**AAUW Kensington-Rockville Branch**

Let’s Have a Salon

**Ingleside at King Farm - Derwood Room**

**Saturday, January 20, 2024, 10:30am-Noon**

**1615 A Piccard Drive or 701 King Farm Boulevard, Rockville**

**Room to be announced later (**Derwood, Ellicott, or Club)

**Map is attached.**

What is a salon? Simply, this is a gathering of people, held by a host "either to please or to educate" (Wikipedia). There is a fascinating history of salons that dates to the 17th Century, and we will find out more about salons and enjoy one at this meeting.

“Often in the past, the salon was an informal education for women, where they were able to exchange ideas, receive and give criticism, read their own works, and hear the works and ideas of other intellectuals. Many ambitious women used the salon to pursue a form of higher education.” (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salon_(gathering)#:~:text=The%20salon%20was%20an%20informal,a%20form%20of%20higher%20education>.

For our purposes, the salon is simply a chance to interact, and push you away from the usual questions and automatic answers. You will get a chance to think in some new ways. There are no wrong or right answers. We will not be political or argumentative. We will be listening, sharing, learning from each other.

*A sample questions for a salon: What was your first job and what did you learn from it?*

Join us to learn about and enjoy a salon and stay for Café lunch on your own, afterward.

Stay tuned for upcoming programs such as “Legal Puzzlers”, field trips and lunches.

**Anita Rosen CoVP Program** [**anitarosen123@gmail.com**](mailto:anitarosen123@gmail.com)

**Presidents’ Message:**

**From the Presidents**

First, heartfelt thanks to Anita and Howard Rosen, for graciously welcoming us to their lovely home for our holiday gathering on December 10th. And thanks to all who brought such a great variety of sweets and savories to share.

Unfortunately, our branch’s current scholarship-supported Montgomery College student, Zoe Shapiro could not attend, but she, a single mother of a 3-year-old, sent a moving letter of thanks. LaVerne Gordon, Associate Director of Development for the Office of Equity and Inclusion at MC, gave an inspiring presentation and appeal, using Zoe’s letter plus other background information she'd acquired to make a compelling case for the importance of our financial support. Please remember to write your check—in an amount that fits for you.

New and newish members among us expressed gratitude for the opportunity to learn more about AAUW and us as we introduced ourselves in turn. So did the long timers.

Speaking of learning together, do join us on January 20th, 10:30, to consider and practice with each other the role of “salons” in women’s history!

Reminder:

Our Kensington-Rockville Branch will host the 2024 AAUW Maryland Convention on April 20th in Ingleside’s Cultural Arts Center. We are responsible for handling logistics, food, registration, and (already done) off-site lodging. The leadership team will meet for detailed planning at my Ingleside apartment, #528, on Thursday, January 4th, 2p. Do come or let me know of your interest in helping in any way. Barbara Gressman and Terry Sayler, co-chairs, will assign duties according to your interests or special talents. Many thanks!

Dian Belanger,

with Maritsa George

KR Co-President

**Message from:**

**Message from La Verne Gordon, Development Associate Director Montgomery College**

Thank you again for a wonderful afternoon with the Kensington/Rockville Chapter of the AAUW.

It was great meeting you and your colleagues.

I appreciated the opportunity to discuss the Montgomery College Foundation (MCF) and share highlights of Zoe Shapiro, your newest student recipient.  As promised, here is the detail I provided regarding your organization’s philanthropy to the MCF:

* Since Fall 1999, the AAUW Kensington/Rockville Scholarship has:
  + Gifted more than $40,000 in scholarships.
  + Supported more than 35 student recipients; and
  + Provided more than 60 scholarship awards.

We are extremely grateful for your support and look forward to continuing the partnership.

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and new year!

Regards,

La Verne

La Verne Gordon , Development Associate Director, Montgomery College

Telephone:  240-567-4023

Mobile:  301-448-6138

**Message from Zoe Shapiro our 2023 Scholarship Student at Montgomery**

**A Time for Giving:**

* **AAUW Greatest Needs Fund, #9110**. This general fund is for unrestricted gifts, which are used when and where they are most needed, thus providing flexibility to respond to new and emerging challenges facing women and girls.

To donate: Start with aauw.org.

Then click Donate. Greatest Needs will be at the top of the list of donation choices. Use your credit card, or write a check, as above, designating your preferred fund(s). If you do not state a preference, your gift will go to Greatest Needs.

\***Montgomery College Foundation**. Gifts support scholarships for women returning to school, while supporting themselves and dependent(s).

To donate: Give online with credit card at <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/alumni-friends-donors/foundation/donate.html/>. Or write check payable to Montgomery College Foundation, with “AAUW Kensington/Rockville Scholarship” in the memo line. Mail to Montgomery College Foundation, 9221 Corporate Blvd, 3rd Floor, Rockville, MD 20850.

**National Conference of Collegiate Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)**

Dian Belanger has been selected to be the 2024 Woman of the Distinction for AAUW Maryland.

To donate by check:

Make your check out to AAUW.

On the check put the fund name and number:

4355-Maryland Women of Distinction (NCCWSL) Fund

Mail to: AAUW

1310 L Street, NW

Suite 1000

Washington, D.C. 20005

To donate online:

Go to aauw.org. Use the DONATE Tab.

**Discussion Groups:**

**Literature Group-Live!**

Joyce Graf  [joyce@regraf.com](mailto:joyce@regraf.com)

Ella Iams [ellaiams@gmail.com](mailto:ellaiams@gmail.com)

The AAUW Kensington Rockville Literature Group will meet on Tuesday afternoon, January 16.  We will discuss **Finding the Mother Tree**: discovering the wisdom of the forest by Suzanne Simard.  A deeply personal memoir of scientific discovery from the world's leading forest ecologist, this reminds us that the world is a web of stories, connecting us to one another.  The interplay of personal narrative, scientific insights, and the amazing revelations about the life of the forest are absorbing.

The meeting will be Tuesday, January 16 at the home of Maritsa George; the discussion will begin at 1:00.  Please RSVP to  [maritsageo@verizon.net](mailto:maritsageo@verizon.net) .  In case of inclement weather, we will join the meeting by ZOOM, Please RSVP.

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**Le Groupe Francais**

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

The **Le Groupe Français**will meet on Monday, January 8 at 7 p.m. via ZOOM.  The Zoom link will be sent out prior to the meeting.  We will finish reading “Une Femme” by Annie Ernaux.

**Great Decisions-Live!**

Anita Rosen anitarosen123@gmail.com

Bobbe Mintz [Bobbeandherb@comcast.net](mailto:Bobbeandherb@comcast.net)

**What:** We will be discussing Chapter 1: ***The United States and the Middle East.***

Very Timely!

**Time:** Friday, January 12, 2024, 11am. -12:30pm.

**Place**: Derwood Room (?) at Ingleside King Farm. Coffee and drinks available for purchase. Cafe available before or after for lunch or BYOL. In case of inclement weather, a URL will be sent prior to 10:30 for a ZOOM discussion.

Chapter 1 **Video Master class will be shown on Zoom**, Thursday Jan.11 at 7:00 pm. A URL will be sent to participants and those who are interested in viewing the 27-minute video. If that time does not work for you, contact Anita.

For further information, contact Anita or Bobbe.

Map is attached.

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

Newsletter Editor Circulation Editor

Margery Sullivan Ruth Spivack

[msullivan@niaid.nih.gov](mailto:msullivan@niaid.nih.gov) [raspivack@gmail.com](mailto: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](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.**

**AAUW Kensington-Rockville Branch**

**6540 Wiscasset Rd**

**Bethesda, MD 20816-2113**