



McLean Area Branch  
AAUW of Virginia

# News

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<http://mclean-va.aauw.net>

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## January Branch Meeting

Saturday, January 20, 10:00 am

Redeemer Lutheran Church, Social Hall

1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, Va.

Entrance to social hall is at Church side entrance on Chain Bridge Road  
(Snow date | January 27, 10:00 am, at McLean House)

## Leadership of Women in Islam

The January Branch program offers a unique opportunity to gain a greater understanding of our global community. Plan to attend this compelling panel discussion on **Leadership of Women in Islam** presented by the Muslim Women's Coalition (MWC). **Uzma Farooq**, Director for the Greater Washington DC Area Office of MWC, will provide an overview on the work of MWC and moderate a panel of presenters who will share their experiences and perspectives. Panelists include:

- **Sabira Qureshi**, an independent development consultant, who focuses on poverty alleviation, gender equality, and human rights, with an emphasis on South Asia, primarily Pakistan and Afghanistan.
- **Ambereen Shaffie**, an environmental attorney based in Washington, DC, who has her own firm, Shaffie Law and Policy and practices international environmental law and policy focused on the Paris Agreement and the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol.
- **Mehreen Farooq**, Vice-President and Senior Fellow at the World Organization for Resource Development and Education, leads policy analysis, research, and programming to promote peace and counter violent extremism.

This program provides an occasion to learn what Islam offers to Muslim women and how they incorporate their faith in their daily lives, professionally and personally.



From top, Uzma Farooq, Sabira Qureshi, Ambereen Shaffie, and Mehreen Farooq.

## Message from the Presidents

**Our annual holiday luncheon was a wonderful way to end 2017 with 75 attendees,** including members, guests and friends. Madeira High School's choral group provided a cheerful program opening, and our guest speaker Helene Cooper's presentation lifted our spirits and provided inspiration for women working together to effect change. Thank you to everyone, especially our organizers for making the event such a success.

The branch nominating committee is hard at work. Please make their job easier when they reach out to you for your leadership contribution. **Our branch is one of the largest branches in Virginia,** and we have many talented, hardworking and dedicated members. **Branch leadership positions are fulfilling and fun because these provide us with opportunities to work together to achieve our goals.**

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

## Branch Board Meeting | February

**January's meeting is cancelled.** The **Branch Board** will meet **Wednesday, February 7, noon – 2:00 pm,** at McLean House, 6800 Fleetwood Road, McLean, VA.

## Human Trafficking

At the November Branch meeting, the efforts of the *Just Ask Project* to prevent Human Trafficking in Northern Virginia were featured. ***Just Ask Project* hosts events to engage the community in creative ways to learn about and prevent trafficking.** It also provides **opportunities for AAUW members to get involved in helping to spread the word in our community.** Activities include distributing information to local merchants frequented by traffickers and their victims, providing any connections with other groups that might want to host an awareness event, or individual financial support. Please contact **Bill Woolf,** [bill@justaskprevention.org](mailto:bill@justaskprevention.org), **to offer your services or make a donation.**

*Thank You*

Branch members and guests donated \$800 for  
SHARE of McLean

(<http://www.shareofmclean.org>)

at our Holiday Luncheon!

SHARE is thrilled and grateful for everyone's  
generosity.

## Photo Gallery I December Holiday Luncheon



Aroona Borpajari, Margie Broderick, and Betsy Schroeder welcome branch members.

Margie Broderick (Special Events Coordinator) and Carol Mournighan (Program Co-VP).



Helene Cooper provided much food for thought as she shared her personal experiences and the incredible journey the women of Liberia had in insuring the election of Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, the first woman president elected in Africa. Thanks to Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales (Program Co-VP) for enticing Ms. Cooper to join us.



Madeira Sweet Tis. Front row: Esi Gadese-Mensah, Zoe Crawley, Chapin Brown, Theresa Carr, and Director Heather Fetrow. Back row: Keenan Parker, Rachel Rubin, Sarah Hughes, Amy Xie, Mallie Moore, and Riley Xiong.





## Photo Gallery | December Holiday Luncheon (Continued)



Branch members celebrate holiday festivities at River Bend, thanks to Suzanne Watts!



Margie Broderick and Betsy Schroeder prepared table decorations and place settings. Margie coordinated Share donations.



## Photo Gallery | December AAUW On the Town



Mary Lou Melley organized December AAUW On the Town excursion to Hillwood Estate. Next event is January 10.

Let's Carpool!



SHAREACAR

## Need a Ride?

If you need a ride to the monthly Branch meeting, feel free to contact Membership Co-Vice President, **Barbara Sipe**, **703-356-2385** or [bfs4000@gmail.com](mailto:bfs4000@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>, 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.

Price. Selection. Convenience.  
amazon.com





## 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 2018

Saturday, March 10, 2018  
NOVA – Annandale  
8:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Volunteer opportunities are still available at **STEMtastics 2018** – a career day event designed to inspire middle school girls (6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade) in Fairfax County to pursue careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields. Boys are also welcome to attend.

**WHAT:** For the fifth year, the McLean Area Branch is partnering with Fairfax City, Vienna Area, and Springfield-Annandale branches, as well as FCPS and Systemic Solutions at NOVA, to sponsor STEMtastics. **We have reformatted the program to accommodate more students and are expecting about 700 students and parents, compared to 500 in 2017. Your participation is more critical than ever.**

**WHEN/WHERE:** This year's event is scheduled for **Saturday morning, March 10, 2018, at NOVA – Annandale.**

**VOLUNTEERS:** More than 80 volunteers are needed on the day of the event. SignUp Genius describes almost 30 different assignments for which volunteers are needed at the event. **Assignments** include:

- serving as a **student workshop assistant in a classroom;**
- **helping with morning refreshments;**
- serving as a **theater usher;**
- **checking in students at registration using a smartphone app;**
- **greeting parent workshop presenters and checking them in**
- and much more.

Please SAVE THE DATE OF MARCH 10 and EMAIL **Judy Page** ([judy.page@gmail.com](mailto:judy.page@gmail.com)) if **you are willing to help** – you can also provide a preference for an assignment, if you have one. If you have already notified Judy of your willingness to help, you don't need to respond again.

**Marlene Chivavibul**, volunteer coordinator, **will be in touch with all the volunteers later in January with more details.**



## Public Policy Update

Congressional actions take center stage with the new tax bill getting the most attention. However, another important action involves the **Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)**. Local legislators have taken the following action: On December 13, **Virginia**

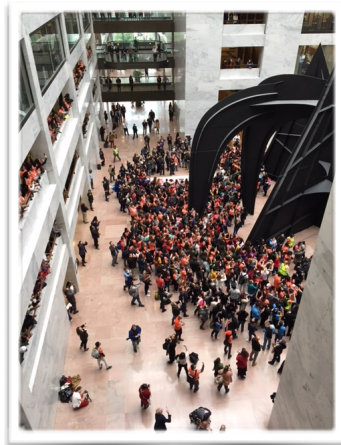
Congressmen **Gerry Connolly, Bobby Scott, Don Beyer** and **A. Donald McEachin** sent a letter to congressional leadership urging them to immediately bring up bipartisan legislation to reauthorize CHIP. The program, which **historically** has been a **bipartisan** effort, **provides insurance to more than 66,000 children and 1,100 pregnant women in the Commonwealth of Virginia**. Earlier this week, Virginia Governor **Terry McAuliffe** began to notify families of the lack of CHIP funding.

"Further inaction is immoral and needless," the Members wrote. "CHIP has always received overwhelming bipartisan support. In fact, Senators **Orrin Hatch** and **Ron Wyden** reached a **bipartisan deal** to reauthorize CHIP for five years in September, and the Senate Finance Committee has already acted on this bill. We implore you to take up this bill, or a similar bipartisan reauthorization immediately."

## Upcoming Events

- Congressman **Don Beyer** presents a current events **Town Hall** on **Monday, January 15, 6:30 pm**, at the **Snyder Center, 6450 South Van Dorn Street, Alexandria VA**.
- The **Virginia General Assembly** will meet in **Regular Session** from **January 10 to March 10**. Go to <http://viriniageneralassembly.gov> for all the news. Currently, **28 women serve in the House of Delegates, along with 10 in the State Senate, the largest number ever in Virginia**.
- On **Wednesday, February 7**, AAUW-VA will hold its **annual State Lobby Day at 8:30 am**. To participate, contact **Leslie Tourigny**, VA AAUW Public Policy Vice President, [ltourigny@gmail.com](mailto:ltourigny@gmail.com), for information about overnight accommodations and agenda.
- McLean State Senator **Janet Howell** is holding two **town meetings: Friday January 5 in Arlington**; and, **Saturday January 6 at the Fairfax County Government Center**.
- At a **date to be determined in January**, AAUW is scheduling an orientation and **training for the AAUW volunteer Lobby Corps**. New strategies will provide greater opportunities for all area AAUW members. **Be on the lookout for the announcement**.

On November 9, Anne Hedgepeth and Lobby Corps members brought the message "Pass the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)" to almost every Senators' office.



During the day, the supporters of **DACA**, those 'dreamers' and leaders, gathered in the atrium of the Hart Office Building to protest and urge the passage of the bill.

## Special Interest Groups

**Great Decisions I** Great Decisions will hold its **first meeting in February** to discuss global topics outlined by the Foreign Policy Association. Study books have been ordered for those who signed up earlier; however, if you missed the previous order deadline, contact **Angela Ehemann**, [acehemann@verizon.net](mailto:acehemann@verizon.net) or 703-893-3578, for information on acquiring the book. The group meets the **third Tuesday of the month, 9:30 am, at McLean House**. The first topic is “Waning of Pax Americana?”

**Current Events I** The Current Events Group will meet **Tuesday, January 2, 9:00 am**, at the **Star Nut Gourmet, 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean**. All branch members are invited to attend and bring an article or web link to share and spark the discussion. RSVP to **Mary Lou Melley**, [maryloumelley@gmail.com](mailto:maryloumelley@gmail.com).

**Bridge Group I** The bridge group will meet on **Monday, January 8, from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm**, at **McLean House Community Room, 6800 Fleetwood Road, McLean, VA 22101**. For more information and to sign up, contact **Barbara Carr**, [barbaralcarr@msn.com](mailto:barbaralcarr@msn.com) or 703-356-3127.

**On the Town I** On **Wednesday, January 10, 6:00 pm**, we'll stay in the McLean area and enjoy an early evening at a local Italian restaurant, **Assaggi Osteria, 6641 Old Dominion Drive**. Its menu features numerous appetizers, large salads, homemade pasta, veal and beef, and whole fresh fish from worldwide sustainable sources, offering the finest bounty from the sea. Produce is purchased from local farms, and all desserts are homemade. “Assaggi means tastings in Italian,” explains owner Domenico. “Therefore, the concept of my menu is based on a variety of items that can be ordered in smaller portions and on the same plate.” All are welcome. If you plan to attend, RSVP to **Mary Lou Melley**, [maryloumelley@gmail.com](mailto:maryloumelley@gmail.com).

**Morning Lit Group I** The Morning Literature group will meet on **Friday, January 12, 9:30 am**, at the **McLean Governmental Center Conference Room, 1437 Balls Hill Road**, to discuss *A Man Called Ove*, by Fredrik Backman. Please bring your own coffee, tea, or water. Plenty of parking available in front of building. Contact **Betsy Reddaway**, [pbreddaway@verizon.net](mailto:pbreddaway@verizon.net) or 703-448-9195.



**New Special Interest: Evening Lit Group I** The first Evening Literature Group meeting is **Monday, January 22, 7:30 pm**, at **Betsy Schroeder's home, 8441 Holly Leaf Drive, McLean** to discuss *A Man Called Ove*, by Fredrik Backman. Carol Ruppel will lead the discussion. Future dates and book selection will be made at the meeting. If you plan to attend, RSVP to **Betsy**, [icu43@cox.net](mailto:icu43@cox.net). **If you can't make it but you're interested in joining the evening group, please let Betsy know.**

**Breakfast Group I** The Breakfast Group will meet on **Tuesday, January 30, 9:00 am**, at the **McLean Family Restaurant, 1321 Chain Bridge Road, McLean**. RSVP to **Suzanne Watts**, 703-356-7926 or [scwatts1@cox.net](mailto:scwatts1@cox.net).



## Connections I January Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Current Events Group, 9:00am, Star Nut Gourmet	3 Branch Board Meeting Cancelled McLean House	4	5	6
7	8 Bridge Group, 10:00 am-2:00 pm, McLean House Community Room	9	10 On the Town, 6:00 pm, Assaggi Osteria	11	12 Morning Lit Group, 9:30 am, McLean Gov Center	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Branch Meeting, Leadership of Women in Islam, 10:00 am, Redeemer Lutheran Church, McLean, VA
21	22 Evening Lit Group, 7:30 pm, Betsy Schroeder's Home	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Breakfast Group, 9:00 am, McLean Family Restaurant	31			

**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  
703.241.5646  
or  
Barbara Sipe  
703.356.2385**

**Do you have any AAUW McLean Branch news, updates or information you wish to share with our local community?**

Please email your publicity materials no later than three weeks before you wish to have it posted in our local newspapers |

**Cheryl Scott Williams (cherylswilliams@verizon.net)**



**McLean Area (VA) Branch  
7020 Hector Road  
McLean, VA 22101**

**Branch Website | <http://mclean-va.aauw.net>**

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

**AAUW Website | [www.AAUW.org](http://www.AAUW.org)**