

News



STEMtastics:

Inspiring Middle School Girls to Pursue STEM Careers

A capacity crowd of 500 middle school girls and parents filled the NOVA-Annandale Ernst Center auditorium on Saturday, March 21, 2015, to attend STEMtastics 2015. Students from 36 schools, including over thirty McLean students from Longfellow and Cooper Middle Schools, attended the career day event designed to educate and inspire the students to consider careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). Keynote speaker Valerie Bradley,

a 2014 Harvard graduate who majored in statistics, provided advice and inspiration as she described surviving cancer and her motivation to pursue a STEM-related career. Following opening ceremonies, 40 female presenters from across STEM fields ran interactive breakout workshops for the students. Parents had the opportunity to attend informational workshops on resources, financing options, and supporting their daughters.

The event was sponsored by the Fairfax City, McLean Area, Springfield-Annandale, and Vienna Area branches of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), in partnership with Fairfax County Public Schools and Systemic Solutions.

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2015 Used Book Sale

Almost Ready to Set Sail!

Our branch's 46th annual used book sale is almost ready to set sail! We're scheduled to shove off on May 30, our first Saturday collection day at Sun Trust Bank in Vienna. Other collection dates are June 20, July 18, and August 8. We'll be accepting book donations between 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Contact *Diane Alden*, 703/356-7452, if you would like to help.

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April 2015
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McLean Area Branch

2014/2015 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Co Presidents

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703/356-2385

bfs4000@aol.com

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540/338-7738

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703/533-0953

Vdobozy@aol.com

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Linda Regan

571/282-3692

Regan.linda@gmail.com

President's Corner

Anything but Trite, or What's not to Like?

I don't think it's possible to be trite about spring. Yes, we see lots of repetition from spring to spring, but it's such a joyful, celebratory season! Who doesn't marvel at the rebirth unfolding before our very eyes? Some might argue that autumn's color is nature's crowning glory, but spring is so refreshing, so full of hope. Spring begins so delicately, then bursts forth with such a profusion of spectacular flowers and adorable baby animals! What's not to like?!

And so it is with our McLean Area Branch, spring has sprung. Seeds planted earlier in the year and even long ago are producing wonderful results. At least 13 branch members volunteered to help with another hugely successful STEMtastics event, organized in large part by *Judy Page* and *Caroline Pickens*. Of course, *Mary Lou Melley* had a daughter involved, but not her United Airlines captain. This one was Susan Molinaro, MD. Nice work, Mary Lou.

Another sign of spring in McLean is our branch's Morning Lit Annual Author Luncheon, this year to be held on April 10. *Reed Isbell* and *Mary de Tray* chair the tremendously popular Morning Lit

group, a group that spring after spring is able to find a fascinating author able to inform and entertain. This year Morning Lit welcomes local mystery writer Peggy Hanson.

Little does Peggy Hanson know, but she'll be kicking off a month full of AAUW spring events. The ride to Charlottesville is beautiful this time of year, so much so that our branch is willing to pay you to drive it! All you have to do is attend AAUW VA's 90th birthday celebration on April 18-19 at Charlottesville's DoubleTree Hilton Hotel. In addition to mileage, the branch will also reimburse your \$80 registration fee. On April 25 *Nancy Mangione* is gathering a group to enjoy a matinee performance of "Old Wicked Songs." The venue is Tyson's highly acclaimed 1st Stage.

If you're one of those so overwhelmed by the activities and beauty of this season that you can't think of a thing to say, you'll surely want to reserve a seat for dinner with Bob Ryan, retired TV weather forecaster. Actually, Bob Ryan is a retired meteorologist, but that shouldn't prevent him from filling your head to its very top with conversation starters! The date is May 13, the place is River Bend Country Club. Many thanks to *Bob Alden*, *Suzanne Watts*, and

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From the Editor

The McLean Area Branch News is published September, November, February, April, and June. A two-page update, *NewsBits*, is published in October, December, January, March, and May. Articles are due the 20th of the month preceding each issue. Articles should be in final form and identified as being for the newsletter. Guidelines for your

articles are welcome as are suggestions for the newsletter.

Please send your **articles for the May newsletter by April 20.**

Newsletter Editor: Pam Bacher

prbacher@verizon.net 703/281-2595

Distribution: Barbara Carr

Barabaralcarr@msn.com 703/356-3127

From AAUW of Virginia

Success!

I just wanted to let everyone know that all the hard work collecting signatures on our human trafficking petition, holding programs to educate people about the devastating problem of human trafficking, working with other groups advocating for action by the Virginia General Assembly, and delivering our petition to the governor, lieutenant governor, and the speaker's staff, paid off. On March 27, 2015, Governor McAuliffe signed HB 1964/SB 1188, which creates new felonies for trafficking of persons for commercial sexual activity. This law takes effect on July 1, 2015. While there are still more measures that need to be taken by the Virginia General Assembly to combat human trafficking, this is a giant step forward in the fight against human trafficking.

Once again, thanks to everyone for the hard work.

Leslie Tourigny

AAUW of VA Public Policy Vice President

571/970-1782

**BRANCH
MEMBER
SPOTLIGHT**



Bob Alden

2015-16

**McLean Area
Branch
Co-President**

Bob received his bachelor's and master's degrees from The George Washington University. He was a sports reporter and editor at the *Washington Post* for almost 49 years. He is past president of the National Press Club being responsible for getting women to be admitted to the all-male Press Club. He is also past president of the National Press Foundation. He was the first male member of the McLean Area Branch and program vice president. He proposed and advocated for the creation of the McLean Community Center, Theatre, and Library which came into fruition after 20 years. The county named the Alden Theatre in his honor.

Presidents' Corner

(Continued from page 2)

Aroona Borpujari for this special springtime opportunity to celebrate our 2014-2015 branch year.

Of course, what's more typical of spring than cleaning: "out with the old, in with the new?" Thus it is that at our annual business meeting the branch elected new officers for 2015-2016! Peggy and I have thoroughly enjoyed our year working with a board and branch of wonderfully talented, dedicated women, but the best is yet to come. Please welcome our next Co Presidents *Jane Schmiedekamp* and *Bob Alden*; Co Vice Presidents program *Diane Alden* and *Margaret Doole*; Co Vice Presidents *Betsy Schroeder* and *Juanita Cullen*; Branch Secretary *Margaret Hines*; Board Sec-

retary *Linda Regan*; and Treasurer *Mary Anne Graham*. Thank you for volunteering to serve.

As is always the case, spring will turn to summer and our branch will continue to thrive. Look for news inside this newsletter about our highly promising 46th Used Book Sale and news coming soon in your email inbox about the exciting AAUW San Diego Convention. Yes, the branch will pay members to fly to the west coast! Again, what's not to like? Themes may repeat themselves, but spring in AAUW's McLean Area Branch is always joyful and anything but trite!

Nancy and Peggy

Volunteers Needed to Meet and Greet Fellow Mclean Area Folks

What? Explain AAUW and recruit new members. Two hour shifts with two members at each shift.

Where? McLean Day, May 17, 2015, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

How? Contact *Peggy Stotz*
(703/734-8932 or pstotz@aol.com)

Everyone has a good time!



Spring – for Action

Recently in *The Washington Post* on the *Drawing Board*, a woman asks the US Treasury (man), “As a small step toward gender equity, would you consider putting a woman on the \$20 bill?” Response: “Yes, but it would be worth only \$15.40.”

In the *New York Times* on the same day, we learned that a venture capital firm wins in the suit on diversity in the tech industry. Ellen Pao brought the suit claiming gender discrimination. At least the decision has succeeded in prompting debate about women in technology and venture capital. Debora Rhode, a law professor at Stanford University says “This case sends a powerful signal to Silicon Valley in general and the venture capital industry in particular. Defendants who win in court sometimes lose in the world outside it.” Meanwhile Ellen Pao remains the victim.

And so it goes – We know the wage gap persists, especially as documented in the latest AAUW report, *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap*. In addition, members of the Lobby Corps learned this week about the following action. On March 25, Senator Barbara Mikulski and Representative Rosa DeLauro introduced the Paycheck Fairness Act. The House bill had 157 original cosponsors. The bill seeks to update the over 50-year-old Equal Pay Act, closing

longstanding loopholes and strengthening incentives to prevent pay discrimination. A provision prohibits employer retaliation against workers who inquire about employers’ wage practices or who disclose their own wages.

April 14 deserves a shout-out in our country—it’s called Equal Pay Day and will be recognized, in particular, at an (un)happy hour outside the AAUW headquarters in Washington, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. with free food and camaraderie.

Speaking of Lobbying: AAUW of Virginia members are invited to celebrate Federal Lobby Day on Thursday, May 14. Members will be matched with experienced Lobby Corps members and visit assigned Congressional offices for morning visits. It’s necessary to RSVP by April 23, for assignments to your elected officials’ offices. (Please RSVP to maryloumelley@gmail.com)

It’s 2015 in Virginia and time for more elections. In November you will be electing a state senator and your delegate to the Virginia House of Delegates. At the county level, you will elect a member to the county board of supervisors and to the school board, as well as, the commonwealth’s attorney, sheriff, clerk of the court, and a member of the soil and water commission.

There will be opportunities to learn and get involved. Our branch and the McLean League of Women Voters will be working together to plan, promote, and provide meet and greet evenings with the candidates. It should be fun and very informative. For more information, contact Nancy Richardson or Mary Lou Melley.

Mary Lou Melley

Sources include *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, AAUW issue papers and Fairfax County web site.

Bylaws Committee

The Shape We Are In

An update

As of March 17, the following changes to the bylaws and policies have been approved by the branch and the board, respectively.

The bylaws have been amended to insert ‘operating’ before ‘budget,’ to differentiate between the established operating budget and any other budget for branch projects or events such as the book sale.

Within the branch policies, which may change over time, there was a need to address the ‘book sale budget’ as well as two other items. The branch board approved the following at its March 10 meeting.

There will be a separate book sale budget committee that will prepare the budget for final approval no later than the May meeting. The book sale chairs will ensure that all bills for payment are sent to the treasurer no later than 30 days after completion of the book sale. The treasurer has the authority over and responsibility for both the operating

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"STEMtastics"

(Continued from page 1)

The event was co-chaired by Suzanne Mahoney (Fairfax City) and Judy Page, and Caroline Pickens led the effort to recruit and work with the student workshop presenters.

In total, 13 volunteers from our branch – including Pam Bacher, Virginia Dobozy, Ethel Hansan, Amalia Iglasias, Mary Lou Melley, Linda Regan, Nancy Richardson, Betsy Schroeder, Peggy Stotz, Mary Ellen Weber, and Wen Yi – supported the event both in advance and with day-of-event support. They were part of a group of over 60 AAUW volunteers and spouses who ensured the event ran smoothly. A photo gallery from the event is available at <http://mclean-va.aauw.net/stemtastics/stemtastics-2015-photo-gallery>. Branch members interested in volunteering for future STEM events should contact Judy Page.



Judy Page

Photo on page 1: Mary Ellen Weber (seated at table, far right) helps attendees at STEMtastics 2015 at the onsite registration check-in desk.

Photo top right: Wen Yi, left, helped check in presenters along with Caroline Pickens, STEMtastics Planning Committee member.



Photo middle right: AAUW volunteers (left to right) Jean Feeney (Vienna Area), Linda Regan, Anne Sharp (Fairfax City), and Mary Lou Melley were among the AAUW volunteers who provided on-site support for STEMtastics 2015.

Photo bottom right: Judy Page, center, worked with Ida Portland, left, from Fairfax City Branch to answer a parent's question at the information desk.



(Continued from page 4)

budget and the book sale budget.

Additionally, the name 'Vanguard Fund' will now be replaced with the term 'Investment Fund' within the policies. The board shall approve the use of funds up to \$500 for a single purpose; the board shall recommend to the branch members for approval of amounts over \$500.

The branch directory will be delivered by October 1 and updated by February 15.

The bylaws, policies, standing rules, and strategic plan are available on our branch website:
<http://mclean-va.aauw.net>.

Mary Lou Melley

"Book Sale 2015"

(Continued from page 1)

Our sale is scheduled to dock at the McLean Community Center on September 17 (set-up), 18, 19, and 20. Please contact *Mary Ellen Weber*, the.webers@Verizon.net, if you are available to help on one or more of those dates.

A crew of four co-chairs is in place (*Marge Degnon*, *Ginger MacEwen*, *Betsy Schroeder*, *Nancy Richardson*), aided by 14 subcommittee chairs. Only three subcommittee chair positions remain vacant: special pricing, set-up at the McLean Community Center (MCC), and MCC book sale signage (indoor). If you, or you and a friend, are interested in one of these positions, please contact *Nancy Richardson*, nrichardsn@aol.com. You are guaranteed plenty of help.

Friends, neighbors, and total strangers may ask you for further details. Please direct them to our McLean Area Branch web site: <http://mclean-va.aauw.net/booksale>. A printed

flyer will appear later this month. In addition, *Judy Hansen* has agreed to help us. She was co-chair of the highly successful Stone Ridge School Used Book Sale (now discontinued). All interested branch members are invited to meet her April 16 at 10 a.m. at *Marge Degnon's* home. Anyone interested in sorting and pricing won't want to miss hearing *Judy's* suggestions.

It's time to strap on your 2015 book sale flotation devices ... we're about to exit the harbor!

Nancy Richardson



Falls Church Area Branch Holds a Spring Book Sale

AAUW Falls Church Area Branch is holding its annual Used Book Sale on Friday April 17 (9 a.m.–9 p.m.) and Saturday April 18 (9 a.m.–4 p.m.) at the

Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls Street, Falls Church, just off Route 7.

More than 40,000 books for browsing and buying. Huge selection. Most books priced at \$3 or less.

ARENA STAGE

The Arena Stage group is planning for the 2015-16 theater season. The plays planned for Arena Stage's 2015/16 Season are listed below. Please take a moment to see if you would like to join the group this coming season. You can indicate you wish to attend four, six, or eight plays, plus either or both of the exclusive plays. We attend as a group to facilitate carpooling. If you have any questions and/or would like to be included, please call or text *Elaine Lailas* at 305/281-5787 or email, Elailas@aol.com.

Arena Stage 2015/16 Season

Destiny of Desire: world-premiere telenovela comedy, Sept. 11–Oct. 18, 2015

Oliver! gold-standard musical, Oct. 30, 2015–Jan. 3, 2016

Akeelah and the Bee: Children's Theatre Co. world premiere, Nov. 13–Dec. 27, 2015

Sweat: Oregon Shakespeare Festival's world premiere, Jan. 15–Feb. 21, 2016

Connections

The City of Conversation: Off-Broadway smash, Jan. 29–March 6, 2016

The Lion: A personal musical journey, Feb. 26–April 3, 2016

All the Way: Tony-winning drama, April 1–May 8, 2016

Disgraced: Pulitzer-winning drama, April 22–May 29, 2016

Plus Exclusives:

Dear Evan Hansen: world-premiere original musical, July 10–Aug. 23, 2015

Erma Bombeck: At Wit's End: world-premiere play, Oct. 16–Nov. 8, 2015

Elaine Lailas

More Connections

AROUND TOWN

Reminder and Update

Support our local arts and join us Saturday, April 25 for a matinee performance of *Old Wicked Songs* at 1st Stage in McLean. This production will be directed by Michael Chamberlin, a change from the initially planned director listed in last month's newsletter.

Following the performance, the director and cast members will engage us with a "talk back," illuminating the play and this production.

While at the theater, enjoy works of local artists, each chosen for the run of a production with many pieces offered for sale.

Please buy your ticket online at <http://www.1ststagetysons.org/> or by calling the box office at 703/854-1856. The 1st Stage website includes directions and more information. Let Nancy Mangione know that you plan to attend so she can secure our seats together. Nancy will also answer any questions you may have. Call or email Nancy Mangione at 703/821-1068 or nlmangione@gmail.com.

Nancy Mangione

CURRENT EVENTS

Would you enjoy a discussion with Branch members about current events and happenings? Bring an article to Star Nut Gourmet at 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean. Our meetings are held the first

Tuesday of each month At 9 a.m. You must RSVP to Dawn Schulz, Portian@verizon.net. The next meetings are April 7 and May 5.

All are invited to breakfast at the McLean Family Restaurant at 9 a.m. the last Tuesday of the month. RSVP to Suzanne Watts (scwatts1@cox.net) before the next breakfasts, April 28 and May 26.

Mary Lou Melley

GREAT DECISIONS

The groups' discussion will continue to be on different chapters due to an earlier snow cancelation. The advantage to this is that you have a chance to make up a missed meeting.

The April meetings are

Thursday, April 9 at noon at the home of Judy Page, Chapter 3.

Tuesday, April 21 at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Mary Lou Melley, Chapter 2.

Check your calendar and be in touch with your host promptly.

Angela Ehemann

BRIDGE

The Bridge Group will meet at Marge Degnon's home April 13, 10 a.m., to 2 p.m. Contact Barbara Carr if you plan on playing.

Barbara Carr

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Arena Stage

Elaine Lailas
703/779-8679,
Elailas@aol.com

Around Town

Nancy Mangione
703/821-1068
nlmangione@gmail.com

Caroline Pickens

703/448-0415
carolineaauw@gmail.com

Bridge

Barbara Carr
703/356-3127
barbaralcarr@msn.com

Current Events

Jeanette Calland
703/942-6201
mamerec@gmail.com

Dawn Schulz

703/448-8711
portia11@verizon.net

Suzanne Watts

scwatts1@cox.net
703/356-7926

Great Decisions

Angela Ehemann
703/893-3578
acehemann@verizon.net

Morning Literature

Reed Isbell
703/734-3385
rwisbell@verizon.net

Mary de Tray

703/992-7526
mdetray@gmail.com



If You Shop at Amazon ...

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

Membership Dues 2015-16

You can pay your dues for our next membership year (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016) online at the AAUW national website (<http://www.aauw.org>) or by sending a check payable to AAUW McLean Area Branch to *Mary Anne Graham*, branch treasurer at PO Box 211, Round Hill, VA 20142. Annual dues are \$75 (\$49 for national, \$15 for state, \$11 for the branch). Paid life members' dues are \$26.

Dual member (national and state paid at another branch) \$11. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Anne at 540/338-7738. If mailing a check to Mary Anne, please use the form on the right and include any changes to your information listed in the branch's directory.

Mary Anne Graham, Treasurer

What About Your Branch Directory Entry?

Updated membership information in the AAUW national database will not automatically appear in our branch directory.

So, if your entry in this year's February McLean Area Branch Membership Directory update is out of date, or incorrect, or just plain not the way you want it, you can update it for the 2015-16 directory coming out next October in a few ways.

If you mail your dues to Treasurer *Mary Anne Graham*, she will forward your updated form to me.

If you pay your dues online, use the form on the right to write your information as you want it to appear in our branch directory and mail it to me, 1442 Towlston Rd., Vienna VA 22182. You can also send your information by email to prbacher@verizon.net.

Be sure to pay your dues by July 1 so that your name will appear in the 2015-2016 McLean Area Branch Membership Directory.

Pam Bacher, Directory Editor

Membership Application/Renewal Form

AAUW McLean Area Branch 2015-16

Name:

Address:

Home Phone:

Mobile Phone:

email:

Colleges and Degrees (1st listed goes on AAUW national record):

Interests:

Signature: _____

ANNUAL DUES payable by July 1 (Check one):

New or Renewal \$75*

Paid life members \$26

Dual Member \$75

(Nat. & state dues pd. at McLean Area Branch)

Dual Member \$11

(Nat. & state dues pd. at _____ Branch)

*Consists of \$49 for national, \$15 for state, and \$11 for branch; **\$46 of national dues is tax deductible.**

Please send check payable to AAUW McLean Area Branch to Mary Anne Graham, P.O. Box 211, Round Hill, VA 20142.

You may also pay dues online using a credit or debit card at the national AAUW website: <http://www.aauw.org> See <http://mclean-va.aauw.net/online-membership-renewal> for online renewal instructions.

AAUW McLean Area Branch Spring Dinner

Wednesday, May 13 — 6:30 p.m., dinner served at 7:15 p.m.
River Bend Country Club
375 Walker Road, Great Falls, VA

Guest Speaker: Bob Ryan, Retired Meteorologist
ABC affiliate WJLA-TV and NBC affiliate WRC-TV

Dinner

Salad

Baby Arugula and Baby Greens with Brie,
Sprinkled with toasted Almonds and Raspberry Dressing

Entree (Choice of)

Honey Lemongrass and Ginger Glazed Chicken Brochette
Served with Vegetable Couscous and Vegetable Medley

OR

Pecan Encrusted Salmon with Sundried Tomato Pesto Sauce, Served with
Vegetable Couscous and Vegetable Medley

OR

Wild Mushroom Ravioli
with Grilled Vegetables and Light Roasted Red Pepper Sauce

Dessert

Strawberry Shortcake

Rolls & Butter

Coffee, Tea and Soft Drink

Reservation: *(Friends, colleagues from other branches, and others are welcome!)*

Name

Entrée Choice

1. _____

2. _____

Cost is \$43 per Person (includes gratuity and sales tax) (Cash Bar is available)

Make check payable to AAUW - McLean Area Branch

Reserve by May 5: to Aroona S. Borpujari, 1225 Meyer Ct., McLean, VA 22101

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

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

For membership information call
Barbara Sipe
703/356-2385
Or
Betsy Schroeder
703/356-4352

APRIL CALENDAR

- 
- Tues, 7 9 a.m.** *Current Events Meeting* at the Star Nut Café in McLean *
- Thurs, 9 Noon** *Great Decisions Discussion Group* at Judy Page's home *
- Fri, 10 11:30 a.m.** *Morning Lit Author Luncheon* McLean Community Center
- Tues. 14 11 a.m.** *Branch Board Meeting* at Peggy Stotz's home
Equal Pay Day *
- Thurs, 16 10 a.m.** *Book Sale Talk on Sorting and Pricing* at Marge Degnon's home *
- Sat-Sun 18-19** *AAUW VA Conference in Charlottesville, DoubleTree Hilton Hotel* *
- Mon, 20** *Deadline for the May News*
- Tues, 21 9:30 a.m.** *Great Decisions Discussion Group* at Mary Lou Melley's home *
- Sat, 25 1:45 p.m.** *Around Town attends "Old Wicked Songs"* at 1st Stage*
- Tues, 28 9 a.m.** *Current Events Breakfast* at the McLean Family Restaurant *

AND IN EARLY MAY ...

- Tues, 5 9 a.m.** *Current Events Meeting* at the Star Nut Café in McLean *
Deadline for May Dinner reservations *