



VOLUME 71, NO. 4

The
Alexandria
Schooner
February
2016



Letter from the Presidents

By Danielle and Ginger

*Hello
February.*

February is upon us and Spring cannot be far behind (we hope)! The snow did slow some of us down and our January program has been rescheduled to March 6. Please see the program section on page 15.

We are excited about new members; see their bios below.

We are also getting ready for the State Conference. Please register soon. The website to register is:

<http://aauw-va.aauw.net/2016-aauw-of-virginia-conference/>

Let us know if you want someone to room with and we will work to match you with another member. It should be informative and fun and we hope many of you will plant to attend and spend at least one night.

A reminder – the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act was signed January 29, 2009. Seven years ago and we are still behind. Please keep that in mind as we raise money for our Legal Advocacy and Educational Funds. February is the Flurry of Funds drive and then we have the Little Theater of Alexandria production of “To Kill A Mockingbird” April 26. Tickets are on sale now – Ginger is in charge of them this year and she will be collecting your money – let her know if you want your tickets mailed or held at the box office. We anticipate a sell out so order your tickets early by emailing Ginger at gbcaauw@gmail.com.

Stay safe and well – see you soon!



New Members



Kim Johnson is from the small town of McCloud at the base of the majestic Mount Shasta in Northern California. She enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in May of 1994 and retired twenty years later. Her military career exposed her to many locations such as San Diego, CA, Millington, TN, Pensacola, FL, Okinawa, Japan, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Beaufort, SC. Upon retirement, Kim moved to Virginia and resumed her studies at Northern Virginia Community College. If all goes well, she will graduate with her Associates Degree in Social Sciences in May of 2016. She hopes to transfer to the University of Virginia for the fall semester and pursue a degree in public policy at the Frank Batten College of Leadership and Public Policy. She has two daughters, Shasta (10) and Lassen (8), named after the volcanic mountains near her hometown. When she is not studying, she enjoys hiking, reading, watching Downton Abbey, drinking red wine with fine cheese and gourmet chocolate, and pursuing various fitness and health endeavors.

Joythi Sunkari was born and raised in India. After graduating from St. Joseph's College for Women with a Bachelor's degree in Science with a Major in Math, Physics, and Computer Science she worked as a project analyst for an Information Technology (IT) industries company for a year at an entry-level position. However, her passion was to work in Media, which led her to pursue a Master's in Journalism and Mass communication with a Diploma in Photography from Andhra University. She took an internship at "THE HINDU" (India's Largest English Newspaper). Later she chose to become a freelance journalist writing articles on subjects such as women related issues and lifestyle. Besides doing her freelance work, she also had opportunities to work in the IT sector for multi-national companies such as Infosys and HSBC, which exposed her to the various aspects of rapid growth happening in India's IT industries. Moving to the United States in 2006 to be with her sister was one of the biggest decisions of her life. Looking for opportunities to work in Media, she joined as a member of Fairfax Public Access and trained as Producer. This led her to produce, direct, and edit a variety of shows and interviews. She also trained in video editing software. Her big break came when she worked as Camera Assistant for the feature film, "Arrange to Settle". Later on she did work as Camera-Woman and Freelance video editor for short films, documentaries and television shows. Her recent jobs include working for the camera department at the AFI Documentary Festival 2015, working on a promotional campaign video for Doc in Progress, a non-profit organization helping independent filmmakers. She received accolades for winning a documentary contest held in Washington, DC by Stone Soup Films called "Doc in a Day: 2015". She is currently lined up to work on projects like a profile about Nina Tisara, founder of living legends of Alexandria and the art of 3D printer technology.

Welcome, Joythi and Kim.



February Program

BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROGRAM

“AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY IN ALEXANDRIA”

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Come hear about historic events and places, such as the 1939 sit-in at the Alexandria Library, Parker Gray School and Freedmen’s Cemetery



**Presented by Audrey P. Davis, Director
Alexandria Black History Museum**

**Sponsored by Alexandria Branch
American Association of University Women**

**CAMERON STATION CLUBHOUSE
200 CAMERON STATION BOULEVARD, ALEXANDRIA
FOR MORE INFORMATION: 703-256-4541**

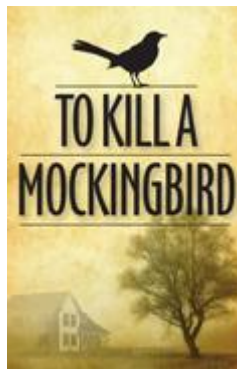
SPA CARDS - Fund Christ House Dinners and the Educational Foundation

As always, we still have spa card available to give you or a friend some pampering and an opportunity to help with Christ House and the Educational Fund! See Rita Rutsohn to purchase cards.

*The spa card is a perfect
Valentine gift for someone
special!*



Little Theatre Of Alexandria
AAUW Alexandria Fundraising Event
To Kill a Mockingbird
Coming April 26, 2016



We need your help to make this major fundraiser for our contribution to AAUW's Educational Funding and Awards programs (<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/>).

How you can help make this very entertaining evening a success:

Buy tickets - \$30 each!

Bring friends!

Help sell tickets!

Help set up and decorate the Green Room at The Little Theatre of Alexandria for our tasty reception!

Assist with intermission reset!

Buy raffle tickets at the Theatre - \$5 or 3/\$10! Win a gift basket!

Have a great time seeing this memorable play and sharing social time with our friends in the Mt Vernon Branch.

Contact Mary Ann Bier for more information, marybier@comcast.net, 703-548-1349.



Elect Her

NOVA WOMEN WIN
AAUW • RUNNING START



Graciela Billingsley, Elect Her Student Liaison
Student Body President, Manassas Campus

The Elect Her - NOVA Women Win! training program encourages and trains women students to run for student government and to consider future political office (local, state, national) in an effort to diminish the political leadership gender gap for women. The event is free and open to all women students enrolled at all campuses of Northern Virginia Community College (lunch provided).

Friday, February 26, 2016

9:30 a.m. – 3:00 pm, Room AA 158, Bisdorf Building, Alexandria

To register, contact Pat Gordon for the registration and nomination online forms/links at: pgordon@nvcc.edu

Seating is limited to 50 women students, so register now!

This training program has been made possible through a collaboration with the American Association of University Women (AAUW), Running Start, and the Alexandria Campus Women's Center.

Recurring Events

Gourmet Out

No event is planned for February. Stay tuned during later, warmer, months.

Mystery Book Discussion Group

By Susan Werner

Due to the blizzard, the January Mystery Book Discussion Group was canceled. Our January mystery, Zoe Ferraris' City of Veils, has been rescheduled for February. It is a very interesting book, and we do not want to miss discussing it. The date/time is February 23 at 7 PM. Our host will be Sue Bodilly. Sue's address and phone number: 625 Prospect Place, Alexandria, VA 22309; 703-751-5606 (H), 703-258-5707 (C). Please be sure to let Sue know that you plan to attend the meeting. Also contact her if you need directions.

For other questions about the Mystery Book Discussion Group, contact Susan Werner at 703-764-1773.

On the Go with AAUW

By Ruth Bennett

On the Go with AAUW is a public access cable TV show started by a member of the Alexandria Branch. We tape one show each month at Fairfax Public Access (FPA) located in the Merrifield area of Fairfax County. Please come watch us tape a show! Or, you can take a class at FPA and help produce shows. If you are interested in participating in producing/taping our public access cable TV show please call Ruth Bennett at [703-765-4536](tel:703-765-4536).

Our January show has been rescheduled for February 16 due to the recent blizzard. Ava Spece, president and CEO of the Workhouse Arts Center will be the guest. Here's their website: <http://www.workhousearts.org>

Francophile Group

By Susan Cash

Rescheduled: At its next meeting, the Francophile group will discuss the book *The Luncheon of the Boating Party* by Susan Vreeland. Date & Time: Saturday, February 6 at 2 p.m. Location is Alexandria Pastry Shop, 3690 H King Street, Bradlee Shopping Center, Alexandria, VA 22302. Please contact Susan Cash at 703/780-3902 or 202/685-5083 for details.

Christ House Soup Kitchen

Dates we will be serving in 2016. Volunteers will be requested as dates get closer.

Wednesday, March 30
 Wednesday, June 29
 Wednesday, August 31
 Wednesday, November 30

Margaret Zebrowski mmzebrow@aol.com
 Jan A. Jaynes janjjoek@cox.net



Chair Updates

Public Policy October 2015

By: Helena Coric

This January I participated in the Get Out The Vote (GOTV) Campaign conference call and President Obama's State of the Union address served as a timely kick-off. 2016 is an important election year, not only at the Presidential level so we must be vigilant for raising attention towards issues affecting women. To give you an idea of what is at stake, the following was covered during the call: college tuition, campus safety, social security, pay equity, affirmative action, judicial nominations, paid parental leave, family planning programs and many more pressing concerns. As the ten-month plan gets underway we should begin thinking of how we can get involved. Although they can go hand in hand, we may determine our

priorities whether it is through issue based outreach (identifying which issues are important to us and we want addressed), voter education programs, or ensuring voter registration and turn out.

The call was informative and helpful and I encourage you all to participate in **upcoming planning calls** if interested.

- **Title IX Coordinator Delivery Update Call:** February 3, 2016 @ 7:00 PM
As it is an election year, it would be good for our Alexandria branch to get involved and AAUW National is very helpful with coordinating events and activities to Get Out The Vote! Here are some potential options, let me know your interest by email at hcoricog@yahoo.com and we can start planning:
- Voter Registration Drive
- Issue Forum
- Candidate Forum
- Bird-Dogging Candidate
- Town Hall or Tele-Town Hall
- Phone Banking
- Other-Think of new and creative ideas!

Upcoming Public Policy Events

- **State Lobby Day: February 3, 2016**
- **Centennial Rally for Equal Rights: February 16, 2016**
- Equal Pay Day 2016: April 12, 2016
- African American Women's Equal Pay Day: August 26, 2016
- Native American Women's Equal Pay Day: September 14, 2016
- Latina Equal Pay Day: October 15, 2016

Upcoming Public Policy Reminders

- **February 3, 2016:** State Lobby Day
- **February 16, 2016:** Centennial Rally in Richmond-Commemorates a rally held by Suffragists 100 years ago and highlights the need to pass the ERA.
- **March 1, 2016:** Presidential Primary Election Day in Virginia
 - **February 8, 2016:** Last day to apply to vote in the Presidential Primary

Should you have any questions regarding any of these events and registration, please feel free to contact me and I will get you in touch with the appropriate people. Thank you!

FEBRUARY AND OUR FLURRY OF FUNDS!

By Rance Willis

Having just survived the fury of the Storm of 2016, you will recognize Flurry, and that is what we need for our support to the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF). There are many demands on AAUW funds today, but none as great as those for gender injustice and sexual abuse. The LAF receives requests for support of many of these cases. AAUW evaluates each on merit and grants funds to help in preparing and trying the cases. Ultimately, many of the cases find in favor of the abused. Please dig deep and contribute as much as you can. The need is great and **YOU CAN HELP TO BALANCE THE SCALES OF JUSTICE!** During the month of February just make a check to **AAUW, LAF and send to: Alexandria Branch Treasurer, Virginia Kress, 1734 W. Abingdon Drive, #203, Alexandria, VA 22314.** She will tally the amount and forward your check to AAUW National and

the LAF. You will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have helped to **BALANCE the SCALES and let those frightened by facing these injustices know that you care!**

LAF-SUPPORTED PLAINTIFFS WIN SETTLEMENT

By Rance Willis

In January 2016, the plaintiffs in the LAF-Supported case, *Moshak v. University of Tennessee* successfully settled their Title IX lawsuit against the university. As a part of the settlement the university will pay more than \$1 million.

The plaintiffs claim they were unlawfully discriminated against and eventually forced out of their positions during a university-led merger of the men's and women's athletic departments.

Gender discrimination in sports remains a significant problem for athletes as well as for coaches and administrators who support women's athletics. The Moshak plaintiffs shared a professional commitment to women's athletics at a university that has a rich history of excellence in women's sports. Their allegations show just how pervasive discrimination against women's sports and women athletes can be. AAUW congratulates the plaintiffs and is proud to have supported the case.

IMPORTANT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Scholarship Fund Applications

Please help us get the word out!!! Would you please sign up to volunteer or pass this on to groups or list servers in which you are connected. Thank you!!

Please join us to read and evaluate Scholarship Fund Applications submitted by TC Williams students. The more people who sign up to come, the faster it goes! Please feel free to invite other community members! We very much appreciate your support!

Date: Saturday, March 12, 2016

Time: 8am - 12pm

Location: TC Williams High School

Rooms: Rotunda, C-206, B-227

**Breakfast items will be provided.*



Requirements:

- 1) Volunteer Readers cannot be family members of TC Williams (including Minnie Howard Campus) students nor can they be employees of TC Williams High School.
- 2) *Since students' applications are pre-assigned, all reviewers must register by **March 10th.***
- 3) All reviewers must register and sign a confidentiality agreement.
- 4) All Volunteer Readers must be present at TC Williams on the morning of March 12 to review applications.

If you would like to help in other ways, please sign up for one of the other volunteer positions. Thank you for your support of the Scholarship Fund and TC Williams students!

If you feel you meet the basic requirements, please register and sign a confidentiality agreement by clicking on the link: <http://goo.gl/forms/JhmdFyFzrk>

For questions, please contact Alysha at scholarshipfund@acps.k12.va.us

Area Cultural Events

January Tour of the Renwick Museum

On January 9, 2016, several of us visited the newly revamped museum featuring the exhibit "Wonder" that featured larger than life installations. We later had lunch together at Café Soliel near the Renwick.



L to R: Paula Massouh, Leslie Tourigney, Susan Werner, Danielle Beach, Ruth Bennett



Upcoming Alexandria Branch Activities

February 6 – 11:00 AM - Lecture on "Harriet Jacobs and Julia Wilbur: Friends and Allies in Civil War Alexandria"

In honor of Black History Month, come hear Paula Whitacre, a writer, editor and Civil War researcher, speak about these women, an African-American writer and freed slave and an abolitionist, who lived in Alexandria during the Civil War. Held at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St., Alexandria. Free, reservations encouraged. Call 703-746-4356.. Plan to take some time to see the exhibits as well.

This is a public event, so plan to arrive early to get a seat. If you are interested in lunch afterwards, please e-mail Paula at pmassouh@aol.com or call her at 703-256-4541.

Please call or e-mail Paula at (703)256-4541 or pmassouh@aol.com if you are interested in attending any of these tours. Nonmembers and guests are welcome.

To Kill a Mockingbird

By Rance Willis

April 26, 2016

The setting for *To Kill a Mocking Bird* is a small southern town in the 1930s' certainly different from a small southern town in the 21st century. Then people were just recovering from the Great Depression and money for most families was at a premium. Outside most small towns in the south were small dirt farmers where life was a struggle just to provide for the basic family needs. Yet there was community that included class, race and all the variations of the human circus. There was no mass communications as we have today and children roamed at will. Mothers didn't worry, because everyone knew the children and it was virtually impossible to away with anything. That was the life of Scout, Jem and Dill, a life of innocence until Atticus becomes the attorney for Tom Robinson, a black man is charged with rape and murder of a white woman. All of the deeply held issues of class, courage, compassion and gender descended upon them.

Reserve a spot on your calendar for Tuesday April 26 and get your tickets for the AAUW Sponsored performance of *To kill a Mocking Bird* at the Little Theatre of Alexandria, with a reception beginning at 7 P.M.

IN ADDITION TO THE PLAY, THERE IS A RECEPTION BEFORE THE SHOW STARTING AT 7 AND AN INTERMISSION WITH DESSERT AND COFFEE. THERE IS ALSO A SILENT AUCTION WITH GIFT BASKETS THAT MAKE EXCELLENT GIFTS. COME BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY AND ENJOY A "THEATRE EVENING".

State Conference

April 15-17, 2016 Hyatt Regency Dulles, Herndon:

- **To register go to:** <http://aauw-va.aauw.net/2016-aauw-of-virginia-conference/>
- Copies of the Virginia AAUW History will be on sale
- Each Branch has been assigned a specific task. **Alexandria's is to put together the program book which will have the agenda and other items; one copy to each participant**
- AAUW members attending the conference are encouraged to stay the night because in order to get the room rate, AAUW had to guarantee a certain number of room occupancy. *At least 72 rooms need to be used in order to have free use of the conference rooms. What a great opportunity to have a fun weekend away – share with another member and limit your cost*
- Rooms are \$99.00 a night which includes breakfast. Each room is a suite with two double beds and a fold out couch
- Speakers for the conference are still being identified
- Jeanne Elmore is the nominating chair for AAUW State elections. If you want a position or know of someone who would be willing to be an officer, contact Jeanne, jeanneelmore@yahoo.com.
- The Alexandria Branch will be compiling the program for the event so look for requests to help (or volunteer now – let Ginger or Danielle know).



AAUW Membership: Give a Grad a Gift

We all know that the future of our organization depends on today's graduates. Did you know that as AAUW members, you can give a free **National** membership to as many recent graduates as you like? It's free for you and free for them. With a gift of AAUW membership, you will –

- Usher the grad into a community led by women for women, increasing their network to more than 180,000 AAUW members and supporters.
- Give them resources to advocate for women and girls locally, nationally, or on-line.
- Expand their networking opportunities and community action projects.
- Keep them current on events and people that affect their life as they receive AAUW publications and notices: Mission & Action, AAUW Outlook, Action Network alerts, and more.
- Increase their buying power with access to member-only discounts.

See <http://www.aauw.org/resources/give-a-grad-a-gift/>

(Note: Give a Grad a Gift does not apply to State and Branch dues.)



ALEXANDRIA BRANCH AAUW Membership Form 2015 - 2016

If you have a friend, relative or colleague join at a program function they pay **HALF** of National dues so **seize** the opportunity.

Complete this form and mail it along with a check payable to
Alexandria Branch AAUW and mail to:
Virginia Kress, 1734 West Abingdon Drive, #203, Alexandria, VA 22314

MAL \$21 ___ **Renewing/New Member \$77** ___ **Life Member \$28** ___ **Student \$17** ___

Breakdown of the Member dues is:

Association	\$49.00
State	\$15.00
Branch	<u>\$13.00</u>
Total	\$77.00

Student Affiliate \$17.00

Directory Information

Name: _____
 Phone: (home) _____ (work) _____ (cell) _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
 E-mail address: _____
 College/University: _____ Degree/Field of Study: _____

Branch membership is open to those with an associate or bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution. 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 or disability.

PORTION of MEMBERSHIP DUES IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE

A portion of your membership dues - **\$46.00** – is tax deductible. This applies only to the Association dues but not to State and Branch dues. However, this is a great incentive for all members to renew for the upcoming year, 2015 - 2016.

2015 - 2016 Board Members

Officers

Co-Presidents	Danielle Beach, 202-494-9796, danielleAAUW@gmail.com
.....	Ginger Chamberlain, 703-593-9139, gbcAAUW@gmail.com
Vice President – Programs	Mary Ann Bier, 703-548-1349; marybier@comcast.net
Vice President – Membership	Susan Werner, 703-764-1773, susan.werner1@verizon.net
Recording/Corresponding Secretary	Geri Tucker, 703-569-6471, geri.tucker@aol.com
Treasurer	VirginiaKress, 703-683-6196, vmvkress@gmail.com

Committees Chairs

Bylaws/Policy Sheet	Susan Werner, 703-764-1773, susan.werner1@verizon.net
Christ House Project	Margaret Zebrowski, 703-765-3076, mmzebrow@aol.com
.....	Jan Jaynes, 703-765-3203, janjjoek@cox.net
Directory	Susan Werner, 703-764-1773, susan.werner1@verizon.net
Educational Equity/Scholarship.....	June Hajjar, 703-683-1198, junehajjar@aol.com
Educational Opportunities Fund	Rita Rutsohn, 703-379-9664, rita.rutsohn@verizon.net
Historian	Arlene Shapiro, 703-719-5467, arleneshapiro@yahoo.com
Hospitality.....	Open
Newsletter Editor.....	Open
Campus Outreach	Lane Stone, 703-307-2431, info@LaneStoneBooks.com
.....	Danielle Beach, 202-494-9796, danielleaauw@gmail.com
Publicity	Susan Cash, 703-780-3902, gloryinu@boo.net
Public Policy Chair.....	Helena Coric, 203-598-2099, Hcoricog@yahoo.com
LAF Liaison	Rance Willis, 703-836-4294, wilverand@verizon.net
Telephone Tree.....	Jan Jaynes, 703-765-3203, janjjoek@cox.net
.....	Lane Stone, 703-307-2431, info@LaneStoneBooks.com
Web Page	open

Special Interest Groups

Cable TV Project, <i>On the Go with AAUW</i>	Ruth Bennett, 703-765-4536, rmbenet@aol.com
.....	Mary Hartzler, 703-548-2959, mary@hartzler.net
Cultural	Paula Massouh, 703-256-4541, pmassouh@aol.com
Francophile Group.....	Susan Cash, 703-780-3902, gloryinu@boo.net
Gourmet Out.....	Susan Cash, 703-780-3902, gloryin@boo.net
Gourmet Too	Margaret Zebrowski, 703-765-3076, mmzebrow@aol.com
Movie/DVD Night.....	open
Mystery Book Group	Susan Werner, 703-764-1773, susan.werner1@verizon.net



Important AAUW Websites - Check them out!

AAUW homepage:

<http://www.aauw.org>

VA AAUW homepage:

<http://aauw-va.aauw.net>

Alexandria Branch homepage:

<http://aauw-va.aauw.net/branches/alexandria/>

Alexandria Branch e-mail address:

alexauw1@aol.com



Events Calendar

Mark Your Calendars Now - Support Branch and State Activities!

Date	Event	Time and Location	Contact
Tuesday February 16	Centennial Rally for Equal Rights	Virginia State Capitol <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Distinguished Guest Speakers on the Virginia Capitol Steps: 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. ▫ Vigil and Gathering at the Bell Tower: 11 a.m. - Noon ▫ Luncheon at the Library of Virginia: Noon - 1:00 p.m. ▫ Distinguished Guest Speakers and Networking, Library Auditorium: 1:00p.m. - 3:00 p.m. 	Leslie Tourigny AAUW of VA Public Policy VP <u>571 970-1782</u>
Sunday February 21	Overview of African-American History in Alexandria Guest speaker, Audrey Davis, Director of the Alexandria Black History Museum. Learn about the creation of Freedman's Cemetery, the Parker-Gray District, one of the first civil rights sit-ins at the Alexandria Library in 1939 as well as other historical events and places in Alexandria. Don't miss this presentation!	2:00-4:00pm, Cameron Station Clubhouse	
Sunday March 6	Women Give Back to the Community	2:00-4:00pm, Cameron Station Clubhouse	
Sunday March 20	Red Line film about Syrian Refugees	2:00-4:00pm, Cameron Station Clubhouse	

Friday-Sunday April 15-17	State Conference Northern District Hosting	Dulles Hyatt	
Tuesday April 26	7:00pm LTA Fundraiser Reception and Play: <u>To Kill a Mockingbird</u>	LTA, Wolf Street, Alexandria	
Wednesday May 18	Membership Dinner	TBD	



The Alexandria Schooner February 2016

The AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research and self-development for women, and to foster equity and positive societal change. AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination. 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, or disability.

The American Association of University Women promotes equity for all woman and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.

AAUW homepage:

<http://www.aauw.org>

VA AAUW homepage:

<http://www.aauw-va.aauw.net>

Alexandria Branch homepage:

<http://www.aauw-va.aauw.net/branches/alexandria>

Alexandria Branch e-mail address:

alexauw1@aol.com

