

# AAUW Howard County Branch NEWSLETTER



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

**DECEMBER 2017/JANUARY 2018**

As we come into the final month of 2017, I feel very thankful and honored to have been your President for the past 3 ½ years. With the help of so many of you, our Branch has accomplished a great many things to promote equity and equality for women. Our scholarships have helped many women at Howard Community College to pursue their dreams. Our Advocacy Committee has helped register new voters and is pursuing getting new legislation which will help children of divorced parents to continue post-secondary education. Our Diversity Committee has helped us learn about other cultures. We, as a Branch, have come together many times to learn new things at our Branch meetings, and to celebrate ourselves at social functions and conventions. Whether you are able to only attend one event or partake of them all, your membership is valued.

As a member, you are showing your commitment to women and girls because your National dues and other contributions support so many things. If you have not already done so, please check out the National website at [aauw.org](http://aauw.org), and create your member account. Click on What We Do to learn about the numerous ways National AAUW helps women in areas such as Research, STEM Education, Public Policy, Campus Initiatives, Salary Negotiation, and more!

Although 2017 is coming to a close, our Branch has much in store for the next year! More details will come later, but meanwhile I hope you will **save the dates** for the Legislative Luncheon with the League of Women Voters on **Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup>**; our annual "Book Bash" lunch on **Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>** at Union Jack's, our Branch meetings on **Tuesdays, March 13<sup>th</sup>, April 10<sup>th</sup>, and June 12<sup>th</sup>**. **And don't forget our big fundraiser Fashion Show on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>!**

**March is Women's History Month** and we have a woman coming to speak to us who has quite a history! **Her name is Edith Mayer Cord and she is a Holocaust survivor** who went into hiding in France in July 1943. Edith lives in Howard County and is the author of *Becoming Edith: The Education of a Hidden Child* (you can find it in the Howard County Library). She was also recently on the TV show, 60 Minutes. This should be a very exciting meeting, and in our new venue at the Lutheran Church, we have plenty of room for guests and potential members.

Happy Holidays to all! I hope to see you soon and also in the New Year!

*Bea Dane, President*

**April 28, 2018. Fashion Show (Scholarship Fundraiser) at Vantage House.**

We need volunteers to model in the fashion show and work on the committee. If you want to help make the fundraiser a success, please contact either Caroline Tunison or Kathy McCarthy to volunteer.

Caroline [redcat1977@verizon.net](mailto:redcat1977@verizon.net) 301-497-8688

Kathy [katmac200@yahoo.com](mailto:katmac200@yahoo.com) 410-465-48-4831

## SAVE THE DATE

**December 5 (Tues)** – Adventures in Dining

**December 6 (Wed)** – Bridge

**December 28 (Thurs)** – Lunch Bunch

**January 3 (Wed)** – Bridge

**January 6 (Sat)** – LWV Legislative Luncheon, First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ellicott City

**January 9 (Tues)** – Adventures in Dining

**January 15 (Mon)** – Great Decisions Evening Group

**January 18 (Thurs)** – Reader's Group

## PROGRAMS

Barbara Parker, VP

### JANUARY PROGRAM

League of Women Voters Legislative Luncheon

January 6 11:00 AM

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3604 Chatham Road, Ellicott City

Lunch will start promptly at 11:00 a.m. The Senators and Delegates who make up our local delegation will discuss the League of Women Voters of Maryland's 2018 Legislative Priorities. After opening remarks by the delegation have concluded, League members and guests will have the opportunity to ask questions of the delegation.

The cost is \$10 if you do not bring a dish. If you wish to bring a dish, food assignments are by last name: A-H: Main Dish, I-N: Side Dish or Vegetable, O-Z: Dessert. RSVP by January 2 to Bea Dane ([bea\\_dane@comcast.net](mailto:bea_dane@comcast.net) or 410-299-8403) if you will be attending and if you wish to pay or bring food. Bea will give the list of names to the LWV.



## PHOTOS FROM THE HOLIDAY PARTY



*Barbara Parker with her hostess gift*



*Connie and Lou Palmieri enjoying the buffet*



A festive Holiday Party for members and guests was held at Barbara Parker's historic home, "Rockburn" Funds raised at the event will be used for our local scholarships.

## NOTES FROM AAUW FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

The speakers at the November branch meeting sent warm notes of appreciation that I want to share with you.  
*Diane Roca, Program Organizer*

- From Cynthia Nyaoro of Kenya, recipient of an AAUW Career Development Grant:  
"I am very grateful for the warm welcome and the opportunity you offered me to speak at your branch meeting. I don't even know what to say except my appreciation, you both were very kind and may showers of blessings come your way. Many thanks."
- From Marwa Ramadan of Egypt, recipient of an AAUW International Fellowship:  
"I was really grateful for meeting AAUW members that day. Please send my deepest appreciation and gratefulness to all AAUW committee members and my special appreciation for considering me and putting all of that together."

## INTEREST GROUPS

### GREAT DECISIONS

**Great Decisions is a foreign policy discussion**

**program.** Two separate groups meet monthly in a member's home: **Evening Group** on the third Monday of the month from 7:00 – 9:00 PM; **Daytime Group** on the first Thursday of the month from 1:00 – 3:00 PM.

**EVENING GROUP**

**January Meeting** – Monday, January 15, 7:00 PM

Host: TBD 2018 Discussion Booklets are expected to be delivered soon. I will contact members when they arrive. Diane Roca, Evening Group Contact [dbroca@comcast.net](mailto:dbroca@comcast.net) or 410-964-3523

**DAYTIME GROUP**

The Daytime Great Decisions group is ready for 2018. 2018 books were ordered for the members who pre-paid for them. The books will be sent to me in January; shortly after I will distribute them. We plan to have our first meeting of the new year in January or February. I am looking forward to discussing the new topics and seeing everyone after the holidays. Happy Holidays! Lorraine Trof, Daytime Group Contact [lmerdon@verizon.net](mailto:lmerdon@verizon.net) or 301-617-2785.

### ADVENTURES IN DINING

On Tuesday, January 9, Adventures in Dining will be meet at 6:30 PM at Asian Palace at 10801 Hickory Ridge Road in Columbia. On February 6, we will meet at 6:30 PM at Rudy's Mediterranean Grill at 7185 Columbia Gateway Drive in Columbia.

*Carol Phelps, Chair*  
[carolmcauliffe@verizon.net](mailto:carolmcauliffe@verizon.net)

### LUNCH BUNCH

The Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, December 28th, and on Thursday, January 25th, 2018. As usual we will gather at Nordstrom's Cafe in Columbia Mall at 11:30 am.

*Gail Rust, Chair, Lunch Bunch*  
[ggrust@verizon.net](mailto:ggrust@verizon.net)

### READER'S GROUP

The group meets every other month, starting in January, on the third Thursday at 11:00 AM at the East Columbia Senior Center (attached to the East Columbia Library.) Lunch follows at 1:00 PM at Clyde's. Next meeting and book: **January 18, Miss Grief and Other Stories** by Constance Fenimore Woolson.

**Contact:** *Doris Raytkwich*  
[dwhitespring@verizon.net](mailto:dwhitespring@verizon.net) or 301-776-1392  
*Barbara Parker* [bparker@virginia.edu](mailto:bparker@virginia.edu)  
or 410-796-9019

### BRIDGE GROUP

Meets on the first Wednesday of each month. If you have questions or would like to be a part of the group, email Karen Tang at [ktang54@verizon.net](mailto:ktang54@verizon.net) or Laura Wilson at [laurawilson3033@aol.com](mailto:laurawilson3033@aol.com).

## **Education Committee News**

### **Suzanne Soules, VP**

The Education Committee is happy to announce we will conduct a “Start Smart” seminar this March at Howard Community College. This is a two-hour seminar to help new job-seekers negotiate the best salary and benefit package when interviewing for a job. We are working with Schnell Garrett, Director of Student Life, to set the date in close conjunction with the HCC job fair. HCC will provide the space; we will provide the facilitators. I have the names of one person who has been trained and one person who has volunteered to take the training. If anyone else is interested in taking the facilitator training, and can commit to being available to conduct seminars, please email me: [suzanne.soules@gmail.com](mailto:suzanne.soules@gmail.com).

Maureen Marshal, Assistant Director for Career Links at HCC, is preparing to send out the requests for applications for our scholarships. The timing is set so the women can prepare their applications over winter break, and we can grant the monies before the early deadline for the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. (NCCWSL)

*Suzanne Soules*  
*VP Education*

## **Advocacy/Public Policy News**

### **Bev Fallik and Joan Clinch, Co-VPs**

There is strength in numbers and numbers of support for HB955 are adding up. The Frederick branch has endorsed HB955. Bev Fallik and Beth Hayden met with the Women’s Commission in Frederick County which expressed support. There was a meeting with the MD AAUW liaison with colleges, Caitlin Brauer, and she will connect us with the branch at College Park.

The big event for November was the presentation of the bill for consideration at the MLAW (Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women) meeting. The bill was eloquently described by Bev Fallik and Del. Terri Hill and the vote for endorsement will take place in December. We are optimistic this go-around. The energy and counsel of Erin Prangley, AAUW State Public Policy VP, has been invaluable.

We received feedback that members in our own AAUW branch and other branches are requesting a message with clear steps to express support for the bill.

We are working on this to have it ready for the start of the 2018 session which begins in early January.

*Bev Fallik and Joan Clinch, Co-VPs*  
*Advocacy/Public Policy*

# Views from MLAW Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women



*Bev Fallik and Joan Clinch studying legislative proposals at MLAW.*



*Bev Fallik presenting HB955 at MLAW Conference.*



*AAUW Maryland was well represented at the MLAW Conference on October 19. Delegate Terri Hill (District 12) is in the center, wearing blue jacket.*

## **Membership News**

### **Zeli Castella, VP**

An orientation meeting was held on Wednesday, November 8, at the home of Lorraine Tropf. Two prospective members, one paid new member and a member who had not received orientation and had not been getting information were present. It appears that this member has not paid her dues and promised to send her dues to Carol Phelps (Finance Officer.) I sent her an email about how to go about doing this. Also present at this meeting was Joan Clinch who spoke about the work that the Advocacy/Public Policy Group is doing. Joan had to leave after her presentation.

After Joan's presentation, Lorraine suggested we break for some snacks and drinks. Lorraine then proceeded to present the orientation to our branch and answered questions posed by the attendees who wanted to know more about AAUW.

Those present were Sally Parker, already a member; Pat Hook, a member who will rejoin; Sheila Jones, who joined that evening; and Shamima Abid, who also joined that evening. Sheila is a graduate of the University of Maryland with a major in Physical Education. She had a career as a teacher and as a Personal Trainer. Shamima is a graduate of the University of Buffalo, New York. She is retired from the New York City Housing Authority.

*Zeli Castella, VP Membership*

## **Diversity News**

### **Marcia Posner, Chair**

Diversity is studying China's history, culture and especially the changing roles of women. We are watching a six-hour documentary, hopefully getting information from the Embassy, will hold a book discussion February 10 (book to be determined), and will have a food tasting at the April branch meeting.

*Marcia Posner*  
*Chair, Diversity Committee*

## AAUW HOWARD COUNTY 2017-2018 CALENDER OF EVENTS

### BRANCH MEETINGS

<i>Day/Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Program</i>
Sat, Jan 6	11 am	1 <sup>st</sup> Evan Lutheran Church	Legislative Luncheon with LWV
Sat, Feb 10	11 am	Union Jack's	Book Bash Lunch
Tues, Mar 13	7 pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Evan Lutheran Church	Edith M. Cord
Tues, Apr 10	7 pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Evan Lutheran Church	Diversity/Election of officers
Sat, Apr 28	1 pm	Vantage House	Fashion Show
MAY	n/a	n/a	No meeting
Tues, Jun 12	6:30 pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Evan Lutheran Church	Salad Supper/Install officers

### BOARD MEETINGS

December	n/a	no Board meeting
Tues, Jan 16	n/a	email reports
Tues, Feb 20	1 pm	home of Suzanne Soules
Tues, Mar 20	7 pm	TBD
April	n/a	no Board meeting
Tues, May 15	7 pm	TBD – incoming and outgoing officers
Tues, Jun 19	7 pm	TBD – incoming and outgoing officers





**2017-2018 AAUW Howard County Branch Officers**

*President: Bea Dane 410-299-8403*

*1st Vice President : position open*

*Financial Officer: Carol Phelps 410-381-7076*

*Vice President, Programs: Barbara Parker 434-962-8439*

*Vice President, Philanthropy: position open*

*Vice President, Social: Debbie Munley 301-776-7388*

*Co Vice Presidents, Secretary:*

*Mary Ann Crosby 410-465-0507, Jean Parr 410-381-6351*

*Donna Levinson 301-490-0294*

*Vice President, Education: Suzanne Soules 410-872-8603*

*Co-Vice Presidents, Advocacy/Public Policy:*

*Bev Fallik 301-596-6208, Joan Clinch 443-995-8799*

*Vice President, Membership: Zeli Castella 443-542-9568*

*Vice President, Communications: Diane Roca*

*410-964-3523*

*Diversity Chair: Marcia Posner 410-465-1905*

*Fashion Show Chairs: Caroline Tunison 301-497-8688,*

*Kathy McCarthy 410-465-48-4831*

*Website Manager: Jennifer Ingram 410-740-4276*

*Adventures in Dining: Carol Phelps 410-381-7076*

*AAUW Readers: Doris Raytkwitch 301-776-1392,*

*Barbara Parker 410-796-9019*

*Great Decisions: Daytime - Lorraine Tropsf 301-617-2785*

*Evening - Diane Roca 410-964-3523*

*Hand Crafters and Movies: Anne Tarantino 410-740-1285*

*Lunch Bunch: Gail Rust 443-864-4189*

*Bridge: Karen Tang 410 531-0619,*

*Laura Wilson 219 688-8261*