

Hagerstown Branch

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Sharon Chirgott

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Kelly Weaver

Newsletter Editor:

Sharon Chirgott



**American
Association of
University
Women**

Annual Holiday Tea
Sunday, December 10
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Sharon Chirgott's Residence



Members are asked to bring an appetizer or dessert to share.
No RSVP required.



AAUW MISSION STATEMENT

"Advancing equity for women and girls, through advocacy, education and research".

Visit our website: <http://hagerstown-md.aauw.net>
Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AauwHagerstownMd>

AAUW Newsletter

The President's Message

Today is December 1. It seems the news this past week has been full of the passing of significant political figures from my youth – Rosalyn Carter, Henry Kissinger and now Sandra Day O'Connor. Meanwhile, a CEO says companies that have pulled advertisements from his platform are “black-mailing” him and a congressman accused of misuse of finances claims those who will hold him accountable are “bullies.” Often these days, the news makes me snort and shake my head.

I was not much of a student of history when I was younger, being so caught up in the natural and physical world as I focused on my studies in science. I have been playing “catch-up” as my reading choices lately have been filling in those parts of history I missed – either because I wasn't paying attention or perhaps it wasn't taught. Certainly, some of what I am now learning does not paint a rosy glow of America's past.

But this is the season of hope and I have to believe that we can learn from our mistakes. I believe that a new generation of leaders are out there that can make a difference. A recent item in the Washington Post (*Opinion: Will gains from the spectacular “she-covery” last?* Published Nov. 28, 2023) noted that “American women have not merely recovered all the ground lost during those early Covid lockdown; they're more likely to work today than at any prior time in history.” The argument is then made that some of this is due to the gains women have made in getting degrees and that there are more working Moms.

So what can we do? In my opinion, we do what we have always done – support women seeking higher education and working women. Be sure to look over and rank the Legislative Bills that Maryland AAUW will respond to this next legislative session. The rankings are due next Friday, December 8. If you didn't receive the email from Roxann King, let me know and I will forward you a copy. Also, stay informed about the efforts of the ERA Coalition. They are planning to march in Washington on December 13, and all are invited to participate. Again, if you've misplaced the email, let me know and I will forward a copy. It's time this amendment was part of the Constitution.

Most importantly, we can insist that when people speak, they are honest and don't try to paint the situation as something it isn't by using exaggerations. Unless, of course, they are using exaggeration for comic effect.

I look forward to seeing you at lunch or the Holiday Reception this month. If I don't see you, then may your Holidays be filled with light, hope joy, peace, family, and friends.

Charlotte

Due to the uncertainties of the weather, there is no branch event scheduled for January.

Afternoon Literature Group

The group will not meet in December.

The January 18 meeting will be a book share.

The Afternoon Literature Group meets the third Monday of the month.



Evening Literature Group

The group is not meeting in December.

The January 24th meeting will be a Share a Book Night, 6:00 p.m. at The Grille at Runways.

The Evening Literature group meets on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

AAUW Newsletter

Second Friday Lunch

The next lunch will be on **Friday, Dec. 8, Fajita Grande**, 12818 Shank Farm Way, Hagerstown. Please let Sharon Chirgott know if you are interested in attending by the end of Dec. 6 so a reservation can be made.



Mark your calendars for future lunch dates:

January 12, Café Roma, 14224 Pennsylvania Avenue, Hagerstown

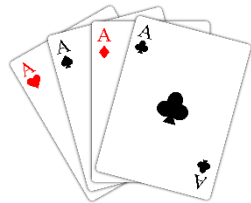
February 9, Rik's Café, 1065 Maryland Avenue, Hagerstown

March 8, Green Turtle, 12818-A Shank Farm Way, Hagerstown

April 12, Chinese, details TBA

May 10, Schmankerl Stube, 58 S. Potomac Street, Hagerstown

Ideas for future lunch sites always welcomed.



Bridge Group

The group has suspended meeting until further notice.

Looking Ahead

This spring brings the biennial branch election of officers. Yes, it's that time again.

Please consider taking a leadership role in our branch by stepping up as a nominee for the offices listed in the header of the newsletter. The upcoming branch election will be the big topic in February. Think about leadership as a New Year's resolution, one that is rewarding, collegial, and benefitting, in the long run, young women in Washington County.

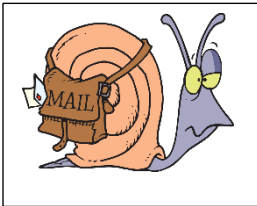


AAUW Newsletter

The AAUW holiday punch for your holiday festivities:

AAUW Punch

2 liters Wild Irish Rose wine
12 oz frozen lemonade concentrate, thawed
1 C white rum
2 liters ginger ale
Frozen ice ring



Member Helping Member

Postal service delivery is a reliable process but there remain instances of the newsletter not being delivered in a timely manner to those receiving print copies. If you receive the electronic delivery, please share the information with your friends who you know get the newsletter via the mail, so they don't miss events.

Proposed Calendar of Activities

| Date | Event | Location / Hostess | Time |
|---------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| Fri. Dec. 8 | 2 nd Friday Lunch | Fajita Grande | 12:30 p.m. |
| Sun. Dec. 10 | Holiday Tea | Sharon Chirgott | 2:00 p.m. |
| Sun. Dec. 25 | Merry Christmas | | |
| Sun. Jan. 1 | Happy New Year | | |
| Mon. Jan. 8 | Board Meeting | Zoom | 7:00 p.m. |
| Fri. Jan. 12 | 2 nd Friday Lunch | Café Roma | 12:30 p.m. |
| Mon. Jan. 16 | Martin Luther King Day | | |
| Mon. Jan. 18 | Afternoon Lit. | TBA | 1:30 p.m. |
| Tues. Jan. 24 | Evening Lit. | Runways | 6:00 p.m. |