



McLean Area Branch
AAUW of Virginia

News

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Celebrate Us! General Meeting

Come celebrate all that is McLean Area AAUW on Sunday, September 25, at 2 p.m. at the McLean Community Center. We'll hear the results of the book sale that we all work so hard on and applaud its success. We will also celebrate all the many activities and projects of our branch from Lobby Corps, to Great Decisions, to book group, to STEM projects, and more. A major highlight is

hearing from the women who have received our local scholarships at Trinity and Marymount universities and celebrating their accomplishments and dreams. Bring a neighbor or friend and introduce her or him to our fantastic branch, enjoy seeing your friends and meeting new ones—and celebrate us!



Thank You Pam!

Pam Bacher has been our newsletter editor for many years, handling all aspects of production herself. To give you an idea of the work this involved, three people have been appointed to take her place!

The McLean Branch owes Pam a great debt of gratitude for her tireless work keeping us abreast of branch news, goals and achievements. She remains very much involved with our activities, but mercifully free of deadlines and layouts!

Thank you, Pam, for your selfless devotion to our branch.

2016/2017 Executive Board

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Presidents' Corner

Betsy and I welcome all of you back to another exciting year with the McLean area branch of AAUW.

Book sale preparation has been in full swing all summer as we prepare for our 47th (and possibly last, at least for a while,) used book sale. The McLean Community Center will be undergoing renovations for 18-24 months beginning in March 2017. If we are to continue, we will need a small search committee to look for another site. Let us know if you are up to the challenge. In the meantime, Marsha McMullin is organizing our volunteers to staff the sale. If you haven't volunteered yet, please call her (703-534-8125). We need everyone's help!

Did you know you can give a free national membership to anyone who has graduated from college within the last two years? It's an easy way to generate interest and awareness about our great organization. You can give as many memberships as you like, even to an entire graduating class. This is all you have to do: Collect

the information – name, mailing address, phone number, email and alma mater. Fill out the form, submit it as directed, and you have created a new AAUW member. Information can be found by going to the following link: <http://www.aauw.org/resource/give-a-grad-a-gift/>.

Nonpartisan, head-to-head candidate comparisons illuminate the critical choice women voters face in close races nationwide. So it is important to know who's on the ballots and where they stand on AAUW key issues. Politicians and policy makers routinely make decisions that directly affect women and families, including our paychecks, access to reproductive health care and education funding. This season it is more important than ever to identify those candidates who best represent our values and those who would roll back our rights. It is time for all of us to work on the "get-out-the-vote" campaign. Speak up and make your voice heard. When women vote we change the conversation. AAUW stands for "It's My Vote: I will be heard".

**Aroona Borpujari and Betsy Schroeder,
Co-Presidents**

From the Editors New Newsletter Deadline the 15th of Each Month

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. New deadline: 15th of the month.

We ask for your indulgence for a few months as we get into the rhythm of newsletter production. Dorothy or Fran edit submitted articles before handing the text

over to Judy for layout, so there is less leeway for slippage. In addition, Judy is working with a new software program and AAUW Branding Guide—always a time-eating process. We hope to extend the deadline once we feel more on top of things.

Please send your news as a Word attachment to Dorothy, Fran, and Judy. Photos are always welcome!

Thank you,

The Editors

Dorothy Hassan dshassan@aol.com
Fran Sullinger fsullinger@verizon.net
Judy Lettes judy.lettes@gmail.com

AAUW Funds

As we prepare for our 47th AAUW Used Book Sale, our goal is to raise enough to support the national funds for fellowships, grants, projects, and leadership development, as well as our branch scholarships fund and local high school awards.

We usually donate to the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, Legal Advocacy Fund, scholarships for the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), Elect Her, and Public Policy Fund.

The Local Scholarships Fund assists women returning to

complete their education. We enjoy working relationships with George Mason University—liaison Margaret Doole; Marymount University—liaison Betsy Reddaway; and, Trinity Washington University—liaison Juanita Cullen.

Monies are also set aside for local high school awards to female juniors excelling in STEM programs from Langley High School, McLean High School, and Marshall High School—Judy Page, STEM Chair.

The committee will meet in late October or early November. Members are: AAUW Funds Chairs, book

sale chairs, liaisons to area universities, STEM chair, and three other branch members. Three branch members of the committee shall be nominated and elected by the branch membership no later than at the November branch meeting. Please consider putting forward your name for nomination. Contact chairs Elaine Lailas or Naz Basit to indicate your interest in serving on the AAUW FUNDS Committee.

Elaine Lailas | 703-779-8679 | elailas@aol.com

Naz Basit | 703-356-6365 | nazbasit@yahoo.com

AAUW FUNDS Chairs

An Inspiring Appreciation

Dear Ms. Stotz,

Thank you for coming to McLean High School to present me with the Science Achievement Award. I have the utmost respect for the AAUW organization, and think it's wonderful that you have extended your efforts to include high school-aged women. Your encouragement of young women pursuing a

career in STEM is much appreciated.

I plan to continue on a path centered around science as I pursue a degree in Biomedical Engineering. As I have gone through the process of narrowing my interests and pinpointing a possible career option in the STEM field, I have certainly had my doubts and felt that my potential was not enough to succeed. Receiving the recognition from you and the rest of the McLean Area Branch validated my aspirations and has inspired me to reach for the

stars, despite my previous doubts.

Thank you again for taking the time out of your day to come to my high school and recognize my efforts. I really do appreciate it. Also if you see Ms. Caroline Pickens please thank her for me as well. I could not find her contact information.

I hope you have a wonderful summer!

Best,

Caroline Lewis

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.



Record Donations Fuel AAUW Used Book Sale

Record donations are fueling our next AAUW Used Book Sale at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. This will be our last at this location before it closes for renovations, which are expected to take almost two years.

AAUW McLean Area Branch's 47th sale will be held on Friday September 16 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday September 17 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday September 18 from noon to 4 p.m. Most books cost \$2 or \$3. Sunday is "bag day" with regularly priced books selling for \$10 per paper grocery bag. We pride ourselves on offering pristine volumes, many suitable for gift giving.

In addition to outstanding book donations from the public, this year the AAUW's McLean Area Branch was the recipient of two special donations, an unexpected 900 additional boxes of books. Of note are 450 boxes from the collection of former Great Falls resident Barbara Kincaid, a gift from Mrs. Kincaid's son David. Mrs. Kincaid collected first and early edition mysteries and novels by noted authors. Buyers will find these books in both the McLean Center's community hall and our specially priced books room.

Another room deserving special attention houses our large collection of inexpensive books for children and young adults. In the same room, shoppers will also find an extensive collection of vinyl records, CD's and DVD's.

The money raised by our AAUW Used Book Sale will be used to support young women's career and leadership development, local scholarships for women returning to college, graduate fellowships, and educational research.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to SunTrust Bank's Vienna East Office, Roderick Smith, Manager, and to the generosity of our community. AAUW has enjoyed an ideal location for multiple book drop-offs, storage, and sorting. We also thank Discover Books, which helps us recycle unsold inventory.

We look forward to seeing you all in September! For additional information, please visit www.mclean-va.aauw.net

Nancy Richardson and Aubrey Hamilton
AAUW FUNDS Chairs



SunTrust Bank Vienna Sorting Central



Betsy Schroeder and Nancy Richardson



Back row, left to right, Allen Hebron (Discover Books), Donna Dietz, Deborah DeMasi, Margaret Hines, Marge Degnon, Peggy Stotz, Roderick Smith (Manager, SunTrust Bank Vienna East Branch) Anne Studner, and Aksha Mustafa (Teller, SunTrust Bank Vienna East Branch). Front row left to right, Betsy Schroeder and Naz Basit.



Judging by the calendar (although not the weather!), we presume we are heading into September and the fall. Back to school, back to heavier clothes, put away the white shoes?

It's time to be reminded, particularly as we head into the final days of this Congress, of the coming election.

Government 0001

First, a reminder: checks and balances in the structure of our federal government. Briefly, the executive branch appoints federal judges and can veto bills. However, the legislative branch has many more powers: create and pass legislation, ratify treaties, impeach federal officials, confirm presidential appointments, override presidential vetoes and **control the appropriations of money**. So if you're wondering why our country hasn't funded any projects to fend off Zika, it's because the Legislative Branch has not acted. Meanwhile the executive branch has the power to transfer some funds already available for other activities to Zika research. This has happened.

It is important to become informed about your local congressperson and examine his or her voting record, since those in our districts are running as incumbents with records.

2016 Voter Guide

The AAUW Action Fund has made available the voter guide for the candidates for U.S. President and Vice President. It lists such issues as passing the Paycheck Fairness Act, increasing funding for college affordability with programs like Pell Grants, raising the federal minimum wage to at least \$10.10, and ensuring

women's access to contraception, as well as nine others. Go to aauwaction.org - presidential voter guide, pdf, or directly:

<https://www.aauwaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/2016-Presidential-Voter-Guide.pdf>

and see how the candidates compare.

GOTV

The next topic is action to Get Out the Vote. Since AAUW is non-partisan, our aim is to get informed voters to vote. Virginia AAUW is teaming up with the League of Women Voters (LWV) to ask for volunteers in September and early October to register voters. You should have received an email about this. The priority is for Virginia AAUW members to sign up 1000 new voters by November. AAUW member Susan Burk (burksu@aol.com) is gathering names of volunteers from Fairfax AAUW branches who will partner with the Fairfax LWV and who will participate at least once. If you need to see the email again, with directions for signing up, please email me at maryloumelley@gmail.com. You can read more about this by accessing the AAUW web site Action Fund It's My Vote.

Good News and Bad

First, In Massachusetts, Governor Charlie Baker signed a bill that promotes equal pay for men and women doing substantially similar work. The law prevents employers from requiring applicants to disclose salary history as a condition of being interviewed, or as a condition of continuing to be considered for an offer of employment. This is significant for women since they earn less than men on average; if future employers use salary history as a baseline it may result in a financial shortfall for the applicant.

(continued on Page 6)



The Supreme Court's Empty Seat

According to AAUW this summer, the Supreme Court decided several landmark cases that will impact the rights of women and girls across the country for years. Because the Senate has so far refused to consider the nominee to fill Scalia's seat, the court was forced to make most of its major decisions with only eight justices, thus risking deadlock. It usually takes a five-justice majority to issue a ruling. In case of a 4-4 tie, the decision of the lower court stands. But if lower courts in two different circuits disagree over the interpretation of a federal law and ruled differently in similar cases, then a 4-4 tie means that the federal law is different in different parts of the country.

One example of the resulting deadlock concerns the Affordable Care Act (ACC). When ACC regulations were created, the government built in an accommodation for religious nonprofits that object to contraception on religious grounds. This allowed nonprofits to avoid paying for the employees' contraceptive care. A small group argued that the accommodation didn't go far enough to protect their religious beliefs. Because the circuit courts disagreed over whether the accommodation was sufficient, the Supreme Court agreed to hear several of the cases. The Supreme Court issued an opinion that sent all of the cases back to the lower courts for reconsideration, making no decision on any of the legal questions.

Your Dues in Action

The AAUW Washington Update, August 12 issue, had a report from Kate Nielson the

AAUW State Policy Analyst. She attended the National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL), legislators from both sides of the aisle from all 50 states. She and AAUW members were able to network with legislators who can advance our priorities as they learned about emerging policies. Read her message describing the conference as dominated by discussions of education updates and of voting rights. She reported that there is an increase in charter school and voucher laws across the country and learned about the future of educational accountability under the new federal law, the Every Student Succeeds Act.

Sources include AAUW Washington Update, Action Fund Voter Guide; It's My Vote, Action Network, The Atlantic magazine.

Join the AAUW Action Fund Lobby Corps

You, too, can promote AAUW's Public Policy Program by serving as a volunteer advocate on Capitol Hill, representing the views and positions outlined in your member-voted Public Policy Program.

Briefly, the Lobby Corps meets every Thursday when Congress is in session (30 weeks a year). The AAUW Government Relations staff determines the current legislative action that needs our support. On Wednesday evening, members receive detailed information on the issue. On Thursday morning, after a briefing, lobbying pairs head off to visit House or Senate offices, armed with letters and fact sheets. They ask to meet with the legislative aide assigned to the topic, and are ready to discuss the issue and ask for support. This takes place from 9:30 a.m. until about noon.

Visit the Action Fund Lobby Corps Open House, on Wednesday, September 7, tentatively scheduled for 10 a.m. at the New AAUW address: 1310 L St. NW, Suite 1000 Washington, DC 20005.

RSVP and questions:

maryloumelley@gmail.com

Mary Lou Melley, Public Policy Chair

Connections

Arena Stagers | Let's Go to the Theater!

You are invited to join our group for the 2016/17 season at the Arena Stage. So far, these are the plays we are seeing at Sunday matinees:

"Born for This: The Bebe Winans Story" | August 14, 2016, 2 p.m.

"Little Foxes" | October 2, 2016, 2 p.m.

"The Year of Magical Thinking" w/Kathleen Turner | October 23, 2016, 2 p.m.

"Carousel" | November 20, 2016, 2 p.m.

"Moby Dick" | December 11, 2016, 2 p.m.
November 27, 2 p.m.

"Watch on the Rhine" | February 26, 2017, 2 p.m.

Carpools are encouraged and offered. For more information please contact

Elaine Lailas | 703-779-8679 | Elailas@aol.com.

Morning Literature

Morning Lit will meet on Friday, September 9 at 9:30 a.m. at the McLean Community Center. The book for this meeting is *The Wright Brothers* by David McCullough; the presenter will be Joanne Field.

Reed Isbell | 703.734.3385 | reedisbell@verizon.net

Current Events – Save the Dates!

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 at 9 a.m. | September 6, October 4

Star Nut Gourmet, 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean

Everyone is invited, but RSVP to Dawn Schulz | portia11@verizon.net

Last Tuesday of the month at 9 a.m. | September 27, October 25

Eat breakfast together at the McLean Family Restaurant, 1321 Chain Bridge Road, McLean

Everyone is invited, but RSVP to Suzanne Watts | scwatts1@cox.net

Great Decisions

The Great Decisions interest group will hold its last meeting for the current session on Tuesday, September 20 at 9:30am at the home of Lynne Glikbarg, 9113 White Chimney Lane, Great Falls, VA 22066. The topic will be Cuba. The Foreign Policy Association publishes a book with eight timely topics along with a video which we use for our monthly discussions. The new session will begin in February and I will order books in October for all who sign up to participate. You are welcome to attend the September meeting to sample the format. Please contact me for more information.

Angela Ehemann | 703.893.3578 | acehemann@verizon.net

Morning Bridge

The bridge group meets on the second Monday of the month. The first meeting will be on September 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Marsha McMullin's home, 205 W. Westmoreland Rd., Falls Church 22046.

For more information, contact Barbara Carr | barbaralcarr@msn.com

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
Sue Christie
 73.241.5646
 or
Barbara Sipe
 703.356.2385

September Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Location
Tues, 6	9 a.m.	Current Events	Star Nut Gourmet
Wed, 7	10 a.m. (Tentative)	Action Fund Lobby Corps Open House	1310 L St. NW, Suite 1000 Washington, DC 20005
Fri, 9	11:30 a.m.	Board Meeting	McLean House
Mon, 12	2 p.m.	Bridge Group	Home of Marsha McMullin
Fri, 16	9a.m. to 7 p.m.	Book Sale	McLean Community Center
Sat, 17	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	Book Sale	McLean Community Center
Sun, 18	Noon to 4 p.m.	Book Sale	McLean Community Center
Tues, 20	9:30 a.m.	Great Decisions	Home of Lynne Glikbarg
Sun, 25	2 p.m.	General Meeting	McLean Community Center
Tues, 27	9 a.m.	Current Events	McLean Family Restaurant



McLean Area (VA) Branch
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Branch Website | <http://mclean-va.aauw.net>

AAUW VA Website | <http://aauw-va.aauw.net>

AAUW Website | www.AAUW.org