

Mt. Vernon Voices

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

Volume 64 Issue 10 June 2021

Mt. Vernon Branch



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



What a wonderful time was had by all at the May 20 branch get-together at **Paula Lettice's** home. Everyone was happy to be together after no gatherings in over a year. The weather cooperated, the food was wonderful and Paula was, as

usual, an excellent host. Thank you, Paula for always welcoming us warmly. Your patio is so beautiful and comfortable. Thank you for the work that went into managing who was coming and what food they would bring, as well as getting the patio prepared. It was a delightful afternoon.

2020-21 was an excellent program year despite challenges. This was due to the excellent planning and decision-making that occurred at the 2020 Zoom planning meeting. **Our next event is the Planning**

Meeting on June 12, 9:45 at Heritage Presbyterian Church. We will lay out what 2021-22 will look like. Please vote on the programs you want to discuss from the long list that I sent around. We will have refreshments from Panera, so also let me know if you will attend. This is usually one of our most interesting meetings so please consider coming.

The Cicadas have arrived with warm (hot!) weather. This is also our signal that our branch will take a break in July and most of August. Thank you to Bianca Daugherty who has produced an informative and beautiful newsletter all year. This is the last until late August. Stay in touch, take photos of your summer adventures, and be well.

Patsy

Photos of our May gathering on pages 4 and 5

TIME TO PLAN!

PLANNING MEETING JUNE 12



Please Join Us!

**Planning Meeting for 2021-22 Program Year
9:45 a.m. Heritage Presbyterian Church
8503 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308
Refreshments by Panera**

THIS MAY BE THE MOST IMPORTANT MEETING OF THE YEAR! We have a huge list of possible programs and need your input on what is most important to you. We will also need assistance with contacts and decisions on location or format of the program. (For example, will we use Zoom this year?) Please vote, by June 1, on the programs that interest you so the list will be pared down for our discussion on June 12. The fellowship hall at Heritage Church will be a spacious location for informal eating and good conversation. We hope you will come!

RSVP by June 8 to Patsy Quick

DUES ARE DUE

Please renew by June 30, 2021!

- Please check your email for the renewal message from memberinfo@aauw.org. This is the easiest way to pay. Just click on the link within this email and pay by credit or debit card.
- Or you may send a check for \$90 made out to Mt. Vernon AAUW to treasurer **Anne Simpson**, 1604 Old Drummer Boy Lane, Fort Washington, MD 20744 .
- Or just bring your check to the planning meeting on June 12.



*** \$59 of your AAUW membership is tax deductible. ***

YOU ARE INVITED

Invitation to participate in Public Policy discussion

Denise Murden, AAUW VA Co-VP for Public Policy, invites all members who are interested in Public Policy to participate in a Zoom discussion on **Wednesday, June 23, at 5:00 P.M.** A Zoom invitation will be sent at a later date.



The discussion will cover the upcoming Virginia State elections and the 2022 General Assembly Sessions. The featured speaker will be **Kristina Hagen**, Director of the Family Friendly Economy Campaign. AAUW is officially supporting the campaign and will be featured on their website: <https://familyfriendlyeconomyva.org/>

*Mary Ellen Mehler
Public Policy Chair*

BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2020 – 2021

Elected Officers

President:	Patsy Quick
Program Vice President:	Joanne Clark
Membership Vice President:	Mary Wall
Treasurer:	Anne Simpson
Secretary:	Paula Lettice

Appointed Chairs

Bylaws:	vacant
AAUW Funds:	Kathi Hanrahan
Public Policy:	Mary Ellen Mehler

Newsletter/Website:	Bianca Daugherty
Newsletter/ Directory Distribution:	Mary Ellen Mehler
Nominating Committee Chair:	Lois Passman
Hospitality:	Cathy Krebs

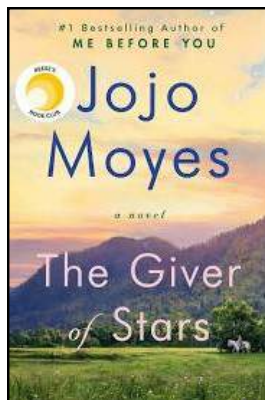
Interest Groups

Book Group:	Liz Promen
Dining Out:	Paula Lettice, Cathy Conron, Bianca Daugherty
Game Night:	Cynthia Jacobus
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



Book Group will meet via Zoom on Monday, June 21, 7:30 p.m.

***** Zoom link will be sent via email. *****

BOOK: Giver of Stars
By Jojo Moyes

REVIEWER: Mary Ellen Mehler

Books for next program year will be chosen in September. Send your book recommendations to **Liz Promen** during the summer.

Interested to join? Contact Liz Promen - epromen@cox.net

GAME NIGHT

After almost a year of monthly game night zooming, the group held it's first in person game night at the home of Anne and Richard Simpson on May 28. Gamers were happy to finally get together again. What a perfect ending to the 2020-2021 Mt Vernon Branch AAUW Game Night year.

There will be **no additional game nights until September 24, 2021, when we resume our regular schedule, the fourth Friday of every month.**

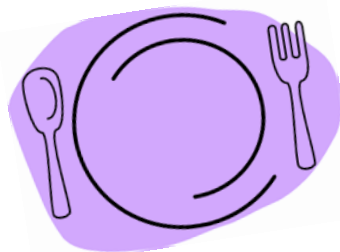
Cynthia Jacobus will continue one more year as AAUW Game chair in 2021-2022. **Anyone interested in joining us in September** should please contact **Cynthia** by the end of August. We are hopeful that all our 2021-2022 AAUW Game Nights will be IN PERSON! Come join the fun! The more the merrier!

Contact **Cynthia Jacobus** if you would like to join the group:
cynthiajacobus@cox.net

Spouses and significant others are welcome to join in!



DINING OUT



**Let's dine out together
and enjoy good food, good drink, and good company!**

We are planning to venture out for the **Summer Restaurant Week in August.**

No dates have been published yet for the
Washington DC / Alexandria Restaurant Week.

Watch for email information from Paula, Cathy and Bianca!

Email AAUW.MtVernon@gmail.com if you would like to join the group.

ANNUAL POTLUCK / SOCIAL GATHERING

Live and in person!!!!!!

Finally— on May 20 members gathered in person for the first time since February 2020!



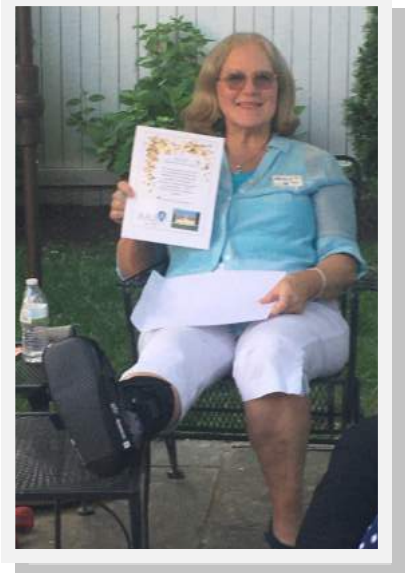
From left: Betty, Rosemarie, Shannon, Anne S, and Mary Ellen



We were all stars!!! President **Patsy Quick** awarded board members with stars and thanked all members again for their enthusiasm and on-going support during the pandemic.



From left: Judy, Patsy, Anne G, and Ebba Jo



Mary

ANNUAL POTLUCK / SOCIAL GATHERING



Photo top:
Cathy, Paula, and
Priscilla

Photo left:
Solveig and Joanne

Photo right:
Barbara and Bianca

Photo bottom:
Patsy and Clare



ELECTION RESULTS ARE IN

AAUW OF VIRGINIA ELECTION RESULTS

316 AAUW of Virginia Members voted in the **One Member One Vote Election** of state officers. That is 31% of our membership, and meets the needed quorum.

Each candidate was elected with 99% or more of the vote. The AAUW of Virginia 2021-23 officers for the following positions are:

- **Vice President for Finance - Marsha Melkonian**
- **Vice President for Membership and Branch Development - Cheryl Spohnholtz**
- **Recording Secretary - Sherry Warren**

The proposed Bylaws Amendment Article X. Officers and Directors passed with 94.9% of the vote.



AAUW NATIONAL ELECTION RESULTS: MEMBERS HAVE SPOKEN

- **Julia Brown** has been re-elected to serve as board chair for three more years.
- **Malinda Gaul** was re-elected as board vice chair, and **Elizabeth Haynes** and **Joseph Bertolino** will also retain their board seats. All are three-year terms.
- AAUW's public policy priorities were approved by 92% of voters.
- The board-recommended ballot initiative to remove the college-degree membership requirement did not receive the two-thirds vote required to enact a bylaws change. However, a remarkable 63% voted in favor of this change, indicating a momentum shift toward a more inclusive membership.

AAUW's 2021 Election Results

This year's voter turnout reached a record high, with 23% of all members casting a ballot.

While we have many voices, all AAUW members share a commitment to advancing gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. More than ever, we must embrace our values and continue to strive towards [diversity, equity and inclusion](#); it's a journey that will never end.

TPSM RIBBON CUTTING MAY 16

The **Turning Point Suffragist Memorial** held a formal dedication for the memorial in Lorton on Sunday, May 16. The event was livestreamed and a video is still available on the [Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Facebook page](#). The memorial is located in Occoquan Regional Park, 9751 Ox Road, Lorton.



Mt Vernon branch members participated in and followed the journey to get to the dedication of the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial. Our branch name can be found on the wall of donors.

LTA FUNDRAISER NEWS



ANNOUNCING NEXT YEAR'S LITTLE THEATRE FUNDRAISER

Patsy Quick and **Arlene Shapiro** (Alexandria Branch) attended the LTA lottery on Saturday, May 15, and selected the play for our fundraising event next year. They were fortunate to get their choice and date:

Bright Star - Friday, January 14, 2022

This Tony Award nominated musical, created by comedy legend Steve Martin and Grammy winner Edie Brickell, is a sweeping tale of love and redemption set in the American South during the 1920's and 1940's. This original and hopeful musical, based on a true story, is propelled by a rousing country and bluegrass score.

2020 - 2021 MT. VERNON BRANCH PROGRAM YEAR

Meeting Date and Place	Focus/Activity
June, 2021, June 12, 2021, 9:45 a.m. Heritage Presbyterian Church 8503 Fort Hunt Road	Annual Planning Session



This is the last newsletter for the program year 2020/2021
 "Mt. Vernon Voices" will be back at the end of August
 to kick off our new program year.

Stay safe and have a great summer!



JUNE 2021

- 12 Planning Meeting**
9:45 a.m.
 Contact Patsy Quick
 703/360-8678
- 21 Book Group, 7:30 p.m.**
 Contact Liz Promen
 703/780-7342



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



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

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