

# Mt. Vernon Voices

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

Volume **60** Issue **9** May 2017  
Mt. Vernon Branch



## PRESIDENTS' CORNER

On May 8, AAUW will decide which legendary woman will be our nominee for a commemorative US postage stamp? AAUW has been conducting a poll among members asking assistance in choosing among five candidates to nominate for the honor. I just completed my ballot (with difficulty because all five candidates are deserving).

Since 1893, various women have been portrayed on U.S. postage stamps, starting first with **Queen Isabella of Spain** and ending this year with civil rights activist **Dorothy Height**. A number of the women honored on stamps have been associated with AAUW in various ways.

It is always gratifying to see women's contribution acknowledged in this way because visibility is an important reminder of all the ways women contribute to our complex society. This year we will see **Harriet Tubman** portrayed on the front of the \$20 bill. She will be the first woman to appear on any US paper currency since the 1800's when **Martha Washington** and **Pocahontas** appeared on paper certificates that are now out of use. Soon, also, the redesigned \$5 and \$10 bills will have the faces of famous women.



The five women in the postal stamp poll are:

- **Dorothy Ferebee**—an early advocate for women and civil rights
- **Ellen Swallow Richards**—one of AAUW's two co-founders and first US woman to obtain a chemistry degree
- **Flemmie Kittrell**—global ambassador and pioneer in nutrition and child development
- **Jeanette Rankin**—first women elected to congress (R-MT); famous for her statement, "I may be the first woman member of Congress, but I won't be the last."
- **Edith Green**—(D-OR) served 20 years in Congress; instrumental in passing Title IX and Equal Pay Acts

AAUW is a powerful advocate for women's issues of all kinds. Maintaining visibility for the organization and for women with projects such as this is a significant contribution. Members may vote in the poll by going to AAUW's web site.

*Mary Ellen Mehler*  
Co-President

**SATURDAY**

**MAY 20**

**ANNUAL  
POTLUCK  
DINNER**

**5 PM**

**BRING YOUR  
FAVORITE  
DISH**

## BRANCH ANNUAL POTLUCK DINNER

**Join your fellow branch members  
on Saturday, May 20  
at the home of Claudia Creo,  
this year's hostess for our annual  
potluck dinner.**

**We will socialize and have drinks  
around Claudia's pool beginning at  
5 pm, and dinner will begin at 6 pm.**  
The branch will provide a main meat dish, and the rest of us will provide



munchies, salads, sides, casseroles, breads as we wish and as Claudia requests based on the response. Claudia can be reached at (703) 684-4747 or [Claudia.creo@gmail.com](mailto:Claudia.creo@gmail.com). Please let her know by May 15 what you will be bringing to allow her to have time to make adjustments.

**See you all there! This is one of our most enjoyable events.**

**This is also another opportunity to support our partner, UCM, by bringing non-perishable foods to the potluck. Thanks in advance for your contributions!**

## LTA FUNDRAISER SUCCESS



The numbers are in! Our profit from this year's LTA fundraiser is **\$2,792.50** .

**A big THANK YOU to everyone  
who helped make this fundraiser such a success!**

Our "crock men" quartet, which were the centerpiece of the table at the fundraiser, were quite a hit! Many thanks to **Marvel Luykx** for that wonderful idea and to **Shirley Richey and Edie Bartlett** for their time and talent to turn this project into a little piece of art.

Not only did we receive many compliments on Friday evening, but the theater manager asked if they could use them for their opening night party the next evening! Of course, we agreed!

Also, the Kiwanis will use them at their fundraiser on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. They are presently sitting on the buffet in the entrance hall of the LTA and they have pictures of them on their social media! Now they have asked if they could have them after the play ends to give one to each of the actors in the play, and give the small one that was on the dessert table to the director. We are so happy that they were so well received!



## BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2016 – 2017

### Elected Officers

<b>Co-Presidents:</b>	Joanna Crane Mary Ellen Mehler
<b>Program Vice President:</b>	Joanne Clark
<b>Membership Vice President:</b>	Claudia Creo
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Edie Bartlett
<b>Secretary:</b>	Shirley Richey

### Appointed Chairs

<b>Bylaws:</b>	<b>VACANT</b>
<b>AAUW Funds:</b>	Joanne Malkin
<b>Public Policy:</b>	Patsy Quick

<b>Newsletter/Website:</b>	Bianca Daugherty
<b>Newsletter/ Directory Distribution:</b>	Cynthia Gindlesperger Mary Ellen Mehler
<b>Nominating Committee Chair:</b>	Lois Passman
<b>Hospitality:</b>	Cathy Krebs

### Interest Groups

<b>Book Group:</b>	Liz Promen
<b>Dining Out:</b>	Elizabeth Lonoff
<b>Game Night:</b>	Bianca Daugherty
<b>ImpromptEvent:</b>	Barbara Mann

## BOOK GROUP

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

**DATE:** Monday, May 15, 2017, 7:30 PM

**HOSTESS:** Joanna Crane  
6511 Princeton Drive  
703/718-8892

**CO-HOST:** Anne Simpson



**BOOK:** The Nightingale  
by Kristin Hannah

**REVIEWER:** Liz Promen

**NEXT BOOK:** The Underground  
Railroad  
by Colson Whitehead

## GAME NIGHT



Join us for fun and games!

Friday, May 26, 2017

7:30 pm

Home of Cathy Krebs

Spouses and significant others are welcome!

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

## DINING OUT

Join Dining Out for dinner and sitar music at 7 pm on Saturday, May 13th. An early-May confirmation e-mail will distribute the limited number of seats.



### *Afghan Bistro*

**8081-D Alban Road, Springfield**

This new, family-run restaurant is a cozy dining room that draws people from as far away as New Jersey. Afghan Bistro already has received a few awards, and Trip Advisor ranks it #2 out of 162 restaurants in Springfield.

**Menu:** See <http://afghanbistro.com/>

### Reviews:

- [https://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurant\\_Review-g58202-d8666696-Reviews-Afghan\\_Bistro-Springfield\\_Fairfax\\_County\\_Virginia.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurant_Review-g58202-d8666696-Reviews-Afghan_Bistro-Springfield_Fairfax_County_Virginia.html)

- [https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/food/afghan-bistro-review-in-a-virginia-strip-mall-kebabs-that-evoked-kabul/2016/09/27/066b2cd4-784b-11e6-bd86-b7bbd53d2b5d\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.ca1aef816691](https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/food/afghan-bistro-review-in-a-virginia-strip-mall-kebabs-that-evoked-kabul/2016/09/27/066b2cd4-784b-11e6-bd86-b7bbd53d2b5d_story.html?utm_term=.ca1aef816691)
- <https://www.yelp.com/biz/afghan-bistro-springfield>

**Please feel free to invite a family member or friend.**

**To participate, contact Elizabeth Lonoff by May 4th** ([elonoff@msn.com](mailto:elonoff@msn.com)) so that our reservation can be finalized. If your plans change, please alert her so she can adjust the reservation.

Also, please also contact Elizabeth if you'd be interested in lunch at our local culinary institute, **Culinaire Restaurant** (see <http://www.rosslynva.org/go/culinaire-restaurant>), on Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>.



# DON'T SNOOZE....PAY YOUR DUES

## Dues are due

Invoices have gone out electronically for July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 dues. Please let **Edie Bartlett** know if you did not get your invoice. If you prefer to pay by check, make it out to Mt. Vernon AAUW in the amount of \$77 ( \$49 National, \$15 State, \$13 Mt. Vernon), and send to:

**Edith Bartlett**  
3204 Battersea Lane  
Alexandria, VA 22309

Let Edie know of any changes in your status.



## ***AAUW and UCM's Center (ELC): Donation and Volunteer Opportunities in May***

***by Elaine Kolish***

At our annual meeting the branch expressed interest in pursuing two additional activities to support the ELC: a teacher appreciation breakfast and redoing its small garden. These would supplement our donation of children's books and art materials at our holiday brunch and donation of "opened" items (paper towel rolls and the like) periodically. Here is how you can help our branch be a Friend of the ELC. We still need a liaison to the ELC going forward, as I will be stepping down after these activities are completed.

**Teacher Appreciation Breakfast on Friday, May 12:** We are asking for 6-8 members to donate breakfast foods (coffee cakes, sweet breads, muffins, casseroles) to host a breakfast for 20 ELC staffers. We will buy some items such as a fruit plate and beverages.

Please email **Mary Ellen Mehler** ASAP at [memehler@msn.com](mailto:memehler@msn.com) if you are willing to donate and bring your donations to her house sometime on Thursday, May 11. Let her know if you can help do set up at the ELC at 8:30 on May 12 and clean up. We only need a couple people for this.



**ELC Garden Planting on Wednesday, May 10:** As it is a very small garden it will not take long for us to prepare and plant the beds. ELC staff will take responsibility for watering the garden. We are asking members to donate a plant from their own gardens, such as bulbs or other plants that can be divided now. It is a very sunny spot, so no shade loving plants please and no plants with sharp edges or that are poisonous. We think a combination of perennials, including succulents such as sedum, annuals, and small vegetables will work well. We will fill in with purchased plants and buy four bags of mulch. Plant donations can be

dropped off at **Elaine's** house (920 Emerald Drive) on Tuesday, May 9 (may leave on porch) or Wednesday morning, May 10, Please include a note saying what the plant is-if not obvious. We also need 2-3 volunteers to help with the gardening on May 10, starting at 2 pm (rain date, Thursday).

Let **Elaine** know as soon as possible if you will be donating plants or would like to help with the gardening by emailing [elaine.kolish@gmail.com](mailto:elaine.kolish@gmail.com) or calling [571-282-1263](tel:571-282-1263).

# MT VERNON BRANCH NAMED HONOREES

Branch's total 2016 contributions were \$7216.16 which meant that we ranked #5 in overall contributions from AAUW branches in the State of Virginia! Thanks to all of our members for their generosity to forward the objectives and goals of AAUW in 2016!

Because of the contribution, the branch was entitled to have 14 of our members mentioned as Named Honorees. The AAUW Mount Vernon Branch Honorees for 2016-2017 are:

**Edie Bartlett** - In honor of her long and outstanding service to the branch, including her current service as Branch Treasurer.

**Joanne Clark** - In honor of her long and outstanding service to the branch, most recently as Program Vice President.

**Joanna Crane** - In honor of her successful tenure and service to the branch as Co-President.

**Claudia Creo** - In honor of her service to the branch as Membership Vice President and initiation of the branch's community service project in support of the women of Bryant Center.

**DeJuana Jones** - In honor of her service to the branch, in particular her dedication to developing and implementing multiple branch quality programs.

**Cathy Krebs** - In honor of her extensive service to the branch, most recently in organizing outstanding hospitality at meetings.

**Elizabeth Lonoff** - In honor of her long-term dedication to quality programs for the branch including as current chair of "Dining Out" group.

**Mary Ellen Mehler** - In honor of her service to the branch as Co-President, as well as long-term invaluable service in multiple roles.

**Katherine Prigmore** - In honor of her service to the branch, most recently in initiating and coordinating branch contact between Women in Architecture and AAUW STEMtastics.

**Patsy Quick** - In honor of her current service to AAUW as Virginia State Co-President and in appreciation for her presentation of the branch "Barriers and Bias" program.

**Joan Reichard** - In memory of her friendship and unstinting service to the branch.

**Cheryl Spohnholtz** - In honor of her current service to AAUW as Virginia State Funds Chair and in appreciation for her coordination of the branch's Women's Advocacy Program.

**Carolyn Stewart** - to honor and thank her for her long-term service to the branch and wish her well in her new home in Georgia.

**Susan Watkins** - to honor and thank her for her continuing long-distance commitment and dedication to the branch and the goals of AAUW.



## Nominate an AAUW Member for a U.S. Postage Stamp

To learn more or to vote visit <http://www.aauw.org/2017/03/30/five-aauw-women-you-didnt-know-were-on-postage-stamps/> or [aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) and search 'stamp contest'

## Support for United Community Ministries Food Pantry

Please consider bringing a bag  
with non-perishable food items to our potluck.



---

***We would like your ideas on branch programs and suggestions for future activities.  
Please return to Mary Ellen or Joanna at the May Potluck (05/20), or by mail.***

## AAUW MT VERNON BRANCH 2017 MEMBER SURVEY

- I. Do you have a particular skill or knowledge that you could share in a program? (please list)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Do you have contact with a potential speaker on some subject? (please list)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- II. **Program Meeting Suggestions for next year:**  
1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_
- III. **ImpromptEvent Suggestions for next year:**  
1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_
- IV. Would you be willing to help coordinate one of the Program Meetings or an ImpromptEvent next year? (e.g., contact speaker and/or organize logistics and/or manage publicity, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- V. Would you be willing to co-chair the annual Little Theater fundraiser (*Shirley Richey will moving next year and will not be able to continue as LTA Fundraiser Chair*) \_\_\_\_\_
- VI. Where would you like to have the **Annual Kick-Off Dinner** in September, 2017? (choose one)  
\_\_\_\_ Mount Vernon Country Club (<http://www.mountvernoncc.org>)  
\_\_\_\_ The Fairfax (<https://www.sunriseseniorliving.com/communities/the-fairfax/dining.aspx>)  
\_\_\_\_ Member's Home (Potluck)  
\_\_\_\_ Other Suggestion (please list) \_\_\_\_\_
- VII. What was **the most successful** activity or monthly meeting or presentation this year? (choose one)  
\_\_\_\_ Voter Registration Drive  
\_\_\_\_ UCM's Early Learning Center  
\_\_\_\_ Barriers and Bias  
\_\_\_\_ Holiday Luncheon  
\_\_\_\_ Harvest of Empire  
\_\_\_\_ Annual Meeting - Women in Advocacy Panel  
\_\_\_\_ LTA Fundraiser
- VIII. Please list name and contact information for any potential new members.  
\_\_\_\_\_

Your Name (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_

# DON'T NEGLECT TO VOTE - 2017 AAUW VOTING



"Every two years AAUW members have a unique opportunity to shape the future of this storied organization. What will be our focus? Who will be our leaders? These questions are too important to let someone else answer for you."

*Mark Hopkins, AAUW Interim CEO*

The time for voting for State and National officers is upon us. The online-voting-emails from National (Mark Hopkins, 4/18) and State (AAUW of Virginia, 4/13) have been sent! From the state email, you may need to copy and paste this link into your browser [www.aauw.org/va-vote](http://www.aauw.org/va-vote). Both emails have the pin numbers that you must use. Just copy and paste those, as well.

## State Elections

This year you will be voting on candidates for state office. Information about each of the three candidates can be found in the 2017 winter-spring issue of the *Virginia Vision*. A Voter Guide is available on the state website (<http://aauw-va.aauw.net/>).

### SCHEDULE OF 2017 STATE VOTING:

- **April 13:** Online voting opens
- **May 5:** Online voting closes at midnight

It is very important that members participate, as we need a quorum of 7 percent of the membership for the election. Please take the time to vote as a responsible AAUW of Virginia member.

## National Elections

A Voter Guide is available on the national website at <http://www.aauw.org/resource/national-election>.



### SCHEDULE OF 2017 NATIONAL VOTING:

- **April 17:** Online voting opens
- **June 15:** Online voting closes at 9:00 pm

**Note:** All votes will be tallied by AAUW, so they will not be seen by AAUW of Virginia members

**Please vote!**  
**Your vote is your voice!**

# AAUW's NEW CEO

## Introducing AAUW's New CEO, Kimberly Churches



AAUW is excited to announce that **Kimberly Churches** will be our chief executive officer starting June 1, 2017. **Kimberly** comes to AAUW from the Brookings Institution, where she strategically guided the public policy organization, providing vision and problem-solving skills, expansive partnerships and external relations, and fundraising as the managing director. Before joining Brookings, **Kimberly** was an associate vice chancellor at the University of Denver, a director of development at the University of North Florida, and a division director at the

American Heart Association. She has extensive experience working collaboratively on education (K–12 and higher education) as well as capacity building among grassroots groups and national and international non-profits. **Churches** earned her BA at Florida State University in English Education and the Certified Fund Raising Executive affiliation in 2002.

### AAUW HIGHLIGHTS IN 2016

- ⇒ **\$3.7 million awarded in fellowships and grants in 35 countries**
- ⇒ **12,480 women trained to negotiate their salary through Start Smart and Work Smart**
- ⇒ **200,000 messages sent on behalf of AAUW to state and federal legislators**

**AAUW MAKES A DIFFERENCE!**

### AAUW SURVEY: LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

AAUW national is making changes and readjusting its focus to better achieve our goals. **Patricia Fae Ho**, AAUW President, recently sent an all-member email that said:

AAUW is conducting a survey to better understand your involvement with AAUW and to get your feedback on AAUW's National Convention. Your insights are critical to ensure that AAUW remains vital, relevant, and responsive to the needs of women and girls.



Please watch your inbox in the coming days for an email invitation from Avenue M Group, LLC, an independent market research firm helping us to conduct this survey. The survey should take about 10 minutes to complete. All of the information you provide will be kept strictly confidential.

**Please respond when you receive the online survey.**

**Your input is extremely important!**



### A FORUM ON CURRENT EVENTS AT GUNSTON HALL

This forum is right in our backyard! Your Voice Matters, now more than ever. Join Congressman **Don Beyer** for a forum on current events on **Thursday, May 4th, 7-9 pm.**

**Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton, VA 22079**



# 2016 - 2017 Mt. VERNON BRANCH PROGRAM YEAR

Meeting Date and Place	Focus/Activity
Thursday, September 15, 2016, 6:00 pm <b>Mt. Vernon Country Club</b> 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	<b>Kickoff Dinner</b> <b>60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Branch</b>
Thursday, October 20, 2016, 7:00 pm <b>UCM Conference Room</b> 7511 Fordson Rd, Alexandria, VA 22306	<b>UCM Coffee for Children program</b> UCM's educational and recreational programs for children and youth
Thursday, November 17, 2016, 7:00 pm <b>Mt. Vernon Governmental Center</b> 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306	<b>Barriers and Bias:</b> <b>The Status of Women in Leadership</b> AAUW Research Report
Sunday, December 11, 2016, 12:00 pm <b>Mt. Vernon Country Club</b> 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	<b>Holiday Event</b> <b>Luncheon</b>
Saturday, January 21, 2017 <b>Time and Location: TBD</b>	<b>Leadership Panel</b>
Sunday, February 26, 2017, 4:00 pm <b>Heritage Presbyterian Church</b> 8503 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308	Movie screening: <b>"Harvest of Empire, The History of Latinos in America"</b> Juan Gonzalez (2011)
Saturday, March 18, 2017, 9:00 am <b>Mt. Vernon Country Club</b> 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	<b>Annual Meeting and Panel Discussion on Women's Advocacy</b> Breakfast
Friday, April 21, 2017 7 pm Reception - 8 pm Performance <b>Little Theatre of Alexandria</b> 600 Wolfe St, Alexandria, VA 22314	<b>Little Theatre Fundraiser</b> <b>"Fabulous Lipitones"</b>
Saturday, May 20, 2017, 5:00 pm Dinner at 6:00 pm <b>Home of Claudia Creo</b>	<b>Annual Potluck Dinner</b>
Saturday, June 3, 2017, 9:30 am <b>Home of Edie Bartlett</b>	<b>Annual Planning Session</b>

## **Other Important Dates to Remember:**

June 14-17, 2017  
July 29, 2017

AAUW National Convention, Washington D.C.  
2017 Summer Leaders Meeting, Salem, VA

## AAUW Mt.Vernon

Cynthia Gindlesperger  
915 Neal Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22308

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

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

## First Class



- **9 Board Meeting, 7:30 pm**  
Home of Mary Ellen Mehler  
703/780-8494
- **13 Dining Out, 7 pm**  
Contact Elizabeth Lonoff  
703/765-2634
- **15 Book Group, 7:30 pm**  
Contact Joanna Crane  
703/718-8892
- **20 Annual Potluck, 5 pm**  
Contact Claudia Creo  
703/768-8996
- **26 Game Night, 7:30 pm**  
Contact Cathy Krebs  
703/765-2751

## MAY 2017

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