



## McLean Area Branch AAUW of Virginia



# News

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### Branch Website

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

December 2022 / January 2023

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Number 4

### December Holiday Luncheon

Saturday, December 3  
11:30 am—2:00 pm  
River Bend Country Club  
Great Falls, VA

**Terri McCullough, Chief of Staff,  
Office of the Speaker of the U.S. House of  
Representatives**



**Terri McCullough** is Chief of Staff to the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives **Nancy Pelosi**, the first woman to hold this position in a paid capacity. Throughout her career, **McCullough** has been an advocate for empowering women and families and advancing women's leadership at the highest levels. Prior to her present position, **McCullough** was CEO of No Ceilings: The Full Participation Project, a Clinton Foundation initiative that takes a data driven approach to gender equality. Additionally, she has held leadership positions at the Tory Burch Foundation, which was established to help women and families by empowering women entrepreneurs, PENCIL (Public Education Needs Civic Involvement in Learning), and the Institute on the Arts and Civic Dialogue at New York University. In April 2021, she was presented with the Social Sciences Distinguished Alumni Award from University of California Santa Cruz.

### Opportunity to Support *Share*

*Share* is a local, all volunteer agency that aids our neighbors in need. The organization has a food bank and a collection of clothing and household items that people donate, such as dishes, utensils, shoes, and so much more. *Share* also provides refurbished computers, school supplies, and financial assistance for families when money is tight due to illness or unplanned days out of work.

Our Branch has again decided to use the **Holiday Luncheon to raise money for *Share***. **Stockings** will be **on every table at the luncheon should you choose to give to this worthy organization**. You may **write a check to *Share Inc.*, give cash, or a gift card from a local supermarket**. Branch member **Carol Mournighan** is a *Share* Board member. Your generosity is appreciated.

## December/January Branch Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 14

Wednesday, January 11

10:00 am - Noon

McLean Community Center

Board meetings are open to all branch members.

## January Virginia AAUW Program

Saturday, January 21, 2023

10:00 am—Noon

Via [Zoom](#)

**Alison M. Parker**

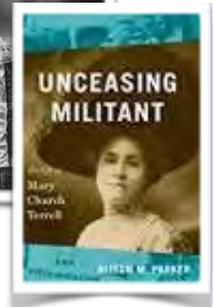
to speak on her 2020 book

*Unceasing Militant: The Life of Mary Church Terrell*

Parker is History Department Chair and Richards Professor of American History University of Delaware

**Mary Church Terrell** (1863-1954) was the first Black woman to earn a college degree and was a charter member of NAACP (1909) and the Colored Women's League of Washington (1892). She helped found the National Association of Colored Women (1896) and served as its first national president. She was a founding member of the National Association of College Women, for Black women (1923), and after a struggle over race, she became a member of AAUW in 1949. For her lifetime of activism, **Mary Church Terrell** was deemed "acknowledged First Lady of Negro America" by Ebony magazine (July 1949) and was known in the Black press as the "Female Booker T. Washington."

A link to the [Zoom](#) meeting will be emailed to members. Books will be available to purchase through Program Committee co-chairs **Mafalda Marrocco** and **Christina Hamilton**.



## Presidents' Message



As the holidays approach and we come together with family and friends, we would like to thank our Board and membership family for all your support this year. We look forward to 2023 with our renewed commitment to increasing empowerment and equity for girls and women.

*We wish you all a joyous holiday season with health and happiness in the New Year.*

**Anita Booth and Sue Christie,**  
Branch Co-Presidents.

## Fundraising Update

### Wine Tasting for a Good Cause

Thank you to the amazing fundraising committee for their work in inviting attendees and providing appetizers for the Branch Wine Tasting event on November 11 that hosted 42 Branch members and their guests. A special thank you to **Carol Mournighan** and her husband **Steve** for hosting the event. Co-President **Anita Booth** described the event: "Wow, a delightful evening full of friendship and cheer. Thank you for a memorable evening!"



**Reminder:** Plan to visit **Vienna Vintner, 320 Maple Avenue in Vienna**, who provided the wine for the event. Mention McLean AAUW at checkout and 20% of sales will go to the McLean Branch through **December 31, 2022**, to support Branch scholarships.

## Fundraising Update

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### Holiday Online Cooking Class

Registration is now underway for the Branch's next fundraiser: an online cooking class, to be held via Zoom on Thursday, **December 15**, from 6-8 p.m. **Chef Matt Finarelli** of [Red Jacket Cooking](#) will show how to make four tasty appetizers for holiday entertaining.



The cost is \$30 per person. Register [here in advance](#) for yourself and for gift tickets for family and friends. Once payment is received, you'll get a message with the **Zoom** link. Visit the [page of details](#) for more information on signing up. *The maximum number of participants is limited, so don't wait until the last minute.*

#### The Menu

**Crostini with Blue Cheese, Grape & Apple Relish, and Shaved Greens**  
**Chorizo, Manchego and Membrillo (fig jam) Puff Pastry Bites**  
**Tequila-Spiked Queso Fundido**  
**Bourbon Sesame Shrimp**

(Note: all recipes can be adjusted for vegetarian options)

## Community Engagement at McLean AAUW

In addition to our great STEM work and exciting programs, many members have expressed the desire for more "hands on" community engagement. We are currently thinking through potential activities. If you have something to suggest and/or would like to serve on a small group developing these ideas, please contact **Nancy Harris** at [JSI.com](mailto:JSI.com) or **text** 703 473-6540.

## Invitation to Dig into AAUW History

In early 2023, AAUW will revive the Archives Corps. These are members who go to AAUW headquarters in DC once a month on a Monday or Tuesday to go through boxes of AAUW papers and photos to cull materials that may be disposed of and to put in order those to be kept for posterity. Like Lobby Corps, members are Northern Virginia and Maryland branch members. Participation provides the chance to make new friends and find jewels of AAUW history.

A most exciting find was a hand-written letter from **Rachel Carson** thanking AAUW for her award money, which she said was being used to research and write a book. And, that book was *Silent Spring*. For years, there was word that AAUW helped **Carson** write that book—and there was the proof!

If you're interested or need more information, contact **Caroline Pickens** at [carolineaauw at gmail.com](mailto:carolineaauw@gmail.com).

## AAUW Funds

The McLean Branch of AAUW is affiliated with the American Association of University Women, a national organization. As a branch of the National organization, we support AAUW's Mission in the advancement of women, by advancing equity for women and girls and encouraging inclusion and diversity through advocacy, education, research, and philanthropy.

Our Branch's donations have supported many programs at the national level. For example, the Legal Advocacy Fund that works to challenge sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace, mostly with Amicus Briefs; the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund that honors an individual project, organization, or institution for outstanding contributions to equality and education for women and girls, and more; the National Conference for College Women Student Leadership (NCCWSL) scholarships for women students to attend leadership training in DC; and ELECT HER, the only program in the country that encourages and trains women to run for student government and future political office. In addition, SMART START, and SMART WORK sessions are now available for thousands of women to begin and grow in their careers.

These are just some of the many programs that our Branch raised funds have supported. Contributions to AAUW Funds are tax deductible.

**Elaine Lailas, McLean Area Branch AAUW Funds Chair**

## STEM Essay Contest – Call for Volunteer Judges

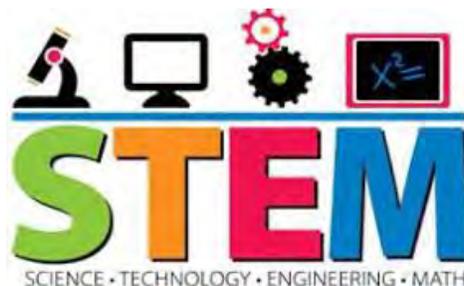
The McLean Area Branch is sponsoring its fifth annual STEM Essay Contest open to 7th and 8th grade students (girls and boys) at local public and private schools. The contest challenges a student to discover and publicize a woman, including women of color, who made a difference in Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics, but who received little or no recognition for their contributions while they were alive. Strong preference is given to essays about women who are not well known even today. Each student is asked to describe the person's STEM contribution and its impact and clearly state why the woman was selected as the subject of the essay.

We plan to give out a first-place award (\$100), a second-place award (\$50), and two Honorable Mentions (\$25 each). We will contact schools in January and make the application available via email to the schools and on our website. Students will be able to submit their essays through the deadline of February 10, 2023.

**This is a call for members of the branch to serve as volunteer judges for the contest.**

If you are interested, please contact **Judy Page** ([judypage at gmail.com](mailto:judy@judypage.com) or 703-847-1950). Judging will take place between **February 13** and **February 27**. The judges will be asked to rate the essays on a set of criteria and rank their top choices.

The winners will be invited to the Branch event on **March 14** with the first-place winner reading his or her essay. By holding the award ceremony in March, we are using this event to help celebrate Women's History Month.



## Membership

*Welcome new members to our Branch*

*Welcome!*

### Beth Cooper

**Beth Cooper** calls Vienna, Virginia home, but she has also lived in Japan, Israel, and the United Kingdom. She has a BA in English from Syracuse University and MA in English/ Secondary Education with a focus on writing from George Mason University. She has also completed a certificate in School Media from the University of Maryland in Library Science.

Recently, she has spent 18 enjoyable years teaching English as a Second Language in Fairfax County Public Schools at the elementary, middle school, and high school levels. She has also taught TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) reading and writing courses to prepare students to attend University in the United States. **Beth** loves to travel, quilt, knit, and discuss current events. She has a passion for horticulture and enjoys visiting arboretums. In the future, she looks forward to participating in the Branch STEM committee.

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### Elarni Bautista

**Elarni Bautista** grew up in the Philippines where she graduated from AMA University with a degree in Computer Science. After graduation, she moved to Abu Dhabi in 2006 and worked as Administrator for Praxair for ten years and set up the Middle East offices. She moved to Virginia in 2019 and now works for PNC Bank. **Elarni** loves the outdoors and is a health and wellness enthusiast.

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### Peggy Finarelli

**Peggy Finarelli** came to Northern Virginia from Philadelphia with her husband **Jack** after completion of her degrees: a BA in Chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania and an MS in Physical Chemistry from Drexel University. During high school, she served as an American Field Service exchange student in Istanbul. This experience opened a passion for travel and international relations, which **Peggy** was able to couple with her science education in a US Government career focusing on international cooperative programs in science and technology. She served twice in the White House, at **Jimmy Carter's** Office of Science and Technology Policy and with **Al Gore's** GLOBE, an international K-12 environmental education initiative. She also led NASA's very active international program. At NASA, her biggest (and most fun!) challenge involved negotiating the partnership of Europe, Japan, and Canada in the International Space Station. **Peggy** is retired now and still loves to travel. She also loves cooking and entertaining.

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### Carolyn Wyatt

**Carolyn Wyatt** moved to Mclean in 2010 after living in Montgomery County, MD for 40 years. She attended Allegheny College in Pennsylvania for two years and completed her undergraduate work at the George Washington University. She received her MA in Audiology from the University of Maryland. Over the next 40+ years she held positions at the Veterans Administration Hospital, The George Washington University, and several private medical facilities before opening her own private practice in Bethesda. She retired and sold her practice in 2012 to care for her husband after his diagnosis with Alzheimer's Disease. She continues to volunteer her time with Insight Memory Care Center as well as enjoy gardening and spending time with her two sons.



The Public Policy Committee will meet the first Monday of the month at **2:00 pm** at **Starnuts Café** in McLean. Contact **Janet Taylor** at [Taylor6840 at gmail.com](mailto:Taylor6840@gmail.com) or **Carol Mournighan** at [clmourn at gmail.com](mailto:clmourn@gmail.com), if you'd like to join the group. All are welcome. The next meeting is **December 5** at **2:00 pm**, and we will meet on **January 9** due to the New Year's holiday. For updates, please visit; <http://mclean-va.aauw.net/.net>.

## Women made Their Voices Heard

The November elections taught us that when women vote they are heard. This participation resulted in a major setback for the various state ballot initiatives wishing to further restrict a women's choice. Women are more than 50% of the population, it is important that we vote in every election and continue the conversation with our elected officials.

## Another Chance to Make your Voices Heard

AAUW of Virginia invites you to be part of Lobby Day in Richmond. The Richmond branch is already at work to set up a reception for lawmakers on the **evening of January 18**. We will lobby on **January 19** and *need lots of great team members to spread the AAUW -VA message*.

We have booked a block of discounted rooms nearby at the Hampton Inn & Suites Downtown Richmond for \$145 a night. The address is: **700 E Main St Suite A, Richmond, VA 23219**, 804.643.5400.

## 2 Minute Activist: You provide the voice. We'll provide the megaphone. Pass the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act.

The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act would require employers to make reasonable accommodations to protect the health of pregnant workers, such as letting them carry bottles of water or take restroom breaks. This critical legislation passed the House of Representatives more than a year ago, but it continues to stall in the Senate. Tell our leaders that pregnant workers cannot wait another day.

For more information and to take action that will literally take you 2 minutes, please go to <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/pregnant-workers-fairness-act/>.

**Carol Mournighan and Janet Taylor, Public Policy Co-Chairs**

## 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.

You can find many useful resources on our state website: <https://aauw-va.aauw.net/diversity-inclusion-equity/>.

## Editors' Note

In order to protect our members' email addresses from being hacked, we have removed the **"@"** in email addresses and substituted the word **"at."** Whenever an email address appears in our newsletter or our website, it is 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 address.

## Special Interest Groups | December/January

### Public Policy Committee

The Public Policy Committee will meet **Monday, December 5** and **January 9** at **2:00 pm**, at **Starnuts Café** in **McLean**. Contact **Janet Taylor** at [Taylor6840 at gmail.com](mailto:Taylor6840@gmail.com) or **Carol Mournighan** at [clmourn at gmail.com](mailto:clmourn@gmail.com) if you'd like to join the group. All are welcome.

### Morning Lit Group

Morning Lit will meet **Friday, December 9**, at **10:00 am**, at the **McLean Community Center** to discuss **Dr. Thorne**, by **Anthony Trollope**. **Margaret Hines** will lead the discussion.

The group will also meet on **Friday, January 13** at **10:00 am** to discuss **The Shadow Land**, by **Elizabeth Kostova**. **Angela Ehemann** will lead the discussion.

To give members a head start on a long book, the group will discuss **The Hare with the Amber Eyes: A Family's Century of Art and Loss**, by **Edmund de Waal** on **Friday, February 10**.

If you would like to attend and are not a regular member, contact **Betsy Reddaway**, [pbreddaway at verizon.net](mailto:pbreddaway@verizon.net). All are welcome.

### Bridge Group

The Bridge Group will meet **Mondays, December 12** and **January 9**, from **10:00 am – 2:00 pm** at the **in the Community Room** at **McLean House, 6800 Fleetwood Road, McLean**. New member are welcome; contact **Barbara Carr** at [barbaralcarr at msn.com](mailto:barbaralcarr@msn.com) or 703.356.3127 for information.

### Current Events

Current Events will meet via **Zoom**, **Tuesdays December 13** and **January 10**, at **9:30 am**. All members are invited to bring their favorite news item to discuss. For first time participants, send your email address to **Mary Lou Melley** at [maryloumelley at gmail.com](mailto:maryloumelley@gmail.com). An email reminder will be sent a few days prior to the meeting and a follow-up the day before with the **Zoom** link.

### Evening Lit Group

*The Evening Literature group will not be reviewing a book in December.*

The group will meet on **Monday, January 16**, at **7:00 pm**, to discuss **Daughters of Yalta: The Churchills, Roosevelts and Harrimans: A Story of Love and War**, by **Catherine Grace Katz**. **Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales** will lead the discussion and host the meeting at her home, **1475 Evans Farm Drive, McLean**. Please RSVP your attendance to **Betsy Schroeder** at [icu43 at cox.net](mailto:icu43@cox.net) or 703.209.5003. The group welcomes all interested Branch members.

### Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DE&I) Committee

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee will meet **Tuesday, January 24, 2-3:00 pm** on **Zoom**. All are welcome. If you wish to attend contact **Ruth Nowjack-Raymer** at [ruthoheast at gmail.com](mailto:ruthoheast@gmail.com), or **Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales** at [myrtlehencor at gmail.com](mailto:myrtlehencor@gmail.com).

*Remember: "Diversity is having a seat at the table, inclusion is having a voice, and belonging is having that voice heard." Diversity advocate Verna Myers stated: "Diversity is being invited to the party and inclusion is being asked to dance. Belonging is choosing the music."*

## Connections Calendar | December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 <b>Holiday Luncheon,</b> 11:30 am, Riverbend
4	5 <b>Public Policy Committee,</b> 2:00 pm, Starnut Gourmet	6	7	8	9 <b>Morning Lit Group Meeting,</b> 10:00 am, McLean Community Center	10
11	12 <b>Bridge Group,</b> 10:00 am, McLean House	13 <b>Current Events Group,</b> 9:30 am, via <b>Zoom</b>	14 <b>Branch Board Meeting,</b> 10:00 am, McLean Community Center	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## Connections Calendar | January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 <b>Bridge Group,</b> 10:00 am, McLean House --- <b>Public Policy Committee,</b> 2:00 pm, Starnut Gourmet	10 <b>Current Events Group,</b> 9:30 am, via <b>Zoom</b>	11 <b>Branch Board Meeting,</b> 10:00 am, McLean Community Center	12	13 <b>Morning Lit Group Meeting,</b> 10:00 am, McLean Community Center	14
15	16 <b>Evening Lit Group,</b> 7:00 pm, Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales' Home	17	18	19	20	21 <b>Branch Meeting,</b> 10:00 am, via <b>Zoom</b>
22	23	24 <b>DE&amp;I Committee,</b> 2:00 pm, via <b>Zoom</b>	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



### **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.**



### **If You Shop at Macy's, L. L. Bean, Bed Bath & Beyond, Lowes, Home Depot, Walgreens, Walmart, Staples+**

**Next time you make a purchase, first go to our branch website ShopRaise link, <https://shopraise.com/go/3MM>, download the app and make your purchase. ShopRaise will give our branch up to a % 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**

**Myrtle Hendicks-Corrales  
703.973.0925**

**Diana Parsell  
703.297.9893**

**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)**