

AAUW Howard County Branch NEWSLETTER



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

DECEMBER 2019/JANUARY 2020

Hello and Happy Holidays members!

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving and are looking forward to the December holidays and our annual party December 8th where you can take a break from the shopping rush and relax, enjoying each other's friendship. Our calendar is filling up for the new year, so we've identified those below to mark on your calendar. I wish you all peace, joy and happiness in the new year.

Beth Hayden, President

- ✓ **Sunday, December 8:2:00 – 5:00 PM** Holiday Party, Barbara Parker's home
- ✓ **Saturday, January 8, 2010** 9:00 AM-Noon League of Women Voters Legislative Luncheon, St John's Episcopal Church 9120 Frederick Road, Ellicott City.
- ✓ **Sunday, January 26, 2020** 2:30 – 4:30 PM *Paint It Forward* fundraiser at Pinot's Palette
- ✓ **Saturday, February 8, 2020** 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM Book Bash at Union Jack's

January Program LWV Howard County Delegation Legislative Kickoff

On Saturday, **January 11**, the League of Women Voters of Howard County will hold its annual Howard County Delegation Legislative Kickoff. The event is from 9 am to 12 noon and will take place in All Saints Hall, in the St. John's Church Day School building 9120 Frederick Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042. Local senators and delegates will discuss the LWV of Maryland's **2020** legislative priorities. Our County Executive, Calvin Ball, and County Council members will also be there as special guests. Questions will be entertained on priorities for the 2020 General Assembly. This event offers an opportunity to get to know the people who are working for us and to make them aware of matters that matter most to us. The cost to attend is \$10.

Annual Holiday Party

In Support of our Scholarship Fund
Sunday, December 8, 2019
2- 5 pm

At “ Rockburn”, Home of Barbara Parker, 6581 Belmont Woods Road, Elkridge MD
This home was originally built in 1736. Francis Scott Key was a frequent visitor to Rockburn.

Spouses, guests, and friends are welcome!

\$10 per person, \$5 each additional person

Please bring a hot or cold appetizer, enough for 10-12 people—must be in a serving dish, with serving utensil (Desserts and beverages will be provided)

RSVP to conniepalmieri@yahoo.com by December 2nd and mail the following form, check.

Please complete the form below and mail with your check:

NO LATER THAN December 2, 2019

.....(detach form here).....

NAME _____

I plan to bring a guest(s) whose name(s) is (are) (please print):

Enclosed is a check made to “AAUW Howard County” for the amount of \$10.00 for one or \$15 for two people.

For the party, I plan to bring the following appetizer: _____

Mail this form with your check to:

Connie Palmieri, 13870 Kennard Dr., Glenelg, MD 21737



Programs

Susan Hailman, VP

AAUW 2020 Book Bash

February 8, 2020 11:30 am-2:30 pm

THEME: BOOKS I CAN'T PUT DOWN

Book Lovers Wanted!

Just in time for the dark days of winter, our Book Bash on Feb. 8 at Union Jack's will give us all the opportunity to leave with a list of new-to-us engrossing, couldn't-put-it-down titles to get us through until the spring thaw! Make sure you register and select your lunch—look for the form in the (next) newsletter. If you have a book you'd like to review (fiction or non-fiction, 5 minutes, no spoilers), please email Susan Hailman: shailman@comcast.net. We still have a few open spots for presenters. A flier will be sent out closer to the date.



VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES: Getting Our Name Out

At our November meeting, we enjoyed presentations by the Howard County Food Bank, The Village in Howard and Success in Style. There are opportunities for small teams to volunteer regularly or periodically to help these worthwhile organizations and to identify ourselves as AAUW members who make a difference in the community. We hope this will be another way to attract new members and to raise AAUW's profile in the county. We will be setting up dates for Feb and March for volunteer days. If you are interested, contact Susan Hailman: shailman@comcast.net More specifics after the holidays.

Education and Scholarships

Suzanne Soules, VP

Thank you all for the great success of the Tea in October. As you know, the one concrete way we are supporting women in Howard County is through the scholarships at Howard Community College. Last year we awarded 6 plus 2 to the leadership conference. With our current fundraising, we may be able to increase the amount or add some awards. We are working on a better way to process the monies. It will help Maureen Marshall at Career Links do less work and our treasurers do less check writing. It may also be a way to get our AAUW – Howard County name more credit for all our funding. The school has naming opportunities for spaces at the school with plaques posted in study areas, classrooms, assembly halls or labs. If we make a commitment for a certain time period, they will put our name up on a plaque in an area of the school. We are gathering information before a final decision is made. **The education committee will meet on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 7 pm in Wegmans' upper lounge.**

If you would like to be on the committee, we welcome you. Please let Suzanne know (suzanne.soules@gmail.com) We will make plans for **Girl Power**, the STEM fair held at Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab in March. We can discuss other ways we may want to support women and girls locally.

Public Policy

Lucie Geinzer and Bev Fallik, Co-VPs

The Public Policy Committee has been very active collecting information regarding the priority issues we've identified.

- (1) **Title IX**- We are interested in what data are required in reports, what data HoCo have and what activities/efforts are made to ensure gender equality in our schools. Penny is following up w/ national AAUW and Joan is following up locally with the HoCo Board of Ed and/or the County Council.
- (2) **Human Trafficking**- Marcia and Bev attended the HoCo Conference on Human Trafficking which was very informative. While there appear many organizations working to prevent and deter trafficking, there appear two organizations that provide the main support for victims. These are Grassroots and HopeWorks. MLAW historically also prioritizes legislation to combat trafficking and de-criminalizing victims. Our branch will provide support to those organizations and related legislation. Penny will look into what specific types of support we might provide.
- (3) **Higher Education**- Bev met w/ the Education Committee of Indivisible which is also interested in addressing the high cost of education and suggested perhaps coordinating a two-pronged approach. We would support each other's efforts. We agreed that the 2021 Assembly would be the goal. Marcia will investigate which states already provide free tuition (2 year and 4 year institutions).

- (4) We discussed the upcoming Dec. 6th meeting w/ Dels. Hill and Atterbeary. Our issues cluster around two topics: opposition (e.g. family bar, behind the scenes committee members, other) and timing of bill finalization in terms of networking.

We also thought it important to let the branch know about the MD Legislative Summit--another conference of statewide coalitions that is occurring on December 15th at UMBC and is attended by organizations familiar to us. The cost is only \$5. For those interested in attending, information can be found at

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/marylandlegislativecoalition/314724>

Members, especially those in Great Decisions, might be interested in signing up for the **Baltimore Council on Foreign Affairs speaker series**. We discussed the possibility of a group attending together. The cost is \$60 for the series. More information can be found at <https://www.bcfausa.org/>. The season already began in September, so this could be decided at a later date for next year's season.

Report from the MLAW Conference Nov. 23, 2019

MLAW is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2019. This strong collaboration of the collective power of women's groups and individuals has resulted in the passage of 90 pieces of legislation over the past 25 years. AAUW was well represented at the conference. Beth Hayden, Barbara Carter and Bev Fallik represented HoCo AAUW. The meeting is a wonderful opportunity for networking with other likeminded women's groups across the state. The new House Speaker, Adrienne Jones, provided informative and inspiring remarks to attendees and answered questions from the audience. She emphasized the importance of bills generated from grassroots constituents. Nineteen legislative proposals for the upcoming 2020 session of the Maryland General Assembly were presented. Of these bills, 6-8 will make up MLAW's 2020 Agenda. MLAW has sent ballots to all MLAW members in good standing. To read about the issues that were presented at the conference, you can view the detailed information on our website at: <https://mdlegagendaforwomen.files.wordpress.com/2019/11/mlaw-2019-bill-proposals.pdf>



Philanthropy

Chizoba Ebinama, VP

Painting it Forward

Back by popular demand! Paint and Sip at Pinot's Palette! Come join us for another Painting It Forward Event on Sunday, January 26, 2020 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. at 11105 Resort Road, Suite 105, Ellicott City, MD 21042. Our picture is called "Japanese Winter" in keeping with the Membership/Diversity Committee's study of Japan. How perfect is that!

Reserve your seat early at this website:

<https://www.pinotpalette.com/ellicottcity/event/378493>



Fashion Show

The Fashion Show is scheduled for April 25, 2020 at Residences at Vantage Point with Lord & Taylor providing the fashions. This is the largest fundraiser for the year. We need your help and support to continue funding our branch's successful scholarship program. We are looking for volunteers for the Fashion Show Committee. Our first meeting is January 16, 2020 at 6:30pm at Wegmans. If you can't be part of the Committee, please consider helping in the ways listed below:

- ✓ Volunteer to model in the fashion show: New members, this is a fun way to get involved in a branch activity and meet other members.
- ✓ Donate a door prize for the show: Suggestions include a gift card, an accessory, even tickets to a show. All donations are greatly appreciated!
- ✓ Buy your tickets to the show: Tickets will be sent to all members in March. Please bring a friend, a prospective member, your daughter or granddaughter. If you cannot come, please buy

your tickets anyway, and give them to friends, or as a donation, as ticket sales go directly into the scholarship fund.

To volunteer, or any questions, please contact: Suzanne Soules (suzanne.soules@gmail.com) or Debra Wade (deb_wade@yahoo.com) Co-Chairs Fashion Show.

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

Most of the members of the Evening Great Decisions group decided to continue meeting in the evening on the third Monday of the month. Our first meeting of the year will be Monday, January 20, at 7:00 PM at the home of Diane Roca. Copies of the 2020 Discussion Books were ordered for those who requested a copy and are expected to arrive in late December.

Contact: Diane Roca

dbroca@comcast.net or 410-964-3523

DAYTIME GROUP

We will set a date based on when the books arrive. Hopefully, it will be the first Thursday in January. If not, we will pick another date in January.

Happy Holidays Everyone!

Contact: Lorraine Tropf - H 301-617-2785
or lmerdon@verizon.net

LUNCH BUNCH

I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Gail Rust, Chair, Lunch Bunch

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.

Contacts: *Doris Raytkwich*

dwhitespring@verizon.net or

301-776-1392

Barbara Parker bparker@virginia.edu

or 410-796-9019

ADVENTURES IN DINING

January Adventures in Dining will be on Tuesday, January 7th. We will meet at the Asean Bistro restaurant on Center Park Drive in Columbia at 6pm. I will be sending the usual email for reservations beforehand.

Carol Phelps, Chair

carolmcauliffe@verizon.net

2019-2020 Branch Calendar

DECEMBER

- 6 -- **Public Policy Meeting with Delegates** - @ 9:30m River Hill Bagel Bin
- 3 -- **Adventures in Dining** -- @ 6:00 p.m.; King's Contrivance
- 8 -- **Holiday Party** 2:00 – 5:00 PM Barbara Parker's Home

JANUARY 2020

- 7 -- **Adventures in Dining** --@ 6:00 pm Asean Bistro, Centre Park Drive, Columbia
- 8 -- **Education Committee** -- @ 7 pm Wegman's upper lounge
- 11 - **League of Women Voters Legislative Luncheon**, 9am-noon, St John's Episcopal Church, 9120 Frederick Road, Ellicott City.
- 16 -- **AAUW Readers** @ 11:00 am; E. Columbia Sr. Ctr
- 17 -- **Public Policy Meeting** @ 1:30 pm; Bagel Bin, River Hill
- 21 -- **Board Meeting** @ 7 pm Place TBD
- 20 -- **Great Decisions** @ 7 pm
- 26 - **Pinot's Palette Fundraiser**, 2:30 pm, Ellicott
- 26 -- **2020 Women's Legislative Briefing**, @ 11:30 am-6 pm; Bldg 2, 9630 Guldesky Dr, Rockville
- 30 -- **Lunch Bunch** @ 11:30 am; Nordstrom's Café

FEBRUARY

- 4 -- **Adventures in Dining** -- @ 6pm, Rudy's in Columbia Gateway
- 6 -- **Great Decisions** @ 1 pm
- 8 - **Book Bash**, 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM Union Jacks
- 17 -- **Great Decisions** @ 7 pm
- 18 -- **Board Meeting** @ 7 pm; Place TBD
- 21 -- **Public Policy Meeting** @ 1:30 pm; Bagel Bin, River Hill
- 27 -- **Lunch Bunch** @ 11:30 am; Nordstrom's Café

MARCH – Women's History Month

- 3 -- **Adventures in Dining** -- Place TBD
- 5 -- **Great Decisions** @ 1 pm
- 10 -- **Branch Meeting** @ 7 pm; 1st Evangelical Lutheran Church
- 16 -- **Great Decisions** @ 7 pm
- 17 -- **Board Meeting** @ 7 pm; Place TBD
- 19 -- **AAUW Readers** @ 11 am; E. Columbia Sr. Ctr,
- 20 -- **Public Policy Meeting** @ 1:30 pm; Bagel Bin, River Hill
- 21 -- **AAUW Maryland Annual Convention**, Hosted by Anne Arundel County Branch
- 26 -- **Lunch Bunch** @ 11:30 am; Nordstrom's Café
- TBD - **Girl Power** @ John's Hopkins Applied Physics Lab
- TBD -- **Diversity Event**

APRIL

- 2 -- **Great Decisions** @ 1 pm
- 7 -- **Adventures in Dining** -- Place TBD
- 14 -- **Branch Meeting** @ 7 pm; 1st Evangelical Lutheran Church
- 17 -- **Public Policy Meeting** @ 1:30 pm; Bagel Bin, River Hill
- 20 - **Great Decisions** @ 7 pm

APRIL (cont'd)

- 21 - **Board Meeting** @ 7 pm; Place TBD
- 25-- **Fashion Show and Fundraiser** @ 2 pm, Residences at Vantage Point
- 30 -- **Lunch Bunch** @ 11:30 am; Nordstrom's Café
- TBD -- **HCC STEM Festival**

MAY

- 5 -- **Adventures in Dining** – Place TBD
- 7 – **Great Decisions** @ 1:00 pm
- 12 - **Branch Meeting** @ 7 pm; 1st Evangelical Lutheran Church
- 15 - **Public Policy Meeting** @ 1:30 pm; Bagel Bin, River Hill
- 18 -- **Great Decisions** @ 7 pm
- 19 -- **Board Meeting** @ 7 pm; Place TBD
- 21 -- **AAUW Readers** @ 11 am; E. Columbia Sr. Ctr, planning meeting for 2020-21
- 28 -- **Lunch Bunch** @ 11:30 am; Nordstrom's Café
- TBD- **Branch Salad Supper** @ 6:30 pm; 1st Evangelical Lutheran Church; install officers; meet scholarship winners

JUNE

- 2 -- **Adventures in Dining** – Place TBD
- 4 – **Great Decisions** @ 1:00 pm
- 15 -- **Great Decisions** @ 7 pm
- 16 -- **Board Meeting** @ 7 pm; Place TBD
- 19 - **Public Policy Meeting** @ 1:30 pm; Bagel Bin, River Hill
- 25 -- **Lunch Bunch** @ 11:30 am; Nordstrom's Café

2019-2020 AAUW Howard County Branch Officers

President: Beth Hayden 410-707-2018 bhayden52@aol.com

First Vice President: Position open

Financial Officer: Bea Dane 410-299-8403

Vice President, Programs: Susan Hailman
shailman@comcast.net

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

Co-Vice Presidents, Social and Meetings: Carol Phelps 410-381-7076 and Connie Palmieri 410-489-5654

Co Vice Presidents, Secretary: Jean Parr 410-381-6351
Co-VP position open

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

Co-Vice Presidents, Public Policy:

Bev Fallik 301-596-6208 and Lucie Geinzer 410-978-8310

Vice President, Membership and Diversity:
Debra Wade 410-531-2072

Vice President, Communications: Diane Roca
410-964-3523

Fashion Show Chair: Suzanne Soules and Debra Wade

Website Manager: Position open

Adventures in Dining: Carol Phelps 410-381-7076

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