

Reston-Herndon Area Branch

AAUW of VIRGINIA



Vol. XLI Issue 1

<http://www.aauwofva.org/branches/reston.htm>

September 2010

Read this newsletter "online" and use the hyperlinks to access the WEB directly.

AAUW

■ President's Pen

By **Stephanie Abbott, President**

syabbott@verizon.net, 703/476-4513

Greetings and welcome back from our hot and sometimes very wet summer. Your board committees have been meeting over the summer to prepare for our coming year. Both Membership and Program committees have plans to welcome new members and provide interesting meetings. We hope you will get involved and bring a friend to our varied activities.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will get details on what is happening in the next few months. Several groups such as Book Group and Tape Group have continued to meet over the summer and are going strong. Mentoring is preparing to begin working with their mentees at Forest Edge Elementary School in October. They welcome new mentors and substitutes.

Recently I received a certificate for our branch from AAUW's national office. Our branch achieved **Second Place** among the Top Ten Advocates for laws and policies that are fair to women through **Total Branch Giving to the Public Policy Fund**. We achieved this through our silent auction proceeds that we donated to the Public Policy Fund in memory of Mary Stack-Dunne. Congratulations to all of us! Our new AAUW Funds chairperson, Sonja Vaughan, is already planning for this year's auction. We will start soliciting merchant donations in the fall to make sure we have another successful auction in December. If you have any prospects for donors, let Sonja know.

Former Co-President, Carol Hurlburt, has volunteered to chair Public Policy this year. She will forward notices and news items from national AAUW that keep us up to date on AAUW's efforts to "advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research." The national web site, www.aauw.org, has been redesigned to provide a great deal of information about what we are doing nationwide to support the mission of AAUW.

This is just a sample of what your branch is planning for the year. We welcome suggestions from our members for ways to make us an even more meaningful and yes, fun, organization.

SEPTEMBER BRANCH MEETING

Thursday, September 16

7:00 pm - Networking

7:30 pm - Program

Reston Regional Library,
Meeting Room
11925 Bowman Towne Drive,
Reston VA

"Understanding Elder Care Options"

Whether you are trying to help a loved one choose between assisted living and home care or are concerned about your own future needs, you won't want to miss this presentation.

Margaret O'Reilly, a local Elder Law Attorney and Vanessa Bishop, Professional Geriatric Care Manager will discuss a variety of challenging real-life scenarios and solutions that utilize a vast network of resources.

The interactive presentation will be moderated by Steve Gurney, founder and publisher of Guide to Retirement Living SourceBook. All attendees will receive a free copy of the 264 page Guide to Retirement Living SourceBook.

NOTE: Even though the library closes at 6pm to the public, the meeting room is OPEN and accessible for our meeting.

◆ Calendar of Events

September, 2010

09/16/2010, 7:00 pm, September Branch Meeting

09/21/2010, 10:00 am, Tuesday Tape Group

09/23/2010, 7:30 pm, Book Group, The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo

09/25/2010, 10:00 am, New & Prospective Member "Meet & Greet"

09/28/2010, 3:00 pm, Mentoring Program Orientation

■ AAUW Funds – A New Approach

By Sonja Vaughan, AAUW Funds Chair
akv01@comcast.net

AAUW has restructured its approach to giving charitable gifts to support various programs.

The new approach is to give funds to AAUW Funds #9110, which is the overall general fund. This is the best way to provide general support, where funds can be directed to the area of greatest need.

It is still possible for members to designate a specific fund or program to receive contributions. These funds include the following:

- Legal Advocacy Fund #3999
- Educational Opportunities Fund #4336
- Eleanor Roosevelt Fund #9170
- Public Policy Fund #4337
- Leadership Program Fund #4339

You can learn more about these funds at www.aauw.org or www.aauwofva.org

Remember to Save-the-Date, December 11, 2010, for the Reston-Herndon Branch annual fundraiser. We expect to have lots of enticing items for our auction this year. If you have any contact with merchants, crafters, or any other retailers that will support us with a donation of an auction item, please request their support. Should you need a letter with AAUW Tax ID number or any other information related to the auction, please contact Sonja Vaughan.

AAUW Reston-Herndon Branch Annual Fundraiser

December 11, 2010

■ Public Policy News

By Carol Hurlburt,
schurlburt@verizon.net

The AAUW Action Fund's Capitol Hill Lobby Corps will resume its regular Thursday visits to the offices of members of Congress in September. Every Thursday morning Congress is in session — about 30 Thursdays a year — members of Lobby Corps are briefed on that week's priority and then proceed to selected congressional offices to educate policy-makers. Members make more than 1,200 visits each session, reporting back to AAUW Action Fund staff helpful information for follow-up and grassroots activities. No experience or expertise is necessary — only a commitment to promoting the policy priorities. Volunteers receive comprehensive training as well as briefings on key issues likely to come before Congress. If you want more details about Lobby Corps, contact branch members Marilyn Silvey or Suzanne Cook, who are regular volunteers.

Congressman James Moran will host his annual Women's Issue Conference on Saturday, September 25 at the Kenmore Middle School, 200 S. Carlin Springs Road in Arlington. Registration begins at 9 a.m., followed by the keynote address by veteran broadcaster and news anchor Maureen Bunyan, workshops and lunch. Workshop topics include financial strategies for women, car care, protecting yourself from ID theft and consumer fraud, tips for job seekers on resume writing, networking and professional development, women in the developing world and how health insurance reform will affect you. For more information or to pre-register, go to www.moran.house.gov or call 703-971-4700

Women's Issue Conference September 25, 2010

at the Kenmore Middle School,
200 S. Carlin Springs Road in Arlington.

■ Book Group

By Abbie Edwards
abbiedward@aol.com 703/476-0997

Meeting dates and hostesses

All meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of each month beginning at 7:30 pm except for the following: there is no meeting in November. In December, the meeting is on the first Thursday of the month. September is our 'special kick off meeting of the new season' with a pot luck dinner. At this meeting we meet at 6:30 pm. All meetings are held in members' homes.

September 23, 2010

Book: The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo

By Stieg Larsson (fiction)

Hostess: Marion Stillson,

11286 Spyglass Cove Lane, Reston 20191

Note: 6:30 pm – Potluck dinner

At once a strikingly original thriller and a vivisection of Sweden's dirty not-so-little secrets, this first of a trilogy introduces a provocatively odd couple: disgraced financial journalist Mikael Blomkvist, freshly sentenced to jail for libeling a shady businessman, and the multipierced and tattooed Lisbeth Salander, a feral but vulnerable superhacker. Hired by octogenarian industrialist Henrik Vanger, who wants to find out what happened to his beloved great-niece before he dies, the duo gradually uncover a festering morass of familial corruption—at the same time, Larsson skillfully bares some of the similar horrors that have left Salander such a marked woman.

October 28, 2010

Book: The Lacuna

by Barbara Kingsolver (fiction)

Hostess: Karen Singer,

11776 Stratford Pl., Reston, VA 20190-3381

Kingsolver's ambitious new novel focuses on Harrison William Shepherd, the product of a divorced American father and a Mexican mother. After getting kicked out of his American military academy, Harrison spends his formative years in Mexico in the 1930s in the household of Diego Rivera; his wife, Frida Kahlo; and their houseguest, Leon Trotsky, who is hiding from Soviet assassins. After Trotsky is assassinated, Harrison returns to the U.S., settling down in Asheville, N.C., where he becomes an author of historical potboilers (e.g., *Vassals of Majesty*) and is later investigated as a possible subversive.

December 2, 2010

Book: East of Eden
by John Steinbeck
Hostess: Linda Walker,
1402 Hemingway Ct., Reston 20194

Novel by John Steinbeck, published in 1952. It is a symbolic recreation of the biblical story of Cain and Abel woven into a history of California's Salinas Valley. Spanning the period between the American Civil War and the end of World War I, the novel highlights the conflicts of two generations of brothers; the first being the kind, gentle Adam Trask and his wild brother Charles. In the shadow of this heritage Adam raises their sons, the fair-haired, winning, yet intractable Aron, and the dark, clever Caleb.

January 2011

Book: True Compass: a memoir
by Senator Edward Kennedy (nonfiction)
Hostess: TBA

In this historic memoir, Ted Kennedy takes us inside his family, re-creating life with his parents and brothers and explaining their profound impact on him. For the first time, he describes his heartbreak and years of struggle in the wake of their deaths. Through it all, he describes his work in the Senate on the major issues of our time--civil rights, Vietnam, Watergate, the quest for peace in Northern Ireland--and the cause of his life: improved health care for all Americans, a fight influenced by his own experiences in hospitals.

February 2011

Book: Before the Dawn
by Nicholas Wade (nonfiction)
Hostess: TBA

Scientists are using DNA analysis to understand our prehistory: the evolution of humans; their relation to the Neanderthals, who populated Europe and the Near East; and *Homo erectus*, who roamed the steppes of Asia.

Most importantly, geneticists can trace the movements of a little band of human ancestors, numbering perhaps no more than 150, who crossed the Red Sea from east Africa about 50,000 years ago. Within a few thousand years, their descendants, *Homo sapiens*, became masters of all they surveyed, the other humanoid species having become extinct. And while "race" is often a dirty word in science, one of the book's best chapters shows how racial differences can be marked genetically and why this is important, not least for the treatment of diseases. This is highly recommended for readers interested in how DNA analysis is rewriting the history of mankind.

■ Mentoring Program **“One Girl at a Time”**

by Mary Zane
mpz_06@verizon.net, 703 401-5321

“School days, school days, oh those golden rule days...” Remember that song? Before we knew it, the summer passed us by and we are now in the throes of preparation for our 8th year of mentoring at Forest Edge Elementary School (FEES) and our 3rd year at Langston Hughes Middle School (LHMS.)

For the FEES program we are delighted to report that we have commitments from nine regular mentors (some of whom are new volunteers) and four substitutes. We are awaiting confirmation from several other potential volunteers.

New students will surely be added at FEES as we had three 6th grade graduates moving up to Langston Hughes. With that we hope to have ten girls participating this school term. Orientation inclusive of "mentor refresh training" will be held on Tuesday, September 28 at 3:00 pm in the FEES Library. This session will end by 4:00 pm. Weekly FEES mentoring will commence on the following Tuesday, Oct 5.

The LHMS program is currently under review to validate its relevance, i.e., ensure that our students remain committed and that we are successful in recruiting mentors at this level. Several of the girls entering 7th grade do not have mentors at this time. Provided that our 8th graders "re-up", we are hopeful that they will continue with their existing mentors. More details about LHMS will be provided in the October newsletter.

As always, if you have an interest or know of anyone who might have 90 minutes to spare each Tuesday, we would so appreciate participation in this small but constant and valuable endeavor. We may be contacted at the email address and telephone numbers listed above.

■ Fundraise for AAUW by Recycling Used Toner

We all know recycling is good for the planet, and can give you the feel-good sensation of doing right, but did you know it can also raise money for our Branch? Well, it can! So think win/win/win and bring your used toner cartridges with you to Branch meetings and events. The Board will turn those cartridges into funds for our Branch (\$2 per cartridge!).

■ Program Planning

By Marypat Sampson

mpsampson@aol.com, 703-437-6950

Your program chairs are already hard at work coming up with interesting programs (and places to have them!) for next year. We welcome your ideas for speakers, topics, and locations (just email us). For your knowledge, here are the tentative dates for our Branch meetings currently scheduled for the 2010 – 2011 Program Year. Be sure to pencil these into your calendars now to save the dates. Program details will follow in future newsletters.

2010 Meeting Dates:
Thursday, September 16, 7 PM
Thursday, October 21, 7 PM
Saturday, December 11, Holiday Tea
2011 Meeting Dates:
Saturday, January 22, 10 AM
Saturday, February 26, 10 AM
Saturday, March 26, Business Luncheon
Thursday, May 26, 7 PM
Thursday, June 16, Annual Picnic

■ Tuesday Tape Group

By Roberta Sherman

shermanrs1@aol.com 703/860-3943

Join us as we continue our study of opera with two lectures by Professor Robert Greenburg of the Music Conservatory of San Francisco. His talks will include "The Invention of Opera" and "The Rise of Opera Buffa and Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*." This month we will meet **on Tuesday, September 21 at 10 a.m. at the home of Judy Berkey.**

Judy's address is 22990 Falcon Ridge Court, Brambleton. Her telephone number is 703-327-8474. We look forward to seeing you then.

Save the date:
September 21, 2010 at 10 am Opera Study at the home of Judy Berkey, 22990 Falcon Ridge Court, Brambleton VA

■ Cultural & Diversity Group

By Hale Ament

hale7075@gmail.com 703-264-0845

Museum Exhibit, "Grass Roots: African Origins of an American Art"

After a summer of traveling, perhaps, to far-away places, try something local: Treat yourself with others to a visit to the National Museum of African Art, an underground museum that is part of the Smithsonian's Freer Gallery-Sadler Museum complex. The exhibit connects the cultural ties of African basket weaving arts to those transferred to the

American south. There are 200 objects, not all baskets in this diverse exhibit.

Date: Sunday, October 3, 1:00 p.m., meet at East Falls Church Metro Station (free parking on Sundays) and take Metro to Smithsonian stop.

Back-up Date: Tuesday, October 5, meet at upper bus shelter, Reston East Park and Ride at 9:05 a.m. to catch 9:14 a.m bus to East Falls Church Metro.

This second date will be planned if not enough members respond to the former and request this one – **R.S.V.P to Hale by Monday, September 26 in either case.** If the latter date becomes the "go" date, the Smithsonian Castle has a café suitable for lunch.

A separate item of interest for those who read, or are interested in, *The Help*. The Reston Community Center is featuring author Kathryn Stockett on Tuesday, September 21 at 8 p.m. Free, but reservations are required by calling or stopping by the Reston Community Center (theater seats are all taken, but overflow seats with audio-visual feed are available; author will sign books. (No on-line service for this event. Go on your own or get together with friends.)

McLean AAUW 41st User Book Sale

September 10-12
McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Ave
McLean VA 22101

Book Sale to benefit AAUW Educational Opportunities and local scholarships

For more information: 703/356-8364

■ Membership Report

By Shirley Schulz

schulzshirley@hotmail.com, 703/476-0029

Please join us in welcoming new members (those with gold stars on their name tags) at branch meetings. Please continue to invite new, old and prospective members to our branch meetings and ongoing activities.

New members (someone entirely new to AAUW or who rejoins after 2+ year lapse) are offered a special discount when they join at a branch meeting or "Meet & Greet" of just \$47.50 for the year (Membership through 6/30/2011). AAUW membership is open to anyone with an AA degree or higher and a commitment of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. We have both women and men members.

Dues for the 2010-2011 year are due now. The amount is \$72.00 (\$49 for the national association, \$8 for the state and \$15 for the branch-\$46 is tax deductible). Life members owe state and branch dues (only \$23). Our fiscal year is July 1,

2010 to June 30, 2011, so it is important you renew as soon as possible.

You can renew by check made payable to AAUW Reston-Herndon Area Branch. Send your check to Nancy Thompson, Treasurer, 13676 Heythorpe Ct., Gainesville, VA 20155-1348.

Don't forget you have the option to renew by credit card online at the AAUW website (see below).

■ New & Prospective Member "Meet & Greet"!

If you have joined AAUW within the past year or if you are curious about what AAUW is about, you are invited to an informal coffee and goodies on Saturday, **September 25th, 2010 at 10:00 am** at Shirley Schulz's house.

Some of our branch board members will be on hand to answer questions about our organization, including how it works on three levels (national, state and local), what our goals are, and some of our achievements. We'll talk about the branch activities such as GEMS, Lobby Corps, and our mentoring/tutoring program and more.

Membership requirements for AAUW are an AA degree or higher and a commitment of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. We have both women and men members.

I hope you can join us on Saturday, September 25th. My address is 3118 Nestlewood Drive, Herndon, VA 20171.

Please RSVP no later than Monday, September 20 to Shirley Schulz, 703476-0029 or schulzshirley@hotmail.com

Save the date:	
September 25, 2010 at 10:00 am	New & Prospective Member "Meet & Greet"! at Shirley Schulz's house, 3118 Nestlewood Drive, Herndon, VA 20171

■ Renewing Membership Online

This spring, for the first time, branch members who wish to renew by credit card may do so online. All who renew online receive an immediate confirmation email, which is also sent to the branch treasurer. We hope a number of you will try it this year.

The first time you access the program, the login process has a few extra steps. Those steps are documented below.

- To Get Your Member ID.** Go to www.aauw.org. At the top of the screen, click on "Member Center". From the AAUW Member Login screen, click on the turquoise "member ID lookup." Enter your name

and ZIP code, then click on "Submit". Your information redispays along with your ID. Click on the turquoise "enter member center". Your ID is now displayed in the login screen. Click on "Log In" to get to the Member Center.

- To Access the Member Services Database (MSD).** From the Member Center screen, select "Member Services Database". If this is your first time, click on "register here" then enter the requested information and create a password. Click on "Register". An email will be sent from AAUW to your email address on record. Open this email to get a secure link to complete your registration so you can log into the MSD.
- To Access Your Personal Membership Record.** After logging into the MSD, you can access your record in the Membership Payment Program (MPP). On the left side of the Welcome screen, select "Personal Membership MPP" and then enter your credit card information. Remember to look for the confirmation email.

After the first time, the whole process is much easier. Once you select "Member Center" and then Member Services Database" your ID will be displayed. All you need to do is enter your password and follow step 3 above.

■ Reston Herndon AAUW Budget

Fiscal Year 2010-2011

Category Description	Budgeted Amount
INCOME	
Branch Dues Rec'd - FY2011	\$1,125.00
Other Inc	\$600.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,725.00
EXPENSES	
AAUW Funds	\$30.00
Branch Directory	\$75.00
Community Outreach	\$50.00
Educational Equity	\$150.00
GEMS	\$130.00
Hospitality	\$75.00
Insurance	\$125.00
Membership Exp	\$200.00
Newsletter	\$100.00
No. Virginia District Dues	\$10.00
President's Fund	\$25.00
Program	\$350.00
Sunshine	\$200.00
Treasurer	\$25.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,545.00
OVERALL TOTAL	\$180.00

**The Fairfax City Branch of AAUW
presents**

Book & Author Luncheon

Saturday, November 6, 2010
11am to 2pm
Country Club of Fairfax
5110 Ox Road, Fairfax, VA
703-273-3445
\$38 per person

This year's exceptional lineup highlights a book for every taste, both fiction and nonfiction.

HELEN SIMONSON, *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand*. Life perks up for the Major when he is attracted to his widowed Pakistani neighbor and complications arise in his picturesque English village.

DEANNA RAYBOURN, *The Dead Travel Fast*. Set in 19th century Transylvania, this gothic romance offers vampire legends and an eerie atmosphere. Also *Silent in the Sanctuary* (Lady Julia Grey series).

CARRIE BROWN, *The Rope Walk*. A luminous coming-of-age story unfolds over a crucial summer in the life of a young New England girl.

EDWARD DOLNICK, *The Forger's Spell: A True Story of Vermeer, Nazis, and the Greatest Art Hoax of the Twentieth Century*. Imagine hoodwinking the world's art experts as Hans Van Meegeren did!

KIRSTIN DOWNEY, *The Woman Behind the New Deal: The Life and Legacy of Frances Perkins, Social Security, Unemployment Insurance, and the Minimum Wage*. The life of FDR's Secretary of Labor is carefully researched and engagingly written.

This annual event is sponsored by AAUW Fairfax City Branch to raise funds for scholarships for women in our area. It also helps our national association provide financial help to women in education and other promising careers.

Please mail your check or Visa or MasterCard information to Suzanne Mahoney at 8313 Chapel Lake Ct., Annandale, VA 22003 • (703) 978-3258 • email: suzanne070946@mac.com • Checks should be payable to AAUW Fairfax City Branch.

Reservations must be made by Nov. 3, 2010, and are payable in advance.

Tickets are \$38, including lunch.

Requests for seating must be made at the time of the reservation.

**◆ Board of Directors 2010 - 2011 ◆
AAUW Reston-Herndon Branch**

Co-Presidents

Judy Helmich, jfhelmich@verizon.net 703/758-0361
Stephanie Abbott, syabbott@verizon.net 703/476-4513

Co-Program VPs

Cyndi Shanahan, cindy0915@aol.com 703/709-5817
Marypat Sampson, mpsampson@aol.com 703/437-6950

Membership VP

Shirley Schulz, schulzshirley@hotmail.com 703/476-0029
Karen Werner, kewerner@comcast.net 703/716-7360

Treasurer

Nancy Thompson, nancy.e.thompson@comcast.net 703/743-1064

Secretary

Carolyn Odio, carolyn@odio.com 703/471-7925

Book Group Coordinator

Abbie Edwards, abbiedward@aol.com 703/476-0997

Cultural/Diversity

Hale Ament, hale7075@gmail.com 703/264-0845

Directory

Nancy Thompson nancy.e.thompson@comcast.net 703/743-1064
Susan Merk, sbmerk@comcast.net 703/437-4386

Gourmet Group

Maureen Dwyer, mxdwyer@gmail.com 703/593-0450

Hospitality

Suzanne Cook, suzannecook@verizon.net 703/860-4303

Newsletter

Dimitrina Doutecheva aauw_editor@yahoo.com 703/707-2023
Nadia Doutecheva, nadia.loves@gmail.com, 202/355-4146

Publicity

John Lovaas johnlovaas@aol.com 703/318-9628

Adopt A Spot & GEMS

Fran Lovaas franlovaas@comcast.net 703/318-9628

Mentoring

Gail Parsons, gailiff@rstartmail.com 703/915-1893
Mary Zane, mpz_06@verizon.net 703/ 860-1071

AAUW Funds

Sonja Vaughan, akv01@comcast.net 703/620-9795

Tape Group

Roberta Sherman, shermanrs1@aol.com 703/860-3943

Public Policy

Carol Hurlburt, schurlburt@verizon.net 703/264-9054

**"Dealing with Difficult People"
Northern District Fall Meeting**

Location: Richard Byrd Library
7250 Commerce Street Springfield, VA 22150
Time: October 16th, 2010, 10:30 am -1:30 pm
Cost: FREE, Refreshments will be served.
RSVP to Sandra Wilson at wilsonvienna@yahoo.com