



# **ARLINGTON BRANCH REPORT AAUW OF VIRGINIA**

October, 2017  
Volume 74, Issue 2

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## **AAUW CO-PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

### Volunteering Powers - AAUW!

The reasons you joined AAUW Arlington are probably that local AAUW branches are excellent venues to network with professional women of all ages and are part of a highly respected and influential national organization of more than 100,000 members. AAUW priorities at the national level inform state and local action. Current major policy priorities are to help women and girls reach their full potential, especially through supporting a strong system of public education, fostering economic self-sufficiency for all women, and aiding the causes of equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society. **AAUW Virginia, based on a survey of members, has chosen pay equity and improving legislative re-districting as their two primary issues for this year.**

How does AAUW exert its influence at the state and, more importantly for our branch, the local level? As was discussed last month in this column, this occurs through our branch activities, like our monthly programs, open to the public on topics related to our public policy priorities (please bring a friend!), or like the Lunch Bunch which supports young women facing challenges in completing their secondary schooling. These activities are conducted in concert with other organizations in our community, such as the Arlington County Commission on the Status of Women and many other organizations.

**All of this takes place not by magic, but by volunteer action by branch members.** There are volunteer activities small, medium, and large for branch members to contribute to our collective consciousness raising and influence on public policy in Arlington. These range from bringing a package of cheese and a box of crackers (see, no baking involved!) for a single public meeting, to assisting with a monthly meeting of the Lunch Bunch or International Coffees, to representing AAUW at any of the 9 Arlington

County Civic Federation meetings during the year, to organizing our Awards Celebration for one year, to a two-year term as an officer of the branch.

There's a task suitable for our time, energy, and talents that each of us can do to advance the causes of AAUW, while having the opportunity to associate with the most interesting (and fun) group of women we've yet to meet. Please seize the opportunity to do something for AAUW Arlington this year—maybe you found something interesting at the Activities Fair at our meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Meg Tuccillo** and **Carole Dabbs**  
Co-Presidents

### **BRANCH PROGRAM and other EVENTS COMING UP**

Here are dates for our fall and winter meetings to mark on your calendars:

**October 4 Celebrating the Power of Women,** (details pg. 2)

**October 6-8 McLean Book fair.** (details pg. 3)

**October 15 - Local Candidates speak with LWV** (details pg.4 )

**October 21** (at the **George Mason Regional Library**), (details pg. 5).

**Please note: This meeting takes the place of our Oct. Branch Meeting.**

**November 13,** (details, next month).

**November 18** - STEM (details pg. 7)

**December 9** (holiday luncheon on Saturday), (more details coming).

**January 22** and **March 12** (details coming in later issue).

We are keeping February open as a possible snow month.

The April and May dates for officer elections and awards events will be announced later.

### **OCTOBER 4, 2017**

I hope by now you have heard of the Women's Monument of Virginia, which will honor 12 outstanding women in Virginia history on the capitol grounds in Richmond. (details pgs.12,13)

We are holding an event in Arlington on October 4 at 7pm, "Celebrating the Power of Women". Our fellow AAUW member, and former State Senator **Mary Margaret Whipple** will speak in support of the monument. Let's try to attend and support her and this new monument to women.

**OCTOBER 4, 2017**

**CELEBRATING THE POWER OF WOMEN**

***A Conversation with Mary Margaret Whipple***

**Moderated by Krysta Jones, this open Q&A session will be a lively discussion on the role of women in leadership, and the women featured on the Virginia Women's Monument on Capitol Square.**

**Tickets are \$25.**

**Light refreshments will be served.**

**Wednesday, October 4 - 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

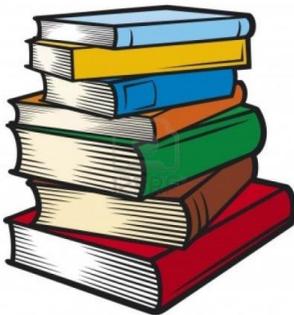
**The Woman's Club of Arlington -700 South Buchanan Street  
Arlington, VA 22204**

Additional details available and tickets can be purchased at this website:  
<http://bit.ly/2h2BCwe>

Thanks in advance,

Krysta Nicole Jones, Founder and CEO, Virginia Leadership Institute

**October 6-8 THE McLean AAUW BOOK SALE IS HERE!**



New place and new date, so tell all your neighbors, friends, and colleagues to come buy books and support scholarships and fellowships for women and girls.

If they are Nationals fans, tell them about the raffle of a signed Max Scherzer jersey and cap. Our tickets of \$10 or 3 for \$20 for the jersey and \$5 or 3 for \$10 for the cap are a bargain. These are listed online for \$400 and \$200!

Our books are a bargain, too—more children's books this year than ever, current and recent novels, fabulous specially priced books—something for everyone.

It's at Spring Hill Rec Center (intersection of Spring Hill Road and Lewinsville Road). Friday 9-7; Saturday 10-6; and Sunday 12-4 (when most books are \$10 a bag and specially priced books are half-price). Spread the word!

If you aren't already working at the sale and now find that you can, contact Marsha McMullin at [mash1948@gmail.com](mailto:mash1948@gmail.com).

## **October 15 ELECTION YEAR IN VIRGINIA--LET'S GET INVOLVED!**

The nation's attention is focused on Virginia this year even more than ever, as we hold one of two Gubernatorial elections--New Jersey is the other--in the year following a Presidential election. Unfortunately, voting percentages drop off, even in politically savvy Arlington.

So, be sure to look at the video **Carol Dabbs** sent. from the Arlington County Civic Federation of their candidates' forum on Sep. 5. Attend any other such gatherings at Civic Associations and other places, and ask questions about issues important to AAUW such as public schools, enforcing Title IX, paid sick and family leave and equal pay and opportunities for women.

Also--important to note: On **October 15**, from 6:30 - 8:30 at the Central Library the local League of Women Voters is sponsoring a forum for Arlington School and County Board candidates. We have often worked on such events with the LWV in the past. So, if you are interested in helping with this event, let me know, and I'll put you in touch with the right person.

On **October 30**, there will be a District 49 debate at Arlington Mill Community Center, also sponsored by LWV.

**Sara Anderson**

703-532-3839; [sfpauw6382\(at\)aol.com](mailto:sfpauw6382(at)aol.com)

## **LUNCH BUNCH**

The first get together of the Arlington Branch AAUW Lunch Bunch will be on **Thursday, October 19, 2017** from **12:40 to 1:20 p.m.** at the **Arlington Community High School** located **at 800 S. Walter Reed Drive in Arlington**. We will meet in **Room 115**. The school is directly across the driveway from the Columbia Pike Branch Library.

During this lunch meeting, the girls will use results from a September survey and prioritize how AAUW can help them. **This year's theme will be *A Healthier Me***. The goal will be to understand that emotional, mental, and physical health are connected to doing well in school and at home.



The ACHS serves students from diverse cultural backgrounds, all working on earning their high school diplomas. Our Lunch Bunch offers educational programs along with lunch once a month (on the third Thursday) from October through May. The young women (ages 18 to 30+) will learn about county-wide services available to them and about navigating legal systems.

If you can volunteer for any of the meetings, please contact Mary Ann or Michele. We look forward to having you join this very rewarding activity of the Arlington Branch AAUW.

Lunch Bunch Coordinators,

**Michele Milden** and **Mary Ann Ullrich**  
mbmilden@aol.com maryann.ullrich.va@gmail.com  
703-820-7794 703-573-2002

**OCTOBER 21. DON'T MISS THE INFORMATIVE REGIONAL MEETING ON GENDER EQUITY AND THE AAUW**

**COME MEET AND TALK WITH AAUW'S NEW CEO**

**Saturday, October 21, 1:30-4:15 p.m.**

**Northern District Meeting**

**George Mason Regional Library**

**Kim Churches**, the **new Executive Director and CEO of the National AAUW** will bring us up to date on AAUW and tell us her vision for AAUW's future as the premier organization for women's equity and education. Best of all, there will be plenty of time for you to make comments and ask Kim your questions. Those of you who attended national convention were impressed with this young, dynamic, articulate woman. AAUW is very fortunate!

You will also hear about the outstanding and exciting branch and state events on the horizon. We have a full agenda, so please arrive about 1:15 so you can pick up some refreshments and be ready to start right at 1:30. We will meet in the conference room at the George Mason Library, located at 7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale.

--**Susan Burk** and **Caroline Pickens** - Co-Northern District Reps

**Susan Nelson** and **Mary Beth Pelosky**, Arlington Co-chairs for Programs provided additional information:

**Ms. Churches** was an associate vice chancellor at the University of Denver, a director of development at the University of North Florida and a division director at the American Heart Association. She has extensive experience working collaboratively on education K-12 and higher education as well as capacity building among grassroots groups and national and international nonprofits. She earned her bachelor's degree at Florida State University in English Education and received the Certified Fund Raising Executive affiliation in 2002.

## **LET'S TALK ABOUT BOOKS**

Our October meeting will be at the following time and location:  
The Third Wednesday, **October 24** at 2 pm, at the home of **Elizabeth Anderson**, 1303 24th St. S. 703/892-8216, [parkerea@comcast.net](mailto:parkerea@comcast.net)

Our book selection for October is ***American Sphinx*** by Joseph Ellis. Be sure to let the hostess know if you are planning to attend the session at her home.

**Barbara Gallagher**  
chairperson

## **ARLINGTON INTERNATIONAL COFFEE GROUP**

The THIS/AAUW International Coffee Group held its first meeting of the year on September 13. There were many new diplomatic wives attending. The October meeting will be held on October 23 at the home of **Lynne Shank** in Arlington and will be our celebration of Halloween. Members of our branch are welcome to attend.

For more information please contact **Priscilla Becker** at [703-841-0647](tel:703-841-0647) or [JBecker841@aol.com](mailto:JBecker841@aol.com)



## **November 18 - COMING EVENT & AAUW STEM News**



Our Arlington AAUW branch **Science Technology Engineering Mathematics** has been asked to join with Arlington Public Schools Office of Minority Achievement to conduct a STEM Conference for 150 middle-school girls at Marymount University. Currently, I am working with Sylvia O'Neal to coordinate and to provide contacts for the venue and for presenters.

The date of the Conference is **Saturday, November 18**. We will most likely be asked to help provide support on the day of the conference. STEM is one of our main principles of action for women. So please, put this on your calendar and plan to volunteer to participate. This one day means a lot to many.

**Susan Senn**

## **GOOD THINGS HAVE BEEN HAPPENING**

### **AAUW LOBBY CORPS TRAINING SEPTEMBER 7, 2017**

Lobby Corps met at AAUW Headquarters for an intensive training session on making the most out of our lobbying visits and amplifying the AAUW Lobby Corps message. CEO **Kim Churches** welcomed us and thanked us for carrying the organization's message to Congress.

**Anne Hedgepeth**, Interim Vice President of Government Relations, discussed the unique voice of AAUW and how it relates to the vetted legislation related to our Public Policy agenda. "What can AAUW bring to the table?"



We are a non-partisan organization but not values neutral. Some of the upcoming legislation that the Corps will be lobbying on: funding the Government and the continuing resolution, looking for a clean bill with no damaging attachments & no decrease in areas of AAUW issues; wage gap

data base not eliminating it, Pell Grants no decrease. DACA – AAUW continues support and advocates for permanent status and the Dream Act. Health Care – watching out for repeal.

**Pam Yuen**, Senior Government Relations Manager, talked about tax reform and how school vouchers may be hidden in this legislation. **Kate Nielson**, State Policy Manager, spoke about the gender pay gap and that there is a move to defund data collection of this information.

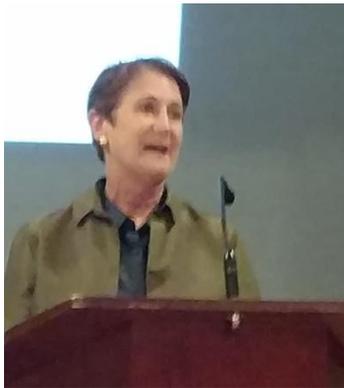
We also had a review of the Quorum system to sharpen our skills in reporting back what we learn on our lobby visits.

The Arlington Branch was represented by: **Karen Bopp**, **Lavona Grow**, **Norma Kacen** and **Marcy Leverenz**. Forty-eight people attended and of that group twelve were new folks. We had a lovely lunch and enjoyed being back on the lobbying track.

**Marcy Leverenz - Chairperson**

## **OUR SEPTEMBER 18 MEETING. WHAT A HUGE SUCCESS!**

Our ARLINGTON BRANCH ACTIVITIES FAIR was at the September 18 Meeting. Very good turnout including many visitors. Member **Susan Nelson** introduced our speaker, author **Paula Tarnapol Whitacre**.



**Paula**, also a member of AAUW National, is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University with bachelor's and master's degrees in international studies. She worked for several years at The Washington Post and as a Foreign Service Officer in San Jose, Costa Rica.

For the past 20 years she has been a freelance writer and editor including a report written for national AAUW in 2003 titled "Global Voices for Gender Equity." In Alexandria she has been active in the PTA and other community organizations and a volunteer for the city's local history programs which introduced her to **Julia Wilbur**.

**Paula** discussed her newly published book "A Civil Life in an Uncivil Time" about **Julia Wilbur**. It was a fascinating story, not only about Julia Wilbur, but also about how Paula Whitacre did the research on Julia Wilbur.

The story of Julia Wilbur is one of conviction and determination. She came from a family of ten children. When she was young, her father lost his eye sight, and her mother died shortly after her sister was born, when Paula was



19 years old. Paula, as the third oldest daughter, had major responsibilities at an early age to get care for her many younger brothers and sisters.

Paula's family responsibilities ended abruptly when another relative took in her youngest sister.

As a member of the Rochester Antislavery Ladies' Society, Julia was inspired to help others outside of her family. The women of the Society devoted much of their energy to raising funds to assist the large numbers of freedmen, escaped slaves and "contrabands" who had come into the Union lines. In October, 1862, the Society sent its former corresponding secretary, Julia Wilbur, to Alexandria, Va., to work with freedmen's education and relief programs.

Julia became a self described "missionary at large" and was a tireless advocate for better health, education, and economic conditions for the poor.

After the War ended, the Ladies Society could no longer fund her efforts, so Julia found a position with the Patent Office in Washington, DC. She was a trailblazer - she was in the first generation of women federal employees, when she was in her fifties, while continuing to fight for women's suffrage.

During the course of her research for this book, author **Paula Whitacre** discovered a treasure trove in Julia's diaries and papers. They not only provided a glimpse into Julia's efforts during the war, but also provided a social history of those times.

Paula Whitacre's presentation was especially interesting in that it included many photographs and documents that illustrated different aspects of the time period of Julia Wilbur's life work.

by **Chris White**

## **ARLINGTON AAUW WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE**

I am trying very hard to keep the website and Facebook current. It's a process as I am having to send instructions to National Site-resources for any deletions, edits, addition to the website, and that takes time. My goal this year is to follow the tutorials published by AAUW and learn to do this myself. I am now an administrator for the Facebook page and just recently learned how to post events and I am in no way yet proficient.

Please send me an email if you have something you want to be posted on either media or suggestions for any changes and I will take care of that. Our board supports the use of the website and Facebook as it is the current source of information for so many users, especially the younger ones. Hopefully, our "getting current" will attract a younger generation to our branch.

The website is: <http://arlington-va.aauw.net>

Facebook is: AAUW-Arlington VA Branch

**Susan Senn**

## **AWARDS EVENT COORDINATOR NEEDED, please!**

Our Awards Presentation is one of our highest profile events annually, usually covered by the local press and resulting in an article with photo in the Sun Gazette. It enables us to better inform the public about the mission and work of AAUW here in Arlington. This is one of the most important ways to accomplish this. it is well worth the effort!!!!

If you attended last year's awards event, you know how uplifting and joyful the event was – we even all joined in a celebratory Ugandan circle dance initiated by the family members of one awardee who were present! We were thrilled to award three scholarships to deserving young women and the Educator of the Year Award to our own **Mary Beth Pelosky**. It was a lovely event that we hope to recreate each year. We held this event as a luncheon for many years, but changed it up last year to a more casual format.



In order to select awardees and plan and carry out an event for this spring, we need an **Awards Coordinator**, or **Co-Coordinators**, which could be fun. One important task

is to coordinate with branch members in identifying scholarship winners and the Educator of the Year; there are also more discrete tasks, like arranging for the refreshments for the event. The awardees, the format of the event, and the location all await determination by the new Coordinator and her committee. (We do have reservation at the Women's Club as a place holder.) There are a number of branch members who were on the Awards Committee for several years, some of whom would likely be available to assist, and/or the Coordinator can invite other branch members to help on the committee.

Last year's Co-Presidents coordinated this event, and **Meg** reports that it's not an overwhelming job. If you want to check this out prior to volunteering to help, please check with her or **Marcy Leverenz**, who can explain what's involved.

**Carol Dabbs, Co-President**

## **DUES STATUS UPDATE**

Fifty-five branch members have paid their dues for this year, through June 30, 2018; there are 6 paid life members who pay state and branch dues for the year; and there are 6 honorary life members who do not pay dues. This leaves 18 members who still need to pay their dues for this year. If unpaid, they will be removed from the national and branch rolls on December 1, 2017.

**Newsletters by mail** Our monthly newsletter is distributed by email to branch members, and current and past issues are posted on our website, [arlington-va.aauw.net/](http://arlington-va.aauw.net/). Members who do not use email are sent a paper copy by mail.

The BoD has directed that for members who request paper copies of the newsletter, despite being sent a copy by email, the price for the 2017-18 year be raised to \$20 from \$12. If you find it necessary to have a paper copy mailed to you, send a separate check to our Treasurer, Betty Dunn, 1964 Rockingham St, McLean, VA 22101, made out to AAUW Arlington, Virginia Branch, with "2017-18 newsletters by mail" in the memo line.

## **Easy Access to Branch Directory Online**

There is fast access to a current Branch Directory online, which many find the easiest way to get current information. Here's how to get it:

- Go to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org);
- Sign in. You need your membership number, and your password, which you must set if it's your first time signing in;
- Click on Member Services Database;
- Click on Enter Member Services Database;
- At the very bottom of the left hand column, click on Branch Member Roster.

**VOICES FROM THE GARDEN**  
**VIRGINIA WOMEN'S MONUMENT**  
**CAPITOL SQUARE in RICHMOND. VIRGINIA**  
**illuminating History Campaign**

**Voices** from the Garden will acknowledge the genius and creativity of Virginia women and their presence and contributions to the Commonwealth. The monument is a metaphor for the often unrecognized voices that have been responsible for shaping our culture, country, and state for over 400 years. It is intended to be a thought-provoking and interactive experience that complements the more traditional heroic monuments on Capitol Square. **Voices from the Garden** is thought to be the first monument of its kind in the nation recognizing the full range of women's achievements.

**Voices** takes the form of an oval shaped garden that encompasses twelve bronze statues of significant women from the state, surrounded by a glass panel, etched with a timeline of important milestones in women's history, as well as names of other noteworthy Virginia women. The whole monument is meant to be interactive for the visitor, by walking among the statues, each a work of art, or by using a mobile app to learn more about these women's achievements and to hear their stories through their own words.

The twelve women selected to represent over 400 years of Virginia history reflect various spheres of influence and geographic areas of the state:

**Anne Burras Laydon** (c. 1595-c. 1637) Jamestown -Arrived as a 14-year-old maid in 1608 aboard the Mary and Margaret. Anne and her mistress were the first two female settlers in the colony. She was a seamstress in the colony, who survived harsh treatment and the "starving time" to marry and raise a family.

**Cockacoeske** (c. 1640-1686)-Jamestown. A Pamunkey chief who signed the Treaty of Middle Plantation in 1677, reuniting, under her authority, several tribes, as well as establishing the Pamunkey Reservation. She ruled for 30 years.

**Mary Draper Ingles** (1729-1813)-Southwest Virginia. Moved as a teenager to Virginia as a part of the Scots-Irish migration. In July 1755, Mary was taken captive by Shawnee Indians during the French and Indian War. She escaped, travelling 600 miles back to her home. She established the Ingles Ferry which was vital to her rural community.

**Martha Dandridge Custis Washington** (1731-1802)-Fairfax. While she was not referred to as First Lady, she was the first woman to hold the position, during George Washington's presidency, and will serve as the representative for the wives of all eight Virginia-born presidents.

**Clementina Bird Rind** (1740-1774)-Williamsburg. Took over the editorship and management of the Virginia Gazette, after the death of her husband; under her leadership the newspaper remained official printer of the colony.

**Sally Louisa Tompkins** (1833-1916)-Mathews Co. Captain Sally Tompkins established Robertson Hospital in Richmond to treat wounded soldiers when few, if any, women held the top administrative position. Her hospital had the lowest death rate of any during the Civil War due to her skill and standards.

**Elizabeth Hobbs Keckley** (1818-1907)-Dinwiddie. A slave who bought her freedom, she became Mary Todd Lincoln's seamstress and confidant during the White House years. She established the Contraband Relief Association, which provided support for recently freed slaves and wounded soldiers.

**Sarah G. Boyd Jones** (1867-1905)-Richmond. One of the first women to pass the Virginia Medical Examining Board's examination. She helped found a medical association for African-American doctors, opening a hospital and nursing school in 1903 which ultimately became Richmond Community Hospital.

**Maggie Walker** (1867-1934)-Richmond. The first woman to charter a bank in the United States, with the founding of the St. Luke Penny Savings Bank in Richmond.

**Adele Goodman Clark** (1888-1983)-Richmond. Active suffragist who became president of the League of Women Voters in 1921. Adele was instrumental in the establishment of the Virginia Art Commission. She is considered to be one of the founders of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

**Virginia Estelle Randolph** (1875-1958) – Henrico. Virginia developed a nationally-recognized approach to education, creating a successful formula based on practicality, creativity, and involvement from parents and the community.

**Laura Lu Copenhaver** (1868-1940)- Smyth Co./Marion. Expanded southwestern Virginia's agricultural economy, as director of information for the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation, by emphasizing cooperative marketing of farm products to improve the standard of living for farm families. She established Rosemont Industries.

**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.***

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 **November, 2017 Branch Report** should be mailed or emailed by **October 15, 2017** to Editor **Cece Michelotti** [cecemich@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:betty.dunn3@verizon.net)

## *Calendar of Events*

Branch Members meeting dates to consider:

**GENERAL MEETINGS:**

10/21/17 1:30 pm

11/13/17

12/09/17

01/22/18

02/2018 no meeting

03/12/18

04/18 TBD

**BOARD MEETINGS**

AUW board meetings will usually be on the 4th Wednesday of odd numbered months ( except for November when it will be the 5th Wednesday of the month). All board meetings are at Meg Tuccillo's home at 7 pm

Oct. 3 (changed from Sept. 27)

Nov 29

Jan 24

March 28

May 23

July 25

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American Association of University Women  
6325 19th Street North  
Arlington, Virginia 22205

**Arlington AAUW Website:**

[www.arlington-va.aauw.net](http://www.arlington-va.aauw.net)