

McLean Area Branch AAUW of Virginia



News

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Branch Website

http://mclean-va.aauw.net

April 2023 Volume XLXII Number 7

April Branch Meeting

Tuesday, April 18, 2023 7:00 – 9:00 pm McLean Community Center

Working To Reduce Inequities in Our Community Joint Panel Discussion AAUW Falls Church and McLean Branches

The Falls Church and McLean Area AAUW Branches are hosting a joint panel discussion in April on *Working to Reduce Inequities in Our Community.* The program's focus is to increase awareness of our community partners' work and to offer options for our Branches' input, in programming, financial support, and volunteer opportunities.

Program panelists include-

- A representative from Welcome Falls Church, a group the Falls Church Branch is working with to support immigrant families
- A representative from Graham Road Elementary School (a Title I school)
- Radhika Samant, SHARE's community outreach representative
- Staci Stocklos, program manager for the ESOL program at Vienna Presbyterian Church

Calling All McLean AAUW Fundraiser Champions!

Will it be A Fine Food Festival or A Bakery Bonanza next year?

Join our Exploratory Team. Your involvement can be as limited as a few phone calls to potential vendors.

Interested?

Email Janet Taylor at <u>Taylor6840 at gmail.com</u>. With "**AAUW Exploratory Team**" in the subject line for more details.

April Branch Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 12, 2023 10:00 am - Noon McLean Community Center

Board meetings are open to all branch members.

Save the Date! May Branch Meeting



Saturday, May 20, 2023 11:30 am – 2:00 pm River Bend Country Club 375 Walker Road Great Falls, Virginia

U.S. Senator **Tammy Duckworth**, Illinois, is the guest speaker at our end-of-year luncheon. **Sen. Duckworth** is an Iraq war veteran, Purple Heart recipient, and former Assistant Secretary of the U.S Department of Veterans Affairs. She was among the first handful of Army women to fly combat missions during Operation Iraqi Freedom. **Sen. Duckworth** served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2012-2016 and is in her second term as a U.S Senator. She will focus remarks on her book, *Every Day is a Gift*. Copies of her book will be available for signing at the end of the program.



The winner of the STEM Excellence Award in Engineering given to a female who participated at the Fairfax County Regional Science and Engineering Fair will be honored at the luncheon as well as the McLean AAUW American Fellowship recipient.

The reservation form for the luncheon is included in this newsletter with menu choices. Social time will begin at 11:30 am, with lunch served at 1 pm. Reservations and payment are due to Aroona Borpujari no later than May 12. Seating may be limited, so submit your reservation form as soon as possible.

Luncheon Registration Form on Page 3

Presidents' Message

Mark April 18 on your calendars and circle in bright RED. After talking all year about increasing our

impact in the community, we are working in collaboration with the Falls Church Branch to host a panel discussion at the April meeting so we can learn about the women in our own community who continue to struggle for economic security and children in Title I schools who face an uneven playing field. Four community organizations will discuss what they are doing to support these women and children and the many ways in which our Branches together can offer our time, energy, and effort to support their work.

A vote will be taken at this meeting to raise our Branch dues. Dues have not been raised since 2008. Over the last several years, we have been borrowing from our reserves for ordinary expenses, and board members have personally covered several costs that should be reflected in the budget. Current dues revenues are about \$1400 per year, which covers our post office box, the cost of printing and mailing the directory, and



Anita Booth and Sue Christie, Branch Co-Presidents.

liability insurance. We used reserve funds for hybrid meetings equipment, our **Zoom** account, and the costs of the decorations and flowers that we have come to expect at Branch social functions. The board is proposing an increase in our Branch dues to \$23 from the current \$11. That amount provides some needed "wiggle room" for unexpected expenses and means we do not have to come back to our membership for the next several years.

We urge you to join us on **April 18** at **7pm** at the **McLean Community Center** for the panel discussion and for approval of the proposed dues increase.

AAUW McLean Area Branch



Saturday, May 20; Social time 11: 30—12:30 Lunch & Speaker Following

> River Bend Country Club 375 Walker Road, Great Falls, VA

Guest Speaker: United States Senator Tammy Duckworth

Menu

Salad

Napoleon of Sliced Tomatoes, Fresh Mozzarella on a Bed of Arugula with Toasted Almonds and Basil Vinaigrette

Entree (Choice of:)

Chicken Marsala with Mushroom Marsala Sauce served with Thyme Seasoned Red Bliss Potatoes and Grilled Vegetables

OI

Teriyaki **Salmon** with Pineapple Salsa served with Coconut Rice and Stir Fry Vegetables

or

Fettuccine with Light Alfredo Sauce and grilled vegetables

Strawberry Shortcake with Whipped Cream

Rolls & Butter Coffee, Tea, and Iced Tea Cash Bar Available

Reservation: (Friends, colleagues from other branches, and others are welcome!)

Name	Entrée Choice
Name	Entrée Choice
Name	Entrée Choice

Cost | \$40.00 per Person (includes gratuity and sales tax)

Make check payable to | AAUW - McLean Area Branch

Respond before or by | Friday, May 12

To I Margie Broderick, 7040 Arbor Ln, McLean, VA 2210



March Branch Potluck AAUW Fellows and STEM Essay Winners Recognized

Un Jeung Jones, honored as recipient of the McLean Branch Career Development and Community Service Grant 2022-23, pictured with Sue Christie, co-president, and Caroline Pickins, parliamentarian, at the March Branch meeting. Jones is pursuing a dual master's degree in acupuncture and Oriental medicine at Virginia University of Integrative Medicine.



Marilyn Hajj, recipient of the McLean Branch International Fellowship 2022-23, was honored at the March Branch meeting. She participated via Zoom. Hajj is conducting doctoral research on U.S. taxation and poverty relief at the University of Virginia.

Four winners of the 2023 STEM Essay Contest were honored. Shown from left are **Sue Christie**, Branch Co-President; **Elaine Zhang**, Honorable Mention; **Michelle Lin**, Honorable Mention, **Kylie Rudinsky**, 2nd Place Winner; **Jessy Lin**, 1st Place Winner; and **Judy Page**, STEM Chair.



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. 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.

Membership

Welcome new members to our Branch

Welcome!

Lisa Camalier

Lisa Camalier graduated from Princeton University, Phi Beta Kappa with a bachelor's degree in economics. She is a partner in her family's commercial real estate business, Rock Spring Properties, where she is involved in developments primarily in the DC Metropolitan area and Naples, Florida. While raising her four children, she worked as the marketing executive of the DC office of the law firm, Steptoe. Later, she became a science and math teacher for middle and high school children.

With her love of math and her difficulty in finding higher level math classes during her childhood, **Lisa** is interested in STEM excellence. Her hobbies include travel, piano, sports, Mahjongg, and playing with her five grandchildren.

STEM Essay Contest

The winners of the 2023 STEM Essay Contest sponsored by the McLean Area Branch were announced and recognized at the Branch potluck dinner at the McLean Community Center March 14. The contest was open to 7th and 8th grade students (girls and boys) at nine local public and private schools. The students were asked to discover and publicize women, including women of color, who made a difference in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields, but who received little or no recognition for their contributions while they were alive. Strong preference was given to essays about women who are not well known even today. Each essay described one woman's contribution and its impact, as well as why the student selected the woman.

The Branch received 20 entries for this year's contest. The contest winners are:

First Place: Jessy Lin, Longfellow Middle School (8th Grade)
Second Place: Kylie Rudinsky, Cooper Middle School (7th Grade)
Honorable Mention: Michelle Lin, Longfellow Middle School (7th Grade)
Honorable Mention: Elaine Zhang, Longfellow Middle School (7th Grade)

The students and their parents were invited to the March 14 event. As part of the awards ceremony, the first-place winner, **Jessy Lin**, read her essay on **Dr. Jane Cooke Wright**. Other women who were the subjects of the winning essays were **Alice Ball**, **Dr. Chien-Shiung Wu**, and **Eunice Newton Foote**.

Thirteen volunteers from the Branch served as judges: Pam Bacher, Marie Briones-Jones, Beth Cooper, Peggy Finarelli, Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales, Sherry Joslin, Nina McVeigh, Tom McVeigh, Judy Page, Phyllis Provenzano, Amina Sarif, Adarsh Trehan, and Phyllis Yoshida. The essay contest was managed by a steering committee, consisting of Marie Briones-Jones, Beth Cooper, and Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales, together with Judy Page, STEM Chair.

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/.

Amazing Women in STEM

For this year's STEM Essay Contest, the students chose a group of accomplished women in STEM

fields who are hardly known today. Here is a sample of some of the women about whom the students wrote essays.

Top row, from left:

Alice Ball was an American chemist who developed the "Ball Method," the most effective treatment for leprosy during the early 20th century. She was the first woman and the first African American to receive a master's degree from the University of Hawaii.

Eunice Foote was a physicist, inventor, and women's rights advocate from the mid-1800s whose experiments foreshadowed the discovery of Earth's greenhouse effect. Her experiments led her to hypothesize that concentrations of carbon dioxide in the air could influence global temperatures.

Lise Meitner was a pioneering physicist who studied radioactivity and nuclear physics. She was part of a team that discovered nuclear fission — a term she coined — but she was overlooked in 1944 when her colleague Otto Hahn was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

Judy Woodford Reed is considered one of the first African American woman to receive a US patent. She was granted a patent in 1884 for a "Dough Kneader and Roller." Originally a seamstress in Virginia with little or no education, she invented a device that allowed dough to be mixed more efficiently.



Bottom row, from left:

Florence Seibert, an American biochemist, is best known for identifying the active agent in the antigen tuberculin as a protein, and subsequently isolating a pure form of tuberculin called purified protein derivative (PPD). This enabled the development and use of a reliable test for tuberculosis.

Marie Van Brittan Brown, an

American nurse and innovator, invented a video home security system in 1966 along with her husband **Albert Brown**, an electronics technician. In the same year, they applied for a patent for their innovative security system, which was granted in 1969. Her innovation has had a huge impact on the development of security systems.

Dr. Jane Cooke Wright was a pioneering cancer researcher noted for her contributions to chemotherapy. Dr. Wright is credited with developing the technique of using human tissue culture rather than laboratory mice to test the effects of potential drugs on cancer cells. She also pioneered the use of the drug methotrexate to treat breast cancer and skin cancer.

Dr. Chien-Shiung Wu was a Chinese American particle and experimental physicist who is best known for proving that parity is not conserved. Dr. Wu also worked on the Manhattan Project, where she helped develop the process for separating uranium into uranium-235 and uranium-238 isotopes by gaseous diffusion. She has been called the "Chinese Madame Curie."

AAUW Funds

AAUW began the American Fellowship Program in 1888, AAUW's largest fellowship program. AAUW is also the oldest non-institutional source of graduate funding for women in the United States. In the 2022-23 academic year, AAUW awarded more than \$6M in Fellowships and Grants. Over the years, AAUW has awarded more than \$135M in Fellowships and Grants to more than 13,000 scholars and organizations in the 50 United States.

What does that mean to the McLean Area Branch? The McLean Area Branch, founded in 1969 began its fundraising efforts on behalf of the Endowed Fellowship Program. The Branch raised the funds and donated them to the Endowed Fellowship Program and established two Endowments and two Grants. These endowed programs produce financial support for women seeking graduate or post graduate studies in community service and career development. Branch raised funds work for the advancement of women in graduate studies and career change with innovative programs for the advancement of women and girls.

An AAUW American Fellowship funding ranges from \$8,000 to \$50,000.

An AAUW International Fellowship funding is from \$20,000 to \$50,000.

The AAUW Community Action Grant range is from \$3,000-\$10,000.

The AAUW Career Development Grant funding is from \$2,000 - \$20,000.

The Current Funding Opportunities also include International Project Grants, Research Publication Grants in Engineering, Medicine, and Science, and Selected Professions Fellowships.

Elaine Lailas, McLean Area Branch AAUW Funds Chair

DE&I Committee

The DE&I Committee has created a new Branch activity: a DE&I Film Discussion Group to learn about and appreciate the rich cultural diversity in other countries and in the United States. The format of this activity will be like Morning and Evening Lit groups. Members will view suggested films available on streaming services independently in their homes (some may cost between \$2.00-\$4.00). The group will come together the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm to discuss the film led by alternating leaders. All meetings will be on **Zoom**. The first meeting is **Wednesday, April 5, 7:00 pm**. The Indian film **Thappad**, will be discussed. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact **Janet Taylor** (taylor6840 at gmail.com) or **Myrtle Hendricks Corrales** (myrtlehencor at gmail.com).



<u>Virginia's General Assembly</u> ended its short (45-day) session on February 25, 2023. Members of the McLean Area Branch continued their long record of advocacy on issues pertinent to AAUW's mission by joining the state organization in promoting passage of legislation to advance paid family and medical leave. For more information concerning this Legislative Session, go to the Branch website: https://mclean-va.aauw.net/.

2023 Budget Amendments

To date, no agreement on any amendments to the state budget passed during the regular 90-day Virginia Legislative session last year has been passed. With no action, the budget remains unchanged. However, the \$201M shortfall in the school budget must be addressed. When the Legislature reduced most of the state grocery tax, it failed to take into consideration the school systems who depend on the money generated from that tax to fund their public schools. Fairfax County Public Schools are not dependent on these funds, so local students are not impacted by the shortfall.

March 27 was the last day for the governor to act on any legislation. He has the option to sign, veto, amend or allow the bill to pass without his signature.

For a more complete list of the governor's actions, look at the Virginia Constitution, Article V or go to: https://law.lis.virginia.gov/constitutionexpand/article5/#:~:text=with%20his%20recommendation.-The%20Governor%20shall%20either%20sign%20or%20veto%20a%20bill%20returned,bill%20shall%20not%20become%20law.

Still to Come

- Wednesday, April 12- The Legislature returns to Richmond for a reconvened session
- Saturday, July 1 -The effective date for enacted legislation.

This year is an active political year in Virginia with the entire General Assembly up for election, many of whom are running in newly redrawn districts. <u>Senate Democratic Leader Dick Saslaw</u> and Democratic Delegate **Ken Plum**, the House's longest-serving member, have announced their retirement along with Senator **Janet Howell** and Delegate **Kathleen Murphy**.

Attention: Plan now on ways to support candidates who will fight in Richmond for AAUW Values.

Climate Change

The Mclean Area Branch has decided to make Climate Change a main concern. Women and girls experience the greatest impacts of climate change, which amplifies existing gender inequalities and poses unique threats to their livelihoods, health, and safety. www.unwomen.org

To this end, the Committee will continue to highlight ways that we can protect the environment.

Since nearly everyone participates in a recycling program you know that you can recycle paper and many plastics but are you aware of the Filthy Five?

The Filthy Five is a notorious list of items that jeopardize recycling.

- Plastic Bags
- Shredded Paper
- + Hangers, Cords & Hoses
- * Takeout Containers & Cups
- Dirty Diapers

Continued on Page 9



Climate Change (continued)

Continued from Page 8

Help Fairfax County foil the **Filthy Five** by pitching them in the trash, or implement these alternative reuse and recycling strategies:

Plastic Bags – These get wound around recycling processing equipment and slow things down considerably. Reuse them to clean up after your dog

or for cleaning the litter box. Otherwise, bring them to grocery stores along with all other plastic film, including shrink wrap, bubble wrap, deflated packaging "pillows," bread bags, and other food storage bags. Plastic bags are recycled into new plastic bags or plastic lumber used to make benches and decks.

Shredded Paper – Paper is highly recyclable, but when it's in tiny pieces it cannot be processed through residential programs. It flies, floats, and gets filthy in the process. Instead, put it in your compost pile, make papier-mâché, or use it as animal bedding for a pet hamster or gerbil.

Hangers, Cords & Hoses – These items strangle and destroy recycling processing equipment and are often referred to as "tanglers." Take old hangers back to the dry cleaners or donate to secondhand stores. Hoses, electrical cords, extension cords, and computer cords are just trash, so toss them out.

Takeout Containers & Cups – Recyclers are only sorting for plastic bottles and jugs, not takeout containers or foam of any kind. Reduce the use of these items by bringing your own takeout containers or making more of your meals at home

Dirty Diapers – These are contaminated and cannot be recycled or reused. Put these in the trash to protect those collecting and processing your recyclables. (Fairfax County Public Works)

For the reminder sheet, please follow the link below.

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/sites/publicworks/files/assets/documents/pdf/publications/filthy-five-factsheet.pdf

Climate Change Contest

The Branch Public Policy Committee is holding a contest to see what Branch members are doing to help mitigate the effects of climate change. Our hope is that we will receive lots of great ideas that we can share with each other and help preserve our beautiful community, country, and planet.

While one person or group cannot reverse all the ravages caused by Climate Change, each member can do his or her part.



- + Branch members will send a list of what they are currently doing personally to reduce their carbon footprint.
- * The Public Policy Committee will determine the winner based on the simplicity and the cost effectiveness of the ideas submitted.
- * The winner will be announced at the May luncheon and will receive an award.

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- * The committee will publish a list of unique submissions in the June Branch newsletter and the Branch website.
- All Submissions should be submitted no later than Earth Day, Saturday, April 22, 2023.

Send your entries to **Carol Mournighan** at <u>clmourn at gmail.com</u>. In the subject line, please put **Public Policy Climate Change Contest**. In the body, you can list all you do to help our planet.

Carol Mournighan and Janet Taylor, Public Policy Co-Chairs



Special Interest Groups | April

Bridge Group

The Bridge Group will meet **Monday**, **April 10**, from **10:00 am – 2:00 pm** at a place to be announced. New member are welcome. Contact **Barbara Carr** at <u>barbaralcarr at msn.com</u> or 703.356.3127 for information.

Current Events

Current Events will meet on the second **Tuesday, April 11**, at **9:30** am via **Zoom**. All members are invited to bring their favorite news item to discuss. If you want to participate for the first time, send your email address to **Mary Lou Melley** at <u>maryloumelley</u> at <u>gmail.com</u>. An email reminder will be sent a few days prior to the meeting and a follow-up the day before with the **Zoom** link.

Morning Lit Group

Morning Lit will meet **Friday, April 14**, at **9:30** am for a social time. Book discussion begins at **10:00** am, in the **McLean Community Center** to discuss *Klara and the Sun*, by Kazuo Ishiguro. **Jane Schmiedekamp** will lead the discussion. A **Zoom** link will be provided for those who prefer to join remotely. The link will be sent a few days before the meeting. If you would like to attend and are not a regular member, contact **Betsy Reddaway**, <u>pbreddaway at verizon.net</u>. All are welcome.

Evening Lit Group

The group will meet on Monday, April 17, at 7:00 pm, to discuss *A Place for Us*, by Fatima Farheen Mirza. Lynne Glikbarg will lead the discussion and host the meeting at her home, 9113 White Chimney Lane, Great Falls, VA 22066. Please RSVP your attendance to Lynne at lynneglik at gmail.com or 703.759.2638. The group welcomes all interested Branch members.

Great Decisions

The Great Decisions group will meet **Tuesday**, **April 18**, at **9:30** am via **Zoom**, to discuss **Chapter 3-China and the U.S.** New members are welcome. Should you be interested in participating, contact **Angela Ehemann** at <u>acehmann at Verizon.net</u> or 703.893.3578 for information on acquiring the book from the Foreign Policy Association.

Connections Calendar I April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	Public Policy Committee, 2:00 pm, Location TBD	4	5	6	7 DE&I Film Discussion, 7:00 pm, via Zoom	8
9	10 Bridge Group, 10:00 am, Location TBD	Current Events Group, 9:30 am, via Zoom	Branch Board Meeting, 10:00 am, McLean Community Center	13	Morning Lit Group Meeting, 9:30 am, McLean Community Center / Zoom	15
16	17 Evening Lit Group, 7:00 pm, Lynne Glikbarg's Home	18 Great Decisions, 9:30 am, via Zoom —— Branch Meeting, 7:00 pm, McLean Community Center	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Save the Date!

- May 10-Branch Board Meeting
- · May 12-Spring Luncheon Registration Deadline
- · May 20-Spring Luncheon, 11:30 am



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

Next time you make a purchase, go to our Branch ShopRaise page, https://shopraise.com/go/3MM, download the app and make your purchase. ShopRaise is available at over 1000 online stores!

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

Naz Basit 703.356.6365

Betsy Schroeder 703.209.5003

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 I http://mclean-va.aauw.net

AAUW VA Website I http://aauw-va.aauw.net

AAUW Website I www.AAUW.org