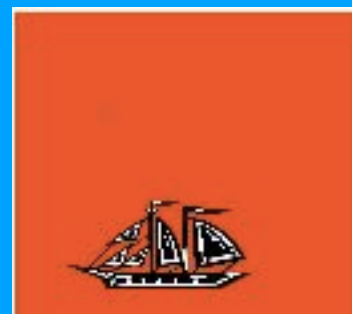




# THE ALEXANDRIA SCHOONER



Series 74, #4

February 2020

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## Presidents Letter Gail & Lane

Dear Members,

Our Public Policy Chairs, Diane Schrier and Dr. Elizabeth Hendrix, submitted our branch's application for a Community Action Grant from AAUW National for a Human Trafficking Intervention Initiative. To give you some scale of the problem, consider that at \$150 billion a year, human trafficking makes more money than Google, Starbucks Nike and the NFL combined. These four had a combined 2015 revenue of \$136.6. billion. We'll keep you posted and, of course, ask for your help on this mission.

In December, 2019, AAUW CEO Kim Churches gave an update on the state of the organization. It is definitely worth your time to give this a listen. Among other interesting and important bits, she reports a very generous estate gift from Nancy Grace Roman, mother of the Hubble Telescope and AAUW member/leader.

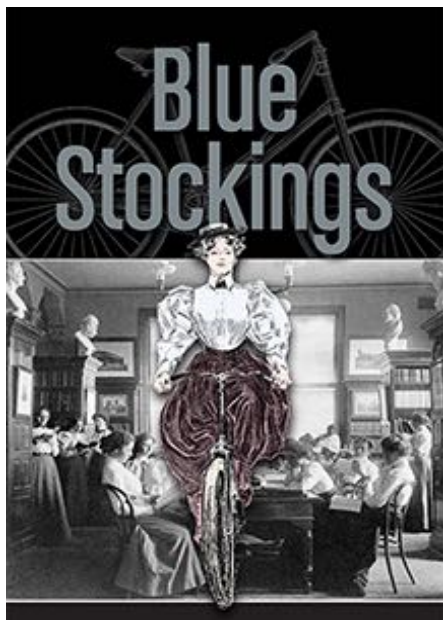
AAUW's latest research report, Limiting our Livelihoods, is out and you can read the entire report or the executive summary. Harassment in the workforce causes long lasting damage to a woman's career. According to the report, (continued on page 2)

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)

"Aging in the labor force and advancing in one's career is no buffer against harassment." One example is a woman who leaves her job because of harassment and then due to ageism has difficulty finding another position, and these can be peak earning years.

Happy 2020! Thank you for all you do for our branch!  
Lane & Gail



Written by **Jessica Swale**  
Produced by **Lloyd Bittinger** and **Margaret Chapman**  
Directed by **Marzanne Claiborne**

What does it take to accomplish social change? This historical drama, which premiered at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London in 2013, follows the story of four women fighting for an education, set against the backdrop of the women's suffrage movement. Set in 1896 at Cambridge University – the first college in

## BLUE STOCKINGS

**The Little Theatre of Alexandria**

**600 Wolfe St, Alexandria, 22314**

**April 24, 2020**

**7:00 PM Reception**

**8:00 PM Performance**

**TICKETS \$35**

**(\$11.00 – tax deductible)**

**(Make checks out to Alexandria Branch  
AAUW)**

**Money raised supports education empowering  
women and girls.**

Britain to admit women. But things still aren't equal. The men graduate with degrees and prospects, but the women leave with nothing but the stigma of being a "blue stocking" – a derogatory term for an educated woman. Follow the men and women of Cambridge University as they shatter prevailing traditions. Conflicts abound as generations, social classes, and genders clash.

**Alexandria and Mt. Vernon  
AAUW Branches**

**Present a Fundraiser Performance**



**For Tickets, Contact:**

Susan Werner [susan.werner1@verizon.net](mailto:susan.werner1@verizon.net)

## FEBRUARY PROGRAM MEETING

### How Do You Want to Die?

That's not an easy question to deal with is it? Culturally, we tend to avoid any and all discussions of death and of having to face our own mortality. Think of all the ways we avoid saying "dead" - she passed over, the late Ms. Smith, etc. On **Sunday, February 23rd at 2 pm** in the Cameron Club House, 200 Cameron Station Blvd., Alexandria, VA 22304, our member Eugenia Burkes, who is also a member of **Compassion & Choices**, will be joined by two members of that organization, Cathy Casselman, Northern Virginia Action Team Coordinator, and Victoria Almquist, to discuss the **Death with Dignity** movement, it's history, religious, medical ethics, and other issues related to this topic.

Bring your concerns, questions, and maybe your fears to what should be a very thought provoking discussion.

## SPECIAL INITIATIVES



### BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT: Women Building Cross-Cultural Friendships“Winter Celebrations” Welcomes our Diversity Book Group

On 13 January 2020, “Women Building Cross-Cultural Friendships” celebrated the arrival of our DIVERSITY BOOK GROUP, which grew out of the three successful public events sponsored by AAUW Alexandria during 2019. Drawing from Branch

members, attendees from one or more of these events, as well as others who heard about the initiative, the first meeting drew 13 participants. Several others were unable to join us but plan to be regular members. The Group will gather on the

second Monday of every month from 7 pm to 8:30 pm. Meetings are held at the Ellen Coolidge Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA., thanks to the assistance of Librarian Caroline Pak.

The goals of the Diversity Book Group spring from those of our multi-phase initiative, “Strangers No More—Women Building Cross Cultural Friendships.” We seek to learn about women whose backgrounds and cultures—whether US or foreign born—are different from our own through reading and by building friendships within the group. Ultimately, through this knowledge and personal relationships we hope to help amplify the voices of all women in our community.

Starting with a “straw woman” list that Lane Stone secured from a Delaware AAUW Branch, the group enthusiastically amended its contents to ensure the 12 books that are planned through January 2021 highlight the group’s interests in themes related to diversity and inclusion. Most are written by women of color and include several different genres. Each month, a member of our group has volunteered to facilitate the discussion with as little or much structure as she chooses. While we all wish that the group included more racial, religious, and ethnic diversity, we are hoping that when the Library advertises each month’s selection, additional women will participate. If you have an interest in joining us, please email Bonnie Hershberg at [hesh3b@gmail.com](mailto:hesh3b@gmail.com) with a cc to Lane Stone at [info@lanestonebooks.com](mailto:info@lanestonebooks.com) for more information. The next meeting is February 10th.

Looking back to our last public event, held 11 December, 26 women joined us at Beatley Central Library to continue to build friendships across cultures. It was a diverse group that readily shared their experiences of winter celebrations, including from Ethiopia, Nigeria, Japan, and Puerto Rico. Twelve of the participants were new to the group but, through the good will of past participants, reported that they felt very welcome. One person

joined our Branch that evening and several expressed interest by taking home membership forms.

We’re especially grateful to Louise Mokone, and to member Natalie Smith, two participants who had attended our two previous gatherings. Both told heartfelt stories of their recollections, including their hopes to continue to connect with women from other cultures. After these introductions, we got everyone up and moving around with a lively game of “Diversity Bingo,” an ice-breaker that another AAUW Branch described during a conference call in November involving many of the state branch representatives. Of a possible 25 blocks, three participants managed to fill in 19 and were delighted to receive a copy of one of our own Lane Stone’s books. After small groups discussed the meaning of their winter celebrations—be they personal, traditional, familial, ethnic, religious or none at all, we continued the conversation about what’s next.

Special thanks goes to co-President Lane Stone, whose collaboration has been essential to our success and to the support of Gail Kalin, co-President, and all the other Board members of Alexandria Branch. We’re most appreciative for the volunteers at our December gathering—Donna Hayford, Ann Simpson, Margaret Batko, Priscilla Wiener, and Marilyn Zayas and to all those who helped in the past year—Eugenia Burkes, Rene O’Brien, Monique Miles, Susan Werner, and Sylvia Linke. Thank you all for believing in our vision.

I look forward to helping nurture our Diversity Book Group and counting 2020 as successful as 2019 as we continue to try to build bridges to all women in our community. I wish each of you a healthy and joyful year.

Best regards,  
Bonnie Hershberg

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### Welcome to Our Newest Member - Deborah McGhee



Deborah is a retired Navy officer of 27 years with an area of concentration in Telecommunications. Highlights of her career include working at the

White House Military Office; Commanding and Executive Officer, Navy Computer and Telecommunications Station, Iceland and Puerto Rico respectively; and Multi-National Forces - Iraq, Baghdad Iraq. She earned numerous awards, decorations and master level degrees.

Currently, Deborah is a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Medical Reserve Corps (MRC -non medical) volunteer. Deborah is a regular role player in

emergency response exercises, helping first responders practice the skills and expertise necessary to respond to real emergencies. With more than 100 hours of volunteering in the past year: She is an assistant instructor for "Until Help Arrives," a one-hour training course designed to help teach basic life-saving skills; provides Hands-Only CPR training; supported the Arlington-Alexandria Disaster Recovery Center for persons seeking loans and information related to the July 2019 flooding; provides rabies information at outreach events; and supports Point of Distribution activities at the Alexandria Department of Health. On 4 December 2019, Volunteer Alexandria awarded Deborah the "Emergency Preparedness Volunteer Service Award" for 2019.

### Kvell & Kudos

Recently Lane Stone's cozy mystery was at the top of BookBub's recommended reading list. This is a web-based service that sends subscribers a list of good deals and fun reads. Here's the description of *Changing of the Guard Dog*: "Doggy daycare owner Sue is shocked to discover a tuxedoed corpse during her morning jog! Can she crack the case with the help of her canine companions? A clever mystery set in a cozy beachside town."

## HOLIDAY PARTY

### HOLIDAY PARTY 2019 WAS ALL ABOUT FRIENDS, FOOD AND FUN! (and a little branch business)



Back row: Lane Stone, Co-President, Dr. Elizabeth Hendrix, Co-Chair, Public Policy, Diane Schrier, Co-Chair, Public Policy Dr. Kam Sumrall, Deborah McGhee, Sylvia Linke, Co-Chair, Membership,

Front Row: Dr. Paula Massouh, Dr. Gail Kalin, Co-President, Margaret Batko, Secretary



Virginia Kress, Co-Vice President, Membership, Bonnie Hershberg, Women Building Cross Cultural Friendships.

Priscilla Weiner



#### HOLIDAY PARTY DONATIONS

Thanks to your usual generosity, the branch donated toys and gift cards to be distributed at the holiday party for Alexandria's Domestic Violence Prevention Program, towels for Guest House residents, and \$305 for the scholarship program at T. C. Williams.

We thank you and we'd like your input on future efforts. The Annual Meeting will be here before we know it. Which, if any, organization(s) should we support at that event? Please let us know at [GailLaneAAUWalex@gmail.com](mailto:GailLaneAAUWalex@gmail.com).

# Alexandria Branch Interest Groups

Groups are open to all members.

## Francophile Group

Susan Cash, Chair



To mark mid-winter, we will gather for a light lunch at Fontaine Caffe and Creperie, 119 South Royal Street on Saturday, February 8 at 12 p.m. On Saturday, February 15, we will aim to attend a movie (the new remake of Les Miserables if available) or D-Day Normandy 1944 (shown at the Smithsonian Museum's IMAX theatre at 10:30, 2:40, and 4:50). Please contact Susan Cash, 703/587-4790 if you are interested.

## Gourmet Out

Susan Cash, Chair

Our next event will take place on Thursday, February 27 at 6:30 p.m. at Los Toltecos (Mexican), 4111 Duke Street, Alexandria. Please contact Susan Cash, 703/587-4790 if you would like to attend.



## Mystery Book Discussion Group

Susan Werner, Chair

Please join the Mystery Book Discussion Group in its review of Ellis Peters' mystery The Heretic's Apprentice. Our meeting will be held at 7 PM on 25 February 2020 at the home of Catherine Hughes. Catherine's address and phone number: 6129 Wellington Commons Dr., Alexandria, VA 22310; 703-216-8591. Please inform Catherine if you plan to attend the meeting. All are welcome. The Group invites your mystery ideas. For further information about the Mystery Group, contact Susan Werner at [susan.werner1@verizon.net](mailto:susan.werner1@verizon.net).



Happy Reading.

## GREAT DECISIONS

Great Decisions is a discussion program on world affairs which focuses on the most critical global issues currently facing America. The program is developed annually by the Foreign Policy Association. The program provides background information and policy options for the eight most critical issues facing America each year through a Briefing Book and a DVD presentation, which serve as the foundational information for discussion groups across the country.

**ACTION:** If you still would like to order the 2020 briefing book, please email Lynn at lynnoconnellva@gmail.com. She is hoping to have another bulk order placed shortly.

AAUW Alexandria Great Decisions 2020  
Meetings: Cameron Station Clubhouse  
Time: 7 pm (second Thursday of most months)

Please mark your calendars for these meeting dates; topics each month will follow as we finalize the presentations.

March 12	April 9	May 14	June 11	September 10	October 8
		November 12	December 10		

Anyone (AAUW members and non-members) are welcome to attend any meetings. You do not need to commit to all meetings to participate. More information can be found at [https://www.fpa.org/great\\_decisions/](https://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/). Contact Lynn O'Connell, lynnoconnellva@gmail.com, 703/867-4942, if you have questions.

## 2020 AAUW of Virginia State Conference

VA AAUW 2020 Conference Program Book

Do you own a business or know of a business that wants to be known by AAUW members?  
Then please consider advertising in the Program Book!

The commercial rates are:

Back Cover (color) @ \$250.00	FT/BK Inside Cover (color) @\$200.00 - 2 available
Full -pages @ \$150.00 - 3 available	Half pages @\$60.00 Quarter pages @\$40.00

Format: Please send ad text/artwork in jpg format only. Please send as black-and white unless you are buying one of the three available full-page color ads. Please email your layout, print ready, to: Mary Anne Graham @maryannegraham@comcast.net by Friday, February 28, 2020. Assistance with ads and ad copy is available to any branch that seeks assistance. Contact Mary Anne Graham at 540-338-7738 or email at maryannegraham@comcast.net.

Payment: Make checks payable to AAUW of Virginia State Conference and mail to: Tammie Rice, 1010 Barnacle Court, Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Mary Anne Graham, 540-338-7738

## An Important Message from State AAUW

When AAUW and AAUW-VA send email information to members we receive a number of bouncebacks because of out-of-date or incorrect email addresses. As a result there are a number of members who are not receiving important information, including our Vision newsletter and ballots for our state elections. We would appreciate branch presidents' assistance by alerting their members of this problem through various means of communication, e.g., in person at branch meetings, in branch newsletters, and by email, and by requesting that members review their profiles in the AAUW Member Services Database (MSD) on the AAUW website to make certain their email address and other profile information are correct. They can use their member number and password to login. If they do not know their member number, they can follow the directions in MSD for obtaining it. It only takes seconds. If they do not have or do not remember their password, they can follow the instructions in MSD to create or reset a password. Once they are in their MSD profile, they can verify their email address and other information and make any corrections if needed.

If the member is unavailable or does not have the ability to use the internet, the treasurer of your branch has the ability to make changes for them. Also, if members have any questions or encounter any problems trying to update their email address or other information in their MSD profiles, they can contact [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org) and receive assistance.

We thank you very much for passing on this information by February 15, 2020, so that members can verify and make any necessary corrections to their email addresses in time for AAUW-VA voting in the spring.

## Thought You Should Know

Friends of the Beatley Central Library,

A recent embargo from Macmillan Publishers allows libraries—no matter how many readers they serve—to purchase only one copy of each new eBook title for the first eight weeks after a book's release. This embargo limits libraries' ability to provide access to information for all. More than 230,000 advocates across the country have signed a petition sponsored by the American Library Association calling on Macmillan to reverse their restrictive policy. Please join them. I have already done so.

More information on the petition and a link to sign it can be found here: <https://ebooksforall.org/> .

Many thanks!

Chuck Ziegler  
Director - Advocacy and Development  
Friends of the Beatley Central Library

## 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 from Margaret Batko for events at Green Springs Garden.

### **Winter Lecture-Building a Piet Oudolf Meadow**

2/02/2020 1:30 pm

#### **Event Description**

(Adults) Join Horticulturist Gregg Tepper as he shares the engaging tale of building a Piet Oudolf-designed Meadow Garden. With every great project and large planting there is a story, and Gregg will share the background, the details, and all the behind-the-scenes magic that happened to make this garden a reality. Prepare to be amazed and delighted. The program at Green Spring Gardens runs from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person in advance; \$12 at the door. For more information, call 703-642-5173.

Cost: \$10.00

Registration: Register Online

### **Winter Lecture-Women in Horticulture**

2/09/2020 1:30 pm

#### **Event Description**

(Adults) Celebrate women in horticulture as past and future contributors of note to the field of landscape design. Three public gardens will reveal how the contributions of Beatrix Farrand and Ellen Biddle Shipman, groundbreaking women in landscape architecture, helped further the field of landscape architecture field for women. Get a profile of public works of select contemporary female designers that illustrate the continued impact of women on the design world. The program at Green Spring Gardens runs from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person. For more information, call 703-642-5173.

Cost: \$10.00

Registration: Register Online

## 2019-2020 Officers

ELECTED OFFICERS			APPOINTED OFFICERS		
<b>Co-Presidents</b>	Gail Kalin	202-365-5212	<b>Bylaws/Policy</b>	Open	
	Lane Stone	703-307-2431	<b>Christ House</b>	Jan Jaynes	703-765-3203
<b>Co-VP Programs</b>	Virginia Kress	703-683-6196		Margaret Zebrowski	703-765-3076
	Lynn O'Connell	703-867-4942	<b>Directory</b>	Susan Werner	703-764-1773
<b>Co-VP Membership</b>	Sylvia Linke	703-461-6822	<b>Hospitality</b>	Open	
	Susan Werner	703-764-1773	<b>AAUW Funds</b>	Susan Cash	703-780-3902
<b>Treasurer</b>	Anne Simpson	909-921-7111	<b>Ed. Opportunity Fund</b>	Arlene Shapiro	703-719-5467
<b>Corresponding-Recording Sec.</b>	Margaret Batko	703-941-2217	<b>Historian</b>	Arlene Shapiro	703-719-5467
			<b>Editor</b>	Eugenia Burkes	<a href="mailto:aauwnewsltr.ed@gmail.com">aauwnewsltr.ed@gmail.com</a>
<b>SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS</b>			<b>Campus Outreach</b>	Lane Stone Danielle Beach	703-307-2431 703-751-1691
<b>AAUW On The Go</b>	Ruth Bennett	703-765-4536	<b>Public Policy</b>	Elizabeth Hendrix Diane Schrier	816-248-0793 352-209-3094
<b>Cultural</b>	Open				
<b>Francophile &amp; Gourmet Out</b>	Susan Cash	703-780-3902			
<b>Mystery Book</b>	Susan Werner	703-764-1773			

Send your suggestions/comments about the newsletter to [aauwnewsltr.ed@gmail.com](mailto:aauwnewsltr.ed@gmail.com).

## **AAUW CONTACTS**

### **AAUW National Office:**

**1310 L St. NW, Suite 1000  
Washington, DC 20005  
[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)**

**[connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org)**

**800/326-AAUW (2289) 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**202/785-7700 - 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**Fax: 202/872-1425**

**TDD: 202/785-7777**

### **AAUW of Virginia:**

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

### **Virginia General Assembly:**

**[viriniageneralassembly.gov](http://viriniageneralassembly.gov)**