
AAUW VIENNA CONNECTION

SEPTEMBER 2023

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

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

For any questions, or for more information about anything in this newsletter, please contact viennaaaauw@gmail.com

A message from the Co-presidents:

Hello Everyone! We're looking forward to a year of programs and activities beginning with our branch's Open House at Patrick Henry Library on September 9, starting at 2:00 pm.

Please join us to reconnect, converse and spread the good word about AAUW. Meanwhile, enjoy the updates in this latest newsletter!

September Program: Annual Open House September 9, 2023

2 to 4PM Patrick Henry Library, Vienna

Welcome our branch's new program year by being part of our annual open house, when we welcome friends back from vacation and greet potential members. Participants from each of our interest groups will be present to describe their activities and will bring displays about their group. We will offer discounted membership dues to those who join and to those who have not been AAUW members for at least two years.

Please invite your friends who may be interested in joining! An associate degree, R.N., or higher degree is required to join. National AAUW dues are half price during this event, which is a great bargain.

October Program: Are Voting Rights Secure in Fairfax County?

October 12th, 7 PM

****Vienna Community Center****

120 Cherry Street, SE
Vienna

We will welcome Deb Wake as our speaker. She is past president of the League of Women Voters of Virginia and she is a member of the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA). She is very knowledgeable about voting and barriers Virginia voters may face this November or in 2024.

This program is free and open to the public.

Northern District Meeting September 23, 2023 10:30 AM – 1:00 PM

AAUW's Public Policy and Advocacy Agenda is the topic for this meeting

*Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library,

5005 Duke Street, Alexandria*

There are presently 23 active AAUW branches in Virginia. The state is divided geographically into four districts. Branches within the districts meet twice a year. Vienna Branch, along with Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax City, Falls Church, Greater Manassas, McLean, Mt. Vernon, Reston-Herndon, Springfield/Annandale, and Woodbridge are in the Northern District.

Report on Liberty Amendments Month Celebration

Vienna Area AAUW and the Town of Vienna

Vienna Area AAUW once again took part in the Town of Vienna's Liberty Amendments Month celebrations.

On July 13, the branch recognized the passage of the 19th Amendment with *Book Talks for Tweens and Teens: The Struggle for the 19th Amendment*. Five books connected to the 19th Amendment (fiction and nonfiction) were featured in the five minute talks given to small groups of teens at the teen center in Vienna. There were approximately twenty young teens (boys and girls) at the summer camp.

The branch volunteers used a variety of devices including posters, props, costumes, and role playing as they rotated from group to group. The session ended with the distribution to the teens of Ben and Jerry's ice cream gift cards (donated by Vienna Town Businesses) and book marks listing the five books and branch information.

The branch will present copies of the books to [Andréa Fernandes](#), Youth Services Manager at the Patrick Henry Library, during our Open House on September 9th; the books will supplement the single copies of these books now available in the Fairfax County Public Library system, and will include book plates recognizing Vienna Area AAUW for the gifts.

VIENNA BRANCH BYLAWS UPDATE

National AAUW members voted in spring 2023 by more than a two-thirds to approve amendments to the AAUW Bylaws.

The National AAUW Bylaws amendments require that state and branch affiliates make mandatory conforming changes to the first seven articles of their bylaws, which do not require branch board or membership approval. I have revised the Vienna Area Branch Bylaws to conform to an AAUW Model Affiliate Bylaws document issued by AAUW. The revised bylaws are published on the state website.

FY24 AAUW Vienna Area Branch Budget

At a Board of Directors meeting August 15, 2023, the board unanimously approved the budget below.

NOTE: The branch has ample reserve funds to cover the budgeted loss if any loss actually occurs.

Operating Income

Dues (# members x \$10)	\$ 570
Total Income	\$ 570

Operating Expenses

President	\$ 200
VP Membership	\$ 50
VP Programs (rental/honoraria/gifts)	\$ 200
Finance Officer (stamps)	\$ 13
Fundraising (admin costs)	\$ 50
Public Policy	\$ 50
General Admin	
Va. Conference Program Ad	\$ 55
Liability Insurance	\$ 210
AAUW-VA Northern District Dues	\$ 10
Special Project	\$ 50
Total Expenses	\$ 888

<u>Balance</u>	\$ -318
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INTEREST GROUPS

Please contact viennaaauw@gmail.com if you would like more information about any of these groups

Tuesday Morning Literature Group

September 19: *Fates & Furies*, by bestselling author Lauren Groff.

October 17: *The God of Small Things*, by Arundhati Roy.

We meet at members' homes the third Tuesday of the month beginning at 9:30am for coffee and socializing, then begin the book discussion at 10am.

Wednesday Brown Bag Book Group

September 27, 1:00pm: *The Overstory* by Richard Powers

Winner of the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. A novel of activism and natural-world power presents interlocking stories about nine remarkable strangers who are summoned in different ways by trees for an ultimate, brutal stand to save the continent's few remaining acres of virgin forest.

Non-fiction Book Group

Meetings are second Monday night at 7pm in alternate months, starting with September We will meet on Sept. 11 to discuss summer reading and select books for the remaining four meetings. Members make proposals and rank-choice vote for the ones they are interested in reading and discussing.

Movie Meet Ups

September 26: The **Movie Meet Ups** group meets at Cinema Arts for the early show on the **4th Tuesday** of the month. The film is selected after we know what the choices are for that day. Those who can stay afterwards have lunch together at First Watch, in the shopping center.

Great Decisions Resumes for 2023

September 17th, 2PM:

October 15th, 2PM:

The following are the topics **Foreign Policy Association (fpa.org)** has given us in 2023:

1. January: Energy Geopolitics
2. February: War Crimes
3. March: China and the U.S.
4. April: Economic Warfare
5. May: Politics in Latin America
6. June: Global Famine
7. September: Iran at a Crossroads
8. October: Climate Migration

We began in January 2023 and we will resume on September 17th with topic 7, ***Iran at a Crossroads***, and October 15th with topic 8, ***Climate Migration***. We meet on the third Sunday of the month from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. We watch a half-hour Foreign Policy Association lecture on the month's topic and then have our discussion. The Foreign Policy Association Great Decisions Briefing Book provides background material and discussion questions for each topic. We use the Kindle version of the 2023 briefing book or the printed version. You may order your Kindle version on Amazon and it should be about \$25. If you choose the printed version, it is available on the FPA website, fpa.org, where the cost is about \$35 plus shipping. Members of the group also contribute about \$5 toward the cost of the official DVD containing the lectures.

Members may sign up to host or to bring refreshments throughout the year. Hosting requires access to a DVD player and seating for 10-12 members. Those bringing refreshments coordinate with our host.

New members are welcome to join us by attending any meeting without an obligation to join for the year. Please email me if you have questions about the Great Decisions group or would like to join us for the first time.

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 socio-economic status.

