annual Meeting on March 19 already know that **Edie Bartlett** and **Claudia Creo** have been elected to two of the most vital board positions in the branch—Edie as Treasurer and Claudia

as Membership Vice President. This gives us an opportunity to focus on these two remarkable ladies and to reintroduce them to those in the branch who may not yet know them well.

Edie is already known to most branch members as the hard-working Membership Vice President who temporarily assumed the Treasurer duties when Trish Smith moved out of state. Now she is officially our Treasurer. A branch member since 2008, Edie holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in Education from SUNY at Oswego. As a Navy wife, she traveled extensively with her husband and served as a remedial reading teacher for Department of Defense schools in the Philippines, Turkey, and Italy. After her husband's retirement in the DC area, Edie worked with bookkeeping and tax reporting. We are in-

credibly fortunate to have her skills to call upon as branch Treasurer.

Claudia Creo, our new Membership VP and a member since 2014, is also a multi-talented lady. She has made an important contribution to the branch this year by using her legal skills to work with **Joanna Crane** in updating the branch bylaws. This mandate from AAUW National required many hours of work. Claudia holds a B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh and a J.D. from Duquesne University Law School. As an attorney, she practiced in Pittsburgh, PA and in Portland, ME. After a life-changing volunteer experience teaching children on Crete, she gave up her law career and became a teacher with Fairfax County Public Schools. She retired from Hybla Valley Elementary School in 2011. She now volunteers for various organizations and political campaigns. We are indeed fortunate to have her skills to call upon.

Congratulations and a resounding THANK YOU to both of our new board members.

Mary Ellen Mehler

LTA FUNDRAISER

To Kill A Mockingbird LTA Fundraiser

To our wonderful branch members – thank you so much for your support of the fundraiser!!

Remember to bring basket items by **April 1** and to bring savories and/or wine to **Shirley Richey** by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, **April 26**.

See you at the event, Tuesday April 26, 7:00!

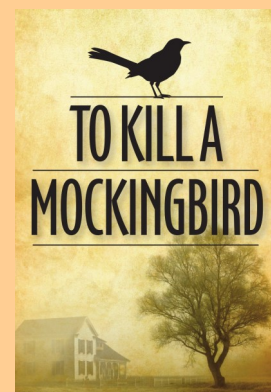
**TUESDAY
APRIL
26**

**BRANCH
FUNDRAISER**

**LITTLE
THEATER OF
ALEXANDRIA**

**RECEPTION
7 PM**

**CURTAIN
8 PM**



ANNUAL MEETING ELECTION RESULTS



On Saturday, March 19, 2016, at the Mt. Vernon Branch Annual Meeting, **Edie Bartlett** was elected treasurer for 2016-18. Edie stepped in to fill the position when Trish Smith moved away in August, 2015. **Claudia Creo** was elected as Membership Vice President. Read about both women in the Presidents' Corner, page 1.

Congratulations and thanks to Edie and Claudia!

At the meeting the membership voted to reduce branch dues from \$90 to \$77.

Dues for 2016-17 are due June 30.



FROM THE TREASURER:

Mt. Vernon Branch Dues (reduced!) will be accepted from now until June 30. Dues are \$77, including national and state memberships.

Send check to Edie Bartlett or pay online.

NAMETAGS WILL BE ORDERED

The cost of the plastic, magnetic name-tag is \$5, to be paid when the tags arrive.

Please send me your name immediately if you are interested.

Edie Bartlett

redsse@aol.com or

703-780-6809

BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2015 – 2016

Co-Presidents:

Joanna Crane 703/718-8892

joanna.p.crane@gmail.com

Mary Ellen Mehler 703/780-8494

memehler@msn.com

Program Vice President:

Joanne Clark 703/768-8996

jclark@meridian.org

Membership Vice President/ Treasurer:

Edie Bartlett 703/780-6809

redsse@aol.com

Secretary:

Shirley Richey 703/780-0834

shirley97@verizon.net

Bylaws:

VACANT

AAUW Funds:

Joanne Malkin 703/360-7725

jbmalkin@verizon.net

Public Policy:

Patsy Quick 703/360-8678

pnquick@cox.net

Newsletter/Website:

Bianca Daugherty 571/332-8371

d4bnjk@aol.com

Newsletter/Directory Distribution:

Cynthia Gindlesperger 703/619-5262

ngindlesperger@verizon.net

Mary Ellen Mehler 703/780-8494

memehler@msn.com

International Affairs:

Joanne Clark 703/768-8996

jclark@meridian.org

Hospitality:

Cathy Krebs 703/765-2751

catherinekkrebs@yahoo.com

Nominating Committee Chair

Lois Passman 703/781-7626

LMPassman@msn.com

Book Group:

Liz Promen 703/780-7342

epromen@cox.net

ImpromptuEvent

Barbara Mann 703/360-3880

speech.solutions.verizon.net

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, April 18, 2016, 7:30 PM

HOSTESS: Joanne Malkin
8339 Orange Court (22309)
703/780-1753

CO-HOSTESS: Cheryl Spohnholtz



BOOK: All the Light We Cannot See
by Anthony Doerr

REVIEWER: Barbara Mann

NEXT BOOK: Old New York
by Edith Wharton

GAME NIGHT

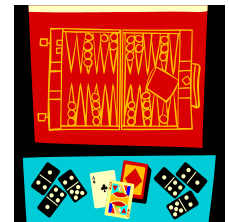


Game Night

Friday, April 22, 2016

7:30 PM

Home of Cathy Krebs



Join us for light snacks and fun!

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

RAFFLE BASKET DONATIONS



Shirley Richey, Fundraiser Chair, is collecting donated items for the three baskets that will be raffled on April 26, at the Little Theatre event. Broad themes for the baskets are Picnic Basket, Wine Basket, and Garden Basket. Wine will be featured in all of them! Anything that you would like to donate would be appreciated. The items must be new or like new. Please let Shirley know if you have something to contribute. You may drop off your items at her house any time by April 1.

Thanks in advance for helping make our raffle baskets enticing to theater attendees on April 26!

Remembering June Malina

We have received the sad news that June Molina died in January. She was a branch member since 2014 and a member of the Book Group. June worked for the Government Printing Office before retirement and was an active volunteer for the DC Chapter of People to People International. Members will remember her presentation on her travels with that group.



MESSAGE FROM KATHIE PRIGMORE

I just wanted to let you know that I (Kathryn Prigmore, Mt. Vernon Branch member) and three of the women from the AIA NOVA WIA (American Institute of Architects Northern Virginia Chapter Women in Architecture) group provided volunteer support during the **STEMtastics** event at the NOVA CC on Saturday, March 12th.

It was amazing to see so many middle school girls interested in science and technology (and architecture) and for them to be in classrooms for three hours where there were only girls and women discussing these topics. The young ladies were engaging and curious.

We could tell from some of their conversations they are already receiving some of the non-supportive feedback from their peers and even some adults. I encourage as many of us as possible to volunteer for this and similar events that occur annually in our region. Girls need to

see successful women in all aspects of life so they know they have allies in the area of their interests.

Jo Ann Murray is the Chairperson of the 2017 AIA National Womens Leadership Conference (<http://www.aia.org/about/initiatives/AIAB105869>) and of the local AIA NOVA WIA Committee (<http://www.aianova.org/wia>). This group serves the women throughout the Washington Metro Area as it is the only committee of its type. She and I and the other volunteers - April Drake, Ursula Johnson – look forward to continuing to develop a synergetic relationship with AAUW. We invite you to our next program - **Women in Architecture Lecture - Please Don't Leave: A Conversation on Retention & Benefits** (<http://www.aianova.org/wia/event.php?eventID=1267>).

Read and see photos about STEMtastics here
<http://mclean-va.aauw.net/stemtastics/>

NAMED HONOREES



At the Annual Meeting we learned that Mt. Vernon Branch and members have contributed \$4,500 to AAUW Funds. We are able to name an honoree for each \$500. Below are the honorees for this year and the reason they are being honored. They will receive certificates after the AAUW Conference in Herndon.

- **John Durrell** (Bianca D's husband) for his generous donation of 150 welcome bags for the 2016 AAUW State Conference
- **DeJuana Jones** for her creative management of the table decorations for the State Conference
- **Marvel Luyks** for her creative management of the table decorations for the State Conference
- **Diane Watts** to commemorate her 50th year of branch service and membership
- **Shirley Richey** for all her stellar work as secretary and fundraising chair for LTA
- **Elizabeth Lonoff** for her excellent work as liaison with League of Women Voters and managing Dining Out
- **Claudia Creo** for her excellent work on revising the branch bylaws
- **Bianca Daugherty** for her outstanding work on the branch newsletter and managing Game Night
- **Liz Promen** for her sustained work in the community on reading and literacy and for managing Book Group

Keep these members in your thoughts...

Mary Ellen Mehler's husband, Paul, has had serious surgery. Hopefully he will be able to go to rehab soon.

Shannon Dubicki has had back surgery and is recovering at home.



BRANCH PROGRAM, FEBRUARY 18



On February 18, the branch was treated to an evening about how to successfully create and maintain container gardens. With many tips, tools, and beautiful photographs, **Eileen Powell**, our speaker, demonstrated how really simple and uncomplicated it is to create stunning floral and plant arrangements in small to large containers. The meeting was held at the Mt. Vernon Government Center and was attended by 25 members and one guest who read about the meeting in the *Washington Post*. Special thanks to **Joanna Crane** for arranging this most interesting meeting for the branch.

AAUW OF VIRGINIA FEDERAL LOBBY DAY, MAY 12

Please note that the date for this year's Federal Lobby Day, which is held under the auspices of the AAUW Lobby Corps, is **Thursday, May 12, 2016**. AAUW of Virginia members will be matched up with experienced AAUW Lobby Corps members and assigned offices to visit that day. Although it is too early for the schedule to be finalized, please anticipate that we will be getting an early start.

Please let Leslie Tourigny, State Public Policy VP, know by **April 23, 2016**, the names and email addresses of **anyone coming**.



If you have room in your home for out-of-town AAUW VA members, please let Leslie know as soon as possible.

Contact Leslie Tourigny at ltourigny@gmail.com

ANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 19

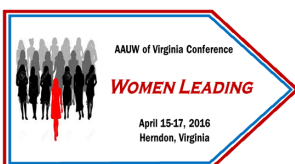


The Mt. Vernon Branch Annual Meeting was held on March 19 at the Mt. Vernon Country Club. Twenty-six members attended the meeting and brunch. Co-President, **Joanna Crane**, led the meeting with grace and efficiency (top left photo). Members (right photo) listened with interest. One of the business items was a brief explanation of the mandatory bylaws changes that were made by **Claudia Creo** (bottom left photo). Our bylaws have been revised to fit the new national model. The changes did not need a vote.



Diane Watts (bottom right) was honored for her fifty years as a member of the Mt. Vernon AAUW Branch. She receives a Honorary Life Membership from AAUW. The branch presented her with the AAUW scarf that she has on in the photo.

Congratulations, Diane!



AAUW OF VIRGINIA CONFERENCE, APRIL 15-17, HERNDON

- ◆ Access **ONLINE REGISTRATION** form by going to the AAUW VA website: <http://aauw-va.aauw.net> and click on "conference."
- ◆ You can also print and mail the form if you plan to just attend for lunch and/or the banquet on Saturday.

2015 - 2016 MT. VERNON BRANCH PROGRAM YEAR

Meeting Date and Place	Focus/Activity
Thursday, September 17, 2015, 6:30 pm Mt. Vernon Country Club 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	Kickoff Dinner With AAUW Video Screening
Thursday, October 15, 2015, 7:00 pm Sherwood Regional Library 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane Alexandria, VA 22306	Friends of Guest House (Rehabilitation of ex-offender women) Speaker: Kari Galloway, Executive Director of Guest House
Thursday, November 19, 2015, 7 pm Mt. Vernon Governmental Center 2511 Parkers Lane Alexandria, VA 22306	AAUW Public Policy Speaker: Lisa Maatz VP Government Relations at AAUW
Saturday, December 12, 2015, 12 noon Mt. Vernon Country Club 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	Holiday Event Brunch/Lunch
Saturday, January 9, 2016, 1 pm Mt. Vernon Governmental Center 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306	Virginia's Legislature - Current Policy Priorities Speaker: Scott Surovell State Senator
Thursday, February 18, 2016, 7 pm Mt. Vernon Governmental Center 2511 Parkers Lane Alexandria, VA 22306	Container Gardens Speaker: Eileen Powell Master Gardener, Author
Saturday, March 19, 2016, 9 am Mt. Vernon Country Club 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	Annual Meeting Breakfast Buffet
Tuesday, April 26, 2016 7 pm Reception - 8 pm Performance Little Theatre of Alexandria 600 Wolfe St, Alexandria, VA 22314	Little Theatre Fundraiser "To Kill a Mockingbird"
Thursday, May 19, 2016, Time TBD Home of Carolyn Stewart	Annual Pot Luck Dinner
Saturday, June 4, 2016 Time & Location TBD	Annual Planning Session

Other Important Dates to Remember:

April 15 - 17, 2016	AAUW of Virginia Conference, Hyatt Regency Dulles
April 12, 2016	Equal Pay Day
May 2, 2016	Federal Lobby Day

AAUW Mt.Vernon

Cynthia Gindlesperger
915 Neal Drive
Alexandria, VA 22308

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

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

First Class



- **5 Board Meeting, 7 pm**
Joanna Crane's home
703/718-8892
- **18 Book Group, 7:30 pm**
Contact Joanne Malkin
703/360-7725
- **22 Game Night, 7:30 pm**
Contact Cathy Krebs
703/765-2751
- **26 LTA Fundraiser**
7 pm Reception
8 pm Performance
Contact Shirley Richey
703/780-0834

APRIL 2016

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