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President's Pen

By now we have experienced the Human Trafficking meeting and many of us have taken action by signing the petition for our state representatives to safeguard the victims of human trafficking. Please be sure to take a moment to [sign the petition](#) if you haven't already.

February brings us a variety of interesting things to do starting with State Lobby Day on February 4 – several of us will be in attendance. Be sure to look for pictures on our [Facebook site](#) shortly after the 4th so you can see all the happenings. Reserve February 21st on your calendar and enjoy a great program [Maximizing Your Memory at Any Age](#) at the Cornerstones conference room.

We are all looking forward to the warmer weather coming this spring and what a great opportunity to attend our state-wide conference [Celebrating our Past Creating our Future](#) that will be held in Charlottesville on April 18 –19. Complete information about the conference is found on our website. There is a brochure included and additionally there will be more information in the upcoming issue of [Vision](#). Please be sure to register in advance.

Finally, please consider a leadership position in our branch for 2015-16. We restructured Board and Committee positions last year to ensure that no leadership position is overwhelming in terms of the time and energy needed to be successful. We have Board position openings in Programs and Secretary. Each of these will provide the opportunity to engage with our great members and have fun at the same time. If you are interested, please contact Roberta Sherman at shermanrs1@aol.com.

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AAUW OF Virginia State Lobby Day is Going to Make An Impact!
Leslie Tourigny, State Public Policy VP

On February 4, 2015, a cadre of AAUW of Virginia members is headed to Richmond and we are going to make an impact. We will carry with us the signed petition on which we have been collecting signatures since October. The petition asks our lawmakers to pass additional measures to provide assistance to survivors of human trafficking, especially sexually exploited minors. As yet we don't have the final number but by print time we expect to meet our goal of 1000 signatures. Stay tuned for the final count and thanks to everyone for collecting signatures.

Our Lobby Day activities will start at 8:30 a.m. when we attend the League of Women Voters of Virginia's Legislative Roundtable. We will then meet with the Governor, Lt. Governor, and the Speaker's Chief of Staff. All will receive copies of our signed petition and hear about our other



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legislative priorities. Our group will then fan out so each of us can visit our respective senators and delegates. Following this, we will split into two groups: one going into the Senate Gallery; the other into the House Gallery. We will be introduced in both galleries.

Everyone who signed up to attend Lobby Day received an email with detailed information. If you plan on attending, but did not receive the email, please notify me immediately at ltourigny@gmail.com.

Mini-News

- When accessing our website, note that the password is VA3035.
- To more fully align with AAUW National, we are joining in their AMAZON fund raising. Please go to our home page www.restonherndon-va.aauw.net and click on the “redirect your Amazon Smile” and follow the easy directions. Thank you for support of our branch in the past.
- If you missed last month’s opportunity to support women in need of Shelter House’s crisis intervention and safe housing services, you are invited to bring a bag of donations to the Branch Meeting Feb. 21 (see list at <http://www.shelterhouse.org/get-involved/>) and give them to Mary Schaefer who will deliver them to Shelter House.



Calendar of Events

For the latest information and **event details** about upcoming activities, please consult the Calendar of Events on the Reston-Herndon AAUW website <http://restonherndon-va.aauw.net/>. It will have the detail that you are used to finding in the Newsletter. This month-by-month calendar is at

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

OR

Consult the briefer, PRINTABLE:

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

Just copy and paste the any of these urls into your browser to locate the pages.

Month	Date	Time	Event
Feb	4	8:30 a.m.	Virginia AAUW State Lobby Day
	18	7:00 p.m.	Great Decisions
	21	10:00 a.m.	Branch Program - Maximizing Memory
	25	2:15 p.m.	Book Group
	26	7:00 p.m.	Book Group



Reston-Herndon Area (VA) Branch

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Feb	27	11:00 a.m.	National Museum of Women in the Arts Tour
Mar	14	11:00 a.m.	Branch Program - Presentation on Women's Reproductive Rights
	18	7:00 p.m.	Great Decisions
	25	2:15 p.m.	Book Group
	26	7:00 p.m.	Book Group
Apr	15	11:00 a.m.	Scholarship Fund Raiser – Café Montmartre
		7:00 p.m.	Great Decisions
	18-19		State Conference - Charlottesville
	22	2:15 p.m.	Book Group
	23	7:00 p.m.	Book Group
May	7		Federal Lobby Day (tentative)
	20	7:00 p.m.	Great Decisions
	21	TBA	Annual Picnic
	27	2:15 p.m.	Book Group
	28	7:00 p.m.	Book Group
