



AAUW Gaithersburg Branch

NEWSLETTER

September 2012



Celebrating 40 Years of Working Towards Equity for Women and Girls AAUW Gaithersburg Branch

September Events

**BRANCH MEETING
SEPTEMBER 18 - 7 P.M.
QUINCE ORCHARD LIBRARY**

The first Gaithersburg Branch program of the 2012-2013 fiscal year will feature a panel of our scholarship recipients. Three scholarship recipients, two from Montgomery College and one from the Universities at Shady Grove, received monetary awards that enabled them to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, NCCWSL. Four additional students were given academic scholarships that assisted them in pursuing their college studies. These scholarships were completely funded by our book sales. The students will speak to us about the personal impact of these awards. Please join us Tuesday, September 18, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Quince Orchard Library to share their stories.

**BOARD MEETING
September 10 - 7 P.M.**

The AAUW Gaithersburg Board of Directors will meet on Monday, September 10, at 7 p.m. Meetings take place in the Community Room of the Hefner Building at Asbury Village. All members are welcome to attend. You may look forward to having some new officers. One of the first items of business will be allotting further scholarship funds that we obtained through the work done by members on the sale of books.

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THE CO-PRESIDENT'S BLOG

- Mary Wykes

Anita Taylor reminded us in her e-mail dated July 19 of the significant dates we should be commemorating this summer--July 19 and 20 and August 5 and August 20--all very important dates for women's suffrage. Today as I write this, I am thinking of the struggles of our foremothers to achieve what we take for granted these days--the right to vote. As Anita said in her e-mail, the 19th amendment was ratified in August 1920 and states: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation." Anita went on to say, "We should never forget, however, that this 1920 amendment did not extend voting rights to all women with citizenship. That took the Voting Rights Act of 1965, passed August 6, along with years of enforcement efforts, not over in 2012!" Something we should all think seriously about in this important election year!

Today I had an opportunity to attend a wonderful event honoring our member Margaret Williams--the "Human Rights Celebration 2012 - Embracing our Oneness." Margaret was the recipient of the Human Rights Award, given annually to a member of Upper Montgomery County Church Women United who exemplifies by their life and example the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1948. (To read the full version of this Declaration, go to www.un.org and click on Human Rights. Eleanor Roosevelt was instrumental in getting this Declaration adopted when she represented the United States in the UN.) As some of you may know, Margaret has recently had knee surgery and is still having therapy. There were representatives from many organizations, as well as her family members, present and it was inspiring to learn of all she has accomplished, including teaching elementary school children for 50 years, and serving as president of the Upper Montgomery County Church Women United for 22 years, a position she still holds. She also is active in the Friends of the Mont-

gomery County Women's Shelter, along with Patsy Marks. I was happy to be among many of her friends and associates called to the podium to offer congratulations, which I did on behalf of our AAUW Branch. I spoke of the goals of our organization and our delight in having Margaret as a member. Afterwards, I was pleased to have one member of the audience come up to me and ask how she could donate books and to say I articulated the mission of AAUW better than she had ever heard it done and she would like to join!



Has the summer flown as quickly for the rest of you as it has for me? My co-president Terry Medlar and I enjoyed attending the State Planning Meeting in Hagerstown in July. A member of the National staff had us do an interesting exercise on leadership styles, placing ourselves in each of four categories as we perceived our own style, and afterwards discussing how members of different styles could work together.

Our desire is that, in the spirit of friendship and cooperation, we have a wonderful year ahead. Sue Woodruff is doing a wonderful job of getting our program arranged in time to have a brochure prepared by Edie Allison for our first Branch meeting in September. We are excited about the 40th anniversary celebratory luncheon to be held at King Farm Ingleside October 13, thanks to Marilyn Leist arranging for us to meet in their beautiful dining room. Be sure to put it on your calendar! There will be several special guests, great food, and a stimulating program.

I was sorry that Nancy Noben-Trauth resigned as our treasurer. We thank her for the outstanding job she did while she held the position and are glad that she will still continue her membership with us. Marilyn Leist accepted the position of treasurer to replace her, and we are delighted to



HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR DIRECTORY?



OFFICERS FOR 2012-13 INSTALLED

Joyce Graf, outgoing co-president of AAUW of Maryland and a member of the Kensington-Rockville branch, officiated at a lovely installation of officers ceremony during our May 21 Branch meeting. To each incoming officer, Joyce presented a rose and a pertinent gift, delineating their duties and receiving their pledge of acceptance.

Officers elected for this year are Co-presidents Mary Wykes and Terry Medlar, Vice President for Pro-

grams Sue Woodruff, Vice President for Membership Marilyn O'Connell, Recording Secretary Dorothy Camara, and Corresponding Secretary Louise Chatlynne. Marilyn Leist replaces Nancy Noben-Trauth as treasurer due to Nancy's resignation.



We will have a splendid year!

ANITA TAYLOR HONORED

Anita Taylor was selected as the 2012 Loren Reid Lecturer in Communication at the University of Missouri in May. To mark the award as Communication Alumnus of the year, Anita spoke at the bi-annual celebration in honor of Professor Reid, one of the department's co-founders. Anita marked Dr. Reid's memory as one who stressed the role of communication education in achieving social justice by building the lecture around the legacy and life goals of Barbara Jordan, first African American to lead the Texas Senate, and who went on to serve on the U. S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee and to electrify a watching nation as she spoke in support of her vote to impeach President Richard Nixon.

Anita was honored by the presence of the 106-year-old Dr. Reid. She stated: "Dr. Reid was born in 1905. And he claimed that he got most of what I said in my lecture. A really decent human being, a great professor, and, as I matured and advanced in our field, a supportive colleague."

Anita is a past treasurer of our Branch. She established and coordinates the Women's History Group, and she has recently been appointed the Branch's assistant treasurer of the book sale. We are proud of her being honored by the University of Missouri.



Dr. Anita Taylor and her former professor, Dr. Loren Reid.

NEWS FROM OUR MEETINGS

- **Dorothy Camara, Recording Secretary**

There is a change in the roster of officers elected at our April Branch meeting. Unfortunately, Nancy Noben-Trauth resigned from the treasurer's position. But we are fortunate to have Marilyn Leist agree to step in. She was elected unanimously by the membership at the June 16 Branch meeting. The term for the new slate of officers began on July 1, 2012.

A change was made by the Board in handling the annual book sale funds. Anita Taylor was appointed to the new position of assistant treasurer for the book sale. She will have responsibility for collecting and accounting for the annual book sale revenue and expenses.

Since the book sale was held later than usual, only a partial distribution of funds for scholarships has been made so far. At the June Branch meeting, the membership approved scholarship funds for Montgomery College in the form of two scholarships at \$1,500 each and one scholarship at \$2,000, making a total of \$5,000. Also approved was one \$2,500 scholarship at the Universities of Shady Grove.

Goals for Girls, our mentoring program for Gaithersburg middle-school girls coordinated by Liz Hessel, finished another successful year. There were 35 girls who finished the program this year.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Since our last newsletter, we are happy to welcome the following new members to our Branch:

Delores Hardy, . Delores has been a mentor with our Goals for Girls program.

Carol Johnson, counselor at Gaithersburg Middle School, and so well known to all of us

This year our Branch is celebrating the 40th year of its founding. Look for a special program that Sue Woodruff, our new vice president for programs, will be preparing.



We reached a high number of members this year. Mary Wykes, past vice president for membership, reported that we finished the 2011-12 year with 55 members and that we are expecting even more this year. Mary's efforts this past year and Lois Liggett's efforts when she was vice president for membership the previous year were commended by the Board for this success.

We had a lovely annual Branch picnic at Judy Wymer's home on June 16. Thanks again, Judy, for your gracious hospitality. During the business meeting portion of the affair, departing president Lois Liggett was given a silver pendant bearing the inscription, "Women are the architects of society. H. B. Stowe" to honor her contributions to the Branch over the past years and to speed her new adventures in Vermont.

as the strong supporter of our Goals for Girls program at Gaithersburg Middle School over the last ten years. Carol lives in Olney and has both an undergraduate and graduate degree from Howard University.



SOME NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

-Mary Wykes

During the summer, I learned of a few items of interest regarding some of our members. I am sure there are many more, but I want to share what I have heard:

Diane Carvey and Margaret Williams both had major knee surgeries and are recovering well after strenuous physical therapy effort.

I attended the beautiful memorial service for Jean Eden's mother-in-law, Eleanor Eden, at Asbury in July and had the pleasure of hearing her very talented granddaughter Lisa sing. Lisa is now living in Manhattan and sings in the St. Patrick's Cathedral Choir. She routinely does solos in the service at St. Patrick's. She will be singing in Italy with an opera company this fall and upon her return to Manhattan will be teaching vocal music. Remember the time she sang for our AAUW holiday party at Asbury?

We are sorry to hear of Liz Clark Hessel's fall in her home when the electricity was off following the derecho which hit our area in July. It has resulted in painful injury to her left wrist.

Jean Hirsch has had a wonderful summer getting acquainted with a new grandson in Seattle and having two granddaughters from Kansas visit her in August. She is getting ready to return to her teaching position at Luxmanor Elementary.



Jean Friedmann and her husband had an auto accident on Shady Grove Road when they were on the way to Dian and Brian Belanger's 50th wedding anniversary party. Luckily they were not hurt but their car didn't fare so well.

Cathy Manning drove to Joplin, Missouri, in July to visit relatives and see the progress after the terrible tornado which devastated much of the city just a year ago.

Congratulations to Haydee Rolin, who recently celebrated her birthday at her daughter's vacation home in New York. It was a very special family gathering, with her son coming from France to join her daughter and family for the occasion and then coming back to stay a few days with Haydee at her Kentlands home.

Women's Herstory Interest Group

- Anita Taylor, Coordinator

The September gathering of the HerStory Group (the Women's History Group) will be on Wednesday 19th at 2:30 at the home of Maria Roberts (directions follow).

The fall meetings of the group will be devoted to discussion of Gail Collins' *American Women: 400 Years of Dolls, Drudges, Helpmates and Heroines*. In September we will cover the colonial period of American history, which Collins discusses in Chapters 1 through 4, pages 1-84. Anita Taylor will lead the discussion, but she hopes that all participants will have at least scanned the pages in advance.

Montgomery County libraries have three copies of the book, although not housed at Lakeforest or Quince Orchard. So if you are interested in using a library copy you'll want to file in advance a request for it to be picked up at

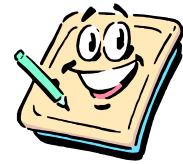
the location nearest you. You can do that electronically. Kindle editions are available for \$10.99 and used paperback copies are widely available, beginning at less than \$5.00.



Maria's home is one of the new Courtyard Homes at Asbury. It is at 437 Fellowship Circle and is the first in the row of houses facing the ponds and is easily accessible by turning left when you come to the stop sign at the corner directly in front of Rosborough's front door. Please use the parking lot located there just across the street from Rosborough. There are also parking spaces on the road directly in front of Maria's house. Maria will have some balloons on her porch to greet you.

Gourmet Group

- Jean Hirsch



The Gaithersburg AAUW gourmet dinner will be on Saturday, September 15, at 7 p.m. at Jean and Roland Hirsch's home at 20458 Waters Point Lane, Germantown. The theme for the gourmet dinner is a Spanish theme, "Spain-Oo-La-La," and will incorporate different dishes from Spain. All guests may bring

one tapas to serve 12. If you need ideas for a tapas to make, please call and ask Haydee Rolin at Call Jean and Roland Hirsch at and let them know you will be attending.



Literature Group

- Bea Carasso, Coordinator



Our first Literature Group meeting this fall will be on Saturday, September 29, at 10 a.m. It will take place at my home, 18 War Admiral Court,

Gaithersburg. Please call me, Bea Carasso, for directions.

At this meeting we will start to set up our reading schedule for the 2012-2013 year. Each member recommends two books of their choice and the group votes on which one of the two will be read during the year. The group usually meets once a month, on the last Saturday morning of the

month, at a member's home. The person recommending the chosen book leads the discussion and usually hosts the meeting. After the discussion, we have refreshments and lively conversation.

Books to be considered should preferably be available for purchase in both hard cover and paperback editions unless there are sufficient copies available in the public library system.

Book lovers are very welcome!

Co-president
Mary Wykes

Co-president
Terry Medlar

Vice President for
Programs
Sue Woodruff

Vice President for
Membership
Marilyn O'Connell

Treasurer
Marilyn Leist

Recording Secretary
Dorothy Camara

Corresponding Secretary
Louise Chatlyne

Newsletter Editor
Qing Jiang

GREAT DECISIONS

- Vivian Otto, Coordinator

The Great Decisions group will meet on September 25 at Patsy Mark's home, 727 Regent Court, at 7 p.m. The topic for discussion is "Exit from Afghanistan and Iraq." We will discuss what exit strategy will help Iraq and Afghanistan build stable democratic nations, how the U.S. can continue to achieve its counterterrorism

goals, and what the role of the U.S. should be in the future of the Middle East. Patsy will lead the discussion. We have lively discussions, and all AAUW members are welcome.



AAUW Gaithersburg Calendar of Events

Board Meeting	Monday, September 10 - 7 p.m.
Gourmet Group	Saturday, September 15 - 7 p.m.
Branch Meeting	Tuesday, September 18 - 7 p.m.
Women's Herstory	Wednesday, September 19 - 2:30 p.m.
Newsletter Deadline	Thursday, September 20 - 6 p.m.
Great Decisions	Tuesday, September 25 - 7 p.m.
Literature Group	Saturday, September 29 - 10 a.m.

The American Association of University Women
Gaithersburg Branch
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