



AAUW Howard County Branch Newsletter



October, 2012

Editors: Connie Adamson and Candace dePass
Photographs by: Sethanne Howard

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

Calendar

October Branch Meeting

October 9, 6 pm
Ellicott City Senior Citizen Center

Great Decisions

October 15, 7 pm
Laura Violand's House

Board Meeting

October 16, 7 pm
Lorraine's House

Orientation Tea

October 23, 7 pm
Janet Hoch's House

AAUW Lunch Bunch

October 25, 11:30 am
*Nordstrom's Café
Columbia Mall*

Adventures in Dining

October 30, 6:30 pm
*Trolley Stop restaurant, Ellicott
City*

AAUW Readers

November 1, 1 pm
Phyllis McGlothlin's House

President's Message

We started the year with a fitting celebration at Hebron House with good food, conversation and a speaker who taught us about healthy eating.

Carol McAuliffe presented the budget, and then the membership voted to approve it.

Corey Henderson of The Princeton Review was our guest for dinner. He accepted a certificate of appreciation from the branch to The Princeton Review and Akia Jordan. Akia coordinates The Princeton Review's programs with our Education Committee. The Princeton Review administers practice SAT exams and follow up sessions. The funds raised benefit our scholarship fund.

Corey presented the branch with a reference book by The Princeton Review, The Best 377 Colleges.

Vantage House and Jennifer Jordan, Community Outreach and Events Coordinator, were recognized for their support of the branch's fund raising efforts. Jennifer coordinates our presence at Vantage House and arranges the room, equipment and food for the Fashion Show and practice SATs. All of which are generously provided by Vantage House.

Thank you to everyone who made the Pot Luck dinner a success and to those who filled the dining room table with delicious food.

Thanks to Kathy, Gay, and the Social Committee for planning the event, and Gail and Trent for arranging for a terrific speaker.

Happy October,

*Lorraine Troup
President AAUW Howard County*



Membership Issues

I'm happy to report that at least 80% of our members have renewed. Some have moved away and others decided not to renew for various reasons. Some never responded, which I don't understand, frankly. We also have two new members from the networking event on Monday, September 17. They are Josie Thompson and Pamela Smith-Evans. I am getting more information on those two women, including pictures, but would like to welcome them to our branch. Some of those who attended the networking event plan to come to the October 9 branch meeting to meet other members, so be on the lookout for new faces that evening!

Due to successful recruiting, we increased our branch size from February 1, 2012 to June 30, 2012 by more than 14% and have been awarded 2 free memberships for new members. We have already reached the maximum in free memberships because of successful recruiting at Shape the Future events like our branch meetings. We will award these later in the fiscal year as they can go towards renewals as well as new memberships.

We are planning an orientation tea on October 23 at 7 PM at Janet Hoch's house and I have sent out invitations to those who joined in the last 2 years but have not attended orientation. Please let me know if you want to come. We always have a good time at these events and thanks to Janet for offering her home.

One of the advantages of having a large branch is that we can offer many activities and members can choose their level of activity. We have committees, social activities, a book club, Great Decisions club and are trying to form a craft club. Members should be able to find

Coming in October...

AAUW Breaking Through Barriers for Women and Girls

We are very fortunate to have an outstanding example of a woman who broke through barriers speaking at Howard Community College, an AAUW partner, on **Wednesday, October 3**, at 1: pm.

HCC will be having Tia Norfleet, the first and only African American female registered NASCAR driver on campus. She will be talking about her rise in NASCAR and how she broke barriers in a very male dominated sport at the age of 24.

Let's show our support for a woman who broke through barriers and for our partner Howard Community College by stopping by to see Tia Norfleet. The East Parking Garage is the closet parking to the event.

*Lorraine Tropf
President AAUW Howard County*

October Branch Meeting

October Branch Meeting
Tuesday, October 9, 6pm
Ellicott City Senior Citizens Center

Topic:
Twenty-First Century Diplomacy

New phrases like social media, NGOs, Internet freedom, Wikileaks, soft power, Twitter revolutions and Stuxnet keep popping up in headlines. International relations have become more complicated and we are living in a time when traditional diplomacy is a government-to-government exercise conducted in closed-door meetings. New players have entered the scene and public opinion in every country matters. George Clack, a social-media consultant to the U.S Department of State, will review the traditional ways of carrying out foreign policy and then explain how the old paradigms have been turned upside down.

Join fellow AAUW members for the October meeting and hear Dr. George Clack address this powerful topic.

*Gail Brown
Co-Vice President, Programs*

Great Decisions

Monday, October 15 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Topic: "Indonesia: Prospects for Prosperity"
Hostess: Laura Violand

Great Decisions is a grassroots discussion program sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association to promote citizens' knowledge of world affairs. FPA publishes a book with articles on eight topics for the year. Group members purchase the book at www.fpa.org and read the article before the meeting. At meetings, we start by watching a DVD with a PBS program on the topic. Our discussions are informative and fun. If you have considered joining us, this fall is a good time to come to a meeting. Contact Diane Roca at dbroca@comcast.net or 410-964-3523.

Next Meeting:

Monday, November 12 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. (Note one-time change to second Monday of the month), Topic: "Energy Geopolitics: Quandaries Intensify," Hostess: Frankie Schwenk

*Diane Roca
Chair, Great Decisions*

plenty to do without
overwhelming themselves. I
hope to see you at some of the
activities – it's the only way to
learn what AAUW is about.

Jennifer Ingram,
Vice-President, Membership

Accommodations to Attend Branch Events

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.

A Suggestion for a New AAUWHOCO Interest Group

Do you knit, crochet, cross stitch,
needle point, scrapbook or do
any type of craft? There is
interest from our members to
start a new group for "crafty
people".

Here are some proposed ideas;
gather once a month to do
handwork and crafts together,
talk and nibble. Another idea,
which can be incorporated into
this group, is to knit articles of
clothes for the homeless such as
socks, scarves and hats.

The design of the group is up to
its members. It would need
someone who is willing to lead
the group and get it going.

If you are interested in
participating in this group or
leading it, please send me an
email at lmerdon@verizon.net.

Lorraine Troup
President AAUW Howard County

Coming in October (continued)...

Lunch Bunch

Relax and munch with AAUW members at the monthly Lunch Bunch, 11:30 am on **Thursday, October 25**, at the Nordstrom's Café at the Columbia Mall. Order your lunch, then find a spot at the AAUW tables in the center of the restaurant. Have a quick bite or choose to linger and chat; the conversation is always interesting.

Adventures in Dining

On **Tuesday, October 30**, we will be meeting at the Trolley Stop restaurant - 6 Oella Avenue, Ellicott City. We would like to support our local restaurants as much as possible, this time in particular because of the recent train derailment. Reservations will be at 6:30pm. Please RSVP to carolmcauliffe@verizon.net if you plan to attend so that I may include you in our head count.

Our December Adventure will again be at the Candlelight Inn on Frederick Road - Tuesday, December 4th. I will send out a reminder email closer to the event.

Carol McAuliffe
Chair, Adventures in Dining

AAUW Readers and Other Book Related Matters: An Update

On **Thursday, September 6**, members of AAUW Readers enjoyed a vigorous discussion of DEATH COMES TO PEMBERLEY by P.D. James and HOUSE RULES by Jodi Picoult. The group also planned for future meeting dates, venues, and titles to be discussed.

Fourteen book lovers enjoyed Connie Palmieri's hospitality on the above occasion. As Lorraine commented at Thursday's Pot Luck Supper and meeting, the response to the book club initiative has been very enthusiastic and gratifying. There may in fact be a need to form a second group, in order to accommodate all those who wish to participate. Among the suggestions on offer: an evening group (the current group meets on Thursday afternoons) and a 'bring a book' group, in which attendees bring titles they've read recently and wish to recommend to others.

Interested in any of the above options? Feel free to let me know at robertarood@earthlink.net. You can also contact me if you have questions about AAUW Readers or want further information about the group's doings. From time to time, I'll be sending out e-mails with interesting book and author information. You can be placed in that e-mail group if you'd like, without any attendant obligation to take part in the book discussions.

Roberta Rood
Chair, AAUW Readers

A Note from the Cultural Committee

The Columbia Pro Cantare will be opening its season with Carl Orff's stunning choral masterpiece Carmina Burana. The performance will take place on **Saturday, October 27**, 8pm at the Jim Rouse Theatre. The chorus and soloists will be accompanied by two pianos and percussion.

The web site is

<http://www.procantare.org/>

Tickets may be purchased online. (Also on the site is information about the entire season, including a December 2 performance of Handel's Messiah.) Here's a link to an exciting performance of the Carmina Burana by the Berlin Philharmonic with Seiji Ozawa conducting:

<http://youtu.be/WROTIZ2yJsU>

Here's some information on the background of this unique work:

<http://www.classical.net/music/comp.lst/works/orff-cb/carbur9.php>

Roberta Rood

Co-chair, Cultural Committee

Deadline for the November newsletter is October 22.

*Please send items to
Connie Adamson and Candace
dePass at
adamsons@verizon.net and
ccdepass@gmail.com.*

Silent Auction at Holiday Party

The date for the Holiday Party has been scheduled for **Sunday, December 9**, 2pm – 5pm at Gaynel's house. Initial contacts have been made for the silent auction, and I am hopeful that these organizations are still in a position to donate as they have in the past.

Tickets have been requested from Candlelight Concert, CENTERSTAGE, Columbia Festival of the Arts, the Columbia Orchestra, Columbia Pro Cantare, the Howard County Public Library (for Evening in the Stacks), Howard Hospital Foundation (for Symphony of Lights), the National Aquarium in Baltimore, Rep Stage, Toby's Dinner Theatre of Baltimore, Toby's Dinner Theatre of Columbia. Memberships have been requested from Howard County Arts Council and the Maryland Science Center. James Ferry Photography usually gives us a photo session package, and I also have a gift certificate for two tickets to a future Chesapeake Shakespeare Company production.

Nancy Yee

Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women

The Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW) is a statewide coalition of women's groups and individuals formed to provide a non-partisan, independent, voice for Maryland women and families.

Their Vision: Maryland women and their families have a right, by law, to an adequate and sustainable quality of life and opportunity to develop their full potential.

Their Guiding Principles:

- An adequate standard of living regardless of ability to work or achieve financial independence
- Personal safety at home, school and the workplace
- Freedom from discrimination in Maryland's economic, educational, judicial, political, and social system
- Equal access to quality health care and reproductive services
- Safe and affordable child and dependent care
- A quality, public education
- Equitable and responsible implementation and enforcement of rights and protections provided by existing law
- Elimination of discriminatory policies and practices based on age, ethnicity, gender, physical abilities and attributes, race, and sexual orientation
- Family-friendly employment practices

The Fall Conference of the Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women will be held on **Saturday, October 20**, 9:30am to 1:00pm with an optional Advocacy 101 workshop to be held from 1:30pm to 3:00pm at the Maryland Women's Heritage Center in Baltimore, MD. The title of the conference is "Harnessing the Power of Grassroots Lobbying." This year's agenda will focus on using social media in their grassroots lobbying efforts.

Also included in the agenda are the presentation of legislative proposals for the upcoming 2013 legislative session and the presentation of the MLAW Legislative Leadership award. Registration fees for the conference are as follows: \$30-for the conference only (includes continental breakfast), or \$45 for the conference and advocacy workshop (includes continental breakfast and lunch). For more information on the conference you may call 443-519-1005, email mdlegagenda-4women@yahoo.com or visit their website at www.mdlegagendaforwomen.org. The link to the registration form is on the website www.mdlegagendaforwomen.org. If you are planning to attend and want to car pool, please contact Penny Zervos at p.zervos@comcast.net.

Penny Zervos

Howard County Branch Officers
2012-2013

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Special Interest Groups

Adventures in Dining

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AAUW Readers

Roberta Rood 410-461-0017

AAUW Walkers

Gail Brown 301-538-1506

Great Decisions

Diane Roca 410-964-3523

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

Looking Ahead...

50th Anniversary Party

We're having a Birthday!

Our branch will be celebrating our 50th anniversary in 2014. Plans are being formulated to honor the past and, hopefully, include a vision for the future of our branch.

Jennifer Ingram has already agreed to update the list from the 40th anniversary of everyone who has ever been a branch member.

We are currently looking for additional input from those who:

- Love scrapbooking to assist with the branch archives;
- Writers (amateur or otherwise) who will help document our history;
- Aspiring event planners to help with all the details of the celebration;
- Others willing to help.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Sandra Smith vivaperu17@aol.com or Cookie Cogan rmcogan@alumni.pitt.edu, Co-Chairs, 50th Anniversary Planning Committee.

*Cookie Cogan
Co-Chair, 50th Anniversary Planning Committee*

Save the Date - Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony

The Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony and reception is a very special evening, and you are invited to attend with your AAUWHOCO friends. It is the opening event of the NCCWSL conference for young women. NCCWSL (known familiarly as "Nick Whistle"), is the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders. It attracts hundreds of extraordinary young women to the campus of the University of Maryland, College Park, for workshops, ways to sharpen their leadership skills and networking each June. In the past, our branch has sponsored a local student. In 2013, through our philanthropy efforts, the branch is able to sponsor two.

You are invited to join the excitement of the conference by attending the Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony and Reception, the highlight of the first day of NCCWSL. Each year outstanding women are honored at the ceremony. Their acceptance speeches often tell of the concerns and passions that motivate them. After the formal ceremony, chat informally with the awardees and with the student leaders while enjoying a delicious dessert reception. The date is **Thursday, May 30, 2013 from 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.** We will arrange carpools from Howard County for those interested in sharing a ride. It would be nice to have a large representation from AAUWHOCO as a show of support for the women leaders of tomorrow.

*Diane Roca
Co-Vice President Secretary*