



annearundelcounty-md.aauw.net

October 2015 Newsletter

THE PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Gail Viamonte and Mary McGrath

We begin our Fall program cycle with exciting accomplishments, eager anticipation, and some unique forecasts!

As a Branch, we are ever stronger. Welcome to new members, especially those who participated in and joined at our September Membership Luncheon. Congratulations to all attending members, and especially the Membership and Program Committees, for an event that will long be remembered (see the article) for its robust participation, including that of speaker Congresswoman Donna Edwards (D-MD-4th District), herself an AAUW member!

Congratulations to our Book Sale Committee Members. Collections are rolling in; presorting is up-to-date. New and veteran members have been active at multiple sites—thank you. A few of us list as one of our “amazing” donations those that arrived via a 1931 Model A Ford, complete with rumble seat.

C&C (Cocktails and Conversation) events have brought us in great numbers to new and exciting venues (ex. “The Point”), and promise even more. Our Communications master, Dot Gibson, keeps us all updated at the speed of the Internet. Our Publicity Chair, Kathy Arias, often supported by photographer Michel Hauf and others, makes all of us look like VIP’s, given how often our Branch is reported in The Capital or other media. Yes, we are on Facebook, thanks to Roxann King. Our Scholarship programs are revving up. Our historian, Terry Saylor, has collected and is archiving wonderful artifacts, documents, and photos.

Speaking of the latter...

Next June will mark the 60th Anniversary of the founding of our Branch, and the 10th Anniversary of the name change (from “Severna Park” to “Anne Arundel”)!!! Some of us already are dreaming of ways to celebrate. Meanwhile, Terry asks for you to check the back of your closets for papers, photos, and other materials. Then check again—you know, that sealed box in your basement that you haven’t opened in years. Guess what? If it has to do with any era of the Branch, she’ll take it at no charge to you!

So...read on for details. Thanks to all who have made us such a success to date. Join, if you are reading this and are not a member. Become re-involved if you haven’t been in communication recently. Look forward to the professional and personal benefits of membership!

BOOK SALE UPDATE

By Roxann King

It seems that all the baby boomers are downsizing simultaneously!! We have record collections this year. Books do not seem to have gone out of style.

Since we have an additional site in Annapolis for each collection, staffing collection days during summer vacations has been challenging. Thank you very much to everyone who has come out on Saturdays to help us with collections, some of you on multiple Saturdays. Thanks also to our members who presort in the days following collections. We need volunteers for the remaining two collections and for the actual set-up and sale days.

This is our big fundraiser, 80% of which supports our educational awards funds. To volunteer contact Mary Ellen Gick (megick23@verizon.net, 410-279-4506) or Roxann King (roxann.king1@verizon.net, 410-431-7166)

Here are the details:

Remaining book collections needing volunteers:

Saturday, October 3, the Bank of America at the corner of Jumpers Hole and Benfield Rd. and the Y in Arnold (St. Philips Church on Bestgate is already staffed).

Saturday, October 17, some volunteers needed at all three locations.

Book Sale Location: Festival at Pasadena, 8151-D Ritchie Hwy, Pasadena, MD – in the BJ’s shopping center next to East West Bistro.

Books, tables and supplies get delivered to the store on Thursday, October 29.

Setup days: Friday, October 30 through Wednesday, November 4. Hours: Friday, 8 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Monday through Wednesday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Wednesday, November 4, 6-9 p.m., Members Night at the Book Sale. Join us for refreshments. Members get to purchase books before the official sale starts.

Sale Days: Thursday, November 5, through Sunday, November 8. Thursday, 8-10 a.m. Public Pre-Sale, \$10 admission; 10 a.m.-8 p.m., opening day sales; Friday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (Buy Books by the Bag Day). Just tell us when you want to work!

After Sale Clean-Up: Sunday, November 9, 2-6 p.m. We will need help from members, families and friends to pack up the leftover books which we will sell to Wonder Books in Frederick. Last year we made an additional \$900 this way.

Check out our AAUW Anne Arundel County Book Sale page on Facebook. Thanks go to Cindy Neseth for continuing to update this page every year for us.

Don’t forget to bring family and friends to help with the sale! We have a lot of support even from non-members in the community.

HERE WE GO!

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

By Alice Harrison and Diana Larmore

We welcome six new members all from our Fall Membership Luncheon!! They are Laney Forge (former school principal, recently moved from California), Niv Roy Ghatak (from Rockwell Collins, sponsor of our December STEM program), Catherine Crowley (graduate of George Washington University, lives in Pasadena), Miriam Morrow (from Severna Park, (graduated University of Maryland), Annie Liu (student member originally from China), Sherry Little (BA History, lives in Annapolis) and Kathleen Sievers. (from Severna Park, graduate of Towson University). Please say “hello” and welcome our new members when you see these exemplary women at our meetings and events. Their email/phone/address information will be included in our Members Directory.

PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

By Roxann King

On Wednesday, October 18, the Census Bureau released new data on the gender pay gap for 2014. Women earn 79 cents on the dollar earned by men, which is a one cent increase from last year. Though the findings were statistically insignificant, they reveal that the pay gap is slowly narrowing between men and women. Still, the pay gap remains worse for women of color. Hispanic or Latina women earn 54% of a white man’s earnings, while African American women earn 63% of what men are paid.

AAUW released its 2015 updated document “The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap” which succinctly addresses these issues by going beyond the widely reported 79 percent statistic. The report explains the pay gap in the United States; how it affects women of all ages, races, and education levels; and what you can do to close it. It breaks out the data for each state separately and also indicates how legislation in each state supports women’s pay equity. Maryland does very well, both in legislation and in pay equity, particularly Anne Arundel County, where only those in District 2, Ruppertsberger (D), have an earnings ratio below 90%: 83%. Those of us in District 4, Edwards (D), have one of the highest earnings ratios in the nation, 99.3%. Click on this link to download the complete AAUW report or to download the Maryland Roadmap to Pay Equity:

<http://www.aauw.org/resource/gender-pay-gap-by-state-and-congressional-district/>.

Bi-annually AAUW surveys its members to determine support for current public policy issues. The voting coincides with the national conventions, which are held bi-annually in June. This year 125 out of 792 Maryland branch members (16%) participated in the voting. Except for humanities and the arts, all of the issues were supported by over 80% of the voting membership. Among the issues were: promoting diversity, supporting legislation against discrimination or violence against women (sexual assault on campus or in the military), enforcement of Title IX, access to women's healthcare, and others. This link will take you to the voting results: <http://www.aauw.org/resource/national-election/>.

AAUW has a very convenient tool for showing your support for national legislation called the Two-Minute Activist. To receive urgent email notices to contact your members of Congress, use the link below. You provide your zip code and they provide the letter which you can edit and send to your Senators and member of the House. And they deliver! <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>.

The MLAW (Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women) fall conference will be held on Saturday, November 14, 2015 from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm at the International Cultural Center in Gaithersburg, MD. The conference will feature a moderated panel: "New Perspectives on Legislative Advocacy," including: Del. Will Smith, Del. Maricé Morales, Del. Erek Barron, Del. Karen Young, and Sen. Addie Eckardt (invited). An optional advocacy workshop will be offered from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. There is no charge for the workshop.

The highlight of the conference is always the presentation of legislative proposals for the upcoming 2016 legislative session in Maryland. In December, members of MLAW (our branch has membership) are surveyed to decide which legislation to support. Registration for the conference is \$35 (\$20, student). For conference information and registration go to: <http://mdlegagendaforwomen.org/>. I will be attending and would welcome anyone interested in joining me. Contact Roxann King, 240-472-1408 or roxann.king1@verizon.net.

Please also contact me if you would like to be notified about public policy issues that need your support in Maryland. I am very happy to report that 13 of our branch members have already signed on at the membership luncheon in September. I know there are

at least two additional members who may be interested out there (our fearless leaders, who were not able to attend the luncheon.) Thank you all very much for stepping forward.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

By Mary-Lynne Neill

Regular meeting—The Program Committee looks forward to seeing you at the October 12 membership meeting at Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church, 611 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd, Severna Park. The meeting will start at 7 p.m. After we take care of Branch business, Michael Glanz will speak about how horticultural therapy is used to support Melwood's mission of empowering individuals of differing abilities to transform their own lives. Sounds fascinating!

Special outing--Please join us on Sunday afternoon, October 25, outing to Bow Tie Cinema at Annapolis Harbour Center to see "Suffragette," a new movie featuring Cary Mulligan, Helena Bonham-Carter and Meryl Streep about the suffragette movement. Time and meeting place TBD—watch your e-mail for further details.

Movie trailer: <http://suffragettethemovie.com/#landing>

AAUW Fall Membership Luncheon

By Mary-Lynne Neill

There was a hint of fall in the air as nearly 40 women gathered on September 12 to participate in AAUW's annual Fall Membership Luncheon. Like the children who had just gone back to school, we were also back to work in 'AAUW Mode' as we kicked off a new year of fundraising, fellowship and empowerment of women.

The luncheon was very well attended, including 10 new members and guests. We were very pleased to welcome Transfer Scholarship recipient Teisha Miles and her mother, Jackie. The luncheon buffet was full of varied and delicious dishes—as usual! What a treat for us all.

Membership Committee Chairperson and wonderful emcee Diana Larmore started the meeting by asking everyone in the audience to explain her introduction to, and experiences with, the AAUW. Hearing all these stories was fascinating, intriguing and inspiring. Additionally, each committee chairperson explained

what her committee's mandate was, and how to get involved. We also received a glimpse of upcoming member activities.

The highlight of the lunch was a visit from Congresswoman (and Senate candidate) Donna Edwards, who spoke on STEM (a topic dear to AAUW's hearts) and women's education. Congresswoman Edwards gave a rousing speech, which was very well received. She placed an emphasis on the need to raise our sons as advocates for women's equality and women's issues. In all the speeches I have heard on this topic, this speech was the first I heard that mentioned the importance of bringing up our boys to become the men who will support the women of the future. Afterward, Congresswoman Edwards graciously met with members, answered questions and took photos.

Hats off to Diana Larmore for an excellent meeting. Diana, along with Alice Harrison, Markonette Richardson, Cheryl Menke and our very patient and talented 'Communicator' Dot Gibson, put on one of AAUW's best-attended and enjoyable Fall Membership meetings. Many thanks are also sent to all the members who shared their experiences, talents and delicious dishes on a memorable day.

WEB SITE and FACEBOOK

By Roxann King

Check out our website!

Our website has a new look and a new "Members Only" page with our membership directory, branch documents and meeting minutes: <http://annearundelcounty-md.net>. Check your email for your password for the Members Only page. Your suggestions for improving the site are always welcome and so is your help.

If you have a picture or event to share, all members can post on our Facebook page, AAUW Anne Arundel County. Contact for website and Facebook: Roxann King: (roxann.king1@verizon.net).

Appeal to our Philanthropists...

By Roxann King

Part of our national mission is philanthropy in support of equity in the workplace and in education for women and girls. If you wish to contribute personally to any of our branch award funds, send a check payable to:

"AAUW Anne Arundel County Branch" to our treasurer, Dianne Dezio, 8607 Wintergreen Ct., #403, Odenton, MD 21113. The three funds are listed below. If you do not specify a fund, then your donation will be distributed 50%, 25%, 25%, respectively, which is the rule our branch has determined for distributing branch award fund monies.

- **Women-to-Women** awards to local women with needs for pursuing higher education;
- **Transfer Scholarship** awards to Anne Arundel Community College graduates transferring to a college or university;
- **AAUW Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF)** awards, presented by the national AAUW organization to women for graduate education or research related to women's issues.

You can also specify your donation towards scholarships to the annual **National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)**, held annually at University of Maryland in College Park. We annually fund participation by one or more student leaders from our local colleges.

Planning Continues for "STEM GIRLS COUNT!" Workshop December 5th

By Judith MacGregor

We are working with Anne Arundel Community College and the county public school system on this exciting program for approximately eighty 4th grade girls and their guardians invited from 21 AA county elementary schools. The technical program presenters who will lead hands-on activities have been identified, and so has our keynote speaker, Marcelle Lee who started her own non-profit, Cyberjitsu. She will cover safe practices and also careers in this growing area.

Our own branch member, Janice Roper Graham's company, Outreach Process Partners, is providing the major funding for the event with a \$4000 donation, with an additional contribution of \$2000 from Rockwell Collins.

See our webpage on the branch site for more details (thanks to Roxann King). If you want to volunteer to help the day of the event email Judith MacGregor at: jamacgregor101@gmail.com or call: 410-911-9115.

AAUW SEVERNA PARK PAPERS WANTED

By Terry Saylor

Have you started your fall cleaning? Are your closets or under-bed floors occupied with boxes of AAUW Severna Park papers? If so, please give me a call (410-757-2446) or send an email to saylortery2@gmail.com. I want them! The Anne Arundel County Branch is almost 10 years old. If you still have Severna Park Branch papers in your home, they can find a new home at the University of Maryland College Park Libraries Special Collections where many other Maryland branch papers are and the State papers too. Just contact me and we can arrange to get them moved.

EOF/LAF

By Sharon Halligan

AAUW has served as an impetus to advance educational and professional opportunities for women in the United States and globally. In fact, it currently is the world's largest source of funding for graduate women, now boasting a 2015-16 record of more than 241 fellowship grants with a total funding of more than 3.7 million dollars. AAUW relies on generous contributions from its members to achieve its goals.

A detailed list of the categories of fellowships and grants can be found on the AAUW National site at <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/>, along with a presentation of the 2015-16 fellowship and grants awardees.

In the coming year, AAUW will focus on educating its members on the importance of unrestricted giving to the AAUW funds. Stay tuned for further information as it becomes available.

Activities relevant to the Legal Advocacy Fund have kicked off for the new year. On October 15th, AAUW is holding a Supreme Court Preview call to analyze upcoming cases that could significantly impact discrimination against women and girls. Anyone interested in attending the preview call can do so by registering online at: <http://www.aauw.org/event/2015/10/register-for-the-2015-supreme-court-preview-call/>.

Did you know that you can bring a LAF plaintiff and advocates to our state convention or multi-branch

events? There are LAF Case Support Travel Grants available to cover the expenses of these parties. If interested, contact laf@AAUW.org for information. Please note that the deadline for filing grant applications is October 30, 2015.

Campus Outreach grants in the amount of \$750 are also available to branches to support programs to educate college students about gender discrimination. These programs go a long way to establish networks on local college campuses for AAUW branches. Campus outreach grant applications can be completed online at: <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/campus-outreach-grant/>.

TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIPS

By Barbara Marder

The 2015-16 transfer scholarship recipients, Abigail Anderson and Teisha Miles, have registered for full schedules and begun classes as juniors at their chosen universities. The scholarship committee received a warm and enthusiastic letter from Abigail, again thanking AAUW for her scholarship and expressing how much it is helping her this fall. Teisha and her mother attended the fall luncheon, expressed their sincere thanks, and shared the involvement Teisha has already developed in her new role at the University of Baltimore.

The Transfer Scholarship applications for 2016-2017 will be made available to potential candidates in late January with due date and selection process in April. The committee is actively seeking two or three new members who are available for a few hours in April. Any interested member is encouraged to contact Barbara Marder at 410-518-9978 or by email: scubaesc@aol.com.

DAYTIME BOOK GROUP

By Teresa Gilbert

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 7th, starting at 10:30AM. The hostess is Teresa Gilbert, 850 Cottonwood Drive, Severna Park.

This is our annual planning meeting. All attending are encouraged to bring a list of books they would like to recommend to the group.

Please check the AA County Library site to see if the books are available. RSVP to Teresa at tsunshineg@verizon.net or 410-518-9863.

AAUW Evening Book Club

By Sam Hackman

The book for our next meeting is: *The Next 100 years* by George Friedman.

Barbara Marder will host and moderate the meeting on **Tuesday, Oct 27 at 7:30 PM**. The day and date are different from our usual schedule.

Read the review below of the book: "A fascinating, eye-opening and often shocking look at what lies ahead for the U.S. and the world from one of our most incisive futurists."(Amazon review)

We have selected the following books for the rest of this year:

Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline and *King*

Leopold's Ghost by Adam Hochschild

Please feel free to join our group!

Contact samhackman@hotmail.com for further details.

COCKTAIL & CONVOS-THE POINT CRAB DECK – AUGUST 31



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 3 – Saturday - Book Sale collection date – 10-1

October 12 – Monday - Members' Meeting, speaker, Michael Glanz, Horticulturist, from Melwood, 7 p.m. – Woods Church, Severna Park

October 17 – Saturday - Book Sale collection date – 10-1

October 21 – Wednesday – AAUW Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

October 25 – Sunday – Special Event, Movie at Harbor Ctr., “Suffragette”, time TBD

October 30-November 4 – Book Sale Set Up Days, see article above for days and times

November 4-9 – Book Sale, being held at Festival at Pasadena, near BJ's and East-West Cafe

December 5 – Saturday – STEM Event at AACC – 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

December 6 – Sunday – Holiday luncheon, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. – Café Mezzanotte, Severna Park