

Since 1881

AAUW Gaithersburg Branch

NEWSLETTER

June-August 2017

June - August Events

JUNE CELEBRATION!
ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING AND POTLUCK
June 10 - 11:30 A.M.
Club Room - Park View Building - Asbury

It's a picnic-like atmosphere at our annual meeting, with potluck goodies appearing and members celebrating our past year's activities, sharing friendships, getting to know newer members better, and sharing ideas for next year's program. Please make a point to join us on June 10 at 11:30 at the inviting Club Room at Park View, and bring a potluck to share. This is when we bask in our identity as women working for equity.

BOARD MEETING
June 6 (NOTE CHANGE) & August 8
7 P.M.
Community Room, Hefner Center, Asbury

The AAUW Gaithersburg Board of Directors will meet on the first Tuesday, June 6, and on the second Tuesday, August 8, at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Hefner Center at Asbury Village. Note that the June meeting is a week early in order to conduct business that is necessary to bring to the membership at the June 10 Branch meeting.

The Gaithersburg Branch of AAUW is part of a network of over 100,000 women supporting AAUW'S mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

- Heather Reichardt

Thank you so much to all who attended our May meeting. Dr. Catherine Hill, AAUW's key researcher, gave a fantastic talk on the upcoming AAUW report, "Deeper in Debt," giving us some stunning statistics on the level of student debt some Americans carry. This debt represents a crisis for the many people, and of all ages, who cannot get good enough jobs to be able to pay off these loans. Of course, this issue of the difficulty in paying back student loans impacts women even more than it does men due to the gender gap in amount of pay.

The May meeting also included the installation of officers for 2017-18. Dian Belanger, president of the Rockville-Kensington Branch, opened the ceremony with a description of AAUW's leadership opportunities and how these serve and benefit not only the current officers but all members of the Branch. Her process of making the transition from former officers to the new was lovely. I hope everyone enjoyed the installation as much as I did.

Since we're at the end of our program year, I want to thank all members again for your support during 2016-17. As Liz Clark Hessel men-

tioned at the meeting, we should all be proud of the results of our book sale and all the community benefits that it will provide again this year. I am continually amazed at the commitment and energy that you demonstrate in making the book sale a success. We should all be happy that our Branch can contribute so much to scholarships, fellowships and grants and to other local causes.

I hope to see you at our June wrap-up meeting to enjoy the potluck and the friendship. In the meantime, please keep members Jean Hirsch and Marybeth Morsink in your thoughts as they recover from their current medical problems.

Have a wonderful summer!

Last month we informed you of the death of Haydee Rolin. You may make donations in her memory to Women for Women International at http://www.womenforwomen.org or	
har moment to Women for Women International at http://www.womenforwomen.org.or	
u to Mary Knoll at	
http://maryknollsociety.org/?utm_medium=referral&utm_source=maryknoll.org.	

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

- Barbara Garrard, Vice President for Membership

Two new members have joined our Branch, one returnee and one transfer.

Betty Valdes: Welcome back to Betty, a former member. Betty originally joined about eight years ago as a mentor for Goals for Girls. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and Latin American history from George Washington University, a Master of Library Science degree from the University of Arizona, and a Master of Public Policy degree from the University of Maryland. She worked for the Montgomery County government for 29 years, first as the Hispanic/Latina advisor under three county executives and then, for 18 years, as the community affairs officer at the Department of Public Libraries, retiring in 2010.

Betty is certified as a cable TV producer by MMC-TV. She is the creator, producer and host of "Que Pasa," a cable show catering to the informational needs of the Hispanic community since 1992.

Barbara Keate: Barbara was a member of the Rehoboth, Delaware, branch for 25 years, serving as treasurer and on their scholarship committee. She was raised in the D.C. area where she earned a nursing degree from Georgetown University before attending Catholic University for her bachelor and master of art degrees, she worked as a psychiatric nurse, and she raised eight children.

After 33 years in Delaware, Barbara moved to Asbury and immediately looked for the local AAUW branch to join.

Dear Members: Your AAUW membership expires on June 30. Please renew now!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2017-18

Name
Address
Telephone(H)(W)(Cell)
College/University Attended and Degrees Earned
Type of Membership: Member \$77 Life Member \$28 Dual Member \$18 Honorary Member \$0
(\$46 of the national AAUW portion of the dues is tax deductible.)
Make your check payable to AAUW Gaithersburg and send to: Barbara Garrard, Vice President for Membership, 4 Sykes St., Gaithersburg MD 20877.
Do you wish to receive the newsletter by email only (i.e., no hard copy)? Yes No

2017 - ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL BOOK SALE!

- Liz Hessel, Book Sales Chair

The book sale opened on Thursday morning, greeted by lines of book dealers and eager customers. They gobbled up great quantities of boxes and bags of book even before noon. The brisk business continued throughout the day; volunteers were busy keeping the tables neat and orderly. We were busy into the evening on Friday, and by that time virtually all the back-up boxes of books that had overflowed onto the floor were gone, having migrated to the sales tables. Saturday brought eager customers taking advantage of bag day. As the hours passed, the books flew off the tables and we could see empty table tops without books. What a difference from when we started! Overall we had between 700 and 800 customers – a great turnout.

So what did it take to make this year's sale such a success? There were over 1,500 hours of volunteer time in the two weeks surrounding the book sale! Thirty-five Branch members contributed over 600 hours of their time. We were joined by 85 middle and high school students who volunteered over 700 hours, and about 30 community adults and college students donated nearly 200 hours! This time was in addition to the hundreds of hours during the year that members spent collecting and sorting books.

We may all take pride in this great success! Financially, we came out just slightly below our best year. This great accomplishment means we will have more funds to disperse for scholarships and the other programs we support than we had last year. And, above this, we will add funds from sales of other books we have sold to Wonder Book.

How many books did we have? Probably over 30,000.

We brought about 975 boxes into the room and successfully had only about 325 left over. We sold almost all of our children's books – 165 boxes! And in many other categories, very few books remained at the end of the sale.



About 40 families with children who could not afford books were given free books – what excitement it gave the children. We also shared the unsold books with about a dozen non-profits for use with their customer or client base. These organizations include Identity, which works with Hispanic youth in Gaithersburg; Rockville Science Center; Friends of the Library – Germantown and Potomac; Manna Foods, which provides books to children who accompany their parents to get free food; Gaithersburg Middle School and other nearby schools.

A big thanks to everyone who helped at the book sale and during the year. Also, we sincerely appreciate our partners whose support was essential. These include Asbury Methodist Village, who provided space and on-site support; Gaithersburg Storehouse, who supplied storage space during the year; the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection, who provided access to recycled books; the Montgomery County Volunteer Center, who provide a system to recruit volunteers; and the Montgomery County Public Schools, who publicize our need for student volunteers.



Thursday morning throng at the book sale



Partners Recognition Poster designed by Heather Reichardt



Volunteer workers make the book sale a success.

GREAT DECISIONS

- Mary Wykes



Mary Wykes will be both host and leader for the Wednesday, June 28, 2:30 p.m., meeting at her home at 18900 Diary Road, Montgomery Village, 301-948-

ery Village, 301-948-6218 or 301-717-1040. Light refreshments will be served.

The topic will be "U.S. Foreign Policy and Petroleum" as presented in the Foreign Policy discussion guide by Jonathan Chanis. He currently manages New Tide Asset Management, a company focused

on global and resource consulting. He has a doctorate in political science from the Graduate School, City University of New York, and a bachelor's degree in economics from Brooklyn College. He has taught graduate and undergraduate courses on energy security, international politics, and political economy, as well as working for over 25 years in the field of commodities trading.

New members are always welcome.



AAUW Gaithersburg Branch http://gaithersburgmd.aauw.net

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

LITERATURE GROUP

- Mary Wykes, for Coordinator Jean Young



The Literature Group will meet at the home of Jean Hirsch on Saturday, June 24, at 10 a.m. Jean will lead the discussion on the deeply impressionable book "Night" in which Elie Weisel,

relates his experience in Nazi death camps.

The group will not meet in July. In August

on the 26th at 10 a.m. we will meet at the home of Jean Young . At that time we will select next year's reading list.

Light refreshments are served at our meetings, and new members are always welcome.

HERSTORY INTEREST GROUP

- Anita Taylor, Coordinator

The HerStory interest group decided to move our attention to remarkable modern women. Each of us will introduce a person of significance. We will begin June 7 at 2:30 p.m. at the Park View Clubroom at Asbury. Anita Taylor will review the work of Frances Oldham Kelsey. Kelsey turned university degrees in biochemistry and pharmacology into important positions where her good eye and quick thinking kept the U.S. from the sad effects that thalidomide was causing in Europe. I may bring some information about some of her contemporaries at the time.

The group also agreed not to have a regular meeting in July or August, although we may have a special meeting to remember the final years of the suffrage campaign. Then, on September 6, we'll continue studying modern women in power as Dorothy Camara tells about Aung San Suu Kyi; then on October 4 Maria Roberts will discuss Janet Yellen,

and on November 1 Mary Wykes will bring us more information about Angela Merkel. We'll not meet in December but will start the New Year on January 3.

For anyone wanting to join us, you could choose to bring more background about Sandra Day O'Connor, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Oprah Winfrey, Christine Madeleine Odette Lagarde, Melinda Ann Gates, Theresa May, Elizabeth Warren, Maria Corazon Sumulong Cojuangco-Aquino--or any other as you choose.

As you will remember, we meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 2:30 p.m. in the Park View Clubroom at Asbury Village. Call Anita Taylor for more information.

AAUW Gaithersburg Calendar of Events

Board Meeting Tuesday, June 6 - 7 p.m. (Change in date)

HerStory Interest Group Wednesday, June 7 - 2:30 p.m.

Branch Annual Meeting & Potluck Saturday, June 10 - 11:30 p.m.

AAUW Nat'l Convention, Washington, D.C June 14-17

Literature Group Saturday, June 24 - 10 a.m.

Great Decisions Wednesday, June 28 - 2:30 p.m.

Summer Leadership Conference, Frederick Saturday, July 29

Board Meeting Tuesday, August 8 - 7 p.m.
Literature Group Saturday, August 26 - 10 a.m.

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