



Kensington-Rockville Newsletter

American Association of University Women

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November 2017

Saturday, November 11, 2017, 10:00 a.m.
Fox Hill, 8300 Burdette Road, Bethesda, MD 20817

The Women's Rights Movement **Valuing our Past: Building Our Future**

Panel Discussion
Kate Stevenson, Moderator



As the 2016 Presidential election made clear, the women's rights movement is under attack. Women need to look to our past, to the heroes for women's rights, as we build for a brighter future to advance equity for women and girls. Kate Campbell Stevenson, current co-president of the Kensington-Rockville branch, will moderate a panel of women who were true pioneers in the women's movement. Panelists will include Tina Hobson, first director of Federal Executive Women (FEW); Pat Fenn, Charter Appointee and Former Chair, Commission for Women- Prince Georges County. Former VP, Organization for Chinese American Women, Maryland Chapter; Ellouise Schoettler, tireless advocate for ERA and helped form Coalition of Women's Art Organizations as a political organization representing the issues of women artists.

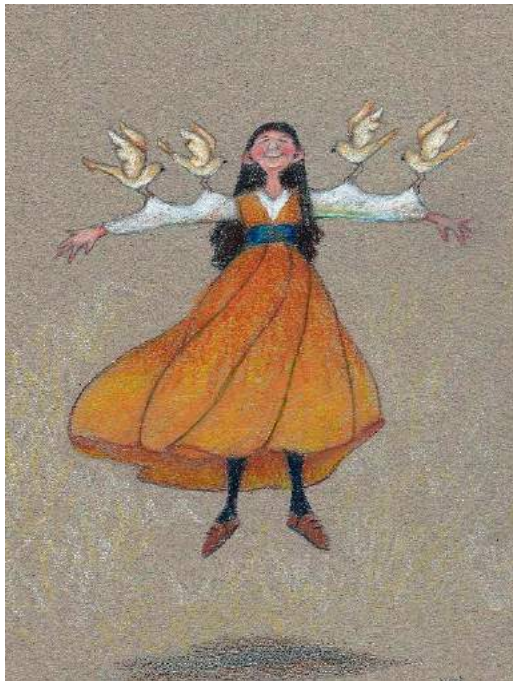
Among topics the panel will address is the 1977 National Women's Conference in Houston, which each attended. It was at this conference that Bella Abzug, Gloria Steinem and other leaders outlined a platform supporting many of the issues that AAUW focuses on today. But right across town in Houston, the conservative women's movement also met, outlining an agenda which opposed "federally funded feminism." That conflict remains with us today, and is a key issue affecting the recent Presidential race and government policies.

They will also provide perspectives on the history of the second wave women's rights movement-their strengths and their challenges Learning from the past we can better form effective strategies promoting women's equality today and for future generations. We build our current strength by standing on the shoulders of giants. At this meeting, we will learn from some of those giants. As Kate puts it, we owe a huge debt of gratitude to all that these fabulous, audacious women have contributed and accomplished on behalf of women and our world. Now we must focus our actions on what we can do to stop the back track and move women's equality FORWARD!

Fox Hill, 8300 Burdette Road, Intersection of River Road just inside the beltway

Presidents' Message

In 2017- every day seems more of a challenge --especially for women and girls. That's when I find strength and inspiration in the support of my AAUW sisters. You lift me up! There is great comfort and strength knowing that we have women with indefatigable spirit! AAUW women continue to fight for pay equity, fighting against sexual harassment in our schools and workplace, and lobbying our national, and state legislatures to make fairer laws to improve the lives of millions of women and their families. Change is a process...



sometimes a long and arduous process. Yet, we are dedicated to making positive change HAPPEN! Thank you to the K-R Branch members who are participating in the MLAW event November 18 in Howard County. Your efforts make a big difference. I would like to encourage all our branch members to attend our joint K-R and Bethesda Chevy Chase Branch meeting 10 a.m. November 11 at Fox Hill in Bethesda. It's a beautiful facility with ample parking.

"You lift me up" drawing by Heidi White, 2017

This is an excellent opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor along. We suggest you come early to enjoy light breakfast refreshments and grab a good seat to hear riveting, and funny firsthand accounts of many women who attended the history making 1977 Houston Women's Conference. Women's History is Real! It's Relevant! It's Revolutionary! We can learn valuable lessons from these women's uplifting experiences and apply those lessons to today's challenges. May we continue to lift each other up.

Kate Campbell Stevenson / Erin Prangle, AAUW K-R Branch Co-Presidents.

Women's Health Experts Meet with KR Branch

Submitted by Erin Prangley, Co-President KR Branch

The 30+ KR branch members who attended the October meeting were treated to a fascinating conversation about public policy and research informing women's health challenges and emerging issues. Sylvia Crowder arranged for two speakers in recognition of National Health Education Week (October 17-21) and Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October).

Leda Gurley from Office of Analysis and Epidemiology, National Center for Health Statistics, gave an overview of [Healthy People 2020: Addressing Women's and Girls' Health in the National Health Objectives](#). Healthy People 2020 provides science-based, 10-year national objectives for improving the health of all Americans. Ms. Gurley explained women and girl's health goals are addressed in sixteen of the 42 topic areas, including objectives that are still in development. She encouraged us to contact her to get more information on the research and



encouraged us to use the data to empower individuals toward making informed health decisions.

Lorna Forde, President and a Commissioner of the Montgomery County Commission for Women, shared her personal story of how her family was affected by domestic violence. Throughout her presentation, Ms. Forde emphasized how prevalent domestic violence is in our own communities and how to recognize the signs of abuse, even in our own families.

Speakers Leda Gurley and Lorna Forde are pictured with Sylvia Crowder, Erin Prangley and Kate Campbell Stevenson

A short branch meeting followed the speakers and lunch. During the meeting, the branch approved KR meeting dates for 2017-2018 and NCCWSL support for 2017-2018 goals. Please help us meet our branch goal of 50% participation from our members by making your contribution to the [Maryland Women of Distinction \(NCCWSL\) fund](#) today!

AAUW MD Fall Meeting Call to Action

Submitted by Erin Prangley, Co-President KR Branch and AAUW MD Public Policy Vice President

Several KR branch members attended the AAUW MD fall conference hosted by the Gaithersburg AAUW branch at the lovely Asbury Methodist Village. It was quite a gathering as the Gaithersburg branch celebrated its 45th Anniversary with cake and about 60 AAUW members from all over the state, from Garrett County to the Eastern Shore. Jud Ashman, Gaithersburg Mayor, gave welcoming remarks and presented a certificate to the Gaithersburg Branch in honor of the years of community service.

The main program on public policy advocacy training was run by KR branch members Erin Prangley and Anita Rosen. They gave an overview of steps you can take to engage in policy advocacy, whether online through the AAUW Action Network, by writing letters to the editor, participating in legislative events like the MLAW conference or state lobby days, joining Lobby Corp, and more.



We were then joined by Delegate Bill Frick (District 16/Montgomery County), the Majority Leader of the MD House of Delegates. Del. Frick gave a thorough and insightful overview of how a bill becomes a law in the MD Statehouse. He identified as a feminist, sharing personal stories about his journey to running for office while balancing his role as a father and attorney at a prestigious law firm. Del. Frick encouraged AAUW MD members to contact him anytime if we ever have questions or concerns about local and state government issues.

Why should you go to Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women Conference?

Submitted by Erin Prangley, Co-President KR Branch and AAUW MD Public Policy Vice President

At the AAUW MD fall meeting, I asked members to take a pledge to engage in public policy this year. I started with a quote from Margaret Mead, an AAUW member, who said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

We know that [AAUW voices](#) were needed to pass invaluable MD state legislation such as the [2016 Equal Pay for Equal Work](#) legislation. Which bills will we need your voice to advocate for next year? You can learn what is up next, and how YOU can have a direct voice in influencing which bills AAUW and other groups will work on by attending the Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women Conference on November 18, 9:30 am-3:30 pm, at Howard Community College, Columbia, MD.

AAUW MD is on the board of MLAW, a statewide coalition of women's groups and individuals formed to provide a non-partisan, independent, voice for Maryland women and families. We are also a sponsor of the MLAW fall conference and we encourage you to attend! The MLAW fall conference will feature a moderated panel: "Mobilizing the Power of Maryland Women in a Time of Uncertainty", including: Delegate Terri Hill (Maryland House of Delegates), Toni Van Pelt (National Organization for Women), Pat Lambert (Executive Alliance/Network 2000) and Luis Larin (United Workers). Delegate Ariana Kelly, President of the Women Legislators of Maryland, will give opening remarks.

The highlight of the conference will be the presentation of legislative proposals for the upcoming 2018 legislative session. Join us to learn about the bills that will make up the 2018 Agenda. An optional Grassroots Advocacy 101 workshop will be offered from 1:30 to 3:30 pm. There is no charge for this workshop. A light continental breakfast is included with registration. Optional box lunches for those staying for the Advocacy 101 workshop are available for \$10 and require a pre-order. Click here to download a Registration Form: MLAW Fall Conference 2017 Registration Form or register [online](#) at <https://mlawfallconference2017.eventbrite.com>.

Message from the Membership Vice Presidents: Ella Iams and Gail Greenberg

We have two new members to welcome to our branch.

Martha Merenda lives in Rockville and graduated from the University of Puget Sound with a BA in art. She has an MA from Stanford in college personnel services.

Renee Carlson who lives at Ingleside in King Farm. She is interested in public policy.

AAUW Funds

The Maryland AAUW Woman of Distinction Honoree for 2017-18 is our Branch member **Kate Campbell Stevenson**. How thrilling for Kate and our Branch. Maryland AAUW and branch members are urged to support both the honoree and the annual Conference for College and Women Student Leaders (NCCW). The Kensington/Rockville AAUW Branch Board has set goals for contributions to this fund: 100% of Board members and 50% of Branch members, a contribution of any amount. You can contribute on-line at the AAUW website or write a check to AAUW Funds. Write the fund number (4355) in the memo section of your check as well as your branch affiliation (MD2030). Mail your check to the AAUW Development Office P.O. Box 98045, Washington, DC 20090-8045.

BECOME A TWO-MINUTE ACTIVIST

Action Network is the cornerstone of AAUW's e-advocacy efforts. By signing up, you will join **AAUW Action Network** and receive urgent e-mail notices to contact your elected officials. With our online Two-Minute Activist tool, it takes just minutes to make your voice heard!

To sign up, go to www.aauw.org. Scroll down on right side of screen to "TAKE ACTION." Click on and then scroll down to "Become a Two-Minute Activist" and register.

Join the AAUW Archives Corps!

Does the Past stir your juices? Are you curious about what AAUW has done to keep women loyal and committed for 136 years, and counting? Have you ever wondered who all those thousands of women were, and would become, that we have supported with AAUW fellowships and grants since 1888? Do you enjoy piecing together long-forgotten stories from fragile, faded papers?

Join the AAUW Archives Corps to work with other local members, under staff direction, to rediscover, process, and preserve for future use the documentary record of AAUW's extraordinary history. Archives volunteers commit to one partial day per month, usually the first Monday or Tuesday. Intrigued? Query Dian Belanger, dobelanger@comcast.net.

Join the AAUW Lobby Corps!

Does the Future push your buttons, especially the future for women and girls? Do you care about Title IX, sexual harassment, pay equity, voting and human rights? Does today's political atmosphere keep you up at night? Would you like to rationally promote and influence nonpartisan progress at the highest level?

Join the AAUW Lobby Corps on Capitol Hill to inform and urge legislative action for a more just world. Volunteer lobbyists, trained and briefed by AAUW public policy staff, commit to Thursday mornings when Congress is in session. Impassioned? Query Erin Prangle, erin.prangle@gmail.com.

Interest Groups

GREAT DECISIONS

Marianne Jacobs

AAUWKenRock@gmail.com

November meeting will be Friday
Nov. 17th at 1 PM at the home of
Gail Greenberg

Le Groupe Française

Ruth Spivack

AAUWKenRock@gmail.com

Lunch Bunch

Parma Holt AAUWKenRock@gmail.com

The Lunch Bunch will meet at noon on
Tuesday, November 14, at El Patio
Argentine Restaurant, 5240 Randolph
Road, Rockville. Ample free parking is
available in the parking lot of the
shopping plaza. Please notify Parma at
AAUWKenRock@gmail.com
by Monday, November 13, if you
plan to join us.

The Afternoon Literature Group

Judy Burr AAUWKenRock@gmail.com

November 21, 2017

We will be discussing **The Rent
Collector** by Camron Wright. We
will meet at the home of Maritsa
George. Contact her if you plan to
attend. maritsageo@verizon.net.

Deadline for the December Newsletter is November 20.

Upcoming Events

K-R Branch HOLIDAY PARTY! December 10, 2 p.m-4 p.m.

November 18: Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women Conference. 9:30 am-3:30 pm,
Howard Community College, Columbia, MD

January 13: Docent to lead a tour of the Hall of Human Origins and branch meeting
January 28: Montgomery County Legislative Briefing, 12:30–6 pm, The Universities at Shady Grove,
Bldg. II 9630 Gudelsky Drive, Rockville, MD

February 8: MLAW Legislative Reception, Miller Senate Office Building, 11 Bladen
Street, Annapolis, MD

April 14: AAUW Maryland State Convention Hosted by Baltimore Branch

May 12: K-R Branch's Annual Meeting. Pot-luck. Anita Rosen's home, Silver Spring, MD

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

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.*

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 measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

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