

AAUW Howard County Branch NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2017



OUR MISSION: *To advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.*

Our AAUW year is getting off to a great start! Your Vice-Presidents and Chairs are working hard in each of their areas to continue to have programs and interest groups for our members. Our October guest speaker, Rebecca Bowman, of the Howard County Office of Consumer Protection, was well received with her talk on Identity Theft and other scams. We also learned more about this not-so-well-known office, which is under the Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services. Thanks to our member Connie Palmieri, who recommended Rebecca as a guest speaker. If you have someone to recommend, please let me know. Many of our speakers/programs come from member recommendations.

One of our long-time members, Diana Bailey, has been honored by the Maryland Business and Professional Women (BPW) as their 2017 Woman of Achievement. Diana is the Executive Director of the Maryland Women's Heritage Center, and was one of the founders of Girl Power, which our branch participates in every March at the Applied Physics Lab. Congratulations, Diana!!

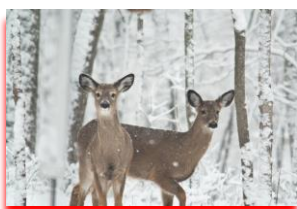
Several branch members, including myself, attended the October 21st AAUW Maryland State Fall Meeting in Gaithersburg. We helped the Gaithersburg branch celebrate their 45th anniversary! We learned a lot about Advocacy from the State Public Policy VP Erin Prangle, and guest speaker, State Delegate Bill Frick from Montgomery County. In addition, the 2018 Woman of Distinction Honoree was named – Kate Campbell Stevenson. Many of us know Kate from her fabulous reenactments of the lives of famous women, such as Rachel Carson, Sacagawea, and others. She is a wonderful singer and actress! Kate will be honored at the Woman of Distinction (WoD) Ceremony at the 2018 National Conference for Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) event on May 31st. I hope you will consider helping to honor her by donating to the tax-deductible fund through the AAUW National donation page (www.aauw.org). Under *Other Special Funds and Giving Circles*, choose the Maryland Women of Distinction (NCCWSL) Fund. AAUW Maryland State is a platinum sponsor of the WoD ceremony, which enables over 1000 student attendees from all over the US to meet Kate and other AAUW Women of Distinction.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for Monday, November 27th to dine at Tino's Italian Bistro. 10% of their sales will be given to our branch for scholarships. So, we definitely want to get as many of us and our family and friends to dine there or do take-out, as it all counts! If you want to get a group together for lunch or dinner, reservations are recommended. Please see the flyer sent with this newsletter and get the word out to your friends, family and communities!

On a final note – there is still time renew your membership! Dues are \$72 for the year, which includes National, State and Branch dues. You can make your check out to AAUW Howard County, and mail to Carol Phelps at 6680 Star Path, Columbia, MD 21045.

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Bea Dane, President



Holiday Party

December 3 - 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Home of Barbara Parker

Food and fun benefit AAUW Scholarships

SAVE THE DATE

November 1 (Wed) - Bridge

November 7 (Tues) – Adventures in Dining

November 14 (Tues) – Branch Meeting, First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ellicott City

November 16 (Thurs) – Reader’s Group

November 20 (Mon) – Great Decisions Evening Group

November 27 (Mon) – Tino’s Italian Bistro Fundraiser

November 30 (Thurs) – Lunch Bunch

December 3 (Sun) – Holiday Party at Rockburn

April 28 (Sat) – AAUW Fashion Show and Scholarship Fundraiser

INTEREST GROUPS

GREAT DECISIONS

Great Decisions is a foreign policy discussion program. Two separate groups meet monthly in a member's home: **Evening Group** on the third Monday of the month from 7:00 – 9:00 PM; **Daytime Group** on the first Thursday of the month from 1:00 – 3:00 PM.

EVENING GROUP

October Meeting – Monday, November 20, 7:00 PM

Host: Bev Fallik: Topic #8 – *Nuclear Security: The Enduring Challenge of Nuclear Weapons*

2018 Discussion Booklets have been ordered. I will contact members when they arrive.

Diane Roca, Evening Group Contact

dbroca@comcast.net or 410-964-3523

DAYTIME GROUP

The Daytime Great Decisions group finished the 2017 topics. I ordered the 2018 books for the members who requested them. The books will be sent to me in January. Shortly after I distribute them, we will have our first meeting of the new year. The date will be determined by how quickly I can get the books to everyone.

I am looking forward to discussing the new topics and seeing everyone after the holidays.

Lorraine Tropf, Daytime Group Contact

lmerdon@verizon.net or 301-617-2785.

ADVENTURES IN DINING

Adventures in Dining will be meeting at The Ale House at 6:30 on Tuesday, November 7.

It is located at 6480 Dobbin Center Way in Columbia. On December 5 we will dine at The Kings Contrivance.

An email will be sent to the membership prior to the event in order to get RSVPs.

Carol Phelps, Chair carolmcauliffe@verizon.net

LUNCH BUNCH

The Lunch Bunch Group will be meeting on Thursday, November 30th, at Nordstrom's Cafe in Columbia Mall at 11:30 am. We always meet on the LAST Thursday of the month, and November has five Thursdays this year. No reservations are needed, and it is a wonderful opportunity to start your holiday shopping!

Gail Rust, Chair, Lunch Bunch

ggrust@verizon.net

BRIDGE GROUP

Meets on the first Wednesday of each month. If you have questions or would like to be a part of the group, email

Karen Tang at ktang54@verizon.net or Laura

Wilson at laurawilson3033@aol.com.

READER’S GROUP

The group meets every other month, starting in January, on the third Thursday at 11:00 AM at the East Columbia Senior Center (attached to the East Columbia Library.) Lunch follows at 1:00 PM at Clyde’s. Next meetings and books:

November 16, *A Gentleman in Moscow* by

Amor Towles; **January 18**, *Miss Grief and*

Other Stories by Constance Fenimore Woolson.

Contact: Doris Raytkwich

dwhitespring@verizon.net or 301-776-1392

Barbara Parker bparker@virginia.edu

or 410-796-9019

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Barbara Parker, VP

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

AAUW FELLOWSHIP AND GRANT RECIPIENTS TELL THEIR STORIES

Tuesday, November 14, 7:00 to 9:00 PM at First Evangelical Lutheran Church,
3604 Chatham Road, Ellicott City, MD

Come hear Marwa Ramadan, AAUW International Fellowship recipient, and Cynthia Nyaoro, AAUW Career Development Grant recipient, talk about their lives and their dedication to helping women in their home countries. I met with them over a cup of coffee and was inspired by their dedication to serve women. You will be, too!

Diane Roca, Program Organizer



Marwa Ramadan is the recipient of an AAUW International Fellowship and a PhD candidate at the Department of International Health, Johns Hopkins University. She graduated with an MBBCh degree in Medicine and General Surgery at Alexandria Faculty of Medicine, Egypt. Marwa worked as an occupational physician and a staff member at Alexandria University for 6 years. Her work has focused on the effect of unsafe working conditions and bullying on women's mental health. Lately, Marwa joined Doctors Without Borders as an epidemiologist, where she focused on the assessment of a multidisciplinary approach to care among victims of torture and sexual violence. As part of her volunteer work, she served as a director of health promotion and screening projects at disadvantaged settings in Egypt. Through her PhD, Marwa aims to apply risk assessment methodology in healthcare planning for reliable projection and adequate allocation of resources for maternal and child healthcare services in low resource settings.



Cynthia Nyaoro, from Kenya, received an AAUW Career Development Grant for the 2017-2018 year and is studying for a Master's Degree in accounting at George Washington University. She assesses and monitors financial resources on the Kenya RAPID program, which promotes sustainable and resilient livelihoods by improving water availability and service delivery to improve sanitation for school girls. Previously, she was involved in a mobile clinic program that distributes sanitary pads and offers civic education to women. She is an active member of the Ellevate global professional women's network.

Education Committee News

Suzanne Soules, VP

The Education Committee is pleased to announce the Gaynel Allen Scholarship has been awarded to Howard Community College student Shantel Leverett. We will learn more about Shantel when we invite her to a branch meeting later this year.

The committee will meet Saturday, November 4th, at 10 AM to discuss plans for the balance of this year. If you have an interest in helping AAUW's educational outreach into the community, please join our group. The meeting will be at my home: 8734 Endless Ocean Way, Columbia, MD 21045. Any new member please RSVP to me at suzanne.soules@gmail.com. You are welcome!

The DIAMONDS induction ceremony was held at Hammond High on Wednesday, October 25. Sincere thanks to these members who helped provided refreshments and showed an AAUW presence at the ceremony: Cathy Pelsinsky, Debra Wade and Beth Hayden.

Suzanne Soules
VP Education



DIAMONDS Induction Ceremony



AAUW members provided refreshments. Left to right: Suzanne Soules; Cathy Pelsinsky; Raymona Reid, DIAMONDS Scholars Founder and Coordinator; Debi Wade; Beth Hayden.

Advocacy/Public Policy News

Bev Fallik and Joan Clinch, Co-VPs

AAUW Maryland has made HB 955 a legislative priority. As the 2018 session of the Maryland Legislature is only two months away, the committee is working with the other Maryland branches of AAUW to gain support for the bill. Kensington - Rockville branch has sent a letter of endorsement. The bill was featured at the State Advocacy meeting on October 21, 2017, where literature was provided. Meetings are scheduled with several branches to present the bill at branch meetings. A meeting was held with Delegate Terri Hill to discuss the final form of the bill to be presented at the 2018 session. It will be similar to HB955 (extension of child support for post-secondary education). The committee will submit a proposal to MLAW (Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women) for presentation at their November 18 meeting.

Several committee members participated with League of Women Voters to register voters at River Hill High School.

Our next Advocacy Committee meeting will be Tuesday, November 28, at 10:00AM at Wegmans. Our regular meetings will be on the fourth Tuesday of the month. All are welcome!

Joan Clinch

Co-VP Advocacy/Public Policy

Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW)

Penny Zervos

MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR WOMEN (MLAW)

MLAW is a statewide coalition of women's groups and individuals formed to provide a *non-partisan, independent, voice for Maryland women and families*. The group advocates for progressive legislation and policy that promotes and protects the wellbeing of Maryland women and their families.

MLAW is the only statewide coalition of women's groups and individuals that provides a non-partisan, independent voice for Maryland women and families.

Every year, MLAW holds a fall conference to prepare their annual MLAW Legislative Agenda and a Legislative Briefing and Reception in Annapolis in January. These events focus legislators' attention on issues and raises visibility throughout the state. MLAW distribute the annual Legislative Agenda to every Maryland legislator. In collaboration with their advocacy partners, MLAW submit testimony, advocate for bills, and promote their Agenda through their website, Facebook page, and e-newsletter.

MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE AGENDA for WOMEN FALL CONFERENCE

The MLAW fall conference will be held on Saturday, November 18, 2017 from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm at Howard Community College, Duncan Hall Room 100, Columbia, MD. The conference will feature a moderated panel: “Mobilizing the Power of Maryland Women in a Time of Uncertainty“, including: Toni Van Pelt (National Organization for Women), Pat Lambert (Executive Alliance/Network 2000) and Luis Larin (United Workers). Delegate Ariana Kelly, President of the Women Legislators of Maryland, will give opening remarks.

The highlight of the conference will be the presentation of legislative proposals for the upcoming 2018 legislative session. An optional Grassroots Advocacy 101 workshop will be offered from 1:30 to 3:30 pm. There is no charge for this workshop. A light continental breakfast is included with registration. Optional box lunches for those staying for the Advocacy 101 workshop are available for \$10 and require a pre-order. Click here to download a Registration Form: <https://mdlegagendaforwomen.files.wordpress.com/2017/09/mlaw-fall-conference-2017-registration-form.pdf>

or register online at: <https://mlawfallconference2017.eventbrite.com>.

For additional information on MLAW go to the website <http://mdlegagendaforwomen.org>.

For additional information on MLAW or the Fall MLAW conference, please contact Penny Zervos at p.zervos@comcast.net or 410-997-8308.

Views from the AAUW Maryland Fall Conference in Gaithersburg



AAUW Maryland Board Members with Delegate Bill Frick of Montgomery County. Bea Dane (second from right), AAUW Howard County Branch President, also serves on the State Board as VP for AAUW Funds.



At the Fall Conference, AAUW Gaithersburg celebrated 45 years as a branch.

Diversity News

Marcia Posner, Chair

The Diversity Committee is studying the history, culture, food and the changing roles of women in China this year. During October and November, we are viewing a four-part documentary about China. We are also exploring possibility of the visiting the Chinese Embassy in Washington DC and have requested printed materials from them. We will have a "Book Bash" that reflects books about China, in February.

Marcia Posner
Chair, Diversity Committee

Membership News

MEMBERSHIP – Zeli Castella, VP Membership

The Membership Committee will hold an orientation meeting on Wednesday, November 8, at 7:00 p.m. We will meet at Lorraine Tropf's home located at 7833 Maple Lawn Boulevard, Fulton, MD 20759. Invitations have been sent to four new members and one member who still has not received orientation. There is a possibility that two prospective members will be in attendance.

Joan Clinch from the Advocacy Group will be attending the meeting and we would encourage other members to attend and welcome these ladies to our organization. Diane Roca will give an overview of AAUW history, mission and composition. Light appetizers will be served. If you would like to contribute or attend, please contact Zeli Castella at zelicastella@gmail.com or call 443-542-9568.

AAUW HOWARD COUNTY 2017-2018 CALENDER OF EVENTS

BRANCH MEETINGS

<i>Day/Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Program</i>
Tues, Nov 14	7 pm	1 st Evan Lutheran Church	Guest Speakers\
Sun, Dec 3	2 pm	Barbara Parker's home	Holiday Party
Sat, Jan	11 am	TBD	Legis Lunch w/LWV
Sat, Feb 10	11 am	Union Jack's	Book Bash Lunch
Tues, Mar 13	7 pm	1 st Evan Lutheran Church	Guest Speaker
Tues, Apr 10	7 pm	1 st Evan Lutheran Church	Diversity/Election of officers
Sat, Apr 28	1 pm	Vantage House	Fashion Show
MAY	n/a	n/a	No meeting
Tues, Jun 12	6:30 pm	1 st Evan Lutheran Church	Salad Supper/Install officers

BOARD MEETINGS

<i>Day/Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location</i>
Tues, Nov 28 Thanksgiving)	1 pm	Home of Suzanne Soules (moving to 4 th Tues due to
December	n/a	no Board meeting
Tues, Jan 16	n/a	email reports
Tues, Feb 20	1 pm	home of Suzanne Soules
Tues, Mar 20	7 pm	TBD
April	n/a	no Board meeting
Tues, May 15	7 pm	TBD – incoming and outgoing officers
Tues, Jun 19	7 pm	TBD – incoming and outgoing officers



2017-2018 AAUW Howard County Branch Officers

President: Bea Dane 410-299-8403

1st Vice President : position open

Financial Officer Carol Phelps 410-381-7076

Vice President, Programs: Barbara Parker 432-962-8439

Vice President, Philanthropy: position open

Vice President, Social: Debbie Munley 301-776-7388

Co Vice Presidents, Secretary:

Mary Ann Crosby 410-465-0507, Jean Parr 410-381-6351

Donna Levinson 301-490-0294

Vice President, Education: Suzanne Soules 410-872-8603

Co-Vice Presidents, Advocacy/Public Policy:

Bev Fallik 301-596-6208, Joan Clinch 443-995-8799

Vice President, Membership: Zeli Castella 443-542-9568

Vice President, Communications: Diane Roca

410-964-3523

Diversity Chair: Marcia Posner 410-465-1905

Fashion Show Chairs: Caroline Tunison 301-497-8688,

Kathy McCarthy 410-465-48-4831

Website Manager: Jennifer Ingram 410-740-4276

Adventures in Dining: Carol Phelps 410-381-7076

AAUW Readers: Doris Raytkwitch 301-776-1392,

Barbara Parker 410-796-9019

Great Decisions: Daytime - Lorraine Tropf 301-617-2785

Evening - Diane Roca 410-964-3523

Hand Crafters and Movies: Anne Tarantino 410-740-1285

Lunch Bunch: Gail Rust 443-864-4189

Bridge: Karen Tang 410 531-0619,

Laura Wilson 219 688-8261