
AAUW VIENNA CONNECTION

OCTOBER 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 viennaaauw@gmail.com

October Program: Are Voting Rights Secure in Fairfax County?

Thursday, 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.

(Please see the planned schedule for the year at the end of the newsletter)

Branch Held Bustling Open House in September

AAUW Vienna Branch held its lively annual Open House at Patrick Henry Library on September 9. Many thanks to the 24 branch members who attended, with special thanks to the chairs of our interest groups who displayed their informative updated triptychs and other items. K. presented to the library five books for young people as part of the Liberty Amendments Month project, along with bookmarks created by C. The donation was received by a grateful staff member. So far, we are welcoming three new members. Please greet them warmly when you see them at upcoming meetings and interest groups. Our branch currently includes three male members.

Annual Collection to Help Women-In-Need



For well over 30 years, our branch has annually supported residents of Artemis House (operated by Shelter House, Inc.) as our project to benefit women-in-need in our community and their children. With two locations, Artemis House is the only Fairfax County-sponsored 24-hour emergency shelter for women and children fleeing domestic and sexual violence and human trafficking.

The branch collects donations of store (not credit-card) gift cards and full-size personal care items that are given to the residents who generally arrive only with the cloths they are wearing. Gift cards from grocery, drug stores, and multi-purpose stores like Walmart and Target are the most useful for purchasing everything from medicine to diapers/toys/cloths. Donations of full-size adult or child/baby hand/body/face lotion, shampoo, and body wash and other personal care items are appreciated. Your donation is a tax-deductible donation to "Shelter House, Inc." In compliance with IRS policies, we do not collect cash donations for another non-profit.

As Artemis House Chair, I am collecting gift card and personal care item donations from now through the annual December Holiday Lunch Event at noon on December 9th at Pazzo Pomodoro at Danor Plaza, 118 Branch Rd, SE, Vienna.

Thank you to AAUW Branch members for your decades of generous help to Artemis House women and children that mean such much to them!

Women's March Report

On August 26th, N. and S. joined other AAUW members on Women's Equality Day at the 60th Anniversary of the 1963 MLK March on Washington, to continue the fight for democracy, social justice and civil rights. They wore the event shirts of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, a coalition of more than 200 organizations-including AAUW.

INTEREST GROUPS

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

Tuesday Morning Literature Group

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

The following meeting will be November 14, when we'll discuss *Everything I Never Told You*, by Celeste Ng.

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

Wednesday Brown Bag Book Group

October 25 1:00 p.m. *The Ride of Her Life* by Elizabeth Letz

The tale of Annie Wilkins. In 1954, after being diagnosed with terminal tuberculosis, the 63-year-old Mainer "took her dog and got on a horse" and rode all the way to California.

Non-fiction Book Group

Meetings are second Monday night at 7pm in alternate months. Next meeting is **Nov 13**. In September we met to discuss summer reading and select books for the remaining four meetings. Members made proposals and are in the process of ranked-choice voting for the ones they are interested in reading and discussing.

Movie Meet Ups

October 23: 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

October 15th, 2PM

Topic #8: Climate Migration

As climate change accelerates and drought and rising sea levels become more common, millions of people in affected regions must uproot themselves and seek safety elsewhere. Who are these affected individuals, and how might the United States aid them, and be affected by the migration? by Karen Jacobsen.

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.

Public Policy

AAUW Lobby Corps invites members to a meeting on Nov 2 at AAUW headquarters to consider joining in lobbying.

Also, save-the-date: AAUW of Virginia members will go to Lobby Day at the VA General Assembly in Richmond in January.

The League of Women Voters is hosting several candidate forums during October. Some of these forums are for offices which we may not read much about, such as Soil and Water Commission. The forums are on zoom or Fairfax Public Access TV or streaming. Please see the very informative **LWV** website at

[League of Fairfax Women Voters \(lwv-fairfax.org\)](http://lwv-fairfax.org)

“to see what decisions you will need to make when you go to the polls.”

The Vienna Area Branch Board will meet on Sat, Oct 14, at 1:30 .

2023-2024
AAUW
Vienna Area
Event
Schedule

PHL = Patrick Henry Library

CC = Vienna Community Center

Check the Newsletter for Updates

October 12

Thursday, 7 pm CC

Challenges to Voting in the Commonwealth

Deb Wake, League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area

November 6

Monday, 7 pm PHL

Exchange Programs for Youth, U.S. Department of State
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

December 9

Saturday, 12 noon

Branch Holiday Luncheon – Pazzo Pomodoro Restaurant, Vienna

Social time with Vienna Area Branch members and invited friends

January 6

Saturday, 10 am PHL

Artificial Intelligence After ChatGPT

Dr. Amanda Shedu, George Mason University

February 3

Saturday, 2 pm PHL

Starting a Woman-Owned Business With the Help of the SBA

Cyndi Butler, Community Business Partnership, Women's Business Center

February 24

Saturday, TBD

AAUW Vienna Branch Fundraiser Event

March 11

Monday, 7 pm PHL

Affordable Housing: Myth or Reality?

Jerry Poje, Fairfax County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee

April 20

Saturday, 10 am

Paying Tribute: A Field Trip to the Turning Point Suffragist

Memorial and Lucy Burns Workhouse Museum

May 11 (Tentative)

Saturday, noon

Installation of Officers

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.