



Representing all of Anne Arundel County, Maryland
aauwmd-annearundelcountybranch.org

May2014 Newsletter

LETTERS FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

Roxann King

When I told Pat Strott-Wheatley four years ago that I wouldn't let her off the hook that easily (no one had stepped forward to be co-president with her), I had no true picture in my mind of AAUW. I have come to know that it is a really powerful agent of advocacy for women in the workplace, in education, in the military, and in the community. I am sold for life on its mission. April's branch meeting and the STAIR program reminded me of how unprepared I felt six years ago when Sigrid Dorf and I were trying to start a mentoring activity at Marley Elementary. Without proper organization and training (such as STAIR provides), activities like mentoring are much more difficult. The national AAUW similarly gives us a very well organized framework and support for our advocacy for issues related to women and girls. It has been my pleasure to plan and accomplish with the other members of our board and branch. We have so many characters and women of distinction among us. Thank you one and all for a wonderful four-year experience. I welcome our new leaders, Mary McGrath and Gail Viamonte.

Pat Eggleston

Since this is the last co-president's letter Roxann and I will be writing, we have decided to write something separately about what our tenure has meant to us.

I became co-president in September 2012 after Pat Strott-Wheatley resigned because of health reasons. Since I had not served previously in any AAUW leadership position, I was surprised and honored when I got a call from Roxann asking if I would take over as Pat's replacement. I had however been active in the daytime book club and had also been part of the Women to Women grant selection process in which we interviewed some outstanding candidates.

I had come to appreciate how much I believe in the AAUW's mission to advance equity for women and girls. During my 25-year career in the federal government, I experienced how far women have advanced professionally yet also how far we still have to go. To me it's not just a question of equal pay for equal work; it's also a need for society to recognize that women's skills and abilities are better suited in a world that values teamwork and collaborative thinking above individual achievement.

But taking over as one of the leaders of an active branch filled with committed and

intelligent members turned out to be a whole new experience!

I have been fortunate to get to know many of the members of the branch in more than a cursory way. This has been especially true of the members of our board: Sigrid Dorf, Dianne Dezio, Sam Hackman, Sharon Halligan, Alice Harrison, Michele Hauf, Dot Gibson, Teresa Gilbert, Judy MacGregor, Barbara Marder, Mary McGrath, Kay Monk, Claire Motley, Terry Saylor, and Pat Strott-Wheatley. I am privileged to have worked with all of these women and remain impressed with how freely and capably they have given their time to our branch. And of course Roxann King has been our guiding force during the last two years; her commitment to and involvement in every aspect of our branch has been remarkable and inspiring.

My activities related to our annual book sale introduced me to many more members. Since I am by nature an extrovert, and love meeting new people, our book sale provided the perfect venue for me to interact with branch members while also having lots of fun. I thoroughly enjoyed interacting with the public as they donated boxes and boxes of books and took advantage of the opportunity to try and recruit new members to our branch. I especially loved sorting through those books to prepare for the sale, talking with fellow volunteers as we got ready.

In closing, I want to thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve as co-president of our branch the last two years. I will always be grateful to have been part of a group dedicated to the advancement of women.

STAIR Program in Anne Arundel County
Roxann King

Here are some highlights from our April branch program. Linda Barbour, director of the STAIR (Start the Adventure in Reading) spoke about

the six after-school sites serving 39 low-income second grade students in Anne Arundel County. STAIR volunteers provide reading experiences and mentoring. Students unable to read at the end of second grade have a 40% of graduating from high school. In third grade students read to learn; in K-2 they learn to read. Three of the sites are in public schools (Tyler Heights Elementary, Georgetown East Elementary, Germantown Elementary) and three are in community centers (Eastport Center, Stanton Center, Robinwood Center). The STAIR program was started in New Orleans 28 years ago. Trainers from New Orleans came to help start the local program which was sponsored by the Presbyterian Church of Annapolis. It now manages and provides training for 90-plus volunteers. The students are identified by teachers and meet twice each week after school for one hour, on set days, usually Tuesday and Thursday. There are breaks during January and over summer (a future summer program is being considered). Students participate in a variety of activities with the volunteers: reading together, playing word games, practicing phonics, writing stories. Each child is paired with a volunteer, one to one. Three parties are held during the year: a Holiday party, a Dr. Seuss party, and a Graduation party. At the end of the year, each student is given a special (surprise) hardbound book featuring the students at that site and their achievements. Besides volunteers, funding and books are needed by the program. Books are sent home for the students to read to their parents and for the parents to read to the students. Many of the students are the first or only English speakers in their families. Parents may be illiterate. Spanish-language texts are also needed. STAIR is expected to be 501(c-3) by the fall, which would open other avenues for funding. Participants have shown 50% or better increase in reading scores, better attendance and an increase in critical reading skills. STAIR plans

to serve 15-20 students at each site next year and to add additional sites in 2015-16.



Linda Barbour and Kay Monk at our April, 2014 Branch Meeting featuring Linda presenting the STAIR Program. (See article describing above.)

What's New at AAUW?

Pat Eggleston

Empowering Women Since 1881

Here is a representative sample of activities and issues from our national headquarters in Washington, DC.:

President Orders Crucial Equal Pay Protections

In a move that AAUW has long supported, President Barack Obama signed two executive orders on April 8 to increase pay protections for women. The protections apply to federal contractors, who make up about a quarter of the workforce. Now these employers can't retaliate against workers who share salary information, and the U.S. Department of Labor will begin to collect wage data to identify patterns of discrimination. In the absence of congressional action, the executive orders are a huge victory in the fight for fair pay.

Deadline May 1: AAUW Committee and Task Force Appointments Don't miss your opportunity

to play a key role in AAUW's leadership. AAUW is now accepting applications for 2014-16 national committee and task force appointments. These committee positions provide excellent networking and leadership opportunities and have been very rewarding for many who have served in the past. The May 1 deadline is fast approaching. Learn more and apply now!

Join the Wave! Come to San Diego Next June 2015. Remember how much fun you had in New Orleans in 2013? The 2015 AAUW National Convention in San Diego will be just as exciting. Plan your vacation around convention next year, and sign up for pre- and post-convention excursions like touring a woman-owned winery, whale watching, and tequila tasting in Old Town. Visit TravelSmart Partners for these do-not-miss adventures with fellow members!

Explore Poland with Your AAUW Friends AAUW's delegation this November will follow the footsteps of Marie Curie in Warsaw. Travel with fellow AAUW delegates as we meet with science, technology, engineering, and math-oriented groups, see places of importance in Curie's life, and explore the architectural glories of imperial Warsaw. Find out more online, or call Professionals Abroad at 877.298.9677.

Take Action: On April 9, despite the calls that AAUW members and supporters have been making to Congress for years, the Senate prevented the Paycheck Fairness Act from moving forward, falling six votes shy. Once again, our senators failed to bring fair-pay law into the 21st century, failed to agree to debate the bill, and failed women and working families. Tell your senators how you feel about their votes. Continue the fight for equal pay with AAUW, and sign up for Action Network.

Join Hundreds of Members Who Are Saving with Nationwide. Your AAUW membership qualifies you for a group discount on your auto, home, boat, golf cart, and other insurance through Nationwide. Call 866.633.5747 or visit their website today. Remember, your AAUW member benefits save you money!

Know a Member Who's Graduating? Give Her an AAUW Grad Cord! Today's students love to show their pride and affiliations with cords that they wear with their caps and gowns. Now, for only \$10, you can order an AAUW graduation cord with our colors and logo! Order yours today for that special graduate in your life.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Pat Strott-Wheatley

We have successfully completed what is necessary to have a ballot for our Branch members:

Co-Presidents: Mary McGrath and Gail Viamonte

Program Co-Veeps: Cheryl Menke (will plan meeting programs and Cocktails and Convos)

Kay Monk (will plan the three luncheons for the coming year but wishes to be replaced next year.)

Nominating Committee Replacements: Roxann King and Kay Monk

Non- Elected (Appointments):

Newsletter Editor: Dot Gibson

Publicity: Michelle Hauf will take pictures. (Someone else will have to mail the blurbs to the contacts Teresa has made.)

Public Policy Info.: Pat Strott-Wheatley

Web Site Coordination and Facebook: Roxann King

Book Sale Chairs: Stacy Hilder and Roxann King (and Rita Strom will be happy to help them.)

Thank you to the whole Nominating Committee for the brainstorming and help!

Mother's Day: Annapolis City Fair

Roxann King

Annapolis City Fair, which showcases area non-profit organizations, will be held at the docks in Annapolis again this year on Mother's Day Weekend. We will have a table there only on Sunday, May 11, between noon and 5 p.m. If you are able to help staff the table during those hours, please contact Roxann King (roxann.king1@verizon.net, 410-431-7166) or Pat Eggleston (pat.eggleston@gmail.com, 410-280-0632).

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Markonette Richardson and Alice Harrison

A wonderful year! Thanks to all of our wonderful members, we have had a great year and we are excited going forward. In fact, we have earned four FREE memberships for the coming year. (A branch gets one free membership for every three new paid members.) The membership committee will be meeting on-line to discuss whom to give the Free memberships to.

If you are interested in joining the membership committee, please contact me, Alice Harrison at 410- 956-5140 or Markonette Richardson at 240-605-4801. Our email addresses are: awharrison@yahoo.com or markonette.richardson@gmail.com. It's a very enjoyable committee to be a part of.

Also, please remember to invite your friends and family to our spring luncheon to be held on Sat., May 10th at the Chartwell Country Club. (See flyer in this newsletter.)

Evening Book Club

Roxann King

The evening book club is pleased to announce selections for upcoming months: May 21, King Peggy, by Peggiehene Bartels, moderated by Stacey Hilder at the home of Pat Strott-Wheatley;

June 18, Light in the Ruins, by Chris Bohjalian, moderated by Barbara Marder at the home of Judith MacGregor;

July 16, Tender at the Bone, by Ruth Reichl, moderated by Sam Hackman at the home of Stacey Hilder;

August 20, A Good Indian Wife, by Ann Cherian, moderated by Roxann King at the home of Pam Blumenthal; and

September 17, Touched with Fire, by Kay Redfield Jamison, moderated by Pat Strott-Wheatley at the home of Barbara Marder.

Evening book club meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. If you like reading and are looking for a book club to join, consider joining us, even if you have not yet finished the current selection. For details contact Mary Ellen Gick (megick23@verizon.net, 410-544-5434).

2014 BOOK SALE

Roxann King

Get out your Red, White and Blue!
It's time to start planning for the 4th of July Parade in Severna Park. We will need volunteers to provide a car, decorate the car, and walk the route handing out the book collection bookmarks. There are two shifts for walking: 9-11 from Our Shepherd Church to SPHS, which includes decorating; and 10:30-noon from SPHS to Woods Church. The parade starts at 10 a.m. on Friday, July 4. If you are able to help in any of the above ways, please contact Stacey Hilder (stacey861@verizon.net, 410-647-7041) or Roxann King (roxann.king1@verizon.net, 410-431-7166).

Book Sale and Collections Planning Begins!

Roxann King and Stacey Hilder are again co-chairing the book sale. Many of you know that Furniture Solutions, one of our collection sites, is being torn down and a CVS will be under construction there. In response to many suggestions of having collection sites at other locations in the county, we would like suggestions and help from you. If you know of a suitable site, please make an inquiry to see if it would be

available and let us know so that we can follow up on your suggestion. Last year there were six collections: one in July, two in August, one in September, and two in October. Collections occur on Saturdays between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. We are considering Bay Ridge, Annapolis, Crofton and/or Pasadena. Now is the time when we arrange the collection sites.

Additionally, we will be asking for volunteers for our book sale committee positions at the luncheon in May. We need persons to coordinate pre-sorting, book collections, pricing collectibles, on-site sorting, contacting volunteers, publicity, contacting dealers, moving out books, and signs and tables arrangements. Let us know if you would like to be the go-to person for one of these tasks. Again, we are: Stacey Hilder (stacey861@verizon.net, 410-647-7041) and Roxann King (roxann.king1@verizon.net, 410-431-7166).

WOMEN-TO-WOMEN AWARDS

DEADLINE

Michele Hauf

Women To Women Awards Application deadline is May 2nd!

DAYTIME BOOK CLUB

Pat Eggleston

Our next regularly scheduled daytime book club meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 7 at Maggie Cullman's house, 300 Park Drive, Severna Park, MD 21146. Please contact Maggie at mpcullman@verizon.net if you plan to attend. The book is Flight Behavior by Barbara Kingsolver.

Our June book club will be held Wednesday, June 4 at 10:30 a.m. at Lynn Hapchuk's house, 842 Cottonwood Drive, Severna Park, MD 21146. Please contact Lynn at hapchuk@verizon.net if you plan to attend. The book is Sight Reading: A Novel, by Daphne Kalotay

Lunch Bunch

Pat Eggleston

Join us for our last lunch bunch get together this term. It will be on Tuesday, May 27, at noon at Harry Browne's Restaurant, 66 State Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401. Although the restaurant is pricey in the evening, the lunch menu is quite reasonably priced and very good. Please contact me by Monday, May 26 (Memorial Day) if you plan to come. If we have enough attendees, I will reserve a long table somewhat separated from the rest of the restaurant.

Happy 90th Birthday!!

Let's all remember Joyce Letaw who recently celebrated her 90th birthday! Happy Birthday from all of us, Joyce!

Encore Chorale Spring Concert...

Carolyn Head

Several of our Branch members will be performing in this free concert on Saturday, 5/17 at 7:30 PM at the Anne Arundel Community College/Pascal Center for the Performing Arts. We'll be singing selections from "Porgy and Bess," and "Phantom of the Opera", as well as other selections from Verdi to Valli! .

2014 ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON

Dot Gibson

It's that time of year again! Time for our annual Spring Luncheon (with great brunch food this year) on Saturday, **May 10**, (please note change of date!) from 11 to 2 at the Chartwell Country Club, St. Ives Drive, Severna Park.

We'll have a brief meeting, approve next year's budget, and have our election/induction of officers and lots of time for fun and fellowship.

To make reservations, fill in the bottom of the flyer following the Calendar of Events and send to me, Dot Gibson. Please join us. It's always a good time!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday	Apr 26-AAUW Maryland Annual Convention, Frederick, MD
Friday	May 2-Women-to-Women Awards Application deadline
Saturday	May 10-Spring Luncheon at Chartwell C.C.
Sat-Sun	May 10-11-Annapolis City Fair, City Docks, Annapolis
Tuesday	May 27-Lunch Bunch, 12 p.m., Harry Brown's, Annapolis
Thursday	Jun 5-NCCWSL Women of Distinction Ceremony, University of Maryland
Thurs-Sat	June 5-7-National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, College Park
Wednesday	Jun 11-Transition Board Meeting, 7:15 p.m., at Roxann King's
Saturday	Jul 19-AAUW Maryland Summer Leadership Training Meeting, Gaithersburg
Thurs-Sun	June 18-21,2015 AAUW National Convention, San Diego

HOORAY FOR SPRING!!



AAUW's 2014 Spring Luncheon

SATURDAY, MAY 10th -- 11 A.M. -- 2 P.M.

CHARTWELL COUNTRY CLUB, SEVERNA PARK
St. Ives Rd., Severna Park

Special Brunch Buffet at \$30 PER PERSON.

Join us for...

- ◆ Scholarship Awards ◆ Officer Installations ◆
- ◆ 50/50 chances ◆ warmth and camaraderie

JOIN THE FUN!!

Special buffet menu includes ▪ Eggs Benedict ▪ French Toast with Maple Syrup on the side ▪ Fresh Fruit ▪ Grilled Asparagus ▪ Maple Sausage Links ▪ Smoked Salmon Platter ▪ Golden Swan Dessert ▪ Coffee, hot tea
▪ Cash bar available from 11 to 2 ▪

!!Special reminder to pay your AAUW dues at the luncheon!!

RSVP AND SEND YOUR \$30 per person Check to:
DOT GIBSON (To call – 410-266-8930)
2002 PEGGY STEWART WAY, UNIT 203, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401

I WILL ATTEND (Name) _____

I am bringing # _____ Guests

My Check made payable to: AAUW for \$ _____ is enclosed.

DEADLINE to sign-up: Monday, May 5

I must have your luncheon check by: Wednesday, May 7

