

AAUW Howard County Branch NEWSLETTER



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

MARCH 2018

March is Women's History Month and our March guest speaker, Edith Mayer Cord, has quite a history to tell us. Born in Vienna in 1928, Edith moved to Italy with her family to escape the rise of Nazism in Austria. In 1938, Italy passed the same anti-Jewish laws, and the entire family was asked to leave. Unable to receive a visa for any country, Edith and her family entered France illegally in April 1939 where they received political asylum. In July 1943, Edith went into hiding with false papers with the help of the Jewish scouts of France and their clandestine arm, the Sixième. She spent a year on the run, hiding in different schools, until she was smuggled into Switzerland in May 1944 with a group of thirty Jewish children. Eventually, she made it to the US in the early 1950's. Edith has written a book (available in our library) Becoming Edith: The Education of a Hidden Child. She will share her experiences and the lessons learned the hard way: how to rise above difficult circumstances, transcend hatred, find meaning and protect our freedom.

Our meeting is Tuesday, March 13th, 7:00 PM at the 1st Evangelical Lutheran Church on the corner of Route 144 (Frederick Road) and Chatham Road. **Please spread the word and bring friends/relatives/prospective members!**

A big thank you to our Diversity Committee for providing the program at our February Book Bash! They did a super job and we all learned that female Chinese authors have some wonderful stories to tell.

Our nominating committee (Lorraine Tropf, Connie Palmieri, Marcia Posner, Suzanne Soules and Bea Dane) has submitted the following candidates for the 2018-20 term, which begins on July 1st: (Election of officers takes place at the April meeting; installation at the June meeting)

President: Beth Hayden

1st VP/Co-President: Position available

Program Co-VPs: Susan Hailman and Barbara Parker

Education VP: Suzanne Soules

Membership VP: Zeli Castella

Thanks to all of you who have agreed to take on leadership positions! Our branch elects half the Board each year, so there is an overlap of experience.

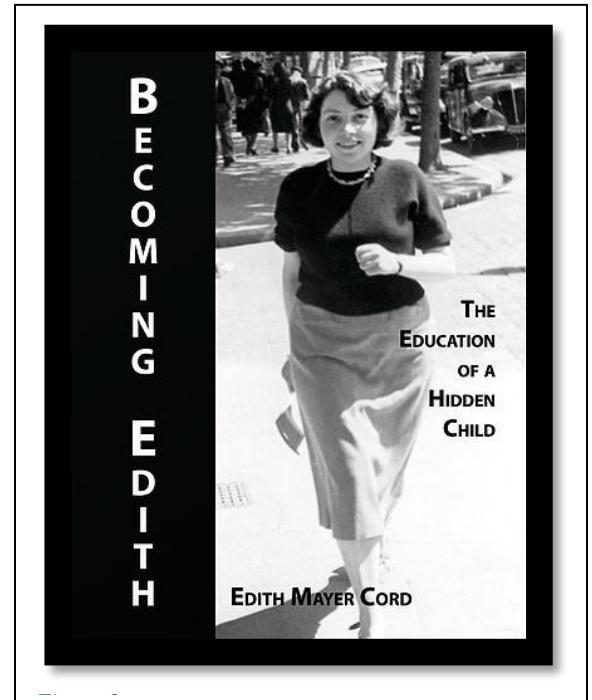
Bea Dane, President

MARCH PROGRAM

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

On March 13th, we return to evening Branch meetings at 1st Evangelical Lutheran Church located at 3604 Chatham Road in Ellicott City (the corner of Chatham Road and Frederick Road-Rte. 144).

We are very fortunate to have **Edith M. Cord** as our speaker. Ms. Cord was born in Vienna, Austria, in 1928. As a young Jewish girl, she experienced first-hand the horrific rise of Nazism driving her family to seek asylum elsewhere in Europe. Unable to secure visas, the family illegally entered France. They were eventually granted political asylum. This proved short lived. At the outbreak of World War II, her father and later her brother were arrested and ultimately taken to Auschwitz. She never saw either again. At fourteen she went into hiding with false papers until she could be smuggled into Switzerland. Although safe from Nazi persecution, she was deprived of an education and found work as a Nanny. After the war she was reunited with her mother who was still in France. She struggled through the next seven years while simultaneously attempting to earn a living, come to terms with man's inhumanity toward his fellow man, and pursue an education. Her powerful and poignant story is a true testament to her strength and courage.



Do you have an idea for a branch meeting program or a guest speaker you would like us to invite? Please contact our Program VP, Barbara Parker at 434-962-8439 or bparker@virginia.edu with your ideas.

SAVE THE DATE

- March 1 (Thurs)** – Great Decisions Daytime Group
- March 6 (Tues)** – Adventures in Dining
- March 13 (Tues)** – Women's History Month branch meeting, First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ellicott City
- March 19 (Mon)** – Great Decisions Evening Group
- March 22 – 24** – AAUW Gaithersburg Book Sale, Asbury Methodist Village
- March 29 (Thurs)** – Lunch Bunch
- April 14 (Sat)** – AAUW Maryland Convention - Baltimore
- April 28 (Sat)** – AAUW Fashion Show and Scholarship Fundraiser

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

Monday, March 19 7:00- 9:00 PM

Host: Lee Ann Hartman

Refreshments: Gail Burke

Topic 3: *China and America*

Diane Roca, Evening Group Contact

dbroca@comcast.net or 410-964-3523

DAYTIME GROUP

The Daytime Great Decisions group will meet on Thursday, March 1 at 1:00 pm. We will discuss Chapter 2, *Russia's Foreign Policy*.

We will meet at the home of Mary Ann Crosby. Please let Mary Ann know if you plan to attend. baywatch333@verizon.net or 410 465-6507.

Lorraine Tropf, Daytime Group Contact

lmerdon@verizon.net or 301-617-2785.

ADVENTURES IN DINING

On March 6, we will meet at 6:30 PM at Kelsey's Pub in the Normandy Shopping Center on Route 40.

Carol Phelps, Chair

carolmcauliffe@verizon.net

LUNCH BUNCH

The Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, March 29, at 11:30, in Nordstrom's Cafe, Columbia Mall. No reservations are needed.

Gail Rust, Chair, Lunch Bunch

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. Our next meeting is March 15 at 11:00 AM and the book is *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen. We have scheduled our next planning meeting for Thursday, May 10

Contact: *Doris Raytkwich*

dwhitespring@verizon.net or

301-776-1392

Barbara Parker bparker@virginia.edu



Philanthropy News

FASHION SHOW

FUNDRAISER FOR BRANCH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

APRIL 28, 2018
Vantage House @ 1:00 pm



Please help us put on another successful show to raise funds for the branch scholarship fund. If you've been to a branch meeting and heard one of our past recipients speak about how much they appreciate our support, it makes all our hard work worthwhile.

You can help by volunteering to model in the fashion show. Lord & Taylor is providing the fashions again, plus doing your make-up for the show. Or you can donate a door prize.

Bring a guest -- a friend, a prospective member etc. Tickets will be sent out to each member at the end of March. Please consider purchasing all your tickets as a donation to the scholarship fund.

To volunteer, or any questions, please contact either Kathy McCarthy or Caroline Tunison.

To volunteer, or any questions, please contact:
Kathy McCarthy (katmac200@yahoo.com)
Caroline Tunison (redcat1977@verizon.net)
Co-Chairs Fashion Show

Education Committee News

Suzanne Soules, VP

Scholarships

The education committee is happy to announce our Howard Community College scholarship students for 2018:

- Lianne Bruni will go to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, held at the University of Maryland, College Park, MD, May 30- June 2. She is an Engineering student and the President of the Hispanic Student Union.
- Petrina Miller is transferring to complete her BA in Early Childhood Development and Business Management.
- Oretta Timmons is continuing her studies with the goal of being a counselor.
- Marquita Brown is a pediatric nurse who wants to specialize in respiratory care for infants.

They have been invited to our June Salad Supper when we can meet them, learn more about them, and encourage their success.

STEM Activities

Girl Power is scheduled for Sunday, March 11 from 2 – 5 PM. We will have a table with the theme “Reach for the Stars.” Do encourage your daughters or granddaughters to come join the fun held at Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory, Kossiakoff Center, 11100 Johns Hopkins Road, Laurel MD 20723

Salary Negotiation Seminar

Howard Community College holds a 3-year license to conduct the AAUW program of Start Smart. On Wednesday, March 21, Debbie Munley and Suzanne Soules will facilitate this seminar to help soon-to graduate women negotiate the best salary and benefits as they interview for their new jobs.

The goal of this program is to decrease the gender wage gap that is still prevalent in the US today. We have often heard that women earn approximately 80 percent of what a man does for the same work. This holds true, even now in the 21st century. The long-term consequences of the salary gap means over \$418,800 less money for women to spend while they are working and significantly less to live on when they retire. The numbers for women of color are even more dire. Knowing what the job is worth to a company, and being able to articulate her own worth will go a long way to getting a fair starting salary.

Suzanne Soules
VP Education

Diversity News

Marcia Posner, Chair

Our committee has been busy planning events to help us learn about China. We held a “Book Bash” on February 10, 2018, at Union Jack and our event was very successful. Five of us each read a book by a woman Chinese author and presented a report about each. It led to discussions, both interesting and fun. The books were:

- *The Little Restaurant* by Wang Anyi (report by Shigeyo Ibrahim)
- *Vicissitudes of Life* by Wang Xiaoying (Marcia Posner)
- *Ah, Blue Bird* by Lu Xiung'er (Debi Wade)
- *When a Baby is Born* by Cheng Naishan (Susan Hailman)
- *His One and Only* by Wang Xiaoyu (Peg O'Rourke)

On March 11, our committee will be viewing the last of the six DVD's about China that were aired on PBS. Each one is an hour long and fascinating. We watch and eat, as we are multi-taskers.

On Thursday, May 3, we will discuss *The Leavers* by Lisa Ko. We will meet at 11:30 at Rudy's Mediterranean restaurant (where you can get just about any kind of food—including “the best” burgers.” Rudy wouldn't lie.) Anyone who went last year to discuss *The Underground Railroad* knows how successful and delicious an event it was. If you wish to join us, e-mail Deb Wade (Deb_wade@yahoo.com) or Marcia Posner (marciaposner@aol.com) by April 23.

Speaking of April, we will be holding the program for the branch meeting and will have real and American Chinese food to taste. (Remember the tasting last year of African American food!) We will have someone (working on that), who will give information about China and it's changing role of women.

Marcia Posner
Chair, Diversity Committee



Peg O'Rourke, Debi Wade, Shigeyo Ibrahim, Marcia Posner, Susan Heilman

Advocacy/Public Policy News

Bev Fallik and Joan Clinch, Co-VPs

The Committee has continued its focus on SB965 and HB1152, which extends the court's authority until age 23 for post-secondary education support. As mentioned in the last newsletter, some of the bill's language had been changed at the last minute without our knowledge which was unfortunate. Nevertheless, it still included the post-secondary support extension, so we continued our support, along with AAUWMaryland and NOW. The hearings were February 21 (Senate) and February 22 (House). We are very appreciative of the written support the bill received, calls that were made, and the several brave AAUW members who traveled to the hearing to show their support. We were delighted to see Suzanne Soules and Barbara Carter as well as several representatives from Baltimore and Ann Arundel Counties. Both days, Caitlin Brauer (AAUW MD College Liaison/Baltimore County) joined Marcia Posner and Bev Fallik to provide oral testimony before both committees. Anita Rosen (AAUW MD/Montgomery County) and Linda Mahoney (NOW) joined us to provide Senate testimony on Wednesday.

We are extremely grateful to Senator Susan Lee (Montgomery County) and her chief of staff Michael Lore for the help and support they've provided this year. We also thank Howard County Delegate Terri Hill for her continued support. Unfortunately, neither committee was very receptive and there is little likelihood of the bill passing this year. The committees mostly continued their focus on the constitutionality regarding children of married vs. divorced parents -- despite the MD Attorney General's clear-cut 14 page formal opinion in support of our position, despite similar states successfully countering such challenges, and despite the fact that 16 states already have such a law. After the hearing, Terri did note a few areas where we had previously pointed out problems and agreed that they should be rectified. We are taking a well -earned break and will be revisiting our strategy soon.

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

AAUW HOWARD COUNTY 2018 CALENDER OF EVENTS

BRANCH MEETINGS

<i>Day/Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Program</i>
Tues, Mar 13	7 pm	1 st Evan Lutheran Church	Edith M. Cord
Tues, Apr 10	7 pm	1 st 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 st Evan Lutheran Church	Salad Supper/Install officers

BOARD MEETINGS

Tues, Mar 20	7 pm	Central Library
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

AAUW MARYLAND STATE-WIDE EVENTS

Sat., April 14 – Annual State Convention
Catonsville Campus Arts Building of the Community College of Baltimore County
800 South Rolling Rd Baltimore, MD

Sat. July (Date TBD) – Summer Leadership Conference

AAUW GAITHERSBURG ANNUAL BOOK SALE

Something for everyone! Benefits AAUW scholarships.

Thursday, March 22, Friday, March 23: 9 AM – 8PM

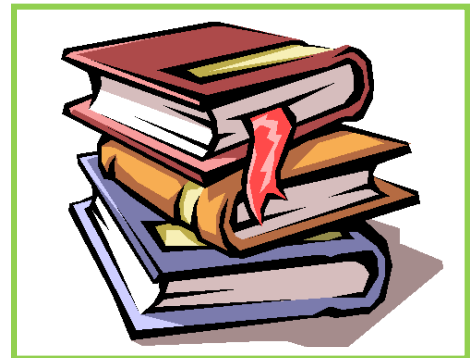
Saturday, March 24: (Bag Day) 9 AM – 4 PM

30,000 Books! 60+ categories!

Art, kids, cooking, foreign languages, gardening,
history, math, mystery, sci-fi, CDs, DVDs and more!

Location: Rosborough Center Community Rooms,
Bldg. 409

Asbury Methodist Village, Gaithersburg, MD 20877
For GPS enter 301 Odenthal Avenue 20877



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 Tropf 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