



Representing all of Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Annearundelcounty-md.aauw.net

February 2019 Newsletter

LETTER FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

By Barbara Marder and Michele Brillon Hauf

Hello to all and Happy 2019 - this is our year to move ahead and shine! Our branch is 90 members strong, the largest branch in the state. Now is the time for involvement by all. Your participation is wanted and needed.

As you will read in the letter from our state co- president, this year preparation will begin for celebrating the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment—we have the vote; we will make our every ballot count. Close to 25% of the current Congress members are women; and membership by women in the MD legislature has increased this year. Our own branch member, Heather Bagnall, is serving in the House of Delegates.

Our current docket is filled with many opportunities to participate in branch activities:

- **The Program Committee** has lined up engaging activities for the coming months, including a tour of MD state house, speakers, and C & Cs (conversation and cocktails).
- **Book Sale** chairs continue to find estate sales and other donors who would like to give us books off-season. Stacey and Linda are setting up a neighborhood collection plan to share the workload.
- The **Scholarship committees** are collecting applications for next year's awards.
- The **Nominating Committee** will soon be seeking new officers and committee chairs for 2019-20.
- The **Public Policy** group is very busy as the Maryland State Legislature is in session. They offer a plethora of

ways individuals may participate in backing measures to improve the lives of women and children, from spending major time at hearings in Annapolis to sending a quick email requesting support of an issue we back to your representative or senator.

- On the **social side**, the interest groups and our C&C's are always open to old members, new members, or guests interested in becoming members. Join in to discuss a book, play a card game, or just chat with women of similar interests.

At the January Board Meeting, the board revised our Goals for 2018-2019 to reflect our current activities, plans and ambitions. The list will be appearing on the website very soon. Please take a look. For that matter, check our updated website and our Facebook page regularly. Others in the community do—I hear from them. www.annearundelcounty-md.aauw.net or just Google AAUW-Anne Arundel County—the site will pop up.

And now the advertisement: **HELP NEEDED.** Our wonderful Newsletter Chair, Christina Simkanin, is moving to New Zealand in March. This newsletter is her finale. Additionally, our great Publicity Chair, Andrea Godwin, must step down from her position to handle some family illness out of state. If you have some writing or organizational talents, consider volunteering to help with one of these positions. Both these women have kept clear records of their actions, and mentors are available. Also, the tasks can be divided. Contact Michele or Barbara to talk it over. We hope to see you soon!

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

By Robin Mayberry-Hembree and Miriam Morrow

First up this month, is **Cocktails and Conversations (C&C) on Wednesday February 13th** at Blackwall Barn and Lodge ([329 Gambrills Rd, Gambrills, MD](http://www.barnandlodge.com); 410-317-2276; <http://www.barnandlodge.com/>) Happy Hour is from 4 to 7pm. Contact Dianne (dcdezio@gmail.com, 410-451-2628) or Marilyn (mweeks570@gmail.com, 410-672-6018) if you have any questions.

At the end of the month, we'll be doing a **Tour of The Maryland State House on Thursday, February 28th**. If you'd like to join, **please RSVP to Robin Hembree** (call or text 410-493-5475 or rmayhembree@gmail.com) **by February 26th**. Our tour begins promptly at 9:15am in the lobby of the State House. Senator Ed Reilly will give our group about a 1/2 hour tour of our beautiful & historical State House. The group will then go up to the balconies for either the House of Delegates or the Senate (your choice). AAUW Member, Cindy Neseth, who works for Senator Reilly, will try to reserve seats for those who RSVP for our tour. The sessions start at 10:00am and will last about an hour.

Lunch reservations have been made for 11:30 at Rams Head Tavern on West Street. It's about a ten minute walk. After lunch, those who want to come back to the Senate or House Office Building, can do so to observe a committee hearing in progress. Committee hearings start at 1:00 pm sharp.

****Suggestions for car pool areas are as follows:** for our Northern County AAUW members and their guests, we will meet February 28th by 8:15am at the Severna Park, Jones Station Road "Park and Ride". We will leave promptly at 8:15am. ***As for Annapolis area and members who prefer to drive separately, you can meet at 8:15am at "The Naval Academy Football Stadium Parking Lot". Take the Naval Academy Football Stadium trolley/shuttle to "The State House" for our 9:15 tour. (Please keep in mind we all have to go through security).**

***Please let Robin know if you are coming and meeting at The Severna Park Park & Ride or are parking at "The Naval Academy Football Stadium" and lastly if you will be joining the group for lunch at Rams Head at 11:30.**

***Deadline for RSVP is February 26th, 2019.** *If we have snow or incimate weather that day, we follow AA County Public Schools. If they cancel school, we cancel. If there is a two hour delay, use your discretion and as a courtesy call or text Robin if you choose to CANCEL. Thank you to Cindy Neseth for helping us out with our tour!

Lastly, **Monday, March 11th at 7 pm is our next AAUW Branch Meeting** at Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church (611 Baltimore & Annapolis Blvd. in Severna Park). If you decide to join us, bring a teacup and saucer. We'll have a delightful speaker who will help you fill that cup with something warm and delicious on a chilly evening.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

By Debby Chessin and Ashley Schaeffer

We would like to introduce you to our newest branch members: Yvonne Smith, Pam Buzzerd, Heather Bagnall, and Sharon Hilder (yes, Stacey's daughter-in-law!). We plan on hosting a new members and Board get together at Debby's house this Spring.

We enjoyed meeting Yvonne Smith at the January C&C held at Cooper's Hawk. Yvonne received her BA from Erskine College located in South Carolina and currently works as an Analyst. She is interested in joining the evening Book Discussion Group so please welcome her if you are already a book club member.

Pam Buzzerd received her Biology degree from D'Youville College in Buffalo, NY. She just celebrated her 50th college reunion in September. She worked as a government contractor, primarily for DOD, and retired in 2016.

Heather Bagnall joined our Branch back in December 2018 and currently lives in Arnold, MD. She joined the Branch through email and we're looking forward to meeting her at an upcoming event.

Sharon Hilder holds a BA in Biology, a BA in Psychology and a Masters in Social Work. She is currently a Registered Nurse and just happens to be Stacey Hilder's daughter-in-law! Please join us in welcoming our newest members to our wonderful branch!

AAUW BOOK SALE

By Stacey Hilder and Linda King

THE BOOK SALE CONTINUES

Just because the official fall book sale is over does not mean we have to stop raising money for our scholarship funds. The wholesaler we found in Frederick called Wonder Book takes books, DVDs, LPs, and CDs any time of year and pays us for them. Last year, we started the sale with over \$2000 in our book sale fund because of Wonder Book. This year, we can do the same and possibly even better with your help!

Where do the books come from now? The books we take to Wonder Book come from estate sales, homes of people downsizing, and neighbors and friends who know we will take them. So spread the word and keep your ears and eyes open.

How can you help us access books? Let Stacey (410-647-7041 or stacey861@verizon.net) or Linda (703-599-9646 or linda.king2939@icloud.com) know if you hear of an estate sale in your area or have a friend or relative who is willing to donate books. We can pick up packed boxes, or we can pack the books ourselves and move the boxes to storage. If the homeowner wants us to pack the books, it is helpful if you or the owner sends us pictures of the bookshelves or stacks, so we have a rough idea of how many members and how many boxes we need. With a name, phone number and email we can work with the owner to figure out when we should be there.

Neighborhood Collection Plan: If you live near someone who is donating books, we will call you and ask for your help. Not everyone can carry heavy boxes of books, but we also need help taking them off shelves and putting them in boxes, or packing up the DVDs and CDs. Sometimes we only have a few days' notice, so if you are available for an hour or 2, it is really important that you come.

One of the reasons we are able to continue raising scholarship money is that Michele Hauf allows us to store the boxes in her garage until we have enough for Wonder Book. The other reason is that Stacey and Roxann are willing to make the trip to Frederick as needed and have access to a pick-up truck or an SUV and trailer that can

handle the weight of the books. If you have such a vehicle and would like to help, it takes only about 3 hours to make the trip to and from Frederick where the Wonder Book employees unload the books.

If you have any questions, comments, ideas or suggestions, please let us know. Our scholarship funds are important to us, to the community, and to the women who receive the help they need. The more books we collect the more we can give!

WOMEN TO WOMEN SCHOLARSHIP

By Suzanne Furr

The 2019 Scholarship Forms have been posted on the website and copies delivered to all the local public high schools. We have set a deadline of March 6th for submission of the applications. If you know of any deserving young women please be sure to direct them to our Branch website or email sdfurr@icloud.com and I will send you the form. We received the following message from one of our most recent recipients of the W2W Scholarship. It was wonderful to hear from Marina and that we could make a difference.

My name is Marina Beshai and I recently won the Women to Women scholarship during the spring of 2018. I wanted to reach out to the organization today to quickly update the members regarding my first semester at Princeton University and to thank each one of them for the large role they played in my successful first semester here.

While I may be inclined to discuss my easy first semester, I must admit that falling into the rhythm and the fast pace of Princeton was (and still is) a challenging process. However, I have met the most amazing group of gifted individuals on this campus and I will forever be grateful. From endlessly laughing during Computer Science classes to celebrating our RA's Rhodes Scholar title, this campus filled my first semester with highlights.

Nevertheless, I can never forget the large role your organization played in removing any of my financial worries. I cannot share with you the relief of knowing I could afford textbooks all of freshmen year. I will forever be indebted to your organization and the role it played in making my first semester a success. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you.

TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIP

By Margaret Acquarulo

Our 2018 transfer scholarship students have successfully completed their first semester at their four-year institution. Madison Gorman and Renee Rupert have kindly shared some of their experiences with us:

From Madison Gorman:

I transferred to the University of Maryland, College Park this past fall to study accounting. I immediately started applying to internships in which I secured an offer from Deloitte for their tax internship this summer. I became a member of the Accounting and Business Association, and was selected to be a part of KPMG's Passport to Success Program, exclusively for transfer students. Throughout my first semester, I became involved in the Smith community as well as achieved academic success. I am looking forward to next semester, which kicks off my senior year! I'm sincerely thankful to AAUW for supporting me in my journey!

From Renee Rupert:

Hi everyone! Being a transfer, I was nervous about attending a four year university but luckily I had a great support system. Because of this, my first semester was a success and I am very excited to begin my second semester. It has been very refreshing to be in a new place and to be meeting so many new people. I'm happy to report my classes went very well this fall and I'm very excited for my lacrosse season to begin full swing this spring. Thank you for your support! Happy new year!! (Editor's note: Renee finished her first semester at Ashland University with a 4.0 GPA.)

The application for the 2019 transfer scholarships is available on our website and in the AACC financial aid office. Please refer any student you know who meets the qualifications. The application deadline is March 6, 2019.

100th ANNIVERSARY of 19th AMENDMENT

By Susan Wierman Co-President, AAUW Maryland

The Maryland Governor's Commission on the Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Passage of the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution has prepared educational resources for teachers and is sponsoring a contest for high school students (see attached flyer).

The Documents for the Classroom presents a very interesting survey of the history of women's suffrage in Maryland, beginning with a 1648 denial of Margaret Brent's request to vote, noting that women in some localities could vote on some questions, and explaining that while Republican legislators were generally in favor of the 19th Amendment, Democrats and urban legislators were generally opposed, and although enough states approved it and it was effective nationally in 1920, a Maryland attorney joined others in (unsuccessfully) petitioning the Supreme Court to overturn the Amendment. The Maryland Legislature didn't formally approve it until 1941! Find this free packet of resources here: <http://teaching.msa.maryland.gov/000001/000000/000007/html/t7.html>. For any questions about the document packet, please contact **Commissioner Emily Oland Squires at the Maryland State Archives, emily.squires@maryland.gov, 410-260-6443.**

The Commission is also sponsoring a Creative Contest for students coordinated by the Maryland Historical Society. The Commission is inviting student artists and scholars throughout Maryland to produce creative pieces including essays, art and videos that exemplify notable women – past, present and/or future – who were, are or will be instrumental in the continuation of women's rights. For more information on the timeline and guidelines for submission, please see the attached flyer.

To find out more about the *Governor's Commission on the Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Passage of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution*, please see their web page at: <https://msa.maryland.gov/mdvotesforwomen/>.

PUBLIC POLICY

By Roxann King

AAUW Maryland is the initiator for two bills in the 2017 Maryland General Assembly. **The Patients' Bill of Rights** establishes a uniform bill of rights for all Maryland hospitals and requires related training of all staff and sharing with all patients. AAUW Maryland is also the initiator of the starred Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW) supported bill below.

Below are the 2019 bills being supported by MLAW:

Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program. This bill establishes a private sector family and medical leave insurance fund to provide partial wage replacement for employees who take unpaid leave to care for a new child or a family member with a serious health condition, their own serious medical condition, or a family member's military deployment.

***Family Law-Child Support for Post-Secondary Education-Jurisdiction of Court.** The bill would allow the court to retain jurisdiction for child support until age 21 for those enrolled in post-secondary college education or a vocational training program.

Labor and Employment – Salary Information Disclosures. This bill prohibits employers from seeking and relying on job applicants' salary history and requires employers to provide the salary range for a position upon a job applicant's request.

HIV Prevention for Rape Victims. This bill provides rape survivors with n-PEP, emergency medication to prevent HIV.

Prescription Drug Affordability Bill. This bill creates a Prescription Drug Affordability Board in Maryland to evaluate high cost drugs and set fair rates for Marylanders to pay.

The Protect Maryland Health Care Act of 2019. This bill would create a Health Insurance Down Payment Plan which would give Marylanders at tax time without health coverage the option to either pay a fee or instead purchase health coverage, bringing more Marylanders into the individual market and stabilizing premiums to help with affordability.

Protective Orders – Relief Eligibility – Rape and Sexual Offense. This bill amends the definition of persons eligible for relief in a protective order to include a victim

of rape or sexual offense or attempted rape or sexual offense in any degree.

State Government Discrimination in Employment – Pregnancy and Childbirth. This bill expands existing pregnancy discrimination laws to include not just women with pregnancy-related disabilities, but also women with healthy pregnancies who also need reasonable accommodations.

Expansion of Maryland's Vacatur Law for Survivors of Human Trafficking. This bill allows criminalized survivors of human trafficking to remove crimes *other than* prostitution from their criminal records.

The Maryland General Assembly meets until April 9th. If you would like to help support these bills in a timely fashion, make sure you are on the [MLAW email list](#) and that you are an [AAUW Two-Minute Activist](#). This will ensure that you get contacted immediately when action is due. If you prefer text message notifications, the 2-Minute Activist Mobile is available at <https://www.aauw.org/resource/two-minute-activist-mobile/>

MLAW's Legislative Reception and Briefing will be held on Tuesday, February 12th, from 4:30 to 6:30 in the President's Conference Center of the Miller Senate Office Building in Annapolis. This event is free but requires registration. [**Click here to register**](#)

Lobby Corps training, which is required for all participants in AAUW's regular Thursday lobbying efforts in Washington, is scheduled for the afternoon of January 31st. Please contact me for more details and also if you wish to be included in our branch public policy email list: roxann.king1@gmail.com.



MORNING BOOK CLUB

Mary Wittner

We're taking a break from our usual book discussions and turning to the *The Economist* magazine for discussion for our upcoming meeting. Briefly, we'll be talking about what to expect this year partially based on *The Economist's* predictions. This promises to be an interesting and lively meeting. We'll gather on Wednesday, Feb 6th at 10:30 AM at my home, 1029 Old Bay Ridge Rd. in Annapolis. Please contact me at 410-263-2982 (H), 410-353-2172 (C) or 5mwittner@gmail.com to let me know if you plan to attend. Friends and family are also invited.

EVENING BOOK CLUB

Stacey Hilder

The Wednesday Evening Book Club will meet from 7 to 9 pm on February 6th at the home of Carolyn Bolognese, 133 Island View Dr, Annapolis. We will be discussing *The Book That Matters Most* by Ann Hood. It is the story of a book club whose members decide that for the next year they will all read the books that each member determines is the book that has mattered the most to each of them. Not something our group has yet done.

In March, we will be discussing *Hillbilly Elegy* by J. D. Vance. For more info, please contact Stacey at 410-647-7041 or stacey861@verizon.net.

GREAT DECISIONS GROUP

Terry Saylor

The Great Decisions Discussion Group will meet at 9:30am Friday, February 8th to discuss The Rise of Populism in Europe. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Terry Saylor saylerterry2@gmail.com for more information.

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.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

February 6 th	Wednesday	Morning Book Club , 10:30am, Mary Wittner's house (info above)
February 6 th	Wednesday	Evening Book Club , 7-9pm, Carolyn Bolognese's house (info above)
February 8 th	Friday	Great Decisions Group , 9:30am, contact Terry Saylor for details (info above)
February 12 th	Tuesday	MLAW's Legislative Reception , 4:30-6:30 (more details above in Public Policy)
February 13 th	Wednesday	Conversations and Cocktails , 4-7pm, Blackwall Barn and Lodge (details above)
February 28 th	Thursday	AAUW Tour of The Maryland State House , 9:15am (details above)
March 11 th	Monday	AAUW March Branch Meeting , 7pm, Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church

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

How would YOU use the power of your vote?

Women's Right to Vote

100th Anniversary

Celebration

Creative

Contest



Contest Launch: January 15, 2019

Submissions Due: October 11, 2019

As the next generation of voters, it's YOUR turn to use your rights wisely!

The Maryland Commission on the Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Passage of the 19th Amendment of the United States Constitution...

invites high school students to submit original research & artwork!

Create a project that best exemplifies how you learn from suffragists past to become a guardian of women's rights in the present and perpetuate the power of women in the future!

PROJECT FORMATS

- Essay
- Digital
- Flat
- Video
- 3-D

Project Guidelines: <http://msa.maryland.gov/mdvotesforwomen>

ORGANIZED BY:
THE 19th AMENDMENT COMMISSION
MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY MARYLAND STATE ARCHIVES MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST, MARYLAND COMMISSION FOR WOMEN, MARYLAND WOMEN'S HERITAGE CENTER
NAACP, LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, MARYLAND REPUBLICAN WOMEN, THE MARYLAND GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

