



# AAUW Gaithersburg Branch

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

NEWSLETTER

October 2022

## October 2022

### AAUW Maryland Fall Conference

Hosted by AAUW Gaithersburg

**Saturday, October 15, 2022**

**9:30 am – 3:30 pm**

#### Improving Voter Participation for Younger Citizens

Location: Casey Community Center

810 S. Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD 20877

#### Morning Program includes:

**Karla Silvestri**, Director of Community Engagement at Montgomery College and Vice President of the County Board of Education will discuss ways to engage younger voters.

**Gilberto Selaya** will talk about the Future Vote program that he created for Montgomery County, which trains 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders to be poll workers.

These presentations will be followed by a group discussion about how AAUW members can contribute to efforts to get younger people to vote.

The strength of America's civic society in the future depends on younger people, and as members of the older generations we should be armed with the knowledge of how to encourage and strengthen their involvement. The registration form is later in this newsletter.

The AAUW Maryland Board Meeting will begin after lunch.

#### Board Meeting

October 11, 7 p.m.

Zoom

The AAUW Gaithersburg Branch Board of Directors will meet on October 11 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. The Zoom code will be sent by email. These meetings are open to all branch members.

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Meeting information and more is on the **BRANCH WEBSITE**

Go to <http://gaithersburg-md.aauw.net> for information about upcoming meetings and other events, and current and past newsletters.

## Presidents Message

### - Edie Allison

The September 18 anniversary celebration was an enormous success. We had a chance to visit with people we had not seen in a long time and enjoy informative and stimulating presentations. This newsletter contains a few photos from the event.

But there is another branch celebration —On Saturday, October 15, Gaithersburg branch will host AAUW members from throughout the state at the AAUW-Maryland Fall conference at the Casey Community Center. You can register for the event using the form in this newsletter or download the form at the branch website, <https://gaithersburg-md.aauw.net/>. Submit it quickly to take advantage of the early-bird registration rate.

If you have a little time to help with meeting logistics, setting up tables and chairs, or picking up breakfast and lunch items, please contact me (edieallison[at]gmail[dot]com.)

The morning program at the state meeting will focus on **Improving Voter Participation for Younger Citizens**. The keynote speaker will be Karla Silvestre, Director of Community Engagement at Montgomery College and Vice President of the County Board of Education, among other community leadership positions. Ms. Silvestre will discuss ways to engage younger voters as well as provide information on the success of allowing 16-year-olds to vote in local elections. This is an international effort to engage younger voters and set them up as consistent participants in civic life.

Tenth grade social studies in Montgomery County focuses on National, state, and local government, and includes a unit on participation in the political process.



The Maryland League of Women Voters two-year study of civic education in Maryland gave the state high marks but thought that some SSL requirements could be better focused to enhance students' civic education.

Although the popular media may suggest that young people have disconnected from political affairs, I have seen many enthusiastic young voters and election workers, as well as under-18 election aides at the polls. One program to encourage young citizen participation in the election process that I have observed as an election worker is Student Election Aides: sixth through twelfth grade students, who are trained and employed by Montgomery County Board of Elections' "Future Vote" program. The students earn SSL, student service learning, credits for helping set up and take down equipment, greeting voters, and surveying voters about their election experience as they leave the polling place. These young people may have offered you an "I Voted" sticker as you left the voting place.

Be sure to check on your voter registration: are you registered? Have you changed your address on the voting records if you have moved? Are you signed up for a mail-in ballot if you want one? Remember the midterm election is on November 8, and early voting runs from October 27 through November 3.

### Pictures from the September 18, 2022, 50th Anniversary Celebration



**Pictured clockwise from upper left: Senator Cheryl Kagan; Mary Wykes sharing reminiscences with the audience; (l to r) Caroline Fisher, Francine Walker and Liz Hessel; Diane Carvey (l) and Marilyn O'Connell.**



## Montgomery County School Board Forum

The forum will take place online (ZOOM) Thursday, October 13 at 7:00 pm. AAUW Maryland is a cosponsor. The attached notice has a place to register to watch online. It will be recorded. This is going to be an important election for education in Montgomery County.

### Board of Education Virtual Candidates Forum

**Thursday October 13, 7:00-8:30 PM, Webinar**

**Moderator: Dr. Janelle Wong, American Studies, University of Maryland**

**The following offices are up for election in the November 8<sup>th</sup>**

**General Election and these candidates will appear on the ballot:**

1. **At large:** Mike Erickson, Karla Silvestre
2. **District 1:** Grace Rivera-Oven, Esther Wells
3. **District 3:** Scott Joftus, Julie Yang
4. **District 5:** Valerie Coll, Brenda Wolff

**To register click [here](#).**

## IN CASE YOU FORGOT, YOU CAN RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP: ONLINE, BY MAIL OR IN PERSON

There is still time to renew your membership for the coming 2022-2023 Fiscal Year that started July 1, 2022.

You can renew by credit card online at the newly designed AAUW site, AAUW.org, after you have changed your password the first time you logged into the new site. The renew button is near the bottom of your Personal Snapshot page. Alternately, you can send a check to our Branch Treasurer, Ellen Teague, 8621 Plum Creek Dr., Gaithersburg, MD 20882. Dues are

\$95, including branch (\$18), Maryland State (\$10), and National (\$67), of which \$64 is tax deductible as a charitable contribution. If you renew online by credit card, be sure you are listed as a member of Gaithersburg, Maryland branch.

## AAUW Maryland Fall Conference Registration

### October 15 AAUW-Maryland Fall Meeting Conference in Gaithersburg, Maryland

AAUW Gaithersburg is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and looks forward to welcoming AAUW members from around the state. The venue is the Casey Community Center, 810 South Frederick Avenue (MD 355, also known as Rockville Pike along parts of its length), Gaithersburg, MD 20877. It is a Gaithersburg city landmark that you will recognize as a repurposed and renovated stone barn built in 1938.

#### Directions:

The Casey Community Center is located on the west side of MD 355. If coming north on MD 355 you will need to make a U-turn to enter the center driveway. Parking is free and located behind the barn. Signs will direct you to the entrance on the north side of the building.

**Registration cost per participant:** \$35 if reserved by October 5, \$40 if reserved after October 5, or \$15 if participating remotely via Zoom. Fee includes morning coffee, refreshments, and lunch.

All attendees are required to be vaccinated. Masking will follow the local requirements at the time, although masks may be worn at any time.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch (if member): \_\_\_\_\_

My current branch office: \_\_\_\_\_

My current state office: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

I choose to participate by Zoom. We'll send a link to your email address before the meeting.

Please describe any special dietary needs:

Vegetarian: \_\_\_\_\_ Vegan: \_\_\_\_\_ Gluten Intolerant: \_\_\_\_\_

Other allergies (please name): \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you wish to opt-out of sharing your contact information in the list of conference attendees.

Checks should be made payable to AAUW Maryland. Send registration form and check to:

Ellen Teague, 8621 Plum Creek Dr., Gaithersburg, MD 20882

#### Convention Registration Cost:

\$35 by October 5

\$40 after October 5

\$15 via Zoom

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Check made payable to AAUW Maryland*

## GREAT DECISIONS

- **Mary Wykes, Coordinataor**



The topic for our Zoom meeting of Great Decisions Friday, October 21, at 2:30 is "Foreign policy, economic power, and US industrial policy." This study guide topic is by Jonathan Chanis, currently manager of New Tide Asset Management, a company focused on global and re-

source trading.

New members are always welcome. For a Study Guide or Zoom link for the September meeting, please contact Coordinator, Mary Wykes, at 301-717-1040 or [MaryWykes\[at\]aol\[dot\]com](mailto:MaryWykes@aol.com)

## HERSTORY INTEREST GROUP

- **Maria Roberts**

Dorothy Thompson was the first journalist Hitler expelled when he came to power. Hear about her life and work at the HerStory's meeting Saturday, October 9, at. 2 pm at

the ParkView Club Room of Asbury Methodist Village.



## October Birthdays:Wish these branch members a Happy Birthday

Terry Medlar	1st
Barbara Brooks	15th
Mary Fraker	15th
Carolyn Fisher	17th

## EXCERPS FROM GAITHERSBURG BRANCH HISTORY

- **MARIA ROBERTS**

Since 1987, earnings from Gaithersburg AAUW's annual used Book Sale funded advancement in higher education for women and girls. Since 2003, the sale funded **\$131,289** in scholarships for local girls attending Montgomery College or the Universities at Shady Grove; and **\$94,200** in graduate fellowships through AAUW-US Education Fund. An additional **\$14,800** was donated to AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund, helping women contest gender discrimination in promotion and tenure decisions;

**\$16,470** for leading college girls to attend a student leadership conference, and **\$13,127** for the cost of local girls' programs described in the next several paragraphs. Credit for the success of recent sales goes to the leadership of Elizabeth Clark Hessel; countless volunteer hours by our members and by middle, high school and college students; member donations; and hosting of the sale by Asbury Methodist Village.

### AAUW GAITHERSBURG BRANCH

**Website:** [gaithersburg-md.aauw.net](http://gaithersburg-md.aauw.net)

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

#### President

Edie Allison

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#### Vice President for Membership

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Ellen Teague

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#### Secretary

Vacant

#### Appointed Member of the Board

Liz Hessel

[Liz\[at\]meral\[dot\]com](mailto:Liz[at]meral[dot]com)

#### Newsletter Editor

Qing Jiang

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#### Newsletter Managing Editor

## **AAUW GAITHERSBURG CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Board Meeting - Zoom	Tuesday, October 11 - 7:00 p.m.
HerStory – In person	Saturday, October 8 - 2:00 p.m.
Great Decisions – Zoom	Friday, October 21 - 2:30 p.m.
AAUW-MD Fall Meeting-in person	Saturday, October 15, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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