**AAUW Kensington-Rockville Branch**

**Ingleside at King Farm - Derwood Room**

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

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

**Annual**

**End of Year Potluck Luncheon, Installation and Meeting**

Ingleside, King Farm- Club Room

1615 Piccard Drive or 701 King Farm Boulevard, Rockville

**Saturday, May 18, 2024, 11:30am**

Let’s enjoy a chance to meet and greet at the Annual end-of-year Potluck and sample some tasty food. This will be an opportunity to socialize, brag a bit about our great hosting of the Spring State Convention, get a brief update on the 2024 legislative session in Annapolis, learn about what our scholarships at Montgomery College are accomplishing, and install our officers. We have invited scholarship recipients, and a legislator. In addition, learn about an exciting, upcoming East Coast AAUW activity and just have a little fun.

**For the Potluck**: Please bring enough of your choice (appetizer, entrée dish, vegetable,

salad, fruit, dessert) to serve 8-10. Cold drinks and wine will be provided.

We look forward to seeing you and your special guest also is welcome!

Anita Rosen & Bobbe Mintz, Co-VPs Program

anitarosen123@gmail.com

See Map for parking.

**Presidents’ Message:**

Teamwork. That’s what it takes to put an event together which will inspire, inform, and confirm a worthy cause. All this happened on Saturday, April 20 at our Maryland State Convention held all day in the lovely setting in the Cultural Arts, Center, Ingleside at King Farm.

Starting the evening before the Convention, 63 members of AAUW, some with spouses, some members from afar, met for a delicious dinner and lively conversations at the Farmsook restaurant. Did I say inspiring? Details described by some of our members about their work in the recent fortifying of the Title IX bill brought home to listeners at my table that AAUW has influence in the halls of Congress. Yes, inspiring, and thoughtful.

Our Branch’s fabulous Convention team printed, collated, stuffed goody bags, created detailed name tags, massaged the sound and broadcasting system, put up signs and collated masses of details with style and grace. They were a wonder to behold and vital to the success of this convention.

One of our speakers, Prof. Brianna Smith (US Naval Academy) explained the workings of ranked choice voting with clarity and conviction. Then a very young 11th grader (!) spoke about her dreams and work in the Young Feminists Party. Liliana Katz-Hollander looks like a pretty teenager but when she spoke with commitment and determination about the need for society to make room for women, she had the stature of the ages behind her…... Another inspiration.

Gloria Blackwell, AAUW National CEO, featured the AAUW update for the year when she spoke emphasizing the courage and commitment, we need to continue the work at hand. Ms. Blackwell referenced AAUW’s mission to advance economic equity and to advance women in leadership throughout the United States and the world. There were many wonderful speakers: Tracy Lantz, our Maryland President, and Roxann King, AAUW Maryland Public Policy VP as well as Dian Belanger, our Branch President; each worthy and…. inspiring

Maritsa George, with Dian Belanger, KR Co-President

**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.

**Are you an AAUW activist?**

Join the AAUW 2-minute activist website. Alert legislator about what is important to you. <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>

Join MLAW the Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women. Our branch and AAUW Maryland support this organization and actively advocates for legislation which is important to the women of Maryland.

http:// <https://mdlegagendaforwomen.org/>

**Discussion Groups:**

**Le Groupe Francais**

Ruth Spivack raspivack@gmail.com

**Please note change of date**

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

The **Le Groupe Français**will meet on Monday, June 3 at 7 p.m. via ZOOM.  The Zoom link will be sent out prior to the meeting.   We will be completing Flaubert's short story:  "Le Couer Simple."

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

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**Literature Group-Live!**

Joyce Graf  joyce@regraf.com

Ella Iams ellaiams@gmail.com

The AAUW Kensington Rockville Literature Group will meet on Tuesday, May 21 at the home of Bernice Genovese, Silver Spring, in Leisure World. The meeting time is 1:00-3:00 pm. Drinks and light refreshments provided.

 Please RSVP to nsjd1@comcast.net

The May selection is a novel by Ann Patchett. **The Dutch House** features a big, beautiful house, eerie vibes, abandoned children, distant father, evil stepmother, sibling relationships. "Set over the course of five decades, **The Dutch House** is a dark fairy tale about two smart people who cannot overcome their past.” (GoodReads website)

Nominations of books for next year are due by June 16. Selections will be made at the June 18 luncheon meeting. The rules are simple: any member of the branch may submit any number of books. Please only nominate books that you have read. Selections should be easily available in the public library.

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**Great Decisions-Live!**

Anita Rosen anitarosen123@gmail.com

Bobbe Mintz Bobbeandherb@comcast.net

**What: We will be discussing Chapter 5: NATO’s Future**

**Time: Friday, May 10 11am. - 12:30pm.**

Place: Derwood Room at Ingleside King Farm. Coffee and drinks available for purchase. Cafe available for lunch or BYOL.

**Thursday: May 9 at 7:00 – 7:35. Master Class video on Zoom**

For further information, contact Anita or Bobbe

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**Calendar of Upcoming Events:**

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

22 June 2024 Transition Board Meeting, Sykesville

20 July 2024 Summer Conference, Baltimore

27-29 September 2024     Atlantic States AAUW Regional Conference, Glen Allen, Virginia

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

Newsletter Editor Circulation Editor

Margery Sullivan Ruth Spivack

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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.

**Kensington-Rockville Branch**

**6540 Wiscasset Rd**

**Bethesda, MD 20816-2113**