



Empowering Women
Since 1881

AAUW Gaithersburg Branch

NEWSLETTER

September 2013

September Events

BRANCH MEETING

September 17

Hospitality 7 p.m. - Program 7:30 p.m.

The September Branch AAUW meeting for 2013 follows our traditional pattern of featuring local students who received AAUW Gaithersburg scholarships that are supported by our annual used book sale. Please join us at 7:00 p.m. for a social gathering on Tuesday the 17th, in the Rosborough (Building 409) Community Rooms A & B at Asbury Methodist Village, followed by the program at 7:30 p.m. You will remember these comments by the scholarship recipients as gratifying and inspirational.

BOARD MEETING

September 10 - 7 P.M.

The AAUW Gaithersburg Board of Directors will be meeting at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, September 10, in the Conference Room of the Hefner Building at Asbury Village. Please note that these meetings have been changed from Mondays to Tuesdays. All Branch members are welcome to participate.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

- Mary Wykes

How fast the summer has flown! Since our wonderful June picnic and planning meeting at Louise Chatlynne's beautiful home in Montgomery Village, I have attended our state planning meeting in Essex on July 13 with Terry Medlar and Sue Woodruff. We had sessions on effectively navigating the new AAUW Web site, directed by members of the AAUW national staff, as well as sessions with our counterparts from other branches and the state officers to discuss ways of implementing our branch duties. It is inspirational to attend state meetings and get to know what other branches are doing to further the AAUW goal of advancing equity for women and girls.

I have met a couple of times with our program vice-presidents, Patsy Marks and Anita Taylor, along with Sue Woodruff, our last year's program VP, to discuss plans for the coming year's programs. They have some exciting speakers and events scheduled, all done in time for Edie Allison to produce the program brochure for our first meeting on September 17 when we will hear from a panel of scholarship recipients. Note that we have changed the time for our Branch meetings to the third Tuesday of the month (rather than the third Monday) in order not to conflict with the Keese School events at Asbury, at which many of our members attend. The exception is for our January and February meetings, which will be on Saturday morning (in case we have winter weather that will make night driving difficult) and our June meeting, which will be our annual picnic and planning meeting.

Marilyn O'Connell, our membership vice president, has been sending gentle reminders to those members who have forgotten to send in their annual membership dues check of \$77 for FY 2013-14, due July 1. We ended last year with 71 paid members and it is our hope that everyone will want to re-join our Branch this year and that many of you will be inviting friends to share in the good things we have planned and to support our mission.

Special thanks go to Carolyn Iverson, who has worked behind the scenes for many years to help get our newsletter mailed to those wishing to have a hard copy, as she turns over this duty to our new corresponding secretary, Jane Carroll, effective with this September issue. We all enjoy the newsletter but often don't think of all the work that goes into getting it into our hands or before our eyes. First, there are those of us who write articles and get them to our editor, Dorothy Camara by 6 p. m. on the 20th of each month. After she carefully checks for errors, she forwards the articles to our newsletter producer, Qing Jiang, who has done such a fabulous job of composing the letter for so many years. (She has promised me she will come to the September meeting so we can recognize and personally thank her.) Qing then sends the layout to

the printer. Jane Carroll will pick up the hard copies and put the labels on (which Maria Roberts produces), stamp them and get them to the post office. Louise Chatlynne will continue to receive the newsletter electronically and e-mail it to those members who wish to receive it via that medium. So you see, many of our members are involved producing what most of us just take for granted each month but look forward to reading.



I hope you all have received this week the August 2013 AAUW Mission & Action E-Newsletter. It was filled with interesting articles about what AAUW is accomplishing and other items with which they are concerned. A couple of things that I thought were of interest: AAUW was one of a very few charities awarded the coveted Four Star Charity rating for the third year in a row by the Charity Navigator, showing that AAUW efficiently uses your donations to achieve our mission of advancing equity for women and girls.

Also, for those of you looking for some adventure and travel, there are still a few openings in an upcoming trip to India in November that will explore the impact of AAUW's fellowships and grants on women globally. There is also a trip planned to Cuba later in the year.

The Women's Power Conference will be held at the Marriott Conference Center in Bethesda on August 29 and, again, AAUW will be one of the organizations participating. Sue Woodruff, Marilyn O'Connell, and I will be at the AAUW table for part of the day. Last year we recruited several new members at this event. It is inspiring to see all the women-owned businesses represented and to attend the seminars.

The Board voted last year to purchase a new hand-held audio system and asked Sue Woodruff to have her husband, who is an engineer, research and recommend something that might be suitable. She is hoping to have the new system available for use at the September meeting. We will have a 30-day trial period, so be sure to consider how it works for you when you are at the meeting. Thanks to Sue and Don for taking care of this!

I hope you are all having a great summer and that I will see you at our September meeting, if not before. It is my hope that this year will be one of our best ever with our Branch growing and friendships strengthening. As President, I am always open to suggestions, ideas, and ways you as members want to participate. One of the best ways for us to grow is for each of you to invite a friend to a meeting and ask them to join.

NEWS FROM OUR ANNUAL MEETING

- Dorothy Camara, Recording Secretary

We had a grand annual meeting and picnic on June 22 at Louise Chatlynne's home. And we owe a lot of thanks to Louise for her gracious hospitality.

At the meeting Mary Wykes, then co-president and now president, announced the names of the 2012-13 AAUW Fund Honorees, Marilyn Leist, Terry Medlar, and Sue Woodruff. Marilyn stepped in as treasurer last year upon the resignation of the former treasurer. She also arranged the venue for our successful anniversary celebration luncheon. Terry Medlar took on the treasurer's job when Marilyn's work responsibilities precluded her from continuing; then Terry did a tremendous job in reorganizing the files for the change to a different bank. Sue did a fantastic job carrying out our past year's program, including planning and organizing the anniversary celebration luncheon.

Assistant Treasurer for the Book Sale Anita Taylor reported that the net income from the book sale was \$12,031.51. Liz Hessel, who chairs all the book sales activities and carefully follows scholarship and grants operations, recommended, and the membership approved, the following disbursements from these receipts, as well as from receipts from other sales of books:

Scholarships to Montgomery College amounting to \$5,000, and to the Universities at Shady

Grove \$2,500. A new grant this year in the amount of \$500 for Sisters, a mentoring project at Gaithersburg High School. We will hold \$3,000 for Goals for Girls for when they start up again. In appreciation of our use of the Asbury facilities, we will give \$750 to the Asbury Benevolent Fund. There will be \$1,200 available for three students to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. This conference encourages and teaches young women to be successful leaders. In support of national's AAUW Funds, we will give \$1,500 each to American Fellowships and Selected Professions Fellowships, and \$1,000 to the Legal Advocacy Fund. American Fellowships support women scholars completing doctoral dissertations, conducting postdoctoral research, or finishing research for publication. The Selected Professions Fellowships provide opportunities for women to pursue graduate and first-professional degrees in designated fields where women traditionally have been underrepresented. The Legal Advocacy Fund promotes equity for women in higher education and the workplace through legal case support and outreach projects.

We ended our year with 67 members. Compare this with 55 the previous year!

OFFICERS INSTALLED FOR 2013-14

Pat Stocker, president for AAUW of Maryland, officiated at the installation of officers for the 2013-14 year. Presenting a rose and a pen to each, Pat took the pledge from each officer to carry out their respective duties. Mary Wykes, the previous year's co-president, was installed as president. Patsy Marks and Anita Taylor are the new co-vice presidents for program. Marilyn O'Connell continues as vice president for membership. Terry Medlar, who has been acting treasurer, now assumes the office of treas-

urer. Dorothy Camara continues as recording secretary. The new corresponding secretary is Jane Carroll.



INTERBRANCH UPDATE

- Louise Chatlynne, Interbranch Representative

Anita Rosen, from the Kensington-Rockville Branch, announced that they will have a luncheon as their kick-off meeting to be held at Ingelside at King Farm to which all Montgomery County branches are invited. The film, "Miss Representation," will be shown, followed by a discussion. The price of the buffet is \$15, the program is free.

The meeting will be on Saturday, September 28, at 12:30 (1:30 if you come for the program only). Ingelside is located at 701 King Farm Boulevard, Rockville. For the buffet, send a \$15 check to Margaret Schweitzer, 701 King Farm Boulevard, Apartment 204, Rockville MD 20850 by September 24. If you have questions, contact Margaret at 301-355-5351 or margaret2546@comcast.net.

Montgomery Interbranch held a meeting on July 31, 2013. It was decided to continue to support the Sonya Kovalevsky program at Montgomery College. Also, in addition to sponsoring the Women's Legislative Briefing this year, we will volunteer to work at reception or be hostesses at the event. Kensington-Rockville is also planning several meetings at Montgomery College which will also be open to other Montgomery College branches.



DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

November 5 is election day for the City of Gaithersburg mayor and two council members.

You can get information on the candidates by attending the Asbury Democratic Club meeting on Friday, September 20, at 2 p.m. at Parker

Hall, Asbury Village. The Democratic Club plans to have all candidates present. Parker Hall is in the 405 building, Apartment Center, lower level.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The following members have agreed to be on the Nominating Committee for next year: Anna Fraker, chairperson; Maria Roberts and Jean Hirsch. Nominations are to be announced at the March meeting, voted on at the April meeting, and installed at the May Branch meeting. The committee is always

happy to have volunteers interested in the offices, which are President, Vice President for Program, Vice President for Membership, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary.



Gourmet Group

- Madeleine Martzloff

The first AAUW Gaithersburg Gourmet dinner will be held on September 21 at 7:00 p.m. at Jean and Roland Hirsch's home at 7:00 p.m. The theme for the evening will be "A Night in Vienna," with foods that are Viennese and a possible slide show of pictures from Jean and Roland Hirsch's trip to Vienna, Austria, and Slovakia this summer. Please con-

tact Jean and Roland and let them know you will be attending and if you would like to help by preparing a dish to bring! See you on September 21!



GREAT DECISIONS

- **Vivian Otto, Coordinator**

The Great Decisions Group will meet at Jean Kosow's apartment at Asbury on September 24 at 7 p.m., with Dorothy Camara leading the discussion on "Iran and the U.S.: Three Decades of Futility." The U.S. and Iran have been at a political impasse for years. We will discuss the

origins of that impasse, events that heightened it, and whether there is hope for an easing of tensions.



We welcome others to join the dozen of us who attend.



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

Literature Group

- **Bea Carasso, Coordinator**



This year's first meeting of the Literature Group will be on Saturday, September 28, at 10 a.m.

The meeting will be at Bea Carasso's

home.

WOMEN'S HERSTORY

- **Anita Taylor, Coordinator**

Over the past few years the HerStory group has approached our goal of learning about the lives of women "who came before" in a variety of ways. We've shared reading and discussing specific books; we've made individual reports about women or times in which they lived; we've even done a few local field trips.

For 2013-2014 we decided to use the individual report, with each of us at some time during the year being responsible to use 20 minutes or so to introduce a woman of some accomplishment to the group, having a couple such introductions in a typical meeting. Whom to introduce is up to the introducer.

The only criteria we set for choosing a person you tell the rest of us about are that she (a) have substantial accomplishment; (b) be deceased--on the theory that the living aren't done yet; (c) have accomplished more than being married to a man of note; that (d) she be more than a great artist or entertainer.

We acknowledge the fuzzy boundaries of the last two elements. We know that having made great art re-

flects accomplishment; and that it is difficult really to distinguish between art that lasts (such as that of Artemisia Gentileschi) and art that is more ephemeral (as that of Annie Oakley). We also know that marrying a man of note can give a woman the platform from which to enjoy comfort and ease, or that wealth can help find ways to improve the lives of others or build major outcomes (e.g., Lady Bird and highway beautification).



Hence, when we make our choices, our passion for being sure others know about the woman in question should be our guide. We look forward to another year of fun learning.

On September 18 we meet at Park View, , Asbury Methodist Village, at 2:30 p.m. For directions, contact group organizer, Anita Taylor.

President
Mary Wykes

Co-Vice Presidents for Programs
Patsy Marks

Anita Taylor

Vice President for Membership
Marilyn O'Connell

Acting Treasurer
Terry Medlar

Recording Secretary
Dorothy Camara

Corresponding Secretary
Jane Carroll

Newsletter Editor
Qing Jiang

AAUW Gaithersburg Calendar of Events

Board Meeting	Tuesday, September 10, 7 p.m.
Branch Meeting	Tuesday, September 17, 7 p.m.
Women's Herstory	Wednesday, September 18, 2:30 p.m.
Gourmet Group	Saturday, September 21, 7 p.m..
Great Decisions	Tuesday, September 24, 7 p.m.
Literature Group	Saturday, September 28, 10:00 a.m.
Kensington-Rockville Luncheon, Ingleside	Saturday, September 28, 12:30 p.m.

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