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

December 2015

January 2016

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As the holidays approach, I send good cheer to each and every one of you. It's hard to believe that another New Year is soon upon us. I am thankful to have so many hardworking members who keep our Branch active and prosperous. Don't forget to attend our wonderful Holiday Party on Sunday, Dec 6th at the Hebron House, Ellicott City. This event is not only a fun get together, but also a fundraiser. Bring your spouses, guests and friends!! \$10 per person in advance (\$12 at the door), plus a dish to share. We will also be having our fabulous silent auction, so bring your checkbooks to get some holiday gifts. **RSVP with the attached form by Dec 3rd to Caroline Tunison.**

Our last AAUW event for the year will be Lunch Bunch on Dec 17th. Come visit your AAUW friends at Nordstrom's Café, and then finish up your holiday shopping at the Mall!

Rest up over the holidays, because 2016 is looking to be a very busy time for our Branch. We start out dining at the Asean Bistro on Jan 5th, followed by more dining on **Saturday, Jan 9th at the Legislative Luncheon** at Bethany United Methodist Church, at 11:30am. Our Branch is co-sponsoring the event this year with the League of Women Voters (LWV), and this event will be in lieu of our normal January meeting. Our only duties as co-sponsors are to have as many members as possible show up, bring food, and ask questions of our State Legislators. Jennifer Ingram is our contact person with the LWV and has more info later in this newsletter.

Our Education Committee has arranged for us to give the **Practice SAT on Saturday, January 30**th at the Miller Branch Library. Please refer to the attached flyer, print several and put them up at libraries, community centers, churches, and schools.

Our Fashion Show Committee will really start to rev up in January with plans for a great show on April 16th. Make sure you let Phyllis McGlothlin know if you want to model some fabulous Lord and Taylor clothes.

The list of all of our upcoming events through June 2016 is included at the end of this newsletter. Let's hope we have great weather for our Jan – March events. Stay tuned for some brand new ideas and events coming up in 2016 from Diversity, Education, Fundraising and other committees!

The New Year will also bring with it the need for some new officers for the 2016-18 term. A nominating committee is being formed and they will be looking for candidates for: President; 1st VP; VP Education; VP Programs and VP Membership (we already have a candidate for this office). Co-VP's are welcomed, so if you and a friend wish to help each other out in a position, you can both run for the office. We are also still missing a VP, Advocacy (Public Policy). Becoming an officer is a great opportunity to meet many members and give back to a great organization!

Enjoy the holidays and have a very happy New Year!!

Bea Dane, President
http://www.howardcounty-md.aauw.net
Editors: Laetitia Messi & Grace Aderogba-Olaiya

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 meets on the 3rd Monday of the month from 7:00 – 9:00 PM; Daytime Group meets 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. Our meeting discussion is based on questions in the book. You may purchase a copy at www.fpa.org.

EVENING GROUP

Next meeting - Monday, January 18, at 7:00 PM at the home of Diane Roca.

DAYTIME GROUP

Next meeting - Tuesday, January 26, at 1:00 PM, Host Bea Dane. Topic #1, *Middle East Alliances* (first meeting of 2016)

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. Briefing booklets for current participants who placed an order were purchased in late October. If you did not place an order, you may purchase a copy atwww.fpa.org

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 is meeting at the Kings Contrivance restaurant on Dec. 1 and will meet at the Asean Bistro on Centre Park Drive on Jan. 5, 2016.

- Carol Phelps

Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will meet earlier than usual this year due to Christmas Eve. We will meet on Thursday, DECEMBER, 17th, at 11:30 am in Nordstrom's Cafe at Columbia Mall. No reservations are required.

Gail Rust, Chair, Lunch Bunch

Membership

- Deadline for paying 2015-2016 dues is November 30.
 - Anyone who has not paid her dues by that date will be removed from National and Branch member rolls.
- New Member/Prospective Member Orientation is scheduled for Thurs, Feb. 25, 2016. Please let your friends know
- New Member Prospects holidays are a great time to share info on AAUW with your friends
 - o Please send new member prospects contact information to Kathy Schofield rbrownho use@msn.com Or give her my email address.
 - Or invite her to be your guest at the AAUWHC Book Bash on Sat Feb 13, 2016
 - Kathy Schofield, VP, Membership

Upcoming Events & Membership News

Do you want to volunteer, but not quite ready to join a committee?

NEW!! Volunteer-at-Large Interest Group will be launched in January - email Kathy Schofield if you are interested - <u>rbrownhouse@msn.com</u>

- ➤ Group of AAUWHC members who would like, when available, to help staff branch-sponsored events as needed
- ➤ Membership VP will email the members of this group when a committee VP emails a request for volunteers

From Fashion Show Committee:

Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 16th, 2016 for the fantastic Fashion Show at Vantage House. Fun, food, fashion and friendship!! We will be teaming up with Lord&Taylor to show you the newest and best fashions for the season. Interested in modeling??? Contact me, new members, you will have a great time and really meet many of the other members of AAUW. We will also be having the fabulous accessory sale, this year with many interesting additions!!!!! If you have any good quality handbags or costume jewelry to donate for the sale, please contact me or bring to the Holiday Party, as I will be collecting items. All sales go directly to our scholarship fund for deserving young women to advance their education.

Please support this event!!!!! This is the biggest fundraiser of the year.

Phyllis McGlothlin 301-490-7328

Diversity Committee News

STAY TUNED: The Diversity Committee of AAUW Howard County is planning celebrations of Middle Eastern cultures for 2016. The committee is discussing focusing on Turkey and Israel, but is considering other options. These celebrations may include a tour of the beautiful Turkish Mosque in Lanham, MD, Diyanet Center of America and a beautiful Howard County Synagogue for February/March, with a discussion group happening on another occasion. This celebration will culminate with a big festival in the Fall of 2016, featuring food, entertainment, music, dancing, etc., similar to what we hosted in October 2015 for other cultures. If you are involved with any type of media in this time, you are aware of the discussions and reports on the Middle East, and its impact on western culture and the rest of the world. This will be an exposure/ education celebration, not a political discussion. For a political discussion, Great Decisions is focusing on the Middle East in its first event of 2016. We will be working together with the Great Decisions members on these projects.

Acupuncture Workshop:

If you missed our Acupuncture Workshop on the evening of November 9th you missed a treat. Paulette McMillan and her husband Don Diggs were amazing. Paulette began with the history of Chinese Medicine noting that Acupuncture is an ancient healing system developed in China over 4,000 years ago. She walked us through a first visit with an Acupuncturist and showed us the tools of the trade. After answering several questions, she demonstrated various techniques on Don. One technique was Cupping, which helps to treat colds by removing toxins from the body. By the end of the workshop, everyone had a chance to feel a needle. Paulette provided two handouts, one about education, licensing, and how to find an acupuncturist. The second handout was a list of treatable disorders that could lend themselves to treatment by acupuncture. Paulette McMillan and Don Diggs are both co-founders of the Center for Health and Wellness and licensed Acupuncturist, Nationally Board Certified in Acupuncture and Chinese Herbal Medicine. They have an office in Columbia and Paulette can be reached at 301-802-0500.

Jennifer Ingram
Deb Wade
Diversity Committee

Advocacy/Public Policy News

AAUW HoCo PARTNERS WITH LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Upcoming Activities for 2016

As in the past, our AAUW branch is partnering with the county's League of Women Voters (LWV) on several projects. We do not have all the details yet, but we're giving you a heads up on those events coming up in 2016. On Saturday, January 9, 2016, LWV and AAUW will co-sponsor the annual Legislative Luncheon from 11:30AM – 2 PM. This luncheon will be held at the Bethany United Methodist Church on Bethany Lane, Ellicott City. Members of the Maryland General Assembly representing Howard County will discuss major upcoming legislative issues.

There is no cost to AAUW members who bring a dish that will serve 8 people, although donations are accepted. If you choose not to bring a dish, the cost is \$10. Details will follow for items to bring and the agenda. Contact Jennifer Ingram at jenniferingram@comcast.net or, if you prefer, at phone number 410-740-4276. Reservations need to be made by December 30.

Other projects will include such projects as voter registration at the high schools in the county and candidate forums. Both projects will need volunteers and AAUW HoCo encourages AAUW members to volunteer.

Jennifer Ingram

Advocacy/Public Policy News

Penny Zervos and Bev Fallik attended the MLAW Fall Conference. Bev presented a proposal and Delegate Terry Hill volunteered to sponsor the legislation in Annapolis, help get co-sponsors, and have her office help us figure out what to do next and how to maneuver the process. If you are interested in joining Penny and Bev on the Advocacy Committee, please contact them at at bevfallik@gmail.com or Penny at p.zervos@comcast.net

Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW) Fall Conference

MLAW is a state wide coalition of women's groups (including AAUW Maryland) and individuals formed to provide a non-partisan, independent, voice for Maryland women and families. On November 14, 2015, MLAW held their annual meeting in which legislative proposals were presented to the members to determine which issues MLAW would support in the 2016 Maryland General Assembly. The following were proposed:

- Equal Pay for Equal Work,
- Fair Scheduling Act of 2016,
- Maryland Healthy Working Families Act,
- Stalking, Harassment, Misuse of Electronic Communication,
- Rape Survivors Protection Act,
- School Food Transparency Act,
- Sensible Sugar in Schools Act,
- Universal Voter Registration Act
- Post Secondary Education Child Support Post Age of Majority (proposed by Beverlie Fallik, AAUW Howard County),
- Expansion of Maryland's "Vacating Convictions" Law for Survivors of Human Trafficking, and
- Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program.

Members of MLAW will vote to determine which six proposals they will support in the General Assembly in 2016.

For more information: http://mdlegagendaforwomen.org.

AAUW 2015-16 Program Year

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r	April	Monday	18 th	7:00pm	Great Decisions(eve)	TBD

April	Tuesday	19 th	7:00pm	Board Meeting	Email reports
April	Tuesday	26^{th}	1:00pm	Great Decisions(day)	TBD
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	Saturday	14^{th}	TBD	Officer Installation	Union Jacks?
May	Monday	16^{th}	7:00pm	Great Decisions(eve)	TBD
May	Tuesday	$17^{\rm th}$	7:00pm	Board Meeting	TBD
•	•		-	(Incoming and outgoin	ng officers)
May	Tuesday	24^{th}	1:00pm	Great Decisions(day)	TBD
May	Thursday	26^{th}	11:30am	Lunch Bunch	Nordstrom's
Café					
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	TBD
				(Incoming and outgoing	g officers)
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 Connnie Palmieri 410-489-5654
Jean Parr 410-381-6351 Donna Levinson 631-490-0294
Vice President, Education Amy Robinson 410 740-1084
Vice President, Advocacy Position Open
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