



BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE BRANCH NEWSLETTER

May 2025

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8300 Burdette Road

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Handicapped accessible. Plenty of parking.

**JOIN US FOR OUR MAY MEETING!
BRING A GUEST!**

Saturday, May 10, 2025

11:00 a.m.

The Challenges and Joys of Immigrating to the US

Delegate Lily Qi

State Legislator. Immigrant. Rebel. Champion for Economic Vitality and Cultural Inclusiveness.

“When I first landed in America three decades ago, I would never have imagined that one day I would be elected to the Maryland State House. A story like mine is only possible in America where people would vote for a name they can't even pronounce! As an immigrant who came here by choice, I know why we must be competitive and inclusive at the same time.” – Lily Qi

Lily Qi was born in Shanghai, China on November 4, 1963. She grew up during the height of the Cultural Revolution, during which her family was persecuted. She migrated to Indiana on February 22, 1989, where she attended Manchester University on a sponsorship from Manchester professor Al Deeter, for whom she worked as a translator



when he visited Shanghai. While at Manchester, she met her future husband, Yu "Phil" Peng. She graduated from Manchester University in 1991, earning a M.A. degree in communication studies. Afterwards, the couple worked at universities in Athens, Ohio, and Morgantown, West Virginia. In 1997, the couple moved to Montgomery County, Maryland after Qi accepted a position working on multicultural affairs at American University. She became a citizen of the United States in 1999 and earned a M.B.A. degree in marketing and

global information technology management in 2001 while working at American University. After graduating, Qi began working on economic development for a couple of nonprofit organizations.

She represents the 15th legislative district in the Maryland House of Delegates and previously worked as a chief administrator for economic development under Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett.

President's Letter

Dear AAUW Friends,

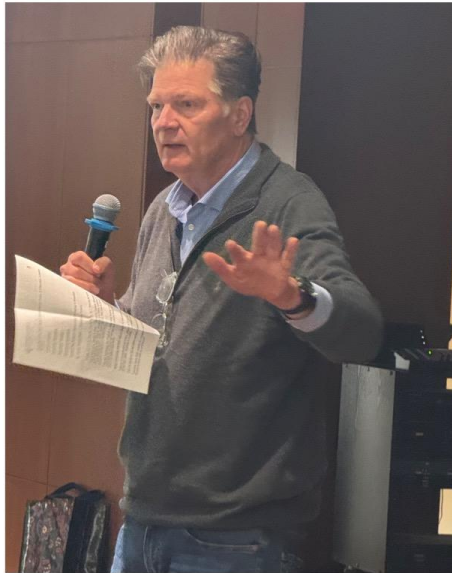
For the last meeting of this program year, Delegate Lily Qi will share her amazing and inspiring story of an immigrant who not only found her niche in the U.S., but rose to become an elected official in Maryland. As we plan to our next program year, beginning in September, I urge you to share with us issues you would like to see on our Bethesda-Chevy Chase AAUW agenda. We share an interest in lifelong learning, and our branch is committed to providing opportunities for our members – and any others who wish to join us – to learn about important issues facing all of us.

I also want to replace the rest of my letter with photographs of the highlights of this program year – plus a couple other photos of personal interest to me. See the following page.....

Thank you for continuing to advocate and fight for women's equity!

Pat

Pat Stocker, President, Bethesda-Chevy Chase AAUW



Photos on previous page, clockwise from upper left:

LeighAnn Sidone, President, Suburban Hospital
Mark Medish

Pat Stocker with MSNBC's Jen Psaki (not from an AAUW meeting, but of interest)

Kate Campbell Stevenson as Eleanor Roosevelt

Pat Stocker with Gloria Blackwell, CEO, AAUW (not from an AAUW meeting, but of interest)

Kate again, as Eleanor Roosevelt

Bob Deans, Natural Resources Defense Council

Senator Sara Love with Maryland AAUW President Heather Reichardt

Center: Robyn Nietert, President, Women's Microfinance Initiative, with Carol Starr, Bethesda-Chevy Chase AAUW VP for Public Policy



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

AAUW Vision Statement: AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. For more than 135 years, we have worked together as a national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of women and their families.

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization based on age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.