

# THE CONNECTION

May & June 2019 https://vienna-va.aauw.net

**AAUW** advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

#### **Issue Highlights**

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#### May

- 1 Evening Lit Grp
- 11 40<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Supper
- 13 Nonfiction Grp
- 19 Great Decisions
- 21 Morning Lit Grp
- 28 Movie Meetup
- 27 Brown Bag Books

#### June

- 5 Evening Lit Grp
- 18 Morning Lit Grp
- 25 Movie Meetup
- 26 Brown Bag Books

Celebrating 40 Years

Saturday, May 11, 5 p.m.

Join us for a Potluck Supper at the home of Candace to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the AAUW Vienna Area Branch, which was established July 10, 1979.

In addition to having special events to recognize the anniversary, we will

- Induct Kathy as our new Finance Officer.
- Announce the five Named Gift Honorees for this year's AAUW Funds.
- Draw names for three free national AAUW memberships. To be eligible for the drawing, worth \$59, you must renew your dues by the May 11 event. Full details on how to renew are on page 2 of this newsletter.

Please bring an appetizer, entrée, side dish, or dessert to serve six people. Iced tea and soft drinks will be provided. Feel free to bring other beverages if you wish additional choices.

Please use this link to sign up for the supper and to indicate the food you will bring.

Special thanks to Candace for hosting our celebration.



Suzanne and Jean

Our branch program year concluded with April's fascinating program on the many services offered by The Women's Center in Vienna as it marks 45 years of existence. Thanks to Aimee and the program committee for such varied and informative programs this year!

Suzanne and I hope to see all of you at the May 11 potluck and celebration of the Vienna Area Branch's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Many thanks to Candace for opening her home for this celebration. We will install our new officer, honor leaders whose terms are ending, and

#### From the Presidents

announce our AAUW Fund Honorees.

Please note that some interest groups will meet over the summer, so be sure to record the dates in this issue, because this is the last newsletter until September. We applaud Sandra for producing the newsletters this year on time, accurately, beautifully laid out, and full of great articles.

If you have comments or questions, or if you need a ride to an event, please email us at ViennaAAUW@gmail.com.

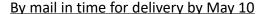
Jean, Co-President

#### **Time to Renew Your Dues**

When you renew by the Potluck Supper on May 11, you will be entered in the drawing for three free national memberships, each worth \$59. Dues are the same as last year, \$84, a total that includes national, state, and branch memberships. There are three ways to renew; see below. Please contact Gail if you have questions.

#### Online by May 10

AAUW sent you an email in early April that has a link to your membership record. Click that link to renew with a credit card. Or, if you do not have that email, click here to enter the member database. If you don't know your member ID, contact Gail.



Write a check for \$84 payable to AAUW Vienna Area Branch.

#### At the supper on May 11

Bring a check for \$84 payable to AAUW Vienna Area Branch and give it to Gail in person that evening.

Thank you for renewing your membership in a timely way!



#### Thanks to our Volunteers



The Vienna Area Branch had an active year engaging in many activities that supported AAUW's mission and strategic plan.

Our appreciation is extended to the following members for their contributions to the branch during 2018-2019. This list includes volunteers who made contributions separate from their obligations as elected/appointed officers and interest group chairs.

Please excuse any oversight if your name was not included.

- Program Committee
- AAUW Archives
- AAUW Capitol Hill Lobby Corps
- 2018 Voter Registration
- Candidate Forums with League of Women Voters
- Fundraising Dinner
- ERA Legislative Lobbying in Richmond
- o Vienna Town Council ERA Resolution
- Third Women's March in D.C., January 19, 2019
- Finally, a big "thank you" to the members who contributed refreshments to our program events and who hosted interest group and branch gatherings.

# **AAUW Action Fund Lobby Corps: Equal Pay for Equal Work**

We welcome Margaret, who joins Leslie and Mary as Vienna branch members of AAUW Action Fund Lobby Corps. On Thursday mornings when Congress is in session, about 30 times a year, we visit selected congressional offices on Capitol Hill to educate policy makers.

Lobby Corps members were delighted to know the House of Representatives recently took up and passed the Paycheck Fairness Act (H.R.7) on March 27, 2019, and now are urging the Senate to act.

One of AAUW's priorities is to "achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women including pay equity and fairness." The Paycheck Fairness Act is comprehensive and addresses the following:



Margaret on Capitol Hill

- Closes the loopholes in the Equal Pay Act of 1963
- Ensures non-retaliation for discussing or disclosing wages as seen in the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act 2009
- Strengthens and updates former bills to close the gender pay gap.

## **Photo Gallery from Recent Branch Programs**

Leigh Kitcher, right, curator of the Freeman Store's five-year series of exhibits on the Women's Rights Movement, spoke in March.

Shirley Clark, far right, CEO and Executive Director of The Women's Center, described its many programs for women, men, families, and children.











## **Interest Groups**



Please let your host know whether or not you will attend.

Earn money for AAUW Greatest Need Fund by using our Amazon link for all purchases: https://vienna-va.aauw.net/

#### **Evening Literature**

May 1, 7 p.m.

Next Year in Havana by Chale Cleeton. Set in Cuba during both the late 1950s and present day, a story full of mystique, familial drama, heartbreak, secrets, deception, history, culture, courage, loss, self-discovery, hope, and romance.

#### June 5, 7 p.m.

The Alice Network by Kate Quinn. Two women—a female spy during World War I and an unconventional American socialite searching for her cousin in 1947—are brought together in a mesmerizing story of courage and redemption.

## **Morning Literature**

May 21, 9:30 a.m.

Martha will lead the discussion on *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer.

Please let Bert know if you plan to attend.

June 18, 9:30 a.m.

Kathy will lead the discussion on Little Fires Everywhere by Ng Celeste.

Please let Adrienne know if you plan to attend.

#### **Brown Bag Books**

May 29, 1 p.m.

Wait Till Next Year by Doris Kearns Goodwin describes the author's life of growing up in love with her family and baseball. Set in the suburbs of 1950's NY, the postwar era is recreated.

June 26, 1 p.m.

The Great Alone by Kristin
Hannah is the story of Ernt
Allbright, a former POW, who
comes home from Vietnam a
changed and volatile man.
When he loses yet another job
he decides to move his family to
Alaska, where they will live off
the grid in America's last true
frontier.

#### **Great Decisions**

May 19, 2 p.m.

#### **Decoding U.S. – China Trade**

Though arguably the most advanced economy in the world, the United States still uses centuries-old numbers to measure trade. These antique numbers mangle understanding of the U.S.-China trade relationship, shrinking America's true economic size and competitiveness, while swelling China's. Bad numbers give rise to bad policies that ultimately kill U.S. jobs and cede market share to China. What other tools can the United States employ to counter China's unfair trade practices? There are several available, yet they remain mostly unused. Nadine will lead the discussion and Margaret will provide refreshments.

Next date: September 15, 2019

#### **Nonfiction Book Group**

May 13, 7 p.m.

Jean will lead the discussion of *The Girl with Seven Names: A North Korean Defector's Story* by Hyeonseo Lee with David John. The book provides extraordinary insight into life under one of the world's most ruthless and secretive dictatorships – and the story of one woman's terrifying struggle to avoid capture/repatriation and to guide her family to freedom.

Next date: September, 2019

#### **Movie Meetup**

The group meets the fourth 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 email the chair to be included on the distribution list.

Next dates: May 28, 2019 June 25, 2019

# **Branch Program Schedule, 2018-2019**

September 8	10:00 a.m.	Open House	the	
October 6	5:30 p.m.	Fundraiser: Comfort Food, Southern Style	Date	
November 10	10:00 a.m.	Strong Women and Their Stories, with Linda		
		Harris Sittig, author of Cut From Strong Cloth		
December 8	Noon	Holiday Luncheon with speaker Joe Meyer, Shelter House CEO		
January 12	10:30 a.m.	Dr. Dwandalyn Reece, National Museum of African American		
		History and Culture		
February 2	2:00 p.m.	Vienna's Vanishing Black History, with members of Historic Vienna Inc.		
March 9	2:00 p.m.	Getting the Vote: Women's History, with Leigh Kitcher		
April 9	7:00 p.m.	Serving Women for 45 Years: The Women's Ce	nter, with	
		Shirley Clark, Executive Director		
May 11	5:00 p.m.	Vienna Area Branch 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Potluck [	Dinner, Installation of Officers	



## Vienna Area Branch Leaders, 2018-2019

# **AAUW Diversity Statement**

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, or socioeconomic status.

# **AAUW Recognizes our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

AAUW sent this certificate and the letter on the next page to our co-presidents in March, 2019.

Plan to attend the potluck supper on May 11 to hear more about our history and to celebrate this milestone.

# Certificate of Honor-

In recognition of the

**40TH ANNIVERSARY** 

of the

# AAUW VIENNA AREA (VA) BRANCH

BESTOWED JULY 2019 BY AAUW TO EXPRESS OUR SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR YOUR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AND DEMONSTRATED COMMITMENT TO ADVANCING EQUITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS.

> KIMBERLY CHURCHES AAUW CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

JULIA BROWN, ESQ. AAUW BOARD CHAIR



Dear AAUW Vienna Area (VA) Branch Members:

On behalf of AAUW it is our honor to recognize the AAUW Vienna Area (VA) Branch on its 40th anniversary. We applaud your exceptional service and demonstrated commitment to advancing equity for women and girls. Please accept this certificate of honor as a small token of our gratitude.

Thanks to your hard work AAUW continues to grow, with more than 170,000 members and supporters nationwide. Our shared commitment to empowering women translates into positive change worldwide. Thanks to you we've made these advances toward our mission in 2018:

- In Kansas City, AAUW joined Mayor Sly James and the Women's Foundation to launch Work Smart in Kansas City, the first phase of a large-scale initiative to train 1 million women to negotiate for better salaries across Kansas and Missouri.
- AAUW worked with city and state leaders to ban the use of salary history in hiring, a practice that puts
  women at a significant financial disadvantage due to prior discrimination. Governors signed executive
  orders prohibiting the practice in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and legislators enacted laws in
  Louisville, Kentucky; Kansas City, Missouri; and Salt Lake City, Utah.
- We launched a free, online Work Smart course available at salary.aauw.org that can be taken in an hour by anyone, anywhere.
- 40 states and Washington, D.C., introduced or considered equal pay legislation, and six passed laws, including California, Connecticut, Hawaii, New Jersey, Vermont, and Washington.
- In October, AAUW released the 2018 *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap*. Two other research reports updated this year documented that women remain vastly underrepresented in top nonprofit positions and are disproportionately affected by student debt.

We are proud of the accomplishments that you helped make possible. These efforts remind us why we are passionate members of AAUW — and we will not stop here. As women gain access to education, economic security, and leadership positions, we must keep up our efforts to further that progress. Looking toward the future, we aim to solidify AAUW's position as a global leader on equity. With a focus on impact, we will strive to raise awareness of what equity means in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and plot our path to the future to which everyone can contribute.

Congratulations again on this outstanding milestone! We appreciate all the hard work and activism your branch has accomplished and look forward to your continued support in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Churches Chief Executive Officer Julia Brown, Esq. Board Chair