

Mt. Vernon Voices

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

Volume **60** Issue 10 June 2017
Mt. Vernon Branch



PRESIDENTS' CORNER

While voting on proposed revisions to AAUW's Public Policy Program recently, I was reminded once again of the values that AAUW supports, and why I am so proud to be a member of this organization.

The full Public Policy statement is well worth reading (at <http://www.aauw.org/resource/principles-and-priorities>), but its broad framework can be summarized under these three goals:

- To support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity.
- To achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women.
- To guarantee equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society.



You may be asking yourself, "How can I help AAUW achieve these lofty goals? How can I directly support these values?" AAUW provides tools like the **Two-Minute Activist app** and events like **Lobby Day** so that you can become an advocate for AAUW on these policy goals.

On a more personal level, you can have a great impact on our branch and in our community by taking the lead on, or helping develop, a topic for our monthly program meetings next year. **Bring your ideas to the Program Planning Meeting on June 3rd, or just come with a willingness to brainstorm and volunteer.** You can create something really special. Whatever your contribution, you'll be glad you did it. You are an important part of a vital organization with great values; so **don't hesitate to lean in!**

Joanna Crane
Co-President

**SATURDAY
JUNE 3
9:30AM**

**ANNUAL
PLANNING
MEETING**

AND

BRUNCH

**HOME OF
EDIE
BARTLETT**

ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING

Annual Planning Meeting and Brunch
SATURDAY, June 3, 2017 – 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Home of Edie Bartlett, 3204 Battersea Lane

This meeting is always a fun time to get to know everyone and to voice your opinions. Think about what you would like to do as a group next year.

Share your ideas and help plan a great branch program year for 2017/2018.

You don't have to bring anything but yourself and fresh ideas. We have a special treat of pastries from Panera Bakery that the branch received as thanks for our business at the time of the UCM Teacher Appreciation Breakfast. But if you insist, feel free to bring a goodie to share. There is plenty of room, so call or email **Edie** to let her know you are coming!



Tel: 703/780-6809, email: redsse@aol.com.

TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY AT ELC

Teacher Appreciation Day Breakfast for UCM's Early Learning Center



One of our branch's activities as a "Friend of the ELC" was to host a breakfast for the teachers and aides at the ELC on Friday, May 12. As we all know, quality early learning is critical to children's later success in life so we wanted to show the hardworking staff of the ELC a little love. With generous food and cash donations from **Claudia Creo, Joanna Crane, Shirley Richey, Mary Ellen Mehler, Edie Bartlett and Judy Kaiser**, supplemented with branch program funding, we provided a beautiful, delicious and healthy spread. We also provided the staff with \$10 gift cards to Panera and we gifted the director with the flower arrangement used to decorate the table. Everyone at the ELC was thrilled with and grateful for our generosity and support.

Elaine Kolish



Many thanks to all

who pitched in.



Co-President Mary Ellen Mehler and Elaine Kolish

BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2016 – 2017

Elected Officers

Co-Presidents: Joanna Crane
Mary Ellen Mehler

Program Vice President: Joanne Clark

Membership Vice President: Claudia Creo

Treasurer: Edie Bartlett

Secretary: Shirley Richey

Appointed Chairs

Bylaws: **VACANT**

AAUW Funds: Joanne Malkin

Public Policy: Patsy Quick

Newsletter/Website:

Bianca Daugherty

Newsletter/

Directory Distribution:

Cynthia Gindlesperger

Mary Ellen Mehler

Nominating Committee Chair: Lois Passman

Hospitality:

Cathy Krebs

Interest Groups

Book Group:

Liz Promen

Dining Out:

Elizabeth Lonoff

Game Night:

Bianca Daugherty

ImpromptEvent:

Barbara Mann

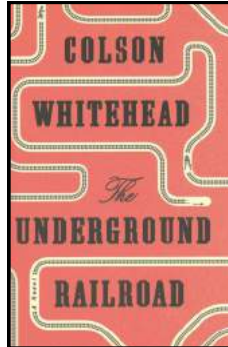
BOOK GROUP

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

DATE: Monday, June 19, 2017, 7:30 PM

HOSTESS: DeJuana Jones
8406 Stockade Drive
703/780-5026

CO-HOST: Joan Howerton



BOOK: The Underground Railroad
by Colson Whitehead

REVIEWER: Joanna Crane

Books for next program year will be chosen in September. Send your book recommendations to Liz Promen during the summer. (epromen@cox.net)

GAME NIGHT



One more time before our summer break!

Join us for fun and games

Friday, June 23, 2017

7:30 pm

Home of Cynthia Jacobus

Spouses and significant others are welcome!

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

DINING OUT LUNCH - JUNE 6

EXTRA EXTRA EXTRA EXTRA EXTRA EXTRA EXTRA EXTRA

Join Dining Out for lunch at our local culinary institute at 12:30 pm on Tuesday, June 6th.

See <https://www.artinstitutes.edu/arlington/about/culinaire-restaurant> for a behind-the-scenes video.

Culinaire Restaurant - 1820 N Fort Myer Drive, 12th Floor, Rosslyn

Menus: - http://www.rosslynva.org/_files/docs/sp2017_dining_room_lunch_menu.pdf
- http://www.rosslynva.org/_files/docs/spring_desserts_menu_sp2017_culinaire.pdf

Reviews: <https://www.yelp.com/biz/culinaire-restaurant-the-art-institute-arlington>

Please feel free to invite a family member or friend.

To participate, contact Elizabeth Lonoff by June 2nd (elonoff@msn.com) so that our reservation can be finalized. Please alert her if your plans change. If you need a ride, Bianca D has room for two people (biancadaauw@gmail.com)

POTLUCK FUN!



On May 20, Mt. Vernon members gathered at the lovely home and garden of **Claudia Creo**.

Co-President **Mary Ellen Mehler** handed out the Member Survey again and reminded members to turn it in for the June 3 Planning Meeting.



Members enjoyed a delicious spread of various dishes and lively conversations. Even the weather co-operated!



DUES ARE DUE

Another invoice will be going out to those who still need to pay their dues. You may



- send a check for \$77 made out to Mt. Vernon AAUW to Edith Bartlett, 3204 Battersea Lane, Alexandria, VA 22309.
- pay on line with a credit card. <https://www.aauw.org/login/> or third choice
- just bring your check to the planning meeting on June 3rd.

Please renew by June 30, 2017!

*Edie Bartlett
Treasurer*

From Weeds to Perennial Flowers, Annuals and Herbs by Elaine Kolish



On May 10, **Mary Ellen Mehler** and **Elaine Kolish** began the refurbishment of UCM's Early Learning Center garden. This is a project the branch has endorsed as part of being a "**Friend of the ELC.**"

The enclosure and raised bed had been built by Eagle Scouts several years ago, but had deteriorated into weeds, despite the presence of landscaping fabric. After weeding extensively, we planted perennials donated by **Mary Ellen, Elaine** and **Joanna Crane** from their gardens, and some pole beans from **Kathryn Prigmore**.

We also purchased petunias and dahlias and additional herbs, such as chocolate mint, which would be fun for the children to sniff. In addition, we planted lambs ear around the edges which the children will enjoy touching. For the path around the garden we laid down rubber mulch, which curtails weeds and supposedly lasts ten years (this mulching is not yet completed). The plantings will get a heavy dose of shredded mulch, which will break down and improve the soil over time. While it looks wilted now, our watering and recent rains should revive the plants nicely.



This is the last newsletter for the program year 2016/2017.

"Mt. Vernon Voices" will be back at the end of August.

Have a great summer!

FROM AAUW'S LISA MAATZ IN A RECENT WASHINGTON UPDATE



DID YOU EVER WONDER

what goes on behind the scenes each week as AAUW's staff works on your behalf? Here's a little glimpse at our legislative, field, and media efforts in 2017 thus far.

As of the end of April, AAUW's Public Policy staff was **monitoring around 40 different bills** in the 115th Congress that fall within AAUW's member-approved Public Policy Program. In that time frame our staff **conducted around 800 different interactions with Capitol Hill staff** – including meetings, correspondence, and visits from the AAUW Action Fund Capitol Hill Lobby Corps – to ensure AAUW members have a consistent, respected presence in the halls of Congress. You can see the fruits of our labor in the over 20 floor statements from members of the 115th Congress that mention AAUW by name. AAUW **also joined over 65 sign-on letters** to Congress and the administration on legislation and policy recommendations; this is a big increase over past Congresses.

Reinforcing those efforts, **AAUW members and supporters received 29 federal Action Networks** from our staff so far this year, and in turn, you sent an impressive 63,972 messages to legislators. In fact, the AAUW Action Network is seeing record growth in 2017, with more individuals joining the list this year than did in all of 2016 combined! AAUW policy staff

were also featured at state conventions in Indiana, New Mexico, and Pennsylvania.

Whew! And we're just getting started! Our state legislative work is also rocking and rolling, so be sure to subscribe to [AAUW In the Statehouse](#) to learn more about the activities of AAUW members across the country! In the next edition, we'll provide a similar glimpse behind the scenes of our state work. Don't forget to follow us on social media while you're at it. In 2017 thus far, [@AAUWPolicy](#) gained 935 new followers and earns, on average, 8,500 impressions a day. Our annual Equal Pay Day Twitterstorm saw a huge influx in participation with 21,500 people engaging in 2017 compared to 2,400 in 2016. AAUW policy **staff also appeared in 437 media outlets** talking about AAUW policy priorities which resulted in a potential reach of 97.6 million people!

*Lisa Maatz,
AAUW Vice President,
Government Relations*

**Our national dues
help pay for this
and more!**

After 15 years, **Lisa Maatz** will be leaving AAUW on June 2. She will stay in the area to pursue teaching and consulting.

Washington Update is AAUW's free, members-only weekly e-bulletin. It offers an insider's view on the legislative process, the latest public policy news, resources for advocates, programming ideas, and updates from the AAUW Public Policy and Government Relations Department. To sign up visit <http://www.aauw.org/resource/washington-update/>



**Online voting is still open until
June 15, 2017, 9 pm EST**

When you don't vote you let others decide who will run AAUW and what work they'll do. Know your candidates, bylaws amendments, and public policy platform, and cast your ballot today!

<http://www.aauw.org/resource/national-election/>

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 Children program UCM's educational and recreational programs for children and youth
Thursday, November 17, 2016, 7:00 pm Mt. Vernon Governmental Center 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306	Barriers and Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership AAUW Research Report
Sunday, December 11, 2016, 12:00 pm Mt. Vernon Country Club 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	Holiday Event Luncheon
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 and Panel Discussion on Women's Advocacy Breakfast
Friday, April 21, 2017 7 pm Reception - 8 pm Performance Little Theatre of Alexandria 600 Wolfe St, Alexandria, VA 22314	Little Theatre Fundraiser "Fabulous Lipitones"
Saturday, May 20, 2017, 5:00 pm Dinner at 6:00 pm Home of Claudia Creo	Annual Pot Luck Dinner
Saturday, June 3, 2017, 9:30 am Home of Edie Bartlett	Annual Planning Session

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



- **3 Board Meeting, 9:30 am**
Home of Edie Bartlett
703/780-6809
- **6 Dining Out Lunch**
Contact Elizabeth Lonoff
703/765-2634
- **19 Book Group, 7:30 pm**
Contact DeJuana Jones
703/780-5026
- **23 Game Night, 7:30 pm**
Contact Cynthia Jacobus
703/780-3806

JUNE 2017

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