



Empowering Women
Since 1881

AAUW Gaithersburg Branch

NEWSLETTER

October 2019

October Events

BRANCH MEETING

Wednesday, October 16

Gaithersburg Library - Meeting Room 1
Meet & Greet 7 P.M. - Speakers 7:30 P.M.

Hear the Next Generation of Role Models Speak

Our branch scholarship recipients will join us to speak about their career plans and the impact our scholarships are making on their academic development. This year our branch is supporting five female students at Montgomery College and one at the Universities of Shady Grove as they prepare for careers in which women have traditionally been underrepresented. We also sponsored three other students to attend a three-day National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) at the University of Maryland at College Park in May. These scholarships were completely funded by our spring book sales.

This evening's group of impressive students will share their stories. Hear their inspiring comments and be reminded of the impact of the work you have done with our book sales.

Come at 7 p.m. to talk to the students individually prior to the start of the meeting and share refreshments, or join us at 7:30 p.m. to hear the students speak.

(Please note that this branch meeting will be on Wednesday, October 16, not on our usual Tuesdays.)

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, October 8 - 7 P.M.

Conference Room, Hefner Center, Asbury

The AAUW Gaithersburg Board of Directors will hold its monthly meeting on October 8 at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Hefner Center at Asbury Village. Anna Fraker, temporary presiding officer for October, will preside. All members of the branch are invited.

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TEMPORARY PRESIDING OFFICER'S MESSAGE

- *Anna Fraker*

We have had good activities at AAUW recently. If you missed them, we missed you. We understand that it is not possible for everyone to come to our activities. We want you to remember that your membership supports our branch, and we appreciate your membership even if you cannot attend various activities.

Asbury - We have 26 members at Asbury, and we know that some Asbury members may need transportation. We hope they will be able to find rides to the Gaithersburg library when we meet there. We will have meetings at Asbury in December and February, and the book sale will be at Asbury in April.

Branch Meeting - At the September branch meeting, one of our members, Eloho Basikoro, gave a program on women in Nigeria who need HIV/AIDS care. Nigerian women's health and treatment, as well as other societal needs, are dependent on men, most often detrimental to women getting necessary medical treatment. An example that helps understand women's status in Nigeria is that of food and meals--men eat first, the children next and the women last. Eloho's book on this topic is coming out in December 2019, titled "Pathology of Patriarchy: Death, Suffering, Care and Coping in the Gendered Gaps of HIV/AIDS Interventions in Nigeria." Eloho has an

AAUW grant for some of her work.

Business - Edie Allison, branch treasurer, prepared excellent financial reports from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. A financial review committee consisting of Diane Carvey, Anna Fraker, Anita Taylor and Ellen Teague found the reports to be in order.



We are sorry that our excellent secretary, Barbara Garrard, has resigned because of health reasons. We will miss her expertness and fellowship. We hope she will be well soon.

Jean and Roland Hirsch moved to Kansas last spring. Their address is 13830 Metcalf Avenue, Apartment 15218, Overland Park, Kansas 66223.

Our local scholarship recipients of the past year will be on the branch program in October. Please plan to attend and bring friends to this inspiring program.

PATHWAY TO RATIFICATION - OCTOBER 1919

- *Dorothy Camara*

We continue our journey through the state ratifications of the 19th Amendment. This is what happened in October 1919--100 years ago.

After the initial burst of support this past June through September, progress in ratifying the woman suffrage amendment is now riding upon the back of a laggard snail with a sore bunion. Utah is the only state ratifying the amendment for woman suffrage this month.

Highlighting the shout for ratification in Utah was the appearance of Carrie Chapman Catt at the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City. Catt rallied 4,000 people to excited enthusiasm. It was an easy win in Utah. Women already had the state right to vote, and with both Mormons and non-Mormons in favor, the federal right passed unanimously in a quick vote in the Utah assembly--coincidentally presided over by a

woman!

In other parts of the country, however, antisuffragists trumpet their disapproval. From a typical Main Street saloon, conversations such as this are heard: "This vote for women will ruin our homelife. Women should spend their time taking care of the home and children and not messing with this that they don't know anything about like voting. If women get the vote you know they'll take away our right to drink. They're for temperance, you know."



The climb over the pathway to ratification is wobbling. Seventeen states have ratified, but at least 19 more reluctant states have to be convinced to ratify this trembling Suffrage Amendment.

NATIVE WOMEN'S EQUAL PAY DAY: LEARN THE FACTS

— *Deborah J. Vagins, Senior Vice President Public Policy and Research, AAUW*

This year, on September 23, we commemorated Native Women's Equal Pay Day. In 2017, American Indian and Alaska Native women were paid just 58 cents for every dollar white men are paid. For Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander women, that number is 62 cents. Here's why you might not already know about this particular pay gap: Native women are a notoriously understudied group.

- The relatively small size of the population of Native women is at least partially responsible for the lack of information.
- American Indians and Alaska Natives make up about 1.7 percent of the U.S. population, which is approximately 5.6 million men and women.
- There are just 1.4 million Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders. In contrast, there are 235 million people in the white population and 41 million in the Black population. Government survey data contain less information about smaller groups.

Book Sale April 23-25, 2020

- *Liz Hessel, Chair of Book Sales*

Efforts for the 2020 book sale are underway, but book donations seem to be lagging. So I am asking every member to consider if they could do more now to help generate donations and prepare for the sale.

First, be proactive in distributing the white cards with next year's date and information about how to donate books year round. I ask every member to distribute at least three cards per week. Some will be included with these newsletters. For those who receive the newsletter by mail, they will be included. For those who receive the newsletter by e-mail, a PDF of the book sale card file will be attached. Please print on cardstock or paper, then cut up and distribute.

Second, I challenge every member to collect one box or bag of books or DVDs each week. If you don't want to keep these books in your home, contact me or have the donor contact me and someone will pick them up. Gathering books now helps ensure we have a good selection at next year's sale.

Third, help identify other organizations or

More research and data are needed in this area, especially with respect to factors that cause and perpetuate the pay gap. We do know that Native people face high rates of unemployment, poverty and violence as well as limited access to education and health care, and Native women experience intersectional discrimination based on race and gender and other forms of discrimination. And yes, there's a pay gap between Native men (who in turn have a pay gap compared with other men) and Native women.



There is some good news. Native American women are going to college and holding jobs at higher rates than ever before. We know that education and good jobs help increase earnings — though they don't eliminate the wage gap. So for now, we'll mark September 23 and keep advocating for real change.

groups who might have books to donate. Does your employer, employee retirement association, book club, or community association have a newsletter that might publish a request for donations or information about the sale dates?



Fourth, serve on a book sale subcommittee. We need help in many areas, such as marketing, publicity, pricing, sorting. Do you have a talent for designing marketing materials? Are you willing to look up books on the Internet to determine their value? (We can give you guidance.) You could do these activities at home in your own time. Are you just willing to help wherever we need assistance?

Fifth, your new ideas relating to the book sale are welcome. Can you suggest improvements for the book sale or do you have ideas of new things we could do?

To contact me about the book sale, send an e-mail to liz-at-meral.com or call 301-840-1258.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We met two new members at our September branch meeting--Kaitlyn Bosco and Pat Tellish.

Kaitlyn Bosco comes with a history with AAUW, having been a scholarship recipient from AAUW Hagerstown in 2010 and also as a volunteer in Hagerstown's massive book sale last summer. Kaitlyn earned a B.S. degree in speech pathology and audiology at Kent State University, then worked in a government contractor position as an IT technician. She has also worked for a nonprofit sports organization that ran an indoor sports facility and helped start a small soccer organization, High Score Soccer, which focused on teaching toddlers to learn and play soccer together. Kaitlyn now works for a small company servicing the biotechnology industry in the Washington, D.C.- Baltimore area. Also presently enrolled in the Master's of public administration program at the University of Baltimore, she expects to graduate by the winter of 2020. Caitlyn points out that it was through this program that she attended a class with Dr. Lenneal Henderson, "who recommended I join this wonderful organization" of AAUW.

Pat Tellish, originally from Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, is now retired after a long career in healthcare. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Slippery Rock University at Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania, and eventually a

Masters of Public Management with a healthcare emphasis at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. During her 30-year career as the assistant director of nursing at Aliquippa Community Hospital, she also served on several boards of healthcare and recreation agencies and also helped open a women's center. After moving to this area, she built a second career by completing a long-term-care certification course at the University of Maryland, giving her entry to work as a healthcare consultant in administration in both acute care and long-term care. During this time, she opened eight group homes serving as mini-healthcare facilities for medically fragile and developmentally disabled residents. She also worked as a consultant in interpreting changing regulations for institutions such as long-term care and adult and youth correctional facilities.



The membership team--Mary Wykes, Anna Fraker and Patsy Marks--invites you to welcome these two outstanding women to our branch.

(Ed.: Details on Pat Tellish's bio taken from Jan Garman, Village Life, Asbury Village.)

OPPORTUNITIES FROM AAUW NATIONAL

AAUW national offers training in negotiating for better salaries. They have trained 102,656 women to ask for better salaries through WorkSmart Online or in-person workshops. The WorkSmart Online tool won a Gold Brandon Hall award in the Human Capital Management Citizenship category--considered the most prestigious award for learning and development in the United States. You can learn how to better the 82 cents on the dollar women earn compared to men and get the best salary for your talents. You don't have to be an AAUW member to participate.

Looking for help in pursuing postgraduate studies or furthering your career or working on a program to benefit women and girls? Apply for

a fellowship or grant from national. Deadlines for applications run from November to December. Applications for 2020-21 are now open. Again, you don't have to be an AAUW member.



Want to try out your leadership skills or want to shape AAUW's future? AAUW members may apply now through November 22 for a place on AAUW's Board of Directors.

AUGUST 28 EVENT CELEBRATES 19th AMENDMENT RATIFICATION

— *Mary Wykes, Co-Vice President for Membership*

The HerStory Group and the branch membership team sponsored a special event on August 28 at the Park View Club Room at Asbury Village. Special invitations were sent to new residents of Asbury to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment for women's suffrage and to acquaint them with AAUW Gaithersburg and our activities. Sixteen branch members and approximately 35 guests attended. After punch and cookies, a short program followed.

Past branch president Heather Reichardt welcomed the group and told them about the history and goals of AAUW. Anita Taylor, coordinator of the HerStory Group, talked about the history of the women's suffrage movement which finally led to the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution on August 26, 1919. Maria Roberts directed a quiz on the history of women's

suffrage, awarding prizes for correct answers. Averill Farrelly talked about the Great Decisions Group, and Mary Wykes told about the Literature Group.



Mary, for the membership team, urged attendees to join the Branch at the meeting, since the "Shape the Future" dues would apply at half the regular rate. Treasurer Edie Allison reports that five new members joined at this event.

The committee for the event consisted of Anita Taylor, Aurora Sevilla, Maria Roberts, Anna Fraker, Patsy Marks and Mary Wykes.



Averill Farrelly tells the guests at the August 28 meeting about the Great Decisions Group.

GREAT DECISIONS

- *Mary Wykes, Coordinator*



The Great Decisions Group will be hosted and the discussion led by Anita Taylor on Wednesday, October 23, at 2:30 p.m. We will be discussing "The United States and Mexico: Partnership Tested." The study guide article was written by Michael Shifter, president of the Inter-American Dialogue and professor of Latin American Studies at Georgetown University; and Bruno Binetti, non-resident fellow at the Inter-American Dialogue and visiting professor at Torcuato Di Tella Uni-

versity in Buenos Aires, where he teaches U.S. foreign policy.

At this writing, Anita is not sure of her new location, since she will be moving from her current Park View apartment at Asbury Village because of construction in the building. Present group members will be notified of her new location at Asbury before the date of the October meeting. You may also contact Anita at 240-361-3101 for the latest information.

LITERATURE GROUP

- *Mary Wykes for Coordinator Jean Young*

The Literature Group Will meet at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 26, at the home of Mary Wykes, 18900 Diary Road, Montgomery Village (301-717-1040, mary.wykes-at-aol.com.) The book for discussion is "Before We Were Yours" by award-winning novelist Linda Wingate.

This is a thought-provoking and complex tale about two families, two

generations apart, caught in a notorious true life scandal in Memphis--that of the Tennessee Children's Home Society.

New members are always welcome to join the group. Call Mary for directions or to arrange a ride.



HERSTORY INTEREST GROUP

- *Anita Taylor, Coordinator*

The HerStory Interest Group will meet on Wednesday, November 6, at 2:30 p.m. Due to construction planned at the Park View Building, we are not sure where we will meet. Watch your emails from our branch email correspondent or contact Anita Taylor at 240-361-3101 or caldwelltaylor33-at-gmail.com.

In our November meeting we will discuss topics of her-story that we want to cover in upcoming meetings.



AAUW GAITHERSBURG BRANCH

Website: gaithersburg-md.aauw.net

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

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AAUW Gaithersburg Calendar of Events

Board Meeting	Tuesday, October 8 - 7 p.m.
Branch Meeting	Wednesday, October 16 - 7 p.m.
Great Decisions	Wednesday, October 23 - 2:30 p.m.
Literature Group	Saturday, October 26 - 10 a.m.
AAUW Md. Fall Meeting	Saturday, October 26
HerStory Group	Wednesday, November 6 - 2:30 p.m.
HOLD THIS DATE: Book Sale	April 23-25, 2020

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