



# AAUW

## Gaithersburg Branch

NEWSLETTER

May 2014

### May Events

#### BRANCH MEETING

May 20 - Gaithersburg Library  
7 p.m. Hospitality—7:30 p.m. Program

For the May Branch meeting, AAUW Gaithersburg member Mina Parsont will bring us a film, *Tombees du Ciel*, that she and her sister created. The film tells the remarkable story of their family's survival from the French Holocaust, thanks to their bravery and inventiveness and the courage and amazing risk-taking of many friends and other resisters to the Nazi invasion and rule. Reunited after the liberation of France, the family came to the United States in 1949.

Fourteen when she arrived here, Mina later graduated from the University of California Berkeley and went on to lifetime work in education. She will introduce the film and make additional background comments during the showing. We look forward to hearing her tales of survival and film-making.

We gather at 7 p.m. for a social time; the program begins at 7:30. The meeting is in Room 1, upstairs in the Gaithersburg Library. Both elevator and stairs to the 2nd floor face you directly as you enter the lobby front door.

#### BOARD MEETING

May 13 at 7 p.m.

The AAUW Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, May 13, at 7 p.m., in the Conference Room of the Hefner Building at Asbury Village. Meetings are open to all Branch members.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

- Mary Wykes

As I jot down a few thoughts for the coming newsletter, I hope you are enjoying this beautiful spring and, if you observe either Passover or Easter, that you are surrounded by the love of family and friends.

This coming Saturday I look forward to hearing our AAUW associate director of governmental relations, Erin Prangle, at our annual Maryland state convention in Frederick. She will speak on "Making a Difference." This makes me think that I would like volunteers from our Branch to write a short paragraph to be published in our next newsletter on how AAUW has made a difference in their lives.

Occasionally I hear some of our members sound like they think AAUW's work is done now that we have more women graduating from college than men, but it seems to me as I read the AAUW Mission & Action and the AAUW Washington Updates that come regularly from Lisa Maatz, our V.P. of government relations, that there are still lots of battles to be fought by AAUW. What are some of your thoughts on this? For example, on April 6, the Washington Update was ecstatic about President Obama signing, on Tuesday, April 8 (Equal Pay Day), two Executive Orders that will bring us one step closer to equal pay. These will apply to federal contractors, the first saying they cannot retaliate against workers who share salary information and the second order authorizing the Department of Labor to collect wage data to identify patterns of discrimination. In the absence of Congressional action, the Executive Orders are a huge victory in the fight for fair pay, according to

Lisa Maatz. Lilly Ledbetter introduced the President before he signed these two orders and our AAUW representative was standing proudly by her side.



I am sorry to say that the Senate on April 9 failed to agree to debate the Paycheck Fairness Act, falling six votes short. We are urged to thank our senators if they supported this act; but if they voted the wrong way, tell them they can't ignore women and working families any longer and that the issue is not going away nor is AAUW going away in supporting it.

We are urged to read Lisa Maatz's article in the recent issue of Forbes titled "The Awful Truth Behind the Gender Pay Gap." She says even when comparing "apples to apples" and controlling for all factors known to affect earnings, AAUW researchers still found a 7% unexplainable pay gap between men and women just one year out of college--and 7% is no small change." We need to help our daughters and granddaughters learn how to negotiate better salaries, and some of the research AAUW has done can be helpful.

## 2014-15 OFFICERS ELECTED

The AAUW Gaithersburg Branch elected its officers for the 2014-15 year at the April 15 Branch meeting. All are incumbents and were re-elected to serve another year beginning July 1, 2014. They are President Mary Wykes, Co-vice President for Program Anita Taylor, Co-vice President for Program Patsy Marks, Vice

President for Membership Marilyn O'Connell, Treasurer Terry Medlar, Corresponding Secretary Jane Carroll, and Recording Secretary Dorothy Camara.

## SOME NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

### - *Mary Wykes*

Jean Friedmann will be undergoing hip surgery in the near future at Frederick Memorial Hospital. She welcomes any encouraging words from those of us who have undergone this surgery. It is my hope that she has the success I had with both my replacements.

Members Diane Carvey, Jean Young, Jane Carroll and Vivian Otto recently spent a delightful week on the American cruise ship Independence, cruising from Charleston, West Virginia, to Jacksonville, Florida, and visiting many interesting places along the way, such as Savannah, Amelia Island, Hilton Head, Buford, and Jekyll Island. As always, Vivian did a wonderful job leading the group from Asbury, making sure everyone was at the right place at the right time.

Anna Fraker enjoyed a recent weekend with her husband and a friend at their beach home in Bethany Beach.

Jean Hirsch recently visited her son and family in Kansas City after attending her Cottee College 50th reunion in Nevada, Missouri.

Mina Parsant has been substitute teaching this spring. She and Haydee Rolin became very good friends after meeting through AAUW this past year and finding they lived in nearby

buildings at the Kentlands. Mina, along with all of us in the Branch, will miss Haydee and wish her well in her new home near her daughter in New Jersey. Our farewell luncheon for her at the Golden Bull was well attended. (See Anna Fraker's article for more information about Haydee's contribution to our Branch over her long membership.)

Judy Wymer, Cathy Manning, Diane Carvey, and Mary Wykes recently had lunch with Marion Plumb, who now lives with her son Dexter in Jefferson, Maryland. Marion misses her friends in AAUW Gaithersburg and is always happy to join any of us who come to Frederick for luncheon with her. We were glad to meet her daughter Priscilla and granddaughter Chloe who were visiting from New York, as well as Dexter, when they picked her up at Dutch's Daughter after our luncheon.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### - *Marilyn O'Connell, Vice President for Membership*

Our newest member is Patsy Herson. Patsy lived in Montgomery Village for over 40 years and was responsible for starting women's sports there. She became dedicated to girls' sports when her daughters attempted to sign up for basketball and men laughed at them and told them the game was only for boys.

Patsy first became girls' basketball commissioner. Then became commissioner of softball in order to help organize girls' softball. As a result of her involvement with village sports, she was invited to join the Montgomery Village Foundation. After working there for ten years, she was appointed executive vice president until her retirement in 1991. She returned to

that position twice when help was needed.

Pat attended Roanoke College and Laval University in Quebec, Canada, earning a B.A. in French and English.

## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT HONORED

- **Liz Hessel**

At the Universities at Shady Grove (USG) Student Achievement and Leadership Breakfast on April 11, Annais Zarate, our scholarship recipient at USG, was honored as the outstanding senior in biological sciences who demonstrated academic excellence and achievement. She was selected based on her grade-point average, participation in internships and honor societies and contributions to her program of study.

Annais will graduate this month from the University of Maryland, College Park's (UMCP) biological sciences program with a 4.0 GPA. The first in her family to attend college, Annais gained acceptance into the Gateway to College Program, which helped her successfully complete an associate of science degree at Montgomery College with honors. As part of her work in the UMCP biological sciences program at USG, Annais participated in lab research at the Institute for Bioscience and Biotechnology Research and was awarded the Best Poster of the Biological Sciences Program at the 5th Annual Biological Sciences Day. In addition to these achievements, she

garnered many scholarships and awards and contributed to student life as founding member of the American Red Cross Club, and in the USG Student Chapter of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and as a member of Terps without Borders. Annais has accepted a position at the Center for Biomolecular Therapeutics in the In Vivo Biology and Drug Testing Section for Alzheimer's Disease and Melanoma, but plans to pursue her doctorate degree in virology and looks forward to a career in biomedical research.



Congratulations to Annais and her family!!

*The Zarate family at the USG Student Achievement and Leadership Breakfast.  
L - r: Antonio, Mayra, Annais, Liz Hessel and Hector Zarate.*





## Book Sale May 1 - 3

- *Liz Hessel, Chair for the Book Sale*

Join us at the book sale and invite your friends to find some great bargains. We have about 30,000 books on all subjects - a great collection of history, science fiction, mystery, children's books, and books in 20 languages. Last year's book sale drew 850 customers, which we hope to top this year. This sale is the

source of the scholarship funds given by our Branch.



## ATRIBUTE

Haydee Rolin has moved.

Haydee Rolin has moved to West Orange, New Jersey. The Gaithersburg Branch will miss her. We will miss her support and accomplishments and her faithful attendance at meetings, but most of all we will miss Haydee as a person.

Haydee has been a member of the Gaithersburg Branch for 19 years and a member of AAUW for 48. During her time in Gaithersburg, she served as the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) local chairperson and cultural arts chairperson, and she participated in numerous other activities.

The activity that gave her great satisfaction was the program, "A Walk in Two Worlds." Haydee, along with Lana Cobb, set up this program for Hispanic mothers and daughters in the late 1990s. The purpose was to help young 15 to 18 year-old women from Latin America and to promote their desire to improve themselves by continuing their education, going to college and understanding the culture of the United States. Part of the goal was to promote a positive self-image. Approximately 50 to 60 mothers and daughters from Montgomery County schools were invited to this "A Walk in Two Worlds" program. Two workshops were led by mentors who were successful in their fields and who would illustrate how goals are accomplished, as well as helping with the program. The program lasted two years, each year being an overnight workshop at a Catholic retreat in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. National AAUW funded one-half of the expenses; other funding was obtained by soliciting Hispanic businesses and other individuals throughout the county. At one point, Haydee had the good fortune to sit by someone on a plane trip who caught her enthusiasm and gave her \$150 for the project! National AAUW was pleased with the results of the project, taking pictures and publicizing it.

This "A Walk in Two Worlds" program may have been a forerunner of, or planted the seed for, the idea of "Goals for Girls." The "Goal for Girls" program for eighth-grade girls at the Gaithersburg Middle School completed 10 successful years in 2011.

Some of Haydee's other activities are worth mentioning. While serving in the LAF position, she took Branch members on a bus tour to Wintertur in Delaware. Proceeds of this trip went to the Legal

Advocacy Fund (LAF). She has served as the cultural arts chairperson for many years. She planned trips for the Branch.

She took us to the Women's Art Museum in Washington, D.C., to see the Frida Kahlo exhibit. She took us to the Marjorie Merriweather Post mansion, also in Washington, D.C., to see Russian exhibits and to explore the mansion and grounds. She promoted membership in the foreign film series at the Kentlands Arts Barn, and this continues today. She was a member of the AAUW Gourmet Group, and many know that she is an excellent cook. Haydee has been responsible for many of the advertisements in our membership directory. She visited businesses to obtain their sponsorship. These advertising fees paid for the production of the directory, sometimes with money left over. At her first meeting of the Gaithersburg Branch, Haydee offered to teach French. More recently, she has taught Spanish in the Kentlands for four years. She plans to offer Spanish in New Jersey after she is settled there.

The Branch gave a farewell luncheon for Haydee on Friday, April 4, at the Golden Bull restaurant. The attendees included Barbara Brooks, Louise ChatyInne, Anna Fraker, Jean Friedmann, Liz Hessel, Carolyn Iverson, Patsy Marks, Mina Parsant and Mary Wykes. Members who were traveling or had scheduling conflicts sent Haydee their good wishes.

We wish Haydee the best as she leaves, and we know she will be a welcome addition to her new community. We appreciate her service to the AAUW Gaithersburg Branch, and we hope to keep in touch.

## GREAT DECISIONS

**- Vivian Otto, Coordinator**

The Great Decisions Group will meet on May 27 at 7 p.m. at the home of Mary Wykes. Patsy Marks will lead the discussion on "Islamic Awakening" in the African countries

of Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, and Mauritania.



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

## WOMEN'S HER-STORY

**- Anita Taylor, Coordinator**

Today, most of us think of women as preachers as a late 20th century development. Some few of us might consider Anne Hutchinson in such a role, though she would not have described herself that way. Several of us know about Sojourner Truth as advocate for abolition and suffrage, but often don't know her role as itinerant preacher. A few know of Aimie Semple McPerson and the Foursquare Church in early 1900s Los Angeles.

But most of us never think that any preacher, much less female preachers, would be called to address a congregation in the United States Capitol. Rare today are those who know that women first preached in the Capitol in the early 1800s. Patsy Marks will introduce the Her-Story Interest Group to some of these remarkable early preachers, women credited with bringing many souls to the church during the First and Second Great Awakenings. We'll learn especially about one of the most well known, Harriet Livermore.

The group meets as usual at 2:30 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday (May 28). May's meeting will be in the Park

View Club Room, Park View is Building 211 on the Asbury Methodist Village campus. It can be found via the Odendhal entrance by driving ahead after passing the gatehouse to the second stop sign, where you turn right onto Fellowship Circle. Follow Fellowship Circle a short way to where it curves left to the top of an incline. Park along the street in front or on the side of the building. From the entrance, the Club Room is on the right. In the unlikely event that all parking places are filled, drive around to the back where open parking is on top of the parking garage. You come through the back door at the chapel entrance. You will need to buzz the receptionist, then take the elevator down to lobby level.



**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**

Mary Wykes will be the hostess for the May gourmet dinner to be held on Saturday, May 17, at 7 p.m. at her home. Recipes will be from The Chesapeake Cookbook by Susan Bel-singer and Carolyn Dille; the entre' will be crab imperial provided by Mary. All members are welcome but reservations are requested for the Wykes dining room.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2014-15

Membership dues for 2014-15 are due July 1. Please send them in now so that we can start processing your renewal. Please use this form so that we have complete and up-to-date information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ (H) \_\_\_\_\_  
(W) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

College/University Attended & Degrees  
Earned \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership:

Member \$77

Life Member \$26

Dual Member \$18

Honorary Member \$0

(\$46 of the national AAUW portion of the dues is tax deductible.)

Do you wish to receive the newsletter by e-mail only (i.e., no hard copy)? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

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*Long-time AAUW Gaithersburg member Haydee Rolin.*



*Photo by Liz Clark Hessel*



## **AAUW Gaithersburg Calendar of Events**

Book Sale	Thursday, May 1 - Saturday, May 3
Board Meeting	Tuesday, May 13 - 7 p.m.
Gourmet Group	Saturday, May 17 - 7 p.m.
Branch Meeting	Tuesday, May 20 - 7 p.m.
Great Decisions	Tuesday, May 27 - 7 p.m.
Women's Her-Story	Wednesday, May 28 - 2:30 p.m.
Great Decisions	Tuesday, May 27 - 7 p.m.

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