



THE ALEXANDRIA SCHOONER



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Presidents Letter Gail & Lane

Dear Members,

AAUW should not be a well-kept secret. We need more members! Is your neighborhood on Nextdoor? (Click to find out.) Would you please promote our events there? Our Program, Great Decisions, and Diversity book group meetings are all open to the public. Just click on "Post a message, event, poll, or urgent alert" and then click on "event."

Idea number one to post on Nextdoor: Great Decisions meetings would be great for this! The next two meetings are March 12 and April 9, both at 7p. The venue is the Cameron Station Clubhouse, 200 Cameron Station Blvd, Alexandria, VA. More information can be found at https://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/ or they can email us at AlexAAUW1@aol.com. As they say on their website, prepare to discuss the world.

Idea number two to post: Create an event for our new Diversity Book Group. The next meeting is 3/9/20, 7p. We meet at Alexandria's Burke Library, our co-sponsor. For March we are reading *The Round House*, by Louise Erdrich. That address is 4701 Seminary Road, Alexandria.

(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.

You can always just refer folks to our website (<https://alexandria-va.aauw.net>) and our email address (AlexAAUW1@aol.com) for membership information. As you know, all are welcome.

We love hearing from you. Please give us ideas and feedback anytime at gallaneaauwalex@gmail.com.

Lane & Gail

PUBLIC POLICY

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH PROGRAM: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

On Sunday, January 26, 2020, Ms. Diane Schrier and Dr. Elizabeth Hendrix led a human trafficking awareness presentation moderated by Dr. Gail Kalin at Cameron Station Club House. Diane first spoke about the business model of human trafficking and how different groups exploited people. She then described victim profiles, stories about human trafficking survivors and how they were seduced and exploited, the various types of trafficking, techniques to detect victims and how to report the information. She also discussed Virginia statistics and status, national and international problems and approaches.

Elizabeth reported the branch's three-pronged approach to work on this public policy priority, which involves: educational awareness, advocacy, and research and development. She updated the group on their progress with the AAUW Community Action grant application for the Angel App, a new rescue tool, as well as their hope to have an annual

online conference to feature the app. Elizabeth also gave the group current, Virginia House and Senate bills pertaining to human trafficking and asked them to write their legislators in support of these bills.

Ms. Lalitha Mani provided a model advocacy letter with the current bills that people could use to send to their legislators to aid human trafficking victims. She and Dr. Dev Mani also worked at the advocacy table during the presentation and helped people identify their legislators and how to contact them. Free cards, envelopes, and stamps were provided by the branch human trafficking intervention team members (Deborah Mcghee and Elizabeth Hendrix).

It was a successful team effort. On Saturday, February 22, 2020, Diane and Elizabeth gave this presentation to the Springfield-Annandale AAUW branch.

EQUAL PAY DAY

We need a good turnout on **Tuesday, March 10th**, when the Mayor will sign a proclamation designating the day women's wages catch up with men's as Equal Pay Day, citing AAUW research. The location is the Council Chambers, 301 King Street. We're to be there at 6:45p. Let's meet at La Madeleine, 500 King Street, Alexandria, at 5:45, and walk over together. We'll show the city how important equal pay is to us! Please let me know if you can make it so we can carpool, info@LaneStoneBooks.com.

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.



February 2020 Show

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at George Mason University
Danielle Beach interviewed two active members of OLLI - Paul Howard, Vice President of the GMU OLLI Board of Directors, and Toni Acton, Chair of two Board committees, Member Services and Outreach and Development.

Go to olli.gmu.edu to learn about all the classes, clubs, tours, and special events that Olli offers! You'll be amazed! The YouTube link for this show will be available after it airs on Channel 10.

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.

ALEXANDRIA BRANCH AAUW ANNUAL FUND RAISING EVENT

Don't forget to get your tickets to our annual fund event at the Little Theater of Alexandria (600 Wolfe St., Alexandria) on **April 24th**. This year's play is "Blue Stockings" -- a play about the fight for women's education - very appropriate for an organization such as AAUW, one of whose major goals is the support of education for women and girls. Tickets are only \$35.00 with \$11.00 being tax deductible. Contact Susan Werner (susan.werner1@verizon.net) for tickets. Checks should be made out to Alexandria Branch AAUW. Contact Arlene Shapiro (arleneshapiro@yahoo.com) if you can volunteer to bring food or in some other way help with the preparation and the reception. See flyer for more information. We always have fun at this event. Hope to see you there!

Christ House

Save the date: Wednesday, April 29 is the next date for the Christ House Soup Kitchen.

A Thank You from Friends of Guest House for Our Donations Collected at the Holiday Luncheon



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/. Contact Lynn O'Connell, lynnoconnellva@gmail.com, 703/867-4942, if you have questions.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Groups are open to all members.

Mystery Book Discussion Group



The March 2020 meeting of the Mystery Book Discussion Group will take place on March 24th at the home of Donna Hayford. Our mystery will be *Bad Blood* by Dana Stabenow. Donna's address is 6101 Lemon Thyme Dr., Alexandria, VA 22310. Her phone number is 703-971-0919. Please inform Donna if you plan to attend. Mystery recommendations for future discussion are welcome. Newcomers are welcome. If you have questions about the Mystery Book Discussion Group, contact Susan Werner at susan.werner1@verizon.net.

Francophile Group

The topic for our next meeting is George Washington, Mount Vernon, and France's role in the American Revolution. Tentative date: Thursday, **March 26**, 6:30 p.m. at Viet House, 6226 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria. For more information, contact Susan Cash at 703/587-4790.



Gourmet Out



No events in March or April. Stay tuned to future newsletters and emails.



Dear AAUW Alexandria,

Thank you for your participation in the Five Star Recognition Program. After reviewing your submission, we are pleased to inform you that the AAUW Alexandria (VA) branch has received a star for Communications and External Relations!

We envision a bold future for AAUW that includes using technology to promote initiatives, share ideas, and build community with our members and allies. Your website and social media presence exemplify the value of technology in the fight for gender equity.

AAUW has made groundbreaking progress for gender equity through our training programs, impactful research, and bold advocacy efforts. This could not be achieved without the dedicated support of our members. With our continued partnership we will lay the groundwork for the next generation of women leaders.

Congratulations and we look forward to your continued success in the Five Star Recognition Program.

Sincerely,

Kendra L. Davis
Senior Vice President, Advancement and Partnerships



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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Can you volunteer for State Conference, April 17-19? Please take a look at the following jobs and let Arlene Shapiro, arleneshapiro@yahoo.com, know your 1st and 2nd choices, or if she can assign you wherever needed. Also, let her know if there is anytime you are NOT available that weekend. The location is Holiday Inn & Suites, 625 First Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Shifts are not long and will not interfere with enjoying the conference.

Greeter/Parking pass manager for speakers
Staffing the hospitality suite
Workshop monitoring
Staffing a volunteer check-in table

Thanks in advance!
Lane and Gail

AAUW VA LOBBY DAY

By Diane Schrier

Lobby Day Jan 15, 2020

This was a very exciting day. After a long walk to the Governor's Building, we met with the Governor and he talked with us for ½ hour. He mentioned that he would be holding a press conference that afternoon, which turned out to be putting the capital under emergency conditions for the gun rally. He talked with us about guns, fair pay, human trafficking and many other things. He was very interested in the Equal Pay Day Proclamation.

We delivered information on the gender pay gap to nearly 70 lawmakers. I met with four aides or administrative assistance, except for Mark Levine who was able to talk with us. It was very exciting to watch the House of Delegates and then the Senate pass the ERA. After standing on a very long line to get into the House gallery, where the governor's wife and daughter were, we went to the overflow rooms. The view was excellent and we could hear all of the arguments. There were huge cheers when each Chamber passed the ERA.

ENJOY A SPRING GETAWAY WEEKEND!

April 17-19

Old Town Alexandria

**What a winter we've had! Can you be more busy? You need a Spring break!
Come to the AAUW-VA Conference in Old Town Alexandria!**

Start out by participating in the pre-conference tour of the Alexandria Black History Museum (2:30 PM, Friday). Enjoy a get-together with other members Friday night at the hotel. Hear awesome speakers and panelists on Saturday and Sunday morning, and applaud our TWO Women of Achievement at the Saturday night banquet. Gather with women of like mind from around the state; laugh and renew friendships. Stay late on Sunday and participate in the Women's History Walking Tour (12:45 PM).

So right now... mark your calendar for a Spring Getaway weekend of fun and inspiration at the State Conference April 15-17 at the Holiday Inn & Suites Old Town Alexandria!

[Reserve Your Hotel Room.](#) [Register for the Conference.](#)

Northern Virginia Residents: Are you thinking you could drive back and forth each day? That's not a getaway weekend! Spend the night. Pamper yourself with no traffic worries, an awesome hotel room, and great meals you don't have to cook yourself. The hotel has a fitness center, swimming pool, and bar! Make it a Spring Getaway Weekend! **Did we mention no traffic worries?**

The [Winter/Spring Vision](#) has all the details or click to open the [Conference 2020 Brochure](#) and read all about it! Many suggestions for things to see in Old Town are provided.

See you in Alexandria, April 17-19!



What you can look forward to at the 2020 State conference...

Meet the AAUW of Virginia Woman of Achievement Awardees

Virginia State Senator Janet Howell and Scientist Ana Humphrey

Biennially, AAUW of Virginia presents our prestigious Woman of Achievement Award to Virginia women who have made outstanding educational, civic, and cultural contributions; demonstrated excellent leadership skills; and contributed to the advancement of women with a positive impact in our state and/or nation. It is with great pride that we announce that this year, Virginia State Senator Janet Howell and Scientist Ana Humphrey, will each be recognized with a Woman of Achievement Award. By all measures, their achievements surpass the criteria for our award. Come join us at the banquet dinner on Saturday, April 18, 2020, at the annual state conference in Alexandria to celebrate these visionary women!!



A Friday Evening Get - Together with a cash bar, and a presentation by the ladies from the **Turning Point Suffragist Memorial**

AAUW GREATEST NEEDS FUND FUNDRAISER

This Raffle Basket Fundraiser has become a fun tradition at the conference! Baskets will be raffled with winners announced on Sunday. A branch may submit one or more themed baskets for the raffle. Raffle tickets for the baskets will be available at a cost of \$5 for 1 ticket, \$10



Workshops



Panel

Discussions



Great Speakers

and Presentations



**MEET THE CANDIDATES
FOR STATE BOARD POSITIONS**

**ENJOY PRE AND POST
CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES!**



Dear Friends,

It is time to recruit community members for our Application Reading Day. We cannot complete this process without the help of amazing volunteers, so the more volunteers the better! Here are a few details about the SFA Reading Day:

Reading Day will be fully online, which means access to a computer is necessary.

The designated period to read your assigned applications will be March 6th-March 8th.

Eligibility Requirements for Volunteer Readers:

- 1) Cannot be family members of TC Williams students nor can they be employees of TC Williams High School, including Minnie Howard Campus.
- 2) Must register by March 1 since students' applications are preassigned.
- 3) Must know your email username and password in order to access the applications you will review.
- 4) Must register and sign a confidentiality agreement.
- 5) Must complete an online training prior to reviewing applications between February 10th - March 1st.

If you feel you meet the basic requirements, please register and sign a confidentiality agreement, by clicking the button below.

Thank you for your support of the Scholarship Fund and TC Williams students!

A MESSAGE FROM VA CO-PRESIDENTS

Hi All:

Back in September 2019 Governor Ralph Northam appointed Dr. Janice Underwood as Virginia's first-ever Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. In fact, she is the country's first cabinet-level diversity officer. The Governor's Office just announced that Dr. Underwood will host five community forums around the Commonwealth during March where Virginians can provide input on Virginia's first-ever "Strategic Plan for Diversity and Inclusive Excellence." These forums are being held in Norfolk, Charlottesville, Harrisonburg, Falls Church, and Bristol from 6:00-8:30 pm in each location, as follows:

Monday, March 2

Chrysler Museum of Art, One Memorial Place, Norfolk, Virginia 23510

Monday, March 9

Charlottesville High School, Media Center, 1400 Melbourne Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22901

Wednesday, March 18

Harrisonburg City Hall, 409 South Main Street, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801

Wednesday, March 25

James Lee Community Center, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church, Virginia 22042

Monday, March 30

Bristol Virginia Public Schools, School Board Office, 220 Lee Street, Bristol, Virginia 24201

Those interested in attending one of the upcoming community forums may register [here](#). Given AAUW and AAUW of Virginia's focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion these forums will provide an excellent opportunity to find out what is happening on a State-wide level, to provide input into the Strategic Plan, and to meet other people and organizations interested in these same important topics. We hope that some of you and your members will be able to attend one of these sessions.

Thanks!

Leslie Tourigny and Carol Stephens
AAUW-VA Co-Presidents

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
Corresponding-Recording Sec.	Margaret Batko	703-941-2217	Historian	Arlene Shapiro	703-719-5467
			Editor	Eugenia Burkes	aauwnewsltr.ed@gmail.com
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.

AAUW CONTACTS

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

Fax: 202/872-1425

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AAUW of Virginia:

aauw-va.aauw.net

Virginia General Assembly:

viriniageneralassembly.gov