

# Mt. Vernon Voices

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

Volume 63 Issue 8

April 2020

Mt. Vernon Branch



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*Dear Mt. Vernon Branch Members,*

It has surely been a difficult few weeks! It seems like ages since we have been together! Our Annual Business Meeting, March book group, and game night were all canceled or postponed. The state conference was also canceled. (Thank you to those who had volunteered to assist at that conference.) **A state Annual Business Meeting is being planned for April 18 via Zoom.** I'll get news to you about that when I have it. In the meantime, I hope each of you is managing to handle social distancing well. I've made contact with many of you. Please know that if you need anything, let me know and I will find a way to provide assistance. We are a wonderful network for each other during these not-so-good times. Please feel free to reach out.

I am sad to have to announce that our fundraiser with the Alexandria Branch at

the **Little Theatre of Alexandria is canceled.** The Theatre is closed for the rest of the season. We will have some options regarding the tickets you are holding, and will let you know as soon as possible in emails or phone calls about that. Remember this was our only fundraiser and our cause is a good one. We will be keeping this in mind as we plan.

Sometimes bad things happen that stop us in our tracks. Usually it is something very personal. Right now, even though we all are relatively safe and comfortable, the world has stopped and we've had to get off! Hopefully, it will not be long before we venture back on, if tentatively, and begin anew. I hope each of you will be no worse for wear. You each sparkle in your own way and are missed. I look forward to the day we can enjoy a meal and celebrate being back together! Until then, take care.

*Patsy Quick, President*

**LTA  
Fundraiser**

**April 24**

**CANCELED**

## LTA CANCELED!

**W**ith sadness, it is announced that the **Little Theatre of Alexandria has closed for the season.** Our annual fundraiser with the Alexandria Branch on April 24 has been canceled.

Options for what to do with tickets you are holding will be provided soon. Thanks to the members who volunteered to assist with this fundraiser: **Ronnie Gunnerson, Joanne Malken, Cathy Krebs, Mary Ellen Mehler, Patsy Quick.**

Thanks to the members who contributed to the raffle baskets: **Maureen McGuire-Kuletz, Cathy Conron, Mary Wall, Cynthia Jacobus, Joanne Clark, and Patsy Quick.** A big thank you also goes to the members who contributed but did not put a name with your items. Everything was greatly appreciated. Hopefully we can raffle the baskets in the near future.



## ONLINE ELECTION RESULTS

Secretary **Paula Lettice** provided this election report after receiving the online votes for two positions on the Mt. Vernon Branch AAUW Board of Directors:

## ELECTION RESULTS

More than half of the Mt. Vernon Branch AAUW members voted in our online election for Treasurer and Membership Vice President. The vote for each was unanimous.

***Congratulations to:***

***Mary Wall - Vice President for Membership***

***Anne Simpson – Treasurer***

Thank you to everyone who voted!



Due to a change in host Paula Lettice's plans, the date of our MAY POTLUCK has been moved from May 21 to **May 28**. That is the same day of the week, Thursday.

**Mark your calendars: Thursday, May 28.**

## 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.

# BOOK GROUP

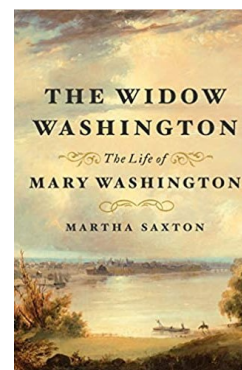
## **Great News, we are going virtual!**

Plans are under way to do an online session!  
More details will be forthcoming. Watch for email.

**Monday, 20 April, 7:30 pm**

**HOST:** Elaine Kolish

**BOOK:** The Widow Washington  
Martha Saxton



**NEXT BOOK:** The Testaments: The Sequel to The Handmaid's Tale  
Margaret Atwood

## ***No Game Night in April!***

### **WHAT IS SOCIAL DISTANCING?**

Everyone must do their part to help flatten the curve and **STOP THE SPREAD** of Coronavirus (COVID-19), and that starts with social distancing. This means remaining out of congregate settings, avoiding mass gatherings, and maintaining distance (approx. 6 feet) from others when possible.



### **Social Distancing,**

### **is not social isolation.**



Here are some safe (and fun) activities:



- Yard work



- Going on a walk
- Cooking a meal



- Reading a good book
- Streaming a show

- Family game night



- Calling or texting a friend or older neighbor
- Virtual trivia nights
- Playing video games



# AAUW-VA BUSINESS MEETING

## Save The Date

**AAUW-VA On-Line Annual Business Meeting,**

**April 18, 1 PM**

We hope everyone is well, staying safe, and practicing social distancing!

We wanted to let you know that we are working out the details of holding our **Annual Business Meeting** using an online program that will enable everyone to participate from their homes. As soon as the details are worked out, we'll pass on this information. In the meantime, though, please save the date on your calendars: **April 18, beginning at 1:00 p.m.** We anticipate that the meeting will not last more than an hour and a half, and of course, it may be shorter, depending on how quickly we can complete the required business.

Also, we will be producing an online program book for the meeting, which will contain all the reports submitted by branches and state board officers, plus the very creative ads that many of the branches, state board, and members submitted. We are excited that we will have a much wider audience now for the program book than the number of members who registered for the conference.

Take care, everyone. We'll be back in touch once all the arrangements are finalized.

Carol Stephens and Leslie Tourigny  
AAUW-VA Co-Presidents



# AAUW-VA VOTING BEGINS ON APRIL 26!

## AAUW of Virginia Branch Members:

Because it's been several weeks now since you received the [2020 Voter Guide](#) in the 2020 Winter/Spring *Vision*, we want to refresh your memory on the highlights of the upcoming election and voting process:



Image: Freepik.com

1. All AAUW of Virginia members as of **April 1** are eligible to vote in the 2020 election.
2. We are voting on the **following four officer positions for two-year terms beginning July 1, 2020: Co-Presidents, Vice President for Communications, Vice President for Program, and Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy**, as well as on a proposed AAUW-VA bylaws amendment and the proposed AAUW-VA 2020-2022 Public Policy Priorities. The [2020 Voter Guide](#) contains information on the candidates running, the bylaws amendment and public policy priorities, as well as on the voting process and timeline.
3. **Even though candidates are running unopposed, it is critical that you vote because we need a quorum of seven percent of our membership voting** in the election so that the newly elected state officers can take office on July 1, 2020.
4. Because we are voting online and a link to the online ballot will be emailed to your email address of record in the [AAUW Member Services Database](#), please go to the Member Services Database by **March 22** and make sure your email address is current. The [2020 Voter Guide](#) contains information on updating your email address.
5. The online voting will open on **April 26 and close on May 16 at 11:45 p.m.** This is the second year we will be using software from ElectionBuddy, an outside vendor, for the election so carefully monitor your incoming emails. We'll let you know when the link to the online ballot has been emailed so in case you do not receive it, you can check your email "Junk" or "Spam" files.
6. Any questions concerning the election can be directed to Leslie Tourigny ([ltourigny@gmail.com](mailto:ltourigny@gmail.com)) or Sandy Lawrence ([sandyaauw@juno.com](mailto:sandyaauw@juno.com))

Thanks to the candidates who are running for the AAUW of Virginia state board, and thanks to all of our members for the extraordinary job they are doing. You've put us on the map!!

Leslie Tourigny and Carol Stephens  
AAUW of Virginia Co-Presidents

## AAUW and the Impact of the Coronavirus

Join AAUW for a member webinar about the impact of the virus and weigh in on our [short survey](#) on how you're staying connected.

<https://www.aauw.org/event/2020/03/aauw-and-the-impact-of-the-coronavirus/>

Our mission to advance equity won't change; we'll just adapt how we get there. Our work has never been more relevant. AAUW's research shows that women stand to lose the most when financial disruptions hit, since they have more debt, lower pay and less retirement savings than men.



Kim Churches, AAUW CEO



# 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</i> (Documentary)
Saturday, February 8, 2020, 10:30 am Sherwood Regional Library 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306	Joan Mulholland, American civil rights activist and a Freedom Rider With video documentary
Saturday, March 21, 2020, 10:15 am Sherwood Regional Library 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306	Announcing Sean, David, and Greg Eggerz, Author
Friday, April 24, 2020 7 pm Reception - 8 pm Performance Little Theatre of Alexandria 600 Wolfe St, Alexandria, VA 22304	Annual Fundraiser <i>"Blue Stockings"</i>
Thursday, May 28, 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



- 18 AAUW-VA Online Annual Business Meeting

- 20 Online Book Group, 7:30 pm

Contact Liz Promen  
703/780-7342



# APRIL 2020

11SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 AAUW-VA ABM
19	20 Book Group	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		