



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

September 2016 Newsletter

LETTER FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

By Gail Viamonte and Laney Forge

Greetings to all our members from your Co-Presidents Gail Viamonte and Laney Forge! We've had an interesting summer preparing for our year ahead. We want to thank Mary McGrath for assisting us in the transition of leadership responsibilities. Mary patiently guided Laney in the process as she learned the ins and outs of helping to guide our Branch to success this coming year. Gail, of course, is the one who keeps us on track with her wealth of experience and knowledge.

In July, Stacey Hilder and her committee did a great job of decorating our AAUW car and representing us in the Severna Park Fourth of July parade. We handed out bookmarks that informed community members of our book sale collection days. We have already begun the process of collecting books and are off to a great start. Thanks to all of you who have shown up on Saturday mornings to greet the public and collect their books. We hope you will talk to your friends and neighbors about donating books. This is how we raise our funds for scholarships for the year. The sale will be in early November.

On July 23, Laney, Mary and Caroline Flaherty attended the AAUW state training for officers and board members. We brainstormed ideas for fund-raising, increasing membership, and ideas for exciting programs. The State Board is in the process of establishing an on-line AAUW community for National Members and Maryland members whose branches have been closed. Another focus of the day was making plans to

create opportunities to link with the Younger Women's Task Force to increase membership of our college women.

Our September annual luncheon is on Saturday, September 17th, at Woods Memorial Church in Severna Park. We look forward to seeing you there and would encourage you to bring a friend who might be interested in joining our Branch of AAUW. This is an opportunity to learn about the mission of AAUW and the activities we have planned for the year. (See luncheon flyer at the end of this newsletter for further details.)

Cathy Crowley and Mary McGrath have been meeting all summer to plan exciting programs for the upcoming year. In October, we will join the League of Women Voters to present a political forum to the voting public in Anne Arundel County. Several of our members are volunteering to assist in leading the forum. Cathy and Mary also have interesting speakers lined up for each meeting this year and have begun to plan cultural outings and "Cocktails and Convos" dates for fun socializing. We also have book clubs and bridge clubs. Get involved! We need to get to know each other!

There are many opportunities for you to assist an interesting committee this year. We need your involvement to make our year fun and worthwhile. At the luncheon you will hear about each committee and what you can do to help. This is a way for you to make wonderful friends and participate in the growth of our Branch. We are all educated, informed and interesting women...what better place to make lifelong friends!

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

By Niv Roy Ghatak

We are very excited about the possibilities for a challenging and rewarding year in AAUW. We look forward to seeing you in September at the luncheon. Introduce yourself to us ...we want to know each of you and find out how you would like to participate this year. It's a great time for women ...let's make AAUW a leader in working for equality and creating opportunities for education and careers for the women of Anne Arundel County!

STEM--What's Next?

By Judith MacGregor

Following the rave reviews of our first STEM conference, "STEM GIRLS COUNT!" for 70+ 4th grade girls and their accompanying adults from Anne Arundel County last December, the board is interested in presenting another program during 2017.

To make that happen, we need to start planning and would like to form a small group of Branch members who are willing to provide leadership and oversight.

Please consider this rewarding role.

Questions contact Judith MacGregor, jamacgregor101@gmail.com or phone 410 991 9115.

Program Committee

By Cathy Crowley

Save the Dates!

Our program committee is hard at work organizing events and speakers for the next few months. Mark your calendars and plan to attend:

Monday, October 10 – Cocktails and Conversations at Brio in Annapolis Town Center.

Wednesday, October 26 -- Political Candidates Forum in collaboration with the League of Women Voters.

Saturday, December 3 – Holiday Party at Café Mezzanotte.

Additional details will be posted on the website. Hope you will join us!

We are delighted to welcome two new members to our Anne Arundel Branch. They are Patricia Beers Block and Joyce Moyer. Please allow me to introduce them:

Patricia is Assistant Professor at Rutgers University. She holds a BS in Biological Sciences from Rutgers University, a BS in Computer Information & Management Sciences from University of MD University College (UMUC) and is currently completing MS in Distance Education from UMUC. Pat lives in Severna Park.

Joyce has a BS in Home Economics from Mansfield State University PA and M.Ed. from Valdosta State University GA. Joyce is a retired teacher, a Director of Vocational Education, and a Research Associate from PA Department of Education. Joyce lives in Pasadena.

If you see Pat and Joyce or any of our other recent new members: Moira Little, Bettye Brake or Chris McGowen, at our next event, the Fall Membership Luncheon, please introduce yourselves.

As a reminder the Fall Membership Luncheon will be on Saturday, September 17th at Woods Memorial Church in Severna Park. Please invite your friends and family who wish to learn more about AAUW and don't forget to bring a dish to share. (Details in flyer at end of newsletter.)

Please RSVP for the luncheon by September 14th to Barbara Bellack, bbbellack@gmail.com, 410-268-2921 / Niv Roy Ghatak, nroyghatak@gmail.com, 319-491-1361 / Alice Harrison, awharrison@yahoo.com, 410-956-5140.

From this event on, we have an additional option to RSVP online at: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/4090F45A8AD29ABFC1-2016. (This link is also in the luncheon flyer at the end of this newsletter). Please note, you only need to enter your name. You are NOT required to provide your email or register in order to RSVP online.

EOF/LAF REPORT

By Sharon Halligan

Several AAUW state conferences held this spring will feature presentations by LAF-supported plaintiffs, advocates and experts. Perhaps it would be a good idea to suggest to our state branch to pursue such a presentation at our state convention next year. National offers grants for this purpose and branches can apply for funds to offset the expenses through the case-support travel grant. This year's deadline for applications is October 30th. See the national website for more information and application (<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/case-support-travel-grants/>).

Supreme Court Follow-up of Hobby Lobby Case-

LAF currently is monitoring Zubik v. Burwell, a follow-up case to Burwell v. Hobby Lobby, a decision which acknowledges the right of some corporations' right to not provide insurance coverage to women for contraception. In this new case, attempts are being made to further limit women's rights to contraception. AAUW feels that the oral arguments presented in the case suggest that the court will seek an alternative method to ensure that women will have access to health care.

LAF Express will keep you up-to-date on developments.

MORNING BOOK GROUP

By Mary McGrath

The morning book group will meet Wednesday, September 7th at the home of hostess and lead, Alice Harrison, Duvall Lane, Edgewater, MD. The Book is "The Boys in the Boat". Call Alice at [410-956-5140](tel:410-956-5140) or email: awharrison@yahoo.com.

EVENING BOOK CLUB

By Stacey Hilder

The evening book club will meet on Wednesday, September 7, at the home of Pat Strott-Wheatley, 807 Coxswain Way, from 7:30 to 9:00 pm.

We will be discussing "Me Before You" by Jo Jo Moyes. Pat will be leading the discussion.

Our book selection for October is "Under a Starry Sky" by Nancy Horan. We hope you will join us.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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| Wednesday | September 7 – Morning Book Club, Alice Harrison's, see details above |
| Wednesday | September 7 – Evening Book Club, Pat Strott-Wheatley's, see details above |
| Thursday | September 8 – 6:30 p.m. – Board Meeting, Judith MacGregor's home |
| Saturday | September 17 – 11-2 p.m., Annual luncheon, Woods Church, see flyer below for details |
| Thursday | October 13 – 7 p.m., Board Meeting, place TBD |
| Monday | October 10 – Cocktails and Convos, Brios in the Parole Towne Centre |
| Wednesday | October 26 – 7 p.m., Political Candidates Forum, Woods Church |
| Book Sale final dates not yet determined | |
| Saturday | December 3 – 11-2p.m., Annual Holiday Party, Café Mezzanotte, Ritchey Hwy., Severna Park |



**Anne Arundel County AAUW
Fall Membership Welcome Luncheon
Saturday, September 17th, 2016
Woods Memorial Church**

Zimmerman Hall

611 Baltimore/Annapolis Blvd. - Severna Park

11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Bring a friend and 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 our best opportunity to welcome
new members and friends and always a great get-together!**

RSVP by Sept. 14th:

Barbara Bellack, bbbellack@gmail.com, 410-268-2921

or Niv Roy Ghatak, nroyghatak@gmail.com, 319-491-1361

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

or [Online RSVP Link](#)

or www.SignUpGenius.com/go/4090F45A8AD29ABFC1-2016

(No email address or registration required)