

# Mt. Vernon Voices

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

Volume 63 Issue 4 December 2019

Mt. Vernon Branch



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



### Do you know about Giving Tuesday?

I heard someone mention **Giving Tuesday** the other day, and I wasn't sure what it was so I looked it up. The United Nations Foundation helped designate the Tuesday after Thanksgiving as Giving Tuesday. There is even a website for the organization that was created. This is what I found at <https://www.givingtuesday.org/>

*Giving Tuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their*

*communities and the world on **December 3, 2019** and every day.*

**It was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good.** Over the past seven years, this idea has grown into a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity.

The organization created a directory to help you find organizations, events, and ways to give. But you need not look in a directory to find an organization to give to. You already participate in and care about one that is helping women and girls around the world: **AAUW**.

Recently in AAUW Mission & Action e-newsletter we learned that "AAUW's board of directors is kicking off this giving season with its largest match in our organization's 138-year history. From now

until December 31, the board will match — dollar for dollar — every donation we receive up to \$68,800." The article said that 100% of AAUW's board is participating in the match because they understand **"how important it is to fight for our future and ensure that the important progress we've made isn't reversed as we head into a critical election year."**

So I am wondering if it might be possible for even 50% of Mt. Vernon Branch members to give a little to AAUW's Greatest Needs Fund in December...maybe on Giving Tuesday, December 3, 2019. But really any time during the month of December is a good time to give because your \$10 becomes \$20, your \$50 becomes \$100 and so on.

**WHY GIVE?** Giving provides personal satisfaction. It's tax deductible. You can make a difference. A little goes a long way. And giving to the Greatest Needs Fund, puts AAUW in the position to continue the work of advocating for women and girls.

Go to [AAUW.org](http://AAUW.org) and click on that **DONATE** button or just click here: <https://ww2.aauw.org/donate-gift-new/>

Patsy Quick  
President

**Saturday**

**December 14  
11:30 am**

**HOLIDAY  
LUNCHEON**

**\$ 45**



**CEDAR  
KNOLL**

**GW Parkway/**

**Page 2**

# HOLIDAY LUNCHEON DECEMBER 14

## *AAUW MOUNT VERNON BRANCH Celebrates the Holidays!*

**Please join us for our annual HOLIDAY LUNCHEON on  
Saturday, December 14, 2019, 11:30 am  
*CEDAR KNOLL Restaurant*  
9030 Lucia Lane, Alexandria VA 22308**



**Time to RSVP for our Holiday Luncheon!** We will be celebrating the AAUW Mt. Vernon annual holiday luncheon at **Cedar Knoll** again. We have a delicious menu with choice of

- **Jumbo Lump Crab Cake Sandwich**
- **Arugula Salad with Chicken, or**
- **Wild Mushroom Tart.**

The cost is \$45 per person, which includes house salad, entrée, beverage, an assortment of desserts, tax and gratuity.

RSVP with your menu selection and check (made out to AAUW Mt Vernon Branch) by Wednesday, December 6, to **Paula Lettice**, 9016 Nomini Lane, Alexandria VA 22309. For questions email **Paula** at [pglettice@gmail.com](mailto:pglettice@gmail.com)

## BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2019 – 2020

### Elected Officers

<b>President:</b>	Patsy Quick
<b>Program Vice President:</b>	Joanne Clark
<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>	Mary Ellen Mehler

<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)

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, or socioeconomic status.

## AAUW FUNDS - SEASON OF GIVING

Our AAUW national fund that needs the most attention right now – as State Funds Chair **Caroline Pickens** recently reminded us, and as **Patsy** has noted in her President’s message – is the **Greatest Needs Fund (#9110)**. This fund gives AAUW the flexibility to put the money where it is most needed, and, also the ability to act quickly if an opportunity arises that was not expected. As **Patsy** has noted, the easiest way to donate is electronically.

**For those of us who prefer to donate by check, we will have a basket at our coming Holiday luncheon at Cedar Knoll on Saturday, December 14.** Whether electronically or by check, each of our December donations will be matched by the AAUW National Board! Just remember, in either case, to indicate “Mount Vernon Branch” on the memo line of your check, or in the proper spot on your electronic donation.



Thank you for your continuing generosity! Looking forward to seeing you at our Holiday Luncheon, and hope you all have a wonderful Holiday, and a Happy, Healthy New Year!

**Joanne Malkin**  
**AAUW Funds Chair**

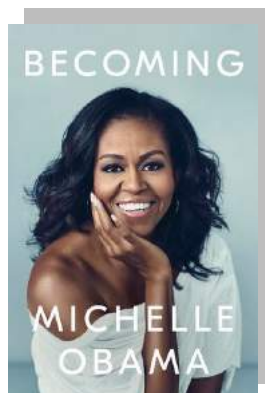
## BOOK GROUP

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

**DATE:** Monday, December 16 , 7:30 PM

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

**CO-HOST: Diane Watts**



**BOOK:** Becoming  
Michelle Obama

**REVIEWER:** Liz Promen

**NEXT BOOK:** Waking up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race  
Debby Irving

## GAME NIGHT



**NO GAME NIGHT IN DECEMBER!**

**\*\* Next Game Night will be January 24, 2020 \*\***

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

**2019/2020 Game Night Schedule has been posted to our website**



## TURNING POINT SUFFRAGIST MEMORIAL: GROUNDBREAKING

**November 14, 2019:** On a cold, but bright morning, folks gathered at Occoquan Regional Park in Lorton to celebrate the groundbreaking and celebration of the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial! There was excitement in the air as participants shed coats, enjoyed refreshments, and networked with other men and women who have been working towards the goal of a Suffragist Memorial for many years.



Groundbreaking of the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial, November 14, 2019

The celebratory program listed 13 speakers, which might have seemed overwhelming, except for the palpable energy that was displayed as each briefly spoke. Speakers ranged from **Nancy Sargeant**, Turning Point Suffrage Memorial Association (TPSMA) Board Chair, to **Dr. Thelma Daley**, 16<sup>th</sup> President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and **Lidia Soto-Harmon**, CEO, Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital. They all described their relationships to the Suffrage Movement and their thrill at finally seeing the goal of the **first national suffragist memorial** reach fruition. **Patricia Wirth**, Executive Director/CEO, TPSMA, said she could hardly breathe.

When the time came, participants donned coats and headed outside. **Pat, Nancy, Thelma, Lidia** and others posed with gold shovels, then reached and shoveled dirt to break ground for the first ever memorial to honor the women of the Suffrage Movement, and in particular, those who were imprisoned at the Lorton Workhouse for blocking the sidewalk while picketing the White House on **November 14, 1917**. The imprisonment, and resulting inhumane treatment, of the women became the Turning Point in the Suffrage Movement.

Ten Mt. Vernon Branch members (**Pris Bornmann, Bianca Daugherty, Elizabeth Lonoff, Joanne Malkin, Barbara Mann, Mary Ellen Mehler, Lois Passman, Ofelia Perotti, Patsy Quick, Anne Simpson**) attended the invitation-only celebration, and received a shout out during the program. In October 2019, Mt. Vernon Branch Members donated over \$1000 so that our branch name will also be inscribed in the Donor's Wall at the Memorial. The Groundbreaking was a fun and exciting event to be a part of: the making of history!

The dedication of the Memorial will be August 26, 2020, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, guaranteeing women the right to vote. The Mission of this memorial is "to educate, inspire and empower present and future generations to remain vigilant in the quest for equal rights."

Donations are still being accepted at <https://suffragistmemorial.org/>



**Patsy Quick**

## NOVEMBER MEETING WITH JANE COLLINS

On Saturday, November 16, 14 branch members and guests convened at the Sherwood Hall Regional Library for an excellent presentation by **Ms. Jane Collins-Hess**, founder and Executive Director of **HEARD**, a non-profit that teaches life skills disguised as art to Alexandria and Arlington nonprofit and city program partners serving clients who are marginalized in some way. **Jane** explained the origins of **HEARD** and her methodology for partnering with numerous local entities on a broad variety of arts/life-skills programs, such as writing, visual and performing arts, resume writing and mentoring.



Solveig Eggerz and Jane Collins

**Jane** was introduced to the branch by her good friend and branch member, **Solveig Eggerz**, who herself is a writer and mentor. **Solveig** detailed her own work teaching writing to women in prison.

This was an exciting and inspirational meeting, with numerous interesting and worthwhile volunteer opportunities put forth for our consideration. **HEARD's** website is in progress, so for information on a key program of **HEARD**, visit <https://www.alexandriava.gov/sheriff/default.aspx?id=111146>. **Solveig** will also be able to provide additional information on volunteer opportunities ([solegg24@gmail.com](mailto:solegg24@gmail.com))

**Joanne Clark**  
Program VP



Patsy Quick welcoming members and guests to the meeting.





# FIRST AAUW-VA LOBBY DAY PREPARATION

**Our first AAUW-VA State Lobby Day will occur on January 15, 2020.** Following the recent state elections, congratulations were sent from AAUW-VA to every delegate and senator who will be in office next year. A number of responses have been received acknowledging AAUW-VA's efforts and expressing interest in working with us in the future.

There are indications that the **ERA** will be one of the first actions taken up by the 2020 Virginia Assembly. **Delegate Carroll Foy** and **Senators McClellan and Locke** presented ERA resolutions on 11/18/19. Last year, AAUW-VA joined the massive state-wide effort led by **VAratifyERA** to secure Virginia's ratification of the **ERA**. With **ERA** appearing to be well in hand in Virginia, AAUW-VA will be focusing on closing the **gender pay gap/pay equity** during our State Lobby Day on January 15. Materials are being prepared to leave with the Governor and with delegates and senators on the issue of pay equity.



**Several branch members happy to show their support—ERA YES!**

## IMPORTANT LOBBY DAY EVENTS:

- **Meeting with Governor Northam at 9:00 AM on January 15, 2020**
- **Third Annual Reception for Women Legislators, 6-8 PM on January 14, 2020**

AAUW-VA Co-Presidents **Susan Burk** and **Sylvia Rogers** ([burksu@aol.com](mailto:burksu@aol.com) and [srogers1nm@aol.com](mailto:srogers1nm@aol.com)) need to know by January 8 if you plan to attend the State Lobby Day and if you will participate in the January 14 Reception for Women Legislators. They need a firm headcount to determine food/drinks amounts for the reception. They also need a list of individuals who will be attending the meeting with the Governor. **SNOW DATE:** Although they may not be able to reschedule the meeting with the Governor, if the weather prevents travel to Richmond, they plan to meet there on January 22.

## LODGING/HOSPITALITY

A block of rooms have been reserved at the Omni Hotel in Richmond for State Lobby Day. Reservations must be made on line (<http://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/richmond/meetings/aauw-01142020>) or call 1-800-OMNI and identify yourself with the American Association of University Women group. **ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY DECEMBER 31, 2019, TO GUARANTEE THE GROUP RATE OF \$144/ROOM (PLUS TAXES/FEES).**

## PUBLIC POLICY CONTINUED

Members of the Greater Richmond Branch also have offered to host our members overnight on January 14, 2020. If you would like to take advantage of GRAAUW's hospitality, please let **Susan Burk** ([Burksu@aol.com](mailto:Burksu@aol.com)) **Sylvia Rogers** ([srogers1nm@aol.com](mailto:srogers1nm@aol.com)) and **Carol Stephens** ([carterstephens69@icloud.com](mailto:carterstephens69@icloud.com)) know AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

**AAUW-VA Reception for Women Legislators** will take place on **January 14**, the evening before Lobby Day. It will be an open house from 6 – 8 pm at the Commonwealth Strategy Group, 118 N. 8<sup>th</sup> St., Richmond, VA 23219. All Lobby Day participants are invited to attend.

*Mary Ellen Mehler*  
**Public Policy Chair**

## 2020 AAUW OF VIRGINIA CONFERENCE



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**The Northern Virginia Branches of AAUW are the official hosts of the Virginia State Convention taking place from April 17 -19.**

The venue is the **Holiday Inn & Suites Alexandria Old Town** (<https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/alexandria/axehd/hoteldetail>).

On Friday night we will hear from the Executive Director of the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association (<https://suffragistmemorial.org/>). As many of you know, our branch collected enough money from it's members (over \$1000) to be publicly mentioned on the memorial. Since this is the 100th anniversary of women gaining the vote, the conference will celebrate this milestone in U.S. women's history.

Saturday's meetings will include both business and thematic presentations as will Sunday morning. A number of special events/opportunities will be offered to supplement the professional program such as museum tours and yoga/organized walks. The program and registration information will be available in January. If you would like to reserve your room early, the link is <https://aauw-va.aauw.net/conference-2/>. For additional information, contact **Joanne Clark** at [jojoandgeorge@gmail.com](mailto:jojoandgeorge@gmail.com).

Make history this  
**#GIVINGTUESDAY**

**MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE!**

**GIVE NOW** ➔

AAUW

# 2019 - 2020 MT. VERNON BRANCH PROGRAM YEAR

Meeting Date and Place	Focus/Activity
<b>Thursday, September 19, 2019, 6:30 pm</b> <b>Mt. Vernon Country Club</b> 5111 Old Mill Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309	<b>Kickoff Dinner</b> <b>Dr. Kathryn Newcomer, GWU</b> <i>Importance of and Increased Interest in Public Administration and Public Policy</i>
<b>Thursday, October 10, 2019, 7 pm</b> <b>Heritage Presbyterian Church</b> 8503 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308	<b>Pat Wirth, Executive Director/CEO</b> <b>Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Assoc.</b> <i>The Best Kept Secret in America's History</i>
<b>Saturday, November 16, 2019, 10:30 am</b> <b>Sherwood Regional Library</b> 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306	<b>Jane Collins, founder of Heard</b> <i>Everyone Deserves to Be Heard</i> <b>Arts Programs for the Marginalized Populations in Alexandria and Arlington</b>
<b>Saturday, December 14, 2019, 11:30 am</b> <b>Cedar Knoll</b> 9030 Lucia Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308	<b>Holiday Brunch</b>
<b>Saturday, January 18, 2020, 1 pm</b> <b>Sherwood Regional Library</b> 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306	<b>Movie Screening:</b> <i>Gina's Journey: The Search for William Grimes (Documentary)</i>
<b>Saturday, February 8, 2020, 10:30 am</b> <b>Sherwood Regional Library</b> 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306	<b>Joan Mullholland, American civil rights activist and a Freedom Rider</b> With video documentary
<b>Saturday, March 21, 2020, 10 am</b> <b>Sherwood Regional Library</b> 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306	<b>Annual Meeting</b> <b>Speaker: Solveig Eggerz, Author</b>
<b>Friday, April 24, 2020</b> 7 pm Reception - 8 pm Performance <b>Little Theatre of Alexandria</b> 600 Wolfe St, Alexandria, VA 22314	<b>Annual Fundraiser</b> <i>"Blue Stockings"</i>
<b>Thursday, May 21, 2020, Time TBD</b> <b>Home of Paula Lettice</b>	<b>Annual Potluck Dinner</b>
<b>Saturday, June Date and Time TBD</b> <b>Place TBD</b>	<b>Annual Planning Session</b>



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

• **4 Board Meeting, 7:15 pm**

Home of Patsy Quick  
703/360-8678

• **14 Holiday Luncheon, 11:30am**

• Contact Paula Lettice  
703/780-3463

• **16 Book Group, 7:30 pm**

Contact Patsy Quick  
703/360-8678



**DECEMBER 2019**

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