



**American Association of University Women
Harford County Branch
September - October 2023**

Events	Dates	Time / Location	Contact
Sept Foodie Club Second Annual Banana Split Social	Sun Sept 10	1 – 3 pm Kathleen Hampton 1039 Erwin Drive Joppa	Kathleen Hampton kathleenhampton4048@gmail.com
Sept Branch Meeting Bari Klein Healthy Harford	Wed Sept 20	6pm Board Meeting 7pm General Mtg St Pauls' Church 201 Mt Royal Ave Aberdeen	Theresa Freligh theresafreligh@gmail.com
Sept Book Group "Demon Copperhead" by Barbara Kingsolver	Sat Sept 23	10-12pm Location TBA	Peggy Dymond 410-272-9139 mmdymond67@gmail.com
Oct Foodie Club Harvest Foods / Trail Mix	Sun Oct 15	1 – 3 pm Location - TBA	Kathleen Hampton kathleenhampton4048@gmail.com
Oct Branch Meeting Membership Greet and Meet	Wed Oct 18	6 pm – Board Meeting 7 pm – General Home of Jessica, Jasmine, and Maryam Aarfa 1400 Waterford Drive Bel Air, MD 21015	Jessica Aarfa jessicaarfaa@yahoo.com
Oct Book Group Book - TBA	Sat Oct 28	10-12pm Location - TBA	Peggy Dymond 410-272-9139 mmdymond67@gmail.com

Sheila's Message

"I would maintain that thanks are the highest form of thought; and that gratitude is happiness doubled by wonder."
G.K.Chesterton

Welcome to the new AAUW year!

The summer has been a busy one with the MD State conference being held here in our county on July 29. I hope you were part of that day because it exceeded expectations with Maureen Broy singing about her family's (specifically her paternal grandmother's) work with the ERA in its infancy. Her songs were her own words telling her story with such emotion. Mary Ann Gorman shared information on what we can do to help get the ERA passed and JoAnn Macdonald talked about Patsy Mink's work as the first woman of color and first Asian American in Congress. The afternoon presentation by Sharon Jackson Wilder provided information about diversity issues and the ERA. It was a great day – and Olivia Spencer's painting, along with 2 ERA posters brought in \$525 dollars in raffle money for VoteEquity. A big shout out to Maureen North, my co-chair for the conference, Marlene Lieb for securing the location and helping with conference bags, Hazel Hopkins for securing and working with helpers and decorations, and to everyone else in the branch who helped that day.

As this is my first letter as president, I also want to thank Marlene Lieb and Rose Ann Ward for their work as past co-presidents. Working with Marlene last year was so helpful for my "learning the ropes," and I truly appreciate her taking the time to do that with me. And I will continue the tradition of using a quote at the beginning. I chose this quote because this is a letter of information but also gratitude. Read on!

We have already had our first Board meeting to plan the year and have determined the theme for this year: Joining Forces for Advocacy. This can mean that we are joining forces in our branch and/or joining with other organizations to advance advocacy. Our Program VP, Theresa Freligh, has been working hard and has many programs already planned to fit this theme; see her report later in this newsletter. Jeanne Blades, your Membership VP, has found an excellent location for a member-recruitment October meeting.

The Board voted to have our branch participate again in Pride Day, to be held on Saturday, October 7 at Concord Point Lighthouse Park in Havre de Grace. We already have volunteers to "woman" the event!

This summer, two Harford Community College women were chosen for book scholarships. Sushmitha Balram and Amber Smith will be invited to a meeting later this year so that you might have the opportunity to meet them in person.



Finally, I will soon be sending the yearly letter to you requesting funds for the Toni Bram Scholarship. Last year we voted to sponsor one girl for four years at the Furaha All Girls' School in Kenya. Last year, we sent Robert \$800 to pay for the tuition of Moreen Kendi Dancun with the promise to pay for three more years. This is the picture of Moreen. He also sent me her report card. Keep in mind that this is mid-year since their year runs from Jan to Dec. I will report on her grades at our September meeting. I have thank-you notes to read to you as well. We had extra Toni Bram scholarship money last year, and we sent that to help support two other girls but did not commit to that funding this year.

The Board has decided that any extra money we collect this year will be held for future years. I am posting a thank-you note from Moreen below.

Finally, we held a Bunco game night to support the purchase of sanitary napkins and science supplies at the all-girls' school in Kenya. From that event, we collected \$625!!! That was from those of you who attended and others who sent in donations for the school. You are all so kind and generous. And special thanks to Sandy Guzewich, who held the event at her house. It was a fun evening and a perfect setup for Bunco. In response to receiving that money, Robert sent a note to thank and to inform us of how the money was used to buy sanitary pads for 33 girls throughout the entire year and another 107 while in school only. Additionally, some of that money was used for benches and 7 water sinks in the science lab. I'll read that letter to you at the September meeting.

I am so thankful to all of you for your generosity, and I look forward to my next two years working with all of you. Have a wonderful end of summer, and I look forward to seeing you in September at St Paul's Church in Aberdeen.

To better read the letter below from Moreen Kendi Dancun (below), the student we are sponsoring in Kenya, on your computer, please enlarge it. I will also bring a copy to the September meeting.

Submitted by AAUW President, Sheila Allen

2023-2024 LEADERSHIP

President	Sheila Allen	443-956-0051
Vice-President, Programs	Theresa Freligh	845-853-6423
Vice President, Membership	Jeanne Blades	410-939-5629
Recording Secretary	Beverly Peters	610-597-3075
Treasurer	Kathy Burley	443-876-7996
Public Policy	Bernadette Flynn Low	410-836-3885
Communications	Peggy Dymond	410-272-9139
Historian	Bernadette Flynn Low	410-836-3885

INTEREST GROUPS

Book Club	Peggy Dymond	410-272-9139
Foodie Club	Kathleen Hampton	906-630-4048
WIGS	Lisha Sturgill	410-459-0801
Judith A. Resnik Awards	Marlene Lieb	410-808-2246

AAUW Programs for 2023-2024

The theme for this year's program is JOINING FORCES FOR ADVOCACY. We are busy setting up 6 interesting programs for the year which will hopefully inspire you to ACT. Some of the programs will cover Health, Voting Rights, the Environment, ERA, Racial Equity and Educational impact in Harford County.

Our first program, on Wednesday September 20, 2023, will be guest speaker Bari Klein from Healthy Harford.

In other programs, we will be learning more about voting rights and the passage of the ERA, as well as Race Relations and Environmental concerns. We hope these topics will interest you and inspire you to take up the baton and work to help improve the lives of fellow Marylanders.

The January and February programs will be via Zoom while the other four are in person. Please join us for these important programs.

Submitted by Theresa Freligh, VP Programs

Foodie Club

The Foodie club (previously known as the cooking club) will meet every second Sunday of the month.

We will start Sunday September 10th at my home from one to three.

This will be a planning get-together and our second annual banana split social.

First get-together is at my home: 1039 Erwin Drive Joppa.

Any questions? Contact Kathleen at kathleenhampton4048@gmail.com

The October Foodie Club will be held October 15th from one to three.

Place not yet determined.

Theme: Harvest Foods / Trail Mix.

Submitted by Kathleen Hampton

MOREEN KENDI DUNCAN,
P. O BOX 412-60400 OTUKA
% FURAHIA GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL.

TO THE CO-ORDINATOR,
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WOMEN ASSOCIATION
% SHEILA ALLAN.

RE: LETTER OF APPRECIATION.

Receive my warm greetings and Love.

I trust you all are doing well over there.

I want to confess that I received the good news about payment of my school fees with great joy and excitement. This was the doing of the Lord!

I could not believe that my full school fees for my second year in secondary school was fully paid.

I write this letter to pass my joy and thanks to you over there.

My parent was also very happy. I Promise to do all my best in school and attain my dream Career.

Here at school we are doing well. Our director is always focused to improve the standard of our school. Am also doing well in my studies.

This term I also benefited by being given Sanitary pads for the whole year - I think this donation came from you. It has been my challenge to get them. I must say a big thank you. The director is also working to improve our Science Lab and he told us that he got donations from his Friends in America.

When we close school for August holiday I will take a video and ask director to forward to you.

I want to promise you that this effort will be rewarded.

I will always remain grateful for your help. Please say hello to the rest members and tell them I love them all.

Once again God bless you all.

Yours Faithfully

Moreen Kendi Duncan - 2436
Furaha Girls high school - Kenya.

Letter from our scholarship student in Kenya.

Membership News

We have two new members to welcome to our ranks! They are Caity Lovett and Anna Berglowe-Lynch. I know you will make them feel very welcome when you have the chance to meet them, and we all hope that they will find many new friends and interesting events at our branch.

I hope that everyone has had a chance to renew their membership if indeed it is that time for you to do so. In the past, everyone's membership was good from June 30th to July 1st. However, since AAUW national has adopted a new system, things have changed:

- As of February 2022, when AAUW moved to the new system, when a person joins, their renewal date will be a year from that date. So, if a person joined 4/1/23, her membership is good for an entire year up until 3/31/24.
- All the "older" memberships where people joined before February 2022, are good until July 1 to June 30 of the following year.
- At the time of a renewal, AAUW national sends out an email. The member should receive this about 2 weeks before membership ends. If a person hasn't received a reminder in their primary inbox, they should check their promo and junk emails as well.
- If a person doesn't renew, there is a 3-month (90 days) grace period.
- If a person's membership lapses and then they join, their renewal date will be one year from that point in time.
- This year is the last of several increases, hopefully, with National dues at \$72 (\$69 of which is tax deductible), \$10 is state dues, and \$21 is branch dues for a total of \$103.

So how do you renew when the time comes?

- To pay online: Visit the [AAUW Login page](#). If you have visited the Community Hub before and have already established an account, you can log into your Personal Snapshot. If you have not, click, **Forgot Your Password** located below the blue login button at the bottom of the page. Enter your email address that AAUW has on file for you and that they used to send you the renewal reminder. Then click Reset Your Password to receive a login email from infosf@aauw.org. If you don't receive it in 5-10 minutes, email connect@aauw.org. **PLEASE DO NOT CREATE A NEW ACCOUNT**. After you receive the login email, enter your email address and "Create and Confirm your Password" to access your Personal Snapshot.
- Once you are in your Personal Snapshot, click **RENEW** at the bottom of the screen to renew your national, branch and state memberships! Dual members should self-renew ALL memberships at once. College/University representatives whose national membership is covered by the school should email connect@aauw.org to request a special code before renewing.
- **To pay by check:** As always, you have the option of writing a check. Please make it payable to AAUW Harford County Branch for \$103 and mail it to our financial officer: Kathy Burley, 4403 Webster Lapidum Road, Havre de Grace, MD 21078.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at jeanmarieb@gmail.com or text or call 410-800-3732.

Thanks! Jeanne Blades, VP for Membership

Harford Community College - Fall 2023 History Class

Remember the Ladies

Course Description

With the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution coming up quickly (2026) we will hear a lot about the men founders. But what about the women founders? How did Martha Washington, Abigail Adams, Dolley Madison, and the women who influenced the life of Thomas Jefferson impact the founding of our nation? In this course we'll discuss that impact culturally, militarily, and politically. We'll talk about how these lifelong companions counseled, consoled, and otherwise assisted their men in that founding process. This course will examine and discuss Martha Washington, Abigail Adams, Dolly Madison, and the women (wife, daughters, Sally Hemmings, Maria Cosway, etc), in the life of Thomas Jefferson. Classes will be a mixture of lecture, Power Point presentation, and some documentary clips. Students will examine the women's politics, their roles in the founding of the United States (legislative and in combat where applicable), their views on the Constitution, slavery, freedom, and their relationships with each other. Senior adult and disabled retiree tuition waivers apply.

Tuition: \$41		Fees: \$41		Sessions: 3	
45393	Tues.	10/3-10/17	5:30 PM - 7:30 PM	Bel Air Hall, Rm. 208	E. Mease

Submitted by Kathleen Hampton.

Potential New Activity??

Are you interested in a Girl's Night Out once a month? We will be playing Bunco, a dice game that is easy to learn and lots of fun!

There are 12 players. Since we meet once a month, players will take turns bringing snacks one month out of the year. Or we could choose to team up and each team of 2 would provide snacks two months out of the year. Hostess would provide drinks.

There is no charge to play. If you are interested but can't make it every month you can sign up to be a sub. Several subs will be needed, since 12 players are needed every month.

Please let me know if you are interested and we will decide on a day and time that suits everyone.

Email me at wardrose22@yahoo.com.

Submitted by Rose Ann Ward

AAUW Book Group

If you love to read, this is the group for you! We bring interesting and diverse points of view to the discussion of virtually every book we read. We meet on Saturday mornings (usually on the fourth Sat) September through May at members' homes from 10am – 11:30. You can just read along with us, but the process of discussing books with other intelligent women is well worth your time. The joy of reading is multiplied when we share it with others. Join us if you're able!

For more information, contact Peggy Dymond, mmdymond67@gmail.com or 410-272-9139 (home).

This is the first newsletter since Karen Gyolai shared this EXCELLENT news and sincere thanks.

I want to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, calls and good thoughts sent to both my husband, Jim Gyolai, and myself during his heart bypass journey. He finally had his double bypass in mid-January. He has had a good recovery, looks great, and is beginning to do more. He starts Cardiac Rehab this week (April).

August update - Jim is still doing well and is through with his cardiac rehab. I appreciate all the prayers and cards to him and myself. It was truly appreciated. We are on a road trip this week.

The support of our AAUW group has been amazing.

Thanks to all,

Karen Gyolai