

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2022 AAUW-VA Virtual Annual Business Meeting Agenda	3
Co-Presidents' Welcome	5
2022 AAUW-VA Woman of Achievement Award Presentation to Virginia Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn	6
Standing Rules of the 97 th Annual Business Meeting, 2022	7
Minutes of the 96 th Annual Business Meeting	8
AAUW-VA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2021-2022	14
Reports of Officers	
Co-Presidents	15
VP for Finance	17
VP for Program	20
VP for Membership	21
VP for Communications	22
Co-VPs for Public Policy	23
Proposed 2022-2024 Public Policy Priorities	24
Voter Guide	25
Standing Committee Reports	
Nominating Committee	26
Candidates for State Board Officer Positions Bios	26
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion	30
College/University Relations	31
AAUW Funds	32
Bylaws and Resolutions	33
AAUW-VA Proposed Bylaws Amendment	34
New State Board Appointed Administrator	36
Legacy Circle	37
Advertisements	38



The 97th Annual Business Meeting of the American Association of University Women of Virginia Saturday, April 30, 2022, 1:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

2022 AAUW of Virginia Virtual Annual Business Meeting Agenda

Call to Order & Welcome (p. 5) ¹	Suzanne Rothwell & Leslie Tourigny AAUW of VA Co-Presidents
2022 Woman of Achievement Award Presentation to Virginia State Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn (p. 6)	Leslie Tourigny
Meeting Procedures	Suzanne Rothwell & Leslie Tourigny
Roll Call of Branches	Sherry Warren AAUW of VA Recording Secretary
Appointments Minutes Review Committee Page Timekeeper Teller Parliamentarian	Leslie Tourigny
Presentation of the Registration Report	Sherry Warren
Adoption of the Rules of the Annual Business Meeting (p. 7)	Sherry Warren
Adoption of the Annual Business Meeting Agenda (pp. 3-4)	Nadine James AAUW of VA VP for Program
Minutes of the 96 th Annual Business Meeting, 2021 (pp. 8-13)	Sherry Warren

¹ Page numbers on this agenda reference where to find relevant documents in this Part 2 Conference Program Book.

2022 AAUW of Virginia Virtual Annual Business Meeting Agenda

Reports of Officers

Co-Presidents (pp. 15-16) VP for Finance (pp. 17-19)

VP for Program (p. 20) VP for Membership (p. 21) VP for Communications (p. 22) Co-VPs for Public Policy (p. 23) Proposed 2022-2024 Public Policy Priorities (p. 24)

Standing Committee Reports

Nominating Committee (p. 26)
Introduction of Candidates for State Board Officer Positions (pp. 26-29)
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (p. 30)
College/University Relations (p. 31)
AAUW Funds (p. 32)
2021 AAUW of Virginia Named Honorees
Bylaws and Resolutions (p. 33)
Proposed Bylaws Amendment (pp. 34-35)

Introduction of New State Board Appointed Administrator (p. 36)

Legacy Circle (p. 37)

Recognition of State Board Members

New Business

Closing Remarks & Adjournment

Suzanne Rothwell & Leslie Tourigny Suzanne Rothwell, for Marsha Melkonian Nadine James Cheryl Spohnholtz Patsy Quick Susan Burk & Denise Murden

Anita Aymer, Chair

Cyndi Shanahan, Chair Barbara Woodlee, Chair Caroline Pickens, Chair

Carol Dabbs, Chair

Suzanne Rothwell & Leslie Tourigny

Kristin Moyer, Legacy Circle National Team Liaison

Suzanne Rothwell & Leslie Tourigny

Suzanne Rothwell & Leslie Tourigny

Suzanne Rothwell & Leslie Tourigny

During our pandemic experience, we became well-acquainted with the ability of Zoom to bring us closer together when we were physically far apart. However, we were also reminded at times how much we missed human in-person contact. We took these lessons to heart in planning our 2022 State Conference—the first hybrid conference in the 97 times we have been holding conferences and annual business meetings!

On March 26, 2022, we welcomed almost 100 of you in-person to Part 1 of the conference in Harrisonburg, where we heard from a variety of knowledgeable, engaging, and inspiring presenters on AAUW mission-related topics. We were also able to socialize with old friends and meet new ones. The energy in the meeting room was electric!

It is now our great pleasure to welcome you to Part 2 of the AAUW of Virginia 2022 State Conference the Annual Business Meeting—which is being conducted virtually via Zoom. Part 2 will kick off with the virtual presentation of our prestigious, biennial Woman of Achievement Award to Virginia Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn, who was the first and only woman to serve as Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates. Then the agenda will focus on the business of our organization, including our finances; the work that our State Board members and committees have undertaken on behalf of our membership; introduction to the candidates running for offices on the State Board of Directors and our incoming Administrator; discussion and approval of a proposed Bylaws amendment; discussion and approval of the proposed 2022-2024 Public Policy Priorities; and recognition of outgoing board members.

Once again, it has been our honor to serve you as the AAUW-VA co-presidents since July 1, 2020. Thank you for trusting such a wonderful organization to our leadership.

Suzanne Rothwell /Leslie Tourigny AAUW of Virginia Co-Presidents

Presentation of AAUW of Virginia's 2022 Woman of Achievement Award to Virginia Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn

AAUW of Virginia biennially presents our prestigious **Woman of Achievement Award** to a Virginia woman who has 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 are pleased to virtually present the AAUW-VA Woman of Achievement Award to Delegate Filler-Corn at the April 30, 2022, Annual Business Meeting-Part 2 of the State Conference.



Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn is one of Virginia's most influential state delegates. When she was sworn in as the 56th Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates on January 8, 2020, she became the first woman and first Jewish person to lead the Virginia House of Delegates in its then 400-year history. Also historic is that she only served as a delegate for a decade before rising to this position, which is the shortest amount of time for any previous delegate to ascend to Speaker. Since 2010, Speaker Filler-Corn has represented the 41st House of Delegates District, which is within Fairfax County and includes parts of Springfield, Burke, Fairfax Station, and Fairfax City. She is currently House Minority Leader.

During **Delegate Filler-Corn's** tenure as Speaker, she amassed a laudable record of accomplishment and championed legislation that supports AAUW's public policy priorities. One of her first acts as Speaker in January 2020 was to preside over the House of Delegates when Virginia became the 38th and last state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment.

Under **Delegate Filler-Corn's** leadership as Speaker, the House of Delegates passed legislation to implement important gun violence prevention measures, dramatically expand voting rights, support small businesses, improve the lives of working families in the Commonwealth, increase the minimum wage, enhance pay transparency, provide for paid sick leave for health care workers, combat climate change, make our criminal justice system fairer, establish a STEM Education Advisory Board, and target discrimination.

When **Delegate Filler-Corn** was Speaker, she appointed a diverse leadership team of committee chairs. Initially, she chose as the chairs of the four most powerful House of Delegates committees— Appropriations, Finance, Commerce and Labor, and Education—three African Americans, three women, and two delegates from outside of Northern Virginia.

Delegate Filler-Corn's record of accomplishments as Speaker is particularly laudable given the fact that she led the House of Delegates during the height of the covid-19 public health and economic crisis. The House passed critical legislation to keep Virginians safe and put the Commonwealth's economy on the path to a strong recovery.

Delegate Filler-Corn's dedication to public service began before her election to the Virginia House of Delegates. She was an original organizer of the Million Mom March, acting as the vice president and chair of the Northern Virginia chapter in 2001. Previously, she served as director of intergovernmental affairs for **Senators Mark Warner** and **Tim Kaine** when each was governor of Virginia. **Delegate Filler-Corn** is a graduate of Ithaca College (BA, politics) and the American University Washington College of Law (Juris Doctor).

- 1. In order to provide an opportunity for all AAUW of Virginia members to easily attend the Annual Business Meeting, Part 2 of the State Conference, it is being held virtually utilizing the Zoom remote conferencing service.
- 2. Zoom has certain unique features that will enable us to accomplish the goals of our Annual Business Meeting through virtual means. These features, foremost among them "Chat," "Raise Hand," and "Q&A," are discussed below and will be explained further at the outset of the meeting.
- 3. A committee of three to review 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 parliamentarian shall be appointed by the co-presidents at the beginning of the meeting.
- 7. A page shall be appointed to manage Chats, Q&A, and other forms of input during the meeting.
- 8. Any attendee shall use Chat only for technical issues and Q&A only for questions on the business of the meeting, making motions and discussion.
- 9. Voting shall be by means of the Raise Hand feature, except as set forth in Item 10 below.
- 10. 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.
- 11. All motions and amendments to the proposed Public Policy Priorities and proposed Bylaws amendments 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.
- 12. No member may speak a second time on a question until all others wishing to speak on that question have been heard.
- 13. Discussion on the proposed Public Policy Priorities and on any amendment thereto:
 - a. A member may have one minute for a speech either pro or con, alternating as far as possible, starting with a con speech;
 - b. Discussion on each section or any proposed amendment is limited to five minutes; and
 - c. Total discussion and voting time on the proposed Public Policy Priorities and any proposed amendments thereto shall be limited to 30 minutes.
- 14. Discussion on the proposed Bylaws amendments and on any amendment thereto:
 - a. A member may have one minute for a speech either pro or con, alternating as far as possible, starting with a con speech;
 - b. Discussion on each section proposed to be amended or on any proposed amendment thereto is limited to five minutes; and
 - c. Total discussion and voting time on the proposed Bylaws amendments and any proposed amendments thereto shall be limited to eight minutes.

<u>AAUW of Virginia</u> <u>96th Annual Business Meeting</u> <u>Virtual Meeting via Zoom</u> <u>March 13, 2021, 4:00 p.m.</u>

Call to Order and Welcome

The 96th Annual Business Meeting was convened at 4:07 p.m. by Co-President Leslie Tourigny. The meeting was held as a virtual meeting using Zoom. The coronavirus pandemic once again made it impossible to have an in-person meeting. Leslie explained that a conference program book was distributed electronically to all members before the meeting. **(Enclosure 1)** She directed members to the business agenda on page 9. She thanked all those who contributed content for the program book and extended special thanks to Bianca Daugherty and Mary Anne Graham, who were the editors of the program book. She praised the board and branch members for continuing to advance equity for women and girls despite all the restrictions imposed by the pandemic. Co-President Suzanne Rothwell outlined the procedures and rules for the meeting including the use of Zoom features during the meeting.

Roll Call of Branches

AAUW of VA Recording Secretary Deborah Dodd called the roll of branches in attendance. (Enclosure 2)

Appointments

Leslie introduced the members who would help the meeting move smoothly:

- Zoom Manager and Page Marsha Melkonian (Smith Mountain Branch) was the official Zoom manager for the meeting and, among other duties, monitored the Chat for technical questions and the Q&A for questions.
- Minutes Review Committee Readers were chosen to review the minutes. Kathy Batkin (Portsmouth Branch) and Kristin Moyer (Vienna Area Branch) joined Deborah Dodd on this committee.
- Timekeeper Patsy Quick (Mt. Vernon Branch) was the official timekeeper for the discussion of any motion.
- Teller Lane Stone (Alexandria Branch) was the teller for counting votes.
- Parliamentarian Caroline Pickens (McLean Area Branch) was the Parliamentarian to answer any procedural questions.

Adoption of Registration Report

The Recording Secretary Deborah Dodd reported that there were 111 members in attendance, representing 22 branches. The Greater Manassas and Lynchburg Branches were not represented. Deborah made a motion for the adoption of the report. The Registration Report was adopted. Suzanne declared the presence of a quorum.

Adoption of the Rules of the Annual Business Meeting

The Recording Secretary moved for adoption of the Standing Rules of the 96th Annual Business Meeting of AAUW of Virginia. They were adopted by the membership.

Adoption of the Annual Business Meeting Agenda

Nadine James, Vice President for Program, 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, Suzanne declared the 96th Annual Business Meeting of the American Association of University Women of Virginia officially organized for conducting business.

Minutes of the 2020 Annual Business Meeting

The State Board, at its summer 2020 meeting, approved the minutes of the 2020 Annual Business Meeting.

2021 Annual Business Meeting Official Minutes

The Recording Secretary took the minutes of this meeting. Because there was no objection, the minutes of this 2021 Annual Business Meeting will be referred to the State Board for approval at its July 31, 2021, summer meeting.

Report of the Vice President for Finance

Vice President for Finance Marsha Melkonian reported that as of February 1, 2021, our total assets were \$49,308.20, comprised of \$45,370.21 in our checking account and \$3,937.99 in our conference account. She explained that due to the impact of the pandemic, our actual expenses for this year have been lower than usual. Our usual expenses are between \$15,000 and \$30,000, depending on whether we hold an in-person state conference and Summer Leadership Meeting, among other things. The report of the VP for Finance will be submitted for financial review.

Reports of the Officers

Co-Presidents

Leslie thanked the AAUW of VA members for allowing Suzanne and her to serve as co-presidents for the 2020-2022 term.

Suzanne announced that in December, AAUW of Virginia was notified by AAUW National that we are the first state to receive five stars in the 5-Star Recognition Program. She congratulated the branches who had earned stars. At the time of the meeting, those receiving 5 stars were Virginia Beach, Reston-Herndon Area, Woodbridge, and Springfield-Annandale. Those receiving 4 stars were Alexandria, Vienna Area, and Mt. Vernon, and the Fairfax City Branch received 1 star.

Vice President for Program

Vice President for Program Nadine James noted that the branch Program VPs have been successful in planning mission-based programs that align with the AAUW of Virginia State Strategic Plan. Because the pandemic programs have been virtual, it has been possible for them to be shared with branches throughout the state. She promised to work with all branch Program VPs to share ideas and help with branch programming.

Vice President for Membership

Vice President for Membership Cheryl Spohnholtz reported that the total membership for 2020-2021 is 1052, which is a decrease of approximately 99 members from 2019-2020. 16 branches have achieved a 90% or more retention rate. Among those, six had 100% or more retention. Woodbridge was #1 with a retention rate of 120% with the recruitment of 11 new members. Woodbridge VP for Membership Susan Bardenhagen will conduct virtual training on how to increase membership on April 24.

Vice President for Communications

Vice President for Communications Patsy Quick thanked the entire communications team. Cheryl Spohnholtz maintains the Facebook page and Patsy manages the AAUW of Virginia website. Mary Anne Graham and Bianca Daugherty are editors of the *Vision*, the outstanding AAUW of Virginia newsletter. Patsy announced one addition to the conference report in the program book. A Mail Chimp email account was opened so that AAUW of Virginia can email branch members directly, which was not feasible before. It is still important for members to check their email address in the Member Services Database (MSD) to be sure that it is correct because the MSD is the source of the member email list used by the state to communicate individually with members.

Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy

Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy Susan Burk introduced herself and Co-Vice President Denise Murden. Denise reported that AAUW of Virginia had an impact on policy development associated with the policy goals of economic security for women and families, education, and voting as a foundational right. She highlighted some of their efforts:

- They supported FairMapsVA by distributing voter education materials that encouraged historic voter turnout and promoting successful voter approval of a redistricting amendment to the Virginia Constitution.
- They communicated with state legislators in the 2021 General Assembly session through various means, including virtually, to advocate for legislation focused on paid sick and family leave and equal pay.
- They supported draft legislation to improve computer science education opportunities and to ease restrictions on public access to virtual meetings, both of which passed.
- They built relationships, becoming a member organization of FairMapsVA and the Coalition of Virginians for Paid Sick Leave, and continuing their association with the League of Women Voters.

Denise highlighted the Virginia General Assembly's passage of a limited paid sick leave bill that sets a precedent for future advocacy efforts to advance gender equity. Denise thanked the dedicated members who supported and were actively engaged in advocating for this and the other public policy issues.

AAUW of Virginia Elections

Leslie said that members would have the opportunity to hear about and discuss the upcoming AAUW of Virginia online elections that will take place from April 12 -May 3. Sandy Lawrence is Voting and Elections Chair. Members will be voting to fill three officer positions and on a proposed bylaws amendment.

Standing Committee Reports

Nominating Committee

Nominating Committee Chair Anita Aymer thanked the members of the nominating committee: District Representatives Tammie Mullins-Rice, Sara Anderson, Sandy Lawrence, and Sylvia Rogers, along with her predecessor as Nominating Committee Chair, Carol Stephens. Anita referred members to pages 24-25 of the program book to view the report and biographies of the slate of officers that will be voted on in the election starting on April 12, 2021, and ending May 3 at 11:45 pm. The slate of officers will serve 2-year terms from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2023. The slate of officers for board positions to be voted on are:

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

Marsha and Cheryl are currently serving in these positions on the board. Sherry Warren, who was unable to attend the Annual Business Meeting, has served on the state board previously.

Bylaws and Resolutions Chair Report and Proposed Bylaws Amendment

Bylaws and Resolutions Chair Carol Dabbs reported that, as recommended by the State Board, members are being asked to vote on whether to amend the board appointed position of diversity, equity, and inclusion chair with a membership-elected position of vice president for diversity, equity, and inclusion. The board believes that this board position should be elevated from an appointed to an elected position to reflect the importance of promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion principles within AAUW of Virginia and the community as a whole. Carol read the wording of the motion to be voted on as it will appear on the ballot. "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?"

There were no questions or discussion, and no motions were received on the proposed bylaws amendment.

Suzanne announced that the slate of officers and the bylaws amendment as proposed will appear on the ballot.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I) Chair

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair Cyndi Shanahan reported that AAUW National posted on the AAUW website their DE&I Toolkit and that she has gathered groups of state DE&I chairs and branch DE&I contacts to have periodic discussions of DE&I progress. At the state and district levels, there have been multiple programs dealing with DE&I. She extended special praise for the DE&I programming that is happening at the branch level.

College/University (C/U) Relations Chair

College/University Relations Chair Barbara Woodlee reported that due to the pandemic the number of C/U partners has dropped from 20 to 10. She has met with C/U branch representatives to form a committee to determine how to reconnect with the colleges and universities and to share ideas. She is creating an inventory of what is being done.

AAUW Funds Chair

AAUW Funds Chair Caroline Pickens reported that because of the continuing pandemic it was another challenging year for fundraising. The state total contributions to AAUW Funds for 2020 was \$71,100, which was less than the \$86,451 contributed in 2019. The good news is that 14 of the 24 branches contributed more in 2020 than in 2019. There are 111 Branch Named Honorees for 2020.

The First AAUW of Virginia Named Honorees

Caroline Pickens, chair of the newly-formed AAUW of Virginia State Named Honoree Committee, thanked committee members Sherry Warren, Laura Wimmer, Deborah Dodd, and Leslie Tourigny. She reported that she learned that AAUW of Virginia could name state honorees based on the amount of money contributed by the state board to AAUW Funds. A nominee must be an AAUW of Virginia member whose actions have had a broad impact in furthering AAUW of Virginia's mission and priorities in Virginia and, thereby, has provided exceptional service to AAUW of Virginia itself beyond a branch. Nominees were solicited from branch presidents and past state board members. The honorees were chosen by the committee and approved by the state board. The first AAUW of Virginia Named Honorees are:

- Marion Stillson Marion, a member of the Reston-Herndon Area Branch, has been an AAUW leader since 1992, serving in numerous branch, state, and national board positions. She has had a statewide impact by enhancing and publicizing AAUW of Virginia's image and focus on diversity and equity, especially for individuals with disabilities. She initiated a suit under the Americans with Disabilities Act after finding that the Homestead Resort, in Hot Springs, Virginia, which was being considered as a possible AAUW convention site, was inaccessible to individuals using wheelchairs. The resort remodeled its facilities to make them accessible for all. As State Board President, 1994-1996, Marion assembled a diverse board in both ethnicity and age. At the AAUW National level, Marion served as a diversity trainer and was appointed twice by the membership as Public Policy Chair on the AAUW Board of Directors.
- Trish Wallace Trish is a member of the Greater Richmond Branch. Her contributions to the success of getting the ERA ratified by the Virginia legislature are significant. The ratification of the ERA was an AAUW of Virginia public policy goal. She was the head legal researcher for VaRatifyERA and part of their strategy and implementation team. During the ratification process, she offered AAUW of Virginia advice and arranged for the strategic coordination of the publication of ERA letters to the editor and op-eds by newspapers around the state. When the Archivist of the United States refused to certify the ERA ratifications of Virginia, Illinois, and Nevada, those states sued the Archivist by filing a complaint in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Trish's work has continued as she has been providing pro bono legal services by representing a group that included AAUW of Virginia to submit an *amicus curiae* brief in the case.
- Neola Waller Neola, a member of the Virginia Beach Branch, has been an AAUW member for 47 years. This is truly a lifetime achievement award for her distinguished service to AAUW. She has held seven different state board positions, including state president, serving on the board from 1991-2002 and 2009 to 2020. During those years, her leadership was evident at all levels of the organization. While president, Neola spearheaded Virginia's Diamond Donor Project, raising \$78,000 in less than 18 months in honor of AAUW of Virginia's 75th anniversary. Her final position on the state board was Historian, during which s did extensive research of AAUW of Virginia archival materials and wrote *The History of the American Association of University Women of Virginia, 1925-2010*.

Recognition of Outgoing State Board Members

AAUW of Virginia Recording Secretary Deborah Dodd, who is leaving the board, was recognized by Leslie for her exceptional service.

Recognition Awards

Suzanne presented three AAUW of Virginia Recognition Awards to four members in appreciation of the exceptional work they have done as AAUW of Virginia board members:

- Susan Burk and Denise Murden, AAUW of Virginia Co-VPs for Public Policy
- Cyndi Shanahan, AAUW of Virginia Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair
- Barbara Woodlee, AAUW of Virginia College/University Chair.

Legacy Circle

AAUW Legacy Circle Liaison Kristin Moyer spoke about the members and friends who have become Legacy Circle members to show their commitment to the future of AAUW by making a planned gift. Currently, there are 686 members nationwide. She shared a slide showing the names of the 46 Legacy Circle members from Virginia and the pin that comes with membership. There were 19 Legacy Circle members in attendance. She encouraged everyone to join and offered to talk to anyone who would like more information. Kristin acknowledged, with sorrow, the passing of Denise Decker, who was a Legacy Circle member from the Arlington Branch.

New Business

There was no new business.

Door Prizes

Leslie and Suzanne awarded five door prizes to members in attendance. The prizes included two Amazon gift cards, a Michael's gift card, and notecards and coasters from Late Bloomers Designs, which were donated by Mt. Vernon Branch member Joanne Clark.

Adjournment

Leslie declared the 96th Annual Business Meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Deborah Dodd

AAUW Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2021-2022

<u>Co-Presidents</u> Suzanne Rothwell Leslie Tourigny

VP for Program Nadine James

VP for Membership Cheryl Spohnholtz

VP for Finance Marsha Melkonian

<u>Co-VPs for Public Policy</u> Susan Burk Denise Murden

VP for Communications Patsy Quick

Recording Secretary Sherry Warren

AAUW Funds Chair Caroline Pickens

College/University Chair Barbara Woodlee

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Chair Cyndi Shanahan

Bylaws and Resolutions Chair Carol Dabbs

<u>Historian</u> Kathy Batkin

Parliamentarian Caroline Pickens DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES (Nominating Committee)

Northern District Sara Anderson Sandy Lawrence

Northwest District Sylvia Rogers

<u>Southeast District</u> 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:

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

On July 1, 2021, we began the second year of our two-year partnership as the co-presidents of AAUW-VA. There are a few months left until our term ends on June 30, 2022. Thank you for placing your trust in us to lead this incredible organization, especially during what has been an unusually challenging time. We are honored to work with the extraordinarily-talented and resolute members of the state board, as well as those in our branches around the Commonwealth. Together, we have created a new hybrid normal, which combines in-person events when the situation permits and uses technology to bring us closer together when we are far apart. The hidden benefit of Zoom meetings is that they have given us more opportunities than in pre-pandemic days to speak to and meet members from all areas of the state.

Here are highlights of the last year:

- We held a three-day virtual State Conference and Annual Business Meeting featuring 15 amazing speakers in March 2021, who focused on the theme "Women Make the Difference." At least 100 members attended each day, representing 23 of 24 branches. We were finally able to present our prestigious AAUW-VA Woman of Achievement Award to our 2020 awardees--State Senator Janet Howell and Scientist Ana Luisa Tió Humphrey. Because of the 2020 AAUW-VA donation to AAUW Funds, we could recognize for the first time three members as State Named Honorees for furthering the AAUW mission in the state beyond just their branch or community. AAUW Funds Chair Caroline Pickens presented awards to Marion Stillson (Reston-Herndon Area), Patricia (Trish) Wallace (Greater Richmond), and Neola Waller (Virginia Beach). Caroline will recognize the four State Named Honorees for 2021 on March 26, 2022, at the conference.
- We arranged a biennial review of the AAUW-VA financial records by a branch member, not on the State Board, who found that all records were accurate and maintained following sound accounting principles and practices. Because of the pandemic, the State Board's expenditures during the past year were significantly lower than budgeted so the Board was able to give back to our members during this year. We did this by increasing the total amount appropriated for the popular mini-grant program; funding a new initiative spearheaded by our Co-VPs for Public Policy, Susan Burk and Denise Murden—the Reclaim Our Vote postcard-writing campaign targeting under-represented voters; and lowering the conference registration fee for members this year to only \$25, which includes lunch.
- We continued AAUW-VA's advocacy for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) by signing on to *amicus curiae* (friend of the court) briefs filed in both the U.S. District Court of the District of Columbia and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit supporting a case filed in 2020 by the attorneys general of Virginia, Illinois, and Nevada-the last three states that ratified the ERA. Regrettably, Virginia's new attorney general withdrew the Commonwealth from the case in February 2022, but the case will continue with Illinois and Nevada as plaintiffs.
- We collaborated with VP for Communications Patsy Quick and the Co-VPs for Public Policy to prepare a statement recognizing the 25th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court case prohibiting Virginia Military Institute (VMI)'s exclusion of women students and supporting a recent outside investigation's findings and recommendations that VMI address discrimination based on race, sex, and sexual orientation. The statement was sent to elected officials, the press, advocacy groups, and AAUW-VA members.

- Because of remote learning classes at colleges/universities (C/U), C/U Chair Barbara Woodlee faced the challenge of multiple non-renewals by former Virginia AAUW C/U partners. She held virtual meetings with branch C/U representatives to discuss methods to reconnect with Virginia's C/U partners and has been successful in reestablishing several partner relationships. We collaborated with Barbara Woodlee and Patsy Quick to develop a branch membership brochure and application that branches can customize and use for their member recruitment activities.
- AAUW-VA is in its third year of a relationship with the Frank Batten School for Leadership and Public Policy at the University of Virginia. Under the mentorship of Sylvia Rogers, Northwest District Representative, one graduate student per year engages in research on issues of importance to AAUW to fulfill their capstone project requirements for their Master of Public Policy degree. Last year, graduate student Catalina Perez's capstone project, "The Economic Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Women in Virginia," documents how covid-19 is compounding pay inequity for working women at a greater rate than for men. Currently, graduate student Marisa Lemma is examining for her capstone research the structural issues that have been, and continue to be, barriers for low-wage earning women to return to the workforce.
- On behalf of AAUW-VA, we submitted letters to the Virginia FOIA Council Electronic Meetings Subcommittee advocating for greater flexibility in allowing for more electronic meetings and electronic attendance at public meetings not only during times of emergency. A bill did pass the General Assembly. We also signed onto the "Transparency VA 2021 General Assembly Report," which evaluated the transparency of legislative operations and the degree of public input into proposed legislative actions during the 2021 General Assembly session.
- Although AAUW-VA's advocacy for our public policy priorities has always been well-respected by
 elected officials and organizations we collaborate with, the Public Policy Co-VPs have advanced
 the Public Policy Program to a stellar level. Although in-person State Lobby Days at the Virginia
 General Assembly and our reception for women lawmakers were again canceled, using virtual
 meetings, collaborations, and coalitions, and by preparing and distributing detailed reports and
 factsheets on legislation, the Public Policy Co-VPs prepared members to make our voices heard in
 Richmond. You will be awestruck when you read their report in this program book.
- Cyndi Shanahan, as the diversity, equity and inclusion chair, has been a powerhouse. She assembled a statewide group of DEI points-of-contacts in our branches, who have worked together to shape a DEI program that is fundamental to everything AAUW-VA does. In January, the virtual panel discussion, "Creating Inclusive Spaces," was fantastic and attracted more than 100 attendees. Cyndi also continued her *de facto* DEI leadership role among AAUW state affiliates by holding sessions with them and AAUW staff, particularly to promote the implementation of the AAUW DEI Toolkit.

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

Suzanne Rothwell/Leslie Tourigny AAUW-VA Co-Presidents

FY 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES July 1, 2021-March 23, 2022

Category/Subcategories	Budget FY 22	Actual
INCOME		
Dues Received	\$14,500	\$13,845.00
Other Income (interest)	\$0	\$3.27
Refund Sweet Briar SLM deposit		\$184.28
Refund Holiday Inn 2020 conference		\$500.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$14,500	\$14,532.55
EXPENSES		
Board Functions		
President	\$0	\$0.00
VP Communications Total	\$400	\$164.10
VP Communications	\$25	\$0.00
Vision	\$375	\$164.10
VP Finance Total	\$75	\$0.00
Postage	\$25	\$0.00
Quicken	\$50	\$0.00
VP Membership & Branch Development		
Total	\$450	\$0.00
VP M/Br Dev	\$50	\$0.00
Branch Incentives	\$400	\$0.00
VP Program	\$150	\$0.00
VP Public Policy Total	\$3,304	\$709.53
VP Public Policy	\$44	\$0.00
State Legislative Priorities	\$100	\$0.00
GOTV	\$460	\$459.53
Branch Mini-Grants	\$2,250	\$250.00
Memberships/Coalitions	\$0	\$0.00
State Lobby Day	\$250	\$0.00
Women Lawmakers Reception	\$200	\$0.00
Other Board Positions		
AAUW Funds Chair	\$150	\$50.65
Bylaws/Resolutions Chair	\$0	\$0.00
College/University Chair	\$100	\$0.00
District Representatives	\$240	\$80.00
Northern District	\$60	\$0.00
Northwest District	\$60	\$0.00
Southeast District	\$60	\$30.00
Southwest District	\$60	\$50.00

Category/Subcategories	Budget FY 22	Actual
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Chair	\$210	\$0.00
DE&I Chair	\$30	\$0.00
Branch incentive	\$100	\$0.00
Speaker Gifts	\$80	\$0.00
Historian	\$60	\$16.97
Parliamentarian	\$0	\$0.00
Recording Secretary	\$50	\$0.00
Voting-Election	\$300	\$0.00
Donations	\$4,050	\$50.00
AAUW Funds	\$2,000	\$0.00
NCCWSL	\$2,000	\$0.00
Women First Int'l	\$50	\$50.00
TOTAL Board Functions	\$9,539	\$1,071.25
Miscellaneous		
Insurance-Gen'l Liability/D&O	\$687	\$337.00
Other Expenses	\$100	\$0.00
TOTAL Miscellaneous	\$787	\$337.00
State Board - Meeting & Travel Expenses		
Summer Board Meeting	\$20	\$0.00
Fall Board Meeting	\$3,000	\$2,391.48
Winter Board Meeting	\$20	\$0.00
Spring Board Meeting	\$3,000	\$0.00
Board Meeting Hotel Deposit	\$250	\$0.00
Board Badges	\$0	\$0.00
Board Travel - Other	\$1,000	\$50.10
Outgoing Board Member Recognition	\$250	\$72.08
Zoom Pro for board	\$0	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$100	\$0.00
TOTAL Meetings	\$7,640	\$2,513.66
Statewide Meetings		
2022 Conference Hotel Deposit	\$250	\$250.00 ²
2022 Business Meeting	\$163	\$0.00
2022 Woman of Achievement Award	\$200	\$114.99
2022 Conference Support	\$500	\$500.00 ³
TOTAL Statewide Meetings	\$1,113	\$864.99

² 2022 Conference Hotel Deposit transferred to the Conference Account. ³ 2022 Conference Support transferred to the Conference Account.

Vice President for Finance Report

Category/Subcategories	Budget FY 22	Actual
TOTAL INCOME	\$14,500	\$14,532.55
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$19,079	\$4,786.90
Income Less Expenses	(\$4,579)	\$9,745.65

ASSETS

Category	Actual
Checking Account	\$49,345.40
Conference Account	\$ 6,522.99
TOTAL ASSETS	\$55,868.39

Marsha Melkonian Vice President for Finance Since July 1, 2020, I have had the honor of serving as the vice president for program. In the summer of 2021, I began meeting with Northwest District Representative Sylvia Rogers, who is the 2022 state conference chair, to plan the March 26, 2022, AAUW of Virginia State Conference. This included developing the conference theme, which is "Going the Distance for Women and Girls" (the logo developed by VP for Communications Patsy Quick); identifying, inviting, and finalizing speakers; and assisting with obtaining biographies, photographs, and contact information for the speakers. Speakers will address contemporary issues of concern to our members, including continuing educational inequities for women, management of diversity and inclusion programs on college campuses, and the leadership women are increasingly providing at all political levels.

I attended district meetings of the Northern and Northwest Districts.

I served on the mini-grants committee for 2021-2022 and collaborated 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 AAUW National webinars on a variety of mission-related subjects.

I hosted on Zoom a brainstorming session attended by branch presidents and vice presidents for program seeking their ideas for the content and format of future statewide meetings organized by the AAUW-VA Board of Directors.

Nadine James Vice President for Program

"Men their rights and nothing more; women their rights and nothing less."

Susan B. Anthony

As of February 2022, AAUW of Virginia has 1,012 branch members across our 24 branches, down from 1,049 in February 2021. We are pleased to report that AAUW -VA achieved a 96% membership retention rate, which exceeded the AAUW national retention goal of 90%. Ten branches had the same or more members in 2021 than the year before (100% retention): Greater Manassas, Hampton, Newport News, Portsmouth, Roanoke Valley, Smith Mountain, Vienna Area, Virginia Beach, Winchester, and Woodbridge. Congratulations to those branches, who will each receive a cash award and certificate of recognition! Additionally, 10 more branches successfully met or exceeded the 90% goal: Alexandria, Arlington, Harrisonburg, Lynchburg, McLean Area, Mt. Vernon, Norfolk, Reston-Herndon Area, Springfield-Annandale, and Wytheville. These branches will receive a certificate of recognition. Twenty AAUW of Virginia branches recruited a total of 98 new members between February 2021 and February 2022, with Smith Mountain Branch leading the way with 17 new members.

Branch Name	Official Feb 2021	Membership 2022	% of 2021 Membership in 2022
Alexandria	61	58	95
Arlington	64	58	91
Fairfax City	35	26	74
Falls Church Area	40	34	85
Greater Manassas	9	10	100
Greater Richmond	47	39	83
Hampton	14	17	100
Harrisonburg	36	35	97
Lynchburg	41	38	93
McLean Area	120	113	94
Mount Vernon	44	43	98
Newport News	14	14	100
Norfolk	22	21	95
Portsmouth	20	20	100
Reston-Herndon Area	85	79	93
Roanoke Valley*	51	50	100
Smith Mountain	67	68	100
Springfield Annandale	58	55	95
Suffolk	21	16	76
Vienna Area	49	56	100
Virginia Beach	44	50	100
Winchester	45	47	100
Woodbridge	45	49	100
Wytheville	17	16	94
Totals	1049	1012	96

* one member passed away after renewing

Cheryl Spohnholtz Vice President for Membership

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 and Winchester) and Layout Editor Bianca Daugherty (Mt. Vernon) edit, and layout articles submitted by the state board and branch members and create a finished product. In March 2021, I opened and began to manage a Mailchimp account (free) for the distribution of the *Vision*. With the fall 2021 edition of the *Vision*, 21 members without email addresses received print copies. This number is declining rapidly from previous years. The *Vision* is also posted on the state website. In January 2022, I updated the "Process for Publishing and Distributing" the *Vision* in collaboration with Mary Anne Graham and Bianca Daugherty.

Website: aauw-va.aauw.net

Since 2018, I have managed the AAUW-VA website. The website provides information to members and visitors about state activities, leaders, and branches, and is updated regularly. In 2021, two items were added to the navigation bar on the website with pages for each: State Named Honoree Nomination and Give. The Give pages have information about AAUW Funds and Legacy Circle.

Branch Websites/Site-Resources

Eighteen branches have managed websites, which they maintain, through AAUW National's Site-Resources organization. Six branches have pages on the state website, rather than maintaining individual websites. I communicate, at least yearly, to remind branches to update their websites. This year, I was asked by three branches to collaborate on ways to improve 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.

Mailchimp

Since the Mailchimp account was opened, it has been used for informing state members of various state meetings and opportunities. It is also used for distributing the *Vision*. With Mailchimp, the state board less frequently needs to ask branch presidents to forward information. The state board obtained member contact information from AAUW's former Membership Services Database (MSD), which was entered into our Mailchimp account.

Other Means of Communication

Email is the favored means of communication for state board members to each other and branches. I forward emails received via the website to appropriate board members. Because AAUW-VA does not maintain a membership database, sometimes branch presidents are still asked to forward information from AAUW-VA to their members.

This year, I created a Conference 2022 logo, brochure, and state board ad for the conference program book.

Patsy Quick Vice President for Communications In the second year of a pandemic that laid bare the inequities in our nation, AAUW-VA members showed their commitment to our public policy priorities through grassroots activism and mutual education and support. While our ability to gather in-person continued to be restricted, we made great progress in learning and using other methods of advocacy.

We enjoyed success with our legislative agenda for the 2021 General Assembly session. A limited paid sick leave bill was passed, providing coverage to 30,000, mostly female, home health care workers. Through oral and written testimony, and by lobbying our representatives, we also supported the passage of a bill that authorizes public bodies to conduct electronic meetings and eases some restrictions, and another that requires a comprehensive review of computer science standards, courses, and pathways in Virginia public schools.

Our members' support of our state-wide Reclaim Our Vote campaign was phenomenal! We sent more than 1,500 postcards to underrepresented voters of color with non-partisan voting information. Every district was represented by the 19 branches that participated.

Our continued association with students from UVA Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy has been most rewarding. Catalina Perez completed her research on the economic impact of the pandemic on women and presented her findings at the Northwest District meeting on September 25, 2021. We are pleased that another student has taken on AAUW-VA as her client. Marisa Lemma, already a young, published author, is studying childcare issues for us and will present them at a future meeting. After three years of this relationship, students report they highly value the opportunity to work on women's issues of personal importance while having input and mentoring from experienced women who are members of an organization with a national reputation.

Following an election that changed the composition of the entire Virginia House of Delegates, we sent letters to every re-elected and newly elected member to congratulate him/her and introduce ourselves. We also had State Senator Mamie Locke join us for a virtual discussion of legislative priorities and issues on January 25, 2022.

Throughout the year, our scheduled Zoom meetings gathered a committed group of branch public policy chairs and other interested members into a community of advocates that have learned to leverage online communications and social media to achieve our goals. For the 2022 General Assembly session, we continued our legislative focus on our economic security agenda through active participation in the Virginians for Paid Sick Leave Coalition to expand paid sick days to all workers. We continued to support the passage of a paid family and medical leave program and a salary history ban as a method of achieving pay equity. With our members' input, we expanded the list to include legislation that addresses sexual harassment in the workplace, high-quality childcare, and public education funding. By the end of January 2022, our members were actively engaged in lobbying their elected representatives for these and other legislation that impacts women and families.

Susan Burk/Denise Murden Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy The AAUW of Virginia State Board recommends approval of the proposed Public Policy Priorities for 2022-2024 as stated below. The format of the priorities aligns with the key issue areas outlined in the AAUW Strategic Plan, particularly those that address equality, individual rights, social justice; economic security; and education. They are not rank-ordered. The proposal includes a new introductory paragraph to reflect the current major forces impacting our public policy priorities.

There will be an opportunity for discussion and amendment of the proposed priorities at the virtual annual business meeting (Part 2 of the 2022 state conference) on April 30, 2022, before being placed on the ballot for members' votes.

2022-2024 AAUW-VA Public Policy Priorities

The covid-19 pandemic laid bare the inequities of our nation and took a disproportionate toll on women, most notably women of color, thereby compounding the historic economic disadvantages that they have faced. These inequities will persist for years to come without policies and legislation that resolve them. The following priorities provide a basis for AAUW of Virginia members' actions at the local and state levels.

Equality, Individual Rights, and Social Justice

- Support actions to make the ERA the 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
- Support full access to civil and constitutional rights, including affirmative action and voting rights, and an amendment to Virginia's Constitution that affirms the right to vote
- Support measures to ensure fair, nonpartisan redistricting, and transparency in government
- Support self-determination of women's health decisions, including reproductive rights
- Advocate for freedom from violence and fear of violence, including bullying, hate crimes, sexual harassment, and human trafficking
- Advocate for diversity and inclusion as mission-based values

Economic Security

- Support adoption of measures to close the gender pay gap and promote fairness in compensation and benefits
- Support equitable access and advancement in employment and leadership opportunities for women
- Advocate and promote support for quality, affordable health care, and childcare; paid family and medical leave and paid sick days; family planning services; and senior care and services
- Support a livable minimum wage standard and policies and programs to eliminate food and housing insecurities

Education

- Support Title IX and all other civil rights laws pertaining to education and the enforcement of such laws
- Support adequate and equitable funding for quality public education for all students to reduce educational disparities and ensure students have equitable access to distance learning and school meals
- Oppose the use of public funds for nonpublic elementary and secondary schools and to charter schools that do not adhere to the civil rights and accountability standards required of other public schools
- Promote and protect programs that meet the educational needs of girls and women at all levels, including STEM fields
- Support increased access to affordable higher education for women and disadvantaged populations

Online Voting for AAUW of Virginia's One Member/One Vote Voter Guide

THE VOTING PROCESS FOR THE ELECTION OF STATE OFFICERS AND APPROVAL OF A BYLAWS AMENDMENT AND PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES FOR 2022-2024 WILL BEGIN SHORTLY.

HERE IS THE SCHEDULE OF THE 2022 VOTING.

- May 6: Online voting opens.
- May 29: Online voting closes at 11:45 p.m.

This year you will be voting for candidates for five state offices, a bylaws amendment, and the 2022-2024 AAUW-VA public policy priorities. All are described in this Voter Guide. On April 30, 2022, at the virtual Annual Business Meeting, Part 2 of the State Conference, you will have the opportunity to discuss and amend the bylaws amendment and the proposed public policy priorities.

Please cast your online vote by the voting deadline because we need a quorum of seven (7) percent of the membership for the election. If there is no quorum, the new state officers cannot take office on July 1, 2022.

\rightarrow voting will be made available online to all aauw of virginia members with email addresses.

The email address AAUW has in the member database for you will be the address used to notify you to vote.

ightarrow WATCH FOR YOUR VOTING INSTRUCTIONS IN EMAILS SENT BETWEEN NOW AND MAY 2022.

Do not ignore emails from AAUW-VA in April and May! These will contain instructions and reminders about voting. This year we will be using software again from an outside vendor, ElectionBuddy, to conduct our election and to tally the results. AAUW-VA members cannot see individual votes. 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 Sandy Lawrence, Voting and Elections Chair, at sandyaauw+juno.com.

The Nominating Committee has a complete slate of officers for 2022-2024. They are as follows:

President—Lane Stone; Vice President for Program—Nadine James; Vice President for Communications—Dianne Mero; Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy–Janine Greenwood and Denise Murden; and Co-Vice Presidents for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion–Krysta Jones and Meg Tuccillo.

NOTE: To keep the number of officers eligible for election evenly balanced at four each year, the first co-vice presidents for diversity, equity and inclusion shall be elected for a one-year term in 2022. Commencing in 2023, any candidate for vice president for diversity, equity, and inclusion shall be elected for two-year terms in odd-numbered years.

Read about the candidates below.

Anita Aymer Nominating Committee Chair

MEET YOUR CANDIDATES

Vice President for Program



Lane Stone has been associated with AAUW for 20+ years—first as a national member and then as a member and officer of the Alexandria Branch. She is the immediate past co-president of the branch (2017-2021) and currently serves as the newsletter editor. She was the branch's college/university chair for several years and served on the AAUW of Virginia State Board as the C/U chair.

Under Lane's leadership, the Alexandria Branch achieved four stars in the 5-Star Program. She fostered close collaboration between the branch and the Women's Center at Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) and served on the Center's External Advisory Board. The branch pursued a robust voter registration schedule on the NOVA Alexandria campus and

offered multiple sessions of Elect Her, AAUW's training for college students on how to run for public office, as well as underwriting two students per year to attend NCCWSL. The branch also supported the "Women Helping Women" program run by First Lady Jill Biden, who teaches at the college. Lane is a founding committee member of the branch's landmark project, developing a Human Trafficking Rescue app, in conjunction with the Alexandria Police Department.

Lane is a prolific, published mystery writer. Her first series was the "Tiara Investigation Mysteries," followed by the "Pet Palace Mysteries." Her art thriller trilogy, "The Big Picture," will be available in May 2022, with the publication of "The Collector." The first book in the "Old Town Antique Mystery" series, "Dead Men Don't Decorate," will be published in November 2022, written under the pseudonym, Cordy Abbott.

When not writing, Lane enjoys traveling (next stop Antarctica) and volunteering for worthy causes. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Delaware River & Bay Lighthouse Foundation. Lane, a graduate of Georgia State University, serves on the political science department advisory board and has an antiquities theft and art crime post-graduate certificate. She lives in Alexandria with her husband, Larry Korb, and dog Cordy.



Vice President for Program

Nadine M. James is currently the vice president for program for AAUW-VA and is seeking a second term. Since 2007, she has been a member of the Vienna Area Branch where she has served as co-president, co-vice president for membership, AAUW Funds chair, and DEI chair. Nadine recently added her membership to the Reston-Herndon Area Branch.

She is a retired Fairfax County Public Schools reading specialist and continues to serve part-time in the school system. Her interest in student achievement has not waned in retirement. She continues to collaborate with teachers and students while sharing her experience and knowledge supporting students returning to school after the prolonged absence.

Nadine is a member of Delta Kappa Gamma (DKG), an international society of women educators, and serves on the lota VA State Board where she chairs the scholarship committee. She continues to speak at DKG conferences on the craft and skill of memoir. The co-author of "Memoir Your Way: Tell Your Story Through Writing, Quilts, Recipes, Graphic Novels, and More" knows from experience that women are the storytellers and story keepers of our history and legacy.

She is honored to serve and assist in the planning of our state conferences and looks forward to continuing working with branches to promote AAUW's mission.

Vice President for Communications



Dianne Mero joined AAUW's Reston-Herndon Area Branch in 2015 and served as branch president from 2017-2019. She remains active on the board, is a member of the education committee, and has held the position of branch website coordinator for the last five years.

Dianne was born in northern Illinois and earned her undergraduate degree in biology from Illinois State University, a master's degree in educational administration from UNC-Chapel Hill, and her Ph.D. in educational leadership from American University.

Following a 35-year career as a classroom teacher and public-school administrator, in retirement she established Mero Associates, an educationconsulting group; worked as an analyst for the National Association of Secondary School Administrators, among other nationally recognized educational leaders;

taught at George Mason University and Trinity Washington University; and used her flexible schedule to volunteer as a bone marrow courier with the National Marrow Donor Program.

Dianne and her husband, Jim, also retired, live in Oakton, and enjoy frequent visits with their three adult children and three grandchildren on the west coast. Dianne enjoys numerous leisure-time activities - from reading to tai chi – but is especially looking forward to using precious retirement time to safely travel again.

Co-Vice President for Public Policy



Janine Greenwood joined AAUW in 2013 as a member of the Reston-Herndon Area Branch and was branch president from 2019-2021. Under her leadership, the branch became one of the first branches in Virginia to achieve 5-Star status. She has been a member of the AAUW Lobby Corps since 2016 and was recently appointed to the AAUW Governance Committee.

Janine has a BA from the University of Pittsburgh, an MSJ from Columbia University in journalism, and a JD from Columbia University Law. Throughout her career she has taught at City University of New York, Columbia University, and Emerson College; served as counsel to Westinghouse Broadcasting and Metromedia Television in various cities, interrupted by a year as a television news producer; and retired in 2016 as

chief legal officer of the National Student Clearinghouse, the data hub of U.S. higher education, where she created and executed the organization's government relations strategy. Before her move to Northern Virginia, Janine served on the Massachusetts Governor's Commission for Higher Education and chaired the Community Advisory Board for WGBH--the Boston public television and radio organization that produces Masterpiece, among other shows.

Janine is a member of the Board of Directors of Friends of Reston and a member of the League of Women Voters. She has taught courses at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason on various issues, including economic inequity for women.



Denise Murden has enjoyed serving and learning as co-vice president for public policy since July 2020 so much so that she is seeking another term to help lead our members in advocacy of our public policy priorities. She joined AAUW in 2018 and has since served as the Suffolk Branch's program co-chair and is currently the president.

She retired from federal civil service in 2016 with more than 40 years of public administration and non-profit work experience. She served as a public affairs officer, management analyst, and internal performance consultant, working assignments both in the United States and Europe for seven different federal agencies. She was a recipient of the Department of Homeland Security Secretary's Award for her leading role in helping to improve diversity and equity in the Coast Guard and the U.S. Coast Guard's

Distinguished Career Service Award. She earned her undergraduate degree in writing and communications from the University of Pittsburgh in 1975 and a master's degree in management from Troy University in 2010.

Denise is a patron member of The Muse Writers Center in Norfolk and has continued to participate in their workshops throughout the pandemic. She enjoys writing opinions, essays, and memoirs, and is

often published in the *Virginian-Pilot* and the *SuffolkNews Herald*. In her free time, Denise enjoys genealogical research, photo organizing, cooking, reading, gardening, and bird feeding and watching. She is available for her friends and family, including her husband Mike, daughter Sonia, and her mother, Louise Gosma, who was her role model for combining career and family and continues to be Denise's living inspiration in working towards equity for women.

Co-Vice Presidents for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



Krysta Jones has committed her life to public service, developing leaders, and changing lives.

Krysta is a member of the Arlington Branch and organized a successful session in 2021 focused on practical ways that the branch could implement Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) in their work. In 2021, she helped organize the Leadership Center for Excellence racial equity listening sessions and statewide summit designed to highlight successful programming and strategize about how to achieve racial equity in Virginia.

Krysta successfully represented two associations for eight years as a

registered lobbyist, advocating for women's and socio-economic status issues, and served as the Director of Outreach for two Members of Congress. While serving in the Peace Corps in Paraguay from 2000-2002, Krysta helped create student governments, procured funding, and provided training for a community radio station. She has served in leadership roles for local, state, and national organizations.

Krysta was also recently named a Library of Virginia "Strong Woman in Virginia History" and has previously been featured in *Ebony* magazine as a "Hero Next Door." She is a graduate of the Sorensen Institute of Political Leadership, Leadership Arlington, and the Women's Campaign School at Yale.



Meg Tuccillo has been a member of the Arlington Branch since 2010. During this time, she has served three terms as branch co-president, three terms as vice president for program, and chair of the scholarship committee since 2014.

She retired in 2012 as assistant superintendent for Arlington Public Schools, where she had previously served as an elementary school principal. In her work as assistant superintendent, she also served as the school system's Title IX coordinator and provided diversity training for school administrators. Meg received her BA in Education from Molloy College in New York and her Master's in Special Education from George Mason University.

In addition to her professional career, Meg is also a founder of the Arlington Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families, and continues as a board member of its Second Chance Program for youth involved in drugs or alcohol. She has also served for 25 years on the board of A-SPAN (now known as PathForward), a non-profit focused on the needs of those experiencing homelessness, and currently serves as chair of its Emeritus Council. Meg also serves as chair of the Arlington Community Foundation Workforce Development Committee, providing STEM summer fellowships to Arlington teachers, and as a member of the Chamber of Commerce Workforce Development Council. Meg is excited about the prospect of working together with Krysta Jones on the valued issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion as part of AAUW's mission The challenges that the nation continues to experience with racial inequity remind us that the work that we are doing to increase our understanding of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) concepts remains critical as a start to the resolution of this issue.

Our branches and districts are each approaching DEI programming in a way that makes sense for their members and their communities. The ideas are creative and innovative and continue to leverage wonderful books, movies, and documentaries available on the subject.

At the National AAUW level, the DEI toolkit continues to improve and be added to with plug and play facilitator guides and webinars. Branches are taking advantage of these resources. The January state-wide meeting attended by over 100 AAUW-VA members was held to further the conversation started within the DEI toolkit on creating inclusive spaces. The speakers provided state members with additional ideas and concepts on this important topic.

During September 2021, branch points of contact were requested to provide their branch DEI plans so that we could learn from one another. Updates to our website and direct emails to DEI points of contact help everyone stay current on DEI activities throughout our state and nation.

Cyndi Shanahan Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Chair



There are currently 15 college/university partners in Virginia, an increase from 10 last year. These institutions are as follows:

George Mason University James Madison University Mary Baldwin University Northern Virginia Community College Old Dominion University Randolph College Roanoke College Shenandoah University Sweet Briar College The University of Virginia at Wise Thomas Nelson Community College University of Mary Washington University of Richmond Virginia State University Washington and Lee University

The college/university relations committee participated in the design and content of a new AAUW-VA brochure, a piece that has been particularly helpful in reaching out to potential higher education partners. Thanks to Patsy Quick and Suzanne Rothwell for their splendid work in producing this brochure.

I prepared a brief piece describing the benefits AAUW membership brings to college/university partners, which was requested by the committee to use in outreach. Reconnecting with institutions during the pandemic has been a focus for the past year.

Along with members of the committee, I participated in the planning effort led by Sylvia Rogers and Nadine James for a workshop to be offered at the March 26, 2022, State Conference. The workshop will consider best practices in creating and working with student organizations - a workshop that will be most helpful to our committee as we work to build new institutional relationships.

Barbara Woodlee College/University Chair

AAUW Funds Report

AAUW Funds Contributions--Calendar Year 2021

Branch (bold: increase from 2020)	Branch & Member Contributions	Greatest Needs Fund
Alexandria	\$ 2,411.23	93% of contributions
Arlington	\$ 4,853.00	93% of contributions
Fairfax City	\$ 1,728.00	86% of contributions
Falls Church Area	\$ 2,554.00	100% of contributions
Greater Manassas	\$ 879.00	100% of contributions
Greater Richmond	\$ 3,938.00	86% of contributions
Hampton	\$ 810.00	89% of contributions
Harrisonburg	\$ 279.00	83% of contributions
Lynchburg	\$ 577.00	100% of contributions
McLean Area	\$16,121.00	87% of contributions
Mt. Vernon	\$ 4,031.00	100% of contributions
Newport News	\$ 2,318.00	100% of contributions
Norfolk	\$ 570.00	100% of contributions
Portsmouth	\$ 2,069.00	97% of contributions
Reston-Herndon Area	\$ 2,831.00	97% of contributions
Roanoke Valley	\$ 5,209.00	94% of contributions
Smith Mountain	\$ 593.00	62% of contributions
Springfield-Annandale	\$ 3,051.00	93% of contributions
Suffolk	\$ 161.00	100% of contributions
Vienna Area	\$ 3,942.00	94% of contributions
Virginia Beach	\$ 3,230.00	100% of contributions
Winchester	\$ 560.00	95% of contributions
Woodbridge	\$ 1,182.00	87% of contributions
Wytheville	\$ 285.00	100% of contributions
Virginia State AAUW	\$ 3,790.00	100% of contributions
Total	\$67,972.23	

Caroline Pickens AAUW Funds Chair

Amendments to State Bylaws Requiring Member Vote

No proposed amendments to the AAUW-VA Bylaws were submitted by members to the Board of Directors in response to the call for such submissions in 2021. The Board has recommended that members approve an amendment to the Bylaws to eliminate the requirement that the Annual Business Meeting be held during the State Conference, which will be discussed at the April 2022 AAUW of Virginia Annual Business Meeting. This change requires a vote of the membership. If this Bylaws change is approved, it will apply to the Annual Business Meeting in 2023.

Amendments to State Bylaws in 2021

After the discussion at the Virginia Annual Business Meeting in March 2021, the membership voted to approve an amendment to the Bylaws to replace the diversity, equity and inclusion chair with a diversity, equity and inclusion vice president.

At a December 2021 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors, an additional appointed board position for an administrator was approved. The Bylaws permit the Board of Directors to establish new appointed non-elected board positions (and to appoint members to such positions) without member approval; the Bylaws were amended to reflect the newly appointed position.

At the August 2021, November 2021, and January 2022 meetings, the Board of Directors approved editorial revisions to the Bylaws, which do not require membership approval. The revisions are considered editorial because they do not change the substantive meaning of the Bylaws but reflect current practices of the board, clarify confusing or insufficiently detailed provisions, and address inconsistencies between provisions. These changes and the newly appointed position of administrator are reflected in the restatement of the Bylaws on January 11, 2022, which may be found at: https://aauw-va.aauw.net/library/.

Proposal to Adopt Changes to the Board of Directors Handbook

At the November 2021 Board of Directors meeting, language was added to the Board of Directors AAUW funds chair job description to include the Virginia State Named Honorees Committee and to add the job description for the vice president for diversity, equity and inclusion. The latter reflects the vote of the membership in 2021 to add this elected position to the Board of Directors.

At the January 2022 Board of Directors meeting, minor amendments to the president's job description to reflect the administrator position, addition of a job description for the position, and addition of the AAUW of Virginia Board of Directors Succession Plan⁴ into the Board of Directors Handbook were approved.

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.

I am available to assist branches regarding issues of compliance with bylaws and other AAUW requirements.

Carol Dabbs Bylaws/Resolutions Chair

⁴ This was approved by the Board in 2020, as part of the successful application for Five-Star Recognition.

Shall the AAUW of Virginia Bylaws be Amended to Eliminate the Requirement that the Annual Business Meeting be held during the State Conference?

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 eliminate the requirement that the Annual Business Meeting be held during the State Conference.

Rationale for Proposed Amendment

At its meeting in August 2021, the AAUW of Virginia Board recommended a change to the bylaws to eliminate the requirement that the Annual Business Meeting be held during the State Conference. This will allow greater flexibility in the scheduling, location, and manner of participation in these two different statewide meetings. The requirement to hold the Annual Business Meeting by May 15 is being retained so that there is sufficient time following the meeting for members to vote to elect officers, amend the bylaws, and adopt public policy priorities. No deadline is proposed for the holding of a State Conference because it is an optional statewide meeting.⁵

This change requires a vote of the membership. If this bylaws change is approved, it will apply to the Annual Business Meeting in 2023.

CURRENT TEXT

ARTICLE XVII. MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Annual Business Meeting. The state Affiliate shall have at least one regular business meeting each year to be known as the AAUW of Virginia Annual Business Meeting ("Annual Business Meeting"). The purpose of the Affiliate's Annual Business Meeting shall be to conduct the business of the Affiliate, which shall include the annual financial report.

a. In years when an AAUW of Virginia Conference ("State Conference") is held, as provided in Section 2 below, the Annual Business Meeting will be held during the State Conference. In years when a State Conference is not held, the Annual Business Meeting will be held by May 15th in the manner determined by the Board of Directors in accordance with provision b.

b. The date and place or the means of remote communication of the Annual Business Meeting shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

c. All state Affiliate meetings, including meetings of the Board of Directors, shall be open and may be attended by any Individual Member of the state Affiliate.

d. If circumstances prevent the holding of the Annual Business Meeting by any means, the board of directors shall provide for the conduct of necessary business.

⁵ By tying the Annual Business Meeting to the State Conference, the State Conference has usually been held in March or April. Eliminating the nexus between the State Conference and Business Meeting will provide the opportunity to consider a different schedule for the State Conference.

Section 2. State Conference. A conference of the Individual Members of the state Affiliate may be held on the date and at such place or using remote communication as designated by the Board of Directors, to be known as the AAUW of Virginia Conference.

PROPOSED AMENDED TEXT (Text to be deleted has a line through it, and added text is underlined.)

ARTICLE XVII. MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

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On January 11, 2022, the AAUW-VA Board of Directors approved creation of the new position of Administrator to work with the President in carrying out certain duties assigned to the President. On January 26, 2022, the State Board voted unanimously to appoint Sarita McCoy Gregory of the Hampton Branch as the first AAUW-VA Administrator, effective July 1, 2022. As you can see from reading her bio below, Sarita brings to the board a background of accomplishment. We are excited to welcome Sarita to the board.



Sarita McCoy Gregory, Ph.D. joined AAUW in 2019, after relocating to the Hampton Roads area. She currently serves as the public policy chair and webmaster of the Hampton Branch. As public policy chair, Sarita has coordinated several events with the branch program vice president, including a *Promoting Equity Virtual Conversation* series, featuring Jennifer Carroll Foy, Eola Dance, and a book discussion of Isabel Wilkerson's *Caste* with Hampton Branch member Dr. Margaret Bristow.

Sarita has taught at highly selective liberal arts colleges, a large state university, and served as chair of the Department of Political Science and History at an elite HBCU. In addition, she has written *Experience HBCU!: What Every High School Counselor Should Know About HBCUs.*

She has recently ventured out of higher education and launched <u>7 Cities</u>--a strategic event management and lecture series agency.

Sarita is very active in the Hampton Roads community. She has given a keynote address for the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) and the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Voting Rights Forum. She serves on two boards, Giving Black Philanthropy with the Hampton Roads Community Foundation and Smart Beginnings Virginia Peninsula.

Sarita is trained as a political scientist. She is a graduate of Tuskegee University and earned a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. She was a post-doctoral fellow at Macalester College in Saint Paul, Minnesota, and is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Sarita lives in the Hampton Roads area with her husband, Darryl, three children, and fur baby, Nani.



THE AAUW BOARD OF DIRECTORS WISHES TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND THANK THESE VISIONARY VIRGINIA LEGACY CIRCLE MEMBERS

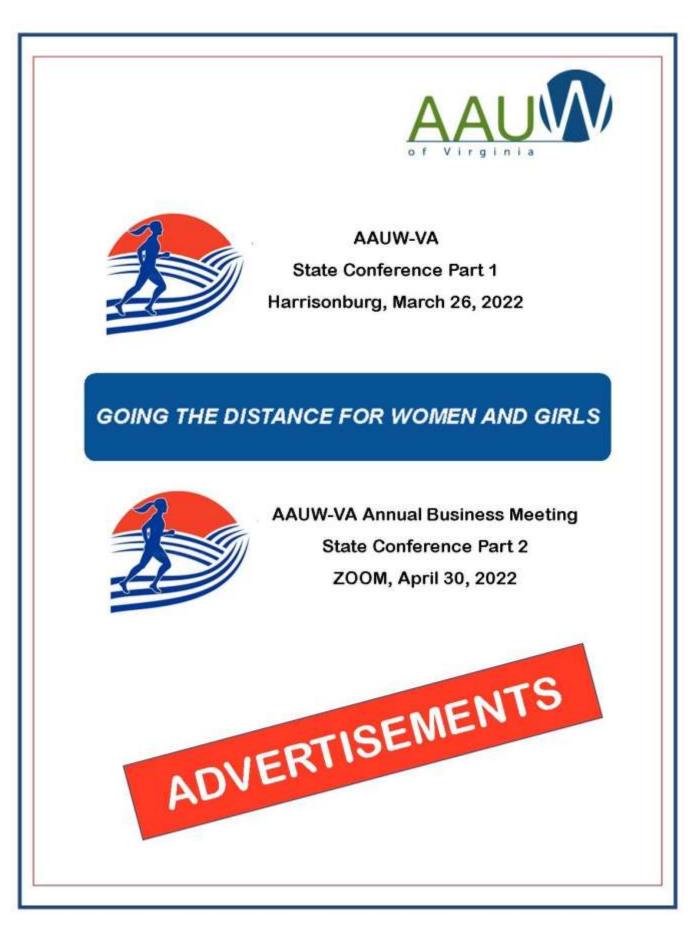
Anonymous (2) Anita Aymer Nancy Jane Bains Kathy K. Batkin Jill Birdwhistell Dianne L. Blais Suzanne V. Bottoms Anne L. Bryant HelenRuth Burch Susan F. Burk Janine Greenwood Linda D. Hallman Marjorie P. Hobart Patricia Hussey Mary V. Johnson Evelyn R. Jones

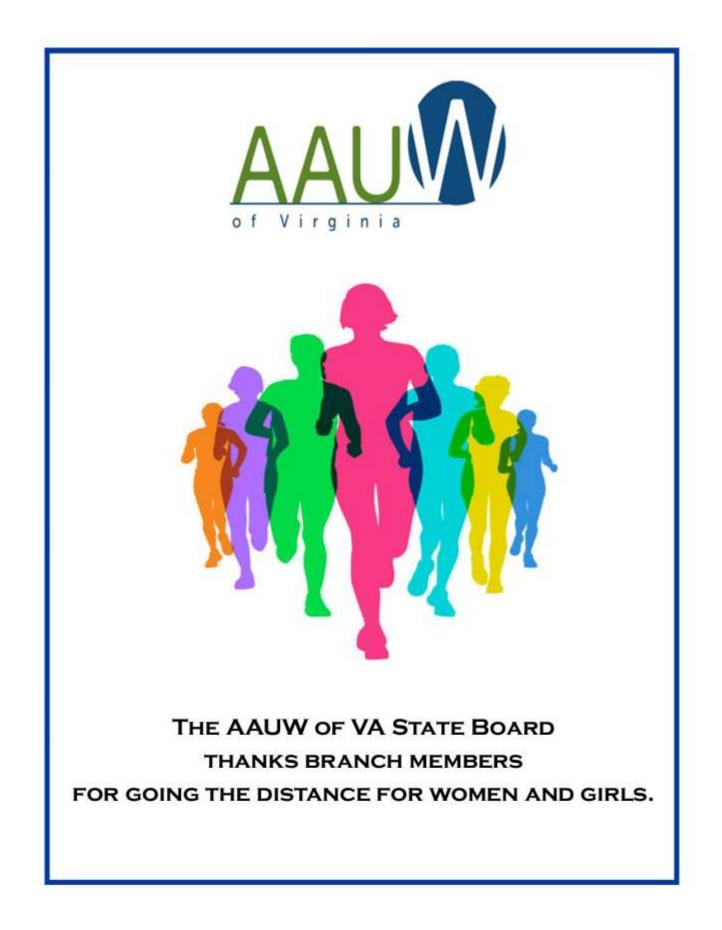
Nancy D. Joyner Kathleen J. Kelley Beverly A. Larson Sandra Lawrence Marcy J. & Donald J. Leverenz Nancy M. MacKenzie Linda M. Martin Mary J. Mayer Michele Milden Kristin C. Moyer Tammie Mullins-Rice

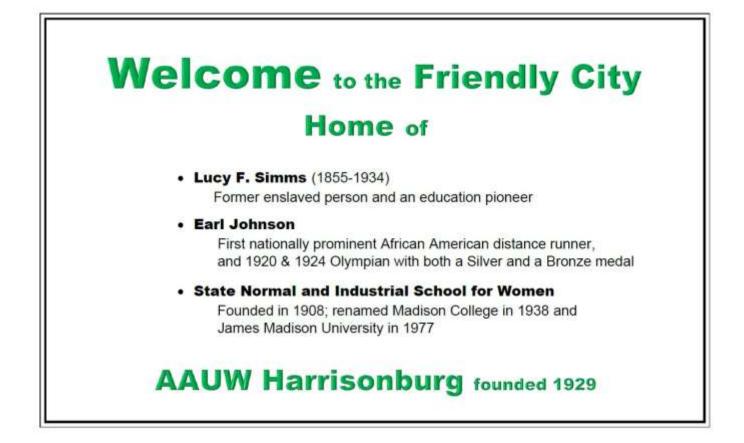


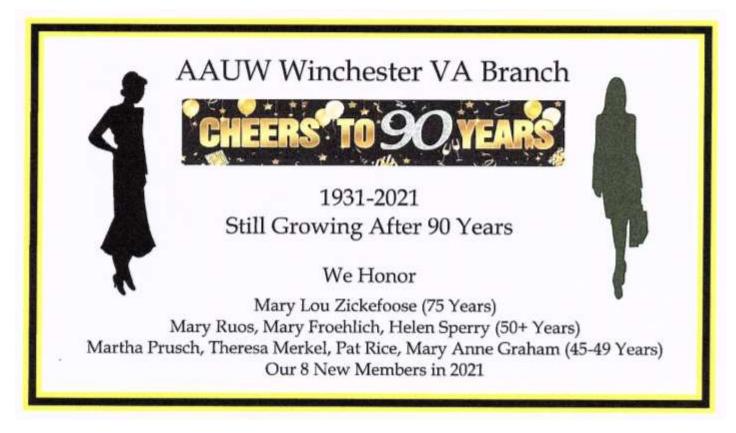
Jennie Sue Murdock Caroline E. Pickens Patricia N. Quick Sylvia Rogers Suzanne E. Rothwell Ann B. Sauberman Ruta Sevo Amy F. Sheldon Marion B. Stillson Leslie Tourigny Mary J. Wall Neola S. Waller Nancy W. Warren Sherry J. Warren Rance R. Willis Laura E. Wimmer Barbara Woodlee

For more information on joining the AAUW Legacy Circle, please contact National Legacy Circle Team Liaison Kristin C. Moyer at <u>kcmoyer65+gmail.com</u> or (703) 242-6428. You may also contact AAUW Advancement Director Heather Miller at <u>planned-giving@aauw.org</u> or (202) 758-7766.









AAUW McLean Area Branch

Committed to Our Mission



Celebrating our new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Award for Local High School Students



Thank you to all those who have worked tirelessly for so many years to get the ERA passed to ensure equal rights for women and girls ...

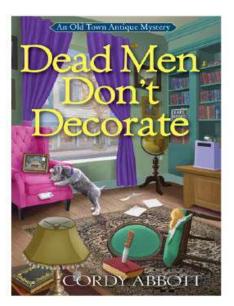
Ok, Washington - after all these years - we're still waiting ...

LET'S GET IT DONE!!

Greater Richmond Branch (GRAAUW)

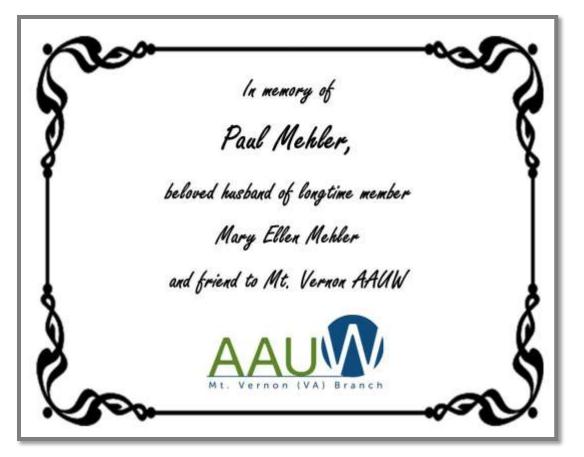
AAUW ALEXANDRIA CELEBRATES LANE STONE





CANDIDATE FOR AAUW VIRGINIA PRESIDENT, FORMER BRANCH CO-PRESIDENT, Author







RESTON-HERNDON AREA BRANCH

Advancing gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy since 1969.

HONORING OUR LONGEST SERVING MEMBERS

JUDITH BERKEY July 1975

SUZANNE COOK July 1975

NANCY GREEN July 1974

July 1975

July 1972

JUDITH ORNOFF GAIL OSBERG GLENNA PAUKSTIS July 1976

> MARION STILLSON July 1974

WHILST WELCOMING OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

SUSAN REYNOLDS BAIME June 2021

PAT FEGE August 2021 JUDITH RATLIFF October 2021

PAULA RUBINOFF June 2021

ANU SAHAI October 2021

JOANNE SCHAMEST July 2021



Bridgewater Retirement Community offers support for every season and stage in your life. We're a Life Plan Community, which means you have access to Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory Support, and a caring environment in our Nursing Households.

You can enter at any level and move to others as your needs change. There is always a place for you. And no matter where you are, we cut the grass, prepare the meals, and free you from maintenance and upkeep. If you're looking for a nonprofit retirement community that's flexible, secure, and supportive no matter your season of life, come visit us. We think you'll find BRC is for you.

Independent Living | Assisted Living | Memory Support | Nursing Households 302 North Second St. | Bridgewater, VA 22812 | 800.419.9129 | brc-energy.org BRIDGEWATER RETIREMENT COMMUNITY



FALLS CHURCH AREA BRANCH COMMITMENT and CELEBRATION

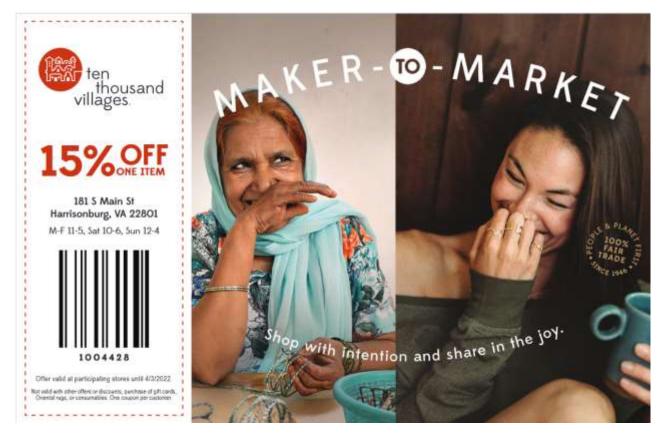


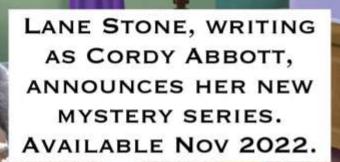
70TH ANNIVERSARY OF FALLS CHURCH AREA BRANCH We will celebrate our 70th anniversary in our 72nd year, due to COVID!

BOOK SALE THIS YEAR!

APRIL 29 – 30, 2022 BE THERE (AND BE "<u>SQUARE"D</u>)! (i.e., credit or cash) Check fallschurch-va@aauw.org for details







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An Old Town Antique Mystery

ad M

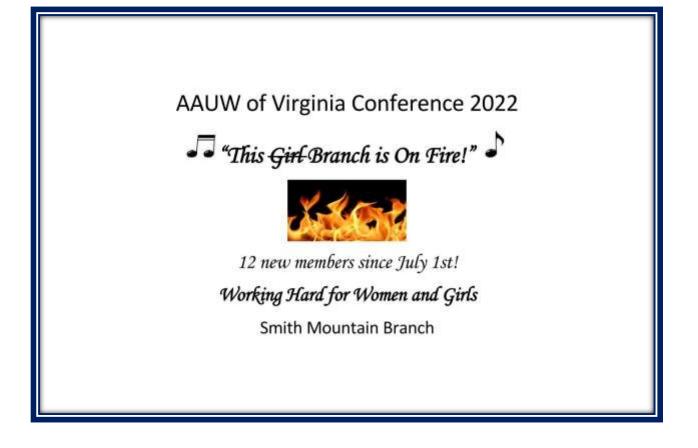
CORDY ABBOTT

The Mission of the American Association of University Women is "Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research." During the pandemic of the past two years, we remind ourselves daily of this responsibility, and we believe education has become more important than ever. As Marian Wright Edelman, founder of the Children's Defense Fund, says,

Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.

Wow! That's our mission and we value lives of so many people as this is achieved together. As a result, we pay tribute to a member who passed away recently, Nancy Morgan, and we are thankful for her presence and leadership in AAUW. We also wish each of you safe and productive lives in this organization as we continue our work in our challenging world together.

L. Karen Darner and Terri Bratt, Co-Presidents, Arlington Branch, AAUW



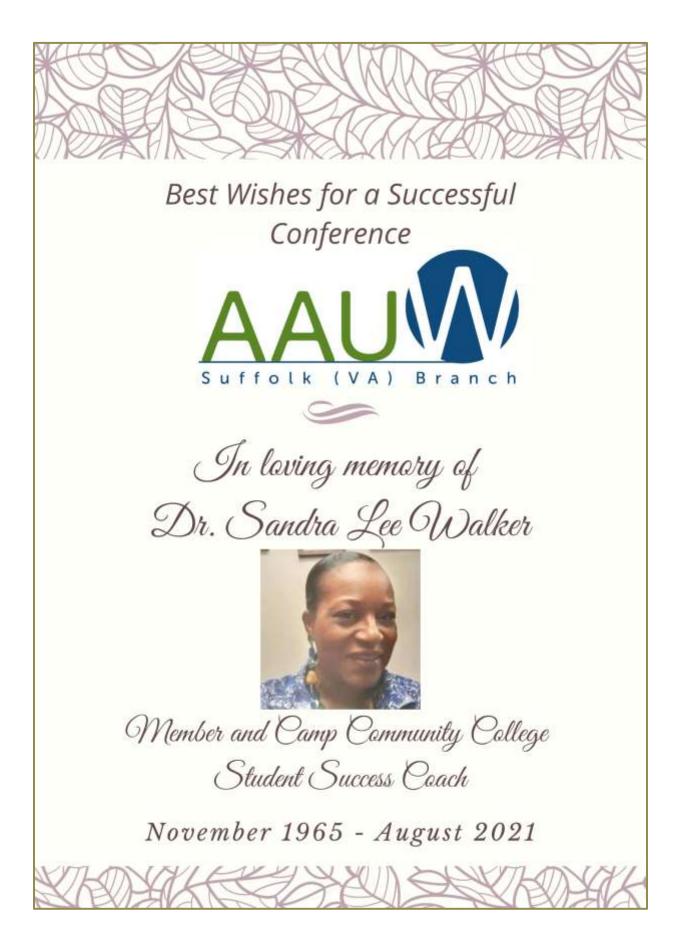


Springfield/Annandale Branch has been recognizing students who embody Diversity, Equity and Inclusion since 2001 when high school teachers Joanne Shows and Ercell Benz noted the resistance to embracing diversity within their schools.

The Student Diversity Award was created to honor students at the four Springfield and Annandale high schools who through their actions and/or projects in some way bridged the gap between parts of the rapidly growing ethnic, racial and cultural diversity in their schools.

In 2019, the emphasis shifted to promoting Inclusion, not just accepting other people but making them feel at home and safe and valued and the award was renamed the **Student Inclusion Award.** To date 82 students have been so honored. The students have been featured at a branch meeting where they talked about their efforts and got to meet with our members.

This year and last because of Pandemic restrictions, the award program shifted to an essay contest with first, second and third prizes. Last year's winners appeared on a zoom meeting of the branch.



madiSTEM: Making A Difference In Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math





madiSTEM is an annual STEM conference at James Madison University designed for girls in grades 6-8. Students explore STEM ideas and careers by engaging in hands-on workshops and interacting directly with female scientists.

Thank you to the Harrisonburg Branch of the AAUW for your longstanding support of the madiSTEM Conference!

Learn more at www.jmu.edu/madistem





Thank you for your dedicated and inspiring leadership!

CELEBRATING



BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS





Since 1940, Portsmouth Branch AAUW has welcomed women who are serious about making a difference in the world.



In 2022...



We still do! PORTSMOUTH BRANCH HONORS ALL OF ITS MEMBERS FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND LOYALTY TO AAUW THROUGHOUT THE CHALLENGES OF COVID 19

AAUW VIENNA AREA BRANCH

celebrates our longstanding partnership with the

PATRICK HENRY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Branch of the Fairfax County Public Library





Whether we meet in person or virtually, the Library is a welcoming host and partner for our community programs.

Our special appreciation goes to the Library's liaison, Assistant Branch Manager Deborah Smith-Cohen.



BEACH-OSWALD IMMIGRATION



Danielle Beach-Oswald has over 25 years of immigration law experience. Her firm focuses on employment immigration law, asylum, waivers, consular processing, family-based petitions and naturalization. She successfully advocates for clients from over 80 countries around the world who seek freedom from torture in their country, or are victims of domestic violence and trafficking. She has excelled in getting waivers of inadmissibility granted and has a high grant level for asylum and removability hearings.

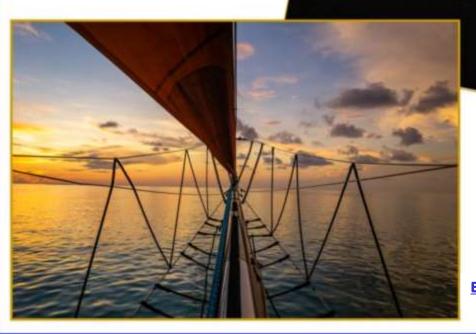
AREAS OF PRACTICE

Employmentbased Immigration, Humanitarian—based immigration and Removal

AFFILIATIONS AND AWARDS

US Supreme Court, Super Lawyer title through Washington Post and DC Magazine, Federal Bar Association

888 17th Street, NW Suite #310 Washington, DC 20006 202.331.3074 **immigrationlawdc.com** Eli Wilson Photography congratulates AAUW-VA for going the distance for women and girls!



These photographs and others are available from EliWilsonPhotography.com THE PAST STATE PRESIDENTS of AAUW OF VIRGINIA

APPLAUD

ALL THE MEMBERS OF OUR VIRGINIA BRANCHES GOING THE DISTANCE FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

THANK YOU!

Dianne Blais	Kay Gravatt	Susan Hoover
Nancy D.	Joyner Elaine L	ailas
Sandra Lawrence	Theresa Merkel	Kristin Moyer
Caroline Pickens	Rosemary Plum	Patsy Quick
Nancy Richardson	Carol Stephens	Marion Stillson
Peggy Stotz	Neola Waller	Laura Wimmer