



Kensington-Rockville Newsletter

American Association Of University Women

Website: kensingtonrockville-md.aauw.net

Email: aauwkenroc@gmail.com

Volume 15 No. 3

November 2016

Kensington-Rockville AAUW Holiday Party

Sunday, December 11, 2:00-4:00

10108 Frederick Avenue, Kensington

Please join us for a social gathering at the home of Jeri Rhodes, who has graciously offered to host us again for our holiday open house. You are encouraged to bring a snack to share. Your contribution of cheese and crackers, veggies and dip, pita and hummus, fresh fruit, sweet treats, or your favorite seasonal specialty will provide a bountiful buffet.

Our annual drop-in creates a festive opportunity to chat informally with branch friends and their guests as we welcome the holidays and share the spirit of the season. This has become a branch tradition so please come.

DID YOU KNOW...that in the late 1960s, a newly formed AAUW program "This Beleaguered Earth Can Man Survive?" was designed to raise awareness of environmental issues? Many branches participated in projects to correct air, water and noise pollution.

Message from the President

President's Notes Downs and Ups

Our country's "highest, hardest glass ceiling" remains intact after coming *this* close to a historic shattering. Women made no net gains in Congress in this national election. Mindful, and supportive, of AAUW's long and continuing nonpartisan history, I confess I am personally disconsolate.

So I'm particularly grateful that within the following week, we had opportunities to participate in three uplifting AAUW events.



On November 12th, Anna Palmisano, new branch member, made a powerful case for a Maryland Patient's Bill of Rights. (Our state ranks at the bottom for hospital-patient satisfaction—how embarrassing.) Anna has lined up legislative sponsors for her bill, including KR member Sen. Susan Lee, and seeks our support and advocacy. Mike Lore, Senator Lee's Chief of Staff, gave us detailed insights on how best to work key leaders and the political process. Public policy champions among us further queried and advised. It was

AAUW at its best.



A few days later several of us braved beltway rush-hour to attend an opening reception of "Life Reflections: The Collection of Janet and Theodore Crampton" at Montgomery College's Cultural Arts Center in Silver Spring. Now alone and recently downsizing, Janet donated her bulging houseful of original art to the college—for exhibiting, and teaching. Dr. DeRionne Pollard, MC President,

and Dr. Brad Stewart, Takoma Park Provost, offered gracious, appreciative remarks along with a lovely buffet. The eclectic works ("If we liked it, we bought it") represented a minor portion of Janet's gift. The exhibit will evolve. Janet pronounced the event "a swell party." We called it a fitting tribute to our member-friend's beautiful heart.

Having moved our national headquarters in June to 1310 L Street, NW, AAUW held an Open House for members on November 17th. After greetings by Patricia Fae Ho, national Board Chair (née President), we enjoyed a tour of the new facilities (staff love its cutting-edge technologies and work-friendly spaces) and lunch, including foods prepared from founder Marion Talbot's recipes (discovered in the archives). For me, and many, the highlight was listening to Public Policy VP Lisa Maatz's take on the election and AAUW's challenges, but also opportunities, ahead. A strategic thinker and spellbinding explainer, Lisa identified AAUW issues that might have a chance, such as paid family leave and improved child care (Ivanka's cause) and the US Senate as our best hope for effective advocacy. We will, as always, she emphasized, "speak truth to power."

I look forward to seeing you at our annual holiday gathering, on Sunday, December 11th.

Dian Belanger
dobelanger@comcast.net

Charting the Course:

We Did It!

Thanks to the amazing generosity of a dozen branch members, inspired by Janet Crampton's ever-over-the-top giving, Kensington-Rockville AAUW has become a **Charting the Course Branch Navigator** in AAUW's campaign to raise \$1 million in unrestricted funds!



You may recall that I expressed a personal goal of raising an additional \$1,000 to add to Janet's qualifying donation of \$25,000. You multiplied that 8+ times! Our total contribution, as of 3 October, is **\$33,441.66**. The campaign is within sight of its million and remains open until 31 December, so there's still time if you're so moved.

Note: We've been asked to have our photograph taken with a giant "check" made out to AAUW, so please be there with a big smile, especially if you are one of the donors (I don't know who you are), at our next meeting, Saturday, 12 November, Bethesda Public

Library.

Thank You Janet Thank You All Thank You Janet Thank You All Thank You Janet Thank You All Thanks

Dian Belanger

Message from the Membership Vice Presidents: Jean Thompson and Virginia Collins

New Member: Dr. Linna Liberchuk

Dr. Linna Liberchuk is an expert in Russian linguistics, comparative linguistics, sociolinguistics, and culturology. Dr. Liberchuk received her master's (1978) and doctoral degrees (1985& 1992) from St. Petersburg State University (Russia). She has been teaching Russian as a foreign language for over twenty years, first in Russia to students from 69 countries, and since 1995 in the US. In addition to her teaching experience, she is the author of two books, a portable electronic book *How to Communicate with Russians in Russian* (www.amazon.com), numerous scholarly articles published in Russian, British, New Zealand and American linguistic journals, and the co-author of several textbooks for foreign students of Russian. In the USA she received her advanced degrees – the Master of Education (2007), the Master of Business Administration (2008) from Strayer University (Washington, DC). Also, she investigated issues of migration in the global context. In 2006, at the Center for Language Education of Georgetown University she presented two papers *Migration, Language, and Language Personality*, and *US-Russia Relations in the Context of International Security and Migration*, which discussed interdisciplinary concepts from fresh and erudite international perspectives.

Dr. Liberchuk is a member of Alpha Chi National College Honor Scholarship Society, the National Language Service Corps, and the Association of Slavic, East Europe and Eurasian Studies dedicated to the advancement of knowledge about the former Soviet Union, Eastern and Central Europe: since 1996, Dr. Liberchuk delivered a number of original presentations at the ASEES national conventions. Currently, Dr. Liberchuk teaches Russian as a foreign language to graduate students at the Institute of World Politics (Washington, DC).

Interest Groups:

GREAT DECISIONS

Marianne Jacobs

aauwenroc@gmail.com

The next Great Decisions meeting is Nov. 18th at 1 pm at the home of Ella Iams, ella.iams@verizon.net. We have completed all of the foreign Policy chapters: therefore, we will discuss the election results. There will be no meeting in December. Great Decisions will meet Jan.20, 2017 at 1pm details to be determined.

The Afternoon Literature Group

Judy Burr aauwenroc@gmail.com

The Literature Group will meet November 15 at 1PM at the home of Ella Iams, ella.iams@verizon.net. We will discuss **Close Your Eyes, Hold Hands** by Chris Bohjalian. There is no meeting in December. The book for January is **All the Light We Cannot See** by Anthony Doerr.

Le Groupe Français

Ruth Spivack aauwenroc@gmail.com

Le Group Francais usually meets in the evening during the third week of the month. We are beginning to read "No Tomorrow" /"Point de Lendemain" by Vivant Denon. It is a bilingual book available locally Politics & Prose or through Amazon

Lunch Bunch

Parma Holt aauwenroc@gmail.com

The Lunch Bunch will meet at noon on Wednesday, January 11, at the Mosaic Café in Rockville. This French restaurant, accented with Mediterranean and Middle Eastern cuisine, is a favorite of many branch members. It is located at 186 Halpine Road, adjacent to Congressional Plaza. Please notify Parma at aauwenroc@gmail.com by Tuesday, January 10, if you plan to join us.

Save the Date:

Women's Legislative Briefing – January 29, 2017

Universities at Shady Grove in Rockville <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw/wlb.html>.

AAUW Maryland will be a sponsor at the highest level and will have an AAUW table for an exhibit. Lyn Peters of the Kensington-Rockville Branch is the co-sponsoring representative for AAUW Maryland. Become a Level 1 or Level 2 cosponsor. A level 1 sponsor also allows recognition and one complementary registration (\$65). A level 2 co-sponsor allows recognition, one complementary registration and one complementary registration that includes representation at the Presidents' Networking session (\$80). Information for individual registration will be sent later.

Coming Events

Jun 14-17, 2017 **AAUW National Convention**
Washington, DC
Pledge now to register for chance at
Free registration.

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

AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community

The American Association of University Women (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 measureable.

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.

Deadline for the January Newsletter is December 20.

Editor's note: the link to the Women's Legislative Briefing is fabulous.

Newsletter Editor

Margery Sullivan
aauwenroc@gmail.com

Circulation:

Ruth Spivack aauwenroc@gmail.com

**AAUW Kensington-Rockville Branch
6540 Wiscasset Rd
Bethesda, MD 20816-2113**

