

**American Association of University Women
Bon Air Byline | May 2010**

End of Year Branch Celebration

Event: Celebration Luncheon, AAUW Greater Richmond
Time: 12:30 p.m. luncheon meeting
Place: New Members Dining Room
The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
 On the Boulevard in the Heart of Richmond

For nearly a year, we've been looking forward to this event, as our beloved museum yet-enduring venue for the arts, AND as we celebrate a new beginning for AAUW's Richmond. In addition to a fine lunch, the event will include installation of branch. After lunch, we'll have the opportunity to take a museum tour led by our own docent.

Watch your email box for more details from Gina Turner. So far 11 members have if you have not signed up, please contact Gina to let her know you're coming. Husband guests are welcome; just include them in your RSVP to Gina.

Please **RSVP to Virginia Turner by Friday, May 7** to let her know you're coming. Email at gcab1832@verizon.net or call her at 560-4705.

Message from Laura Wimmer

Dear friends and AAUW colleagues,

As my term of four years as co-president for AAUW Virginia comes to an end, I am filled with mixed emotions. Each of you knows what an enormous job it is and how much work, but it is one that fills me with great pride as well. This has been an incredibly challenging time for AAUW—not just with the issues of equity that we work on all the time, but with our internal changes and challenges as well. The one thing constant these days is change and so we move forward ... with renewed vitality for our combined branch here in the Greater Richmond area to continue to add to our combined 126 years of working on issues that impact the lives of women and girls. I thank you all for the time, energy and resources that you put into AAUW and look forward to working with you in the future. Thank you for your support and for the honor of being a named honoree for EF this year.

Happy spring to all—I hope to see you soon!!

Laura Wimmer

President's Message

What a year we've had for AAUW in the Greater Richmond area!. And now we're only days away from the long-anticipated end-of-year luncheon on Saturday, May 15, at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.. As we celebrate accomplishments of the past year and over a century of *breaking down barriers for women and girls*, we'll be looking to the future with installation of officers the coming year. We will also have the opportunity to tour some of the museum with Pat Mallahan, our own resident VMFA docent.

As I've said before, I personally feel very fortunate to be a part of AAUW in Richmond at this historic time. Your 2010-11 officers have already begun planning for another year of interesting programs, fun social gatherings, and opportunities for community service. We will be seeking members to fill several volunteer (non-elected) positions; please consider ways in which you want to contribute in one of these roles. We also always want to hear from you with suggested program topics, speakers, and activities the Branch might become involved in.

Have a great summer!

*DeAnn Lineberry, President
AAUW Greater Richmond*

Calendar

May 1
Gourmet, *Pat Conroy*, 7 pm

May 15
Celebration luncheon at Virginia

New Website Address for our New Branch!

As we have been completing the activities to join the Bon Air Area Branch and the Richmond Branch, our website has been taking on a new look. Now it has a new name! Reach the website of the new AAUW Greater Richmond Branch at aauwrichmond.org.

Museum of Fine Arts

May 20

*The Bookmaker's Daughter:
A Memory Unbound, 7:30 pm*

June 14

Outgoing and Incoming Branch
Boards meet, Willow Oaks
Apartments Clubhouse

Our old name (aauwbonairva.org) will continue to function for quite a while and point to the same site. What should you do? Use the new name to navigate to the site and then bookmark or save to Favorites. That way you will easily be able to find your way back AAUWRichmond.org!

Comments or suggestions? Contact Jane Newell at jane.newell@comcast.net

Jane Newell, Webmaster

Gourmet

On May 1, Kathy and Stephen Kelley will host, creating a memorable menu using the well-received recipes of Pat Conroy. For information, call Kathy at 330-5588.

Book Group

The next Book Group meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 20, 7:30 p.m., at DeAnn Lineberry's home. Please let DeAnn know you're coming by email to deann.lineberry@yahoo.com or phone 233-5352.

This month's book is ***The Bookmaker's Daughter: A Memory Unbound***, by Shirley Abbott (1991).

This deeply felt memoir is a journey through family history, feminist insight, and Southern mythology, as a daughter reflects on the complicated and volatile love she and her father shared. Shirley Jean Abbott grew up in Hot Springs, Arkansas, in the 1940s and 50s, the beloved daughter of Alfred Bemont Abbott, affectionately known as "Hat." Hat wasn't a bookmaker in the obvious sense, even though he allowed Shirley's mother to believe as much while they were dating. Rather, his craft was gambling, and his business was horse racing. Despite the corruption – which put food on the table and rabbit coats in the closet – Abbott remembers the kind and attentive father who spent nights reading to her. He alone is responsible for opening the door to a world of language and literature for her. And she ran with it. Against her father's wishes, after graduation she headed for New York City. In the end, the girl he had nurtured into an independent and intelligent young woman had outgrown the small town where she grew up.

Summer Reading:

- **June 17 – *Olive Kitteridge***, by Elizabeth Strout, *Winner of 2009 Pulitzer Prize*. Tiny Crosby, Maine, may seem like nowhere, but it's in essence the whole world, and the lives that are lived there are filled with all of the grand human drama – desire, despair, jealousy, hope, and love. Retired schoolteacher Olive Kitteridge deplores the changes in her little town and in the world at large, but she doesn't always recognize the changes in those around her. As the townspeople grapple with their problems, mild and dire, Olive is brought to a deeper understanding of herself and her life – sometimes painfully, but always with ruthless honesty. ***Olive Kitteridge*** offers profound insights into the human condition – its conflicts, its tragedies and joys, and the endurance it requires. *Hostess* – Gina Turner.
- **July 15 – *Alice in Wonderland***, by Lewis Carroll (1865). Interest in new film related to *Alice in Wonderland* prompted us to choose this classic fantasy for light summer reading. We're looking forward to revisiting as adults a story we know from childhood. *Hostess*: Cheryl Kapec.
- **August 19 – Summer Social** – time for fun!

Book Group meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. All Branch members and their guests are welcome. Contact DeAnn Lineberry for more information: deann.lineberry@yahoo.com or phone 233-5352.

*DeAnn Lineberry
Book Group Chair*

Special Announcement

Your faithful newsletter editor is moving on . . . anyone up to the challenge of keeping membership abreast of branch activities? If so, please contact **DeAnn Lineberry**, Greater Richmond branch president, at deann.lineberry@yahoo.com or phone 233-5352.

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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