

THE MARYLANDER

AAUW MARYLAND NEWSLETTER

Advancing equality for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research

Volume 86 # 1
Eileen Menton, President
Bernadette Low, Editor

<http://aauw-md.aauw.net>

Spring 2017

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
Calendar of Upcoming Events 2017	2
Greetings from the President—President Eileen Menton	3
List of Officers	4
Update: Public Policy—Co-Vice President for Public Policy Anita Rosen	5
Update: Public Policy—Simple Tips for a Lobby Day—Anita Rosen	6
Officers Report Treasurer's Report—Dr. Judy Flood	7
Recap of January Conference Call—Eileen Menton	8
Spring Convention Centerpieces and Power Point Branch Contributions—Co-Vice President for Programs Kate Campbell	10
Spring Anniversary Festivities Begin	11
Important Details for the Maryland State Convention	13
Directions to Chesapeake College	14
Directions to Hotel	15
Registration Form Registration is now open for the AAUW National Convention	16
Convention Speaker Bio Patricia Fae Ho	18
Convention Speaker Bio General Linda Singh	19
Branch Happenings Howard County Branch "Celebration of Middle East Cultures"—Branch President Bea Dane	20
Branch Happenings The Howard County Branch of AAUW Sponsors and Supports "Family Law" Legislation—Branch President Bea Dane	20
Branch Happenings AAUW Harford Presents Book Scholarships to Harford Community College Students —Hazel Hopkins	22
Special Events: Women's Legislative Briefing	23

Special Events: AAUW National Convention in Washington D.C.	23
---	----

What's Coming Up

Date	What	Where
January 29, 2017	MLAW Legislative Briefing	Universities of Shady Grove Rockville, Maryland
February 6, 2017	Lobby Day	Annapolis, Maryland
February 15, 2017	Reservations for Celebratory Dinner	Heather Shoemaker- 2524 Old House Point Road Fishing Creek, MD 21634
February 28, 2017	Submit Centerpiece and Photos for Celebratory Dinner	Dian Bolanger Dobelanger@comcast.net or
March 7, 2017	Make Hotel Reservations for State Conference	Best Western Plus Easton Inn and Suites 8708 Alicia Drive Easton, MD 21601 410-822-7100 and request code AAUW
April 7, 2017	Celebratory Dinner	Miles River Yacht Club in St. Michaels, MD.
April 8, 2017	Spring Conference	Chesapeake College; Hotel Best Western, Easton, MD
March 15, 2017	Registration for State Convention due	Heather Shoemaker- 2524 Old House Point Road Fishing Creek, MD 21634
June 1	Copy due for Summer Marylander	Bernadette Low, bernadette.low@gmail.com
June 14-17	AAUW National Convention	Washington D.C.

Greetings from the President

Welcome Spring

Eileen Menton

Strategic Goals

Last June and July, AAUW Members from throughout the state met to develop a strategic plan for the state organization. I'm delighted that we are moving forward with a number of initiatives:

- to change the climate for women and girls in Maryland
- to celebrate of our 75th anniversary;
- to increase member participation
- to expand AAUW-Maryland visibility in the Public Policy area;
- to establish an online community that provides state-level membership for those who are not able to join individual branches.

Celebrate 75 Years of Sparkling History

This year, we celebrate AAUW Maryland's 75th Anniversary. To mark this important anniversary, Markonette Richardson, Kate Campbell Stevenson, Mettah Kollman, Linda Tebs, Angela Mickalide, and Dian Belanger are planning an exciting and very special State Convention in the Easton area for the weekend of April 7-8.

Patricia Fae Ho, the AAUW Board Chair, will be our special guest on Friday evening, when we honor our state's past presidents. On Saturday, she will provide AAUW Updates and answer general questions about AAUW. **Major General Linda L. Singh**, the 29th Adjutant General of Maryland, will be our keynote speaker on Saturday. General Singh is an inspiring speaker with a powerful personal story. At the dinner on Friday, we will honor our past presidents. At lunch on Saturday, we will celebrate the branches with table-top displays at lunch and short presentations as we *Share and Shine*. Be sure to sign up by **March 15**.

Be a Public Policy Advocate

This year, our Public Policy Team is organizing Lobby Day in Annapolis on Monday, February 6, and expanding the public policy listserv. At Lobby Day members will be briefed on AAUW's legislative agenda during the 90 day session, have the opportunity to meet with delegates and senators, and attend a symposium which AAUW is co-sponsoring with the Women's Economic Security Agenda Coalition (WESA), our collaborator and organizer for last year's successful legislative session to expand Equal Pay. Join the public policy listserve to get the information to lobby on issues of concern to AAUW Maryland by sending email address to Anita Rosen (anitarosen123@gmail.com).

AAUW Maryland Needs You

Our success is dependent on the participation of members from throughout the state. This year we will elect the Treasurer, Secretary, and Vice Presidents for Membership and Public Policy. We also need a Bylaws Chair and Webmaster/Social Media Coordinator. I hope that all members will seriously consider filling one of these positions. Interested members should send an email (ementon@gmail.com).

A special thanks to Dr. Judy Flood and Dr. Anita Rosen, who are completing their second terms as Treasurer and Co-Vice President for Public Policy and to Angela Mickalide, Membership Vice President, Mary Anne Williams, Secretary, and Louise Chatlynne, Co-Vice President for Public Policy, who are completing their first terms.

Join us as we change the climate for women and girls in Maryland!

Officers and Updates

Name	Office	Email
Eileen Menton	President	ementon@gmail.com
Dorothy Fraquelli and SassC Smith	Immediate Past Presidents	fraquelli@verizon.net ; vivaperu17@aol.com
Markonette Richardson and Kate Campbell- Stevenson	Vice Presidents Programs	markonette.richardson@gmail.com kcamstev@aol.com
Angela Mikalade	Vice President Membership	amickalide@gmail.com
SassC Smith and Anita Rosen	Co- Vice Presidents Public Policy	vivaperu17@aol.com anitarosen123@gmail.com
Bernadette Low	Vice President Communications	bernadette.low@gmail.com
Dr. Judy Flood	Treasurer	jdflood723@hotmail.com
Mary Anne Williams	Secretary	treksk8@aol.com
Bea Dane	Vice President AAUW Funds	bea_dane@comcast.net

Public Policy

AAUW Lobby Day& Symposium in Annapolis - February 6, 2017

Anita Rosen

There is much exciting news to report in our efforts to advocate for women and girls in Maryland.

AAUW Maryland will have a Lobby Day in Annapolis on February 6, 2017.

We will be co-hosting a symposium on several of our key issues and adding on an AAUW lobby day opportunity with the Women's Economic Security Agenda Coalition (WESA). WESA was our collaborator and organizer for last year's successful legislative session to expand Equal Pay.

The day will begin for AAUW at 12:20 p.m. outside the Senate Building President Conference Center West 1. AAUW participants will meet, coordinate, get materials and prep for quick visits with legislators. The materials will help in meeting with legislator visits on AAUW issues in Maryland, including the Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW) which will be covered at the MLAW Conference on January 31 and will be shared on our AAUW Maryland webpage. One other terrific bill we support is described elsewhere in this newsletter. It is an innovative initiative of the Howard County AAUW- the Extend Child Custody Support for Post-Secondary Education.

The WESA Symposium, which is free of charge, will take place between 12:45-4 pm (at the latest). There will be several panels on such issues as Healthy Working Families Act (Earned Sick Days), Fight for \$15 (minimum wage), Fair Work Week Initiative, and Affordable Child Care.

Information on bill numbers and strategies for advocacy will be provided and refreshments will be served. Numerous Legislators have been invited to drop in to speak and network.

Participants should plan short lobby visits with legislators during the symposium and afterward. Participants are encouraged to stay into the evening, Monday evenings are prime time to make appointments and see legislators!

This is a great opportunity to share one or two important issues we support. It is easy to do, and tips will be provided on how to have a quick "chat" with legislators or their staff to let them know that AAUW Maryland cares about the quality of life for women and families in Maryland.

In addition to the bills mentioned above such as Earned Sick Days, Fair Work Week and Fair Scheduling, we will be supporting: Equal Pay Salary History and Salary Range, the Rape Survivor Family Protection Act, Rape and Physical Resistance, Women on Board Bill - Corporate Board Gender Diversity Requirements, Reasonable Accommodations for Pregnant Workers, Human Trafficking issues, and Maryland Patient's Bill of Rights throughout the legislative session.

Join us for an exciting day and evening too, in Annapolis, on February 6th. Make AAUW Maryland visible in Annapolis.

Come to Lobby and register for the free Symposium on line at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/maryland-womens-economic-security-agenda-symposium-tickets-30472567269>

I will be sharing information with the Maryland Public Policy List serve and on our AAUW webpage from the results of the Women's Legislative Briefing, January 29th at the Campuses at Shady Grove and from the MLAW reception on January 31, 2017. I hope to see many AAUW sisters at both of those excellent events.

Let me know about attendance at our Lobby Day. I hope to see many members there to give visibility to AAUW Maryland and to make AAUW voices heard about really important issues for women and families in Maryland. Members who have questions, should email me. anitarosen123@gmail.com

Some Simple Tips for a Lobby Day

Anita Rosen

Don't be nervous. Your legislators want to hear from constituents and want your support. Personal contact provides the best opportunity to clearly explain your position on an issue and engage legislators.

Decide on who to meet. Are you trying to make contact with your own district legislators, or those on a committee that will hear your bill of interest?

Make an appointment if you can. Call the Legislator's office in Annapolis ahead of your visit (phone numbers are listed on line).

Identify Yourself If making an appointment, let the scheduler know that you are an AAUW member from (your town). If you are dropping in, let people know you are an AAUW member.

Be specific about your purpose For example, explain that you are supporting a particular bill or taking the opportunity to update the legislator one or two key AAUW supported pieces of legislation.

Find Resources. Your AAUW State Public Policy VP will supply you with short explanations of key bills. Become familiar with the bills. You can learn about them at the Women's Legislative Briefing, the MLAW Legislative Reception or the WESA Symposium.

Be Brief: Generally Legislators have limited time with their busy schedules, and meetings are often no more than 5 minutes. Leave brief talking points.

Be personal: Let your legislator know why you support or oppose a bill. Tell him or her how the bill will affect you, your family, or your community. Your own experience will be of great value.

Be polite: Don't be demanding or rude.

What if you can't get an appointment? It is ok to drop in to a legislator's office, leave your name and contact information and any material (one page) on your bill of interest. You may also have a chance meeting with legislators at symposia or meetings. Introduce yourself, give your name and state that you are a member of AAUW. Explain why your bill is important and ask them to support your bill.

Follow up: Make a call or send an email thanking the Legislator for his or her time about your bill. If you had a chance meeting with a Legislator, also follow up with an email.

Contact: 800-492-7122 is the Maryland General Assembly's toll-free number that you can call and ask to speak with your representative. **Email addresses** for:

Senators: msa.maryland.gov/msa/mdmanual/05sen/html/sene.html

Delegates: msa.maryland.gov/msa/mdmanual/06hse/html/hsee.html

Email Advocacy. To send a quick email about a Bill or issue to Legislators go to:
<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frmMain.aspx?pid=legisrpage&tab=subject6&stab=&ys=2017RS>

Officer Reports



AAUW-MD

Board Meeting - January 16 2017

Treasurer's Report

The PNC Bank Account Balances on 1/16/2017 were:

Non-Profit Checking	\$16,683.18
Business Premium Money Market	\$20,051.60

1. All outstanding invoices have been paid.
2. We collected \$705 at the Fall Board Meeting. The income generated from that day was \$126. Today Dr. Pat Stocker found an additional receipt, we will revise the total.
3. Verification is needed for February 1 Count

- a. Branch presidents, membership vice presidents, and finance officers should check their branch member roster in the [Member Services Database](#) in preparation for the official February 1 membership count.
 - b. Report any discrepancies now through February 21 to records@aauw.org. Discrepancies include members whose national membership dues were received by the national office by January 31 but are missing from your roster.
 - c. Also report dual or life members missing from your roster.
 - d. The actual report is scheduled to be e-mailed in early March to state and branch presidents, membership vice presidents, and finance officers.
4. Several questions have been raised about the April meeting.
- a. Why are the registration checks made out to AAUW-MD?
 - i. The meeting is a line item in the state budget, the procedure is to submit the checks made out to AAUW-MD.
 - ii. The branch should not responsible for any shortfall.
 - b. How should the checks be handled?
 - i. Two options:
 - 1. Send them directly to the state treasurer, or
 - 2. Send to the registration chair, who can then forward to the state treasurer.
 - c. How is the branch leadership reimbursed for expenses that are incurred?
 - i. The AAUW-MD debit card can be used, thus avoiding a major cash outlay for big expenses, such as food and copying.
 - ii. A check can be written for a deposit to the caterer.
 - iii. The AAUW-MD checkbook will be available during the meeting. Keep all receipts, please.

Judy

Judith D. Flood, Ed.D. AAUW-MD Treasurer 301-503-2032 (cell), jdflood723@hotmail.com

January Meeting

The Conference Call

Eileen Menton

The Board approved a revised set of bylaws to incorporate mandated changes from AAUW National. The revised bylaws are on-line at: <http://aauw-md.aauw.net/files/2012/05/AAUW-MD-BYLAWS-2012.pdf>.

Financial support is needed for AAUW Maryland's sponsorship of the Women of Distinction Ceremony at the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) on May 31. We must raise \$20,000 by April 1. Cleopatra Campbell will be honored as Maryland's Woman of Distinction. She is a long-time member of the Frederick Branch, a strong advocate for the Legal Action Fund, one of the first women to become a member of the Frederick County Bar Association, and a mentor to many women lawyers.

To support this sponsorship, go to the AAUW National site at www.AAUW.org and AAUW click donate. Under other funds is a drop down for The Cleopatra Campbell Honorary Fund. Alternatively, members can also mail a check directly to AAUW National at new address of 1310 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20005. Bea Dane, Vice President for Funds, has spoken to the Kensington-Rockville Branch on this important project. She would be happy to visit other branches to discuss the need for their involvement.

The Maryland On-Line Community has been approved by the National Board. Membership Vice President Angela Mickalide and Treasurer Judy Flood are working to complete all of the paperwork. We will soon be able to accept on-line memberships.

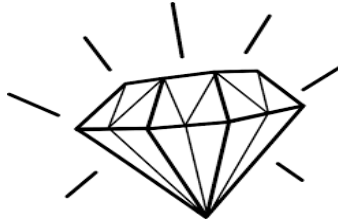
Branch Treasurers and Membership Chairs should verify their membership lists in the Member Services Database by February 1 and notify records@aauw.org of any discrepancies.

The Program Co-Vice Presidents and Easton Branch are hard at work preparing for convention, April 7-8. Our past presidents have been invited to the dinner on Friday night and Board Chair Patricia Fae Ho will be our special guest.

As part of our 75th Anniversary Celebration at the state convention the branches are asked to bring a centerpiece for the luncheon that honors one of their branch's special activities and/or to send photos of their branch's history to Dian Belanger. She will prepare a PowerPoint presentation. Each participant in the preparation of the centerpiece or the power point will have few minutes to describe the particular event depicted in the centerpiece and or describe some of the events pictured in the power point.

The following officer positions must be filled at convention this year: Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Vice President, and Public Policy Vice President. We are looking for new faces from a variety of branches to serve on the Board.

Spring Meeting



Celebrate AAUW Maryland's Diamond Jubilee 75 Years of Sparkling History

Add to the Spirit of our Sparkling 75th Diamond Jubilee Celebration—

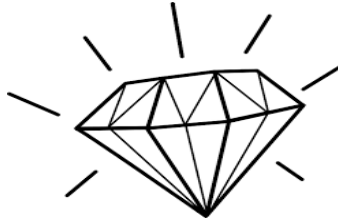
Kate Campbell

Each branch is encouraged to provide one clever table centerpiece display capturing the essence of the individual branch. Designers should let their imaginations SOAR!! Photos/ artifacts-multilevel creation may feature whatever makes a branch unique. During the Saturday conference there will be three minutes each for speakers from the branch to *Share and Shine* and invite AAUW sisters to further check out the special branch display.

Dian and Brian Belanger have graciously agreed to compile a PowerPoint photo display for our Diamond Jubilee Celebration. It will be featured both at Friday night's festivities honoring the AAUW-MD Past Presidents and the Saturday conference. Branch members should scour scrapbooks and digital files to find some real GEMS to be included! A maximum of 20 photos per branch--two or three photos from each decade-- would be fabulous. To create meaningful visuals we will need identifying info for each picture. Please include description, significance, branch activity and date for each picture. We have the ability to scan photos...but if the material can be sent electronically, that would be greatly appreciated. **The deadline is Feb 28th** for submissions.

Send photos to Dian Belanger Dobelanger@comcast.net or mail to

115 Grand Champion Dr., Rockville, MD 20850-5608 (H) (301) 258-0708



Celebrate AAUW Maryland's Diamond Jubilee

75 Years of Sparkling History

Commemorative Dinner on Friday, April 7, 2017

Weekend festivities begin with a commemorative dinner on *Friday, April 7, 2017*, at 5:30 pm to celebrate 75 years of AAUW Maryland's commitment to advancing equity for all women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. The dinner will include

- Honoring distinguished guest Patricia Fae Ho, AAUW Board Chair,
- Honoring of past State presidents,
- A special anniversary presentation.

Everyone is invited to participate in this celebration. Dinner will be at the Miles River Yacht Club in St. Michaels, MD.

Convention on Saturday, April 8, 2017

- On *Saturday, April 8, 2017*, Easton Branch hosts the **2017 AAUW Maryland 75th Anniversary and Convention** from 7:45am to 4:30pm at [Chesapeake College](#). This event features:
- Continental breakfast and luncheon
- Comments by Patricia Fae Ho who will provide updates from National's perspective and the history of AAUW Maryland
- An address by General Linda Singh
- Breakout discussions on how to close the pay gap
- Business meeting with election of officers
- Induction of officers
- Remarks by AAUW Maryland 2017 Woman of Distinction
- Remarks by attendee of the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders.

All members and the public are invited. Planners hope every branch will participate.

Important Dates: **March 7, 2017-** Last Day to make hotel reservations
March 15, 2017- Send Convention Reservation check for \$50 made payable to AAUW Maryland State. If attending the celebratory dinner, send a check for \$100 (\$50 for the convention and \$50 for dinner). If attending only the dinner, send a check for \$50.

Location on Friday **Miles River Yacht Club**
24750 Yacht Club Road
St. Michaels, Maryland 21663

Venue Amenities Free Parking
Handicapped accessible entrance and bathrooms

Location on Saturday [Chesapeake College](#)
1000 College Circle
Building 13, Eastern Shore Higher Education Center
Wye Mills, Maryland 21679

Venue Amenities Free Parking
Handicapped accessible entrance and bathrooms
Catered Continental Breakfast and Lunch

Important Details for the Maryland State Convention

The Celebratory Dinner

The location for the **75th Anniversary Celebratory Dinner** on **April 7** is the **Miles River Yacht Club** on the waterfront in St. Michaels, Maryland. The **cost** inclusive of tax and tip is **\$50**. The menu includes hot crab dip hors d'oeuvre (during the cash bar cocktail hour), garden salad, entrée choice (detailed on the registration form) and chocolate molten cake. Reservations are to be postmarked by **March 15, 2017**. Space is limited so reserving early is recommended. (Should reservations exceed the room's capacity, money be refunded.)

The Convention

The **cost** for the convention is **\$50 per person**, including breakfast, lunch and all program materials. Please send all registration forms and checks made payable to **AAUW Maryland State** to be postmarked by **March 15** to:

Heather Shoemaker
2524 Old House Point Road
Fishing Creek, MD 21634

Convention registrations postmarked after March 15 or paid on the day of the convention will incur a late fee of \$5.

The Hotel

Best Western Details: Check-in time is 3 pm or later and checkout is 11 am. Cancellation penalties are as follows:

48 hours or more in advance of arrival- no penalty
24 hours or more- 50% of first night rate will be charged to the credit card
Less than 24 hours' notice, 100% of first night stay will be charged

Hotel

[Best Western Plus Easton Inn and Suites](#)

8708 Alicia Drive
Easton, MD 21601

Room rate is \$95 for King Suite plus taxes

If you want two beds, call soon. There are only 15 rooms with two beds.

For reservations, *call hotel at 410-822-7100 and request code AAUW*

Hotel Amenities

Brand new hotel
Indoor pool and Spa
Fitness Center

Free Wireless Internet Access through hotel
Complimentary hot breakfast

Directions to Chesapeake College

Directions from Chesapeake Bay Bridge to Chesapeake College:

- Head East on US 301 North/US 50 East
- After about 11 miles, use the right two lanes to take US 50 East toward Ocean City
- After about 5 miles, turn right onto Route 213 which is the entrance to the college
- In about .2 mile, turn Right onto College Circle and turn right to remain on College Circle
- Proceed to Building 13, Eastern Shore Higher Education Center

To return to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge:

- Continue onto College Circle, which is one way, until left turn on College Circle
- Turn left onto Route 213
- Turn left onto Route 50 west
- After about 5 miles, use the middle 2 lanes to bear left onto US 301 south/US 50 west. Continue to the bridge.

Map of the College

1. **Dorchester Administration Building**
2. **Caroline College Center**
3. **Kent/Humanities Building**
4. **Talbot/Science**
5. **Queen Anne's/Technical**
6. **Manufacturing and Training Center**
7. **Security Building**
8. **Early Childhood Development Center**
9. **Health Professions and Athletics Center**
10. **Todd Performing Arts Center**
11. **Economic Development Center**
12. **Learning Resource Center**
13. **Eastern Shore Higher Education Center**



- Head East on US 301 North/US 50 East
- After about 11 miles, use the right two lanes to take US 50 East toward Ocean City
- After about 18 more miles, make a U-turn at Lomax Street
- Continue west on US-50 for about .4 miles
- Turn Right onto Mulberry Drive
- Turn Left onto Alicia Drive to Best Western

- Head south on Alicia Drive to Mulberry Drive
- Turn Right on Mulberry Drive
- Turn right on 50 west toward the Chesapeake Bay Bridge
- After about 12 miles, turn left onto Route 213 which is the entrance to the college
- In about .2 mile, turn Right onto College Circle and turn right to remain on Circle Drive
- Proceed to Building 13, Eastern Shore Higher Education

Registration Form

2017 Celebratory Dinner and Convention

Name _____

Name as you wish it to appear _____

Branch Affiliation _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

For voting purposes, please let us know if you hold a leadership role in AAUW:

State Officer _____ (specify role)

Branch Officer _____ (specify role)

Indicate your choices below:

_____ I am registering for the Celebratory Dinner and choose the entrée below: Cost **\$50**

_____ Sliced beef tenderloin with béarnaise sauce

_____ Dijon crusted salmon

_____ Vegetable Napoleon

_____ I am registering for the Convention Cost **\$50**

_____ My Convention registration is postmarked after March 15th Late Fee **\$5**

Or I am registering the day of the Convention*

*If registering **the day of the Convention or after April 1**, do not mail the registration. Please email Heather at hdshoemaker@gmail.com to insure space is still available and that we have all handouts available for you.

Total Included with this form _____

Please send all registration forms and checks made payable to *AAUW Maryland State* to be postmarked by **March 15** to:

Heather Shoemaker
2524 Old House Point Road
Fishing Creek, MD 21634

Include late fee if applicable.

Celebratory Dinner Honoree and Convention Speaker Patricia Fae Ho



NEWS FLASH-- Patricia Fae Ho, National AAUW Board Chair is flying in from Boston to join AAUW MD for both days of our Diamond Jubilee Celebration April 7-8 in Easton, MD.

An educator and women's advocate, Patricia Fae Ho has served in significant leadership positions with many nonprofit organizations, addressing issues of global equity and education. She has served as national AAUW board president, vice president, and director; Conference of State Leaders chair, New England regional director; and Massachusetts State and Branch president.

Ho was director of a Teacher Resource Center in New York and a gifted/enrichment education specialist. While living in England, she received certification in further and higher education, teaching at Highbury College, Portsmouth. Her education background includes a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Berkeley, postgraduate study at Oregon State University, and RSA certification from the International Teaching and Training Centre in Cambridge, England.

A variety of nonprofit leadership roles including work with United Way, YWCA, League of Women Voters, Massachusetts County Commission on the Status of Women, Peabody Essex Museum, Head Start, Health Quarters, HAWC Domestic Violence, and the Museum of Science in Boston, have prepared Patricia Fae Ho for her position in AAUW.

Raised in Hawaii, Ho lives near Boston. She has traveled extensively and has led AAUW delegations to Israel, Cuba, and Poland.

All AAUW members are invited to share in our AAUW-MD story and personally connect with Patricia Fae Ho, April 7-8, 2017 in Easton, MD. This convention provides an excellent opportunity to have fun, reconnect with dear friends, and make some new friends too. May the dinner and the convention be a time to celebrate our past, build a clearer vision for our future, exchange ideas and learn more effective ways to step up our advocacy and activism in solidarity with AAUW national leadership.

Be Inspired by General Linda Singh at the State Convention



Convention keynote speaker is Major General Linda L. Singh, the first African-American and the first woman to hold the post of Adjutant General of Maryland. She brings command experience from Kosovo and Afghanistan — where she earned a Bronze Star — and executive experience from a multinational federal contractor. Shortly after she was appointed, the *Baltimore Sun* headline read “With personable style, new general takes over the National Guard.”

General Singh was appointed as The 29th Adjutant General of Maryland in January 2015. She is responsible for the daily operations of the Maryland Military Department, which includes the Maryland Army National Guard, Maryland Air National Guard, Maryland Emergency Management Agency, and Maryland Defense Force. She is a senior advisor to the governor and is responsible for

the readiness, administration, and training of more than 6,700 members of the Military Department with an annual budget of more than \$314 million. As The Adjutant General, she serves as the official channel of communication between the governor and the National Guard Bureau and serves as a member of the governor’s cabinet.

General Singh grew up in Frederick County, Md., and is a long time Maryland resident of Prince George’s County where she currently resides with her husband and two daughters. She received her commission in 1991 through Officer Candidate School at the Maryland Military Academy in Reisterstown, MD. Her military career spans more than 30 years of service in both the enlisted and officer ranks. She has served in staff and command assignments at every level, including deployed assignments in Kosovo and a combat tour in Afghanistan supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

She retired as Managing Director in Accenture's Health and Public Service North America operating unit in May of 2016. She managed a global team in order to leverage capabilities from Accenture's global public service business as well as external partnering relationships. She previously served as the Commercial Director for the Public Safety Portfolio, the account lead for the Veterans Affairs and the account lead for the Army.

Her military decorations include the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star Medal and many more. General Singh is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army War College where she received a master’s degree in Strategic Studies. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from Columbia Union College, a master’s degree in Business Administration, Military Management from Touro International University, a master’s certificate in Six Sigma from Villanova University. She is a graduate of the United States Northern Command Joint Task Force Commander’s course and is a fellow from the International Women’s Leadership program at Harvard University/INSEAD.

Branch Happenings

AAUW Howard County Branch CELEBRATION OF MIDDLE EAST CULTURES

Bea Dane, President

The Howard County Branch held its Celebration of Middle East Cultures on September 17, 2016. It was a very successful fundraiser, and an enjoyable evening for the approximately 100 guests who attended. Proceeds go to our Scholarship funds and towards future diversity events. Diversity Chair, Shigeyo Ibrahim and her committee worked endless hours on this event. Marcia Posner did an excellent job as Mistress of Ceremony. We all had fun dancing the Horah and watching the belly dancer, Shamira Shuruk. A large variety of Middle Eastern and Jewish dishes were served. The program booklet was a beautiful addition, which raised many funds from advertisers and patrons. Many thanks to one of our newest members, Deborah Shepperson Smith, who inspired the committee to "go for it."

She also created and coordinated the program booklet. Another member, Josie Thompson, created the booklet design.

The final event of our Celebration of Middle East culture was a panel discussion at our October meeting of women's roles in Judaism and Islam. We had two women from the Islam religion and two from the Jewish religion who gave us an excellent insight into their lives.



Pictured are Jennifer Ingram and Deb Wade.

AAUW Howard County Sponsors and AAUW MD Supports Legislation "Family Law - Child Support - Age of Majority - Postsecondary Education"

Rapid technological change and globalization have made participation in the job market more dependent on post-secondary education than ever. The importance of education as a contributor to future wages is profound, and according to *Business Labor Statistics*, with wages varying from \$31,071 with a high school diploma, to \$56,788 with a 4 year degree and \$82,320 for post graduates. Yet, child support ends in Maryland when a child reaches 18, the age of majority. When divorcing parents are not in accord, there are often insufficient funds once the child reaches eighteen for the custodial parent--women 80% of the time-- to provide support for the child's

college or technical school. The Court should have a continuing duty to minimize obstacles to education for children of parents separated or divorced.

Delegate Terri Hill has joined with AAUW to be the primary sponsor of this bill, currently being finalized. It is based on legislation that has already been enacted in 16 other states to provide post-secondary education support for the children of divorced or separated parents. *Specifically, the bill gives the court authority to order continued child support until the age of 23 for education.* Courts must consider various factors, including but not limited to the financial ability of each parent and the likelihood that the parents would have continued support had the family stayed intact. Criteria for the court's consideration of support could include

- the child's need for support;
- availability of financial aid from other sources, including grants and loans
- the child's preparation and aptitude for and commitment to higher education.

How AAUW Members can help We need involvement and support in this effort. We will be looking for support when the bill comes up for hearings. The final bill language and number, boilerplate testimony, etc., will be forthcoming. We also encourage all AAUW members to reach out to connect with citizens who would benefit from this legislation and urge them to contact the Howard County American Association of University Women (AAUW) Advocacy Committee VP Beverlie Fallik – bevfallik@gmail.com

Other Committee Members include: Joan Clinch, Beth Hayden, Donna Levinson, Marcia Posner, Sandra Smith, Debra Wade, and Penny Zervos.

AAUW Harford Presents Book Scholarships to Harford Community College Students

Hazel Hopkins



AAUW Harford President Bernadette Low presents a scholarship to Harford Community College student, Kristin Bauer

Each year AAUW Harford presents scholarships to Harford Community College women. This year three \$500 book scholarships were awarded to the following students: Kristin Bauer majoring in business management-human resources; Joy George, majoring early childhood education; and Margaret Rice, majoring in pre-nursing.

These three women were chosen from a total of 32 applicants based on GPA, monetary need, returning to college status, and evidence of commitment to college goals, and community service. The scholarship committee reads all of the applications and, using a rubric, rates each of the applicants in each of the areas. The scores are tallied, and the highest scoring applicants are then selected.

AAUW Harford is pleased to be able to help support the educational goals of these local women. The national AAUW, founded in 1881, focuses awarding grants to women who are pursuing graduate and post graduate degrees. The Harford AAUW focuses on local students beginning their post-secondary study.

Funds for these scholarships are raised through the annual AAUW Harford Food Fight event, the Harford County branch's version of the cooking show *Chopped*.

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. For more information about the local branch go to their Facebook page, AAUW, Harford county, MD Branch or 1aauw.harford.membership@gmail.com.

Special Events

Women's Legislative Briefing Reminder—January 29, 2017

Anita Rosen

AAUW Maryland Public Policy

This is a reminder that the excellent Women's Legislative Briefing will be held on January 29th in Rockville. It is easy to register online or on the site the day of. Registration is \$40. This day-long meeting held at Shady Grove Universities provides an excellent way to become educated about upcoming bills in Annapolis and federal issues as well. Participants hear from legislators and find an opportunity to network with local, state and federal elected officials. AAUW has a booth. The opening panel will feature Kate Neilson from the national AAUW office. AAUW members are urged to tell others of this opportunity and plan to see other AAUW members at the gathering.

Register Now for the 2017 AAUW National Convention

Registration is now open for the [AAUW National Convention](#) June 14–17 in Washington, D.C. The convention will provide a great opportunity to lobby Congress.

All AAUW members are urged to join AAUW sisters to develop or learn leadership skills and network with AAUW leaders.

All AAUW Members are urged to [Register now](#) to take advantage of early registration for the best-value rate and save more than \$75.



The Marylander
AAUW Maryland
2105 Shuresville Road
Darlington, MD 21034-1512

First Class
U.S. Postage

PAID
Hagerstown, MD
Permit No. 208