



McLean Area Branch
AAUW of Virginia

News

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December Holiday Luncheon

The Mclean Area AAUW December Holiday Luncheon will be:

Saturday, December 8, 2018

Noon

**River Bend Golf and Country Club
375 Walker Road, Great Falls, VA**

Reservations are due to **Aroona Borpujari, 1225 Meyer Court, McLean, VA 22101**, no later than **December 1**. The cost for lunch, which will be served at 1:00 pm, is \$34.

Luncheon speaker **Kathleen M. Burns** is a **prize-winning journalist** with professional experience as a bureau chief, foreign correspondent, columnist, investigative reporter, magazine editor, congressional aide, corporate communications executive, and mediator. She has also taught as a full-time academic in five universities in the United States and overseas, at the graduate, undergraduate, and adult education level. Currently, Ms. Burns is an instructor in the adult education division of George Mason University. **She will share her experiences as a journalist and perspectives on the role of journalism in today's world.**



**Luncheon Speaker
Kathleen M. Burns**

Supporting Share

While we are enjoying our Holiday Luncheon, the clients of Share are also celebrating their own Holiday party.

Every year, Share provides a holiday celebration for its clients and their families. It provides food and gifts for all the family members and every family receives gift cards for their holiday dinner. Santa even makes an appearance to the children's delight!

Share is a **local, all volunteer agency** that **aids our neighbors in need**. It has a **food bank** and a **clothing room**. Share also provides refurbished computers for families, school supplies, and financial assistance when money is tight due to illness or days out due to inclement weather.

This year our branch has again decided to **use the luncheon to raise money for Share**. **Stockings** will be **on every table** should you **choose to give** to this worthy organization.

Presidents' Message

Although mostly overlooked and unrecognized in history, women have been changing the world with one invention at a time. **Ann Tsukamoto** developed a process for isolating human stem cells that helped improve the general medical understanding of blood systems in cancer patients in 1991. **Maria Telkes** invented the first solar-powered heating system designed for residences in 1948. The tragic death toll from the Titanic would have been higher were it not for the invention of **Maria Beasley** of a safer and more sturdy life raft in 1882, as those used on the ill-fated ship.

Many of women's inventions appear to focus on protecting humanity and improving the lives of individuals and families. For example, **Anna Connelly** invented the fire escape in 1887; **Margaret Wilcox** invented the car heater in 1893; **Florence Parpart** invented the electric refrigerator in 1914; **Josephine Cochrane** invented the dishwasher in 1887; **Marie Van Brittan Brown** created the early closed-circuit television system used for home monitoring in 1966; **Margaret Knight** invented a machine that makes a square bottomed paper bag in 1871, and at age 12 invented a safety device for cotton mills that is still being used today.

The list of women's contributions effecting progress goes on and on—be it in terms of inventions, medical discoveries, advancement in medical interventions as well as in mathematics and engineering, literature, or working for social justice. **Women persevere: the universal rhythm, which moves through our lives, informs us that you cannot kill the spirit of women.**



Co-Presidents Betsy Schroeder and Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales continue to channel their Rosie the Riveter.

Photo Gallery: November Branch Meeting



Hala Ayala, Virginia House of Delegates, 51st District, spoke about the impact of Medicaid expansion in Virginia.



Programs Co-Vice Presidents Milia Ali and Naz Basit with Delegate Ayala.



Branch Board Meetings: December and January

Branch Board meeting are:

Monday, December 3, 9:30 -11:30 am

Monday, January 7, 9:30 -11:30 am

**Home of Aroona Borpujari
1225 Myer Court, McLean, VA**

All branch members are invited to attend.

January Branch Meeting

Title IX Panel Discussion

The January AAUW McLean Area Branch meeting will be held on

**Saturday, January 12, 2019, 10:00 am,
McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean, VA.**

Title IX, a federal civil rights law, was passed in 1972 during the Richard Nixon's presidency. Co-authored and introduced by **Senator Birch Bayh** in the Senate and Congresswoman **Patsy Mink**, it was later renamed the **Patsy T. Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act**. The Law states: *"No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."*

Panelists Karen Keys Gamarra and **Dr. Jennifer Hammat** will review the history of Title IX enforcement and the current status of this important law.



Dr. Jennifer Hammat,
Panelist

Dr. Jennifer Hammat is the University Title IX coordinator at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. Before that, she served in a similar capacity as the Associate Vice President for Compliance Services at the University of Texas at Austin. **Dr. Hammat** is a Student Affairs and University Compliance professional with a doctoral degree and more than 20 years of experience in leadership, supervision, and strategic planning.

Karen Keys-Gamarra, an at-large Fairfax County School Board member, won a first term in the at-large special election in August 2017. She has a bachelor's degree from Tulane University and a JD from Washington University School of Law. **Ms. Keys-Gamarra** has worked as an attorney in private practice, as a state employee, and as a court-appointed attorney representing children in cases involving abuse, neglect, and contested adoptions. She has also served as a member of the Fairfax County Planning Commission.



Karen Keys-Gamarra
Panelist

Meet Our New Branch Members

P. Vijay Reddy left India, her native country, after graduating from medical school in 1967. After living in England and Canada until 1977, she moved to Petersburg, Virginia. Vijay is board certified in obstetrics/gynecology and has retired after 35 years of practice. Vijay is married with one daughter and two grandsons. She moved to McLean to be close to them. Vijay loves bridge and traveling.

Mimi Gronlund was born in Dallas, Texas, and moved to Washington, D.C., at the age of four when her father joined the federal government. She attended Wellesley College for two years before marrying her first husband, Tom Gronlund, who was a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. Mimi continued taking college courses in various places she lived, and at the age of 41, received a BA from the State University of New York at Buffalo. She continued her education to earn an MA in Library Sciences. Mimi worked as a reference librarian at the Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College for 22 years. In 1984, she received an MA in English from George Mason University. Her master's thesis became the first section of a biography she wrote of her father entitled, *Supreme Court Justice Tom C. Clark, A Life of Service* that was published by the University of Texas Press in 2010. Mimi's first husband died of pancreatic cancer in 2001. She married Bob Schulze in 2011. Her main activities are family, traveling, tutoring, music and reading.

Donna Berlage is a native Washingtonian, born at Walter Reed and grew up in suburban Maryland. She attended West Liberty University under the War Orphans Bill, which is part of the GI Bill. Donna has a BS in Early Childhood education, though she never taught. She worked as a dental hygienist for several years, then in sales for a medical products company, and finally as the Washington representative for Revlon. Donna and her husband have lived in McLean for the past 38 years. They have a winter home in Naples, Florida, and a summer home in St Andrews, Canada. She enjoys travel, theatre, and friends.

Debora Goetz Goldberg, a first-generation college graduate in her family, is an Associate Professor at George Mason University in the Department of Health Administration and Policy. She is a mixed methods researcher with an emphasis on survey and qualitative research methodologies. Her research focuses on primary care practice transformation, patient experience, and care for the underserved. Her teaching experience includes courses on the US health care system, change management and leadership, evaluation and outcomes research methodology, and qualitative research methods. Before entering academia, she worked in healthcare management consulting serving commercial and government clients such as Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Department of Veteran Affairs, and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. She is also proud to be a returned Peace Corps volunteer ('95-'97) who worked with the Ministry of Health in Guyana as a National Health Planner.

Carolyn Baron embraced the challenges inherent in solving her students' learning problems as a special education teacher for 34 years, and found the work very rewarding. With her husband, Carolyn loves visiting her grandbaby in California and seeing the changes in her development. Most of her travel has centered around California. She enjoys exercising at the gym and walking, and has learned to play pickleball. When drop in pickleball began, Carolyn became a volunteer at Spring Hill Rec Center. Carolyn enjoys reading, theater, and gardening.

Kleia R. Luckner has degrees from Georgetown School of Nursing, Yale School of Nurse Midwifery, and University of Toledo School of Law. She recently retired after 45 years as a Nursing Administrator of Women's and Children's Health in Toledo, Ohio. She moved to McLean to be closer to her son, daughter, and three adorable granddaughters ages eight, six, and three years. Kleia enjoys her new role as an active Granny and participates in her grandchildren's various activities. Interested in and disturbed by the high maternal mortality rates in MD, VA and DC, Kleia sits on the Virginia Maternal Mortality Commission and hopes to see action taken to address this important issue.

Branch Meeting Inclement Weather Policy

Cancellation or delay of Branch meetings held at Fairfax County facilities or the McLean Community center shall be determined according to the following policies:

- **Daytime Meetings.** If the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) open two hours late or if the schools are closed, the meeting will be cancelled. If the schools open one hour late, the meeting will begin one hour later than scheduled.
- **Evening Meetings.** If FCPS after-school activities and evening classes are cancelled, the meeting will be cancelled.
- **Weekend Meetings.** IF FCPS school activities are cancelled, the meeting will be cancelled.

Events scheduled at private homes or restaurants shall be cancelled or delayed at the discretion of the Branch members responsible for the events.

McLean Branch 50th Anniversary

The Branch Becomes a Philanthropic Star

When McLean Area Branch was created in May 1969 and started into its first year that September, one of the first decisions made was to have a book sale to raise money for the AAUW Educational Foundation (now AAUW Funds). In April 1970, the first sale was held at Maytime Gift Shop in McLean, which raised \$411.20.

From that point on, the book sale became the branch's major fundraiser and it continued to grow. First, it grew from a few hours on two days to all day on Friday and Saturday and four hours on Sunday. Then, it expanded from the gift shop to the Aviary Court at Tyson's, to outdoors at McLean Square Mall, and finally to the McLean Community Center in 1975.

Most importantly, the proceeds increased from that \$411 in 1970 to nearly \$1,000 by 1975. Then it really took off! Book sales were more than \$10,000 by 1986, more than \$20,000 by 1989, and more than \$30,000 by 2002. Since 2006 the proceeds have been around \$40,000 each year, with a banner year of \$50,000 in 2016.

The contributions to AAUW funds have totaled more than **\$680,000** and have made McLean Area Branch one of AAUW's national stars in contributions, including many times in the Top Ten. The branch completed an American Fellowship at \$75,000, an International Fellowship at \$100,000, and two Research and Project Grants at \$35,000 each. Imagine how many women have benefitted from those!

In 1989, we began funding local scholarships for women returning to college. For the first year, we gave \$250 each to Northern Virginia Community College and Trinity University. The next year, we expanded our scholarships to George Mason and, in 2013, to Marymount University. Last year, we gave \$5,000 each to Trinity, George Mason, and Marymount. To date, the branch has given more than **\$175,000** in local scholarships to women returning to college, many of whom have been single mothers.

Book sale proceeds have impacted the lives of dozens of women, from those completing post-doctoral work to young women college leaders. McLean Area Branch truly is a philanthropic star.

Allocation of Funds from 2018 Book Sale

Available Funds for Disbursement	\$34,600*
AAUW Funds Total	\$17,300
AAUW Greatest Needs Fund #9110	\$ 1,300
Education and Training Fund #4450	-
NCCWSL #2504	\$ 8,000
Economic Security Fund #4449	\$ 8,000
Leadership Fund #4452	-
Governance and Sustainability Fund #4451	-
Total Local Scholarships, HS Awards	\$17,300
George Mason University	\$ 5,250
Marymount University	\$ 5,250
Trinity Of Washington University	\$ 5,250
High School Awards	
Langley	\$ 200
Marshall	\$ 200
McLean	\$ 200
STEM Excellence Award	\$ 200
Conferences And Conventions	\$ 750
Total Funds Allocated for 2018	\$34,600

* The AAUW McLean Area Branch Allocation of Funds Committee met on October 30, 2018 and approved the Allocation of Funds from the Annual Book Sale of 2018 to be presented to the Board. The Board amended the Allocation of Funds and approved the amendment on November 5, 2018. The Branch members voted and approved the Allocation of Funds on November 13, 2018. AAUW Funds Co-Chairs **Elaine Lailas** and **Anjali Chadha** will complete the Contribution of Total AAUW Funds with a check in the amount of \$17,300 to AAUW Headquarters before the December 31, 2018 deadline.

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



Introducing the New STEM Essay Contest

At its October meeting, the board approved a new STEM initiative for our branch – the **STEM Essay Contest**. The contest will be open to **7th and 8th grade students (girls and boys)** at local public and private schools. It will challenge a student to **discover** and **publicize** a **woman who made a difference** in **Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics**, discussing why the student selected the woman and the impact of her STEM contribution.



The plan is to give a first-place award (\$100), a second-place award (\$50), and two Honorable Mentions (\$25 each). The board approved reallocating funds already in the budget to this initiative for 2019. Schools will be contacted in December. The application will be available via email to the schools and on the branch website. Students will be able to submit their essays online until the **deadline of February 15, 2019**.

Several members of the branch have already volunteered to help judge the essays. **Additional judges are welcome, as well as members who would like to work on other aspects of planning the contest details.** If you are interested, please contact **Judy Page** at judypage@gmail.com or 703-847-1950. Judging will take place between February 16 and March 5. The winners will be invited to the Potluck Dinner on March 19, with the first-place winner reading his or her essay at the dinner. The award ceremony in March is one way the branch will celebrate Women's History Month.



*Come to the
Roanoke Valley!*

AAUW of Virginia State Conference

Saturday, April 6, 2019

With activities Friday, April 5, 2019

Roanoke Valley

At the Vinton War Memorial, Vinton, VA



Public Policy Update

A New Year for AAUW

Congress's Voting Record

AAUW has just issued its yearly AAUW Action Fund Congressional Voting Record (CVR) that provides information about elected federal legislators and the votes they cast in 2018 on issues that are critical to the Action Fund's mission. The report card shows **100%** for **Senators Warner** and **Kaine** as well as **Representatives Beyer** and **Connolly**. Rep. **Comstock**'s score for the past Congressional session is **20%**. The Record is available on the AAUW website and includes the descriptions of the six or eight bills that make up the scores. The link is AAUWAction.org.

Public Policy Priorities

AAUW National opened the **comment period** for our **2019-2021 Public Policy Priorities**. This is an opportunity for all members to submit feedback to support the PPP or to propose changes in them. The comment period runs through January 11, 2019. See <https://www.aauw.org/policy-priority/public-policy-priorities/>.

Virginia - #38 for the ERA?

AAUW of Virginia, along with many coalition members, is **promoting the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment**. Although the ratification deadline has long since passed, the campaign to ratify in three states needed to bring the total to 38 is still in force. Nevada and Illinois recently ratified. **One remains to reach 2/3 of the states: Virginia!** Congress can pass bills to remove or extend the deadline or, accept ratification by the state(s). At our **November Branch meeting**, **those attending were given four postcards**: one addressed to the **Virginia Senator** to assign the ERA and another to the **House Speaker** to ensure the ERA gets to a vote. Each member will sign and mail these two postcards. Then members will also address, sign and send the 'Pass the ERA' message to her **own State Senator** and **Delegate**. If you want to participate, contact Carol Mournighan, clmourn@gmail.com, or Mary Lou Melley, maryloumelley@gmail.com.

Important Dates

- The **League of Women Voters of Virginia** is sponsoring a pre-session round table with presentation by issue experts to **prepare for the 2019 General Assembly Session** on the morning of **Wednesday, December 5**. Contact: league@lwv-va.org.
- AAUW of Virginia will hold its **State Lobby Day** on **Thursday, February 7**. Contact burksu@aol.com.

Title IX again

Breaking news: Education **Secretary Betsy DeVos** released a **sweeping overhaul** of how **colleges and universities must handle allegations of sexual assault and harassment**, giving **new rights to the accused**, including the ability to cross-examine their accusers. It replaces less formal guidance issued by the Obama administration in 2011. The rules stem from a 1972 law known as **Title IX** that bars sex discrimination at schools that receive federal funding. If you're reacting to this information: then read on.

Lobby Corps

Orientation for AAUW members interested in its Lobby Corps will be held in January. Every Thursday morning that Congress is in session, the Corps is briefed on that week's public policy priority and then proceeds to selected congressional offices to educate and advocate policy makers. Members report back to the AAUW Action Fund staff. The experience is interesting, exciting, and informative to be one of the 30 or more members from the area that participate. Questions? Contact **Aroona Borpujari**, aborpujari@cox.net, or **Mary Lou Melley**, maryloumelley@gmail.com.



Arena Stage

Come and enjoy the Arena Stage productions of:

- *Indecent* - Tuesday, December 4, 7:30 pm, and/or
- *Anything Goes* - Saturday, December 15, 2:00 pm

Contact **Elaine Lailas**, 703-779-8679 or Elailas@aol.com, if you'd like to carpool. To purchase Arena tickets, call 202-488-3300. **Ask to sit near Elaine Lailas.**

Special Interest Groups: December & January

Current Events: The Current Events Group will meet **Tuesday, December 4, and Tuesday, January 8** (note this is the second Tuesday), 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 for the discussion. RSVP to **Mary Lou Melley**, maryloumelley@gmail.com.

Morning Lit Group: The Morning Literature Group will meet on **Friday, December 14, 9:30 am**, in the Conference Room of the McLean Government Center, **1437 Balls Hill Road, McLean, VA**. The group will discuss *Lucky Jim* by **Kingsley Amis**. The January meeting is **Friday, January 11, 9:30 am**, at the McLean Government Center. The group will discuss *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI* by **David Grann**. All members are welcome to attend; bring your own beverage. If you have questions, contact **Betsy Reddaway**, pbreddaway@verizon.net.

Bridge Group: The bridge group will meet on **Monday, December 10, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm**, at the home of **Elaine Lailas, 18252 Cyprus Point Terrace, Leesburg 20176**. In January, the group will meet on **Monday, January 14 at 10:00 am** at the home of **Betsy Schroeder, 8441 Holly Leaf Drive, McLean 22102**. Contact **Barbara Carr**, barbaralcarr@msn.com or 703-356-3127, if you plan to attend.

Evening Lit Group:

The Evening Literature Group will meet for a **Holiday Tea Thursday, December 13, 1:00 pm**, at **Lady Camillia, 3261 Prospect Street in Georgetown**. The cost is \$32 per person and all branch members are welcome. **Reservations** must be made **no later than December 6** by contacting **Betsy Schroeder**, icu34@cox.net. Holiday readings will be shared during tea and carpools will be organized. In January, the group will meet on **Monday, January 21, 7:30 pm**, at the home of **Betsy Schroeder, 8441 Holly Leaf Drive, McLean 22102**. The group will discuss *The Housekeeper and the Professor* by **Yoko Ogawa**. All members are welcome to attend. Contact **Betsy Schroeder**, icu43@cox.net, if you plan to attend.

Special Interest Groups: December & January (continued)

Breakfast Group: The Breakfast Group will meet on **Tuesday, December 18, 9:00 am**, at the **McLean Family Restaurant, 1321 Chain Bridge Road, McLean**. In January, the group will meet on **Tuesday, January 29**. New members are welcome. RSVP to **Suzanne Watts at scwatts1@cox.net or 703-356-7926**.

Great Decisions: The books have been ordered for next year's session and should arrive in late December. If you missed the pre-order, you can still get your own copy. A few of the topics which we will be discussing include, ***Refugees and Global Migration, Nuclear Negotiations and Decoding US China Trade***. New participants are welcome. Contact **Angela Ehemann, acehemann@verizon.net, 703-893-3578**, for more information.

Connections | December Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Branch Board Meeting, 9:30-11:30 am, Aroona Borpujari's home	4 Current Events Group, 9:00 am, Star Nut Gourmet	5	6	7	8 Branch Holiday Luncheon, Noon, River Bend Golf & Country Club
9	10 Bridge Group, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, Elaine Lailas's Home	11	12	13 Evening Lit Group, 1:00 pm, Lady Camillia, Georgetown	14 Morning Lit Group, 9:30 am, McLean Government Center Conference Room	15
16	17	18 Breakfast Group, 9:00 am, McLean Family Restaurant	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Connections I January Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Branch Board Meeting, 9:30-11:30 am, Aroona Borpujari's Home	8 Current Events Group, 9:00 am, Star Nut Gourmet	9	10	11 Morning Lit Group, 9:30 am, McLean Government Center Conference Room	12 Branch Meeting, 10:00 am, McLean Community Center
13	14 Bridge Group, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, Betsy Schroeder's Home	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Evening Lit Group, 7:30 pm, Betsy Schroeder's Home	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 Breakfast Group, 9:00 am, McLean Family Restaurant	30	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

**Deborah De Masi
202.841.0319**

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