



Representing all of Anne Arundel County, Maryland  
[Annearundelcounty-md.aauw.net](http://Annearundelcounty-md.aauw.net)

## March 2018 Newsletter

### LETTER FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS By Michele Brillon Hauf and Laney Forge

Greetings! Spring is right around the corner, yes? One day it's 75° and the next day 40°! It's been a roller coaster of ups and down in our weather this year, but hopefully daffodils will be arriving soon in our gardens. We are looking forward to sunny days and lots of fun activities ahead. Our Cocktails and Conversation get-togethers in January and February have been great fun – thanks so much for joining us! It's so nice to catch up and spend time with good friends and new members. At our branch meeting in February, we heard from a representative from MLAW who educated us on all the important bills that are relevant to women coming up for a vote in the current legislative session. Thanks, Roxann King, for arranging this program. We have a Smithsonian field trip, hosted by Mary McGrath and Christina Simkanin, coming up in March and another branch meeting in April.

Our nominating committee has put together a superb group of new leaders for our Branch – check out their newsletter article on the next page. Also in March, our board will host an evening with our new members in order to give us all the opportunity to get to know each other on a more personal basis.

So, lots of fun events going on... we hope you'll join us and contribute your time and effort to this great organization!!

### PROGRAM COMMITTEE

By Robin Mayberry-Hembree, Cathy Crowley and Mary McGrath

Join us for a tour of the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) on Saturday March 10, 2018. SERC is located at [647 Contees Wharf Road, Edgewater, MD](http://647ConteesWharfRoad,Edgewater,MD) 21037. We will tour the laboratory and site facilities from 10-11am and listen to a lecture about the science of climate change by SERC scientist Dr. Bert Drake from 11-12:15pm. After the lecture, we will have lunch around 1pm at Glory Days Grill (3 Lee Airport Drive, Edgewater, MD 21037). \*\* Prior to the tour, we will meet at the Glory Days Grill parking lot @ 9:15am, and carpool from there to SERC. To sign up please contact Mary McGrath at  [\(410\)570-1279](http://(410)570-1279) or [mary@bugeye.net](mailto:mary@bugeye.net). There is no fee for this tour; however, we are collecting donations towards the SERC mission. Please have cash available for your donations. Thanks!

**Our next Cocktails and Conversations (C&C) is Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup> 2018 at Yellowfin Steak and Fish House at [2840 Solomons Island Road](http://2840SolomonsIslandRoad) in Edgewater, MD [\(410\) 573-1333](http://(410)573-1333) and is hosted by Linda King. Happy Hour is from 4:30pm-7:30pm and we will meet in the bar area until 5:00 when we will move to our table. Please contact Linda at [linda.king2939@gmail.com](mailto:linda.king2939@gmail.com) or [703-599-9646](http://703-599-9646), if you have any questions. **Come one, come all, and bring a friend!** Our January and February C&C's were a huge success. Thank you Mary McGrath and Vera Torrence for hosting!**

“Save the date” for our next **Monthly Branch Meeting at Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church on Monday, April 9th at 7pm.** We will vote in our 2018-19 officers and co-chairs. Also, please come and learn more about our Branch’s 2 year, 4 year, and Woman to Woman college scholarships. If you know a young lady who is a high school senior in Anne Arundel County Schools, please have them see their guidance office. Scholarship applications are available on our AAUW website and are due March 23rd. Our speakers for April are still being confirmed. Please hold on for more information and feel free to bring a friend along!

The **Annual Spring Luncheon will be held on Saturday May 5, 2018** at Chartwell Golf and Country Club, 11 am to 2 pm. Our guests will be Debbie Levy and Mary Hartnett. Debbie is the author of *I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsberg Makes Her Mark*. Mary is co-author, with Justice Ginsberg, of *My Own Words* and is also the Justice’s authorized biographer. They will speak about their books and the challenges and delights of writing about Justice Ginsberg for children and adults and share some little known anecdotes. Mark your calendar and plan to join us for this timely discussion about a remarkable woman.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT TO MEMBERSHIP 2018**  
**By Mary McGrath, Chair**

The Nominating Committee has completed our work for the elected officers for 2018-2020. Below you will find the Branch Bylaw article for nominations and elections, as well as the slate of officers presented.

Our Branch Bylaws, Article V. Nominations and Elections, are provided to members who are new, and long-term members for review.

**ARTICLE V. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**  
**Section 1. Nominations.**

a. There shall be a Nominating Committee of 5 members, elected as follows: three to be elected in the even numbered years and two in the odd numbered years, by the Branch members at the annual meeting. The Co-Presidents shall appoint the chair of the Nominating Committee from the members serving

their second year on the Nominating Committee.

b. The term of service on the Nominating Committee shall be for two years for a maximum of two consecutive terms.

c. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be published and sent to the members at least two weeks before the election.

d. Nominations may be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee.

**Section 2. Elections.**

a. Elections shall be held at the annual Branch meeting.

b. Elections shall be by ballot unless there is only one nominee for a given office, in which case the election may be by a voice vote. Election shall be by a majority vote of those voting.

c. Mail ballots or electronic voting may be used for elections, provided the number of members voting meets the quorum stated for meetings in Article XI, [Section 5. Quorum. 15% of the members of the Branch shall constitute a quorum.]

The slate of officers listed below is, this year, presented formally to membership through our March Newsletter and email to all members in early March. At this time there is only one nominee for each office presented. If the slate remains as is, it will be approved as presented by members present at our April 9, 2018 Members meeting. The slate of officers will be inducted at our May meeting.

<b>Co-President</b>	Barbara Marder
<b>Co-Programs VP</b>	Miriam Morrow
<b>Co-Membership VPs</b>	Debbie Chessin
	Ashley Schaefer
<b>Co-Secretaries</b>	Jeanine Johnson
	Sally Morris
<b>Nominating Committee</b>	Caroline Flaherty
	Laney Forge
	Diana Larmore

Our thanks to all nominees for volunteering for these important positions. We look forward to working with you all in the coming years. Your Nominating Committee (2018): Mary McGrath, Judith MacGregor, Gail Viamonte, Cheryl Menke, Caroline Flaherty. Contact: Mary McGrath, Chair, [mary@bugeye.net](mailto:mary@bugeye.net).

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

By Niv Roy Ghatak

Happy March, dear Members! As you have probably heard, our AAUW National dues are increasing by \$10 starting the next fiscal year. So we have a slightly different content in our article this month. We will be talking about the AAUW FISCAL YEAR, HOW ANNUAL DUES WORK and HOW ARE ANNUAL DUES CHANGING

### AAUW FISCAL YEAR

AAUW fiscal year governs the terms of our Board Members and determines when our membership renewals are due. The AAUW fiscal year is offset from the calendar year by exactly 6 months. It runs from July 1<sup>st</sup> of one year to June 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year. Thus, the current fiscal year will end on June 30, 2018 and the next fiscal year will begin on July 1, 2018. Every year, we swear in our new Board in May so they have a little over a month of overlap with the prior Board before their new term starts on July 1<sup>st</sup>. And, our Treasurer really appreciates receiving your renewal dues by June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year!

### HOW ANNUAL DUES WORK

As you know, we are the AAUW's, Maryland State's, Anne Arundel County Branch. Therefore, our annual dues comprise of three parts: NATIONAL DUES + STATE DUES + BRANCH DUES.

National dues go to AAUW National for all the wonderful work the broader AAUW organization does as noted at <https://www.aauw.org>. State dues go to AAUW's Maryland's State organization and Branch dues come to our Branch and are managed by our Branch treasurer, Dianne Dezio.

In our Branch, the dues paid differ by type of member – such as students of AAUW affiliated college/university vs. non-AAUW affiliated college/university; new graduate students; dual members, and paid lifetime members all pay different dues than the rest of the membership.

## HOW ANNUAL DUES ARE CHANGING ON MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup>.

Firstly, National dues are changing:

Last fiscal year, our dues were \$70 = NATIONAL (\$49) + STATE (\$10) + BRANCH (\$11)

Next fiscal year our dues will be \$80 = NATIONAL (\$59) + STATE (\$10) + BRANCH (\$11)

Secondly, since National Paid Lifetime Membership dues are 20 times the National Annual dues, they are increasing from  $20 \times \$49 = \$980$  to  $20 \times \$59 = \$1180$  on March 15<sup>th</sup>. So the time to apply for the Lifetime Membership if interested is NOW, BEFORE March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Thirdly, the definition of Student in AAUW Student Membership is changing: ALL students, whether undergraduate or graduate, are now eligible for Student Membership. The National portion of Student Membership continues to be free for students of AAUW affiliated colleges and universities. However, the National dues for students of non-AAUW affiliated colleges and universities is increasing slightly from \$17 to \$18.81 (1881 was the year AAUW was founded!). As in prior years, all our Student Members will have both State and Branch dues. The Maryland state dues for Students are still to be confirmed by AAUW National and Maryland State. We are assuming it stays at \$5 for now.

Those are the bigger changes. We will keep you posted as we learn more. Please note, there is NO CHANGE TO OUR ANNUAL BRANCH DUES – it remains \$11.

## RECAP OF STEM GIRLS COUNT EVENT

By Kathleen Arias

Last December, more than 60 enthusiastic fourth-grade girls and their accompanying adults participated in a fun filled STEM Girls Count program at Anne Arundel Community College (AACC).

The girls engaged in a variety of hands-on activities that highlighted careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The activities illustrated the fields of

computer science, architecture, chemistry, electrical engineering, mathematics, environmental science, anatomy and astronomy and were led by women who have careers in these fields. The girls' parents and sponsors attended lively panel discussions on "how girls grow" and how to prepare and mentor girls for careers in STEM.

Students from more than 17 Anne Arundel County public elementary schools were selected by their school principals and teachers to attend the program. More than 15 elementary school teachers also participated in the event.

The program was organized by our Branch, led by co-president Michele Hauf, and planned in collaboration with the Anne Arundel County Public Schools and AACC, which also hosted the event. The event was sponsored by Rockwell Collins Inc., developer of aerospace and defense communication systems, and Lennar Homes, a home construction corporation.

## **PUBLIC POLICY**

### **By Roxann King and Vera Torrence**

February was very busy for members of AAUW and for public policy. On February 8th, several of our members attended the annual MLAW (Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women) Legislative Reception in Annapolis, listening to the legislative sponsors supporting the seven bills being promoted by MLAW members this year. There are two things you can do to support these bills, which are posted on the MLAW website (<https://mdlegagendaforwomen.org/>).

1. Click [here](#) to sign up for MLAW legislative alerts. When email support for bills is needed, you will be notified.
2. Click [here](#) to add your name as a supporter of all seven MLAW bills for 2018, or send an email with your name as you wish it to appear in the listing of supporters to [mdlegagenda4women@yahoo.com](mailto:mdlegagenda4women@yahoo.com). The most powerful advocacy tool for the Agenda is your signature as a supporter.

Two MLAW-supported bills have already successfully been enacted this year. The Rape Survivor Family

Protection Act has been passed and signed by the Governor. The Job-Protected Leave Bill, which requires earned medical and safe leave for employees became law in February by an overriding vote of the governor's veto of last year. If you wish to attend a hearing for a bill that matters to you especially, get the bill number from the MLAW site and use the Maryland Legislative Website to find hearing dates (enter bill number and check under History.)

During the second and third weeks in February, hearings were held for the two additional bills being promoted by AAUW Maryland: HB0562/SB0530 The Maryland Bill of Patients' Rights and HB1152/SB965 Age of Majority – Jurisdiction of Court were heard by committees in the House and Senate. These two bills were discussed by Erin Prangley, Vice President for Public Policy, AAUW Maryland, at our February 12 meeting at Woods Church. The first bill promotes a 23-item Bill of Rights that would apply to all hospitals across the state and would be actively communicated to patients. The second bill would allow judges to extend child support for children of divorce trying to access higher education or training. Thank you to Robin Hembree, Mary McGrath, Roxann King and Dot Gibson who joined members of other Maryland AAUW branches at the hearings for these bills. The Maryland legislative session lasts only 90 calendar days and considers over 2500 bills: it is already half over.

Our national AAUW agenda supports the public policy issues adopted bi-annually by the voting of members, listed on the AAUW national website. Your emails in support of pending national and state legislation are also needed here. To get notifications for both Maryland and national issues, sign up for the 2-Minute Activist, if you have not already done so: <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>.

Wes Queen, scheduled as our second speaker at our February 12<sup>th</sup> Branch meeting, was unable to present due to flu. We will reschedule his presentation of the University of Maryland's Legacy Program, for training legislative advocates, before this AAUW year ends (June 30), so that interested members may have time to register for the program for the fall. Look for an announcement soon of when he will present.

## GREAT DECISIONS GROUP

Terry Saylor

Great Decisions will meet Friday, March 9th, 2018 at 9:45am to discuss Media and Foreign Policy. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Terry Saylor, [410-757-2446](tel:410-757-2446) or [saylorterry2@gmail.com](mailto:saylorterry2@gmail.com) for more information. This link provides lots of details: [http://www.fpa.org/great\\_decisions/index.cfm?act=topic\\_detail&topic\\_id=69](http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/index.cfm?act=topic_detail&topic_id=69)

## MORNING BOOK CLUB

Mary Wittner

The morning book club will meet at 10:30am, Wednesday, March 7th at the home of Mary McGrath, [1275 Bugeye Ct.](#), Annapolis. The non-fiction book we'll be discussing is *Untamed, Wildest Women in America and the Fight for Cumberland Island* by Will Harlan. You can text or phone Mary at [410-570-1279](tel:410-570-1279) or email her at [mary@bugeye.net](mailto:mary@bugeye.net). Please let her know whether or not you will attend. Newcomers are always welcome!

## EVENING BOOK CLUB

Stacey Hilder

The Wednesday Evening Book Club will meet at 7pm on March 7th, at the home of Janice Roper-Graham, [1101 Neptune Place, Annapolis, 21409](#). We will be discussing *Strangers in Their Own Land* by Arlie Hochschild. The book provides some interesting insights into the Tea Party and those who identify with it.

In April, we will be discussing *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amos Towles. Hope you will join us! For more info contact Stacey at [410-647-7041](tel:410-647-7041) or email [stacey861@verizon.net](mailto:stacey861@verizon.net).

## 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 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.

Find us on Facebook at [AAUW Anne Arundel County](#) and on the web at [annearundelcounty-md.aauw.net](http://annearundelcounty-md.aauw.net).

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

March 7 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	<b>Morning Book Club</b> , 10:30am, at Mary McGrath's, see details above
March 7 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	<b>Evening Book Club</b> , 7pm, at Janice Roper-Graham's, see details above
March 8 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	<b>Branch Board Meeting</b> , 7pm, at Laney Forge's house
March 9 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	<b>Great Decisions</b> , 9:45am, please contact Terry Saylor for info, see details above
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	<b>Smithsonian Environmental Research Center Tour</b> , RSVP to Mary McGrath
March 26 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	<b>Cocktails &amp; Convos</b> , 4:30-7:30pm, Yellowfin Steak and Fish House, Edgewater.
April 9 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	<b>April Branch Meeting</b> , 7pm at Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church, Severna Park
April 30 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	<b>Cocktails &amp; Convos</b> , 4-7pm, Eastport Yacht Club, Annapolis
May 5 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	<b>Annual Spring Luncheon</b> , Chartwell Golf and Country Club



Erin Prangley, AAUW MD VP for Public Policy, speaking with member Maggie Cullman at the February Branch Meeting



MLAW Reception with Delegate Terri Hill on left and branch members Sharon Halligan, Linda Calvert, Dianne Dezio, Dot Gibson, Roxann King, and Vera Torrence (Pat Strott-Wheatley not pictured.)



From Left to Right: Michele Hauf, Erin Prangley, Roxann King, Laney Forge at the February Branch Meeting



AAUW Maryland and AAUW NOW supporters of Senate Bill 965. Senator Susan Lee, sponsor, in red jacket, Branch members Dot Gibson and Roxann King on right