


**Embracing Our Herstory,
Moving Forward...**



Williamsburg, Virginia
March 18, 2023

2023 AAUW of Virginia Conference
Holiday Inn & Suites - Williamsburg / Gateway

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AAUW BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIR



March 18, 2023

Greetings AAUW Virginia members!

Welcome to your 2023 State Conference, **"Embracing Our Herstory, Moving Forward. . ."**

First allow me to say Happy Birthday as you approach your 98th year (on March 27th). Like a number of States, there were several local branches in existence (in Virginia's case as early as 1909) before the State Division was established. Over the years Virginia and its branches have remained diligent and committed to achieving women's equity. Your scheduled program and speakers for the Conference are impressive to say the least.

Not only is Virginia keen to work toward AAUW's mission accomplishment, you are looking at ways to increase membership, expand public policy outreach, and host relevant and timely mission-based programming. Such programs are an important service designed to educate and inform your members *and* the public as well as having impact! Of equal importance is your attention to some of the most critical issues facing our country, including those surrounding efforts to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Just as you're moving forward, so too is our organization. Our fellowship's alumnae continue to impact the world! We're conducting powerful new research exposing inequities, and we're influencing the most important policy decisions for women and families at both national and state levels.

I don't want to diminish the remarkable gains women have made in the past several decades—or to downplay the potential for even greater progress in the years ahead; but we cannot lose sight of the fact that "equity is still an issue." Systemic inequities including crushing student loan debt and a stagnant gender pay gap are keeping millions of women from achieving financial security. Voting and reproductive rights are under assault all over the country, and bias and discrimination continue to keep women from excelling in lucrative STEM careers and ascending to top leadership roles. AAUW Virginia is at the forefront of reminding all of us that we still need to work hard to keep the momentum going.

Have fun at your conference, exchange information, learn new tools and techniques, celebrate, enjoy the company of like-minded AAUW members and guests; then go home and keep moving forward--toward "equity for all."

Yours In the Struggle,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julia T. Brown".

Julia T. Brown, Esq.
Board Chair



GREETINGS!

On behalf of the citizens of Williamsburg, Virginia, I am pleased and honored to welcome the distinguished guests and members of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) State of Virginia to Williamsburg.

We are delighted that you will be visiting our city again as you hold your 2023 State Conference, themed "Embracing Our Herstory, Moving Forward", on March 18, 2023 while celebrating your 140th anniversary.

Williamsburg, the capital city of Colonial Virginia, 1699-1780, stands today much as it did in the eighteenth century. Eighty-eight of the City's original buildings have been restored and preserved while hundreds of others have been reconstructed based on historical documents and research. The restoration program was begun in 1926 by the late Reverend Dr. W.A.R. Goodwin and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. We hope you will stroll through the Historic Area, enjoy the costumed interpreters as they relate the colorful histories of the buildings and gardens, and visit the variety of shops and restaurants.

William and Mary, the second oldest university in America is within walking distance of the historic area. The Wren Building, located on the campus, is the oldest academic building in English-speaking America, in use since 1695, and the first major Williamsburg structure to be restored by Mr. Rockefeller.

Best wishes for a memorable meeting as you gather from all over. We extend a warm welcome to all of you, and hope you enjoy another visit to our beautiful city.




Douglas G. Pons
Mayor

Welcome To Williamsburg!



On March 26, 2022, AAUW of Virginia was pleased to hold our first in-person conference since 2019. We gathered at the Hotel Madison/Shenandoah Valley Conference Center on the campus of James Madison University (JMU) in Harrisonburg. The event was a joyful reunion of branch members across the Commonwealth. It was planned and hosted by the Northwest District and the theme was “Going the Distance for Women and Girls.” At the beginning of the conference, Co-Presidents Suzanne Rothwell and Leslie Tourigny were excited to welcome branch members to a fun evening reception with live entertainment. We received a warm welcome from JMU President Dr. Jonathan Alger. We enjoyed a keynote speech from Professor Kimberly Jenkins Robinson and other presentations from inspiring speakers. Our Annual Business Meeting was held virtually on April 30, 2022.

It was 98 years ago that seven branches in Virginia met in Williamsburg to form the Virginia State Division of AAUW. In honor of those farsighted women and how far Virginia’s state and branch organizations have come since then, this year we are meeting in Williamsburg with the theme of “Embracing Our Herstory, Moving Forward.” We have invited branches to share their founding stories and will celebrate our achievements in the areas of public policy, diversity, equity, inclusion (DEI), and belonging; expanding branch membership through reinvigorated liaison-branch connections (even with the rollout of the Community HUB); and growing our partnerships with colleges and universities. Under the able leadership of College/University Co-Chairs Barbara Woodlee and Cyndi Shanahan, the University of Lynchburg recently joined as a university partner. Several branches invited us to speak to their members about reconnecting to the AAUW mission and creating a vision for 2023.

We look forward to exploring the lovely city of Williamsburg and learning about the historic Bray School (the oldest school for African Americans in the Commonwealth), which has recently been relocated from the College of William and Mary to Colonial Williamsburg.

Thanks to our Southeast District for hosting the conference, and to all our branches and the state board for supporting this conference by preparing and delivering their reports and submitting ads that help to fund AAUW-VA donations to AAUW Funds and to cover any honoraria for conference speakers.

Lane Stone, AAUW-VA President
Sarita McCoy Gregory, AAUW-VA Administrator

2023 STATE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND OTHER VOLUNTEERS

Hosted by the Southeast District Branches

Conference Committee Chair:	Tammie Mullins-Rice, AAUW-VA Southeast District Representative, (Suffolk Branch and Virginia Beach Branch)
Conference Program:	Nadine James, AAUW-VA VP for Program, (Reston-Herndon Area Branch and Vienna Area Branch)
Name Tags:	Sherry Warren, AAUW-VA Recording Secretary, (Portsmouth Branch)
Registration:	Portsmouth Branch
Program Books:	Carolyn Stewart, Layout Editor, (Hampton Branch) Mary Anne Graham, Copy Editor, (McLean Area Branch and Winchester Branch)
Treasurer:	Sally Daniel (Virginia Beach Branch)
Welcome Bags:	Carolyn Stewart (Hampton Branch) Laura Greenfield (Hampton Branch) Hampton Branch
Decorations:	Denise Murden, Co-VP for Public Policy (Portsmouth Branch and Suffolk Branch)
Door Prizes:	Kathy Batkin, AAUW-VA Historian, (Portsmouth Branch) Hampton Branch
Hospitality:	Virginia Beach Branch
Dine Arounds	Newport News Branch
Other Volunteers:	Sarita McCoy Gregory, AAUW-VA Administrator (Hampton Branch) Phyllis Shannon (Portsmouth Branch) Wilma Robinson (Norfolk Branch) Joan Jenkins (Hampton Branch) Barbara Woodlee, AAUW-VA Co-Chair C/U Partners (Virginia Beach Branch) Marilyn Riddle (Newport News Branch)

HOTEL CHECK-IN AND PARKING

Accommodations for conference attendees arriving on Friday, March 17, 2023, will be at either the Holiday Inn & Suites or the Comfort inn. The Holiday Inn & Suites is the location of the conference. Both hotels are on the U.S. 60 Bypass Road within 1 minute walk of each other.

Check-in at both hotels is 3:00 p.m. The hotels will accommodate early arrivals on a space availability basis. Check-out is 11:00 a.m. Late check-out is available for a fee.

Parking is on-site and free at both hotels.

CONFERENCE HOTEL- HOLIDAY INN & SUITES



OVERFLOW HOTEL – COMFORT INN



CONFERENCE AGENDA

Friday, March 17, 2023

3:00 p.m.	Hotel check-in
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Hospitality suite open
8:00p.m. – 9:30 p.m.	Hospitality suite open
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	Join us for Trivia in hotel Bistro 515 restaurant

Saturday, March 18, 2023

8:30 a.m.	Conference check-in begins
8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	Breakfast
9:50 a.m. – 9:55 a.m.	Open Conference and Welcome Attendees Lane Stone, AAUW-VA President Sarita Gregory, AAUW-VA Administrator
9:55 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Posting of the Colors Colonial Coast Girl Scout Troop 1087
10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Welcome – Barbara Ramsey, Williamsburg Council Member
10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Keynote Speaker – Dr. Cassandra Newby-Alexander “African American Women: The Long History of Advocacy and Their Quest to Safeguard Their Families and Communities”
11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	BREAK
11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Presentation #1: Dr. Marissa Rice “Inspiring and Retaining Young Women in STEM Fields”
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	LUNCH
1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	Presentation #2: Laura Goren “Creating Great Public Schools for Every Student”
2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	BREAK
3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	Presentation #3: Caroline Pickens “The Unknown Glorious Herstory of AAUW”
3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Announcements and Close

KEYNOTE SPEAKER AND PRESENTERS

Keynote Address

“African American Women: The Long History of Advocacy and Their Quest to Safeguard Their Families and Communities”



Dr. Cassandra Newby-Alexander is the Endowed Professor of Virginia Black History and Culture, Director of the Joseph Jenkins Roberts Center for the Study of the African Diaspora, and former Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Norfolk State University in Virginia.

African American women were the bridge leaders and builders in their communities, whose intricate network of supporters enabled the successful coordination of efforts that unlocked some of the most severe forms of discrimination and prejudice. Cassandra Newby-Alexander will discuss the long history of advocacy among African American women over the past 400 years, providing a few examples of how so many defied “the great man leadership model” through their bravery, agency, and determination.

Conference Presenters

“Inspiring and Retaining Young Women in STEM Fields”



Dr. Marissa A. Rice, Postdoctoral Associate, Behavioral and Evolutionary Neuroscience, Department of Human Development at Cornell University, and a member of the Virginia Beach Branch.

The Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields will account for some of the fastest growing — and highest paying — jobs of the future. Although research has shown that girls are more than capable of succeeding in STEM domains, young women and girls continue to be vastly under-represented in STEM fields. It’s also a myth that girls aren’t interested in science. Dr. Rice will share evidence-based behavioral science techniques as well as insights from her own journey in the sciences.

“Creating Great Public Schools for Every Student”



Laura Goren, Director of Research and Education Policy at The Commonwealth Institute (TCI) for Fiscal Analysis, which includes leading TCI's analysis on education funding and supporting community-based partners in their education advocacy on key issues facing communities of color and low-income families.

AAUW's deep roots in advocating for quality public education for all go back to our national founding in 1881. Today there are multiple visions of the roles of the Commonwealth, school districts, educators, and parents in public education. Thanks to the hard work of students, teachers, and parents, many of Virginia's students are doing well despite the tremendous challenges of the past few years. But the state isn't doing its part to make sure every student in every zip code has access to a great education. Laura will discuss the current problems caused by underfunding, the need for adequate and equitable resources for every student, and some of the nuts and bolts of Virginia budget process and budget advocacy.

“The Unknown Glorious Herstory of AAUW”



Caroline Pickens, past state president and a co-founder of the AAUW Archives Corps, will take us back for a look into AAUW's herstory and some of the remarkable work we've done to promote the education and protection of the rights of women and girls. Did you know AAUW issued its first pay equity report in 1913? Why does AAUW have a letter from Albert Einstein? When and why did the United Nations give AAUW permanent observer status? What was the African Educators Program? Caroline will provide answers to these questions and provide insight into other areas of AAUW as she engages us in our "herstory."

AAUW Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2022-2023

President

Lane Stone

Administrator

Sarita McCoy Gregory

VP for Program

Nadine James

VP for Membership

Cheryl Spohnholtz

VP for Finance

Marsha Melkonian

Co-VPs for Public Policy

Janine Greenwood

Denise Murden

VP for Communications

Dianne Mero

Co-VPs for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Krysta Jones

Meg Tuccillo

Recording Secretary

Sherry Warren

AAUW Funds Chair

Ann Johnson

College/University Co-Chairs

Cyndi Shanahan

Barbara Woodlee

Bylaws and Resolutions

Chair

Suzanne Rothwell

Historian

Kathy Batkin

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

(Nominating Committee)

Northern District

Susan Burk

Leslie Tourigny

Northwest District

Laura Wimmer

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.

President and Administrator Report

Our North Star is the advancement of gender equity. Everything we do flows from advocacy on issues to accomplishing them. Our goal is to support branches, branch leadership, and members, as they work to create change, and not be an added layer. Here are a few examples of how we've tried to do that.

- We conducted a statewide town hall meeting with Angie Cooper, Senior Manager, Connect and the Advancement & Partnerships Department, at AAUW National, to work on HUB problems. We survived the Hub!
- We worked to grow membership by increasing visibility.
 - We're working in coalition with NOW's Virginia Law Audit Project and Fund Our Schools.
 - We shared branch Facebook pages to amplify our messages. (And said goodbye to Twitter.)
- We've supported branch leadership teams.
 - We presented strategic planning workshops to the Greater Richmond and Hampton Branches. We hope more of you will invite us.
 - We are revamping the summer leadership meeting to a more useful model.
- We're expanding how we think about college/university partnerships.

As we near the end of our first year of service, we want to say again that it's an honor to be your state president and administrator.

Lane Stone and Sarita Gregory
President and Administrator

Vice President for Program Report

It has been an honor to continue to serve as the vice president for program. I have been working collaboratively with Southeast District Representative, Tammie Mullins-Rice, and a committee of members representing area branches, to plan the March 18, 2023, AAUW Virginia State Conference. This included developing the conference theme, which is “Embracing Our Herstory, Moving Forward “ (the logo developed by webmaster 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 and topics of interest to our members, including women’s history, women’s advancement in STEM education, and public policy in a post-Covid environment.

I attended the Northern District meetings.

I served on the mini-grants committee for 2022-2023 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 topics.

I continue to seek ideas regarding the content and format of future statewide meetings organized by the AAUW-VA Board of Directors.

Nadine James
Vice President for Program

Vice President for Membership Report

As of February 2023, AAUW-VA had 960 branch members across 24 branches, down from 1,012 in February 2022. We are pleased to report that this represents a 95% membership retention rate, which exceeded the AAUW national retention goal of 90%. In 2022, the Suffolk Branch voted to merge with the Portsmouth Branch, so in 2023 the number of active branches will drop to 23.

Eight branches had the same or more members in 2023 than the year before, which either indicates 100% retention or the acquisition of new members: Greater Manassas, Hampton, Portsmouth, Roanoke Valley, Smith Mountain, Springfield-Annandale, Vienna Area, and Wytheville. Congratulations to these branches. They will each receive a cash award and certificate of recognition!

Additionally, 11 more branches successfully met or exceeded the 90% goal: Arlington, Fairfax City, Falls Church Area, Harrisonburg, Lynchburg, McLean Area, Mt. Vernon, Newport News, Norfolk, Reston-Herndon Area, and Woodbridge. These branches will receive a certificate of recognition. Twenty AAUW of Virginia branches recruited a total of 117 new members between February 2022 and January 2023, with Smith Mountain Branch leading the way with 18 new members. McLean Area, Roanoke Valley, and Vienna also had 10 or more new members each.

Cheryl Spohnholtz
Vice President for Membership

Branch Name	Official Feb 2022	Membership 2023	% of 2022 Membership in 2023
Alexandria	58	49	83
Arlington	58	55	95
Fairfax City	26	25	96
Falls Church Area	34	33	97
Greater Manassas	10	10	100
Greater Richmond	39	32	82
Hampton	17	18	100
Harrisonburg	35	32	91
Lynchburg	38	35	92
McLean Area	113	109	96
Mount Vernon	43	39	91
Newport News	14	13	93
Norfolk	21	20	95
Portsmouth	20	22	100
Reston-Herndon Area	79	71	90
Roanoke Valley	50	54	100
Smith Mountain	68	77	100
Springfield Annandale	55	56	100
Suffolk	16	4	25
Vienna Area	56	56	100
Virginia Beach	50	44	88
Winchester	47	36	77
Woodbridge	49	46	94
Wytheville	16	24	100
Totals	1012	960	95

Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy Report

The digital skills AAUW-VA members have learned over the last three years have led to better coordination of our efforts and more frequent contact with our elected representatives. Our branches hosted Zoom meetings with their elected representatives throughout the year, and our online public policy meetings were well attended. Members wrote more than 3,000 postcards encouraging infrequent voters of color to get to the polls.

Following the legislative successes of the 2022 General Assembly session, we continued to push paid family and medical leave, paid sick days, and salary history ban legislation. We also opposed education vouchers and saving accounts that would divert funds away from public schools and, following the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, renewed our efforts to protect and expand reproductive rights.

AAUW-VA took public stances on several issues, including objections to the expressed views of the Virginia Department of Health commissioner regarding racial disparities in healthcare, the Governor's push to divert education funding to laboratory schools, and the revision of proposed history and social science standards for Virginia schools developed under the previous administration.

We expanded our reach with continued membership in the Paid Sick Days Coalition and joint activities with the League of Women Voters of Virginia and the National Women's Political Caucus of Virginia. We were accepted for membership in the Fund Our Schools coalition late in the year. We held a very successful in-person Lobby Day in Richmond in January 2023 where 25 members reached out to 80 elected officials. Nothing was more telling about the growing awareness of AAUW-VA and the impact of our advocacy than the loud applause and recognition our members received when introduced on the floors of both the Virginia House and Senate.

Janine Greenwood/Denise Murden
Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy

Public Policy Mini-Grants Report

AAUW-VA's mini-grant program continued to support branch projects that align with our public policy priorities throughout the Commonwealth. The State Board approved \$1,500 for 2022-2023 mini-grants, and the summer 2022 *Vision* provided information for applying online. Applications were due by September 15. The Mini-Grant Committee assessed four applications based on:

- Innovation/creativity
- Community outreach
- Support of AAUW priorities
- Recruitment value
- Collaboration with others
- Financial need
- Value of outcomes

While two of the branches received amounts less than requested, all were able to start their projects with the grants. Branches were informed of their awards on November 15:

- **Reston-Herndon Area:** \$200 for the Diversity, Equality, Inclusion, and Justice Essay Award program for high school students.
- **Smith Mountain:** \$100 to establish a scholarship fund to reimburse students pursuing STEM degrees for college application fees.
- **Virginia Beach:** \$800 to hold an event for female high school softball players to meet Wesleyan University players to learn about Title IX and its importance for women's athletics.
- **Wytheville:** \$400 to support a community STEM event for middle school girls.

All branches awarded a mini-grant must complete their projects by June 30, provide a short report after completion of their activity, and submit all receipts by July 15, 2023.

Denise Murden, Co-VP for Public Policy
Janine Greenwood, Co-VP for Public Policy
Nadine James, VP for Program
Marsha Melkonian, VP for Finance
AAUW-VA Mini-Grant Committee

Vice President for Communications Report

AAUW-VA Website and Branch Websites

Serving in her sixth year as the website manager, Patsy Quick (Mt. Vernon) provides information to members and visitors to the state website (aauw-va.aauw.net) regarding state leaders' activities and state and branch events and accomplishments. In 2022, working with the public policy co-VPs and DEI co-VPs, pages for each area were added to the website. Eighteen branches have managed websites supported through AAUW's Site Resources, while six branches have pages connected to the state website. At a minimum, the web manager communicates with branches annually to offer support in keeping their websites updated. Branches often ask the communications team to collaborate with them on ways to improve their sites.

Social Media

AAUW-VA maintains a Facebook (FB) page managed by Cheryl Spohnholtz (Mt. Vernon). Eight branches have FB pages and at least one branch has a Twitter account. Although keeping Twitter active at the state and branch levels has proven to be problematic, we are exploring the feasibility of participating on other social media platforms.

Email and MailChimp

Email continues to be the most useful means of communication within the state board and with the branches. The web manager monitors the state website and forwards emails received to the appropriate board member/s. A MailChimp mass mailing account was originally established for the distribution of the digital version of the state newsletter to all members. We have found it to be useful in sending messages regarding various meetings, events, and opportunities to our members. We are currently exploring alternative mass mailing options in looking for more flexibility and cost-effectiveness.

Vision

The state newsletter, *Vision*, is published three times each year and serves as a major means of communication with over 1,000 AAUW-VA members, as each receives a digital copy. Mary Anne Graham (McLean Area and Winchester) serves as copy editor responsible for reviewing and editing articles submitted by the state board and branch members, while Layout Editor Bianca Daugherty (Mt. Vernon) arranges the information for both the online and print formats. Printed copies are sent to members without email addresses. *Vision* is also posted on the state website and stored in the state's online archives. In 2022, the communications team updated the guidance document, "Process for Publishing and Distributing the *Vision* (2022)," which has been successfully implemented this year.

Dianne Mero
Vice President for Communications

AAUW Funds Chair Report
CONTRIBUTIONS - CALENDAR YEAR 2022

<u>BRANCH</u>	<u>BRANCH & MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS</u>	<u>GREATEST NEED FUNDS</u>
Alexandria	\$ 4,022.85	100% of contributions
Arlington	\$ 2,812.00	100% of contributions
Falls Church Area	\$ 9,849.00	100% of contributions
Fairfax City	\$ 2,180.00	99% of contributions
Greater Manassas	\$ 432.00	76% of contributions
Greater Richmond	\$ 2,780.50	7% of contributions
Hampton	\$ 331.00	100% of contributions
Harrisonburg	\$ 298.50	100% of contributions
Lynchburg	\$ 630.00	100% of contributions
McLean Area	\$ 10,046.10	100% of contributions
Mt. Vernon	\$ 10,939.00	100% of contributions
Newport News	\$ 1,920.00	22% of contributions
Norfolk	\$ 50.00	100% of contributions
Portsmouth	\$ 1,563.00	100% of contributions
Reston-Herndon Area	\$ 11,194.00	34% of contributions
Roanoke Valley	\$ 1,652.00	100% of contributions
Smith Mountain	\$ 1,651.00	100% of contributions
Springfield-Annandale	\$ 5,802.00	100% of contributions
Suffolk	\$ 51.00	100% of contributions
Vienna Area	\$ 2,663.50	98% of contributions
Virginia Beach	\$ 2,780.00	100% of contributions
Winchester	\$ 732.00	100% of contributions
Woodbridge	\$ 500.00	59% of contributions
Wytheville	\$ 160.50	100% of contributions
Virginia State AAUW	\$ 3,790.00	100% of contributions
TOTAL	\$ 78,830.25	

Branch Names Honored for 2022

Alexandria:	Susan Werner, Margaret Batko, Danielle Beach-Oswald, Lynn O'Connell, Bonnie Hershberg, Leslie Tourigny, Anne Simpson, Mary Ann Bier
Arlington:	Sara Anderson, Teri Doxsee, Barbara Gallagher, Meg Tuccillo
Fairfax City:	Trudi Arnold (founder of the branch), Dorothy Joslin, Ida Portland, The Fairfax City Branch on its 50 th Anniversary
Falls Church Area:	Dianne Bodeen, Sarah John, Mollie Jewell, Mary Youman, Linda Lawrence, Pauline Rosenstein, Susan Conklin, Marilyn Falksen, Clare O'Sheel, Pam Martinov, Elisa Velasco, Nikki Henderson, William Richardson, Sarah Shannon, Marion Jarrett, Mary Ellen Gannon, Anne Baxter, Sally Brett, Martha Trunk
Greater Richmond:	Tess Evans, Laura Wimmer, Carol Stephens, Lisa Scott, Ramona Jones- Lemon
Lynchburg:	Carol Hannah
Mt. Vernon:	Patsy Quick, Lois Passman, Ebba Jo Spettel, Bianca Daugherty, Mary Ellen Mehler, Susan Farmer, Mary Wall, Janet Hedrick, Liz Promen, Joanne Clark, Anne Simpson, Joanne Malkin, Elaine Kolish, Paula Lettice
McLean Area:	Janet Taylor, Naz Basit, Caroline Pickens
Newport News:	Carolyn Hughes (in memoriam), John Hughes
Portsmouth:	Susan Berger (in memoriam)
Reston Herndon Area:	Judith Berkey, Suzanne Cook, Judi Ornoff, Gail Osberg, Glenna Paukstis, Marion Stillson, Joanne Jessen, Samantha Polon, Alicia Russman, Patty Hagan, Janet Silverberg, Linda Bailey
Roanoke Valley:	Pat Hales, Barbara Craig, Robin Frank Remple
Smith Mountain:	Marsha Protinsky, Ann Tavino, Sandy Furick
Springfield-Annandale:	Ann Sauberman, Irene McGhee, Karen Flann, Sallie Williams, Rose Clark, Deborah Dodd, Sharon Draper
Vienna Area:	Our Board of Directors, Our Interest Group Chairs
Virginia Beach:	Linda Todd, Linda Love, Sally Pattison-Cisna, Kathleen Stasulis, Sally Daniel
Winchester:	Mary Miller Froehlich (in memoriam)
Woodbridge:	Colleen Hauser, who championed our branch with virtual camaraderie (in memoriam)

Ann Johnson, AAUW Funds Chair

College and University Co-Chairs Report

It has been a challenging year as we worked to reconnect with former college/university partner institutions after the pandemic. Currently, Virginia has 11 partners. The partners are as follows:

George Mason University

James Madison University

Mary Baldwin University

Northern Virginia Community College

Randolph College

Shenandoah University

The University of Virginia at Wise

University of Lynchburg

University of Mary Washington

University of Richmond

Washington-Lee University

During the year, we conducted meetings with other C/U partner leaders in states across the country, college/university branch representatives in Virginia, AAUW staff members, and the University of Lynchburg president. We learned the importance of creating positive relationships with campus representatives and the need to increase AAUW visibility at these institutions for branches to create highly successful programs.

In cooperation with our DEI vice presidents and state administrator, we promoted Work Smart salary and negotiation seminars to Virginia HBCUs in support of the national AAUW Coca-Cola grant. Additionally, we gathered and distributed information to branch representatives as requested. We will conclude the year with another college/university representatives meeting to further explore ideas for expanding this effort across the state.

Cyndi Shanahan/Barbara Woodlee
College and University Co-Chairs

Co-Vice Presidents for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Report

Issues regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion, and also belonging, continue to be areas of great interest and concern throughout this year. Much has been done in these areas in AAUW across the nation but much continues to be needed. In Virginia, we are fortunate to have many DEIB representatives in our branches working with their leadership to help ensure we are not just writing a statement about DEIB but incorporating these aspects into our work. We met with representatives across the state in the fall (via Zoom) to share ideas and resources, discuss ways to be inclusive in our meetings through actions like providing closed captioning for Zoom, and beginning our meetings by recognizing the land where we are meeting belongs to the Indigenous peoples who lived here before America was settled by Europeans.

In February, we held a statewide Zoom presentation by the non-profit organization Challenging Racism for branch and state leadership and DEIB branch representatives on developing a diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging culture within our branches. Executive Director of Challenging Racism Alicia Jones McLeod shared handouts on common language around race and conversation guidelines for DEIB discussions.

We plan to meet again this spring with branch representatives to hear about what went well and what might be focus areas for next year.

Krysta Jones/Meg Tuccillo
Co-Vice Presidents for DEI

Bylaws and Resolutions Chair Report

AAUW-VA Bylaws Amendment Adopted in 2022

Virginia members voted to approve a proposal presented at the 2022 AAUW-VA Annual Business Meeting that amended the state bylaws to eliminate the requirement that the mandatory annual business meeting must be held during the state conference. This change allows greater flexibility in arranging these two different statewide meetings.

Approval of AAUW-VA Strategic Plan for 2023 - 2025

The AAUW-VA Board of Directors approved revisions to the AAUW-VA Strategic Plan that had expired on June 30, 2022. Among other things, the revised General Statement establishes that the AAUW-VA Board of Directors will devote its resources to promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB) to advance opportunities for all members of the community.

Approval of New AAUW-VA Diversity and Accessibility Policy

The AAUW-VA Board of Directors approved amendments to the Diversity Policy in the AAUW-VA Board of Directors Handbook to establish a new Diversity and Accessibility Policy (D&A Policy). The D&A Policy is intended to provide useful guidance to members on implementing DEIB by:

- identifying and addressing the many aspects of DEIB (including accessibility) that are integral to the operations of the AAUW state and branch affiliates and district activities;
- enhancing sensitivity to accessibility issues for all persons, regardless of whether considered to have a disability; and
- clarifying and expanding on the obligations of the AAUW-VA and Virginia branches as well as the district representatives to incorporate DEIB and accessibility into their decision-making for all activities.

Other Revisions to the Board of Directors Handbook

The AAUW-VA Board of Directors also approved the following changes to the AAUW-VA Board of Directors Handbook.

1. The job description for the Board's position of vice president for finance was revised to include current good practices to assist later occupants of that position.
2. The procedures for the members of the Board to conduct liaison activities with branches were added to the Handbook.
3. The reimbursement amounts for hotel and driving expenses for board member travel were changed from \$40 to \$50 per night and \$0.30 to \$0.40 per mile, respectively.

State Board of Directors Submits Comment to AAUW on Proposed National Bylaws Amendments

The AAUW of Virginia Board of Directors submitted comments to AAUW regarding the proposed national bylaws change to delete the 60-day notification period to members before the AAUW Board voting on a dues change, which issue also relates to the way bylaws amendments are adopted. The state's comment recommended that AAUW amend the member dues and bylaws provisions to specifically establish a minimum 21-day comment period for members when national proposed amendments to member dues or the bylaws. The Board recommended that bylaws amendments thereafter be published once more to members with a minimum 30-day notification period before the date of the vote on the amendments. The state pointed out that, as an organization built upon an affiliate membership structure, AAUW should demonstrate that members' comments are considered by AAUW before final action by the AAUW Board on these important matters.

Suzanne Rothwell, Bylaws/Resolutions Chair

Historian Report

The job of the historian is to “retain AAUW of Virginia historical records and papers significant to the history of the AAUW of Virginia...until the completion of the state history.” There is a list of necessary documents and reports including “reports of significant AAUW of Virginia projects and trends.”

In the past year, a new AAUW of Virginia Bylaws has been written and added to the archives along with a new AAUW of Virginia Board of Directors Handbook. Both documents are fluid and can be revised whenever necessary.

Another of my jobs is to help branches with decisions about their archives. Don't hesitate to ask for my help. There are still three copies of our most recent state history, “The History of the American Association of University Women of Virginia 1925-2010,” most recently updated by Neola Waller (Virginia Beach). The cost is \$10. Please contact me at kbatkinatverizon.net. I will be happy to mail one to whomever orders one.

Kathy Batkin
Historian



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
Dottie Joslin
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 Woodley

For more information on joining the AAUW Legacy Circle, please contact National Legacy Circle Team Liaison Kristin C. Moyer at kcmoyeer65@gmail.com or (703) 242-6428. You may also contact AAUW Advancement Director Nadia Daghistani at planned-giving@aauw.org or (202) 758-7766.

District Reports

All Districts Meeting

On October 22, 2022, we made AAUW of Virginia “herstory” by holding our first All-District Meeting, courtesy of Zoom. Members from 23 of our 24 branches—all four of our districts-- attended the meeting and met AAUW Chief Executive Officer Gloria Blackwell.



Gloria recognized AAUW-VA’s achievement as the first state affiliate to earn five stars in the 5-Star National Recognition Program. She presented an AAUW update and answered questions from our members. She told us that AAUW met its 2022 fundraising goals; increased programming outreach to girls and women of color; presented salary negotiation training to nearly 190,000 participants; and continued our highly esteemed fellowships and grants programs to support women. She said that in 2023, our renowned National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) would, once again, be an in-person event.

Following Gloria’s presentation, AAUW-VA members heard reports from AAUW-VA board members. After these presentations, each district met separately in Zoom breakout rooms.

Leslie Tourigny
Northern District Co-Representative

Northern District

Northern District branches held two meetings in the spring of 2022. One was held at the State Conference in Harrisonburg on March 26, 2022, to elect the new Northern District Co-Representatives for 2022-2024. The other was a special meeting initiated to discuss how district branches may collaborate on initiatives and programs with other AAUW branches and other organizations within the community.

District branches worked hard in getting out the vote for the November 8, 2022, election. They wrote postcards for Reclaim Our Vote (ROV) to increase African American voter turnout and supported voter registration and education efforts organized by the League of Women Voters (LWV) of Arlington, Alexandria City, and the Fairfax Area. On National Voter Registration Day, September 20, 2022, Northern District members helped the Fairfax LWV register voters at public libraries in Fairfax County. Branches co-sponsored a virtual LWV-hosted Meet and Greet on October 2, 2022, with candidates for the

Arlington County Board of Supervisors and the Arlington County School Board, as well as a candidate forum for the Virginia 8th Congressional District on October 13, 2022.

A large cadre of members from Northern District branches participated in the AAUW-VA Lobby Day in Richmond on January 19, 2023. Members visited the offices of many General Assembly legislators to discuss AAUW priorities for the 2023 legislative session.

Susan Burk/Leslie Tourigny
Northern District Co-Representatives

Northwest District

In October 2022, the branches attended the state's All-District meeting in person and virtually. This was followed by a strategic planning session for the Greater Richmond Branch.

All three branches conduct monthly programs. Harrisonburg hosted MadiSTEM Girls Career Fair with James Madison University. Greater Richmond revamped its programs after conducting a member survey in November 2022. Winchester continues its local scholarship programs and fundraisers. District members were well-represented at Lobby Day in January 2023.

Greater Richmond, Winchester, and Harrisonburg Branches continue to enjoy their book groups. Richmond's is 50 years old! All have dining-out groups.

Laura Wimmer
Northwest District Representative

Southeast District

The Southeast District spring 2022 virtual meeting was held on February 26 with 25 participants. All six district branches were represented. State board members were also in attendance: State Co-President Leslie Tourigny, VP of Membership Cheryl Spohnholtz, Northwest District Representative Sylvia Rogers, Janine Greenwood, nominee for Co-VP of Public Policy, and Vision Copy Editor Mary Anne Graham. Kristin Moyer was also in attendance and recognized current Legacy Circle members and shared the merits of Legacy Circle and how easy it is to set up. Our speaker was Representative Elaine Luria, representing Virginia's 2nd Congressional District. Rep. Luria spoke about the Paycheck Fairness Act, the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, and additional Covid funding to help families still suffering due to the pandemic. She also discussed some of her work as chair of the Veterans Affairs Disability Committee, including Blue Waters (sailors affected by Agent Orange in Vietnam) and burn pits (affecting soldiers in Afghanistan). She graciously stayed over her time to answer questions and acknowledged Cheryl Spohnholtz for being a member of the first class admitting women to graduate from the United States Naval Academy.

I attended the Norfolk and Virginia Beach February 2022 meetings as well as the Hampton Black History program – the film documentary and interview of Congresswoman Barbara Lee.

I was invited to participate as a panelist on “Recruiting High-Performance Volunteers” for the Professional Development Consortium of Hampton Roads in March 2022.

Over the summer, the Suffolk Branch started the process to be merged into the Portsmouth Branch and all five branches participated in the ROV postcard campaign, submitting nearly 300 cards. In addition, the Southeast District branches were charged with organizing the 2023 State Conference. Monthly virtual meetings and the division of assignments helped make planning the conference a breeze.

All District branches attended the fall All-District virtual meeting in October 2022.

In January of 2023, I attended a joint strategic planning training for Hampton and Newport News Branches led by President Lane Stone and Administrator Sarita Gregory.

Tammie Mullins-Rice
Southeast District Representative

Southwest District

The Southwest District branches (Lynchburg, Roanoke Valley, Smith Mountain, and Wytheville) have all enjoyed a year of rejuvenation! Meeting in person has been wonderful after two years of Zooming.

A Zoom district meeting was held on February 12, 2022, to introduce our candidate for state president, Lane Stone, a well-established mystery writer and accomplished AAUW member of the Alexandria Branch.

In October, the first All-District Meeting was held and the membership from all branches across the state had the opportunity to meet new AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell.

I was able to attend the Smith Mountain Branch fashion show/luncheon in November – a well-attended fundraiser for its scholarship program, which also attracted 10 new members. I also attended the winter tea with the Lynchburg Branch and discussed plans for the 2024 state conference, to be hosted by our Southwest branches. Roanoke Valley Branch had an informative and enjoyable program virtually visiting Andalucía, Spain. I was able to be there and plan to visit again in May when they have their 100th-anniversary celebration. Wytheville also had a wonderful membership drive this fall and gained nine new members! Their STEM event for middle school girls will be on April 15th.

Happy to report that all Southwest branches had a membership renewal rate of over 90%.

Anita Aymer
Southwest District Representative

AAUW of VIRGINIA BRANCH PRESIDENTS/ADMINISTRATORS

Alexandria	Sylvia Linke and Diane Schrier
Arlington	Karen Darner and Theresa Bratt
Fairfax City	Dianne Blais
Falls Church Area	Aida Loomis and Sharon Zackula
Greater Manassas	Hannah Senft
Greater Richmond	Laura Wimmer
Hampton	Joan Jenkins
Harrisonburg	Laura Zarrugh
Lynchburg	Bonnie Bennett and Sharon Hovda
McLean Area	Susan Christie and Anita Booth
Mt. Vernon	Patsy Quick
Newport News	Marilyn Riddle
Norfolk	Wilma Robinson
Portsmouth	Phyllis Shannon
Reston-Herndon Area	Cyndi Shanahan and Judy Hemlich
Roanoke Valley	Cacky Wright and Peggy Schfflett
Smith Mountain	Betsy DeWeese
Springfield-Annandale	Cathleen Boivin and Nancy Miller
Suffolk	Denise Murden
Vienna Area	Susan Pauly and Candace Strawn
Virginia Beach	Barbara Woodlee and Sally Daniel
Winchester	Patricia Kadel
Woodbridge	Irene Cromer
Wytheville	Alma Watson

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/>.

BRANCH REPORTS

Alexandria

The Alexandria Branch has had a busy year. With great excitement, we are coming back together again. Our book clubs, as are the French Club and the Gourmet Out Club, are meeting. We met for dinners and movies. The End-of-Year Meet and Greet Potluck and Holiday Brunch parties were well attended. Delegate Charniele Herring was the guest speaker at the Holiday Brunch. Director Audrey Davis of the Alexandria Black History Museum spoke about the history of African American women in Alexandria. Suby Satyanarayan from AARP spoke about the “Six Pillars of Brain Health.” Alexandria City School Board Chair Meagan Alderton and Vice Chair Jacinta Greene spoke about the status of public school education. Members met with Together We Bake, a non-profit organization which helps women in need, and continued serving dinners at Christ House. With the Alexandria Library, we presented “The 1939 Alexandria Library Sit-In: Telling Our Story.”

We held joint forums with the Mt. Vernon Branch on voting issues and the impact of school-to-prison pipelines.

Diane Schrier
Co-President

Arlington

Each year branch members are inspired by students sharing their research projects in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) at the Arlington Public Schools Science Fair. Using STEM research, the branch evaluated and identified eight winners from a field of middle and high school participants who conducted studies to answer real-life questions. A high school junior brought pulmonary infections to our attention; another explained different responses horses give to violin music; a soccer player shared health implications if the soccer field used a different artificial turf; and a worm was identified that makes the best composting soil. A number of these student winners are recipients of AAUW’s scholarships for higher learning, and more specifically, in STEM education.

An Arlington high school graduate with a strong foundation in STEM became an astronomer, and currently is teaching physics at the U.S. Naval Academy and is also president of Arlington’s David Brown Planetarium. Last year, when it was in danger of losing the needed funding for a teacher position and a new projector, she asked for branch support. Members, along with several Arlington science teachers, persuaded the school board to fund both the teacher position and the new projector. Members were thrilled when the planetarium was ready for the first day of school this fall.

Terry Bratt/Karen Darner
Co-Presidents

Fairfax City

The Fairfax City Branch enjoys invitations to events of other branches and keeping up with state and national AAUW. We are excited about our 50th-anniversary celebration in June 2023. Hopefully, our founding member will be here, other branch members who have since moved, and AAUW leaders in addition to our current members.

Our book club is going strong meeting virtually via our Zoom account and in person. We hope to rejuvenate other interest groups in the future.

We have a new member who is very interested in reviving our STEM efforts. If any branch is interested, let us know.

Dianne Blais
President

Falls Church Area

2022 was a memorable year for the Falls Church Area Branch. Following two years of Zoom-only meetings and no book sales, members were finally back to in-person meetings and, in April, held the most successful book sale in the branch's history. In addition, the branch awarded 11 scholarships for a total of \$11,500 and hosted an illustrious group of speakers, including American University law professor, documentarian, and author Kathy Kleiman; historian, author, and George Mason University professor Jennifer Rittenhouse; and Falls Church/Tinner Hill historian and activist Nikki Graves Henderson.

Second, only to the book sale, the branch is extremely proud of its contribution to the Reclaim Our Vote (ROV) get-out-the-vote effort preceding the 2022 elections. Members wrote and sent 7,145 postcards in coordination with ROV/The Center for Common Ground.

Aida Loomis/Sharon Zackula
Co-Presidents

Greater Manassas

Though comparatively small, the Greater Manassas Branch has maintained its membership and connections--looking forward to our 50th anniversary in just two years. Playing bridge has been a mainstay, with gardening clubs being an interest too.

Several of our lifetime members were leaders in Lobby Corps, setting an example for others in the Northern District. Several members are activists in our local region.

In the last three years, we have collaborated with our neighbors, the Woodbridge Branch, on virtual events: celebrating the American Education Week Honoring Our Educators in 2020 and 2021 which

included Manassas educators and leaders in education; attending the holiday Zooms and partnering for the 30th anniversary of the Girls + Math + Science = SUCCESS! Conference inaugurated by our branch members in 1991.

Nancy Bentrem/Susan Bardenhagen,
Finance Officer/Membership VP

Greater Richmond

After our end-of-the-year outdoor picnic last June, we had our first in-person meeting INDOORS in September 2022!! We continue to offer hybrid meetings - ZOOM for those not yet comfortable or able to attend in person and in-person for those comfortable with that idea. Our potluck dinner was followed by a presentation by a representative of the HeartBeats program at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). The program is 1 of 12 grants in the U.S. to reduce maternal deaths due to suicide, homicide, and domestic violence.

We did over 600 postcards for the GOTV project in the fall of 2022 and in November, our program focused on creative solutions to homelessness. Many members continue to be active on legislative issues supported by AAUW at our General Assembly and we had a good presence at Lobby Day, as well as an update by the co-vice presidents for public policy for our January meeting. Our February meeting was “Unnatural Causes - Is Inequality Making Us Sick?”

We currently have 38 branch members and an active book club that met virtually throughout the pandemic. Our lunch bunch social gathering of members available at lunchtime continues to meet monthly and we continue to support the Roses 'n Wings program, which helps middle and high school girls make healthy and productive life choices.

Our board held a strategic planning session in December and conducted a member survey to assess meeting days/times as well as topics of interest for the branch members and events to participate in going forward.

Laura Wimmer
President

Hampton

In celebration of Women’s History Month in 2022, the branch held a Zoom discussion, led by Dr. Tonya Brown, of the book, “The Three Mothers” by Anna Malaika Tubbs. The discussion was attended by other branches and guests from as far away as Atlanta, Georgia. Later in March, the branch held an in-person meeting at the Northampton Public Library to share and discuss revisions needed to the branch bylaws and to discuss changes in programming for the remainder of the program for the year.

Four branch members – Dr. Sarita McCoy Gregory, Laura Greenfield, Joan Jenkins, and Carolyn Stewart - attended the AAUW Virginia State Conference held in Harrisonburg in 2022. The keynote speaker was

Professor Kimberly Jenkins Robinson, the niece of Hampton Branch President Joan Jenkins. Branch members participated via Zoom in the Annual Business Meeting on April 30, 2022.

The final branch meeting for 2021-2022 was held at Schlesinger’s Restaurant in Newport News in June. Several guests attended and one joined our branch.

Members attended the All-District Meeting in October 2022. November was busy as Laura Greenfield, our membership vice president, led the members in Community Hub training and benefits of membership. In keeping with our holiday celebration, members attended the Hampton Roads Philharmonic Christmas Concert at Fort Monroe and then had dinner at Mama Rosa’s Italian Restaurant. The branch also had a very successful holiday fundraiser with Double Good Popcorn Sales.

Joan Jenkins
President

Harrisonburg

The highlight of 2022 was welcoming members from throughout the state to the first in-person annual state conference in three years. Nearly 100 attendees gathered at the Hotel Madison on the JMU campus to enjoy thought-provoking presentations on topics such as “Progress and Enduring Inequities for Women in Higher Education,” “The Changing Nature of Virginia Politics,” and “Restorative Justice” for formerly imprisoned women, as well as insights into African American history in the Shenandoah Valley and practical models for assuring diversity and inclusion on college campuses as well as connecting branches with local institutions of higher learning. A team of experienced volunteers from the three Northwest District branches assisted with accounting, registration, publicity, Q&A sessions, and other program logistics.

A welcoming reception on Women’s Equality Day at the beginning of the new program season brought together current and new members and inaugurated a series of memorable presentations, including “Issues Facing School Boards,” “The American Militia Movement—Guerillas in our Midst,” “Indigenous Populations,” and “The Living Wage Campaign.” At the traditional holiday tea, members celebrated the branch’s continued work on activities like the GOTV campaign and anticipated legislative activities in the 2023 VA General Assembly. Members continue to enjoy bi-monthly casual lunches and Diversity Group discussions.



Sylvia Rogers, Public Policy Chair
Kim Shipe, Co-VP Membership & Public Policy

McLean Area

The McLean Area Branch has spent this year shifting its focus from being a branch known for its fundraising capacity to a branch known for making a difference in the lives of women and girls in our community: Philanthropy in Action. We have included two Title I high schools as recipients of our STEM and Inclusion awards and Title I middle schools in our STEM essay contest. We have established a relationship with a local Title I elementary school and have just put our first volunteers on site. We are investigating participation in our local ESL program.

Most importantly, we are establishing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Falls Church Branch to increase our collective policy voice, create programs with a community-wide perspective, and provide additional options for our members to Make a Difference.

Sue Christie
Co-President

Mt. Vernon

Mt. Vernon Branch had another active year! Unfortunately, the January theater fundraiser was canceled due to Covid among the cast, but members came through with generous donations! The branch concluded the 2021-2022 program year on Zoom with well-attended programs. One highlight was hearing the always-interesting Dr. Angela Hattery and Dr. Earl Smith describe their latest research on gender-based violence. Author Lisa Gruenberg, in "My City of Dreams", spoke about her journey into uncovering the lives of relatives long-lost to the Holocaust.

The branch celebrated the year with the annual potluck in May at a member's home. In June, at the well-attended program-planning meeting, members planned another exciting year that included in-person programs on voter suppression and access, the STEM gap, and issues and concerns regarding the state of public education.

Before the election, members participated in the AAUW-VA's postcard writing to encourage getting out to the vote. The holiday luncheon was in-person at a local restaurant with Legacy Circle Liaison Kristin Moyer speaking.

The winter programs in 2023 will be via Zoom beginning in January with the state co-VPs for public policy updating members on actions in the Virginia General Assembly. Congratulations to Mt. Vernon AAUW for continued support, enthusiasm, and active participation!

Patsy Quick
President

Newport News

The year 2021-2022 found the Newport News Branch still in existence, though most of the branch activity was handled through emails. The death of a recent branch president, Carolyn Hughes, represented one of two drops in our membership. Several branch members attended her memorial service and reception last summer.

The branch has existed for 97 years; there is a strong resolve to meet the century mark. Members gathered for a luncheon at the home of the only member who is a legacy because her mother was also a member.

Marilyn Riddle
President

Norfolk

After a successful organizational Zoom meeting in September, Norfolk Branch met through Zoom and welcomed several well-known speakers: Dr. Lee Vreeland, president and CEO of An Achievable Dream, a nationally recognized K-12 program operating in partnership with several public school systems and celebrated its 30th anniversary. Another speaker was Dr. Alecia Monroe, Old Dominion University (ODU) Chief Integration Officer and Senior Advisor to the ODU president for the establishment of an academic health center combining ODU, Sentara Hospital, and Eastern Virginia Medical School, which will hopefully be established by July 2023.

The December meeting was a delightful luncheon that enabled members to meet new members in person and be with old friends again! Sadly, our newest 50-year member, Janie Hosay, died during the year.

Wilma Robinson
President

Portsmouth

The Portsmouth Branch has continued to meet and work together in a hybrid manner with a combination of in-person and Zoom meetings. In March 2022, the branch speaker was Lauren Furey, Senior Services Program Manager, at the LGBT Life Center. In November 2022, members welcomed Tess Evans, American Civil War Museum staff person and member of the Greater Richmond Branch, as our guest speaker to discuss student loan debt.

Branch members participated in the Reclaim Our Vote project by writing postcards to registered voters before the November election. The book group continues to meet monthly.

Phyllis Shannon
President

Reston-Herndon Area

Reston-Herndon has focused on DEI and public policy. The branch is also centering on in-person activities to increase member connections. Highlights include:

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- Visiting the Reston Museum to view the museum's exhibit "Determined: The 400-Year Struggle for Black Equality"
- Holding a program on notable women in Herndon's history
- Learning about unconscious bias with an interactive session

Public Policy

- Hearing from Delegate Ken Plum on "The State of the Commonwealth of Virginia"
- Hearing jointly with Vienna Branch from VA Senators Jennifer Boysko and Chap Peterson

In-Person Events

- Venturing to Meadowlark Gardens and Dodona Manor together
- Holding our annual Friendsgiving Luncheon and a tea

Judy Helmich/Cyndi Shanahan
Co-Administrators

Smith Mountain

The Smith Mountain Branch has continued to grow in membership and in the number of projects supporting the tri-county area surrounding Smith Mountain Lake. The 2022 fundraiser had the scholarship committee hard at work selecting three women to continue their post-secondary education. The committee continues to benefit from the system launched last year with the help of Site Resources, sending and receiving materials electronically using an email address linked to our website and sharing.

Branch meetings continue to highlight women from our area making a difference in the community. We have added a regular voluntary collection of items needed by local family shelters and other facilities addressing special needs. The annual Women's History Month project, donating an age-appropriate book on women's topics to all elementary schools and public libraries, supports these institutions and has the added benefit of getting AAUW's name out there.

On the lighter side, we have added more social events that allow us to gather informally, including Our Own Backyard visits to local museums and other points of interest and a December reception honoring current and past branch presidents with special guest star AAUW of Virginia President Lane Stone. These gatherings, along with our small group new member lunches, help old and new members get to know one another and build enthusiasm for branch programs.

Margee Kauffman
Newsletter Co-Chair

Springfield-Annandale

The Springfield-Annandale Branch had a stellar year celebrating women's achievements. In May 2022 at our annual Spring Fling, we hosted Coline Jenkins, the great-great-granddaughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who regaled us with inspirational tales of the very talented women in her family and their efforts to gain recognition and equal rights for women.

We opened the year in September with a dynamic presentation by Elisabeth Griffith, author of "Formidable" which traces American women and their fight for equality from 1920-2020. In January 2023, Mary Lipsey, a local historian, author, and docent educated us on "Almost Forgotten Women," highlighting women between 1840 and 1940 who made a difference.

Cathleen Boivin/Nancy Miller
Co-Presidents

Vienna Area

The Vienna Area Branch had a productive year in 2022. Here are three of the interesting programs that we have hosted this past year:

1. Last spring, the branch heard from a former ambassador, Cynthis Atkeutteh. She talked about how the State Department promotes religious tolerance around the world. This event was co-sponsored by the Patrick Henry Public Library.
2. In the fall, members had a program at the Vienna Community Center that emphasized diversity. Co-Vice Presidents for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) and B (Belonging) Krysta Jones and Meg Tuccillo helped members understand DEIB better and how to become more involved.
3. Finally, members were given a preview of the upcoming Virginia legislative session by two VA senators: Jennifer B. Boysko and J. Chapman Petersen. Both talked (on Zoom) about bills they're introducing in 2023 that involve gender equity.

Candace Strawn
Co-President

Virginia Beach

The Virginia Beach Branch involved itself in local November elections by writing postcards, staffing voter registration tables, and participating in a local Zoom meeting with the NAACP.

Further, the branch applied for and received a grant from the state to hold a Title IX program. We arranged for the softball players from four Virginia Beach high schools to go to Virginia Wesleyan University to meet their national champion softball team. It was a great experience. The university women were very forthcoming with the high school girls: about their experience with a college team

and with their experiences adjusting to college. Everyone also got a synopsis of how older women (before Title IX) played softball and basketball. The younger women could not believe how much women's sports have evolved.

Sally Daniel/Barbara Woodlee
Co-Presidents

Winchester

2022 was a year of challenges and successes for the Winchester Branch. We continued having in-person and virtual activities to promote communication and accommodate members. We lost and gained members, resulting in self-examination and the creation of the Three-Rs Initiative: Recruitment, Retention, and Rejuvenation, resulting in participation in several community events to inform and possibly recruit new members, seeking joint activities with other community organizations, and initiating a new program called AAUW Adventures for activities that can't always work in a large group or as part of our regular meetings and programs.

We co-hosted the first in-person annual AAUW-VA conference since 2019, where all members, past and present, were named Gift Honorees in honor of the branch's 90th anniversary. We presented Elizabeth "Libba" McCall Pendleton with the Winchester Area Woman of the Year and sponsored a Winchester Little Theater performance of "Radium Girls" by D.W. Gregory.

After a two-year hiatus, the branch sponsored its most successful candidates' forum in 20 years. We received positive recognition and good media coverage.

Thanks to the generosity of former members, we awarded the Dr. Amy Lee Parker Endowed Scholarship to a graduate student in education leadership and the Betty and Edwin Orndoff Endowed Scholarship to two graduate students in performing arts for the 2022-23 academic year at Shenandoah University.

Our branch lost a beloved long-time member, leader, and friend shortly before the beginning of the 2022-23 year. To recognize her contributions, we named our existing program that sponsors scholarships for undergraduate students transferring from Laurel Ridge Community College to Shenandoah University the Mary Hunter Miller Froelich Memorial Scholarship.

Patricia Kadel
President

Woodbridge

The Woodbridge Branch maintained Star branch status, earning four in the FY23 program.

In March, we continued our decades-long support of middle school females' Science Fair projects; in May, we presented a program celebrating them, the winner of our memorial scholarship, and two sisters from 2018 attending college to major in STEM. The branch's 50th anniversary in 2022 began with a 50-year member earning honorary lifetime status! We maintained 90+% renewals and have a new branch member. She and her mom have been national members for 32 years - making five pairs of

mother-daughter members! As subsets of our members got together for holiday meals, we welcomed potential members and shared our spring 2023 programs.

Sadly, our co-president, Colleen Hauser, lost her battle with cancer in November. Our president and membership VP participated in AAUW-VA's lobbying efforts in Richmond. We are forging a coalition of affinity groups and partnering with our two college/university affiliates.

Susan Bardenhagen
Membership VP

Wytheville

The branch held the sixth annual STEM workshop at the community college in April. We launched the year with a Meet & Greet at a pottery shop. The membership dinner netted nine new members. We held a workshop on financial planning for women and an orientation for new members.

A holiday effort resulted in generous gift card donations to the regional Family Resource Center (FRC) supporting women who experience domestic violence. In January, members donated children and adult books to FRC for their library.

Our branch is fundraising with Blue Bottle note cards, one of the winners of the AAUW National Art Contest, 2021.

Alma L. Watson
President

AAUW of Virginia State Conventions/Conferences/Annual 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	1930-32	Lynchburg
1931	7. Richmond	Elizabeth Otay		
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		
1942	18. Staunton	Nora Fraser	1940-42	Charlottesville
1943	19. Roanoke	Marie Garrett		
1944	20. Roanoke	Marie Garrett		
1945	Meeting Canceled	Marie Garrett	1942-46	Roanoke
1946	21. Wytheville	Marie Garrett		
1947	22. Charlottesville	Dr. Mildred Taylor		
1948	23. Norfolk	Dr. Mildred Taylor	1946-50	Staunton
1949	24. Alexandria	Dr. Mildred Taylor		
1950	25. Staunton	Dr. Mildred Taylor		
1951	26. Richmond	Dr. Janet MacDonald		
1952	27. Richmond	Dr. Janet MacDonald	1950-52	Roanoke
1953	28. Hampton	Helen D. Schubert		
1954	29. Harrisonburg	Helen D. Schubert		
1955	30. Staunton	Amy S. Lamkin	1952-54	Harrisonburg
1956	31. Roanoke	Amy S. Lamkin		
1957	32. Richmond	Bernice B. Lovitt	1954-56	Arlington
1958	33. Charlottesville	Bernice B. Lovitt		
1959	34. Fredericksburg	Elizabeth S. Carson		
1960	35. Roanoke	Elizabeth S. Carson	1956-58	Norfolk
1961	36. Norfolk	Elizabeth E. Sale		
			1958-60	Lynchburg
			1960-62	Richmond

AAUW of Virginia

State Conventions/Conferences/Annual 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, 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		

AAUW of Virginia

State Conventions/Conferences/Annual Business Meetings

Year	Hosting Branches	State Presidents	Term	Branch When Elected
1989	64. Harrisonburg	Kay Gravatt	1988-90	Portsmouth
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/Annual 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		
2017	92. Charlottesville ¹	Sandra Lawrence Patsy Quick	2016-2018	
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 ²	Carol Stephens Leslie Tourigny		
2021	96. State Board ³	Suzanne Rothwell Leslie Tourigny	2020-2022	Vienna Area Alexandria and Virginia Beach
2022	97. Northwest District ⁴ State Board	Suzanne Rothwell Leslie Tourigny	2020-2022	Vienna Area Alexandria
2023	98. Southeast District ⁵	Lane Stone	2022-2024	Alexandria

¹ Only an Annual Business Meeting was held.

² Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the State Conference to be held in Alexandria was canceled. A virtual Annual Business Meeting was held.

³ A virtual State Conference was held, including a virtual Annual Business Meeting.

⁴ The State Conference was held in two parts: Part 1 was an in-person event, hosted by the Northwest District, and Part 2 was a virtual Annual Business Meeting, conducted by the State Board.

⁵ The State Conference is an in-person event, hosted by the Southeast District. A virtual Annual Business Meeting will be conducted by the State Board.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

The American Association of University Women of Virginia acknowledges the Indigenous peoples who are the original inhabitants of the lands we are on today and pay our respect to their tribal members past and present.



Cheroenhaka (Nottoway)



Nottoway



Eastern Chickahominy



Patowomeck



Mattaponi



Nansemond

Chickahominy

Pamunkey

Monacan

Rappahannock

Powhatan

Upper Mattaponi

**AAUW OF VIRGINIA
STATE CONFERENCE**

*EMBRACING OUR HERSTORY,
MOVING FORWARD...*



ADVERTISEMENTS



As we return to Williamsburg, the
2023 AAUW-VA Board
honors the members at our first
state conference, held here in 1925.

“On March 27-28, 1925, there assembled in Williamsburg, Virginia a group of Virginia women, called together as delegates from the already existing local branches of the American Association of University Women, with the intent to form a Virginia State Division of the organization. Presiding over these delegates was Mrs. Eudora Ramsey Richardson at the time president of the college club of Richmond....When the meeting adjourned, the Virginia Division of AAUW was a reality...Already there appear in the minutes of that meeting some of the same interests which have occupied and still occupy the minds of the members of the local branches and of the State Organization today...an increase in funds for the state supported schools and an interest in the pre-school age.” —E. Marion Smith, Hollins College, The History of AAUW of Virginia 1925-1960.



WELCOME TO WILLIAMSBURG

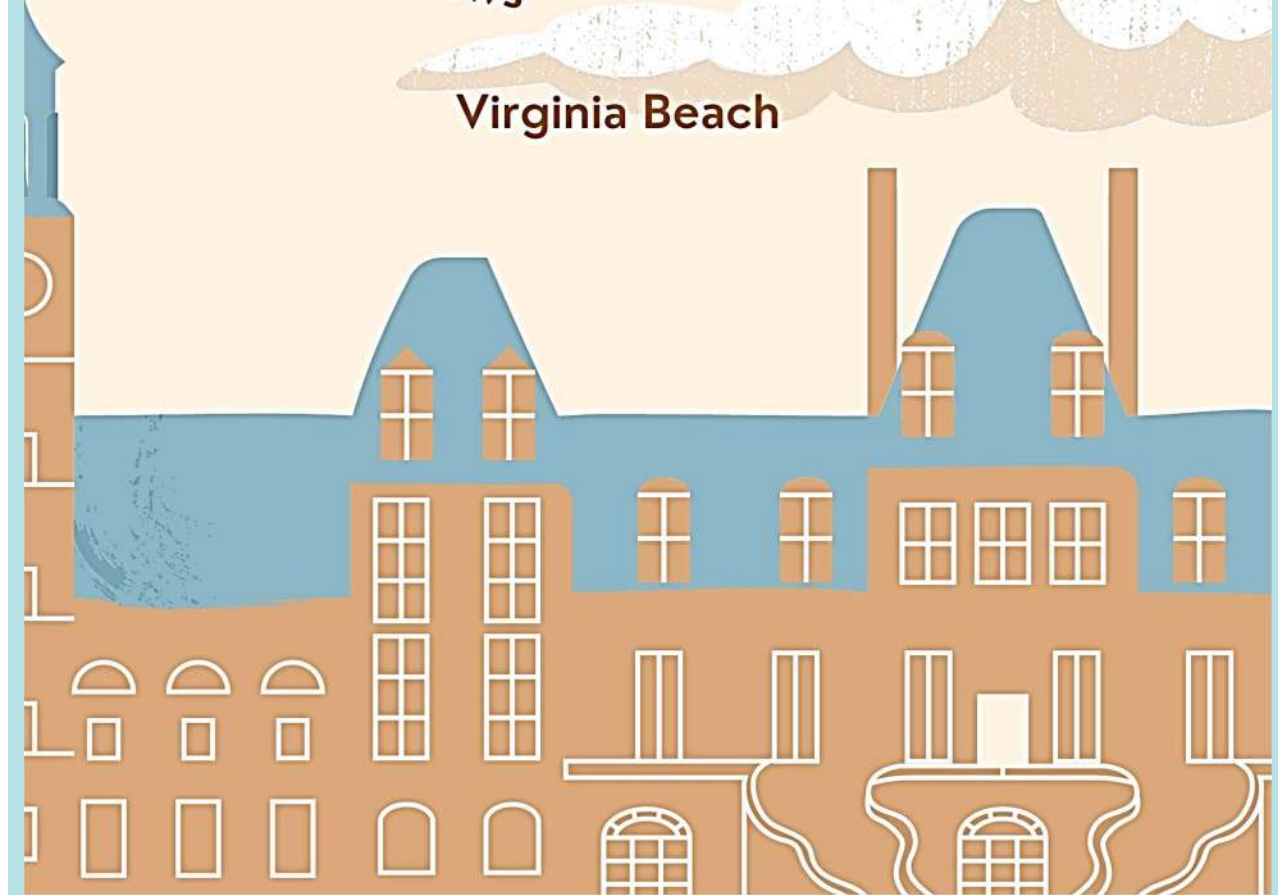
AAUW of VIRGINIA CONFERENCE 2023

The Southeast District

Hampton
Newport News

Norfolk
Portsmouth

Virginia Beach



**THE PAST STATE PRESIDENTS OF
AAUW OF VIRGINIA**

**THANK ALL OUR BRANCHES IN VIRGINIA FOR
THEIR COMMITMENT AND WORK FOR AAUW**

LET'S KEEP MOVING FORWARD!

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

Cherished memories with my home branch, Alexandria!

March, 2020,
we were
commended for
our work
fighting human
trafficking.



In 2019 we saw the
movie *Harriet* on one
of our date nights.

Lane



***NORTHERN DISTRICT BRANCHES HAVE
CONTRIBUTED MANY YEARS OF SERVICE
TO THE "HERSTORY" OF
AAUW OF VIRGINIA.***

BRANCH	FOUNDING YEAR
Alexandria	1945
Arlington	1944
Fairfax City	1973
Falls Church Area	1950
Greater Manassas	1975
McLean Area	1969
Mt. Vernon	1956
Reston-Herndon Area	1969
Springfield/Annandale	1955
Vienna Area	1979
Woodbridge	1972



We Thank All Our Foremothers

ALEXANDRIA (VA) BRANCH

The Alexandria Branch of AAUW was chartered on May 12, 1945. Dr. Martha Rinsland, who had previously organized 12 branches, served as its first President. In the 1980's the Branch was active in providing a network of translators or service providers, such as doctors and lawyers, for the immigrant community needing services in forty languages. **Ellen Pickering**, a former

President, was named an Alexandrian Living Legend and the Ellen Pickering Environment Excellence Award was named for her. **Joanne Miller**, former President, was named a Living Legend for her work with young people, human rights, homeless, United Way, plus she chaired the Human Resources Committee of the Metropolitan Council of Governments. She received several awards.



2017

Leslie Tourigny Nancy Kala Thaisla Beach Susan Moffitt
AAUW National Convention 2017



2005

Totally Smiled
Talia Lopez
Susan Krenner
Susan Cook
Judy Titman
Priscilla Walker

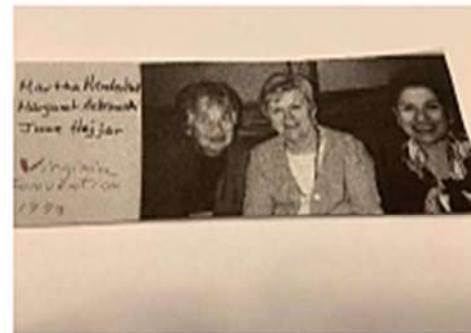


1979

Alexandria AAUW Elects Officers

The Alexandria Branch of the American Association of University Women has elected new officers for the next two years. Anne Buckholz will become the president on July 1, with Marjorie Carlone as the program vice president and Catherine Williams as treasurer. Branch officers who will continue in office: Lillian White, membership vice president.

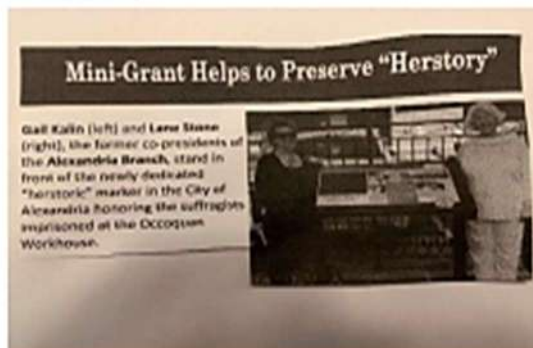
Margaret Franklin, meeting secretary and Cor Johnson, corresponding secretary. Organizing officers Vera Wilts, president and Jane Neumann, Pastored, will be right with Carl Williams, Marjorie Carlone, Anne Tourbillon and Jane Newell. Second is Vera Wilts.



1999

Martha Rinsland
Margaret Johnson
Jane Neuman
Virginia
1999

2021



Mini-Grant Helps to Preserve "Herstory"

Gail Kuhn (left) and Lane Stone (right), the former co-presidents of the Alexandria Branch, stand in front of the newly dedicated "Herstory" markers in the City of Alexandria honoring the suffragists imprisoned at the Occoquan Workhouse.



Herstory with STEM

Arlington Branch

Each year we are inspired by our students sharing their research projects in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) in Arlington Public Schools Science Fair. Using STEM research, we evaluated and identified 8 winners from a field of middle and high school participants who conducted studies to answer real life questions. A high school junior brought pulmonary infections to our attention; another explained different responses horses give to violin music; a soccer player shared health implications if the soccer field used a different artificial turf; and a worm was identified that makes the best composting soil. A number of these student winners are recipients of AAUW's scholarships for higher learning, and more specifically, in STEM education.

An Arlington high school graduate with a strong foundation in STEM became an astronomer, and currently is teaching physics at the US Naval Academy. She is also president of Arlington's David Brown Planetarium. Last year, when it was in danger of losing needed funding for a teacher position and a new projector, she met with us to ask for our support. Our members along with a number of Arlington science teachers persuaded the school board to fund both the teacher position and new projector. We were thrilled when our planetarium was ready for the first day of school this fall.



We are looking forward to celebrating our spring scholarship awardees and Educator of the Year to close out 2023. We welcome the public to join our programs and learn more about the American Association of University Women in our community, Virginia, this nation, and our world!



FALLS CHURCH AREA BRANCH

Falls Church Area Branch has a long **herstory** of activism.
Founded in 1950, FC AAUW is approaching our 75th anniversary!



Join us and tell your story!

Activism at VA State Capital
on **Lobby Day**



Since 2020, the branch has participated in **Reclaim Our Vote's** *Get Out*

the Vote efforts, writing more than 18,500 postcards. We persist, honoring both the memory of Kitty Richardson, our first diversity chair, and supporting AAUW's priority of increasing voter turnout.



Our Holiday Tree was voted Most Representative of the Organization



AAUW McLean Area

***Salutes Our Dedicated Members
and Generous Donors
for Meeting Our "Call to Action"***

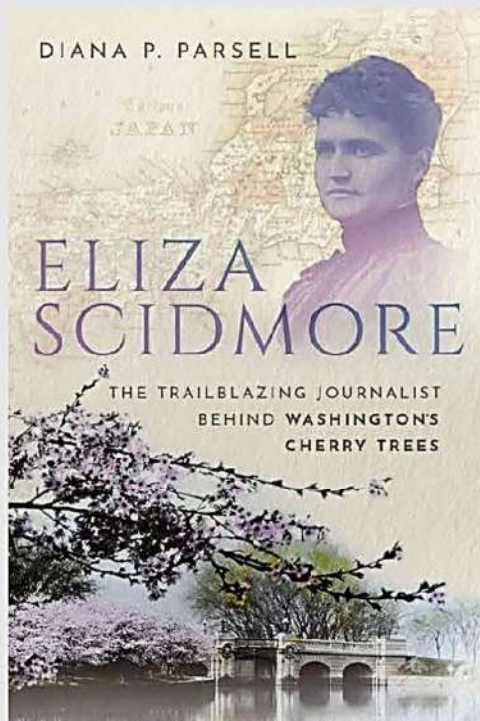
Our highlights for 2022-23 include:

- Membership growth and 5-star status in AAUW
- New scholarship partnership with HBCU Bennett College
 - Expansion of our local STEM awards
 - Diverse DE&I initiatives
 - Adoption of a strategic plan
 - Activism on voting and key policy issues
- Plans for increased community engagement



“This meticulously researched biography brings to life the woman whose curiosity and passion for travel brought the wonder of distant lands in words and pictures to American readers.”

—Cathy Newman, author of *Women Photographers at National Geographic*



Author Diana Parsell is a member of the AAUW McLean Area Branch.

Eliza Scidmore herself became a member of AAUW after receiving an honorary doctorate of letters from George Washington University in 1919.

Published March 2023 by Oxford University Press.

**For more information,
visit the author's website at: www.dianaparsell.com**



We are grounded in Herstory!

Proudly, we live in a historic district...with much to explore!

From the **Turning Point Suffragists Memorial** to the **Lucy Burns Museum** at the Lorton Workhouse
...and everything in between!

George Washington's Mount Vernon
George Mason's Gunston Hall
Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope-Leighey House
Woodlawn Plantation
Lorton Workhouse Arts Center
Gum Springs Museum & Historical Society (Local Black History)
River Farm-American Horticultural Society

Click here to learn about these sites & more in our community!

<https://www.fxva.com/southcounty/>

*Mt. Vernon AAUW
Come see us!!*



Fostering community

The Herndon–Reston Branch of AAUW has been deeply engaged with our diverse, global community for more than 50 years.

We would like to salute the activities by Anh Le, owner of the Café Montmartre at Lake Anne Village Center. Anh was born and raised in Saigon, South Vietnam. In 1975, Anh fled her home country to come to the United States, eventually moving to Northern Virginia and in 1997, opened the Café Montmartre. Café Montmartre has hosted everything from branch quarterly meetings to branch celebrations and is now our favorite venue for all manner of special events.

Reston is truly an international community. For example, in 2008 Reston Founder Robert E. Simon, Jr. joined the Branch in welcoming a delegation from Russia which had come to Reston as part of an exchange program. Our membership celebrates, honors and reflects the diverse community we live in.

We look forward to continuing a mutually beneficial relationship with Anh and our entire community for many years to come.

[HTTPS://AAUW-VA.AAUW.NET/](https://AAUW-VA.AAUW.NET/)



SUPPORT, EMPOWER, CELEBRATE



“Herstory”



For the past 18 years, the **Springfield-Annandale Branch** has supported “herstory” through coordination of our most important fundraiser, Spring Fling. Our past luncheons have included prominent speakers from all walks of life. From Maureen Bunyan, lead co-anchor for WJLA TV; Helen Thomas, author, journalist, and White House correspondent; Patricia McGuire, Trinity Washington University President; and Coline Jenkins, great-great granddaughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton - all of these women have shared their stories of achievement offering us inspiration.



Our featured speaker for the 2023 Spring Fling luncheon is **Renee Wynn**, former Chief Information officer at NASA. Ms. Wynn **will discuss our nation’s current space program and present us with the opportunity to learn how current advances in space can affect our lives.**



Please join us **May 5th** for our Spring Fling luncheon at the **Springfield Golf and Country Club** from **11:00 am to 3:00 pm**. We will enjoy a fun-filled silent auction and delicious lunch along with our featured speaker, Renee Wynn.

For more information or to sign up, please email: aauspringfieldannandale@gmail.com



Virginia Beach Branch

1958-2023



XX



XX



XX



XX



XX



Our story, supporting girls
in STEM, local
scholarships to women
returning to school and
women in leadership!



HAMPTON BRANCH

THE FIRST BRANCH IN VIRGINIA OPEN TO ALL WOMEN WITH A COLLEGE DEGREE, REGARDLESS OF AGE, RACE, OR RELIGION - AN IDEA THAT IS THE ESSENCE OF AAUW.

EMBRACING OUR HERSTORY: 74 YEARS OF CARING, SHARING & COMMUNITY

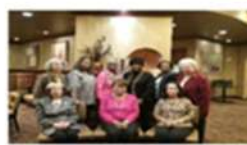


Girls Rock! in STEM

A WORKSHOP FOR GIRLS
AGES 8 TO 13

Saturday
April 27, 2019
9:30 AM TO 12:00 PM

HAMPTON UNIVERSITY
CEN ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY BUILDING
208 EMANCIPATION DRIVE
HAMPTON, VIRGINIA 23062





For Women and Girls Throughout Life

*Greater Richmond AAUW
is a branch of **ADVOCACY** and **ACTION!***

*“AAUW helps us make our
voices heard.”*

<https://richmond-va.aauw.net/>



CELEBRATING

44 Years

GOING STRONG
SUPPORTING THE
AAUW MISSION

VIENNA BRANCH

**Portsmouth Branch is proud of 82 years of service
and of 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

AAUW of Virginia Conference 2023

**Smith Mountain Put the FUN
in Our November 2022 FUNdraiser!**

Denim & Diamonds

220 attendees! 11 new members joined!

**So successful that this year three scholarships will be awarded
to college women, more young girls can go to Science Camp,
and our branch's Community Outreach programs will surge!**

Working together, having fun, making a difference.

Fate whispered to the warrior, 'You cannot withstand the storm.'

She whispered back, "I am the storm."

Jake Remington



EMBRACING OUR HERSTORY



The Woodbridge Branch proudly celebrates its 50th anniversary year in 2022-2023! One member earned honorary lifetime membership and we have prospective members who will bring our roster to 50!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SUPPORTERS

The following individuals and businesses in Newport News, Richmond, Virginia Beach, Williamsburg, and the State of Virginia donated items for the gift bags and door prizes:

Misty Simon

Walmart - Newport News, VA

Virginia Tourism Corporation – Richmond, VA

The Spice & Tea Exchange – Merchant Square, Williamsburg, VA

Five Below – Settlers Market, Williamsburg, VA

Sentara Healthcare

Donate Your Toiletries!

Once again, we will be collecting toiletries at the state conference. The toiletries will go to a Williamsburg women's shelter that works to end domestic and sexual violence by breaking the cycle of abuse through prevention, education, shelter, and support services in the greater Williamsburg and Middle Peninsula communities. We will have a large box at the conference to collect the items. Thanks!

Southeast District Conference Committee