

**Potluck Branch Meeting  
Saturday, September 22  
12 Noon  
Home of Kay Corbett**

Our opening branch meeting on Saturday, September 22, is a potluck luncheon beginning at 12:00 noon at the home of Kay Corbett. We are fortunate to have Nene Spivy, Board Chair of the upcoming Children’s Science Center as our program speaker. She holds a BS in Industrial Engineering from Virginia Tech, as well as a MBA from the University of Virginia Darden School of Business.

Nene will be speaking to us about the proposed Children’s Science Center, which will create a science and technology-focused children’s museum in Northern Virginia. It will be an interactive hands-on museum to bring science activities to thousands of local children each year.

Northern Virginia has no children’s museum and is the largest metropolitan area in the U.S. without one. Boston, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Providence, Nashville, St. Louis, Norfolk, and Richmond all have children’s museums. Come see what we can do to join this Children’s Science Center Movement and fill a major gap in our community.

Hopefully, we can enjoy Kay’s sunny decks for our luncheon; however, in the event of rain we will move inside. Please bring a dish of your choice. Carpooling is encouraged when possible as parking is limited to her property.

## Check Your Registration Status

From the AAUW Action Fund

Change your name, move, or graduate recently? Are you registered to vote? Are you sure? Don't take a chance on Election Day! Double-check your voting status now on AAUW Action Fund's website at [www.aauwaction.org/my-vote/](http://www.aauwaction.org/my-vote/).

This innovative website tool comes from Rep. Steny Hoyer, House Democratic Whip from Maryland. The nonpartisan app provides information about registering to vote in all 50 states and even offers electronic reminders for registration and voting deadlines.

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## Membership Memo

By Dottie Joslin

We begin the year with 50 members, thanks to all who renewed their memberships or recently joined the Fairfax City Branch. Most new members join because someone asked.

September is an opportune month to bring a friend to our branch activities and invite her to join.

Marilyn Parker (marilynarker8812@gmail.com; 908/309-3134) is assisting Dottie Joslin with membership activities this year. Please refer prospects to Marilyn or Dottie.

The 2012-13 Yearbook and Membership Directory will be compiled in October.

## Book and Author Luncheon

By Barbara Klementz

Now is the time to think about our annual fund raiser, the Book and Author luncheon, to be held Saturday, November 3. We have five authors who are excited to be part of our program.

To put all the pieces of this puzzle together, we need everyone's support. Print out the flyer and share it with your friends and neighbors. Ask someone you have not asked before. Special interest groups, begin to prepare your donations for the Silent Auction. We need members to contribute and to contact restaurants, spas and other hangouts for their donations. When folks hear what we are doing, they freely contribute. Take a flyer with you everywhere and let people know what we are doing.

All of our efforts are rewarded when we hear the stories of our recipients and what it has meant to them to get our support. Our luncheon is more than a social event, although our guests come back yearly for that reason, it is our opportunity collectively to help other women to have the advantages we have had.

The theme this year was Mexican with Ida Portland and Judy Weltz assisting Kelly Espy. Sonja Palomaki provided the colorful table decorations along with support from her sister-

in-law Donna and mother-in-law Rachel Palomaki. By the end of the evening, most of the dishes prepared by branch members were wiped clean, a testament to how delicious they were and what great cooks we are fortunate to have among our membership. One particular favorite was Alice Heyer's gazpacho.

Pat and Walt Makos came all the way from their new home in Lewes, Delaware, and treated us by providing their usual pink slush drink—always popular. Pat was tanned and talkative, describing how she keeps busy, and she does keep busy, loving every minute of her new life on the Delaware shores.

Trudi Arnold and Joe Comtois traded stories about recent heart surgeries, both appearing happy and healthy to have such experiences behind them. Leslie Vandivere was there—on crutches—after just having hip replacement surgery. She looked great and chatted up some of her plans as branch president for the coming year. Nothing seems to faze Leslie, she just takes life as it comes and continues to do her usual best. We are fortunate to have her as president. Thank you, Leslie! Dottie Joslin talked about her impending trip to Australia, which will include a special hobby of hers and Jim's: birding; and Kay and Chuck Corbett are planning a cruise out of London about the same time as the Olympics. What exciting lives our members lead!

Thank you Olga and Bob, once again. It's always such fun to gather together. Perhaps this is because we all truly like each other. How fortunate one is to be a member of AAUW's Fairfax City Branch.

## Is Your E-mail Address Correct?

By Patsy Quick, AAUW of VA

Are you receiving the e-mails from AAUW of Virginia and AAUW national that you should be receiving? Over 150 e-mail addresses were removed from Virginia's Mail Chimp address-list because they bounced. The reasons for bounces varied, but many bounced because of a typo in the address or because they simply were

wrong. These addresses were obtained from AAUW Member Services Database (MSD).

These bounces affected members receiving AAUW of Virginia Vision and voting and elections ballots. We hope to prevent that in the future.

Please check to see if your e-mail address is correct at AAUW! It may have been entered incorrectly or you may have changed your e-mail address and neglected to notify AAUW national. Please, just check and correct, if necessary!

How to check the AAUW Member Services Database (MSD):

1. Login at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org). (If you do not have your member id number click where it says "Look up." It just takes seconds.)
2. After logging in, click on MSD in the left menu. If you have not already registered a password, do so by clicking on "Register for Password." Follow the directions.
3. Once you have created a password and enter the MSD, click on "My Profile/My Membership Card."
4. If your info is correct, click "cancel" and leave the site.
5. It says "click here" to make changes to your personal information.
6. Make the change, click "next" to confirm, and then submit.
7. Logout on the top left of the page.

You may also ask your branch treasurer to check and correct for you. Or, you may call AAUW at 800/326-2289 or e-mail [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org). If e-mailing, you should include your full name, member id number, branch name, and correct e-mail address.

## Visit the Sewell-Belmont House

By Sandy Lawrence, AAUW of VA Northern District Representative

The Sewall-Belmont House and Museum was the fifth National Woman's Party headquarters and has the most complete collection of suffragist artifacts in the United States. The

museum is located at 144 Constitution Ave NE (near Union Station metro) and is open Wednesday-Sunday 12-5 p.m. For more information, go to [www.sewallbelmont.org](http://www.sewallbelmont.org).



Sandy Lawrence at Sewell-Belmont House

## SAVE THE DATE

The next AAUW Northern District meeting will be October 13 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke, VA. The guest speaker is attorney Susan L. Burke, who is spearheading three lawsuits against the Department of Defense, Former Secretaries of Defense Rumsfeld and Panetta, and the military services to reform how the U.S. military prosecutes rape and sexual assault cases. She is featured in the documentary "The Invisible War," which was voted Sundance Film Festival Fan Favorite. More information will appear in the October *Focus*.

AAUW supports these lawsuits through the Legal Advocacy Fund case-support program.

## Would you marry a truck driver?

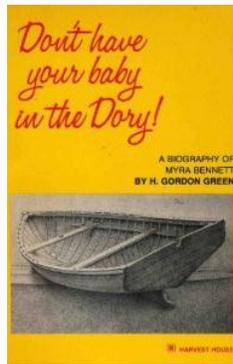
By Suzanne Mahoney

When I was a teenager, the infamous "they" said that a woman should marry a man more intelligent than she. Extremely bright women would be left with the truck drivers of the world. As we all know, "they" were wrong. Marrying a

man more intelligent than oneself is not a requirement for a good marriage and truck drivers are not necessarily unintelligent. The following books, one a biography and one a memoir, are about well-educated women who married less educated men.

*Don't Have Your Baby in the Dory*, by H. Gordon Green, describes the life of Nurse Myra Bennett, an experienced and well-trained English nurse who traveled to Newfoundland ninety years ago. Her task was to deliver babies and tend to the sick living along 200 miles of a remote coast. Travel along the roadless and storm-swept coast was hazardous. Doctors and hospitals were days away. Defying the rules of her nursing contract, Myra quickly married a local man with little schooling, but a lot of skills. Over the following fifty-some years, she braved the elements, improvised procedures, pulled teeth, and even gave up her own bed to tend to the sick. She continued nursing even while raising her family with a husband who was both a helper and a successful businessman.

*Come on Shore and We Will Kill and Eat You All*, by Christina Thompson, tells the story of her marriage to a Maori man with a trade school education. She comes from a well-educated Massachusetts upper-middle-class family. His family is New Zealand poor. In spite of different approaches to life and work they raise a family while living in Australia, Hawaii, and Massachusetts. Their story begins around 1990. Throughout the book, Christina weaves in history of New Zealand and thoughts on exchanges between colonizers and the colonized.



I picked up *Don't Have Your Baby in the Dory* while on business in St. John's, Newfoundland. It gives one a feel for the hardiness of Newfoundlanders living in a tough climate. And I came to really admire Myra for her courage and perseverance. I would have liked to have read more about how Myra's nursing changed over the decades as well as additional insights into raising a family under such conditions.

*Come on Shore and We Will Kill and Eat You All* is surprisingly engaging. I picked it up to learn more about New Zealand. But I found myself thinking about how cultural differences affect our relationships with others.

## McLean Branch Book Sale

By Sandy Lawrence

The McLean Branch of the American Association of University Women will hold its 43rd annual Used Book Sale on September 14 through 16 at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean, VA.

Hours are as follows:

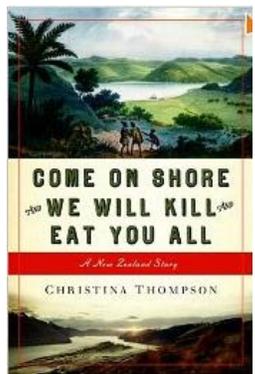
- Friday, September 14, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Saturday, September 15, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturday, September 16, 12 noon to 4 p.m.

All proceeds will go to scholarships and fellowships for women. Questions? 703/527-42306; [www.mcleanaauw.com](http://www.mcleanaauw.com)

## My Summer Vacation

By Kay Corbett

When the temperature reached 100 plus degrees in July, Chuck and I scrolled the travel sites to find a cruise out of London (65 degrees.) In August, we left South Hampton on the Queen Elizabeth, affectionately referred to simply as the QE. We cruised for 11 days around the British Isles. Our ports of call included Edinburgh, Inver Gordon, Kirkwall and the Orkney Islands, Greenock, Liverpool, Dublin, Cobh, and Guernsey Island. Our excursions included Edinburgh, Loch Ness into the Scottish Highlands (very disappointed not to see the Loch Ness Monster), and Cork Countryside and



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Kinsale in the South of Ireland. In Edinburgh the Tattoo Festival and fringe festivals attract thousands of people during August. In Liverpool the port area housed a beautifully modern art museum, a Beatles' Museum, the original Cunard building, and a touristy shopping area. In Dublin we took a city tour before stopping to enjoy a mandatory fish and chips meal, washed down by a large Guinness. I was also taken with the friendly island of Guernsey, especially since I had read the book, *The Guernsey Literary and*



#### *Potato Peel Pie Society.*

The QE itself, an imposing sailing vessel, deserves description. It was launched in 2010 and has beautiful artwork, rich cream and chocolate Italian marble, polished wood, glittering chandeliers and gorgeous Art Deco touches throughout. Old class divisions remain but are more subtle today. The Queen's Grill Suites range in price from \$27,499 down to \$9,999 per person and these passengers have exclusive dining on the 10th deck. I personally cannot describe those facilities. The other category of passengers dined in the Britannia Restaurant which offered five appetizers, two salads, soups, six entrees and scrumptious desserts each evening. We also enjoyed the Golden Lion Pub, which served the ever popular fish and chips.

At 3:00 p.m. formal tea was served in the beautiful blue and gold Queen's Room with waiters decked out in white gloves and tails. The famed 6,000 volume library with its dark wood panels has a quirky spiral staircase linking two

levels. Chuck reported that the men's sauna provided floor to ceiling windows overlooking the sea. The Royal Theatre productions were amazing and for \$50 one could reserve a box with a Champagne cocktail and petit fours. For six evenings, the required dress was formal or semi-formal wear, and during each evening one could hear a harp, classical pianist, or string ensemble throughout the public areas. Ballroom dancing was a major attraction each evening in the Queen's Room.

In spite of the pampering and elegance, we were very happy to return to the United States, our fellow Americans, and home.

### **Calendar**

#### **Branch Pot Luck**

Saturday, Sept. 22, 12 noon  
Home of Kay Corbett

#### **Branch Board Meeting**

Wednesday, Oct. 3, 7:00 p.m.  
Home of Dianne Blais

#### **Northern VA District Meeting**

Saturday, Oct. 13, 10 a.m.  
Burke Centre Library

#### **Book & Author Brunch**

Saturday, November 3, 11 a.m.  
Country Club of Fairfax

## Interest Groups

### Bridge

The bridge group will continue to meet on a regular basis. Anyone interested in more information should contact Charlene.

### Night Owls Book Discussion Group

Tuesday, September 11 at 6:30 p.m.  
Home of Judy Weltz

There will be a light supper followed by our discussion of *Caleb's Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks, led by Barbara Spiller. Please let Judy know if you plan to attend.

### Salon Discussion Group

Friday, September 7 from 12 to 2:00 p.m.  
Home of Kathleen Henry

Welcome to another year of Salon! As usual, the first meeting will be about organizing the coming year, so bring your ideas—and your

calendars—and with any luck, we will have hostesses and presenters set for our seven remaining meetings. Presenters may finalize their topics closer to their date if they wish.

Time permitting, Kathleen will discuss one of the two proposed Virginia constitutional amendments.

Bring your own lunch and Kathleen will provide beverages and dessert. Please let her know if you plan to attend.

### Afternoon Literature

Wednesday, September 19 at 1 p.m.  
Home of Prativa Prasad

We will discuss Alice Walker's *The Color Purple*. We also need to line up future hostesses and book titles. Please let Prativa know that you will attend.

### Musical Notes

Due to many members of our group being away or unable to attend, we will not meet in September. Our first session will be in October. Olga Burns, Chair.



The Fairfax City Branch of AAUW presents

# Book & Author Luncheon



Saturday, November 3, 2012, 11 am to 2 pm

**Country Club of Fairfax**  
5110 Ox Road, Fairfax, VA  
703-273-3100

**\$40 per person**  
**(includes luncheon)**

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*Five different genres and five great reads: something for everyone!*

-  **Carole Bellacera, *Lily of the Springs***. In this romance novel a pregnant Lily marries her adolescent sweetheart in the '50s and grows up while raising her own family.
-  **Alan Cheuse, *Song of Slaves in the Desert***. The horrors of slavery become apparent to a man visiting his uncle's South Carolina plantation while a parallel tale of slave traffic from Timbuktu unfolds.
-  **Del Quentin Wilber, *Rawhide Down***. This book presents the gripping details surrounding the attempted assassination of President Ronald Reagan in 1981.
-  **Suzi Weinert, *Garage Sale Stalker***. Set in McLean, this page-turner features a weekend bargain hunter who stumbles into a perilous situation.
-  **Barbara Esstman, *The Other Anna: A Novel***. Anna comes of age in early 20th century Iowa, assisted by a caring Scottish housekeeper whose daughter's pregnancy has unexpected consequences.

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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](mailto:suzanne070946@mac.com) • Checks should be payable to AAUW Fairfax City Branch.

**Reservations must be made by October 31, 2012, and are payable in advance.**

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

**Guests with special dietary requirements must make their requests when making reservations.**

**AAUW—FAIRFAX CITY BRANCH  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Membership is open to holders of an associate's or equivalent, bachelor's, or higher degree from a qualified institution.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree: \_\_\_\_\_ College: \_\_\_\_\_ Field: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree: \_\_\_\_\_ College: \_\_\_\_\_ Field: \_\_\_\_\_

This information will be published in our directory and newsletter, unless you indicate items to omit.

DUES: \$82 (\$49 national, \$15 state, \$18 branch) for membership through June 30, 2013.

Note: \$46 of the national dues is tax deductible.

Make check payable to AAUW—Fairfax City Branch.

Send this form and your check to the treasurer:

Jan Humphrey  
3604 Gawaine Ct.  
Annandale, VA 22003

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