



AAUW Gaithersburg Branch

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

NEWSLETTER

May 2023

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Gaithersburg AAUW VIRTUAL BRANCH MEETING!

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Log in to Zoom meeting: 7:00pm

Presentation begins: 7:15pm

Program:

Divided Nation, Divided Town: One Woman's Experience

(delayed Women's History Month presentation)

Speaker:

Emily Correll, with Montgomery History

Emily will present the story of Rockville's Dora Higgins and her experiences during the Civil War. Based on a letter that Dora, an ardent abolitionist, wrote to her mother describing her trials as rebel general J.E.B. Stuart's men came through Rockville and captured her husband. Dora Higgins' experience in Civil War Rockville casts a light on the divisions apparent in even a small town in Maryland and how those divisions affected everyday dealings with neighbors.

Post Program:

Members, please plan to stay for a discussion of the budget and electing the slate of officers for FY 2023/24.

Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 8, 2023, at 7 p.m.

Zoom

The AAUW Gaithersburg Branch Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, May 8 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. The Zoom code will be sent by email. These meetings are open to all branch members.

SPRING LUNCHEON

With the arrival of spring, we will be having another Branch Spring Luncheon in May. Watch for an e-mail from Liz Hessel for details. Members, spouses and friends are all welcome.

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Presidents Message

- Edie Allison

April has been an important month for equity as the Maryland legislature passed a suite of bills that support women and families. May will also be important to AAUW branch members.

The Maryland legislature ended their 2023 session on April 10. Roxann King, Maryland Co-VP for Public Policy provided this summary of legislation that AAUW Maryland members and branches support. These bills have passed and been sent to the Governor for his signature.

- The bill that makes the constitutional right to reproductive liberty a ballot item on the next Maryland general election.
- The bill to make reproductive healthcare available to students at public colleges and universities.
- The bill that repeals marriage as a defense for sexual crimes.
- The bill that holds the new Maryland Gun Control Center responsible for tracking guns surrendered due to final protective orders.
- The bill that ab-solves trafficked youth from non-violent crimes committed while being trafficked.
- The Collaborative Care Model bill, which expands the very successful model of providing mental health and addiction care management through a primary care physician.
- The Reproductive Health Protection Act, which would protect both patients and providers from out-of-state lawsuits and inquiries.



The Task Force to Study Emergency Room Wait Times passed the House 126-0 but failed to make it through the Senate. Two other bills supported by Maryland AAUW, the Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Act and the End-of-Life Options Bill made no progress this session. Both will probably be reconsidered again in 2024. Many bills require several years to educate legislators about their importance and gain sponsors and supporters.



VOTE NOW ON AAUW NATIONAL BOARD MEMBERS, BYLAWS CHANGES AND PUBLIC POLICY STATEMENT

On about April 6 you should have received an email titled AAUW Election 2023, sent from simplyvoting.com. Your vote must be submitted by 5:00 pm Eastern Time on May 16. Click on the link and enter the username and voting code to go to the ballot. You do not need to sign in to the AAUW website. For information on the candidates, bylaws changes and public policy additions go to <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/>. If you have questions about the election or did not receive a ballot email connect@aauw.org.



VOTE, VOTE, VOTE!

AAUW is a member-based organization. As a member you have the opportunity to vote on several issues in May.

1. At the branch virtual annual meeting on Tuesday, May 16 you will be asked to vote on the branch officer candidates for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2023. Branch officers work hard to keep you informed on issues and events important to education and equity of women and girls. The board also manages branch funds from dues, book sales and contributions to fund programs and scholarships.
2. The proposed budget for next year will also be presented to the members for consideration and discussion at the May 16 meeting. These items will take a few minutes after the May program on "Divided Nation, Divided

Town: One Woman's Experience," presented by Emily Correll for the Montgomery County Historical Society.

3. AAUW National has emailed you a ballot to vote on proposed members of the AAUW Board of Directors, changes to the bylaws, and changes to the AAUW public policy statement. Your online vote is due by 5:00 pm May 16. You received an email with instructions on voting and your personal voting PIN on April 6. See more details elsewhere in the newsletter.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN MAY OR JUNE

National, State and Branch Dues will be due in June. This year National dues are going up \$3.00 to \$72, \$69 of which is deductible as a charitable contribution. State and branch dues are unchanged at \$10 and \$18, respectively. Yes, the total is \$100.

Do not renew your dues until you receive an email reminder. The first batch of renewal notices should have arrived in late April. Other re-

newal notices will arrive in June. Your renewal reminder describes the procedure to renew online. You can always renew by sending your check to the branch treasurer, Ellen Teague, 8621 Plum Creek Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20882.

Special note! Dual members, i.e., members of two branches, are strongly encouraged to renew online.

BUDGET FOR 2023-2024 YEAR

Below is the proposed AAUW Gaithersburg branch budget for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2023. This will be open for discussion at the May 16, 2023 board meeting.

		2023-24	2022-23	2022-23	2021-22	
Description		Proposed	Annual	Actual	Actual	Notes
		Budget	Budget	YTD		
Membership & Operations						
Revenue						
	Membership Income	738.00	738.00	573.00	396.00	1
	Donations		-	-	195.00	
	Trans fr Sp Proj	323.00	310.00	278.49	-	2
	Reserves	<u>19.00</u>	<u>207.00</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	3
	Total Revenue	1,080.00	1,255.00	851.49	591.00	
Expenses						
	MD AAUW	-	30.00	-	-	4
	Newsletter Printing	25.00	200.00	-	-	
	Meeting Room/Zoom	160.00	160.00	-	-	
	Liability Insurance	220.00	210.00	200.00	200.00	5
	D&O Insurance	350.00	340.00	346.80	337.00	6
	Fidelity Bond	70.00	70.00	70.00	-	7
	Hospitality	60.00	60.00	-	-	
	Bank Fees	15.00	15.00	-	-	
	Misc Admin	10.00				
	Promotional Material	50.00	50.00	-	-	
	Program Speakers	120.00	120.00	-	-	
	Net Ann Mtg	-	-	(243.64)	-	
	Net State Mts	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>452.90</u>	<u>-</u>	
	Total Expenses	1,080.00	1,255.00	826.06	537.00	
	Net Revenue/Loss	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25.43</u>	<u>54.00</u>	

Notes

- 1 Majority of membership revenue for 41 members is received in May and June
- 2 Transfer fr Special Projects to provide half the cost of insurance
- 3 Transfer fr Reserves to meet budget shortfall
- 4 Budgeted expenses are based on current budget with Zoom meetings
- 5 One year premium
- 6 One year premium
- 7 \$210 premium for three years 2023-25

Assets as of March 31: Membership \$2,321 and Special Projects \$9,322. Total 11,643.

Insurance is provided by AHT Insurance for AAUW.

GREAT DECISIONS

- **Mary Wykes, Coordinator**



The Foreign Policy Association Great Decisions interest group will meet via Zoom at 2:30 on Friday, May 19. The timely discussion topic "Iran at the crossroads" will be led by Mary Wykes. The Study Guide article author is Lawrence G. Potter, who teaches at the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University and was deputy director of Gulf2000, a major research and documentation project on the Persian Gulf states from 1994 to

2016.

New members are always welcome. Contact Mary Wykes, Coordinator at 301-717-1040 or [Mary.Wykes\[at\]aol\[dot\]com](mailto:Mary.Wykes@aol.com) for the Zoom link and a copy of the study guide material.

HERSTORY INTEREST GROUP MEETS EARLIER THAN USUAL, Saturday, May 6 at 2 pm

- **Maria Roberts**

Herstory is early, again: Saturday, May 6th, (the first Saturday again) at 2pm in the Parkview Club Room of Asbury Methodist Village.

This time Herstory will spotlight a group of women, and here's the hint: They walked, they sang, they drove, they prayed, they cooked,

they raised money. They made a big change happen. Who was this group of women? Please keep your guess a secret until the meeting.



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

HerStory – In person	Saturday, May 6 - 2:00 p.m.
Board Meeting – Zoom	Tuesday, May 9, 2023 - 7:00 p.m.
Branch Program – Zoom	Tuesday, May 16, 2023 – 7:00 pm
Great Decisions – Zoom	Friday, May 19 - 2:30 p.m.

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