

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

November 2014

CALENDAR

November

Branch Meeting

November 13, 7pm *Ellicott City Senior Center*

MLAW Fall Agenda Conference

November 15, 10:30am Miller Branch Library

Board Meeting

November 18, 7pm

Miller Branch Library

Lunch Bunch

November 20, 11:30am Nordstrom Café at the Mall in

Columbia

December

Adventures in Dining

December 2, 6:30pm

King's Contrivance Restaurant



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's November and that means it is time to VOTE! Early voting has made it easier than ever to make sure your voice is heard.

October gave us some great opportunities to get together – the branch meeting with our



wonderful inspirational speaker Kate Campbell Stevenson; the Lord and Taylor "Girls Night Out;" Orientation for new and prospective members; dining out at Victoria Gastro Pub; and lunch bunch at Nordstrom's Café. Several members also went to see the movie "Gone Girl" and had dinner afterwards. In addition, there was a special event hosted by our Diversity committee with Inca Energy.

The Lord and Taylor event was a great

hit, where we were given some fabulous fashion and accessory ideas. There were door prizes, and great food from Seasons 52. I saw quite a few members walking out with some new clothes! **A big thank you** to our Philanthropy VP, Phyllis McGlothlin, for coordinating this event.

We spend a lot of time and energy doing fundraising for scholarships. Come to our November meeting and get a chance to meet some of the women who have benefited from our philanthropy efforts. We will get a chance to hear directly from them on how we have impacted their lives. Due to Veteran's Day, our Branch meeting will be on THURSDAY, Nov 13th.

Although we have no branch meeting in December, there is an opportunity to see your AAUW friends at the December dining out on Dec 2 at King's Contrivance. This will be a festive occasion to get us all in the mood for the holidays!

Please join me in thanking two Board members who have reluctantly had to give up their Board positions for personal and health reasons. Janet Hoch is handing over her Membership VP role to the Co-VP's Rhonda Tomlinson and April North. Janet will still be able to host new/prospective member orientations at her house, which is a great help. Thank you, Janet, for your service to the branch and your knowledge transfer to us!

Gaynel Allen is transferring the Social VP duties to Co-VP Caroline Tunison. Thank you, Gay, for all you have done for the branch and for passing on your knowledge also!

We look forward to seeing them at whatever events they can attend.

My final message for November has to do with membership. If you have not renewed your dues by November 30th, your membership will be officially ended, and this will be your last newsletter. Just as every vote counts, every member counts and is important to our Branch!

Have a wonderful November, and Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Bea Dane, President

http://www.howardcounty-md.aauw.net

Editors: Candace dePass & Josie Thompson Photographer: Donna Aycock

Membership News

Welcome to our new members!

Thanks to Janet Hoch, we held our winter orientation on Oct 22nd with a good turnout of new members and potential members exploring who we are. Thank you to our membership for your referrals – this is how we continue to grow.

To all of you who have renewed your memberships - thanks! For those who have not, please do so. You can now renew your dues online at http://www.aauw.org/ or send your check (\$72 payable to AAUW Howard County) to our branch's financial officer, Carol McAuliffe Phelps, 6680 Star Path, Columbia, MD 21045.

Rhonda Tomlinson and April North, Membership

Great Decisions

Great Decisions is a discussion program for the public about topics in world affairs. Meetings are held on the third Monday of the month from 7pm - 9pm at members' homes. Before meetings, we read material about topics in the Great Decisions Briefing Booklet. published by the Foreign Policy Association. At each meeting, discussion is based on questions in the book. If you are interested in learning more about Great Decisions, contact Diane Roca at dbroca@comcast.net or 410-964-3523.

No meeting in November or December. Meetings resume on Monday, January 17, at 7p.m. Host to be announced.

2015 Topics:

Russia and the Near Abroad Privacy in the Digital Age Sectarianism in the Middle East India Changes Course U.S. Policy Toward Africa Syria's Refugee Crisis Human Trafficking in the 21st Century Brazil's Metamorphosis

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November Branch Meeting – Scholarship Winners Event

Come meet and listen to the experiences of the 2014 scholarship winners as well as Nicole Lynn Lewis, the CEO/Founder of Generation Hope!

Your branch supported eight scholarships in 2014, the branch's 50th year.

HCC Scholarships: Five transfer scholarships were awarded to current HCC students; awards included the Joetta Cramm Memorial Scholarship and the Jane Trolinger Memorial Scholarship.

NCCWSL: Two scholarships were awarded to attend the 2014 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL); this conference originated in 1983 to support women's leadership development and is cosponsored by AAUW.

Generation Hope is a nonprofit organization that matches sponsors with teen parents who are attending college and are in need of financial and emotional support. The branch is contributing to one Generation Hope scholar.

Plan to attend the branch meeting and see your generous philanthropic efforts in action!

Date: Thursday, November 13, 2014

Time: 7pm

Location: Ellicott City Senior Center

Save these Dates for Upcoming Branch Meetings!

January 11: Holiday Party February 21: Book Bash, Union Jack's in Columbia

March 10: Ellicott City Senior Center

April 14: Ellicott City Senior

Center

May 16: Brunch and Officer

Installation
June 9: Salad Supper

Karen Ownbey and Elizabeth Ombija, Co-VPs, Programs



Lunch Bunch

Due to Thanksgiving falling on our regular meeting date this month, the Lunch Bunch will meet a week earlier on **Thursday, November 20**. We will gather in Nordstrom's Cafe, Columbia Mall, at 11:30am.

Gail Rust, Chair, Lunch Bunch



Adventures in Dining

Our final adventure in 2014 will be on **Tuesday, December 2** at 6:30pm at Kings Contrivance restaurant. Reminder e-mails will be sent out before the outing. Please RSVP if you plan to attend so appropriate reservations can be made. The sooner you RSVP, the better. RSVP to <u>carolmcauliffe@verizon.net</u>.

Carol Phelps, Chair, Adventures in Dining

Philanthropy

We had a great time at Lord & Taylor, for the "Girl's Night Out" event. A full house snacked on appetizers from Seasons 52 restaurant and had an informative talk from Suzannah Zachos, manager of L&T and from the Jones of New York representative. Fabulous fashions were shown, trends were discussed and shopping was in full force at the end of the evening. Such fun discussing everyone's purchases! All proceeds from ticket holders went to our scholarship fund.

Thanks to Lord& Taylor and to all that attended!!

Next event: Holiday Party silent auction in January.

Hope to see you there!

Phyllis McGlothlin, Co VP, Philanthropy

2014-2015 AAUW Howard County Branch Officers

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Gail Rust 443-864-4189

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Donna Aycock 719-238-5901 Rita Kaiser 301- 490-2582

Bridge

Karen Tang 410-531-0619 Laura Wilson 219-688-8261

Advocacy Corner

AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund

The Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) is the national AAUW department which fights sexual discrimination in higher education and the workplace. Its activities 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 with a 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 LAF relies on donations to continue its work. The Howard County branch contributes \$500 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.

MLAW Fall Agenda Conference in Ellicott City, Nov 15

The Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW) is an organization whose membership includes some MD women's groups and individuals. It was formed twenty years ago as a non-partisan group to lobby the Maryland General Assembly on issues selected by its membership relating to Maryland women and families.

Registration is open for the 2014 Annual Fall Legislative Conference, "Hear Our Voices: Advocating for Women's and Family Issues in the 2015 Legislative Session." This year, on **Saturday, Nov. 15**, the MLAW Fall Agenda Conference will be held in Howard County at the Miller Branch library. In the morning, groups present the legislative proposals that they support in the upcoming Maryland Assembly.

Legislative Conference: 10:30am – 1:30pm Lunch and Advocacy workshop: 1:30pm – 3:30pm

\$35 for the conference and \$45 including lunch and workshop.

Visit http://mdlegagendaforwomen.org to register and for more details.

Pat Reber, Advocacy VP

