**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 Wants You!**

**Brainstorm**

**Tuesday, June 11, 11:45-1:30 The Courtyard Cafe**

**Map of Ingleside parking attached Lunch and Program**

Though we don't often meet in June, the AAUW Kensington-Rockville program team invites you for a chance to lunch, socialize and Bring-Your-Best- Activity Ideas on Tuesday, June 11, 11:45 to 1:30 the Ingleside at King Farm Courtyard Cafe. The results of the branch questionnaire will be shared as well as some new and exciting program opportunities. Bring a lunch or, much better yet, purchase a lunch, have a little fun and help focus activities and program ideas for 2024-25. Branch officers/leaders are expected; all are invited and very welcome. We look forward to seeing you.

Dian, Anita, and Bobbe

**Presidents' Message**:

Our thanks to you all who brought yourself and tasty edibles for our memorable May potluck luncheon and annual meetings on 18 May. It's always a pleasure to break bread together.

LaVerne Gordon of the Montgomery College Foundation spoke again to thank Kensington-Rockville for generously supporting scholarships for returning students with dependents. Two of our current three funded scholars, all pursuing nursing, came to personally express their gratitude and eagerness to care for others. See their touching letters of thanks below.

LaVerne further invited us to visit the college to observe all that it is and does, and perhaps meet there as a branch. Long desiring a closer relationship with MC, we must engage this opportunity!

Anna Palmisano, who has spearheaded and relentlessly led our efforts to convince the Maryland legislature to reform state healthcare with patients' interests foremost, sent an update on efforts to reduce Emergency Room Wait Times in Maryland-the worst in the nation. There's been some minor progress but much left to be done. Thank you, Anna, and let's make good trouble!

Congratulations to three new 50-year honorary life members in our branch: Janet Crampton, Margie Sullivan, and Linda Kilroy. We were proud and happy to present National certificates proclaiming such.

We reinstalled current officers willing to continue in their present positions, but all have done multiple tours and seek a partner to share and ultimately assume the tasks with new partners. Leadership is an opportunity; it really is! As a team effort, its easy, fun, and friendship-inducing.

Thanks to all who made our AAUW year 2023-24 noteworthy:

We learned-about women in rocket science, ultrasound as a noninvasive diagnostic tool, and the "cartography" of quilts at the GWU Textile Museum.

We exercised our nonpartisan political muscle on issues impacting women-promoting passage of the Equal Rights Amendment, participating in the Women's Legislative Briefing, and helping to set priorities for the Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women.

We rejoined, with Maritsa George's enthusiastic participation, the AAUW Capitol Hill Lobby Corp (she'd love company!) and remain a persistent force in Annapolis.

We welcomed all AAUW Maryland-hosting the state convention in April, to warm applause and appreciation.

We contributed-to AAUW's Greatest Needs Fund, to NCCWSL, the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders' Women of Distinction Fund, and the Montgomery College scholarship fund.

Happy summer,

Dian Belanger, with Maritsa George, Kensington-Rockville co-President

**Branch Scholars Affirm Their Future**

The AAUW Kensington-Rockville Branch Scholarship Fund has supported three students at Montgomery College this spring semester of 20024.

Sia Aminata Sesaty is studying to become a registered Nurse. Her interests lie in STEM education and in Africa, with its high infant mortality rate.

Margaret Jalo has begun her nursing studies at Montgomery College,  although she lives in Prince George's County with her three children. She finds that the programs at MC help her plan and organize. Nelly Kra is studying nursing to become a Registered Nurse, then progress to a BSN. Montgomery College's flexible scheduling has allowed her to take a part-time job.

Sia and Nelly (with her husband) talked at our May luncheon of the scholarships have given them a secure future. They expressed their gratitude for the financial help and moral support our branch's scholarship fund provides.

Our gifts to the Montgomery College Foundation for the AAUW Kensington-Rockville Scholarship are our investment in more futures.

How to give to Montgomery College Foundation: Our gifts support scholarships for women returning to school while supporting themselves and dependent(s). Give online with credit card at <https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.montgomerycollege.edu%2Falumni-friends-donors%2Ffoundation%2Fdonate.html%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cmsullivan%40niaid.nih.gov%7C75ed2480a3f24d700e7508dc7ea9d75c%7C14b77578977342d58507251ca2dc2b06%7C0%7C0%7C638524516847014169%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=KTxFiUX%2Fs0X5l%2B4w4uT3yrWFB48Ucx1N9CGSMnfpX0k%3D&reserved=0>. 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. To give with securities, contact La Verne Gordon, at the Foundation, 240-567-4023.

Janet Wert Crampton, Branch Scholarship Coordinator

**AAUW Atlantic Regional Conference**

Virginia Crossing Hotel, Glen Allen, VA

September 27-29, 2024

For decades AAUW was divided into ten geographical regions by states. As Middle Atlantic Regional Director, I represented AAUW's national board of directors as a liaison to Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. Sadly, regions were abolished many years ago.

Now, for the first time, state leaders are taking it upon themselves to bring back the practice of bringing together members from a broad area-to reunite with old friends and make new ones, to learn from exceptional leaders and share our own great ideas, to recreate the energy and commitment from numbers that we once felt and now miss.

Following the successful example of Midwestern states led by Missouri, Virginia will host an Atlantic Regional Conference in late September, inviting coastal and near-coastal states from Maine to Florida! Most have committed to participate. Maryland is helping to organize this special event, which we all hope will be repeated biennially. Let's carpool and show up in droves!

Right now, the planners are seeking members from branches and states who would like to share their best, most successful program, action, organizational, philanthropic, growth, or other ideas in 40-minute "Swap Shops." What should KR be bragging about?

Please see the attached Swap Shop Guidelines and Application Form and bring forth your suggestions.

Thanks for those. And please plan to attend. Questions? Email me.

Dian Belanger

dobelanger@comcast.net

**Great Decisions-Live!**

Anita Rosen anitarosen123@gmail.com

Bobbe Mintz Bobbeandherb@comcast.net

Due to June scheduling problems, our next meeting will be held in July.

What: We will be discussing Chapter 6: Invisible Indonesia

Time: Friday, July 19, 2024, 11am. - 12:30pm.

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

Video: Wednesday, July 17 7:30 pm. URL will be sent for further information, contact Anita or Bobbe.

**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

4 June 2024 AAUW Lobby Corps Virtual Training

 5 pm EDT [Register on Zoom](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Faauw.us15.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Db7774acceedf76f52c755070c%26id%3D66d55db07f%26e%3Da2bddf6975&data=05%7C02%7Cmsullivan%40niaid.nih.gov%7C29f0d78da12c49439c0a08dc7e5c0d78%7C14b77578977342d58507251ca2dc2b06%7C0%7C0%7C638524181031017193%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2Fs0oSxMhtOa4P3heiQKRSY3v%2F6ivt75%2ByghFmYjLtF8%3D&reserved=0)

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 June 20.**

Newsletter Editor Circulation Editor

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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**

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