



2021 AAUW of Virginia Conference and Annual Business Meeting

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Co-Presidents' Welcome	4
About the Conference Logo	5
2021 Virtual State Conference Agenda	5
2021 Virtual Annual Business Meeting Agenda	9
Standing Rules of the 96th Annual Business Meeting, 2021	11
Summary of the 95th Annual Business Meeting, 2020	12
Vice President for Finance Report	14
Co-Presidents' Report	17
Vice President for Program Report	19
Vice President for Membership Report	20
Vice President for Communications Report	21
Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy Report	22
• Public Policy Branch Mini-Grants Report	23
Voter Guide	24
Nominating Committee Report	24
• Candidates' Bios	25
Bylaws and Resolutions Chair Report	26
• AAUW-VA Proposed Bylaws Amendment	27
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair Report	28
College/University Chair Report	29
AAUW Funds Report 2020	30
Branch Names Honored 2020	31
Historian's Report	32

TABLE OF CONTENTS

District Representatives' Reports	
Northern District	33
Northwest District	33
Southeast District	34
Southwest District	35
 AAUW-VA Salutes Its Legacy Circle Members	 36
 AAUW-VA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2020-2021	 37
 AAUW-VA Branch Presidents	 38
 Reports of the AAUW-VA Branches	
Alexandria	39
Arlington	39
Fairfax City	40
Falls Church Area	40
Greater Richmond	41
Hampton	41
Harrisonburg	42
Lynchburg	42
McLean Area	43
Mt. Vernon	43
Norfolk	44
Portsmouth	44
Reston-Herndon Area	45
Roanoke Valley	45
Smith Mountain	46
Springfield-Annandale	46
Suffolk	47
Vienna Area	47
Virginia Beach	48
Winchester	48
Woodbridge	49
Wytheville	49
 Past State Conventions/Conferences/Annual Business Meetings	 51
 Advertisements	 55

Co-Presidents' Welcome

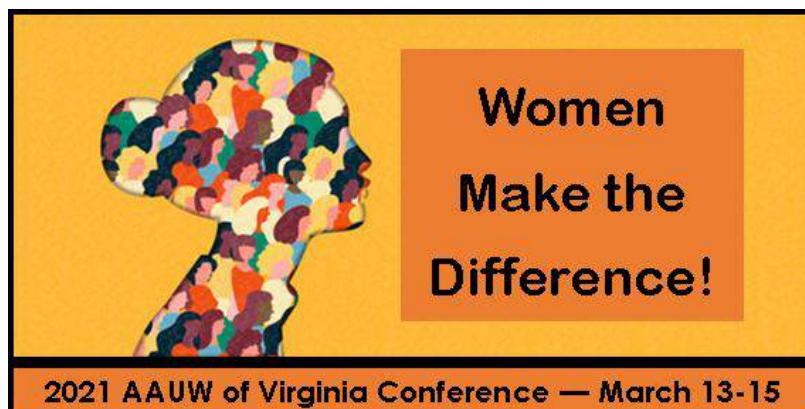
It is hard to imagine that it has been less than a year since we were forced to cancel our annual state conference because of COVID-19. Instead, we only held the Annual Business Meeting required by our bylaws, but with a twist: We had to hold it virtually. It was then that we were introduced to Zoom—a word that we previously knew in several different contexts, but never as a remote video conferencing service. Since that time, Zoom has become ubiquitous in our lives and has answered some of the concerns that many of us had about how AAUW of Virginia would continue to operate as a membership organization that advances equity for women and girls, given the restrictions COVID-19 placed on all facets of our lives. Happily, the answer to our concerns is that we have continued to operate very well (although we do miss in-person get-togethers).

Welcome to our 2021 annual conference, which includes our Annual Business Meeting. This multi-day conference features many inspiring, knowledgeable, and excellent speakers who discuss how *Women Make the Difference!* to the fabric of our country. Against the backdrop of 2020 and the January 6, 2021, insurrection striking at the heart of our democracy, our conference agenda speaks to our resilience, strength, determination, flexibility, focus, clarity, and creativity, which have enabled us to make the difference against unimaginable challenges. The agenda over the three days will be replete with engaging, mission-related speakers; opportunities to ask questions of the speakers; and even some chances to win door prizes.

We are honored to be serving as your co-presidents and are inspired by the state board and branch members who continue to strive to effect change in our community to achieve a better future for all. Thanks to all of you for what you do to make AAUW of Virginia the vibrant organization it is. Continue to stay safe.

Suzanne Rothwell /Leslie Tourigny
AAUW of Virginia Co-Presidents

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE LOGO

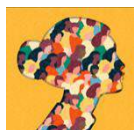


This year's conference logo was designed by VP for Communications **Patsy Quick** to represent our conference theme of how ***Women Make the Difference!*** The outline of a strong female archetype composed of varied female figures reflects that we of AAUW value women from diverse backgrounds with individual beliefs, preferences, and experiences. By valuing the unique in every woman, we are confirming that feminism is about equity, not "sameness," and that equity cannot be achieved without eliminating systemic racism. Thus, the many women of different outward appearances are facing forward together to advance complete equity for all, in every meaning of the term. Thanks to Patsy.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Day 1: Saturday, March 13

10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. & 3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.



10:10 a.m. Women Make the Difference! The 2020 AAUW of Virginia Woman of Achievement Awardees

Biennially, AAUW-VA presents our prestigious Woman of Achievement Award to Virginia women who have made outstanding educational, civic, and cultural contributions; demonstrated excellent leadership skills; and contributed to the advancement of women with a positive impact in our state and/or nation. We selected two outstanding awardees in 2020, but the covid pandemic prevented us from honoring them last year.

Join us in honoring our 2020 Woman of Achievement Awardees: **State Senator Janet Howell** and **Scientist Ana Luisa Tió Humphrey**:

- As the second in seniority in the Virginia Senate, **Senator Howell** is one of Virginia's most influential state senators. She has been representing parts of Fairfax and Arlington Counties since 1992. She is credited with major legal reforms, and her legislative priorities have focused on education, children and families, and equal rights for women.

- **Ana Luisa Tió Humphrey** is a scientist who has won multiple national, international, and state awards for her research, and who mentors young students in STEM. In 2019, she was the first-place winner surpassing more than 2,000 student entries in the prestigious Regeneron (formerly the Westinghouse) Science Talent Search. Ms. Humphrey currently attends Harvard College where she is double-majoring in astrophysics and physics.



11:00 a.m. Keynote Address: Women Make a Difference! in U.S. Elections: Assessing Gender and Intersectional Dynamics in Election 2020 and Beyond

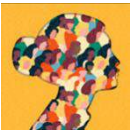
2020 was a record-breaking year for women in American politics from the presidential level down. However, understanding the success and influence of women in elections and representation requires attention to diversity *among* women, including along lines of race/ethnicity and party. **Dr. Kelly Dittmar, PhD**, Associate Professor of Political Science at Rutgers University–Camden, and Director of Research and Scholar at the renowned Center for American Women and Politics at the Eagleton Institute of Politics, will assess the gender and intersectional dynamics in election 2020, with particular attention to women candidates, voters, and activists, and discuss what election outcomes reveal and mean for women's representation and policymaking in 2021 and beyond.



11:45 a.m. What Difference! Does Poverty Make in the Lives of Women?

Economic security, *i.e.*, ensuring livelihoods for women, is one of the focal areas in the AAUW Strategic Plan. It plays a prominent role in our research, advocacy, and program planning. No discussion of economic security is complete without considering poverty and what difference it makes in the lives of women.

Poverty is indeed a complex and thought-provoking term. For women, it entails more than just a lack of income and resources. It impedes their ability to make decisions regarding every aspect of their lives. In this session, we will hear from two experts: **Dr. Diane Hodge, PhD**, Director of the School of Social Work in Radford University's Waldron College of Health and Human Services; and **Susheela Varky, Esq.**, Director of the Center for Family Advocacy and Legal Assistance for Victim-Immigrants of Domestic Abuse (LA VIDA) at the Virginia Poverty Law Center. They'll discuss poverty's impact on our society, especially on women.



3:00 p.m. AAUW of Virginia Women Make the Difference!

Kim Churches, AAUW's chief executive officer since 2017, joins us for a special presentation to recognize AAUW of Virginia as the very first state to achieve all five stars in the AAUW Five-Star National Recognition Program. She will present an overview of what AAUW national has been working on and achieved, an update on national priorities for 2021, and a description of what is next on the gender agenda, and then entertain questions from the audience.

Thanks to our state board and members for the collective hard work that resulted in this recognition.



4:00 p.m. AAUW of Virginia Annual Business Meeting

Please join us at our 96th Annual Business Meeting so that we can conduct important business of our organization, including hearing the financial report, considering a bylaws amendment, and meeting the candidates for AAUW-VA officer positions. You'll be on hand as we unveil AAUW of Virginia's first State Named Honorees. And, if it is your lucky day, you may even win a door prize! (see page 9 for business agenda)

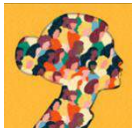
Day 2: Sunday, March 14
3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.



3:05 p.m. Women Make A Difference! in Military Service to Our Country

Women have been making a difference in military service as far back as the Revolutionary War when a number of women disguised themselves as men and fought in the Continental Army. Women did the same thing during the Civil War for both the Union and Confederate armies. During World War I, women served as U.S. Army nurses at military hospitals in the United States and overseas. In World War II, the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) was established, and the Navy Women's Reserve Act created the Women Accepted for Voluntary Service (WAVES). Fast forward: According to the Council on Foreign Relations, "when the draft ended in 1973, women represented just 2 percent of the enlisted forces and 8 percent of the officer corps. Today, those numbers are 16 percent and 19 percent, respectively..."

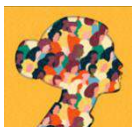
To help us learn about the history of women in military service to our country, there is no one better than **Lieutenant Colonel Marilla Cushman, USA, Retired**. After almost 25 years of active duty in the U.S. Army, in 1997 she went to work for the Military Women's Memorial Foundation, where she is now vice president of development.



3:45 p.m. Equity in Education Makes the Difference!

"...high-quality public education is the foundation of a democratic society and the key to improving economic prosperity and gender equality." (2019-2021 AAUW Public Policy Priorities)

It is not news to any AAUW member how integral equity in education is to our mission and our Public Policy Priorities. **Dr. Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., EdD**, Superintendent of the Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS), will join us to talk about the courageous and bold equity work being done by ACPS. Tasked with a mission to ensure that every student succeeds, the ACPS serves 15,000 plus students who hail from more than 145 countries and speak 132 languages.



4:25 p.m. Women Make the Difference! As Elected Officials in Virginia

Each successive election more and more women have been elected to serve at various levels of government in Virginia. Hear what our three panelists have to say about what motivated them to seek elected office, challenges they have faced as women elected officials, what unique skills women bring to governing, their personal successes, what lessons they have learned, and advice for those following in their footsteps, plus more.

- **State Senator Jen Kiggans**, a former Navy helicopter pilot and the first female military veteran to serve in the Virginia General Assembly, was elected in 2019 to represent Virginia's 7th Senate District, which covers parts of Norfolk and Virginia Beach. She was one of those voting aye for ratification of the ERA in 2020. Senator Kiggans also works as an adult geriatric nurse practitioner.
- **Chair Phyllis J. Randall**, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors Chair-at-Large, is the first person of color in Virginia's history to be elected chair of a county board. By profession, Chair Randall is a mental health therapist, working with substance abuse offenders in an incarcerated setting.
- **Mayor Deanna Reed** of Harrisonburg was first elected to the Harrisonburg City Council in 2016 and was recently selected by her fellow council members for her third consecutive term as mayor. She is the first African American female mayor in Harrisonburg's history and also works as the Director of Community and School Partnerships at the On the Road Collaborative, a nonprofit organization dedicated to closing the learning gap and empowering youth.

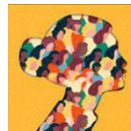
Day 3: Monday, March 15
3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.



3:05 p.m. Alexandria's Social Justice Initiatives

Anyone who has visited Alexandria undoubtedly has spent time in Old Town enjoying the historical sights, quaint shops, and the amazing restaurants. However, “a horrific part of Alexandria’s history is that, prior to America’s Civil War, Alexandria served as one of the largest domestic slave trading ports in America. Most of Alexandria’s leading businesses and properties could not have operated without the unpaid labor of the enslaved men, women, and children who lived and worked here.”

This session, presented by **Audrey Davis**, the renowned Director of the Alexandria Black History Museum, explores some of Alexandria’s social justice initiatives. Learn about the city’s partnership with the Equal Justice Institute in Montgomery, Alabama, “to memorialize documented victims of racial violence throughout history and foster meaningful dialogue about race and justice today.” The Alexandria Community Remembrance Project is “dedicated to helping Alexandria understand its history of racial terror hate crimes and to work toward creating a welcoming community bound by equity and inclusion.” Also, find out about new social justice initiatives during the pandemic, including *The Legacy of George Floyd: Documenting Alexandria’s Response*.



3:45 p.m. What a Difference! A Virtual Trip to the Booker T. Washington National Monument Makes

Nestled in the Smith Mountain Lake region in Franklin County, Virginia, is one of our country’s treasures, the National Park Service’s Booker T. Washington National Monument. Accompany us on a virtual trip to the birthplace of Dr. Washington, who was born a plantation slave in 1856 and gained freedom when he was 9 years old. He went on to become a renowned orator, author, educator, advisor to U.S. Presidents, and founder of the Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University) in Alabama.

Join us for a presentation about the park, the man, and his legacy by **Park Ranger Brittany Webb-Lane**. Ms. Webb-Lane, who became the park’s newest ranger in 2018, was born and raised in Rocky Mount, Virginia, in Franklin County, not many miles from the park. She is one of the small percentage of national park rangers who are minorities, and the even smaller percentage who are women of color.



4:25 p.m. Gender-Based Violence, Institutional Betrayal and the Carceral State

Once again, **Dr. Angela J. Hattery, PhD**, Professor of Women & Gender Studies and Co-Director of the Center for the Study and Prevention of Gender-Based Violence at the University of Delaware; and **Dr. Earl Smith, PhD**, Emeritus Professor of American Ethnic Studies and Sociology at Wake Forest University, who teaches classes in sociology, African and African-American studies, and women and gender studies at George Mason University and the University of Delaware, will help us better understand the complexities of a horrendous societal problem.

In this session, they will explore the ways in which gender-based violence is much more than violence perpetrated by one individual on another; and the ways in which institutions, including college campuses and the military, reinforce and amplify this violence through a series of policies and practices that produces experiences of institutional betrayal for victims/survivors. Finally, Drs. Hattery and Smith will consider the ways in which mass incarceration, which ensnares millions of Black men in the criminal legal system, exposes their partners to state surveillance and violence.



The 96th Annual Business Meeting of the
American Association of University Women of Virginia
Saturday, March 13, 2021, 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

2021 AAUW of Virginia Virtual Annual Business Meeting Agenda

Call to Order & Welcome (p. 4) ¹	Suzanne Rothwell & Leslie Tourigny Co-Presidents
Roll Call of Branches	Deborah Dodd Recording Secretary
Appointments	Leslie Tourigny
Adoption of the Registration Report	Deborah Dodd
Adoption of the Rules of the Annual Business Meeting (p. 11)	Deborah Dodd
Adoption of the Annual Business Meeting Agenda (pp. 9-10)	Nadine James Vice President for Program
Minutes of the 2020 Annual Business Meeting (pp. 12-13)	Deborah Dodd
Finance Report (pp. 14-16)	Marsha Melkonian Vice President for Finance
Reports of the Other Officers	
Co-Presidents (pp. 17-18)	Suzanne Rothwell & Leslie Tourigny
Vice President for Program (p. 19)	Nadine James
Vice President for Membership (p. 20)	Cheryl Spohnholtz
Vice President for Communications (p. 21)	Patsy Quick
Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy (p. 22-23)	Susan Burk & Denise Murden
Nominating Committee Report (pp. 24-25)	Anita Aymer, Chair

¹ Page numbers on this agenda reference where to find relevant documents in this conference program book.

2021 AAUW of Virginia Virtual Annual Business Meeting Agenda

Bylaws and Resolutions Report and Proposed Bylaws Amendment (pp. 26-27)	Carol Dabbs, Bylaws and Resolutions Chair
Reports of the Other Committees	
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (p. 28)	Cyndi Shanahan, Chair
College/University Relations (p. 29)	Barbara Woodlee, Chair
AAUW Funds (pp. 30-31)	Caroline Pickens, Chair
The First AAUW of Virginia Named Honorees	Caroline Pickens
Recognition of Outgoing State Board Member	Leslie Tourigny
Recognition Awards	Suzanne Rothwell
Legacy Circle (p. 36)	Kristin Moyer, AAUW Legacy Circle Liaison
New Business	Suzanne Rothwell & Leslie Tourigny
Door Prizes	Suzanne Rothwell & Leslie Tourigny
Closing Remarks & Adjournment	Suzanne Rothwell & Leslie Tourigny

Standing Rules of the 96th Annual Business Meeting, 2021, of the American Association of University Women of Virginia

1. Because of the national emergency procedures in effect due to COVID-19, this annual meeting will not be held in-person. Instead, it will be held utilizing the Zoom remote conferencing service.
2. Zoom has certain unique features that will enable us to accomplish the goals of our annual meeting through virtual means. These features, foremost among them “Chat,” “Raise Hand,” and “Q&A,” will be explained further at the outset of the meeting.
3. A committee of three to approve the minutes of the meeting shall be appointed by the co-presidents at the beginning of the meeting.
4. A teller shall be appointed at the beginning of the meeting by the co-presidents and shall assist in counting votes whenever requested to do so.
5. A timekeeper shall be appointed by the co-presidents at the beginning of the meeting.
6. A page shall be appointed to manage Chats, Q&A, and other forms of input during the meeting.
7. Any attendee wanting to ask a question or make a comment shall use Chat only for technical issues and Q&A only for questions on the business of the meeting and discussion.
8. Voting shall be by means of the Raise Hand feature, except as set forth in Item 12 below.
9. All motions and amendments to the proposed bylaws amendment shall be presented to the recording secretary in writing through Q&A. Individuals presenting motions and/or amendments must identify themselves and their branch. The recording secretary shall repeat the motion and the name and branch of the individual submitting it.
10. No member may provide input a second time to a question until all others wishing to provide input on that question have been heard.
11. Discussion on the proposed bylaws amendment
 - a. A member may have one minute for a speech either pro or con using Q&A, alternating so far as possible, starting with a con speech;
 - b. Discussion on the proposed bylaws amendment is limited to five minutes; and
 - c. Total discussion and voting time on any changes to the proposed bylaws amendment shall be limited to six minutes.
12. Audio of attendees shall be muted during the meeting unless the co-presidents determine that audio shall be unmuted for voting or discussion. In such situation, audio must be muted again at the end of the vote or discussion.

Summary of the 95th Annual Business Meeting, 2020

Introduction and Welcome – Co-Presidents Carol Stephens and Leslie Tourigny called the 95th Annual Business Meeting of the American Association of University Women of Virginia to order at 1:05 p.m. on Saturday, April 18, 2020. The meeting was held as a virtual meeting using Zoom. Because of the coronavirus pandemic the in-person annual state conference, which was to be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites in Alexandria, Virginia, was canceled. The theme for the meeting had been “Celebrating Visionary Women, 1920-2020.” Instead, only the Annual Business Meeting portion of the conference was held. Members were asked to follow the meeting in the program book that was distributed online.

Roll Call of Branches – AAUW of Virginia Recording Secretary Deborah Dodd called the roll of branches in attendance.

Adoption of Registration Report – Recording Secretary Dodd reported that at the time the registration report was adopted by the membership, there were 97 members in attendance, representing 23 of the 25 branches. However, two more members joined the meeting after the report, raising the total to 99 members in attendance. The Registration Report was adopted.

Adoption of the Standing Rules of the Annual Business Meeting – Recording Secretary Dodd moved for the adoption of the Standing Rules of the 95th Annual Business Meeting of AAUW of Virginia. They were adopted by the membership.

Adoption of the Annual Business Meeting Agenda – Vice President for Program Sandra Lawrence presented the Annual Business Meeting agenda. She moved for its adoption, with the chair reserving the right to make further changes with the approval of the assembly. The Annual Business Meeting agenda was adopted. With the establishment of a quorum and the approval of the Standing Rules and the agenda for the Annual Business Meeting, Co-President Carol Stephens declared the 95th Annual Business Meeting of the American Association of University Women of Virginia officially organized for conducting business.

Minutes of the 2018 and 2019 Annual Business Meetings – The State Board, at its summer 2018 and 2019 meetings, approved the minutes of the last two annual business meetings.

2020 Annual Business Meeting Official Minutes – Recording Secretary Dodd took the minutes of this meeting. Because there was no objection, the minutes of this 2020 Annual Business Meeting were referred to the State Board for approval at their next meeting on July 24, 2020.

Finance Report – Vice President for Finance Marsha Melkonian reported that as of March 9, 2020, our total assets were \$37,063.53. The balance of the checking account was \$36,610.75. The investment funds were moved to the checking account the prior year.

Board Member Reports – Co-President Leslie Tourigny reported that the board created an appointed board position of Diversity and Inclusion Chair. Cyndi Shanahan was selected to fill the position. The assignment of a board member to act as a liaison to each branch continues.

Vice President for Membership Cheryl Spohnholtz reported that twelve branches had maintained or increased their number of members over 2019. She announced that the *Five-Star National Recognition Program* had been extended through June 2021.

Co-Vice President for Public Policy Susan Burk reported that public policy focused on passing the ERA and closing the gender pay gap. The ERA was ratified by the VA General Assembly. AAUW of Virginia will continue to focus on closing the gender pay gap and will be working to Get Out the Vote (GOTV).

2018-2020 Public Policy Mini-Grants Report – Co-Vice President for Public Policy Sylvia Rogers reported that funding for branches whose mini-grant activities were canceled because of the pandemic would be carried over to next year. At the April 17, 2020, State Board meeting, \$1,500 was approved for 2020-2021 mini-grants.

Proposed Public Policy Priorities 2020-2022 – Sylvia Rogers reviewed the proposed public policy priorities section-by-section, allowing members time to discuss and make motions to amend them. There were no motions to further amend the proposed Public Policy Priorities. They would be included on the April 2020 AAUW of Virginia ballot.

Standing Committee Reports – Nominating Committee Chair Barbara Woodlee introduced the slate of officers who would be voted on in the April AAUW of Virginia election: Co-Presidents – Suzanne Rothwell and Leslie Tourigny; Vice President for Communications - Patsy Quick; Vice President for Program - Nadine James; and Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy - Susan Burk and Denise Murden. Diversity and Inclusion Chair Cyndi Shanahan reported that diversity and inclusion points of contact have been established in many branches. A mini-grant was awarded to one branch for an activity that supported diversity and inclusion. Cyndi Shanahan volunteered to serve as Acting College/University Chair. AAUW Funds Chair Caroline Pickens reported that Virginia ranks #4 among AAUW state affiliates in donations to AAUW. Donations for the state in 2019 totaled \$86,451.88, which was more than in 2018. Because of AAUW of Virginia's contributions, 76 Named Honorees were able to be designated by branches.

Proposed Bylaws Amendment – Bylaws and Resolutions Chair Suzanne Rothwell explained the proposed amendment to delete Virginia's half-price dues discount for new members who join a branch between January 1 and March 15. She said that the State Board recommended that members approve the amendment. No motions to amend this proposed change were made so the bylaws amendment would appear on the April ballot as proposed.

Reports of the District Representatives –

The Northern District Branches elected Sandra Lawrence of the Woodbridge branch to fill the vacated co-representative position.

The Greater Richmond Branch is now a member of the Northwest District. They had been part of the Southeast District. Sylvia Rogers of the Harrisonburg Branch and Carol Stephens of the Greater Richmond Branch have volunteered to be co-representatives.

Barbara Woodlee, co-representative for Southeast District, is moving to the board position of college/university chair. Current co-representative Tammie Mullins-Rice will continue as the district representative.

Southwest District Representative DebraLee Hovey will not be returning. There is a search for a new district representative.

Recognition of Outgoing State Board Members – State board members who were leaving the board or were moving from one position to another were recognized. Those leaving the board were Historian Neola Waller, Northern District Co-Representative Kate MacLeod, Northwest District Co-Representatives Mary Froehlich and Marsha Gochenour, and Southwest District Representative DebraLee Hovey

Recognition Awards – Suzanne Rothwell presented three awards on behalf of AAUW of Virginia: to Shannon Wolfe from AAUW National who helped facilitate the virtual annual business meeting; the Local Arrangements Committee, with particular recognition of committee co-chairs Joanne Clark and Arlene Shapiro and Vice President for Program Sandra Lawrence; and the AAUW of Virginia Communications Team.

Announcements – Kristin Moyer of the Vienna Area Branch is the new AAUW Legacy Circle Liaison for Virginia. Janine Greenwood of the Reston-Herndon Area Branch was recognized as a new Legacy Circle member from Virginia.

Adjournment – Co-President Leslie Tourigny declared the 95th Annual Business Meeting adjourned at 2:57 P.M.

Deborah Dodd
Recording Secretary
AAUW of Virginia

Vice President for Finance Report

Financial Report of Income and Expenses July 1, 2020 – Feb 1, 2021

Category	Actual	Budget	Difference
INCOME			
Dues Received	\$14,225.00	\$15,000.00	-\$775.00
Interest Income	\$2.21	\$0.00	\$2.21
TOTAL INCOME	\$14,227.21	\$15,000.00	-\$772.79
EXPENSES			
Board Functions			
President	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Bylaws	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Historian	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
Mailings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Election Buddy	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Parliamentarian	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Recording Secretary	\$31.67	\$50.00	\$18.33
Resolutions	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL Board Functions	\$31.67	\$570.00	\$538.33
VP Communications	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Vision	\$626.50	\$1,600.00	\$973.50
Website & Technology	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL VP Communications	\$626.50	\$1,625.00	\$998.50
TOTAL VP Finance	\$0.00	\$105.00	\$105.00
VP Membership & Branch Development	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Branch Grants Incentives	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
College & University Rep	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
TOTAL VP Membership & Branch Development	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
VP Program	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
AAUW Funds	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Diversity & Inclusion Chair	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
NCCWSL	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00

Vice President for Finance Report (continued)

Category	Actual	Budget	Difference
Northern District Representative	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
Northwest District Representative	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
Southeast District Representative	\$30.00	\$60.00	\$30.00
Southwest District Representative	\$35.00	\$60.00	\$25.00
TOTAL VP Program	\$65.00	\$1,970.00	\$1,905.00
VP Public Policy	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
Branch Mini-Grants	\$0.00	\$1,840.00*	\$1,840.00
Memberships & Coalitions	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Economic Security	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
State Lobby Day	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
Virginia Gildersleeve Int'l Fund	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
TOTAL VP Public Policy	\$50.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,350.00
Meetings			
Board Travel	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
AAUW Convention	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
President's AAUW Convention	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Outgoing Board Members Recognition	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
State Board Meetings	\$57.74	\$6,020.00	\$5,962.26
Board Badges	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
TOTAL Meetings	\$57.74	\$7,320.00	\$7,262.26
Miscellaneous			
Miscellaneous: Insurance	\$0.00	\$325.00	\$325.00
Miscellaneous: Other Disbursements	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
TOTAL Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$425.00	\$425.00
Statewide Meetings			
Hotel Deposit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Summer Leadership	\$221.45	\$425.00	\$203.55
Woman of Achievement Award	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL Statewide Meetings	\$221.45	\$425.00	\$203.55
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,052.36	\$15,240.00*	\$14,187.64

* At the November 2020 meeting of the AAUW-VA Board of Directors, the board approved an increase of \$240 to the budgeted amount for branch mini-grants, which also increased the total budgeted expenses by the same amount.

Vice President for Finance Report (continued)

Category	Actual
ASSETS	
<i>Cash and Bank Accounts</i>	
Checking	\$45,370.21
GOTV	\$0.00
Investment Funds	\$0.00
<i>TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts</i>	\$45,370.21
Annual Conference	\$3,937.99
TOTAL ASSETS	\$49,308.20

Marsha Melkonian
Vice President for Finance

“Stop doubting yourself and do it! We need to realize that we are just as qualified to do things as men are.”

Rachael Rollins

Co-Presidents' Report

On July 1, 2020, we began our two-year partnership as the co-presidents of AAUW of Virginia for a term ending June 30, 2022. We are honored for the trust you have placed in us, especially during these extra-challenging times, and we feel so fortunate to work with the extraordinary group of individuals on the Board of Directors and in the branches. As you read through the pages in this book, we are certain you will be proud of all of the accomplishments.

Some of the highlights of our first nine months are:

- On December 2, 2020, the stars aligned for AAUW of Virginia in the AAUW Five-Star National Recognition Program. That's when we were notified "...that **AAUW-Virginia is the very first state to achieve all five stars....** Thank you so much for your participation, your hard work, your commitment to AAUW's mission, and the future of AAUW-Virginia." The [AAUW of Virginia Strategic Plan](#) that we were required to prepare will help guide us into the future. The Five-Star Award was a reminder that it takes a village because, without the Board and our 24 branches all rowing in the same direction, we would not have been able to achieve this. Congratulations to the eight branches who have earned stars in the program and are identified elsewhere in this program book.



- Following several horrific events during 2020 that reminded us of the systemic racism that permeates so many of our institutions, we continued our pursuit of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DE&I) and joined AAUW CEO Kim Churches' clarion call to stand in solidarity against racism. DE&I Chair Cyndi Shanahan and her robust statewide group of DE&I points-of-contact have ramped up their plans and actions, aided by virtual programming reaching all corners of the Commonwealth. She has assumed a de facto DE&I leadership role among AAUW state affiliates, and along with VP for Communications Patsy Quick, has developed and maintained a DE&I resource guide on our [website](#) that is available to AAUW affiliates nationwide.

We have increased our emphasis on DE&I in all that we do at the State Board level. Accordingly, we have initiated action to amend our AAUW-VA bylaws so that the appointed board position of DE&I chair will be replaced by a vice president for DE&I elected by AAUW-VA members biennially. This proposed bylaws amendment will be discussed during the 2021 Annual Business Meeting, and members will vote whether to approve this amendment during our online election from April 12 - May 3, 2021. Don't forget to vote.

- Following the success last year of AAUW-VA's first venture into holding a virtual meeting—the Annual Business Meeting—we reincarnated our annual Summer Leadership Meeting (SLM) from an in-person event to a three-day virtual event. As a byproduct, attendance increased two-fold from previous years! There were many memorable speakers about leadership, AAUW updates, our public policy priorities, and DE&I.
 - Our first AAUW-VA mentee, under the mentorship of now Northwest District Representative Sylvia Rogers, was Madison Roberts, a Master of Public Policy graduate of the University of Virginia Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy. She spoke at the SLM about the results of her master's degree capstone research for AAUW-VA about

Co-Presidents' Report

how legislation can reduce the gender-based wage gap in Virginia. The relationship was so successful that Sylvia is mentoring another student this year, Catalina Perez.

- The show-stoppers at the SLM were Drs. Angela Hattery and Earl Smith, whose session on “Policing Black Women’s Bodies” and its call to action, increased our understanding of systemic racism. They will be engaging us again on March 15, 2021, at the virtual conference, which we planned along with VP for Program Nadine James.
- At this year’s Annual Business Meeting, we’ll unveil AAUW-VA’s first State Named Honorees for our contributions to AAUW Funds, just as the branches have been doing for years. AAUW Funds Chair Caroline Pickens headed a committee to pilot the selection process.
- Our AAUW-VA Public Policy Program has reached new heights under the leadership of Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy Susan Burk and Denise Murden, during this period of social distancing. They have increased our effectiveness by collaborating in coalitions with other organizations and have turned virtual activities into a force-multiplier. More members than ever before have engaged with our state lawmakers in Richmond while staying at home, using the resources Susan and Denise have prepared on economic security for women and other Public Policy Priorities.
- We have submitted or signed letters on behalf of AAUW-VA to various governmental entities, elected officials, and non-profit organizations about mission-related topics reflecting our public policy priorities.
- A considerable amount of our time is spent as a veritable help desk, responding to queries from branches and branch members on a wide variety of mission-related topics, working with individual board members on initiatives, and serving as the conduit between AAUW-VA, our branches, and AAUW National. Further, to continue the close relationship between state board members and the branches, we have maintained the practice of assigning a state board member to each branch as a liaison.
- Virtual events have enabled us to speak at many more branch and district meetings than when we had to travel.
- Barbara Woodlee has brought her extensive experience as a college president to the college/university chair position on the State Board. Working with the branches, she has increased our focus on our relationships with colleges and universities.
- Although a little more than a year ago we celebrated Virginia’s ratification of the ERA as the 38th and final state needed for ratification, the Archivist of the United States refused to make ERA part of the United States Constitution. The Commonwealth of Virginia and others sued the Archivist, and AAUW-VA and the Greater Richmond Branch, along with 20 other organizations, joined an *amicus curiae* brief in support of the case. Thanks to Trish Wallace of the Greater Richmond Branch for providing pro-bono legal services in support of the *amicus* brief.

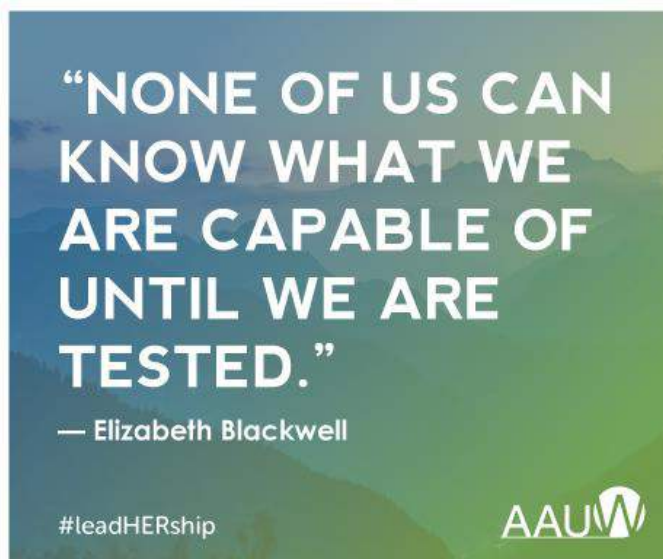
Once again, thank you for the honor of serving as your AAUW-VA co-presidents for the 2020-2022 term.

Suzanne Rothwell/Leslie Tourigny
AAUW of VA Co-Presidents

Vice President for Program Report

- Since July 1, 2020, I have been the Vice President for Program and have worked extensively with the co-presidents to plan the March 13-15, 2021, virtual AAUW of Virginia State Conference. This has included working on development of the conference theme, which is *Women Make the Difference!*, and the logo developed by VP for Communications Patsy Quick; identifying, inviting, and finalizing speakers; obtaining biographies, photographs, and contact information of the speakers; and aligning the choice of conference speakers with the goal in the AAUW-VA Board of Directors Strategic Plan that programs should promote diversity, equity, and inclusion so they make a difference in community efforts to end systemic racism.
- I attended district meetings of the Northern and Northwest Districts.
- I served on the mini-grants committee for 2020-2021 and worked with the other committee members in reviewing branch mini-grant applications, selecting branches to receive mini-grants, and determining the amounts of mini-grants awarded.
- I also attended several of the AAUW national webinars on a variety of mission-related subjects.

Nadine James
Vice President for Program



Vice President for Membership Report

As of February 2021, AAUW of Virginia has 1,052 branch members across our 24 branches. We are pleased to report that AAUW of Virginia achieved a 91% membership retention rate, which exceeded the AAUW national retention goal of 90%. Further, 16 branches successfully met or exceeded the 90% goal: Alexandria, Arlington, Falls Church Area, Greater Manassas, Greater Richmond, Hampton, Harrisonburg, McLean Area, Mt. Vernon, Portsmouth, Reston-Herndon Area, Roanoke Valley, Smith Mountain, Virginia Beach, Winchester, and Woodbridge. Congratulations to those branches, who will each receive a certificate and award! Fifteen AAUW of Virginia branches recruited a total of 63 new members between February 2020 and February 2021, with Reston-Herndon Area branch leading the way with nine new members.

Branch Name	Members February 2020	Members February 2021	% of 2020 Membership in 2021
Alexandria	65	61	94
Arlington	68	66	97
Fairfax City	42	35	83
Falls Church Area	43	40	93
Greater Manassas	9	9	100
Greater Richmond	45	47	104
Hampton	14	14	100
Harrisonburg	40	36	90
Lynchburg	46	41	89
McLean Area	129	120	93
Mt. Vernon	43	45	104
Newport News	17	14	82
Norfolk	25	22	88
Portsmouth	21	20	95
Reston-Herndon Area	94	85	90
Roanoke Valley	55	51	93
Smith Mountain	71	67	94
Springfield Annandale	67	58	87
Suffolk	30	21	70
Vienna Area	58	49	84
Virginia Beach	47	44	94
Winchester	45	45	100
Woodbridge	35	45	129
Wytheville	20	17	85
Totals	1151	1052	91

Cheryl Spohnholtz
Vice President for Membership

Vice President for Communications Report

Vision

AAUW of Virginia's state newsletter, *Vision*, is published three times a year and serves as the major source of communication to members. Copy Editor Mary Anne Graham (McLean Area/Winchester) and Layout Editor Bianca Daugherty (Mt. Vernon) edit and lay out articles submitted by the state board and branch members and create a finished product, which is then emailed to AAUW members in Virginia. With the Winter/Spring 2021 edition, 32 members without email addresses received print copies. This number is declining rapidly from previous years. The *Vision* is also posted on the state website.

Website: aauw-va.aauw.net

Since 2018, Patsy Quick (Mt. Vernon) has managed the AAUW-VA website. The website provides information to members and visitors about state activities, leaders, and branches, and is updated regularly. In 2019, state board members' email addresses were removed from the website for security reasons. Board members may now be contacted through the website via a gravity form, which directs outside communications to a state email address.

Branch Websites/Site-Resources

Eighteen branches have websites, which they maintain through AAUW National's Site-Resources organization. Six branches have pages on the state website, rather than maintaining individual websites. The VP for Communications periodically reminds branches to update their websites.

Social Media

AAUW-VA has a Facebook (FB) page managed by Cheryl Spohnholtz (Mt. Vernon). At least eight branches have branch FB pages. At least one branch has a Twitter account. These means of communication are direct and instant to followers who "like" the pages.

Other Means of Communication

Email seems to be the favored means of communication for state board members to each other and branches. The VP for Communications forwards emails received via the website to appropriate board members. Often branch presidents are asked to forward information from AAUW-VA to their members because AAUW-VA does not maintain its own membership database. We obtain member information from AAUW's Membership Services Database (MSD). The VP for Communications works to ensure that the MSD is updated for Virginia members through one-to-one communications with branch presidents. This year the VP for Communications created an annual conference logo and brochure and collaborated with state board members when they ask for assistance with flyers or other means of communication.

Patsy Quick
Vice President for Communications

Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy Report

A pandemic has not silenced our members' voices nor kept us from our task of advancing equity for women and girls. We lobbied, engaged with state and federal representatives, informed our communities, and increased our understanding of the many issues linked to advancing economic security for women and families, all virtually, learning new skills and methods along the way.

Our efforts to Get Out the Vote (GOTV) during a historic election with an ever-changing set of rules and deadlines contributed to more Virginians voting than ever before. Our branches used AAUW-VA voter information materials to ensure all citizens were prepared to vote. We later sent letters to Governor Northam and local and state election officials, recognizing their staffs for their efforts. Our formal endorsement of and advocacy for FairMapsVA, a successful campaign to vote yes on an amendment to Virginia's constitution that eliminated political gerrymandering, garnered recognition on the internet and social media and ensured AAUW-VA's lasting impact on Virginia.

Expanding our reach, we collaborated with other organizations. We worked closely with the League of Women Voters throughout the 2020 election and joined the Virginians for Paid Sick Leave Coalition. At the 2020 Summer Leadership Meeting, Madison Roberts, a UVA Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy graduate student who prepared her capstone project for AAUW of Virginia as her client, presented her research on the gender-based wage gap in Virginia. Her research provided us with data to help shape our advocacy strategy for the 2021 General Assembly. Another UVA student, Catalina Perez, is now informing our future efforts through her research on the pandemic's impact on women's careers and efforts to attain pay equity.

Our members mobilized for 2021 virtual lobbying during a Zoom meeting on January 11, 2021, and immediately began calling and emailing their state delegates and senators about paid sick leave, paid family and medical leave, equal pay, and other issues aligned with our AAUW-VA 2020-2022 Public Policy Priorities, including encouraging virtual means of participation in public meetings, maternal health care, and STEM education. By the end of January 2021, our members were actively engaged in following and advocating for key legislation at both the federal and state levels.

Susan Burk/Denise Murden
Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy

Public Policy Branch Mini-Grants Report

At its July 2020 meeting, the board approved a budget of \$1,500.00 for new public policy mini-grants for 2020-2021 and carried over the \$100.00 mini-grant that had been awarded to the Harrisonburg Branch to participate in James Madison University's STEM conference that had been canceled because of COVID-19.

The deadline for applications was October 1, 2020, but was extended to October 15 to assist branches impacted by covid constraints. The committee received seven applications, both ***Tried and True*** and ***Bold and New***. In the latter category were several proposals that addressed AAUW-VA's diversity, equity, and inclusion (DE&I) goals. All were approved, but some were approved in amounts less than requested by the branch and one was approved for funding through another AAUW-VA account. Nevertheless, the total amount approved exceeded the funds budgeted for mini-grants by \$240.00, but the board approved additional funding at its November 2020 meeting.

Congratulations to the following six branches that were awarded mini-grants:

- **Woodbridge** -- \$300.00 for ***Starting Conversations***, which engages AAUW-VA with other organizations' members for facilitated Zoom book discussions addressing racism, culture clashes, bigotry, and bullying;
- **Wytheville** -- \$240.00 for a speaker program on ***Implicit Bias***;
- **Springfield-Annandale** -- \$250.00 for a ***student inclusion award*** for a local high school junior whose essay on DE&I is selected by a branch committee;
- **Alexandria** -- \$200.00 to contribute to the creation and placement of a ***plaque to honor the women's vote in Old Town Alexandria to commemorate the Suffragists***;
- **Reston-Herndon Area** -- \$250.00 seed money for collaboration with the National Council of Negro Women, Dulles Area, on a ***reading initiative*** with local elementary school students; and
- **Smith Mountain** -- \$500.00 to support sending ***local girls to Science Camp***.

In addition to the mini-grants, **Virginia Beach** was awarded \$191.46 ***from AAUW-VA's Get Out the Vote (GOTV)*** account to help cover the cost of GOTV signs the branch printed and displayed before the November 2020 election.

Susan Burk, Co-VP for Public Policy
Denise Murden, Co-VP for Public Policy
Nadine James, VP for Program
Marsha Melkonian, VP for Finance

"If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring in a folding chair."

Shirley Chisholm

Voter Guide – One Member/One Vote

THE VOTING PROCESS FOR THE ELECTION OF AAUW-VA STATE OFFICERS AND A BYLAWS AMENDMENT WILL BEGIN APRIL 12. It is very important that **you cast your online vote by the deadline of May 3, 2021**, because **we need a quorum of seven (7) percent of the membership for the election.** If we don't have a quorum, the new state officers cannot take office on July 1, 2021.

This year you will be voting for candidates for three state offices and a bylaws amendment. On March 13, 2021, at the Annual Business Meeting at the AAUW-VA virtual state conference, you will have the opportunity to “meet” the nominees for the state officer positions and to discuss and amend the bylaws amendment. If there are any changes to voting information, we will notify you and post information on the AAUW of Virginia website.

VOTING WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE ONLINE TO ALL AAUW OF VIRGINIA MEMBERS WITH EMAIL ADDRESSES.

Because the email address that AAUW has in your profile in the MSD will be the address used to notify you to vote, please go to the [AAUW Member Services Database \(MSD\)](#) on the AAUW website and make any corrections to your email address by **March 22**. New members who have joined **by April 1** will be eligible to vote in the 2021 election.

WATCH FOR YOUR VOTING INSTRUCTIONS IN EMAILS BETWEEN MARCH AND MAY 2021.

Do not ignore emails from AAUW of Virginia during March, April, and May! These will contain instructions and reminders about voting. This year again, we will be using software from an outside vendor, ElectionBuddy, to conduct our election and to tally the results. Therefore, individual votes cannot be seen by AAUW of Virginia members. We will let you know when the link to the electronic ballot is emailed to members so that, in case you do not receive the email, you can check your email junk or spam files.

Questions concerning the election can be directed to Leslie Tourigny (ltourigny+gmail.com) or Sandy Lawrence (sandyaauw+juno.com).

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee has announced the following slate of officers for 2021-2023:

Marsha Melkonian-Vice President for Finance, Cheryl Spohnholtz-Vice President for Membership and Branch Development, and Sherry Warren-Recording Secretary

Nominating Committee

Anita Aymer, Chair; Southwest District Representative
Sara Anderson and Sandy Lawrence, Northern District
Co-Representatives
Sylvia Rogers, Northwest District Representative
Tammie Mullins-Rice, Southeast District Representative

Candidates' Bios

Marsha Melkonian - Vice President for Finance

Marsha is currently the vice president for finance for AAUW of Virginia and is seeking a second term. Since 2016, she has been a member of the Smith Mountain Branch. She is retired from the Internal Revenue Service, where she worked for 33 years as a computer programmer and training branch chief. Marsha graduated from the University of Maryland with a BS degree in marketing and from George Washington University with an MA degree in American history. Before her retirement, Marsha lived in Warrenton, Virginia, where she belonged to the Fauquier Business and Professional Women's Club and was an active volunteer with other community organizations. Marsha is married and the mother of two adult sons. Her hobbies include quilting, crocheting, scrapbooking, and cardmaking.



Cheryl Spohnholtz - Vice President for Membership and Branch Development

Cheryl has been a member of the Mt. Vernon Branch since she joined AAUW in March 2013. She is the current vice president for membership and branch development. She was a co-vice president for program for AAUW of Virginia from 2018-2019, and from 2016-2018 she was the AAUW of Virginia Funds chair. Cheryl retired from the Aerospace Corporation in 2018 and also retired as a captain in the Navy with over 24 years of service. Cheryl was a member of the first class of women to attend the U.S. Naval Academy, where she graduated in 1980 with a BS in political science. She also holds a master's degree from the Naval Postgraduate School in Systems Technology (Space Operations) and an MBA from Liberty University. Her military career included tours in computers, intelligence, communications, and space systems. Cheryl enjoys traveling, reading, and supporting AAUW activities. She is a single mother of one son and has lived in Virginia since 2000.



Sherry Warren - Recording Secretary

Sherry Warren has been a member of the Portsmouth Branch since 1991, where she has served as recording secretary, public policy chair, AAUW Funds chair, and co-president. Between 1998 and 2017, she served on the AAUW of Virginia Board in various positions - Southeast District representative, public policy co-vice president, and most recently, as recording secretary. Sherry graduated from Old Dominion University with a BS in special education/elementary education and earned an M.Ed. from the University of Virginia. For over 33 years, she worked in public school divisions teaching special education and elementary school, working in staff development, training reading teachers, supervising preschool special education teachers, and serving as an elementary school assistant principal. Since retiring from education in 2010, Sherry has worked as office manager for the Southeastern Virginia Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. Sherry discovered her artistic side about 15 years ago - and now creates many forms of fiber art. She is currently recording secretary for the League of Women Voters of South Hampton Roads. Sherry sees the AAUW of Virginia Board as a strong, supportive tool that can assist branches in strengthening mission-driven programs and recruiting and retaining members.



Bylaws and Resolutions Chair Report

Amendments to State Bylaws Requiring Member Vote

No proposed amendments to the state bylaws were submitted by members to the AAUW of Virginia Board of Directors in response to the call for such submissions in 2020. The Board has recommended that members approve an amendment to the state bylaws to replace the diversity, equity, and inclusion chair with a diversity, equity, and inclusion vice president, which will be discussed at the March 2021 AAUW of Virginia Annual Business Meeting.

Amendments to State Bylaws in 2020

After the discussion at the Virginia Annual Business Meeting in April 2020, the membership voted to approve an amendment to the state bylaws to delete Virginia's half-price dues discount for new members that join a branch between January 1st and March 15th. This conforms to a change that had been made at the national level.

Extensive non-substantive editorial changes to the AAUW of Virginia Bylaws by the AAUW of Virginia Board not requiring a vote of the membership were approved by the Board on November 8, 2020. These included clarifications needed due to two major amendments to the bylaws required by AAUW in 2015 and 2016. Also, revisions were needed to address holding meetings virtually. The current changes are restatements; the substantive meaning of the bylaws was not changed, and the changes do not affect branch bylaws in any way.

Required Submission of IRS Form 990-N Information to AAUW

Branches are annually required to submit IRS Form 990-N information to AAUW through the AAUW Member Services Database commencing in mid-April. The bylaws chair distributed an email to branches with detailed guidance on this process.

Bylaws Chair Review of Branch Bylaws Changes

Branch bylaws contain policies and procedures for managing AAUW branch operations. Any branch that proposes to revise its bylaws must submit the proposed revisions for review and approval by the state bylaws chair before approval of any revisions by the branch board and membership. Also, the state bylaws chair is available to assist branches regarding issues of compliance with bylaws and other AAUW requirements.

Carol Dabbs
Bylaws and Resolutions Chair

AAUW-VA Proposed Bylaws Amendment

AAUW-VA branch members will vote on the proposed bylaws amendment below:

Shall the AAUW of Virginia Bylaws be Amended to Establish the Elected Position of Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and to Eliminate the Appointed Position of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair?

The AAUW of Virginia Board periodically reviews the state bylaws to reflect best practices and compliance with AAUW, state, and federal standards. The board recommends approval of an amendment to the state bylaws to add the elected board position of vice president for diversity, equity, and inclusion in lieu of the current appointed board position of diversity, equity, and inclusion chair.

Rationale for Proposed Amendment

At its meeting in April 2019, the AAUW of Virginia Board approved the new appointed board position of diversity and inclusion chair, which did not require membership approval. At the November 2020 board meeting, the AAUW of Virginia Board revisited the role of this position. The board concluded that because diversity, equity, and inclusion are increasingly important principles within AAUW, this position should be elevated to be an elected vice president position. This change requires a vote of the membership.

If this bylaws change is approved, the first election of a vice president for diversity, equity, and inclusion will take place in Spring 2022, with the position to commence on July 1, 2022.

Current Text

ARTICLE X. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Section 1. Officers and Directors.

- a. Elected Officers and Directors. The elected officers and directors of the Affiliate shall include the president; vice presidents for program, membership and branch development, finance, public policy, and communications; and a recording secretary.
- b. Appointed Officers and Directors. The appointed officers and directors shall be the AAUW Funds chair, bylaws and resolutions chair, college/university chair, diversity, equity, and inclusion chair, historian, and parliamentarian, and such other officers as may be considered desirable and approved by the Board to carry out the work of the Affiliate. The president shall appoint appointed officers and directors with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Proposed Amendment (Deleted text has a line through it, and added text is underlined.)

ARTICLE X. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS*

Section 1. Officers and Directors.

- a. Elected Officers and Directors. The elected officers and directors of the Affiliate shall include the president; vice presidents for program, membership and branch development, finance, public policy, ~~and~~ communications, and diversity, equity, and inclusion; and a recording secretary.
- b. Appointed Officers and Directors. The appointed officers and directors shall be the AAUW Funds chair, bylaws/resolutions chair, college/university chair, ~~diversity, equity, and inclusion chair~~, historian, and parliamentarian, and such other officers as may be considered desirable and approved by the Board to carry out the work of the Affiliate. The president shall appoint appointed officers and directors with the approval of the Executive Committee.

* **Temporary Note:** Article X, Section 3 states “The president and vice presidents for program, public policy, and communications shall be elected . . . in even numbered years and the other officers elected in odd-numbered years.” To keep the number of officers eligible for election evenly balanced at four each year, the first vice president for diversity, equity, and inclusion shall be elected for a one-year term in 2022 and commencing in 2023 shall be elected for two-year terms in odd-numbered years. Therefore, the first such vice president shall be eligible to serve an initial one-year term and then one 2-year term.

Carol Dabbs
Bylaws and Resolutions Chair

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair Report

Since last spring we have experienced continued and deeper racial unrest throughout the country as a result of the murder of George Floyd. This unrest emphasized why increasing the understanding of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DE&I) concepts is a critical start to the resolution of racial inequity.

One day of the 2020 summer leaders meeting focused solely on DE&I topics, and it was the most well-attended day of the meeting. Following the meeting, the AAUW-VA DE&I chair contacted branch DE&I points of contact so that they could share ideas and programming. Our branches and districts are each approaching DE&I programming in ways that make sense for their members and their communities. The ideas are creative and innovative and often leverage wonderful books, movies, and documentaries available on the subject.

Last fall, the AAUW-VA DE&I chair coordinated a meeting with AAUW National and other AAUW state affiliate DE&I chairs to discuss DE&I activities in each state, as well as the December 2020 rollout of the [AAUW Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Toolkit](#). The toolkit is a wonderful resource, which we anticipate will be updated quarterly to keep up with available resources. In January 2021, the branch DE&I points of contact provided feedback about what their branches would like to see in subsequent releases of the AAUW Toolkit. This information was shared with the AAUW National Inclusion and Equity Committee.

During the fall, branch DE&I points of contact provided input for an AAUW-VA comprehensive contemporary history of DE&I, which they then shared with each other.

Cyndi Shanahan
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair



College/University Chair Report

There are currently 10 higher education partners across Virginia, which is a loss of 10 since last year. The lower number reflects the challenging circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Some institutions do not welcome visitors to campus to limit exposure to the virus. Others are operating largely at a distance with online programming.

According to the AAUW website, the following institutions are College and University Partners:

Mary Baldwin University
Northern Virginia Community College
Old Dominion University
Piedmont Virginia Community College
Sweet Briar College
University of Mary Washington
University of Richmond
The University of Virginia at Wise
Virginia State University
Washington and Lee University

This number of institutions does not accurately reflect the totality of relationships our branches maintain with colleges and universities in their regions. On September 24, 2020, I met via Zoom with college/university representatives from AAUW-VA branches to determine a direction for the coming year. Early guidance from AAUW encouraged the promotion of online programs. We exchanged information regarding branch initiatives with higher education institutions. We discovered, also, that our list of C/U representatives was incomplete.

As a follow-up to the Zoom meeting, I conducted a brief inquiry to branch presidents to create an accurate listing of their members engaged in college/university activities. I asked for names of institutions with whom they shared programs or services. From their responses, I learned that in many branches the role of college/university representative is shared by two or more members. While many institutions are not listed as formal C/U Partners, they collaborate with AAUW branches in a variety of ways. These activities range from scholarships to student organizations and special programs.

The committee will meet again shortly. We will focus on creating a listing of these various activities, as well as identifying successful strategies in promoting AAUW distance education programs. There is interest in developing a brief handout or brochure covering AAUW scholarship opportunities in Virginia, a piece that could be used to inform and encourage scholarship applications. We welcome anyone interested in these efforts to join us.

Barbara Woodlee
College/University Chair

AAUW Funds Report

AAUW FUNDS CONTRIBUTIONS--CALENDAR YEAR 2020

Branch (bold indicates increase from 2019)	Branch and Member Contributions
Alexandria	\$ 3,842.00
Arlington	\$ 3,649.00
Bedford County [now disbanded]	\$ 82.04
Fairfax City	\$ 2,199.00
Falls Church Area	\$ 2,873.00
Greater Manassas	\$ 615.00
Greater Richmond	\$ 3,449.00
Hampton	\$ 630.00
Harrisonburg	\$ 706.00
Lynchburg	\$ 835.00
McLean Area	\$15,688.50
Mt. Vernon	\$ 5,579.00
Newport News	\$ 2,173.00
Norfolk	\$ 570.00
Portsmouth	\$ 2,162.00
Reston-Herndon Area	\$ 4,212.00
Roanoke Valley	\$ 887.00
Smith Mountain	\$ 767.00
Springfield-Annandale	\$ 4,871.00
Suffolk	\$ 2,075.00
Vienna Area	\$ 4,324.00
Virginia Beach	\$ 3,558.00
Winchester	\$ 1,076.50
Woodbridge	\$ 1,851.81
Wytheville	\$ 380.00
Virginia State AAUW	\$ 2,050.00
Total	\$71,104.85

Branch Names Honored 2020

Alexandria:	<i>Susan Cash, Jan Jaynes, Sylvia Linke, Diane Schrier, Lane Stone/Gail Kalin, Margaret Zebrowski</i>
Arlington:	<i>Dottie Clarke, Karen Damer, Denise Decker (in memoriam), Teri Doxsee, Barbara Gallagher, Marjorie Hobart, Meg Tuccillo</i>
Fairfax City:	<i>Padmini Chilappagari, Jan Humphrey, Anita Light, Paulette Miller</i>
Falls Church Area:	<i>Dianne Bodeen, Mollie Jewell, Sarah John, Pam Martinov, Mary Youman</i>
Greater Richmond:	<i>Hortense Mitchell Liberti, DeAnn Lineberry, Janet Schwarz, Connie Sorrell, Dottie Vye</i>
Hampton:	<i>The Members of Hampton Branch</i>
Harrisonburg:	<i>Laura Zarrugh</i>
Lynchburg:	<i>Dr. Gillie A. Larew (in memoriam), first president of the branch, in honor of the branch's 100th anniversary</i>
McLean Area:	<i>Robert Alden (in memoriam), Christina Hamilton, Grace Hamilton, Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales, Kenneth Melley (in memoriam), Mary Lou Melley, National AAUW Staff, Betsy Reddaway, Erica Scherzer, Max Scherzer, Betsy Schroeder, Suzanne Watts (in memoriam)</i>
Mt. Vernon:	<i>Bianca Daugherty; Joi Jackson, Sherwood Library liaison; Elaine Kolish; Cynthia Jacobus; Mt. Vernon Branch Board; Mt. Vernon Branch Membership; Paula Lettice; Patsy Quick; Mary Wall; honoring branch nonagenarians Jeanne Gayler, DeJuana Jones, and Ebba Jo Spettel; and in memoriam Marvel Luykx, Shirley Richey, Sue Rarden, and Diane Watts</i>
Newport News:	<i>Maggie Keator, Carolyn Hughes, Marilyn Riddle, Governor Ralph Northam for COVID-19 Pandemic Leadership</i>
Norfolk:	<i>Marjorie Kidd</i>
Portsmouth:	<i>Mary Swain (in memoriam)</i>
Reston-Herndon Area:	<i>Book Group Chairs; Education Committee; Elected Board; Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee; Lobby Corps Volunteers; Program Committee; Public Policy Chairs</i>
Roanoke Valley:	<i>In honor of the Leadership Team</i>
Smith Mountain:	<i>Janet Potter</i>
Springfield-Annandale:	<i>Judy Baldwin, Cathie Bolvin, Susan Burk, Sharon Draper, Karen Flann, Marguerite Mars, Irene McGhee, Nancy Miller, Ann Sauberman, Marcy Leverenz</i>
Suffolk:	<i>Fran Alwood (In memoriam), Lisa Fore-Arcand, Caroline Martin, Lena Small (in memoriam)</i>
Vienna Area:	<i>Georgia Chirieleison, Kathy Corrigan, Mary Dolson, Jean Feeney, Leslie Manning, Kristin Moyer, Adrienne Schmitz, Jean Thompson</i>
Virginia Beach:	<i>Dr. Barbara Blake, Chris Daniel, Maria Kronenburg, Herta Okonkwo, Dr. LaQuiche Parrott, Leslie Tourigny, Neola Waller</i>
Winchester:	<i>Sherry Lloyd, Diana McHenry</i>
Woodbridge:	<i>Paige Laura Epler, Barbara Ondo, Dr. Alice A. Taylor (NVCC Professor Emerita)</i>

Historian's Report

When the historian's report was written for the March 2020 AAUW of Virginia state conference program book, my predecessor, Neola Waller, mentioned that it was only the second time our members hadn't gathered in person for an annual meeting. The first time was in 1945 when the government asked that travel be curtailed because of World War II. Here we are in 2021 for the third time not meeting face to face, and for the second time because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Thankfully, we have been able to connect by phone, email, and through face-to-face platforms like Zoom. This in itself is historical.

Historical is the way the state board and branches have adapted to this environment. I took over this position on July 1, 2020, and have been gathering information about how we've been creatively connecting and accomplishing the many projects and programs that are part of the AAUW experience. We have not slowed down.

The Alderman Library at the University of Virginia holds our archives through 2010. What's been collected since then will be used to write the next chapter of our history. These pandemic years will be an interesting part of that history.

Kathy Batkin
Historian



"I am deeply grateful to the American Association of University Women for establishing this scholarship fund. There is entirely too little research, writing and understanding of non-violence, peace, and Afro-American history."

— Coretta Scott King

District Representatives' Reports

Northern District

In June 2020, Sara Anderson (Arlington) and Sandy Lawrence (Woodbridge) were elected Co-Representatives for Northern District. They held two virtual events this past year. Both were lead and moderated by Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair Cyndi Shanahan:

- Seventy-nine members attended the Northern District meeting on October 17, 2020. The topic was “What's My Privilege - Identifying and Using Various Privileges for Good.” Alicia Jones McLeod, Executive Director, Challenging Racism, and other members of this group spoke about privilege, specifically White privilege, and how it informs systemic racism. Attendees were able to follow along using the handout they were sent in advance. The speakers were followed by updates from the AAUW-VA co-presidents, the AAUW Funds chair, the AAUW Legacy Circle Liaison, and the Northern District treasurer, who reminded branches to pay their district dues. Branches provided a short update on upcoming programs and fundraising events.
- Fifty-eight members participated in a panel discussion on “Local Governments’ Efforts on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion” on January 9, 2021. Members learned what three local governments are doing related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. The panel consisted of Karla Bruce, Chief Equity Officer for Fairfax County; Samia Byrd, Chief Race and Equity Officer for Arlington County; and Susan Bardenhagen, Manassas City Equity and Inclusion Task Force member.

Branches were encouraged to publicize and share their program plans with other branches so their members could “attend.”

Sara Anderson/Sandy Lawrence
District Co-Representatives

Northwest District

In June 2020, the Greater Richmond Branch joined the Harrisonburg and Winchester Branches in the Northwest District. The first District meeting in October via Zoom was also a first for Virginia because Co-Presidents Leslie Tourigny and Suzanne Rothwell, along with Co-VPs for Public Policy Susan Burk and Denise Murden, joined members in contemplating the important activities the state board will be managing for AAUW of Virginia in this new year.

Since the Greater Richmond Branch joined the Northwest District, members have enjoyed sharing Zoom programs, along with minutes of branch board meetings, newsletters, and other media forums. The Greater Richmond Branch gathers for monthly Sips and Dips social networking. Winchester Branch is holding twice-monthly Zoom/ Hangout/Happy Hours.

District Representatives' Reports

Harrisonburg Branch had a holiday sing-along instead of a holiday tea. This has productively enriched branch perspectives and activities.

The Northwest District branches gathered with attendees from other branches for a second Northwest District meeting (courtesy of Zoom technology) on January 30, 2021. Attendees were able to hear from and ask questions of Dr. Sally Hudson about what is transpiring in the Virginia criminal justice system. An assistant professor at UVA's Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, Dr. Hudson is serving in her second year as the delegate to the Virginia General Assembly from District 57 (the Charlottesville area). Her presentation provided many ideas for future programs for our three branches.

Sylvia Rogers
District Representative

Southeast District

Through a virtual district vote, Tammie Mullins-Rice was elected Southeast District Representative on March 31, 2020.

Hampton Branch has retained 100% of its membership, while Portsmouth and Virginia Beach both retained over 90% of their membership. The Virginia Beach Branch was recognized as a Five-Star Branch and the Hampton Branch has made that a goal for themselves. Portsmouth and Suffolk Branches have been participating in joint book group Zoom meetings. Suffolk invited members to attend their Zoom branch meeting honoring long-time AAUW member Fran Alwood.

Hampton Branch kicked off its inaugural "Promoting Equity Conversation Series" on January 13, which featured former Virginia Delegate and VMI Alumna Jennifer Carroll Foy and Dr. Sarita McCoy Gregory, Chair of the Department of Political Science and History at Hampton University. Dr. Gregory is a member of the Hampton Branch and its newly-appointed public policy chair.

On October 24, 2020, 15 members joined the Zoom district meeting. All six district branches were represented. Kristin Moyer, AAUW Legacy Circle Liaison, recognized current Legacy Circle members and shared the merits of Legacy Circle and how easy it is to include AAUW in estate plans. Kristin also discussed interesting programming resources for the branches. Mark Bowers, founder and executive director of the Professional Development Consortium of Hampton Road, spoke about "Recruiting During and Post-Covid." He reminded all that members recruit members, so marketing the value of AAUW

District Representatives' Reports

to members and the community allows us to engage, retain, and relate. Throughout the meeting, a common thread was the importance of a personal touch, phone call, note, or a visit, if possible. These all made the difference in members being engaged and showing up to participate.

Tammie Mullins-Rice
District Representative

Southwest District

The Southwest branches include Lynchburg, Roanoke Valley, Smith Mountain, and Wytheville.

The annual Southwest District meeting was a virtual event this year held on October 17, 2020. Thanks to Marsha Melkonian from Smith Mountain Branch, who set up the Zoom connection for the meeting.

The speaker was Allison Barrett Carter, a director of the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, which is part of the University of Virginia. Ms. Carter frequently visits legislators on Capitol Hill, participates in round tables, and has numerous speaking engagements. She spoke about the effectiveness of women in Congress and indicated that the minority party women tend to be more vocal and effective in lawmaking. Ms. Carter highlighted Senator Amy Klobuchar, in particular, who shared responsibility for more legislation than any other female senator. Also, Ms. Carter said that women legislators seem to be more open to compromise than men.

The next district event, which will also be a Wytheville Branch event, will optimistically be a live event in Wytheville at the Bolling Wilson Hotel in May. Sue Joyce, M.Ed, will be conducting a workshop on intrinsic bias, something she has created from nine years of applied research. Space permitting, we are hoping to open the event to other women in town.

I contacted the branch presidents to encourage participation in the 2021 virtual state conference. Most seem to be pleased to promote the event, especially since there is no cost involved this year.

Anita Aymer
District Representative

AAUW-VA Salutes Its Legacy Circle Members

By making a planned gift to AAUW, these members have demonstrated their commitment to the work of AAUW in advancing equity for women and girls far into the future.

Anonymous (2)	Linda M. Martin
Anita Aymer	Mary J. Mayer
Nancy Jane Bains	Michele Milden
Kathy K. Batkin	Kristin C. Moyer
Jill Birdwhistell	Tammie Mullins-Rice
Dianne L. Blais	Jennie Sue Murdock
Suzanne V. Bottoms	Caroline E. Pickens
Anne L. Bryant	Patricia N. Quick
HelenRuth Burch	Sylvia Rogers
Susan Flood Burk	Suzanne E. Rothwell
Janine Greenwood	Ann B. Sauberman
Linda D. Hallman	Ruta Sevo
Marjorie P. Hobart	Amy F. Sheldon
Patricia Hussey	Marion B. Stillson
Mary V. Johnson	Leslie Tourigny
Evelyn R. Jones	Mary J. Wall
Nancy D. Joyner	Neola S. Waller
Kathleen J. Kelley	Nancy W. Warren
Beverly A. Larson	Sherry J. Warren
Sandra Lawrence	Rance R. Willis
Marcy J. and Donald J. Leverenz	Laura E. Wimmer
Nancy M. MacKenzie	Barbara Woodlee

For more information concerning the AAUW Legacy Circle, please contact AAUW Legacy Circle Liaison Kristin C. Moyer (Vienna Area Branch) at kcmoyer65@gmail.com or 703-242-6428. You may also contact AAUW Advancement Director Heather Miller at planned-giving+aauw.org or 202-758-7766.

AAUW-VA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2020-2021

Co-Presidents

Suzanne Rothwell
Leslie Tourigny

VP for Program

Nadine James

VP for Membership

Cheryl Spohnholtz

VP for Finance

Marsha Melkonian

Co-VPs for Public Policy

Susan Burk
Denise Murden

VP for Communications

Patsy Quick

Recording Secretary

Deborah Dodd

AAUW Funds Chair

Caroline Pickens

College/University Chair

Barbara Woodlee

Diversity, Equity, and

Inclusion Chair

Cyndi Shanahan

Bylaws and Resolutions

Chair

Carol Dabbs

Historian

Kathy Batkin

Parliamentarian

Caroline Pickens

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

(Nominating Committee)

Northern District

Sara Anderson
Sandy Lawrence

Northwest District

Sylvia Rogers

Southeast District

Tammie Mullins-Rice

Southwest District

Anita Aymer

NON-BOARD POSITIONS

Virginia Vision Copy Editor

Mary Anne Graham

Virginia Vision Layout Editor

Bianca Daugherty

Web Manager

Patsy Quick

Facebook Manager

Cheryl Spohnholtz

Voting and Elections

Committee Chair

Sandy Lawrence

Branch Officer Lists

Jacque Dessino

Here's how to contact state board members:

1. On the state website homepage <https://aauw-va.aauw.net> click "Contact Us" on the menu bar. That takes you to the contact page.
2. Instead of going to the website, use this email address: AAUWVAcontactus@gmail.com. Identify the board member you want to contact. You will receive a response quickly.

AAUW of Virginia Branch Presidents

Alexandria	Gail Kalin and Lane Stone
Arlington	Carol Dabbs
Fairfax City	Dianne Blais and Kitty Lou Smith
Falls Church Area	Elizabeth Kessel and Sharon Zackula
Greater Manassas	Hannah Senft
Greater Richmond	Laura Wimmer
Hampton	Joan Jenkins
Harrisonburg	Laura Zarrugh
Lynchburg	Elizabeth Lipscomb and Katherine Quale
McLean Area	Naz Basit and Carol Mournighan
Mt. Vernon	Patsy Quick
Newport News	Maggie Keator
Norfolk	Wilma Robinson
Portsmouth	Phyllis Shannon
Reston-Herndon Area	Janine Greenwood
Roanoke Valley	Cacky Wright
Smith Mountain	Fran Cross
Springfield-Annandale	Judy Baldwin and Nancy Miller
Suffolk	Denise Murden
Vienna Area	Laurie Cole
Virginia Beach	Jeanette Olson
Winchester	Mary Froehlich
Woodbridge	Sandra Lawrence
Wytheville	Julie Kause

Here's how to contact branch presidents:

1. Visit individual branch websites. Depending on the branch, contact information may be found in different places, including:
 - On the Menu Bar: "Contact Us" or "About Us"
 - On the Side Bar
 - At the bottom of the Homepage
2. **To reach branch websites and branch pages from the AAUW-VA website homepage,** <https://aauw-va.aauw.net>, on the menu bar go to "Branches," then "Virginia Branches & Leaders." Clicking on the branch name will take you to the branch website or branch page.
3. **To bypass the AAUW-VA homepage,** the direct link to "Virginia Branches and Leaders" is <https://aauw-va.aauw.net/branches/>.

Reports of the AAUW-VA Branches

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE EIGHT BRANCHES WHO HAVE EARNED STARS
IN THE AAUW FIVE-STAR NATIONAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM.
WE HAVE HIGHLIGHTED THEM THROUGHOUT THIS SECTION.**

Alexandria



The Alexandria Branch cooked up Lunch and Learn Zoom meetings and invited everyone. The branch created a successful and safe 75th-anniversary fundraiser with its Autumn Leaves campaign. Money raised will be forwarded to the branch's human trafficking rescue initiative. Date nights were changed to virtual events; viewing three programs by members on their own and then discussing them on Zoom ("Just Mercy," "The Vote," and "Radioactive"). The branch's long-standing efforts to feed the homeless at Christ House were also converted to touchless (see branch advertisement on page 63).

Lane Stone
Co-President

Arlington

At the March 11, 2020, Board of Directors meeting, the discussion was overshadowed by what to do if Governor Northam issued stay-at-home orders due to the COVID-19 virus. The branch (optimistically) agreed to reschedule the spring programs to the fall and postpone the March annual meeting to the next branch meeting it could hold and select awardees via conference call in time to award scholarships in May. A member hosted both the annual meeting (with electronic voting) in May and the June program development meeting via Zoom. The branch got its Zoom license in July.

On December 12, the branch held its 2020 Awards Ceremony. Educator of the Year Wendy Maitland and Elizabeth Campbell Awardee Jamileth Salazar spoke about the effects of COVID-19 on their lives, and the Lunch Bunch scholarship awardee Hanufa Begum's essay was read. The branch recognized two new honorary life members, Mary Margaret Whipple and Dottie Clarke, who charmingly introduced each other.

In January 2021, members began an internal discussion on diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging, which continued in February. Led by new branch member Krysta Jones, it covered progress toward racial equity in Arlington and how to integrate equity into our lives and our branch.

Carol Dabbs
President

Reports of the AAUW-VA Branches

Fairfax City



The Zoom meeting in October 2020 celebrated the anniversaries of women's suffrage and was based on the *New York Times* video, "Suffrage at 100: A Visual History." The program focused on the diversity of 19th- and 20th-century women supporting the vote, their demonstrations, publicity, petitions, the gradual broadening of women voters in terms of race and ethnicity, and their association with other social, political, and economic reforms.

The virtual Book and Author meeting raised \$3,000 for scholarships for women at George Mason University who are returning to finish their interrupted higher education. The authors wrote about diverse real and imaginary characters in multicultural settings. At the Zoom holiday party, members shared their interests and activities. Topics included holiday traditions, nature photographs of a wooded county park, recipes, explanation of the messenger DNA in vaccines, reading from "A Librarian's Christmas Eve," musical selections, and interpretations of familiar verbal expressions.

Dianne Blais/Kitty Lou Smith
Co-Presidents

Falls Church Area

In May 2020, the branch awarded college scholarships to 10 local young women of color, many of whom are the first person in their family to attend college. These young women are from Falls Church area high schools. Since 1991, the branch has awarded 147 such scholarships, totaling \$133,650, in addition to endowing AAUW scholarships, contributing \$175,000.

From August through October 2020, the branch assisted in the initiative "Reclaim Our Vote." Members participated in a postcard-writing campaign to get out the vote in North Carolina, Florida, Texas, and Georgia. As a result, more than 5,060 postcards were mailed encouraging participation in the election. Members signed up again in December 2020 to write postcards urging voter participation in the special Georgia election in January 2021, sending approximately 1,700 postcards!

In September and October 2020, in coordination with the League of Women Voters-Falls Church, the branch wrote postcards to get out the vote and educate Virginia voters regarding the proposed Virginia constitutional amendment regarding redistricting. Members sent 250 postcards to Northern Virginia registered voters. The October program aligned with the postcard writing campaign, featuring Brian Cannon, FairMapsVA, and Sara Fitzgerald, League of Women Voters-FC and redistricting activist. They spoke knowledgeably of past redistricting reform efforts and the proposed amendment.

The book and movie groups' selections encouraged discussion of AAUW's policy goals and mission, often raising issues of gender, race, equity, and inclusion.

Sharon Zackula/Elizabeth Kessel
Co-Presidents

Reports of the AAUW-VA Branches

Greater Richmond

Utilizing Zoom has given the branch the flexibility to continue offering interesting monthly programs and having board meetings to provide the continuity needed for business matters. In August 2020, the branch held a program on the redistricting initiative in Virginia, followed by programs on homelessness and the affordable housing crisis in the Richmond metro area, the celebration of the 100th anniversary of women's right to vote, and the Zeitouna organization of women of different faiths and cultures. In the fall of 2020, branch members participated in the FairMapsVirginia postcard campaign supporting the state constitutional amendment reforming legislative redistricting. The branch had a holiday Zoom with members describing holiday traditions – old ones no longer possible, old ones now modified by Zoom, and new ones started in these days of social distancing.

In January 2021 the branch started the year with a program about the young women in the STEM Immersion Lab initiative at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, followed by a February program about the preservation of a historic Black school in Cumberland County, Virginia. Because members were not able to have the annual fall wine tasting fundraising in-person event, the branch is doing it as a NO Wine Tasting fundraiser – asking branch members to donate what they would have spent on raffle prizes, food, wine, and tickets. The book group has continued virtually this year. Several members attended each of the two Northwest District presentations/meetings. Many members supported the Roses and Wings group with gift cards for the 25 young girls in the program. As always, many members are actively supporting AAUW public policy priorities in the Virginia General Assembly.

Laura Wimmer
President

Hampton

The Hampton Branch held some exciting programs. On September 22, 2020, the branch partnered with the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), which presented a virtual program on African Americans and the vote. Two branch members, Dr. Margaret Bristow and Dr. Sarita Gregory, participated in the program. The branch leadership participated in the national AAUW webinar "Programming in a Pandemic for Branch and State Leaders" on October 14 and the Southeast District Meeting on October 24. Information from both meetings was shared at the November branch meeting.

Branch member Laura Greenfield provided the branch activity for December. She sent out a Zoom link so that branch members could watch the virtual Christmas concert of her alma mater, Morgan State University, on December 13. January 13 was the beginning of the "Promoting Equity Conversation Series." Dr. Gregory led the program, which featured former Virginia delegate Jennifer Carroll Foy. In 2021, the fundraiser is selling masks for \$12 - PROMOTING EQUITY AAUW (see branch advertisement on page 58).

Joan Jenkins, President
Carolyn Stewart, Program VP

Reports of the AAUW-VA Branches

Harrisonburg

In the past year, the Harrisonburg Branch has accommodated the restrictions against in-person gatherings by adapting to Zoom technology and providing monthly programs on topics such as “The Loneliness Epidemic” in November, and “Charitable Giving” at the annual holiday sing-along. Members also celebrated via Zoom the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment with a video history of the event and a champagne toast. The branch engaged in civic projects with Mayor Deanna Reed by distributing bottles of hand sanitizers to low-income families in the area and by contributing disinfectant wipes to the Simm’s Center Boys and Girls Club. Members participated in the March 2020 International Women’s Day Parade and provided a speaker for the program. The branch hosted the Northwest District meeting in October 2020 via Zoom, at which the Harrisonburg and Winchester branches welcomed the Greater Richmond Branch as the new partner in the Northwest District.

Sylvia Rogers
Public Policy Chair

Lynchburg

Lynchburg Branch members used both familiar and new ways to carry out the ongoing AAUW mission of education and service during these challenging times. The branch provided scholarships of \$3,000 to three local high school students who are studying at four-year colleges and universities. Members gave financial aid and donations of needed household items to homeless women served by Miriam’s House. The branch used Zoom to provide stimulating programs for branch meetings. In September, the manager of the Lynchburg City Museum spoke about the suffragists of the early 20th century, focusing on the efforts of African American women. In October, branch members provided the program, describing how and why they joined AAUW and what has kept them active in the organization.

In January and February 2021, members are following the plans of the Lynchburg Great Decisions Lecture Series, using online lectures from recent years. Topics include “Red Sea Rivalries,” “Rising Tide: Climate Change and the World’s Oceans,” “China’s Road into Latin America,” and “Global Health: Preventing Pandemic.”

The branch is looking forward to celebrating the **centennial** of its founding in October 2021.

Elizabeth Lipscomb /Katherine Quale
Co-Presidents

Reports of the AAUW-VA Branches

McLean Area

The McLean Area Branch may have had to postpone in-person gatherings in March of 2020 due to COVID-19, but it could not stop members from meeting virtually. Zoom enabled the branch to have fine speakers address members on topics relating to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The board worried about members who were staying at home rather than gathering with friends so the branch created a buddy system. Each officer was given a list of branch members to call, write cards, or email to let them know they are an important part of the AAUW community and reminded them of upcoming events that they might not want to miss.

COVID-19 forced the branch to postpone the annual book sale. The 2020 fundraiser offered the opportunity to own a Washington Nationals collector's item donated by future Hall of Fame pitcher Max Scherzer. With all the fundraising endeavors, the branch raised over \$24,000 that was used to support AAUW Funds and provide scholarships for three women. Thanks to everyone whose contributions made this possible. The 2021 fundraiser will also feature donations from Max Scherzer!

Carol Mournighan/Naz Basit
Co-Presidents

Mt. Vernon



Like others around the state, the Mt. Vernon Branch quickly adapted to the curtailing of in-person activities due to the pandemic. The branch book group, board meetings, programs, and game night continued via Zoom. The branch collaborated with Sherwood Regional Library who agreed to host branch programs and assist in publicity. The planning session in June was one of the highlights. Members gathered on Zoom to discuss a list of possible program ideas. Individuals volunteered to be the points of contact for programs and scheduled speakers - enthusiastic and optimistic.

The program for 2020-21 came together, and participation by members and the public was excellent, drawing more attendees than usual. Topics from September 2020 to January 2021 were: "The Black Experience in Mt. Vernon," "The Survival Experience of Jessica Buchanan," "Fairfax Schools During the Pandemic," and "The Paycheck Fairness Act." The branch is excited to have gained four new members!

Another highlight was the holiday get-together! Members managed to make food donations for the local food pantry while picking up the meal they would eat during a Zoomed meal together. During that Zoomed gathering, members enjoyed a sing-along, toasts, storytelling with prizes, and raffled a basket that earned \$840 for AAUW Funds. Thank you to Mt. Vernon Branch members who rallied together during these challenging times!

Patsy Quick
President

Reports of the AAUW-VA Branches

Norfolk

After many successful years of September dinner meetings, the Norfolk Branch succumbed to a Zoom meet and greet September program in 2020. It was good to be able to see and talk to members again and make plans! October was very enlightening with Martha Rollins, J.D., past president of the local League of Women Voters, giving an overview of the Virginia 2020 election, especially Amendment No. 1 on reforming legislative redistricting. For November, Dr. Isabelle Hallam gave a thoughtful program on “Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking.” The December meeting was entertaining with a classic book quiz instead of the usual holiday tea. Members had fun guessing the names of classic books from the first sentence, and afterward, members had some much-needed catching up with friends! The branch is proud to announce that past president Jane Hosay is now the branch’s 13th Fifty-Year member. The branch is grateful for the use of Zoom for programs to continue meeting together during this time.

Wilma S. Robinson
President

Portsmouth

- The book group met nearly every month including the summer months. Not only did members enjoy the usual lively discussions, but they were also able to keep a connection with each other through these meetings.
- The branch opened the 2020/2021 program year with an excellent meeting focusing on diversity and racism. Members shared their first awareness of racist ideas in their lives, which led to an excellent open discussion.
- The November meeting featured a guest speaker from HER Shelter, a local shelter for battered women and their children. Several members followed up with donations to support the work of the shelter.

The branch plans to continue having book group meetings, branch meetings, and social functions via Zoom for the foreseeable future and plans to join with the Suffolk Branch for a Women’s History Month event in March 2021.

Phyllis Shannon
President

Reports of the AAUW-VA Branches

Reston-Herndon Area



The branch didn't just survive 2020 but thrived - receiving Five Stars in the AAUW Five-Star National Recognition Program. This achievement was celebrated with a special Zoom branch meeting with AAUW CEO Kim Churches.

Programs ranged from a February 2020 in-person tour of the Library of Congress Suffrage Exhibit (It seems so long ago and in another universe!) to a virtual tour with the National Women's History Museum. Other programs looked at diversity in local education, food insecurity, the upcoming Congress, Virginia efforts to reduce gerrymandering, maintaining our mental health, and new voting procedures. The branch's robust partnership with the Dulles National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) has enriched membership and programming. Great Decisions connected members to the world and the book group kept members' minds active. The branch added a new monthly group to discuss streaming films. Attendance at Zoom programs has exceeded former live events. Membership remained mostly stable with some losses, but several new members joined. The branch works hard to keep the website, social media presence, and newsletter lively and regularly updated. Members have had fun and kept connected with all AAUW friends in the branch, district, and statewide.

Janine Greenwood
President

Roanoke Valley

The Roanoke Valley Branch had several highlights in 2020. In May, the branch gave scholarships to six very deserving and talented local students who began college in the fall. Their fields of study include medicine, science, and the arts. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, members were not able to celebrate in person with them but were able to wish them all well on their new journeys.

In October, the branch joined with community and civic organizations to participate in a citizen fair to help with voter education and information about the November 3rd election. Members worked at a voter registration and information table at a local shopping center answering questions about the amendments on the ballot and providing other voting information.

The branch is also involved with the Change Academy sponsored by the Roanoke Public Library and Book City. They have agreed to continue conversations to make our communities better places to live and work.

Due to the pandemic, the branch was aware of the importance to reach out and keep in touch with members and initiated a card-sharing project where each member sent greeting cards to two other members, bringing seasonal cheer to all.

Catharine Wright
President

Reports of the AAUW-VA Branches

Smith Mountain

Happy 20th Branch Anniversary!

Membership stands at 64. The branch had several great programs via Zoom and began the business year by inviting the AAUW-VA co-presidents to join the meeting! At other meetings, members learned about educating young girls and women in Tanzania and how a local library is embracing change in response to the new normal. Members wore masks to an outdoor Cupcake Send-Off for past President Janet Potter and visited an animal farm owned and operated by two women providing animal-assisted activities for special needs children and adults. The international study group and classics book group successfully gathered using Zoom. The branch could not safely hold its annual fundraiser, so members created a Non-Event Event. They contributed money they would have typically spent for lunch and the silent auction to proudly fund two substantial scholarships in 2021 and also send girls to science camp! The branch held a virtual holiday open house in December, complete with a tour of a member's beautifully decorated home. The branch's successful project—donating an anti-bias-themed book to local elementary schools and reading to children in classrooms—was completed. Members are currently assembling a time capsule to literally bury the year 2020 and move onward and upward!

Fran Cross
President

Springfield-Annandale



Springfield-Annandale Branch is a Four-Star Branch! The branch put a lot of thought and effort into program planning, community outreach, and writing a strategic plan and a succession plan.

Programs oriented around the effects of systemic racism and its effect on economics and health have been well received. Sean Perryman, when he was the president of the Fairfax County NAACP, opened members' eyes to the history of Fairfax County and member Jane Censer spoke about the lives of Black and White women since the Civil War. Additionally, Dr. Gloria Addo-Ajensu, director of the Fairfax County Health Department, talked in detail about COVID-19 and the county's vaccination program.

Like everyone else, members adjusted to the pandemic with new ways of doing things. All meetings are on Zoom. When last year's Spring Fling luncheon was canceled in March, after we already had collected items for the silent auction, we conducted an online sale of the items. This year a virtual luncheon is planned in April where Artistic Director and Choreographer Shu-Chen Cuff will speak and show videos of her work. Tickets will be sold to support AAUW Funds.

The online holiday party featured live music and the sharing of holiday traditions and memories. Recipes were collected and emailed after the program. Book groups continue to meet via Zoom and the Movies at Midweek group is watching a selected movie on Netflix and meeting over a virtual lunch to discuss it.

Judy Baldwin
Co-President

Reports of the AAUW-VA Branches

Suffolk

Adopting a theme of ***Reacquaint! Restore! Renew!***, the Suffolk Branch challenged itself to learn how to Zoom by helping one another in practice sessions, enabling members to hold a virtual tribute in October to founding member Fran Alwood, who passed away in early March. Current and former branch members, AAUW-VA state board members, and family and friends of Fran all gathered to hear stories of her impact on the branch as well as the wider community over her more than nine decades of life. Current and former members recounted the branch's more than 60 years of service to Suffolk. This reminder inspired members to continue to meet and plan for when the pandemic passes. Members can renew fundraising efforts for both the newly created Fran Alwood Scholarship, endowed by her family, and the existing Barboo Scholarship. The branch has re-established an AAUW Funds and Scholarship Committee to begin planning efforts. With few expenditures over the past year, members also decided to double the annual donation to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund, which resulted in a personal thank you email from AAUW CEO Kim Churches.

Denise Murden
President

Vienna Area



It's possible that being virtual contributed to an unprecedented programming undertaking's success. Starting in June 2020, Program Co-VP Georgia Chirieleison contacted two local organizations, the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna and the Alpha Nu Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society, to jointly sponsor a program addressing social justice in the greater Vienna community. The culmination of their efforts was presented by Zoom in November 2020. "Social Justice in Policing and Education" brought together four speakers from across Fairfax County, representing local government, public schools, and advocacy groups. Addressing attendees from their homes or offices made it easier for speakers to participate. Being able to attend remotely made it safe and convenient for the audience, which included members of all three sponsoring organizations and the general public. Leveraging the contacts and reach of multiple groups broadened awareness of all of them.

The traditional in-person voter registration work led by Voter Engagement Chair Kristin Moyer pivoted to get out the vote efforts. Members wrote nonpartisan letters to inactive registered voters (as identified by a national organization). The branch cannot report on the effect on the recipients, but members know it was rewarding for the letter writers to have a tangible task promoting democracy.

Laurie Cole
President

Reports of the AAUW-VA Branches

Virginia Beach



The branch is working diligently to keep members engaged with the branch and the AAUW initiatives. After canceling the March 2020 meeting, the branch pivoted to Zoom meetings. In April, Dr. Barbara Blake Gonzalez from the Dragas Center for Economic Analysis and Policy at Old Dominion University spoke about pay equity in Hampton Roads. In September, members met virtually to discuss the challenges faced and the lessons learned during COVID-19. To increase meeting turnout over Zoom, the branch held a practice Zoom meeting to assist members in joining meetings. In October, the branch hosted the Virginia Beach mayoral candidates, and in November, had a program explaining gerrymandering. Instead of the usual holiday luncheon, members socialized over Zoom and the program chair encouraged members to donate the money allotted for the luncheon to AAUW or programs the branch supports. Before the holidays, books depicting diversity, equity, and inclusion were collected and donated to REACH, a program that promotes literacy among children. As a fundraiser, the branch sold Autobell Car Wash gift cards. The \$400 raised was submitted for the Greatest Needs Fund in December 2020 during the time donations were being matched.

Jeanette Olson
President

Winchester

COVID-19 shaped the way the Winchester Branch structured events for 2020-2021. Zoom meetings featured a local author, Martha Wolfe, sharing from her new book on the life of Mary Lee Settle; a Christmas holiday social featuring Amy Fielder on the violin; and the Lord Fairfax Community College scholarship winner, Zoe Ackerman. Every Monday, the branch has a virtual Hangout/Happy Hour to share the events in our lives plus check in on each other during these stressful and historic times. Diversity and inclusion topics are being discussed during the following evening book group: “Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood” by Trevor Noah and “Caste: The Origins of our Discontents” by Isabel Wilkerson. The first recipient of the Amy Lee Parker Scholarship will be awarded to a student at Shenandoah University this spring.

Sherry Lloyd
Membership VP

Reports of the AAUW-VA Branches

Woodbridge



The branch earned Five-Star status in September 2020--the result of hard work and commitment. Between May and December, membership increased from 34 members to 45. This increase included rejoining members, college/university partners, and a 2020 college graduate. New members celebrated an inclusion of age and gender diversity, cultural, and faith backgrounds.

While the largest project, the 30-year Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS Conference, has been postponed, the branch provided virtual opportunities for the students, parents, teachers, and presenters through national organizations, including NASA and the USA Science & Engineering Festival. Just before the pandemic's shutdown, the branch was able to have the 28th team judge the regional Science Fair to recognize eight middle school female students for projects that show innovation and creative thinking.

With the power of Zoom, the branch held programs with attendees joining from Hawaii to Eastern Europe and the Middle East. Highlights included: an artist at the Workhouse Arts Center presenting her artworks inspired by the legacy of the Lorton Workhouse and the suffragists, and an author who shared another novel "Chasing the American Dream," capturing the quest of one man for justice against those whom he knew to have committed crimes against humanity.

The second annual Honoring Our Educators program brought community leaders, business and coalition partners, STEM outreach professionals, elected officials, teachers, and families to honor 11 educators – four honored in memoriam, including a branch member. The branch had a holiday ZOOM-TOGETHER-sharing recipes and tradition and a reading of a childhood poem. Prizes were awarded for the special apparel members donned and for those who had donated to AAUW in 2020.

For the movie event, attendees viewed "Finish the Fight" on their own before logging in to discuss the struggles of five women of various backgrounds, including Black, Latinx, Indigenous, and Asian, who each worked to win women's suffrage in the United States.

Sandy Lawrence, President
Susan Bardenhagen, Membership/Program VP

Wytheville

The branch is Zooming along with everyone else during this COVID-19 period but hopes to meet in person later this year. Every September, the branch has a potluck dinner and invites guests. This fall, members had a cupcake social at an outdoor venue instead. The branch was unable to register voters this year but

Reports of the AAUW-VA Branches

did send an AAUW flyer with dates for registering and voting in the November 3rd election to local organizations, as well as to Wytheville Community College.

Sue Joyce, M.Ed. presented a virtual program on implicit bias via Zoom. The branch, working with the Southwest District, hopes that Ms. Joyce will be able to speak in person in May at the Bolling Wilson Hotel in Wytheville. They intend to open the program to the community.

The branch held its January 2021 book club meeting via Zoom. Members have also been working with the Family Resource Center during the holidays assisting women with clothing and other items. Last March, the branch provided \$50 checks to two high school girls, who were winners at the Regional Science Fair at Radford University. The branch also awarded a scholarship to a non-traditional female graduate from Wytheville Community College. Members look forward to the end of the pandemic, but in the meantime, we are trying to conduct business and have programs that follow the AAUW mission.

Julie Kause
President



AAUW of Virginia State Conventions/Conferences/Business Meetings

Year	Hosting Branches	State Presidents	Term	Branch When Elected
1925	1. Williamsburg	Thelma Brown Heffelfinger	1925-28	Williamsburg
1926	2. Richmond	Thelma Brown Heffelfinger		
1927	3. Lynchburg	Thelma Brown Heffelfinger		Sweet Briar at Lynchburg
1928	4. Norfolk	Thelma Brown Heffelfinger		
1929	5. Roanoke	Jeanette Kelly	1928-30	Williamsburg
1930	6. Williamsburg	Jeanette Kelly		
1931	7. Richmond	Elizabeth Otay	1930-32	Lynchburg
1932	8. Lynchburg	Elizabeth Otay		
1933	9. Charlottesville	Dr. Marion Smith	1932-36	Roanoke
1934	10. Newport News	Dr. Marion Smith		
1935	11. Blacksburg	Dr. Marion Smith		
1936	12. Petersburg	Dr. Marion Smith		
1937	13. Norfolk	Bernice Whitlock Bowles	1936-38	Newport News
1938	14. Roanoke	Bernice Whitlock Bowles		
1939	15. Rockbridge	Dr. Gillie A. Larew	1938-40	Lynchburg
1940	16. Winchester	Dr. Gillie A. Larew		
1941	17. Charlottesville	Nora Fraser	1940-42	Charlottesville
1942	18. Staunton	Nora Fraser		
1943	19. Roanoke	Marie Garrett	1942-46	Roanoke
1944	20. Roanoke	Marie Garrett		
1945	Meeting Canceled	Marie Garrett		
1946	21. Wytheville	Marie Garrett		
1947	22. Charlottesville	Dr. Mildred Taylor	1946-50	Staunton
1948	23. Norfolk	Dr. Mildred Taylor		
1949	24. Alexandria	Dr. Mildred Taylor		
1950	25. Staunton	Dr. Mildred Taylor		
1951	26. Richmond	Dr. Janet MacDonald	1950-52	Roanoke
1952	27. Richmond	Dr. Janet MacDonald		
1953	28. Hampton	Helen D. Schubert	1952-54	Harrisonburg
1954	29. Harrisonburg	Helen D. Schubert		
1955	30. Staunton	Amy S. Lamkin	1954-56	Arlington
1956	31. Roanoke	Amy S. Lamkin		
1957	32. Richmond	Bernice B. Lovitt	1956-58	Norfolk
1958	33. Charlottesville	Bernice B. Lovitt		
1959	34. Fredericksburg	Elizabeth S. Carson	1958-60	Lynchburg
1960	35. Roanoke	Elizabeth S. Carson		
1961	36. Norfolk	Elizabeth E. Sale	1960-62	Richmond

AAUW of Virginia State Conventions/Conferences/Business Meetings

Year	Hosting Branches	State Presidents	Term	Branch When Elected
1962	37. Newport News	Elizabeth E. Sale		
1963	38. Abingdon	Mary Thrasher	1962-64	Norfolk
1964	39. Charlottesville	Mary Thrasher		
1965	40. Arlington, Northern District	Dr. A. Marguerite Risley	1964-66	Lynchburg
1966	41. Richmond	Dr. A. Marguerite Risley		
1967	42. Lynchburg	Frances H. Engel	1966-67	Blacksburg
1968	43. Virginia Beach	Adelaide H. Stegman	1967-70	Arlington
1969	44. Blacksburg	Adelaide H. Stegman		
1970	45. Waynesboro	Adelaide H. Stegman		
1971	46. Fredericksburg	Doris DeHart	1970-72	Richmond
1972	47. Williamsburg	Doris DeHart		
1973	48. Roanoke, Lynchburg, Bedford	Vera Huckel	1972-74	Newport News
1974	49. Charlottesville	Vera Huckel		
1975	50. Falls Church, McLean, Reston-Herndon, Springfield- Annandale	Jean B. Nichols	1974-76	Waynesboro
1976	51. Norfolk	Jean B. Nichols		
1977	52. Harrisonburg	Rosalind E. Exum	1976-78	Hampton
1978	53. Richmond	Rosalind E. Exum		
1979	54. Blacksburg	Dr. Elaine A. Lailas	1978-80	Mt. Vernon and McLean
1980	55. Alexandria	Dr. Elaine A. Lailas		
1981	56. McLean, Reston-Herndon, Vienna	Barbara F. Wright	1980-82	Alexandria
1982	57. Springfield- Annandale and Arlington	Barbara F. Wright		
1983	58. Roanoke	Virginia Kennedy	1982-84	Blacksburg
1984	59. Virginia Beach	Virginia Kennedy		
1985	60. Lynchburg	Christine Hernandez	1984-86	Virginia Beach
1986	61. Fredericksburg	Christine Hernandez		
1987	62. Charlottesville	Kristin Moyer	1986-88	Vienna Area
1988	63. Hampton	Kristin Moyer		
1989	64. Harrisonburg	Kay Gravatt	1988-90	Portsmouth

AAUW of Virginia State Conventions/Conferences/Business Meetings

Year	Hosting Branches	State Presidents	Term	Branch When Elected
1990	65. Bon Air, Richmond	Kay Gravatt		
1991	66. Great Falls, McLean, Reston-Herndon, Vienna	Susan Hoover	1990-91	Hampton
1992	67. Blacksburg	Jan Harrison	1991-92	Virginia Beach
1993	68. Roanoke	Dr. Laurel Davis	1992-94	Blacksburg
1994	69. State Board at Charlottesville	Dr. Laurel Davis		
1995	70. Alexandria, Arlington, Mt. Vernon, Springfield- Annandale	Marion Stillson, Esq.	1994-96	Reston
1996	71. Chesterfield	Marion Stillson, Esq.		
1997	72. Lynchburg	Nancy Richardson, Peggy Stotz	1996-98	McLean Area
1998	73. Hampton Roads District in Williamsburg	Nancy Richardson, Peggy Stotz		
1999	74. Charlottesville, Waynesboro	Neola Waller	1998-2000	Virginia Beach
2000	75. Fredericksburg, Culpeper, Woodbridge, Greater Manassas	Neola Waller		
2001	76. Staunton, Northwest District	Neola Waller	2000-2002	Virginia Beach
2002	77. Norfolk, Hampton Roads District	Neola Waller		
2003	78. Roanoke Valley	Theresa Merkel	2002-2004	Winchester
2004	79. Fairfax City Northern District	Theresa Merkel		
2005	80. Richmond	Dr. Nancy D. Joyner	2004-2006	Springfield-Annandale
2006	81. Winchester	Dr. Nancy D. Joyner		

AAUW of Virginia State Conventions/Conferences/Business Meetings

Year	Hosting Branches	State Presidents	Term	Branch When Elected
2007	82. Virginia Beach, Hampton Road District	Rosemary Plum Laura Wimmer	2006-2008	Virginia Beach Richmond
2008	83. Roanoke Valley, SW Branches	Rosemary Plum Laura Wimmer		
2009	84. Richmond, Bon Air	Laura Wimmer Dianne Blais	2008-2010	Richmond Fairfax City
2010	85. Northern District	Laura Wimmer Dianne Blais		
2011	86. Wytheville	Caroline Pickens	2010-2012	McLean Area
2012	87. Southeast District	Caroline Pickens		
2013	88. Richmond	Caroline Pickens	2012-2014	
2014	89. Smith Mountain	Caroline Pickens		
2015	90. Northwest District	Sandra Lawrence Patsy Quick	2014-2016	Woodbridge Mt. Vernon
2016	91. Northern District	Sandra Lawrence Patsy Quick	2016-2018	
2017	92. Charlottesville ²	Sandra Lawrence Patsy Quick		
2018	93. Southeast District	Sandra Lawrence Patsy Quick		
2019	94. Roanoke Valley	Carol Stephens Leslie Tourigny	2018-2020	Greater Richmond Alexandria and Virginia Beach
2020	95. Northern District ³	Carol Stephens Leslie Tourigny		
2021	96. State Board ⁴	Suzanne Rothwell Leslie Tourigny	2020-2022	Vienna Area Alexandria and Virginia Beach

² Only an Annual Business meeting was held.

³ Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the state conference, which was to be held in Alexandria, was canceled. A virtual Annual Business meeting was held.

⁴ A virtual conference, including a virtual Annual Business Meeting, was held.

2021 AAUW OF VIRGINIA CONFERENCE



2021

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AAUW OF VIRGINIA

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December 2, 2020

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Mt. Vernon Branch
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local, state, and national levels
who with enthusiasm and optimism,
so admirably "kept the fires burning"
in our organization
during challenging times.

There are many stars among us!



AAUW of Virginia Conference 2021

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(Even in Challenging Times)

Best Wishes for a Successful Conference

Smith Mountain Branch

HAMPTON BRANCH

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Custom reusable three layer masks

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Contact:

Carolyn Stewart at (757) 827-3515





The McLean Area Branch postponed its annual book sale until 2022. Instead we will be awarding Nationals collector's items signed by star pitcher Max Scherzer to some lucky winners who donate to our Spring fundraiser.



Look for a link on our website to our 2021 Go Fund Me page to donate to our fundraiser. Not only will you help provide scholarships to deserving women, but you also will be given the opportunity to own Nationals memorabilia signed by future Hall of Fame star, Max Scherzer. A special thanks to all those who donated to our Go Fund Me fundraiser last year.



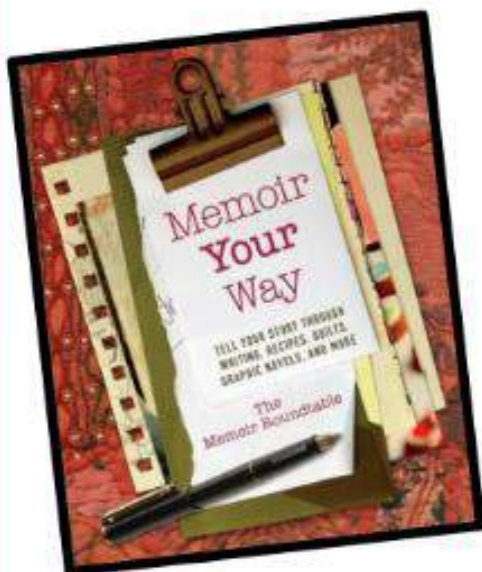
We also say goodbye to two dear members who passed away this past year, Bob Alden and Suzanne Watts.



Reston-Herndon Area (VA) Branch

Celebrating our Members for 52 Years of
Resiliency, Dedication and Togetherness!





Memoir **Your** Way

If you are ready to create a memoir, but not so sure how to get started, then *Memoir Your Way* is meant for you. A group of six writers, including two AAUW members, say “*scrap it, quilt it, write it, or cook it up so the family can have a tangible piece of their heritage.*”

“After all, it is your story, your way.”

Purchase from Simon & Schuster, Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Goodreads, & independent bookstores.

Celebrating the Life of

Denise M. Decker, Ph. D.

March 9, 1949 to November 4, 2020

Treasured Friend

Reliable Colleague

Respected Activist

AAUW Arlington, Virginia Branch

AAUW VIENNA AREA BRANCH
celebrates

KRISTIN MOYER

for her 50 years as an AAUW member.



Among her many roles, Kristin has served as Branch President (three times!), State President, and multi-state National Legacy Circle Liaison.

We thank her for her enthusiastic contributions and the example she sets for us all.



You Can Help the Alexandria Branch Feed the Homeless During COVID

Feeding homeless neighbors and the food insecure every fifth Wednesday at Christ House has been a legacy program for our branch for many years. We are proud to support our community in this way. Until April 2020, we served pizza, salad, fruit and dessert, with members generously donating all but the pizza, and helping serve. To protect volunteers and clients from COVID-19, we now give out bag meals for a contact-less dinner. We'll return to our pizza dinners when it's safe.

As the pandemic has dragged on, we're watching our account dwindle. We hope you can help us out. Please mail a check in any amount to: Anne Simpson, 1604 Old Drummer Boy Lane, Fort Washington, MD 20744.



Jan Jaynes and Margaret Zebrowski

*In memory of our longtime
and beloved members who
passed away recently*

Sue Rardin
Shirley Richey
Marvel Luykx
Diane Watts





The Mt. Vernon AAUW Branch

Celebrates With Joy and Love

Our Nonagenarians

Who Amaze and Inspire Us!

Ebba Jo Spettel

DeJuana Jones

Jeanne Gayler

IN CELEBRATION

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF FALLS CHURCH AREA BRANCH

We will celebrate our 70th anniversary in our 71st year, due to COVID! We are also still awarding scholarships, still fighting for equity, and still going strong!

IN CELEBRATION OF JEAN ZAPPLE

Happy 100th Birthday, Jean Zapple!

[Jean Zapple](#), a lifetime member of Falls Church Area Branch AAUW, celebrated her 100th year in 2020! Jean actively participated in the branch and was a strong promoter of the branch's book sale!

IN MEMORIAM

WE REMEMBER TWO OF OUR MOST DEDICATED AND ACTIVE MEMBERS

KITTY RICHARDSON

Died January 22, 2020.

Kitty was a beloved and enthusiastic Falls Church Area branch member of several decades and was also very involved in AAUW at the district, state and federal levels. A nurse by training, she had a sense of fun coupled with purpose and determination and was always ready to take on a new challenge. Kitty served in many capacities in the branch, including diversity chair, her last office. She was an advocate for AAUW, fairness, equity and diversity, which motivated her participation in Lobby Corps, Virginia Lobby Days and many of her activities on behalf of the branch.

ANNE MARGARET HARP PEABODY

Died October 27, 2020.

Anne Peabody was a life member of Falls Church Area branch. Her support of AAUW started when she received an AAUW scholarship as a young woman and endured until her recent death at the age of 100. Anne became increasingly active in AAUW after retiring as head of the English Department at Justice High School, and served as president, booksale chairman, and in many other positions. Her interest in education was especially reflected in her work and enduring support of the branch's Scholarship Committee, having steered our first scholarship evaluation process. She served as an officer in the WAVES from 1943 to 1947.



**Congratulations to our
Names Honored!**

In Honor of their Service

Members:

Caroline Martin

Lisa Fore-Arcand

In Memoriam

Charter Members:

Fran Alwood

9/6/1929—2/27/2020

Lena Small

12/12/1925—4/19/2020

Celebrating Fifty Years with AAUW

Kristin C. Moyer

Diary of Not a Wimpy Widow: The
Adventures and Misadventures of a Widow

www.notawimpywidow.com



Portsmouth Branch honors our **50 year** members:



Dot Hill
Branch President
1981-83, 2005-07



Kay Gravatt
Branch President
1979-81
VA Division (State)
President
1988-90



Wanda Russo
Branch President
1989-91

Springfield-Annandale Branch is proud to be a Four-Star Branch.



Our experience in achieving success in aligning our priorities and practices with the AAUW Strategic Plan and other initiatives that foster the organization's mission of equality for women and girls has been educational and rewarding.

Success is measured in Programs, Advancement, Communications and External Relations, Public Policy and Research, and Sustainability. We are looking forward to completing the Programs star and to continuing to advance the goals of AAUW.



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Joanne is a long-time member of the Mt. Vernon Branch of AAUW.



**Congratulations to AAUW-VA
A 5-Star State**



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