

**Kensington-Rockville Branch Meeting**

**The Antarctic Treaty: The Second Political Miracle**

Saturday, November 16, 2019

11 am-12:30 pm

Ingleside at King Farm

Derwood- Ellicott Room

701 King Farm Blvd. Rockville, Maryland

(Parking and entrance in rear)

You are invited to purchase lunch, network and chat afterward at Ingleside

More than sixty years ago, the world got lucky. In the scariest depths of the Cold War, a handful of science leaders who enjoyed extraordinary respect and influence created the International Geophysical Year (IGY), 1957-1958. Global scientists confidently planned an 18-month cooperative world-wide effort to understand the earth and its environment, then brashly got their respective governments to pay for it. Twelve of the 66 participating countries sent scientists to the polar continent, one of the great unknowns of the time. That the IGY could, and did, successfully take place with the world teetering on the edge of a nuclear abyss was indeed a political miracle.

The unprecedented Antarctic Treaty of 1959 brought the second political miracle -- the IGY in Antarctica never ended. How did this largely unknown treaty come about? What did it mean then? What does it mean now? What about its future? Our own member, Dian Belanger will lead us in a fascinating story with critically important implications.

**Our Speaker:**

Dian Olson Belanger, an independent historian, is the author of *Deep Freeze: The United States, the International Geophysical Year, and the Origins of Antarctica’s Age of Science* (University Press of Colorado, 2006). Her first book, *Managing American Wildlife*, won The Wildlife Society’s national book award as “the outstanding publication in wildlife ecology and management.” Her second, *Enabling American Innovation: Engineering and the National Science Foundation*, opened the door to *Deep Freeze* and Dian’s passion for Antarctica.

Dian served as associate curator and technical editor for engineering exhibits at the National Building Museum in Washington and curatorial associate and docent at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History. Her volunteer commitments have included a decade of national leadership for the American Association of University Women. She formerly taught history and is currently a docent at the Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery and an AAUW lobbyist and archivist.

She earned a Bachelor of Science degree, *summa cum laude*, in history from the University of Minnesota Duluth, and a Master of Arts in American Studies from the George Washington University, with additional graduate work at the University of Southern California and California State University at Los Angeles.

**Message from the Branch President**

On Saturday, October 12, a dozen Kensington-Rockville and Howard County Branch members viewed the exhibit, “Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence,” at the National Portrait Gallery. Dian Belanger narrated a compelling history of the seventy-year struggle for the vote. She traced the formation and dissolution of various alliances as well as highlighting individual efforts from the early suffragettes through the post-Civil War period and the interplay with the civil rights movement and into the early twentieth century. I was captivated by Mary Church Terrell, who fought for racial and gender equality, and the militant Alice Paul, who borrowed from her British counterparts and organized parades and pickets. On March 3, 1913, the day before President Wilson’s Inauguration, Paul organized a huge parade down Pennsylvania Avenue headed by “Columbia.” In January 1917, Paul and over 1,000 “Silent Sentinels” began eighteen months of picketing the White House, which resulted in verbal abuse physical arrests of the picketers. In 1918 President Wilson capitulated and two years later the 19th Amendment was ratified The exhibit contains portraits, busts, placards, banners, fliers, pennants, a china set, diaries, short videos, a late nineteenth century ballot box – for women only, and my favorite, a Bushnell cartoon of the ladder for women, starting with slavery and ending in the presidency.

I strongly urge you to see the exhibit before it leaves on January 5. Also, there is an exhibit at the Library of Congress, “Shall Not Be Denied, Women’s Fight for the Vote,” through September 2020 and a free talk at the Library, “One Hundred Years of Women Voting” on November 20.

**Ruth Spivack**

**What’s happening at AAUW**

### **Women in U.S. now must wait till 2119 for equal pay**

WASHINGTON—An [American Association of University Women](https://www.aauw.org/fairpay/) (AAUW) analysis of newly released [U.S. Census Bureau data](https://www.census.gov/newsroom/census-live.html?intcmp=s1-ihpi-live) indicates that women working full time on average still make 80 cents compared to every dollar men make. At the current rate of progress in closing the gap, women will not receive pay equity until the year 2119. [Prior AAUW analysis](https://www.aauw.org/files/2013/02/graduating-to-a-pay-gap-the-earnings-of-women-and-men-one-year-after-college-graduation.pdf) found that even when accounting for education, occupation, hours worked, and other factors, women still earned seven percent less than men. Gender discrimination is a significant cause of the pay gap.

“The minimal change to the average pay gap doesn’t surprise me at all. While there has been recent progress, in fits and spurts, in states across the country, our landscape has been the status quo,” said AAUW Chief Executive Officer Kimberly Churches. “Women and families can’t afford to face another day of the financial insecurity caused by unequal pay. That’s why AAUW is taking the fight for fair pay to every level of government, employers, and employees and backing it up with our in-depth research and practical solutions for closing the gap once and for all.”

AAUW will be compiling a pay gap analysis in its forthcoming research report, The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap, which will demonstrate how much the pay gap impacts women, families, businesses, and the nation’s economy. Families increasingly rely on women’s wages to make ends meet. A majority of mothers are in the paid labor force, and a growing number of them (42 percent) are responsible for supporting their families. Due to the pay gap and lower wages women who complete college degrees are [less able to pay off their student loans promptly](https://www.aauw.org/2016/02/08/student-debt-women/), leaving them paying more and for a longer time than men. All these setbacks compound over a lifetime and can lead to families’ financial insecurity. The pay gap is a multipronged problem but there are also [solutions to address it.](https://www.aauw.org/fairpay/)

“It’s easy to look at these numbers and instantly become depressed,” noted Churches. “But AAUW will continue the drumbeat of equal pay even if Congress and the Trump administration take [steps backward](https://www.aauw.org/article/white-house-decision-on-data-collection/) on this issue. We’re logging  [win](https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2016/08/gender-wage-gap-massachusetts/494045/) after [win](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/social-issues/free-salary-negotiation-workshops-for-women-aim-to-close-the-wage-gap/2017/04/10/e9bc5376-1947-11e7-855e-4824bbb5d748_story.html) in states by [challenging and collaborating with policy makers](http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/dia/action4/common/public/?action_KEY=22984) to take steps toward [strong equal pay legislation](https://www.aauw.org/resource/state-equal-pay-laws/). Additionally, we are empowering women to expertly negotiate their salary through our [salary negotiation workshops](https://salary.aauw.org/) along with working with private and public sector employers on how to ensure [women are better represented in positions of leadership](https://www.aauw.org/research/barriers-and-bias/). At the end of the day diversity is not only the right thing to do, it’s good for a company’s bottom line and our economy.  Without action to close the gender and racial pay gap unequal pay will be a stark reality for women and families for the indeterminate future and that’s a scenario we [refuse to accept](https://www.aauw.org/fairpay/).”

### **2019–2021 (116th Congress*)***

**Letters and Testimony submitted by AAUW to the 116th Congress**

[Letter to Department of Education Reiterating the Request for an Extension of the Comment Period for the Title IX Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](https://www.aauw.org/files/2019/01/Letter-to-Education-Dept-Reiterating-Request-for-Extension-of-Title-IX-NPRM-Comment-Period-nsa.pdf) (1/23/19)

[AAUW Comments to Department of Education Opposing Proposed Regulatory Changes Regarding Title IX](https://www.aauw.org/files/2019/01/AAUW-Comments-to-Department-of-Education-Opposing-Proposed-Regulatory-Changes-Regarding-Title-IX-nsa.pdf) (1/30/19)

[AAUW Member and Supporter Comments to Department of Education Opposing Proposed Regulatory Changes Regarding Title IX](https://www.aauw.org/files/2019/01/AAUW-Member-and-Supporter-Comments-to-Department-of-Education-Opposing-Proposed-Regulatory-Changes-Regarding-Title-IX-nsa.pdf) (1/30/19)

[National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education Comments to Department of Education Opposing Proposed Regulatory Changes Regarding Title IX](https://www.aauw.org/files/2019/01/NCWGE-Comments-to-Department-of-Education-Opposing-Proposed-Regulatory-Changes-Regarding-Title-IX-nsa.pdf) (1/30/19)

[Comments to Department of Education Opposing Proposed Regulatory Changes Regarding Title IX](https://www.aauw.org/files/2019/01/Comments-to-Department-of-Education-Opposing-Proposed-Regulatory-Changes-Regarding-Title-IX-nsa.pdf) (1/30/19)

[**Work Smart Online**](http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/dia/track.jsp?v=2&c=yPil5RH0oB5ho9IZmbkBWlx0b6xt3Yc0)

The Salary Negotiation Program is designed to empower women with the skills and confidence to negotiate for fair pay. Participants learn how to research competitive salaries, articulate their skills, qualifications and experience, and ask for — and get — the pay they deserve. Take the training yourself and then introduce at least one other person – a child or grandchild or friend to the training. It’s available at <https://salary.aauw.org/salary-negotiation/>

**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.

**Interest Groups**

***GREAT DECISIONS***

Marianne Jacobs

[mariannejacobs@verizon.net](mailto:mariannejacobs@verizon.net)

The November meeting is on November 15 at the home of Ella Iams. All members are welcome.

**The Afternoon Literature**

**Group**

Margaret Schweitzer [margaretfschweitzer@gmail.com](mailto:margaretfschweitzer@gmail.com)

The AAUW Literature group will meet on Tuesday,

November 19 at 1 p.m. at the home of Ella Iams.

We will be discussing " A Man Called Ove" by

Frederick Brickman.

This is your chance to meet a grumpy, curmudgeon,

with staunch principles, strict routines and a short fuse.

He believes he is surrounded by idiots.  What follows is

a heartwarming tale of unkempt cats, unlikely friendships, and a community's reassessment.

Ella's email is ella.iams@ [verizon.net](http://verizon.net)  All are welcome!

***Le Groupe Français***

Ruth Spivack

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

We will begin reading "Gigi" by Colette.

Please contact Ruth Spivack for more information.

**Upcoming State and National Events**

**November 23, 2019** - Maryland **Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW) Fall Conference**. The MLAW Fall Agenda Conference will be held at Chesapeake Arts Center located at 194 Hammonds Lane in Brooklyn Park, MD. <https://mdlegagendaforwomen.org/join-mlaw/>.

**The National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW) is conducting a national survey** asking women living in the U.S. about their top five issues or concerns, as women. They want to be sure that the voices of the women of Maryland are included in this survey. The Marylander Summer 2019 6 questionnaire is anonymous, confidential and brief - it takes just a few minutes to complete - and it will give us important information that will help us advocate for the needs of women and girls. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSch20HrXD013CQa2mvQtdeB4xHzwNVS5ikY9j6h3mnhnOLlxg/viewform>

**January 8, 2020-** Coffee with the (Women’s) Caucus. AAUW will be the lead organizer once again for an opening day reception in Annapolis for members of the Women’s Caucus in Annapolis.

**January 26, 2020** - Montgomery County Commission for Women’s 40th Annual Women’s Legislative Briefing. The purpose of the briefing is to provide information on legislative issues of concern to women and families, including bills that will be introduced in the upcoming sessions of the Maryland General Assembly and U.S. Congress. AAUW MD is once again a proud sponsor of this event.

**Deadline for the December Newsletter is November 20.**

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

***The Afternoon Literature Group***

Judy Burr [judyb429@verizon.net](mailto:judyb429@verizon.net)

October 17, 2017, the group will be discussing My Brilliant Friend by Elena Ferrante

**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 and 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.**

**Newsletter Editor Circulation Editor**

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