



BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE BRANCH NEWSLETTER

September 2023

Website: <https://bcc-md.aauw.net/>

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FOX HILL

8300 Burdette Road

Bethesda, MD 20817

Handicapped accessible. Plenty of parking.

WELCOME TO THE 2023-24 PROGRAM YEAR!!!!

Saturday, September 23, 2023

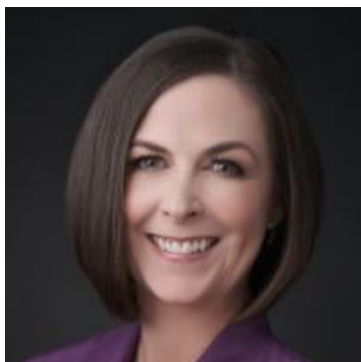
(Note: Meeting later because of Rosh Hashanah)

11:00 a.m.

**The Equal Rights Amendment:
Women's Rights and Our Challenging Environment**

Allyson McKinney Timm

Human Rights Lawyer and Founder and Executive Director of Justice Revival



2023 marks 100 years of the Equal Rights Amendment – and it's still in limbo. Allyson McKinney Timm, a human rights lawyer and founder and executive director of Justice Revival, will discuss the current status of the Equal Rights Amendment. Her organization is advocating the ERA as the fully ratified 28th Amendment, which has already met the legal requirements to be the 28th Amendment and needs only to be certified and published. Some argue that it is no longer necessary, but AAUW and many other organizations see it as an essential step in making women fully equal under US law. Ally will share her perspectives and suggest ways we can move this important issue ahead.

NEW!!! Bethesda-Chevy Chase AAUW Book Club

Are you interested in discussing books with kindred spirits from the Bethesda-Chevy Chase AAUW branch? We are reinstating our book club (disbanded during the pandemic) and invite your participation! Our first meeting will be Monday, September 25 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. on ZOOM and we will discuss **Lessons in Chemistry** by Bonnie Garmus. Pat Stocker will lead that discussion. A Zoom link will be sent in advance of the meeting.

At that meeting, we will determine our schedule, whether to have Zoom and/or in-person meetings, and the books we want to read. This is a preliminary list from which we will choose at our first meeting – and you can suggest alternatives as well. We expect to meet six times during the program year – September through November 2023 and January through March 2024. Books to consider (we will select from this list and other books you suggest):

The Covenant of Water by Abraham Verghese

Hiding Alenka by Alice Schelling

Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the F.B.I. by David Grann

Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano

Spare by Prince Harry

Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver

It Ends with Us by Colleen Hoover

Summer Island by Kristin Hannah

Other Ideas?

Bethesda-Chevy Chase Officers 2022-23

President **Pat Stocker**

E-mail: patstocker@aol.com

Vice President **Patty Howie**

E-mail: pbhowie@verizon.net

Treasurer **Karen Braun**

E-mail: karen.braun@verizon.net

Secretary **Carol Whitley**

E-mail: carol4600@verizon.net

Newsletter **Charlene Currie**

E-mail: charlene.currie@verizon.net

Public Policy **Carol Starr**

E-mail: carstarr@gmail.com

Program **Pat Stocker**

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Upcoming Programs

October 14

National and International Perspectives on US Policies

Mark Medish



Mark Medish, one of our most popular regular speakers, will share his insights into US policies throughout the world as well as perspectives on current US politics as we approach the mid-term elections. He is founder of Keep Our Republic, a non-partisan civic action group dedicated to election and transition integrity. He also served at The White House as Special Assistant to President Bill Clinton and Senior Director for Russian,

Ukrainian, and Eurasian Affairs on the National Security Council. He served at the U.S. Treasury as Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Affairs, under Secretaries Robert Rubin and Lawrence Summers. Medish was educated at Georgetown, Harvard, and Oxford. He has held Fulbright, Luce, Mellon, and Shintaro Abe scholarships.

November 11

Great Women's Roles in Musical Theater

Steve Friedman, Steve's Broadway Lectures and Tours and Author of "The Ultimate Broadway List Book"



Many of our images of women's roles come from the roles of women in popular musicals. Do these images mirror reality? Do they mirror the ideal image of women? Steve Friedman, popular lecturer on Broadway musicals, will explore how women have been portrayed in Broadway musicals and how the portrayals have changed over time.

December 9

Maryland's Secretary of State: What I Have Learned

Maryland Secretary of State Susan Lee (TENTATIVE)

Susan C. Lee is Secretary of State for Maryland. She is also AAUW Maryland's Woman of Distinction for 2023. She previously represented District 16 in the Maryland Senate, which includes Bethesda, Chevy Chase, Friendship Heights, Potomac,



Rockville, Cabin John, and Glen Echo. She was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 2002 and to the Senate in 2014 to represent District 16 and has been described as the General Assembly's leader on cyber security and innovation, identity theft, online fraud, and consumer protection issues. Maryland's strongest advocate for women's issues of concern to AAUW, Susan led efforts to pass an aggressive agenda of legislation to fight domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking; economically empower women, children and families; secure funding for statewide rape crisis centers; and authorize the placing a statue of Marylander and American hero Harriet Tubman in the United States Capitol. Susan also is a champion of education,

the environment, public safety, civil rights, transportation, quality health care, telemedicine, bioscience, clean energy, and emerging technologies.

January 13

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

Dr. Sahar Khamis



Dr. Sahar Khamis is an Associate Professor in the Department of Communication at the University of Maryland, College Park. Dr. Khamis is a media commentator and analyst, a public speaker, a human rights commissioner in the Human Rights Commission in Montgomery County, Maryland, and a radio host, who presents a monthly radio show on “U.S. Arab Radio” (the first Arab-American radio station broadcasting in the U.S. and Canada). Dr. Sahar Khamis is an expert on Arab and Muslim media, and the former Head of the Mass Communication and Information Science Department in Qatar University. She is a former Mellon Islamic Studies Initiative Visiting Professor at the University of Chicago.

Other monthly meetings – speakers to be announced – all at 11:00 a.m. at Fox Hill:

February 10

March 9

April 13

May 18

Our branch will host the Fall AAUW Maryland Meeting on Saturday, September 30: We need YOUR HELP!

Our branch will host the fall AAUW Maryland meeting on September 30. We need volunteers to greet guests, handle registration, help put out (catered) food, and put up signs. **PLEASE VOLUNTEER FOR THIS EFFORT – MORNING 8:30 TO 10:00, LUNCH 11:00 – 1:00, AND CLEANUP 3:00 – 4:00 P.M.** You can register to attend through *The Marylander*, our state newsletter, which you will receive soon, or through a link you will receive via your e-mail address.

**AAUW-MD Fall Conference
September 30, 2023**

**Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center
4805 Edgemoor Lane,
Bethesda, MD 20814**

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



Climate Change: Updating the AAUW Agenda

Issues of climate and energy affect all of us. Decisive and immediate action must be taken to save lives. According to scientific reports, climate-fueled tragedies aren't only going to get worse, they're getting worse much faster than previously predicted. A report by the UN International Panel on Climate Change says that every fraction of a degree of warming matters. If we surpass 1.5 degrees Centigrade and reach 2 degrees, hundreds of millions more people will suffer, as unyielding drought and blistering heat take a growing toll on livestock and crops, water sources become depleted, and disease spreads more rapidly worldwide. At the same time, we need to accelerate the shift from fossil fuels to clean energy and work toward a clean-energy future.

SPEAKER: Bob Deans

Director, Strategic Engagement, Natural Resources Defense Council

Bob Deans is Director of Strategic Engagement for the Natural Resources Defense



Council. In this role, he is a spokesman, writer and advocate for the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). The mission of NRDC is to safeguard the Earth: its people, its plants and animals, and the natural systems on which all life depends. He is also the author of many books and appears regularly on television interview shows. Previously, he was White House Correspondent for Cox Newspapers and

was President of the White House Correspondents' Association.

Bob Deans will talk with us about these challenges and share ways we can be involved to stop attacks on the environment, formulate a way to respond to climate change, and safeguard the earth for our children and generations of children of the future.

Continental breakfast is available starting at 9:00 a.m. Lunch will be catered by Potbelly, Coffee and water will be available throughout the day.

PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH THIS IMPORTANT ACTIVITY!!!!

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our first newsletter of the 2023-2024 Bethesda-Chevy Chase AAUW branch! We have an exciting and educational series of programs planned, and you will find new ways to get involved as your schedule allows. We are reinstating our **AAUW Book Club** (see separate article in this newsletter). Carol Starr, our Public Policy Vice President, will provide opportunities for you to be involved in **lobbying and otherwise influencing our elected officials in Annapolis**.

This is both an exciting and troubling time in US politics. As I struggle to understand and interpret what is happening, I am gratified that **Mark Medish** will again join us to help sort out the policy issues affecting national and global decisions, to put in perspective a former President who is under indictment in varied jurisdictions, and to analyze the implications of the fall elections. Don't miss this chance to learn together!

Maryland AAUW branches regularly host state meetings, and our Bethesda-Chevy AAUW branch will host the state leadership meeting on **Saturday, September 30**. These are always interesting meetings, and our keynote speaker is Bob Deans, whom many of you may remember from the programs he has done for our branch. We need look no further than the terrible fires in Maui to the flooding in many cities to see the effects of climate change in our lives. Issues such as immigration and global unrest are very much tied to climate change. Bob will help us understand the issues and how we can make a difference.

Our programs for this coming year are designed to give us insights into major issues and concerns we share. It is 100 years ago that the ERA was first introduced, and the time has come to finalize the ratification process. Allyson McKinney Timm is very involved in this final push – not for ratification, since that has already been accomplished, but for certification of the Amendment. This is a high priority for AAUW and is important to ensure the rights of women are protected.

Don't miss these excellent programs. Remember that you may bring guests at any time, and they are not required to be AAUW members. I do encourage all women of any age to join AAUW, however, because our organization has a strong history of fighting for women and girls' equity and for funding education for women throughout the world.

Enjoy Labor Day and the end of summer, and I look forward to seeing you September 16 for our first meeting. Thank you for your support of women and for your personal involvement with ensuring that women and girls have equal opportunities for success.

Pat

Pat Stocker, President, Bethesda-Chevy Chase AAUW

MEMBERSHIP DUES – 2023-2024

Join or Renew Now!

Dues:

\$98

**Includes \$72 for national AAUW
\$10 for AAUW Maryland, and
\$16 for Bethesda-Chevy Chase AAUW Branch**

\$69 is TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Note: AAUW national membership dues are \$72, of which \$69 is tax deductible as a charitable contribution. The remaining \$3 is not tax deductible because it supports the AAUW Action Fund's section 501(c)(4) Capitol Hill Lobby Corps and get-out-the-vote activities

Honorary Life members pay no dues.

Life members of AAUW pay \$26 in state and branch dues.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PREFERRED PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

DEGREE(S) & COLLEGE/UNIV _____

YEAR(S) OF GRADUATION _____

To renew by check: Make your check for \$98 payable to B-CC AAUW, complete the enclosed form above and mail it to our branch treasurer:

Karen Braun - 9707 Old Georgetown Road, Apt. 1302, Bethesda, MD 20814

For questions, you can reach Karen at: karen.braun@verizon.net



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

AAUW Vision Statement: AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. For more than 135 years, we have worked together as a national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of women and their families.

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks and inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization based on age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.