

American Association of University Women Bon Air Byline | November 2008



Wine Tasting Reminder Friday, November 14, at St Matthias Church

[Click here](#) to view the Wine Tasting flyer.

By now you have received your tickets (if you haven't, let me know,) and some of you have begun selling. It's always great to get those first couple of checks in the mail!! This event is our only money-earner for a core reason for our existence: making funds available for women seeking graduate degrees.

At the District Meeting on October 18th, I sold tickets to several Richmond Branch members. We will look forward to seeing them.

As in the past several years, we will have five wines from Total Wine, to learn about and to taste. Richmond manager Jeff Jenkins will be discussing the wines, assisted by one of his colleagues.

We will be in the St. Matthias Parish hall. It is a nice sized room, and we have learned how to decorate and light it for a party ambience. People bringing food and the sparkling grape juice and apple juice should plan to be there before 6:00, so we will be ready for the partygoers.

And we have the ABC license. So, in the next couple of weeks, keep selling, and continue to plan to come on Friday the 14th. And once again, we will have a very good time, raising money for the Educational Foundation. The more who come, the better the party, and the more we all will enjoy what has to be the best way to raise money we have ever found!

Marcia Phillips

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Election Day

There's no need to remind branch members to vote on November 4! But you may still have questions about the candidates . . . for a list of national, state, and local candidates, along with links to their web sites, [click here](#) to access the **Virginia State Board of Elections Candidates Listing**.

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Report on October District Meeting

Over 20 AAUW members from the Hampton Roads District met at Carini's on Saturday October 18th. The food was excellent, the speaker inspiring and educational and we had plenty of time for socializing. Our speaker, Elizabeth Vandenberg, from the National Girls Collaborative Project gave us some troubling statistics about girls in education especially in the STEM subjects. She also told us what the project, along with AAUW and other organizations, is working on to encourage girls to go into the fields of science, technology, engineering and math.

At the last state board meeting a suggestion was made to change our district name to Southeast. The other districts are Northern, Southwest and Northwest. The decision is up to us so let me know your opinion.

A big thanks goes out to Jane Newell for arranging the speaker and to Gina Turner for making arrangements with the restaurant.

I have the AAUW Congressional Voting Record for the 110th congress. I will give them to our Public Policy Chair, Cheryl Kapec and if you would like one please contact her.

Our next District meeting will be in Hampton in February.

Kathy Kelley

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Memory Walk Update

On Saturday, October 4, the Bon Air AAUW branch participated in the Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk®, held at the Genworth office park.

Walkers and sponsors combined raised \$223,000!!!!

The Bon Air Branch team raised nearly \$1,000 and twelve members walked to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer care, support and research. And, as we identified the need to become more visible in the community, we hope to have raised awareness of our branch!

A big thanks goes out to each of you who donated and/or walked.

Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's

Maggie King

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Calendar

November 2
Gourmet, 5:30 PM

November 4
Election Day

November 14
Annual Wine Tasting Fund Raiser for EF, 6 - 8 PM

November 17
Planning Meeting, Bon Air Library, 7 PM

November 20
Book Group, *The Good Earth*, 7:30 PM

December 7
Gourmet, 5:30 PM

December 9

Festival of Lights at Lewis Ginter Gardens: dinner and tour

April 24, 25
AAUW of VA State Convention,
Doubletree Hotel, downtown
Richmond

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Membership Matters

Join on the Spot ... Save a Lot

Your friends look forward to the fun they have at our annual Wine Tasting...and they have shown some curiosity about what the branch does besides throwing a great party for a good women-centric cause.

This year, if they decide to join the branch during the Wine Tasting ... **they can join for half price!!!** That's \$34.00 for membership through June 30, 2009.

Please tell your friends about this money-saving opportunity before the event.

Your Membership V.P. will staff a table with the necessary information to make sign-up easy and painless. So, they can join on the spot and save a lot.

Pat Mallahan
V.P. Membership

Member Notes

From Marcia Phillips:

Member Spotlight on... Marsha Carter

The Bon Air branch's thirtieth anniversary celebration in 2006 spotlighted Marsha Carter's contributions as founding branch president.

Recently, Marsha shared more details about about the branch's early years. A handful of 20-something Richmond AAUW members recognized their commonalities - - being full-time stay-at-home mothers and residents of Chesterfield County - - and decided to found a branch closer to home. The new branch was approved and Marsha was elected president.

Though a newcomer to AAUW, Marsha served a two-year term. After improvising her way through a meeting or two, she was tutored in parliamentary procedure by a member who formerly served as parliamentarian in the Pennsylvania legislature. Marsha quickly learned how to conduct a meeting !

The branch formed Study-Action Groups; one such group researched local day care options and published a day care directory for free distribution. Another group focused on women's issues and produced the video, "Choices" and, later

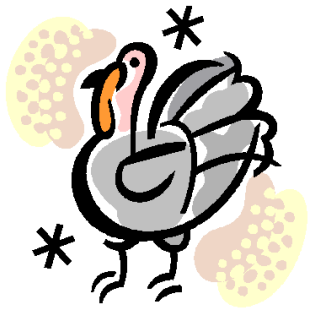
When I was at the Unitarian Church Art show recently, former branch member Carol Meese had a large oil and a group of face drawings -- pencil -- very good looking.

Some of us remember being at her house, a virtual art gallery, when she was a member of book group.

Carol is the owner of the Friend House Gallery in Petersburg, where she exhibits her works.

Marcia

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Happy Thanksgiving!

Gourmet Group

The November Gourmet Group will meet at the home of Lois and Earl Hofstra on November 2, at 5:30. the them

e will be Chef's Kitchen. For more information contact Lois and Earl at 794-

the television documentary, "Legal Rights of Women in Virginia".

Marsha's career choices stem from the life-changing experiences she had as a Montgomery County, Maryland fourth grader as schools there were integrated just a year after the Brown v. Board of Education decision. A perceptive child, Marsha saw that most of the school staff and especially her own teacher helped the transition go smoothly for everyone. But she was shocked to learn that pockets of poverty existed near her own comfortable neighborhood and that one of her new classmates didn't know how to read. This was a wrong that had to be righted. In that pivotal moment Marsha decided to become a teacher and help spread literacy.

At age 15, Marsha moved to Richmond and attended Huguenot High School - - where she experienced some culture shock but she managed. Her college choice was majoring in elementary education at William and Mary.

Subsequently she taught in Chesterfield elementary classes, married and started a family with husband Reid, and earned two master's degrees at VCU (in Special Education and in Educational Administration). That led to becoming principal of a Chesterfield school. A proud accomplishment was securing and administering a Christa McAuliff Fellowship to fund teacher training in Chesterfield.

Currently Marsha is enjoying her very recent retirement with time for yoga, family duties, her third grandchild, our Bon Air gourmet group, and volunteering at Lewis Ginter. Her future plans? More time for travel (Alaska is on her wish list) and more time at Lewis Ginter. Sounds like a plan...for a fulfilling future.

Pat Mallahan
V.P. Membership

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Book Group

Bon Air AAUW Book Group routinely meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Our November meeting will be held Thursday, November 20, at Willow Oaks Apartments Clubhouse, hosted by DeAnn Hubicsak. Contact DeAnn at DeAnn.Hubicsak@earthlink.net or phone 233-5352 to let her know you will attend. **All Bon Air members and their guests are welcome.**

About this month's book: Cheryl Kapec will lead our discussion of the 1930s classic ***The Good Earth***, by Pearl S. Buck. Though more than 70 years have passed since this remarkable novel won the Pulitzer Prize, it has retained its popularity and become a great modern classic. "I can only write what I know, and I know nothing but China, having always lived there," wrote Pearl Buck. In ***The Good Earth*** she presents a graphic view of China when the last emperor reigned and the vast political and social upheavals of the 20th century were but distant rumblings for the ordinary people. This moving story of the honest farmer Wang Lung and his selfless wife Olan is must reading for those who would fully appreciate the sweeping changes that have occurred in the lives of the Chinese people over the past century. In 1938, Ms. Buck became the first American woman to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature.

In December, we'll be reading ***The Tender Bar, A Memoir***, by J.R. Moehringer. "Long before it legally served me, the bar saved me," asserts J.R. Moehringer, and this compelling book tells is the story of how and why. A Pulitzer-Prize-winning writer for the *Los Angeles Times*, Moehringer grew up fatherless in pub-heavy Manhasset, New York, in a ramshackle house crammed with cousins and ruled by an eccentric, unkind grandfather. Desperate for a paternal figure, he turns first to his father, a DJ whom he can only access via the radio (Moehringer calls him The Voice and pictures him as "talking smoke"). When The Voice suddenly disappears from the airwaves, Moehringer turns to his hairless Uncle Charlie, and subsequently, Uncle Charlie's place of employment – a bar called Dickens that soon takes center stage.

Contact DeAnn Hubicsak at DeAnn.Hubicsak@earthlink.net or call 233-5352 for Book Group information. For more information about 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

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Visit the New Features on our Web Site ...

Be sure to visit our branch website at <http://aauwbonairva.org> to see its new look and features. Be sure to find the "RSS Feeds" that bring real-time information to the site. The Public Policy page has AAUW's latest legislative alerts and the Membership page as AAUW general news. These feeds update frequently so return often to stay current!

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

Jane Newell

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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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