



Empowering Women
Since 1881

AAUW Gaithersburg Branch

NEWSLETTER

September 2014

September Events

Branch Meeting

Tuesday September 16

Hospitality at 7 pm Program at 7:30 pm

Gaithersburg Library, Second Floor Meeting Room

The first Gaithersburg Branch program of the 2014-2015 fiscal year will feature a panel of our scholarship recipients. Three scholarship recipients from Montgomery College were sponsored to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, NCCWSL, in June. Five additional students were given academic scholarships that will assist them in pursuing their college studies at Montgomery College and the Universities at Shady Grove. These scholarships were completely funded by our book sales. The students will speak to us about the personal impact of these awards. Please join us Tuesday, September 16 at 7 p.m. for a social gathering followed by the program at 7:30 pm. Hear the inspiring comments of the scholarship recipients and be reminded of the impact of our book sales.

BOARD MEETING

September 9 - 7 P.M.

The AAUW Gaithersburg Board of Directors will meet on September 9 at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Hefner Building at Asbury Village. All members are invited.

INSIDE

<i>September Events</i>	1
<i>President's Message</i>	2, 3
<i>Citizenship for Annais Zarate</i>	3
<i>To The Membership</i>	4
<i>A Note Of Thanks</i>	4
<i>Citizenship for Annais Zarate</i>	4
MEMBERSHIP RE-NEWAL 2014-15	4
<i>Great Decisions</i>	5
<i>Literature Group</i>	5
<i>Her-Story Interest Group</i>	5
<i>Lunch/Dinner Group</i>	5
<i>Calendar</i>	6

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

- Mary Wykes

Happy New Fiscal Year to our Branch Members and Friends:

I hope you have had a wonderful summer and didn't find that it flew by as quickly as it did for me. After our very successful June picnic and Branch planning meeting, as well as the installation of officers, I thought I could relax for awhile but, instead, I got involved with helping the state officers with the state summer conference at Park View at Asbury Methodist Village. It was a successful, well-planned meeting. I was happy that we had more members from our Branch attend than at any previous state meeting since I have been Branch president. Heather Reichardt, Patsy Marks, and Maria Roberts helped at the registration desk. Anita Taylor took care of signage and of meeting members at the back parking area to direct them to the Club Room. Dorothy Camara, Edie Allison, and I interacted with members from other branches as they arrived to make them feel at home. I had the privilege of introducing the program as the welcoming president and introducing our Branch members in attendance, as well as telling the attendees a bit about AMV and how much it meant to our Branch to be able to use their conference facilities for our meetings and our book sale. I mentioned that we had 21 members last year who were residents of AMV.

Soon after the state meeting, I met with our Branch's program co-vice presidents, Anita Taylor and Patsy Marks, and the ex-officio program vice president Sue Woodruff to discuss plans for the coming year's program for our Branch. It is a challenge to finalize it so that Edie Allison can produce our brochure in time for our September meeting. We really appreciate her doing it again this year, despite her very busy travel schedule. We are excited about the varied program planned and hope our membership will feel the same way and will want to invite friends and neighbors to attend.

There is so much wonderful information each week from our national AAUW office. I want to quote a portion of the recently e-mailed AAUW Membership Matters: "Since our founding in 1881, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day--educational, social, economic, and political." Two of our Branch members this

week are involved in what I would consider fundamental issues of the day--women's health and medical research. You have received the e-mail from Louise Chatlynne, who is the chair for the event "Health Day for Women" at the Ring House in Rockville, September 21, from 10:00 - 3:30 p.m., which is sponsored by Louise's Hadassah organization. They welcome the public to attend. The speakers have impressive backgrounds and the topics are vital to women of all ages.



Dr. Carolyn J. Fisher, our recently appointed STEM chair, has forwarded an e-mail regarding "Rally for Medical Research on Hill Day" which will be held on September 18. For more information see <http://www.RallyforMedicalResearch.org>. On this day, researchers, clinicians, survivors, and other advocates for more funding for medical research will go to Capitol Hill to speak with one voice on the importance of medical research, meeting with staff in House and Senate offices.

I look forward to joining other members in some pre-sorting of the books we have already collected for next year's book sale. We are sorry to learn that Liz Clark Hessel had a fall recently resulting in an injury to the patella of her knee but she promises she will be able to direct us from a sitting position. We always enjoy pre-sorting at the Conference Room of the Villas where we will again be this week.

At our first Branch meeting in September we will hear from the panel of students from Montgomery College and the Universities at Shady Grove whom we supported as the result of our year-long efforts to have a successful book sale last May. In addition to the \$7,000 the Branch voted to give this year for scholarships to Montgomery College and the \$3,000 for a scholarship to the Universities at Shady Grove, we will provide three scholarships for women college students to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders in June 2015 (at the University of Maryland). We also voted to give

(continued on page 3)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from page 2)

\$2,500 to AAUW's American Fellowships and \$2,500 to the Selected Professions, as well as \$1,000 to the Legal Advocacy Fund. AAUW has a long and distinguished history of advancing educational and professional opportunities for women in the U.S. and around the globe. In the 2014-15 academic year, AAUW is providing more than 3.7 million in funding for more than 244 fellowships and grants to outstanding women and nonprofit organizations. We are glad to be a part of this support of women of great intellect, dedication, and imagination as they perform research and study in a wide range of disciplines and work to improve our schools and communities. At our May meeting, our new AAUW Funds chair, Heather Reichardt, will introduce one of the fellowship recipients to tell us about her research and field of study.

I am pleased that Jean DeMuzio has agreed to take over the job of Branch webmaster. (Some of our members do not like this title but it is what AAUW calls the position; so until it is changed to webmistress or some such title, I

am afraid I need to call it what it is.) Edie Allison, who originally set up this excellent Web site, will be turning over the duties of the position to Jean for the coming year.



There are many of you who still have not sent in your dues for this fiscal year 2014-15. I hope it is just an oversight and that we will again have the strong membership we had last year, and possibly more. I have already talked with three members of the community this summer who plan to join in September. As you know, if any of our events is advertised to the public, it is considered a "Shape the Future" event at which new members may join at half price, or \$38.50. All of our Branch meetings are advertised to the public so this is a good introductory rate for new members (anyone who has not been a member for at least two years). Invite your friends to join you at our September meeting as we begin an exciting new year for AAUW Gaithersburg!

Citizenship for Annais Zarate

In the June newsletter, we asked the members if they would like to make individual contributions to help Annais Zarate, one of our scholarship recipients, with the fees associated with her application for citizenship. Our members responded generously with contributions totaling \$725. Annais was so surprised when she was presented with our gift in July. She sent the note below.

"I would like to sincerely thank you for taking the initiative to begin collections in order to help me finance my citizenship application. I would of course love to thank everyone at the Gaithersburg Branch of AAUW for being so unbelievably generous in their donations. I have finally begun my application for citizenship!

"I am very excited and humbled by all the support I have received from AAUW. I am not sure how I could ever repay everyone other than to be the best I can be as a student, worker, and person in general. I am forever grateful, and

one day I hope to offer people as much help as I have received from AAUW.

"I will certainly keep you updated on my citizenship status. You all have brought so much happiness, hope, and motivation to my family and I. If I could only put my feelings into words I would. I will be sure to keep you informed of when and where the ceremonies will be; I would sure love to have you be present.

Sincerely,
Annais Zarate"

TO THE MEMBERSHIP

--Marilyn O'Connell Vice President for Membership

I want to thank all our members who have paid their dues for 2014-15.

To our members who have not yet paid their dues (\$77), make your check out to AAUW Gaithersburg and send to:

Marilyn O'Connell

A NOTE OF THANKS

This is a note we received from Margaret McMillan, president of Caring Hands:

"Our kids love to read," says Ann Dixon, media specialist at Stedwick Elementary School. It's wonderful to have the opportunity to put books in the hands of such deserving children that they can take home to enjoy."

No wonder she was excited when two representatives of Caring Hands, Seniors in Action's charitable community outreach group recently delivered 400 children's books to the attractive, well-organized library Dixon oversees. These books will be given to students at the end of the school year.

Elijah Davis, MV's liaison with Seniors in Action, and Margaret McMillan, Caring Hands chair,

were also excited. "I'm overwhelmed," McMillan says, "with the generosity of Seniors in Action members, non-members who also contributed, and the American Association of University Women which offered



a sizeable donation following the group's used book sale last month at Asbury Methodist Village. All are making a real difference in children's lives in our community." Seniors in Action's Arts and Crafts group made bookmarks for the students.

Many of the Stedwick children have never had a book to call their own. Now they can write their names on bookplates under "This book belongs to ..."

Citizenship for Annais Zarate



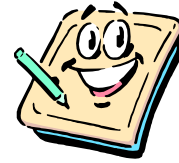
In the June newsletter, we asked the members if they would like to make individual contributions to help Annais Zarate, one of our scholarship recipients, with the fees associated with her application for citizenship. Our members responded generously with contributions totaling \$725. Annais was so surprised when she was presented with our gift in July. She sent the note below.

"I would like to sincerely thank you for taking the initiative to begin collections in order to help me finance my citizenship application. I would of course love to thank everyone at the Gaithersburg Branch of AAUW for being so unbelievably generous in their donations. I have finally begun my application for citizenship!

"I am very excited and humbled by all the support I have received from AAUW. I am not sure how I could ever repay everyone other than to be the best I can be as a student, worker, and person in general. I am forever grateful, and one day I hope to offer people as much help as I have received from AAUW.

"I will certainly keep you updated on my citizenship status. You all have brought so much happiness, hope, and motivation to my family and I. If I could only put my feelings into words I would. I will be sure to keep you informed of when and where the ceremonies will be; I would sure love to have you be present."

Sincerely,
Annais Zarate



GREAT DECISIONS

- **Vivian Otto, Coordinator**

The Great Decisions discussion group will meet on September 23 at 7 p.m. at the home of Joan Read, Apartment 901 in the Diamond Building at Asbury Village. Judy Wymer will lead the discussion on "Food and Climate." With food security and

food disaster occurring with abrupt changes in the weather, we will tackle how international organizations can deal with this challenge.



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

LITERATURE GROUP

- **Mary Wykes**



The next meeting of the Literature Group will be held on September 27 at 10 a.m. at Mary Wykes's home. The selection of

books for the coming months will be announced at a later date.

HER-STORY INTEREST GROUP

Anita Taylor, coordinator of the Her-Story Group, was returning from vacation when it was time for this write-up. But here, partially in her own words, is the news about the group.

Anita steered us through a year of discovering the stories of notable historical women. We finished the 2013-14 year on a high note with the delightful story of the amazing Sister Aimee and her mother Minnie, who combined the fervor of the evangelists with the zeal of the Salvation Army. We also honored the signers

of the Declaration of Sentiments of the Seneca Falls Woman's Rights Convention of 1848.

Now we will depart from historical figures, choosing for this year the theme of living women notable in politics. Jean Kosow will begin the topic at our September 24, at 2:30 p.m., meeting, telling us more than most know about Condoleeza Rice. The meeting will be, as usual, in the Club Room of the Park View Building at Asbury.

LUNCH/DINNER GROUP

- **Jean Hirsch, Coordinator**

The first AAUW Lunch/Dinner Group gathering for 2014-2015 will be at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 20, at Jean and Roland Hirsch's home.

The menu for this fall day will be centered around a Spanish theme, with "Paella" being the main course, accompanied by appetizers, salad,

rolls, and dessert! Bring any pictures you took from your summer adventures and join us for an enjoyable lunch, conviviality and great food! Please contact Jean Hirsch at 301-972-6986 by September 18 and let her know you are coming!

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
 301-251-5803



FUNDRAISER SEPTEMBER 28, 2014
 Proceeds will benefit the Center's educational programs

Adding history to history to tell our story

Please Register NOW to attend the MWHC Fundraiser at www.mdwomensheritagecenter.org

**Forging Frontiers;
 Women of the Past, Leading the Future**



Register Today!
 Sunday, September 28, 2014 2:00 - 4:30 PM
 THE ENGINEERS CLUB 15 West Mount Vernon Place, Baltimore, MD

Plan to join us for the Maryland Women's Heritage Center's fundraiser! Proceeds will benefit the Center's educational programs. Award-winning author Kate Campbell Stevenson will perform the historical Funnies of her new show, *Forging Frontiers: Women Leaders in STEM*. In her new production, Stevenson brings to life outstanding women in STEM fields from early 20th Century America to contemporary role models. Meet people who made a difference during the Great Recession and inspire!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:
 CareFirst • LEWIS • THE ENGINEERS CLUB

We Need Your Help to Tell Our Story!
www.mdwomensheritagecenter.org 443.768.2442 mwhc@afn.net

REGISTER TODAY FOR A FUNDRAISER FOR THE MARYLAND WOMEN'S HERITAGE CENTER!

KATE CAMPBELL STEVENSON PRESENTS: Forging Frontiers
 Women Leaders in STEM—Science, Technology, Engineering & Math

Help Us Tell OUR Story—Register Today!
 Go to mdwomensheritagecenter.org
 Click on "DONATE" button to register for the fundraiser!

Sunday • September 28, 2014
 2:00 - 4:30 pm • The Engineers Club
 15 West Mount Vernon Place, Baltimore, MD
www.mdwomensheritagecenter.org 443.768.2442 mwhc@afn.net

[View Larger](#)

I thank you for supporting The Maryland Women's Heritage Center

AAUW Gaithersburg Calendar of Events

Board Meeting	Tuesday, September 9 - 7 p.m.
Branch Meeting	Tuesday, September 16 - 7 p.m.
Lunch/Dinner Group	Saturday, September 20 - 1 p.m.
Great Decisions	Tuesday, September 23 - 7 p.m.
Her-Story Interest Group	Wednesday, September 24 - 2:30 p.m.
Great Decisions	Tuesday, September 23 - 7 p.m.
Literature Group	Saturday, September 27 - 10 a.m.
Great Decisions	Tuesday, September 23 - 7 p.m.

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