



June 2010
Volume XXXIX
Number 9

McLean Area Branch

AAUW of Virginia

News



Come Sort Books

- Mon.-Wed.
9 am – 5 pm
- Fri. 9 am – 6 pm
- Sat. 9 am – 2 pm

Come for an hour
or two or more
Whenever you can
For as long as you
can.

School Closing Ends Tutoring

The McLean Area Branch of AAUW has had a tutoring program at Pimmit Hills High School since 1998 when *Rebecca Horahan* was branch president. Our endeavor will end this year; because of budget problems the Fairfax County School Board has voted to close Pimmit and its students will be dispersed throughout the county to other schools.

We tutored mostly in English (reading, writing, vocabulary) but also helped some students in algebra, history, chemistry, biology, and physics. The principal has frequently told me how important the tutoring program is and gives us much credit for the remarkable increase in the SOL scores. The principal and staff have also remarked that the mentoring has been important since most of the students are immigrants and are trying to make a better life in America.

I first want to thank *Yvon Jensen*, AAUW member and librarian at the school. She is the one that coordinated all these tutors. I recruited the

tutors but she assigned them to the students, and called the classroom to remind them to be in the library on time. She put in many hours on this as well as all her library duties and was always there to help us find supplies and reading material.

This year we had 34 tutors in all; 18 members from AAUW and many friends and spouses. A big thank you to all who participated; I know you will miss the school as much as your students will miss you. The last graduation will be at Marshall High School on June 17 at 7 p.m. We will give three scholarships: Farhiya Ismail who will study to be a nurse, Andrea Viscarra, who will study to be a child psychologist, and Halimo Yasin, who will study to be a dental hygienist. They will start at Northern Virginia Community College this fall. I hope many of you will attend the graduation ceremony and applaud these three very deserving young women.

Suzanne Watts,
Co-Chair Mentoring/Tutoring Project

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And More!

Book Sale

Next Book Collection? June 5

Please remember to bring your used books to SunTrust Bank, 515 Maple Ave. East, Vienna, on Saturdays June 5, June 26, July 10, and July 31, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. As you know, our Sep. 10–12 book sale will support scholarships and fellowships for women. And please spread the word among friends and family!

Coming from McLean on Route 123, SunTrust bank is on the left, just past the second stoplight (East Street) as you enter the town of Vienna, and next-door to Anita's Mexican restaurant.

Book sorting has already begun on the third floor of the bank and continues through the summer. The space is open to us during regular bank business hours on Monday to Wednesday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Saturday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come join us whenever you can as we sort and box thousands of books for the September sale.

We need a volunteer to schedule workers for the sale itself – *no recruiting is required!* Those volunteering at the sale will e-mail (or phone) to tell you when they can work— all you have to do is fill in the schedule. Please let one of the co-chairs know if you are willing to contribute in this way.

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**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

President's Corner

Well, the branch and I have survived my year as solo president! Actually, I think we have had quite a good year. Our Program Vice President *Isobel Rahn* arranged some excellent programs.

The January meeting on keeping safe while using the Internet and the February program on being a Muslim woman in Northern Virginia were particularly interesting to me. Our December luncheon and our May dinner were great events with outstanding speakers.

Mary de Tray organized several fun "Around Town" events—a trip to the Katzen Art Museum at American University to view art by Australian aboriginal artists; a National Symphony matinee concert at the Kennedy Center; and a terrific tour of the National Cathedral, which concluded with a "high tea"!

I have had wonderful support from all our branch officers and committee chairs. Our branch is blessed with many dedicated members. I have particularly benefited from those long time branch members who have experience on the state and national level of AAUW. I could always count on someone to set me straight when I wasn't sure exactly what I needed to do next.

I thank each of you for your participation and support during the past year. I also thank you for the lovely gifts (an AAUW past president's pin and a lovely silver box inscribed with my name, office, and date) which *Caroline* presented to me at the May dinner.

It has been an honor to serve as your branch president for the past two years. I do think the branch is better off having two presidents share the job—two heads ARE better than one and there is less chance of important things getting overlooked. (Also less chance of presidential burn-out!) We have an excellent group of new branch officers for the coming year, beginning July 1, and I look forward to a very good year with the leadership of *Mary Lou Melley* and *Nancy Patterson*.

I will see you at the SunTrust bank in Vienna this summer and at the book sale in September!

Ginger

**McLean
Area
Branch**

**2010/2011
EXECUTIVE
BOARD**

Co-Presidents

Mary Lou Melley

703/536-6498

melley@aol.com

Nancy Patterson

703/847-3195

nanrpatt@aol.com

Program

Co-Vice Presidents

Dorothy Hassan

703/407-2828

dshassan@aol.com

Yvon Jensen

703/281-3616

ygjensen@fcps.edu

Membership

Co-Vice Presidents

Sheila Fletcher

703/281-0398

SheilaFletcher@mac.com

Sandra Sieber

571/214-4006

chuckandsandy@comcast.net

Treasurer

Jo Young

703/448-0467

nosigma@aol.com

Board Secretary

Suzanne Hamilton

703/759-6264

suzanhamil@aol.com

Branch Co-Secretaries

Margaret Hines

202/337-2294

bonitahines@aol.com

Pam Raymer

703/805-4714

plraymer@cox.net

AAUW Funding, Diversity and Equity, and Lorton Visit

Our Northern District of AAUW of Virginia put on an excellent state convention in April. *Fran Sullinger's* detailed planning for registration and credentialing of delegates resulted in a quick and efficient process for all who attended. Thanks to members of our branch who helped with registration at convention.

The rooms and convention facilities at the Hyatt Fair Lakes Hotel were excellent. Friday night was focused on entertainment. At the reception we heard from five women who dressed in the 1917 styles of suffragists. That is the year that the suffragists were imprisoned at the Workhouse at Lorton. Later in the evening we had a "movie night" with a choice of films related to women's struggle for equality.

On Saturday morning I attended a workshop on AAUW Funding that explained how the new structure of AAUW still includes the Educational Opportunities Fund, Legal Advocacy Fund, Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, Leadership Programs Fund, and Public Policy Fund. Members and branches can designate their giving to any of these specific funds or to AAUW Funds in general. I also attended the workshop "Diversity and Equity." This was not what I expected—the speaker has had a career working for the federal government in the area of equal opportunity and

diversity but I wished she had given us more than just personal anecdotes and that there had been time for questions and discussion.

Saturday afternoon I took advantage of the tour to see the future location of the Turning Point Memorial. Although there is only a plaque there now, we saw the site of the future memorial and the small but very interesting museum about the suffragists' stay at the Workhouse. The old buildings are now the site of the Workhouse Arts Center and we saw artists at work in their studios and a great variety of art being done there. It is much the same idea as the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria but is still developing.

The convention was both interesting and enjoyable and it was nice to have it right in our area. I thank the branch for supporting me and the other delegates with payment towards our expenses. Next year the national AAUW convention will be in Washington D.C. and I hope many members of McLean Area Branch will take advantage of the chance to attend.

Ginger MacEwen

Lobby Corps, Turning Point, and Bylaws Debate

I always enjoy going to state convention. It offers a chance to meet members from other branches, catch up with AAUW activities, participate in state business, and learn new things from workshops and other events.

The first evening began with a very nice reception. It included a presentation about the Turning Point Memorial, which will be located at Lorton and commemorate an important series of events in the battle for women's suffrage. In 1917, more than 120 suffragists who were picketing the White House were arrested and imprisoned at the Occoquan Workhouse (part of the Lorton Prison complex) where they were treated brutally. This finally engaged the attention of the American people and the tide turned for passage of the 19th Amendment. At the reception, women came dressed as a few of the suffragists who were part of the 1917 events; one brave man came dressed as President Wilson who was not sympathetic to the suffragists.

One of the workshops I attended was on "Lobby Corps" presented by Anne Hedgepeth from AAUW headquarters and Kitty Richardson from the Falls Church Branch and a Lobby Corps

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What Happened at Convention? ?

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 September News by August 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

“AAUW VA Convention”

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member. They described recent and in-process legislation important to AAUW, touting victories such as the *Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act* and the *Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009*. I felt that our branch is kept up to date very well by *Mary Lou Melley* our public policy chair and Lobby Corps member. They handed out a Congressional Voting Record for the first session of the 111th Congress on AAUW public policy priorities. Our Virginia senators each have a 75 percent positive voting record on our priorities. Area congressmen have a mixed record: Connolly and Moran each has an 89 percent positive record; and Wolf has an 11 percent positive record. Lobby Corps members are briefed and then go to Hill offices each week Congress is in session. Both Anne and Kitty emphasized the importance of Lobby Corps in spreading the positive message to legislators on AAUW public priorities. They noted that Lobby Corps can always make use of additional members and urged attendees to join the effort.

The Sunday business meeting addressed changes to the state bylaws to ensure they conform to the changed national AAUW bylaws. Discussion centered around voting on state business. Up to and including this convention, voting is done by delegates to the state convention. The number of delegates from each branch has been governed by branch size. The recommended bylaws change for the near term (because of logistics and cost) was to allow any member who attended convention to vote. However, a motion from the floor was made directing the AAUW of Virginia board to examine all means of providing true “one member, one vote” voting, thus keeping with AAUW bylaws sooner rather than later. There was much debate and some confusion with the final approved result being that the board was to implement “one member, one vote” voting by the next state convention in 2012.

This was an excellent convention and I appreciate the branch sending me as a delegate.

Pam Bacher

Outstanding Speakers and Communicating with Confidence and Power

The speakers for the luncheon and the banquet dinner were both outstanding. Since I’m interested in public policy, I always enjoy hearing Mary Margaret Whipple, a Virginia state senator. She epitomizes the character of a successful elected official in the best sense— communicative, out-reaching to her audience, committed to her values, and possessing a positive outlook.

Senator Whipple handed out the “Session 2010 Highlights of the General Assembly.” Some highlights in the document include failure to pass the privatization of ABD stores (remember that was an issue and a promise during the campaign for governor); and passage of a measure that allows a person with a concealed handgun permit to carry a concealed handgun onto the premises of a restaurant or club but prohibits the person from consuming alcoholic beverages. Also passed was the measure that creates a new exemption to the general prohibition against carrying concealed weapons by allowing a person who may lawfully possess a firearm to carry a handgun in a private motor vehicle if the handgun is locked in a container or compartment.

Item of interest: today, eight members of the forty-member state senate are women.

It was thrilling to have Under Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education Martha Kantar with us. She took us on a whirlwind description of the goals and projects to improve public education in the country.

Speaking of speakers, I thoroughly enjoyed the workshop on ‘Communicating with Confidence and Power.’ Anyone with teaching experience develops his/her own techniques for getting the point across or leading the audience to absorb a new idea. In this connection, I recently started reading *Blink* by Malcolm Gladwell, and one of the topics he addresses is the indicators of the likelihood of a doctor being sued for malpractice. One significant factor is communication style, being able to connect with people on an ‘emotional’ level. I totally agreed with

the speaker about the suggestions for expressing confident and positive leadership messages: being concise, focused, collaborative.

It’s always a delight to spend time with AAUW members from the state since we have the same goals for the organization and are committed to acting on them.

Mary Lou Melley

College and University (C/U) Partner Program

The College and University (C/U) Partner Program connects college and university women to AAUW resources. For a fee of \$125 for a school with fewer than 1000 students to a fee of \$350 for schools with more than 30,000 students, colleges and universities can partner with an AAUW branch and provide access for women students to AAUW programs.

Programs include the Campus Action Project grants that provides up to \$5000 to campus teams composed of students and faculty or administrators. Teams implement gender equity projects that highlight current AAUW research. The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders provides an opportunity for over 400 college student leaders to hone their skills in leadership, advocacy, civic engagement, networking, and career planning in Washington, D.C. This year is the 25th year for this conference. Another program is the \$tart \$mart training, AAUW salary negotiation workshops to help students prepare for their job search.

I found it interesting that the speaker at this session said that this program is not necessarily geared to help with recruitment into AAUW branches. Its primary focus is to help break down barriers and to promote equity. She said that each branch should have a session on the C/U Partner Program to educate members on the program’s goals.

One good way to market the program to local universities is to tap into a faculty member at campuses who the branch could work with to bring the program to the campus. The speaker recommended using not only members who are inter-

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Public Policy

Supreme Court Nomination

A AUW Executive Director Linda Hallman has communicated the following message. "With his nomination of Solicitor General Elena Kagan, the president has selected a woman who has been a trailblazer throughout her distinguished legal career. AAUW is pleased to note that, if confirmed, the Supreme Court will have three women justices serving concurrently for the first time in history, breaking through yet another barrier for women and girls. AAUW will carefully consider the totality of Kagan's record over the coming weeks and looks forward to the upcoming confirmation hearings and the candid answers of the nominee."

Mary Lou Melley, Public Policy Chair

"Book Sale"

(Continued from page 1)

Do you have a special skill or area of expertise such as knowledge of a foreign language, psychology, self-help, or any other subject? We still need people to take charge of some subject areas for the sorting and pricing of books during the summer. Please e-mail or call one of the co-chairs to volunteer.

Special thanks to *Fran Pearce* for agreeing to take informational calls from the public. We very much appreciate it. And thanks to all who have volunteered so far.

Co-Chairs *Betsy Reddaway*, 703/448-9195
Anne Studner, 703/938-9251
Reed Isbell, 703/734-3385

We Need Boxes & Bags Too

The best boxes are file box size or a bit larger, but we can use smaller ones. The shallow boxes that the grocery stores use for some produce are ideal for paperback books. We save both paper and plastic bags to be used at the sale in September.

Photos

From the

May Dinner



At the head table, from Left: *Mary Lou Melley*, Guest Speaker Trinity University President *Patricia McGuire*; Branch VP for Program *Isobel Rahr*; Branch President *Ginger MacEwen*



From left: guest *Melissa Clements -Yeldell*, manager SunTrust Bank, Vienna; *Bettie Clark*; *Reed Isbell*



From left; *Ruth Powers*; *Ercell Binns*, Springfield-Annandale Branch; *Peggy Stotz*

Photos By Pam Bacher

Connections

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
mdtray@gmail.com

Rebecca Horahan
703/356-1424
rhorahan@verizon.net

MORNING LIT

Morning Lit to Select Next Year's Books

The Morning Literature group will meet on Friday, June 11 for our annual book selection meeting and luncheon. The festivities take place at Nizam's restaurant in Vienna starting at 11 a.m. We will pick the books we wish to read and then have a wonderful lunch. Please let *Rebecca Horahan* (703/356-1424) know if you will be attending. All are welcome.

Rebecca Horahan

GREAT DECISIONS

We continue to meet during the summer months. Here are the dates and hostesses for June (chapter 4, China), July (chapter 5, global finance crisis) and August (chapter 6, Europe's 'far east').

For the noon group:
June 10, *Betsy Reddaway*;
July 8, *Ruth Powers*; and
Aug. 12, *Sally Liff*.

For the 9:30 a.m. group:
June 15, *Mary Lou Melley*;
July 20, *Dawn Schulz*; and
Aug. 17, *Connie Small*.

Angela Ehemann

CURRENT EVENTS

Look at the newspaper or logon to the Internet and you will find that there are plenty of events to learn about and discuss. At the May gathering of Current Events, members discussed topics including fair pay, personal work experiences and pay received, Virginia's attorney general's latest actions, and illegal aliens.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 1 at 9:30 a.m. The location is to be determined, at this point, but contact *Mary Lou Melley* for the information (703/536-6498 melleym@aol.com) or look for the e-mail sent to those on the Current Events mailing list.

Those who attend the Current Events gatherings have decided to forego the meetings in July and August. On Tuesday, Sep. 7, *Suzanne Watts* will host the meeting.

Mary Lou Melley

DIRECTORY ADDITIONS

Please make the following Directory Update

Morrison, Chris 703/842-3154
3440 S. Jefferson St. #876
chrisjohn876@me.com
Falls Church, VA 22041-3154

Want to Change Your Branch Directory Entry?

If your branch membership directory entry is not current, in error, or just isn't the way you want it, please let me know before Aug. 1.

You can do this in several ways: include the changed information on the membership form that you send with your dues to *Jo Young*; send it directly to me via e-mail (prbacher@verizon.net) or postal mail (1442 Towlston Rd., Vienna, 22182); or, call me and give me the new information over the phone (703/281-2595). Sending your information directly to me is important if you pay your dues online because there is no feedback mechanism to send me changed information.

Pam Bacher
Publications Chair



Please send in your dues this month

“AAUW VA Convention”

(Continued from page 4)

ested in working the program but non-members who know the school and are interested in promoting this program on campus. Eleven Virginia universities were identified as currently participating in the program. These include the University of Richmond, Old Dominion University, Tidewater Community College, James Madison University, and Shenandoah University.

Pamela Raymer

Changing Lives Through Literature

The workshop on “Changing Lives Through Literature” introduced us to a fascinating joint project of the Fairfax County Public Library, the Virginia Department of Corrections, Probation and Parole—District 29, and the Diversion Hearing Program of the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.

Changing Lives Through Literature is used in Fairfax County as an alternative to formal court action for juvenile offenders and in conjunction with probation and parole for adult offenders.

Separate groups of men and women who have each had numerous convictions take a 12-week course in which they read a book which may include some of the problems they have experienced. Discussion questions include Why did the person do what he did? Is it possible for people to change? Why is it hard for us to tell the truth about what we feel?

As a result of completing the course, many begin to feel their voice is important, they read to their children, some start college, and many become reconnected with family members.

The initial evaluation of the project in 1993 showed that 45 percent of those who had not taken the course were convicted of new crimes while 18.75 percent of those who had taken the course re-offended but tended to offend against property, not people.

From Feb. 2007 to Dec. 2009, 107 juveniles completed the program. Only about 10 percent received new charges within a year while those not participating re-offended 28 percent of the time.

The project changes the lives of the majority of the participants because their opinions are valued, they have time to reflect on literature and life experiences, it helps them realize they are not alone in their feelings, every one's voice is equal, they have the opportunity to disagree with authority, and there is safety when speaking about characters in the story.

Diane Alden

**Renewal & New Membership Form
AAUW, McLean Area Branch
2010/2011 Year**

Name _____

Address _____

Contact

Home Phone: _____

Mobile Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

College(s) and Degree (s)

(Please list first the college and degree you wish to have recorded in your national AAUW record, which can hold only one college and degree)

Interests:

DUES payable to AAUW McLean Area Branch:

- Renew Membership: \$68 (\$49 national; \$8 state; \$11 branch)
- New Membership: \$68 (\$49 national; \$8 state; \$11 branch)
- Paid Life Membership: \$19 (\$8 state; \$11 branch)
- Dual Member. Please check one below:
 - National dues paid at _____ branch: \$19 (\$8 state; \$11 branch)
 - National dues paid at McLean Area Branch: \$68 (\$49 national; \$8 state; \$11 branch)
- Honorary Life Member – member for 50 or more years

Note: \$46 of national dues is tax deductible

Make check payable to AAUW, McLean Area Branch

Send this form and check to Branch 2010/11 Treasurer

Jo Young
1340 Julia Ave.
McLean, VA 22101

You may also pay dues for national, state and branch membership on-line using a credit or debit card at the AAUW website: www.aauw.org.

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, Philanthropy, 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

June

- Tues, 1** 9:30 a.m. **Current Events Meeting** at Mary Lou Melley's home *
- Sat, 5** 10 a.m.–4 p.m. **Book Collection** at the SunTrust Bank on Maple Ave. in Vienna *
- Thurs, 10** Noon **Great Decisions Group Meeting** at Betsy Reddaway's home *
- Fri, 11** 11 a.m. **Moming Lit Book Selection Meeting** at Nizam's restaurant *
- Tues, 15** 9:30 a.m. **Great Decisions Group Meeting** at Mary Lou Melley's home *
6:30 p.m. **Board turnover meeting and potluck** at Ginger MacEwen's home
- Sat, 26** 10 a.m.–4 p.m. **Book Collection** at the SunTrust Bank on Maple Ave. in Vienna *

July

- Thurs, 8** Noon **Great Decisions Group Meeting** at Ruth Power's home *
- Sat, 10** 10 a.m.–4 p.m. **Book Collection** at the Sun Trust Bank on Maple Ave. in Vienna *
- Tues, 20** 9:30 a.m. **Great Decisions Group Meeting** at the home of Dawn Schulz *
- Sat, 31** 10 a.m.–4 p.m. **Book Collection** at the Sun Trust Bank on Maple Ave. in Vienna *

August

- Thurs, 12** Noon **Great Decisions Group Meeting** at Sally Liff's home *
- Tues, 17** 9:30 a.m. **Great Decisions Group Meeting** at the home of Connie Small *
- Fri, 20** **Deadline for articles to be in the September News**



AAUW

McLean Area Branch
1442 Towlston Rd.
Vienna, VA 22182

Branch Website:
www.mcleanaauw.org

