

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

May 2016

## **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Congratulations to the following officers for the 2016-18 term. They were elected at our April Branch meeting.

**President**            **Bea Dane**  
**1<sup>st</sup> 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!)

Our April events were all a resounding success! Included in this newsletter are articles and pictures from:

- 1) **Equal Pay Day** – Pat Reber and Connie Palmieri staffed the table at HCC
- 2) **Fashion Show** – Chaired by Phyllis McGlothlin and Kathy McCarthy, with a large committee and many fashion models – netted approx \$4500 for our scholarship fund.
- 3) **Diversity Panel Discussion** – Similarities of Islam and Judaism – organized by Shigeyo Ibrahim and Diversity Committee; moderated by Kathy Schofield
- 4) **AAUW Maryland State Convention** – Local Arrangements Committee chaired by Diane Roca and her hard working committee; Friday night hospitality room chaired by Lorraine Tropf. Our Branch was also awarded a certificate for being #3 in Maryland for contributions to the AAUW Fund.

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed their time, money and enthusiasm to these events!

In addition, many members found time to attend Great Decisions, Dining Out, and Lunch Bunch. Invite your friends to any of our events! Many members have joined after seeing the good that we do in supporting education through our scholarships and the camaraderie we have at our activities.

*Bea Dane, President*

## **SAVE THE DATES!!**

**Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>**. HoCo STEM Festival at HCC 1-5PM. Contact Amy Robinson if you can help.

**Tuesday – June 14<sup>th</sup>**: Salad Supper – Officer Installation; meet our scholarship winners – EC Sr Ctr

**Thursday – September 8<sup>th</sup>**. Kick off the new AAUW year at Historic Oakland Manor

**Saturday - September 17<sup>th</sup>**. Diversity Fundraiser – Celebration of Middle East Cultures

## 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**

**May meeting** – Topic #3 is “International Migration.” We will meet on Monday, May 16th, at 7:00 p.m. Host TBD

#### **DAYTIME GROUP**

**May meeting** - Topic #3 is “International Migration.” We will meet on Tuesday, May 24th 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](mailto:dbroca@comcast.net) or 410-964-3523

**Daytime Group Contact:** Kathy Schofield [rbrownhouse@msn.com](mailto:rbrownhouse@msn.com) or 443-691-0131

### Adventures in Dining

Adventures in Dining will meet at 6:30pm on May 3rd at Xitomate off Route 40 near Turf Valley - 11085 Resort Rd, Marriottsville

- Carol Phelps

### Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will meet on May 26th, 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](mailto:annefox@verizon.net)

### Membership

- **It is time to renew your dues!!** An email reminder will be sent in early May so you can renew on-line if you wish. Or send your \$72 to Carol Phelps, 6680 Star Path, Columbia, MD 21045
- 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](http://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](mailto:aauwhowardcounty@gmail.com)

*Kathy Schofield  
VP Membership*

## Fashion Show Report

The annual Fashion Show, our premier scholarship fundraiser, was held on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Vantage House in Columbia. It was a great success, netting approx \$4500 towards our scholarship fund. Co-chairs, Phyllis McGlothlin and Kathy McCarthy, made it all come together. It is an incredible amount of work that goes on to coordinate with Lord&Taylor, get the models, write up the info on the outfits, get the purses, scarves and jewelry for the accessory sale, and many other details. Below is a picture of Peggy Wong and Caroline Tunison setting up the sale table, and a picture of the cake.



## 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

Having started with our tour of Temple Isaiah in Fulton and The Diyanet Center Mosque complex in Lanham, we continued on our path to understanding and respecting our diverse neighbors by holding a panel discussion to learn about Islam, Judaism, and the creation of Israel.

On April 12, Kathy Schofield, of AAUW Howard County, moderated a panel of four, and, during the Q & A, led a very interesting discussion, during which we received even more information about the religions. The speakers, Shehlla Khan, Wasim Khan, and Rachel Petroff Kessler, focused on similarities between Islam and Judaism, especially the responsibilities of women in each religion. Hadar Shahar, Emissary from Israel, explained why Israel was formed. One of the Islamic women that I talked to said she believes this type of event should be done more often, as Americans are, in general, unaware of what Islamic religion is about. She said, as did Dr. Khan, that most of the Muslims in America believe that peace is what they are trying to pursue, not the destruction of people of other religions.

This panel discussion drew quite a few non-members, and it was encouraging to have them involved in this project. They asked questions and stayed afterward to talk to the panelists and our members.

The Diversity Committee acknowledges the hard work of Shigeyo Ibrahim, the originator and organizer of this year's study, who, with the help of many of the Committee members, brought this to a successful evening—with more to come. There proved to be so much information that we will schedule another session, probably in October. Watch for further information about Panel Discussion II.

Education is the key, so we will use it to open another door on September 17, 2016, when we will hold our Second Annual Festival, which will include food, music and dances of the Middle East. Come and enjoy our celebration. More about this will be sent out during the summer.

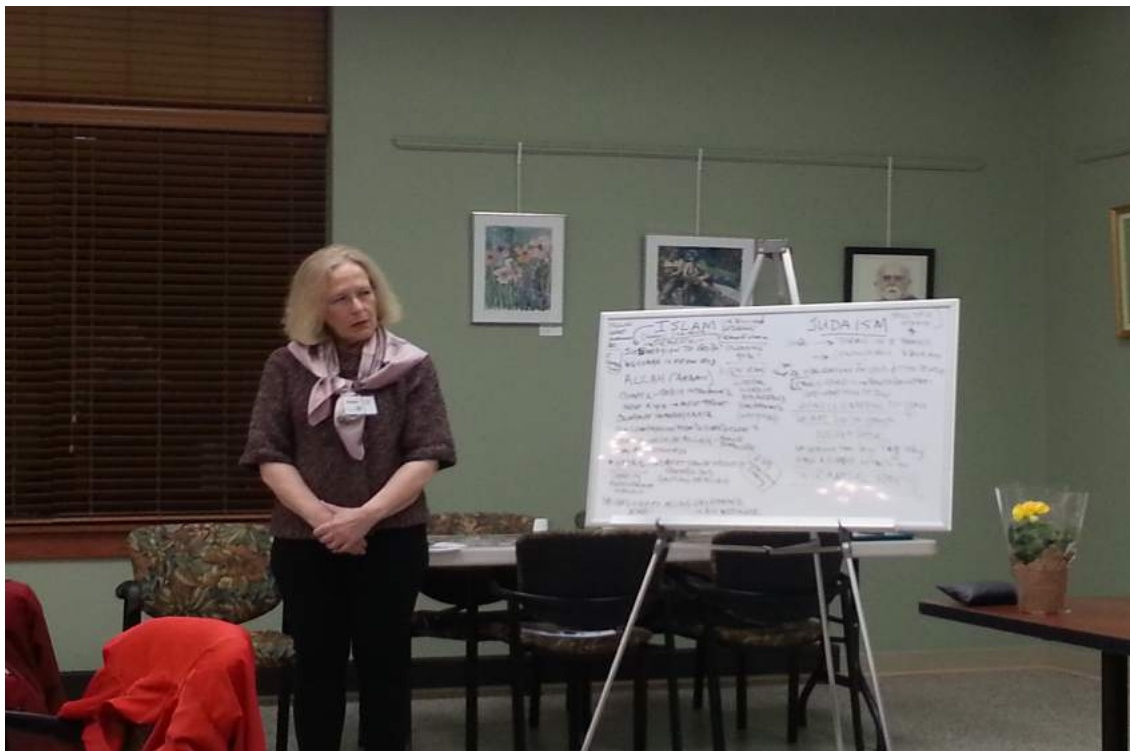
If you have questions, call me at 410-740-4276 or send an email to me at [jenniferingram@comcast.net](mailto:jenniferingram@comcast.net). Shigeyo, our chair, is on a long trip to Japan and we wish her well.

*Jennifer Ingram*

Panel from left: Wasim Khan, Shehlla Khan, Hadar Shahar, Rachel Petroff Kessler



Moderator: Kathy Schofield



## Advocacy/Public Policy News

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

### Equal Pay Day

Submitted by Pat Reber

Once again we had a very successful time talking with a constant flow of students, faculty and staff during Howard Community College's Wellness Fair on Tuesday April 12.

After quickly describing what Equal Pay Day is, and using a variety of visuals to stress the wage disparities, we – Connie Palmieri and Patricia Reber – focused on how students could help themselves by being prepared for their first salary negotiation. One reason for the wage disparity is how often women (and some men) do not actually negotiate but accept the first (low) salary offer.

Our positive focus was to have them be aware (most have not even considered preparing for the salary aspect in addition to the job interview) of what to research by giving negotiating hints and tools such as Salary.com for a salary range – a mini Start Smart.

Each person took *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap, 2016* booklet (the guys were told to give it to a gal they cared about – sister, girlfriend, friend) and a handout on how and what to negotiate. Many took a Pay Day candy bar... *after* our conversation.

A personal thanks for the four years working with the passionate advocate and creative Schnell Reed Garrett, now Acting Director of Student Life at Howard Comm. College. Unfortunately, April is just the average EPD, for specific groups it is worse.

Too many Equal Pay Days –

June 4 Working Moms

Aug 26 African American women

Sept 14 Native American women

Oct 15 Latinas

Connie Palmieri (on left) talking to a student



## **Education News**

### **Amy Robinson, VP - Education**

Our Branch is sending three Howard Community College students to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). Lawrencia Darko, Ariel Guillory and Marcella Guillory (a mother/daughter pair) will attend the conference from June 2-4 at the University of Maryland College Park. These women were selected through the Career Links program at HCC.

As America's premier conference for college women, NCCWSL provides a transformative experience for attendees and prepares them to be the next generation of leaders. Each attendee becomes a part of the 30-year legacy of the conference. This year's speakers include experts in opportunities for minority women in STEM fields, law, networking and even comedy. We hope to see Lawrencia, Ariel and Marcella at our June Salad Supper.

The Branch has also selected our transfer scholarship recipient for the 2016/2017 school year. Karla Medrano is the single-mother of a three year old and is transferring from HCC to the Notre Dame of Maryland University to pursue a BS in Nursing.. She successfully navigated many courses at HCC including Organic Chemistry and has already begun study for her Nursing degree. She is doing this because she cares deeply for other people and wants a greater opportunity to provide for her son. We also hope to meet her at the June Salad Supper.

## **Maryland State Convention**

The Maryland State Convention was hosted by our branch at Howard Community College on April 30<sup>th</sup>. It was a great success, due to the hard work of the committee chair, Diane Roca and her committee members: Nancy Bienia, Zeli Castella, Bea Dane, Stashia Goray, Jennifer Ingram, Donna Levinson, Dottie Mallerich, Pat Reber, Karen Tang, Lorraine Tropf and Penny Zervos. The theme was "Inspiring Access to Success". Many members wore red for Equal Pay Day, and the decorations of the room were also red.

The convention included two speakers from National, and a presentation from the State Public Policy VP, Anita Rosen. The format was interactive, as many questions for each speaker came from the floor.

The State Business Meeting then was held with the election of the 2016-18 officers at the top of the list. Other items that were discussed are the need for volunteers as State Archivist, Webmaster and Facebook Coordinator. Next year's 75<sup>th</sup> State Convention will be held in Easton.



Committee members from left: Lorraine Tropf, Nancy Bienia, Zeli Castella, Dottie Mallerich, Diane Roca, Bea Dane, Pat Reber, Karen Tang.



Pat Reber and her Historic Women of Howard County exhibit