



[annearundelcounty-md.aauw.net](http://annearundelcounty-md.aauw.net)

## April 2016 Newsletter

### THE PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

By Mary McGrath and Gail Viamonte

Winter is over and spring has arrived, finally. The slate of officers has been presented to members for review at our March Branch meeting in preparation for voting at our April meeting; scholarship applications for next year are now on our website for students to apply; the budget committee has met with our Treasurer to complete the budget for next year for presentation to our members in April; our Historian, has been working diligently to gather our branch's past activities for the last fifty years. These are just a few of the activities happening between the Board and our various committees. It has been a busy and productive last three months and we have a lot ahead of us.

Speaking of the budget, one issue the committee came up against was the inability to project future expenses due to lack of receipts. Dianne has received very few receipts. Therefore we ask all who have incurred costs on behalf of our Branch submit receipts, if you still have them, as soon as possible. If receipts are not available, then submit a list of all money spent and the items/services bought. Several people indicated they wanted to donate their costs since they weren't significant or they just wanted to donate to our Branch. We thank them for that. However, it is still necessary for all who donate to submit a list of costs incurred so that we can form a budget for the next year. Without knowing actuals for this year, we have to use last year's budget numbers which may or may not be sufficient. Your help with this would make our Treasurer's job easier. Please, submit your expenses ASAP so Dianne can present next year's budget in a timely manner. The budget committee thanks you!

The Nominating Committee chair, Roxann King, has provided in this issue a comprehensive report of the nominees for next year's officers. This report was given at our March members meeting. To give you an example of just how dedicated your board members are to our AAUW/AACo Branch, Roxann sent this report on her I-phone from Brazil. Thank you, Roxann.

At our April meeting will be the presentation of next year's budget and the election of officers. (The Nominating Committee has provided all the info you needed to participate in the election.) Our April program will feature speakers from our Branch and from M-LAW who will speak about our national and state lobbying effort.

For more information, read this newsletter for these and other Branch and national activities so you can come to the meeting prepared. We are looking forward to seeing you all at our April meeting.

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

By Roxann King

The following nominees are being presented by the Nominating Committee for election at the April 11 membership meeting:

Co-Presidents: Laney Forge (2 years) and Gail Viamonte (1 year).

Co-Vice Presidents for membership: Niv Ghatak (2 years) and Barbara Bellack (1 year, completing Diana Larmore's position).

Co-Vice President for Program: Catherine Crowley (2 years).

Secretary: Caroline Flaherty (1 year). This position has been vacant for the past year and is filled on odd years.

Nominating Committee: Mary McGrath, Polly Wilson, and Judith MacGregor (2 years - not board members)

Mary-Lynne Neil will continue for her second year as co-vice president for program. Dianne Dezio will likewise continue for her second year as treasurer. Kay Monk and Roxann King will continue for their second year on the nominating committee.

This is the second year when we are implementing the change to the bylaws whereby one co-president and one co-vice president for both membership and program is elected each year, assuring support for incoming officers in those positions.

We wish to thank all nominees for agreeing to run this year. We also wish to thank all board members and committee chairpersons for their many suggestions.

Note: Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the April membership meeting.

Submitted by Roxann King, Dorothy McGuinness and Kay Monk, Nominating Committee 2016

## **PUBLIC POLICY**

**By Roxann King**

### **Maryland:**

#### **RAPE SURVIVOR FAMILY PROTECTION ACT:**

Please call the Senate Judiciary Proceedings Committee and ask them to support it. The House of Delegates passed the Rape Survivor Family Protection Act (HB646) Monday, March 21, by a vote of 136-0. We are grateful to the House Judiciary Committee and its Chairman for bringing the bill to a vote for the first time since it was introduced 8 years ago. This bill creates a process to terminate the parental rights of rapists when a child is conceived as a result of rape.

#### **MARYLAND SENATE JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS COMMITTEE:**

**Chair:** Robert A. (Bobby) Zirkin, Chair (D-11) Phone: [\(410\) 841-3131](tel:4108413131) | [\(301\) 858-3131](tel:3018583131)

**Vice Chair:** Lisa A. Gladden, Vice Chair (D-41) Phone: [\(410\) 841-3697](tel:4108413697) | [\(301\) 858-3697](tel:3018583697)

**Baltimore County:** Robert A. (Bobby) Zirkin, Chair (D-11) Phone: [\(410\) 841-3131](tel:4108413131) | [\(301\) 858-3131](tel:3018583131)

James Brochin (D-42) Phone: [\(410\) 841-3648](tel:4108413648) | [\(301\) 858-3648](tel:3018583648)

**Baltimore City:** Lisa A. Gladden, Vice Chair (D-41) Phone: [\(410\) 841-3697](tel:4108413697) | [\(301\) 858-3697](tel:3018583697)

**Carroll County:** Justin D. Ready (R-5) Phone: [\(410\) 841-3683](tel:4108413683) | [\(301\) 858-3683](tel:3018583683)

**Carroll & Frederick Counties:** Michael J. Hough (R-4) Phone: [\(410\) 841-3704](tel:4108413704) | [\(301\) 858-3704](tel:3018583704)

**Cecil & Harford Counties:** Wayne Norman (R-35) Phone: [\(410\) 841-3603](tel:4108413603) | [\(301\) 858-3603](tel:3018583603)

**Harford County:** Robert G. Cassilly (R-34) Phone: [\(410\) 841-3158](tel:4108413158) | [\(301\) 858-3158](tel:3018583158)

**Montgomery County:** Susan C. Lee (D-16) Phone: [\(410\) 841-3124](tel:4108413124) | [\(301\) 858-3124](tel:3018583124)

Jamin B. (Jamie) Raskin (D-20) Phone: [\(410\) 841-3634](tel:4108413634) | [\(301\) 858-3634](tel:3018583634)

The [Healthy Working Families Act \(HB580\)](#) would allow workers to earn one hour of paid sick leave for every 30 hours worked, up to seven days a year for a full-time worker. Please take a moment to send a message to every member of the House of Delegates urging their support of earned sick day's legislation.

In an effort to generate as many e-mails to legislators as possible, please go to the Working Matters Facebook page and "share" the post that you will see at the very top of the page.  
<https://www.facebook.com/WorkingMatters/>

### **National:**

Very recently, we marked an important anniversary in the fight for equal rights for women. On March 22, 1972, the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) passed the Senate and was sent to the states for ratification. The ERA calls for an amendment to the U.S. Constitution stating "Equality of Rights under the law shall not be

denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex." Unfortunately, the amendment fell three states short of the 38 states needed for its ratification. In the absence of the ERA, women currently do not have equal rights under the law. AAUW joins with its coalition partners and citizens across the country, in a renewed call to lawmakers to ratify the ERA. [Click here to add your name to the petition urging our elected officials to ratify the ERA.](#)

Be sure to attend our Branch meeting on April 11 at Woods Church. It will feature public policy updates by Michaela Cohen of the Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women and branch members Sharon Halligan and Lynn Hapchuk, who lobby every Thursday in Washington as members of AAUW Lobby Corps.

### **STEM UPDATE** By Judith MacGregor

**Our Branch STEM program on December 5<sup>th</sup>, STEM GIRLS COUNT! Received rave reviews** from the girls, the adults that brought them, 18 elementary school teachers, Anne Arundel Community College and the Anne Arundel County Public School System.

Here is just one of the many emails we received just after the event-

Colleagues:

"Let me also extend my congratulations on a job extremely well done. I can't tell you the last time I was moved like I was last Saturday morning---the affirming messages of confidence and 'you can do anything' were powerful and I'm certain incredibly inspiring for all of the participants. STEM girls really do rock!"

From: Kathleen Beauman, Executive Director, Office of Instructional Partnerships | Anne Arundel Community College

**Our branch volunteers performed wonderfully!** Over 30 AAUW AAC Branch volunteers each performing a specific and important part, were terrific. Without any rehearsals and virtually no meetings, the event ran smoothly and was outstanding. All who attended were pleased. Thanks to each of the

volunteers who helped! I am so very grateful for making this dream come true.

**What's Next?** This will be a difficult job of deciding what next. We could try for another event, which could be similar. 1) It would be necessary to obtain funding. Approximate cost was about \$5000. 2) Also, one or two leaders from our branch would need to be identified to help with organization. 3) Alternatively, we could try for a streamlined event or skip a year. Appreciate your thoughts, willingness to help and input. Email to: [jamacgregor101@gmail.com](mailto:jamacgregor101@gmail.com).

### **WOMEN TO WOMEN SCHOLARSHIPS** By Michele Hauf

The 2016 Women To Women Scholarship is available on our website. The deadline to the completed application to me is May 7<sup>th</sup>: Michele Hauf: [haufhauf@gmail.com](mailto:haufhauf@gmail.com) or [443-463-1101](tel:443-463-1101).

### **OUR AAUW BRANCH BUDGET** By Gail Viamonte

#### **Title: Do You Know Where Your Money Comes From and Goes To? Installment #3**

*This is the third 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](mailto:gev24@earthlink.net) or 410 279-3879.*

February's newsletter article provided an overview of the specific sources of Branch funds, and March's newsletter article described one of the three categories of scholarships to which Anne Arundel AAUW contributes, Women to Women (Chair: Michele Hauf). Of even longer duration in the history of Branch activities are the Transfer Scholarships awarded by the Branch and Branch support of the National Education Opportunity Funds.

Under the leadership of Chairperson, Barbara Marder, the **Transfer Scholarship** Committee annually awards

these scholarships to women residents of Anne Arundel County who:

- are current or former students of Anne Arundel Community College
- are pursuing a Bachelor's degree and are eligible for junior standing or higher by Fall 2016 at an accredited college or university
- have a grade point average of 3.00 or higher;
- show evidence of financial need
- demonstrate evidence of professionalism via extra-curricular activities, whether these are through employment or volunteering

As awardees go on to their four-year colleges and universities, our Transfer Scholarship continues their accomplishments as leaders. Ask about them—and once again recognize that it is your efforts, led and facilitated by the Scholarship Committee, that bring about these significant opportunities.

**AAUW Educational Opportunity Funds (EOF) awards** are supported by the Branch yearly and are actually presented by the National AAUW organization for graduate education or research related to women's issues. Chairperson, Sharon Halligan leads our Branch's involvement in this activity—but you can look on the National Website to see names, faces, and descriptions of recipients.

So: "Caught you doing good for others..." Twice!!

## **ANNE ARUNDEL AAUW BRANCH HISTORY**

By Terry Saylor

### **BRANCH HISTORY continued--**

The first Book Sale was held in 1972 at Woods Memorial Church. None was held in 1973 but every year since, we have raised money with our annual sale. "Where" is always the question. For many years it was held where the CVS is now in Arnold; it was a furniture store for many years and AAUW used the lower level for the books. Since 1990 we've been in store fronts in Severna Park or further north.

Our 20th anniversary celebration in 1986 included a dinner, birthday cake at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church.

An Art Show and Auction raised funds for the branch in March 1988.

In April 1989, branch members were among the 300,000 who participated in the "March for Women's Lives" in Washington, D.C.

## **EOF/LAF Report**

By Sharon S. Halligan

### **Volunteer Application for National Committees and Task Forces**

AAUW National is looking for volunteers with experience and expertise in the work of the organization to serve on committees and/or task forces. The work of these committees and task forces is the foundation of the success of the national organization. Each committee or task force appointment by the national board is for a two-year term, which commences on July 1, 2016. Applicants can apply for and serve on no more than two task forces or committees simultaneously. Anyone interested in serving on a committee or task force can find more detailed information and apply online on the national site at [www.aaug.org/resources/committee-task-force-volunteer-application/](http://www.aaug.org/resources/committee-task-force-volunteer-application/).

### **AAUW's Impact in Your State**

AAUW's site on state impact is a great source to get information on the organization's advocacy programs, campus activities, courthouse activities, media relations, research and global activities. There are also tool kits for different programs, fundraising tools, marketing and programming information.

## **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

By Alice Harrison

We are excited to announce that we have a new member, Christine McGowen. She is the daughter of Laney Forge, our incoming Co-President-to-be. Christine is a case management supervisor for a non-profit company, Center for Children in Annapolis. She also does counseling for a small business, Turning Leaf Wellness in Severna Park. She joined at the March meeting.

She received a BA in Psychology from U.C.L.A. and an M.S. in Counseling from Johns Hopkins University. Chris and her husband met in the military. He is now enrolled at St. John's College in Annapolis. They live in Annapolis. Please join me in welcoming Chris.

And also, please remember to bring potential members to our April Branch meeting, which will be held at Woods Presbyterian Church in Severna Park on Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. See you there!

### **EVENING BOOK CLUB**

By Stacey Hilder

The Evening Book Club will meet on Wednesday, April 6, to discuss "The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry" by Rachel Joyce. Vera Herath will be hostessing the meeting at her house at 179 Doncaster Rd., in Twin Harbors, beginning at 7:30pm. Vera will also be leading the discussion. (Please note that this is a change from our published schedule.)

"The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry" is described in Booklist as a book that is "A gentle and genteel charmer, brimming with British quiriness yet quietly haunting in its poignant and wise exclamation of love and devotion."

If you would like to join us, please let Vera know you are coming via e-mail: [jv5356@verizon.net](mailto:jv5356@verizon.net) or [410-544-2371](tel:410-544-2371).

For our May 4, meeting, we are reading "The Aviator's Wife" by Melanie Benjamin.

### **DAYTIME BOOK CLUB**

By Alice Harrison

The next meeting of the Daytime Book Group will be held at the home of Polly Wilson, 736 Trenton Ave., Severna Park on Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am. Polly's phone number is 410-544-5635 and her email address is [pollyinmd@yahoo.com](mailto:pollyinmd@yahoo.com).

The book that we will be discussing is "The Art of Hearing Heartbeats," a novel translated from the German, by Jan-Phillipe Sendker. This is a charming story that all will find fascinating.

The book for May is "Sonya Sotomayer, My Beloved World." The meeting will be held at the home of Maggie Cullman, 300 Park Drive, in Severna Park.

For more information about the Daytime Book Group, contact Alice Harrison at 410-956-5140 or Mary Wittner at 410-263-2982. Or email Alice at [awharrison@yahoo.com](mailto:awharrison@yahoo.com) or Mary at [mwittner@comcast.net](mailto:mwittner@comcast.net).

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**April 6 – Wednesday** – Daytime Book Club – 10:30 a.m. – Meeting at Polly Wilson's home – 736 Trenton Ave., Severna Park.

**April 6 – Wednesday** – Evening Book Club – 7:30 p.m. – Meeting at Vera Herath's home – 179 Doncaster Rd., Arnold.

**April 11 – Monday** – AAUW Regular Branch Meeting – 7 p.m. – Special Public Policy Meeting and Nominations for next year - Woods Church, Severna Park

**April 20 – Wednesday** – Board Meeting – 7 p.m. – Gail Viamonte's home

**May 7 – Saturday** – Annual Year End Luncheon and 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration – 11 a.m. – Chartwell Country Club, Severna Park