

AAUW FALLS CHURCH FLASH

Volume 71, Number 10

November 2, 2021

Co- Presidents' Message



Dear Members:

We are still watching pandemic and health news, but we hope to provide more opportunities this year to meet in person while retaining Zoom connections for certain meetings and events. We will follow public health guidelines and, as appropriate, use masks and social distancing to protect ourselves and our fellow members.

This month our branch is meeting IN PERSON for a field trip to a memorial commemorating the suffragists who fought for our right to vote. Falls Church Area AAUW visited the site, The Turning Point Suffragist Memorial, almost a decade ago when it was still being developed. Over the years, some of our members contributed to the fund to build the Memorial. Now, we will see the finished Memorial. **Please join us for this field trip to Occoquan Regional Park on Saturday, November 13.** We will see the memorial and then sit down for an afternoon coffee at a nearby café.

The December holidays are coming! Please give your feedback to Becky and Susan so they can plan some fun for us. (And thank them for doing so.)

Among those who have volunteered for some of the more demanding branch jobs is Aida Loomis. Aida is now our webmaster, and she is already working on our website (<https://fallschurcharea-va.aauw.net/>) and our Facebook page. **If you belong to Facebook, please go to our Facebook page and like us!** (<https://www.facebook.com/AAUW-Falls-Church-Area-VA-Branch-2084235878361711>) Pam Martinov continues to publish The Flash, publishing more newsletters to help us to maintain contact during the pandemic. Thank you to both Aida and Pam for keeping us in touch.

Book Sale. On October 25, the Board decided to have a table on two Saturdays in December during the Falls Church Farmer's Market, to sell nearly new fiction and non-fiction (such as newer cookbooks and coffee table art, gardening and photography books). The table would be set up at or near the front entrance of the Falls Church Community Center. In making this decision, we weighed many factors, including Falls Church making the tables available at no charge, the need to sell a few books, the less risky (although colder) location of a sale outside, and the ease of transferring books to the tables from a nearby car. **Saturday volunteers will be needed!** Later this year or in early 2022, we will discuss holding an April 2022 book sale.

We look forward to seeing you in person for our field trip to the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial in Occoquan Regional Park on November 13, 2021. Meet you in the Falls Church Community Center parking lot on November 13 at 1:00 pm.

Stay safe and healthy, and keep in touch,

Sharon Zackula and Elizabeth Kessel
Co-Presidents

Next Branch Meeting



Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Fieldtrip - Saturday November 13
(departing Falls Church at 1:00 p.m.)

For our November Branch meeting, we've reserved a private, docent-led tour of the new Turning Point Suffragist Memorial at Occoquan Regional on **Saturday Nov. 13. (Note the revised date.)** The outdoor memorial honors the women imprisoned at the Occoquan Workhouse in and commemorates the little-known women who engaged in the suffragist movement. Check out the website at [Turning Point Suffragist Memorial | Nova Parks](https://turningpointmemorial.org/). We were there shortly after the project first began. Let's see the finished Memorial together.

We'll **meet at 1 pm** in the parking lot at the Falls Church Community Center to form car pools for the 20 mile drive to Occoquan, to meet our docent at 2 pm. After the tour, we'll have the option of snacks at the onsite Brickmaker's Café and/or heading just across Ox Rd/Route 123 to the separate [Lucy Burns Museum - Workhouse Arts Center](#). Please bring your mask and **\$10 cash to cover the docent fee** (used for Memorial upkeep).

Please **RSVP by Thursday 11/11** to [beckygaul at verizon.net](mailto:beckygaul@verizon.net) or text 703-608-9121, including if you're willing to drive & number of potential passengers.

Hope to see you soon! Becky Gaul & Susan Conklin, Program Co-chairs

Holiday Party?

Time to start thinking about our annual Holiday Party which is in mid-December. Do we plan:

- A virtual Zoom event like last year?
- An in-person event at a venue like we did for Kitty?
- An event at a member's home?
- Do we include spouses?



Please let us know by 15 November.

Reply to [sconklin00 at gmail.com](mailto:sconklin00@gmail.com) or text 703-869-7131.

We look forward to hearing from you,
Susan and Becky Program Co-chairs

Retail talent sought for Christmas book sale



If you've ever wanted to work in retail, Dianne and Sarah have a great opportunity for you! We will be selling new and some of the best of our gently used books at the Community Center during Farmers' Market hours on Dec. 11th and 18th. These are books that might be just what Christmas shoppers are looking for as gifts, or perhaps for their own reading pleasure, knowing once again that buying a book helps send local girls to college. Prices will be determined individually with each book.

The Community Center offers a “Good Deeds” table under the portico at the Center’s entrance. This costs us nothing, and they provide a table and chairs. We can spend as many of the four hours (8-12) as we have books and stamina for. We hope for decent weather.

Sarah and Dianne will be looking at good books we can get access to at the Willston Center; if you have had any books dropped off at your homes that might include possibilities, please pull them out for us. Then, we will need a team of probably 5-6 people each of those Saturdays to both “woman” the table and to pass out fliers to market-goers to draw them over to our location. We will also need one or two volunteers to pass out fliers on the 4th to alert shoppers to what we will be offering the following weeks.

So, if you can add a little Christmas flourish to our table, decorate it a bit—whatever might help sales, we will be delighted to include you. We will also be collecting addresses for what we hope will be our April sale.

Public Policy

AAUW-VA Meets with Senator Saslaw

On Wednesday, October 20, Susan Burk, Co-Vice President for Public Policy; Sandy Lawrence, Northern District Representative; Linda Lawrence, a constituent of Senator Saslaw; and Marilyn Falksen, Public Policy Chair for the Falls Church Branch met with Senator Saslaw and his legislative aide, Janet Muldoon, to discuss two of AAUW-VA’s key public policy priorities for the 2022 Virginia General Assembly: paid sick days for all of Virginia’s workers and the establishment of a paid family and medical leave (PFML) program in the Commonwealth. The Senator chairs the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee, which must approve any legislation concerning these important issues before the bills can be considered by the Virginia Senate, so his support is crucial.



The meeting began on a positive note with the Senator stating he supported requiring businesses with 25 or more employees to provide up to 5 days of paid sick leave to their employees. This is a beginning step toward the goal of enacting legislation that will ensure all of Virginia’s workers are able to stay home when they are sick. AAUW-VA is a member of Virginians for Paid Sick Days, a coalition that includes labor organizations, various advocacy and religious groups, and a small business organization; the coalition will be actively lobbying on this issue in 2022.

During the discussion of PFML, Senator Saslaw expressed concern about the potentially disproportionate impact such a program would have on small businesses. This led to a discussion among the participants, with AAUW-VA representatives describing how the pandemic has highlighted the need for PFML and the benefits of such a program for employees and employers. They referenced the PFML study conducted by the Virginia Office of the Secretary of Commerce and Trade and the Chief Workforce Development Advisor last year that included descriptions of PFML programs in other states, showing how these programs varied in the manner in which they were implemented and funded. Additionally, they pointed out that the actuarial study authorized by the Virginia House in the 2021 session should be completed soon and

would provide the data necessary to begin developing such a program. As the discussion ended, Senator Saslaw said he was willing to consider proposals on this topic.

When asked what might happen in the 2022 Session to proposals to require employers to provide paid sick days to their workers and to establish a PFML program, the Senator said the key factor would be the outcome of the election on November 2.

Upcoming Events

The **League of Women Voters-VA (LWV-VA)** will hold its **Legislative Pre Session Webinar** via Zoom on **December 1, 2021 from 8:30 am. until 12:30 p.m.** You will hear the LWV-VA and other nonpartisan issue groups talk about the bills and resolutions they will support during the 2022 General Assembly and learn how you can have an impact on these issues. You must register to attend; the registration link will be posted on the LWV-VA website <https://lwv-va.org/>.

The next **AAUW-VA Public Policy** meeting will be held via Zoom on **December 1, 2021, at 5 p.m.** A Zoom invitation will be sent to those members who have attended previous meetings. If you have not attend in the past and wish to attend the December 1 meeting, email Susan Burk at burksu at aol.com.

AAUW-VA Lobby Day is scheduled for **January 19, 2022.** If we are able to lobby in person, AAUW-VA will hold a reception for all women legislators in the General Assembly the prior evening, **January 18, at 6 p.m.**

The **Falls Church Women's History Walk** will be held on **Sunday, May 1, 2022.** The rain date is May 15. More information about the Walk will be disseminated as it becomes available.

Kitty Richardson Memorial Luncheon

On Saturday afternoon, September 25th, AAUW-FC hosted a lovely luncheon in honor of Kitty Richardson, active Branch member for 40 years before her January 2020 death. More than 30 women enjoyed a delicious outdoor Afghan meal at Panjshir Restaurant on Fairfax Drive and shared memories of Kitty's dedicated commitment to AAUW and her community. Attendees came from beyond Falls Church, including Capitol Hill Lobby Corps and other Northern Virginia Branches. To date, we have received more than \$2,600 for future scholarships in Kitty's memory. Treasurer Linda Lawrence is still accepting contributions at PO Box 7161, Arlington, VA 22207.

The following week, Program V-Ps Susan & Becky visited Kitty's husband Bill, giving him the board of pictures displayed at the luncheon. He was very pleased, saying he'd have them framed to keep. Thanks to all who participated and contributed.





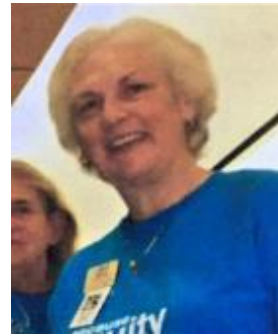
In Memoriam

Kitty Richardson

For 40 Years

Beloved member of Falls Church Area AAWW

From January 1980 to January 22, 2020



Enthusiastic AAWW member, Dedicated Lobbyist, Cheerful Volunteer

Movie Lover, Book group member

Nurse, Mother, Wife

Thoughtful Friend

Dearlly Missed



Always Remembered

To donate towards scholarship(s) in Kitty's honor, checks may be sent to
FCAAUW, c/o Linda Lawrence, Treasurer, PO Box 7161, Arlington, VA 22207 (by May 1, 2022)

What's Going on with AAUW in Northern Virginia?

Contact each branch for Zoom information

Alexandria Branch

11/14/21 2-4 p.m. Program meeting Women in the military and issues

Arlington Branch

We are excited to have AAUW member **Liz Estabrooks from the Department of Veterans Affairs Center for Women Veterans**, share a presentation on opportunities, services and equitable treatment for over three million women veterans. Liz will do her presentation via zoom on **Monday, Nov 15th** (right after Veterans Day!) at 7 pm.



Fairfax City Branch

November 14, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., **Virtual Book and Author Luncheon**, our scholarship fundraiser. The four wonderful women authors who were scheduled to present at this year's luncheon have all enthusiastically offered to join us in a virtual Book and Author gathering:

Mary Jo Binker, Editor, *If You Ask Me: Essential Advice from Eleanor Roosevelt*. Experience the timeless wit, warmth, and wisdom of Eleanor Roosevelt in this annotated collection of candid advice columns

Angie Kim, *Miracle Creek: A Novel*. In a Virginia small town, a group of people are part of a special treatment center with a hyperbaric chamber that may cure a range of conditions. But when the chamber explodes, two people die, and it's clear the explosion was no accident.

Aimee Hix, *What Doesn't Kill You*. A favor for a friend turns into a murder investigation, drawing our heroine, apprentice PI Willa Pennington, into a labyrinth of lies and deception in the shadows of Washington, D.C.

Cindi Gueli, *The Lipstick Brigade: The Untold True Story of Washington's World War II Government Girls*. Thousands of women came to the capital to staff government offices during World War II. Their skills earned them a wide variety of jobs, while their personalities enlivened the city and provided life-changing adventures.

McLean Area Branch



A discussion on Criminal Justice and Inequities in Women and Minorities by

Steve T. Descano

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

7:00 pm via Zoom

Steve T. Descano, Commonwealth's Attorney for Fairfax City and Fairfax County, is a veteran, former federal prosecutor. He served as a federal prosecutor under the Obama Administration for six years specializing in complex financial crimes of both national and international scopes.

All those interested in joining the program please visit our website <https://mclean-va.aauw.net/> and send in a request for the link to the meeting, under Programs.

Mount Vernon Branch

Join us at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, Virginia, Saturday, November 20, 10:30 a.m.



ADVANCING RACIAL AND SOCIAL EQUITY IN ALEXANDRIA

Speaker: Jacqueline Tucker
*Race and Social Equity Officer
for the City of Alexandria*

Jacqueline Tucker will speak on her role in directing the City government's race and social equity programs. She will discuss how she is working to build a framework to ensure policy decisions advance race and social equity for all Alexandria residents, collaborating with City departments, employees, community members and other stakeholders to help Alexandria become a more equitable community.

***The meeting is free and open to the public.
All Fairfax Library safety protocol will be used. Masks are required.***

Reston Reston-Herndon Branch

DATE: Tuesday, November 16, 2021

TIME: 11:30 am

PROGRAM TOPIC: "Love Thy Neighbor: Immigration and the US Experience"

This Virtual Program comes from the Jewish Heritage Museum in NY and features artifacts from the museum's collection and the Jewish immigrant experience. Through explorations of language, work, community and social activism, the tour will encourage viewers to draw connections to other immigrant community experiences.



Attendance is limited so reserve you place now by email to:
Janine Greenwood [janinegrnwd at hotmail.com](mailto:janinegrnwd@hotmail.com)

Springfield-Annandale Branch

November 18, 2021 7 pm on Zoom

"Staying Mentally Healthy" is the topic for the November 18, 2021 program, A panel of mental health professionals will discuss the problems many people have faced over the previous 18 months. We all know that it has been a trying time for all of us. Bring your specific questions as we plan for a much brighter tomorrow.

Vienna Branch News



Mobile Professionals: A Career in Architecture

Tuesday, November 16, 2021
Patrick Henry Library
101 Maple Avenue E, Vienna
6:30 pm, Doors open
7 pm, Program begins

Our guest speaker in November is Vienna resident Carey Sienicki. She is a registered architect, a founding member of the Vienna Business Association, and has served the town for over 15 years, including serving four terms as a Council member.

Like many working women, Carey faced the challenge of frequently uprooting her career due to other family pursuits. She will talk about adapting to these challenges and about architecture as a career.

This free program is co-sponsored by the Patrick Henry Library and is open to the public.

Movies, anyone?



And the fun and funny continue as the Falls Church Film Group watches and discusses **The Prom**. The film follows Dee Dee Allen (Meryl Streep) and Barry Glickman (Tony Award winner James Corden) New York City stage stars with a crisis on their hands: their new Broadway show is a major flop that has tanked their careers. Meanwhile, in a

small-town Indiana high school, student Emma is experiencing a very different kind of heartbreak: despite the support of the high school principal, the head of the PTA has banned her from attending the prom with her girlfriend.

Please join us Wednesday, November 3rd at 7:00 PM (different week) as we use the film **The Prom** to discuss topics such as identity, bigotry, homophobia, coming out, parental rejection, advocacy, education, acceptance to ignite conversations and shared moments.

The Prom can be watched through Netflix streaming. All are welcome to join us. If you have any questions please call or text Aida at 703-966-8050.

Book Club News

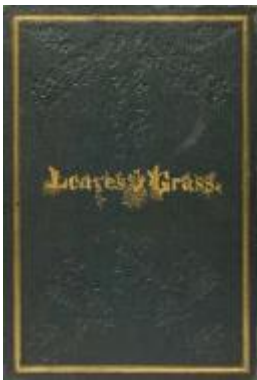
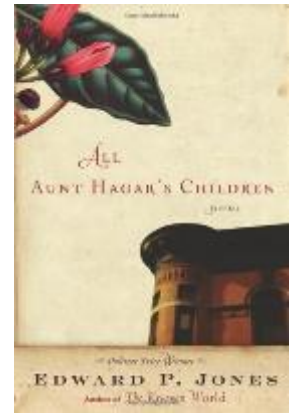
Next up: ***All Aunt Hagar's Children: Stories***

Tuesday 11/16 Zoom meeting at 7:30 P.M. Everyone in the chapter is welcome to join in the discussion. Get some great ideas and new insights. We meet every third Tuesday of the month, and we welcome new faces and ideas. We hope to see you on the 16th.

All Aunt Hagar's Children: Stories

by Edward P. Jones, 399 pages

Edward P. Jones, a prodigy of the short story, returns to the form that first won him praise in this new collection of stories, *All Aunt Hagar's Children*. Here he turns an unflinching eye to the men, women, and children caught between the old ways of the South and the temptations that await them in the city, people who in Jones's masterful hands emerge as fully human and morally complex. With the legacy of slavery just a stone's throw behind them and the future uncertain, Jones's cornucopia of characters will haunt readers for years to come.



12/21 POETRY: *Leaves of Grass* by Walt Whitman, 624 pages

Leaves of Grass

by Walt Whitman

A collection of quintessentially American poems, the seminal work of one of the most influential writers of the nineteenth century.

Meet Our Virginia Fellows and Grantees

(from AAUW Vision)

Thanks to the generosity of Virginia's members and branches, we have 15 endowments funding nine fellowships and grants: seven Fellowships (four American, two International, one Selected Profession), and two Research & Projects Grants. The fellowships are primarily for Ph.D. and post-graduate awards, and the R&P Grants are for either Career Development (such as changing from an old field to a more current one) or Community Action Projects. Of note for our branch are the two following:

American Fellowships

- Leah Kuragano, William & Mary Univ.; Ph.D. in Cultural Studies. "Colonial Apprehension: Hawaiian Indigeneity in U.S. Popular Culture 1945-1980." Falls Church Area Branch.

Research & Project Grants—Career Development

- Alexandria Ashe, Virginia Commonwealth Univ.; MPH in Public Health. "Stress Hormones Contribution to Chronic Health Conditions in African-American Women." Falls Church Area Branch, McLean Area Branch (two endowments), Newport News Branch, and Martha Ann Miller endowments.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 3	7:00pm	Movie Group via Zoom- <i>The Prom</i>
November 11		R.S.V.P. for Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Fieldtrip
November 13	1:00pm	Meet at FC Community Center for Field Trip to Turning Point Suffragists Memorial
November 16	7:30pm	Book Club via Zoom- <i>All Aunt Hagar's Children</i>
November 29	7:30pm	Board Meeting via Zoom

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.





Sherwood Regional Library

Presenting

Saturday, November 20, 10:30 am

Sherwood Regional Library

2501 Parker's Lane, Alexandria

**ADVANCING RACIAL AND
SOCIAL EQUITY IN ALEXANDRIA**

Speaker: Jaqueline Tucker

***Race and Social Equity Officer for the City
of Alexandria***



Tucker holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Butler University and a Juris Doctor from the Howard University School of Law. A former educator who witnessed the injustices of systemic inequity firsthand in her Houston, Texas classroom, she brings extensive experience to Alexandria. As a Texas bar-certified attorney, she was a legal analyst with Deloitte and Touche, a Freedom of Information attorney with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, a community organizer with Families Empowered, and an aide to several members of the U.S. Congress. She also served as the first East Region Project Manager for the Government Alliance for Race and Equity (GARE), a national network of governments working to achieve racial equity and advance opportunities for all. The City of Alexandria joined GARE in February 2019.

The meeting is free and open to the public.

For more information contact Mt. Vernon AAUW

AAUW.MtVernon at gmail.com