



April 2010
Volume XXXIX
Number 7

McLean Area Branch

AAUW of Virginia

News

Save the Date

Trinity University President Patricia McGuire to Speak at Annual Spring Dinner

Join us on May 18 for dinner and a speaker who is one of the most dynamic, effective women leaders in Washington. Patricia McGuire, president of Trinity University, spearheaded one of the nation's first "weekend colleges," which allow women who must work full time to obtain a degree by going to college on the weekends. For 17 years the McLean Area Branch has recognized this commitment to education for all women by giving a local scholarship to Trinity from our book sale proceeds. Under McGuire's leadership, Trinity has reached out to its Washington D.C. community through the public schools and Girl Scouts, as well as building the nation's largest athletic facility focused on women and girls in sports. She has received numerous honors and awards, sits on many prestigious boards, and was named in "100 Most Powerful Women of Washington."



Look for all the details on the dinner and reservations in the May newsletter.

Caroline Pickens

INSIDE

Book Sale Work Begins	3
Public Policy	3-4
Women in Science	3
Richmond Wrap Up	4
Morning Lit Annual Author Luncheon	5
Dining Out This Month	5
Connections	5

And More!

AAUW of Virginia Convention Come and Help

Our McLean Area Branch is responsible for registration and credentialing for the AAUW of Virginia Convention April 23-25. A number of our members are already committed to assisting before and during the convention. We still need volunteers to work at the tables as our colleagues from around the state come in to pick up their name tags and

convention materials. If you can help Friday, April 23, anytime between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; or on Saturday, April 24, anytime between 7:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., please contact *Fran Sullinger* at fsullinger@verizon.net or at 703/830-6503. Even one hour will be helpful.

For the most part, the registration and credentials tables are scheduled to be operating before convention activities actually begin. You will

(Continued on page 4)

McLean Area Branch

2009/2010 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Ginger MacEwen

703/734-0367

vmacewen@alumni.duke.edu

Program

Vice President

Isobel Rahn

703/475-4160

Isobel.Rahn@gmail.com

Membership

Co-Vice Presidents

Mary de Tray

703/992-7526

mdetray@gmail.com

Dawn Schulz

703/448-8711

portia11@verizon.net

Co-Treasurers

Rae Fawcett

703/938-8588

raedf0805@earthlink.net

Caroline Pickens

703/448-0415

Pickens_slim@hotmail.com

Board Secretary

Nancy Patterson

703/847-3195

nanrpatt@aol.com

Branch Co-Secretaries

Margaret Hines

202/337-2294

bonitahines@aol.com

Pam Raymer

703/805-4714

plraymer@cox.net

At our annual potluck and business meeting on March 16 our evening was enhanced by having seven guests from the International Hospitality Group. *Nan Finken* who is chairing the group this year introduced our guests. Nan also explained that the name of the group now is the McLean International Conversation and Cultural Exchange (MICCE). *Rukatini Ismail* from Malaysia spoke to us about her country and urged us to make a visit there. Then *Eduardo Chaillo*, a director of the Mexican Tourism Board whose wife is a member of MICCE, told us about some of the highlights of travel and tourism in Mexico.

During the business portion of the evening we elected our incoming board. Congratulation to *Mary Lou Melley* and *Nancy Patterson*, co-presidents; *Dorothy Hassan* and *Yvon Jensen*, co-vice presidents for programs; *Sheila Fletcher* and *Sandy Sieber*, co-vice presidents for membership; *Jo Young*, treasurer; *Suzanne Hamilton*, board secretary; *Margaret Hines* and *Pamela Raymer*, branch co-secretaries. We also elected six delegates and one alternate delegate who will represent us at state convention in April.

Although there is no regular branch meeting in April, McLean AAUW will still have lots going on in April. In addition to the AAUW of Virginia convention that will take place at the Hyatt Fair Lakes Hotel in Fairfax April 23 to 25, our Morning Literature group is having its annual author luncheon on April 9. I know I will see many of you there. Of course our Great Decisions, Current Events, and Dining Out groups will also have their gatherings.

Be sure to put the date of our spring dinner, Tuesday evening May 18, on your calendar. Our speaker will be an outstanding local woman—*Patricia McGuire*, president of Trinity University. If you read the recent article in the *Washington Post* magazine, you know that she is responsible for introducing many innovations and successful new programs at Trinity. I

Presidents' Corner



Guests at the March 16 meeting, from left: **Fernanda Alva, Mexico**; **Edmi Vazquez, Mexico**; **Edmi Carolina Vazquez, Mexico**; **Rukatini Ismail, Malaysia**; **Noorfalli Hamzah, Malaysia**; **Sandy Sieber, branch member, MICCE member**; **Diane Moran, MICCE U.S.**; **Nan Finken, branch member, MICCE chair, Malaysia**; **Mariam Becker, Malaysia**; and **Eduardo Chaillo, Tourism Director, Mexico**

am excited that we will have the opportunity to meet and hear from her.

Late breaking news from the AAUW national office—a new AAUW research report was released on March 22! See *Mary Lou Melley's* article beginning on page three for more information..

Ginger

From the Editor

The McLean Area Branch *News* is published monthly, September through June, except for a bimonthly issue for December and January. Articles are due the 20th of the month preceding each issue. Articles should be in final form and identified as being for the newsletter. Guidelines for your articles are welcome as are suggestions for the newsletter.

Please send your **articles for the May News by April 20** via e-mail or postal mail.

prbacher@verizon.net

Pam Bacher 1442 Towlston Rd.,
Vienna, VA 22182

Newsletter Editor: Pam Bacher, 703/281-2595
Mailing: Barbara Carr, 703/356-3127

Think Book Sale



41st Book Sale Activity Starts Up Soon!

A team of co-chairs is getting started on plans for the 41st Annual Book Sale. The sale itself will be held Sep. 10, 11, and 12. There will be five collection dates at the SunTrust Bank in Vienna. As usual, the collections will be on Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Collection dates are May 22, June 5 and 26, July 10 and 31. If you can volunteer for a two-hour slot on one or more of the collection days, please call *Diane Alden*, 703/356-7452.

How can you help? There are many ways to help, and some very specific jobs need to be filled right away:

1. Would you take calls from the general public? We need a person to offer to have their telephone number on the fliers. Most questions are very simple: Where should I take my books? What dates are you collecting books? When is the book sale? Do you take textbooks? The few more complicated questions can be passed along to the book sale co-chairs. This is an excellent job for someone who does not have time or interest in sorting books or stamina to lift boxes of

books. We need a volunteer for this essential job ASAP so fliers can be prepared and distributed.

2. Do you have a special skill/ knowledge or area of interest? Would you be willing to be “in charge” of one of the categories of books during the sorting and pricing process this summer? What is your favorite area?

3. Would you be able to help with publicity? *Juanita Cullen* needs some people to help with distribution of fliers in various neighboring towns, colleges, and news outlets. There is need for help on this soon (for info about collections) and throughout the summer (for the sale).

Think about how you’d like to volunteer. We count on all members—for support, hard work, and good ideas.

Anne Studner, Reed Isbell, Betsy Reddaway
Co-chairs

Public Policy

A Potpourri this Month

House/Senate – Health Care

Some of you may have actually stayed up the night of March 21 to witness the extraordinary House session that ended with a few votes.

First, the House passed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act by 219 to 212. It would overhaul the nation’s health insurance system and require most individuals to buy health insurance by 2014. At this time, the president is expected to sign the legislation into law on Tuesday, March 23.

Second, the House also passed the Reconciliation Act of 2010 by 220-211. It would make changes to the health care overhaul measure the House just passed and revise student loan procedures!! The bill will go to the Senate for a vote. More later, from AAUW, about the improvement in the student loan process which also would increase Pell Grants’ amounts.

A New AAUW Research Report “Why So Few”

AAUW has produced a comprehensive report regarding the continued underrepresentation of women in science fields. It’s titled *Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics*.

Public
Policy
Matters

(Continued on page 4)



“Public Policy”

(Continued from page 3)

The National Science Foundation provided AAUW with a grant to research and produce the report, along with funds from an AAUW memorial fund, a Giving Circle, and the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund.

The report presents eight recent research findings that provide evidence that social and environmental factors contribute to the underrepresentation of women in science and engineering. Negative stereotypes about girls’ abilities in math can measurably lower girls’ test performance. Such stereotypes then lower girls’ aspirations for science and engineering careers. In addition, girls assess their mathematical abilities lower than do boys with similar achievements. Girls hold themselves to a higher standard than boys, believing that they have to be exceptional to succeed in ‘male’ fields. Thus, fewer girls than boys aspire to STEM careers. In the area of spatial skills, boys consistently outperform girls.

As countermeasures, test administrators should tell students that girls and boys are equally capable in math. Parents and teachers can encourage girls to assess their skills more accurately. If girls grow up in an environment that enhances their success in science and math with spatial skills training, they are more likely to develop their skills as well as their confidence and consider a future in a STEM field.

The report goes on to address this issue on the college level, noting disparities and successful countermeasures for women’s success in the STEM fields.

Visit aauw.org/WhySoFew and at least scan the report and note the graphs that quickly illustrate the *mathematical* relationships.

What Happened in Richmond – A Wrap Up

The dust has settled on the 2010 session of the Virginia General Assembly. The big focus for

lawmakers and for the governor was the state’s four billion dollar budget shortfall. But beyond the intensely painful spending plan, the General Assembly took action on a wide range of bills — some lived, some didn’t.

During their 61 days in Richmond state lawmakers passed thousands of bills including job creation measures backed by Governor Bob McDonnell (R). Those tools include millions of dollars in tax breaks, business incentives, and marketing tools to help lure companies to Virginia.

Lawmakers also passed bills that will increase the speed limit on rural stretches of interstates to 70 mph and they supported more state influence over charter school programs.

The General Assembly approved expansions to Virginia gun laws including measures that allow concealed carry permit holders to bring their guns into a bar as long as they don’t drink alcohol. Lawmakers also approved a bill to allow anyone to keep a gun in a locked compartment of a car or boat.

But some of the most controversial measures failed at the hands of just a few lawmakers. Legislation that would have repealed Virginia’s ‘one handgun a month’ law passed the House but died in a Senate subcommittee.

The Senate approved nondiscrimination protections for state workers who are gay but delegates quashed that measure in a subcommittee too. As much as exhausted legislators and staffers don’t want to hear it right now, there is the possibility that the governor will call everyone back for at least one special session later this year.”

Sources include *AAUW Washington Update*, the report *Why So Few*, and the web site NBC29.com.

*Mary Lou Melley,
Public Policy Chair*

“AAUW VA Convention”

(Continued from page 1)

not miss any convention activities if you are helping at the tables.

Even if you are not planning to attend the convention, you can still come to help.

If you do plan to attend the convention, please get your registration form mailed quickly. The form is in the latest *Vision* or can be printed from the state website www.aauwofva.org.

Fran Sullinger

Connections

GREAT DECISIONS

Our meetings in March gave us a better understanding of the role of special envoys in conducting U.S. foreign policy.

The topic for April is *Halting Atrocities in Kenya*. **Note that there will be only one meeting this month** and it will be held at the home of *Ginger MacEwen*. The date is April 8, Thursday, at noon. Remember to let Ginger know if you plan to attend (703/734-0367, vmacewen@alumni.duke.edu).

Angela Ehemann

AROUND TOWN

Dining Out

Let's get together with other branch members in April to enjoy dinner at McCormick and Schmick's at Tysons Corner. We will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 13. Please contact *Sally Liff* no later than Sunday evening, April 11 if you plan to attend: e-mail sdlact@cox.net or phone 703/356-1344. The restaurant is at 8484 Westpark Drive; free parking is available underneath the building.

Sally Liff

MORNING LIT

The Literature Group will hold its annual author luncheon on Friday, April 9 at noon at the McLean Community Center. This year's speaker is Anthony S. Pitch, author of *They Have Killed Papa Dead!*, which is about the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. The catered luncheon is \$25. For information and reservations contact *Betsy Reddaway* by April 2 at 703/448-9195.

Rebecca Horahan

CURRENT EVENTS

The next meeting of Current Events will take place on the first Tuesday of the month, April 6 at the home of *Jeanette Calland*, 1810 Melbourne Drive, McLean.

Please Note that the time of the meeting is from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. due to Jeanette's morning commitment requiring her to leave her house at 11 a.m.

Two rules: bring a current clipping or web news item to share in the informal discussion and RSVP to Jeanette at 703/734-0659 or janeausten61@verizon.net by Sunday, April 4.

Mary Lou Melley

REMINDER

Formals for Five dress donations are needed by April 23. Check out the article in last month's newsletter. If you have a gently used dress suitable for a prom this year please contact *Sandi Parker* at promdressdonation@gmail.com. She will e-mail you back with the locations of the various drop off points in Arlington and answer any question you may have.

DIRECTORY ADDITIONS

Please add the following new member to your directory.

Kerrest, Juliana 410/409-1683
7436 Old Maple Square
juliana@kerrest.com
McLean, 22102
Johns Hopkins U.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Bridge

Nancy Richardson
703/759-4789
nrichardsn@aol.com

Current Events

Mary Lou Melley
703/536-6498
MelleyM@aol.com

Dining Out

Sally Liff
703/356-1344
sdlact@cox.net
Isobel Rahn
703/475-4160
Isobel.Rahn@gmail.com
Linda Wells
703/255-5275
Linda@tritec.com

Great Decisions

Morning
Angela Ehemann
703/893-3578
acehemann@verizon.net

Evening

Betsy Reddaway
703/448-9195
pbreddaway@verizon.net

International Hospitality

Nan Finken
703/448-0344
nfinken@stanfordalumni.org

Morning Literature

Mary de Tray
703/992-7526
mdetray@gmail.com
Rebecca Horahan
703/356-1424
rhurahan@verizon.net



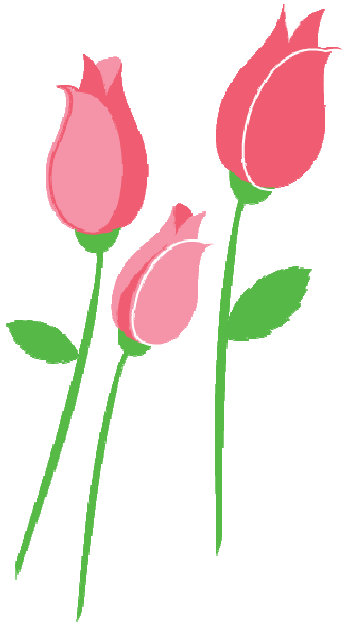
AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

Website: www.AAUW.org

APRIL CALENDAR

- Tues, 6** **9 a.m.** **Current Events Group** at *Jeanette Calland's* home *
- 7 p.m.** **Branch Board meeting** at the *McLean Community Center Conference Rm #2*
- Thur, 8** **Noon** **Great Decision's Noon Group** at *Ginger MacEwen's* home *
- Fri, 9** **Noon** **Morning Literature Annual Author Luncheon** at the *McLean Community Center* *
- Tues, 13** **6:30 p.m.** **Dining Out** at *McCormick & Schmick's, Tysons*
- Thur, 15** **10 a.m.** **Bridge TBA**
- Tues, 20** **Deadline for articles for the May NEWS**
- Fri, 23** **Deadline: Formals for Five dress donations ***
- Fri, 23** **AAUW of Virginia**
- Thru** **Annual Convention at the**
- Sun, 25** **Hyatt Fair Lakes, Fairfax VA ***



* Article in this issue

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 **Mary de Tray 703/992-7526** or **Dawn Schulz 703/448-8711**



AAUW

McLean Area Branch
1442 Towlston Rd.
Vienna, VA 22182

Branch Website:
www.mcleanaauw.org

