

# Mt. Vernon Voices

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

Volume 61 Issue 1 September 2017

Mt. Vernon Branch



## PRESIDENTS' CORNER



### Just Thinking !

Why did you join AAUW? What were you looking for? Did you find things that you could identify with? Did you find women with similar ideas and likes?

AAUW Mt Vernon branch has a good group of women with diverse ideas, a willingness to organize events, a liking of good books and games, a hearty appetite for good food, a thirst for learning new things, a desire to help those in need, and on and on. How many of these do you participate in?

Let's start with **our biggest fund raiser – Little Theatre of Alexandria**. We raise about \$3000 each spring. Where does that money go? ? Donations were made to **Legal Advocacy Fund, NCCWSL** and

**AAUW Funds**, a general fund for unrestricted gifts which are used when and where they are most needed.

How are we as a group helping those in need? We are supporting the **Guest House** in Del Ray by donating toiletries and linens. The **Guest House** provides retraining and temporary housing for women recently released from prison. Another of our projects is providing books, gardening items, paper products, etc., to the **Early Learning Center** run by the **United Community Ministries**. These small items are large in helping to keep the costs down and provide for the little children.

Do we have fun? Yes! If you want a lot of laughs, just come to **Game Night**, which is held once a month at different members' homes. It is also a good way to introduce a friend to AAUW. How about reading a good book? There is a great **book group** and it is another way

*(Continued on page 2)*

September  
21

Thursday

6:30 pm  
Kickoff  
Dinner

Mt Vernon  
Country  
Club

\$40

## KICKOFF DINNER – SEPTEMBER 21



### Mark your calendar

The Mt. Vernon Branch's 2017-2018 season will kick off on Thursday, September 21, 6:30 pm at the Mt. Vernon Country Club

Welcome back, branch members, to a new program season. This is our opportunity to hear the summer news from old friends, welcome new members, and learn about the exciting programs being planned throughout the year. **We will also hear a summary of the Summer Leaders Meeting and the 2017 AAUW Convention attended by Virginia State Co-president Patsy Quick.**

A buffet is planned with salad, choice of chicken or salmon, dessert and coffee, etc. The cost is \$40 all inclusive. **Please send your check to Mary Ellen Mehler by September 15** so we can give the club a firm number by September 18. Call Mary Ellen at 703-780-8494 or email her at [memeher@msn.com](mailto:memeher@msn.com) with any questions. .

\*\*\*\* Registration form on page 4 \*\*\*\*

to bring in new members. Do you like to try new restaurants? We have tried many different ones over the last year and I am sure you would love joining the **Dining Out** group to talk and eat. Of course, there are the **ImpromptEvents** which are always a delightful surprise.

We have three dinners, usually, at the Mount Vernon Country Club. Lately, we have had some excellent panels and speakers at these events. Some of the coming programs to make you think: **Early Childhood Education and its Effect on Women, GerryRigged** (a film), a tour of the **Lorton Prison Workhouse** (where the suffragettes were imprisoned), and **Immigration and Its Effect on Women and Children**.

There is a lot to digest and here's hoping you will join the group at a lot of these events. If you need transportation at night we have some excellent drivers to pick you up and return you home. REMEMBER: It is no fun to plan an event and have no one show up!!!!

*Edie Bartlett*  
*Co-President*

## Contributing to AAUW Funds

Those who would like to make a 2017 donation to one of the AAUW funds, please bring your check to the **September 21 Kick-Off Dinner**. Please remember to address the check as listed below and indicate "Mount Vernon Branch" in the "memo" portion of the check. Remember, all donations to these funds are tax deductible for IRS purposes--AAUW will send an acknowledgement for you to give to your accountant. If you have any questions, please contact **Joanne Malkin** [jbmalkin@verizon.net](mailto:jbmalkin@verizon.net) or (703) 360-7725. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

### Fund Addresses:

- \* AAUW FUNDS # 9110 ( AAUW General Fund)
- \* LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND #3999
- \* PUBLIC POLICY FUND #4337
- \* LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS FUND #4339

## BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2017 – 2018

### Elected Officers

**Co-Presidents:** Edie Bartlett  
Joanne Clark  
Joanne Malkin  
Shirley Richey

**Program Vice President:** Joanna Crane  
Mary Ellen Mehler

**Membership Vice President:** **vacant**

**Treasurer:** Edie Bartlett

**Secretary:** Clair Wylie

### 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

**Thinking about joining the Book Group?  
Join us for our annual pot luck and book selection meeting.**

**DATE:** Monday, September 18, 2017  
6:30 PM

**HOSTESS:** Elaine Kolish

920 Emerald Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22308

Email: [dmfedk@cox.net](mailto:dmfedk@cox.net) or  
Tel.: 703/360-7319



Please send your book recommendations, with brief descriptions, to **Patsy Quick**, [pnquick@comcast.net](mailto:pnquick@comcast.net), no later than **September 13**.

**Please respond to Elaine Kolish whether or not you plan to attend.**

More information will come via email concerning refreshments.

## GAME NIGHT



**WE ARE BACK!**

**Join us for fun and games  
Friday, September 22, 2017  
7:30 pm  
Home of Patsy Quick**

**Spouses and significant others are welcome!**

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

**2017/2018 Game Night Schedule has been posted to our website.**

## IMPROMPTEVENT - MARK YOUR CALENDAR



**Tour of**

**The Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of  
George Washington**

**at Mount Vernon Estate on Oct. 20, 2017**

Our branch will have a private tour on **Friday, Oct. 20 at 11 am**.  
Details TBA and RSVPs to be collected later.  
Those interested can stay after the tour and have lunch at the restaurant.



# SEPTEMBER 21 KICKOFF DINNER RESERVATION FORM

**Please make your reservation for the  
Kickoff Dinner at the Mt Vernon Country Club**

**Buffet Dinner with Salad Bar,  
Choice of chicken or salmon  
Dessert and coffee**

Clip and  
mail !

I, \_\_\_\_\_, plan to come to the kickoff dinner.  
I will be bringing a friend / guest: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail in by September 15**

**together with your check for \$40 per person made out to AAUW Mt Vernon to:  
Mary Ellen Mehler, 2002 Old Stage Road, Alexandria, VA 22308**

***Very important: let Mary Ellen know if you think your check may be arriving late.***

**See you all there!**

## TRAVELING TO THE SUMMER LEADERSHIP MEETING

Mount Vernon AAUW members **Bianca Daugherty** and **Barbara Mann** traveled to Salem, Virginia, to attend the **Summer Leaders Meeting** on July 28 and 29.

Friday night we were treated to an outstanding documentary, "**Refusing to Be Enemies**" which featured Jews and Arabs in Ann Arbor Michigan having numerous dialogs with one another over two years. All were women and the dialogue was incredibly successful. The documentary brought many to tears. See more information on this link:

<http://refusingtobeenemies.org/film.html> . This is a not to be missed documentary that would be a wonderful program for our branch to offer the community. Not to mention what we would gain from seeing this.

We also had the opportunity to see another documentary on Saturday entitled "**GerryRIGGED: Turning Democracy on Its Head.**" Our branch will show this film at our January 15 branch meeting. Don't miss it. It is very interesting and actually pretty frightening.

Those two movies were worth the trip! But also there were a number of excellent speakers. **Maureen Dwyer and Kathy Batkin** (Program VPs) shared

info for branch programs. **Cyndi Shanahan** (Membership VP) shared info on membership,

**Tammie Mullins Rice** (Finance VP) shared info on branch finance. **Leslie Tourigny** (Public Policy VP) is a member of the Alexandria branch and she is a dynamo. We are positive she never stops – even to sleep. She is very committed to public policy and she would welcome like-minded members to join her in a public policy committee. You certainly would learn a lot from her and you would be given a chance to contribute significantly as Leslie works to accomplish AAUW

priorities. Contact her at [Ltourigny@gmail.com](mailto:Ltourigny@gmail.com) .

Another opportunity for you to participate is **Federal Lobby Day on October 5** in Washington DC. (see *page 5 for information*). If you are at all concerned about what is happening in today's government, and you have the time, this is a chance to have an actual impact. Congress listens to AAUW members because AAUW has such a solid track record lobbying. This is an opportunity that will keep on giving as you give it your time and energy.

*Barbara Mann*



*Attending a tour of the Salem Museum*





The Mt. Vernon Branch will again collaborate with the **Mt. Vernon Registrars** to register new voters this fall. The schedule is being prepared by the Registrars and will be available soon. **Thank you** to the 13 branch members who have agreed to participate; **Shannon Dubicki, Joanna Crane, Mary Ellen Mehler, Elaine Kolish, Ebba Jo Spettel, DeJuana Jones, Joanne Clark, Paula Lettice, Shirley Richey, Edie Bartlett, Cathy Krebs, Margaret Zebrowski and Patsy Quick.**

If you would like to participate, all it takes is one 2-hour block of time. You can partner with one of our members, or not. If you are interested either way, let **Patsy Quick** know ASAP.

**National Voter Registration Day**  
**September 26, 2017**



## VIRGINIA DELEGATES FORUM

ELIZABETH LONOFF

This year, the House of Delegates is up for election. Partnering with the Northern District, the **League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area** has divided the county into three regions and scheduled one live broadcast (Channel 10's Inside Scoop, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0CH4fbM-Cpzye2hX0IMO5g>; no studio audience; questions can be called or emailed in) and one in-person candidate forum in each.

For us, they will be held starting at

- ◆ 8 pm on Monday, Sept. 11th, at Fairfax Public Access, 2929-S Eskridge Road, Fairfax (Merrifield) and
- ◆ 7 pm on Thurs., Oct. 12th, at Hayfield HS, where we'll provide the refreshments.

You can sign up for various roles at

<http://www.signupgenius.com/tabs/23676da05a1cfe9c24-2017forums>.

League members will invite the candidates to the forums and moderate.

### **AAUW Outlook Is Going Digital!**

Starting with the summer 2017 issue, *AAUW Outlook* will be going digital. You'll still get the same insight about the issues that affect women and girls the most, but with more content. **Make sure we have your preferred email address on file, and look out for this issue in your inbox!**

To make sure your address information is correct, log in to the AAUW website and access the **Member Services Database (MSD)**. While this invaluable resource is available to all members, it has additional resources and capabilities for leaders. You'll use the MSD throughout the year. If you are not already registered you'll need to **create an account** as a first-time user. Then log in and enjoy using the MSD!

<http://www.aauw.org/resource/member-services-database/>

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM VIRGINIA AAUW PUBLIC POLICY



*AAUW members gather before first ever Capitol Hill Day, June 27, 1989.  
Image via AAUW archives*

If you want to participate in a committee focusing on pay equity or legislative redistricting, please contact **Leslie Tourigny**, state VP for Public Policy, [ltourigny@gmail.com](mailto:ltourigny@gmail.com) immediately.

**PLEASE NOTE** that the date for this year's **Federal Lobby Day**, which is held in collaboration with the **AAUW Lobby Corps**, is **Thursday, October 5, 2017**. Interested AAUW of Virginia members will be matched up with experienced AAUW Lobby Corps members and assigned Congressional offices in Washington, DC to visit that day to discuss legislation important to AAUW members. Although it is too early for the schedule and logistics to be finalized, please anticipate that we will be getting an early start.

**This is always an interesting event, so consider participating!**

**If you plan to attend Federal Lobby Day, email your name and email address to Leslie Tourigny ([ltourigny@gmail.com](mailto:ltourigny@gmail.com)) by September 14, 2017.**

Also, if you would be willing to have an out-of-town member stay in your home, let **Patsy Quick** ([pnquick@cox.net](mailto:pnquick@cox.net)) know by October 1.



**We are collecting again following items for the Early**

**Learning Center:**

**Opened materials/recyclables: newspaper, toilet paper rolls, paper towel rolls, egg cartons, shoe boxes, etc. They use these for art projects.**

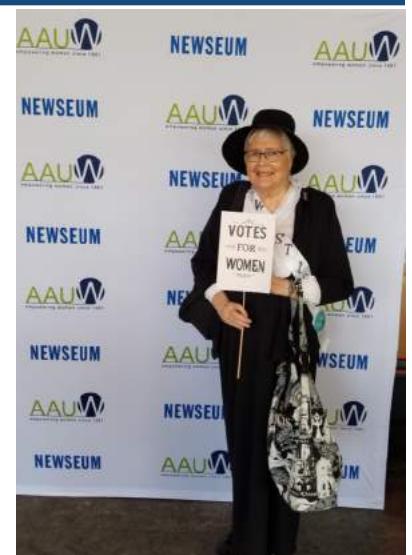
**Please bring to the Kickoff Dinner on September 21, 2017.**



### ***Celebrating Women's Equality Day at the Newseum***

Branch member **Clare Coulter** celebrated Women's Equality Day at the Newseum in Washington, DC on August 26 in suffrage costume.

August 26 is Women's Equality Day. The date commemorates the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment, which secured women's right to vote in 1920. It is also a time to acknowledge that the Nineteenth Amendment didn't include all women and that 97 years later the fight for gender equality is far from over.



# 2017 - 2018 MT. VERNON BRANCH PROGRAM YEAR

Meeting Date and Place	Focus/Activity
Thursday, September 21, 2017, 6:30 pm <b>Mt. Vernon Country Club</b> 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	<b>Kickoff Dinner</b>
Saturday, October 21, 2017, 1:30 pm <b>George Mason Regional Library</b> 7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA, 22003	<b>Northern District Meeting</b> Meet new AAUW CEO, <b>Kim Churches</b>
Thursday, November 16, 2017, 6:30 pm <b>The Campagna Center</b> 418 S Washington St, Alexandria, VA 22314	<b>Early Childhood Education and its Effect on Women</b>
Saturday, December 9, 2017, 11:30 am <b>Mt. Vernon Country Club</b> 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	<b>Holiday Event - Luncheon</b>
Sunday, January 14, 2018, Time TBD <b>Heritage Presbyterian Church</b> 8503 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308	Film screening and Discussion <b>"GerryRigged: Turning Democracy on its Head"</b>
Saturday, February 24, 2018, 11 am – 3 pm <b>Lorton Prison Workhouse</b> 9518 Workhouse Rd, Lorton, VA 22079	<b>Tour of Lorton Prison Workhouse</b>
Saturday, March 17, 2018, 9:30 am <b>Mt. Vernon Country Club</b> 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	<b>Annual Meeting and Brunch</b>
Sunday, April 15, 2018, 6 pm <b>Heritage Presbyterian Church</b> 8503 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308	<b>Immigration and its Effects on Women and Children</b>
Tuesday, May 1, 2018 7 pm Reception - 8 pm Performance <b>Little Theatre of Alexandria</b> 600 Wolfe St, Alexandria, VA 22314	<b>Little Theatre Fundraiser</b> <b>"Harvey"</b>
Thursday, May 17, 2018, 6:30 pm <b>Home of Paula Lettice</b>	<b>Annual Pot Luck Dinner</b>
Saturday, June 9, 2018, 9:30 am <b>Home of Mary Ellen Mehler</b>	<b>Annual Planning Session</b>

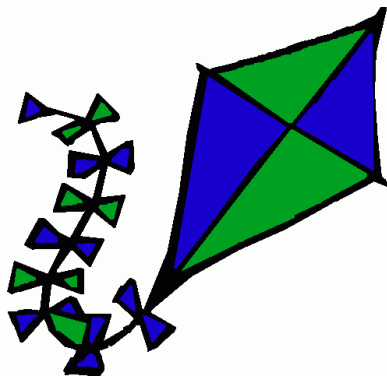
## AAUW Mt.Vernon

Cynthia Gindlesperger  
915 Neal Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22308

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

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

## First Class



- **5 Board Meeting, 7:15 pm**  
Home of Joanne Malkin  
703/360-7725
- **18 Book Group, 7:30 pm**  
Contact Elaine Kolish  
703/360-7319
- **21 Kickoff Dinner**  
Contact Mary Ellen Mehler  
703/780-8494
- **22 Game Night, 7:30 pm**  
Contact Patsy Quick  
703/360-8678

# SEPTEMBER 2017

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