



VIRGINIA

Spring 2012

Vision

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

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.

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Come to Newport News in April

Where will you be on April 20, 2012? At the AAUW of Virginia Conference in Newport News! Although the waters won't be warm enough for a dip, we'll still be "making waves" at the wonderful City Center at Oyster Point (<http://citycenteratoysterpoint.com>).

At our Friday night reception (very casual – "come as you are"), The Victorian Exercise Lady will take us back in time to teach us how (and why) Victorian women stayed in shape, while we enjoy decadent pastries! Then you'll have more fun as we "scavenge" for answers to questions about the Hampton Roads area.

Lisa Maatz, Director of Public Policy and Government Relations for AAUW, will kick off Saturday's business meeting. Business items will include discussion of the 2012-14 Public Policy Priorities and bylaws amendments. Afterwards, you may choose two of three workshops to be offered before and after lunch. Presenters will educate us on ways to build branch membership, how and why we should use social media as a branch tool, and how to get involved in voter education efforts to encourage more women to vote. Throughout the day, you'll have a chance to support AAUW Funds and to take home something special by participating in the basket raffle.

Two afternoon tours will allow you to "get away" for a little while. If you don't want to go to the Hampton University Museum or on a tour of Newport News, you might want to take a short, easy drive to The Mariners' Museum or walk around the City Center area and do a little shopping.

The Saturday banquet is always a highlight of our state conferences. This one will feature Pulitzer Prize winner Rita Dove, who served as Poet Laureate of the United States and Consultant to the Li-

brary of Congress from 1993 to 1995 and as Poet Laureate of the Commonwealth of Virginia from 2004 to 2006. She will read from her poetry, talk about life as a poet, and take questions from the audience. The cost of both lunch and dinner are included in your conference registration.

On Sunday morning there will be a discussion of the dues increase and Laura Puaca, a local AAUW fellow, will discuss how AAUW helped her "make waves" in science.



Laura Puaca

There are plenty of things in the area for your family and friends to enjoy. Come early or stay late and take advantage of the diverse historical and cultural opportunities nearby: beautiful Colonial Williamsburg; the battlefields and waterfront area of Yorktown; Hampton's Virginia Air and
(Please see MAKING on Page 2)

One Member/ One Vote Guide!

Everything you need to know about the all electronic/snail mail voting across the state, implementing the One Member/One Vote program, can be found in the handy guide to the process on pages 10 to 14.

- ◆ Getting Your Ballot
- ◆ Bylaws Changes
- ◆ Candidates for State Offices
- ◆ And MORE!

Be sure YOUR VOICE is heard!

AAUW of Virginia Elected Officers

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Deadline for Vision:
May 15
September 1
January 15

Please send all copy to
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From Your President

History will be made at the 2012 state conference. For the first time, there will be no delegates as Virginia becomes the first state in AAUW to fully implement One Member/One Vote for all state business (California, the other state, is voting only on candidates this year). Every member will have the opportunity to vote by email or paper ballot on state officers, bylaws amendments, the 2012-14 Public Policy Priorities, and a state dues increase. (I think I just saw some of you sitting up very alertly!) **So if everyone can vote, why come to the state conference?** Let me convince you.



- Only attendees can discuss and amend those proposed business items. We need your voice for this important work. The final vote by all members will happen after the conference, but it will be on the wording conference attendees agree on during the business meetings. We will start with public policy and the first bylaws on Saturday and finish the bylaws and dues increase on Sunday.
 - Rita Dove, one of Virginia's and America's most outstanding women, will be honored as our Woman of Achievement at the banquet. This event shouldn't be missed! [See elsewhere in the *Vision* for details and her incredible bio.]
 - WE HEARD YOUR CONCERNS ABOUT GETTING MEMBERS! So we revamped workshops to include one on getting and keeping members, along with one on using a website and social media to attract members. Resources X two!
- It's also about the camaraderie and the inspiration in being part of the bigger picture of AAUW. Shirley Richey (Mt. Vernon Branch) said it succinctly: "It's fun, informative, useful, and rewarding!"

As for that dues increase, please read carefully the article on this elsewhere in the *Vision*. We have not raised our dues in 20 years, and it is time to get in step with 2012. There is a silver lining in the proposal, though. The increase will only take effect on dues paid on July 1 or later. That means members who pay 2012-13 dues before July 1 will pay the current state dues.

So come to Newport News and help us make waves—and history.

Making Waves in Newport News

(Continued from Page 1)

Space Museum and its downtown waterfront.

There is also the Chrysler Museum of Art or the U.S.S. Wisconsin, both in Norfolk; the boardwalk and Virginia Marine Science Museum at Virginia Beach; Olde Towne Portsmouth's antique shops and museums, including the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame and Museum and the brand new Children's Museum of Virginia. Norfolk's International Azalea

Festival begins on April 24, and Virginia's Historic Garden Week runs April 21-28, too.

Spring is a great time to travel. Call the Marriott Hotel at 757/873-9299 for reservations; ask for the AAUW conference rate of \$99 plus tax per night.

This is one conference you don't want to miss!

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Dive Into the Conference Workshops

Workshops will be presented Saturday, April 21, from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and repeated 2 to 3:15 p.m.

Making Waves with Social Media

Sandy Lawrence, Megan Morrison, and Patsy Quick

Megan Morrison, Sandy Lawrence and Patsy Quick will show you how to celebrate your branch through social media.

Learn how Facebook and Twitter can attract new members. Participants will practice promoting a branch event using social media and learn how to set up a branch website through AAUW's Site-Resources. Gain a better understanding of the internet age and become inspired to take this step with your branch.

Megan Morrison is a Junior Website Designer for AAUW, and is in charge of the Site Resources program, creating websites for branches and states. She has degrees in both Media Studies and Philosophy from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.



Sandy Lawrence, a member of Woodbridge Branch, is a retired Navy Commander with over 24 years of active duty. All her Navy jobs were in Information Technology, primarily in the operations and security of Command and Control Systems and Command wide networks. Sandy was the first Combat Systems Officer on the USS Nimitz (CVN68) and did a six-month deployment to the Persian Gulf. Sandy currently provides computer security support to the Secretary of Defense Communications Office. Sandy was elected into the Massapequa (LI) High Schools' Hall of Fame in 2000 and had articles published in *Chips*, *Space Track* and *Lacrosse* magazines.



Patsy Quick, AAUW of Virginia Vice President for Communications, has been a member of AAUW since 1976. Currently she publishes her branch newsletter, and has recently launched her branch website through AAUW's Site-Resources. For 34 years she was a primary grade teacher and reading specialist in Virginia Beach and Prince William County. She has learned that technology is an infinitely vast field and that social media is one of its most interesting components.



Sink or Swim –

The Importance of Getting and Keeping Members

Anita Aymer and Claudia Richards

Anita Aymer and Claudia Richards delve into the issues of

membership. Why do long time members quit? What can be done to attract and keep our membership growing in the 21st century? This workshop is designed to offer concrete suggestions and ideas to keep our membership strong.

Anita Aymer, AAUW of Virginia Vice President for Program, has been an active member of the Wytheville Branch since relocating there in 2005 from Portsmouth, VA. She was president of the Wytheville Branch for four years and was the State Conference chair in 2011. Aymer has a Bachelor of Arts. from Brooklyn College, CUNY and is currently a Career Coach for Wytheville Community College serving two high schools in the county. Aymer is married with two adult children.



Claudia Richards became a member of the AAUW Educational Foundation staff in March of 1992. Since then she has served in numerous capacities such as Development Officer for Volunteer Development and Relations, Event Planner, and now Senior Manager of Branch Relations. Claudia works with AAUW branch and state leaders to provide them with resources to promote the AAUW mission in their local communities.



Get the Vote Out:

Dianne Blais, Lisa Maatz, and Laura Wimmer

This workshop will be a much-reduced version of the all-day training on Friday to which EVERYONE is invited. Lisa Maatz, AAUW Director of Public Policy and Government Relations, will conduct the majority of the workshop, talking about GOTV nationally and how AAUW expects it to impact members and voters at the state and local level. Laura Wimmer and Dianne Blais, state Co-vice presidents of Public Policy, will discuss the impact on branches in Virginia.

Lisa Maatz is the Director of Public Policy and Government Relations at the American Association of University Women. As its top policy adviser, Maatz works to advance AAUW's priority issues on Capitol Hill and in the White House. She is a sought-after speaker across the nation and on Capitol Hill, and leads several coalitions working to advance opportunities for women and girls. Recently featured in the book, *Secrets of Powerful Women*, Maatz has developed a reputation for her strategic approach to legislation and advocacy. She is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Ohio University, has two Master's degrees from Ohio State,



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CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Friday, April 20

11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Voter Impact Training
2:00 - 6:30 p.m. State board meeting and dinner
4:00 - 8:00 p.m. Registration
Conference Attendees, Dinner on your own
7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Dessert reception:
Fun with local history program (\$18 per person)

Saturday, April 21

Breakfast on your own (\$10 buffet available in restaurant)
7:30 a.m. Walk around the lake led by Sally Sledge
7:30 - 9:30 a.m. Registration
9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Business session
Welcome: Pat Woodbury, Newport News City Council
Keynote Speaker: Lisa Maatz,
AAUW Director of Public Policy & Government Relations
11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 3 workshops
(see Registration Form for information))

Saturday, April 21

12:30 - 1:45 p.m. Box lunch included in registration (\$24/
guests)
2:00 - 3:15 p.m. 3 workshops (repeated)
3:30-5:30 p.m. Leisure time (on your own)
Two tours offered:
Hampton University, Museum and Mariners' Museum
6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Cash bar
7:00-9:30 p.m. Woman of Achievement Award Banquet
(included in registration; guests \$45)

Sunday, April 22

Breakfast on your own (\$10 buffet available in restaurant)
7:30 a.m. Walk around the lake led by Sally Sledge
8:30 - 9:15 a.m. District Meetings
9:30 - 11:45 a.m. Business session
Speaker - Laura Puaca,
former AAUW fellow and CNU professor

Workshops Offer Participants Different Strokes

(Continued from page 3)

and holds an adjunct appointment with the Women and Politics Institute at American University.

After **Dianne Blais**'s third child was born, AAUW basically became her part-time job and it has kept Dianne busy for the past 26 years. She was newsletter editor and president for the Springfield/Annandale branch. After moving to Fairfax, Dianne became branch and then state co-president. Dianne has been involved with the TV show *On the Go with AAUW* for more than ten years. She is serving as Co-Vice President of Public Policy.



Laura Wimmer has been working as a health educator for the past 25 years. Her background includes a degree in history and a Masters of Library Science from Kent State University. After positions in an engineering library and medical library, she began her career in health education with the American Lung Association. She went on to the American Cancer Society and later the Arthritis Foundation. Laura currently works on a grant from the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control in heart attack and stroke prevention



through the Virginia Department of Health. Laura has been an advocate for women's, children's, family, environmental and health issues in a personal and/or professional capacity for over 25 years. A lifetime member of AAUW, she held a number of offices at branch and state level. After two terms as State Co-President of AAUW of Virginia, Laura is now serving as Co-Vice President for Public Policy.

In addition to AAUW, her current volunteer activities include the Alzheimer's Association, Ms. Wheelchair Virginia, Women's Health Virginia and the Henrico Pops Chorus.

Conference Hotel Information

Marriott Hotel of City Center at Oyster Point,
Newport News - check-in 4:00 p.m.
\$99 conference rate = @\$111.50 including tax
Rates may rise after March 28, 2012
(Advertise rate available until March 15)
Call 757/873-9299; specify AAUW convention
Free parking across the street
and in attached parking garage.
Be sure to ask for
the AAUW conference rate of
\$99 plus tax per night.

Rita Dove to Receive Achievement Award

A state conference highlight will be the Saturday evening banquet honoring Rita Dove as our Woman of Achievement.

A former United States Poet Laureate (at age 40 and to date the only African American) and the 1987 Pulitzer Prize recipient for poetry, Dove has published poetry, short stories, a play, and a song cycle with music by John Williams for the Boston Symphony. Musically trained, she is known for the lyricism and musicality of her poetry. A 1970 Presidential Scholar and a 1974 Fulbright Scholar, Ms. Dove has received 22 honorary doctorates and numerous honors, including the National Humanities Medal, the Fulbright Lifetime Achievement Medal, and the international Premio Capri award.



Currently, she is Commonwealth Professor of English at the University of Virginia. Her latest publication is *The Penguin Anthology of 20th Century American Poetry*, of which she is sole editor. Some of Ms. Dove's books, which she has agreed to autograph, will be available for purchase.

2012 Events

FEBRUARY

1: State Lobby Day, Richmond., in conjunction with the League of Women Voters. Blais and Wimmer, all members

APRIL

20: Training for state Impact Grant participants in Newport News

20-22: State Conference: All members.

Registration form maybe found on Page 15.

MAY

10: AAUW Federal Lobby Day , Washington. Blais and Wimmer, all members

15: Vision deadlines: Branches, Falls Church Area, Hampton, Harrisonburg, Lynchburg, McLean Area, Newport News, Portsmouth, Springfield-Annandale, Winchester, Wytheville; Districts: Southeast and Southwest

JUNE

30. End of AAUW fiscal year.

2012-2013 DUES ARE DUE



Return of the Basket Raffle!

It's baaack! A couple of years ago, there was great excitement at the back of the meeting room...caused by Baskets. They came in all sizes and shapes and were filled with a variety of intriguing items. The competition

was high while members added their raffle tickets to the basket of their choice.

Branches, have fun being creative designing your basket for Conference: It could represent your area of the Commonwealth, a Book Group's reading list, favorite flavors and treats...anything goes! Bring a basket and we will have the raffle tickets ready for sale. Let The Fun Begin! Proceeds will benefit AAUW Funds/LAF. Greater Richmond Branch will be organizing this event, so look for our designated member to receive your basket.

Segenat Foundation is donating a gift basket to be raffled off. Items include: Coptic cross in display case, multi-language children's book, *Silly Moma*, and compact disk translated by 2008 CNN Hero Yohannes Gebregeorgis.

The mission of the Segenat Foundation, (501 (c) (3)) is first to support the continued development of The Segenat Children and Youth Library in Mekelle; the Dr. Thomas Hooyman Memorial Library at Fre Sewat Elementary School; the school libraries at Myliham and Debri Elementary Schools; the future library in the nearby town of Adi Gudom; similar libraries throughout Ethiopia; the development of portable and home libraries; and other literacy and scholarship initiatives.

DO YOU KNOW...

...who was the African-American spy who delivered the Merrimac plans to Secretary Stanton during the Civil War?

Find out about her and other famous Tidewater women during a fun scavenger hunt at the Friday night state conference dessert reception!

Branches in Action



Bunny Sandler, Jill Birdwhistell, Holly Kearl (LAF Staff), Caroline Pickens, AAUW of Virginia president, Kelly DeSenti, Marymount Assistant Dean, Arlene Wilson, Elizabeth Kristen and Kathryn Braeman at the Title IX program.

Arlington Branch's holiday luncheon focused on "Title IX at 40: Celebrations and Challenges." Title IX, part of the Education Amendment Acts of 1972, prohibits sex discrimination in education programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance.

The program's goals were to: Learn about recent developments regarding discrimination against women in athletics; reach out by the Branch to Marymount University; and raise money for the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF).

Kathryn Braeman, Michele Milden and Arlene Wilson arranged with Marymount University to host the luncheon in their dining hall. Elizabeth Kristen, an attorney and Director of Fair Play in Sports at the San Francisco Legal Aid Society-Employment Law Center, was the featured speaker. Her organization has successfully represented student athletes seeking equity at the high school level. They co-authored the KNOW THE SCORE program in a box available on the AAUW website for other branches to use as a model. Also featured was Bunny Sandler, known as the "godmother of Title IX," as she was instrumental in the passage of the 1972 Act. The Branch applied for, and received, a Legal Advocacy Fund Campus Outreach Grant to pay for Ms. Kristen's air fare from San Francisco and for lunches to enable several Marymount University student athletes to attend.

The event was well attended by AAUW, Marymount University and the community. Ms. Kristen did a wonderful job of explaining Title IX, the procedures for enforcing the law, and how the threat of retaliation can deter people from filing complaints. Marymount University rejoined the AAUW family and became a college/university partner. Fundraising for LAF totaled \$1,835 with Branch member contributions of \$1,020, silent auction proceeds of \$535, and raffle proceeds of \$280.

Arlene Wilson, President
703/534-6837, arlenewilson@verizon.net

Alexandria Branch continues its partnership with author Catherine Gourley, a nonfiction author specializing in social history. Gourley is the national director of Letters About Literature (LAL), a contest for young readers in upper elementary through high school sponsored by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. The program, which focuses on reader response and reflective writing, awards thousands of dollars in LAL Reading Promotion Grants to community and public libraries. Last year, approximately 70,000 young readers from across the country participated in the project and six libraries each received \$10,000 LAL Reading Promotion Grants.

Alexandria AAUW members and recruited volunteers will read and assess the entries and select those entries to be sent on to state and national judges. It's a huge undertaking, but one that attests to members' strong belief in education and opportunity for young students who may one day join us.

Two years ago, the Alexandria Branch shared sponsored a public program informing the public of Ms. Gourley's work developing the *Women's Images and Issues of the Twentieth Century* series of books. The series of five books reveal how popular culture portrayed women and the ways in which women either accepted or more often rebelled against those images. The Branch also donated a set of the books to the Alexandria Sherwood Hall Library Branch.

Peggy Gross, President
703/778-5848, GrossPE@state.gov

Ashburn/Leesburg Area branch was established in the spring of 2008. Starting immediately, the members were attracted to the idea of setting up a "Great Decisions" interest group. Under the leadership of Barbara Fountain, this group was established. Members use the Foreign Policy Association's *Great Decisions* briefing book to provide extensive background information on selected topics and a framework for their conversations. The monthly meeting exemplifies the AAUW mission of advancing education and research for our members. Members select which topics they wish to research and discuss for the next year. A different member takes "ownership" of each topic, leading the discussion and providing additional material on the subject.

This has been a consistently viable group during a time when many of our members have had family and/or medical issues that have precluded their ability to be present. I am proud of this interest group. I know that the conversations discussed at their meetings do not necessarily end

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More Branches in Action

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when their time is over. In addition, because this group meets at one of our libraries, members frequently are expanding their pursuit of knowledge afterwards. Having participated in a *Great Decisions* interest group at another AAUW branch when I lived in another state, I feel that this represents a continuing focus on the AAUW Mission.

Pam Gershkoff, President
703/729-6535, positivelypam@hotmail.com

Greater Richmond Branch throws a great party on the second Friday evening of November. Attendees look forward to the evening; many say it is the start of the Holidays for them. The buzz in the room is expectant, everyone enjoying the food, the wine and the fellowship, but the reason for the party is fundraising.

Of all the schemes for raising money for scholarships and fellowships, this has been the most successful the Branch has carried out, and the least onerous. The Branch wine tasting chairs work with a local wine store, Total Wine and More, whose knowledgeable manager makes suggestions for possible wines to use.

At the event, the wine experts tell a bit about the wines, attendees try them and eat the hors d'oeuvres provided by Branch members, and at the end of the two hour wine tasting, the Branch has raised about \$2000. Expenses, primarily the wine, also include printing tickets and mailing them to members, and a donation to the church where the event is held.

This year was the first time in nine years that GRAAUW raised less money than the year before. In preparation for the Tenth Annual Wine Tasting, we will poll the Branch members to see what may have caused the downturn, and consider what we can do to increase our net. Our proceeds go to the AAUW Funds and to the Branch local scholarship. We were delighted at the 2011 Wine Tasting to have our first local scholarship honoree attend. We look forward to many more years and honorees.

Marcia Phillips, Newsletter Editor
804/320-5180, marshakingarter@verizon.net

Woodbridge Branch has been supporting STEM activities for over 20 years. The "Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS!" Conference was started in 1991 by member Susan Bardenhagen. Branch members have provided logistical and administrative support as well as being presenters. The girls select from a wide variety of presentations, while



Woodbridge Branch member judges Sandy Lawrence, Elaine Cash, Carol Campbell, Suzanne Harvey, Chuck Harvey, Carol Campbell, and Susan Bardenhagen at 2011 Science Fair.

parents can attend a separate track. Since 1994, branch members have been judging 7th and 8th grade girls' projects in the Prince William-Manassas Regional Science Fair. The branch awards three prizes. The girls and their parents are invited to the branch's spring luncheon to present their projects to branch members.

Sandy Lawrence, Newsletter Editor
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Reston-Herndon Branch continues to provide one to one support to selected girls at Forest Edge Elementary School. The program, established in 2002 by Eloise Plavcan and then vice principal, Roberta Sherman, strives to equalize learning and give intellectual and emotional support to female students in grades 3-6. Our program comes under the Fairfax County Schools' Mentorworks Program. The emphasis is on providing social, academic and cultural conversations and interactions. Our girls are chosen by the school counselor who either knows the individual, has been approached by the student herself or is recommended by a classroom teacher. Many of our girls have learned English as a second language and benefit by having one on one conversation with an adult. Three years ago we were asked to expand the program to those same girls who were entering the middle school. Recently a young woman at a checkout counter looked familiar to one of our original mentors. This young woman told her she had been in the mentor program years ago, was succeeding in college and working part time.

Mary Zane,
Co-chair, Educational Equity/Mentoring Program
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(More Branches on Page 8)

Who's running for AAUW Office? How are our Bylaws Changing? What are Our Priorities?

Before you vote in
AAUW of Virginia's
One Person/One Vote Program
this summer, check out our
Voter Guidelines on page 10!



More Branches in Action

(Continued from Page 7)

Charlottesville-UVA Branch, after reading the findings of the AAUW report, "Why So Few: Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics," decided to create a program aimed at promoting academic self-esteem among middle school girls interested in STEM occupations. So, on November 20, the branch hosted the first annual Charlottesville's Rising Stars in STEM awards ceremony.

Each local middle school was asked to nominate 5 girls who showed a strong interest in and dedication to the areas of science and mathematics. These young women and their families were invited to the McCormick Observatory for an evening celebrating women and girls in STEM fields. Dr. Kelsey Johnson, an astronomer at UVA who studies the physics of star formation, was the keynote speaker. She described her job as "the best job in the world" and gave advice about setting goals for the road to success as a woman in a STEM field. Each award recipient came forward to receive a certificate and was applauded by her family and peers. Following the keynote speech and ceremony, the girls had the opportunity to meet and mingle with local women in STEM fields with the aim of promoting the establishment of future mentoring relationships. AAUW Charlottesville UVA looks forward to hosting this event annually and encouraging more girls to follow their interests in pursuing STEM careers.

Lauren Germain, President
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Give New Graduates AAUW Membership Free

AAUW members can give a recent grad — a friend, daughter, son, granddaughter, grandson, niece, or nephew — a free AAUW membership within two years of graduation. At no cost to you or them!

Expose the grad to the power that comes from belonging to a national women-led organization of more than 100,000 members who believe in and advance equity and education for women and girls.

Expand their networking opportunities through career development opportunities and community action projects. They will experience the rewards of working with and learning from successful AAUW mentors.

Keep them current on the events and people that affect their life as they receive Mission & Action, AAUW Outlook, Action Network alerts, and more.

Increase their buying power with access to discounts at The Princeton Review, Barnes&Noble.com, health and life insurance, auto insurance, AAUW research reports, credit cards and other members-only benefits such as CareerBuilder.com and TravelSmart.

Best of all, she/he will receive a free one-year AAUW membership at no cost to you or them! So send no money! Remember, only members can take advantage of this offer. <http://tinyurl.com/74v4yef>. If you need assistance contact your Branch membership chair.



Fellow's Address to Branch Proves to Be Inspirational

I entered the room I spotted a tall, attractive woman. "Oh good, I thought, "a prospective member, and she's young!"

I was at the Mt. Vernon Branch Annual Holiday Luncheon, and when Dr. Toby Jenkins was introduced to the group as an AAUW Fellow and Assistant Professor of Integrative Studies and Higher Education at George Mason University. I thought, "Ahh!" After lunch Toby addressed the group. She told us about her first job driving the Oscar Mayer Weiner Car, then about working with students from over 40 countries one summer at Johns Hopkins as Resident Life Director. She spoke of her individual research and studies that have taken her to over 20 countries, her work at the University of Maryland Cultural Center and College of Education, and her doctoral work at Penn State directing the Paul Robeson Cultural Center. She spoke of her love of her South Carolina hometown and of the oral histories she is collecting.

Then she spoke of the project funded by her AAUW American Fellowship: *Follow the Yellow Brick Road: Places of Possibility, Creative Imagine, and Cultural Inclusion* ...and of her breast cancer. She said that the check from AAUW came at a time when she most needed it: her treatments for cancer, while doing research; her declining financial account; a low point in her life. Her words of appreciation and gratefulness brought us all to tears. Tears, because our hearts were touched by Toby's story; yes, but also, because we were so proud of her and of our association with her through AAUW. Sandra Prince, Co-President of the Mt. Vernon Branch, commented that "Toby Jenkins made us aware just how much our youth today desire a good education. She is phenomenal as she



Sandra Prince and Cathy Krebs, Co-Presidents of the Mt. Vernon Branch, with Dr. Toby Jenkins.

gives back to the communities in D.C. and to her home town in South Carolina, all while facing health adversity."

By listening to Toby we truly experienced the good that these AAUW fellowships can provide to someone who is driven to make this world a better place." This remarkable woman, with more accomplishments under her belt than all of us in the room combined, is the epitome of what AAUW is all about. She has overcome obstacles in her life to continue achieving and making a positive difference in our society. She makes us proud to be members of AAUW, working to break barriers for women and girls around the world. Toby is not a member of my branch, but she IS AAUW. **Isn't this what AAUW is all about? Isn't this why we join?**

To read more about Dr. Toby Jenkins, go to <http://tobyjenkins.weebly.com/index.html>

Patsy Quick, Vice-President for Communication
703/360-8678, pnquick@cox.net

Funds Report

In 2011-2012 AAUW is providing more than \$3.7 million for 340 fellowships and grants to outstanding women, AAUW state and branch organizations and other nonprofit organizations. In awarding grants, AAUW looks for future impact in the community as well as scholarly impact.

A panel of scholars, researchers and practitioners, appointed by the AAUW board for two years, studies applicants for the six types of fellowships and grants. Through teleconferencing and web based tools, the reviewers rank their top candidates, make recommendations for their selectees and alternates and suggest those applicants that should be encouraged to reapply next year. These recommendations are then sent to the AAUW Board of Directors, which makes the final decision. AAUW of Virginia has a Fellow on its state board, Lauren Germain.

Mary Swain, AAUW Funds Chair
757/405-9514, rmswain@cox.net

Opt-in or Not?

Last November, 407 Virginia AAUW members agreed to receive the Virginia *Vision* online. and 425 Virginia AAUW members agreed to vote online as Virginia implements One Member/One Vote this summer. (See the guide on the next page.)

You can still participate in the online vote and/or receive the *Vision* online if you act before April 1.

- Email your first and last name, branch, and email address to Patsy Quick, VP for Communications, at pnquick@cox.net.
- Indicate your two decisions: Vote YES or NO for receiving the *Vision* online and to vote online.

(If we do not hear from you, you will receive print through postal mail.)

AAUW of Virginia One Member/One Vote Guidelines



This is the inaugural year for AAUW of Virginia's One Member/One Vote initiative. We hope that all of you will be casting your vote in May.

This is the Voter Guide to the elections. This year you will be voting on (1) a proposed dues increase, (2) proposed bylaws amendments, (3) candidates for state offices, and (4) 2012-14 Public Policy Priorities Reports outlining your choices are found in this Voter Guide. There will be opportunity for discussion of this draft content at the AAUW of Virginia Conference, April 20-22, in Newport News. The Voter Guide content may be updated at that time. An updated Voter Guide will be available on the state website (www.aauwofva.org) after the conference.

At this time you should:

- 1. SAVE THIS COPY OF *VIRGINIA VISION*.**
- 2. VERIFY YOUR EMAIL /MAILING ADDRESS IN YOUR AAUW NATIONAL PROFILE**

Voting will be made available online to all AAUW of Virginia members with email addresses. The email address that AAUW National has in your profile in the Member Services Database (MSD) will be the address used to notify you to vote. New members who are in the MSD by April 1, 2012, will be eligible to vote in the 2012 elections. Members who do not have email addresses and members who have not chosen to opt-out of receiving a USPS-mailed ballot will also receive a paper ballot mailed to the mailing address found in the MSD. To assure receipt of voting instructions and ballot, go to the AAUW Member Center, which can be accessed from the AAUW of Virginia HOME PAGE at www.aauwofva.org and log into the MSD to verify and edit your email and mailing addresses no later than April 1, 2012.

If you do not know how to do this please contact the membership chair of your branch.

WATCH FOR YOUR VOTING INSTRUCTIONS IN MAY

Do not ignore emails and mailings in May! The instructions provided you at that time will include the deadlines for voting. All votes will be returned to and tallied by the AAUW national office and will not be seen by AAUW of Virginia members.

Questions concerning the process of voting should be directed to the *AAUW of Virginia Voting and Elections Committee (V&EC)* at OMOV4VA@gmail.org. Please do not send change of address notices to the V&EC since addresses on file at the national AAUW office will be used.

STATE DUES INCREASE PROPOSAL

AAUW of Virginia Board of Directors is recommending an increase in state dues to \$15, effective with dues paid on or later than July 1, 2012. The state board is also recommending that the state dues increase be waived for full-time graduate students in order to facilitate membership growth among graduate students. The good news is that all those who pay their 2012-13 dues before July 1 will pay the current dues amount of \$8.

State dues have been \$8 since 1991, and what cost \$8 then now costs more than \$13. The board is proposing \$15 in order to cover current costs and also avoid another dues increase for several years. Revenue, which is based on dues, has declined over the years as our membership has decreased. At the same time expenses have increased, particularly for printing and postage, and we now must add the cost to implement one member/one vote, which involves printing, postage, and computer programming costs. The board has cut expenses in past years by deleting one issue of the *Virginia Vision* and substituting a free conference call for the winter board meeting. Partial reimbursement to board members for gas and hotel has not changed in many years. However, despite our efforts, we are now dipping into our investments to balance the budget.

As with other noticed business, attendees at the state conference may discuss and amend the proposal, which will occur during the Sunday business meeting. The final vote by all members will be by email and paper ballot after the conference.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE AAUW OF VIRGINIA BYLAWS

The Bylaws Committee presents the following amendments, most of which will bring the bylaws into conformity with the one member/one vote process.

Proposed additions to the Bylaws are **boldfaced**; proposed deletions are ~~struck out~~.

1. ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP, Section 4. College/University

Rationale: Since there is no longer a delegate system which provided the college/university representatives with a vote, this amendment clarifies their voting rights at state meetings.

Current Bylaw

ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP

Section 4. College/University. A college or university within the state, which is a college/university partner of the AAUW, shall also be a college/university partner of AAUW of Virginia and shall be entitled to representation at all state meetings.

Proposed Amendment

Section 4. College/University. A college or university within the state, which is a college/university partner of the AAUW, shall also be a college/university partner of AAUW of Virginia and shall be entitled to representation at all state meetings. **Individuals representing these institutions shall have the same voting rights as all other individual members.**

2. ARTICLE VI. FISCAL AFFAIRS, Section 2. Dues

Rationale: With the one member/one vote, only a majority vote is needed. With all members voting by email or paper ballot, there will no longer be a vote at the state business meeting.

Current Bylaw

Section 2. Dues

a. ANNUAL DUES. The annual state dues for branch members shall be fixed by a two-thirds vote of the state business meeting upon recommendation of the state board of directors, provided written notice has been given to all members thirty (30) days prior to the state meeting. This amount shall include a subscription to the state newsletter. Dues are payable to the state vice president for finance on July 1.

Proposed Amendment

Section 2. Dues

a. ANNUAL DUES. The annual state dues for branch **and state** members shall be fixed by a ~~two-thirds majority~~ vote of the ~~state-business meeting members~~ upon recommendation of the state board of directors, provided written notice has been given to all members thirty (30) days prior to the ~~state meeting~~ **vote**. This amount shall include a subscription to the state newsletter. Dues are payable to the state vice president for finance on July 1.

3. ARTICLE VI. FISCAL AFFAIRS, Section 3. Budget

Rationale: The new date for the budget and financial report will allow time for the board of directors to hold its summer board meeting in July or early August.

Current Bylaw

Section 3. Budget. The annual budget and the financial report for the state shall be prepared and approved by AAUW of Virginia Board of Directors no later than July 31. The board shall have the authority to revise the budget within available income.

Proposed Amendment

Section 3. Budget. The annual budget and the financial report for the state shall be prepared and approved by AAUW of Virginia Board of Directors no later than ~~July 31~~ **August 15**. The board shall have the authority to revise the budget within available income.

4. ARTICLE VIII. DUTIES OF OFFICERS, Section 1.b.(3) Vice President for Finance

Rationale: The February 1 date was for the purpose of the delegate system and assigning the number of delegates to branches. In keeping with the one member/one vote, every member in good standing will now be able to vote.

Current Bylaw

Section 1 b (3) Vice President for Finance. The vice president for finance shall

(h) Report to each branch by March 1 of each year the number of members in good standing as of February 1 in that branch.

Proposed Amendment

Section 1 b (3) Vice President for Finance. The vice president for finance shall

(h) ~~Report to each branch by March 1 of each year the number of members in good standing as of February 1 in that branch.~~

5. ARTICLE VIII. DUTIES OF OFFICERS, Section 1.b.(5) Vice President for Communications

Rationale: The Communications Chair will be given the flexibility to cover different methods of communication.

Current Bylaw

Section 1.b.(5) Vice President for Communications. The vice president for communications shall Chair the Communications Committee

which shall include the public information officer, the technology chair, and those responsible for publication of the newsletter; and

Proposed Amendment

(5) Vice President for Communications. The vice president for communications shall Chair the Communications Committee which shall include ~~the public information officer, the technology chair~~ **those responsible for the website, other social media,** and ~~those responsible for publication of the newsletter;~~ and

6. ARTICLE IX. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Rationale: The proposed amendments for Article IX reflect changes that will be necessary to implement the one member/one vote initiative. The election of officers will not take place by delegates at the annual state business meeting. The date of June 15 was selected as the latest date by which voting by email mail and paper ballot should close.

Current Bylaw

Section 2. Nominations

d. Nominations may be made from the floor at the time of election, provided the written consent of the nominee has been obtained

Section 3. Elections

- a. Both state and district elected officers shall be elected at the annual state business meeting.
- b. Elections shall be by ballot except when there is only one candidate for an office in which case the election may be by voice vote.
- c. A majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for election. In case a majority is not obtained on the first ballot, a second ballot shall be taken between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

Proposed Amendment

Section 2. Nominations

d. ~~Nominations may be made from the floor at the time of election;~~ **Once the Nominating Committee has submitted to the membership the slate of officers, additional nominations may be made within thirty (30) days in writing or by email to the Nominating Committee Chair,** provided the written consent of the nominee has been obtained.

Section 3. Elections

- a. ~~Both state and district elected officers shall be elected at the annual state business meeting.~~ **State elected officers shall be elected between April 1 and June 15.**
- b. ~~Elections shall be by ballot except when there is only one candidate for an office in which case the election may be by voice vote.~~ **Elections shall be by written or electronic ballot.**
- c. ~~A majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for election. In case a majority is not obtained on the first ballot, a second ballot shall be taken between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.~~ **Elections shall be by a majority of the votes cast or by a plurality of the votes if there are more than two (2) candidates for an office.**

7. ARTICLE X. BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 3. Powers and Duties, b. Branch Supervision

Rationale: This was an old category of membership, deleted in the late 1950's, but associate members at that time could retain membership until they left the branch. There are no longer any associate members in any of the Virginia branches.

Current Bylaw

Section 3. Powers and Duties

- b. Branch Supervision
 - (2) Forfeiture...A branch shall be deemed to have forfeited its right to continue as a branch for any of the following reasons.
 - (d) Has exceeded the 20 percent limitation on associate members.

Proposed Amendment

Section 3. Powers and Duties

- b. Branch Supervision
 - (2) Forfeiture...A branch shall be deemed to have forfeited its right to continue as a branch for any of the following reasons.
 - ~~(d) Has exceeded the 20 percent limitation on associate members.~~

8. ARTICLE XV. MEETINGS, Section 1. State and Section 4.b. Resolutions

Rationale: With one member/one vote, there will no longer be election of officers or final voting on business at the annual meeting. In accordance with fiduciary responsibility, an annual financial report should be required; other reports can be presented as desired. The section on Resolutions is amended to reflect permissible resolutions from the floor at the meeting. Any noticed resolution will be voted on by all members under one member/one vote.

Current Bylaw

Section 1. State

- a. AAUW of Virginia shall hold an annual business meeting. In even-numbered years it will be held during the state-wide meeting and in odd-numbered years during the leadership conference or similar meeting. The purpose of the annual business meeting shall be to conduct the business of the state, including, but not limited to, electing officers, amending bylaws and receiving reports.

Section 4. Resolutions

b. Resolutions may be proposed from the floor for discussion by a two-thirds vote of the body. A three-fourths vote shall be required for the adoption of such resolutions.

Proposed Amendment

Section 1. State

a. AAUW of Virginia shall hold an annual business meeting. In even-numbered years it will be held during the state-wide meeting and in odd-numbered years during the leadership conference or similar meeting. The purpose of the annual business meeting shall be to conduct the business of the state, ~~including, but not limited to, electing officers, bylaws and receiving reports~~ **which shall include the annual financial report.**

Section 4. Resolutions

b. Resolutions **of courtesy, appreciation, recognition or of requests of the state board of directors** may be proposed from the floor for discussion by a two-thirds vote of the ~~body~~ **attendees**. A three-fourths vote shall be required for the adoption of such resolutions.

9. ARTICLE XV. MEETINGS. Add new Section 4. Voting. Renumber current Section 4.

Rationale: With one member/one vote, all voting will be done by electronic or paper ballot. Information to be voted on will be submitted prior to the business meeting, and there may be discussion and amendments at the meeting. Final ballots will be distributed after the meeting.

Proposed New Section 4. Voting

a. **Attendees at the annual business meeting shall be entitled to discuss and amend state business items, including proposed bylaws amendments, noticed resolutions, and the biennial Public Policy Priorities. Any amended language shall be posted on the state website following the meeting.**

b. **The final vote shall be conducted for all state members by electronic and paper ballot immediately following the state meeting. Voting shall close at a date proposed by the Voting and Elections Committee and approved by the board of directors.**

[See also Article IX. Nominations and Elections and Article XIX. Amendments.]

10. ARTICLE XIX. AMENDMENTS, Section 1. and new Section 2.

Rationale: A new method of submitting and approving bylaws amendments is needed to comply with one member/one vote. All information will be distributed by the state newsletter and/or by email with discussion available at the state meeting and or by email.

Current Bylaw

Section 1. The provisions of these bylaws not covered by the AAUW Bylaws may be amended at any state business meeting by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, provided notice of the proposed amendment shall have been sent to the Bylaws Committee Chair at least sixty (60) days prior to the annual business meeting. The committee shall examine the proposed amendment to the bylaws and shall report at the annual business meeting those amendments the committee considers appropriate having given notice thirty (30) days prior to the annual business meeting to all branches, members of AAUW of Virginia board of directors, college/university representatives, and state members-at-large. Without previous notice the amendments may be adopted by unanimous vote of the business meeting body.

Proposed Amendment

Section 1. The provisions of these bylaws not covered by the AAUW Bylaws may be amended, ~~at any state business meeting by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting~~ provided notice of the proposed amendment shall have been sent to the Bylaws Committee chair ~~at least sixty (60) days prior to the annual business meeting~~ **by December 1**. The committee shall examine the proposed amendment to the bylaws and shall report **in the Spring issue of the state newsletter** ~~at the annual business meeting~~ those amendments the committee considers appropriate ~~having given notice thirty (30) days prior to the annual business meeting to all branches, members of AAUW of Virginia board of directors, college/university representatives, and state members-at-large~~ to all state members. ~~Without previous notice the amendments may be adopted by unanimous vote of the business meeting body.~~

New Section 2. Attendees at the state business meeting shall be able to discuss and amend proposed bylaw amendments. Following the state business meeting, any amended language will be posted on the state website for the final vote. All eligible members shall be entitled to vote electronically or by paper ballot. A two-thirds vote is required for the adoption of bylaws amendments, provided a quorum is attained.

[Succeeding sections will be renumbered.]

The AAUW of Virginia Bylaws Committee consisted of Enid Housty (Hampton), and Peggy Stotz (McLean Area), Co-Chairs; Kay Gravatt (Portsmouth), and Caroline Pickens (State President), ex officio.

Nominations for Office to Be Voted On

The Nominating Committee has announced the following candidates for state offices. Per changes to state bylaws for One Member/One Vote, additional candidates may declare. Contact the Nominating Committee chair within 30 days."

President: Caroline Pickens

Vice President for Programs: Anita Aymer

Vice President for Communications: Patsy Quick

Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy:

Angela D. Booker, Susan Eisenberg

Meet the Candidates:

Caroline Pickens, a graduate of Kansas State University with a master's degree from Georgetown University, is seeking re-election as state president. She is a member of the McLean Area Branch, serving as President, Program VP, and Co-Treasurer. She has been state board Educational Equity chair, Bylaws chair, and Parliamentarian. From 1984 to 2000 Caroline headed up the AAUW Executive Office in Washington, DC. From 2002-2009 she was on the AAUW Bylaws Committee and was chair during revision of national bylaws. She is currently chair of the Archives Task Force.

Anita Aymer has been a member of the Wytheville Branch since relocating there in 2005 from Portsmouth. She is seeking re-election as Vice President for Program. Anita served as President of the Wytheville Branch for four years and was the State Conference chair in 2011. She has a Bachelor of Arts. from Brooklyn College, CUNY, and is currently a Career Coach for Wytheville Community College serving two high schools in the county.

Patsy Quick is a native of Charlotte, North Carolina. She graduated from High Point College (now University) and holds a Master of Science from Old Dominion University. Retired after serving as a reading specialist in Northern Virginia, Patsy has been a member of AAUW since the 1970s when she joined in Virginia Beach.

Currently a member of the Mt. Vernon Branch, she is seeking re-election as Vice President for Communications. She has also served

AAUW of Virginia as Educational Foundation Chair and Membership Vice President. As Communications VP, she will oversee the *Virginia Vision* as it goes out online for the first time.

Angela Booker has a Master's in Business Administration degree from Marymount University, and Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from Morgan State University. A member of the Woodbridge Branch, Angela is involved in the Get Out The Vote campaign. She is a member of the Prince William County Housing Board, and represents the Fairfax Area League of Women Voters on the Board of Affordable Housing Opportunity Means Everyone (AHOME). She chaired the Cooperative Council of Ministries from 2007 through 2009, Past positions she has held include Board of Directors Federal Executive Institute Alumni Association, Chair ASTM E02 Technical Committee on Terminology, and Division Director Association of Systems Management.

Susan Eisenberg, a member of the Smith Mountain Branch, lives part-time in Washington, DC, and has served Georgetown University School of Nursing and Health Studies as Director of the Office of Research Support, Office of the Senior Vice President for Research and Technology, and as Director of Operations and Deputy Director of Georgetown's National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health. She served as Director of Business Management for the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) and the Executive Director of the American Federation for Medical Research, and the National Association of Environmental Professionals. A founder of the National Association of Women Business Owners, she holds a Master of Science in finance from the American University Kogod School of Business.

Suzan Herskowitz,
Chair, Nominating Committee
sdhorsk@verizon.net, (540) 664-8336

Nominating Committee: District Representatives: Suzan Herskowitz (Northwest), Sandra Lawrence (Northern), Toni Seidelmann (Southwest) DeAnn Lineberry (Southeast)

Proposed Public Policy Priorities

The state board recommends approval of the proposed 2012-14 Public Policy Priorities. These do not vary significantly from the seven current 2009-12 priorities but are more concise. The two priorities dealing with health were combined, and since charter schools are becoming a fact of life, the education priority covers them also. As there should be no bullying anywhere, specific locations in the current priorities were deleted. The last bullet has been revised to specifically include the STEM fields.

- **Gender equity in education, employment, pay, retirement benefits, and public appointments**
- **Public funds for elementary and secondary education to be used only for schools that adhere to the civil rights and accountability standards required of public schools**
- **Access to quality health care and family planning including individual choice in reproductive decisions and equity in women's health research and treatment**
- **Freedom from violence, bullying, and sexual harassment**
- **Access to quality dependent care**
- **Programs that provide women with education, training, and support for success in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fields, the work force, and society**

Dianne Blais
dianneblais@aol.com
703/338-9401

Laura Wimmer
lwimmeraaauw@aol.com
804/496-6124

Vice Presidents for Public Policy

AAUW of Virginia Spring Conference
April 20-22, 2012
Marriott Hotel of City Center at Oyster Point, Newport News
757/873-9299

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Past state president? _____ Board position? _____

Special designation: Branch president First timer Student affiliate

Registration fee received by March 15 - \$95; after March 15 - \$105 \$ _____

(includes Saturday box lunch and evening banquet)

Friday night dessert reception & *The Victorian Exercise Lady* - \$18 \$ _____

Guest meals Sat. box lunch - \$24 Sat. evening banquet - \$45 \$ _____

Name(s) _____

Saturday afternoon tours: 3:30-5:00 p.m. Choose one (optional):

Hampton University Museum guided tour, transportation provided - \$10 \$ _____

Mariner's Museum guided tour, easy drive/no transportation provided - \$10 \$ _____

Make check to Hampton AAUW/Conference TOTAL check amount \$ _____
 (no refunds after April 1)

Mail registration and check to:

Mrs. Wilma S. Robinson, 1134 Cambridge Crescent, Norfolk, VA 23508-1222

Two Saturday meals are included in registration – indicate choice:

Boxed lunch: vegetarian on olive bread roast beef ciabatta club croissant

Evening banquet: vegetarian selection cashew crusted mahi herb roasted chicken

Saturday Workshops (Select one under each time)

11:15-12:30

- Making Waves with Social Media
- Sink or Swim – Getting & Keeping Members
- Getting the Vote Out

2:00-3:15

- Making Waves with Social Media
- Sink or Swim – Getting & Keeping Members
- Getting the Vote Out

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Washington, DC 20038
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800/326-2289 (AAUW)
202/785-7798 (Metropolitan
Washington, DC)
202/785-7777 (TDD
number)202/872-1425 (FAX)



e-mail: connect@aauw.org

AAUW website:
<http://www.aauw.org>

AAUW Congressional Action Line:
202/785-7786

VA AAUW Website:
<http://www.aauwofva.org>

VA Legislators Action Line:
800/889-0229

I Go to State Meetings Because—

I see leaders and members from other branches, but most of all to spend time with my branch members to get to know them better and just have fun!

--Kitty Richardson, Falls Church Branch.

We explore new ideas, hear exciting speakers, pay tribute to outstanding women, make a stand for equity!

--Kathryn Braeman, Arlington Branch

I get inspiration and energy; being with like-minded women is contagious!

--Beth Ann Rossi, Roanoke Valley

Stay Current With AAUW

To insure that you receive your *Virginia Vision* as well as other materials from AAUW, such as information about One Member One Vote your mailing and email addresses need to be kept current.

To change any of this information, go online to
http://www.aauw.org/member_center/forms/recordchange.cfm

Members without computers may call the helpline: 800/326-AAUW, or write

AAUW Records Office
1111 Sixteenth St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036