



McLean Area Branch  
AAUW of Virginia

# News

## Co-Presidents

Carol Mournighan  
703.821.1081  
clmourn at gmail.com

Naz Basit  
703.356.6365  
nazbasit at yahoo.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  
cheryllwilliams 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>

November 2020  
Volume XLX  
Number 3

## November Branch Meeting

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

6:30 pm, Via ZOOM

Speakers **Drs. Earl Smith** and **Angela Hattery**, authors of the book *Policing Black Bodies* will present a powerful narrative about the regulation of African Americans and how they are treated differently from whites in many settings, including the public education and criminal justice systems. Their book makes a compelling case of how prisons, the school to prison pipeline, the policing of women and the police killing of Blacks are part of a continuum structured by systemic racism.

**Earl Smith**, PhD, Emeritus Distinguished Professor of American Ethnic Studies and Sociology at Wake Forest University, is currently teaching classes in Sociology, African and African American Studies, and Women & Gender Studies at the University of Delaware. **Dr. Smith** earned his PhD at the University of Connecticut. His teaching and research focus on the sociology of sport, social stratification, and the intersection of race and the criminal justice system. He is the author of 12 books, including his most recent books, *Gender, Power and Violence* (2019), and *Policing Black Bodies* (2018). Currently **Dr. Smith** is finishing the book *Way Down in the Hole: Race, Intimacy and the Reproduction of Racial Ideologies in Solitary Confinement* (2021).



**Angela J. Hattery** is Professor of the Women & Gender Studies and co-Director of the Center for the Study and Prevention of Gender Based Violence at the University of Delaware. She is the author of 11 books, including her most recent book, *Gender, Power and Violence: Responding to Intimate Partner Violence in Society Today* (2019). This followed on the heels of *Policing Black Bodies: How Black Lives are Surveilled and How to Work for Change* (2018) as well as dozens of book chapters and peer reviewed articles. **Dr. Hattery** serves as a consultant to agencies that seek to combat violence against women and she regularly appears as an expert on these issues with major US TV and radio news media. She teaches courses on race and gender inequality, families, and methods.



We hope to have everyone's participation in our November program. Please look for an email blast close to the Program date from **Aroona Borpujari** with the Zoom Invitation from **Carol Mournighan** that includes the Zoom ID and password.

The Authors' book, *Policing Black Bodies*, is available for purchase on AMAZON. Please use the AMAZON link on our Mclean Area Branch AAUW website. (see link on page 2)



## 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.

## Branch Board Meeting: November

Wednesday, November 11, 2020

10:00 am — Noon

Via ZOOM

The meeting link, ID, and Password will be emailed by **Carol Mournighan** or **Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales** the day before the meeting. Branch Board meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month.

## Presidents' Message

It is hard to believe it is already November 1 and Election Day is two days away! If you have not already voted, please do so at your local polling place on November 3. Remember to bring your ID, and it is a good idea to bring your own pen. To keep safe wear a mask, practice social distancing, and bring a hand sanitizer.

Before you vote, read the Public Policy section of this newsletter. AAUW asks us to consider candidates through the lens of key gender issues: Voting Access, Pay Equity, Paid Sick and Family Leave, College Affordability, Campus Sexual Harassment and Violence, Health Care Access, and Reproductive Rights. AAUW also asks that you vote **YES** on Constitutional Amendment 1 which will end partisan gerrymandering in our state if passed.

For our November Branch meeting we have secured two powerful speakers who are Professors at the University of Delaware. Their topic, *Policing Black Bodies*, is the title of their book and a new edition should be out by the meeting date. Both **Naz** and I have heard their compelling presentation at the summer Leadership Conference and urge you to join our Zoom meeting on November 17.

With the entire Branch Board, we wish you all a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.



**Naz Basit and Carol Mournighan, Co-Presidents.**

## Spam Alert

Several Virginia AAUW members have received emails said to be from either **Suzanne Rothwell** or **Leslie Tourigny**, Co-Presidents of AAUW of Virginia. The subject line is "AAUW of Virginia" and is sent from the email address "<[presidentt1@adminbod.co](mailto:presidentt1@adminbod.co)>." The emails ask for donations to purchase gift cards for "Veterans at Hospice and Palliative care units for preventive items from Corona Disease (COVID 19)." Some emails include a specific dollar amount. **These emails are bogus so do not respond.**

## 2020 Fundraiser Wrap-up

The final amount raised from our book sale replacement fundraiser is **\$26,682.18**. While not the exciting amount raised in 2019, it represents a valiant effort for our first effort departing from 50 years of running used book sales. Bravo to everyone who contributed through donations of time and money. Pictured are the new owners of the baseballs signed by National's star pitcher, **Max Scherzer**.

**Betsy Schroeder, Fundraiser Chair**



**Ken Robbett (left) and Tom Spulak**



**Jeanne Reimers (left) with Aroona Borpujari**

## AAUW Funds

The McLean Branch Allocations Committee met on October 15 to recommend how the funds raised in the 2020 fundraiser will be disbursed. This year's fundraiser replaced the cancelled annual Book Sale and included the chance to own one of three baseballs signed by Washington Nationals star pitcher, **Max Scherzer**, facilitated by Max's wife, McLean Branch member **Erica Scherzer**. Fundraiser proceeds will be divided in half, with 50 percent to AAUW Funds with specific fellowship designations, and the other 50 percent allocated to scholarships for women students at George Mason, Marymount, and Trinity universities.

The McLean Branch also gives STEM awards to Langley and McLean high school girls, as well as a STEM Excellence Award to a female student who presents the best science project at the Fairfax County Regional Science Fair. After Board review and approval, Branch members will be notified by email of the approved recommendation for funds allocation to be voted on at the November Branch meeting.

**AAUW Funds Co-Chairs, Elaine A. Lailas and Mafalda Marrocco**

## Connect with the Branch on Social Media!

Our Branch has recently joined Facebook and Instagram. You can find us using username@aauwmcna or these links:

[fb.me/aauwmcna](https://www.facebook.com/aauwmcna)

<https://www.instagram.com/aauwmcna/>



## 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.

## 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.





## Virginia Department of Elections Citizen Portal

<https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation>



See your polling place, election district, absentee ballot status, voting history.

### Last Chance Voting

Since our newsletter is released promptly on the first of the month, there is now only **November 3** left to vote in person at your precinct from **6:00 am to 7:00 pm**. AAUW national staff has been compiling information, voter guides of candidates, as well as voting records of incumbents. To access this trove of information, for now and for the future, **go on-line to [AAUWAction.org](http://AAUWAction.org)**. The site includes the 2020 head-to-head voter guide, and for the President of the United States, the researched facts on policy support for familiar issues such as Title IX, paid family leave, support for Pell grants and others.

The Virginia ballot lists candidates for:

- **President and Vice-President** from both parties and Electors for the Libertarian Party;
- **Virginia Senator:** incumbent **Mark Warner** (D) and **Daniel Gade** (R);
- **District 8:** incumbent **Don Beyer** (D) and **Jeff Jordan** (R);
- **District 10:** incumbent **Jennifer Wexton** (D) and **Aliscia Andrews** (R);
- **District 11:** **Gerry Connolly** (D), the incumbent, is opposed by **Manga Anantatmuula** (R);

The two questions on the ballot involve an amendment to the Virginia constitution to address gerrymandering which the Virginia AAUW supports and an amendment that considers taxation and exempt property for totally disabled veterans.

### Make Sure Your Absentee Ballot is Counted

A **Mail-in Ballot Election Kit** contains two envelopes (**Return** and **Inner "B" Ballot envelope**) plus a **ballot**. Place the ballot in envelope B and envelope B inside the Return envelope.



Envelope bar codes are unique for each voter.

Each ballot must be in **both its unique B and Return** envelopes.

#### Ballots are rejected if

- Damaged by tears, food marks, pet marks;
- Received late;
- Envelope B information, signature, and/or date are missing; witness signature is not required;
- Without being enclosed in envelope B;
- Combined in a Return envelope with any other voter's ballot;
- Returned in the wrong voter's envelope;
- Marked with "X" or check instead of fully filled in oval (blue or black ink).

For more information see the League of Women Voters site <https://www.lwv-fairfax.org/mistakes-to-avoid>.

**Return Ballot to Drop Box Inside Building:** (Various Locations secured by election officials)

- **Office of Elections:** (*November 3 until 7 pm*).
- **Any Precinct:** 6 am to 7 pm (*November 3 only*).

**Or Return Ballot to Registrar's Office of Elections:**

- By mail, fax or scanned attachment to an email.
- **If mailing**, your ballot must be **postmarked** on or before **election day** and **received** by the Registrar by **noon** the **third day after the election**.

(Continued on page 6)



(Continued from page 5)

## From AAUW

In the recent Washington Update, AAUW provides information about issues as well as an easy way to contact Senators and Representatives.

**Issue: The Census.** The year 2020 has been a tumultuous year for the Census. The Supreme Court just ruled that data collection stop on October 15. The original COVID end date was October 30. Several cases are moving through the courts questioning the count of under-represented populations (see [Hansi Lo Wang](#)). Census counts determine the number of seats allocated to each state in the US House of Representatives. Census documents guide federal funding for several safety-net programs such as Medicaid, SNAP TANF, Section 8 housing vouchers, Head Start and other programs.

**Issue: US Supreme Court nomination.** On Monday, the U.S. Senate confirmed **Judge Amy Coney Barrett** to a lifetime appointment on the Supreme Court. AAUW [opposed](#) her nomination because her available record indicated that she would do grave harm by undermining positions central to our mission. It is our profound hope that, in her tenure on the highest court in the land, **Justice Barrett** will be inspired by the legacy of Justice Ginsburg to uphold the hard-earned rights of women and girls. AAUW has long fought for gender equity, and we are committed to working with all branches of government to ensure that our rights are not only preserved but expanded in the years ahead.

**Issue: Current stimulus relief negotiations.** Senators are urged to do their jobs, get Americans the relief they desperately need to be healthy, safe and economically secure, and [pass the HEROES Act](#).

**Finally:** To learn more about AAUW's positions on the critical issues of the day and advocacy efforts regarding economic security, civil rights, and education, check out [letters, comments, testimony and legal briefs](#). Recently, AAUW weighed in on a voting rights case in Alabama, offered critical input on a Title IX case out of Tennessee, and condemned a presidential Executive Order undermining race and gender equity training.

## Commonwealth of Virginia

The General Assembly is still meeting, seven weeks after convening in August for what was intended as a brief gathering to finalize the state budget. It is dealing with issues of overhauling police oversight and the budget. The House and Senate have yet to resolve their differences on most of the major criminal justice legislation, such as barring police use of chokeholds, establishing citizen oversight panels, and limiting police use of military gear. **Governor Northam** has signed 27 bills including a civil penalty for violating an executive order, intended to make it easier to enforce the governor's pandemic-related restrictions. House and Senate have approved a bill that defines a requirement for all law-enforcement officers involved in a crisis intervention team program to complete a comprehensive advanced training course. A bill establishing a mental health awareness response and community understanding services alert system has passed both House and Senate.

Mary Lou Melley, Public Policy Chair

**All scheduled Special Interest Group meetings will be conducted via ZOOM.**

## Special Interest Groups | November

**Bridge Group** The Bridge Group probably will not meet face-to-face again until sometime in 2021. In the meantime, we may arrange to have members of the group play some bridge online, date, and time to be announced.

**Current Events** Current Events will meet on **Tuesdays, November 10 and 24, at 9:30 am.** All members are invited to bring your favorite news item to discuss. If you want to participate for the first time, send your email address to **Mary Lou Melley** ([maryloumelley@gmail.com](mailto:maryloumelley@gmail.com)). An email reminder will be sent a few days prior to the meeting and a follow up sent the day before the meeting with the link to participate.

**Morning Lit Group** The Morning Literature Group is meeting **Friday, November 13 at 10:00 am** to discuss *The Library Book*, by **Susan Orlean**. The discussion will be led by **Margie Broderick**. If you would like to attend and are not a regular member, contact **Betsy Reddaway**, [pbreddaway@verizon.net](mailto:pbreddaway@verizon.net), to receive a Zoom invitation. All are welcome.

**Evening Lit Group** The Evening Literature Group will meet **Monday, November 16 at 7:30 pm.** The book to be discussed is *The Lost Girls of Paris: A Novel*, by **Pam Jenoff**. The discussion will be led by **Mary Lou Melley**. Anyone interested in participating in the meeting, please contact **Lynne Glikbarg** at [lynneglik@aol.com](mailto:lynneglik@aol.com).

## Connections Calendar | November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Election Day Voting In-Person 	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Current Events Group, 9:30 am, via ZOOM	11 Branch Board Meeting, 10:00 am, via ZOOM	12	13 Morning Lit Group, 10:00 am, via ZOOM	14
15	16 Evening Lit Group, 7:30 pm, via ZOOM	17 Branch Meeting, 6:30 pm, via ZOOM	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Current Events Group, 9:30 am, via ZOOM	25	26	27	28
29	30					

### 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.





**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](http://www.AAUW.org)**