



AAUW Gaithersburg Branch

NEWSLETTER

April 2017

April Events

" AAUW National Fellowship Winners: Past and Present"

Join the Conversation with AAUW Fellows
Gaithersburg Branch of AAUW

April 18, 2017, 7:30 pm

Bioscience Education Center, Conference Room 158

Montgomery College, Germantown Campus

<https://goo.gl/maps/dsgikva1uZt>

Our April meeting will highlight AAUW National Fellowship Program and AAUW Fellowship winners studying and working in the Washington, D.C., Metropolitan area. Since 1888, AAUW has funded women's graduate education, thus investing in women who go on to prompt change with significant benefits to society. By 2013, AAUW had awarded nearly \$100 million in fellowships and grants—providing awards to more than 12,000 women from over 130 countries.

This year, the Gaithersburg Branch of AAUW will view the AAUW National Fellowship Program 125th Anniversary video that details the history of the program, and host a panel of AAUW Fellows to discuss the role that the fellowships have had in shaping their lives and careers. Ms. Celeste Carano, M.A., 2016-2017 AAUW Career Development Fellowship winner and graduate student at Georgetown University's Global Human Development program will share her experiences of working on education initiatives worldwide; and Dr. Mary Beth Saffro, 1981-1982 Sarah Berliner Fellowship winner, will speak on the topic "Living Together in a Fractious World: What Nature Can Teach Us." It is promised to be an enlightening, engaging, and energizing evening. In addition, compliments of Montgomery College, Mr. Noah Saposnik will take us on a 30-minute guided tour the Biosciences Education Center beginning at 6:30 p.m. Free parking will be available on the Montgomery College Campus and further information will be forthcoming. Please RSVP to Carol J. Fisher, Co-VP Programs, at caroljf@att.net.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Community Room, Hefner Building

Tuesday, April 11 - 7 P.M.

The AAUW Gaithersburg Board of Directors will meet on April 11 at 7 p.m. in the Community Room of the Hefner Center at Asbury Village. Meetings are open to all Branch members.

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**AAUW GAITHERSBURG'S COLOSSAL BOOK SALE
APRIL 27-29. SIGN UP TO HELP!**



SOME CURIOUS NEWS ABOUT OUR FIRST LADIES

- Dorothy Camara

The HerStory Interest Group, under the leadership of Anita Taylor, has spent the past year studying the history of our first ladies. We have found that many made substantial contributions. But, along the way, we have discovered some picayune items for the nonserious.

Which first lady had the greatest age difference from the president? Julia Gardiner Tyler was 30 years younger than John Tyler.

Who was the first woman in the country to earn a geology degree, was fluent in 5 languages, was a Chinese linguist, and facilitated the first sale of Girl Scout cookies? Lou Hoover.

Who said, "If you want a friend in Washington, get a dog"? Bess Truman.

Who played a part in negotiating peace in a war? Edith Roosevelt. She served as an intermediary between a British government representative and Theodore Roosevelt in negotiating peace in the Russo-Japanese war, leading to Theodore's getting the Nobel Peace Prize.

Who was the youngest first lady? Frances Cleveland. She was 21. She changed her marriage vows to "honor, love, and keep."

Caroline Harrison, wife of Benjamin, was too frightened to handle the switches for the newly invented electric lights so she left the lights on all night and a building engineer turned them off each morning.

Ida McKinley was handicapped by epilepsy. President McKinley would cover her contorted face when she had a seizure in public, and activities proceeded without interruption.

Which first lady was the first to drive a car, smoke cigarettes, and wear the new short skirt? Helen Taft. About the short skirt, she said, "It is so delightful that I shall live in it. It makes me feel very young and frisky to be unencumbered."

Who was the only foreign-born first lady until Melania Trump? Louisa Adams. She married John Quincy when he was in diplomatic service in England.

Elizabeth Monroe saved the life of Madame Lafayette when James Monroe was emissary to France. She went to the prison and made a demonstration of concern for Madame Lafayette, who faced death from the guillotine. Madame Lafayette soon after was released.

Who claimed to be a descendant of Pocahontas? Edith Wilson.

Who was cross-eyed? Julia Grant. But General Grant liked the way she looked and dismissed surgery.

Who supported herself as a movie star extra before getting married? Pat Nixon.

Betty Ford was trained as a dancer and worked as a model and a fashion coordinator.

Eleanor Roosevelt had an illegitimate half-brother. Her father, Elliott, impregnated the family maid.

Mamie Eisenhower lived in 27 different homes in 38 years.

Who won a major horsemanship competition? Jackie Kennedy, at Madison Square Garden.

Who won equal pay for women in industries under the National Recovery Administration? Eleanor Roosevelt.

Who was the first wife and mother of presidents? No, not Barbara Bush. It was Abigail Adams, then, later, Anna Harrison.

The only one born in Maryland? Margaret Smith Taylor, wife of Zachary. She was born in Calvert County.

You know this one: Who solicited cherry blossom trees from Tokyo's mayor for planting in Washington? Helen Taft. She received 3,000 trees.

Who held a nonpaying job for the U.S. government? All the first ladies--as first lady!

Who was the butt of a good joke by her husband? Grace Coolidge. She and Calvin Coolidge were visiting an experimental chicken farm when she noticed a rooster mating with more than one hen. She asked the farmer about it, and he assured her that roosters were indeed capable of mating several times a day. Mrs. Coolidge said, "Please tell that to the President!" Upon being told of the rooster's virtuosity, Calvin asked the farmer if this was with one hen or with a different hen each time. The farmer replied that it was with a different hen each time. Cal then said, "Please tell THAT to Mrs. Coolidge!"

And much more at the Her-Story Group!



OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 2017-18

A new Board of Directors of AAUW Gaithersburg for 2017-18 was elected at the March 21 Branch meeting.

Heather Reichardt returns to serve a third term as president. Elected as co-vice presidents for program are Marilyn O'Connell and Judy Sholes. Judy is new to the Board, and Marilyn comes from having served as vice-president for membership. Elected as vice president for membership is Carol Plummer, another new Board member. Edie Allison, a president some years ago, returns to the Board as treasurer. Barbara Garrard moves from the vice president for membership position to secretary.

The Installation Ceremony for the officers will be at the annual business meeting on May 16, with their term of office beginning on July 1.



These elected directors join the on-going appointed directors Anna Fraker, Liz Hessel, and Maria Roberts. With new directors among seasoned directors we will have a dynamic Board.

NOTICE OF VOTE ON PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS

The Board of Directors submits the following by-law amendments for approval by the membership. Vote will be taken at the annual business meeting on May 16, 2017.

These changes seek to eliminate the office of the Corresponding Secretary by incorporating those duties within the office of the Recording Secretary, and re-naming the office as Secretary. Particularly with the ease of emailing, officers have been doing their own correspondence, making the duties of the corresponding secretary too minimal to be efficient staffing.

Present reading of the bylaws: Article X. Section 2. The elected officers, in order to fulfill the functions of the Branch, shall be a president, or official representative, or co-presidents, vice president for program, vice president for membership, treasurer, recording secretary, and corresponding secretary....

Proposed change: The elected officers, in order to fulfill the functions of the Branch shall be a president, or official representative, or co-presidents, vice president for program, vice president for membership, treasurer, and secretary.

Explanation: Removes "corresponding secretary" and changes "recording secretary" to "secretary."

Present reading: Article XI. Section 5. Duty of Secretaries. The recording secretary shall record and keep minutes of all business meetings, including both board and Branch meetings as the president directs. The corresponding secretary shall carry out correspondence as directed by the president and the board of directors.

Proposed change: Duty of Secretary. The secretary shall record and keep minutes of all business meetings, including both board and branch meetings, as the president directs and shall carry out correspondence as directed by the president and the board of directors.

Explanation: Changes "recording secretary" to "secretary." Adds carrying out correspondence to the secretary's duties.

Present reading: Article XIV. The recording secretary or designated member acts as the recording secretary...

Proposed change: The secretary or designated member acts as the secretary...

Explanation: Changes "recording secretary" to "secretary."

THE BOOK SALE IS COMING - APRIL 27-29!

- Liz Hessel, Chair of Book Sales

The book sale is rapidly approaching. Marketing is underway. Volunteers are lining up for book sorting and organizing that will span from Thursday, April 20, to Monday, May 1. We hope each member will work at least 12 hours for the many types of jobs--sorting, moving, displaying books, guiding students, cashiering, record keeping, putting up and taking down signs, guiding and talking to customers, cleaning up. You will be contacted to get your name on the schedule, but feel free to drop in any time.

Sorting of books begins at Asbury in Arcadia Place on Thursday, April 20. This is the day you should bring in books you want to donate. The next day over 900 boxes of books will be moved from storage into the Rosborough Community Rooms! In the afternoon, students will help with the final sorting.

Someone asked me why we need to sort books after they have undergone a sorting prior to moving into Rosborough. The previous sorting was into broad categories, such as History, Fiction, or Science. We have learned that we sell many more books when categories are sorted into subcategories, so at Rosborough we sort, for

instance, History into periods of history, Science into Biology, Chemistry, Medical, and then Fiction separated by author.



Students from 6th grade through high school help with subcategory sorting. But we need Branch members to guide them. Please volunteer a few hours over the weekend to help with the students. We need about six adults to help oversee them. The final touch of sorting and displaying is done mostly by members on Monday and Tuesday when the students are back in school. We also need members to keep records for the school system of the number of hours the student's work - a good sit-down job for those who need that.

The book sale is an opportunity for good fellowship. Then the hard work pays off when we meet the inspiring scholarship students in September and hear how the scholarships are helping them reach their dreams. Please join us and be generous in giving your time in helping with the book sale.



Branch member Carol Plummer working with students setting up the Self-Help section at the 2016 book sale.

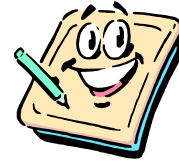
GREAT DECISIONS

- **Mary Wykes, Coordinator**



The Great Decisions Group will meet on Wednesday, April 19, at 2:30 p.m. at Vivian Otto's home in the Diamond Building at Asbury, Dorothy Camara will be our discussion leader on the topic "Conflict in the South China Sea." The study guide article was written

by Bernard D. Cole, professor of maritime strategy at the National Wartime College, 1995-2015. New members are always welcome.



AAUW Gaithersburg
Branch
[http://gaithersburg-
md.aauw.net](http://gaithersburg-md.aauw.net)

LITERATURE GROUP

- **Judy Sholes**



The Literature Group will meet at the home of Judy Sholes, on Saturday, April 22, at 10 a.m. Judy will lead the discussion on Jamie Ford's debut novel, "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet." Ford tells the story of a 12-year-old Chinese-American boy who falls in love with a young Japanese-American girl, and of the subsequent internment of Japanese citizens during the 1940s. One reviewer wrote

that the book "opens a window to the lives and souls of people who were part of the internment experience, and wakes our consciousness, reminding us that we must never let this happen again."

Members are always welcome to attend any of our meetings.

HER-STORY INTEREST GROUP

The HerStory Interest Group coordinator, Anita Taylor, is away at this writing, but we know we are meeting on Wednesday, April 5, at 2:30 p.m., in the Park View Club Room at Asbury. On the schedule are Jean Hirsch, talking about Bess Truman, and Anita herself talking about Mamie Eisenhower.

Expect the meeting after this one to be on Wednesday, May 3, same time, same place.



President
Heather Reichardt

Co-Vice Presidents for Program
Carolyn Fisher
caroljf@att.net
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

HerStory Interest Group	Wednesday, April 5 - 2:30 p.m.
AAUW of Md. 75th Anniversary and Convention, Easton	April 7-8
Board Meeting	Tuesday, April 11 - 7 p.m.
EQUAL PAY DAY!	Tuesday, April 4
Branch Meeting, Montgomery College Germantown	Tuesday, April 18 - 7:30 p.m.
Great Decisions	Wednesday, April 19 - 2:30 p.m.
Literature Group	Saturday, April 22 - 10 a.m.
Book Sale Asbury Day	Wednesday, April 26
BOOK SALE!	Thursday, April 27-Saturday, April 29
HerStory Interest Group	Wednesday, May 3 - 2:30 p.m.

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