

Mt. Vernon Voices

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

Volume 67 Issue 10 June 2024

Mt. Vernon Branch



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we wrap up another successful program year for Mt. Vernon AAUW, the **TEAMWORK** of our branch leaders has been outstanding! We all need to thank the following leaders for the activities, action, and programs that have kept our branch of AAUW vibrant.

- **Solveig Eggerz** has done a fantastic job with programming and she arranged a special tour for us at the Arlington Heritage Museum.
- **Anne Simpson** has accurately kept track of our incoming dues, fundraising efforts, and budget. She represented us at the LTA lottery to select the fundraising play for 2025.
- **Susan Farmer** and **Mary Wall** (from afar!) have done a great job with membership.
- **Joanna Crane** kept great records for our board meetings and email-tracking of online board votes.
- **Elaine Kolish** managed AAUW Funds, Named Honorees, and updated our branch bylaws and policy sheet, with great skill. She proofread the newsletter each month.
- **Mary Ellen Mehler** distributed our newsletter, kept us updated on state public policy and had a postcard writing party to get out the vote. She also proofread the newsletter each month.
- Book Group Leader, **Liz Promen**, managed our book group schedule and selection of books. She also sent cards to members who experienced illness or surgery.



(Continued on page 2)

PROGRAM PLANNING MEETING

JUNE 1, 2024

All Invited!

2024-25 Program Planning Meeting
Saturday, June 1, 10:30 A.M.
Sherwood Regional Library



Please join us at the popular gathering to plan our branch programs for 2024-25. It takes as many of us as possible to discuss and vote on the direction the branch will take next year with programming. This interesting and interactive meeting results in a great sense of accomplishment for everyone involved. **Please participate! It takes a team!**

You have already received a list of possible ideas via email. If there are other ideas, please send them to **Patsy, Elaine, and Solveig**.

***** Feel free to bring a snack for the group to enjoy. We will provide water and coffee. *****

(Continued from page 1)

- Game Night Leaders **Bianca Daugherty** and Paula **Lettice** managed the schedule and roster of this fun group. The schedule was a moving object this year!
- Dining Out was managed by **Paula Lettice, Cathy Conron,** and **Bianca Daugherty.** They looked for great restaurants, made reservations, and sent emails to update us.
- **Bianca Daugherty** is our newsletter publisher. We can't thank her enough for the beautiful newsletter that goes out each month.
- **Paula Lettice** has arranged our Holiday Luncheon and hosted our Potluck Dinner now for several years. We appreciate her negotiating skills at Cedar Knoll and enjoy her lovely garden and the delicious dishes that everyone brings. It bears repeating: She is the hostess with the most-est!
- All board members helped with the LTA fundraiser in one way or another. All board members, at one time or another, prepared articles for the newsletter.



It really does take a team of members who step up when needed at unexpected times and who work well together to ensure that our branch meets the needs of our members as well as fulfills the mission of AAUW. I am hugely grateful to be a part of such a great team of leaders and am thankful for their friendships!

As we close out the 2023-24 program year, thank a team member when you see her. And consider being part of the team if asked! Or just let me know! Being a board member is a very rewarding part of AAUW membership!

Patsy

BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2023 – 2024

Elected Officers

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

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:	vacant
Dining Out:	Paula Lettice Cathy Conron Bianca Daugherty
Game Night:	Bianca Daugherty Paula Lettice
ImpromptEvent:	All Members

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

Monday, June 17, 2024 - 7 p.m.

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

HOSTESS: Liz Promen - 2210 Cavendish Drive
Alexandria, VA 22308

BANNED BOOKS

Each person will read a banned book and tell a little about it and why it was banned. Liz Promen will chair discussion,



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

Join us for a fun evening with various games.

Friday, June 28, 2024, 7:30 p.m.

Home of Kathi Hanrahan

Kathi will send out reminder and address to the group via email.
Spouses and significant others are welcome to join in!

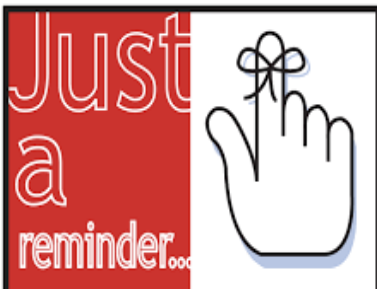


Contact Paula Lettice or Bianca Daugherty
if you would like to join the group.

AAUW.MtVernon@gmail.com

TIME TO RENEW

ANNE SIMPSON



Time to start thinking about renewing your membership. Do it while you are thinking about it! You can pay dues with your credit card on the AAUW website, AAUW.org, or send a check to Anne Simpson payable to the branch. The dues for this year are the same as last year, \$100. (includes \$72 - National; \$15 - State; \$13 for Mt Vernon). National dues (\$72) are now fully tax deductible.

Our Co-VPs for Public Policy, **Janine Greenwood and Denise Murden**, have alerted us to welcome news regarding support for public education decided upon by the Virginia General Assembly this month. This issue always remains one of high priority for AAUW of Virginia.



Our Co-VPs report that the General Assembly passed a compromise two-year spending plan that boosts funding for education and other priorities without increasing taxes. Votes in both the Senate and House of Delegates were nearly unanimous. The new budget will include a 3 percent raise in each of the next two years for teachers, as well as big increases in funding for K-12 schools, higher education, and mental health services.

AAUW National Member Election 2024

The votes have been tallied:

- Melissa LaDuke, Dianne Owens, Sona Pancholy and Christine Schmitz have been elected to serve on the AAUW National Board of Directors.
- **The open membership initiative did not pass. Changes to AAUW's bylaws require 2/3 majority (66.6%) to pass. AAUW members voted 65.1% to approve the measure, just shy of passing.**



2025 LTA FUNDRAISER

PATSY QUICK



THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG

JUNE 7 - 28, 2025

What would happen if Sherlock Holmes and Monty Python had an illegitimate Broadway baby? You'd get New York and London's smash hit comedy! It's the opening night of *The Murder at Haversham Manor*, where things are going disastrously wrong. With an unconscious leading lady, a corpse that can't play dead, and actors who trip over everything (including their lines), it's "comic gold" (Variety) sure to bring down the house.

Thank you to **Anne Simpson** who attended the Lottery at the Little Theatre of Alexandria with **Mary Ann Bier** from the Alexandria Branch. AAUW was the next-to-last group to get to choose. This has never happened! but Anne and Mary Ann were able to secure ***The Play That Went Wrong, for Wednesday, June 18, 2025***. You will be hearing more about this in the new year. Mark your calendars NOW! This is a new month and day for us.

2023 - 2024 MT. VERNON BRANCH PROGRAM YEAR

Meeting Date and Place

Saturday, June 1, 2024, 10:30 a.m.
Sherwood Regional Library
2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306

Focus/Activity

Annual Planning Session



What do states from Florida to New York have in common?
We're all getting together for **AAUW's Atlantic Regional Conference!**
SAVE THE DATE: September 27-29, 2024 in Richmond, Virginia!
Stay tuned for more details.

NOTES OF THANKS FROM OUR LIAISONS AT SHERWOOD REGIONAL LIBRARY

Patsy and Solveig,

I received the wonderful letter of recognition and I am flattered to be one of Mount Vernon AAUW's 2023 Honorees. I am very happy to see Zayne was named a 2023 honoree as well. We value collaborating with your organization and I hope we can continue this partnership into the future. Thank you so much for partnering with our library. We are happy to be a small part of your success!

Thank you again for the recognition!

Sincerely,

Janelle Ortiz

*Adult Services Manager
Sherwood Regional Library*

Hi!

Just wanted to chime in that it really did make our day to receive our Honoree certificates. I've so enjoyed working with you all and have been absolutely delighted in having a small role in helping support some fantastic AAUW programming for Sherwood including Separate but NOT Equal in February, and Seniors Staying Strong last October. How happy everyone looked after coming out of Jenny Grover's October program as they all walked out into a gorgeous Fall afternoon is one of my favorite moments here at Sherwood. Thank you so much for this recognition and I look forward to assisting you all with many more programs in the future!

Best,

Zayne Reeves

This is the last newsletter for the program year 2023/2024
 "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!

No summer break for the Dining Out Group. **We are planning to meet again in August for Alexandria Restaurant Week.** Your suggestions for dining adventures are welcome!

Stay tuned for email information from Bianca, Cathy and Paula



June 2024

- **1 Branch Planning Mtg.**
Contact Patsy Quick
703/360-8678
- **17 Book Group, 7 p.m.**
Contact Liz Promen
703/780-7342
- **28 Game Night, 7:30 p.m.**
Contact Kathi Hanrahan
703/624-3096

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



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

