



Volume XLVI Issue 6



President's Pen

State Conference – April 15-17, 2016-Dulles Hyatt

The Virginia State Conference is less than two weeks away and we are in the final phase of planning. Carolyn Pickens and Bunny Jarrett, Conference Co-Chairpersons have led an energized team of Northern District branch representatives to create a dynamic event. Fifteen of our members will be in attendance along with one hundred and twenty-five other members from across the state.

Board Recruitment Status

We are making progress on filling vacant positions. Garima Singh has graciously accepted the nomination to VP-Membership-Loudoun. We are hopeful that more members will bring their talent and skill to leadership positions that include VP-Membership -Reston-Herndon, VP-Communications, and Cultural/Diversity Committee Chair. Please contact Roberta Sherman shermanrs1@aol.com or Gail Parsons gailiff90@gmail.com if you are interested in joining the branch leadership team.

Recent Branch Activities

The Human Trafficking Symposium held in March was a success with fifty+ attendees. The featured speakers shared survivor stories and updates on what is happening in Fairfax County. They also identified resources to ensure our community is alert and responsive to what human trafficking looks like and how to act responsibly. Contributions to Artemis House of dried goods, canned foods and gift cards were plentiful. As an outgrowth of the symposium, our branch will launch a “Safe Haven Campaign” that involves a small group study series for our members. Look for more information on this initiative in the next several weeks.

At the March dinner at Kalypso's, thanks to Cyndi Shanahan and Janine Greenwood's recruitment of speakers, we heard about personal experiences from a former NOVA-Loudoun student who attended the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), the commitment of NVCC-Loudoun to expand its student representation at future NCCWSL events from the school liaison, and lastly, a report of 2004-2014 statistics for female college enrollment and course completion, i.e., graduations. The statistics for STEM degrees showed little change in a ten year period and that was a shock to many, in particular, to those who have been involved in AAUW STEM initiatives over that same time frame. This will be an area that we will refocus on over the coming months.



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Next Up**Wed., April 27, 10:30AM
National Museum of the Women in the Arts Tour**

We have reservations for a tour of the newest Museum's exhibit, "She Who Tells a Story". This exhibit features contemporary works by pioneering women photographers that challenge the stereotypes surrounding cultures of Iran and the Arab World. If you have not had the opportunity to visit this museum, you will be pleasantly surprised by the permanent collection in addition to the featured exhibit. Please respond to the Evite if you plan on attending or email Mary Zane mpz_06@verizon.net. Lunch follows at the Museum Cafe. Cost of admission is \$8 pp.

Thurs., May 5, 7:00-9:00PM, Monthly Speaker Program**American Memory in Stone and Steel: Monuments of Tragedy and Triumph**

This is a dynamic multimedia presentation that reveals the secrets behind our nation's most important monuments and memorials. Chuck Tampio, a docent at the Tucson Museum of Art, has broken attendance records throughout the country, educating audiences on how to understand the unique meaning of public and civic art. Memorials in Washington, DC and throughout the country are proliferating at an unprecedented rate. Tampio explores the impulse behind the phenomena and clarifies the significance of our most beloved, as well as the most unfamiliar, monuments. Art in the built environment may be even more engaging than that on museum walls. Attendees consistently report that they will never look at the most familiar memorials the same way again. The Evite will be released in April. This event will be held at Cornerstones in Reston.

Thurs., June 9, 6:30-9:00PM, Monthly Speaker Program & Business Meeting

Veronica Li, Author of "Confucius Says"

Ms. Li, a Vienna resident, who was educated at the University of California, Berkley and Johns Hopkins University, will speak to us about "Caring for Aging Parents". She has been a speaker at several AAUW branches and has received rave reviews.

The program will include a branch business meeting that includes election of Board Members. Although we have held a pot luck dinner in the May/June time frame in past years, we are investigating restaurant options. If you have any suggestions, please contact me gailiff90@gmail.com or Bea Malone bmalone1ara@yahoo.com.



Upcoming Events at other Northern District Branches

Tues., Apr. 26, 7:00PM Theater Event – “To Kill A Mockingbird”

Join the Alexandria and Mt Vernon AAUW Branches to see a performance of this classic story set in Alabama during the Great Depression.

- Ticket proceeds support AAUW’s Educational Funding and Awards programs (<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/>)
- Tickets are \$30.00 each, \$12 is tax-deductible.
Contact Ginger Chamberlain for tickets, gbcAAUW@gmail.com
 - Become a Patron by donating \$10 or more to our fundraising effort.

A reception starts at 7:00 PM in the Green Room. The performance starts at 8:00 PM with a 15 minute intermission. Buy Raffle tickets at \$5 each or 3/\$10 to win one of 6 beautiful gift baskets!

Other Branch News

Book Group – 2016 Selections **Shirley Finkelstein and Ellen Rugel**

Be sure to check out the website for dates, times and locations.
<http://restonherndon-va.aauw.net>

April:	The Little Paris Bookshop – Nina George
May:	The Hare with the Amber Eyes – Edmond de Waal
June:	The Boys in the Boat – Daniel James Brown
July:	The Secret Chord – Geraldine Brooks
August:	All the Light We Cannot See – Anthony Doerr
September:	My Brilliant Friend – Elena Ferrante
October:	The Nightingale – Kristen Hannah
December:	In the Unlikely Event – Judy Blume

Gail Parsons
gailiff90@gmail.com