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AAUW

Gaithersburg Branch

NEWSLETTER

May 2019

May Events

BRANCH PROGRAM, ANNUAL MEETING AND OFFICER INSTALLATION

Tuesday, May 21

Hospitality 7 P.M. - Program 7:30 P.M.

Gaithersburg Library Meeting Room

"The Refugee Experience in Europe During World War II: A Family's Journey to America"

Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Tiiu Kera, U.S. Air Force

During World War II, Europe saw massive dislocations of people. Millions sought refuge in the Allied refugee camps during and after the hostilities. After the war, many started new lives in new countries, contributing in a variety of ways. Some even became major generals in the United States Air Force, as did our speaker for this month's meeting. Asbury resident, Ret. Maj. Gen. Tiiu Kera will share with us her inspiring story of how being World War II refugees affected her family and shaped her life. Please join us to hear Tiiu's story of "The Refugee Experience In Europe During World War II: A Family's Journey to America" at our next branch meeting on May 21 at the Gaithersburg Library.

Following Tiiu's presentation, we will hold our annual pleasing Officer Installation Ceremony, with Anita Rosen as Installation Officer presenting the responsibilities of office to our 2019-20 electees. Anita, a member of the Kensington-Rockville Branch, as well as our branch friend, is a leader in public policy issues and has served as the state vice president on public policy. Expect also a short business meeting to present for membership approval the 2019-20 budget as proposed by Treasurer Edie Allison and

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, May 14 - 7 P.M.

The AAUW Gaithersburg Board of Directors will meet on May 14 at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Hefner Building at Asbury Village. All members are invited.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

- Heather Reichardt

Spring has sprung! I am grateful for the warmer days, the bright green grass and the blooming flowers. But what I'm really grateful for is the incredible amount of hard work and dedication that our members and friends have put into the book sale again this year. Those attending the April branch meeting learned that this year's book sale was one of our best ever! This is a result of the year-long effort to collect books from many sources. Our customers really liked those books and our sales were nearly record-setting! I can't thank Liz Hessel and her team of members, students and friends enough for all the hard work. Everyone should be proud of this achievement!

My daughter, Grace, and I attended the annual AAUW Maryland Convention, which was hosted by the Garrett County Branch. Both Friday's celebratory dinner (with a theme of the 1940s to represent when the branch started) and the Saturday convention meeting were well attended and quite well planned. Several speakers were accomplished women from the Garrett County area. Their topics included: 1) an unusual path to a PhD and successful teaching career, 2) a local teacher/principal at a very low-income school who helps the children see a world beyond the county, and 3) a woman who has dedicated her life to assisting people trapped in generational poverty. Additionally, I was "retired" as the state co-secretary, but our own Edie Allison was elected to the post for the next two years! Thank you, Edie!

Two National items to focus on:

1. Voting for new board members and for the public policy program is open until May 14. If you re-

ceive emails from AAUW, this important email was sent on April 1 with the title "Please vote to shape AAUW's future." Please do take advantage of this opportunity to have your say about how the national organization is run. If you don't get email, then you should have received a paper ballot in the mail. Maryland's former state president, Eileen Menton, is eligible to continue to serve on the national board. Please vote for her so that we have a direct line to the board. VOTE VOTE VOTE!



2. Everyone is now able to take the online salary negotiation workshop---FOR FREE! The website is www.salary.aauw.org. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE share this website with every woman you know. If all working women can increase their salaries with legitimate negotiation techniques and the data to back them up, the impact on all women and families will be significant!

Finally, I want to give a very loud shout out to our branch members who presented so much interesting information about the women, some famous, some not, who were instrumental in the women's suffrage movement. There were so many details of which I was not aware. We all learned so much. Thank you to Anita Taylor and the members of the HerStory Group who researched and presented these incredible women. I am very proud of our branch in so many ways!

Happy spring!



President Heather Reichardt (center) with Bobbie Brooks and her friend from Howard County, Phyllis Cook, at the April Maryland Convention.

2019-20 PROPOSED BUDGET

Treasurer Edie Allison submits the proposed AAUW Gaithersburg budget for 2019-20 for approval by the membership at the May 21 branch meeting. The proposed budget was approved for submission to the membership by the Board of Directors at its April 9 meeting.

Draft Membership and Operating Account Budget 2019 - 2020					
Item	2017-2018 Budget	Proposed Budget 2018-2019	2018 - 2019 Actual to Date	Proposed Budget 2019 - 2020	Notes
INCOME					
Membership Income	\$ 900	\$ 936	\$ 855	\$ 936	Assumes 53 mbrs incl 5 honorary life
Interbranch Dissolution			\$ 128	\$ -	
Donations	\$ 70	\$ 20			
Member directory ads					
Unspent from Prior Year	\$ 226				
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 1,196	\$ 956	\$ 983	\$ 936	
EXPENSES					
Newsletter	\$ 300	\$ 200	\$ 158	\$ 185	Printing and 100 stamps
Meeting Room Rent	\$ 240	\$ 240	\$ 200	\$ 240	MC Library \$40 x 6 meetings
Insurance	\$ 252	\$ 385	\$ 385	\$ 385	annual Liability + allowance 3-yr Dishonest Acts ins
Interbranch Dues					Interbranch dissolved-no future expenses
Hospitality	\$ 50	\$ 66		\$ 61	Supplies that are not donated
Bank Fees					
Member Directory	\$ 100				
Promotional Material					
Donations					
Programs	\$ 200	\$ 65		\$ 65	Speaker gifts
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,142	\$ 956	\$ 743	\$ 936	
Edith Allison, 2019-2020 budget submitted April 15, 2019					

2019-20 OFFICERS ELECTED

The AAUW Gaithersburg membership voted in their officers for the 2019-20 year at the April 16 branch meeting. Heather Reichardt was elected to serve as Vice President for Program; Mary Wykes, Anna Fraker and Patsy Marks as Co-Vice Presidents for Membership; Edie Allison for Treasurer; and Barbara Garrard for Secretary.

other board officers will rotate monthly as Temporary Presiding Officer.

Officers will be officially installed at the May 21 branch meeting, with the new term of office beginning July 1, 2019.

There was no election of President; instead,

BOOK SALE

Wow! What a successful sale we had!! We sold more books than ever before, and had more customers than the past for our best sale yet. Our success was due to having our largest collection of good books in good condition. Thanks to the many who worked on collecting and sorting and moving books over the last year. It has been a **huge** endeavor, but what a wonderful outcome we have. Thanks to every member and all of our friends who helped.

For those who weren't present on Thursday morning, we had 95 people in line when we opened – more than in any prior year! And we did a brisk business all morning as more customers came and went. We received compliments from a number of dealers who remarked both about the high quality of the books and what a well-organized sale we have. They certainly kept the cashiers and folks who were reshelving books busy all day! Each day we were busier than in past years and on Saturday, the books just flew out the doors bag by bag.

We owe our many partners a big thanks also. Over 100 students from the local middle and high schools earned Community Service hours while they helped over the ten-day period with all phases of the sale. A number of volunteers from *Montgomery College* and the *Universities at Shady Grove* also joined us to help sort and organize the books and also helped advertise the sale.

Besides selling a record number of books, we provided free books to about 40 families who could not afford to purchase books for their children. A real highlight was when a group of "at risk" students from South Lake Elementary came to select a free bag of books for their families. It is energizing to see how excited they become about having books and how they thoughtfully selected books for each family member. We also shared our unsold books with about 15 non-profits and schools who sent representatives to take books that could be useful to their clients or students. These included several *Friends of the Library* organizations, *Books to Prisons*, and several local elementary schools.

A big Thank You to *Asbury Methodist Village* for allowing us to use the space and all the support provided for the sale, and also to *Wonder Book* who sent two vehicles and three workers on Sunday afternoon to take away the 389 boxes of leftover books. With the help of many, the unsold books were packed up and the room was cleaned up in record time.

Next year's book sale is on April 23-25, 2020. Mark your calendar to reserve time to help.



The many customers on Thursday morning shortly after we opened.

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2019-20

Your AAUW membership expires on June 30. Here is how you may renew for 2019-20:

Respond to AAUW National's personalized email sent to you in April (memberinfo@aauw.org) which allows an easy way to renew by credit card.

Send your check, made payable to AAUW Gaithersburg, to Edie Allison, Treasurer, 11224 Troy Rd., Rockville MD 20852.

Dues for membership types are:

- Member \$87 (\$56 tax deductible as a charitable contribution)
- Life member \$28
- Dual member \$18



Many student volunteers helped box up the unsold books and clean up after the book sale.

THE WOMAN SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT, PART 5

PASSAGE

At first President Wilson had been more amused than he had taken seriously the picketing of the Silent Sentinels in front of the White House. But as the protest grew bigger and bigger among the people and in the newspapers, and as the persistence of the suffragists drew admiration and sympathy, he saw that the issue was a serious one and worthy of attention. Moreover, he was impressed by women's participation in the war effort of World War I. Finally, he shifted positions, addressed the Senate in favor of the suffrage amendment and helped its passage through Congress.

The amendment failed in the Senate. Another year passed before it was re-introduced in the House of Representatives where it passed by more than the required two-thirds vote. On June 4, 1919, the Senate passed it. Now the amendment was sent to the states for ratification.

Immediately, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin were the first to ratify. By August 1920 only one more state was needed. Attention was on Tennessee for the final vote, but the situation looked bleak because most southern states were against the amendment. Representative Harry T. Burn, now in his mid-twenties, had been the youngest member elected to the Tennessee General Assembly. The vote was deadlocked, with Burn expected to break it by voting against the amendment. He received a letter from his mother in which she wrote:

"Hurrah, and vote for suffrage! Don't keep them in doubt. I notice some of the speeches against. They were bitter. I have been watching to see how you stood, but have not noticed anything yet...be a good boy and help Mrs. Catt put the 'rat' in ratification."

Burn voted for the amendment just as the ratification period was to expire, and it was narrowly approved by the Tennessee assembly. Burn later put in the rec-

ord, "I know that a mother's advice is always safest for her boy to follow, and my mother wanted me to vote for ratification."

Thus, on August 18, 1920, ratification by the states of the Suffrage Amendment was completed. It was sent back to the Congress and received final approval on August 26, 1920. It read:

AMENDMENT XIX. Women's Suffrage. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott did not live to get the right to vote. A marble monument of their busts had been presented to the U.S. Capitol in 1921 but had been placed in an obscure place in the Capitol Crypt. In 1997, in a revival of the fervor for women's rights, the busts were relocated to a more visible place in the Capitol Rotunda.

Women now outnumber men in voting.

The last words here are from Susan B. Anthony early in the struggle for the vote: "We shall someday be heeded, and when we shall have our amendment to the Constitution of the United States, everybody will think it was always so, just exactly as many young people think that all the privileges, all the freedom all the enjoyments which woman now possesses always were hers. They have no idea of how every single inch of ground that she stands upon today has been gained by the hard work of some little handful of women of the past."

As you think of all these things that passed so hard, may you always hold sacred your right to vote.

The Portrait Monument at the U.S. Capitol depicting Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony and Lucretia Mott.

GREAT DECISIONS

- Mary Wykes, Coordinator

The Great Decisions Group will meet on Wednesday, May 22, at 2:30 p.m., at the home of Eloho Basikoro at 826 Gallop Hill Road, Apartment D, Gaithersburg. Her phone number is 425-268-3984 and e-mail address is etobris@gmail.com. Please let her know if you plan to attend. We will discuss the problems arising from the

current mass migrations, as interpreted by the Foreign Policy Association article, "The Rise of Populism in Europe."

New members are welcome

AAUW GAITHERSBURG BRANCH

Website: gaithersburg-md.aauw.net

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

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Co-Vice President for Membership

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Patsy Marks

Mary Wykes

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Barbara Garrard

Appointed Member of the Board

Liz Hessel

Newsletter Editor

Qing Jiang

Newsletter Coordinator

Dorothy Camara

LITERATURE GROUP

The Literature Group will meet on Saturday, May 25, at 10 a.m. at Sandra Finerty's home at 10908 Kingstead Road, Damascus. Please let Sandra know if you will or will not be attending. Her phone number is 301-253-6170 or 240-277-5221 (cell). The book to be discussed is "The Library Book" by Susan Orlean.

A reviewer says "she re-opens the unsolved mystery of the most catastrophic library fire in American history and delivers a dazzling homage to a beloved institution—our libraries."

HERSTORY INTEREST GROUP

In May the HerStory Interest Group reviewed the steps in achieving woman suffrage, from Congressional approval to ratification by the required number of states, noting those that came "late," which included our own state of Maryland. In our next meeting, on June 5, we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of Congressional approval of the suffrage amendment, which happened on June 4, 1919. We will talk about our current appraisal of U.S. laws today and prevailing efforts at reducing the number of women voting.

the fall meeting will be on August 7 or September 4. We will decide what to cover in the coming year. Should we break our rule of covering women from the past in order to cover some of the new women now running for president.

See you then? We meet as usual at 2:30 p.m. in the Club Room at the Park View Building at Asbury. Call Anita Taylor at ~~240-361-3101~~ or write caldwelltaylor33@gmail.com.

In our June meeting we'll also discuss our summer schedule, how to open the fall season, and whether

AAUW Gaithersburg Calendar of Events

HerStory Group	Wednesday, May 1 - 2:30 p.m.
Board of Directors	Tuesday, May 14 - 7 p.m.
Branch Program, Annual Meeting & Officer Installation	Tuesday, May 21 - 7 p.m.
Great Decisions	Wednesday, May 22 - 2:30 p.m.
Literature Group	Saturday, May 25 - 10 a.m.
NCCWSL, Univ. of Maryland, College Park	May 29 - June 1
HerStory Group	Wednesday, June 5 - 2:30 p.m.

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