



ARLINGTON BRANCH REPORT AAUW OF VIRGINIA

June,, 2017
Volume 73, Issue 70

OUTGOING CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Remember the old Joan Rivers line, "Can we talk?" Yes, that is what I am asking you. Let's start a conversation here and now.

In a recent Presidents' Message, a request was made to find out what is working in the branch, what isn't and how can we move forward. As the outgoing President, I am asking again that same question. We have had some really exciting meetings this past year, eight of them exactly. Branch bylaws require we have at least 6 meetings. But here is a question: do we want to continue with these types of meetings, do we need more membership interaction at branch meetings?

How do we attract new members to carry on the work of AAUW? I read somewhere that younger people are attracted to service projects. Is that something the branch wants to do? And really, in Arlington there are all kinds of service projects that branch members, as a group, could do.

Would you be interested in meeting up at a restaurant for happy hour, or as one hotel chain calls it, "wine o'clock"? This informal setting may be a way to be in contact with women like ourselves who don't know about AAUW.

We are not the only branch or organization that is trying to move forward with fewer members and less membership participation.

Speaking with a friend who serves on a museum board, she told me that her board had to cancel one of the museum's highlight events of the spring because there was no one to carry out the work, even though all the members loved the spring highlight event.

The branch has had meetings during the day on Saturday and the turnout has not been overwhelming. Is a time directly after work, around 6:30 or 7:00 better to have a meeting? We are in a transition period of what and who our members will be and what they will do. Yes, do. To keep the branch moving along there not only has to be supporters but doers.

Speaking of doers, the branch still needs a Membership Vice President and a chair for the Awards Event that usually occurs in the spring. Is anyone going to step up?

We are not alone in our concerns about carrying on the work of our Arlington branch and AAUW VA. Please let me hear from you. This is your branch.

Marcy Leverenz, Co-President Mleverenz,@comcast.net

Photo: **Meg Tuccillo**

(beginning 2nd year as Co-President of a 2 year term);

Marcy Leverenz

(retiring as Co-President); and

Carol Dabbs (new Co-President)



**THANKS MARCY, FROM ALL OF US. YOU
CONTRIBUTE A GREAT DEAL TO OUR BRANCH.**

A REMINDER

**OUR NATIONAL CONVENTION IS ALMOST HERE -
It's being held IN WASHINGTON,DC FROM JUNE 14-17.**

Every two years, 1,000 women gather to discover new ways to empower themselves and their community. AAUW's national convention is a unique opportunity to learn new skills, gain insight and inspiration, and connect with other women leaders. Remember to register online by going to www.aauw.org and clicking on "Convention"!



Arlington Branch AAUW SPRING AWARDS EVENT

Here are a couple pix from our April 24 Awards event.



Pictured above: Superintendent Dr. Patrick Murphy, Mary Beth Pelosky, recipient of the Educator of the year award, and Meg Tuccillo, Co-President of the Arlington AAUW Branch

Students were also honored. see below:



Spring Awards Event – April 24, 2017

Left to right: Marcy Leverenz, our co-president, is shown here with students Pamela Guzman from W-L and Christine Wanda from H-B Woodlawn who were given the Elizabeth Campbell Award for the Advancement of the Arts in Arlington; Mary Beth Pelosky, Educator of the Year and Co Vice-President of AAUW; Veronica Olivera Rojas from Arlington Community High School, who was awarded the \$500 Lunch Bunch Scholarship; Meg Tuccillo, co-President; and Dr. Patrick Murphy, Superintendent of Arlington Public Schools

ATTENTION! ENTER THIS CONTEST!

Memberships that have not been renewed by June 30 will **officially** expire on that date. To heighten awareness of the end of the fiscal year, the board has planned an exciting contest. Everyone who pays her dues by June 30, 2017, will be eligible to have her name entered in a drawing for a refund of \$50 of her dues. Board members will not be eligible. So get out your credit card or your checkbook and pay your dues.

FIGURE 1PAID ON TIME

Betty Dunn

betty.dunn3@verizon.net

LUNCH BUNCH



Our hard working Lunch Bunch Co-Chairs this year:

Michelle Milden and Mary Ann Ullrich



Pictured from L to R: **Patricia Sanguinetti** (Counselor), **Michele Milden**(Lunch Bunch Co-Chair), **Veronica Olivera** (Scholarship Recipient from Arlington Community High School), **Mary Ann Ullrich** (Lunch Bunch Co-Chair), and **Dr. Barbara Thompson** (Principal).

LUNCH BUNCH -continued



Celebration Cake at Lunch Bunch "Follow Your Dreams." The Lunch Bunch Theme for the year was "Reach for Your Dreams."



AAUW Lunch Bunch Volunteers received Arlington Community High School T-shirts as a thank you for helping this year. Pictured from L to R: Susan Nelson, Betty Dunn, Susan Rushton, Michele Milden, Mary Ann Ullrich, Patricia Sanguinetti (Counselor), and Dr. Barbara Thompson (Principal), not pictured: Susan Senn

ARLINGTON STEM PROJECT: "GRASSES TO MASSES"

by Susan Senn

For our STEM event this year, Arlington AAUW, along with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, sponsored the "Grasses to Masses" program. The third graders in the Jamestown Elementary School Extended Day Program grew 'celery', a type of sub-aquatic vegetation (SAV) commonly found in the Chesapeake Bay. Due to overpopulation and abundant nutrients, the population of SAVs has declined over the past 10 years. SAV serves as a nursery for juvenile fish and crabs, providing food as well as protection. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation provided the equipment, for a fee, and the seeds. We set up the equipment in a classroom at Jamestown at the beginning of February. Every day, the students would monitor the growth, scrub the ever-present algae from the heater, filter, and even the leaves of the grasses themselves. On May 6, in what was less than friendly weather and seas, Anna Senn, the supervisor of the Extended Day program, planted the grasses at Mason Neck. On that day, the rain was falling and the water, even at low tide, was waist high. The children did not plant in those conditions. We were not as successful in the plant growth due to a lack of light and enough heat where the grasses were growing. We are all looking forward to next year, changing the variables for a more productive result.



LET'S TALK ABOUT BOOKS

Our June meetings will be at the following times and locations:

The second Wednesday, June 14 at 2 pm, at the home of **Priscilla Becker**, 2375 N Vernon St., [703-841-0647](tel:703-841-0647),

jbecker841@aol.com,

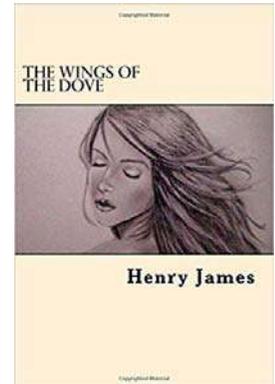
and

The fourth Tuesday, June 28 at 2 pm, at the home of **Elizabeth Anderson**,

1303 24th Street, S, [703/892-8216](tel:703-892-8216),

parkerea@comcast.net

Our book selection for June is *Wings of the Dove* by Henry James.



Be sure to let the hostess know if you are planning to attend the meeting at her home.

ARLINGTON INTERNATIONAL COFFEE GROUP

There is no International Coffee Group Meeting in June. Enjoy the summer!

Arlene Shapiro,
Chairperson
arleneshapiro@yahoo.com
[703-719-5467](tel:703-719-5467)



Have fun! Meet new friends! Step up and serve as Vice President for Membership of our Branch!

The office of Vice President for Membership is still open. Quite frankly, we really need to fill it. Doing so will allow **Carol Dabbs**, our current VP for membership, to move up into the position of co- president!

The job takes no more than 10-12 hours a month, often less, including the board meetings every 2 months, and branch meetings as scheduled. Those who have done it will spend time explaining the job thoroughly to the new person. This is a really worthwhile job and it's fun! You get to chat with people. It's an important job because the membership needs to be managed...., There is some paper work and outreach with recruiting and welcoming new members. Take the plunge; be a Leader!
by **Sara Anderson**

Branch Membership—Inviting interested friends is how new members find us!

As we all go about our busy lives during the summer (when AAUW Arlington Branch traditionally does not have branch meetings), we have the opportunity to visit with many friends and colleagues whom we may not see during the fall, winter, and spring. Most of us learned about AAUW and joined because someone asked us to attend a meeting and to join. So, as you enjoy time with your friends who are interested in our issues, please consider, and make yourself a mental (or physical) note of whom you'll invite to attend one or more of our community activities starting in the fall. This is our most valuable pool of potential members!

Carol Dabbs, Membership VP

**HERE IS WHAT ONE OF OUR MEMBERS IS UP TO,
MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE.**

Norma Kacen, a co-founder of NOVA Friends of Refugees, says, "St. George's Episcopal Church had enough of anti-Muslim rhetoric, and we knew we had to do something."



Our Branch members have so many interests. Come and meet them at our branch meetings in the fall.

And another member - Anita Nahal

Arlington Branch member, **Anita Nahal**, was recognized by the **ESVB branch at the NYS Convention** last week for her work with them in diversity and inclusion. They gave **Anita** the **Emerging Leader award!**

Worth repeating...

Here are our Arlington Branch Leaders for 2017-19!

The slate of officers for 2017 is as follows:

Co-Presidents: **Meg Tuccillo**
Carol Dabbs

Co-Vice Presidents for programs: **Mary Beth Pelosky**
Susan Nelson

Secretary: **Chris White**

Treasurer: **Betty Dunn**
(for rest of term 2017-18)

Assistant Treasurer: **Susan Senn**
(for rest of term 2017-18)
(The Asst. Treasurer also does the website
which **Susan** has been doing this year.)

Vice President for Membership: **STILL LOOKING FOR YOU**
(To fill position **Carol Dabbs** is leaving.)

WANTED/NEEDED/FOUND

Last month I asked for some help with our snail mail newsletters in getting them assembled and mailed occasionally when I am out of town. I did not get a volunteer,

WE ACTUALLY GOT THREE VOLUNTEERS!

"I'm tickled pink" as they say. So if you are chatting with **Chris White, Susan Senn** or **Marjorie Hobart**, please give them a huge smile for me.



Cece Michelotti
Newsletter Editor

2017 AAUW National Election

Your vote is your voice. Have you exercised your right to vote in the AAUW National Election? Weigh in on the new AAUW Board of Directors, proposed changes on issues such as the membership requirement, and more. **Online voting closes at 9 p.m. ET on June 15, 2017.** [Cast your ballot today!](#) You'll need your voter PIN located in the spring issue of *AAUW Outlook* magazine.

Arlington Branch Newsletter
American Association of University
Women
6325 19th Street North

Arlington, Virginia 22205

Calendar of Events

Branch Members meeting dates to consider:

GENERAL MEETINGS

June 14-17 National AAUW MT in DC

BOARD MEETINGS

July 26, Wednesday, at 7 pm at Meg's

The Arlington Branch Report is published monthly from September through June by the Arlington Branch of the American Association of University Women.

Articles for the **September, 2017 Branch Report** should be mailed or emailed by **August 15, 2017** to

Editor **Cece Michelotti**
cecemich@gmail.com

NOTIFY ME IF YOU NEED MORE TIME, PLEASE.

Address changes or corrections should be made to **Elizabeth Dunn.**

betty.dunn3@verizon.net

Mission of AAUW-

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.