



Reston-Herndon Area (VA) Branch

Volume XLV Issue 8

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

Month	Date	Time	Event
May	14	9:30am	Federal Lobby Day
		6:30pm	Branch Meeting - Presentation on Memory Enhancement
	20	7:00pm	Great Decisions - "Brazil's Metamorphosis"
	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 Business Meeting - Pot Luck Dinner
	17	7:00pm	Great Decisions - "India Changes Course"
	24	2:15pm	Book Group: "Wild - Lost & Found on the Pacific Coast Trail"
	25	7:00pm	Book Group: "Wild - Lost & Found on the Pacific Coast Trail"
Jul	22	2:15pm	Book Group: "China Dolls"
	23	7:00pm	Book Group: "China Dolls"
Aug	22	11:00am	Branch Strategic Planning Meeting
	26	2:15pm	Book Group: "The Dinner"
	27	7:00pm	Book Group: "The Dinner"
Sept	16	7:00pm	Great Decisions - "Privacy in the Digital Age"

For the latest information and event details about upcoming activities, copy and paste this url into your browser to locate: Year-at-a-glance calendar (PRINTABLE)

<http://restonherndon-va.aauw.net/year-at-a-glance/>

Please note that the month by month calendar has been discontinued.

**President's Pen**

Spring is finally here! What a reminder it is that the year is moving along. We are just a few weeks away from the end of our program year. We will have a summer break in July and August and then ramp up again in September as we begin a new program year. Talking about new beginnings, we are thrilled to announce three new members this spring: Alina Antonov, Naseema Sait and Deedee Snowwhite. Be sure to welcome them when you see them at our next event.

The April 18–19 conference in Charlottesville was outstanding. All the breakout sessions including human trafficking, prevention of college domestic violence and branch archiving were even better than expected. The topics addressed by the keynote and general session speakers were diverse and engaging. Presenters included Suzanne Gould on Branch Archiving, Linda Hallman, our AAUW National Executive Director, on National Operations, Geoffrey Skelley, UVA Center for Politics, on the political outlook for the future. There was entertainment provided by the Victorian Theatrical Society who performed a charming "parlor play".



Now we look forward to the 2016 Northern Virginia District two day conference. Our branch will be a part of the planning and implementation of that event to be held at the Hyatt Dulles on April 15–17, 2016. We have the opportunity to have a branch liaison on the planning committee and a coordinator for an event task. Over the summer break, think about stepping up to one of these positions.

Be sure to take time out of your day to vote on state and national issues and incoming officers. Don't be confused as there were two emails. One is for national and the other is for state – **be sure you vote for both:**

- State Ballot is open on-line from April 27-May 28.
- National Ballot is open on-line from April 15-June 19.

We have a whole host of activities coming up over the next two months. We have our regular monthly meetings including the May meeting on Memory and the Branch Picnic and business meeting in June. As always Book and Great Decisions groups will meet in both months. Federal Lobby Day is on May 14 and this always proves to be an exciting activity.

Finally, there is good news due to the great work of Beth Balmer and her nominating committee. There are only a few leadership positions remaining to be filled for 2015-16. Please consider one as this is a great way to get to know the membership and help the branch to achieve its goals. We need volunteers to co-chair Hospitality, edit the Newsletter and to help keep Facebook current. If you are a socially oriented hostess, are passionate about writing and editing, or you are a Facebook techie, we need you. Each of these jobs is fun. If you are interested, please contact Roberta Sherman at shermanrs1@aol.com.

Maureen Dwyer
Maureen.dwyer@realtymdirect.com

Cyndi Shanahan
 cyndi0915@aol.com

Proposed Slate of Officers to be elected at annual business meeting on June 11, 2015

President Gail Parsons

Gail has been a branch member since 2006 and has served as Secretary, Co-Chair of the Mentoring Program and Newsletter editor. Her BS in Elementary Education was earned at St. John's University (NY) and she undertook business graduate work at UVA-Darden School and Rutgers University.

VP-Program Bea Malone

Bea is a long term branch member and has served in multiple positions at the Branch and State levels including Branch President and Co-Chair of a State Conference. Her undergraduate work was completed at Ohio State University and an MA earned at Marymount University (VA).



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Secretary Sharon Gilman
Sharon is a relatively new member and she is ready to get involved in the branch. She has a BA in Sociology and an MSW in Social Work from Washington University.

Committee Positions Appointed by the Board

Program Janine Greenwood – Committee Member
Janine is a new member has already participated in Book Group and attended several events. She has a BA from the University of Pittsburg and MA in Journalism and Law – Columbia University.

Sandra Passero - Committee Member
Sandy has transferred her membership to our branch from Chapel Hill, NC. She has a BA in Comparative Literature from Brooklyn College (NY) and an MAT (Art & Teaching) from Farleigh Dickinson (NJ).

**Culture/
Diversity Mary Zane - Chair**
Mary joined the branch in 2006 and served as Co-Chair of the Mentoring Program for 7 years. She earned her RN from St. Vincent's Hospital (NY) and her undergraduate degree from George Mason University.

Hospitality Paula Steinmann - Co-Chair
Paula rejoined the branch in 2014 after a 25 year break. She earned her undergraduate degree from Loyola University and a Masters from Northwestern University.

Website Lynne Mulston
Lynne joined the branch a few years ago as a result of becoming involved in the Mentoring Program. She has been Newsletter co-editor. She is a graduate of Louisiana State University

Board and Committee Members Continuing in their current roles

VP	Roberta Sherman
VP-Membership	Beth Balmer
Treasurer	Ruth Ruttenberg
Adopt-a-Spot	Fran Lovaas
Book Group	Shirley Finkelstein & Ellen Rugel
Great Decisions	Judi Polizzoti & Judy Skirbunk
Public Policy	Mary Kornreich

A big thank you to all who have accepted positions for the 2015-16.



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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.)

Mini-News

- Be sure to complete the Survey on Holiday Basket Raffles that was sent to your email by May 15. This information will help us create fun and exciting raffle baskets for the holiday luncheon in November.
- Read the Winter/Spring Issue of *Vision* online at www.restonherndon-va.aauw.org.
