



annearundelcounty-md.aauw.net

March 2016 Newsletter

THE PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

By Mary McGrath and Gail Viamonte

As March approaches, it's time to prepare for our first membership meeting this year on Monday, March 14, 2016. The March meeting is when next year's budget is presented to the membership for review in preparation for approval at our April meeting. Our treasurer, Dianne Dezio, is working on it now.

The nominating committee will present the slate of officers for the coming two years. Many of you have been contacted by now as they complete their work. In the January-February, 2016 newsletter committee chair, Roxann King, provided a comprehensive description of all current openings, and the new system voted in last year describing how our officers are elected. In preparation for the meeting, please take a look at her newsletter article to refresh your memory.

Lastly, our Program VPs have planned a fun evening to celebrate Women's History Month. You won't want to miss this first, very important meeting and along with the entertainment.

Speaking of women's history, as announced earlier, our branch is celebrating the 50th anniversary of our Branch's formation in 1966. Terry and others are now working to bring stories, pictures, and interesting and important information to you about our Branch's past work and achievements. We are all looking forward to reading about our heritage. If you have any stories, pictures, or historical information that you can contribute, send Terry an email at: saylerterry2@gmail.com.

One of Gail's and my two year goals as Co-Presidents is for all members to familiarize themselves with and use both our Branch and National websites. Many of us have been tapping into the sites to get Branch information and to keep up with National's legislative activities. Please remember that individual members are responsible for keeping their member contact information up to date on the National website. National releases Branch Rosters at the end of November. Please review the roster to assure your information is correct. To make changes to your profile, enter the "Members Service Database" and click on "My Profile" located on the top left. The Branch Member Roster is located at the bottom left for review.

Our Branch Membership VP does the Branch Directory updates but, currently, our Membership VP chair, Diana Larmore, is on sick leave. Until Diana returns, please contact Mary McGrath at: mary@bugeye.net. An update of the Branch Directory will be issued electronically by March 1st. Check it out to assure your information is current.

REMINDER: Have you thought about which committee you want to join this year? Check the Presidents' Message in our January-February, 2016 Newsletter for a list of committees.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

By Roxann King

The nominating committee for this year is: Roxann King, Dorothy McGuinness and Kay Monk. Two members had to resign recently.

Last year, changes were made to our bylaws to stagger co-positions for each of the major offices. (For this first year the co-President, when elected, will be serving with Gail Viamonte, one of our current co-Presidents, until a new co-President is elected next year.) Every year from next year forward, we will be electing a co-President, a co-Vice President for Programs and a co-Vice President for Membership for two year terms. Mary-Lynne Neil, current co-VP for Programs will continue to serve her second year with the incoming co-VP for programs. Membership VP, Diana Larmore, elected last year, has recently had to resign, and so that VP, when elected, will be serving alone until a co-VP is elected next year (note there is a supportive committee in place for membership). A secretary for our branch must be elected, with one year remaining in the current term. Five members need to be elected to the nominating committee, three for terms of two years and two for one-year terms. Descriptions of position responsibilities can be found in branch documents page inside the "Members Only" page at our branch website: annearundelcounty-md.aauw.net. (The password for this website will be sent in the email where this newsletter was attached.) The "Members Only" page also includes our members' directory, minutes from branch and board meetings and our branch documents such as by-laws and board and branch policy documents.

Branch board meetings are monthly from August through June currently on the third Wednesday, with no meeting in December and conference-call meetings when inclement weather prohibits gathering. The monthly board meetings are open to the membership and are also attended by committee chairpersons for the educational awards funds, the book sale, public policy, communication, publicity and the STEM activities. There are other committee heads that attend occasionally as needs arise. If you are interested in joining our board of directors or think that perhaps you might be convinced into doing so, speak with one of us or talk with one of the current board members. The

contact phone numbers for the nominating committee members are:

Roxann King, 240-472-1408

Dorothy McGuinness, 410-757-7416

Kay Monk, 410-295-1631.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have considered joining the board or have another member to recommend. We have a big task and need your help this year. Thank you.

PHILANTHROPIC

By Roxann King

Appeal to our Philanthropists...

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 how our Branch has determined the distribution of 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.

TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIPS

By Barbara Marder

Reminder: TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE April 1...available on website or from Barbara Marder: scubaesc@aol.com.

OUR AAUW BRANCH BUDGET

By Gail Viamonte

Title: Do You Know Where Your Money Comes From and Goes To? Installment #2

This is the second in a series of brief articles meant to support members' understanding of our Branch's income and expenditures, in anticipation of budget votes. Numbers reflect approximation at the time of this newsletter. Treasurer Dianne Dezio efficiently and accurately manages the Budget. A detailed copy of the Branch budget is reviewed monthly at Board meetings and is audited yearly. For questions or to suggest related topics of interest to yourself and other members, please contact Gail Viamonte gev24@earthlink.net or 410 279-3879,

February's newsletter article provided an overview of the specific sources of Branch funds: membership dues, individual donor gifts, the Annual Book Sale, and designated financial support raised for scholarships and special projects such as the December Branch Holiday Project and STEM Girls Count. In 2015-2016, our Branch activities also benefitted from organizational donations, such as those by Outreach Process Partners, Rockwell Collins, Anne Arundel Community College and Anne Arundel County Public Schools (towards STEM Girls Count!) and by The Cottage (Scholarships).

Now: let's talk about where this money goes—in particular, significant scholarship activity is one major activity of the Branch. Of the three scholarship categories to which Anne Arundel AAUW contributes (Women to Women, Transfer Scholarships, and EOF Scholarship), the "Women to Women" scholarships (current Chairperson, Michele Hauf) provide funding for Anne Arundel County women to improve their access to careers by empowering them with education. Awards are given to women returning to complete their degrees as well as those starting and continuing their education toward Associate, Bachelor and Master Degrees. According to Michele, "Women to Women" tries to reach both ends of the spectrum and something in between."

All women receiving awards are enrolled in a college or university.

Recent "Women to Women" awardees include:

- A high school grad who is the first in her family to attend college.
- A high school grad whose family is college oriented and is an "All Star" student.
- Women who have had to put their education on hold and are returning to finish an Associate's or Bachelor's degree.
- Women taking their education a step further to complete their Master's degree.

Previous award recipients include:

- A "straight A" high school grad who was living with a friend because her parents were on drugs and in prison, and she had no other family.
- A high school grad who had already written and published a medical paper in collaboration with John Hopkins physicians.
- A single mom returning to AACC to finished her degree and set a good example for her children, regarding the importance of higher education. At the time, she was trying to move out of a house on Clay Street, where she had to cover her bed in plastic every day to protect it from the leaking roof the owner would not fix.
- A mother returning to finish her Bachelor's degree and now her Master's degree.

"Women to Women" awards are made in the spring, with awardees invited to the Branch's Spring Luncheon and are described by their many achievements in our newsletter—and sometimes in The Capital newspaper and elsewhere!

So, put a face to these accomplished women and recognize that it is your efforts, led and facilitated by the Scholarship Committee, that bring about significant opportunities, Women to Women!

ANNE ARUNDEL AAUW BRANCH HISTORY

By Terry Saylor

Here are some fun and interesting tidbits from Terry who's searching our Branch history search for our 50th Anniversary this year. What wonderful events they must have been!

BEFORE THE BOOK SALE and AFTER (from the branch Scrapbooks):

Early in its history, the Severna Park Branch raised funds for The Educational Foundation by sponsoring theatre productions. For the first three, the Tom Thumb Players staged family-friendly shows: *Pinocchio* (April, 1968), *Rumpelstiltskin* (November, 1968) and *Treasure Island* (April 1969). In 1970 and 1971, puppet shows were engaged, *A Thousand and One Nights*, *Invasion on Puppet Mountain*, and *Mirror of the Mime*. The first book sale was held in 1972 and theatre pieces were still part of branch activities. In 1975, 1984 and 1985, the branch co-sponsored with the League of Women Voters, these plays: *The Fantastics* (twice) and *California Suite*. In 1979 and 1986 the branch brought the Gallaudet Dance Company to the Severna Park public. By 1988 an Art Sale and Auction raised funds.

45 YEARS AGO

March 18, 1971, the branch held a luncheon at Woods Memorial Fellowship Hall. Speaking was Mrs. Alfredo A. Boza, Sr., a Cuban immigrant who detailed her experiences in Cuba under Fidel Castro. She and her husband immigrated to the United States in 1968, having sent their children here first.

34 YEARS AGO

Prof. John D. Stempel spoke at the January, 1980 branch meeting on "The Impact of the Moslem Revival on World Politics". He was a U.S. Foreign Service officer and faculty in the Naval Academy Political Science Dept.

March, 1980 the Annapolis and Severna Park Branches jointly hosted a reception in the Maryland Senate Office Building honoring the first graduating class of women midshipmen at the Naval Academy.

Thank you Terry for all your hard work on this!

EOF/LAF
by Sharon Halligan

Victory in LAF-Supported Case: After ten years of litigation, two educators, Michelle Henley and Laurel Wartluft, have settled discrimination cases successfully against Feather River Community College in California. These settlements were noteworthy as they are whistleblower lawsuits that were financially supported by AAUW. A third plaintiff's case in this matter has yet to be decided. News such as this highlights the

significance of the role of Title IX in protecting faculty and staff who advocate for gender equality.

Anyone interested in updates on LAF-supported cases or programs can visit the national site on LAF case support for further information.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

By Alice Harrison

Do you know any of our newest members? Joining in 2015 were (in no particular order) Noel Eller, Cathy Crowley and Colleen Kane of Pasadena; Carolyn Flaherty of Crofton; Miriam Morrow and Kathleen Sievers of Severna Park; Niv Ghatah and Annie Liu (student member) of Arnold; and Laney Forge, Sherry Little, Sallie Abeles and Sherrill Ross-Wieneke, all of Annapolis.

The class of 2014 included Shelia Fridovich, and Teresa Todd of Annapolis; Kathryn Harris of Severna Park; Carolyn Hayes of Pasadena; and Diana Larmore of Crofton.

Please make it a point to ask if there are any new members present at any function you attend. Introduce yourself to those you don't know and of course, say "hello" to those you've already met. We have an awesome group of new people. See if you can meet a few of them.

Also remember to bring potential new members to our March 14 meeting and any other event you attend.

EVENING BOOK CLUB

By Stacey Hilder

The next meeting for the Evening Book Club will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 2, at the home of Linda King, 185 Doncaster Rd in Arnold. The book we will be discussing is "**The Boys in the Boat**" by Daniel James Brown. Linda King will lead the discussion.

The book is the story of the sport of rowing and the rowers who were America's team in the 1936 Olympics. "Out of the depths of the Depression comes the improbable, intimate account of how nine working-class boys from the American West showed the world at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin what true grit really meant. ...Brown has created an unforgettable portrait of

an era, a celebration of a remarkable achievement, and a chronicle of one extraordinary young man's personal quest." (from the book jacket)

For April, we will be reading "The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry". We would love to have you join us.

For more details contact Stacey Hilder at: stacey861@verizon.net.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 29 – Monday – Leap Year Cocktails and Convos – Yellow Fin Restaurant 2840 Solomons Island Rd., Edgewater 21037 – 4:30-6:45 p.m. Please contact Cheryl Menke to let her know you are attending: 443-221-3338 or: camenke2@hotmail.com.

March 14 – Monday – AAUW Regular Branch Meeting – 7 p.m. – Women's History Month – Special Entertainment - Woods Church, Severna Park

March 16 – Wednesday – Board Meeting – 7 p.m. – Kathy Arias' home – 1112 Ridge Pl., Crownsville, MD

April 11 – Monday – AAUW Regular Branch Meeting – 7 p.m. – Discussion of Public Policy - Woods Church, Severna Park

April 20 – Wednesday – Board Meeting – 7 p.m. - TBD

May 7 – Saturday – Annual Year End Luncheon – 11 a.m. – Chartwell Country Club, Severna Park