

AAUW Howard County Branch NEWSLETTER



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

MAY 2023

Hello Members and Friends,

We are quickly coming to the end of the year that will culminate in a potluck social on Tuesday, May 9th at 4 pm in the Kittleman Room in Duncan Hall at Howard Community College. So sign up to bring a dish and we'll celebrate the wonderful year we've had. We've said goodbye to a few members, but we've also said hello to some new members!

Our hosting of the AAUW Maryland 2023 Annual Spring Convention went well and our branch was well represented. Howard County Executive Calvin Ball came to welcome the 40 attendees at HCC, and later in the program we watched an inspiring video from Maryland Secretary of State and this year's AAUW Woman of Distinction, Susan Lee. Dr. Melissa Curtis stopped by to talk to us on behalf of HCC President Daria Willis, and we received a welcome from Delegate Courtney Watson, Legislative District 9B Howard County. A huge "THANK YOU" to all those who made it happen!

I want to thank all of you for your donations, hard work, and successful fundraisers throughout the year while we managed to have fun and help deserving students through the award of several scholarships. It is you who have made this branch what it is, and I am proud of you working as an awesome team to support one another and get so much done. Our efforts have not gone unnoticed, either. Later in this newsletter you will find the most recent thank-you note from AAUW Maryland's President, Tracy Lantz. Next year we are destined to have even a better year and I challenge you to bring your best effort and ideas forward!

In addition to the social at the potluck, we will have a brief business meeting where we will elect and install the officers listed below and Committee Vice Presidents will give their year-end reports.

SLATE OF OFFICERS 2023-2024

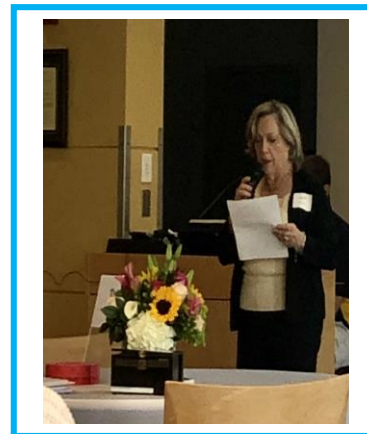
Bea Dane – Financial Officer and Treasurer
Diane Roca – Communications VP
Bobbie Brooks and Carol Phelps – Meetings/Social Co-VPs
Susan Hailman – Programs VP
Barb Carter – Public Policy VP
Jeanne Parr – Secretary; Bobbie Brooks – Alternate Secretary
Cindy Graham – Education VP
Suzanne Soules – Membership & Diversity VP
Beth Hayden – President

I look forward to seeing many of you at our potluck/meeting on May 9th to enjoy light fare and some comradery!

Beth Hayden bhayden52@aol.com

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Photos from the AAUW Maryland Convention. More on page 6.

Programs

Susan Hailman, Vice President

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE the end of the 2022-23 year with our annual POTLUCK

When: Tuesday, May 9

Time: 4:00 – 6:30 pm

Where: Kittleman Room in Duncan Hall, Howard Community College, Columbia, MD



A short branch business meeting, including election and installation of officers, will follow dinner.

Please bring a ready-to-serve dish for 8-10 people. Bring a serving utensil and put your name on the dish and utensil. Beverages will be furnished by the Social Committee.

- If your last name begins with A to J, please bring a heavy hors d'oeuvre (meatballs, quiche, veggies/dip, etc.)
- If your last name begins with K to S, please bring a substantial salad (green, Caesar, pasta/rice, fruit, etc.)
- If your last name begins with T – Z, please bring a dessert.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, May 3 and let us know what you are bringing.
RSVP to Connie Palmieri Email: conniempalmieri@yahoo.com or call 410-802-1556

Thank you for your help in making this an event to remember!

Connie Palmieri and Carol Phelps
Co-VPs Social and Meetings

Treasurer's Topic of the Month

Bea Dane

Treasurer's Topic of the Month *Dues Renewal*

Our fiscal year is coming to an end and most of you will be renewing your dues by June 30th. National AAUW has switched to a rolling renewal schedule, so some of our newer members may not need to renew yet. If your dues are due, you should have received an email by now from AAUW National giving you instructions.

If you wish to renew online, follow the instructions in the email, but please make sure you click on Yes for Branch membership; then scroll down to MD2023 – Howard County Branch Dues and check the box. This will automatically select Maryland as your State. Your total amount due should be \$95 (\$72 National; \$10 State; \$13 Branch). If you are a lifetime member, your total due will be \$23 for State and Branch. I encourage you to renew online, as this gives you the opportunity to update your information, such as email addresses, phone, education, etc.

However, if you wish, you may give your renewal check to me, and I will renew for you. Make the check out to *AAUW Howard County* for \$95 (\$23 for lifetime members) and give to me at any event I'm at or mail to:

Bea Dane
4050 Hobbs Hill Road
Glenelg, MD 21737

New members get a 50% discount on National dues when they join, so bring your friends and neighbors to a meeting!

Bea Dane, Treasurer bea_dane@comcast.net

Education

Suzanne Soules, Vice President

We have two women going to NCCWSL at the end of May. They are Nina Randall who is transferring to Morgan State University in the fall to major in Sociology and Maite Inchaussandague, a 4.0 Freshman, with her sights set on the University of Maryland Smith School of Business. The NCCWSL program takes the women into DC on Thursday evening with dinner on their own. We give the students a prepaid Visa card so they can afford their own meal.

I would like to thank all the members who have helped on education projects over my terms as Education Vice President. We have made a difference in some women's lives, and developed some good relationships with Howard Community College staff. Debbie Munley and I worked with the Office of Student Life to put on the Start Smart Workshop. We have sponsored thousands of dollars of scholarships for the nontraditional women students in Career Links, helping them on their way to a career with a living wage so they can support their families. In recognition of those scholarships we now have a permanent AAUW plaque on the Allied Health Chemistry Lab. The school recognized the need for student food assistance, started a food bank, and Caroline Tunison, Paula Razera, and I have carried over many pounds of food and supplies you members generously donated.

In the Howard County community, we have annually supported the Girl Power STEM festival at Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab. I believe Jeannie Parr got us started handing out the self-inflating balloons from the American Chemical Society. They are always a hit with the girls who are in elementary and early middle school. Thanks to Sethanne Howard who got us using astronomy and space as a theme since her own background is astrophysics. To all of you members who helped over the years, before and after Covid, Thank you!

Suzanne Soules, Education Vice President Suzanne.soules@gmail.com

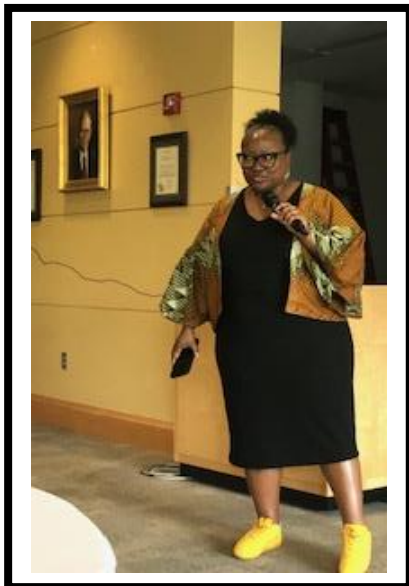
Convention Was A Hit!



It was a thrill to have County Executive Calvin Ball visit the convention and offer a warm welcome to members. We were very proud to meet Dr. Ball's assistant Maureen Arthurs (pictured left) who received an AAUW Fellowship in 2008. Pictured with them are Tracy Lantz, AAUW Maryland President, and Branch President Beth Hayden.



At dinner to honor AAUW Maryland member Eileen Menton: Beth Hayden, Bea Dane, Suzanne Soules, Diane Roca, Carol Mueller, AAUW Maryland Treasurer (Harford Branch.)



Speakers gave insightful messages about women's health issues following childbirth, a period called "*The Fourth Trimester.*" Dr. Jameta Barlow (left) gave the message that after any trauma, people need someone to pay attention to them. She listed eight factors that a friend can use to help. Dr. Nicole Kumi (right) described her struggle with severe depression after childbirth which led her to start a maternal wellness organization.



Join the Joyful Ruckus!

Did you know that this July is the 100th anniversary of Alice Paul's introduction of the Equal Rights Amendment? GenerationRatify, a group of young women (most under the age of 19) are hosting a convention in Seneca Falls, NY to mark the occasion and to amplify the need to get the ERA certified and part of our US Constitution. Of course, we can't celebrate yet so the focus of the event is cultivating a new generation of ERA activists and setting goals for constitutional equality for the next year including an action plan for finalizing the federal ERA and getting state ERAs passed in all remaining 23 states.

AAUW Maryland has decided to join forces with VoteEquality and Maryland NOW to support these young women as they work to bring about change so that everyone in this country will be treated equally under the law. We will be traveling via caravan from Hagerstown, MD to Seneca Falls, NY! We'll depart from Hagerstown on Thursday morning, July 20th and travel with the VoteEquality RVG (it's a HUGE motor home, dubbed the Ruthless Vote Getter) to NY making a few quick stops along the way to spread the word about the ERA.

I'll be attending the ERA Centennial Convention on July 21st-23rd and hope that you will join me. We are booking a rental home nearby so we'll have reasonably priced accommodations. It's a three-day event with Sunday as a day to soak up a bit of the history of the area. The Convention will be held at the First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls where the National Woman's Party first unveiled the ERA-at the exact same podium Alice Paul gave her speech that day, 100 years ago. Here's the link <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/era-centennial-convention-tickets-461810366237> Please contact me if you're interested at tklantz@verizon.net by May 21st. Your registration fee supports the attendance of a young woman age 25 or under.



Tracy Lantz

AAUW Maryland President tklantz@verizon.net

We received a thank you note from Tracy Lantz, AAUW Maryland President, thanking our branch for hosting the state convention on April 15.

Dear Beth and the ladies of AAUW
Howard County,

I just want to formally tell you how
much I appreciate all your work to put
on an excellent convention. You all
are fabulous hosts! The planning and
execution were spot on. I enjoyed
the lovely and spacious venue, the
tasty food and meeting your local
super stars like Dr. Calvin Ball. You
all must be so pleased to have a
County Executive who is so in tune
with what is important to AAUW
and the women of Howard County.
Thanks again for all your work.
Well done!

Tracy Lantz
AAUW MD President

Public Policy

Public Policy Report

The Maryland General Assembly 2023 session ended on April 10. Eight bills passed; seven were MLAW bills. They are listed here.

- The bill which makes the constitutional right to reproductive liberty a ballot item on the next Maryland general election;
- The bill to make reproductive healthcare available to students at public colleges and universities;
- The bill that repeals marriage as a defense for sexual crimes;
- the bill that holds the new Maryland Gun Control Center responsible for tracking guns surrendered due to final protective orders;
- the bill that absolves trafficked youth from non-violent crimes committed while being trafficked;
- the Collaborative Care Model bill, which expands the very successful model of providing mental health and addiction care management through a primary care physician.
- the Childcare Sustainability Act, which continues supports for childcare that were federally supported during the pandemic; and
- the Reproductive Health Protection Act, which would protect both patients and providers from out-of-state lawsuits and inquiries.

The End-of-Life Options bill and the Emergency Room Wait Time Task Force bill did not pass this session. The Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Act never was considered during the session.

One of the significant contributors to emergency room wait time was that so many hospital beds were occupied by patients needing mental health beds in mental health facilities. Several bills addressing mental health services, including the collaborative care model above, were passed and should help to address this problem.

On the national level, immediate attention is focused on the expected Supreme Court decision regarding the legality of the Texas ban on the FDA-approved drug, mifepristone.

Roxann King, AAUW Maryland Public Policy Vice President

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 May 15 at 2:00 PM at Brightview Senior Living 6670 Martin Road in Columbia.

Topic #5: *Political Trends in Latin America*

Moderator: Bev Fallik

Refreshments: Jeannie Parr

Contact: Diane Roca
dbroca@comcast.net or
410-964-3523

ADVENTURES IN DINING

We would like to meet at 5 pm on Tuesday, May 2 at Sushi Sono -10215 Wincopin Circle on the lake front. They have a wide variety of food choices so not just sushi. Please RSVP to Connie Palmieri at conniepalmieri@yahoo.com since I will be away until just before our gathering. I hope to see you there!! - Carol

Contact: Carol Phelps,
carolmcauliffe@verizon.net

LUNCH BUNCH

The next Lunch Bunch meeting will be on Thursday, May 25, 11:30 am at Nordstrom Cafe in Columbia Mall. No reservations needed.

Contact: Caroline Tunison
Tunison.caroline@gmail.com
301-346-1750

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

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: Jean Salkeld (410) 992-4198
jesalkeld@gmail.com



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: Bobbie Brooks (443) 545-5642

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

Vice President, Public Policy: Position Open

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: Jean Salkeld (410) 992-4198

Great Decisions: Diane Roca (410) 964-3523

Lunch Bunch: Caroline Tunison (301) 497-8688

2023 Branch Calendar

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

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 Duncan Hall, 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; Cancelled
- 2 - Adventures in Dining; 5:00 pm; Sushi Sono
- 5 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia
- 9 -- Branch Meeting, Potluck, New Officers; 4:00-6:30 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 3 -- NCCWSL; U of MD, College Park, MD

JUNE

June 2 – Women of Distinction Evening at NCCWSL; U of MD, College Park, MD

6 – Adventures in Dining; 5:00 pm; location TBD

19 – Great Decisions; 2 pm; Trent Kittleman’s home

JULY

? - Adventures in Dining; 5:00 pm; location TBD

17 – Great Decisions; 2 pm; Location TBD

AUGUST

1 - Adventures in Dining; 5:00 pm; location TBD

21 – Great Decisions; 2 pm; Location TBD

SEPTEMBER

12 ? – Branch Meeting; Date and time TBD