**AAUW Kensington-Rockville Branch**

**Ingleside at King Farm - Derwood Room**

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

**November Branch Meeting**

***Plan B--a scattering of poems on topics from government to God with questions that can't be answered.***

**Saturday, November 16, 2024, 10:30 am -12:30**

Marcia Elbrand writer, poet and teacher will share her wry and moving commentary about life. Her background includes creating publications and writing news releases for both a co-ed independent school, and for a suburban school district. She was a stringer for several weekly newspapers and taught public speaking at a community college for ten years. She also has taught--and is still teaching--at both Reform and Conservative Jewish congregational schools.

Among her poems are some set in the kitchen, and some in her father’s drugstore. Join us as she wonders aloud about marriage, re-marriage, God, and coping with loss.

 Optional lunch following in the Courtyard Cafe.

**President’s Message**:

Isn’t the law clear and definitive? Well, Bobbe Mintz, lawyer and retired administrative law judge as well as our branch co-vice president for program, challenged our legal understanding, logical thinking, and the often- uncomfortable relationship between legality and morality at our October meeting.

One abbreviated example from her raft of Legal Puzzlers: John goes to Paris to buy some fine French lace. On his return he tries to smuggle it past the customs inspector. He’s caught and confesses that he knowingly tried to avoid the import duty. But, in fact, it was he who’d been cheated; the lace was a cheap imitation, not subject to duty. Should he be convicted of the attempted crime if the crime was impossible to commit?

We enjoyed lively interaction while learning how complicated applying the law and serving justice can be. Thank you, Bobbe!

From complex law we shift to poetry examining some of our shared institutions and life’s unanswerable questions. Don’t miss educator, poet, and new member Marcia Legrand’s presentation on November 16th!

Do join us to carpool to the MLAW Fall Conference in Columbia on November 23rd, where the member organizations will be briefed on priority issues for the upcoming legislative session, to be later voted to a manageable number. Register now to avoid a late fee (after November 10th). Check the MLAW website, [www.mdlegagendaforwomen.org](http://www.mdlegagendaforwomen.org), or just search MLAW and conference information will appear. Email me to share a ride.

Please let me know how you’d like to be more involved in AAUW, on whose founders’ shoulders we all stand 143 years later!

Dian Belanger

dobelanger@comcast.net

**Interest Groups**:

**Great Decisions-Live!**

Anita Rosen anitarosen123@gmail.com

Bobbe Mintz Bobbeandherb@comcast.net

What: We have completed all 8 chapters of the 2024 book. We will be post- election and will discuss some readings about Progressive Realism in foreign policy along with a look at potential impact of an aging world. All are invited to join us, and if you are interested, contact Anita for the material for discussion.

Time: Friday, November 8th, 10:30 - 12:00pm.

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

For further information, contact Anita or Bobbe

**Le Groupe Francais**

Ruth Spivack raspivack@gmail.com

The **Le Groupe Français**will meet on Monday, November 18 at 7 p.m. via ZOOM.  The Zoom link will be sent out prior to the meeting.   We will begin a short story, “Carmen” by Prospere Merrimee.

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**The Literature Discussion Group**

**Ella Iams** **ella.w.iams@gmail.com**

**Literature Group Meets on November 19 at the home of Maritsa George**

Don’t miss this one!!   The AAUW Kensington Rockville Literature Group will meet on Tuesday, November22 to discuss **Conversations with RBG: Ruth Bader Ginsburg on Life, Love, Liberty, and Law** as compiled by Jeffrey Rosen. In her own words, Justice Ginsburg offers an intimate look at her life and career, through an extraordinary series of conversations with the head of the National Constitution Center.  Rosen shares over 20 years of correspondence with RBG.

Maritsa George will lead the discussion and will host the meeting.  Please meet at her home.

Let us know you are coming; RSVP to Maritsa at  maritsageo@verizon.net .The meeting begins at 1:00-3:00 pm.

There is no meeting in December.  The January 14, 2025 selection is **The Covenant of Water** by Abraham Verghese.  Ella Iams is scheduled to host the meeting.

**Calendar of Upcoming Events:**

Nov 2--Women's March (womensmarch.com).

November 23, 2024 MLAW Fall Conference, [www.mdlegagendaforwomen.org](http://www.mdlegagendaforwomen.org) for details.

Nov 15 from 2-4 at Ingleside. Holiday pot- luck sweets and savory party.

Nov 30--deadline for Winter Marylander

Jan 18. Anna Palmisano our guest speaker with important information on hospital wait times.

Jan 18 1:00-3:30p AAUW Maryland Winter Board Meeting via Zoom

**Deadline for the next Newsletter is November 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**

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