

Mt. Vernon Voices

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

Volume **60** Issue 1 September 2016
Mt. Vernon Branch



PRESIDENTS' CORNER

Welcome back to the new program year, Mt. Vernon branch members!

It is going to be a busy and exciting year with our **60th branch anniversary** to be celebrated, a new project to develop with **UCM's Early Learning Center** (already a program dear to many of our hearts), two new and enthusiastic board members and a national election that many of our members will be working on in various ways. In June, members met and developed the program for 2016-2017. As you will see in this newsletter, they came up with a plan for monthly programs that are both educational and entertaining.

Several of our colleagues are already hard at work arranging for any interested branch members to participate in our local



"get out the vote" campaign, something in which branch members have always enthusiastically participated. Whatever our individual political persuasions, AAUW members are very alert to the effect of politics on the women's issues with which we are all concerned. Our branch members have always worked with the **League of Women Voters** and with the **Mt. Vernon Registrars** to make sure all citizens can vote. A number of our members have already volunteered to man registration tables. Much more later about this.

Mary Ellen Mehler

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at **KICKOFF** on September 15 and catching up on your latest news. It's going to be a great program year!

**SEPTEMBER
15
THURSDAY**

6:00 PM

**KICKOFF
DINNER**

**MT VERNON
COUNTRY
CLUB**

\$ 40

KICKOFF DINNER, SEPTEMBER 15

JOANNE CLARK

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

Thursday, September 15, 6:00 PM

Branch Kickoff Dinner - Mt. Vernon Country Club

This dinner meeting is very special this year as we will be celebrating the

60th anniversary of the Mt. Vernon Branch.

Plans are underway for a fitting celebration and any **historical memories** you have are welcomed by **Joanne Clark and Patsy Quick.**

We will be enjoying a delicious buffet dinner that will begin at 6:30 pm.
Come at 6:00 pm for socializing!

Looking forward to seeing everyone there for this commemoration of the great things our branch has done over the past 60 years!

*******Registration form on page 2*******



RESERVATION FORM KICKOFF DINNER



Please RSVP no later than September 9th

I, _____, plan to come to the September 15 Kickoff Dinner at the Mt. Vernon Country Club, 5111 Old Mill Road.

I will be bringing a guest _____

_____ Yes, I have memories of our branch I would like to share
(jlark@meridian.org or pnquick@cox.net)

Cost for Dinner Buffet incl. tax and gratuity is \$40 pp

****Wine or cocktails paid individually****

Mail registration together with check made out to AAUW Mt Vernon to
Joanne Clark - 6607 10th Street, Apt A2, - Alexandria VA 22307

Remember your name tags!

BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2016 – 2017

Co-Presidents:

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joanna.p.crane@gmail.com
Mary Ellen Mehler 703/780-8494
memehler@msn.com

Program Vice President:

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jlark@meridian.org

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Claudia Creo 703/684-4747
claudia.creo@gmail.com

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redsse@aol.com

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Nominating Committee Chair

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

Book Group:

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

ImpromptEvent

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

Dining Out:

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

Game Night:

Bianca Daugherty **NEW** 571/332-8371
Biancadaauw@gmail.com



AAUW OF VIRGINIA
January 2016

Dear Members of the Mt. Vernon Branch,

On behalf of AAUW of Virginia, it is our great pleasure to congratulate the Mt. Vernon Branch on your 60th anniversary. The branch has been a vital and contributing organization in AAUW, and the state recognizes and thanks you.

Your branch was chartered in 1956. In 1957 AAUW broke ground for its new headquarters at 2401 Virginia Ave, NW. Now, in 2016, AAUW will move its headquarters again to better support the mission and its members.

The Virginia Division began the 1960's aware of the need to preserve free public schools. Major accomplishments included compulsory school attendance and no tuition grants for private schools, which the Division regarded as "escape valves." Virginia members continued to speak out against funds being siphoned off from already inadequate public school financing. These tuition grants were eliminated only in 1969 when they were declared unconstitutional by a three-judge Federal court.

Moving forward, we are sure your members will be celebrating your distinguished past and be encouraged to continue their efforts in the challenging times ahead.

With best wishes for the next 60 years,

Patsy Quick Sandy Lawrence
Co-Presidents
AAUW of Virginia

CONGRATULATIONS AAUW MT VERNON BRANCH



AAUW Mt. Vernon (VA) Branch
Mary Ellen E. Mehler, President

Dear AAUW Mt. Vernon (VA) Branch Members:

On behalf of AAUW, it is my honor to recognize the AAUW Mt. Vernon (VA) Branch on its 60th anniversary. We applaud your exceptional service and demonstrated commitment to advancing equity for women and girls. Please accept this certificate of honor as a small token of our gratitude.

Because of your many efforts and hard work, AAUW continues to grow with more than 170,000 members and supporters nationwide. Our shared commitment to empowering women and girls translates into positive change across the globe.

Thanks to you, we've been able to make these advances for women and girls in 2015:

- AAUW awarded \$3.7 million in fellowships and grants to 241 scholars, researchers, and community-based programs.
- *Solving the Equation: The Variables for Women's Success in Engineering and Computing* was published in March 2015. This highly anticipated research report reached thousands through a live-streamed launch and was featured in prestigious outlets such as *Forbes*, *Fortune*, *USA Today*, and the *Washington Post*.
- More than 3,211 middle school girls and parents participated in 18 one-day AAUW National Tech Savvy Program conferences and 21 weeklong Tech Trek camps across the country.
- In response to AAUW's strategic advice, the U.S. Department of Education released resources for Title IX coordinators for the first time in the civil rights law's 43-year history, providing critical information and guidance to those enforcing Title IX.
- AAUW's Start Smart, Elect Her, student organizations, and e-student affiliate numbers all continue to grow, as does the number of AAUW college/university partner members.

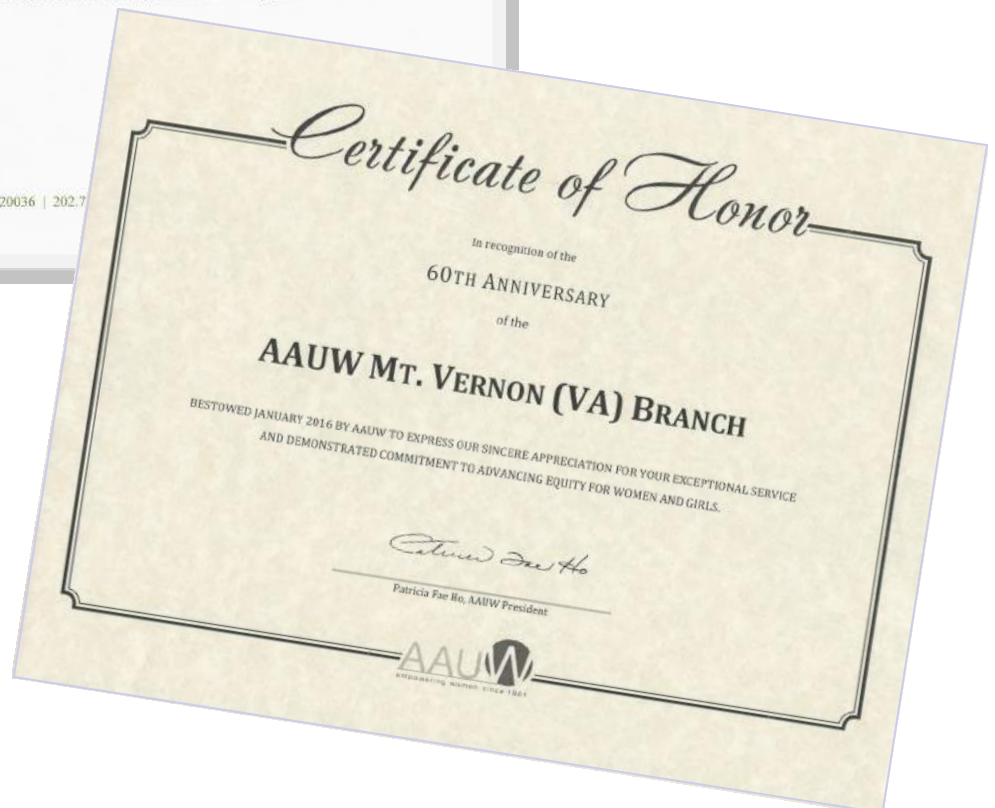
We are proud of these accomplishments that you helped make possible. These efforts remind us why we are passionate members of AAUW — and we will not stop here. As women gain access to educational and economic opportunities, we must keep up our efforts to further their progress. As an AAUW member, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Congratulations again on this incredible milestone! We appreciate all the hard work and activism your branch has accomplished and look forward to your continued support in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Linda D. Hallman, CAE
AAUW Chief Executive Officer

1111 Sixteenth St. NW, Washington, DC 20036 | 202.7



BOOK GROUP SEPTEMBER

On September 19, we will meet to select books and enjoy a potluck dinner together.

We welcome new members to join the book group!

DATE: Monday, September 19, 2016

6:30 PM

HOSTESS: Elaine Kolish

920 Emerald Drive
Alexandria, VA 22308

dmfedk@cox.net / 703/360-7319



In preparation for this evening, send your book recommendations, with brief descriptions, to **Joanne Clark**, jclark@meridian.org, no later than September 15.

Please respond to Elaine Kolish whether or not you plan to attend. More information will come via email concerning refreshments.

GAME NIGHT



"Gamers" at June Game Night

Game Night!

Friday, September 23, 2016

7:30 PM

Home of Shannon Dubicki

Join us for fun and games!

Spouses and significant others are welcome!



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

MAKE IT AN IMPROMPTEVENT!

Want to get together for more fun, to do and see things? Meet up with old friends, make some new? **Then make it an ImpromptEvent!**

This summer members visited the National Museum of Women in the Arts, enjoyed a musical at the Kennedy Center, and had a blast at the Capitol Steps performance.

ImpromptEvent was introduced in 2013 to enhance opportunities for members and their friends to get together informally for various activities outside our regular programs.

Have ideas/questions? Contact **Barbara Mann** at speech.solutions@verizon.net



Members share an evening of laughter at Capitol Steps performance

BON APPETIT!

ELIZABETH LONOFF



More than a dozen members enjoyed **Restaurant Week at Bastille**. If you weren't able to go, many of the same special dishes will be available through September 4th.

The **Dining Out Group** is considering next going Tuscan at the **Landini Brothers Restaurant** in Old Town on Friday, **November 11th**. Your suggestions always are welcome at elonoff@msn.com

Dining Out



Members and guests at Restaurant Bastille on August 19

GET OUT THE VOTE (GOTV)

PATSY QUICK

The Mt. Vernon Branch has a wonderful group of members who will participate in voter registration this fall! They are: **Joanne Clark, Joanna Crane, Shannon Dubicki, DeJuana Jones, Elaine Kolish, Cathy Krebs, Mary Ellen Mehler, Louise Priest, Patsy Quick, Shirley Richey, and Ebba Jo Spettel**. Our goal is to help AAUW of Virginia register 500 voters before the election. **Thank you all for your participation!** A local group, Mt. Vernon Registrars, provided us with locations and dates.

Many dates are still open, so if YOU decide you would like to participate, please let Patsy Quick know ASAP!

Now here is some other good news: It just got easier for branches to register voters. The Virginia Department of Elections (Elect), which regulates how we must conduct voter registration drives, has created a customized URL for us so that we can let voters register on-line at our voter registration drives. This link goes right to ELECT's online voter registration site. It also counts the number registered so we can report it to national and state AAUW. You can put the link on a tablet and take it anywhere. You can send it to family and friends in Virginia who might not be registered. If you have a Facebook page, put it there. Let's take advantage of this easy way to register voters!

<https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/thirdparty/aauw/MtVernon>

CONTRIBUTING TO AAUW FUNDS

JOANNE MALKIN

Reminder: Fall is the time we are asked to support **AAUW funds** for **LAF** or the other Funds of AAUW. Anyone who wishes to contribute should bring checks to our September kickoff dinner, October program or mail them to

Joanne Malkin
8339 Orange Court, Alexandria, VA 22309

Checks should be written to "AAUW- Fund # _____"
and mention "AAUW Mount Vernon Branch" in the "memo"
portion of the check.

Principal funds are the

- **Legal Advocacy Fund #3999**
- **Educational Opportunities Fund #4336**
- **Leadership Programs Fund #4339**
- **Public Policy Fund #4337**
- **the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund #9170**
- **and the AAUW General Fund #9110**

NORTHERN DISTRICT MEETING, OCTOBER 22

SAVE THE DATE!
Northern District Meeting
October 22 at 2:00 p.m.
King's Park Library

"Gender Bias in Politics—Is It Real?"



Most of us would say "Yes," but you might be surprised at the how and when and even the "No." It's a timely subject and also fits with AAUW's latest research on "**Bias and Barriers.**" We will feature **Melissa Richmond**, vice president of **Running Start** (a non-partisan organization that trains young women to run for office), and **Melissa Jackowski**, campaign services manager for **TargetSmart Communications** (which provides data-driven solutions to campaigns) and former AAUW Grassroots Advocacy Manager. Both women have incredible backgrounds in politics and electoral campaigns. **Watch for more details in early October—and put October 22 on your calendar.**

Susan Burk and Caroline Pickens
Northern District Co-Representatives

The McLean branch of the American Association of University Women will hold its 47th Annual Used Book Sale

Friday September 16th 9am-7pm
Saturday September 17th 10am-6pm
Sunday September 18th 12pm-4pm

McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean, VA.

Over 40,000 used books, CD's and DVD's will be offered for sale.

On Sunday most books are \$10.00 a bag.

Credit Cards Accepted!

Questions: aauwbookfair@gmail.com / Tel.: 703-527-4206

Sale proceeds provide scholarships for women.



Attend the annual Lobby Corps Open House/ Training session at AAUW Headquarters, Wednesday, September 7, 2016, at new HQ, 1310 L St, NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC

What is Lobby Corps? The AAUW Action Fund Capitol Hill Lobby Corps promotes AAUW's Public Policy Program by serving as volunteer advocates on Capitol Hill. Volunteers represent the views and positions outlined in the AAUW member voted Public Policy Program.

Lobby Corps meets every Thursday morning when Congress is in session, at 9:30 am, in either the Senate or House office buildings, as determined by AAUW staff each week. (Congress is in session about 30 weeks each year, taking breaks for holidays, summer, and campaigning.) Lobbying visits are usually completed by noon. Lobby Corps volunteers come from Virginia, Maryland, and D.C. branches. Most members use Metro to reach Capitol Hill.

You'll be well prepared before every Congressional visit and will always have an experienced partner.

For questions or to register for the open house, contact Marcy Leverenz, mleverenz@comcast.net, Becky Gaul, beckygaul@verizon.net, or Pam Yuen, yuenp@aauw.org.



National Voter Registration Day September 27, 2016

Action Alert

AAUW Action Fund released 11 voter guides for key races across the country with more on the way! Use these presidential, vice presidential, congressional, and gubernatorial voter guides to educate yourself and others of the candidates' stands on various AAUW issues.

AAUW Action Fund voter guides are provided as a public service and are not intended to be an endorsement of any candidate or political party. **Find the Virginia guide here:**

<https://www.aauwaction.org/voter-education/voter-guides/>

Join Action Alert and become a Two-Minute Activist. It is fast and easy!

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

Subscribe to receive "AAUW Washington Update" in your email box, weekly.

<http://www.aauw.org/resource/washington-update/>

Pledge to register for the AAUW National Convention, Washington DC, June 14-17, 2017

Registration doesn't open until October 1, but you can prepare to attend the 2017 AAUW National Convention right now. You have until September 28, 2016, to take the pledge. You will receive an e-mail reminder when registration opens, and you'll be entered to win a free registration to the 2017 convention.

<http://convention.aauw.org/2016/08/01/pledge-to-reg-2017/>



2016 - 2017 Mt. VERNON BRANCH PROGRAM YEAR

Meeting Date and Place	Focus/Activity
Thursday, September 15, 2016, 6:00 pm Mt. Vernon Country Club 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	Kickoff Dinner 60th Anniversary Celebration of the Branch
Thursday, October 20, 2016, 7:00 pm UCM Conference Room 7511 Fordson Rd, Alexandria, VA 22306	UCM Coffee for Kids program UCM's educational and recreational programs for children and youth
Thursday, November 17, 2016, 7:00 pm Location: TBD	Barriers and Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership AAUW Research Report
Sunday, December 11, 2016, 12:30 pm Mt. Vernon Country Club 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	Holiday Event Brunch/Lunch
Saturday, January 21, 2017 Time and Location: TBD	Leadership Panel
Sunday, February 26, 2017, 4:00 pm Heritage Presbyterian Church 8503 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308	Movie screening: "Harvest of Empire, The History of Latinos in America" Juan Gonzalez (2011)
Saturday, March 18, 2017, 9:00 am Mt. Vernon Country Club 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	Annual Meeting Breakfast
Friday, April 21 2017 7 pm Reception - 8 pm Performance Little Theater of Alexandria 600 Wolfe St, Alexandria, VA 22314	Little Theater Fundraiser "Fabulous Lipitones"
Saturday, May 20, 2017, 4:00 pm Dinner at 6:00 pm Home of Claudia Creo	Annual Pot Luck Dinner
Saturday, June 10, 2016 9:30 am Home of Edie Bartlett	Annual Planning Session

Other Important Dates to Remember:

October 22, 2016 November 8, 2016 June 14-17, 2017	Northern District Meeting Election Day AAUW National Convention, Washington D.C.
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AAUW Mt.Vernon

Cynthia Gindlesperger
915 Neal Drive
Alexandria, VA 22308

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

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

First Class



- **6 Board Meeting, 7:00 pm**
Home of Mary Ellen Mehler
703/780-8494
- **15 Kickoff Dinner**
Contact Joanne Clark
703/768-8996
- **19 Book Group, 7:30 pm**
Contact Elaine Kolish
703/360-7319
- **23 Game Night, 7:30 pm**
Contact Shannon Dubicki
703/780-7973

SEPTEMBER 2016

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