

Mission Statement (in development): *The mission of the Hospitality Committee is to make AAMC members and guests feel comfortable in their clubhouse (Reinhardt Alumnae House) and at other AAMC events. To create a congenial setting, uphold traditions of hospitality, and to care for and oversee communal spaces.*

Hospitality Committee Report

March 2023

Members: Angela Adams DeMoss (MA, '99), Chair and Kristen Caven ('88), Co-chair, Victoria Luibrand, Kaerla Fellows, Kris Dollard, Carol Devol

Event on 3/11

Although the speaker, Suzette Davidson, canceled because of illness, the event was still lively and heartwarming, with 20 attendees (including alumnae, children of alumnae, and guests). Kristen Caven, wearing an outfit from the "Aurelia Years," talked about the Fires of Wisdom Oral History Project, although we were not able to read excerpts as planned. Kristen found them online thinking she could stream the audio but she could not. She went to the Olin library, which on the website said it was open, but it was closed. Someone had heard that many documents were missing from the Mills Archives, so it is of some urgency that we assure these files are still there. Some suggested the AAMC make the effort to get this project online, digitally. Others suggested we re-start this wonderful project and continue the work of keeping our history. The Committee recommends that the AAMC examine this issue further and take action accordingly.

We made a presentation of several pieces of silver that we found in a cabinet in the kitchen. There is a sterling silver Art Deco tea set that should be repaired if it is to be used again, and preserve its provenance. The Committee recommends the AAMC consider paying for these repairs. Co-Chair Kristen Caven has begun collecting donations toward this end and would like a companion in this project.

Another remarkable piece is a silver samovar inscribed to Cyrus and Susan Mills. After our icebreaker, a group of about 20 walked to Sunnyside with hot water and tea bags, where we sipped tea from the samovar and shared our gratitude with the founders, asking for the strength to hold our community together and connect with Mills' "ImmortaliTEA." New connections were made and morale rose significantly.

New attendees had ideas for merchandise (adding to the Apron idea) such as tea pots, teacups, tea towels, and so forth.

We would like to find out the status of the Mills china, on which meals were served in halls for decades.

Meetings:

Kristen, Vicki, Chloe Abeya, Suzette and Sally Moses attended a planning meeting the week before the event. Although Suzette, Chloe, and Sally did not ultimately attend, the process of working through the [planning spreadsheet](#) was fruitful. Kristen and Angela spoke after the meeting to discuss future meetings and work on reporting and organization.

Future Events:

Upcoming Communi-TEAS include:

April - feat. — Hella Tea

May - feat. Catherine Ladnier

June - we are hoping to feature Suzette Davidson (rescheduled from March)

After a year of hosting these events, Kristen and Angela are planning to create a guide for other branches to scale CommuniTEA for other branches. Neither of us plans to continue our leadership next year, though we would consider an event at reunion, and we are willing to train another team how to make these great events happen. There is still some gray area between what constitutes a Hospitality Committee and what could be a Social Committee, but we feel like we've made a great start.

Respectfully submitted by Angela Adams DeMoss

April 2, 2023