



Kensington-Rockville Newsletter

American Association of University Women

Website: kensingtonrockville-md.aauw.net

Email: AAUWKenRock@gmail.com

Volume 16 No. 4

December 2017

Kensington-Rockville

Saturday, January 13, 2018 at 10:15

Hall of Human Origins

National Museum of Natural History

We will meet on the right side after going through security at the Constitution Ave Entrance, by the Q?rius exhibit entrance



Dr. Jurate Landwehr will be the docent who will guide us through this exciting exhibit. She is a consulting hydrologist who has done paleoclimatological research; she has been a docent in the Hall of Human Origins since its opening in 2010.

The David H. Koch Hall of Human Origins offers visitors an immersive, interactive journey through 6 million years of scientific evidence for human origins and the stories of survival and extinction in our family tree during times of dramatic climate instability.

As a group we can have lunch in the Atrium Café in the Natural History Museum after the tour.

A reminder the American History Museum is next door and there is Suffragette performance (typically at 12:30, 1:30, and 3:00 p.m.). Thank you, Howard Iams for this information.

Presidents' Message

A New Year's Message

Ring out 2017 and PLEASE ring in the New Year! Last year was unbelievably stressful. Read into that what you'd like. Many of our Kensington-Rockville Branch members have overcome accidents, major illnesses, transitions, life challenges, loss of jobs and then finally finding new rewarding jobs. But the redeeming situation is that most of us are currently in one piece and still have most of our wits about us!

In the past year we have leaned on each other for strength and step-by-step found our way forward. And FORWARD is the direction we will continue to push and pull. There is great work to be done building coalitions and lobbying lawmakers on the state and national level to advance our mission --equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. And at the same time we value our cherished friendships and delight in our shared interest groups that help educate, entertain and sustain us.

This coming election year calls out to seriously think where and how each of us can most effectively contribute our talents to promote and *preserve* our AAUW goals. We ask only that you do *what* you can, *where* you are with the energy and resources you have available to you. Whether it's using the two-minute Activist to notify our elected officials where we stand on the issues, or writing letters to the editor, helping with community events, candidate forums or directly lobbying our legislators in Annapolis or Washington, DC. Any or all of these actions will help promote our cause.

Who says January is boring? Our branch has some fabulous events planned for January! Sylvia Crowder has coordinated an excellent Tour of the Hall of Human Origins on Saturday January 13 at the National Museum of Natural History. (Further event details can be found in this newsletter). We hope you will join us Sunday January 28 at the Universities at Shady Grove for the Women's Legislative Briefing. It's an exciting event that uplifts, educates, and empowers all participants. See you there! (Registration material attached).

May 2018 be a healthy, productive and joyous year for all of us! Thank you to all of our members who make K-R Branch a dynamic group to celebrate and bring extra value to our lives. A special thank you to Jeri Rhodes who for many years has graciously hosted our K-R Holiday Potluck Party. This was Jeri's final year of hosting.... so be thinking if you would be willing to host this special event at your home next year.

Kate Campbell Stevenson, and Erin Prangle, Co-Presidents, K-R Branch

Membership Co-Chairs

Ella Iams and Gail Greenberg

Welcome to new branch member Michele Beach. Michele has a Master degree in English Literature from the University of Maryland and a Bachelor of Arts in English from Washington Adventist University and a Bachelor of Arts in Education from University of Maryland. She has been participating in the French group and is interested in communications. She lives in Brookeville, MD.

AAUW Funds Chair

Ella Iams

The Kensington-Rockville Branch board has set a major goal for 2017-18. One hundred percent (100%) participation of the board and fifty percent (50%) of branch members to contribute to AAUW Fund 4355; the AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) Women of Distinction Ceremony Fund.

Please make your contribution either by check or on-line and be sure to indicate Fund 4355 and our Branch code (MD 2030). This is a wonderful way for us to honor the 2017-18 Maryland Woman of Distinction, our branch member Kate Campbell-Stevenson a nationally recognized advocate for women and girls.

Gaithersburg AAUW Annual Used Book Sale.

Gaithersburg AAUW invites you to donate your used books for our annual used book sale. **The 2018 sale will be March 22 – 24 at the Arbury Methodist Village in Gaithersburg.** We hope to have 30,000 books as we did last year, but that depends on generous donations.

Your book donations can help financially strapped women students, many of whom are the first person in their family to go to college. The sale proceeds support AAUW American and International Fellowships, LAF and attendees to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, NCCWSL. Proceeds from the sale fund scholarships for women at Montgomery College and the Universities at Shady Grove.

Contact Edie Allison, edieallison@comcast.net to arrange to have your books picked up.

We accept books, records, DVDs and CDs. Please no magazines, old encyclopedias or water-damaged books.

And, please plan to attend the book sale in the Rosborough Building, Asbury Methodist Village, 301 Odenhal Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD. Sale hours are:

- **Thursday, March 22 from 9 am to 8 pm**
- **Friday, March 23 from 9 am to 8 pm**
- **Saturday is bag day: a grocery bag of books is \$10. Hours 9 am to 4 pm**



Thursday morning crowds at the 2017 Gaithersburg AAUW used book sale

Montgomery College Food Pantry Receives Donation from KR Branch Members

According to a September 2017 report from the Urban Institute, more than one in 10 college students experience food insecurity-- lacking consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life. The report, "Assessing Food Insecurity on Campus: A National Look at Food

Insecurity among America's College Students," found that certain students, particularly those who are in two-year colleges and students of color, are significantly more likely to experience food insecurity.



Om Rusten from the Montgomery College Women's & Gender Studies Program accepts food donated by members of the KR Branch for the Food Pantry.

Recognizing the need to address food insecurity in its own student population, the Montgomery College Food Pantry, run by the staff of the Women's and Gender Studies Program, provides nonperishable food items - particularly snack items, that students and the community can access on campus. The items are stacked in a rolling cart and placed outside the Women's and Gender Studies Program offices allowing students to discretely take what they need. The staff also fill bags of staple items like beans, rice, and soup, for individuals and families who ask for help.

During the September and October KR Branch meetings, members generously donated several boxes of food for the Food Pantry. If you would like to learn more about ways to help the Food Pantry through donations of food and money to keep the shelves stocked during the winter months, please contact Prof. Genevieve Carminati at 240-567-7446 or Om Rusten at 240-567-4100 or by email at om.rusten@montgomerycollege.edu.

Submitted by Erin Prangle

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 Prangley, erin.prangley@gmail.com.

Interest Groups

The Afternoon Literature Group

Judy Burr

jAAUWKenRock@gmail.com

Jan 16, 2018, the group will be discussing **The Pearl that Broke Shell: A Novel** by Nadia Hashimi

Lunch Bunch

Parma Holt

AAUWKenRock@gmail.com

GREAT DECISIONS

Marianne Jacobs

AAUWKenRock@gmail.com

Le Groupe Française

Ruth Spivack

AAUWKenRock@gmail.com

Monday, January 15 at 1 p.m.

at the home of Ruth Spivack.

Deadline for the February Newsletter is January 20.

Upcoming Events

January 28 Montgomery County Legislative Briefing, 12:30–6 pm, The Universities at Shady Grove, Bldg. II 9630 Gudelsky Drive, Rockville, MD [See attached flyer](#)

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.

Newsletter Editor

Circulation

Margery Sullivan

msullivan@niaid.nih.gov

Ruth Spivack

raspivack@gmail.com

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

