



November 2013

AAUW Gaithersburg Branch

NEWSLETTER

November 2013

November Events

BRANCH MEETING

November 19

7 P.M. Hospitality - 7:30 P.M. Program

Beverly Pheto: Beyond the Earnings Plateau: How Paycheck Fairness Can Help Women. The meeting will be held in the Community Room of the Rosborough Building at Asbury.

We have been able to reschedule Beverly Pheto's talk on the Paycheck Fairness Act for the November 19 Branch meeting. You will remember from last month's writeup that Pheto is the chief of staff of congresswoman Rose DeLauro of Connecticut and is highly knowledgeable about the act. Please refer to that writeup for other details on her talk.

BOARD MEETING

November 12 - 7 P.M.

The AAUW Gaithersburg Board of Directors will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, November 12, in the Hefner Conference Room at Asbury Village. The meeting is open to all members.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

- Mary Wykes

What a beautiful whirlwind month October has been, with AAUW activities and family events and little time to think about cleaning house, which I must do within the next two days when I will be hostess for our Great Decisions discussion group at which time we will consider the well-written article on a timely subject, "China in Africa" by David Shinn.

The first of the delightful events of the month was the Manhattan Short Film Festival at the Kentlands theater. Thanks to our cultural arts chairperson, Haydee Rollin, for keeping us informed about these great events in the Kentlands. After seeing ten award-winning short films from around the world, we were asked to vote for the one we liked best and for the actor or actress we thought gave the winning performance. It was a difficult decision. Our group seemed to agree that the choice was between the one from Finland and the one from Russia. It will be interesting to see how the world votes. The Kentlands theater had the only showing of these films in Maryland. We are so fortunate to have this interesting festival shown right in our community.

At our October Board meeting the annual audit report of the treasurer's books was presented. Thanks to Anna Fraker, Diane Carvey, and Vivian Otto for the fine report, which showed everything in good order, thanks to the diligent efforts of our treasurer Terry Medlar. (Terry reported that she has now mastered the program Quicken and is using it in keeping records of our income and expenses.)

Sunday, October 13, was the 57th anniversary of my wedding and I celebrated it by visiting my husband's grave at the historic Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Frederick, along with my son Paul. We planted pansies and filled the vases with new flowers and remembered our happy life together. Then we proceeded to Damascus for a wonderful family dinner at my daughter Pam's. Just a year ago we were observing our Gaithersburg Branch's 40th anniversary along with my wedding anniversary! How fast the year has flown!

Our October Branch meeting was a huge success, beginning with Jean Hirsch's delicious refreshments and the interesting program presented by Fariba Parsa, University of Maryland Visiting Scholar, on the topic "Iran Women's Movement." Because of the government shutdown, our speaker for October asked to be rescheduled and thankfully Fariba was able to move her talk from November to October at the last minute. We look forward to Fariba becoming a member of our Branch.

On Saturday, October 19, Terry Medlar and I attended the State Fall Board Meeting in Severna Park. During this meeting, ably conducted by President Pat Stocker, who had just recently been hospitalized

and was still in a recovery mode, there was a discussion of current issues on which we are involved at the state level and an update on the status of our organization to ensure that we share a vision of AAUW's role in Maryland for the coming year. Among areas of continuing concern are those of human trafficking, sexual assault in the military, paycheck fairness, and encouraging more women to enter STEM fields. Our Gaithersburg Branch will be hosting the Summer Leadership Training and Board Meeting in July 2014. This will again give us a wonderful opportunity to know some of our counterparts from other branches throughout the state, as well as some of our national staff.



On Saturday evening, October 19, I attended our Gourmet Group dinner at Madeleine and Francois Martzloff's.

Even though we had a small group, the food, as always, was delicious, and the fellowship and conversation lively. I have been reflecting on the wonderful diversity of our small group--members originally from Russia, Panama, Germany, Holland, and France!

And so we are up to Sunday, October 20, with the looming 6 p.m. deadline for the newsletter submission.

What's ahead for me in October? Great Decisions at my home on the 22nd, Womens Herstory (at Anita Taylor's) where I will present on Margaret Sanger and other early women in the family planning movement, and the Literature Group meeting at my home on the 26th when we will discuss the Pulitzer prize-winning book, Caleb's Crossing, by Geraldine Brooks. Now I've finished just in time to watch the Washington Redskins (will they change the name of the team?) play the Chicago Bears. (My first job out of college at IBM was in Chicago in an office building which also housed the office of the Chicago Bears--long before I knew anything about professional football.)

A final thought. Have you been watching the interesting "First Ladies--Influence & Image" series every Monday night at 9 p.m. on C-SPAN? I have enjoyed it thoroughly. The next one is on October 21 on Eleanor Roosevelt. They started with Edith Roosevelt on September 9 and will end with Michelle Obama on February 10. It is a well-researched and documented series. Check cspan.org.firstladies if you missed it.

Best wishes for your good health and happiness in the month ahead.

SOME NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

- *Mary Wykes*

Marion Plumb spent two months at her summer home in Mexico, New York, and is now living with her son Dexter and his wife Wanda in Jefferson. Marion looks forward to hearing from her friends in the Branch and would appreciate phone calls or visits whenever anyone is in her area.

Our newsletter editor Qing Jiang will be visiting her family in China for three weeks soon after publishing our November newsletter. She promises to come to our December meeting so we can express our appreciation to her in person for the wonderful job she continues to do as our newsletter editor.

Our co-program vice presidents, Anita Taylor and Patsy Marks, both returned from their travels in time to attend our wonderful October program. Anita had attended her high school class reunion in Kansas and Patsy had been at a wedding in North Carolina. Marilyn O'Connell, our membership vice president, barely had time to unpack from her cruise to Turkey, the Greek islands, and Israel before she was off for a week's visit with her daughter Jacqueline and family in Ohio. She reports having had a wonderful time on both trips.

We welcomed new member Frieda Reitman and her husband Julian at our October Branch meeting. They attended with their neighbors Maria and Larry Roberts. I was sorry to learn a few days later that Larry was hospitalized. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Congratulations to our member Heather Reichardt who has recently been named to the Montgomery County Commission for Women. She tells me that the commission is already working on plans for the Women's Legislative Briefing to be held in January at the campus of the Universities of Shady Grove. Many of us have attended the last couple of years. It is a wonderful way to meet and hear from our legislators, as well as being an opportunity to recruit new members for our Branch since this is a "Shape the Future" event where we have a table telling the attendees about our organization and its mission.

Dorothy Camara, Jean Hirsch and I attended

the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Branch meeting Saturday, October 12 at the Fox Hill retirement community where we enjoyed hearing Maurine Beasley, Ph.D., speak on "Women's Portrayal and Participation in Journalism." Beasley has recently written an award-winning book entitled *Eleanor Roosevelt, Transformative First Lady*. As a journalist and as a journalism historian and university professor, she has known many famous women journalists, including Helen Thomas.



Thanks to Louise Chatlyne's participation in the Inter-Branch committee of Montgomery County, we are receiving the newsletters from our sister branches in the county and receiving invitations to attend their meetings. I hope more of our members will attend the interesting programs being held by nearby branches and that some of the other branch members will be attracted to some of our meetings.

Haydee Rollin has her beautiful condo in the Kentlands on the market and plans to move to a retirement community near her daughter in New York State as soon as she sells her home. As our cultural arts chairperson for many years, Haydee has been a vital part of our Branch and will be greatly missed when she moves. Let's all enjoy seeing her as much as possible while she is still living here.

Jean Friedmann has recently undergone major surgery and is recuperating at her home in Frederick. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Women's Legislative Briefing

THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
and our many co-sponsoring organizations invite you to the



Women's Legislative Briefing 2014

Sunday, January 26, 2014

TIME: 12:00 - 6:00 pm

LOCATION: The Universities at Shady Grove, Bldg II,
9630 Gudelsky Drive, Rockville, Maryland



OPENING CEREMONY WITH KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY
JOANNE BAMBERGER

Author of the Amazon bestselling book
*Mothers of Intention: How Women &
Social Media are Revolutionizing Politics in America*

Registration begins at noon with light refreshments. The conference will **open with the keynote address**. **Compelling seminars** on legislation in the Maryland General Assembly will fill out the afternoon. A **reception** will conclude the event providing an opportunity to meet with county and state elected officials, advocates and representatives of the most prominent county, state and national women's organizations.

Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible, but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If these or other services or aids are needed to participate in this activity, please call 240-777-8207 or email a request to richard.bingham@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Register Online Now!
or [Download a Mail-In Registration Form](#)

General Admission
\$15 in advance, \$20 at the door
co-sponsorship and exhibit table
opportunities

For more information, please contact the
Montgomery County Commission for Women
at 240-777-8333.

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw

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MEMBERSHIP

- Marilyn O'Connell, Vice President for Membership

I hope all our members will be at our next meeting to welcome our two new members, Catherine Brown and Frieda Reitman.

Cathy earned degrees from Wellesley, Bank Street College and Catholic University in psychology, early childhood education and social work.

Frieda graduated from Hunter College and earned her Ph.D. in economics from the New School for Social Research, New York. She was associate dean of the Business School, Pace

University, New York, and taught business management and economics.

There are still some members who have forgotten to send me their yearly dues. I will be sending reminder e-mails this week. Thanks to all of you who have sent me your checks.



AAUW Lobby Corps Open House November 7, 2013

- Jean Kosow, Public Policy Chair

The AAUW Lobby Corps will hold an open house on November 7 at the AAUW headquarters, 1111 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Anyone interested in knowing more about the activities of the Lobby Corps is welcome to attend. If you are interested in attending

please contact one of the following members for more information.

Jean Kosow
Maria Roberts



GREAT DECISIONS

- **Vivian Otto, Coordinator**

The Great Decisions group will meet November 26 at 7 p.m. at Terry Medlar's home. Judy Wymer will lead the discussion on

"Assessing Threats to the U.S." Come and join in the discussion. All are welcome.



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

LITERATURE GROUP

- **Bea Carasso, Coordinator**



The next meeting of the Literature Group will take place on Saturday, November 23, at 10:00 a.m. at the home of San-

dra Finerty

WOMEN'S HERSTORY

- **Anita Taylor, Coordinator**

The Women's Herstory Group will meet on November 20 at 2:30 p.m. at Anita Taylor's apartment. We will continue our exploration of women from the past whose stories were neglected and need to be told. Bar-

bara Stellar and Peggy Unsworth will introduce us to this month's selection of notable women



President
 Mary Wykes

Co-Vice Presidents for Programs
 Patsy Marks
 Anita Taylor

Vice President for Membership
 Marilyn O'Connell

Treasurer
 Terry Medlar

Recording Secretary
 Dorothy Camara

Corresponding Secretary
 Jane Carroll

Newsletter Editor
 Qing Jiang

GOURMET GROUP

- **Mary Wykes**

The November dinner of the Gourmet Group will be at the home of Mary Wykes, at 7 p.m., Saturday, November 16. The theme will be "Practice for Thanksgiving," with everyone bringing a favorite recipe that they make at Thanksgiving and telling a bit about their family Thanksgiving traditions. We welcome new members (along with spouses and/or significant others) who enjoy cooking, eating, and friendly conversation

around the table. Call Mary if you would like to come. The group will not meet in December.



AAUW Gaithersburg Calendar of Events

Lobby Corps Open House	Thursday, November 7
Board Meeting	Tuesday, November 12, 7 p.m.
Gourmet Group	Saturday, November 16, 7 p.m.
Branch Meeting	Tuesday, November 19, 7 p.m.
Women's Herstory	Wednesday, November 20, 2:30 p.m.
Literature Group	Saturday, November 23, 10 a.m.
Great Decisions	Tuesday, November 26, 7 p.m.
Save the Date:	
Women's Legislative Briefing	Sunday, January 26

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