

AAUW Howard County Branch NEWSLETTER



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

November 2013

CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

Adventures in Dining

November 5, 6:30pm
Tino's, Columbia, MD

AAUW Readers

November 7, 1:00pm
Miller Library

Lobby Corps

November 7, 10am-2pm
Open House – AAUW DC Offices

Handcrafters

November 8, 11am-2pm
Ellicott City Senior Center

Branch Meeting

November 12, 7pm
Ellicott City Senior Center

Board Meeting

November 19, 7pm
Lorraine's Home

DECEMBER

Adventures in Dining

December 3, 6:30pm
Candlelight Inn, Catonsville, MD

Holiday Party

December 8, 2pm – 5pm
Gaynel Allen's Home

Lunch Bunch

December 12, 11:30am
Nordstrom Café, Columbia Mall



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is November, which is a reminder to collect donations for the woman at Grassroots. Grassroots is a crisis intervention center and shelter in Columbia. For members who are not familiar with Grassroots, here is their website <http://grassrootscrisis.org/about-us/history/>.

Traditionally, our branch donates items around the holidays such as; blankets, sheets, feminine products or coffee mugs.

This year, Grassroots suggested a different type of donation. One that will make their clients feel a little special this holiday season, a gift bag containing a few nail products, polish or emery boards and a gift certificate for a \$12 manicure. (See Phyllis McGlothlin's article in this newsletter for details)

This choice may seem unusual. Not what you would think of giving a woman who is living in a shelter or in crisis. I am reminded of something that my mother used to say, "Sometimes you need to buy a "rose" rather than a loaf of bread". Her wise words help us to understand how special this donation can be.

Our sisters in Grassroots are not in a position to make the choice between a "rose" and a loaf of bread. But we can give them a "rose". I know that you will be generous, as you are each year, and support our Grassroots project.

I wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving. We have a lot to be thankful for in our branch, great friends, fun events and the ability to touch the lives of woman who are not as privileged as we are.

Lorraine Tropf, President

Reminder: Anyone who needs a ride or a special accommodation to attend a branch event, contact Diversity Chair, Peggy Wong at my_nest@verizon.net or (410) 997-7019.

<http://howardcounty-md.aauw.net>

Editors: Candace dePass & Josie Thompson

Photographer: Donna Aycok

A Special Thank You:

Dear fellow AAUW members,

This is another feeble attempt to express my deep appreciation to the many of you who helped during my recovery from a stroke in September. So many of you ladies delivered groceries, cooked food, flowers and other gifts. Everything you donated, and every visit and transport, is greatly appreciated. I received permission to drive last week!!!

Thank you very much,
Emma Pope

November Branch Meeting: Your Memory Needs Your Help

MARCELLA WILDING, PhD is our guest speaker for the November meeting. Many seniors are understandably concerned about how the aging process impacts their memories. While good diets and regular exercise are well established as factors that aid in the aging process, current research points consistently to the understanding of connecting memory cells as a major contributor to seniors' maintaining or even enhancing their mental abilities. Dr. Wilding's presentation will focus on the means of increasing memory cell connections and influencing the threat of Alzheimer. Join us on **Tuesday, November 12** at the Ellicott City Senior Center. Networking 6:30pm
Meeting 7pm

Gail Brown, Vice President, Programs

Upcoming Events**Adventures in Dining**

Our next Adventures in Dining will be at Tino's - an Italian restaurant on Centre Park Drive in Columbia, just off route 100. We will meet at 6:30pm on **Tuesday, November 5**. Please RSVP if you plan to attend so that I may make appropriate seating reservations. Our Dec outing will be on Tuesday, December 3 at the Candlelight Inn in Catonsville. Hope to see you there!

Carol McAuliffe, Chair, Adventures in Dining

AAUW Readers

AAUW Readers meet every other month on the first Thursday of the month at 1pm. These discussions are now taking place in one of the meeting rooms at the Miller Branch Library.

On **Thursday, November 7**, we'll be discussing *BRAT FARRAR* by Josephine Tey. Copies are currently available at the library; it also can be downloaded to Kindle from the Amazon site.

We hope you'll join us for this discussion. Please email me with any questions: robertarood@earthlink.net.

Roberta Rood, Chair, AAUW Readers

Handicrafters

Handicrafters will meet on **Friday, November 8** from 11am to 2pm to make a Thanksgiving/fall craft. Knitters and watchers are welcome to come and talk.

Ann Tarantino, Chair, Handicrafters

***Check out two pumpkins
Handicrafters made at the
October meeting.**

**Grassroots Holiday Giving Project**

This year AAUW is collecting a "feel good" project for the Grassroots women. We are collecting a \$15.00 gift for the women of Grassroots, which includes a \$12.00 manicure gift certificate in a holiday bag with a bottle of nail polish, emery board or anything beauty related.

The gift certificate will be purchased at Pro Finnish Nails, Hickory Ridge Village Center, 6420 Freetown Road, Columbia 21044. The women will be able to walk to this salon for their special "feel good" treat as it is near their facility. Please use only this salon for the certificate.

If you are not able to get to this salon, I will go there and prepare this holiday gift for you. Please send me a check for \$15.00 which covers the manicure, polish and holiday bag. Send check ASAP to: Phyllis McGlothlin, 9651 Sea Shadow, Columbia MD. 21046.

Please help our holiday effort to Grassroots, as AAUW has been a great supporter in the past! We appreciate your support and participation, as will the Grassroots women.

If you would like to do this on your own that would be great. We will be collecting the bags at the branch meeting on November 12 and the Holiday party on December 8th. Grassroots would like us to get the gifts to them by December 10th for their Day of Caring.

Any questions, please call [301-490-7328](tel:301-490-7328).

Phyllis McGlothlin, Chair, Philanthropy

ADVOCACY CORNER

AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund – a Special Program of AAUW

Have you heard someone refer to “LAF” and wondered if you were supposed to know what that means?

The Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) at the national headquarters works to challenge sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace. Its resources range from community outreach programs (such as informing college students and employees on issues including equal pay, Title IX, and sexual harassment) to legal referrals with a network of attorneys to aid individuals deciding on legal action. Available services include well-researched information on current laws and rights, as well as use of the legal system to seek justice and change.

The cases supported by LAF have potential impact on all women. Women workers denied promotions at Wal-Mart, military veteran survivors of sexual assault, and college/university staff experiencing unfair pay are some of the plaintiffs who have received help.

The LAF relies on donations to continue its work. The Howard County branch contributes \$1000 annually to National's Legal Advocacy Fund. Individuals wishing to donate can do so on line at <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources>

*Connie Adamson and Pat Reber
Co-Vice Presidents, Advocacy*



Upcoming Events Continued...

Lunch Bunch

There is a change in the dates for the Lunch Bunch in November and December. Our usual meeting time falls on Thanksgiving this year, and the December date is the day after Christmas. Therefore the Lunch Bunch will have ONE, consolidated meeting on **Thursday, December 12**. We will meet at the usual time and place: 11:30am at Nordstrom's Cafe in the Columbia Mall.

Gail Rust, Chair, Lunch Bunch

**Donate! Donate! Donate!
Support the December 8th Holiday Party Silent Auction**

Proceeds from the December 8 Holiday Party Silent Auction will help fund our philanthropic efforts. Please come prepared to bid generously (bring your checkbook). So far we have donations from:

James Ferry Photography; HoCo Library (Evening in the Stacks); Columbia Festival of the Arts; The Columbia Orchestra; Symphony of Lights; Columbia Pro Cantare; HoCoPoLitSo; National Aquarium in Baltimore; Maryland Science Center; Howard County Arts Council (membership); Nordstrom Café; Candlelight Concert Society; Rep Stage; and Center Stage.

We also have some hand-knitted items.

If you have any goods or service to auction off, contributions will be accepted until November 20. Contact Nancy Yee ([410-964-3706](tel:410-964-3706)) or newlywed Carol Phelps (nee McAuliffe).

Nancy Yee, Branch Member

Staying Informed

You can stay current on issues important to AAUW with just a few clicks! The following is a quick guide on how to keep up-to-date.

National**AAUW Washington Update**

Very short summaries on issues related to women in the legislative and judicial branches, as well as selected state government's activities are in this weekly online bulletin. Sign up at <http://www.aauw.org/resource/washington-update>.

AAUW National Public Policy Position Papers

Research by national AAUW personnel is available on-line and in booklets on the AAUW website. If you would like more information about topics such as Title IX, affirmative action, pay equity, school vouchers and many other issues brought up in Congress; go to detailed fact sheets and position papers - <http://www.aauw.org/resources/by-type/position-papers/>

State

AAUW Maryland has a page on CQ Fast Track to follow issues before the Assembly (Sessions begin Jan 8, 2014.) <http://aauw-md.aauw.net> and click on Legislative Report link.

Howard County

Two local groups attend government meetings and monitor the issues. Check out their websites:

League of Women Voters LWV HoCo - <http://lwwhc.wordpress.com>

Howard County Citizens Association - <http://howardcountyhcca.org>

*Connie Adamson & Pat Reber
Co-Vice Presidents, Advocacy*



Let the Celebrations Begin!

Honoring the Past – Embracing the Future “1964-2014”

The 50th Anniversary Planning committee is very excited to share what they learned about our branch’s history and some of their ideas for the coming year.

Cookie Cogan, cookiecogan@verizon.net and Sandra Smith, Vivaperu17@aol.com are leading the anniversary planning committee. If you would like to join the committee, explore the archives and discover our past, they would be happy to welcome you to the committee.



50th Anniversary Save the Dates for 2014!

January 14

Branch Meeting, 7pm
“Happy Birthday AAUW HOCO”
Ellicott City Senior Center

March 23

Anniversary Reception, 2-4pm
Applied Physics Laboratory, Laurel

April 26

Lord and Taylor Fashion Show
Vantage House

“**Honoring Our Past**”: branch models will wear fashions typical for the decades when our branch was forming;

“**Embracing Our Future**”: followed by branch models with today’s Lord and Taylor’s fashions.

70-Year and 50-Year AAUW Charter Members Honored! – Howard County AAUW Commemorates Jubilee with Scholarships



Pictured: Jane Trolinger

The Board of AAUW Howard County voted to award five \$2000 scholarships in 2014 in honor of our branch’s Jubilee Year. The scholarships will be awarded to non-traditional women students from Howard Community College continuing their education at a four-year institution.

Two of the scholarships will be named in honor of branch charter members. The scholarships recognize their efforts in forming our branch and their many contributions over the years. One honoree is Joetta Cramm, who would have been a 50-year AAUW member in 2014, but passed away this year. Joetta was profiled in our August newsletter. The other honoree is Jane Trolinger, who will celebrate 70 years as an AAUW member in 2014.

Cookie Cogan and Lorraine Trof had the pleasure of speaking with Jane and her daughter, Charlotte, earlier this month. While Joetta was led to AAUW by her professors during her teacher’s preparation, Jane learned about AAUW from her mother.

Jane’s mother had attended a two-year state teacher’s college in Tampa, FL where they lived. When Jane graduated from college with a B.S. in zoology, she joined AAUW in Florida. Jane continued her education in Maryland and earned a second degree in nursing at The Johns Hopkins University. In the mid-60’s, Jane joined the efforts to form the Ellicott City AAUW branch, which became the Howard County AAUW branch. She also became a non-traditional student, returning to Johns Hopkins to be recertified in nursing. After her recertification, she worked as a nurse in various settings.

During this time, Jane and her husband, Bill, raised six children. When asked how she managed to go back to school with pre-school age children still at home plus older children coming and going, Jane said that they lived in a house high above Main Street in Ellicott City.

Just below them on Main Street was St. Luke’s AME Church. The pastor’s wife provided in-home child care for the littlest Trolingers. And, as Charlotte added, the older children often spilled over to play at the Reverend’s home. Welcome support during the pre-daycare era. How fitting that a scholarship, named for Jane, will be awarded to a non-traditional student!

Howard County AAUW is fortunate to have benefitted from the talents and energy of these two professional women who, on their unique career paths, made time to pave the way for all the women who would benefit from AAUW’s programs and opportunities.

—Cookie Cogan, Co-Chair,
50th Anniversary Committee and Historian
and Susan Hailman, 50th Anniversary
Committee Member and Historian

Did you enjoy this article? What aspect of AAUW’s history in Howard County would you like to know more about? Please nominate women you’d like us to contact for their reminiscences or volunteer a few of your own. Weaving the fabric of AAUW’s local history requires all of our memories and perspectives! If you have ideas, contact Cookie: cookiecogan@verizon.net or Susan: shailman@comcast.net.

DIVERSITY DIGEST

The Diversity Challenge

The ultimate goal of any diversity organization is to work itself into extinction; that diversity has to exist as a subject or an issue is a reflection of our world, our country, and more personally, of our branch. If people were able to respect, tolerate, and accept the vast differences among individuals, then there would be no need to raise diversity as an issue.

We, at our branch, chose to celebrate our diversity and treated the issue light-handedly with “diversity treats” provided by our committee members at our monthly branch meetings. However, even as our Diversity Committee members volunteer for outreach activities, we have decided to challenge the members of our branch to move out of their familiar comfort zone (regardless of how “diverse” it may be) of family, friends, and colleagues and reach out to the community at large. As women of intelligence, education, and thought, we know that great acts begin with small acts of seeming insignificance.

Each month, let us make a difference in our very own small world. Demonstrate an act of tolerance and kindness to someone. Show patience when impatience is demanded. Strike up a conversation with a shy person, perhaps at one of our branch events. Challenge yourself to take an action that may have been difficult for you to take. For example, replace negative comments with positive ones. These examples are only samples of actions toward honoring the subject of diversity: getting along with others, regardless of their race, religion, physical or mental ability, political beliefs, height, weight... (ad infinitum), dissolving rigid thinking into reasonable thinking.

There will be no scoreboard or judging to see if you have met our monthly challenge. Only you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have contributed something significant to our world. However, if you experience something that you would like to share with the rest of us, we would welcome that.

Peggy Wong, Diversity Chair

Deadline for the December/January newsletter is November

22. Please send items to Candace dePass and Josie

Thompson at ccdepass@gmail.com and

josie@josiedesigns.com

The Following are the essays of our second and third place winners of the Diversity Essay Contest:

“Diversity: Our Journey to Enrichment”

America used to be called a “Melting Pot,” and now is viewed by some as a “Salad Bowl.” But it has always been both – blending the old with the new and yet maintaining a part of the heritage of each new immigrant. When the Spanish arrived they brought items such as sugar, cows, pigs, wheat and returned with pumpkins, corn, turkey and a host of other crops. Ensuing immigrants brought their own foods while incorporating “American” ingredients: Germans (Sausage), Italians (Pasta), English (Pies), Japanese (Sushi), African (Okra gumbo), Indian (Curries)... and the sharing continues.

Our branch can embrace our cultural diversity by hosting a pot luck dinner (or desserts). Whether we are first generation or many generations, most people tend to prepare some cherished family food. If not, they will have a chance to look through recipes from a country of their background. The speaker will be the members sharing, for a couple minutes, information about their dish and its connection to their cultural background. The members will be enriched by learning a little about each other’s heritage... and about a new, or old favorite dish among those brought to share.

Pat Reber, Second Place Winner, Diversity Essay Contest

“Diversity: Our Journey to Enrichment”

We have often heard that diversity makes us stronger, whether it is our country, corporation, organization or ourselves. I like to think of it as all the beauty diversity gives to us. The lovely colors of Indian saris, (orange and pink, turquoise and purple, for example), red silk from China, rich with embroidery, Thai dancers with their glittering gold costumes and jewelry, the colorful ribbons and flowers on Polish headdresses, Scottish plaids, Spanish flamenco ruffles, Indonesian ikat patterns, vibrant, geometric African designs and American Indian feather and bead embellishments, just to name a few! Not only do we have different clothing and jewelry to dream about, but also, food, dance, song, art, architecture and scenery. The world is a wonder and a wonderful place. Open your eyes, your minds and your hearts, look around, delight in it, and be enriched by it! We would surely be the poorer for it, if we were all alike.

Stashia Goray, Third Place Winner, Diversity Essay Contest

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AAUW Treasure Hunters Co ChairsDonna Aycok 719- 238-5901
Rita Kaiser 301- 490-2582**LOOKING BACK****AAUW Walkers**

Pictured from left to right are Phil Cogan, Lorraine Tropf, Cookie Cogan, Bill Tropf, Gail Brown, and Amy Robinson of AAUW Walkers at the Alzheimer's Walk on 9/28/13. The event raised \$170,000 for the cause. We were a small but enthusiastic group; looking forward to more participants next year.

Gail Brown, Chair, AAUW Walkers

Decorator Show House

On Saturday, October 12, a group of us visited the 2013 Decorator Show House. This year's venue was Mount Ida, located close by the court and other Howard County government buildings in Ellicott City. The house was beautifully decorated, and well worth visiting. Afterwards, the six of us had a delicious lunch at the Shanty Grille.

This was an extremely enjoyable outing, especially since there was no Decorator Show House year. Hopefully there will be one next year, and we can attend this delightful event once more.

Roberta Rood, Cultural Co-Chair

An Economic Agenda for Women - When Women Succeed, America Succeeds

On Tuesday, October 22, AAUW made a strong presence at this august Forum with three staff members, two interns and six Branch members including Maryland's Public Policy Co-Vice-President. We are continually asked what can be done to meet the economic challenges of ensuring equal pay for equal work, managing a work and family balance, finding quality and affordable child care as well as affordable health care. Maryland Congresswoman Donna Edwards organized and facilitated this forum to address these issues.

Three brave young women shared their stories, reflecting just a few of the many challenges faced by women everyday across the country. Senator Barbara Mikulski expressed: "We need to focus on the macaroni and cheese issues. Not since 1996 and the Child Care Development Block Grant has any action been taken to address these child care issues." Minority Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi spoke of the need to change the environment of women by enacting legislation that included the Paycheck Fairness Act, Healthy Families Act, raising the minimum wage, and providing for affordable child care. She thought that nothing brings more money to the economy than the education of children – "Children learning...Parents earning." Representative Edwards concluded the forum with the announcement of another informative meeting sponsored by the Prince George's Commission for Women on Saturday, October 26.

Barbara Carter, AAUW, Lobby Corps