
UPDATES

Volume 63

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Issue 2

President's Message

Nancy Miller, Co-President



Fellow members, it is lovely to “see” you again after a long, hot summer. I hope that you enjoyed our in-person meeting with Elizabeth Griffin, discussing her newest book *Formidable*. It is a powerful book and a great read. Our first meeting of the fall was well attended, with lively discussions. Special thanks go to our Program Co-Vice Presidents, Irene McGhee and Ann Sauberman, who organized the program, as well as the committee who assisted with set-up and take-down.

In the vein of female equity, you may have seen a full-page ad in *The Washington Post* on Friday, August 25, addressed to “Women of the United States”. It was signed by the League of Women Voters officers, as well as numerous other Women’s Groups. It emphasized how many women’s rights have been eroded since the 19th Amendment was certified in 1920. Both *Formidable* and the newspaper ad strongly emphasize just how much farther we must go to achieve equity for women. Now is not the time to get discouraged but to forge forward, united!

President's Message from Nancy Miller continues on page 2.

AAUW National Website: <https://www.aauw.org/>

AAUW-VA Website: <https://aauw-va.aauw.net/>

Springfield-Annandale Website: <https://sprann-va.aauw.net/>

Like us on Facebook. Search *Springfield-Annandale AAUW*.

AAUW Mission Statement

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. Vision: Equity for all. Values: Non-partisan. Fact based.

AAUW Diversity Statement

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or socio-economic status.

President's Message *continued from page 1*

Our branch is participating in the Get Out the Vote postcard campaign for the upcoming election cycle. Our non-partisan postcards go out to registered voters in Virginia who might not vote except in a presidential election, encouraging them to participate this November. Voting starts September 23, so it's time to make your plan to vote: how? (poll/remote/absentee), when? (early!), request a mail-in ballot? need a ride to the poll? Contact your local voter registrar at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/voter-registration> if you have questions. It is part of our civic responsibility to vote.

Remember to Save the Date for a virtual AAUW Northern District Meeting on October 22, at 10:00 A.M. The speaker will be our new AAUW Chief Executive Officer, Gloria Blackwell. It promises to be an interesting meeting. At its conclusion, we will break into groups to hear updates from our neighboring branches. Mark your calendar now so you won't forget to join us! **Be sure to register for this meeting by October 19 via the link on page 3.**

Wishing you a lovely fall!

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Judy Baldwin, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Representative

AAUW is a strong proponent of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). Founded when women received little support in furthering their educations and had to fight against misinformation about the effect of higher education on their reproductive systems, the organization continues to fight against the gender pay gap, challenges to Title IX, and barriers and biases in outdated workplace models and more.

Each branch is asked to have a DEI Chair, a job I got because I was already chairing the Student Inclusion Awards committee. I find it very interesting and instructive. Besides presenting programming on DEI topics, we monitor our branch practices to understand just how inclusive we are - and how we may not be. Monthly zoom meetings help us as DEI chairs to share our practices and our problems. Sixty-four of us got together with Melissa LaDuke, AAUW's DEI Chair, and Cindy Shanahan, liaison between the national committee and the branches. We know Cindy from all her work with Virginia AAUW. We talked about the advantages and benefits of a diverse, equitable, and inclusive culture in our own branches. And there was great enthusiasm for our branch's Student Inclusion Award. More about DEI next month.

September Program Review

Irene McGhee, Anne Sauberman, Co-Vice Presidents for Programs

On September 17, the Springfield-Annandale Branch partnered with Pohick Regional Library to host a community event, featuring Elisabeth Griffith, author of *Formidable, American Women and the Fight for Equality 1920-2020*. This historical outlook covers struggles, successes, obstacles, and failures on the road to equality of the last 100 years; since the Nineteenth Amendment was passed granting women the constitutional right to vote. The story involves primarily black and white women and includes contributions by minorities. *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* solidly endorsed this book and Elisabeth Griffith did not disappoint in her presentation. Books were available for sale and signing after the event (the book is also available in the Fairfax County Public Library system). A future discussion of the book is being planned.



Dr. Elisabeth Griffith

October Program – Northern District Program – Virtual Meeting

Irene McGhee, Anne Sauberman, Co-Vice Presidents for Programs

The October Program Meeting will be held virtually on **October 22**, from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Gloria Blackwell, AAUW’s Chief Executive Officer, is scheduled to be the featured speaker. This program via Zoom will provide Virginia AAUW members with a unique chance to meet our new CEO and find out about the operations and goals of our organization.

Ms. Blackwell’s presentation will be followed by a short presentation, and then each of the districts will hold their own district meeting in a Zoom breakout room. This is an excellent opportunity to hear what our sister branches are planning for this year. See the flyer at the end of this newsletter.



Dr. Gloria Blackwell

Click here to register for this meeting by **October 19**:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAod-uprTwrHdbJ0owNVU-6q8jF37zHtJBr>

November Meeting with VA Supreme Court Justice Thomas Mann – Live

Irene McGhee, Anne Sauberman, Co-Vice Presidents for Programs

In recent years, members of AAUW have realized how important the United States Supreme Court is to our rights and privileges. To understand the court system more fully, we cannot just concentrate on the United States Supreme Court, but must also learn about the history of Virginia’s appellate courts and the judges and justices who have served.



Justice Thomas P. Mann

On **November 19**, 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. at Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Rd., Burke, Justice Thomas P. Mann will discuss the importance of the Virginia Supreme Court and some of the cases that have helped shape the commonwealth and the nation. He will also discuss the procedures of the court and how cases are appealed to the United States Supreme Court.

Thomas P. Mann received his J.D. from the American University, Washington College of law (1990). He served as a judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, Fairfax (2006-2016) and Judge of the 19th Judicial Circuit (2016-2022). In June, Thomas Mann was elected by the General Assembly to serve on the Virginia Supreme Court for a twelve-year term beginning August 1, 2022. Join us for this very important meeting. Invite your friends and bring your questions.

Upcoming Programs include a live **Holiday Party in December** and a discussion of the **history of minorities in Fairfax County in January** via Zoom

Membership Update

Deborah Dodd, Debbie Gilligan, Membership Co-Vice-Presidents

We are pleased to announce the Springfield-Annadale Branch of AAUW currently has 57 members. Our latest member is Agnes Hite. Welcome, Agnes!

White House Ornaments 2022 are Here

Anne Sauberman

Thanks to many of our members, we have already sold our first shipment of White House Ornaments, but just have ordered more. They are very attractive and make wonderful gifts. This year, the official White House Ornament represents the tradition of displaying a gingerbread house each Christmas in the State Dining Room. This tradition started with First Lady Pat Nixon. This beautiful ornament is decorated with striped candles and candy canes.



The gift box includes a historical pamphlet and a recipe for Pat Nixon's gingerbread. And as you read the recipe, you can smell gingerbread and get into the holiday spirit.

Each year we sell the ornaments to earn money for the National AAUW Funds. They are selling for \$24. Contact me so that you can give these wonderful ornaments to your friends and family before we run out again. They are very popular this year.

Spring Fling is
being planned for
the first week of
May 2023



Springfield-Annandale AAUW
members mailed

85 Letters Against Isolation
in September!

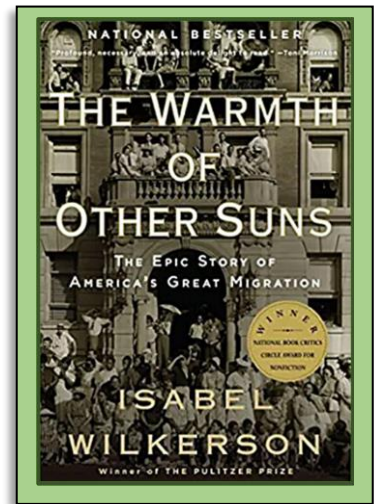
Evening Book Group – Virtual

The Evening Book Group will meet via Zoom for the next meeting on Thursday, **October 6**, 7:00 P.M. The topic book is *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson and will be reviewed by Jane Censer.

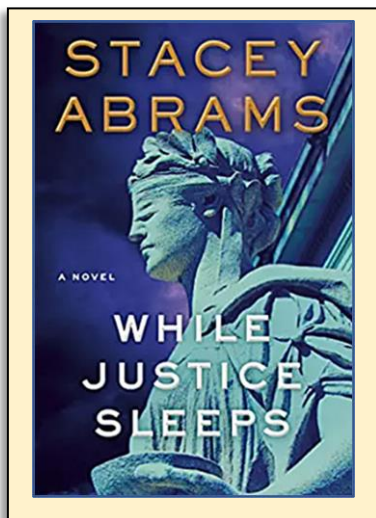
From 1915 to 1970, this exodus of almost six million people changed the face of America. Wilkerson compares this epic migration to the migrations of other peoples in history. She interviewed more than a thousand people, and gained access to new data and official records, to write this definitive and vividly dramatic account of how these American journeys unfolded, altering our cities, our country, and ourselves.

November 3, the Evening Book Group will discuss *The Maid*, by Nita Prose. Ann Sauberman is the scheduled reviewer.

Contact Debbie Gilligan for more information. The complete list of the reading selections and reviewers for each month are in the Directory.



Morning Book Group – Live



On Thursday, **October 13**, 10:00 A.M., the Morning Book Group will meet at Terry Graham's house to discuss *While Justice Sleeps* by Stacey Abrams. Irene McGhee is the scheduled reviewer.

Avery Keene, a brilliant young law clerk for the legendary Justice Howard Wynn, is doing her best to hold her life together—excelling in an arduous job with the court while also dealing with a troubled family. When the shocking news breaks that Justice Wynn—the cantankerous swing vote on many current high-profile cases—has slipped into a coma, Avery's life turns upside down.

The Directory shows different information regarding hosting. Also, next month, the Hostess has changed to Mary Helmantoler. Update your Directory with these changes.

November 10, the Morning Book Group will discuss *Hamnet: A Novel of the Plague* by Maggie O'Farrell. Ginny Wells is the scheduled reviewer; Mary Helmantoler will host.

Contact Jo Domingues for more information. The complete list of the reading selections and arrangements for each month are in the Directory.

Movies at Midweek

Ginny Wells, Movie Maven

Movies at Midweek will meet on Wednesday, **October 19**, at the Cinema Arts Theatre, 9650 Main St., Fairfax, followed by lunch at First Watch Restaurant across the parking lot. As has been true in the past, I'll email our branch the Friday before with the chosen film title. RSVP your intentions (just movie or movie plus lunch) for a headcount. See you at the movies!

Dates to Remember

October 6, 7:00 P.M.	Evening Book Group – Virtual	page 5
October 13, 10:00 A.M.	Morning Book Group – Live	page 5
October 19	Last day to register for October 22 Meeting	page 3
October 19	Movies at Midweek	page 5
October 22, 10:00 A.M.	Northern District Program Meeting – Virtual	page 3
October 24, Noon	November UPDATES submissions due to Judy Titterton, Editor	
November 19	November Program – Live	page 3

October is National Apple Month!

You're awesome, right to the core!

Judy Titterton, UPDATES Newsletter Editor

AAUW-VA
All-District Meeting
Saturday, October 22, 2022
10:00 AM – Noon



Join your AAUW sisters from around the state for an informative and enjoyable program to meet our

AAUW Chief Executive Officer, Gloria Blackwell.

This will be a Zoom event so no need to travel.

Gloria's presentation will be followed by some short presentations, and then each of the districts will hold their own district meeting in a Zoom breakout room. **Registration required by October 19, 2022.** <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAod-uprTwrHdbJ0owNVU-6q8jF37zHtJBr>

Questions?? Contact: aauwofvb@cox.net