



**October Meeting:**

When: Sat., Oct. 22, 2 p.m.

Where: King's Park Library, Burke

Topic: Northern District Meeting: "Gender Bias in Politics--Is It Real?"

**WOMEN IN POLITICS: IS GENDER BIAS REAL?**

All branch members are invited to the annual Northern District meeting.

- A thought-provoking panel featuring Melissa Richmond, vice president of Running Start (a non-partisan organization that trains young women to run for office and that launched Elect Her in collaboration with AAUW), and Melissa Jackowski, former AAUW Grassroots Advocacy Manager and now Campaign Services Manager for TargetSmart Communications (which provides data-driven solutions to campaigns). Both women have incredible backgrounds in politics and campaigns. Interestingly, both were working on previous presidential campaigns: Richmond for Mitt Romney and Jackowski for Joe Biden. It's a fitting topic for this election year as well as AAUW's most recent research report, "Bias and Barriers."
- Meet and greet old and new friends from other branches
- Hear what's going on with AAUW of Virginia and the other district branches
- Refreshments, too!

Kings Park Library is located at 9000 Burke Lake Road in Burke, not far from Braddock Road and the Beltway.

Susan Burk and Caroline Pickens, Northern District Co-Representatives

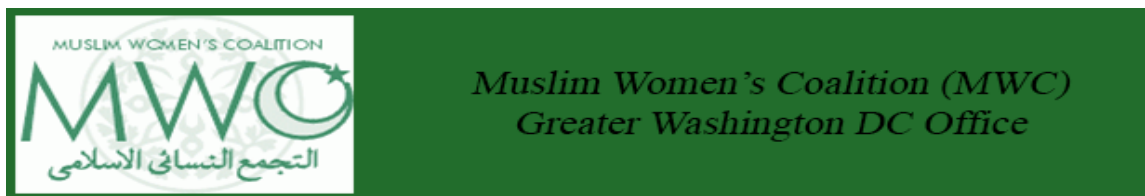
## President's Message:

Happy October! We have a couple interesting programs on the docket for October. First, on October 22 is the Northern District meeting. This is always a great opportunity not only to learn, but also to interact with and hear from members of other branches in Northern Virginia. The topic this year relates to gender bias in the political process. Such a timely discussion for this election season.

Then, on October 30, we will have the opportunity to educate ourselves about women within the Muslim tradition. This is a program jointly sponsored by the Muslim Women's Coalition, our AAUW-Falls Church Branch and the AAUW-Arlington Branch. The credentials and backgrounds of the panelists will provide new information and an interesting discussion. Please remember you must rsvp for that meeting. That information is provided below. I look forward to seeing you there.

Finally, please join the book sorters on Saturday, October 15 at Mary Youman's house. We've already received hundreds of boxes of books, and we're continuing down the preparation path for our April booksale fundraiser. The details for this are also below.

## October 30 Meeting - Interfaith and Cross Cultural Event:



**We all benefit from appreciating and understanding our global community. With that in mind, please join us for an interesting program and panel discussion on "How Islam Empowers Women"**

This event is jointly sponsored by the Muslim Women's Coalition (MWC) and the Arlington and Falls Church branches of The American Association of University Women (AAUW)

**When: Sunday Oct 30, 2016**

**Time: 2:00 - 4:00 PM (Arrival Time: 1:30 pm)**

**Where: Kenmore Middle School**

**200 S. Carlin Springs Rd. Arlington VA**

***RSVP needed to reserve a seat:*** Please contact Uzma Farooq

***[Uzma.Farooq@mwcoalition.org](mailto:Uzma.Farooq@mwcoalition.org)*** or 703-738-3440



**Panelists include: Dr. Maryam Bibi**, a Noble Peace Prize nominee, UN award recipient and a recipient of Pakistan's highest medal of honor Pakistan National Civil Award Sitar-e- Imtiaz (Star of Excellence) for her dedication and service for women and girls in the most remote regions in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (PK) and Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) in Pakistan. "Maryam Bibi is the founder and Chief Executive of Khwendo Kor, which focuses on the development of women, children, and strong families in the remote areas of the Northwest Frontier Province (NWFP) and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas of Pakistan.

Ms. Bibi founded Khwendo Kor (KK) in 1993. Before establishing Khwendo Kor, Ms. Bibi held several leadership positions with GTZ, the international development enterprise of the German government. She was involved in policy-level decision-making around efficient energy technologies; implementing community-based training programs; and designing educational materials for Afghan refugees. Ms. Bibi's efforts for women and children's development have been recognized nationally and internationally. KK sets out to improve the education, health and economic well-being of women and their children. Khwendo Kor is Pushto for "sister's home," but the organization works with men and local leaders to collaboratively create strong and progressive societies." [www.khwendokor.org.pk](http://www.khwendokor.org.pk)



**Dr. Sahar Khamis**, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Communication at the University of Maryland, College Park. She is an expert on Arab and Muslim media, and the former Head of the Mass Communication and Information Science Department in Qatar University. Dr. Khamis holds a Ph.D. in Mass Media and Cultural Studies from the University of Manchester in England. She is the co-author of the books: "Islam Dot Com: Contemporary Islamic Discourses in Cyberspace" (Palgrave Macmillan, 2009) and "Egyptian Revolution 2.0: Political Blogging, Civic Engagement and Citizen Journalism" (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013). Dr. Khamis is a media commentator and analyst, a public speaker, a human rights commissioner in the Human Rights Commission in Montgomery County, Maryland, and a radio host, who presents a monthly radio show

on "U.S. Arab Radio" (the first Arab-American radio station broadcasting in the U.S. and Canada).



**Dr. Margaret A. Johnson**, Ph.D. is a sociologist, author, international speaker, and business owner. She manages the day-to-day operations of Transfirex Translation Services, Inc., a global language translation company. She consults and advises at the Institute of Islamic and Turkish Studies on developing strong communities and advocating for peace and understanding among all people. For over a decade, Margaret worked as a researcher and academician at the University of Texas at Austin and Oklahoma State University. Her early career focused on change in nonprofit organizations, small business development, women and minority entrepreneurship and micro credit programs. Today she works mostly on peace studies including issues of confronting extremism, dialogue, and religious diversity. She recently co-authored with Ori Soltes, *Preventing Violence and Achieving World Peace. The Contributions of the Gülen Movement.* Peter Lang

*Publishing, New York, NY.* She is a member of Sisterhood of Salam Shalom DC and has been involved in Interfaith work in the Washington DC metropolitan area.



**Kristin Garrity Şekerci** works at the Bridge Initiative, a research project on Islamophobia at Georgetown University. She is also an advocate for Paid Family and Medical Leave in Washington, D.C. Garrity Şekerci has been published in [Huffington Post](#), MuslimGirl, London School of Economics Blog and Feminist Studies in Religion Blog, among others. She has also been featured or mentioned in Washington Post, Reuters, AJ+, Haaretz and Catholic News Service. Her publications discuss issues concerning Muslim identities, Islamophobia, interfaith dialogue and paid leave. She enjoys exploring Islamic theology and jurisprudence as it concerns issues unique to women. Garrity Şekerci received her M.A. in Ethics, Peace and Global Affairs from American University.

**Please join us for this opportunity to learn and grow together.  
Thank you for your support!**

### **Book sale news**

This has been a very busy fall with regard to the book sale. We are strategizing on how to increase profits, spurred on by McLean’s amazing success this year. We’ve started collecting and sorting books. And we are already recruiting students to help with sale setup. Here are the details below. If you have any thoughts/suggestions for improving the sale, come to book sorting to discuss over lunch or call me (Mollie Jewell, 703-941-5643).

**Why the book sale?** The book sale is our branch’s major fundraiser; the proceeds benefit women and girls. With this money, our branch provides scholarships to local high schools girls and grants to local organizations helping educate girls. We also donate generously to AAUW’s AAUW Educational Foundation, which is the largest source of funding exclusively for graduate women in the world. Last year, AAUW awarded \$3.7 million in 230 grants and fellowships to outstanding women and nonprofit organizations in the 2016–17 academic year. And we were a part of that!

**Keys to book sale success: pristine condition!** We have been talking to Nancy Richardson of McLean AAUW about the keys to their successful book sale – they made \$51,000 (now that’s real money!). McLean cited two factors that we can easily adopt: maximizing the profits on the “left-overs” and selling more books by keeping only books in pristine condition, encouraging buyers to stay longer and buy more. The two go hand-in-hand really – because if we can sell more sub-prime books as we sort throughout the year, sorters will be less reluctant to discard books. Already this year, we have made over \$100 by selling those bad books.

In addition, we are introducing some competition into the left-overs market. Martha Trunk has been in contact with a new company to take our left-overs, Discover Books. Discover’s business model is similar to the reseller we are currently using, but they provide their own crew to whisk away left-over books (cutting down on our labor). And they pay by the pound, not by the box. For now, we are testing their system after the October 15 book sorting.

**Book Collection at Falls Church Community Center through October 21: Help needed to take books to Mary's - Oct 1 – Oct 17**

Our book collection bin is installed in the Falls Church Community Center. Now we need help transporting the collected books to Mary's (4419 N. 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Arlington, 703-528-8993). The specific dates we need are October 10, 14, 17. Volunteers should bring boxes or bags to transport the books, and call the center first to make sure there are actually books for pickup at (703) 248-5077.

If you can help, please contact Mollie Jewell, 703-941-5643.

**October 15 Book Sorting – Volunteer Opportunity.** We had a good day and a good turnout for the Sept 24 book sorting. We weeded out a lot of sub-prime books and sorted and boxed several shelves worth of books now ready for the sale. By the time the sorters left, we had cleaned almost everything off the garage floor.

But that didn't last long; we have now received a load of books from Lantern Books and 67 cases from another single source. The storage area is filling again and we will have plenty of books to sort in October. Come any time; no sign-up needed.

**Sorting basics.** We sort outdoors (in the driveway) in the Youmans's driveway (4419 N. 18th Street, Arlington), so dress for the weather. We suggest layers and/or sunscreen. Call ahead if the weather looks poor - Mary's phone is 703-528-8993. Saturday we start at 10, and go until we finish (but no later than 4pm). Come when you can, stay only as long as you want.

**Never sorted before?** Don't worry. No experience is necessary; we offer on-the-job training. We have uploaded our "How to sort books" onto Google; just follow this link: [Book sort fact sheet](#). We invite all book sorters to share in a simple lunch each week, so you don't have to worry about getting hungry. And, remember, book sorters get first crack at purchasing the books!

**Want to bring a friend?** Good! The more the merrier, and the more we accomplish. Just be sure to tell them to dress for the outdoors.

**Recap:**

Place: 4419 N. 18th Street, Arlington

Date: Oct 15

Saturday: 10am to 4pm (or until we finish)

**Recruiting Student Volunteers.** Almost thirty George Mason High School students expressed interest in helping setup the book sale at the GMHS Service Learning Fair. Bunny Jarrett and Mollie Jewell attended the fair on behalf of the sale and even talked to students who helped last year – and enjoyed it! Of course, the number of students who come will be less, what with other commitments and spring time activities – but this is a good start!



**Bunny Jarrett at the George Mason High School Service Learning Fair**

**Falls Church Fall Festival: Prospective members and book sale publicity.** We staffed a booth at the Fall Festival to publicize AAUW membership and the book sale. Members offered free paperbacks and bookmarks and talked to people about AAUW membership and FC branch activities. We were excited to get the names of 15 prospective members who will be receiving our branch newsletter over the next several months. Supporting the fall festival were Sally Brett, Anne Baxter, Sharon Zackula, Dianne Bodeen, Martha Trunk, Becky Gaul, and Mollie Jewell.

**Book sale photographer needed.** I'd like someone to take pictures throughout the book sale and at book sortings. Good pictures would liven up the publicity and help prospective helpers understand the various activities. If you are interested, talk to Mollie Jewell (703-941-5643) or just bring your camera and email me the pictures ([MollieJewell2@gmail.com](mailto:MollieJewell2@gmail.com))

### **Book Club News**

Next book club meeting will be Tues. Oct. 18th at 7:30 PM at La Madeleine in Baileys Crossroads. We will be discussing *My Life on the Road* by Gloria Steinem.

The Nov. meeting will be at a member's home TBA on Tues. Nov. 15th at 7:30 PM. We will be discussing *Empress Dowager Cixi* by Jung Chang.

### **AAUW of Fairfax City Book and Author Luncheon:**

Sat. Nov. 5th 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Springfield Golf and Country Club  
8301 Old Keene Mill Rd.  
Springfield, VA 22152

## September Branch Meeting Wrap-Up:

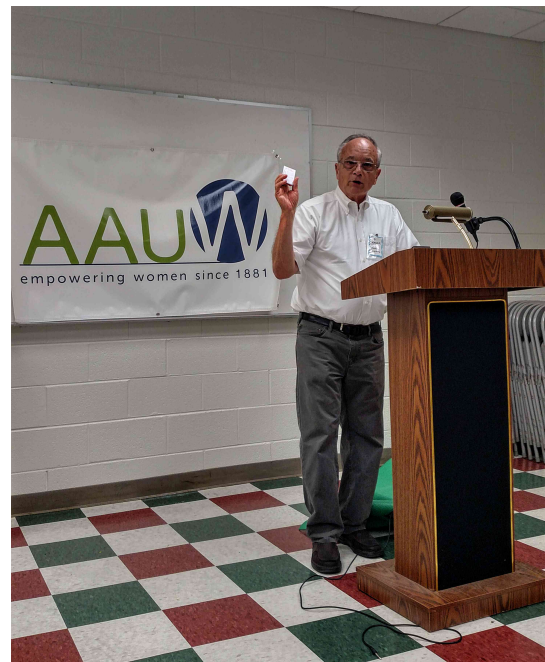
On Monday, September 12, our branch topic was “What Do I Do Now? —Keeping active and growing in our later years (or those of our parents).” We were presented with opportunities for those at least 50 years old, who maybe have newly found free time or who may want to take a different direction in their choice of activities. Nadia Hoonan from RSVP, a volunteer clearing house, and Ed Rader from Encore Learning, which offers classes for those in midlife and older, spoke about the opportunities each of their organizations provide.

RSVP is America’s largest volunteer network for people age 55 and older. In Northern Virginia, RSVP volunteers are responding to community needs in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County, and the City of Alexandria.

Encore Learning offers a wide variety of college-level noncredit courses, clubs, special events and activities to help meet the continuing educational and social interests of anyone over age 50, regardless of residence location. Encore Learning’s members support, govern, and finance the organization by volunteering their time without compensation and through membership and course fee.



Nadia Hoonan, RSVP



Ed Rader, Encore Learning

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Voter Registration Deadline Is October 17; League's Non-Partisan Online**

**Voter Guide Is Ready**

Monday October 17 is the deadline to register to vote in the November 8 election or for voters to update their registration information, according to the League of Women Voters of Falls Church.

Voters can register or make changes in their information online through links on the League's non-partisan elections website, [www.vote411.org](http://www.vote411.org), or through the website of the Virginia Department of Elections at [www.elections.virginia.gov](http://www.elections.virginia.gov). Voters can also obtain registration applications at City Hall and the Mary Riley Styles Public Library, and can register in person at the Registrar's office at City Hall, 300 Park Avenue.

Non-partisan comprehensive information about this year's election is also available at [www.vote411.org](http://www.vote411.org). After a user enters their address, they can retrieve information about their polling place and the choices that will be on the ballot. (This address data is not retained by the League.) In the City of Falls Church, voters will consider candidates for president and Congress, as well as two proposed amendments to the Virginia Constitution and a referendum on a proposed \$8.7 million bond for the Falls Church library. The League site includes answers to a series of questions posed to the candidates and information about both sides of the ballot questions.

For more information on the Falls Church League and its activities go to [www.lwvfallschurch.org](http://www.lwvfallschurch.org).





## **A Message from Sarah Johns:**

As many of you know, I've been volunteering with a small non-profit, 100% volunteer, medical relief team in Chantal, Haiti since the 2010 earthquake. Chantal is a small village about an hour northwest of Les Cayes with a population of 2000 families in the village proper and then about 250,000 in the outskirts. Chantal had fully recovered from the earthquake and the village was thriving. But Chantal has been devastated by Hurricane Mathew and is one of the hardest hit communities. The damage is beyond simply catastrophic!

I'll be going to Chantal on Oct 16 to do a direct-needs assessment and to deliver the first shipment of prescription medicine for Hurricane relief.

Please help! They need your help and believe that working together...yes, We Can Do It!

Please download the following flyer! Please distribute it to your neighbors, friends, family, on your Facebook and social media connections, and at your workplace. Ask your Boy Scout troop, the Girl Scout troop, and your school to distribute flyers. Please ask your church, temple, or mosque to hold a drive for Chantal.

Please donate. Your tax-deductible donations will be put to immediate direct assistance on the ground with no overhead to reduce the impact. Every dollar will go to direct person-to-person aid.

Chantal was one of the very hardest hit communities -- almost 90 % of homes damaged or destroyed, the roof of the school and the church gone, the dispensary compound badly damaged. There are over 100 dead known so far and another 100 missing. Hundreds of destroyed trees - the large mangos, papayas, bananas, coconuts, breadfruit surrounding the rice fields are all gone, along with the rice crops they sheltered. We fear a resurgence of cholera due to flooding.

Funds will go to the purchase of discounted prescription medication from medical mission vendors and to help with the rebuilding effort (a new roof for a family costs \$300). Over the counter medicines, such as Tylenol, Advil, anti-diarrheals like Lomotil, and allergy medicines, will be needed in large quantities....think Costco!

Funds received by October 16 will also be used for a first order of roofing tin for the most frail and vulnerable members of the community who do not have families to assist them. Funds received after that date will be used for ongoing recovery.

All donations are tax deductible and donors who provide an address will receive a tax letter.

Please help! This is the fierce urgency of now!

Thank you for everything you do.

Sarah

## PLEASE HELP! YOUR ASSISTANCE IS URGENTLY NEEDED!

Hurricane Matthew has caused extensive damage in Chantal, Haiti to the dispensary and the school. Almost 90 % of homes and crops have been affected. The need is immediate!

## PLEASE DONATE NOW!

Over the Counter medicines needed, funds for food relief and repairs. 100 % of donations will go to immediate direct relief! Donations are tax deductible. Travel will occur before the end of October.

## HOW TO HELP

- checks with comment line "Haiti" to:  
Rotary Club of Centreville and Chantilly  
P. O. Box 224014,  
Chantilly, Va 20153
- checks with the comment line "Haiti" to:  
Rev. Yves Francois  
c/o Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
901 SW 6<sup>th</sup> St  
Okeechobee, Florida 34974
- Place a collection box for both funds and over the counter medications at your place of business. We will collect all items from you for transport by hand-carry to Chantal or contact Sarah John for delivery.
- Please ask your social media contacts, friends, and family to do the same. No donation will be too small!

CONTACT: Sarah John, Rotary Club of Centreville and Chantilly  
Lead Physician  
WeCareToShare, Chantal  
[www.chantalhaitimission.wordpress.com](http://www.chantalhaitimission.wordpress.com)  
703-400-3749  
[Sarahjohn2857@gmail.com](mailto:Sarahjohn2857@gmail.com)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 22	2:00 PM	Northern District Meeting: "Gender Bias in Politics--Is It Real?" Kings Park Library, Burke
October 30	2:00 PM	How Islam Empowers Women Kenmore Middle School, 200 S. Carlin Springs Rd. Arlington VA

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## CONTACT US

- President: Kristan McMahon
- Co-Vice Presidents for Programs: Diane Bodeen and Sally Brett
- Membership: Kitty Richardson

