

AAUW Howard County Branch NEWSLETTER



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

JANUARY 2023

Happy New Year Members and Friends!

I hope everyone is well and ready to start the new year that offers many branch activities for your participation and enjoyment over the next five months. Thank you for all the generous donations of both your time and money in 2022! It has certainly been a busy year and 2023 promises to continue the full schedule of opportunities to engage with your friends and fellow members.

Susan Hailman has planned several exciting programs for our February and March branch meetings, the latter having our annual Book Bash that is always a hit. Also, over the next three months, there will be a League of Women Voters event, a briefing by the Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women, a special Equal Rights Amendment exhibit, and our branch's hosting of the AAUW Maryland Annual Spring Convention. We're also trying to squeeze in a fundraiser at Pinot's Palette thanks to one of our newest members, Annie Geiermann.

Additionally, Suzanne Soules is gathering her group together to prepare for the science/STEM Fair in the spring, is keeping the shelves stocked with food for the students at Howard Community College, and reviewing candidates for AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in May.

And let's not forget the ongoing effort by Jeannie Parr and her volunteers to help at the Howard County Food Bank the first Friday of every month.

Others on the Board have been doing a fantastic job of keeping us moving forward, making sure we keep our finances in good shape and our communications current.

So many opportunities to help women, girls and families in the community; sign up and I promise you will feel good about your contributions!

Beth Hayden, President

BHayden52@aol.com

Programs Susan Hailman, VP

There will be no branch meeting in January. You are invited to attend the Howard County League of Women Voters Legislative Forum on Saturday, January 7.

January Program

Although not an AAUW program, you are encouraged to register for and attend the League of Women Voters' Legislative Breakfast on Saturday, January 7, 2023, which will be held at St. John's Episcopal Church on Frederick Road in Ellicott City at 10:00 AM, with the members of the Howard County Delegation to the Maryland General Assembly. As in the past, we will be discussing the League's priorities with the County Delegates and Senators. You can register at

https://hoco.lwvhowardmd.org/legislative_breakfast_2023.

The event is open to the public so bring your family, friends, and neighbors. The event committee is working on some questions for the legislators. If you have a question you want to ask the Delegates and Senators, please email them to lmettle@lwvmd.org or bring them to the Breakfast.

The cost of the event is \$10 per person which includes a continental breakfast.

Our February meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 15 from 2:00-4:00 PM in the Kittleman Room at Howard Community College. As an early honor of Women's History Month in March, we have the pleasure of welcoming the President of the Maryland Women's Heritage Center (MWHC) Kathi Santora. She will introduce us to MWHC's goals and programs as well as giving us a preview of plans for the coming year. This is a great example of the opportunities for partnerships that surround us and that bring greater prominence to AAUW. We are trying to forge deeper connections to young women at the college with the support of their new and dynamic president, Dr. Daria Willis who facilitated our use of the space and, of course, to explore our natural connection to MWHC. Please make every effort to attend and bring a friend!

March meeting - our Book Bash will be held on Saturday, March 11 at 11:30 AM at Union Jack's. Some of our members will share a book that is along a selected theme after we all enjoy lunch. Mark your calendars! More to come on this year's theme!

Education Suzanne Soules VP

EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

The Education Committee will meet on Thursday, January 5, 2023, 10 AM
8734 Endless Ocean Way, Columbia, MD 21045.

We will plan our participation in Girl Power, the science/STEM fair held at Johns Hopkins APL in Fulton in March. And we will plan for recruiting women leaders at HCC who would benefit from attending AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in May. In addition, we can brainstorm more ways we can support girls with their educational goals.

Any member, who would like to come to the meeting, please let me know via email: Suzanne.soules@gmail.com.

Those currently attending are Sethanne Howard, Diane Roca, Cindy Graham, Joan Plato and Debbie Munley.

HCC Food Bank "Fueling Dragons"

Last year the student food bank at Howard Community College had grown from serving 75 students to 150, then on to 200 students a month. This December 8, 2022, when we delivered our donations to Tiffany Holzman, she told us that they have expanded the food bank space to include shelving, sorting area, and her office to accommodate the increased use by 500 students a month! Their shelves were very sparse, so they greatly appreciated our donations. Upon weighing our bags, we donated an amazing 117 pounds! Back in September, after our first branch meeting, we had donated 52 pounds.

Thank you all for your generosity!

Suzanne Soules, Education VP Suzanne.soules@gmail.com



HorseSpirit Arts Gallery Fundraiser

In December, our AAUW Howard County Branch hosted a holiday fundraiser at HorseSpirit Arts Gallery at Savage Mill. AAUW member Laura Violand, who works at the Gallery, welcomed 16 members with several spouses to the Gallery. Owner and Curator Robin Holliday introduced the group to her 3,500 square foot gallery featuring 48 local artists. Artist Deborah Maklowski showed members how she creates art with colored pencils, then walked everyone through the gallery as she talked about her additional pastel and mixed media pieces.

The total raised for Howard Community College AAUW Women Scholarship came to \$940!

Thank you to all the members who continue to support the branch's Scholarship Fund for women at HCC.



Robin Holliday, Horse Spirits Art Gallery owner, and her husband Max Crownover.



Artist Deborah Maklowski demonstrated her colored pencil art.

Branch Activities in Pictures



Tiffany Holzman, HCC Food Pantry Director, with her crew.



Branch members Suzanne Soules and Caroline Tomlinson delivered donations to Tiffany Holzman for the HCC Food Pantry.



Artist Deborah Maklowski and Bobbi Brooks at Horse Spirits Art Gallery.



Branch members listening to artist Deborah Maklowski's demonstration.

Carol Phelps and Bea Dane enjoying their time at Horse Spirits Art Gallery.



Laura Violand, hostess for the fundraiser, with branch President Beth Hayden.



Holiday party at Bare Bones: Lee Ann Hartman, Bev Fallik and Beth Hayden.

Tina McBean, Phil Cogan, Cookie Cogan and Diane Roca at the holiday party.



Save the Date/Event Alert – Artists 4 ERA!

Three Maryland AAUW branches have come together to organize a fundraising event that will raise awareness of the need to finally get the ratified Equal Rights Amendment enshrined into law as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution. They are working through VoteEquality.org, a national organization whose mission is to advocate for the ERA to be certified by the National Archivist. This would solidify gender equality as law across the United States. Other supporting organizations include the Maryland Women’s Heritage Center, the Dismantling Racism Committee of Catonsville, and the League of Women Voters.

The Baltimore, Howard and Anne Arundel branches successfully applied for a ‘mini grant’ which will be used to set up an exhibit of ERA-related posters in Catonsville, MD in late February/early March 2023.

Artists 4 ERA will be a unique event with posters by well-known artists, including one by Shepard Fairey, who created President Obama’s “HOPE” poster. These works of art visually heighten awareness of the need to finalize the ERA. The signed posters will be sold through a silent auction and a raffle to raise money to advocate for the ERA. All of the posters can be seen at Artists4ERA.org. As stated on their website:

“Through partnerships with well-known artists, this project depicts diverse groups and communities, including LGBTQIA+, Black women, women of color, Indigenous peoples, and young people, to help them see themselves in the struggle for equal rights in the Constitution. The art created for the project will financially support VoteEquality’s work to ensure gender equality is part of our Constitution through online and live releases of limited edition, signed ERA art prints.”



One example of the posters, created by Hannah Rothstein,

The Garrett County branch held a very successful reception and fundraiser with the Artists 4 ERA posters, and other items, earlier this year. AAUW Maryland President, Tracy Lantz, said she was “inspired by AAUW Garrett’s work in collaboration with other local women’s organizations to host such a successful event. The art work is beautiful, and it, along with the testimony of those involved, was a reminder that our work towards equal rights is not done.”

In addition to raising funds with the posters, there will be two discussion panels with women of different ages highlighting their experiences of incurring discrimination and overcoming gender bias.

LOCATION: Baltimore County Arts Guild Clubhouse - 10 St. Timothy Lane, Catonsville

EXHIBIT DATES: February 27 – March 5

RECEPTION/SILENT AUCTION/RAFFLE/PANEL DISCUSSION: Fri., March 3, 6:30-9:30 pm

SAVE THESE DATES AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY ATTENDING THE RECEPTION!

Contact [Beth Hayden](mailto:Beth.Hayden@aauw.org) or [Diane Roca](mailto:Diane.Roca@aauw.org) if you would like to help with this event.

Interest Groups

GREAT DECISIONS

Great Decisions is a foreign policy discussion program. We meet monthly on the third Monday of the month from 2:00 – 4:00 PM.

The next meeting will be January 16, at 2:00 PM at Brightview Senior Living on Martin Road in Columbia.

Topic #1: *Energy Security*

Refreshments: TBD

Contact: Diane Roca

dbroca@comcast.net or

410-964-3523

ADVENTURES IN DINING

Adventures in Dining will pause for the winter months due to the potential for spreading illness. Look for announcement of the next meeting date, which will be in March.

Contact: Carol Phelps,

carolmcauliffe@verizon.net

LUNCH BUNCH

We will next meet on Thursday, January 26, at 11:30 am in Nordstrom's Cafe.

Contact: Gail Rust ggrust@comcast.net or 443-864-4189.

AAUW READERS

Meetings take place on Thursdays at 10:30 am. Our in-person meetings have been taking place at the 50+ Center at the East Columbia Branch Library.

2023

January 18 - **The Midnight Library** by Matt Haig

March 16 - **You Don't Belong Here: How Three Women Rewrote the Story of War** by Elizabeth Becker

May 18 - **Grandmothers Who Inspired Us Across the World** by Merry Adler

July 20 - **The Clockmaker's Daughter** by Kate Morton

Anyone with questions should feel free to email me.

Contact: Roberta Rood

robertarood@earthlink.net

2022-2023 AAUW Howard County Branch Officers

President: Beth Hayden (410)-707-2018

First Vice President: Position open

Financial Officer: Bea Dane (410) 299-8403

*Vice President, Programs: Susan Hailman
(443) 994-5453, shailman@comcast.net*

Vice President, Philanthropy: Position open

*Co-Vice Presidents, Meetings/Social: Carol Phelps
(410) 381-7076; and Connie Palmieri (410) 489-5654*

Secretary: Jean Parr (410) 381-6351;

Alt: Bobbi Brooks (443) 545-5642

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

Vice President, Public Policy: Barb Carter (443) 864-5663

Vice President, Membership and Diversity:

Debra Wade (410) 531-2072

Vice President, Communications:

Diane Roca (410) 964-3523

Website Manager: Position open

Adventures in Dining: Carol Phelps (410) 381-7076

AAUW Readers: Roberta Rood (410) 461-0017

Great Decisions: Diane Roca (410) 964-3523

Lunch Bunch: Gail Rust (443) 864-4189

2023 Branch Calendar

Planned events are tentative and will be confirmed closer to the date

DECEMBER 2022

- 2 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia
- 6 -- Holiday Dinner and Branch Meeting; 5 pm; Bare Bones Restaurant, Ellicott City
- 17 – HorseSpirit Arts Gallery Fundraiser; 1 - 4 pm; Savage Mill, Host: Laura Violand
- 29 – Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Café

JANUARY 2023

No Adventures in Dining meeting

- 6 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia
- 7 -- League of Women Voters Legislative Breakfast; 10 am to 12 pm; St. John's Episcopal Church, Ellicott City
- 10 -- Board Meeting; 2 pm; to be rescheduled
- 16 -- Great Decisions; 2 pm; Brightview Senior Living, Columbia
- 18 -- AAUW Readers; 10:30 am; 50+ Center East Columbia Library
- 22 - Pinot's Palette painting fundraiser (tentative)
- 26 -- Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Café
- 29 – 43rd Annual Women's Legislative Briefing, Montgomery County Commission for Women; VIRTUAL; 12:30 - 5 pm

No Branch Meeting

FEBRUARY

No Adventures in Dining meeting

- 1 -- Board Meeting; 2 pm; location TBD
- 1 – MLAW Annual Legislative Briefing ; 5 pm on Zoom
- 3 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia
- 15 -- Branch Meeting; 2 pm; Kittleman Room at HCC; Women’s Heritage Center speaker
- 20 -- Great Decisions; 2 pm; Brightview Senior Living, Columbia
- 23 – Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Café
- 27 – March 5: Artists 4 ERA Exhibit; 6:30 – 9:30 pm; Catonsville Arts District

MARCH – Women’s History Month

- 3 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia
- 3 – Reception for Artists 4 ERA Exhibit; 5 – 8 pm; Catonsville
- 7 – Adventures in Dining; Time and Location TBD
- 7 -- Board Meeting; 2 pm; location TBD
- 11 – Book Bash and Branch Meeting; 11:30 am – 2:30 pm; Union Jack’s restaurant
- 16 – AAUW Readers; 10:30 am; 50+ Center East Columbia Library
- 20 -- Great Decisions; 2 pm; Brightview Senior Living
- 30 -- Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Cafe
- ?? -- Girl Power; John’s Hopkins Applied Physics Lab; Laurel

APRIL

- 4 -- Adventures in Dining; 5:00 pm, LaPalapa Too Restaurant; Laurel
- 6 -- Board Meeting; 2 pm; location TBD
- 7 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia
- 11 -- Branch Meeting – Diversity: Latin community; 2 pm; HCC Kittleman Room

15 – AAUW MD Annual Convention; 9 am – 4 pm; HCC Kittleman Rm.; Host, Howard County Branch

17 -- Great Decisions; 2 pm; Brightview Senior Living, Columbia

27 – Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Cafe

MAY

2 -- Board Meeting; 2 pm; location TBD

5 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia

9 -- Branch Meeting, Pot Luck, New Officers; 2 - 4 pm; Kittleman Room at HCC

15 - Great Decisions; 2 pm; Brightview Senior Living, Columbia

18 – AAUW Readers; 10:30 am; 50+ Center East Columbia Library

25 – Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Café

31 – June 1 -- NCCWSL; U of MD, College Park, MD