**AAUW Kensington-Rockville Branch**

**Ingleside at King Farm - Derwood Room**

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

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**Saturday, April 20, 2024, 9:00 a.m.**

**Maryland AAUW State Convention**

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In case you have been under a rug or out of the country and missed this news, our branch is hosting the **AAUW Maryland State Convention** at Ingleside at King Farm on **Saturday, April 20th**. The focus in this all-important year is on public policy, voting and education. AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell will be discussing AAUW priorities. Liliana Katz-Hollander of the Young Feminists Party will bring us up to date on the Equal Rights Amendment. And state officers will be elected. The Marylander has all the registration information.

But before that we need your help that day setting up and directing attendees. The Convention Committee has been busy with arrangements and now it is your turn to step up and provide needed assistance.

* Goodie bags are being stuffed at Ingleside at King Farm on Wednesday, April 17 from 10 AM to noon. Contact Anita Rosen if you can help: anitarosen123@gmail.com
* Greeters on April 20. Must be at Ingleside at King Farm by 8 AM. Contact Terry Sayler: saylerterry2@gmail.com
* Registration Desk sign-in help on April 20. Must be at Ingleside at King Farm by 8 AM. Contact Terry Sayler: saylerterry2@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing as many of you that can come, be with us on April 20th.

**Presidents’ Message:**

**AAUW Maryland and Kensington-Rockville Branch Want You!**

With just a few weeks until the AAUW Maryland 2024 convention, the countdown has begun! Thanks to the dedicated leadership of our talented and diligent Kensington-Rockville planning team, we are in the final stages of preparation to host this primary state event on April 20th in the lovely Cultural Arts Center of Ingleside at King Farm. The state program vice presidents have planned an outstanding program for this crucial election year on issues of public policy, voting rights, and education. We’ll honor selected notable women of global achievement. Gloria Blackwell, AAUW’s CEO, is coming to speak and listen, too.

Join us, too, for a casual social dinner on Friday, April 19th, at Farmsook (“happiness”) Thai Kitchen, just two walkable blocks from Ingleside on King Farm Blvd. We’ll enjoy fine food family-style and convivial conversation AAUW-style.

The attached registration form has all the information for both days. Register using Eventbrite or send your form with check to Ella Iams. Please register without delay to help us estimate food amounts and material needs.

Kudos and warm appreciation to Barbara Gressman, bagressman45@gmail.com, and Terry Sayler, saylerterry2@gmail.com, co-chairs; Carol Fivozinsky, Anita Rosen, Ella Iams, Joyce Graf, and Tracy Lantz. Others have stepped up to handle just-prior and day-of responsibilities. If you haven’t yet, please volunteer with Terry or Barbara now.

Looking back, wasn’t Faye Laing’s March presentation on diagnostic ultrasound, with moving real-time images, outstanding! Better yet, she has told me more than once how much she enjoyed speaking to such an engaged and interactive audience. So, thank you for all your thoughtful questions and comments.

It was lovely seeing long-time member Margaret Schweitzer among us, looking well and happy to be there—a feeling made more profound when, just a few days later, we sadly learned there would not be another. Please see Carol Petzold’s tribute to her friend and ours.

Dian Belanger,

With Maritsa George

KR Co-President

**Save the Date…. April 20 MD State Convention at Ingleside. and Volunteer**

The Kensington-Rockville Branch (that’s us) is hosting the AAUW Maryland State Convention April 20. Mark your calendars to attend. And to volunteer to help Barbara and Terry (Convention co-chairs) make this one of the best. The venue is Ingleside at King Farm where we’ve held several recent meetings. Overnight guests can stay at the Comfort Inn nearby, thanks to Marista George’s efforts. Carol Fivozinsky is planning for a pre-convention Friday evening dinner. Joyce Graf and Ella Iams are managing the reservations. But we still need help. Please volunteer by contacting the person named.

Goodie bag items and assembly: Anita Rosen anitarosen123@gmail.com

Assemble folders: Anita Rosen anitarosen123@gmail.com.

Registration desk on April 20 (must be at Ingleside by 8:15am: Bobbi Mintz bobbeandherb@comcast.net

Greeters, welcomers, direction givers on April 20 (must be at Ingleside by 8:15am): Yvonne Simms ylsimms@gmail.com or Renee Carlson reneepcarlson@comcast.net

Contact Convention co-chairs Barbara Gressman (bagressman45@gmail.com) or Terry Sayler (saylerterry2@gmail.com) for any other information.

**Literature Group Reminder**

**Have you read a good book lately?**

**Nominations are open the 2024-25 Literature Group Reading List.** Anyone in the branch may suggest one or several books for the list. Any book that you have read and that’s readily available in the public library is ok: new or classic, fiction, drama, politics, science, history, biography, poetry. You are strongly encouraged to submit at least one NON-FICTION book. All submissions are due by Sunday, June 16. Please send your choices to joyce@regraf.com.

**Nominating Committee**

**Slate of officers will be elected at May meeting.**

**Nominations**

The Nominating Committee consisting of Anita Rosen, Ella Iams and Maritsa George submit this slate of officers for the 2024-25 program year to be voted on at the May branch meeting.

President – Dian Belanger

Co-VP Program – Anita Rosen

Co-VP Program – Bobbe Mintz

Membership – Ruth Spivack

Co-Treasurer – Joyce Graf

Co-Treasurer – Ella Iams

Secretary- currently unfilled

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**Discussion Groups:**

**Literature Group-Live!**

Joyce Graf  joyce@regraf.com

Ella Iams ellaiams@gmail.com

**Literature Group Meeting**

The AAUW Kensington Rockville Literature Group will meet on Tuesday, April 16 at the home of Ella Iams, 5516 Oakmont Ave., Bethesda. The meeting time is 1:00-3:00 pm. Drinks and light refreshments provided. Please RSVP to Ella Iams.

The April selection **Horse** is a novel by Geraldine Brooks. A discarded painting in a junk pile, a skeleton in an attic, and the greatest racehorse in American history: from these strands, a Pulitzer Prize winner braids a sweeping story of spirit, obsession, and injustice across American history.

The May 21 selection will be chosen at this meeting. Please suggest your choice for our next meeting.

**Literature Group Reminder**

**Notice to all!! Have you read a good book lately?**

**Nominations are open the 2024-25 Literature Group Reading List.** Anyone in the branch may suggest one or several books for the list. Any book that you have read and that’s readily available in the public library is ok: new or classic, fiction, drama, politics, science, history, biography, poetry. You are strongly encouraged to submit at least one NON FICTION book. All submissions are due by Sunday, June 16. Please send your choices to joyce@regraf.com .

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**Le Groupe Francais**

Ruth Spivack raspivack@gmail.com

We will be reading Flaubert's short story:  "Le Couer Simple."

The **Le Groupe Français**will meet on Monday, April 8 at 7 p.m. via ZOOM.  The Zoom link will be sent out prior to the meeting.   We will be reading Flaubert's short story:  "Le Couer Simple.".

RSVP to Ruth so you can be included in the Zoom.

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**Great Decisions-Live!**

Anita Rosen anitarosen123@gmail.com

Bobbe Mintz Bobbeandherb@comcast.net

What: We will be discussing **Chapter 4: Technology Denial and Sino-American Rivalry.**

**Time:  Friday, April 12 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.

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For further information, contact Anita or Bobbe.

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**Calendar of Upcoming Events:**

3 April-15 May 2024     Vote on AAUW Open Membership Bylaws proposal.

11-13 April 2024 Gaithersburg AAUW Branch Annual Book Sale, Asbury

Methodist Village, Gaithersburg,

24 April 2024            AAUW Maryland Convention, Ingleside at King Farm, Rockville, 9a-4p.

30 May-1 June 2024     National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)

31 May 2024                 NCCWSL's Women of Distinction Awards event, University of Maryland, Adele Stamp Student Union, early evening

late September 2024     Atlantic States AAUW Regional Conference, Fredericksburg, VA. Stay tuned!

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

Newsletter Editor Circulation Editor

Margery Sullivan Ruth Spivack

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

AAUW NATIONAL MISSION: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. VISION: AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

**AAUW Kensington-Rockville Branch**

**6540 Wiscasset Rd**

**Bethesda, MD 20816-2113**