



# AAUW Howard County

## Branch Newsletter

February, 2012

Editor: Connie Adamson

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

### Calendar

#### Adventures in Dining

**February 7, 6:30 pm**  
Corner Stable  
King's Contrivance  
Village Center, Columbia

#### Practice SAT

**February 11, 10:30 am**  
Vantage House  
Columbia

#### February Branch Meeting

**February 14, 7 pm**  
Lynn Roberts  
"Interface of Science and Arts"  
Ellicott City Senior Center

#### Cultural Event

##### Miller Library Tour

**February 15, 11 am**  
Frederick Road  
Ellicott City

#### Great Decisions

**February 20, 7-9 pm**  
Frankie Schwenk's home

#### Board Meeting

**February 22, 7 pm**  
Central Library  
Columbia

#### AAUW Lunch Bunch

**February 23, 11:30 am**  
Nordstrom's Café  
Columbia Mall

#### Cheap Dates

**February 26, 2:30-4 pm**  
Panera, Dobbin Center

#### AAUW Readers

**March 8, 1 pm**  
Phyllis McGlothlin's home

### President's Message

I hope that all of you had a great holiday! I got to visit my family and taste great, fattening Louisiana food. I am now getting back to AAUW business at the local, state and national levels.

One of the most important chores we have in the next few weeks is to identify those Howard County members interested in serving on the branch board. The Nominating Committee consists of Peggy Wong, Loretta Gaffney, Diane Roca, Schnell Garrett and myself. We will be contacting you to determine your interest in serving the branch.

We have five positions to fill: President, First Vice President, Programs Vice President, Education Vice President, and Membership Vice President. I have position descriptions for each of these. Please note the term of office is two years and would begin July 1, 2012.

Please let the Nominating Committee know if you are interested in serving in these positions. We are encouraging more than one member to apply for each position, as we've had this year. This allows members to share responsibilities and generate ideas from one another.

Some of our programs are routine each year, such as the Girl Power participation and practice SAT and Fashion Show. But please be aware that we are open to new ideas also. That is how we got started with the educational projects.

This is your opportunity to give back to the branch and community and to promote equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. I look forward to your responses.

*Jennifer Ingram*

### News Flash...

Howard Community College has agreed to become an AAUW partner, after years of working with our branch. This will give them priority treatment for grants and projects, as well as free e-student affiliate membership for all undergraduates!

Increased activities and recruiting will begin immediately.

This is great news!

*Jennifer Ingram*

## Upcoming AAUW Meetings

Tuesday, March 13  
7 pm  
Sandy Fairhurst  
*Creativity and You*

Tuesday, April 10  
7 pm  
Michael Crabb  
*Money Matters*

Saturday, May 12  
10 am  
Del. Liz Bobo  
*Legislative Update*

## **AAUW Fashion Show**

*The eagerly anticipated event of the year, our annual Fashion Show, will be on **Saturday, April 28** at the Vantage House from 1:30 to 3 pm. Lord & Taylor will provide cutting-edge clothes to fit this year's theme of "Professional Fashionistas: Business Attire - Executive, Professional, and Casual."*

*We, the member-volunteers will model, publicize the event, and sell tickets, which are \$20 each this year. From last year's Fashion Show proceeds, we awarded scholarships to two Howard Community College students who wished to pursue degrees beyond the Associates.*

*The Fashion Show allows us to add some light-hearted fun to our serious philanthropic pursuits, so let's make this year's our most successful event. To that end, we urge all our branch members to publicize the event (send an e-mail to all your friends, for example) and to sell the event tickets when they are available in February.*

*Those who wish to volunteer as models (for this wonderful cause, you all do, of course) need to let Kathy McCarthy (katmac200@verizon.net) know as soon as possible.*

Peggy Wong

## February Branch Meeting

### *Expert to Speak On Science in Art Conservation*

"The Interface of Science and the Arts" is the topic of the program at the next meeting of the AAUW Howard County Branch. The meeting is Tuesday, February 14, at 7 pm at the Ellicott City Senior Center, and guests are welcome. The speaker is Lynne Springer Roberts, a decorative arts historian.

Ms. Roberts will talk about the field of science-based conservation programs and important opportunities in object conservation. She will discuss the joint partnership within museums between the conservator and the curator.

In Ms. Roberts' words, "In the best run museums, these two colleagues really work in tandem under the museum umbrella; and, for the benefit of the general public as well as serious collectors. The curators/conservators work within the museum on all manner of preventive measures to ensure the physical well-being of every type of art work, regardless of its specific medium. They work against the clock as well as against all the deterrent forces in our physical world."

Ms. Roberts will show a few before and after case studies of conservation 'triumphs' in varying media of the fine arts.

Ms. Roberts graduated with a degree in Art History from Washington University in Saint Louis, Missouri. She served as a curator of decorative arts in major art museums such as The Saint Louis Art Museum, The American and European Decorative Arts Museum and The Art Institute of Chicago. Her own career as a decorative arts historian spanned much of the time during the growth of fine art conservation in this country.

Presently, she sits on the Board of The Winterthur Museum in Wilmington, DE, and is chair of its Academic Affairs Committee, which includes its two celebrated training programs: The Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Material Culture and The Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation. Winterthur's extraordinary and extensive library is also under the purview of the Academic Affairs Committee.

Lorraine Tropf

## Coming in February...

### **Adventures in Dining**

On February 7, we will meet at the Corner Stable, the new restaurant in the Kings Contrivance Village Center which replaced Michael's Pub. We have reservations for 6:30 pm. Please RSVP to me (carolmcauliffe@verizon.net) so that I may have an accurate count.

Thank you and hope to see you soon!!

Carol McAuliffe

**Introducing...  
New Member  
Mary Ellen Miller**



Before she retired, Mary Ellen spent most of her career in medical public relations. She worked at Johns Hopkins Medicine as a writer and in other positions for 25 years.

She also worked at the RP Foundation and the Kennedy-Krieger Institute.

Mary Ellen went to Washington College (BA 1977), where she graduated magna cum laude and won the Sophie Kerr Prize for writing.

She has been married for 25 years and has three sons, ages 23, 20 and 15.

Welcome, Mary Ellen!

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**Help Wanted**

*The Branch would like to recognize Equal Pay Day which is Tuesday, April 17, 2012. If anyone is interested in planning an acknowledgment of Equal Pay Day, please contact either Barbara Schnackenberg at [baschnack@verizon.net](mailto:baschnack@verizon.net) or Penny Zervos at [p.zervos@comcast.net](mailto:p.zervos@comcast.net) by February 8.*

**Coming in February... (continued)**

**Practice SAT Exam**

It is time once more for the practice SAT exam that AAUW Howard County sponsors at least one a year for an educational and fundraising project! The practice SAT will be held on February 11 at 10:30 am (test starting at 11 am) at Vantage House. A follow-up strategy session to discuss test results will be held on March 3 at 2 pm at Vantage House.

Please spread the word about this event at community centers, grocery stores, places of worship, village newsletters, etc. This is a major source of funding for our scholarships – which is why we charge \$15 total for both sessions.

This practice exam is just like the real SAT exam and can help prepare middle and high school students to do better on the exam, which influences their abilities to get into college. One parent can attend the strategy session with the student.

We have volunteers for these sessions, and I appreciate your helping to spread the word.

*Jennifer Ingram*

**Cultural Event: Something for Mind and Body!  
Miller Library Tour and Lunch at the Shanty Grille**

Please join us on Wednesday, February 15 at 11 am for a tour of the new Miller Branch of the Howard County Library System. We'll be gathering for lunch afterwards at 1 pm at the nearby Shanty Grille (formerly the Crab Shanty); <http://www.shantygrille.com/index.php>.

Miller Branch is still located on Frederick Road, right next door to the older building that formerly housed the branch. Follow this link for directions: <http://www.hclibrary.org/index.php?page=20>. The branch is well stocked with books and audiovisual materials, many of them brand new. So don't forget to bring your library card!

We'll meet in the lobby of the library, by the book return, right before the tour.

If you'd like to attend this cultural event, please e-mail Roberta at [robertarood@earthlink.net](mailto:robertarood@earthlink.net).

*Roberta Rood*

**Cheap Dates**

Our informal gathering of members and guests is on February 26 at 2:30 pm at Panera Dobbin Center. We call it AAUW Cheap Dates to show affiliation with AAUW and to let members know that this is not an expensive outing, as many of our members have expressed concern about costs. We have an interesting time discussing AAUW, world affairs, personal issues, etc.

No RSVP is needed, and friends and family are welcome. Hope to see you there!

*Jennifer Ingram*

## Mark Your Calendars....

### **Future Educational Projects – Volunteers Needed**

AAUW Howard County will participate in *Girl Power*, a STEM event for middle and high school girls, on March 11. Thao Tran and Debra McLaughlin have volunteered to handle the STEM exhibit, but we need volunteers to assist them on that date. We also need volunteers to recruit at the exhibit table for AAUW. Please let me know if you want to help out.

The branch will also participate in Discovery Fair at the East Columbia Library on April 14, and AAUW will need volunteers. I will send out more information later.

Jennifer Ingram

You are invited to our fourth annual Howard County Office on Aging WOMENFEST, an interactive day designed to inspire women to live more balanced, healthy, and fulfilled lives.

Saturday, June 16, 2012



## Coming in February... (continued)

### **Great Decisions**

The Great Decisions meeting is Monday, February 20 from 7 to 9 pm at the home of Frankie Schwenk. The topic is *"Promoting Democracy: Foreign Policy Imperative?"*

Great Decisions is a grassroots discussion program sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association to promote citizens' knowledge of world affairs. There are eight topics for the year. Group members purchase the book and read the article before the meeting. Please order your own discussion booklet at [www.fpa.org](http://www.fpa.org). The cost is \$20.

At meetings, we start by watching a DVD with a PBS program on the topic. Discussion is based on questions in the book. You are welcome to attend any or all meetings. To receive a monthly email with meeting details, contact Diane Roca at [dbroca@comcast.net](mailto:dbroca@comcast.net) or 410-964-3523.

Additional topics for 2012 are Mexico, Cybersecurity, Exit from Afghanistan and Iran, State of the Oceans, Indonesia, and Energy Geopolitics.

Diane Roca

### Looking Ahead...

#### **AAUW Readers**

In January, AAUW Readers enjoyed a vigorous discussion of *The Professor's House*, a novel by Willa Cather. The group's next meeting is on Thursday, March 8 at 1 pm. Phyllis McGlothlin has graciously offered to host that meeting. We will be discussing *The Painted Veil* by W. Somerset Maugham.

If you are interested in attending this discussion, please e-mail Roberta Rood ([robertarood@earthlink.net](mailto:robertarood@earthlink.net)) or Doris Raytkwitch ([dwhitespring@verizon.net](mailto:dwhitespring@verizon.net)).

Roberta Rood

## **Welcome to the Modern World!**

Did you know that AAUW Howard County has a website and a Facebook page? They have much information on them, especially the website, and you need to check them out. Our website is <http://howardcounty-md.aauw.net>. There is an events section, and there is a members only section. I hesitate to publish the password in this newsletter, but contact me if you need it and don't have it from prior emails.

In the members section, there are a membership directory, bylaws, strategic plan, newsletter and other information to make it readily accessible.

The name of the Facebook site is AAUW Howard County, MD. If we get two more friends, we can shorten the URL for the Facebook site to something publishable. In the meantime, please check it out by searching Facebook. You are welcome to publish postings on the Facebook site, and if you think the website needs some additional information, please write it up and send to me.

Jennifer Ingram

## ADVOCACY UPDATE

From the headlines, you know that Congress is back in session as is the General Assembly. Of course the County Council proceeds apace. The deadline for filing for candidacy for those positions up for reelection this year was January 11. The Board of Education for Howard County has a number of candidates who have qualified to run for re-election or election. Perhaps these pieces of information make you think all is right with the world. Well, let's look at that view.

### Congress

Among other initiatives, the President called for the following in his State of the Union message:

1. Equal pay for equal work to bring to bear the talents and ingenuity of every person in an economy built to last,
2. Affordable higher education to assure the availability of the skills for the new world economy,
3. Retention of good teachers who teach beyond the test and rewards for the best teachers,
4. Assurance that executive judicial and executive appointments receive an "up or down" vote,

All of these initiatives are ones which AAUW actively supports. Time will tell whether these or any other initiatives come to pass in this or any future session of Congress.

### General Assembly

On January 8, a number of members of AAUW Howard County attended the League of Women Voters legislative luncheon. All members of the Howard County delegation were there, except Del. Frank Turner who was recovering from surgery and Del. Steven J. DeBoy, Sr. who was attending another event in District 12A which he shares with Del. James E. Malone, Jr. who was present.

AAUW member Valerie Montague served as master of ceremonies and requested that the delegation respond to the League priorities for 2012. These are:

- adequate revenue to protect public services and protection of the environment,
- repeal of the death penalty,
- legalization of civil marriage,
- improve the election and redistricting process.

The responses of the delegation were dominated by the perceived budget issues, prediction of new revenue which will be requested by the governor to meet budget shortfalls and for environmental clean-up as well as county efforts to help meet the costs of pension shortfalls for teachers. These requests have already come to pass.

*Barbara Schnackenberg*

## Howard County Branch Officers 2011-2012

### **President**

Jennifer Ingram 410-740-4276

### **First Vice President**

Betsy Bucks 410-379-2686

### **Co -VPs, Advocacy**

Barbara Schnackenberg 410-997-0793

Penny Zervos 410-997-8308

### **Co-VPs, Communications**

Connie Adamson 410-992-7816

Position Open

### **VP, Education**

Jennifer Ingram (acting) 410-740-4276

### **Co-VPs, Membership**

Marcie Posner 410-465-1905

Position Open

### **VP, Philanthropy**

Loretta Gaffney 410-489-4964

### **Co-VPs, Program**

Lorraine Tropf 301-617-2785

Dottie Mallerich 410-461-2726

### **Co-VPs, Social**

Gaynel Allen 443-542-9758

Kathleen McCarthy 410-475-4831

### **Financial Officer**

Carol McAuliffe, 410-381-7076

### **Co-Secretaries**

Sethanne Howard 410-730-8659

Diane Roca 410-964-3523

### **Chair, Adventures in Dining**

Carol McAuliffe 410-381-7076

### **Co-Chairs, Cultural Events**

Emma Pope 410-997-7688

Roberta Rood 410-461-0017

Jean Salkeld 410-992-4198

### **Chair, Lunch Bunch**

Peggy Wong 410-997-7019

### **Chair, Diversity**

Marie Jean 410-799-4949