

**Kensington-Rockville Branch Meeting**

**AAUW Maryland Convention Saturday**

**Saturday, March 21, 2020, 8:30 am – 4:30 Unitarian Universalist Church, Annapolis**

**333 Dubois Rd, Annapolis, MD 21401**

Breakfast, lunch, the day’s program, the business meeting and induction of officers will all be held at this location. Ample free parking.

**We will celebrate and review the 100th anniversary of women’s right to vote in the US and will explore ways to encourage more women to use that vote**

**Early bird registration ends March 9, 2020**

Pages 12-15 of the attached Marylander include information on the convention including the preconvention activities and the registration form.

 **Connie Morella**

Connie Morella represented Maryland's 8th congressional district in the United States House of Representatives from 1987 to 2003. She served as Permanent Representative from the U.S. to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) from 2003 to 2007.

**Kate Campbell Stevenson**

# Kate Campbell Stevenson combines over 35 years of professional experience in music, theatre and education to create Women: Back to Future leadership programs. She has starred in over 30 Broadway musicals produced in regional theaters across the United States, including Camelot, Carousel, My Fair Lady, The King and I, Show Boat, Music Man and I Do! I Do!, as well as performing in radio and TV commercials. In her series of one-woman shows Kate brings to life women leaders from history with “can do” attitudes along with contemporary women leaders in Science Technology, Engineering and Math. Kate captivates audiences from state and federal agency conferences to The National Theatre and The Office of the President in Washington, D.C.; from military bases and national convention halls to renowned college and civic auditoriums; from the poorest rural schools in South Carolina to the fanciest prep schools in LA.

#

# **Kendra Davis**

Kendra Davis is the senior vice president for advancement and partnerships at AAUW. She joined AAUW in February 2018 after serving as the vice president for external relations at Refugees International. Under her leadership the organization garnered its largest individual gift and experienced its most successful year of revenue generation in its 38-year history. Kendra holds a BA in Slavic languages and literatures from Princeton University and an MA in Russian and East European studies from the University of Michigan.

##### **Message from the Branch President**

##### Anita Rosen and Nicole Drew

##### **At the February** 15 Branch meeting, Nicole Y. Drew, Esq. President, of the Montgomery County Commission for Women presented an overview of the Commission’s work. The Commission’s 15-member board is nominated by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council, advises the County Executive and government on issues of concern to women. Their 2019-2010 priorities are (1) safety and security for women (domestic violence, sexual harassment, sexual assault and human trafficking); (2) economic empowerment and (3) promoting women in leadership. Ms. Drew discussed the impact of the Commission’s 2018 report, “A Tale of Two Counties,” which cites the gains of women in Montgomery County in education, earning, political representation, but raises concerns about vulnerable women in “the other county” who do not have the same quality of life. The full report is available at <https://reports.data.montgomerycountymd.gov/stories/s/as7x-56qj>

The Commission is very interested in AAUW’s Work Smart salary negotiation workshops and there was a discussion on how AAUW can assist the Commission in implementing the program in Montgomery County.

**What’s happening at AAUW**

The American Association of University Women has joined forces with New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) to train 10,000 New York City women with the skills to negotiate salary and benefits, as well as to advocate for promotions and leadership opportunities.

The initiative—called “Ask for More”—includes online training sessions and, starting in the fall, a series of in-person workshops in the city’s five boroughs. Future include offering Spanish-language training, as well as programs tailored to women in specific industries. An employer roundtable and other conferences are also planned.

Once fully implemented, “Ask for More” will be among the largest salary negotiation and women’s leadership initiatives in the country, according to the NYCEDC.

“We are unleashing the power of education and training to address the wage gap that denies women economic security, undermines their ability to support their families, seek higher education, and access health care,” said Chirlane McCray, the first lady of New York City. “This is the kind of program we must invest in if we want to support women and their financial futures, and if we want New York to continue leading the nation.”

“These workshops bring the city one step closer to the city we want to be—one where everyone is getting paid what they deserve,” said Faye Penn, Executive Director, of [Women.nyc](https://nam03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnycedc.us1.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3D1ea59591e8f61f1e32eec4bca%26id%3D1e8f1e47aa%26e%3Da9ed42d62d%26utm_source%3DAAUW%2Bwomen.nyc%2Bpress%2Blist%26utm_campaign%3Da69966ad1c-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_07_30_02_51_COPY_04%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_term%3D0_fe5f1ec8ae-a69966ad1c-&data=02%7C01%7Chickeym%40aauw.org%7Ccef43579361245d334f908d717a82d12%7C5a8984feef0b49eabef1cb94ab13a376%7C0%7C0%7C637003883435720184&sdata=2ztppSS1ovcYw7kPPecvG4yWn6YolWCIPJpw%2BpYVz0Q%3D&reserved=0).“These free bootcamps are designed to reach women of all backgrounds throughout the boroughs. We’re proud to partner with AAUW to teach women how to ask for more as part of our effort to keep New York the greatest city in the world for women to succeed.”

“Our goal is for every woman to be able to articulate their value and negotiate their financial futures,” said **Kim Churches**, **Chief Executive Officer, AAUW**.  “Through this partnership, we are thrilled to help thousands of New York women recognize their full potential and to help the city become an even more equitable place for all.”

Since AAUW’s launched its salary-negotiation program in Boston in 2015, close to 100,000 women nationwide have completed the trainings. In post-course surveys, 85 percent of online program participants report feeling more confident asking for a raise or a promotion. Thousands of women who have taken the course say that they have successfully negotiated salaries 10 to 20 percent higher than what was initially offered.

**Maryland Woman of Distinction Award**

Maryland Woman of Distinction Dr. Yvette Myrick of the AAUW Baltimore Branch will be the 2020 Maryland Woman of Distinction. She will be honored at the 2020 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) held at University of Maryland College Park on May 29, 2020. She has committed her life to the pursuit of knowledge, education and advanced learning and enthusiastically mentors others. Dr. Myrick co-created a blog “Thriving in Higher Education Careers” which she developed into a book, *Thriving in Higher Education Careers*, co-authored with Dr. Estelle Young. These are resources for people in higher education or anyone desiring personal growth in their career.

AAUW Maryland’s primary philanthropy supports the Women of Distinction Event. **Maryland Women of Distinction Fund** – (4355) the Maryland AAUW fund’s goal is $20,000 by April 1, 2020.

The silent auction at the MD Convention in March will benefit the Women of Distinction Ceremony at the 2020 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL).

**Branch Member News**

**Mary Slaby**

Mary is moving the Rhinebeck, New York- but wanted the Branch to know that she really enjoyed the several meetings that she attended with Joyce Graf and that she wishes the AAUW Kensington/Rockville Branch well in all that we do.

**New Members**

 **Barbara Gressman**

I grew up in Niagara Falls, NY, attended Wells College where I majored in mathematics, then I went to Stanford University for an MA in Secondary Education in math. After teaching high school math for 6 years, I left teaching for a career as a computer programmer/analyst. I worked 18 years for IBM until my job was 'downsized’. In 1979, my husband, Bill, and married and I became a stay-at-home mom for our two adopted (from South Korea) children. As an 'empty nester' in 2005, I began volunteering for some not-for-profit organizations where I've developed and maintained Microsoft Access databases. I still like having tasks to do utilizing my Microsoft Office skills, but enjoy knitting and some quilting for our three grandchildren under the age of seven. By the way, I've always been interested in AAUW, but unable to make meetings. Now that I am at Ingleside, and Marianne Jacobs is my next-door neighbor, I am more likely to be able to participate.

**Jo Brooks**

I’m delighted to join AAUW’s Kensington-Rockville (MD) Branch – transferring from the DC Branch, primarily because its limited programming is on evenings that are now devoted to my almost-4-year-old granddaughter. I became an AAUW member shortly after joining AAUW’s staff in 2016, working part-time in my post-retirement “fun job” on what I call the “thank-you side” of donor relations. I look forward to getting to know you all.

I’ve lived in the DC area (Alexandria, Capitol Hill, Bethesda and, now, Capitol Hill again) since 1979, except for an 8-year sojourn in San Diego (2007-2015). When I retired in 2007 after 30 years of federal service, my husband (Adrian Kinnane) and I moved to San Diego so that he could sail tall ships and surf and so that I could scull year-around. While there, I had the privilege of serving on the boards of San Diego Coastkeeper (an environmental nonprofit) and ZLAC Rowing Club (the world’s oldest women’s rowing club). I was also a member of the International Boundary & Water Commission’s San Diego Citizens’ Forum Board and the San Diego Regional Airport Authority’s Advisory Committee. In addition, I served as Director of Operations for Run Women Run, a non-partisan political action committee that recruits, trains, and supports pro-choice women candidates in the San Diego area. We moved back to DC in anticipation of grandparenthood and are beyond smitten with young Violet, with whom we spend at least 3 (exhausting) days each week. I also volunteer for the Capitol Hill Community Foundation and the Capitol Hill Village.

Before retirement, I practiced international law at the U.S. Department of State for 18+ years. Earlier in my career, I was a litigator at the U.S. Department of Justice and the EEOC. I graduated from Yale College (B.A. 1971) and Berkeley Law (J.D. 1975). Before transferring to Yale when it started admitting women undergraduates, I attended Wellesley College. While living in San Diego, I earned a Sustainable Business Practices Certificate from UCSD in 2011.

**Dr. Betty Collins**

She joined the branch after attending the 2018 Holiday Party with Sylvia Crowder. She and her husband (until his recent death) are long-time residents of Silver Spring. She was an Educational Administrator who served almost 50 years in the Montgomery County School system. After graduation from the first class at Springbrook H.S., she earned a B.A. (Education) from Towson State University, a M.Ed. from the University of Maryland and a PhD (Education) from George Washington University.

She was able to continue her education beyond Montgomery College because of a program that provided free tuition to teaching graduates who committed to teach in public schools in Maryland for three years. Betty began teaching in Garrett Park E.S., and then worked as a math specialist, assistant principal and a principal until joining the Central Administration as a Director of Staff Development. She loved working with a team of educators who could provide curriculum guidance to teachers in the field. After retirement, she joined two of her graduate students at George Washington University where she obtained her doctorate.

She is currently an Adjunct Professor at the University of the District of Columbia advising elementary student teachers. She enjoys swing dancing, exercising, walking and non-curriculum related reading.

**Judy Holloway**

I joined the Kensington-Rockville branch courtesy of Marjorie Benson, who I met at a DAR meeting. I grew up in Chatham Ohio and graduated from Ohio State University with a B.S. (Medical Technology). That degree led to careers in pediatric microbiology labs, Infection control and prevention and finally healthcare quality and patient safety.  I belonged to the Falls Church AAUW for many years but unfortunately was not able to keep up with that once I moved to Maryland.  I enjoy gardening, sewing, cooking, and singing alto in a church choir. I currently share my home with two parakeets and, well, a revolving number of guppies!

**Remembrances**

**Lu Dillow**

We are sad to report that Lu Dillow died last month at the age of 96. Lu was an Honorary Life Member of the Branch, meaning she had been a member for more than 50 years.

Lu was chairman of the Social Studies group in the late 1950s and we met at her home with small children running around.  We hired a sitter and tried to contain them. Lu had a large Irish setter to add to the mixture.

Lu and her family disappeared for a few years when her husband was a foreign service employee in Viet Nam. They traveled all over the world. When she returned, she became Membership Chair in the Kensington Branch.

 Lu graduated from Knox College with master’s degrees from the University of Wisconsin. She was employed by Montgomery County as a Social worker in the Dept of Aging.  She enjoyed going to local theater and especially to Strathmore for concerts. Recently, she came to the literature group and joined in the discussions.  We will all miss her quiet contributions.

Margaret Schweitzer

**Carolin Beatty Head (1940-2019)**

**A Personal Remembrance**

I don’t recall when exactly I met Carolin Head, but records say that during my Rockville Branch presidency, 1978-80, she served as branch chair for the nationwide AAUW Topic, Families Facing Change. Nor do I recall who alerted me to what specific urgent need, but I clearly remember telephoning Carolin as the appropriate person to take fast action. She listened, then interrupted with, “I’m sick in bed.” As my heart sank I almost missed hearing her continue with, “But I can make phone calls.” And she did, with effect, earning my lasting admiration and friendship.

We seemed to move up and outward in parallel but frequently intersecting tracks. We returned to graduate school, both at George Washington University, at the same time, she in Women’s Studies, I in American Studies. That fall, we went together on our first research foray to the Library of Congress. Her subsequent paper focused on the social and cultural, as well as the economic, importance of quilting. Nearly every row of pews at her memorial service was draped with quilts that she had had some role in creating, dozens of them.

We both went on to serve AAUW at the national level, she on the Public Policy staff, I in a succession of elective volunteer positions. During the 1989 convention in Washington, DC, Carolin was in charge of logistics for our first national Capitol Hill Day. She arranged for buses to bring almost a thousand attendees to the Capitol, where we first gathered for a rally, with Rep. Pat Schroeder and Sen. Olympia Snowe, on the west lawn. The day was *hot* (96º!), and humid; no one escaped without a sweat-ruined dress (always a dress or suit, with heels and panty-hose). We then fanned out to lobby our respective congressional offices—all meticulously planned, with prior training, appointments, and local escorts. Carolin spent most of her day outdoors in the heat, directing member traffic and answering questions. Hers was a heroic achievement.

Unfortunately, Carolin’s career at AAUW ended unhappily. But when the responsible supervisor, once a friend, died of cancer and the staff gathered for informal tributes, Carolin respectfully showed up. She retained her membership, in two branches, after her move to Annapolis. Now and then she’d return to Rockville for visits or important events. That I won’t see her again is a heavy thought, but I will remember her as a friend and a force for women’s equality. How she would have reveled in the suffrage centennial celebrations!

Dian Belanger

**Branch members attended Legislative Reception**

AAUW Kensington-Rockville and AAUW Maryland had an excellent turnout at the February 10, 2020 legislative reception in Annapolis. Pictured are branch members: Erin Prangley, Maryland VP for Public Policy, Dian Belanger, Kate Campbell Stevenson, Maryland co-President, Sylvia Crowder, and Anita Rosen. The Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW) is a non-partisan, independent coalition of groups and individuals that advocates for and serves as a voice for Maryland women and families. MLAW, founded in 1994 celebrated its 25th anniversary and a record of 90 pieces of legislation enacted by the Maryland General Assembly during that time. AAUW is a long-standing partner in this coalition.

The MLAW Fall conference develops the agenda and the legislative reception focuses on raising the visibility of the nine 2020 initiatives with our legislators and with advocates. AAUW Maryland writes letters of support for current initiatives and AAUW members are alerted to bills to be heard in committees in order to email or call legislators seeking their support. Most impressive were the excellent presentations by the many women who represent the lead groups for each bill and comments and support from bill sponsors and legislative supporters, both women and men.

Erin Prangley, Dian Belanger, Kate Campbell-Stevenson, Sylvia Crowder, Anita Rosen

Among Agenda proposed bills are wage history and wage range, family medical leave insurance, non-fatal strangulation as a serious form of assault, and prerelease units for women prisoners. The complete agenda, can be found online at: https://mdlegagendaforwomen.files.wordpress.com/2020/02/mlaw-2020-final-agenda.pdf

***Le Groupe Français***

Ruth Spivack

raspivack@gmail.com

We will be reading "Gigi" by Colette.

Please contact Ruth Spivack for more information.

**Interest Groups**

**The Afternoon Literature**

**Group**

Margaret Schweitzer margaretfschweitzer@gmail.com

The literature Group will meet on Tuesday, March 17 at 1 p.m. at the home of Joyce Graf.  We will be discussing two plays:" True West " by Sam Shepard and” The Clean House" by Sarah Ruhl.

These plays may be in collections of plays by the author or in small paperbacks available at Amazon.  The plays portray different protagonists and a very different outlooks on life of characters.   All are welcome to attend.

***GREAT DECISIONS***

mariannejacobs@verizon.net

Great decision on March 20 at the home of Joyce Graf

**Upcoming State and National Events**

**Saturday, March 21, 2020** AAUW Maryland State Convention

8:30 am – 4:30 pm. Unitarian Universalist Church, Annapolis.

Kate Campbell Stevenson will present her new show, *Amending America: How Women Won the Vote*. She uses music and theater as an agent of change. *Details in the Marylander*.

**March 3, 2020** Montgomery County Board of Education Candidate Forum

 See attached flyer for details

**Saturday, April 18** – **Kensington-Rockville AAUW Branch Meeting** **Celebrating (and supporting) Women.** An interactive program.10:30 am-12:00 pm, Ingleside at King Farm 701 King Farm Blvd., Rockville. Optional Luncheon to follow.

**April 28, 2020** **Maryland Primary Election 7am-8pm**

Early Voting for the Primary Election - Thursday, April 16, 2020 through Thursday, April 23, 2020 from 10 am until 8 pm.

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

**Newsletter Editor Circulation Editor**

Margery Sullivan Ruth Spivack

msullivan@niaid.nih.gov raspivack@gmail.com

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

***The Afternoon Literature Group***

Judy Burr 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.**

**AAUW Kensington-Rockville Branch**

**6540 Wiscasset Rd**

**Bethesda, MD 20816-2113**