

Mt. Vernon Voices

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

Volume 63 Issue 5 January 2020

Mt. Vernon Branch



JOIN US FOR OUR BRANCH PROGRAM

Mt. Vernon AAUW and Sherwood Regional Library Present the Documentary

Gina's Journey: The Search for William Grimes

Saturday, January 18, 2020, 1:00 PM

Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Ln Alexandria, VA



AN EVENT YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS!

“Gina’s Journey: The Search for William Grimes” follows the quest of one woman, Regina Mason, in tracing the steps of her ancestor, who traveled along the Underground Railroad to freedom and authored the first fugitive slave narrative in U.S. history.

You will be as captivated by the journey taken by Gina Mason, as by the one taken by her ancestor, William Grimes. **We are very fortunate to welcome Gina Mason to this event.** She will be able to answer questions and tell us even more than the documentary.

This is a very special event! Please join us!

Light refreshments will be available.

Produced by Your Media 2, the film is based on the Afterword of the authoritative edition of the book, **Life of William Grimes, the Runaway Slave**, written by **Regina Mason** and published in 2008 by Oxford University Press. The Afterword, “**My Long Road Back to William Grimes**” reveals **Mason’s** 15-year path to authenticate her ancestor’s story and the intense personal sacrifices that made editing and publishing a new edition of the **Grimes** narrative possible.

Director and Producer **Sean Durant** sought to convey not only **Mason’s** long road to uncover her past, but also the unimaginable conditions that faced William Grimes as he struggled to free himself from slavery. To this end, **Durant** chose to use artfully-crafted re-enactments combined with current-day Mason reflecting on her own story and a masterful narration by **Keith David**. The result is a compelling and provocative documentary film from first time feature filmmaker **Durant**.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy New Year, Mt. Vernon AAUW members! With a new year come new and exciting possibilities for each of us. As branch members you have a variety of participation opportunities coming up. You can read about those in our great newsletter. Our branch offers numerous opportunities to learn and grow. AAUW is all about learning and growing, but also about participating. Sometimes you need to learn something to figure out ways that you can participate. For example, I hope you will learn about and support your candidate in any way possible so that you can participate in the election process as a fully informed citizen. Throughout the year, I hope you will learn about and support the 3 areas that AAUW cares about most. Through some reorganization and refocusing, there are some new descriptors you can learn about and be able to find ways to support and share with friends and colleagues.



- **Education and Training** <https://www.aauw.org/education-and-training/> (Topics include: women's student debt burden; sexual harassment and violence in schools; and the role of Title IX in equity and education.)
- **Economic Security** <https://www.aauw.org/economic-security/> (Topics include: salary negotiation training, gender pay gap, and legal advocacy.)
- **Leadership** <https://www.aauw.org/leadership/#> (Topics include: the gender leadership gap...leveling the playing field...recent Research Reports: *Barriers and Bias*, and *Broken Ladders: Barriers to Women's Representation in Nonprofit Leadership*. (<https://www.aauw.org/research/broken-ladders/> Download your copy.) and college leadership programs like the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, NCCWSL.

We sometimes say that AAUW is one of the Best Kept Secrets. But, as we learn more about the organization we care greatly about, we can be the ones who bring AAUW out into the light. So, read and learn, and become an active participant in sharing, in 2020, the vision and goals of this great organization.

Patsy Quick
President

BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2019 – 2020

Elected Officers

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| President: | Patsy Quick |
| Program Vice President: | Joanne Clark |
| Membership Vice President: | Shannon Dubicki |
| Treasurer: | Anne Simpson |
| Secretary: | Paula Lettice |

Appointed Chairs

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Bylaws: | vacant |
| AAUW Funds: | Joanne Malkin |
| Public Policy: | Mary Ellen Mehler |

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| 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, or socioeconomic status.

BOOK GROUP

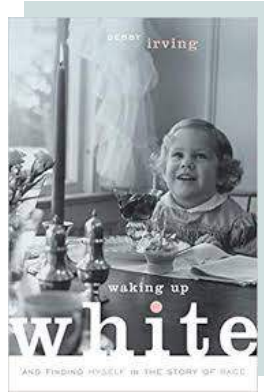
Please inform the hostess whether or not you plan to attend.

DATE: Monday, January 20 , 7:30 PM

HOSTESS: Barbara Mann

8716 Falkstone Lane
703/360-3880

CO-HOST: Anne Simpson



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

REVIEWER: Patsy Quick

NEXT BOOK: Sigga of Reykjavik
Solveig Eggerz

GAME NIGHT



Join us for fun games and good company on

Friday, January 24, 2020

7:30 pm

Home of Shannon Dubicki

Spouses and significant others are welcome!

Contact **Bianca Daugherty** if you would like to join the group

[\(biancadaauw@gmail.com\)](mailto:biancadaauw@gmail.com)

DINING OUT

Join Dining Out in celebrating DC Winter Restaurant Week at 7 pm on Friday, January 17.

The special fixed-price 3-course dinner costs \$35 plus beverage, gratuity, tax, and any extras you order.

Eddie V's Prime Seafood

7900 Tysons One Place, McLean
(the Deloitte building across from Lord & Taylor)

Join us in **Eddie V's** posh dining room with high ceilings and panoramic views for fine seafood and steaks. It has an award-winning list of more than 200 wines and a jazz band. **TripAdvisor ranks Eddie V's at #3 of 72 restaurants in Tysons Corner.**

You can view the regular menu at <https://www.eddiev.com/menu-listing/dinner> while waiting for the special Restaurant Week menu to be posted on <https://ramw.org/restaurantweek>.

Reviews:

- https://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurant_Review-g58258-d7935548-Reviews-Eddie_V_s_Prime_Seafood-Tysons_Corner_Fairfax_County_Virginia.html
- <https://www.yelp.com/biz/eddie-vs-prime-seafood-mclean-3>
- <https://www.zagat.com/r/eddie-vs-prime-seafood-tysons>

Please feel free to invite a family member or friend. **Eddie V's** is wheelchair accessible. Valet parking is available for the garage in the same building.

Seating is limited. To reserve your seat or if your plans later change, please contact **Elizabeth Lonoff** (elonoff@msn.com).



AAUW MT VERNON CELEBRATED THE HOLIDAYS!



AAUW FUNDS UPDATE



In response to the request of the AAUW national office and our Virginia state officials, our Branch continued its tradition of generosity by submitting a significant number of donations in December to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund.

Besides the direct donations from 10 attendees at the Christmas brunch, seven more branch members donated electronically. Also, the Branch's annual donation of \$2500 was submitted.

As mentioned in the December newsletter, all donations received before December 31 were matched by AAUW National, meaning that all of these contributions were doubled!

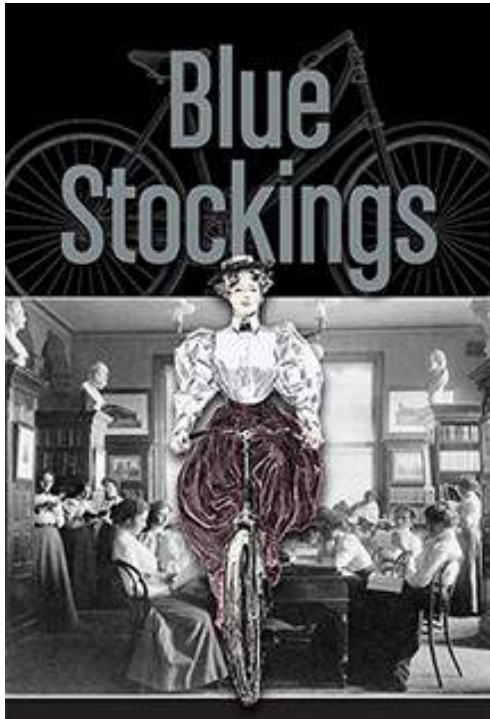
Congratulations and thank you!

Joanne Malkin, Funds Chair

Why Shift My Gift to AAUW's Greatest Needs Fund?

Many members have asked why giving to the **AAUW Greatest Needs Fund** is so critical. Here are two reasons: First, many of our other funds and programs, including the Legal Advocacy Fund and Fellowships & Grants, are already fully supported well into the future. Second, the **Greatest Needs Fund** allows AAUW to secure national coverage of our work in the New York Times, Washington Post, CNN and other major news outlets, and it finances our advocacy work. Without it, we're silenced and cannot respond to critical events in real time, such as the #MeToo crisis or attacks on Title IX. This unrestricted support gives us the most flexibility to tackle the challenges that women face today.

LTA FUNDRAISER, APRIL 24



BLUE STOCKINGS

The Little Theatre of Alexandria

600 Wolfe St, Alexandria, 22314

April 24, 2020

7:00 PM Reception - 8:00 PM Performance

“What does it take to accomplish social change?” This perennial question is at the heart of “**Blue Stockings**,” a historical drama set against the backdrop of the women’s suffrage movement in 1896 at Cambridge University. And what could be more timely than a play about women’s struggle for the vote as we continue our campaign to achieve passage of the ERA? **This play is one we cannot miss!**

So mark your calendars for Friday, April 24, 2020 and plan to see “Blue Stockings” at The Little Theatre of Alexandria, the annual performance dedicated to fundraising for the Alexandria and Mt. Vernon AAUW branches.

Mt. Vernon branch members who attended the Christmas luncheon received their tickets there; **Ronnie Gunnerson will distribute tickets again at the January 18, 2020, meeting.** As usual, the tickets are \$35 apiece and each member receives two. Please be prepared to do your part to support our mission to empower women and girls!

***** For tickets contact Ronnie Gunnerson: ronniegunnerson@gmail.com *****

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER



Kathi Hanrahan retired in 2018 as an executive of IBM with a career focused on managing a federal consulting practice and selling and delivering information technology projects across industries as diverse as telecommunications, electronics, and the Department of Defense. **Kathi** holds a BSBA and MBA from the University of Phoenix.

Since retiring **Kathi** devotes her time to volunteering with organizations such as Women in Technology (WIT) and Girls in Technology (GIT) with the missions to mentor women and girls and promote STEM education and careers. She enjoys hiking, biking and other exercise, travelling and seeing family and friends, continuing education around nutrition. Her hobbies include jewelry making, knitting, sewing and gardening.

ANNUAL MT VERNON DISTRICT TOWN MEETING



Join us at the 33rd
Annual Mount Vernon District Town
February 1, 2020

Mount Vernon High School
8515 Old Mt Vernon Rd, Alexandria, VA 22309

Our branch will again have a table at the annual Mount Vernon District Town Meeting. We will distribute AAUW literature and let our neighbors know about our branch. The exhibit part of the Town Meeting runs from 7:45 am to approximately 9 am. When the exhibits close, the Town Meeting begins and goes on until noon. This is a great opportunity to reach out to the Mount Vernon District community and then attend the Town Meeting. Don't miss it! We will need people to help set up at 7:15 AM and to man the booth between 7:45 and 9 AM. Contact Mary Ellen Mehler if you have any questions or would like to help (memehler@msn.com)

AAUW-VA State Lobby Day January 15, 2020



The first of two state AAUW State Lobby Days is **January 15**. The deadline for letting our state Co-VP for Public Policy (**Susan Burk** suburk@aol.com) know you want to attend is **January 8**. You may also want to attend **AAUW-VA's** reception for **Virginia Women Legislators** on **January 14**. Details are all in the [December Mt. Vernon Branch news-letter, page 6](#)

Patsy Quick and Ofelia Perotti plan to attend. Join them!



2020 AAUW of Virginia Conference

**Holiday Inn & Suites Alexandria-Old Town,
625 First Street in Alexandria
April 17-19, 2020.**

Conference information coming soon!

Make your hotel reservation for the AAUW of Virginia Conference, **King or Double Rooms** are available for **\$129 per night plus tax** for **April 17 and 18**.

To make room reservations, use this link: [American Association of University Women of Virginia](#). The group code is AAU. If you want to park in the hotel garage, ignore any references to \$20 per day for parking. The hotel is giving us a special rate of \$8 per night.

2019 - 2020 MT. VERNON BRANCH PROGRAM YEAR

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



JANUARY 2020

- **8 Board Meeting, 7:15 pm**
Home of Patsy Quick
703/360-8678
- **18 Branch Program, 1 pm**
Contact Patsy Quick
703/360-8678
- **20 Book Group, 7:30 pm**
Contact Barbara Mann
703/360-3880
- **24 Game Night, 7:30 pm**
Contact Shannon Dubicki
703/780-7973



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