

Mt. Vernon Voices

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

Volume 66 Issue 10 June 2023

Mt. Vernon Branch



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Bravo! Another great Mt. Vernon AAUW program year is in the books. Many thanks go to the members of the board and all participants in our programs and activities in 2022-23. It takes many members to keep our branch active and engaging. Those energizer bunnies that were recognized at the May 18th Potluck Dinner are listed on page 6 of this newsletter. Many thanks especially go to **Paula Lettice** who hosted the Potluck Dinner. She is the hostess-with-the-most-est and we appreciate her greatly! **Elaine Kolish** distributed our 14 Named Honoree certificates, recognizing our record-breaking AAUW Funds donations. Those Honorees were listed in last month's

newsletter.

The work does not stop yet! On June 9, 9:30 a.m., we will gather at **Heritage Presbyterian Church to plan the programs for 2023-24.** This will be our last gathering until September. Please join us for brunch and a discussion of program ideas. (See **Solveig Eggerz's** list in the last newsletter!) We will vote and try to determine a schedule. This is always a fun, interesting, and well-attended event. If you have never attended, please join us and bring a friend, if you wish. It is a great time to learn what we are all about. Everybody is welcome! **Look for emails with details.**

(Continued on page 2)

PLANNING MEETING AND BRUNCH, JUNE 9



**KEEPING OUR BRANCH
GOING AND GOING AND GOING!
Join us Friday, June 9, 9:30 A.M.
Mt. Vernon AAUW
Planning Meeting & Brunch**

At Heritage Presbyterian Church - 8503 Fort Hunt Road - June 9, at 9:30 A.M.,
we will discuss and plan Mt. Vernon AAUW's 2023-24 Program Year.

All are invited! We will meet, eat, and plan!

Bring a breakfast item of your choice to share with others. An email invitation will be sent and you will be invited to RSVP and name your breakfast item. Coffee and water will be provided. It's a fun and very important event!

Looking forward to seeing you there!

PRESIDENTS CORNER

(Continued from page 1)

In closing, I want to thank **Bianca Daugherty** for our monthly newsletters. They are full of wonderful content, thanks to board members' articles and other things Bianca adds on her own. Those things are always something I have forgotten but she has remembered. The graphics and color make our newsletter pleasing to look at and fun to read. **Thank you, Bianca!** Enjoy some time off. **(Our next newsletter is in September.)** If you are interested in working on the newsletter or sharing/learning the position with Bianca, please let us know.

Many thanks to our proofreaders! **Clare Coulter, Lois Passman, and Mary Ellen Mehler** have done this for years. **Elaine Kolish** joined us this past month. If you would be interested in proofreading the newsletter and giving these folks a break, let me know! Thank you, **Mary Ellen**, for distributing our lovely publication every month.

Finally, I want to thank **Joanna Crane** for agreeing to be nominated and elected as Secretary of our branch for 2023-25. You are a wonderful addition to our board!

I hope to see many of you on June 9 for our Planning Meeting!

Patsy

Please Renew Your Membership before it expires on 6/30/2023

You can pay directly with your credit card at AAUW.org or you can send a check your branch treasurer:

Anne Simpson, 1604 Old Drummer Boy Lane, Fort Washington, MD, 20744.

Dues are a total of \$100, \$72 for national, \$15 for state, and \$13 for branch. \$69 of this is tax deductible.



BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2022 – 2023

Elected Officers

President:	Patsy Quick
Program Vice President:	Solveig Eggerz
Membership Co-Vice Presidents:	Susan Farmer Mary Wall
Treasurer:	Anne Simpson
Secretary:	Paula Lettice

Appointed Chairs

Bylaws:	vacant
AAUW Funds:	Elaine Kolish
Public Policy:	Mary Ellen Mehler
Newsletter/Website:	Bianca Daugherty

Newsletter/Directory Distribution:	Mary Ellen Mehler
Nominating Committee Chair:	Lois Passman
Hospitality:	vacant

Interest Groups

Book Group:	Liz Promen
Diversity Outreach Group:	Janet Hedrick
Dining Out:	Paula Lettice Cathy Conron Bianca Daugherty
Game Night:	Bianca Daugherty Paula Lettice
ImpromptEvent:	Joanne Clark

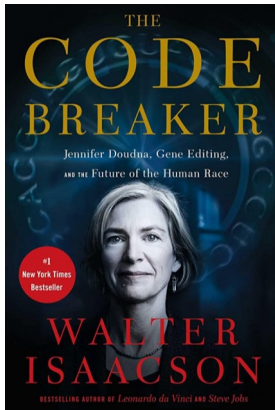
Contact Email: AAUW.MtVernon@gmail.com

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—JUNE 19

Monday, June 19, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

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



HOST: Liz Promen
2210 Cavendish Drive
Alexandria

BOOK: The Code Breaker
Walter Isaacson

REVIEWER: Joanne Clark

Books for next program year will be chosen in September.
Send your book recommendations to **Liz Promen** during the summer.
If you are interested in joining the group or would like more information
contact Liz at epromen2@gmail.com

GAME NIGHT—JUNE 30

Join us for a fun evening with various games

Friday, June 30, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Home of Kathi Hanrahan
Co-Host Cathy Conron

Spouses and significant others are welcome to join in!

Contact Paula Lettice or Bianca Daugherty
if you would like to join the group.

AAUW.MtVernon@gmail.com



Dining Out—Summer Restaurant Week



Dining out at Indo Chen in May

The Dining Out Group plans to meet up again in August
for **Alexandria Restaurant week!**
No dates have been published yet.

Stay tuned for email information from
Bianca, Cathy and Paula.

AAUW Diversity Outreach Group
of the Mt. Vernon Branch will have **no**
meeting on the regular date June 14.

Please watch for email from Patsy concerning the group and upcoming changes.

The group welcomes new members and invites ideas for reading and for activities.

Contact **Patsy Quick** pnquick@cox.com
if you wish to join the group
and/or have ideas for readings
and/or activities.



(As reported by Janine Greenwood)

100 Years Ago in Virginia Politics

Virginia Women have long been involved in issues of Public Policy. In 1920, the 19th Amendment gave American women the right to vote. Just two years later, there were at least nine Virginia women seeking General Assembly seats in the 1921 election. However, they all lost in that first election. Nevertheless, in 1923, two Virginia women, **Sara Fein** of Norfolk and **Helen Henderson** of Buchanan County, won their elections and became the first two women elected to the Virginia General Assembly despite what the Richmond Times-Dispatch at the time called “strenuous opposition from both Democrat and Republican party leaders.” A typical newspaper editorial comment came from the Clinch Valley News in Tazwell stating that “a wife or mother is decidedly out of her element when she enters into the political arena.” That was the beginning of vigorous participation by Virginia women in the political arena.



Helen Henderson

AAUW Greatest Need Funds

If you have not yet given in response to mailings from AAUW about the Annual Giving Drive, it is not too late. AAUW will gratefully accept your donations at any time. You can give three ways:

1. Through the envelope they sent you,
2. Online at www.aauw.org/Annual2023, or
3. In person at our planning meeting on Friday, June 9, where I will collect funds.

As you know, our donations support a cause near and dear to our hearts, advocating for and supporting equity and economic security for women and girls. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Elaine Kolish
AAUW Funds Chair

ANNOUNCING NEXT YEAR'S LITTLE THEATRE FUNDRAISER



A big thank you to **Joanne Clark** and **Anne Simpson** who attended the Little Theatre of Alexandria Lottery on May 13, 2023, to select next year's play for our fundraiser.

AAUW's name was drawn 2nd and Joanne and Anne (representing Mt. Vernon and Alexandria) selected our first choice:

Friday, March 22, 2024,
Murder on the Orient Express

Thank you Anne and Joanne for taking your time to attend and make sure we got a great play for our fundraiser next year!

POTLUCK CELEBRATION—MAY 18



Branch President **Patsy Quick** surprised board members with a goody bag and thanked all board and branch members for their enthusiasm and ongoing support throughout the year. **Elaine Kolish** distributed the certificates for the 2022 AAUW Named Honorees.

Surprise for Patsy! Board and branch members presented Patsy with a gift card as a token of their appreciation for her dedication and commitment to the AAUW mission and our branch.



Clare, Ofelia, Louise



Bianca, Cathy, Paula

ALL SMILES, ENJOYING GOOD FOOD AND GOOD COMPANY!!



Joanne and Susan



Liz, Anne, Elaine, Joanna



Thank you!

A huge thank you to the Energizer Bunnies on our branch board who keep things going and going and going!

- **Solveig Eggerz**, thanks for being proactive regarding programming. Thanks for the great ideas you added to our list and for keeping everyone informed and happy by following up and staying on top of everything.
- **Mary Wall**, thanks for the great ideas about membership recruitment and for keeping us informed about the Hub and keeping the directory updated.
- **Susan Farmer**, thanks for keeping up with Mary! Thanks for your ideas and helping to put together the branch “story board.”
- **Anne Simpson**, thanks for creating a budget and keeping track of branch money, LTA money, and the AAUW branch donation to AAUW Funds... and for advising us about our spending. Thanks for attending the LTA Lottery to select our next play.
- **Paula Lettice**, thanks for serving 2.5 terms as secretary, for taking clear notes, and getting our minutes out in a timely fashion. Thanks also for arranging our Holiday luncheon, working with the Dining Out team, and the Game night team, AND for hosting the Potluck Dinner. It’s always a pleasure being at your home.
- **Elaine Kolish**, thanks for collecting and keeping track of our AAUW Funds donations. I think we set a record with donations this year. Thanks for managing our list of Named Honorees.
- **Mary Ellen Mehler**, thank you for participating in state public policy zoom meetings and keeping us informed about the state actions. Thanks for hosting the postcard writing/get out the vote event at your home. Thank you also for proofreading and distributing the newsletter every month. AND, for helping with the LTA food purchase and getting it to the theater.
- **Bianca Daugherty**, thank you for a beautiful, informative newsletter each month. Thanks for posting it on our website that you manage so efficiently. Thanks, too, for working with the Dining Out team and Game Night team AND for updating the directory as needed.
- **Lois Passman**, thank you for your diligence and perseverance as our long-time nominating chair. Thank you also for proofreading the newsletter each month.
- **Clare Coulter**, thank you for proofreading the newsletter each month. It takes time and we appreciate all your efforts over the years.
- **Liz Promen**, thanks for leading our book group so graciously each month. Thank you for putting together the recommended books and typing out the schedule after the September planning meeting.
- **Cathy Conron**, thanks for participating with the Dining Out team. This team checks out restaurants, sends out information, and makes the reservations when we have a dining out event. Cathy also helped this year prepare and purchase food for our LTA fundraiser.
- **Joanne Clark**, thanks for leading up ImpromptEvents and also helping out with purchasing and delivering the food for the LTA event. And thank you for attending the LTA Lottery to select next year’s play.
- **Janet Hedrick**, thank you for leading up the ticket sales for the LTA fundraiser. You did a great job of keeping track of who owed what and making sure that Anne Simpson received the money.

ELECTION RESULTS ARE IN

AAUW OF VIRGINIA ELECTION RESULTS

197 AAUW of Virginia Members voted in the **One Member One Vote Election** of state officers. That is 22% of the state membership and meets the needed quorum.

Each candidate was elected with 99.5% or more of the vote. The AAUW of Virginia 2023-25 officers for the following positions are:



- **Vice President for Finance - Virginia Kress**
- **Vice President for Membership and Branch Development - Laura Greenfield**
- **Co-Vice Presidents for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion– Erica Brown-Meredith and Meg Tuccillo**
- **Recording Secretary - Laura Southall**

Congratulations and thank you to these members!!

*Sandy Lawrence
Voting and Elections Chair*

AAUW NATIONAL 2023 ELECTION

The votes have been tallied:

- **Kimberly S. Adams, Edwina Frances Martin, Jenna Kirkpatrick Howard and Shaila Rao Mistry** have been elected to serve on the AAUW National Board of Directors.
- The bylaws revisions were approved by 95.1% of voters. [Resources for state and branch leaders.](#)
- The Public Policy Priority revisions were approved by 96.3% of voters



- ⇒ [AAUW Public Policy Priorities](#)
- ⇒ [2023 AAUW Affiliate Bylaws Changes](#)

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/>



This is the last newsletter for the program year 2022/2023
 "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 2023

- **9 Planning Meeting**
9:30 a.m.
Contact Patsy Quick
703/360-8676
- **19 Book Group, 7:30 p.m.**
Contact Liz Promen
703/780-7342
- **30 Game Night, 7:30 p.m.**
Contact Kathi Hanrahan
703/624-3096



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



Check out our website <https://mtvernon-va.aauw.net/>
 Follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/mtvernonvaaauw/>

