

**Kensington-Rockville**

**May Branch Annual Business Meeting**

**Installation of Officers**

**Pot-Luck**

**Saturday May 11, 2019**

**12:30-3:00 p.m.**

**Anita Rosen’s home 3800 Glen Eagles Drive, Silver Spring, 20906 Leisure World**

Join to celebrate some terrific accomplishments of the past program year, hear updates on successes (well done Anna Palmisano!) and activity in Annapolis this year from our member and Senator, Susan Lee. Montgomery College Scholarship recipients have been invited.

Take some time to socialize, welcome our new officers, give us ideas for making next year great, and have a yummy lunch. Feel free to bring guests and potential members.

RSVP by May 9 to Anita Rosen at anitarosen123@gmail.com telling her if you will be bringing an appetizer, main dish, salad, casserole, or dessert to serve 8. Drinks and wine will be furnished.

**Directions to Anita Rosen’s;**

**From Western Montgomery County:** Rt. 28 Norbeck to Bel Pre. Right on Bel Pre. Left on Georgia Ave. Right into Leisure World on Rossmoor Blvd. (look for the big globe). **\*\*** Stop at gate and say you are going to Anita Rosen's. Enter and turn right on Leisure World Blvd. Go 2 blocks and turn Right on Glen Eagles Drive. Immediately turn left on first street, come to end and turn Right. Follow to 3800.

**Parking is available in any guest parking spaces (some next to the house), on our drive way, or anywhere on the street, but only on one side.**

You also can take the Intercounty Connector to Georgia Ave. Turn right at the exit. Then turn Left on Rossmoor Blvd and follow directions from the asterisks.

**From Eastern Montgomery County:** Take Randolph Road or Bonifant/Bel Pre to Georgia Ave. Right on Georgia. Turn right on Rossmoor Blvd and follow directions at asterisks above.

From Connecticut Ave North: Take Connecticut Ave North to the end at the Connecticut Ave. entrance to Leisure World. Stop at gate and say you are going to Anita Rosen’s house. Turn Left on Leisure World Blvd, then Turn Left on Glen Eagles Dr., just past the Interfaith Chapel.

**Message from the President**

Dear friends,

It has been such a gift to be your branch co-president and president for the past two years. I was a new branch member when I accepted the nomination to be co-President with Kate Campbell Stevenson. She taught me so much about what it means to be a leader among leaders - and I am eternally grateful for her faith in me and support over the years.

During that first year, we held many of our meetings at Montgomery College's science building. We were blessed with engaging speakers and thoughtful programming organized by Sylvia Crowder. One of the highlights that first year was an amazing trip we took to the Hall of Human Origins for a personal tour and lunch. This past year, Anita Rosen and Pat Ameling continued the tradition of bringing us all together once a month to enjoy each other's company while always learning new things about the world around us.

I am inspired and humbled by the generosity of our branch members. Consistently among the top donors to AAUW's scholarship, research and policy funds, our branch also contributed the lion’s share of donations to the Maryland Woman of Distinction Fund for NCWSSL. And in our own community, our branch members quietly and humbly provide financial support to students at Montgomery College. Thank you, Dian Belanger and Janet Wert Crampton, and all of you who do so much to support the next generation of feminists.  And, a special thanks to our treasurers, Joyce Graf and Ella Iams for their work as well.

Our membership is at the heart of our branch's success. We could not ask for better ambassadors than our membership co-chairs Maritsa George and Sylvia Crowder. We thoroughly enjoyed the new membership activities and gained new friends because of their hard work. They also helped us through difficult times with the passing of branch members who will remain in our hearts always.

I want to thank all of you for your support and kindness. I look forward to remaining an active member of our branch and serving as Maryland State Co-Vice President for Policy next year.

Sincerely,

Erin Prangley

Kensington-Rockville Branch Members attending the Maryland AAUW Convention and Annual Meeting McHenry, MD



**Kensington Rockville Branch members at the AAUW Maryland Annual Meeting in McHenry, Maryland**. Tracy Lantz, Catherine Hill, Kate Campbell-Stevenson, Erin Prangley, Dian Belanger, Margery Sullivan, and Anita Rosen. Also attending, Jeri Rhodes and Joyce Graf. Erin is holding the citation recognizing our branch as the branch with the largest donation to AAUW Funds.

**Nominating Committee Report**

The Kensington-Rockville Branch Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of officers for 2019-2020:

President Ruth Spivack

Program Vice Presidents Anita Rosen

 Pat Ameling

Membership Vice Presidents Sylvia Crowder

 Maritsa George

Treasurers Joyce Graf

 Ella Iams

Secretary Margaret Schweitzer

2019 Committee members:

Dian Belanger

Kate Campbell-Stevenson

Anita Rosen

**DUES ARE DUE DUES ARE DUE DUES ARE DUE**

 **Renew by JUNE 30, 2019 Life will be easier for the Treasurers**

You may use the form below to join or renew your membership in Kensington-Rockville AAUW. Complete it and mail with a check made out to Kensington-Rockville AAUW.

We encourage you to logon to the member database and pay by credit card. You might also receive an email invoice from AAUW with a link that allows you to pay without logging in. If these electronic options are not for you, then mail your check before June 30.

Annual dues are $85 (Association = $59; AAUW MD = $10; branch dues $16: Total = $85)

Honorary Life members pay no dues.

Life members of AAUW pay $26 in state and branch dues.

Note: Note: AAUW national membership dues are $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.

Name:

Name of Spouse (optional, for yearbook):

Street Address:

Telephone number(s):

Email address:

May we publish your email address in the yearbook?

Are you willing to receive the newsletter via email?

**Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Are you an AAUW Life Member?

**For new members:**

College/University:

College/University City: State\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Degree: Year\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Major:

Other Degree(s), including college or university:

**Send the form and your dues check made payable to Kensington Rockville AAUW to JOYCE GRAF. Email:** **joyce20854@regraf.com** **Contact Joyce if plan to mail your dues to her.**

**Legal Advocacy Update:**

# Gosset v. Lasch, Cooper, Alfred E. Mann Institute for Biomedical Engineering, University of Southern California**: A Sexual Harassment Case**



Nathalie Gosset

**Adopted September 2016\***

[Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964](https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/know-your-rights-at-work/title-vii/) protects employees from sexual harassment and forbids employers from retaliating against their employees for filing a charge of harassment or speaking out against harassment. Nathalie Gosset, the plaintiff in Gosset v. Lasch, Cooper, Alfred E. Mann Institute for Biomedical Engineering, University of Southern California, alleges that she experienced sexual harassment by her employer and was terminated after she reported the behavior. Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination that violates Title VII, and [retaliation](https://www.aauw.org/resource/grudzinski-v-university-of-california-irvine-medical-center-et-al/) against [employees who report harassment](https://www.aauw.org/resource/feather-river-community-college-cases/) is alarmingly widespread.

### **The Story behind the**Gosset **Case**

Nathalie Gosset has worked for 30 years as an engineer. In a dramatically male-dominated field (just [12 percent of engineers are women](https://www.aauw.org/research/solving-the-equation/)), she has built a career and made significant contributions to the advancement of technology. She is also an AAUW member and active [AAUW Tech Trek](https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/stem-education/tech-trek/) supporter.

In 2003, Gosset was hired by the Alfred E. Mann Institute at the University of Southern California as a senior engineering manager. She went on to become the senior director of marketing and technology innovation evaluation, a position directly below the executive director, Jonathan Lasch. Gosset claims that she was subjected to ongoing sexual harassment by Lasch, who became her supervisor in 2007, and that when she reported the conduct to the senior director of finances and human resources, her claims were disregarded, and she faced retaliation for reporting them. After reporting her allegations, she claims that her ability to perform her duties was obstructed, her duties were reassigned, and reprimands were issued. She was terminated in 2015, as was the full four-year scholarship awarded to her daughter by the university through its tuition exchange program.

Gosset was in arbitration hearings, claiming a hostile work environment and wrongful termination as well as sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and retaliation under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the California Fair Employment and Housing Act. This matter has been resolved.

### **Why**Gosset **Matters**

Title VII prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, and religion, and it applies to employers with 15 or more employees, including federal, state, and local governments.

What constitutes [sexual harassment](https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/know-your-rights-at-work/workplace-sexual-harassment/) can vary depending on the situation and people involved. It might include behaviors like unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, direct or indirect threats or bribes for sexual activity, sexual innuendos and comments, sexually suggestive jokes, unwelcome touching or brushing against a person, pervasive displays of materials with sexually illicit or graphic content and attempted or completed sexual assault.

A hostile-environment claim usually requires proof of a pattern of offensive conduct. Nevertheless, a single, unusually severe incident of harassment may be sufficient to constitute a Title VII violation; the more severe the harassment, the less need to show a repetitive series of incidents. This is particularly true when the harassment is physical.

Title VII forbids employers from retaliating against a victim for filing a charge of harassment or speaking out against harassment. It also protects employees from retaliation if they choose to participate in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing on behalf of a co-worker who they believe has had her or his rights violated under Title VII.

\*Title VII cases are one of the types of cases adopted and supported by the [AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund](https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/know-your-rights-at-work/workplace-sexual-harassment/). Although the Gosset case is in the arbitration phase, the AAUW LAF Committee adopted this case because sexual harassment is a core issue that AAUW, and specifically LAF, fight to put an end to. Because Gosset v. Lasch is in arbitration and not a federal case, AAUW cannot offer financial support. However, we will dedicate our organizational support to this individual, to her case, and to the upholding of Title VII’s

**Member News:**

Welcome to new branch member **Betty Collins**.

**JULIE K. SNELL**

On Friday, March 22, 2019, at Arbor Ridge at Riderwood Village, Silver Spring, MD. Beloved wife of Charles W. Snell (1921-2007) for 61 years; mother of Nancy Anselm (Bill) of Arnold, MD, Mark Snell (Anne) of Albuquerque, NM, and Scott Snell of Greenbelt, MD; grandmother of Monica Garcia (Matt), Mark Anselm, Maxwell Anselm (Ana), Margaret Snell, and Emily Snell; great-grandmother of Abigail Julie Garcia. Memorial service at Riderwood Chapel, 3110 Gracefield Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904, on Saturday, June 1, at 2 p.m. Inurnment at Arlington National Cemetery Columbarium at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in her name to American Association for University Women, 1310 L Street NW Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005-4399, or to Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, 930 Campus Road Box 39, Ithaca, NY 14853-6401.

**Kate Campbell Stevenson**

On Friday, 4 p.m. May 10, Kate Campbell Stevenson will perform her one-woman show ***Amending America: How Women Won the Vote*** at The National Archives in Washington, DC.

Stevenson, our own Kensington-Rockville Branch member, 2018 NCWSSL Maryland Woman of Distinction and current AAUW MD Co-President will be part of the Opening Day celebration of their new exhibit, ***Rightfully Hers*** celebrating the passage of the 19th Amendment.  The hour-long performance will be at 4 p.m. in their beautiful McGowan Theater.

So, now is the time to make a plan, gather your friends to join you for the ***Rightfully Hers*** opening day.

<https://www.archivesfoundation.org/event/amending-america-how-women-won-the-vote/>  (located on 700 Pennsylvania Ave N.W. and 7th Street--It is extremely convenient to use the Metro! Archives Metro Station). Enjoy the exhibit and more- Learn from original documents how hundreds of thousands of women organized and persisted for over 72 years to win their vote nationwide.  Then join Kate at 4 p.m. as she *brings to life* many of the struggles, frustrations and passions of these valiant women who made this historic victory happen.

Congress passed the Equal Suffrage Amendment bill in June of 1919 and it was ratified in August 2020. "Come celebrate with Kate" the beginning of the 100th Anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment. Bring your AAUW spirit!!

**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.

**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.

 **Upcoming Events**

May 14, 2019 Deadline for voting for AAUW officers and board members. Check your email.

**Deadline for the Summer Newsletter is May 20, 2019**

**Interest Groups**

**The Afternoon Literature Group**

Margaret Schweitzer margaretsfchweitzer@gmail.com

The AAUW Literature Group will meet on Tuesday, May 21 at 1:00 p.m

at the home of Margaret Schweitzer. We will be discussing " A Tale for the Time Being" by Ruth Ozeki.

In Tokyo, Nao, a sixteen-year-old girl plans to escape her lonely and bullied life but before she goes she plans to document the life of her grandmother, a Buddhist nun.  Chance findings by a novelist interacts with Nao.

Everyone is welcome to the discussion, You don't even have to read the

book.  RSVP to at margaretsfchweitzer@gmail.com

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***GREAT DECISIONS***

Marianne Jacobs

mariannejacobs@verizon.net

The May meeting for Great Decisions is May 17 from 1-3pm at the home of Ella Iams.  We will be discussing Chapter 5.

“Decoding U.S. China Trade”.

***Le Groupe Française***

Ruth Spivack

We meet in the evening to read and discuss French literature and culture.

For more information, please contact Ruth Spivack

raspivack@gmail.com

Margery Sullivan Ruth Spivack

**Newsletter Editor Circulation**

**Marjory Sullivan Ruth Spivack**

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**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 on the basis of 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**