

# Connection



## Holiday Luncheon

**Speaker: Denise Cannon, Artemis House Community Coordinator**

**Saturday, December 10, 2011  
12:00 Noon**

**Marco Polo Restaurant  
245 Maple Avenue, West  
Vienna**

**Reservation Deadline:  
December 1, 2011**

### **To Make Your Lunch Reservation**

Call or email Suzanne R. to identify your choice of entrée. Mail your \$28/\$24 check payable to Suzanne. Note your entrée choice on the check.

### **Menu Choices (Choose 1)**

- (A) Breast of Chicken Piccata with White Wine and Lemon Sauce - \$28.00
- (B) Filet of Sole Topped with Crabmeat - \$28.00
- (C) Vegetarian Platter to order: Steamed Broccoli, Asparagus, and Artichokes; Broiled Tomato; and Boiled Potato - \$24.00

The lunch includes a house salad with choice of vinaigrette or Caesar dressing, vegetable, potato, coffee or tea, and a dessert of rum cake. Soft drinks and wine are extra. (Please

advise if requesting a gluten-free meal or other dietary preference.) Cost includes the tip and taxes.

### **Donations to Artemis House**

We will be accepting donations of gift cards, cash donations, and personal care items for Artemis House at the December holiday luncheon. (See article about Artemis House on page 3.) Artemis House suggests gift cards for long distance calling, grocery and pharmacy stores, department stores, book stores, shoe stores, gasoline, movie theaters, restaurants, automobile-related items, and hair salons. The personal care items should be regular-size adult and children's products for body wash, liquid hand soap, bar soap, body lotion, shampoo, hair conditioner and other hair products, toothbrush and toothpaste.

Checks should be made payable to "Northwest Center Advisory Board" and write in the memo: "Donation Artemis House."

Either bring your Artemis House donation to the luncheon or, if a gift card or check, include it with your luncheon reservation check. If you cannot

attend the luncheon, you may mail your gift card or check donation by December 5th to Suzanne R. or send your gift directly to: Artemis House, c/o NWC, 1850 Cameron Glen Dr., Suite 600, Reston, VA 20190.

### **Tax Deduction**

Artemis House is a 501(c)(3) charity and, therefore, any donations are tax-deductible. If you give your donation to Suzanne R. at the luncheon or by mail, she will email you a confirmation of your Artemis House donation for your tax records. If your email address is not in the Branch Directory, please provide it with your donation.

*Suzanne R.  
Artemis House Chair*

## **Branch Potluck Luncheon**

**Saturday, January 7, 2012  
12:00 Noon**

**Home of Suzanne R.**

Welcome the new year by joining us for a potluck luncheon. Socializing will

begin at noon. Please bring a dish to share—salad, main course, or dessert.

## February Fiesta

**Tuesday, February 7, 2012  
7:00 PM**

**Tequila Grande  
Corner of 123 and Nutley Street  
Vienna**

Let's go south of the border and yet stay right in our very own neighborhood for a fun evening with Mexican food (including vegetarian), margaritas, and, most importantly, chatting with our fellow branch members. It's a great way to blast away the winter blahs. Bring along your family and friends to share the fun.

### Response Deadline:

January 31, 2012  
Respond to: Yuki H.

## From the Leadership Team

Many thanks to Kate M. and Nadine J. for hosting a lovely New Member Tea at Kate's home on November 13th. After the introduction of new members (see photo, at right), representatives of the various interest groups explained a little about the activities of the branch. We are very happy to welcome all our new members and look forward to getting to know them.

Please put these two activities on your calendar: (1) Suzanne R. is arranging for our annual holiday luncheon on December 10th. (2) She will also host our January potluck luncheon at her home on January 7th. Both Saturday midday activities are traditions of our branch. Good food and friendship will be the order of the day!

We look forward to some interesting and exciting programs as well as some fun socials in 2012.

Happy Holidays to all!

*Marie O., Gail R., and Kristin V.,  
Co-Presidents*



## AAUW 2011-12 Program Schedule

Come join us for some interesting evenings of talking with members and hearing thought provoking presentations. Programs will be held at a local library or a member's home. Other area AAUW branches will join us for some.

**December 10, 2011**      Holiday Luncheon  
Saturday                  Marco Polo Restaurant  
12:00 Noon                Denise Cannon, Speaker

**January 7, 2012**              Potluck Luncheon  
Saturday                    Home of Suzanne R.  
12:00 Noon

**February 7, 2012**          Fiesta  
Tuesday                    Tequila Grande  
7:00 PM                    123 and Nutley Street

**March 2012**                  Branch Program  
TBA

**April 2012**                  Branch Program  
TBA

**May 2012**                    Potluck Dinner  
Member's Home

### Other AAUW Events

**April 20-22, 2012**        AAUW of Virginia  
State Convention  
Newport News, VA

*Watch the newsletter for information on future programs.*



**New Members (left to right):** Bottom Row: Corinne M., Connie D., Julie M., Lorri P.; Middle Row: Marilyn P., Susan H.; Back Row: Rosanne W., Karin R.; Missing from picture, but in attendance at the tea: Lisa W.

## Literature Groups

Please be considerate of your hostess; give her a call or email and let her know whether you're coming or not. Thanks.



### Day Literature

*Kim*

Date: December 20, 2011

Time: 9:30 AM

Place: Home of Bert W.

Laurie C. will lead our discussion of a tale of adventure by 1907 Nobel Prize winning author Rudyard Kipling.

*Half of a Yellow Sun*

Date: January 17, 2012

Time: 9:30

Place: Home of Laurie C.

Kate M. will lead our discussion of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's tremendously evocative novel of the promise, hope, and disappointment of the Biafran war.

*Mary C.*

*Day Literature Chair*

### Evening Literature

*Let the Great World Spin*

Date: December 7, 2011

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Home of Kristin V.

In Colum McCann's novel, based on a real event in August 1974 in New York City, several people watch a tight-rope walker and discover their lives are interconnected. Susan V. will lead the discussion.

*The Things They Carried*

Date: January 4, 2012

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Home of Marian M.

Tim O'Brien uses 22 stories to tell about the exploits and personalities of American soldiers in a fictional platoon. Marian M. will lead the discussion.

*Aimee M.*

*Evening Literature Chair*

### Non-Fiction Literature

*The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic and Madness*

Date: January 9, 2012

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Home of Sarah J B.

Erik Larson describes the challenges faced by the architect responsible for developing the 1893 Chicago World's Fair and the activities of a mass murderer who chose to pursue his "interests" during the same period of time. This book reads like a novel but is actually non-fiction. Susan V. will lead the discussion.

*1491: New Revelations of the Americas before Columbus*

Date: March 12, 2012

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Home of Susan V.

Author Charles C. Mann radically alters our understanding of the Americas before the arrival of Christopher Columbus. Jean F. will lead the discussion.

*Susan V.*

*Non-Fiction Literature Chair*

### Link to Amazon from:

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

and help our branch support AAUW funds.

## Artemis House Project

The Vienna Area Branch has supported the Fairfax County Women's Shelter for many years through holiday contributions. The shelter was founded in 1977 to provide a safe house for women and their children fleeing domestic violence from their partners. The shelter changed its name to Artemis House and now also provides services to men (who are housed at a different location from the women). Due to women clients' heightened need for safety, special care has been given to keep the women's Artemis House location confidential (even for clinical professionals and police).

Clients of Artemis House receive individual and group counseling from trained therapists, as well as intensive case management by counselors. In

these sessions, clients work towards understanding domestic violence and becoming more empowered to deal with their own situations. Also, clients receive assistance in financial, health care, legal, and housing matters (to name a few). Overall, the main goal at the shelter is to stabilize clients and their children who have experienced severe trauma from family abuse.

Artemis House has expanded the amount of time that each client is given housing from 30 to 45 days and also provides continuing services after a client leaves to assist the client to qualify for housing and education assistance. The services of Artemis House are available only to residents of Fairfax County.

While Artemis House provides women with private living quarters, groceries, and transportation funds, donors can fill in many important gaps that remain. In receiving necessary personal-care products or gift certificates

to local shops, the women and children are comforted in their new environment. Also, certain items may be given to women and children as they leave—a time when resources are usually scarce for a single mom, or a woman trying to start out on her own.

[See "Holiday Luncheon" article on page 1 for information regarding donations to this most worthy organization.]

*Suzanne R.*

*Artemis House Chair*

## Make the Season Jolly and Bright for AAUW Funds!

Here's an easy way to raise money for AAUW Funds and help our branch achieve our fundraising goals to benefit women and girls:

When you shop at Amazon.com, enter by way of the button on the

## Great Decisions Group for 2012

Date: Sunday, January 15, 2012  
Time: 2:00 PM  
Place: Home of Mary Kate B.

Great Decisions, sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association, empowers participants to discuss global issues shaping U.S. foreign policy and the world. The briefing book provides historical background,



current U.S. policy and alternative policy options, informative maps and detailed graphs, suggested readings and resources, as well as opinion ballots for each topic. See [www.fpa.org](http://www.fpa.org) for a list of the 2012 Great Decisions topics.

We meet monthly from January through May and September through November. We are now ordering briefing books on the new topics for next year, and the new session will start in January. The cost for books will be \$22 each if we order 10 or more books at one time. This includes shipping and a pro rata share of the \$40 DVD that we watch at each session. If you would

like to join the group order, please send a check made out to Jean F. to her address, or bring your check to the Dec. 10 holiday luncheon. I will order books the week after the luncheon. Books will be shipped to me in January and delivered at the first meeting, unless you arrange to pick them up sooner.

You are welcome to share a book with another member to reduce the cost; in that case, we would appreciate a \$2 contribution from each of you toward the DVD.

Please contact Mary Kate to let her know whether or not you'll be coming.  
*Jean F.*

Vienna branch website: <http://www.aawwofva.org/branches/vienna.htm>.

The branch earns 4% of the sale, at no cost to you when you shop at Amazon from our link. As soon as the branch reaches a threshold of seven items purchased in the month, the branch earns 6% on all purchases (including the first six.) The earnings are deposited directly into the branch bank account every month, and twice a year our treasurer sends a check to AAUW Funds to benefit fellowships for women, branch action projects, the student leadership conference, and landmark research projects. (If buying books for your Kindle, try to enter through our branch link rather than shopping on your Kindle, if possible.)

Want to keep your Secret Santa purchases secret? Don't worry: The Amazon monthly report to our treasurer contains only the number of items purchased that month, the total amount spent, and the total earned. The names of purchasers and the items purchased are not disclosed.

Bookmark this link or add to your favorites to make it easier the next time you shop. Remember: Enter via the branch website link so that the branch

gets credit, and encourage friends and family members to do the same.

Thus far for 2011, Vienna AAUW has earned \$189, and I bet we can do much better!

*Kristin M.*  
(for the AAUW Fund-Raising Team)

## Achamma C., Long-Time Vienna Branch Member

Branch Day Literature Group member Achamma C. gets around.

On Oct. 30, 2011, the Sunday *Washington Post* Magazine published a short piece Achamma had written in response to the Editor's Query: "Tell us about a time when...there was no turning back." Achamma wrote about leaving her family and sailing to New York with a full scholarship at Barat College in Illinois.

The following Friday, Nov. 4, 2011, Achamma took part in the Writers Read at Barnes & Noble Bookstore. Fairfax County Adult and Continuing Education Programs (FCACEP) sponsored the event in conjunction with Barnes & Noble Booksellers. FCACEP selected 10 writers from those who submitted a 1,000-word

piece on "Turning Point..." Achamma's topic was "The Wealth of Education."

Achamma has also published a book of short stories that she translated from Malayalam. The stories in the book, *Daughters of Kerala*, are about women's life in Kerala, India. This book was one of the selections of the Day Literature Group.

## From the Program Co-Chairs

Thanks to everyone for your generous donations to "Suited for Change" at our November 17, 2011, branch meeting. Fortunately, I had a spare closet that now is stuffed to the gills with all the wonderful clothes and accessories. I hope to get to the DC office for Suited for Change to drop off all the outfits, so that they can be put to good use as soon as possible. I think I speak for everyone when I say that it was a great meeting with a wonderful speaker, Anne Morgan!

I can't make the holiday luncheon due to work commitments, but I hope to see a large crowd at the January potluck luncheon and at the February Fiesta, slated for February 7, 2012. (See Yuki's article on page 2.)

Thanks, and Happy Holidays.

*Marian M.*  
Program Co-Chair

## **AAUW Vienna Area Branch**

### *Co-Presidents*

Marie O., Gail R., and Kristin V.

### *Program Co-VPs*

Marian M. and Yuki H.

### *Membership Co-VPs*

Nadine J. and Kate M.

### *Secretary*

Susan V.

### *Finance Chair/Treasurer*

Sandra W.

### *Cultural Chair*

Sarah J.B.

### *Fundraising Co-Chairs*

Sarah J.B., Kristin M., and

Suzanne R.

### *Historian*

Gail R.

### *Hospitality*

Carolyn S.

### *Newsletter Editor*

Mary N.

### *Newsletter Designer*

Connie D.

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### *Photographer*

Dianne K.

### *Public Information Chair*

Rose T.

### *Public Policy Chair*

Aimee M.

## **Announcements**

### **Newsletter Deadline**

Material for the February 2012 newsletter is due Wednesday, January 18, 2012. Please email articles to Mary N. Thanks.

### **Mission Statement**

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

## **Calendar**

- Dec. 7 Evening Literature Group, 7:30 PM
- Dec. 10 Holiday Luncheon, 12:00 Noon
- Dec. 20 Day Literature Group, 9:30 AM
  
- Jan. 4 Evening Literature Group, 7:30 PM
- Jan. 7 Potluck Luncheon, 12:00 Noon
- Jan. 9 Non-Fiction Literature Group, 7:30 PM
- Jan. 15 Great Decisions Group, 2:00 PM
- Jan. 17 Day Literature Group, 9:30 AM