



CONNECTION

JANUARY 2018

Vienna Area (VA) Branch

<http://vienna-va.aauw.net/>



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WOMEN AT THE HELM

Women leaders discuss
their experience in
Vienna government

Saturday, January 13, 2018

Refreshments at 10am

Program at 10:30

Patrick Henry Library

101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna



WOMEN AT THE HELM

January 13th

Vienna Area AAUW meeting.

Meet Town of Vienna Leaders—Mayor Laurie DiRocco and Town Council Members Carey Sienicki and Linda Colbert. They will speak about their experiences leading the Town of Vienna and share information about women who are on the front lines of government. Kristin M. will moderate.

The meeting will be held at the Patrick Henry Library in Vienna, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Refreshments will be at 10:00 and the program will start at 10:30.

Please share the poster at the end of the newsletter.

Mayor Laurie Di Rocco

Councilwoman Carey Sienicki

Councilwoman Linda Colbert





From the Presidents

Welcome to the New Year!

There is something about opening the first page on a brand new calendar that summons optimism and hope and new possibilities. Here are some new AAUW things to try:

- AAUW Lobby Day in Richmond February 7th
- the state convention in April in Portsmouth
- a branch meeting (especially if you only go to book groups)
- volunteering for the STEM conference March 10th

See the newsletter for details and try something new!

Mission, Vision, and Impact: Where's AAUW Going?

AAUW wants all its members to know about the strategic planning taking place nationally. A task force is working on a compelling vision, strategies, and structure for AAUW's future. Who are we and how can we have the greatest impact? What is our focus? What should be our priority issues?

What are your ideas?

For more information see <https://www.aauw.org/2017/12/05/strategic-plan/>

Connie and Kristin

Remember to checkout our new branch website at Vienna-va.aauw.net. And remember to go to our website and click on the Amazon link before you shop on Amazon, so your purchase will earn dollars for our AAUW Fund. Be sure to tell any family members or friends who use our Amazon link about this.



Don't miss February's meeting!

February 10, 2018 at 10:00 AM

Vienna Community Center

The American Association of University Women and Patrick Henry Library are co-sponsoring a presentation by Sister Simone Campbell, to be held on February 10, 2018 at 10:00 AM at the Vienna Community Center. Sister Simone is a nationally recognized social justice activist and is the author of *A Nun on the Bus*. The focus is on economic justice, immigration issues, healthcare reform and voter turnout. The cover of the book states "How all of us can create hope, change, and community."

Sister Simone is a noted speaker and educator across the country on public policy issues. She is a driving force for programs that promote tolerance, equality, peace and justice. She has received numerous awards and been featured speaker at many large gatherings. She has appeared on "60 Minutes," "The Colbert Report", and "The Daily Show." As was written in the New York Times: "Who doesn't love a feisty nun?" In her spare time Sister Simone is a lawyer, writer and poet.



AAUW VIRGINIA NEWS

Leslie Tourigny, AAUW of VA Public Policy VP

2018 Virginia General Assembly Session

The Virginia General Assembly will meet in Regular Session in Richmond from January 10-March 10, 2018. You'll be able to find lots of useful information about the lawmakers and proposed legislation at the following websites:

<http://viriniageneralassembly.gov> and <http://lis.virginia.gov>. Also, we will be sending out emails and action alerts which will provide additional information. Many times we will be requesting that members take specific actions to urge their lawmakers to either vote for or against specific legislation. Often these will require quick action, so be prepared! You can find out who your delegate and senator are and how to contact them at this link: <http://whosmy.viriniageneralassembly.gov>.

There are several House of Delegates races that will be recounted so there may be some new winners before all is said and done. As of today, there are 28 women elected to the House of Delegates, along with 10 in the State Senate—the largest number ever in Virginia. We are hoping that this may result in increased legislative support for some of our public policy priorities, especially ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the U.S. Constitution. At AAUW of Virginia's request, Delegate Jennifer Boysko will be introducing a pay equity bill prohibiting employers from relying on prior salary history to set future wages. Stay tuned for further information.

State Lobby Day

On Wednesday, February 7, 2018, we will be holding our annual State Lobby Day, and I hope that we will have a large cadre of members participating. I am currently working on preparing the agenda, which is an exercise in solving a Rubik's Cube. I will let you know when all the pieces fall into place, but I am not anticipating having a firm agenda until a couple of days before February 7th. However, you should expect that the day's agenda will begin early (8:30 am or earlier).

Once again, members from the AAUW Greater Richmond Branch (GRAAUW) will graciously be opening their homes to host any of our members participating in State Lobby Day, who arrive on February 6, and want to spend the night. Anyone who wants to partake of the GRAAUW hospitality should let me know no later than January 25. [Coordinate through Kristin M.]. Also, there are hotel rooms available through a block of rooms reserved by the League of Women Voters of Virginia (LWV-VA) for \$139 plus tax for the night at the Hotel Berkeley, 1200 E. Carey Street, Richmond, VA, [804 225-5149](tel:8042255149). Mention LWV-VA when you call.

Thanks for all that you do. Best wishes to all for the upcoming holidays.

Leslie Tourigny

Please contact Kristin M. if you plan to go to Lobby Day in Richmond. Legislative alerts will be sent to all members via email.

Sharing the Joy of the Season

AAUW Vienna Area Supports Artemis House Women

The Branch Holiday Luncheon was held at Ristorante Bonaroti on Maple Avenue in Vienna on Saturday December 2nd, 2017. Twenty-seven members and four guests attended. For almost thirty years, Vienna Area AAUW has annually supported Artemis House (the former Fairfax County Women's Shelter) as our local project to benefit women in need in our community. Artemis House is the only Fairfax County emergency shelter for women and children fleeing domestic and sexual violence and human trafficking.

As we have for many years, the Branch collected store, gas, telephone and similar gift cards and regular-size personal care items for Artemis House staff to distribute directly to residents based on their needs. These are much treasured by residents.

We collected a total of \$1,275 in gift cards and a large amount of really nice personal care items, as well as donations of used sheets and towels. These were presented at the lunch to Jasmine Barnes, Residential and community Engagement Supervisor for Artemis House, who discussed with me how much she was looking forward to the smiles (and sometimes tears) on the faces of residents when she would distribute our contributions.

Second Story

Laurie C. introduced the speaker for the program, Lauren Witherspoon, the Development Coordinator for Second Story. Lauren explained that the organization was founded in 1972 as "Alternative House" and recently changed its name to reflect a more positive future for its residents and clients. Second Story transforms the lives of children and youth, helping them stay safe, make positive decisions, achieve educational success, and overcome personal crises. Lauren discussed one of the several programs at Second Story, The Young Mothers Program. It provides housing, counseling and training to homeless women age 16 to 24 who are pregnant or have young children. There are also other programs for Teens in Crisis and Homeless Youth. Lauren focused on the volunteer needs of the organization. She explained that short-term volunteers help with

one-time, essential tasks such as snack pack and meal preparation; yard work like mowing, raking, planting, or watering; or a repair project at one of the residential homes. If the volunteer has a special skill, they may even provide a service like marketing or financial services. For more information, go to the website for Second Story at <https://second-story.org/>

Honoring Ristorante Bonaroti

At the beginning of our excellent meal, Kristin M. presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Sergio Domestici, Owner of Ristorante Bonaroti for hosting the Holiday Luncheon for five years. The restaurant has provided a lovely event location in a private dining room and a three-course lunch with individual choices from a five-entrée menu. The wait staff for the five years, Claris and Gregory, were also applauded by the members for their excellent service.

Suzanne R., Artemis House Chair





Our December program speaker, Lauren Witherspoon, would like us to have more information about Second Story's Open Door Informational Tour. She sent the following invitation so please let her know if you are interested in attending.

"It is a one hour, walk through tour of our emergency shelter for teens ([2100 Gallows Road, Vienna VA, 22180](#)). You get to hear from our CEO, a board member, myself, and hear recorded testimonials of some of our clients! The next tour date is January 9th at 10am, 2pm, and 6pm. If those times don't work for you, the following date is February 13th at 10am, 2pm, and 6pm. Please let me know what time works for you and I would be glad to sign you up!"

Lauren Witherspoon

Development Coordinator

Second Story (Formerly Alternative House)

Email: lwitherspoon@second-story.org

Phone: 703.506.9191



Call for Volunteers!

STEMtastics: Inspiring Middle School
Girls to Pursue STEM Careers
Saturday, March 10, 2018
at NOVA Annandale Campus

Vienna AAUW is working with three other local AAUW branches, Fairfax County Public Schools and NOVA Systemic Solutions to present STEMtastics 2018.

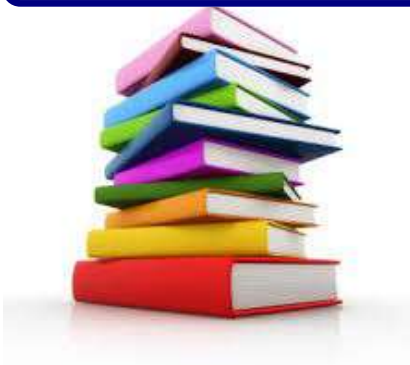
STEMtastics offers a half-day Saturday program of events focusing on STEM topics for middle school students. Professional Women who work in STEM fields lead a wide variety of student workshops that include an interactive or hands-on component. While students are in the workshops, parents may attend presentations covering topics such as how

to finance college and how to support their children in STEM courses.

We are calling for branch members to assist us on March 10 (family and friends welcome to help too). You can sign up at the January Branch Meeting or email me. Volunteers will receive emails with instructions to sign up online for various volunteer jobs at STEMtastics. Thank you for your support.

Nadine J.

Interest Groups



Interest Groups

Please be sure to let your hostess know whether you're coming or not.

EARN \$ FOR AAUW FUNDS! Use the Amazon link for your purchases-found at

Vienna-va.aauw.net

EVENING LITERATURE

January 10 7:00 p.m (Note date change)

The Noise of Time by Julian Barnes

Based on the life of the Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich, Barnes guides us through the trajectory of Shostakovich's career, at the same time illuminating the tumultuous evolution of the Soviet Union.

February 7th book: *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles

Evening Literature meets the first Wednesday of the month

TUESDAY MORNING LITERATURE GROUP

January 16, 9:30 a.m.

Leslie M. will lead the discussion on *A Gentleman in Moscow*, by Amor Towles, the second novel from the author of *Rules of Civility*. Towles skillfully transports us to The Metropol, the famed Moscow hotel where movie stars and Russian royalty hobnob, where Bolsheviks plot revolutions and intellectuals discuss the merits of contemporary Russian writers, where spies spy, thieves steal and the danger of twentieth century Russia lurks outside its marbled walls. It's also where wealthy Count Alexander Rostov lives under house arrest for a poem deemed incendiary by the Bolsheviks, and meets Nina, a precocious young girl who will irrevocably change his life.... Alexander Rostov is a character for the ages.

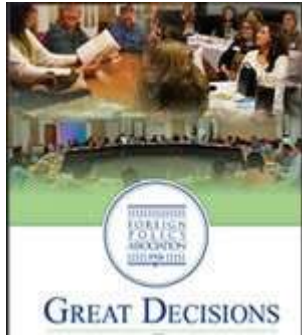
Tuesday Morning Literature meets the third Tuesday of the month.

NON-FICTION LITERATURE

January 8, 2018, 7 pm

We'll be reading *A Nun on the Bus: How All of Us Can Create Hope, Change and Community* by Sister Simone Campbell. Please see the flyer on page 4. She is going to speak to our branch on February 10th, so join us if you'd like to discuss her book beforehand. Georgia C. will lead the discussion.

Non Fiction Literature meets the second Monday of every other month. (September, November, January, March, and May)



January 21, 2:00-4:00 PM Topic: "The Waning of Pax Americana?"

(Topic 1)

During the first months of Donald Trump's presidency, the U.S. began a historic shift away from Pax Americana, the liberal international order that was established in the wake of World War II. Since 1945, Pax Americana has promised peaceful international relations and an open economy, but-tressed by U.S. military power. In championing "America First" isolationism and protectionism, President Trump has shifted the political mood toward selective U.S. engagement, where foreign commitments are limited to areas of vital U.S. interest and economic nationalism is the order of the day. Geopolitical allies and challengers alike are paying close attention. Bev B. will lead the discussion and Jean F. will provide refreshments. Please let Mary Kate know whether or not you plan to attend. If you ordered a briefing book through me in December, I will notify you when to pick them up or will bring them to the January meeting.

Great Decisions meets the third Sunday of the month 2-4 pm.

BROWN BAG BOOKS

January 31st, 1:00 pm

Margaret C. will lead the discussion of *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. The story of Count Alexander Rostov immerses the reader in a bygone era. In 1922 the count is sentenced to house arrest in a grand hotel, but unexpectedly, these reduced circumstances provide him a doorway into a much larger world of emotional discovery. Brimming with humor, a glittering cast of characters, and one beautifully rendered scene after another, this singular novel casts a spell as it relates the count's endeavor to gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be a man of purpose.

Brown Bag Books meets the last Wednesday of the month

MOVIE MEET UPS

The Movie Meet Ups group meets the 4th Tuesday of the month for a morning movie and lunch afterwards. Movie choice, time and place will be provided by email a week to ten days in advance. Please contact Susan V to be included on the distribution list.

Next date: Tuesday, January 23

INFORMATION PAGES



January 2018

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- 8 Non Fiction
- 13 **Branch Program “Women at the Helm”**
- 16 Tuesday Morning Literature
- 21 Great Decisions
- 23 Movie Meetups
- 31 Brown Bag Books

February 2018

- 7 Evening Literature
- 7 Lobby Day in Richmond
- 10 ***A Nun on the Bus* author Sister Simone Campbell**
- 18 Great Decisions
- 20 Tuesday Morning Literature
- 27 Movie Meetups

“Save the Date” for our Northern District meeting on Saturday, March 3, 2018.

Location: TBD
Time: 1:30 - 4:00 pm
Program: TBD

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. AAUW, founded in 1881, is open to all graduates who hold an associate or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university. 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, disability, or class.

2017-18 AAUW Program Schedule

- September 2: Open House, Patrick Henry Library
- October 10: Gerrymandering, Laurie Cole, Oakton Library 6:30
- November 4: "Deep Freeze," Dian Belanger,
Patrick Henry Library 2:30-5:00
- December 2: Luncheon, Lauren Witherspoon, Development Coordinator
for Second Story, Bonarati Restaurant, noon
- ★ January 13 "Women at the Helm" on Saturday, 10:30 a.m.
Patrick Henry Library
- February 10 *A Nun on the Bus* author Sister Simone Campbell
- March 13: "A Civil Life in an Uncivil Time," Paula Tarnapol Whitacre,
Patrick Henry Library (co-sponsor)
- April 28: Green Spring Garden Tour 10:00 a.m., Susan V
- May 15: Salad Supper, Branch Meeting

SAVE THE DATES:

March 10, 2018—STEMtastics

April 20-22, 2018 —AAUW OF VIRGINIA 2018 CONFERENCE

Don't let transportation issues
keep you away!



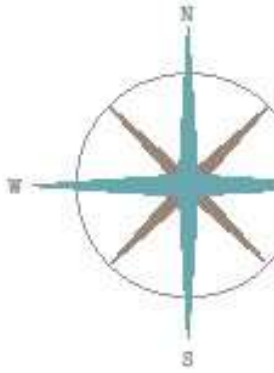
You may not be comfortable driving, especially now that it is getting dark earlier. We would like to have you continue to attend our gatherings.

Please e-mail or call Suzanne R. if you

- * Would like to arrange a ride to any meeting.
- * Would be willing to drive someone.

Women at the Helm

Leading the Town of Vienna, Virginia



Meet Vienna Mayor Laurie DiRocco and Town Council Members Carey Sienicki and Linda Colbert.

January 13, 2018

Refreshments at 10:00 AM

Program at 10:30

Patrick Henry Public Library

101 Maple Avenue East

Vienna

Open to the public



Vienna Area Branch

**American Association
of University Women**

**For more information go to
<http://vienna-va.aauw.net>**