



McLean Area Branch
AAUW of Virginia

News

Co-Presidents

Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales
703.973.0925
myrtlehencor at gmail.com

Carol Mournighan
703.821.081
clmourn at gmail.com

Membership Co-VPs

Sue Christie
703.300.2779
suechristie at gmail.com

Barbara Sipe
703.356.2385
bfs4000 at aol.com

Editors

Cheryl Scott Williams
301.518.2773
cheryllswilliams at verizon.net

Marie Briones-Jones
703.346.6386
brionesjonesm at yahoo.com

Judy Lettes
703.407.3910
judy.lettes at gmail.com

Branch Website

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

April 2020
Volume XLIX
Number 7

All Branch regular meetings and events for April are cancelled due to COVID-19

Branch Board Meeting: April

zoom

The Board will meet via **Zoom**:

Monday, April 13, 10:00 am - noon
A link to the meeting will be provided
All branch members are welcome.

Presidents' Message

The 2020 AAUW Virginia State Conference in Alexandria, scheduled for April 17-19, has been CANCELLED due to concerns with the health and safety of our members and the community. All registration fees will be refunded. If you made hotel room reservations, however, you will need to cancel those individually. The 2021 State Conference, March 12-14, will be held at the same Holiday Inn and Suites in Alexandria.

The **Branch March annual business meeting** and **potluck dinner** as well as the **May luncheon are cancelled**. We are exploring possibilities to reschedule an event for sometime in June. We will inform the Branch once new arrangements have been made. Our fellowship and scholarship recipients and STEM awardees will be invited to join us at this event.

The Branch will soon have a presence on Facebook and Instagram. We will use social media to engage members and the community in Branch events and mission. A special thanks to Grace Hamilton for creating the sites. We are eager for members to see her extraordinary work.

We express our concern and good wishes for our global community and mourn the loss of lives. Our hope is that soon everyone will not be at the mercy of COVID-19 and that together we'll sing a new song of wellness and joy. We wish each one of you good health and are confident of the life-affirming power of the human spirit.

**Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales
and Carol Mournighan,
Co-Presidents.**



Virtual AAUW-VA Annual Business Meeting



Saturday, April 18, 2020, 1pm

Because of the cancellation of our 2020 state conference, we will be holding the required Annual Business Meeting on April 18 beginning at 1:00 p.m. It will be a virtual meeting using the Zoom remote conferencing program. We anticipate that the meeting will not last more than an hour and a half, and of course, it may be shorter, depending on how quickly we complete the required business. **We will be producing and distributing an online program book before the meeting.** It will contain the agenda, all the reports submitted by branches, districts and state board officers, plus the very creative ads that many of the branches, state board, and members submitted. Thanks one and all! We are excited that we will may have a wider audience for the program book than we would have had during the conference.

Please register for the Annual Business Meeting using this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4eaba828a3f58-aauw>

Book Sale Update

Mark your calendar for the 2020 Annual Used Book Sale

September 11-13

McLean Community Center

Sun Trust Bank, now named Truist, in Vienna, will continue to be the collection and sorting site.

Sorting for books donated during the winter, Truist's third floor

Sorting sessions for April have been cancelled.

An announcement will be sent when sorting can resume.

Collections are on Saturdays 9:00 am-1:30 pm

Collection for May 2, has been cancelled

Collections for Saturdays, June 6, July 11 and August 8 from 9:00 am -1:30 pm are still on the calendar.

If you can volunteer on any of those dates, please call **Diane Alden** at 703-356-7452.

Category Leader Meetings

Meetings scheduled in April for category leaders for the 2020 Used Book Sale have been postponed. New dates will be scheduled for a later date, and category leaders will be notified. Thanks to everyone who signed up to work on this valuable and rewarding project.

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



STEM Essay Contest Winners

The winners of the 2020 STEM Essay Contest sponsored by the McLean Area Branch have been selected and notified. The contest was open to 7th and 8th grade students (girls and boys) at local public and private schools. The students were asked to discover and publicize a woman who made a difference in Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics, who was not recognized in her lifetime, discussing why she was selected and the impact of her STEM contribution.

The winners of the contest are:

- 1st Place: **Anna Wisniewski**, Cooper Middle School (7th Grade)
- 2nd Place: **Laura Zhang**, Longfellow Middle School (8th Grade)
- Honorable Mention: **Katharine Kanner-Bitetti**, The Potomac School (8th Grade)
- Honorable Mention: **Fay Moran**, Cooper Middle School (7th Grade)

The students and a parent had been invited to the May luncheon. Instead, we are exploring the possibility of holding a June event. Awards will be presented to the winners at that time. **Anna Wisniewski**, first place winner, wrote her essay on **Hedy Lamarr**, film actress and a pioneer in frequency-hopping technology that made spread-spectrum systems possible. Other women who were the subjects of the winning essays are **Lise Meitner**, a researcher who played a critical role in the discovery of nuclear fission; **Arda Green**, a biochemist who was part of the team that isolated serotonin; and **Florence Nightingale**, a nurse who is less known for her revolutionary use of statistics to prevent deaths by analyzing army hospital records.

Fourteen volunteers from our Branch served as judges: **Pam Bacher, Marie Briones-Jones, Marlene Chivavibul, Dorothy Hassan, Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales, Sherry Joslin, Mary Lou Melley, Nina McVeigh, Tom McVeigh, Judy Page, Caroline Pickens, Betsy Schroeder, Barbara Sipe, and Adarsh Trehan**. The essay contest was managed by a steering committee, consisting of **Marlene Chivavibul, Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales, and Betsy Schroeder**, together with **Judy Page**, STEM Chair.

Shown here are the women highlighted in the essays written for the 2020 STEM Essay Contest:
Hedy Lamarr (top left),
Lise Meitner (top right),
Florence Nightingale (bottom left), and
Arda Green (bottom right).





Virginia

News of the closing days of the legislative session in Richmond used such words as frenzied and ‘barreling toward the end.’ Some of the results include-

Gerrymandering: The Commonwealth is moving to amend the state constitution to create a first-ever redistricting commission that will include citizens, enshrine protections of the Voting Rights Act, and require full transparency of the commission’s meetings. Voters will have the final say on November’s ballot when they vote on the proposal which will amend the Commonwealth’s constitution.

Other Virginia Assembly session results include: a raise for public school teachers; in-state tuition freeze at public colleges; an increase in in-state financial aid; gun violence prevention and intervention; investment in and modernization of Virginia’s transportation system; an expansion of early childhood education; allowing early voting for any reason; and raising Virginia’s minimum wage.

AAUW and the Coronavirus Impact

Kim Churches, AAUW CEO, announced that the national office is closed through March 27. All employees are in mandatory telework status. Many related conferences are cancelled or postponed. However, planning for the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) continues, since it will take place at the end of May.

AAUW has long worked toward paid family and medical leave, supporting the legislation approved by the House of representatives as well as the Healthy Families Act. Nearly one-third of the workforce lack access to paid sick days. Women, who often are primary caregiver, are especially impacted. The current pandemic illustrates the need for paid sick leave.

Kate Neilson is now the AAUW staff person in charge of public policy. Volunteer lobbying is on hold.

AAUW Diversity Statement

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.

Editors’ Note

Our Branch has been informed that in order **to protect our members’ email addresses from being hacked**, we should **remove the “@” in email addresses** and **substitute the word “at.”** Whenever an email address appears in our newsletter or our website, it will be written as follows: [helenday at gmail.com](mailto:helenday@gmail.com). Apparently, it is the “@” sign that enables hackers to access email accounts.

Simply copy the phrase into an email “To” line, replace the word “at” with the “@” sign, and remove all spaces to re-construct a usable email address.

Special Interest Groups | April

Bridge Group The April meeting of the bridge group has been **cancelled**. The date and place of the next meeting will be announced later.

Current Events The Currents Events Group meetings scheduled for April 14 and 28 have been **cancelled**. A **Zoom** meeting may occur. Members will be notified if/when it is scheduled.

Morning Lit Group The Morning Literature Group scheduled for April 10 has been **cancelled**. A **Zoom** meeting may occur. Participants will be notified if/when it is scheduled.

Evening Lit Group The Evening Literature Group scheduled for April 20 has been **cancelled**. A **Zoom** meeting may occur. Participants will be notified if/when it is scheduled.

Great Decisions The Great Decisions meeting scheduled for April 21 has been **cancelled**.

Connections Calendar | April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Morning Lit Group, 9:30 am, Cancelled Zoom Meting may occur	11
12	13 Branch Board Meeting, 10:00 am, Zoom Meting ----- Bridge Group, Cancelled	14 Current Events Group, 9:30 am, Cancelled Zoom Meting may occur	15	16	17	18 Virtual AAUW-VA Annual Business Meeting, 1:00pm, Zoom Meting
19	20 Evening Lit Group, 7:30 pm, Cancelled Zoom Meting may occur	21 Branch Meeting, 7:00pm, Cancelled ----- Great Decisions, 9:30 am, Cancelled	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Current Events Group, 9:30 am, Cancelled Zoom Meting may occur	29	30		

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
703.300.2779**

**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:

Sultana Parveen (sultanarp at gmail.com)



**McLean Area (VA) Branch
P.O. Box 1002
McLean, VA 22101**

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

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

AAUW Website | www.AAUW.org