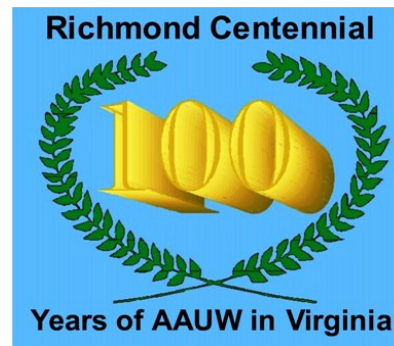


American Association of University Women  
Bon Air Byline | April 2009

## AAUW of Virginia State Convention 2009

April 24 and 25



Come help the Richmond branch celebrate  
years of AAUW in Virginia

Click here for details and registration information:

<http://www.aauwofva.org/Convention09/Convention09.htm>

### Begging for Freebies!!!

**Why?** Needed for the gift bags given to attendees at the State AAUW convention are small items (pens, pads, individual snacks, key fobs, bookmarks and more)

**How Many?** 50 or more

**Who?** You or your family/friends who have access to give-away items (Purchased items are welcome too)

**When?** Bring your items on Monday, April 13 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Where?** Bon Air Library meeting room, 9103 Rattlesnake Road (or to Pat Mallahan's home at 9941 Maplestead Lane between now and April 13 - phone 560-4026)

The budget for the gift bags is a very slim \$3 per bag. Thanks for your participation.

## Local Scholarship Committee

I am seeking volunteers to help in setting up guidelines for offering local scholarships. As our local community so enthusiastically supports our profitable wine tasting fundraiser, we will follow the practice of branches across the country in providing benefiting worthy recipients in their local communities.

Decisions need to be made on how to fund the scholarships, where to give them, who will judge the applications, and on. Once the guidelines are set up, except for funding, the program will run itself.

*Kathy Kelley*  
*EF Chair*

## February District Meeting

Three Bon Air members and one Richmond member went to our February District meeting in Newport News at our us. After socializing and enjoying another delicious lunch, we had a business meeting where we heard from three speakers. Agatha from Zimbabwe who has an AAUW Fellowship and is studying for her Doctorate at ODU. She thanked us all about her research involving Parkinson's disease. We look forward to hearing from her again.

Next we heard from Mary Kate Black, State Membership Vice President who gave helpful hints about membership and questions from the branch members.

Finally Kate Farrar, AAUW Leadership & Training Institute Director, talked to us about the National Conference for College Student Leaders and encouraged us to get colleges to join AAUW. She was especially pleased to talk with the Student S

At our business meeting we voted to change the name from Hampton Roads District to the Southeast District to be in line with the districts. Also we decided to do a basket for the LAF drawing at convention. The theme will be tourism.

*Kathy Kelley*  
*EF Chair*

## Bon Air Branch Planning Meeting

March 10, 2009

**Present at meeting:** Gina Turner, Pat Mallahan, Jane Newell, Kathy Kelley, Carol Mazur, DeAnn Marsha Carter and Maggie King

### **Election:**

Nominations Committee's slate of candidates for offices was presented. There were no nominations and the slate was elected by acclamation. There is no membership VP, nor a membership committee. Marsha Carter, chairman of the nominations committee will pursue members for the committee.

See the attached ballot.

**Old Business:**

A program survey was distributed to members and completed. Last month the planning committee result from last year's survey: that the membership wanted to support a community organization. The survey resulted in the YWCA being identified as the organization. The program committee and VP recommend how we might offer support.

Kathy Kelley brought before the membership the idea of creating a local scholarship for adult women. She reminded the group that there was agreement to do this last year. Marsha Carter made a motion that a study/action committee be formed, with Kathy Kelley as chairman, to plan a local scholarship. The committee will produce guidelines for application, selection and will make a proposal to the Branch on how to be funded. Kathy will plan a meeting this spring and will communicate it to the membership.

**New Business:**

Maggie King and Deann Hubicsak were elected to Delegates to the AAUW Division Convention for 2008-09.

**Program:**

Kathy Kelley, EF chair, presented a program about AAUW's Education Foundation. She led membership activity where each person shared an overview of 1 or 2 awards from information that Kathy gave them. From these reports, the audience clearly saw the breadth of AAUW's impact. Kathy had a number of handouts. Several members suggested bringing these with her to the District Meeting or saving them for the next meeting. Tasting or putting some out at the libraries in the area.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm

*Marsha King Carter*

## Membership Matters

At our March branch meeting, Kathy Kelley, our Educational Foundation Chair, helped us attach faces to the names of some of the recipients of our EF fundraising efforts. Doing so reminded us of one of the greatest satisfactions of belonging to AAUW: the fact that we help our grant winners to pioneer advances in a wide range of women-centric endeavors.

Kathy supplied cases in point. Here are just two: Adrienne Asch won an American Fellowship to conduct postdoctoral research in bioethics at Wellesley College; Adrienne examined the psychosocial, ethical and policy issues raised by new reproductive technologies. Brandi M. Allen (M. Ed., University of Houston) won a Career Development Grant which aims to replace teacher attrition and burnout with paths to teacher retention and positive morale.

Want to learn more? The Online Directory of Fellowship and Grant Recipients on the AAUW website highlights the 250

## Treasurer's Report

**Budget for 2008-09:**

Disbursements:

Balance:

**Operations account balance:****Fundraising account balance:**

*Susana Hernandez-Kurtulus*  
*Treasurer*

## Calendar

**April 4**  
Gourmet, 7 PM

recipients of the \$4 million in funding awarded through the Foundation's five fellowship and grant programs. Information about these outstanding women achievers is found at

<http://www.aauw.org>.

Pat Mallahan  
V.P. Membership

#### April 16

Book Group, Salt: A World History, 7:30 PM

#### April 24, 25

AAUW of VA State Convention,  
Doubletree Hotel, downtown Richmond

#### May 12

Annual Banquet, Positive Vibe Restaurant

## Book Group

Our April meeting will be held at 7:30 Thursday, April 16, at the home of Susana Hernandez-Kurtulus. Please contact [iskurtulus@verizon.net](mailto:iskurtulus@verizon.net) or phone 323-1916 to let her know you will attend.

In April, we will move on to a seemingly unusual subject, reading and discussing ***Salt: A World History*** by Mark Kurlansky, which reveals that the story of salt is in many ways the story of civilization. The book encompasses fields as disparate as engineering, religion, and food, all of which Kurlansky explores. Many endeavors have inspired more ingenuity than salt making – from the natural gas furnaces of ancient drilling techniques that led to the age of petroleum. Salt revenues have funded public works (including the Canal) and even cities (including Syracuse, New York). Salt's ability to preserve and sustain life has made it a metaphorical symbol in all religions. Just as significantly, salt has shaped the history of foods like sauerkraut, olives, and more; Kurlansky, an award-winning food writer, conveys how they have influenced civilization and eating habits the world over.

Homer called salt a divine substance. Plato described it as especially dear to the gods. Today we take salt for granted – a common, inexpensive substance that seasons food or clears ice from roads, a word used in many expressions (like "salt of the earth, and "take it with a grain of salt") without appreciating their deep history. However, as Kurlansky brilliantly relates, ***salt – the only rock we eat – has shaped civilization from its very beginning***. Until about 100 years ago – when modern chemistry and geology revealed how salt was a much sought-after commodity. And no wonder, for without it humans and animals could not survive. Salt has often been considered so valuable that it served as currency. Demand for salt established trade routes across unknown oceans and the remotest of deserts; in fact, the city of Jericho was founded 10,000 years ago as a salt trading center. Because of its worth, salt has provoked and financed some of the most important events in history, including the American Revolution and the Civil War. Salt taxes have been a strategic element in others, including the American Revolution and the Civil War. Salt taxes have been empires across Europe and Asia and also inspired revolution (Gandhi's salt march in 1930 began the end of British rule in India). Indeed, salt has been central to the age-old debate about the rights of government to control economies.

In May, we return to fiction with ***The Grandmothers – Four Short Novels***, by Doris Lessing, Nobel Prize in Literature. *The Grandmothers* (2003) is her most recent fiction publication. As the title of this collection includes four novellas with a range of topics and styles, reflective of Ms. Lessing's wide range of many years of writing. In June, we will join groups all around Virginia reading a classic of 20th Century American fiction, ***Their Eyes Were Watching God***, by Zora Neale Hurston, an influential writer

of the Harlem Renaissance period. The novel was originally published in 1937, then after a few years overlooked and almost forgotten until Alice Walker “re-discovered” it and made sure it was republished. The Bon Air AAUW Book Group routinely meets on the third Thursday of each month. All Bon Air members and their guests are invited. Contact DeAnn Hubicsak at [DeAnn.Hubicsak@earthlink.net](mailto:DeAnn.Hubicsak@earthlink.net) or call 233-5352 for Book Group information. For more information on the Bon Air Book Group’s selections, click here: <http://aauwbonairva.org/groups.html>, or go to the Bon Air web site at <http://aauwbonairva.org/>, click on the Interest Groups link on the left column.

*DeAnn Hubicsak*  
*Book Group Coordinator*

### Gourmet

The April Group will meet at the home of Connie and Ray Sorrell April 4, at 7pm. **Ellie Kriegen: Foods You Crave** will supply the recipes.

### You Can Find It On Our Website . . .

Be sure to visit our branch website at <http://aauwbonairva.org>. You will be able to stay current on upcoming Branch events; view current and archived newsletters; find the schedule for the branch book group and the gourmet group; and find links to other AAUW information about AAUW and its public policy issues ... and much, much more.

Comments or suggestions? Contact Jane Newell at [jane.newell@comcast.net](mailto:jane.newell@comcast.net)

*Jane Newell*  
*Webmaster*

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

AAUW Member Helpline 800-821-4364

AAUW Website <http://www.aauw.org>

VA AAUW Website <http://www.aauwofva.org/>

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