

# Mt. Vernon Voices

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

Volume 62 Issue 4 December 2018

Mt. Vernon Branch



## PRESIDENTS' CORNER

**P**ride! That's what we can take and feel from the history of our organization which **Suzanne Gould**, historian/archivist of AAUW, presented at our November branch meeting. Her well-illustrated "**AAUW Then and Now**," was fascinating.

In 1881, **Marion Talbot** had a college degree, hope, and not much else. At the suggestion of her mother, **Emily Talbot**, who was one of the founders of the Girls Latin School in Boston, **Marion** contacted the first woman to earn a degree in chemistry from M. I. T., **Ellen Swallow Richards**, who was then working unpaid in a lab for women at M. I. T. They formed in Boston an organization of 17 educated women facing career obstacles and called themselves the **Association of Collegiate Alumnae (ACA)**. The first branch was established in Washington, D. C., in 1884.

In 1886, the ACA started the tradition of publishing research reports. The first entitled, "Health Statistics of Women College Graduates," disproved the then-current myth that higher education had negative effects on women's health.

In 1888, the scholarship program for women began with a grant of \$350 to **Ida Street** to pursue a Ph.D. degree. In 1894, ACA research into pay equity began with publication of a 70% pay gap.

AAUW continues to publish research reports and to provide scholarships, and to promote pay equity. We are proud to know how it all started and to consider how American college educated women have benefitted. Think how many women will be in The House in January!

Our meeting included the opportunity to promote ratification of the **Equal Rights Amendment** by writing postcards to Virginia lawmakers to get the amendment out of committee and on to the floor for a vote. We will again write post cards at the holiday meeting in December.

With pride in our past and hope for the future, we wish you happy holidays and a beautiful New Year.

*Cathy Krebs  
and Joanne Malkin  
Co-Presidents*



**Saturday**

**December 8**

**12 noon**



**Holiday**

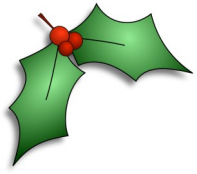
**Luncheon**

**\$ 45**

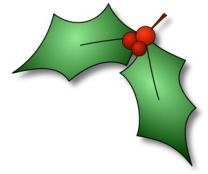
**Cedar  
Knoll  
Inn**

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# HOLIDAY LUNCHEON



## *AAUW Mt. Vernon Branch Holiday Luncheon*



**Saturday, December 8, 2018, 12 noon**



**9030 Lucia Lane, Alexandria VA 22308  
(The GW Parkway)**

This year we are celebrating the AAUW Mt. Vernon annual holiday luncheon at the Cedar Knoll Restaurant, beginning at noon. We have a delicious menu with choice of Jumbo Lump Crab Cake, Scallopini of Chicken, or Wild Mushroom Tart. The cost is \$45 per person, which includes house salad, entrée, beverage, an assortment of desserts, tax and gratuity.

If you have not responded to the invitation that was sent out earlier, please contact **Paula Lettice** immediately, Tel: 703/780-3463.

## *HAPPY HOLIDAYS!*

## BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2018 – 2019

### Elected Officers

<b>Co-Presidents:</b>	Joanne Malkin Cathy Krebs
<b>Program Vice President:</b>	Mary Ellen Mehler
<b>Membership Vice President:</b>	Shannon Dubicki
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Anne Simpson
<b>Secretary:</b>	Paula Lettice

### 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>	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

**Contact Email:** [AAUW.MtVernon@gmail.com](mailto:AAUW.MtVernon@gmail.com)

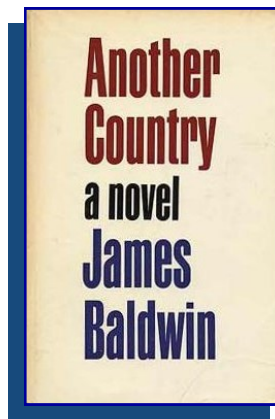
## BOOK GROUP

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

DATE: Monday, November 17, 2018, 7:30 PM

HOSTESS: Patsy Quick  
5508 Old Mill Road  
703/360-8678

CO-HOST: Cheryl Spohnholtz



BOOK: Another Country  
by James Baldwin

REVIEWER: Maureen McGuire-Kuletz

NEXT BOOK: Before We Were Yours  
Lisa Winget

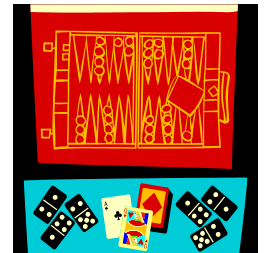
## GAME NIGHT



**NO GAME NIGHT IN DECEMBER!**

- Next Game Night will be January 25, 2019 -

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



**2018/2019 Game Night Schedule has been posted to our website.**

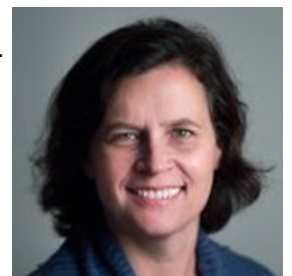
## TREASURES AND REVELATIONS FROM THE ARCHIVES

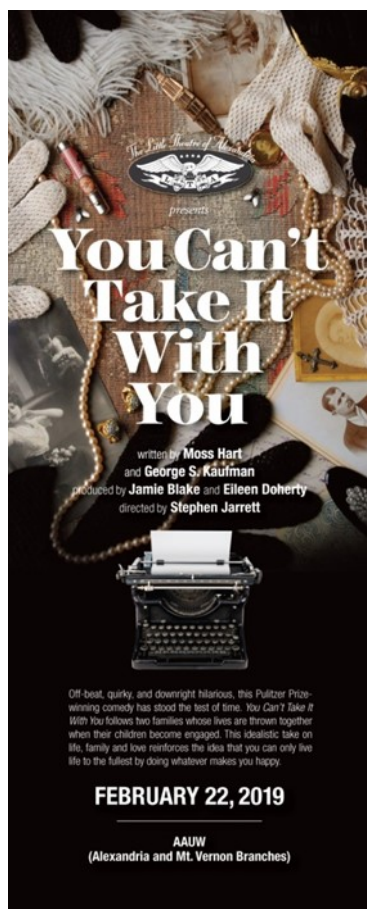
At the November 10 branch meeting, **Suzanne Gould** left the Mt. Vernon group feeling proud of our AAUW heritage and much more knowledgeable about our long AAUW history. **Suzanne**, a professional historian and archivist from AAUW Headquarters in DC, took the group through AAUW Archives highlights as revealed by documents already known to be in AAUW possession as well as the “treasures” that come in frequently and unexpectedly from donations.

One such document discovered a few years ago by a local volunteer is a letter from **Rachel Carson**, author of ***Silent Spring***. In 1956, Rachel Carson was given the AAUW Achievement Award. AAUW staff did not know at that time that she used the funds from the award to write her next book, which turned out to be ***Silent Spring***. Her letter of thanks made this plain and revealed the connection between AAUW and this groundbreaking work.

An often-mentioned source of pride for AAUW is the record of how The Association of Collegiate Alumnae, the predecessor of AAUW, helped raise money to buy a gram of radium so that **Marie Curie**, the first woman to be awarded a Nobel Prize, could continue her ground-breaking research. The AAUW Archives in DC

(Continued on page 4)





## FOOD, RAFFLE, PERFORMANCE! THAT'S OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISER FEBRUARY 22.

Our evening with the play, *You Can't Take It With You*, begins with a wonderful reception at 7 PM. Mt. Vernon Branch is responsible for sweets and wine. The Alexandria Branch will provide savories and water. There will be a sign-up sheet at the December Luncheon. Please promise to bring a sweet, and a wine, if possible. We need all the help we can get to have enough for the crowd!

Two raffle baskets will be put together. One will be **Wine and Chocolate**. The other will be a **Spa Basket**. Please let Paula Lettice ([pglettice@gmail.com](mailto:pglettice@gmail.com)) know what you can donate for those. The raffle tickets will be sold at the reception before the play: \$5 each or 3 for \$10.



The performance begins at 8 PM. It should be a terrific night!

Tickets will be coming to you soon.

Thank you to those of you who asked for more than 2 tickets.

Contact Ronnie Gunnerson if anyone needs more.

[ronniegunnerson@gmail.com](mailto:ronniegunnerson@gmail.com)

(Continued from page 3) Treasures

have a variety of records and documents regarding this. **Suzanne** also described some of the surprising documents that include the sometimes-complex relationship between AAUW and the other groups working to advance women, such as the Suffragists. They did not always see eye-to-eye on their immediate objectives.



**Suzanne** invited all interested branch members to participate in the monthly work group of local volunteers who meet to assist her team in examining incoming donations and working to find the best “treasures” among the records.

The archivists are working diligently to get all AAUW records digitalized, but **Suzanne** explained that highest priority is professionally preserving the original paper documents and objects because they become increasingly fragile with the passing years. Members interested in the Archives Corps should contact **Suzanne** at [goulds@aauw.org](mailto:goulds@aauw.org). The group typically meets on the first Monday and Tuesday of each month at the AAUW offices. Volunteers come only one of

the two days. All are welcome and no prior experience is necessary, just a love of history.

We were pleased to welcome two members of the Reston-Herndon branch and several additional guests to the meeting.

Mary Ellen Mehler  
Program Vice President



# VIRGINIA COULD BE THE ONE!

AAUW of Virginia, along with a number of other organizations is working strategically to advocate for the ratification of the **Equal Rights Amendment** in Virginia. Virginia could be the final, the 38<sup>th</sup>, state needed to ratify the ERA in our country.

The ERA was passed by the Congress in 1972 and sent to the states for ratification. Thirty-five states ratified it before it stalled in the 1980's. Three more states were needed. In 2017 Nevada ratified, and then in May 2018, Illinois ratified. Illinois was particularly determined to ratify because it was a campaign in their state, led by **Phyllis Schlafly**, that halted it in the 80s.

**In Virginia, the ERA has been locked in committee for a number of years. This year, because of the change in climate in the Virginia General Assembly, it is more promising than ever that it could come out of committee. If it can come to the floor the General Assembly in 2019, the votes are there for its ratification! Virginia, the state of many presidents and the birthplace of the Constitution, could make history!**

**Therefore, we are asking everyone to write postcards and mail them no later than mid-January, and ask your state legislators to support ratification of the ERA by voting Yes for House Joint Resolution 579, telling them why you believe the ERA ratification is needed.**

- **Senator Adam Ebbin** (Dist. 30)  
District Office Pocahontas Building, Room E520  
900 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219
- **Senator Scott Surovell** (Dist. 36)  
Pocahontas Building Room E617  
P. O. Box 396, Richmond, VA 23218
- **Delegate Kathy Tran** (Dist. 42)  
Pocahontas Building, Room E210  
900 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219
- **Delegate Mark Levine** (Dist. 45)  
Pocahontas Building Room E208  
900 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219
- **Delegate Paul Krizek** (Dist. 44)  
Pocahontas Building Room E206  
900 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219



Also send postcards to the men responsible for getting the bills out of committee, asking them to see that this happens!

- **Senator Thomas Norment's mailing address is:**  
P. O. Box 396, Richmond, VA 23218
- **Speaker Kirk Cox's District mailing address is:**  
P.O. Box 406, Richmond, VA 23218

***"I never doubted that equal rights was the right direction. Most reforms, most problems are complicated. But to me there is nothing complicated about ordinary equality."***

***Alice Paul***

Read more about ERA <https://aauw-va.aauw.net/files/2018/11/ERA-BOOK-FINAL-FINAL-C.pdf>

***Patsy Quick***  
***Public Policy Chair***

# AAUW WORK SMART - FREE ONLINE WORKSHOP

**NEW JOB CHECKLIST**

☒ Update résumé

☒ Write cover letter

☐ Take AAUW's free salary negotiation training course Work Smart Online!

Sign up now at [salary.aauw.org](https://salary.aauw.org)



  
empowering women since 1881

**Launches Work Smart**

**SALARY NEGOTIATION WORKSHOP**

**ONLINE FREE**

<https://salary.aauw.org/>

**AAUW Work Smart is free online for anyone looking to learn how to negotiate a salary increase or promotion. Share with everyone you know!**

**Work Smart** is designed to show you

- How to identify and articulate your personal value
- How to develop an arsenal of persuasive responses and other negotiation strategies, including how to get a raise or promotion
- How to conduct objective market research to benchmark a target salary and benefits
- About the wage gap, including its long-term consequences

**Why is negotiation so important?** AAUW's research on the gender pay gap shows that, one year out of college, women are already paid significantly less than men. Women who work full time take home 80 cents for every dollar a full-time male worker is paid. And over a lifetime, those lost potential earnings add up.

Women who negotiate increase their potential to earn higher salaries and better benefits packages. By negotiating fair and equitable salaries, you'll be better able to pay off loans, buy the things you want and need, and even save for retirement.

The Work Smart program has already trained more than 30,000 women, and nearly all participants report increased knowledge, skills, and confidence in negotiating.



**AAUW is working with partners across communities, cities and states to offer free salary negotiation workshops—and eliminate the gender pay gap for good! Learn more: <https://www.aauw.org/>**

*Patsy Quick  
Public Policy Chair*

**SAVE THE DATE!**



# ***Come to the Roanoke Valley!***

**AAUW of Virginia State Conference**  
**Saturday, April 6, 2019**  
**With activities Friday, April 5, 2019**  
**Roanoke Valley**  
**At the Vinton War Memorial, Vinton, VA**

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## **OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:**

- **December 5**    **League of Women Voters' Pre-session Legislative Round Table, Richmond**
- **December 8**    **Virginia Women's Equality Summit, Richmond sponsored by Women's Equality Coalition (of which AAUW of Virginia is a member)**
- **February 6**    **AAUW of Virginia Reception for Women Legislators, Richmond**
- **February 7**    **AAUW of Virginia State Lobby Day, Richmond**



***There is still time to contribute to AAUW Funds!***

The fiscal year ends December 31.

The easiest way to donate is online <https://ww2.aauw.org/donate-gift/>

Remember, all donations to these funds are tax deductible for IRS purposes.

If you have any questions, please contact  
**Joanne Malkin** [jbmalkin@verizon.net](mailto:jbmalkin@verizon.net) or Tel. (703) 360-7725.

**Thank you in advance for your generosity!**

## 2018 - 2019 MT. VERNON BRANCH PROGRAM YEAR

Meeting Date and Place	Focus/Activity
Thursday, September 20, 2018 Gathering at 5pm; Dinner at 6 pm <b>Home of Cathy Krebs</b>	<b>Kickoff Meeting - Potluck</b>
Saturday, October 20, 2018, 1:30 pm <b>Burke Centre Library</b> 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke, VA 22015	<b>AAUW Northern District Meeting</b>
Saturday, November 10, 2018, 2 to 4 pm <b>Heritage Presbyterian Church</b> 8503 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308	<b>AAUW Then and Now</b> <b>Suzanne Gould - AAUW Archivist and Historian</b>
Saturday, December 8, 2018, 12 noon <b>Cedar Knoll Inn</b> 9030 Lucia Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308	<b>Holiday Event - Luncheon</b>
Saturday, January 19, 2019, Time TBD <b>Heritage Presbyterian Church</b> 8503 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308	<b>Meditation and Mindfulness</b>
Friday, February 22, 2019 7 pm Reception - 8 pm Performance <b>Little Theatre of Alexandria</b> 600 Wolfe St, Alexandria, VA 22314	<b>Little Theatre Fundraiser</b> <b>"You Can't Take It With You"</b>
Saturday, March 16, 2019, 9:30 am Location TBD	<b>Annual Meeting and Brunch</b>
Saturday, April 13, 2019, Time TBD Mount Vernon Governmental Center or Sherwood Regional Library	<b>Delegate Kathy Tran</b>
Thursday, May 23, 2019, 6:30 pm <b>Home of Paula Lettice</b>	<b>Annual Pot Luck Dinner</b>
Saturday, June 8, 2019, 9:30 am <b>Home of Mary Ellen Mehler</b>	<b>Annual Planning Session</b>



Check out our website <https://mtvernon-va.aauw.net/>

Visit us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/mtvernonvaaauw/>





## AAUW Mt. Vernon

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

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

## First Class



Mt. Vernon (VA) Branch

- **8 Holiday Luncheon**  
Contact Paula Lettice  
703/780-3463
- **17 Book Group, 7:30 pm**  
Contact Patsy Quick  
703/360-8678
- **27 Board Meeting, 7:15 pm**  
Home of Joanne Malkin  
703/360-7725



# DECEMBER 2018

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