



EMPOWERING WOMEN SINCE 1881

THE ALEXANDRIA SCHOONER



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Important Dates

State Conference	4/6
Great Decisions	4/11
Human Trafficking	4/16
Program Meeting	4/28
Christ Church	5/29
Dinner	
Annual Dinner	5/30

Note from the Editor

. Please send suggestions and comments about the newsletter to aauwnewsltr.ed@gmail.com.

Presidents Letter Gail & Lane

At the March program meeting on how student debt affects women, Lane mentioned the launch she attended for the AAUW publication, Deeper In Debt: Women and Student Loans. The YouTube link is <https://youtu.be/nFx6EPwZpo4>. Go to 27:19 to hear the section on “Lower Education,” one speaker’s term for for-profit educational institutions.

The Human Trafficking Initiative is progressing beyond our expectations. You’ll see in Public Policy VP Elizabeth Hendrix’s update in the following pages that we had a productive meeting with Police Chief Michael L. Brown. Member Diane Schrier brought her granddaughter, Jackie, to the meeting. This nine-month old had him wrapped around her little finger. She completely charmed him! Too bad she didn’t have an unpaid speeding ticket in her handbag at the time!

Continued on p. 2

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, and socioeconomic status.

Continued from p. 1

Congratulations to this year's Branch Named Honorees: Eugenia Burkes, Jere Gibber, June Hajjar, Elizabeth Hendrix, Bonnie Hershberg, Virginia Kress, Joann Miller (In Memoriam), Lynn O'Connell, Diane Schrier, Arlene Shapiro. As you know, we stipulate members for recognition based on the amount of money our branch contributes to AAUW Funds. These members went above and beyond! We appreciate you!

We'll close this letter by remembering the forty-two victims of the brutal attacks on the Al Noor and Linwood mosques in central Christchurch, New Zealand. White supremacy ideology combined with the proliferation of guns led to this shameful, heartbreaking massacre.

Thanks for all you do,
Lane and Gail

It's Not Too Late to Join Great Decisions!

This is a discussion program on world affairs which focuses on the most critical global issues currently facing America.

The first meeting on March 14th focused on Decoding U.S.-China Trade, with speaker Wayne Morrison of the Congressional Research Service.

The April meeting will be 4/11 at Cameron Station Clubhouse, 7 pm. Danielle Beach will discuss Refugees and Global Migration.

For more information, contact Lynn O'Connell, lynnoconnellva@gmail.com.

Program Update

SAVE THE DATES: April 28 program on a Title IX update. It will be at Cameron Station clubhouse, 2 to 4 PM; May 30 for our annual dinner meeting on May 30. It will be at Savios Restaurant.

What Happened at the March Meeting

Lane Stone presented the findings in the research report from AAUW National on Student Debt and How It Effects Women.

Her informative presentation generated an interesting discussion of personal experiences, suggestions, and how AAUW can address this important issue.



Everyone celebrated Elizabeth Hendrix's birthday day. Gail Kalin presented her with a cake on behalf of the Branch.



There were lots of refreshments in honor of St. Patrick's Day.

PUBLIC POLICY

YOUR AAUW OF ALEXANDRIA HUMAN TRAFFICKING INTERVENTION INITIATIVE TEAM'S PROGRESS

**"I RAISE UP MY VOICE—NOT SO I CAN SHOUT, BUT SO THAT THOSE WITHOUT A VOICE CAN BE HEARD [...] WE CANNOT SUCCEED WHEN HALF OF US ARE HELD BACK."
—MALALA YOUSAFZAI**

From left to right: Lane Stone, Gail Kalin, Police Chief Michael Brown, Diane Schrier, Diane's Granddaughter, Jackie Pica (a Future AAUW Member), and Elizabeth Hendrix



We are not sitting by idly while women, men, girls, and boys are suffering under modern-day slavery. We are continuing our efforts to end human trafficking. We can make a difference when we work together for them! Please lift your voices high with us and support our efforts!

On March 15th, your AAUW of Alexandria Human Trafficking Intervention Initiative Team met with Mr. Steve Sparks from Big Nerd Ranch, a coder, and Alexandria Police Chief Michael Brown to discuss the research prong of the multi-pronged approach to help rescue human trafficking victims. Mr. Sparks agreed to help the group by creating a proposal with associated costs for app development to use for grant applications. The victims or anyone who would like to report information about suspected human trafficking will be able to use the app and send out an AAUW Angel Alert which will send information to the right investigators and a human trafficking non-profit organization.

Police Chief Michael Brown reported that the AAUW Angel Alert was a "great idea," and he would support it. He told the team where the information from the app should be sent to help victims. Thus far, the team has partnered with Just Ask, a local non-profit group, which specializes in community education and awareness, as well as Big Nerd Ranch and with the Alexandria Police Chief. The group plans to have team members attend the AAUW State Conference in April to garner support from other AAUW branches throughout the state. In addition, the team is planning a human trafficking educational awareness and advocacy conference in May.

Please stay tuned for more to come about the conference, and please volunteer to serve on this team. They are making great strides with their advocacy work to create better policies to help victims, community educational awareness, coalition building, and in their work to create a rescue tool. Please raise your voice to end human trafficking and help those who are vulnerable and who may not be able to raise their voices! You can leave the community better than you found it and better for these victims.

The Human Trafficking Forum will take place on April 16th at 3:00 at NVCC, Jean H. Braden Center for Women, Gender and Social Equity. The address is AA Rm. 331, Bisdorf Building, [5000 Dawes Avenue, Alexandria](#). For further information, contact Diane Schrier 352-209-3094 or Elizabeth Hendrix, 816-248-0793. While the event is not open to the public, AAUW members are invited.

Special Initiatives

STRANGERS NO MORE WOMEN BUILDING CROSS-CULTURAL FRIENDSHIPS



“Strangers No More – Women Building Cross-Cultural Friendships” truly lived up to its name. By all accounts, the inaugural event of this multi-phased initiative, which took place on March 28th, was a huge success. Some 49 women participated in the program, held at the Beatley Central Library, which generously co-sponsored the event.

The diversity of this highly energetic and enthusiastic group was remarkable. It included women from probably 30 different cultural backgrounds, from varied lifestyles and women of all ages – teenagers, young adults, seasoned women, and more mature ones. Some who attend are married, some single, some widowed, and some divorced. Some are raising young children, some raising teenagers, and some are grandmothers. Some of the participants are going to school, others are raising children at home, others are working inside or outside the home, and still others are enjoying retirement. Despite these differences, they clearly found common ground and enjoyed rich conversations about their cultural backgrounds and friendships – current and future.

All participated enthusiastically in the “speed meeting” activity, which was patterned on “speed dating.” In response to the question of



1 of 3 maps showing areas of origin.



how they would describe the experience in a word or phrase, we heard “joyous,” “exciting,” “interesting,” “informative,” among many other positive responses.

Many seemed interested in a follow-on activity, and we’ll be soliciting that interest more formally in an email inquiry. The next step will be to try to bring the interested women back together. We hope to begin forging a highly diverse group whose lives will be enriched by these cross-cultural friendships and who can work together to strengthen our community in a way that promotes the interests of all girls and women.

The success of this endeavor was only possible through the efforts of Lane Stone, whose tireless efforts were key to its launch, the support of Gail Kalin and our Board, and the contributions of the amazing Planning Committee – Monique Miles, Eugenia Burkes, Renee O’Brien, Donna Hayford, Marilyn Zayas, and Courtney Diffley. We are also indebted to the Director of Adult Programs at Beatley, Katie Dow, who generously provided the space, the book display, and publicity. In addition, we are grateful to VA AAUW for a mini-grant that furthered our publicity efforts. Not surprising, this program is the result of the input of many, including those who agreed graciously to pilot the activity in December and provide invaluable feedback. Also, not surprising, it is the product of the power of women!

Gratefully,
Bonnie Hershberg, Chair



On the Go with AAUW

Ruth Bennett, Chair



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.

Our most recent shows are:

“Our Alexandria” - Black History in Miniature

Miniatures artists, Sharon Frazier and Linwood Smith, discuss their dollhouses recently displayed at the Alexandria Black History Museum. The dollhouses depict their African American community where they grew up.

Volunteer Fairfax

Volunteer Fairfax is a non-profit that recruits and places volunteers in volunteer positions where they are needed in other non-profits. They do this through a variety of programs and partnerships with businesses, the County, and other non-profits. Guests Steve Mutty, the Chief Executive Officer, and Staff Member Kim Luckabaugh, explain the work Volunteer Fairfax does.

Running Strong for American Indian Youth

Sydney Farhang, Program Coordinator, discusses the work of Running Strong, a Native American non-profit that focuses on creating opportunities for Indian youths. They started out providing services to the Pine Ridge and Cheyenne River Reservations in South Dakota but now also serve American Indian people both on and off reservations throughout the United States through a variety of programs.

On the Go with AAUW has a YouTube channel. Go to YouTube.com and search for our shows. If you subscribe you will be notified when a new show is uploaded.

Here is the [Link](#) to the most recent program.

CHRIST HOUSE

Keep the dates open for our CHRIST HOUSE SUPPERS for-2019 :

**May 29th;
July 31st**

Thank you all for your continuing generosity and support.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

New Member Patricia Ware

Welcome new Alexandria Branch AAUW member: Patricia Ware. A long-time resident of Alexandria, Pat is a retired environment reporter who worked for Bloomberg BNA in Crystal City. She enjoys reading and traveling.

AAUW MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Friends. It is once again time to renew your AAUW Membership. This year the dues will be \$90.00. You may remember that the Branch voted to increase the Branch dues by \$3.00. There are two ways to renew. If you are reading the Branch newsletter, then you are on the Branch's webpage. Just go to the join link and use those instructions to renew. OR you can renew by check. See the attached form. You can use the form to renew your membership and to update any changes that we need to capture in the Branch Directory.

CONGRATULATIONS to Maria Rubio for being the first member to renew!!!!

The application form can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

Kvell & Kudos to Members

Monique Miles won a favorable ruling from the National Labor Relations Board representing an Amnesty International employee who was terminated after advocating for interns to be paid who were working in the DC office. See this link for an article in Bloomberg News.

Diane Schrier was co-chair of Tally Days (Lobby Days) of the Democratic Women's Club of Florida earlier this month. Almost 200 women and men participated in three days of activities that included presentations by numerous experts on various topics, visiting with members of the legislature, and social events.

Renee O'Brien is completing her 3rd year as President of the Watergate Lions Club. In March the Club successfully hosted a Board of Directors Happy Hour for the entire community and a community blood drive.

This is a new feature in the newsletter. Please submit items about yourself or other members, with their permission, to aauwnewsltr.ed@gmail.com.

AAUW Virginia Vision Newsletter

See the latest issue, Branches in Action, page 12, to see an item about our branch.

https://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/images/2018-2019_Vision_Winter-Spring.pdf

Alexandria Branch Interest Groups

All groups are open to all members.

CULTURAL ACTIVITY

Paula Massouh, Chair

No event is planned for April. Watch for announcements concerning May.



Francophile Group

Susan Cash, Chair

We are planning to reschedule for May our previously announced visit to Hillwood Estate Museum for the Perfume and Seduction exhibit. We hope the spring weather will be more cooperative than our original date. As the estate's remodeled cafe is now open, we will plan to have lunch there. For June we are planning a discussion on Normandy (the province and the invasion) in observance of the 75th anniversary of D-Day (June 1944). In July we plan to have our annual Bastille Day dinner. Details on dates and times will be provided in later newsletters and emails.

For more information, please contact Susan Cash, 703.587-4790.

Gourmet Out

Susan Cash, Chair



Due to spring holidays we will not meet in April. See future newsletters and email for upcoming events.

Mystery Book Discussion Group

Susan Werner, Chair



If you enjoy mystery novels, please join the Mystery Book Discussion Group to discuss Jane Harper's mystery: Force of Nature. The Group will meet on 23 April at the home of Lane Stone. Lane's address and phone number: 203 Yoakum Pkwy, #908, Alexandria, VA 22304; phone # -- 703-307-2431. Since Lane lives in a condo, it is important that you let her know that you plan to attend the meeting. For other questions about this Group, contact Susan Werner -AlexAAUW1@aol.com.

NEWS FROM OTHER BRANCHES

**McLean AAUW needs your
USED BOOKS!**

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN



2019 BOOK COLLECTION DATES:

Saturdays 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

May 4, June 1, June 22

July 13, and August 3rd

SUN TRUST BANK

515 Maple Ave. East

Vienna, VA

Questions: aauwbookfair@gmail.com 703-527-4206

AAUW 50th USED BOOK SALE

**September 13-15 at McLean Community Center
The Book Sale benefits scholarships for women.**

2018 - 2019 Board Members and Committee Chairs Officers

CO-Presidents* Gail Kalin 202-365-5212
 Lane Stone 703-307-2431
 Co-Vice Presidents-Programs*. Virginia Kress 703-683-6196
 Lynn O'Connell 703-867-4942
 Co-Vice Presidents-Membership* Sylvia Linke 703-461-6822
 Susan Werner 703-764-1773

Treasurer* Anne Simpson 909-921-7111

Corresponding-Recording Secretary* Margaret Batko 703-941-2217

Committees

Bylaws/policy Marilyn Zayas 787-366-6977

Christ House Project Jan Jaynes 703-765-3203
 Margaret Zebrowski 703-765-3076

Directory Susan Werner 703-764-1773

Educational Equity/Scholarship June Hajjar 703-683-1198

Educational Opportunity Fund* Arlene Shapiro 703-719-5467

Historian Arlene Shapiro 703-719-5467

Hospitality Open

Newsletter/WEB/FaceBook Eugenia Burkes aauwnewsltr.ed@gmail.com

Campus Outreach Lane Stone 703-307-2431

Public Policy Chair Elizabeth Hendrix 816-248-0793 ©

LAF Liaison Leslie Tourigny 703-307-8227 ©

Telephone Tree Jan Jaynes 703-765-3203
 Lane Stone 703-307-2431

Special Interest Groups

Cable TV Project, AAUW on the Go Ruth Bennett 703-765-4536

Cultural Paula Massouh 703-256-4541

Francophile and Gourmet Out Susan Cash 703-780-3902

Movie Night Open

Mystery Book Discussion Group Susan Werner 703-764-1773

IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE

Color Code:

Blue = Branch Board Events

Black = Branch Programs

Green - Great Decisions

Purple = State Events

Red - EOF

Brown = Women Building Cross-Cultural Friendships

Event	Date & Time	Location
Branch Board Meeting	4/4/19, 6:45 pm	Beatley Library
AAUW-VA State Conference	4/6/19 (all day)	Vinton, VA
Great Decisions	4/11/19, 7 - 8:30 pm	Cameron Station Clubhouse
Branch Board Meeting	5/2/19, 6:45 pm	Beatley Library
Great Decisions	5/9/19, 7 - 8:30 pm	Cameron Station Clubhouse
Great Decisions	6/13/19, 7 - 8:30 pm	Cameron Station Clubhouse

Scaling Up: How You Can Support the AAUW Strategic Plan

Watch this [video](#) of AAUW CEO Kim Churches to learn how your community can support AAUW's economic security initiatives.

**ALEXANDRIA BRANCH AAUW Membership Form
2019 - 2020**

Complete this form and mail it along with a check payable to

**Alexandria Branch AAUW and mail to:
Anne Simpson, 1604 Old Drummer Boy Lane, Fort Washington, MD 20744**

Renewing/New member \$90.00 ____ **Life Member \$28** ____ **MAL \$28** ____
Student \$18.81 ____

Breakdown of the Member dues:

National Association	\$59.00
State	\$ 15.00
Branch	<u>\$ 16.00</u>
Total	\$90.00
Student Affiliate	\$18.81

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 - **\$56.00** – is tax deductible for regular members; \$16.81 is tax deductible for Student Affiliates. This applies only to the National Association Dues.