



McLean Area Branch
AAUW of Virginia

NewsBits

McLean Area Branch 2016/2017

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NewsBits is published in October, December, January, March, and May. New deadline 15th of the month.

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January 2017
Volume III
Number 3

Presidents' Corner

AAUW will be sending an official delegation to the Women's March, which is scheduled for January 21st at 10 am at Independence Avenue and Third Street SW in front of the U.S. Capitol ([see page 3](#)). The message is that women's rights are human rights. Go to the AAUW website and look at the Action Network/inauguration weekend to receive further information. Also, see Public Policy, below.

http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/t/0/blastContent.jsp?email_blast_KEY=1332368

Our nominations committee has been elected – **Mary Lou Melley**, **Diane Alden** and **Ethel Hansan**. They will be searching for replacements for two open board positions – the two Program VPs. Please call any of them, if you are willing to serve or say yes when they call you. Don't be intimidated. We all help each other.

Fifty-four members and guests attended the December luncheon and presentation by **Erin Garland** from the Museum of Women in the Arts (see page 4). Three new AAUW 50 year members were acknowledged: **Peggy Stotz**, **Nan Finken** and **Elaine Lailas**. **Pam Bacher** was also recognized with a gift in gratitude for her 25 years of serving as the branch newsletter and directory editor. Special guests were the two district reps from southwestern Virginia, **Mary Copenhagen** and **Bessie Carrothers**.

Aroona and Betsy

Important Date Change for January Branch Meeting to Encourage Participation in Women's March!

The **January branch meeting** has been changed to

Saturday, January 28 ([see page 2](#))

so members can participate in the **Women's March in Washington**

Saturday, January 21 ([see page 3](#))

AAUW is supporting the march and encouraging our members to participate.

Thank You

A total of \$885 was donated to Share of McLean by many generous Branch members at the Holiday Luncheon.

Branch Program January 28

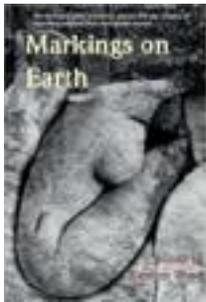
Virginia's Forgotten Indian Tribes

Did you know there are still 11 Indian tribes in Virginia? Most Virginians have no idea about these present-day tribes, the issues they encountered in their historic past, or how they continue to thrive. We tend to think of Virginia's Indians as a thing of the past, and indeed about 100 years ago the state tried to make them invisible. Interestingly, the Supreme Court decision in *Loving v. Virginia* also addressed many wrongs against Virginia's Indians.

For a fascinating look at this past and present, join us Saturday, January 28, at 10:00 a.m. to hear **Karenne Wood**, a member of the Monacan Indian Nation and director of the Virginia Indian Heritage Program at the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. Visit with friends, meet new members, and enjoy delicious bites before the program.



Karenne Wood Photo by Jessica Elmendorf



Dr. Wood, a linguistic anthropologist and also a published poet, has previously worked at the National Museum of the American Indian. In 2015 she was honored as one of Virginia's Women in History for her work. She is an enrolled member of the Monacan Indian Nation who directs Virginia Indian Programs at the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. She holds a MFA in poetry and a PhD in linguistic anthropology. She has worked at the National

Museum of the American Indian as a researcher and at the Association on American Indian Affairs as a repatriation specialist. In 2015 she was honored as one of Virginia's Women in History. Karenne is the author of two poetry collections, *Markings on Earth* (2000) and *Weaving the Boundary*, (2016). Her poems have appeared in such journals as *The Kenyon Review*, *Orion*, and *Shenandoah*.

Links for more information |

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karenne_Wood

<http://www.poetryfoundation.org/bio/karenne-wood>



Your Organization at Work

Lisa Maatz and her public policy staff continue to advocate for education, economic security, and civil rights policies that impact women and families.

Confirmation hearings will begin in January. The staff is monitoring announcements of U.S. Cabinet nominees. It will be working through the new year to make sure the Senate fulfills its obligation to thoroughly examine each and every nominee's record.

Did you know that the AAUW Action Network sent nearly 200,000 messages to Congress over the last year? Be sure to sign up to participate.

During the past year, six states passed important equal pay legislation: California, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nebraska and Utah. Additional gender pay gap bills may be possible in New Jersey, Oklahoma, and Colorado. AAUW of Pennsylvania Co-President Barbara Price testified before the Philadelphia City Council's Committee about a new salary history bill. It aims to narrow the gender pay gap. There is progress when AAUW members "Make Their Voices Heard."

Your Calendar Items

January 11 | Lobby Corps Training Session 10 a.m. to 1:30 pm.

At AAUW headquarters, you will hear a recap of the 114th Congress and preview legislation and activities in the new Congress. Find out what Lobby Corps members do and hear about their personal experiences. Notify maryloumelley@gmail.com or Pamela Yuen yuenp@aauw.org.

February 1 | AAUW of Virginia State Lobby 8:30 a.m. until early afternoon.

Have briefings, hear from the elected officials, and visit your delegates and senators. [Leslie Tourigny](mailto:ltourigny@gmail.com) ltourigny@gmail.com needs to know who will attend by **January 18**.

Women's March/AAUW

As trusted nonpartisan voices in their communities, AAUW members have been on the front-lines of change throughout our history. AAUW will have an official delegation to the Women's March

- **January 21st**
- **Starting at 10 a.m.**
- **Independence Avenue and Third Street SW**

AAUW will be sharing helpful hints for all those coming. To receive the details you must 'take the survey' sent to members by email or found in the following link.

http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/t/0/blastContent.jsp?email_blast_KEY=1332368

Contact Leslie Tourigny (AAUW-VA) or Pamela Yuen (AAUW) if you want to join.

Mary Lou Melley, Public Policy Chair

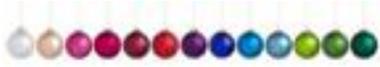
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If You Shop at Amazon

Next time you make a purchase from Amazon, first go to our branch website, <http://mclean-va.aauw.net>, click on the Amazon link at the bottom of the home page and make your purchase. Amazon will give our branch up to a 10% rebate.





Holiday Luncheon Photo Gallery

Erin Garland from the Museum of Women in the Arts presenting at the 10 December 2016 luncheon



New AAUW 50 year members from left | Peggy Stotz, Nancy Finken, and Elaine Lailas

From left | Bessie Carrothers, Aroona Borpujari, Mary Copenhaver, Caroline Pickens, and Betsy Schroeder



Inspiring Middle School Girls to Pursue STEM Careers

In partnership with Fairfax County Public Schools & NOVA Systemic Solutions
Presented by AAUW: Fairfax City, McLean Area, Springfield-Annandale & Vienna Area Branches



STEMtastics 2017

Saturday, March 11, 2017
NOVA – Annandale
8:15 AM – 12:00 PM

Please consider volunteering to help at **STEMtastics 2017** – a career day event designed to inspire middle school girls (6th through 8th grade) in Fairfax County to pursue careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields.

What: For the 4th year in a row, we are partnering with Fairfax City, Vienna Area, and Springfield-Annandale branches, as well as FCPS and Systemic Solutions at NOVA, to sponsor STEMtastics. This year's event is scheduled for **Saturday morning, March 11, 2017, at NOVA – Annandale**. We expect about 500 students and parents to attend.

Volunteers: Last year we had 70 volunteers on the day of the event, and we will be looking for that many or more for this year. We will be using SignUp Genius to describe almost 20 different assignments for which we need volunteers at the event. These include:

- Checking in students at registration
- Checking in presenters
- Greeting students and parents
- Serving as a student workshop assistant
- Helping with morning refreshments
- Serving as a theater usher
- And much more.

Assignments can last all morning or be for only 1-2 hours. At this point, please **SAVE THE DATE OF MARCH 11** and **EMAIL ME** ([judypage@gmail.com](mailto:judy@judypage@gmail.com)) to let me know if you are willing to help in some capacity. **If you have already notified me of your willingness to help, you don't need to respond again.** Marlene Chivavibul, our volunteer coordinator, will be in touch with all the volunteers later in January with more details. Please consider helping out!

January Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Location
Tues, 3	9 a.m.	Current Events	Star Nut Gourmet
Mon, 9	10 a.m. - Noon	Bridge Group	Phyllis Krochmal's home
Wed, 11	10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Lobby Corps Training Session	AAUW Headquarters
<i>Sat, 21</i>	<i>10 a.m.</i>	<i>Women's March</i>	<i>Downtown DC</i>
Sat, 28	10 a.m.	Branch Meeting Kareene Wood	McLean Community Center
Tues, 31	9 a.m.	Breakfast	McLean Family Restaurant

Connections

January & February Branch Meetings | Saturdays at 10 a.m.

January 28 | Kareene Wood, Director, Virginia Indian Heritage Program, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities.

February 18 | Interested in Pandemics? In this era of Ebola, West Nile, and Zika, how and why do pandemics start? What can we do to prevent them and protect ourselves. A program about pandemics will be presented.

Current Events

Do you think you'd enjoy sharing information, opinions, and laughs with Branch members? Bring some news that you find interesting to Current Events.

First Tuesday of the month | January 3, February 7

Star Nut Gourmet, 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean at 9 a.m. Everyone is invited, but RSVP to Mary Lou Melley (maryloumelley@gmail.com)

Last Tuesday of the month | January 31, February 28

Eat breakfast together at the McLean Family Restaurant at 9 a.m. Everyone is invited, but RSVP to Suzanne Watts (scwatts1cox.net)

Great Decisions

We will have our first meeting for the current session on **February 21**. The topic will be the *European Union*. Please plan to pick up your book from my house starting in January. If anyone still wants to join the group, you can do so and I can tell you how to buy the book. Call Angela

STEMtastics Volunteers

Save the Date | **March 11** at NOVA - Annandale.