

Mt. Vernon Voices

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

Volume 62 Issue 9

May 2019

Mt. Vernon Branch



PRESIDENTS' CORNER

Hope everyone is enjoying our beautiful spring weather! **Patsy Quick, Joanne Clark and Joanne Malkin** all ventured out to represent the Branch at the Northern District spring meeting on Saturday, April 13 at the Fairfax Regional Library. A central theme of the meeting was new program ideas and outreach, all in line with AAUW's national strategic plan and the plans and objectives of our AAUW of Virginia's state board. At all levels – branch, state and national--- we are focused on outreach, partnering with other organizations and sharing some of AAUW's research and tools – like the on-line Work Smart tutoring program – to further the objectives of the AAUW Strategic Plan.

One of the important parts of this initiative is **YOUR feedback**, too. Please be sure you complete and submit a copy of the excellent "Branch Member Survey" that Mary **Ellen Mehler** has developed (page 7). We need to hear your thoughts on everything – from content of programs to location, days (Thursday night or Saturday afternoons??) and time most convenient for you! Let Mary Ellen hear from you!!

So, Happy May!! Happy Memorial Day Weekend!! See you at the Potluck!!

*Joanne Malkin and Cathy Krebs
Co-Presidents*

**Thursday
May 23**

5 to 8 pm

**Annual
Potluck
Dinner**

**Home of
Paula Lettice**

ANNUAL POTLUCK DINNER—MAY 23



You Are Invited!!!

AAUW Mount Vernon Branch 's Potluck Dinner

Thursday, May 23, 2019 - 5:00 ~ 8:00 pm

(5:00 p.m. – Drinks and Hors d'Oeuvres/6:00 – Dinner)

Home of Paula Lettice, 9016 Nomini Lane, Alexandria

Please bring a dish: Hors d'oeuvres, Salad or Side, Entrée, Dessert (limit of 4, please) **and a beverage of your choosing**

Please RSVP May 20 to our hostess **Paula Lettice** along with the item you are bringing!

pglettice@gmail.com

***** See you all there! *****

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

**It's time to renew your AAUW membership.
Please renew by June 30, 2019!**

As an AAUW member whose branch participates in the Membership Payment Program (MPP), you will be paying all of your dues - branch, state, and national - at once. There are two ways to renew:

1) To renew online

- Go to www.aauw.org. Click **LOGIN** at the top of the page. Enter your **MEMBER ID** and **PASSWORD**.
- Once logged in, scroll to the bottom of the page and click **MEMBER SERVICES DATABASE** and enter MSD.
- Select **RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP** on the left side of the screen and pay with your credit or debit card.



2) To renew by check

Send **Anne Simpson** a check made out to Mt. Vernon AAUW for \$87.

1604 Old Drummer Boy Lane
Fort Washington, MD 20744-4247

AAUW national dues are \$59, state dues are \$15 and branch dues are \$13. Remember that \$56 of national dues are tax deductible on itemized returns.

BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2018 – 2019

Elected Officers

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

Appointed Chairs

Bylaws:	vacant
AAUW Funds:	Joanne Malkin

Public Policy:	Patsy Quick
Newsletter/Website:	Bianca Daugherty
Newsletter/ Directory Distribution:	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

Contact Email: AAUW.MtVernon@gmail.com

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.

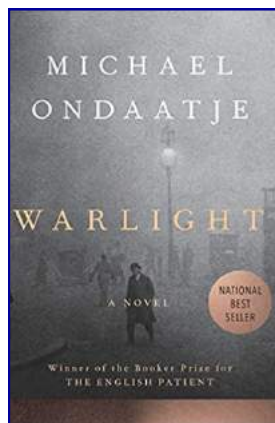
BOOK GROUP—MAY 20

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

DATE: Monday, May 20, 7:30 PM

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

CO-HOST: Elizabeth Lonoff



BOOK: Warlight
Michael Ondaatje

REVIEWER: Elaine Kolish

NEXT BOOK: Pachinko
Min Jin Lee

GAME NIGHT—MAY 24

Join us for fun and games on

Friday, May 24, 2019, 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)



MEET OUR NEW MEMBER



Solveig Eggerz, a native of Iceland, is the author of the award-winning novel, *Seal Woman*, published by Unbridled Books. She teaches memoir and personal stories at the Writer's Center in Bethesda, MD, and creative writing to incarcerated women in Northern Virginia with a non-profit organization, Heard. As a storyteller and writer, she uses storytelling as part of her writing process. Her essays and stories have appeared in publications such as The Delmarva Review, Palo Alto Review, The Northern Virginia Review. Her forthcoming novel is set in Iceland during World War II. She holds a PhD in Comparative Literature from Catholic University.

Welcome to our branch!

State Delegate **Kathy Tran** spoke to members and guests of the Mount Vernon Branch on Saturday, April 27. Accompanied by her youngest daughter, Elise (Kathy and her husband Matt split up Saturday responsibilities and other speaking engagements), **Delegate Tran** spoke about the landslide of women elected to the Virginia House of Delegates in 2017 – a monumental increase – as well as various other policy and legislative issues being addressed in Richmond, particularly those impacting women and families. She never intended to run for political office – claiming to be an introvert – but after the 2016 election, she knew that she needed to become more involved and run for office herself.



Paula Lettice and Delegate Tran

With Elise entertaining herself most of the program, **Delegate Tran** highlighted some of the bills with which she has been involved – e.g., feminine products for incarcerated women, breastfeeding space for members of the General Assembly, sex trafficking, education, and gerrymandering. Without getting overly political, she described the dynamics of the General Assembly in particular, the House of Delegates, and the long history of self-government in the Commonwealth. When asked what we as local residents can do to help push for particular issues, she encouraged everyone to vote, to contact their respective Delegates and Senators, and to be an informed citizen. She will be running for re-election in the fall. Her comments were in depth, well-informed, enthusiastic, and personal ... and she graciously stayed to handle the many questions from the group.

MISSION & ACTION

AAUW's newsletter

YOU RECEIVE IT, DO YOU READ IT?

AAUW's E-Bulletin, Mission & Action arrives in your email box twice monthly. It contains headline news that you can click on to learn more. This is AAUW's way to keep you informed in what is happening at National and around the country. A recent issue included information these items and others:

- Equal Pay Day activities,
- Recent press coverage received in Time, US News and World Report, and the NY Times,
- Reasons for optimism about the pay gap,
- And information on the 2020 AAUW Convening (see below)

There are often notices of new resources for members, and opportunities to take action. The nice thing about this e-bulletin is that you can scroll down, find what interests you, click to be informed in a matter of minutes. The articles are short and to the point. Many changes are taking place in AAUW, Mission & Action is where you will learn about them.

Stay up to date on the fast-moving world of AAUW. Click and read Mission & Action!

2020 AAUW Virtual Convening

AAUW is excited to announce plans for a series of virtual events in 2020 that will mark the 100th anniversary of women's right to vote, inform our members and supporters in a critical presidential election year, and move us all closer to a fully fair future for women and girls.



The various virtual programs will spotlight the work you and others are doing on behalf of AAUW to ensure women and girls everywhere have equal opportunities to learn, lead and earn the salaries they deserve. In January, we'll launch "A 2020 Vision for Equity," which will bring together a panel with leaders from politics, business and beyond to share their insights about the progress we've made in women's equity and the future of our movement. **Although there will be no in-person national convention or major convening in 2020, we understand the importance of bringing women together to network and support AAUW and its mission—and our outreach will be designed with those goals in mind.**

AAUW's decision to focus on virtual events in lieu of an in-person convening was guided by the AAUW National Convening Task Force and approved by the board of directors. The task force conducted a rigorous review of conventions, conferences and other events on gender equity taking place around the nation, with the goal of finding options that would:

- **Ensure that more members can participate.** Less than 1 percent (734) of AAUW members attended our last National Convention in 2017. While these gatherings are a rich part of our legacy and a unique opportunity for networking, the Task Force evaluated ways to convene that could engage many more members and supporters in our mission to achieve gender equity.
- **Enable financial sustainability.** All four of the most recent AAUW National Conventions have operated at a financial loss, and the deficits from the 2015 and 2017 meetings were substantial. The Task Force evaluated ways to convene members that would not pull resources away from our core work of creating lasting change for women and girls.

We are looking forward to celebrating our progress in 2020 and working with you to ensure a future of equity for all.

HAVE YOU VOTED YET?

There still is time!

You will be voting twice, once for **AAUW of Virginia** and once for **AAUW National**.



AAUW of Virginia Voting

- ◆ Online voting will conclude on **May 4, 11:45 pm ET**. You should have received an email from AAUW of Virginia in mid-April with voting instructions.
- ◆ The Voter Guide is available on the state website <http://aauw-va.aauw.net/>
Questions? Contact Sandy Lawrence sandyaauw@juno.com.

AAUW of Virginia hopes you will take this opportunity to participate in the leadership of the state organization by voting. **The branch with the highest percentage of members voting in the election will earn a special reward!!**

AAUW National

- ◆ Online voting is open until **6:00 pm ET on May 14, 2019**. Find your ID and PIN in an email sent on April 1. Can't find the email? Contact Connect at 800/326-2289.
- ◆ You can find more information about the [candidates for the AAUW Board of Directors](#) and the [2019–2021 Public Policy Priorities](#) on the AAUW website.

Your voice and your vote are vital to AAUW's future. That's why it is so important for you to participate in the 2019 AAUW National Election to elect members to our board of directors and set AAUW's Public Policy Priorities.

VOTE NOW



Four branch members attended the Turning Point Program at the Unitarian Church, April 14

From left: Lois Passman, Cathy Krebs, Anne Simpson, Patsy Quick



- **Summer Leadership Meeting, Harrisonburg, July 27.**
- The **2020 AAUW VA Conference** is tentatively planned for the weekend of **April 17-19, 2020**, in the Northern District, most likely Alexandria.

MT VERNON BRANCH MEMBER SURVEY 2019

The board needs your input. We would like your ideas on branch priorities and suggestions for future activities. Information from this survey will be discussed at the June 8 Planning Meeting. Please complete and bring the survey to our May Potluck Dinner. You also can mail or email it to Mary Ellen Mehler (memehler@msn.com).

Why are you a member of our Branch? (Check all that apply)

- To support national AAUW programs & policies
- Because of Mt. Vernon Branch programs/activities
- To maintain AAUW friendship
- Other (please specify) _____

1. Mark these regular Branch activities from 1 to 10 regarding their importance to YOU.
(Those marked #10 mean very important—anything marked #1 means slight importance, etc.)

- Book Group
- Dining Out
- Game Night
- Fundraiser (Little Theatre of Alexandria)
- Monthly Branch meetings/programs
- Holiday Luncheon
- May Potluck
- Annual Meeting
- ImpromptEvent

2. What types of programs would inspire you to attend the monthly meetings? For example, you could list specific topics or format (film screening, panel discussion, high profile speakers, etc.)

3. Is transportation to monthly meetings an issue for you? If transportation were provided would you be more likely to attend?

YES NO

4. Would you attend a new branch interest group on Sunday evenings that would eat out as a group, then attend the long-established **Great Decisions Discussion Group** held at a local church?

YES NO MAYBE

5. Do you have a suggestion regarding the functioning or activities of the Mt. Vernon Branch? What could we be doing better? _____

6. Is our traditional Thursday night meeting schedule working for you? Yes No

What would be the best meeting time and place? _____

NAME _____

2018 - 2019 MT. VERNON BRANCH PROGRAM YEAR

Meeting Date and Place	Focus/Activity
Thursday, September 20, 2018 Gathering at 5pm; Dinner at 6 pm Home of Cathy Krebs	Kickoff Meeting - Potluck
Saturday, October 20, 2018, 1:30 pm Burke Centre Library 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke, VA 22015	AAUW Northern District Meeting
Saturday, November 10, 2018, 2 to 4 pm Heritage Presbyterian Church 8503 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308	AAUW Then and Now Suzanne Gould - AAUW Archivist and Historian
Saturday, December 8, 2018, 12 noon Cedar Knoll Inn 9030 Lucia Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308	Holiday Event - Luncheon
Saturday, January 19, 2019, 2 pm Heritage Presbyterian Church 8503 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308	Meditation and Mindfulness Dr. Jamie Grant Director Institutional Programs Maharishi Foundation USA
Friday, February 22, 2019 7 pm Reception - 8 pm Performance Little Theatre of Alexandria 600 Wolfe St, Alexandria, VA 22314	Little Theatre Fundraiser "You Can't Take It With You"
Saturday, March 16, 2019, 11 am Cedar Knoll Inn 9030 Lucia Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308	Annual Meeting and Brunch
Saturday, April 27, 2019, 10:30 am Sherwood Regional Library 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria	Delegate Kathy Tran
Thursday, May 23, 2019, 5 to 8 pm Home of Paula Lettice	Annual Pot Luck Dinner
Saturday, June 8, 2019, 9:30 am Home of Mary Ellen Mehler	Annual Planning Session



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

Follow 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

- **10 Dining Out, 7 pm**
Contact Elizabeth Lonoff
703/765-2634
- **16 Board Meeting, 7:15 pm**
Home of Joanne Malkin
703/360-7725
- **20 Book Club, 7:30 pm**
Contact DeJuana Jones
703/780-5026
- **23 Annual Potluck Dinner, 5 to 8 pm**
Contact Paula Lettice
703/780-3463
- **26 Game Night, 7:30 pm**
Contact Cathy Krebs
703/765-2751

MAY 2019

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