

AAUW ASHEVILLE NEWSLETTER

AAUW: Breaking down educational and economic barriers for women and girls



NOVEMBER 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3 CAB Books <i>Bel Canto</i> by Ann Patchett @ Metro Wines on Charlotte St. 4:30	4	5 Literatae Book Group <i>Transatlantic</i> by Colum McCann @ Fran Myers figmyers@bellsouth.net 1:00	6 Branch Meeting Children First 1st Baptist Church 11:30	7	8
9	10 Film Buds 5:30	11	12 Reservation Deadline for Lunch Bunch. Contact Sherry Brown at 357-8455 or Sherrysaerie@gmail.com	13 Film Fans Noon	14 Lunch Bunch PF Changs 126 Schenck Pkwy Biltmore Park Noon	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving Tea Time Books will meet Dec. 4.	28	29



Our next Branch Meeting will be Thursday, November 6 at 11:30 at First Baptist Church on Charlotte Street. The speaker will be Greg Borum, Director of Advocacy for Children First/Communities in Schools. Children First is a local non-profit committed to advocating and empowering children and families living in poverty.

Reservations: Call or email Karen Mauro at ktminnc@gmail.com or 891-5963

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**AAUW Asheville
Branch Board**

President	Ann Clarke Snell
Vice-President	Carolyn Worthington
Secretary	Deb Fulton-Helmer
Treasurer	Laurie Powell
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VP, Memb	Emily Quinn
Co-VP, Memb	Wendy Haner
Public Policy	Betsy Kirk
Interest Groups	Eleanor Johnson
Newsletter	Molly Keeney
Webmaster	Eleanor Johnson
GEM Rep	LaDean Peterson
Past President	Cathy Battle

And thanks to Barbara Robinson, for her help with organizing the information for the newsletter!

Find us on the Web at
<http://asheville-nc.aauw.net>

**This Month's
Member Birthdays —**



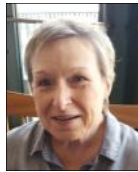
Tell your friends "Happy Birthday" and honor them with a gift to GEM!

- Sandy Bernard - Nov 10
- Edith Bryan - Nov 30
- Lynda Feldman - Nov 29
- Shelley Freeman - Nov 15
- Joan Goodman - Nov 30
- Patricia Grace - Nov 17
- Rebecca Hartz - Nov 11
- JoAnn Horton - Nov 28
- Elizabeth Johnson - Nov 15
- Karen Mauro - Nov 17
- Roberta Madden - Nov 9
- Mara Pasternack - Nov 5
- Rudi Simko - Nov 25
- Kay Stockdale - Nov 3

CONNECTING NAMES WITH FACES



Ann Clarke Snell



Carolyn Worthington



Deb Fulton-Helmer



Laurie Powell



Judy Colella



Karen Mauro



Emily Quinn



Wendy Haner



Betsy Kirk



Eleanor Johnson



Molly Keeney



LaDean Peterson



Cathy Battle

ADVOCACY GROUP REMINDER

The mid term election is **November 4th**. Early voting begins on **October 23**. Precinct locations can be found on the Buncombe County Board of Elections website @

<http://www.buncombecounty.org/governing/depts/election/>

Make sure you have checked out the Voter Guide distributed by Mountain Express for a full picture of the candidates!



AAUW CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

On March 27, 1915 sixteen, progressive college alumnae began our branch, now the largest and second-oldest in the state. You'll learn more about our impressive works as we celebrate ten decades of continued, dedicated deeds and proud accomplishments during this and next year. To get or give more information, contact Centennial Chair, Susan Gabel at susangrabel2@gmail.com. All ideas and memorabilia welcome!

The next planning meeting will be Thursday, November 6 at 10:00 in room 302 at First Baptist Church before the luncheon branch meeting. Come join us.



WELCOME NEW MEMBER!

ROBERTS, Christina M. (J.10/2/2014) (DOB 3/01)
 162 Coxe Ave., #312 Asheville, NC 28801
 (C) 435-770-5230 cmroberts2001@gmail.com
 University of Arizona BA Sociology
 University of Utah MPA Non-Profit Management

Christina came to us from the far West. She is currently Director of Development for Planned Parenthood in Asheville. She has offered to help us find some younger members. Christina is interested in GEM and in Public Policy, and is willing to assist the board occasionally.

FROM THE BRANCH PRESIDENT

What a beautiful time of year this is-----my favorite season. I hope you are enjoying it too. Like the weather, special interest groups (SIG) change. Some fade away or take a hiatus or grow too large to accomplish their purpose so that new ones need to form. AAUW members have many interests. If you have a special interest and find others to share that interest, let our SIG coordinator, Eleanor Johnson, know (she's in the 20014-20015 directory) and start a new SIG. Maybe you like to go antiquing, to attend auctions, to take day trips to nearby towns or points of interest, to study local history, to volunteer.

On the 18th there was a celebration of Joyce Boehlen's life. Though I did not get to attend, I am still thinking of Joyce while the color in which she delighted is displayed all around us.

Ann Clarke Snell, ann_clarke_snell@hotmail.com

P.S. As of 9/24/14 our AAUW checking account has \$4,106.04 and the CD balance is \$4,065.60. Both accounts are at Capital Bank.

BRANCH MEETING SCHEDULE

AAUW Branch meeting are generally on First Thursday unless otherwise specified at 11:30 am in the large dining room of the First Baptist Church, which is centrally located at Charlotte Street just south of I-240

Reservations: Call or email Karen Mauro at ktminnc@gmail.com or 891-5963

November 6, 2014 – Children First

December 4, 2014 from 3:00 —5:00.



The Monte Vista Inn in Black Mountain will be the setting for our Friend-Raiser. There will be coffee, tea, hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Please be thinking of a friend to bring to this event. There will be Christmas trees decorated by local merchants and school children, and walls full of local art!

January 2015 – no meeting

February 5, 2015 – Shona Jason-Miller – Slow Food Asheville

March 5, 2015 – Women's History Month – Betsy Murray (Pack Library)

April 9, 2015 fieldtrip, guided tour of the Arboretum gardens, note this is the 2nd Thursday in April to keep from running into Easter weekend crowds at Arboretum

May 7, 2015 last branch meeting of 2014-2015 year – Connie Mitchell – AVL Architect

June 7, 2015, Sunday, 4-6, GEM Fundraiser, Fernihurst Mansion, A-B Tech



GEM NEWS

In October, the GEM Board voted to raise the number of scholarships for the 2015-16 academic year to a record 18: 16 \$1000 scholarships for A-B Tech and two \$2000 scholarships for UNCA. Only 12 years ago, our Asheville branch founded the GEM Fund which awarded that year a single scholarship of \$500. The success of the GEM Fund is due entirely to the generosity of our Asheville branch members and family.

The fall edition of “**GEM Chips**,” the bi-annual newsletter of the GEM Fund of AAUW Asheville, will be out soon. The newsletter will include a summary of the annual report, as well as details and pictures from last spring’s fund drive season, lists of donors, and the announcement of our 15 scholarship recipients for 2014-15 .

Meanwhile, Jeanne Smolkin’s GEM “Birthday Dollars for Scholars” program remains in full force. In the first eight

months of 2014, the program brought in over \$6,000. This is a great way to raise money for scholarships, while, at the same time, honoring friends and family. Watch for Jeanne’s monthly e-mail containing the link to the site where you can designate birthday honorees.

If you are a new member, please know that “GEM” stands for “Gaining Educational Momentum” and pertains to our branch’s unique philanthropic arm, whose sole purpose is to raise funds to support undergraduate scholarships for women whose educations have been interrupted or delayed.

To find out more or to make a contribution, find us on the branch website under “GEM” at <http://asheville-nc.aauw.net> .

YWCA DROP IN DAY CARE (PART II)

AAUW has supported this effort over the past few years providing volunteer assistance as well as funds for supplies and snacks. More volunteers are needed to help with the children—it will be worth every minute you spend there.

Jammie Wright was stuck. A single mom with three children, she was working full-time towards a Surgical Tech Certificate at A-B Tech so that she would have more employment opportunities. Yet she didn’t have the resources for full-time childcare, and was on the waiting list to receive a state child care voucher. Her two high school-aged daughters were missing school because they had to help care for Jammie’s infant daughter, Tiraji, while she attended classes.

Jammie is just one of thousands of parents in Buncombe County who are seeking to build skills, secure benefits, or seek employment – yet are challenged by a lack of affordable child care. The cost of full-time child care in Buncombe County averages at a whopping \$7,280 a year. While state-funded child care subsidies are available for those who fall within a certain income range, subsidies are only available if the parent is working full time. Thus, many parents find themselves in a catch 22; they can’t apply for a childcare voucher without a job, and they can’t apply for a job without childcare. Other parents like Jammie qualify for a voucher but end up on the waiting list for years.

Fortunately, A-B Tech told Jammie about the YWCA’s Drop-In Child Care Center, which offers case assistance and high quality child care at no cost to families seeking economic security by pursuing education, job training or accessing vital social services like Work First, substance abuse treatment, or legal matters. Childcare is available 58 hours per week, Monday through Friday, and parents like Jammie are able to access up to 12 hours of free child-care per week .

Jammie’s daughter Tiraji was cared for at the YWCA from the time that she was 4 months until she was 10 months old – allowing Jammie and her two older daughters to focus on their education. At the end of April 2013, after two years on the waiting list, Jammie began receiving child care vouchers, so Tiraji could now attend a full-time certified child care center. Jammie graduated with a certificate in June, 2013 and she’s now pursuing a Medical Assistant Associate Degree. “I wouldn’t have been able to further my education if not for Drop-in at the YWCA,” Jammie says. “I can’t thank them enough for all the help and support. My family is very grateful.”

STANDING INTEREST GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

AE Remember to notify the hostess or group leader if you plan to attend this month's meeting so that they can predict attendance and so that you can be apprised of any last-minute changes.

Advocacy Group: The Advocacy Group is organized to support and advocate for issues that support the mission of AAUW and will increase awareness and effectiveness in bringing about social change to improve the lives of AAUW members and our community. The Advocacy Group will support only issues that are non-partisan and align with those of the national board of AAUW. For more information, contact Anne Sayers at 919-302-0084 or annesayer432@gmail.com.

AAUW Upstreamers: a new interest group working with Riverlink to clean up a stream near Woodfin three times a year. For more information contact Barbara Robinson at robarb@charter.net 645-2569.

CAB Book Group: The "Cocktails and Books" discussion group meets Metro Wines the first Monday of each month, from 4:30 to 6 pm for wine and conversation. To get more information or to add your name to the list of members, contact group leader Karen Mauro at 891-5963 or ktminnc@gmail.com.

Film Buds: This film discussion group meets the second Monday of each month from 5:30 to 7 to discuss first-run films; attendance is limited to the first 20 current group members who make a **reservation** with the group leader, Beth Ellers; because of the large size of the group, new membership is closed, but note that the Film Fans group discusses the same film and is open to new members; to obtain this month's film selection, location, and other information, contact Beth Ellers at slark1@att.net. Participants bring pot-luck supper.

Film Fans: This film discussion group meets the first Thursday after the second Monday of each month from noon to 1:30 at the River Ridge Apartments Club House; film is the same as that discussed by the Monday Film Buds group. Members bring their own lunch; open to new members; for the film selection of this month's meeting or to get more information, contact group leader Beth Johnson at JOHNSON1ea@earthlink.net.

International Dining Group: The International Dining group enjoys great food and wonderful company. Participants learn more about the food and customs of different countries as they prepare and then savor meals from around the world. All AAUW members and their guests are welcome. For more information, contact Judy Roach at 828-505-7939 or judyroach2112@yahoo.com or Jan Schwartz at 828-350-9533 or blucottage@bellsouth.net.

Literatae Book Group: The book study group meets the first Wednesday of every month at homes of members; for this month's location and more information, contact group leader Pat Argue at 828-891-4521 or pkargue@gmail.com.

Lunch Bunch: The Lunch Bunch is an informal gathering for lunch on the second Friday of each month at noon at a different area restaurant. The Lunch Bunch is open to all AAUW members who wish to be added to the **reservation list**. Be sure to contact Sherry Brown by the **deadline date** at 828-357-8455 or sherrysaerie@gmail.com to reserve space and get directions to the restaurant.

Tea Time Book Group: This book discussion group meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 4 pm at the homes of various members; all are welcome; for this month's book and location or to obtain more information, contact group leader Juanita Spanogle at 258-0096 or jspanogle@aol.com.

UPSTREAMERS UPDATE

The intrepid band of women who waded into the water and fish out the trash will be meeting for the third and last time this year on Wednesday, Nov. 5th at 10AM (weather-permitting). (Nov. 6th rain date) We will meet at Beaverdam Creek again, and gloves, waders and a hot toddy will be provided. RiverLink has applauded our efforts and we welcome any AAUW members who are outdoor girls at heart and don't mind getting their gloves dirty. We're doing our part to keep the French Broad River flowing clean and clear.