

# Mt. Vernon Voices

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

Volume 61 Issue 7 March 2018

Mt. Vernon Branch



## PRESIDENTS' CORNER

Life is about changes – some big, some small. In 1881 our “founding sisters” came together to make change in women’s and girls’ lives via education and advocacy. The suffragists did the same in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century to give women the right to vote.

Today we strive to change the number of girls going into the **STEM** fields, and we are presently hoping to achieve a change in pay equity through programs as “**Work Smart**” and “**Start Smart**”. All changes for the good.

In our personal lives we must also make changes from time to time. That is what we are doing as we prepare for our imminent moves to a Senior Living Community. It is a big step for both of us – giving up homes we have been in



for over 40 years, moving into an apartment, etc., but it is the time in life for this kind of change. Along with this exciting change is the sadness of leaving a life we have loved and enjoyed – the friends, the activities. And one of the main

activities in recent years had been with AAUW at branch, district, and state meetings. For those of you who have never attended a district or state meeting – TRY IT! You don’t know what you are missing. They aren’t

just regular business meetings, they are actually very interesting and generally great fun! You meet many new, intelligent, delightful women like yourselves, learn new things, and perhaps experience a new place.

(Continued on page 2)

**Saturday**

**March 17**

**9:00 am**

**ANNUAL  
MEETING**

**AND**

**BREAKFAST**

## BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING



**SURE AND THAT’S NO BLARNEY!  
It’s election time for the branch.**

***Mt Vernon Country Club  
Saturday, March 17, 9:00 am***

Please join branch members on March 17 for the branch’s annual meeting. **Lois Passman** will present the slate of candidates for several important board positions. We are fortunate to have our Virginia Co-president, **Patsy Quick**, with us. She will describe an important nationwide initiative for AAUW, **Start Smart/Work Smart**.

The cost for the breakfast is \$ 25 all inclusive.  
Please respond to Mary Ellen Mehler by March 12 if you plan to attend.  
([memelehler@msn.com](mailto:memelehler@msn.com) or 703-780-8494)

**\*\*\* Reservation form on page 3\*\*\***

***Mt Vernon  
Country Club***

**\$ 25**



While we will miss the familiarity of our "home area", it is you, our dear friends, whom we will miss most of all. Seeing many of you at meetings, dining out, game night, etc. has been a wonderful part of life. Even board meetings are fun and interesting because the people on the board are fun and interesting! Those of you who haven't been to one should try it – anyone is welcome at any board meeting.

Yes, we will greatly miss this involvement, but we will find other involvements in our new home. So we say a very fond farewell to the Mt. Vernon Branch of AAUW. We wish you all the very best.

**EDIE BARTLETT AND SHIRLEY RICHIE**  
**CO-PRESIDENTS**



## Nominations 2018 - 2020

The following members have agreed to be nominated:

**Vice-President for Membership – SHANNON DUBICKI**  
**Treasurer – ANNE SIMPSON**



### LEADERSHIP CONTINUES!!! 2018 – 2019

**Co-Presidents** **JOANNE MALKIN & CATHERINE KREBS**  
**Co-Vice-Presidents for Program** **JOANNA CRANE & MARY ELLEN MEHLER**  
**Secretary** **PAULA LETTICE**

**BE THERE! – ANNUAL MEETING – MOUNT VERNON COUNTRY CLUB**  
**Saturday, March 17, 9:00 am**

## BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2017 – 2018

### Elected Officers

**Co-Presidents:** Edie Bartlett  
Joanne Malkin  
Shirley Richey  
**Program Vice President:** Joanna Crane  
Mary Ellen Mehler  
**Membership Vice President:** Shannon Dubicki  
**Treasurer:** Edie Bartlett  
**Secretary:** Clair Wylie  
Paula Lettice

### 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

## RESERVATION FORM ANNUAL MEETING AND BREAKFAST

**Respond to Mary Ellen Mehler by March 12.**

(703/780-8494 or memehler@msn.com)

**Annual Meeting and Breakfast at the Mt. Vernon Country Club,  
5111 Old Mill Road, on March 17, 9:00 am**

**Cost for buffet breakfast is \$25 all inclusive per person.**

Mail registration together with check made out to AAUW Mt Vernon to  
**Mary Ellen Mehler - 2002 Old Stage Rd - Alexandria, VA 22308**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

I will bring a guest \_\_\_\_\_

CLIP AND  
MAIL



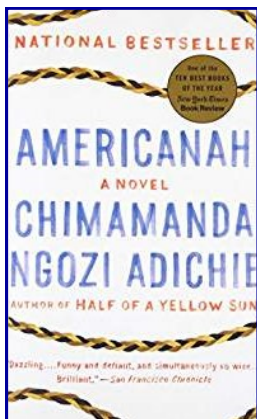
## BOOK GROUP

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

**DATE:** Monday, March 19, 2018  
7:30 PM

**HOSTESS:** Dianne Watts  
4403 Robertson Blvd  
703/780-1753

**CO-HOST:** Joanne Malkin



**BOOK:** Americanah  
by Chimamanda Ngozi  
Adichie

**REVIEWER:** Joanna Crane

**NEXT BOOK:** America's First Daughter  
by Stephany Dray and  
Laura Kamoie

## GAME NIGHT

**Join us for fun and games!**

**Friday, March 23, 2018**

**7:30 pm**

**Home of Barbara Mann**

**Spouses and significant others are welcome!**

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





## OUT AND ABOUT



On February 3, the Mt. Vernon Branch participated for the fourth year in the annual Mount Vernon District Town Meeting hosted by Supervisor Dan Storck. Members talked with attendees about AAUW's mission and branch activities and distributed AAUW promotional literature.



### INSPIRING FEBRUARY BRANCH MEETING

On February 24, Mt. Vernon Branch members and guests remembered our debt to the early Suffragists with a visit to the **Workhouse Museum at the Lorton Arts Center**. Our knowledgeable docent retold the story of those brave women who were imprisoned in the Workhouse for the "crime" of marching in front of the White House to demand women's right to vote. Branch members viewed the movie ***Night of Terror*** depicting the women's suffering and saw reproductions of the prison cell and force-feeding equipment. The group then traveled to Madigan's Restaurant in Occoquan for discussion and lunch.

## NORTHERN DISTRICT MEETING, MARCH 3

### NORTHERN DISTRICT MEETING

**Saturday, March 3**

**Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke**

**Gather at 1:30 pm; Program starts promptly at 2 pm**

Join your fellow AAUW members for two presentations:

- AAUW staff has reorganized under our new CEO, **Kim Churches**, with four senior vice presidents: Research & Programs, Communications & Outreach, Public Policy & Research, and Advancement & Partnerships. As the new Senior VP for the latter, **Kendra Davis** heads up the team for member dues and contributions, major donors, corporate donors, and planned giving. **Kendra** has some very interesting statistics for us that she will share.
- What's the difference between **Start Smart and Work Smart**? What does it take for a branch to sponsor one of those? How could we work together on these workshops, which facilitate AAUW's major focus on pay equity? **Sue Christie** will start the discussion because the **McLean Area Branch** has done **Work Smart** and will soon do **Start Smart**. Can you imagine the impact of training thousands of women at our local colleges?



*Bring announcements to share with all of us on your branch's upcoming programs and events, too.  
See you there!*

**Susan Burk and Caroline Pickens**  
**Northern District Co-Representatives**

## INVITATION FROM THE ALEXANDRIA BRANCH

You have questions about the history of AAUW. **Suzanne Gould**, Archivist and Historian for AAUW, will have the answers for us. Come join us for our MARCH Program.



### PIONEERS IN WOMEN'S EDUCATION

on Sunday, March 11, 2018, from 2 to 4 PM  
200 Cameron Station Blvd., Alexandria, VA 22309  
Light refreshments will be served.



Suzanne will tell us about the history of AAUW members and their achievements in advancing women's education, still a timely topic today.

**Virginia M. Kress**  
Vice President Programs



# LITTLE THEATRE FUNDRAISER, MAY 1

It is almost time for our annual fundraiser with the Alexandria Branch. May 1 will be here before you know it! This year the play is **Harvey**, the delightful tale of an imaginary friend. Every member will receive 2 tickets to purchase or sell. The tickets are \$35 each. Soon you will receive an email asking if you need more than 2 tickets, or if you do not wish tickets, but will make a donation.

This year it is our turn to make **savories**. We are also responsible for the wine. And, we will be putting together 2 baskets for raffle. Please respond with your usual generosity! It is always a fun event.

## HARVEY

written by Mary Chase

produced by Rachel Alberts and Bobbie Herbst

directed by Frank Pasqualino

**May 1, 2018,  
7 PM Reception, 8 PM Performance**

Imaginary friends can be whoever -- or whatever -- you want them to be, even a six and a half foot tall rabbit. When Elwood starts introducing his imaginary rabbit friend, Harvey, to guests at a party, his sister can no longer tolerate his inebriated antics and worries about her family being exposed to this imaginary rabbit. However, after years of living with Elwood (and Harvey), she begins to start seeing him herself.



## It is Raffle Basket Time!



Every year for the Little Theatre Fundraising Event, **we prepare 2 baskets for raffle**. Members donate the contents. Our themes this year are **Tea Party** and **Summertime Fun**.

**For Tea Party**, we already have a box of tea, a teapot, tea cup/ saucer, a tiered serving dish, jam, and strainer. We could use a container or two of tea, maybe scone mix, tea towel, napkins, or pretty plates.

**For Summertime Fun** we have some wine, but need other things that might go with summertime fun such as: good book, good quality sunscreen, napkins, picnic basket, food items, and other things that you deem fun!

If you have items to donate, please let **Patsy Quick** ([pnquick@cox.net](mailto:pnquick@cox.net)) know **by April 1**. We will be putting the baskets together in late April. Thanks for helping with this project!

# AAUW OF VIRGINIA CONFERENCE



## Changing the Climate for Women and Girls

April 20-22, 2018

Portsmouth Renaissance Hotel

Be part of this conference. Register at  
<https://aauw-va.aauw.net/2018-aauw-of-va-state-conference/>

### Here's what to look forward to:

- ◆ Flexible Friday-evening activities – you choose what suits you.
- ◆ Woman of Achievement Award Banquet honoring Dr. Christine Darden.
- ◆ Meet and enjoy networking with enthusiastic AAUW members around the state.
- ◆ Hear the latest from a member of the National AAUW staff.
- ◆ Learn what our branches have accomplished recently.
- ◆ Attend workshops on cyber security, financial planning, & leadership opportunities in AAUW.
- ◆ Learn About STEM Efforts in VA...Are they working?
- ◆ Hear the experiences of an AAUW LAF Plaintiff
- ◆ Bid on beautiful baskets to raise money for AAUW Funds.
- ◆ Meet current state board members and those running for office for 2018-2020.
- ◆ Learn more about the focus, relevance and impact of AAUW.



### Hotel Reservations 888/839-1775

**Group Rate \$129    \$5 per night parking    100% Water view rooms**  
**Indoor pool, whirlpool, sundeck, and complimentary exercise facilities**



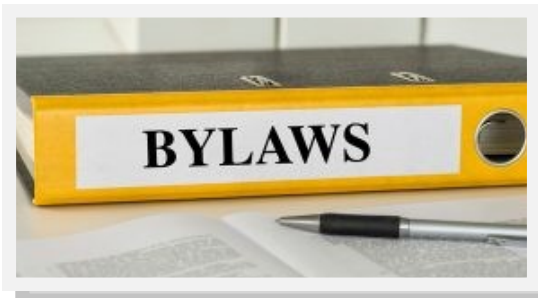
**[CLICK HERE TO BOOK YOUR ROOM ONLINE!](#)**

**GROUP RATE IS AVAILABLE UNTIL MARCH 20.**

# AAUW NATIONAL BYLAWS AMENDMENT VOTE 2018

**If you have an opinion,  
make it known!**

**A Statement from the AAUW Board of Directors came via email to all members on February 22, describing proposed bylaws amendments.**



“The AAUW National Board of Directors has voted to put three proposals for bylaws amendments before the membership for a vote this spring. The board strongly supports the proposed amendments that we believe will help keep AAUW vital as an organization and enable us to increase our impact in advancing equity for women and girls.”

“The board recognizes that we have not traditionally put proposals up for vote outside our AAUW National Election, but these proposed changes have been under consideration for several years by both the Governance Committee and the board, and we believe it is important to move forward without delay to position the organization for greater growth.”

#### **HERE ARE THE THREE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:**

1. The Board of Directors strongly supports the **adoption of staggered terms of office for AAUW Board of Directors on a three-year rotation.**
2. The Board of Directors strongly **supports allowing up to 5 directors who are not members of AAUW to serve on the board.** Wording of the proposal:  
*The Board of Directors shall be comprised of fifteen directors with a minimum of ten individual AAUW members and no more than five non-members.*
3. The Board of Directors strongly supports **removing the degree requirement for membership in AAUW.**

In spring 2018, AAUW members will vote on proposed amendments to the AAUW Bylaws. Now through 11:59 p.m. ET on March 22, 2018, you can comment on the amendments recommended by the AAUW Governance Committee and AAUW Board of Directors and propose amendments that you'd like to see on the ballot for the AAUW vote this spring.

**For more information go to this link and scroll down to comment.** Directions are clear and easy.

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

Here are the key dates for AAUW's 2018 bylaws amendment vote:

February 22, 2018

Comment period opens online for members to **propose amendments** to the AAUW Bylaws and **propose resolutions**

March 22, 2018

Proposal period closes at 11:59 p.m. ET

April 16, 2018

Opening date to request paper ballot

**Continued on page 9**



Mid-April 2018	Bylaws proposals and resolutions published in the spring <i>AAUW Outlook</i> ; voter PINs emailed to members and mailed with the spring <i>AAUW Outlook</i> magazine to members without registered email addresses and those that have requested to receive <i>Outlook</i> in the mail
April 25 2018	Voting begins online
May 7, 2017	Deadline for AAUW to receive request for paper ballot
May 21, 2018	Deadline for mailing paper ballot; ballot must be postmarked by 11:59 p.m. ET to be counted
June 9, 2018	Online voting ends at 9 p.m. ET
June 10, 2018	Vote results announced online

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## AAUW Dues increase

As you are probably aware, the AAUW Board of Directors voted in June 2017 to raise national dues for the first time in a decade, effective March 16, 2018. National dues will now be \$59. As **Julia Brown**, AAUW Board Chair, said recently on a video emailed to all members, by not having an increase in 10 year, our dues have not even kept up with inflation.

The website explains:

Annual dues currently account for 13 percent of AAUW's annual budget. They help to sustain and grow AAUW's programs and work that advances equity for women and girls. A combination of dues, donations, and corporate and foundation funding is critical to supporting AAUW's salary negotiation workshops, groundbreaking research, advocacy efforts, campus leadership programs, and so much more.

AAUW wants to keep its focus, maintain relevance, and increase its impact. We all know there is great value in doing so. **Julia Brown** emphasizes that if we want to realize the impact that women and girls deserve, we must ensure we have the resources necessary to make real change happen.

As AAUW members we want to participate in realizing the impact that women and girls deserve through our actions...AND by putting our money



where our mouth is by proudly renewing your AAUW membership this spring. **We must insure that AAUW has what it needs to change the climate for women and girls.**

What else is new?

- Half-year dues from January – March is being eliminated.
- Paid Life Membership remains at \$980 until March 16, when it goes to \$1,180. If a Paid Life Membership makes sense for you, it makes sense to get it done now before the increase! Paid Life Membership is fully tax deductible.
- Going forward it is useful to know that new members, who join at a branch program that is open to the public, will receive 50% off the national dues. And for every 2 members gained this way, branches will receive a free membership to give to a person of their choice.
- Give a Grad a Gift (at no cost to you or them!) is still available within 2 years of a student's graduation. Just fill out the form!  
<https://www.aauw.org/?s=Give+a+grad>

**Women and girls need AAUW more than ever!  
AAUW needs you more than ever. Stand up and  
be counted in something bigger than yourself!  
Renew your AAUW membership early!**

## 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>
Saturday, November 11, 2017, 11 am <b>The Campagna Center</b> 418 S Washington St, Alexandria, VA 22314	<b>Early Childhood Education and its Effect on Women</b> <b>Dr. Tammy Mann, President and CEO</b>
Saturday, December 9, 2017, 12 noon <b>Mt. Vernon Country Club</b> 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	<b>Holiday Event - Luncheon</b>
Sunday, January 14, 2018, 4:30 - 6:30 pm <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 – 3pm <b>Lorton Prison Workhouse</b> 9518 Workhouse Rd, Lorton, VA 22079	<b>Tour of Lorton Prison Workhouse</b>
Saturday, March 17, 2018, 9:00 am <b>Mt. Vernon Country Club</b> 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	<b>Annual Meeting and Breakfast</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 24, 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>

### Other Important Dates to Remember:

**March 3** Northern District Meeting, Kings Park Library  
**April 20 - 22** AAUW of Virginia Conference, Portsmouth



**March is National  
Women's History Month**

## AAUW Mt.Vernon

Cynthia Gindlesperger  
915 Neal Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22308

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

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

## First Class



Mt. Vernon (VA) Branch

- **6 Board Meeting, 7:15 pm**  
Home of Joanne Malkin  
703/360-7725
- **17 Annual Meeting, 9:00 am**  
Contact Mary Ellen Mehler  
703/780-8494
- **19 Book Group, 7:30 pm**  
Contact Dianne Watts  
703/780-1753
- **23 Game Night, 7:30 pm**  
Contact Barbara Mann  
703/360-3880



# MARCH 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Board Meeting	7	 International Women's Day	9	10
11  Time to Spring Ahead	12	13	14	15	16	17 Annual Meeting
18	19 Book Group	20	21	22	23 Game Night	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31