

# AAUW Howard County Branch NEWSLETTER



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

## APRIL 2019

It's Spring at last and we're cruising into our biggest fundraiser -- the annual **Fashion Show on April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Vantage House** once again! So climb on board and bid "bon voyage" to old man winter as we move out for some fun and excitement! Everyone should have received their tickets and I encourage you to either buy tickets for you, your friends and family or consider making a donation. Remember, it goes to our scholarship fund which this year provided a record number of scholarships to eight impressive and deserving women.

At our **April 9<sup>th</sup> branch meeting**, the board will present a **slate of 9 officers** it has approved for next year. I will ask you to vote on the following officers for a 2-year term that will begin July 1:

Social VP and Co-VP	Carol Phelps, Connie Palmieri
1st VP	Still Open
Co-secretaries	Jean Parr, Friedel Warner
Public Policy VP and Co-VP	Bev Fallik, Lucie Geinzer
Finance Officer	Bea Dane
Philanthropy VP	Chizoba Ebinama
Communications VP	Diane Roca

Also, at our April branch meeting, as part of our **Diversity Program**, we will hear a presentation about Korean women in our community and get to sample some Korean desserts and beverage.

Our team did a marvelous job at the **Girl Power** event March 10th at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab. The theme was "*Star Struck: Women in Astronomy and Space*" and our own astronomer, Sethanne Howard, talked to some of the 800 girls along with adults totaling over 1,200 attendees there. Hands-on demonstrations with a self-inflating balloon also helped pique these youngsters' interest in STEM careers.

Don't forget about a generous donation to the **NCCWSL Woman of Distinction**, Judy Carbone of Garrett County. She will be honored May 31<sup>st</sup> in College Park at the NCCWSL Conference. It's easy to go online to donate at [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) and click on "Give to NCCWSL here" or drop a check in the mail addressed to AAUW in Washington, DC.

Lastly, consider joining us for **AAUW Maryland's State Convention April 13** at the Wisp Resort. You can find more information on our branch's activities in this newsletter.

Beth Hayden, President [bhayden52@aol.com](mailto:bhayden52@aol.com)

Branch website: [howardcounty-md.aauw.net](http://howardcounty-md.aauw.net) Password: h0c0MD

## Programs

Susan Hailman, VP

### APRIL PROGRAM - Tuesday, April 9 at 7:00 PM

The meeting is at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, located at 3604 Chatham Road in Ellicott City (the corner of Chatham Road and Frederick Road- Route 144).

#### *Talk and food tasting*



#### **South Korean Women - Life in Howard County**

On April 9, the Diversity Committee, which has focused on South Korea this year, will sponsor a presentation by Sue Song and several other members of the Korean American

Association on the conflicting roles and responsibilities of Korean American women. Korean Americans make up over 4% of the Howard County population, yet many remain quite separate from mainstream culture, even after residing here for many years, and may have difficulty connecting with available community resources. Ms. Song has been instrumental in bridging these cultural gaps. Come learn about what's been accomplished, what still needs to be done, and opportunities to work together in the future. Typical Korean desserts will give us a "taste" of the rich traditions of this country.

#### **Save The Date for these Spring Events**

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| April 9, 7:00 PM  | Branch Meeting, Diversity Event (South Korea); Election of Officers at 1 <sup>st</sup> Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ellicott City |
| April 13          | AAUW Maryland Annual Convention, Wisp Resort, McHenry, MD   |
| April 27, 1:00 PM | Fashion Show and Fundraiser, Vantage House  |
| June 11           | Salad Supper, 1 <sup>st</sup> Evangelical Lutheran Church   |

## PHILANTHROPY - Fashion Show

### FASHION SHOW “CRUISE INTO SPRING” FUNDRAISER FOR BRANCH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Date: April 27, 2019, at 1:00 PM  
Location: Vantage House  
5400 Vantage Point Road, Columbia MD

Please join us on Saturday, April 27, at 1:00 PM for our branch scholarship fundraiser as we “Cruise Into Spring” with fun spring fashions provided by Lord & Taylor at the Columbia Mall. Tickets have been mailed out to all members.

Please consider purchasing all 4 tickets as a donation to the scholarship fund. Bring a guest – a friend or a prospective member -- and enjoy light refreshments donated by Vantage House as you watch our models parade by. We have fabulous door prizes and you can buy tickets for some exciting raffle prizes.

This is the branch’s largest fundraiser for the year, and we need everyone’s support. It’s not too late to donate a door prize or volunteer to help. See you on April 27!

Caroline Tunison ([redcat1977@verizon.net](mailto:redcat1977@verizon.net))  
Debbie Munley ([debbiemunley@verizon.net](mailto:debbiemunley@verizon.net))  
Co-chairs Fashion Show



## Public Policy

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

This year at the General Assembly, we had two somewhat different versions of our bill to extend parental support from age 18 to 21 for college or technical school. The Senate version (SB 264) was simpler while the House version (HB937) added factors for courts to consider. Marcia Posner and I (Bev Fallik) testified at the Senate hearing along with Kate Stevenson, AAUW State Co-President, and Linda Mahoney, former President of Maryland NOW. Michele Geckle of Carroll County joined us in testifying in the House. The Senate voted against the bill and, despite some promising discussion in the House hearing, the House version of the bill was withdrawn at the last minute, because the committee had not yet voted in time for it to go to the Senate.

Our committee has given careful thought to the various factors, both in terms of process and content, that likely contributed to the failure of these bills to pass. We, along with the Board, are leaning toward taking a pause this year to regroup, rethink and re-examine these factors and give careful consideration to our short- and long-term future activities. These could include possible alternative approaches to achieving our goal of supporting higher education legislation or diverting our energies to some other worthwhile objective. Joan Clinch and I want to thank our dedicated committee members Marcia Posner, Beth Hayden and Penny Zervos for all their ideas, energy and persistence - even when life (moving, health issues, etc.) intercedes. Likewise, we thank Linda Mahoney (NOW), Kate Stephenson (AAUW Maryland State Co-President), and our newest citizen advocate Michele Geckle, for their creativity, energy and passion. We are delighted to welcome Lucie Geinzer, our newest member and look forward to this coming year's activities. We will continue to meet on the 4th Tuesday morning of every month at 10:30 AM at Wegman's.

*Bev Fallik, Co-Vice President*



## **Education**

### **Suzanne Soules, VP**

#### **SCHOLARSHIP NEWS**

Working with Howard Community College is one tangible way we, in the Howard County Branch, can significantly help support and promote women. This year, the board authorized 8 scholarships; 2 for transfer students, 4 for ongoing HCC students and 2 for the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders.

Our two transfer students are impressive women.

Multi-lingual Tsega Amhatsion is the first in her family to go to college. She grew up in Eritrea speaking Tigrinya, and Amharic. She is also skilled in Arabic, Italian and Ugandan. With extra help from student support services at HCC, she is now fluent in English. Tsega is a single mother of 4 children, encouraging them to value education and to become persons who will make a difference in society. While she is already a Certified Nursing/Geriatric Assistant, her goal is a Bachelor's degree from the University of Baltimore to be a counselor in Chemical Dependency and Alcohol Addiction.

Like Tsega, Yeojeong Kim is passionate about giving back to the community. Originally from Seoul, Korea, she lives here in Columbia. She finished her Associate of Arts Degree at HCC in December 2018 and is now attending Stevenson University to earn her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. While a student, she has worked as a Certified Nursing Assistant and as a Certified Korean Language Interpreter, a vital skill needed in our diverse community. She has been noted in the "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges."

We wish them well and all success as they continue their studies.

*Suzanne Soules, VP Education*



## Photo Gallery

### Girl Power

Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, was the annual Girl Power STEM Festival at Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory. Our Education Committee was there with a display of “Star Struck: Women in Astronomy and Space.” Thanks to Cathy Pelsinsky, Debbie Munley, Sethanne Howard, and Jeannie Parr we had a highly successful event. Marcia Posner donated candy, Cathy brought the telescope, Jeannie brought her son Sebastian who proved to be a great helper, and Sethanne is our PhD. Astrophysicist.



Cathy Pelsinsky, Debbie Munley, Sethanne Howard, Jean Parr, Suzanne Soules  
*“Star Struck: Women in Astronomy and Space.”*

According to Elise Buckley, the coordinator for APL, attendance at Girl Power this year included over 800 kids and a total of 1,200 people. We handed out 400 self-inflating balloons thanks again to Jeannie, 275-word search and crossword puzzles on space, and about four pounds of Starburst candies! We also supported some teachers and home-schooling parents with the material from the American Chemical Society.



These girls are listening to the chemical reaction going on in the mylar balloon once they had stomped on the balloon to break the packet of citric acid. The fluid then mixed with the baking soda already in the balloon to create the chemical reaction, giving off carbon dioxide, thus inflating the balloon. The balloons get cold during this process, so the girls went home with a new vocabulary word -- “endothermic” reaction.

## WORK SMART ONLINE

Get [#5WomenYouKnow](#) to Do [Work Smart Online](#)!

Let's make salary inequity a thing of the past. Do you have a friend or family member who is applying for a new job or promotion and worried about how to ask for fair pay? Join AAUW in getting five women you know to sign up for [Work Smart Online](#), our free salary negotiation course that teaches women how to ask for the salary and benefits they deserve. And encourage them to tell five women they know, too!

Visit [salary.aauw.org](http://salary.aauw.org) to get started and show us how you're spreading the word by using the hashtag [#5WomenYouKnow](#) on social media.

Ready to mobilize a million? Help AAUW train 10 million women in salary negotiations by 2022 and to help us achieve pay equity by 2030. The best way to expand your reach is through social media! Check out how many users are on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram:

- ✓ **2 billion**  
number of monthly active Facebook users
- ✓ **33.6 million**  
number of monthly active Twitter users and 100 million daily users
- ✓ **77.6 million**  
number of Instagram active users in the U.S. alone

## AAUW Maryland Annual Convention Saturday, April 13

### REMINDER

Plan to attend the AAUW Maryland Convention on Saturday, April 13, at Wisp Resort, hosted by the Garrett County Branch. The very timely topic of the one-day program is *"Making Ends Meet: Financial Women Security for All Ages."* At convention you will meet dynamic women from all over the state and come home with new ideas for action. Several branch members are planning to attend. Check with President Beth Hayden for carpooling.

A file with registration information is sent to you along with this newsletter.

## 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**

We will discuss Topic #4. *European Populism and Immigration* on Monday, April 15, at 7:00 PM.

Hostess: Bev Fallik, 5132 Eliots Oak Road, Columbia

Refreshments: Gail Rust

Contact: Diane Roca

[dbroca@comcast.net](mailto:dbroca@comcast.net) or 410-964-3523

### **DAYTIME GROUP**

The daytime Great Decisions Group will meet on Thursday, April 4 at 1: pm to discuss Chapter 4, *European Populism and Immigration*. We will meet at the home of Bea Dane. Please tell Bea if you plan to attend at:

[bea\\_dane@comcast.net](mailto:bea_dane@comcast.net) or 410 299-8403.

Contact: Lorraine Tropf

[lmerdon@comcast.net](mailto:lmerdon@comcast.net)

### **ADVENTURES IN DINING**

We will be meeting at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, April 2. Please contact me for details. Hope to see you there!

Contact: Carol Phelps

[carolmcauliffe@verizon.net](mailto:carolmcauliffe@verizon.net)

### **LUNCH BUNCH**

The Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, April 25, at 11:30 AM, Nordstrom's Cafe in Columbia Mall.

*Gail Rust, Chair, Lunch Bunch*

[ggrust@verizon.net](mailto:ggrust@verizon.net)

### **AAUW READERS**

We meet on the third Thursday of the month at the East Columbia Senior Center at 11:00 AM. Lunch at a local restaurant follows the discussion.

- May 16: *PLANNING MEETING* for 2019-2020.

Contacts: *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





## MESSAGE FROM AAUW NATIONAL OFFICE

### No In-Person National Convention in 2020

Last summer, AAUW sent members an update on 2020 convening, which outlined a strategy for a digital convening series and noted the potential for a smaller in-person event, as opposed to an AAUW national convention. During discussions on the organization's finances and operations at the recent AAUW Board of Directors meeting, the board has decided **there will be no in-person national convention or major convening in 2020**. Given the significant financial losses from previous conventions, the risk involved in holding even a smaller gathering was too great, particularly with hotel and catering costs at a premium in the Washington, D.C., area. As you know, AAUW's financial sustainability is a key part of the strategic plan.

We know many of you have been waiting on national AAUW's dates to finalize your own state and regional conventions in 2020, and we hope that this information will be helpful.

All of us deeply recognize and value the importance of bringing women together to support AAUW and its mission. If your state or regional leaders are seeking information about holding a regional convention, please reach out to the Connect team at [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org).

We're happy to announce plans for the first virtual event in the 2020 series next January. "A 2020 Vision for Equity" will bring together a panel with leaders from politics, business and beyond to share their insights about the progress made in women's equity and the future of our movement. More information about this virtual event and the 2020 online series will be sent in the coming months.

**We also want to draw your attention to upcoming changes to AAUW's national committees.** The board of directors approved a new committee structure, after a review by a subcommittee of the board. The changes align AAUW's committees with best practices in nonprofit governance and AAUW's strategic priorities and needs. The changes include:

- Creation of an Advancement Committee. This committee merges the fundraising and membership functions, which are closely linked, and have been combined at the national office. The new Advancement Committee will advise the board and AAUW on fundraising strategy, membership, and new audience development. As a result, four committees will disband and be combined into the Advancement Committee as of July 1: Branch Program Resources, Fundraising, Membership and the C/U.
- Tasking the Governance Committee with making committee appointments, a process previously handled by the Committee Appointments Task Force.

We're grateful to everyone who volunteers on a national committee. Their thoughtful counsel makes AAUW stronger. The application for national committees, including the new Advancement Committee, opens on April 1.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out. Thanks again for your commitment to AAUW.

Sincerely, Julia T. Brown, Board Chair and Kimberly Churches, Chief Executive Officer

## 2019 Calendar April - June

### APRIL

- 2 -- **Adventures in Dining** @ 6 pm; Place TBD
- 4 -- **Great Decisions** @ 1 pm; *The Rise of Populism in Europe*
- 9 -- **Branch Meeting and Diversity Event** @ 7 pm; 1<sup>st</sup> Evangelical Lutheran Church
- 13 - **AAUW Maryland Annual Convention**, Wisp Resort, McHenry, MD
- 15 -- **Great Decisions** @ 7 pm; *The Rise of Populism in Europe*
- 16 -- **Board Meeting** @ 7 pm; Central Library
- 23 -- **Public Policy Meeting** @ 10:30 am; Wegman's
- 25 -- **Lunch Bunch** @ 11:30 am; Nordstrom's Café
- 27 -- **Fashion Show** @ 1:00 PM; Vantage House

### MAY

- 2 - **Great Decisions @ 1pm;** *Decoding U.S. – China Trade*
- 7 -- **Adventures in Dining** @ 6 pm; Place TBD
- 16 -- **AAUW Readers** @ 11 am; E. Columbia Sr. Ctr, planning meeting for 2019-20
- 20 -- **Great Decisions** @ 7 pm *Decoding U.S. – China Trade*
- 21 -- **Board Meeting** @ 7 pm; E. Columbia Library
- 30 -- **Lunch Bunch** @ 11:30 am; Nordstrom's Café

### JUNE

- 4 -- **Adventures in Dining** @ 6 pm; Place TBD
- 6 – **Great Decisions** @ 1pm; *Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics*
- 11 -- **Branch Salad Supper** @ 6:30 pm; 1<sup>st</sup> Evangelical Lutheran Church; install officers; meet scholarship winners
- 17 -- **Great Decisions** @ 7 pm; *Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics*
- 18 -- **Board Meeting** @ 7 pm; E. Columbia Library
- 25 -- **Public Policy Meeting** @ 10:30 am; Wegman's
- 27 -- **Lunch Bunch** @ 11:30 am; Nordstrom's Café
- TBA – Howard Community College STEM Festival

**2018-2019 AAUW Howard County Branch Officers**

*President: Beth Hayden 410-707-2018 [bhayden52@aol.com](mailto:bhayden52@aol.com)*

*First Vice President: Position open*

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

*Vice President, Programs: Susan Hailman*

*[shailman@comcast.net](mailto:shailman@comcast.net)*

*Vice President, Philanthropy: Chizoba Ebinama 240-264-7824*

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

*Vice President, Secretary: Jean Parr 410-381-6351*

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

*Co-Vice Presidents, 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: Deb Wade, 410-531-2072*

*Fashion Show Chairs:*

*Debbie Munley [debbiemunley@verizon.net](mailto:debbiemunley@verizon.net) and*

*Caroline Tunison [redcat1977@verizon.net](mailto:redcat1977@verizon.net)*

*Website Manager: Position open*

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

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

*Barbara Parker 410-796-9019*

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

*Evening - Diane Roca 410-964-3523*

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

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