



Reston-Herndon Area (VA) Branch

Volume XLV Issue 7

***What's happening in our Branch.....***

Month	Date	Time	Event
Apr	11	10:45am	Open House Membership Event - Ashburn
	14	1:30pm	Branch Board Meeting - Reston Regional Library
	15	11:00am	Scholarship Fund Raiser - Café Montmartre
		7:00pm.	Great Decisions
	16	7:00pm	RCA Reston Citizen of the Year Award to Marion Stillson
			RCC Hunter Woods
	17	10:30am	DAR Museum Tour - Early Quilts of Maryland & Virginia
18-19		State Conference - Charlottesville	
May	22	2:15pm	Book Group - "The Orphan Train"
	23	7:00pm	Book Group - "The Orphan Train"
	14	9:30am	Federal Lobby Day
		6:30pm	Branch Meeting - Presentation on Memory Enhancement
	20	7:00pm	Great Decisions
	27	2:15pm	Book Group - "The Art of Hearing Heartbeats"
	28	7:00pm	Book Group - "The Art of Hearing Heartbeats"
June	11	5:30pm	Branch Meeting – Pot Luck Dinner

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For the latest information and event details about upcoming activities, copy and paste these urls into your browser to locate:

Month-by-month calendar <http://restonherndon-va.aauw.net/calendar-of-events/>

Year-at-a-glance calendar (PRINTABLE) <http://restonherndon-va.aauw.net/year-at-a-glance/>

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**President's Pen**

It's hard to believe it is spring when there's hardly a bloom in sight but we have faith that by the time you read this month's newsletter, spring will be busting out all over. We have traditionally skipped a monthly meeting in April to allow members time to attend the annual **Conference, this year in Charlottesville on April 18<sup>th</sup>**. A lot of work was put into making this conference meaningful from having Linda Hallman, AAUW Executive Director discuss AAUW National's impact plan to having Geoffrey Skelley of Crystal Ball (UVA Center for Politics) talking about the 2014 and 2016 elections as well as informational sessions on campus sexual violence and human trafficking. It's designed to be a mix of fun and serious dialogue. It's not too late to register. The Doubletree no longer has any rooms available but it is possible to make a day trip of it. Read more about the 2015 conference in this newsletter.

In 2016 the Northern District will host a two day conference. Please plan on being involved in the planning to showcase Northern Virginia.



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Now for exciting upcoming events:

- Join us and bring your Loudoun County friends to a **membership event on Saturday, April 11**. More and more of our members now live in Ashburn. The AAUW Ashburn branch recently disbanded so we have an opportunity to recruit members living in the Sterling-Ashburn area and expand the scope of our existing branch. Our meet and greet will begin at **10:45am at Loudoun Valley II Clubhouse**. Please talk up the event or send an email to your friends who live in or near Ashburn. We hope this will be a great event.
- Our **Branch Board Meeting is April 14, 1:30pm, at the Reston Library** and everyone is welcome. If you want to know what your branch leaders are thinking, have ideas or concerns to share, please plan on coming or send us an email so your voice is heard.
- Don't forget our **fund-raiser luncheon at Cafe Montemartre at Lake Anne Plaza on April 15**. What a great way to celebrate the end of tax season. Join us at the restaurant and bring friends and family with you. As usual, 10% of our check will be donated to the scholarship fund to begin funding our scholarship for next year.
- Kuddos to Marion Stillson! Reston Citizens Association (RCA) has selected Marion as the RCA Reston Citizen of the Year. Marion is a long-time Reston resident, leader and champion of community issues that include women's rights, diversity, general accessibility and housing viability. RCA will honor Marion at the annual RCA Award Ceremony & Reception. The RCA Board cordially invites you and your guests to join us at the **Reston Community Center Hunters Woods on Thursday, April 16, 7-9 PM** to honor Marion for her service to Reston and beyond.

And the best part of a busy April schedule is not worrying about cancellations due to snow or ice. Enjoy the season!

**Maureen Dwyer**

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**Cyndi Shanahan**

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### ***There is still time to register for the 2015 AAUW-VA STATE CONFERENCE***

The AAUW Harrisonburg and Winchester branches will host the annual Virginia state conference in Charlottesville on **18 April 2015**. AAUW Virginia is celebrating its 90 year history. More than 100 members from Virginia and West Virginia will be attending to discuss the issues of campus domestic violence, human trafficking, and the implications of the 2014 elections for the organization's policy priorities for women.

AAUW National CEO, Linda Hallman, and Archivist, Suzanne Gould, will be featured speakers. Other presenters include Geoffrey Skelley, a graduate of JMU and a Harrisonburg native, who is the media relations coordinator for the UVA Center for Politics and associate editor of the *Crystal Ball*, the Center's non-partisan newsletter on American campaigns and elections. Claire Kaplan, Director of the Gender Violence and Social Change Program at UVA, and student Sara Surface will speak to the issue of Campus Domestic Violence on a panel with Mary Ann



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Sprouse, Director of George Mason University's Wellness, Alcohol and Violence Education and Services, and JoAnn Bautti, Assistant Director, Old Dominion University Women's Center.

Addressing Human Trafficking will be Lara Powers from Polaris's National Human Trafficking Resource Center. She manages the anti-trafficking response to calls originating in the seven states in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Check out conference details on our Reston-Herndon website:

[http://restonherndon-va.aauw.net/files/2014/04/2015\\_Virginia-State-Conference\\_Brochure.pdf](http://restonherndon-va.aauw.net/files/2014/04/2015_Virginia-State-Conference_Brochure.pdf)

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### ***Federal Lobby Day - Change in Date***

Please note that the date for this year's Federal Lobby Day, which is held under the auspices of the AAUW Lobby Corps, has been changed to **Thursday, May 14, 2015**. AAUW of Virginia members will be matched up with experienced Lobby Corps members and assigned Congressional offices to visit that day to lobby about legislation. Although it is too early for the schedule to be finalized, please anticipate that we will be getting an early start that day. Typically we meet for the background review at 9:30am in one of the Congress's cafeterias. Look for updates over the next few weeks.

Members traveling great distances will need to come the night before. The good news is that our AAUW sisters in Northern Virginia are opening up their homes to overnight AAUW visitors. If you plan on attending and/or could host an overnight AAUW visitor, please let Maureen Dwyer know by **April 22, 2015** [maureen22066@gmail.com](mailto:maureen22066@gmail.com). For attendees Maureen will need their names, email addresses and who is their Member of Congress.

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### ***And don't forget...***

Susan Wranik, a speech and language pathologist whose area of expertise is comprehensive communication skills enhancement, will be our guest speaker on **Thursday, May 14, 2015, 6:30-8:30pm** at the Cornerstones facility in Reston. Susan will give an **interactive** presentation on memory enhancement which will be relevant for all ages. (This event was originally scheduled for February but due to inclement weather is now rescheduled for May.)

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### **Mini-News**

- Read the Winter/Spring Issue of *Vision* online [www.restonherndon-va.aauw.org](http://www.restonherndon-va.aauw.org)
- When accessing our website, note that the password is VA3035.

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