



THE ALEXANDRIA SCHOONER



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November 2019

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Presidents Letter Gail & Lane

AAUW's NCCWSL, or National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, has become the conference for campus women. In addition to the two students our branch supported in 2019, NOVA sent several more. Two of the attendees sent us a few words about their experience. We're proud of our relationship with NOVA and wanted to share their heartfelt sentiments with you. Here's Nazeleh message of strength:

"I stress the importance of my participation in such educational and leadership programs which make me enabled and inspired, and this is a reminder that we are not alone. It is a message for violators of women's rights that they will fail. I believe that it is education and empowerment opportunities like this that took me to a world stage, which I can effectively use to advance the voices of those women and girls who are living on the edge."

And from Acsa, "Civic engagement is really important. Being involved in the community not only shows the people around you that you are aware and care about your community, it also helps you show yourself that you are capable of change. NCCWSL taught me to really stand my ground even if I am in a room full of people that do not believe in me, or what I represent. (continued on page 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 page 1)

I am a minority, a Dreamer, and a woman, which can get difficult and tiresome to be, but I know that I am capable of making some type of change and give different perspectives on unimaginable things.”

This Thanksgiving we are especially grateful for AAUW-Alexandria members!

Lane and Gail



PUBLIC POLICY

HUMAN TRAFFICKING SEMINAR

By Diane Schrier

On September 20th, I attended the John McCain Institute, Combatting Human Trafficking Symposium, organized with its partner, the Howard G. Buffet Foundation. The McCain Institute has entered into the first public-private partnership with the Dept. of Health and Human Services for Children and Families to build a national strategy to protect children from exploitation. Many corporations are now joining them.

Opening remarks on the urgency of the problem were given by Ambassador Kurt Volker and Cindy McCain. There was a panel on how to help young people who have been rescued with their emotional, psychological and physical needs. It was emphasized that young people need the knowledge and skills to avoid exploitation and human trafficking. A discussion focused on the need to create sustainable goals and processes in the system along with the need to get a diversity of programs and strategies to manage the multitude of diversity of victims' needs.

With Sex Trafficking victims, the acknowledged majority are girls, but boys are drastically underreported. The numbers vary but at this time it is assumed that it is 41 million victims. A Labor

Trafficking survivor stated, there is no difference between labor and sex trafficking. They overlap and are the same. Dame Sara Thornton, UK Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner spoke a lot about labor trafficking in which a larger percentage is male. She quoted Teddy Roosevelt "The credit belongs to the man or woman who is actually in the arena." In the UK, 60% are male, of which 40% are minors. The Council of European Intervention has asked companies of over 35,000 people to institute training about Human Trafficking. (Afterwards she and I discussed Brexit, the possible leaving of Scotland and Ireland, and the increase in human trafficking problems that could occur due to the interruption of information flow.

Sen. Jacky Rosen then talked about some of the problems being faced in Congress and the need to reaffirm the VAWA.

A young woman talked about her being given to a family to go to the US to get an education. Her parents were promised she would go to school, and be treated like a daughter. Instead she worked every day, never went to school and was a slave. She was also raped. After being rescued at 17, she

received her GED, her BA and is in a doctoral program.

A Labor Trafficking Forum discussed the hierarchy of migrant farmworkers and the horrid conditions that they faced. They were promised \$11 an hour. The pay actually came to \$1-\$3 per hour. They worked more than 16 hours per day and received no overtime. They would have their passports taken, be locked up, threatened with being deported, and harm to their families in their home countries, and abused, all the time allegedly running up debts at the owner's stores. They were given inadequate food, water and rest and lived in cramped, infested trailers. Overall the kind of treatment that will occur depends on the type of visas. Overseas American factories are even worse in their treatment of the workers.

The types of traumas were discussed that victims face: individual, interpersonal, and collective. The needs of victims include physical and psychological safety, empowerment, and peer

support. Collaboration, trustworthiness, transparency and the victim's history must be given to each victim. Means of bringing traffickers to Justice were discussed.

There was a discussion about the work being done in Florida, where it is an epidemic. They have investigated more than 8,000 cases since 2011. These children are twice as likely to have experienced abuse and 13x as likely to have experienced sexual abuse. The specialized placements that the children receive include staff with specialized skills, engagement, homelike settings, tailored services and safety measures.

It ended with ways that federal law allows compensation for victims from traffickers.



Speakers included Cindy McCain, Dame Sara Thornton, and Senator Jacky Rosen.



SAVE THE DATE:
AAUW ALEXANDRIA'S ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY WILL BE ON
DECEMBER 8, 2019
11:30 -1:00
AT BELLE HAVEN COUNTRY CLUB
6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria

Once again we will collect donations for women in need in Alexandria. You have several choices:

- Toys for children at Alexandria's Domestic Violence Program Shelter
- Gift cards for their moms. Grocery store and Metro cards are appreciated.
- Towel sets (or money to buy towels) for formerly incarcerated women at the Guest House.
- We will pass the hat for Alexandria's scholarship fund.

Thanks in advance for your usual generosity!

For more info see:

Arrangements: Virginia Kress, vmkress@gmail.com and Lynn O'Connell,
lynnoconnellva@gmail.com

Donations: Mary Ann Bier, marybier@comcast.net

“Autumn Leaves” Donation Drive

Our "Autumn Leaves" donation drive continues. Thanks to you who have already contributed to this effort to raise funds for AAUW National and Alexandria Branch projects. As mentioned in the last newsletter, funds received will be divided 50/50 between AAUW National and the Alexandria Branch. The Alexandria Branch projects the donations will support include closing the gender pay gap, our human trafficking initiative, and Women Building Cross Cultural Friendships. Your donations to this fundraising drive will be 50% tax deductible.

To credit the AAUW National portion of the funds we raise toward our 2019 contribution, we will need to mail our check by December 21. Donations received later will be credited toward our 2020 contribution. Therefore, the branch needs to receive any donations that you want to be counted toward 2019 by December 19. Please make your check (in the amount of your choice) payable to Alexandria Branch AAUW, with Autumn Leaves on the memo line and mail to Susan Cash, 8402 West Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308.

Thank you in advance for your usual generosity!

Special Initiatives



On the Go with AAUW

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.

Just Neighbors

Erin McKenney, Executive Director of Just Neighbors, discusses the mission and work of this nonprofit which focuses on providing legal services to low-income immigrants and refugees. They also provide community connections and education about immigration to their clients, other nonprofits, and community members wanting to learn about our ever-changing immigration system. They use volunteers for the administrative work so the staff and volunteer attorneys can focus on helping their clients. Their website is justneighbors.org.

I attended an excellent Immigration 101 class they held at a local church because I had heard so many people say “I support LEGAL immigration” or Why don’t they just get in line?” Learned our system is about as complex as tax law and, of course, there is no line!
The YouTube link will be available after it airs on Channel 10.

On the Go with AAUW has a YouTube channel. Go to [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search for our shows. If you subscribe you will be notified when a new show is uploaded.



Moving Forward: AAUW Virginia's Diversity and Inclusion Initiative and Alexandria Branch's "Women Building Cross-Cultural Friendships"

As many of you already know, AAUW of Virginia is committed to "diversity in principle and in practice." "AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors," according to the Virginia AAUW website. Furthermore, it states explicitly that 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." Cyndi Shanahan, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair of AAUW of Virginia, is all about ensuring this statement is a reality at every level of the organization.

As a part of her effort, on September 24, 2019 Cyndi held the first ever phone conversation for AAUW diversity representatives from around the state. Fourteen branches participated, discussing their various initiatives. As the representative from Alexandria Branch, I was privileged to talk about our program, "Strangers No More—Women Building Cross-Cultural Friendships." Others shared what they had been doing, including collaborating with other organizations in their towns, such as the NAACP, the National Council of Negro Women, and Delta Sigma Theta, a Greek-lettered sorority of

college-educated women dedicated to public service with an emphasis on programs whose target audience is African Americans. Several Branches had reached out to Muslim and Hispanic women to discuss issues of concern to all. Some have worked with local universities to enlist speakers and another is partnering with a local elementary school to provide second graders with 100 copies of the book, *Can I Join Your Club?*, which celebrates the importance of diversity and friendship.

The telephone group also discussed promoting a cultural activity that has diversity and inclusion as its theme. Book, movie, and live theater suggestions generated considerable interest. Prominently mentioned is the new film about Harriet Tubman, *Tubman*.

One idea for an activity, in particular, captured my imagination, which I shared with one of our co-Presidents, Lane Stone, my collaborator in "Strangers No More: Women Building Cross-Cultural Friendships." Lane and I be using it as part of an informative evening we have planned for our upcoming THIRD gathering of women who want to cultivate relationships with women from different backgrounds and experiences. We hope

you will join us on Wednesday, 11 December 2019 from 6:00 - 8:30 pm at Alexandria's Beatley Central Library at 5005 Duke Street. Our theme for this gathering is "Winter Celebrations" and what they tell us about our varying experiences, beliefs, and

delights. You'll be hearing more about it soon. In the meantime, plan to come and bring a friend—it promises to be a fun and inspirational way to broaden and deepen the work we started last March.

REMEMBER:

SAVE THE DATE for—"WOMEN BUILDING CROSS-CULTURAL FRIENDSHIPS"

WHEN: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2019,

TIME: 6:00 - 8:30 PM

WHERE: ALEXANDRIA'S BEATLEY CENTRAL LIBRARY

5005 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virginia

PLEASE COME AND BRING A FRIEND

DETAILS TO FOLLOW

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Kvell & Kudos to Members

Margaret Batko has a passion for fiber arts. This is just one example of the many projects she is working on.



Welcome to Our Newest Members

Dr. Mahadevan (Dev) Mani:

Dr. Dev Mani retired as the Associate Executive Officer of the National Research Council (NRC), which functions as the principal operating agency of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), the National Academy of Engineering (NAE), and the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) in providing services to the government, the public, and the scientific and engineering communities. Dr. Mani joined the NRC in 1989 and held various positions including Director, Office of Institutional Research and Director, Board on Energy and Environmental Systems. Prior to joining the NRC, Dr. Mani was with TRW Inc., (now acquired by Northrop Grumman), where he served as Director for Federal Marketing Development in the Federal Systems Group of TRW's Defense and Space Sector and as Director of Planning and Analysis in the corporate Science and Technology Department. Dr. Mani is currently a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and serves as an AAAS volunteer to assist the Fairfax County Public School System in the delivery of its science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education program at the elementary school level. Dr. Mani holds a B.Tech degree in Metallurgy from the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras; an M.S. in Materials Engineering from Drexel University in Philadelphia; and a PhD in Energy Management and Policy from the University of Pennsylvania.

Lalitha Mani:

Lalitha Mani is a trademark lawyer by profession with a background in sociology. As a lawyer, she worked for the US Patent and Trademark Office, was in private practice at law firms and with companies like Kellogg as their in-house trademark counsel. Most recently, she was legal counsel to a start-up company in Reston and handled various

legal and transactional matters. As a lawyer, she enjoyed counseling clients to strategically avoid litigation more than litigating disputes, and therefore, got interested in mediation as an alternative dispute resolution method on the professional front. She is a certified mediator, affiliated with DC's Multi-door mediation program. Additionally, because of her innate ability to connect with people, she is a trained life coach, formally trained in the Co-Active model of coaching. She now has a private practice in coaching clients. Lalitha has gravitated from the practice of law into mediation and coaching. On the side, Lalitha has picked up a real estate license and brings her coaching expertise to help clients with real estate decisions. Lalitha has Master's degrees in Sociology from both Bangalore University, Bangalore, India and the University of Pennsylvania, and a JD from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. She is still an active member of the DC Bar.

Pat Genz

Pat is happy to be a new member of the Alexandria Branch. Originally from New York City, she has lived in the DC area for the last 40 years. After she received her Master of Arts in Teaching English degree from Yale University, Pat became a professor at the College of Southern Maryland in La Plata where she enjoyed teaching courses in writing and literature until she retired in 2008. Then, she joined AAUW as a member-at-large and started working with Lobby Corps. She was privileged to be part of the AAUW Delegation to China in 2012. Pat is delighted to be back doing work with Lobby Corps after a time spent caring for her mother-in-law in Texas. Pat and her husband Mike have two sons. They enjoy visiting Andy's family in Washington, DC, and Dan's family in Dallas.

In Memory

We are so sorry to have to tell you that our friend and former co-president Ginger Chamberlain lost her battle with cancer October 4th. She chose to have no funeral or other service.

At our September Meet and Greet the branch voted for her to be our sole Named Honoree for the year because she was truly one of a kind. Danielle is going to pass that along to Al, her husband. To paraphrase Shakespeare, we will not look upon her like again.

I spoke with Ginger last week and she told me how much AAUW meant to her and how much she appreciated all your cards and calls. She said she wanted to go with grace and dignity and laughter. And we will miss her laugh so much!

Gail and Lane





October 11, 2019

Dear Alexandria Branch Members,

The Mt. Vernon Branch of AAUW wishes to express our sadness at the death of Ginger Chamberlain. We remember her fondly as a hard-working, fun-loving AAUW friend, who brought a smile to everyone's face. She and Danielle, as Alexandria Co-Presidents, changed the face of your branch in delightful ways. I am sure you can name each one!

I particularly enjoyed talking to Ginger about jewelry! She had some spectacular pieces and we shared a love for things that were "different." I also remember her standing on a chair in the foyer of the LTA, calling out raffle numbers, or maybe she was selling raffle tickets. At any rate, I was amazed at her energy and good humor. She was undergoing chemo at the time.

Everyone who knew Ginger remembers her for her cheerful goofiness. We in the Mt. Vernon Branch were touched by her love of life, just as you were. I truly regret that I am unable to attend the gathering in her memory because I am traveling. But, please know that we are thinking about Ginger's husband, Al, and her entire family of AAUW friends at this sad moment.

Enjoy stories and a good time in Ginger's memory. She's looking down and smiling with you.

All my sympathy,

Patsy Quick, President

Alexandria Branch Interest Groups

Groups are open to all members.



Francophile Group

Susan Cash, Chair

Our next get-together will take place on Saturday, November 9, 1 p.m. La Madeleine at Kingstowne Towne Center, 5876 Kingstowne Center, #100. For this discussion, participants can choose a book or article of their choice related to a French-speaking country (or another European country) and present their take-aways to our group. We will also have a presentation on Halloween in France as well as a reading of Art Buchwald's classic francophile Thanksgiving column (Le Jour du Merci Donnant).

Hope to see you there.

Susan Cash
703/587-4790



Gourmet Out

Susan Cash, Chair

Details on future events will appear in later newsletters or in email.

Mystery Book Discussion Group

Susan Werner, Chair

On November 26, the Mystery Group will meet at the home of Sue Worden. We will meet at 7 PM. The mystery will be *The Widows of Malabar Hill* by Sujata Massey. Sue's address and phone number: 1120 Madison St., Alexandria, VA 22314. 703-739-5890. For other questions about the Mystery Book Discussion Group, contact Susan Werner @ 703-764-1773.



Cultural Events

While we wait for a new chair, members are encouraged to share information about events that might be of interest to the membership.

This recommendation comes Eugenia Burkes. This is a FREE event at the Episcopal High School and it happens 4 times a year. These are professional musicians, not high school students! Here's the message from the director: It's time to start planning for our next *National Chamber Players* concert taking place on Tuesday, December 3. Save the date; it's a big one!

NATIONAL CHAMBER PLAYERS - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2019

TUTTI CELLI

AN EVENING WITH THE CELLISTS OF THE NSD

PAVANE GABRIEL FAURE **GABRIEL FAURE**

BACHIANAS BRASILEIRAS NO. 5 **HECTOR VILLA-LOBOS**
LARISA MARTINEZ, SOPRANO

AGNUS DEI **KRZYSZTOF PENDERECKI**

QUARTET NO. 2 **PHILIP GLASS**

PRELUDE IN D MAJOR **J.S BACH (ARR. DAVID TEIE)**

O MAGNUM MYSTERIUM **MORTEN LAURIDSEN**

THE CELLO SONG **STEVEN SHARP NELSON**
INSPIRED BY BACH'S INACCOMPANIED CELLO SUITE NO. 1 PRELUDE

FLIGHT OF THE BUMBLEBEE **NIKOLAI RIMSKY-KORSAKOV**

SCOUA DI CELLI **JEAN FRANCAIX**
VARIATION DE ROSINA

PASTORALE

FINALE

FEATURING:
DAVID HARDY RACHEL YOUNG LOEWI LIN
STEVEN HONIGBERG MARK EVANS BRITTON RILEY
DAVID TEIE EUGENIO CHANG JAMES LEE

GREAT DECISIONS

The November meeting of Great Decisions will be held on the 14th at the Cameron Station Club House at 7 pm. The topic will be The US and Mexico - a Partnership Tested, led by Eugenia Burkes. The December meeting will be held on the 12th at the same location. Sylvia Linke will lead a discussion on The Rise of Populism in Europe.

2020 AAUW of Virginia State Conference

2020 marks the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in the United States, therefore our conference will be themed around this momentous event and what's happened in advancing gender equity for women and girls in the past 100 years.

The conference will be held in the AAUW-VA Northern District at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Alexandria - Old Town, 625 First Street, from **April 17-19, 2020**. For details on rates, etc., see the state's [web site](#).

Joanne Clark of the Mt. Vernon Branch (jojoandgeorge@gmail.com) and **Arlene Shapiro** (arleneshapiro@yahoo.com) of the Alexandria Branch, are the co-chairs of the Local Arrangements Committee. **Tammie Mullins-Rice** of the Virginia Beach Branch is the conference treasurer and registrar, and **Mary Anne Graham** of the McLean Area Branch is the Program Book Chair.

Additional information will be forthcoming in the next few months.

NORTHERN DISTRICT MEETING



Elizabeth Hendrix and **Diane Schrier** attended the AAUW Northern Virginia District Meeting on October 26 and presented the Alexandria AAUW Human Trafficking Intervention Initiative. Diane presented Virginia statistics and human trafficking stories while Elizabeth presented the branch's three-pronged approach with educational awareness, advocacy, and research and development. Elizabeth focused primarily on the rescue tool, the AAUW Angel App with Angel Alerts, from the research prong and grant work for funding to develop it. She and Diane asked for branch support of it for the grant applications in particular and appealed to the Northern Virginia branches which had not formally replied with their support yet.

REDISTRICTING FORUM

Sunday, November 17, 2019: 1 - 4 p.m.
Sherwood Community Center
3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030

Join us to discuss how to pass redistricting in Virginia in 2020!

State Legislators

Sen. George Barker
Sen. Dave Marsden
Del. Karrie Delaney
Del. Mark Keam
Del. Kaye Kory
Del. Mark Sickles

Del. Mark Levine
Del. Ken Plum
Del. Ibraheem Samirah
Del. Marcus Simon
Del. Rip Sullivan, Jr.

Andre Parvenu, California Citizens Redistricting Commission

Brian Cannon, OneVirginia2021
Deb Wake, League of Women Voters of Virginia
Wendy Fox-Grage, League of Women Voters of Fairfax Area

Register Here: lww2019.eventbrite.com

All are welcome to this FREE event! Donations always appreciated.

2019-2020 Officers

ELECTED OFFICERS			APPOINTED OFFICERS		
Co-Presidents	Gail Kalin	202-365-5212	Bylaws/Policy	Open	
	Lane Stone	703-307-2431	Christ House	Jan Jaynes	703-765-3203
Co-VP Programs	Virginia Kress	703-683-6196		Margaret Zebrowski	703-765-3076
	Lynn O'Connell	703867-4942	Directory	Susan Werner	703-764-1773
Co-VP Membership	Sylvia Linke	703-461-6822	Hospitality	Open	
	Susan Werner	703-764-1773	AAUW Funds	Susan Cash	703-780-3902
Treasurer	Anne Simpson	909-921-7111	Ed. Opportunity Fund	Arlene Shapiro	703-719-5467
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SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS			Campus Outreach	Lane Stone Danielle Beach	703-307-2431 703-751-1691
AAUW On The Go	Ruth Bennett	703-765-4536	Public Policy	Elizabeth Hendrix Diane Schrier	816-248-0793 352-209-3094
Cultural	Open				
Francophile & Gourmet Out	Susan Cash	703-780-3902			
Mystery Book	Susan Werner	703-764-1773			

Send your suggestions/comments about the newsletter to aaunewsltr.ed@gmail.com.

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