

# AAUW ASHEVILLE NEWSLETTER

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



## APRIL 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 <b>Literatae Books</b> <i>The Art Forger</i> by B A Shapiro @ Fran Myers 718 Crowfields Lane <a href="mailto:fjgmyers@bellsouth.net">fjgmyers@bellsouth.net</a> <b>1:00</b>	2	3	4
5	6 <b>CAB Books</b> <i>And the Mountains Echoed</i> by Kahle Hosseini @ Metro Wines 169 Charlotte St. <a href="mailto:kminnc@gmail.com">kminnc@gmail.com</a>	7	8 Reservation dead- line for Lunch Bunch Sherry Brown <a href="mailto:sherry-saerie@gmail.com">sherry-saerie@gmail.com</a> 828-357-8455 <b>Noon</b>	9 <b>Branch Meeting</b> NC Arboretum Contact Judy Colella <a href="mailto:amoscoell@aol.com">amoscoell@aol.com</a> Or 828-299-3104	10 <b>Lunch Bunch</b> 131 Main Restaurant 308 Thetford St. Biltmore Park <b>Noon</b>	11
12	13 <b>Film Buds</b> <b>5:30</b>	14	15	16 <b>Film Fans</b> <b>Noon</b>	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 <b>Tea Time Books</b> <i>The Invention of Wings</i> by Sue Monk Kidd @ Barbara Mayer's 100 Wesley Dr. Apt. 706 <a href="mailto:bmayer8804@aol.com">bmayer8804@aol.com</a> <b>4:00</b>	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

### Our next Branch Meeting

We will be meeting at 10:15 (note changed time) on Thursday, April 9 for a guided tour of the arboretum. In groups of ten, we will be shown the grounds and exhibits by volunteer guides or staff members. After our tour, box lunches will be ready in the Savory Thyme Cafe. Parking is free with the tour. Please plan to carpool as parking space is limited. You will receive more information in the near future.

This will be one of the best times to visit the arboretum as all the Spring flowers will be in bloom!



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## AAUW Asheville

### Branch Board

President	Ann Clarke Snell
Vice-President	Carolyn Worthington
Secretary	Deb Fulton-Helmer
Treasurer	Laurie Powell
V-P, Programs	Judy Colella
Co-VP, Prog	Karen Mauro
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!

Pat Ashe,	4/10
Lois Bauer,	4/26
Judy Duncan,	4/14
Mary Lloyd Frank,	4/16
Patricia Grace,	4/5
Jane Hansel,	4/16
Pat Kutay,	4/1
Barbara Mayer,	4/27
Helen McClintock,	4/13
Linda Nicodemus,	4/8
Jill Preyer,	4/14
Vivian Roberti,	4/20
Barbara Robinson,	4/29
Marlene Shalkan,	4/1
Karen Shuffler,	4/8
Jeanne Smolkin,	4/8

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

**Dr. Linda Devenish** DOB 8/11  
73 Orvis Stone Circle, Biltmore Lake, 28715  
(H) 828-667-2858 (C) 828-702-3585 [drhindadev@gmail.com](mailto:drhindadev@gmail.com)  
Southern Connecticut Univ. BA Elementary Ed.  
San Francisco Univ. MA Communications  
Southern Illinois Univ. PhD Communications

**Dr. Teresa Humphreys** DOB 1/30  
65 Creekside View Dr., Asheville 28804  
(C) 816-387-7979 [t.humphreys@mac.com](mailto:t.humphreys@mac.com)  
Univ. of Missouri BS Music Ed.  
M Ed Psychology  
Ph D Psychology

**Susan Roderick** DOB 6/2  
265 Pearson Dr. Asheville 28801  
828-216-3231 [ashevillesusan@gmail.com](mailto:ashevillesusan@gmail.com)  
Ohio Univ. BS Journalism and Public Relations

### ADVOCACY INTEREST GROUP SETS PRIORITIES FOR 2015

An enthusiastic and committed group of AAUW members meet on March 4th to discuss and agree on priorities for 2015. The following were agreed to as the current focus of the work of Asheville AAUW Public Policy/Advocacy:

1. Close the gender pay gap
2. Passage of the ERA by the NC Legislature
3. Voting Rights
4. Increase the involvement of the Asheville AAUW Branch members to address public policy issues that affect women and girls thru greater participation in advocacy

Betsy Kirk and Anne Sayers have met with the Program Planning Committee for the coming year to discuss ideas for program topics related to public policy and advocacy. Anne will continue to participate in the YWCA Advocacy Committee as well as the United Way Voter Engagement Coalition. Betsy will work on plans to acknowledge Equal Pay Day in April. The group will meet again in April to further plan for ways to address these priorities.

If you would like to join the group, contact  
Anne Sayers at [annesayers432@gmail.com](mailto:annesayers432@gmail.com).

## AAUW FINANCES ARE HEALTHY

As of March 1, 2015, we have \$3,669.08 in the checking account and \$4,071.59 in the Term Certificate at Self Help Credit Union.

## FROM THE BRANCH PRESIDENT

Dear AAUW Friends:

*The Big news in March was our Branch's Centennial Celebration on the 15th. One hundred years is nothing to sneeze at.*

*Among good wishes sent were a charming handmade card from the Hendersonville Branch signed by about 25 members delivered by President Kathleen Hespelt. Councilwoman Gwen Wisler delivered a proclamation from the City of Asheville recounting contributions of our Branch and commending us for our community service over the past 100 years, signed by Mayor Esther Manheimer. AAUW national sent a Certificate of Honor signed by Patricia Fae Ho, AAUW President, expressing appreciation for our service and commitment to education and equity for women and girls (see mission, p. 2, Asheville Branch Directory 2014-2015).*

*Susan Grabel's hardworking committee did an outstanding job on the Centennial. Nini Abbott organized the fashion show of women's clothing 1915 to 2015 and recruited spirited and able Tammy Jones, radio personality and morning co-host of MIX 96.5 FM, who moderated the fashion show with charm and liveliness and gave her service as a gift to the Branch.*

*Please be sure to fill out and return the survey that Alice Doner sent to each of us as a part of our Centennial celebration. Alice will compile the results and write a book to leave a record of who we were in 2015 for future Branch members. Who knows maybe even 100 years hence.*

*Carolyn Worthington, our Executive Vice President, and I will attend the NC AAUW annual meeting in Greensboro on March 20 and 21. We will have lots to share.*

*Be sure to attend the next Branch meeting on April 9 at 10:00 am featuring a guided tour of the NC Arboretum and lunch from the Savory Thyme Café at the Arboretum.*

Best to all ,Ann Clarke Snell, [ann\\_clarke\\_snell@hotmail.com](mailto:ann_clarke_snell@hotmail.com) or 828-232-1894



A special thank you for the time and financial contributions to the YWCA Drop-in Daycare program, with appreciation to Jean Bailey, Jan Schwartz, Eleanor Walther and Deloyce Wright-Porrata. These women are the hands-on caretakers from our AAUW chapter.

Thanks to the Fresh Market for their donation of 2 delicious cakes for our Centennial celebration! They have been a big supporter of AAUW and we encourage members to patronize them.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**AAUW Branch meetings 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 Judy Colella at [amoscolell@aol.com](mailto:amoscolell@aol.com) or 828-299-3104

April 9, 2015 fieldtrip, guided tour of the Arboretum gardens, note this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in April 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

## PLEASE COMPLETE THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION MEMBER SURVEY

Less than 25% of our members have responded to the survey and the deadline is April 1. It's really important that we get more folks to do the survey; answering the multiple choice questions takes only about 15 minutes and, if answers to the open ended questions are included, about another 15 minutes -- so not an onerous task at all. If you don't want to cope with an on-line survey but would like to share some of their experiences or thoughts about "womanhood" in our time, you can request a phone interview. Send the request to Alice Doner at [aadoner@gmail.com](mailto:aadoner@gmail.com).

Following is the link to access the survey: <http://www.sogosurvey.com/k/QsSTYPsRsTUSVVXTWsP>

## SAVE THE DATE



April marks the beginning of the **annual spring fund drive** for the **GEM Fund of AAUW Asheville**.

For those of you new to our branch, the GEM Fund is our organization's unique philanthropic arm, whose sole purpose is to raise funds for providing undergraduate scholarships at AB-Tech and UNCA to women whose educations have been interrupted or delayed. For the current academic year, GEM awarded a record 15 scholarships.

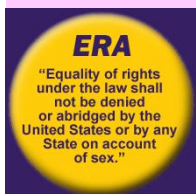
Keep a lookout for the arrival of your invitation to this year's GEM fundraiser event, to be held

**Sunday, June 7, 2015**

once again at the beautiful and historic Fernhurst mansion on the A-B Tech campus. Invitations will arrive through the mail, including a giving sheet where you can make your reservations and take part in other opportunities to participate in this year's spring fund drive. Also in April the GEM Board will be sending out -- via email -- the spring edition of "GEM Chips," the biannual newsletter. The newsletter will include all the information about the fund drive and the fundraiser party, as well as letters from this year's GEM Scholars.

If you have never before been a GEM Sponsor, this would be a great year to start, as a special **Centennial**

## EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT MOVING ACROSS NATION AND IN NC



The Equal Rights Amendment, long considered a dead issue, is alive and kicking now. For the first time since 1982, the North Carolina General Assembly will consider the ERA this year. Rep. Carla Cunningham of Charlotte has introduced House Bill 166, which now has four primary sponsors and 28 cosponsors—in all, nearly a third of the House members. All the Buncombe County House members (Susan Fisher, John Ager, and Brian Turner) have signed onto the bill, which has been referred to House Judiciary 1 Committee. Senators Floyd McKissick and Terry Van Duyn have introduced a similar measure, Senate Bill 184, which now has two cosponsors. It has been assigned to the Senate Rules Committee, which is not considered friendly to the legislation (an understatement).

An excellent front-page article in the Asheville *Citizen-Times* recently highlighted current North Carolina ef-

forts to enshrine gender equality in the U.S. Constitution.

The national ERA Coalition, recently organized, sponsored a major ERA rally in Washington last fall. The event drew women from more than 30 states, including North Carolina. Meanwhile legislation to ratify the amendment is moving in Illinois, Virginia, Florida, North Carolina, and Nevada. The AAUW has been active in the national effort to persuade Congress to eliminate the deadline and is also working in several states for ratification.

Two statewide organizations, *RATIFY ERA-NC* and *NC4ERA*, are working together in support of the congressional legislation to eliminate the deadline, as well as grassroots efforts to build support in our General Assembly. For information, see [www.era-nc.org](http://www.era-nc.org) or contact AAUW member Roberta Madden at [robertamadden@yahoo.com](mailto:robertamadden@yahoo.com).



## \$TART \$MART WORKSHOP SCHEDULED

Our AAUW branch along with the YWCA, Just Economics, and OnTrack Women's Financial Empowerment Center are co-sponsoring a \$tart \$mart workshop to be held on April 14th, 2015, which is Equal Pay Day. Equal Pay Day is the day when women's salaries finally equal those earned by men on December 31st of the previous year.

This workshop is designed to target women who are under-employed and underpaid and who are eligible for jobs that require either a high school diploma with some experience or an AA degree.

The goal of this three hour workshop is to help participants learn to negotiate their highest possible salary. They will also learn tools for how to develop a personal budget to determine salary needs as well as discover the benchmarks for salary and benefits in their field. All attendees will receive a copy of AAUW's *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap*, 2015 edition. There is no charge to attend the workshop. Lunch will be provided and limited child care will be available upon request.

## 100TH ANNIVERSARY A BIG SUCCESS

A great time was had by all! The centennial celebration of our branch was held on Sunday, March 15th at Pack's Tavern. Food, fun, and fashion through the decades was the order of the day. Over 100 members and special guests were treated to an afternoon of celebration topped off by a member fashion show "What we women achieved and what we wore." Our branch can be very proud of our achievements over the past 100 years!



**MORE PICTURES ON NEXT PAGE!**





## STANDING INTEREST GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Remember to notify the hostess or group leader if you plan to attend this month's meeting so 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:judyroach2112@yahoo.com) or Jan Schwartz at 828-350-9533 or [blucottage@bellsouth.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:jspanogle@aol.com).

## UPSTREAMERS IS OFFICIAL!



We've been officially recognized by RiverLink as caretakers of Reedy Creek Parkway with the sign below. It is prominently displayed at the entrance to the walkway on Magnolia St., and is a visible sign of our AAUW goal to work with local community organizations. Thanks to all those intrepid women who've waded in the water, climbed the banks, carried full trash bags, and worn funny clothes to keep dry.