

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

April 2016

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

March was a busy AAUW month and April will be just as great! We started and ended March with eating adventures at Kelsey's on March 1st for our annual Irish feast and on March 31st with Lunch Bunch at Nordstrom's Café. I hope more of you will take advantage of these get togethers, as it is a nice way to get better acquainted with other members. Mid-month saw us trying Turkish food after our tour of the Diyanet Center Mosque on the 19th. **THANK YOU, Shigeyo**, for arranging this tour. A detailed write up and pictures are on pages 8-10 of this newsletter.

Many of us enjoyed hearing from Zakiya Tomlinson at our March Branch meeting. She explained how she went from playing with Legos at a young age to becoming a robotics engineer, training astronauts at the age of 23! Zakiya is the daughter of our member Rhonda Tomlinson. We also got to try out her miniature robots after her talk.

Now, on to April! Our Branch meeting on the 12th will first be our **election of officers at 6:40pm**, followed by a **panel discussion on Turkish and Israeli cultures at 7pm**. There will be plenty of room for guests, as we again meet at the original Ellicott City Sr Center with a larger room, so bring friends/prospective members! Detailed info is on page 7.

The Fashion Show is on April 16th at the Vantage House – see details on page 6.

The State Convention is on April 30th at HCC – see details on pages 3-5. We will be hosting a Hospitality Room on Friday, April 29th from 4:30pm – 8:00pm at the Columbia Marriott Courtyard. Thanks to Lorraine Tropf for taking charge of getting volunteers and food/drink for the room. Please plan on stopping by to meet other members from throughout the state of Maryland.

As a reminder, new Board members officially take over in July 2016. The nominations for the 2016-18 term are as follows:

President **Bea Dane**

1st VP **Amy Robinson**

VP, Programs **Dana Lowe**

VP, Membership **Kathy Schofield**

VP, Education **position open (Members – please consider taking this important position. Co-VP's are encouraged and current Educ VP, Amy Robinson will continue on the Board!)**

With all the activity in April, the Board has decided to take a break and not hold a May Branch meeting, and will instead install the new officers at our June 14th Salad Supper.

Bea Dane, President

Upcoming Events & Membership News

Great Decisions

Great Decisions is a foreign policy discussion program. Two separate groups meet in a member's home: **Evening Group** on the 3rd Monday of the month from 7:00 – 9:00 PM; **Daytime Group** on the 4th Tuesday of the month from 1:00 - 3 PM. Before the meeting, participants read material about the month's topic in the Great Decisions Briefing Booklet, published by the Foreign Policy Association. The meeting begins with viewing a DVD presentation on the subject; discussion is based on questions published in the booklet.

EVENING GROUP

April meeting – Topic #3 is “The Future of Kurdistan.” We will meet on Monday, April 18, at 7:00 p.m. at Donna Levinson's house.

DAYTIME GROUP

April meeting - Topic #3 is “The Future of Kurdistan.” We will meet on Tuesday, April 26th at 1pm. at Bea Dane's house

Topics for the 2016 Briefing Booklet are as follows: #1 *Middle East Alliances*; #2 *The Rise of ISIS*; #3 *The Future of Kurdistan*; #4 *Migration*; #5 *The Koreas*; #6 *The United Nations*; #7 *Climate Change*; #8 *Cuba and the U.S.* The two extra books purchased are no longer available.

Evening Group Contact: Diane Roca dbroca@comcast.net or 410-964-3523

Daytime Group Contact: Kathy Schofield rbrownhouse@msn.com or 443-691-0131

Adventures in Dining

Adventures in Dining will meet at 6:30pm on April 5th at Victoria's Gastro Pub on Snowden River Pkwy.

- *Carol Phelps*

Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will meet on April 28th, at 11:30 am in Nordstrom's Cafe at Columbia Mall. No reservations are required and all members are welcome!

Gail Rust, Chair, Lunch Bunch

Movies and Handcrafters

Members meet on an ad-hoc basis to have lunch and attend a movie, or do crafts. If you wish to be on the email list, please contact Anne Tarantino at annefox@verizon.net

Membership

- A new/prospective member orientation meeting is being planned for September.
- Our website is the best source this year to date for new members: howardcounty-md.aauw.net
- Historically, our best source has been referral by our current members.
- The email address for your friend or new acquaintance who is interested in learning about AAUW HC: aauwhowardcounty@gmail.com

Kathy Schofield

VP Membership

PROGRAMS

Do you have ideas for a Branch meeting? Know (or are!) are great speaker? Please let the Board know your ideas by emailing them to bea_dane@comcast.net . We start planning our 2016-17 year over the summer.

Upcoming Events & Membership News

From Fashion Show Committee:

We are moving quickly toward our **Fashion Show at Vantage House on Saturday April 16th from 1:00 to 2:30 PM.** The accessories sale will begin at 12:30....lots of good items this year, **some new**, some gently used!! Lots of fun and food! Thanks to all the models that volunteered, we really appreciate your support!

The tickets for the show should have arrived to your home by now. Please try and sell all 4 that you receive, all the funds go to our scholarship fund which is very appreciated by the deserving students that are awarded a scholarship. If you need more than 4 tickets, contact Linda Martin. If you cannot make it to the show this year, please support us and buy your tickets anyway...give to your friends or neighbors.

I look forward to see you at the show, any questions let me know.

Thanks in advance for your support,
Phyllis McGlothlin
pmcglath@aol.com

From State Convention Local Arrangements Committee:

“INSPIRING ACCESS TO SUCCESS”

AAUW MARYLAND STATE CONVENTION

Saturday, April 30, 2016

Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 30, for the 2016 AAUW Maryland State Convention at the Howard Community College in Columbia. This year's theme is “Inspiring Access to Success.” Organizers are asking that each branch bring a poster or other display to inspire discussion about a successful project or other idea to share with other branches.

The planning team is excited to let members know that Catherine Hill will be sharing information about AAUW's report “Solving the Equation,” AAUW's guide to corporate best practices and recommendations for promoting gender diversity in the engineering and computing fields. Catherine Hill is the vice president for research at AAUW. Before coming to AAUW, Hill was a study director at the Institute for Women's Policy Research and an assistant professor in planning and public policy at the University of Virginia. She has a bachelor and master's degree from Cornell University and a Ph.D. in policy development from Rutgers University.

The convention will follow closely on the heels of the 2016 session of the MD General Assembly, and the ever-popular Anita Rosen has agreed to plan and coordinate a public policy session entitled “2016 Public Policy in Maryland: What worked? What's next?” The planning team is also looking forward to hearing from AAUW Board member Anthony Hill, the first male elected to the AAUW Board. Anthony Hill serves as a liaison

to the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force. He earned a bachelor's degree from George Washington University and holds master's and doctoral degrees in social work from Howard University. Anthony is a licensed clinical social worker and associate professor in the Department of Social Work at Delaware State University.

Registration will be 7:45 – 8:45 a.m. on Saturday, April 30. The meeting will begin at 8:45 and end by mid-afternoon. Members are encouraged to consider staying overnight on the 29th to extend the available time for networking with other AAUW Maryland leaders. **Members should plan to wear something red, in keeping with Equal Pay Day on April 12, 2016, to call attention to the disparity between salaries paid to men and women.**

Logistics and Registration Form for the AAUW Maryland Annual Convention

Theme: “Inspiring Access to Success”

The AAUW Maryland Annual Convention will be held from 7:45 AM to 3:00 PM on Saturday, April 30, 2016. The Howard County Branch will host the one-day event which will feature outstanding speakers on inspiring access to success, the business meeting, breakfast and lunch and induction of officers. All AAUW members and the public are welcome! **You must register by April 1, 2016.**

Location: Howard Community College Campus
Duncan Hall, Kittleman Room, Room 100
11901 Little Patuxent Parkway
Columbia, MD 21044

Venue Amenities: Free parking on campus
Handicapped-accessible entrance and bathrooms
Catered breakfast and lunch

Hotel: Columbia Courtyard Marriott
8910 Stanford Blvd.
Columbia, MD 21045

Hotel Reservations cut-off: April 8, 2016

Hotel Phone 1-800-321-2211

Hotel Amenities: Free ample parking onsite
Wireless Internet service
Onsite restaurant and bar
Fast-food and other restaurants within walking distance
Indoor pool

Hospitality Suite on Friday night, courtesy of AAUW Maryland.

2016 AAUW MARYLAND STATE CONVENTION
Registration Due by April 1, 2016

The convention fee is \$45 per person, including a continental breakfast, lunch and all program materials. Please send your completed registration form and a check for \$45 payable to *AAUW Maryland*, no later than April 1, 2016, to

Karen Tang
 11218-2 Chase Street, Fulton, MD 20759
 410-531-0619
ktang54@verizon.net.

For late registrations received after April 1 or on the day of the convention, the registration fee is \$50.00. Advance registration will help us better prepare for the event. For logistical information related to housing, meeting venue, meals, or anything else, please contact local arrangements committee chair Diane Roca at dbroca@comcast.net or telephone at 410-964-3523.

Name _____

Branch Affiliation _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email Address _____

There will be a variety of sandwiches, including vegetarian. There will also be salads for those who need a gluten-free meal or simply prefer a salad. Fruit and beverages will also be available.

For voting purposes, please let us know if you hold a leadership role in AAUW:

State Officer _____

(specify role)

Branch Officer _____ (specify role)

AAUW's Annual Fashion Show

Saturday, April 16, 2016

Fashion Show 1:00 p.m. until 2:30 p.m.

Accessory Sale 12:30 p.m.

Vantage House, 5400 Vantage Point Road, Columbia, MD

Dress from Desk to Dinner



Fashions by Lord & Taylor - Columbia Mall

Tickets: \$20

Door Prizes Light Refreshments

To benefit the philanthropic programs of the American Association of
University Women of Howard County

AAUWHowardCounty@gmail.com

Diversity Committee News

Chair: Shigeyo Ibrahim

FY 2016 - 2017 Theme: A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY: THE MIDDLE EAST

Explore, Learn & Understand the Cultures of the Middle East and the Religions of Islam and Judaism

The committee proposes to facilitate exposure and education on the region of the world that is so little known and misunderstood by many Americans. We are not proposing discussions on extremism, religion or politics of the region as portrayed on daily news, but focus on the cultures of the Middle East to foster a greater understanding by educating ourselves. We want to provide an opportunity to experience the cultural nuances of the Middle East, particularly Turkey and Israel.

Come to Ask Questions and Learn About the Middle East Cultures and Religions

Spread the word! Members and the Public are invited to the AAUW Howard County Panel Discussion on the Middle East on April 12, 2016 at 7 PM at the Ellicott City Senior center on Frederick Road near the Miller Library. We have visited the Temple Isaiah in Fulton and the Diyanet Center in Lanham recently and now we'll have Middle East experts at our panel discussion, which comes after the election of officers for the branch. That part of the program starts at 6:40 PM. The panel is at 7 PM. Light refreshments will be served.

Each representative on the panel will talk briefly about his/her area of expertise about the Middle East and then will be open to discussions presented by our moderator, Kathy Schofield, Membership Vice-President of the branch. While we will not be discussing politics, we will learn more about the history of the cultures and religions in this area, including Judaism and Islam.

We think this will be an eye-opening experience for our branch and should generate lots of discussions and insights. If you are interested in the politics, join a Great Decision group led by Kathy Schofield and Diane Roca.

There will be some smaller events in the summer, such as a tour of the Baltimore Jewish Museum, with a visit to Atman's Deli in Baltimore. We are also compiling a resource list that will be ready for distribution at the Celebration on September 17 at The Meeting Room (formerly, Oakland Interfaith Center). At this event, we will feature food, dancing, music, etc. from this area for your enjoyment. This is our fundraising event. There is no charge for the panel discussion, so bring friends and family.

ANNUAL EVENT: CELEBRATION OF MIDDLE EAST CULTURES

September 17, 2016 (time TBD) Oakland Mills Interfaith Center 5885 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia, MD 21045 Featuring the foods, music and dances of the Middle East

Diyanet Center Tour (Turkish American Community Center)

Submitted by Shigeo Ibrahim

Saturday, March 19th finally arrived and our excitement built as we drove down the ramp into the underground parking garage at the Center. The garage was their first project, which, our guide explained, was a Green Project. Being underground, it did not disturb anything above and allowed room for all of their buildings: the mosque, school, guesthouse, individual houses, Turkish bath and huge swimming pool, and community center. It also leads underground to all the buildings; I thought I could have used a GPS to find my way, but our excellent guide, Brother Altan Erginkoc, knew where he was going. Fortunately, I had on my walking boots. This is not a place for high heels.

We met Bro. Altan, our extremely knowledgeable and very welcoming guide, in the amazing courtyard, where several people from our group and from the Center took our picture. We then removed our shoes, placed them on shelves and moved into the actual Mosque, which was more beautiful than imagination could have conceived. The colors and designs within tiles and marble reflected the purpose for this Mosque and the country of Turkey. Shoeless, we were allowed to walk on the carpet, which was carefully and expertly divided with a fervent religious mission into prayer lanes by an exquisite design; the balcony and the rear of the mosque were reserved for women and children. Hopefully, the pictures will be helpful, but probably will not do it justice.

On the ceiling was a design that spoke of God being one God, as did other quotes from the Koran. We had enough time to look around and take pictures, before going back to the courtyard to put on shoes and continue the tour to another building, where we saw several schoolrooms. From there, we were taken to the entrances (men's and women's) of the well known by name: Turkish Bath. I say by name because it was nothing like we pictured. We wondered: "Where is the bath?"

First, we were taken to the "cooling room," which seemed very warm. It was lovely, with white, cushioned benches all around the walls, adored with soft pillows to lean on. The guide, when I stated it didn't seem cool, said it would when we get back from the room with the bathes, and he promptly opened a door and ushered us into the Turkish bath. We were startled to see large, white, stone basins arranged around the room, with a spacious, elevated marble platform in the middle of the room, adorned with exquisite designs. We learned that bathers wash at the basins and rest on the centerpiece. This room was extremely hot, but Bro. Altan stated that the system was not even on. It was a sauna that, through heat and water, purified the body. He had been right. We went back to the cooling room, where participants of the bath relax, visit and have drinks.

Our next stop was another water feature: a very large pool. Men, women and children use this pool and can even get lessons. However, men are given a different time to use it from the women and children. We had been glad to be inside, away from the cold outdoors; however, after the heat of the bath and pool, it was a pleasure to go into the cold air (that had previously chilled everyone) and walk to the community center, where we were served a delicious lunch of Shawarma (lamb and beef), rice, salad, bread and drinks. The Mosque and campus are open to the public and can be reserved for

conferences, retreats and events. It would be worth the short trip there to learn about Turkish culture, Islam and our Muslim neighbors.



AAUW Howard County members and friends in courtyard of the Mosque.



Inside the Mosque



Outside view of the Mosque

Advocacy/Public Policy News

Co-VP's, Advocacy - Bev Fallik and Jennifer Ingram

Equal Pay Day

Submitted by Pat Reber

Pat Reber will be hosting an Equal Pay Day table on behalf of AAUW Howard County at Howard Community College on April 12th.

April 12 is the symbolic day when women's earnings catch up to what men make at the end of the previous year. That means it takes women about three extra months of work to make up the difference.

Women earn an average 79% of what men earned with the same education and the same job, and it gets worse. Other Unequal Pay Days include – Aug. 26 African-Americans, September 14 Native Americans, and October 15 for Latinas.

Age is also a factor – older women have a larger pay difference than younger workers. Location matters. Washington DC has an average of 90%. Maryland comes in fourth at 85%. And dead last – with just 65% average is Louisiana.

The Equal Pay Act was passed in 1963, over 50 years ago. The Paycheck Fairness Act and the Fair Pay Act will close some of the loopholes, if either is ever passed. AAUW asks you to wear red on April 12 in observance of Equal Pay Day.

Legislative Activities

Submitted by Bev Fallik

This is an update of the legislative activities of the Advocacy Committee.

Below are the results of the MD General Assembly Committee votes on HB0677 and SB1100. The purpose of these identical bills was to extend child support until age 22 if the child was attending college or another post secondary technical school full time. Unfortunately, the bills received unfavorable votes in both the House Judiciary and Senate Judicial Proceedings Committees.

In the House, there were five of us testifying. There weren't many questions and the majority of those focused on the perceived disparity the bill would result in for divorced vs. married parents (who would have no such requirement). In the Senate, only Senator Gladden's intern testified. There were no questions. Delegate Hill's assistant stated that, after the session ends, Terri will discuss with us the reasons for the unfavorable votes and if/how we might proceed to prepare for next year. Several of us in AAUW already have ideas for improving the bill language and justification for its implementation.

If you are interested in working on this issue, please contact Bev at bevfallik@gmail.com

Education News

Submitted by Amy Robinson

On Sunday, March 6 the Branch participated again in Girl Power at the Applied Physics Lab. Girl Power provides an introduction to careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) for middle and high school girls. Attendees have opportunities to meet and talk with professional women in their fields of interest, participate in hands-on STEM activities and see displays on careers in aerospace, chemistry, computer science, electrical engineering, geology, information technology, engineering, space science and more.

The theme of the Branch display this year was Farming on Mars and took its inspiration from the movie *Martian*. Our members Amy Robinson, Char Milligan, Jean Parr and Kathy Schofield along with Amy's colleague June Saunders discussed the chemistry, biology, geology and general differences between the environment on Earth and on Mars with several hundred girls and their parents. Again this year Jean was able to have the American Chemical Society donate hundreds of those "amazing self-inflating" balloons, which are great ice-breakers to get the girls talking and thinking about chemistry. How do those balloons inflate if you don't blow into them? If the balloons are full of carbon dioxide how is that like the environment on Mars? Is that good or bad? A lot of work went into preparing for this event and running the display at the event but it was well worth it since as always the girls were very enthusiastic and excited about all

aspects of STEM careers.





Pictured on previous page: Char Milligan in her white scientist coat, with Jean Parr setting up in the background, and Amy Robinson donning her astronaut helmet.

Above: The Gardening on Mars exhibit

AAUW 2015-16 Program Year

Month	Day	Date	Time	Program	Location
April	Tuesday	5 th	6:30pm	Adv in Dining	Victoria
Gastro Pub					
April	Tuesday	12 th	TBD	Equal Pay Day	HCC
April	Tuesday	12 th	7:00pm	Mid East Panel Disc/ Election of Officers	EC Sr Center
April	Saturday	16 th	12:30pm	Fashion Show	Vantage
House					
April	Monday	18 th	7:00pm	Great Decisions(eve)	D. Levinson's
April	Tuesday	19 th	7:00pm	Board Meeting	Email reports
April	Tuesday	26 th	1:00pm	Great Decisions(day)	B. Dane's
April	Thursday	28 th	11:30am	Lunch Bunch	Nordstrom's
Café					
April	Saturday	30 th	9:00am	State Convention	HCC
Kittleman Room					
May	Tuesday	3 rd	6:30pm	Adv in Dining	TBD
May	Monday	16 th	7:00pm	Great Decisions(eve)	TBD
May	Tuesday	17 th	7:00pm	Board Meeting (Incoming and outgoing officers)	Wegman's
May	Tuesday	24 th	1:00pm	Great Decisions(day)	TBD
May	Thursday	26 th	11:30am	Lunch Bunch	Nordstrom's
Café					
June	Sunday	5 th	1:00pm	STEMfestival	HCC
June	Tuesday	7 th	6:30pm	Adv in Dining	TBD
June	Tuesday	14 th	6:30pm	Salad Supper	EC Sr Center
June	Monday	20 th	7:00pm	Great Decisions(eve)	TBD
June	Tuesday	21 st	7:00pm	Board Meeting (Incoming and outgoing officers)	TBD
June	Tuesday	28 th	1:00pm	Great Decisions(day)	TBD
June	Thursday	30 th	11:30am	Lunch Bunch	Nordstrom's
Café					

2015-2016 AAUW Howard County Branch Officers

President Bea Dane 410 299-8403

1st Vice President Diane Roca 410-964-3523

Financial Officer Carol Phelps 410-381-7076

Vice President, Programs Karen Ownbey 410 258-7743

Vice President, Philanthropy Rhonda Tomlinson 240 475-1656

*Co Vice Presidents, Social Caroline Tunison 301 497-8688 Gail
Burke 410-507-3477*

Co Vice Presidents, Secretary Connie Palmieri 410-489-5654

Jean Parr 410-381-6351 Donna Levinson 631-490-0294

Vice President, Education Amy Robinson 410 740-1084

Co-Vice Presidents, Advocacy

Bev Fallik 301-596-6208 Jennifer Ingram 410-740-4276

Vice President, Membership Kathy Schofield 443-691-0131

Co Vice Presidents, Communications

Laetitia Messi 202-380-8417 Grace Olaiya 201-294-9373

*Cultural Co Chairs Laura Wilson 219-688-8261 Rita Kaiser 301-
490-2582*

Diversity Chair Shigeyo Ibrahim 410 730-4548

*Fashion Show Co Chairs Phyllis McGlothlin 301-490-7328 Kathy
McCarthy 410-465-48-4831*

Website Manager Position open

Adventures in Dining Carol Phelps 410-381-7076

*AAUW Readers Doris Raytkwitch 301-776-1392 Lorraine Tropf
301-617-2785*

*Great Decisions Diane Roca 410-964-3523 Kathy Schofield 443-
691-0131*

Hand Crafters and Movies Anne Tarantino 410-740-1285

Lunch Bunch Chair, Gail Rust 443-864-4189

Bridge Karen Tang 410 531-0619 Laura Wilson 219 688-8261