



Alexandria (VA) Branch
THE SCHOONER – June & July 2022

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SAVE THESE DATES:

6/2/22, 7:00p, Board Meeting
& Planning Session

6/9/22, 7p, Great Decisions

6/13/22, 7p: WBCCF:

Diversity Book Group

6/28/22, 7p, Mystery book
group.

6/29/22, Christ House
Dinner.

7/11/22, 7p: WBCCF:

Diversity Book Group.

7/26/22, 7p, Mystery book
group.

Dear Friends,

Spring and Summer have finally sprung at the same time with a little bit of fall. Our May 22nd annual meeting included a delightful luncheon on at Fratelli's Restaurant.

Twenty-eight of us were able to make it. Looking at our year, many of us contributed and in different ways to keep our AAUW community strong through this difficult Covid period, when it was so hard to get together in person.

Congratulations to all our members for your participation at all levels and your support.

We still have need for someone to be our Membership Chair and for people to be on our new membership committee.

There will be a Budget and Planning Meeting on June 2nd at 7:00, which is our usual board meeting. Everyone is welcome and I will send out a zoom link. We want to incorporate your ideas and wishes for next year.

We are hoping to get together this summer. We plan to restart our movie and dinner evenings. They were well attended in the past and would be a good social activity.

We could also think about a trip to the Women's Suffrage Museum. Please send any ideas that you would enjoy doing.

Diane Schrier and Sylvia Linke
AAUW-Alexandria, Co-Presidents

BRANCH NOTES

Membership

Margaret Batko

In May 2021 the Branch had 61 members. Although the past two years have been challenging for member retention and recruitment, primarily because of Covid restrictions limiting in-person events and social connections, the majority of members did renew. We also gained some new members, resulting in only a limited loss in total numbers. AAUW-VA presented the branch with a Certificate of Recognition for Membership Retention, reflecting our efforts to retain members and gain new members.

TREASURER

Anne Simpson

It is that time again! Dues can now be paid by computer, although [the process is different than before](#). You will shortly get an email notice explaining [how it is done](#) (if you haven't gotten it already). Remember, National dues have gone up, so the total is now \$98. As always, you could just send me a check instead, at 1604 Old Drummer Boy Lane, Fort Washington, MD 20744.



NEW!

BRANCH NETWORKING DIRECTORY

While we have an official directory, put together by our Membership Chair and National, Danielle Beach has offered to put together a networking directory. Many of us are involved in different activities and have different connections. This would enable us to build stronger links among ourselves. It will be private and only given to our members. You might include: present or past jobs if retired, education, organizations and activities you are involved with and any special types of work that you do or have done. It can be short, only two to five sentences, and only include what you would like to share. Please email Danielle at danielleaauw@gmail.com.

PUBLIC POLICY

Virginia Kress

AAUW - VA continues to support several important public policy priorities. I've highlighted below some of our ongoing priorities.

Equality, Individual Rights and Social Justice

- Continue to support adoption of the ERA as the 28th amendment to the US Constitution.
- Support fair and non-partisan redistricting.
- Support women's ability to make their own health decisions.

Education

- Support Title IX.
- Provide adequate and equitable funding for public education.
- Oppose use of public funds to support nonpublic elementary and secondary schools and for charter schools that don't adhere to the same civil rights and accountability standards as public schools.

Economic Security

- Support measures to close the gender pay gap.
- Support equitable access in employment and leadership opportunities for women.
- Advance quality, affordable healthcare and family, medical, and sick leave policies.
- Support a living minimum wage.



DO YOU LIKE US? WE HOPE SO!

Here's the link to the branch's Facebook page – please follow and like us.

[Click here.](#)



AUTUMN LEAVES

Susan Cash

Thanks to everyone who donated to our Autumn Leaves 2021 fundraising drive. As a result of your generosity, we raised \$2,288.89. As in 2021, the funds raised in the 2022 Autumn Leaves fundraising drive will be divided equally between the Alexandria Branch and AAUW National's Greatest Needs Fund. Fifty percent of your donation will be tax-deductible. The portion retained by the Alexandria Branch will be used for the Branch's support of the Christ House meals program.

Our 2022 Autumn Leaves fundraising drive opens on June 1. We will again have a drawing for prizes at the December holiday luncheon. ***In addition, the first five people to donate to Autumn Leaves 2022 can claim a prize of their choice (as well as have their names entered into the holiday drawing).***

To contribute to Autumn Leaves 2022, please mail a check, payable to AAUW-Alexandria, with Autumn Leaves on the memo line, to Susan Cash, 8402 West Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308.

BRANCH ACTIVITIES



MYSTERY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Susan Werner

Keep this information for the Mystery Book Discussion Group for both June and July. Our mystery for June will be Waking Lions by Ayelet Gundar-goshen. We will meet on June 28th. Our Mystery for July will be Murder in Old Bombay by Nev March with the meeting date being July 26th. With conditions still iffy under COVID, we will continue to meet via Zoom. Meeting time for both dates is 7 PM. If you have questions about the Mystery Book Discussion Group or mystery book suggestions, please contact Susan Werner at susan.werner1@verizon.net. Happy Reading.



FRANCOPHILE GROUP

Susan Cash

This summer we are planning two events: a discussion of *A Man in France* by Philip Ogley, along with a travel article published in the *Washington Post* entitled “Walk This Way” by Lily Radziemski. We also plan to have our annual dinner to mark Bastille Day. Dates are TBD. For more information, please contact Susan Cash, scash5558@gmail.com or 703/587-4790.

GREAT DECISIONS

Lynn O'Connell

GREAT DECISIONS HAS A DATE CHANGE TO JUNE 16TH, 7p.

Ambassador Derek Mitchell will be speaking about Myanmar and ASEAN. He is presently the President of the National Democratic Institute.

From 2012-2016, Mitchell served as U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (Burma). He was America's first ambassador to the country in 22 years. From 2011-12, he served as the U.S. Department of State's first Special Representative and Policy Coordinator for Burma, with the rank of ambassador.

Prior to this appointment, Mitchell served as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Asian and Pacific Security Affairs (APSA), in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. In that capacity, he spent six months as acting APSA Assistant Secretary of Defense, and was responsible for overseeing the Defense Department's security policy in Northeast, Southeast, South, and Central Asia. For his service, he received the Office of the Secretary of Defense Award for Distinguished Public Service in August 2011.

From 2001 to 2009, Mitchell served as Senior Fellow and Director of the Asia Division of the International Security Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).

From 1997 to 2001, he served as Special Assistant for Asian and Pacific Affairs in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Mitchell was the principal author of the Department of Defense's 1998 East Asia Strategy Report, the last such report produced by DoD.

Mitchell began his work in Washington as a foreign policy assistant in the office of Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA) from 1986-88.

Most recently, Mitchell has been a senior advisor at the Albright Stonebridge Group, the United States Institute of Peace, and the Center for Strategic and International Studies, as well as a lecturer for the Stanford-in-Washington program.

Mitchell has authored numerous books, articles, policy reports, and opinion pieces on international affairs. He is the coauthor of *China: The Balance Sheet—What the World Needs to Know Now about the Emerging Superpower* (2006), and *China and the Developing World: Beijing's Strategy for the 21st Century* (2007).

Mitchell received a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts University and a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Virginia. He was a visiting scholar at Peking University in 2007. He speaks Mandarin Chinese proficiently.



Email Lynn at lynnocConnellva@gmail.com for more information.

CHRIST HOUSE

Jan Jaynes and Margaret Zebrowski

We have two summer meals for Christ House- June 29th and August 31st. As of now, Christ House is still providing bagged suppers, which are given out by the staff at the door. For the June and August suppers, we may put the meal together at Christ House instead of catering. If that is the case, we will send out an email, asking for a few volunteers to help put them together. The Italian Place in Alexandria has been making up the labeled, bagged suppers and delivering them to Christ House at a discounted price over these past two years. They also sponsored a food drive for Christ House the week of May 22nd. We were very glad to be working with them during this time because they were very reliable and served a good bagged meal. We don't know when Christ House will begin serving food inside again. It all depends on the situation with Covid and what is the best way for them to proceed..

We want to thank you all for your continuing support. We couldn't do it without you.

Margaret and Jan

DIVERSITY BOOK GROUP



Bonnie Hershberg

Upcoming Titles

Here's what we're reading the next few months. If you'd like to join us, please email me at least one week prior to the meeting date at hersh3b@gmail.com if you would like to participate. At that time, I'll send you the secure library registration link. Or maybe you'll want to check these books out for some vacation reading.

13 June	Call Us What We Carry, Amanda Gorman
11 July	Know My Name, Chanel Miller
8 August	I'll Scream Later, Marlee Matlin

FROM AAUW-NATIONAL

Title IX 50th Anniversary

We are launching our Title IX 50th Anniversary Landing page, highlighting AAUW's role in its passage and where we stand today.

Our celebration will include 2 webinars:

June 15th: "Exploring Tough Policy Issues Through an AAUW Lens: Title IX and Trans Student Rights". Registration will be available beginning of June. AAUW has partnered with the Women's Law Project and GLSEN for this webinar.

June 23rd: AAUW's Title IX 50th Anniversary Event

To register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pIHsRyu4RrSeaYPkItm3Sw

The event will commemorate the anniversary, highlight AAUW's role and recognize our generous supporters and branches.

More information on our landing page and events will be included in the June "Washington Update." Click [here](#) to subscribe.



2022 CALENDAR – ALL EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE (CHECK BACK OFTEN)

6/2/22, 7:00p, Board Meeting & Planning session
6/9/22, 7p, Great Decisions –Contact Lynn O’Connell at lynnococonnellva@gmail.com
6/13/22, 7p: WBCCF: Diversity Book Group, Location: Burke Library, Contact: Bonnie Hershberg, hersh3b@gmail.com
6/28/22, 7p, Mystery book group, Contact: Susan Werner, susan.werner1@verizon.net.
6/29/22, Christ House Dinner. Contact: Margaret Zebrowski, (Mmzebrow@aol.com) & Jan Jaynes (janjjoek@verizon.net)
7/11/22, 7p: WBCCF: Diversity Book Group, Location: Burke Library, Contact: Bonnie Hershberg, hersh3b@gmail.com
7/26/22, 7p, Mystery book group, Contact: Susan Werner, susan.werner1@verizon.net.
8/8/22_7p: WBCCF: Diversity Book Group, Location: Burke Library, Contact: Bonnie Hershberg, hersh3b@gmail.com
8/23/22, 7p, Mystery book group, Contact: Susan Werner, susan.werner1@verizon.net.

2021-2022 Branch Officers

Co-presidents: Sylvia Linke (SFLaauw@gmail.com) & Diane Schrier (diane.schrier@gmail.com)
VP Membership: Margaret Batko (margaretwb@verizon.net)
VP Program: Committee
Secretary: Susan Werner (susan.werner1@verizon.net)
AAUW Funds: Susan Cash (scash5002@email.vccs.edu)
Diversity and Inclusion Reps: Dr. Gail Kalin (gailkalin@yahoo.com)
Public Policy Chair: Virginia Kress (vmvkress@gmail.com)
Treasurer: Anne Simpson (aseyedoc@gmail.com)
Newsletter Editor: Lane Stone (info@LaneStoneBooks.com)
Special Interest Group Leaders:
Campus Outreach: Danielle Beach (danielleaauw@gmail.com)
Christ House Dinners: Margaret Zebrowski (Mmzebrow@aol.com) & Jan Jaynes (janjjoek@verizon.net)
Diversity Book Group: Bonnie Hershberg (hersh3b@gmail.com)
Great Decisions: Lynn O’Connell (lynnococonnellva@gmail.com)
Mystery Book Group: Susan Werner (susan.werner1@verizon.net)