

### October Events

#### BRANCH MEETING

Tuesday, October 18

Meet and Greet 7 P.M. - Program 7:30 P.M.

Gaithersburg Library - Meeting Room 2

Experience of Women in the Military: Their Status Today and Expectations for the Future

Speaker: Alma Robinson, Master Chief, U.S. Navy

Hospital Corpsman Master Chief Alma Robinson, currently assigned at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, will be the guest speaker at our October 18 meeting. She will address the current status of women in the military.

With her various diverse assignments in the Western Pacific, in the Middle East, on board ships and boots on the ground in Kuwait and Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Enduring Freedom, she will offer a captivating meeting.

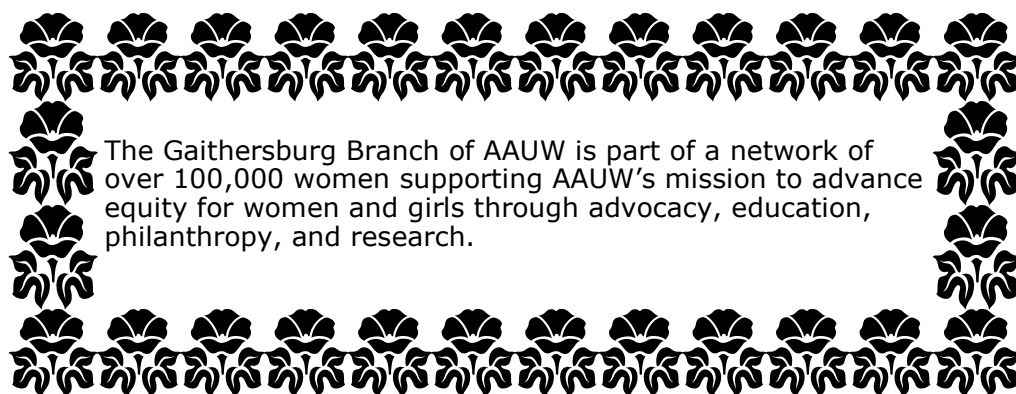
#### BOARD MEETING

October 11 - 7 P.M.

The AAUW Gaithersburg Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, October 11, at 7 p.m., in the Conference Room in the Hefner Building at Asbury Village. Branch members are invited to participate.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

- Heather Reichardt

Dear Members and Friends,

We are finally into the fall season, even with some very warm days lingering into late September. I definitely look forward to the cooler days, as I'm sure many of you do.

An added aspect to this fall is the presidential election. I hope that everyone is following not only the presidential campaigns but the state and local ones as well. If you can encourage a non-voter to get out there and vote, or help a new (young) voter get to the polls either for early voting or on Election Day, you will be demonstrating AAUW's commitment to all having their say in the process.

And, I want to commend the Branch Executive Board members and committee chairs for all the work they do behind the scenes to make

sure our branch meetings are publicized, run smoothly and are well attended. Our branch would not be successful without their efforts!

Of course, we are always looking for more folks to lend a hand. Please reach out to me or the officers if you are interested in getting more involved in branch processes such as membership, programs, the book sale or Lobby Corps.

Many thanks for your participation in our branch and I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.



*Jean Kosow and Judy Sholes participated in AAUW's Lobby Corps Open House at AAUW's new Washington headquarters on September 7.*

## PERIODIC BOOK SORTING DAYS - WHY DO WE HAVE THEM?

- Liz Hessel, Chair of Book Sales

At the end of August, Branch members and friends worked three days to sort over 190 boxes of books for our annual book sale next April. We appreciate the hard work donated by our many members and friends of the Branch. We completed the sorting in record time due to the efforts of many. These periodic sorting days are important to help our branch be prepared for next April. Our sale has a reputation for having good quality books and being well organized – both attributes that help draw book dealers and loyal customers to boost our sales. The books that are sorted are all books donated since our last sale in May – Wow! We had already collected over 25 boxes of Cook Books, so a handful of volunteers put extra effort into sorting them into subcategories (such as Desserts, French Cooking, International Recipes, etc.) which will make it easier for our customers to find books of interest. Cook Books remain popular with our customers and we sell most of those we have.

We also remove any books which are not in good condition (such as broken spines, mildew or water damage, missing pages) or which are outdated (such as old tax advice, outdated medical information, old computer books). As we sort all of the categories, we identify books which might have extra value and we follow it up with research to determine if they have higher value to allow us to price them above \$3 and sell them from the Special Books area to make more money. Our branch has a good start on 2017, with our storage lockers beginning to have many stacks of sorted boxes. We thank everyone who helped collect and sort and we expect to have another set of sorting days near the beginning of December.



*Volunteers enjoy sorting cook books during our August Sorting Days.*

*L – R Barbara Garrard, Jean Hirsch, Anita Taylor, Carol Plummer, Betty Valdes' sister, Betty Valdes.*



## SONYA KOVALEVSKY DAY

- Louise Chatlynn, SK Day Volunteer and Email Coordinator

Montgomery College is sponsoring Sonya Kovalevsky Day on November 19 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This program for middle school girls aims to encourage them to go into STEM fields of study. It is a fun day for both the girls and the volunteers. In the past the girls have had sessions on:

- Chemistry - Making silly putty (it's a polymer)
- Biology - Isolating their own DNA from saliva
- Engineering - Programming a robot
- Architecture - Designing a house using an architecture program

- Computers - Learning how to design safe passwords
  - Math - Finding Fibonacci designs in nature
- The program starts for the girls at 10 a.m. Volunteers need to arrive a little earlier. There is a deadline for volunteers to sign up because, for increased security for and protection of students, Montgomery College is required to do a background check on volunteers. But don't let this deter you--you will have a wonderful time.



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**MUST SIGN UP BY OCTOBER 10, 2016**

**Montgomery College's Sonya Kovalevsky Day**  
**Saturday November 19, 2016 10am—3pm**  
**Rockville Campus**

A free one day conference for middle school girls to encourage STEM related careers. The girls will participate in hands-on activities in Chemistry, Biology, and Robotics. For more information:  
<http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/skday>

All volunteers require a background check.  
Free t-shirt, breakfast, & lunch.

To volunteer, click the following link:  
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d4dadaa2ea7f49-volunteers1>  
or send email to Professor Steelman:  
[andrea.steelman@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:andrea.steelman@montgomerycollege.edu)



## GREAT DECISIONS

- **Mary Wykes, Coordinator**



The topic to be discussed at our Tuesday, October 25, 2:30 p.m., meeting is one of very current interest, "Climate Geopolitics: The Road to Paris and Beyond." The article on this topic is authored by William Sweet, adjunct professor of history and environmental policy in New York City. He is just completing a book about global climate diplomacy that will be appearing later this year. Judy Wymer will lead the dis-

cussion. Our study guide is the 2016 Edition of Great Decisions from the Foreign Policy Association.

We have had to make a change in the location of this meeting, but the location has not yet been determined. We will discuss it at the September meeting. All members are welcome at our meetings.



AAUW Gaithersburg  
Branch  
<http://gaithersburg-md.aauw.net>

## LITERATURE GROUP

- **Mary Wykes**



The next meeting of the Literature Group will be at Cathy Manning's home on Saturday, October 22, at 10 a.m. The book to be discussed is "Excellent Daughters" by Katherine Zoepf. This is an eye-opening true story about the lives of young Muslim

college women interviewed by the author in several countries, including Syria, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Iran. New members are always welcome at the meetings.

## WOMEN'S HER-STORY

- **Anita Taylor, Coordinator**

At the September meeting of the Women's Herstory Group, we decided for this fall to continue our work on the women who made the herstory of women. We picked up after Mary Lincoln and did a quick look at Elizabeth Johnson, Julia Grant, Lucy Hayes, Lucretia Garfield and Ellen and Mary Arthur.

For October 5, we will cover Frances Cleveland and Caroline Harrison. Should time permit, we will discuss Ida McKinley. The October 5 meeting will be at 2:30 to 4 at the Park View (Building 211) Club Room. Call Anita Taylor for information.

## JUST FOR FUN

(This is a true story.)

When it comes to sorting books, we have an alleged expert on the correct categories in which books belong. At the last book sorting, she was asked what category Adventure books should go in. She replied, learnedly,

"Well, now, that depends on what kind of adventure it is. For example, if it is about an explorer being boiled in a pot by cannibals in Fiji, why, that would go under Cook-books."

"Alleged" expert, indeed.

**President**

*Heather Reichardt*

**Co-Vice Presidents for Program**

*Carolyn Fisher*

*Marilyn O'Connell*

**Vice President for Membership**

*Barbara Garrard*

**Treasurer**

*Terry Medlar*

**Recording Secretary**

*Marybeth Morsink*

**Corresponding Secretary**

*Jane Carroll*

**Newsletter Editor**

*Qing Jiang*

## **AAUW Gaithersburg Calendar of Events**

Women's Herstory	Wednesday, October 5, 2:30 p.m.
Board Meeting	Tuesday, October 11, 7 p.m.
AAUW of Md. Fall Conference, Bethesda	Saturday, October 15
Branch Meeting	Tuesday, October 18, 7 p.m.
Literature Group	Saturday, October 22, 10 a.m.
Great Decisions	Tuesday, October 25, 2:30 p.m.

The American Association of University Women  
Gaithersburg Branch  
437 Fellowship Circle  
Gaithersburg, MD 20877