



# Kensington-Rockville Newsletter

American Association of University Women

Website: [kensingtonrockville-md.aauw.net](http://kensingtonrockville-md.aauw.net)

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## Kensington-Rockville Branch AAUW

### Focus on AAUW Fellows!

**Saturday, March 10, 2018, gather at 11:30, with buffet lunch at noon  
(or 12:45, program only)**

**Ingleside at King Farm, Formal Dining Room  
701 King Farm Boulevard, Rockville**

Expect an especially meaningful branch program in March, as we hear the inspiring stories of three outstanding young women who are currently benefiting from AAUW Fellowships and Grants. All three have special connections with the Kensington-Rockville Branch. AAUW members have supported this program for women seeking higher education, a founding purpose, with our fundraising and personal philanthropy since 1888.

Please join us to welcome, and learn from:



**Roxanne Mirabal-Beltran, Janet Wert Crampton American Fellow**

Roxanne is studying for a PhD in Public Health in the Population, Family, and Reproductive Health Department of Johns Hopkins University. She is interested in the health disparities experienced by the Latino community, in particular how race, gender, education, and socio-economic status (of both patient and provider) contribute to these differences.



**Cynthia Nyaoro, Career Development Grantee**

Cynthia, from Kenya, is using her grant at George Washington University toward her academic goal of an MBA in accounting. She tracks the financial resources of the Kenya RAPID program, which seeks to improve availability of water and sanitation for people and livestock and rebuild a healthy, sustainable ecosystem in arid northern Kenya. She has also kept girls in school by helping to provide sanitary pads and safe, accessible toilets. We know of Cynthia's interest in AAUW, she has already attended two branch meetings.



**Elina Thapa, Dian Belanger International Fellow (funded by AAUW Maryland)**

Elina, from Nepal, is a civil engineer pursuing a Masters degree in Project Management at the University of Maryland College Park. She wants to become a leader in managing infrastructure construction projects that are energy-efficient and low-carbon-emitting in remote rural areas of the world.

*Lunch—lentil soup, salad bar, fruit bowl, cookies, beverages—will cost \$20, including service. Please make your check payable to Margaret Schweitzer and send it to her at 701 King Farm Blvd., Apt. 204, Rockville, MD 20850, to be received by Wednesday, March 7. (As an Ingleside resident, Margaret is responsible for the entire amount, so we will reimburse her directly.) Questions? Call 301-355-5351 or email [margaretschweitzer@gmail.com](mailto:margaretschweitzer@gmail.com).*

There will be a brief Business Meeting.

## Message from our Presidents

We hope those of you who attended the February meeting enjoyed hearing from Road Scholar Ambassador Elaine Murrell. It was so pleasant to hear how many of our branch members have enjoyed adventures abroad with the Road Scholar Program and other travel programs. I want to thank Sylvia Crowder who once again put together and an excellent program for us all.

Next month we are so lucky to have the opportunity to hear stories from amazing women scholars who are sure to inspire us to continue our philanthropic mission to support women in higher education. Thanks to the generosity and hard work of Dian Belanger, Janet Crampton, and Joyce Graf, we will be welcoming AAUW fellows and grantees with connections to Kensington-Rockville Branch. We are looking forward to meeting these women leaders.

Whether you love reading, world events, public policy, travel, good food, philanthropy, networking, whatever, there's a place for you at our branch. We are growing but there's always room for more! So consider bringing a friend to our next meeting which promises to be a great one!

Erin and Kate

We are initiating 2 new items, a description of Interest Groups and A Good Reading Suggestion from a member. Newsletter editor

## AAUW Funds

At the October 2017 board meeting, AAUW Maryland selected **Kate Campbell Stevenson** as Maryland's 2018 Woman of Distinction. She will be honored at the AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) Women of Distinction Ceremony on May 31, 2018.

The Conference, which attracts more than 1,000 students from throughout the United States, is held in late May/early June at the University of Maryland, College Park. As the platinum sponsor of the Ceremony, AAUW Maryland names its own Woman of Distinction. To date, Barbara Fetterhoff, Janet Crampton, Jenny Forehand, Dr. Mary Grace Roman, and Cleopatra Campbell have been honored thanks to generous donations from AAUW Maryland members who provide the platinum sponsorship cost of \$20,000 each year by April 1.

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.

## AAUW Membership Dues for 2018-2019

Effective March 16, 2018, AAUW National Membership dues will increase from \$49 to \$59, of which \$56 is tax deductible as a charitable contribution. The remaining \$3 is not tax deductible because it supports the AAUW Action Fund's section 501(c)(4) Capitol Hill Lobby Corps and get-out-the-vote activities.

**Paid Life Membership** Individuals who qualify for national membership may pay 20 times the national rate one time and become exempt from further national dues. AAUW national life membership is \$1,180 and is fully tax deductible.

**Honorary Life Membership** Individuals who qualify for national membership and have been members for 50 years can apply for honorary life membership and become exempt from further national dues.

The Maryland AAUW dues of \$16 and the Kensington Rockville Branch dues of \$10 are not being increased. **For 2018-2019, members of the branch will pay \$85 and paid life members will pay \$26.** Current branch members' dues expire on 6/30/2018. A renewal form and a link to the AAUW on-line dues website will be available in next month's branch newsletter.

## The Groupe Francais

GROUPE FRANCAIS se réunit une fois par mois autour d'un œuvre littéraire choisie d'un commun accord. On y étudie l'œuvre en lisant le texte intégral. Ainsi *Boule de Suif* de Guy de Maupassant, *La Nuit* de Elie Weisel, et dernièrement *L'Hôte* d'Albert Camus, depuis plusieurs mois, ont fait l'objet de lectures assidues et de commentaires partagés par les membres du Groupe. Les discussions en français sont animées et cultivées. La découverte - ou la redécouverte - de ces textes classiques apporte un vrai plaisir intellectuel au groupe.

Avant de passer à la partie rigoureuse de nos activités, les conversations idéalement en français vont bien avec l'arrivée des membres chez l'un d'entre eux - notre préambule en quelque sorte. On y parle de la France, de sa gastronomie, des voyages lointains ou de proximité entrepris par les plus aventurières parmi nous, de la politique en Europe, de l'éducation, ou des événements qui ponctuent nos vies familiales. Le charme du groupe vient d'une entente *bon enfant* entre les membres, d'une gentillesse partagée, de récits d'expériences enrichissantes vécues par les membres, toujours évoqués avec humour et qui suscitent le rire et la bonne humeur.

On se quitte à regret tant il est vrai qu'il n'est pas rare que nous restions ensemble plus de trois heures. Une collation, un goûter, un repas du soir léger, ou un buffet est toujours offert gracieusement par l'hôtesse et contribue à créer cette atmosphère à la fois détendue et civilisée dans le cadre toujours agréable d'une maison ouverte à tour de rôle comme lieu de rencontre. « Bienvenue » is the word! (Monique Briend-Walker)

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The French Group meets once a month around one French literary work selected by consensus. The Group studies the piece of literature by reading aloud the original text and discussing its concepts and themes. *Boule de Suif* by Guy de Maupassant, *La Nuit* by Elie Weisel, and recently *L'Hôte* by Albert Camus, have been the objects of our animated cultural discussions.

Before tackling our more rigorous pursuits, diversified conversations – ideally in French – start as we arrive at a member's home and form our *préambule*, as it were. France, gastronomy, travels (far and near) by the most adventurous, European affairs, education, or the various events of our family lives are all shared in the *Bon Enfant* charm that defines the group where humour and laughter rule !

We leave reluctantly. It is not rare for our meetings to last past three hours. Afternoon tea , light dinner fare or a small buffet spread is always graciously offered by the hostess and contributes to the relaxed and civilised atmosphere in the cadre of one member's open home that serves as a rotated venue. « Bienvenue » is the word! (Monique Briend-Walker)

## 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:erin.prangle@gmail.com).

### *Le Groupe Française*

Ruth Spivack

[AAUWKenRock@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWKenRock@gmail.com)

Next meeting will be Monday,  
March 19 at 7 p.m.  
Place - TBD  
We will complete the reading of  
L'Hote.

## Interest Groups

### *The Afternoon Literature Group*

Judy Burr

[AAUWKenRock@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWKenRock@gmail.com)

March 20, 2018 The group will  
discuss **Georgia: A Novel of  
Georgia O'Keeffe** by Dawn Tripp

### *GREAT DECISIONS*

Marianne Jacobs

[AAUWKenRock@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWKenRock@gmail.com)

TBA

### Lunch Bunch

Parma Holt [AAUWKenRock@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWKenRock@gmail.com)

TBA.



### **Good Reading Suggestion from Linna Liberchuk**

*Rescue Board: The Untold Story of America's Efforts to Save the Jews of Europe* (2018), a history of the War Refugee Board by Rebecca Erbelding

## **Upcoming Events**

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

**Deadline for the April Newsletter is March 20.**

**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.***

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***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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