



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

September 2014 Newsletter

LETTER FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

Mary McGrath and Gail Viamonte

Greetings to all our members from your new Co-Presidents. Judging by the month of activities so far this year we have a lot of work ahead of us, as well as lots of fun. And, we have some very large shoes to fill as well. A note of thanks to both Roxann King and Pat Eggleston for all the wonderful work they accomplished during their tenure.

The Board has been quite busy the last couple of months. Several of us attended the AAUW-MD State Summer Meeting and the Leadership conference held the same day. Our book sale committee led by Stacy Hilder and Roxann King has been busy working the July parade, the collections and the publicity for the sale. Rita Strom and Mary-Lynne Neil joined the crew with coordination and publicity. Thank you all for your work. We are off to a good start.

Our September membership luncheon is all planned and waiting for September 13th to arrive. Kay Monk, Alice Harrison and Markonette Richardson are spearheading this effort. The luncheon is a potluck, so everyone gets to participate in the effort. This luncheon is the opportunity for everyone, especially our newer members and the public, to learn about the AAUW mission and the branch activities offered during the year. Bring a friend with you when you

come. Thanks Kay, Alice and Markonette, and all those working with them to make this luncheon a success.

In October our Branch will join The League of Women voters to present a political forum to the voting public in Anne Arundel County. Several members of our branch will volunteer to work the forum. It is lots of fun and quite interesting. So whether or not you are politically active, this event will be the one for you.

Our Publicity Chair position has been filled by Kathy Arias. Thank you, Kathy, for volunteering. We look forward to working with you in the future. Currently, the only position not filled is that of Historian. Jeanne Hawn has been our Historian for quite a few years now. Thank you, Jeanne for all your work. It's time for one of our history minded members to take this helm. Newer members can use the position to learn all about our branch and document our future efforts. Older members can add to our database their own experience as a member of our branch. Contact either Gail or myself, Mary McGrath, to volunteer.

During the year there will be many opportunities to step up and volunteer to work with each of your committees, whichever one appeals to you. It takes a village to raise funds for women's education and to promote the mission of AAUW.

Members Represent Chapter at “Women of Distinction” Awards
Gail Viamonte, Co-President

“Women of Distinction” was the crowning awards ceremony of the 2014 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (affectionately known as NCCWSL, pronounced “nick-whistle”). Held on June 6th and cosponsored by AAUW and NASPA (Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education), the stirring and sophisticated evening capped a multi-day leadership training of university women, chiefly from across the United States, but also including international participants. Branch members contributing to the energy and engaging with participants, honorees, and AAUW representatives from National and chapters near and far, were Lynn Hapchuk, Mary McGrath, Markonette Richardson, and Gail Viamonte.

Chelsea Clinton provided the keynote! Joining 170 previously honored women since the award was established in 1985 were the 2014 awardees, each of whom spoke of their journeys and offered strategies and encouragement for aspiring and novice leaders: Hattie Kauffman, Television Anchor and News Correspondent; Lily Liu, Cofounder PublicStuff; Pamela Ann Melroy, former NASA Astronaut; DeRionne P. Pollard, President of Montgomery College, Maryland; and Judy Smith, Co-executive Producer of *Scandal* and Founder and President of Smith & Company. The substance of each brief speech spoke often of personal challenges, accomplishments both “accidental” and pursued, service to others, and the importance of mentoring and mutual support. “Inspiring” barely covers it.

ON PUBLIC POLICY

Pat Strott-Wheatley

Public Policy Chair for AACounty Branch of AAUW

Well, as we greet a new active year in the many exciting ones in our Branch here in Anne Arundel County, let me introduce a new column that you will see this year.

As you see it will be called “On Public Policy” because for the first time in several years, the Executive Board has appointed one of us to try and keep all of us up-to-date on what is going on nationally and in the state of Maryland as far as legislative action goes.

As you all know, one our primary reasons for existence beyond promoting “Equity for Women and Girls” is to endorse legislation which will help that to happen and which will further the causes important to families, as women have been want to do since we first walked the earth.

On the national front, as you all know, AAUW sponsors a “Lobby Corps” made up mainly of members from Va., Md., and D.C. Members from all other states are welcome to join in when they are in town, and they often do. On Thursdays (Lobby Corps day here) we gather on Capitol Hill, have an agenda to present, have a briefing on that agenda, then go off in pairs to visit Congress and the Senate to further that cause. It usually has to do with a family or women related bill that is coming up the next week.

On the state side of things, our Branch pays for membership in MLAW, which stands for “Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women” I, and one or two others will be attending their regular meetings and discussions with legislators and serving, again, as proponents of laws that serve women and education and families.

It is a privilege, a fine part of our Democracy that makes this kind of participation possible. Last year our opinions on The Minimum Wage, Parental Leave, Domestic Violence, Paid Sick Days, Human Trafficking, and many other issues were part of the state agenda.

It is going to be my job to keep you, the members, updated on the bills and issues that we affirm and discuss and lobby for both on the state level and nationally.

I look forward to all of being well informed voters and citizens, as I try hard to keep all of the issues on the table and in our minds.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FUND
Sigrid Dorf

As we gear up for another book sale and you are volunteering your time to work to make it as successful as or even better than the past book sales think about how many people we are able to help with our donations. The proceeds are divided between the Educational Opportunities Fund, the Women to Women grants, and the AACC Scholarship Fund. All of them provide financial help for women at different points in their lives and studies to further their education.

The AAUW Educational Opportunities Fund (EOF) provides funding for women for graduate education or for research related to women's issues and for the benefit of all women. With this donation we also honor some of the members who have contributed a lot to the branch for the 2013-14 year. These awards were presented at the May Brunch to:

Judith MacGregor for her work chairing the Membership Committee and finding so many new members for the branch

Teresa Gilbert for her great photos and getting our information out to the public

Mary McGrath for her work assembling the directory, her work on the membership committee, and for keeping up the website.

If you would like to learn more about EOF or would be willing to help chair this position, please contact me, Sigrid Dorf, at myrondorf@comcast.net or Mary McGrath.

Transfer Scholarships
Barb Marder

All three transfer scholarship recipients for this year are enrolled in their respective universities and eagerly beginning their junior years. We will receive a midyear progress report at the end of the term.

AAUW ANNE ARUNDEL BRANCH
WOMEN TO WOMEN AWARDEES 2014

Michele Hauf



Mikayla Walker – George Washington University – Biology

Mikayla is a hard working student from Severn School. She was admitted into the Woman's Leadership Program (WLP) for her excellent academics and having the characteristics of a great leader. Her sights are set on a Doctorate. She is considering either Pediatric

Neurology or just Pediatrics and a double major in International Affairs.

Kourtney McLain – Frostburg State Univ. – Biology Pre-Med



Kourtney is dedicated and determined to make the most out of her college opportunity. Her goal is to become a Physician Assistant or Paramedic. She has made the Soccer Team at Frostburg and is pursuing any advantages of internships and professional training. Kourtney is the first in her family to attend College.



Jacqueline Velasquez-Castaneda – Boston College – Biology

During Jacqueline’s High School years she has obtain leadership roles, stayed active in her community and strived in her academics. Her love for math and science in school has led her to a long term goal of becoming a doctor. She

is looking to travel to developing countries to provide service to those who are underserved.



Emily-Kate McGeady – U of S. Carolina – Public Relations

Emily-Kate has put in endless hours of hard work in order in maintain her grades and pay for college. As a member of the Air Force ROTC she is an award winning leader. She also is a member of the Arnold Air

Society as the Public Affairs Officer organizing events such as the Harvest Hope food bank. She works at O’Loughlin’s in Arnold whenever she is home from College to help pay for her tuition.



Morgan Jones – York College PA – Biology Pre-Med

Morgan is an advocate of Women’s equally and is focused on being productive and making changes in the world. She enjoys medical sciences and is interested in studying pre-medicine and

pharmacology. She has medical issues and work closely with various doctors who have been a great influence to her. She has participated in sports and was the Student Government President.



Naveen Ghuman – Howard University – Biology Pre-Med

In her journey to correct her scoliosis Naveen has been inspired by doctors and nurses to pursue biomedical engineering. This career path will allow her to thrive in a career that will satisfy

her interests for mathematics, physics, biology and the human body. She has shadowed the family pediatrician and already participated in case studies.

FALL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

Alice Harrison

Our **Fall Membership Luncheon** will take place at Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, Sept. 13th from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm. This is our chance to get to know our new members and to bring friends, relatives, contacts, etc. with us to introduce them to AAUW Anne Arundel County. We always have a good time too.

This is a pot luck luncheon, which means lots of good food! If your last name begins with A –Q, please bring a salad or main dish; if your last name begins with R – Z, please bring a dessert. Drinks are provided, but please bring serving utensil, if needed. If you are planning to attend, please let Alice Harrison or Markonette Richardson know so we have an approximate head count. Their contact information is listed here.

If you have any questions about anything related to AAUW Anne Arundel County, please feel free to contact Alice Harrison, 410-956-5140, awharrison@yahoo.com or Markonette Richardson,

240-605-4801, markonette.richardson@gmail.com. Alice and Markonette are your membership Co-chairs and therefore are your liaison to the chapter.

Reminder: If you have not yet paid your dues, please remit \$70.00 payable to AAUW A.A. County to Sharon Halligan, 2704 Summers Ridge Dr., Odenton, MD 21113. Of course, you can bring your check to the luncheon as well. We're also going to try to have a WiFi station at the luncheon so that people can register on line.

See you then!

STEM workshop being planned for 2015
Judith MacGregor

Our Branch would like to present a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Workshop in the spring of 2015. The workshop would promote STEM fields to demonstrate the scope of careers possible and to encourage young girl's interest in STEM. Held on a Saturday morning it would be ½ day in length and offered to approximately 70 Fifth Grade girls, one from each elementary school in the county. Hands on programs are offered to the girls featuring different STEM fields. A parent would be requested to accompany each girl and a separate program for the parents is an integral part of the workshop.

The STEM workshop would be organized and presented by our Branch and require involvement of 20 to 30 members. Judith MacGregor has been leading this effort and doing some initial planning. We are thrilled to report that the Anne Arundel Community College has agreed to provide all the space and serve as the host. Key next steps involve getting the county school district's involvement and finding a financial sponsor. Questions email jamacgregor101@gmail.com or call 410 991 9115.

DAYTIME BOOK CLUB
Alice Harrison

The Daytime Book Club is reading "Orphan Train," a novel by Christina Baker Kline. The meeting will take place at the home of Mary McGrath on Wednesday, Sept. 3rd at 10:30 a.m. Mary lives at 1275 Bugeye Ct., Annapolis. Her email is: Mary @bugeye.net.

You are most welcome to attend even if you haven't read the book.

Evening Book Club
Sam Hackman

Our group is very excited that Lucia St. Clair Robson, AAUW member and author, will attend our Sept 17th meeting to discuss her book *The Tokaido Road*. Everyone is welcome so please join us at Barbara Marder's house at 7:30 on that evening. Please let Barbara Marder know if you are planning to attend at: scubaesc@aol.com.

Greetings AAUW!
Cheryl Menke, Program Chair

I am looking forward to an exciting and interesting year of meetings, events, book sales, STEM conferences, luncheons, happy hours, tours, etc., etc., etc. So much to do -- we are a busy group of creative, curious, and concerned women!! If you have any ideas for events, please share them with me. Below you will find a list of meetings for the year, but I have a few other thoughts and need some feedback.

I was wondering if any of the quilters and others in the groups would like to take a Saturday trip to Rock Hall, MD. My cousin has a small quilt shop there stocked with material and notions I know you would love plus we can look around in town, have lunch, and maybe stop in Chestertown. So let me know and send me a date that would work for you, maybe November??

Happy Hour (Cocktail and Convos) Sept 29--- I was thinking outside... still warm so how about either Mike's North off Ft Smallwood Rd-- absolutely fabulous view (this is the old Windows) or upstairs on roof deck at Metropolitan in Annapolis (parking garage next door and great happy hour prices on food and drinks) but I am looking for suggestions for gatherings so share your fun favorites! Please email me not Dot...Dot sends out the emails but I need the responses!!!

Feb 28 is the tentative date I have set for a trip to DC to the National Museum of Women in the Arts. It

is located 2 blocks north of Metro Center. A beautiful museum both in art and architecture.

- Sept 13 Membership luncheon
- Sept 29 Cocktails and Convos 5:00-7:00
- Oct 13 Political Forum at Kneseth Israel in Annapolis
- Nov 5-9 Book sale
- Nov 10 Happy Hour to recover from books sale
- Dec 6 Holiday Luncheon at Mezzanotte
- Jan No meeting
- Feb 28 National Museum of Women in the Arts
- March 9 Topic "Women Who have Inspired Me"
- March 30 Cocktails and Convos
- April 13 Immigration/Refugee Panel
- May 2 Spring Luncheon-Chartwell Country Club

More details and possible changes to follow as the times approach. My phone is (443-221-3338 cell) or texting is the easiest way to reach me. I have a NEW email address: camenke2@hotmail.com.

CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAM
Susan Cochran, President,
League of Women Voters of Maryland

Dr. Donald F. Boesch, renowned scientist of climate change, will present an educational program titled Rising Seas, Rising Concern, How will climate change affect Anne Arundel County? Dr. Boesch is a Professor of Marine Science and President of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science and University System of Maryland's Vice Chancellor for Environmental Sustainability.

An illustrated program will be held on Wednesday, September 10, 7 p.m., at the Annapolis Area Library, West Street, Annapolis, and 21401. The program is free and the public is invited. Bring your questions and a friend! The evening is sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Anne Arundel County.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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| Wednesday | 03-Sep | Daytime Book Club 10:30 a.m. at home of Mary McGrath: mary@bugeye.net |
| Wednesday | 10-Sep | Board Meeting at ? |
| Monday | 13-Sep | Fall Membership Luncheon, Woods Church, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.,(see flyer attached) |
| Wednesday | 17-Sep | Evening Book Club, 7:30 p.m. at home of Barbara Marder: scubaesc@aol.com |
| Saturday | 20-Sep | October Newsletter Articles due to Dot Gibson: dotjgibson@comcast.net |
| Monday | 29-Sep | Cocktails and Convos, 5-7 p.m., TBD |
| Monday | 13-Oct | Monthly meeting with League of Women Voters, Political Forum at Kneseth Israel |
| Wednesday | 08-Oct | Board Meeting |
| Wednesday through Sunday | 05-09-Nov | Annual Book Sale |
| Saturday | 06-Dec | Annual Holiday Party - Mezzanotte |



Anne Arundel County AAUW
Fall Membership Luncheon
Sat., Sept. 13th, 2014
Woods Memorial Church

Fellowship Hall

611 Baltimore/Annapolis Blvd. - Severna Park

11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Bring a dish to share.

We supply drinks, plates, forks, etc.

Last names A-Q, bring main luncheon dish;
R-Z bring dessert. All bring serving utensils.

**This is a great opportunity to welcome
new members and friends and always a good
time!**

RSVP by Sept. 10th:

Alice Harrison, awharrison@yahoo.com, 410-956-
5140

or Markonette Richardson, 410-672-2480

markonette.richardson@gmail.com

