



Vienna Area (VA) Branch

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

DECEMBER / 2024

A graphic illustration of three green holly leaves with serrated edges and a cluster of five red berries.	<p>Vienna Area Luncheon Deadline: December 4th</p> <p>Gift Cards for Artemis House Deadline: December 7th</p>
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Board Actions

Increasing our Visibility and Diversity – Volunteers needed!

On November 13, the Vienna Branch Board discussed ideas for increasing the diversity and public visibility of the branch. The Board called for the creation of two teams to move this effort forward. The teams will begin meeting in January. Each team will meet two or three times to develop a list of recommendations for the Board.

We invite branch members to participate in this effort.

The two teams are:

Raising our visibility in the community - How can we make potential members aware of the benefits of membership and of the contributions AAUW makes in our community?

Diversifying our membership - One idea that has been put forward is to subsidize a limited number of new memberships for potential members for their first year.

We all have a stake in the future of our branch!

Worthwhile Donation Opportunity

As part of the 100th anniversary celebration at the AAUW of Virginia Centennial Conference in March, each branch is being asked to contribute “100 of Something” to a local philanthropy. After discussion, the branch board decided on a donation to a local volunteer, non-profit organization in Vienna known as BRAWS (Bringing Resources to Aid Women’s Shelters). They collect necessary feminine hygiene supplies and undergarments to be distributed free of charge and tax free to women and girls in schools, shelters, and prisons/jails in our area.

State Delegate Holly M. Seibold, founder of BRAWS and representative of Virginia's 12th House District, including Vienna, Tysons, will be the speaker at our January branch meeting. We will present her with our contribution then.

AAUW VIENNA BRANCH MEETINGS

Jointly Sponsored Zoom Presentation

Monday, December 2, 2024

5:00pm -- Advanced registration required (See below)

Representative Gerry Connolly Previews Upcoming Congressional Session

Representative Gerald E. "Gerry" Connolly (D-Va.), who represents Fairfax City and most of Fairfax County in the U.S. House of Representatives, will preview potential activities of the 119th Congress, which begins in January. This preview is being sponsored jointly by the Vienna Area Branch along with six other Northern Virginia branches.

Click on URL below to register in advance:

(If you have difficulty with the link, cut-and-paste the above into a blank URL)

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IbHEq8JMTUmEPCp1MxPquQ

Patrick Henry Library

Saturday, January 4, 2025

11:00am (Doors open at 10:30am)

State Delegate Holly M. Seibold on the Statewide Outlook

State Delegate Holly M. Seibold, who represents Virginia's 12th House District, including Vienna, Tysons and some adjacent parts of Fairfax County, will preview the legislative session scheduled to begin January 8th in Richmond. In addition to issues likely to be considered, the Democratic delegate will also discuss the work of her non-profit organization, BRAWS, which supports women's shelters.

Patrick Henry Library
Saturday, February 8, 2025
3:00pm (Doors open at 2:30pm)

Local Author Lisa Munoz Sheds Light on Challenges Faced by Women in Science

Lisa Munoz will discuss her book, *Women in Science Now*, which documents the obstacles women working in science face, and also offers perspectives on how to make science more equitable and inclusive for all. Ms. Munoz's book won a Silver Medal in the Social Change and Social Justice Category at the 2024 Nautilus Book Awards. This program is free and open to the public.

PUBLIC POLICY

Vienna branch members. Here is an opportunity to stand for women! You're invited to Lobby Corps' Meet and Greet on December 5 at 9:30 am to be held at the AAUW downtown office in D.C. You can find out all about AAUW's Lobby Corps and hear more about the upcoming 119th Congress, what to expect, and how to prepare to take action. It is exciting to live close enough to actually visit Congressional offices with your AAUW sisters and make a direct impact.

Please contact me if you are interested. I will answer your questions and I will notify you when they tell us how to register. We can travel via Metro together, if you'd like.

VIENNA AREA INTEREST GROUPS

Tuesday Morning Literature Group

Socializing: 9:30am Book discussion: 10:00am - 11-11:30am. No meeting in the month of August.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 10, 2024 - 9:30am

Discussion of *Hotel du Lac* by Anita Brookner.

“The book recounts the holiday of Edith Hope, meek, unmarried, and thirty-nine, who, on the mend from a disastrous love affair, escapes to the Hotel du Lac, Switzerland. However, she finds herself sequestered with a group of love's casualties and exiles. She also attracts the attention of a

worldly man determined to release her unused capacity for mischief and pleasure. Beautifully observed, witheringly funny.”

Meeting: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 1:00 – 3:00pm

Discussion of *The Women* by Kristin Hannah

“ . . . in 1965 the world is changing, and Frances Frankie McGrath suddenly imagines a different choice for her life. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she impulsively joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path. As green and inexperienced as the men sent to Vietnam to fight, Frankie is overwhelmed by the chaos and destruction of war, as well as the unexpected trauma of coming home to a changed and politically divided America. *The Women* is the story of one woman gone to war, but it shines a light on the story of all women who put themselves in harm's way to help others. Women whose sacrifice and commitment to their country has all too often been forgotten.”

Brown Bag Lunch Literature Group

Normal Schedule: Last Wednesday of each month from 1:00 – 3:00pm. No meeting in the months of July and August.

There will be no book group meeting in December.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 1:00 – 3:00pm

Discussion of *The Women* by Kristin Hannah.

“ . . . in 1965 the world is changing, and Frances Frankie McGrath suddenly imagines a different choice for her life. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she impulsively joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path. As green and inexperienced as the men sent to Vietnam to fight, Frankie is overwhelmed by the chaos and destruction of war, as well as the unexpected trauma of coming home to a changed and politically divided America. *The Women* is the story of one woman gone to war, but it shines a light on the story of all women who put themselves in harm's way to help others. Women whose sacrifice and commitment to their country has all too often been forgotten.”

Non-fiction Book Group

Next Meeting: Monday, January 13, 2025 7:00pm

Where: TBD

Discussion of “Poverty, by America” by Matthew Desmond. ”Elegantly written and fiercely argued, this compassionate book gives us new ways of thinking about a morally urgent problem. It also helps us imagine solutions. Desmond builds a startlingly original and ambitious case for ending poverty. He calls on us all to become poverty abolitionists, engaged in a politics of collective belonging to usher in a new age of shared prosperity and, at last, true freedom.”

Great Decisions Program with the Foreign Policy Association

Normal Schedule: Second Sunday of each month from 2:00 – 4:00pm. No meeting in the months of July and August, November and December.

There will be no meeting in December. We will resume our meetings in January.

Next Meeting: January 12, 2025 2:00 – 4:00pm

The Foreign Policy Association has not released information about ordering the materials for this coming year's topics. I will contact everyone once I have those details.

Topic: American Foreign Policy at a Crossroads, Author: G. John Ikenberry

This chapter will explore the contours of the U.S. foreign policy debate as it plays out in a world of multiple and escalating crises and domestic polarization.

You will receive a reminder about a week before the meeting.

If you do not regularly get meeting reminders and would like to, please notify Connie. We always welcome new participants!

Movie Meet-ups

Normal Schedule: Fourth Tuesday of the month. No meetings in July or August. Please contact Susan to be included on the distribution list.

There will not be a December meeting for this group.

Next Meet-up: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 for the early show

Where: Cinema Arts Theater

Film is selected when the theater publishes its films and schedules on its website. Those who can stay afterwards have lunch together at First Watch, in the shopping center. Group Coordinator will convey this information in a reminder email.

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.
