



BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE BRANCH NEWSLETTER
<http://bcc-md.aauw.net>

March 2016

President
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Branch Meeting
Saturday, March 19, 10:00 a.m., Fox Hill
8300 Burdette Road, Bethesda

Duke Ellington School of the Arts



The Duke Ellington School of the Arts was founded to nurture and inspire passion for the arts and learning in talented students who might not otherwise have an opportunity to develop their artistic skills. Each year the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Branch makes a contribution to the school particularly to support women students, faculty, and/or composers. For our March meeting, we will hear from ten of the gifted young musicians from the school. There will be a 10-minute prelude before the short business meeting at 10:00. Then there will be a 30-minute musical program featuring works in the classical, romantic, Impressionistic, and jazz styles. The

music will include pieces for solo piano, piano duet, and voice and piano. Our financial contribution will be presented to the school by branch member Sally Dobson, a retired professional musician who had the privilege of meeting and working with Duke Ellington. Please join us to hear these talented young people!

Presidents' Message

I'm sure I echo the feelings of many members as we go through this most unusual – and troubling – campaign season. I am reminded that AAUW is one of the organizations which tries to bring logic and sanity to the campaign arena, whether the discussion is on immigration, women's rights, Supreme Court appointments, or any other issues. I hope that you are finding ways to be involved in the campaign, whichever your party. As



university graduates, we need to bring intelligence to the dialogue and personal involvement to the campaigns. I recently met with one of the candidates for the US House of Representatives, Kathleen Matthews, to share our perspectives on issues affecting women. I am not endorsing her, nor does AAUW endorse candidates, but use this as an example of how we each can do our part to highlight issues of importance to women and girls at all levels of government. We need to know where

candidates stand to vote intelligently and to influence others.

We have been blessed in recent meetings to have as speakers people who have helped



us understand issues at the county, state and national levels. Pat O'Neill, longtime Montgomery County School Board member, reminds us that the School Board makes decisions – along with the superintendent – which affect all of us. I was impressed by Pat's commitment to the education of students from all backgrounds, economic circumstances, and ability levels. As a member of our Bethesda-Chevy Chase Branch, she is a voice supporting quality education for all. And Laurie Duker, Executive Director of Court Watch Montgomery, stunned all of us with reports of serious challenges to protecting victims of domestic violence. I know that some of you are involved in Court

Watch Montgomery through volunteer activities or donations – and some of you are supporting issues at the Maryland General Assembly which will address specific issues raised by Laurie.

Lily Qi, Special Projects Director for Montgomery County, opened our eyes to challenges faced by immigrants, an increasingly large portion of the population of our region. As immigration becomes a focal point of Presidential politics, it is helpful to get the real-world perspective of a woman, herself an immigrant to the US, on these challenges and what we can do to make a difference. And Senator Susan Lee, who represents many of our members in Maryland's General Assembly, shares her passion, her frustrations, and her intelligence with us in informal settings.

Please find your way to make a difference over these next months of campaigning and legislating at all levels of government. Together we can make a difference.

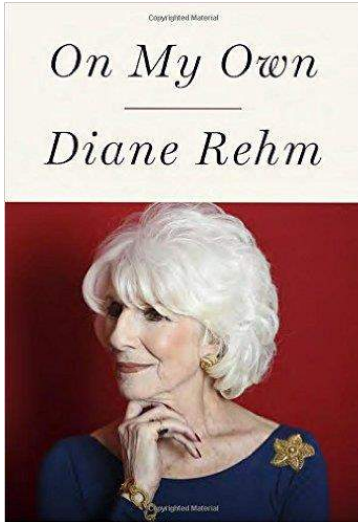
Thank you!

Pat Stocker
patstocker@aol.com

AAUW Book Club

On My Own

By Diane Rehm



Meeting: **Thursday, April 21, 2016**

Time: **12:30 p.m.**

Location: **Fran Cressman's Home**

11 Old Stage Court

North Bethesda, MD 20852-4435

(301) 881-0131

Fran will provide lunch.

All are welcome – membership in AAUW is not required

RSVP: Pat Stocker (PatStocker@aol.com) or Fran Cressman (fscress2014@yahoo.com)

In a deeply personal and moving book, the beloved NPR radio host speaks out about the long drawn-out death (from Parkinson's) of her husband of fifty-four years, and of her struggle to reconstruct her life without him. With John gone, Diane was indeed "on her own," coping with the inevitable practical issues and, more important, with the profoundly emotional ones. What to do, how to react, reaching out again into the world—struggling to create a new reality for herself while clinging to memories of the past. Her focus is on her own roller-coaster experiences, but she has also solicited the moving stories of such recently widowed friends as Roger Mudd and Susan Stamberg, which work to expose the reader to a remarkable range of reactions to the death of a spouse.

John's unnecessarily extended death—he begged to be helped to die—culminated in his taking matters into his own hands, simply refusing to take water, food, and medication. His heroic actions spurred Diane into becoming a kind of poster person for the "right to die" movement that is all too slowly taking shape in our country. With the brave determination that has characterized her whole life, she is finding a meaningful new way to contribute to the world.

Her book—as practical as it is inspiring—will be a help and a comfort to the recently bereaved, and a beacon of hope about the possibilities that remain to us as we deal with our own approaching mortality. (Amazon)

AAUW Education Foundation Luncheon

**Saturday, May 14, Noon
Hunter's Inn, Polo Room, Potomac, MD**

Facts and Falsehoods about Islam and Muslims: A Woman's Perspective

Dr. Sahar Khamis, University of Maryland, College Park



Many of us have preconceived ideas about what it means to be Muslim – and particularly, what it means to be a Muslim woman. Dr. Sahar Khamis will share with us the facts and falsehoods about our impressions – and will particularly focus on issues of women in the culture, differentiating from being Muslim and being Arab. She will also share perspectives on how Islamic extremists may be interpreted within Islam and the Koran.

Dr. Sahar Khamis is an Associate Professor of Communication at the University of Maryland; an expert on Arab and Muslim media; an ethnographer; an Islamic feminist; a peace activist; an interfaith advocate; a media commentator; a radio host; and a human rights' commissioner. She is the author of two books and many scholarly papers, written in both English and Arabic, and has received a number of prestigious academic and professional awards.

She was formerly Head of the Mass Communication and Information Science Department in Qatar University, and holds a Ph.D. in Mass Media and Cultural Studies from the University of Manchester in England.

Restaurant:

Hunter's Inn, 10123 River Rd, Potomac, MD 20854-4904 (near the intersection of River Road and Falls Road in Potomac)

Menu: Choice of: Chopped Cobb Salad or Broiled Salmon

Prices: \$30 per person, all inclusive. You will also have the opportunity to make a contribution to the AAUW Funds for the Educational Foundation.

Registration details will be in the April Newsletter.

2016 AAUW Maryland State Convention Preview

Theme: “Inspiring Access to Success”

The AAUW Maryland Annual Convention will be held from 8:45 AM to 3:00 PM on Saturday, April 30, 2016. The Howard County Branch will host the one-day event which will feature outstanding speakers on inspiring access to success, the business meeting, breakfast and lunch and induction of officers. All AAUW members and the public are welcome! **Attendees must register by April 1, 2016.**

Location:**Howard Community College Campus**

Duncan Hall, Kittleman Room, Room 100
11901 Little Patuxent Parkway
Columbia, MD 21044

Hotel (if needed)

Columbia Courtyard

Note: Registration form included in The Marylander.

Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 30, for the 2016 AAUW Maryland State Convention at the Howard Community College in Columbia. This year’s theme is “Inspiring Access to Success.”

Organizers are asking that each branch bring a poster or other display to inspire discussion about a successful project or other idea to share with other branches.

The planning team is excited to let members know that Catherine Hill will be sharing information about AAUW’s report “Solving the Equation,” AAUW’s guide to corporate best practices and recommendations for promoting gender diversity in the engineering and computing fields. Catherine Hill is the vice president for research at AAUW. Before coming to AAUW, Hill was a study director at the Institute for Women’s Policy Research and an assistant professor in planning and public policy at the University of Virginia. She has a bachelor and master’s degree from Cornell University and a Ph.D. in policy development from Rutgers University.

The convention will follow closely on the heels of the 2016 session of the MD General Assembly, and the ever-popular Anita Rosen has agreed to plan and coordinate a public policy session entitled “2016 Public Policy in Maryland: What worked? What’s next?” The planning team is also looking forward to hearing from AAUW Board member Anthony Hill, the first male elected to the AAUW Board. Anthony Hill serves as a liaison to the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force. He earned a bachelor’s degree from George Washington University and holds master’s and doctoral degrees in social work from Howard University. Anthony is a licensed clinical social worker and associate professor in the Department of Social Work at Delaware State University.

MEETINGS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- March 5
Saturday **Board Meeting**, 10:00 am, at the home of Fran Cressman, 11 Old Stage Court, North Bethesda, 301-881-0131. All members are welcome.
- March 14
Monday **Gourmet Group**, 7:00 pm, at the home of Charlene Currie, 5709 Trafton Place, Bethesda, 301- 530-2442. The menu will be a celebration of early spring.
- March 19
Saturday **Branch Meeting**, 10:00 am, at Fox Hill, 8300 Burdette Road, Bethesda. The Duke Ellington School of the Arts will present a musical program. There will be a ten-minute prelude before a short business meeting at 10:00 am.
- April 21
Thursday **AAUW Book Club**, 12:30 pm, at the home of Fran Cressman, 11 Old Stage Court, North Bethesda, 301-881-0131. The book is *On My Own* by Diane Rehm. RSVP: Pat Stocker (PatStocker@aol.com) or Fran Cressman (fscress2014@yahoo.com).
- April 30
Saturday **AAUW Maryland Annual Convention**, from 8:45 am to 3:00pm, Howard Community College Campus, Columbia. The theme is "Inspiring Access to Success." Attendees must register by April 1.

THE MONTGOMERY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER FOR THE 2016-2017 ACADEMIC YEAR

As in previous years, we are again asking for your 100% tax-deductible contribution to the Bethesda-Chevy Chase AAUW Montgomery College Scholarship Fund. Support for our own community college is not a part of the AAUW Educational Foundation, but is encouraged by AAUW Maryland, and enables our individual branch members to voluntarily provide needed funds for mature women of high scholastic merit and financial need to pursue their educational goals.

PLEASE HELP! ANY CONTRIBUTION WILL BE APPRECIATED.

PLEASE CLIP AND SEND WITH YOUR 100% TAX=DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION made payable to **THE MONTGOMERY COLLEGE FOUNDATION** and mail to Charlene Currie, 5709 Trafton Place, Bethesda, MD 20817.

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

AMOUNT_____