


AAUW ASHEVILLE

NEWSLETTER



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

MARCH 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	CAB  The Reader, Schlink; 4:30 at home of Renée Levine; rsvp to Renée at haroldrenee@att.net .	 Reservation Deadline for Lunch Bunch	 Adelante Clara and Mr. Tiffany, Vreeland; 1:45 at home of Fran Myers; rsvp to fjgmyers@bellsouth.net	7	 Lunch Bunch Travinia's Italian Kitchen 264 Thetford in Biltmore Park RSVP to sherrysaerie@gmail.com	9
10	Film Buds, Led by Beth Ellers Film & Location: TBA 5:30 —7 	12	13	Film Fans Led by Beth Johnson Film : TBA River Ridge Apt. Club House 12—1:30 	 Reservation Deadline for Branch Meeting; rsvp to Andriette Kinsella	 Reservation Deadline for March 23 Inter- natl. Dining; rsvp to Andriette Kin- sella, 636-3604 or andriettek@bellsouth.net
17	18	19	Branch Meeting 11:30 1st Baptist Church Topic: STEM GEM Board 10:00 	21	22	 Internatl. Dining "A Taste of India" 6 pm, at home of Andri- ette Kinsella; rsvp by March 16
24	25	World Affairs  Topic: Syria 1:30, at home of Lynn Hill; rsvp to Lynn at 298-4431.	27	Evening  Room: a Novel, Donaghue; 7 pm, at home of Andriette Kinsella ; rsvp to Andrea at 636-3604 or andriettek@bellsouth.net	<div> Contents </div> <div> Calendar p. 1 Activities & Events p. 2 President's Message p. 3 AAUW NC Meeting p. 3 GEM News p. 4 GEM Announcements p. 5 New Members p. 6 Member Birthdays p. 6 ERA Article p. 6 </div>	

Standing Study Groups and Activities

✧ 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.

- ◆ **Adelante 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 Fran Myers at 274-0976 or fjgmyers@bellsouth.net.
- ◆ **CAB Book Group:** The "Cocktails and Books" discussion group meets downtown the first Monday of each month, from 4:30 to 6 pm for wine and conversation. To get more information or add your name to the list of members, contact group leader Peg Steiner at galaxpeg@hotmail.com. If you plan to attend, rsvp to co-chair Renée Levine at haroldrenee@att.net. Attendance is limited to 15 participants per session.
- ◆ **Evening Book Group:** The book discussion group meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the homes of various members; all are welcome; for this month's location or to obtain more information, contact group leader Juanita Spanogle at jspanogle@aol.com or 258-0096 .
- ◆ **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. The group will meet 7 times this year. All AAUW members and their guests are welcome. For more information, contact Sandy Bernard at ssmreb@bellsouth.net or 692-3620 or Debra Benjamin at debrabenjamin100@gmail.com or 650-0311.

MARCH BRANCH MEETING

Wednesday, March 20

First Baptist Church



Topic: "Supporting
STEM for Women & Girls"

*Education in Science,
Technology, Engineering,
and Math*

Lunch at 11:30

\$12

RSVP to Andriette Kinsella at andriettek@bellsouth.net

- ◆ **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 sherrysaerie@gmail.com or 357-8455 and to get directions to the restaurant.
- ◆ **World Affairs Study Group:** The study group meets the fourth Tuesday of each month to discuss selected topics in world affairs; participants meet at the homes of different members. Anyone interested in the wider world and how it affects all of us is invited to attend meetings. For more information, contact Eve Miller at 299-8107 or evhigginsmiller7@gmail.com.



FROM THE BRANCH PRESIDENT

Dear AAUW Friends:

If you missed the February branch meeting with Daniel Mayer, you missed a wonderful talk. About 40 members and guests attended and the maestro's presentation was captivating and informative. Who knew how complicated and taxing is the life of a conductor - and a musician - especially in a place like Asheville where the jobs are not full time? We learned there are few female conductors, but the number of professional musicians continues to grow. Here's another career that is wide open for women to enter!

Membership

I'm very happy to report that we now have nearly 156 members of our AAUW branch – likely the largest in the state. Thanks to all who have invited guests to the fundraiser, branch meetings and interest groups. We must be doing something right to attract and keep new women to our ranks.

Board Nominations

We're in the process of making nominations for our next year's board and extend the opportunity for you to nominate yourself by contacting Barbara Robinson at robarb@charter.net or 828-645-2569. We've decided to add to the board a fundraising chair who will be responsible for writing grants and managing fund raising for the branch treasury. These funds would be to help with branch projects like the YWCA drop-in program and the future STEM projects we hope to initiate. This is not to be confused with GEM fundraising activities which underwrite scholarships for women at UNCA and AB Tech.

Public Policy

The board is also interested in knowing your feelings about public policy and how best to notify members of action alerts and upcoming legislation related to women's issues. AAUW's mission is "to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research." While many of us, including myself, joined AAUW for the social opportunities it provides, it is important that we keep in mind all aspects of what we're all about. Advocacy is important and our voices can make a difference if we listen and respond. To gauge the best

way to share information, we will be sending out a quick survey via email and urge you to respond before it gets lost on your computer. We hope to be able to tailor our public policy notifications to suit each member's desires and can only do that if you complete the survey. Thanks in advance for your help.

STEM Meeting in March

According to the national website, "AAUW values the importance of supporting girls in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) as part of our mission to break through barriers for women and girls. Our research, policy, and nationwide programs encourage members to work from their own communities to ensure that we reach equity in these important fields." The March 17th branch meeting will focus on STEM and we will have a speaker as well as a "show and tell" of STEM opportunities provided to girls through Girl Scout programs. We'll also ask each table to discuss ways our membership could support STEM in Asheville. So please think ahead of what suggestions you can share with the group or go to www.aauw.org/stem/ for more information. I look forward to seeing you March 17th if not before.

*Take care,
Molly Keeney*

mollykeeney@charter.net
828-337-5044

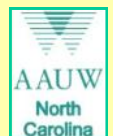
ANNUAL MEETING OF AAUW NC

The annual meeting of the North Carolina state branch of AAUW will be held again this year in Burlington on **April 12 and 13** at the Country Inn and Suites (located just off I-40/I-85, Exit 141). This year's theme is "**The 3 F's of AAUW: Focus, Find, and Friendship.**"

Friday's schedule includes the Presidents'

Council from 3 to 5, followed by dinner at the Village Inn. On Saturday, you will meet Kimberly Fountain, PP staffer who works with the CQ State Track of legislation. Each branch represented will receive a copy of Bemis' *The White City*, winner of the AAUW NC Juvenile Literature book award for 2012, to be given to local public libraries. Events will end by 2:15.

Registration: On-line registration will begin March 1. In addition, each branch president will receive a printed registration form which members can use. Beginning in March, more information about registration, schedule, and events can be found on-line at <http://www.aauwnc.org>.





GEM NEWS

GEM Fund to Kick Off Spring Fund Drive Season with “Bling, Bling Bash!”

The GEM Fund of AAUW Asheville will kick off its annual spring fund drive season this year with a new event, **“Bling, Bling Bash.”** This fun event will feature a sale of member-donated ladies’ accessories — jewelry, handbags, gloves, scarves, belts, and hats — at great low prices. GEM friends will host the event at the Beaver Dam Road Fire Station, 450 Beaver Dam Road, on Saturday, April 6, from 10 to 2. Plan to gather up your friends and drop by this great new event April 2.

Drop-Off Locations:

Susan Grabel, this year’s fund drive chairperson, is busy getting items ready for display, so you can drop off items now with Susan (505-3826) at her house in central Asheville, 115 Gracelyn, off Merrimon). You may also drop off items at Helen McClintock’s (404-694-3216) house at 2 Nichols Hill Drive Extension, off of New Stock Road in north Asheville; or at the home of Deborah Fulton-Helmer (424-7249), 8 Creekside Court, off of Sweeten Creek Road, in south Asheville. If you plan to attend the March 20 branch meeting, CAB, or Film Buds; you may bring your items there.

Of course, the “Bling” event is only the beginning. The spring fund drive season will continue through June, with a number of giving options, culminating in the **June 2 Fundraiser Party**, to be held again this year from 4 to 6 at the gorgeous and historic Fernihurst Mansion on the A-B Tech campus. Watch for more information in April and May.

“Pre-Call” for Items for the Members’ Boutique

In anticipation of the Fundraiser Party, please begin thinking about items and services you might contribute to the Members’ Boutique. Again this year, we are asking GEM and AAUW members to contribute their own original works of **fine art or crafts**. Last year fourteen members contributed over 25 items — including handmade books, paintings, photography, ceramics, jewelry, hand painted furniture, and other fine

items — which brought in \$1500 in the silent auction.

New this year is the **Member Services** portion of the Members’ Boutique. This part of the silent auction will offer great ideas and services volunteered by our members. These items might include hosting a dinner party, guiding a bird watching hike and picnic; giving a private tutorial on how to use Facebook (or how to use an iPhone or an iPad or how to tweet); teaching how to sell on Craigslist; helping organize a closet or planting the bidder’s garden with flowers; performing music for a

party; hosting a hands-on cooking tutorial or one teaching Mah Jong or other game; offering to house sit for pets and/or plants; donating the use of a beach (or mountain) cottage or time share; hosting a day trip to a nearby town for lunch and shopping; hosting a gallery hopping lunch in Asheville; hosting a photo shooting walk; spending a day teaching jewelry making or some other arts and crafts activity; becoming the designated driver for a Brews Cruise; spending an afternoon with the bidder speaking conversational Spanish or French; or a multitude of other great ideas that our members might think up and enjoy.



Examples of items to be offered for sale at “Bling, Bling Bash!”

The Members’ Boutique serves

two really worthwhile purposes: it raises money for the GEM scholarship fund and **it also features the talents, imagination, and great-heartedness of our members.** Cathy Battle heads up the Boutique this year; direct your questions and ideas to her. Cathy says she will begin taking items whenever you want to bring them, including your offer of services. She also asks that you suggest an opening bid. You can reach Cathy at 348-0505 or at catherinebattle@earthlink.com.

If you are a new branch member, please know that “GEM” stands for “Gaining Educational Momentum” and pertains to the GEM Fund of AAUW Asheville, 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. What could better support AAUW’s mission of breaking down educational and economic barriers for women and girls?



ACCEPTING ITEMS NOW

Please gather your gently used jewelry, scarves, gloves, handbags, belts, and hats to offer for sale in the

Bling, Bling Bash!—

the kickoff event for this spring's **GEM Fund Drive season**, to be held **Saturday, April 6**, at the Beaver Dam Road Fire Station. You can drop them off at the following locations:

- ◆ Susan Grabel's house in central Asheville at 115 Gracelyn, off Merrimon, in central Asheville;
- ◆ Helen McClintock's house at 2 Nichols Hill Drive Extension, off New Stock Road, in north Asheville; or
- ◆ Deborah Fulton-Helmer home, 8 Creekside Court, off of Sweeten Creek Road, in south Asheville.

Bling, Bling Bash!

Sale of Gently Used Accessories

Benefitting the **GEM Fund** of AAUW Asheville:

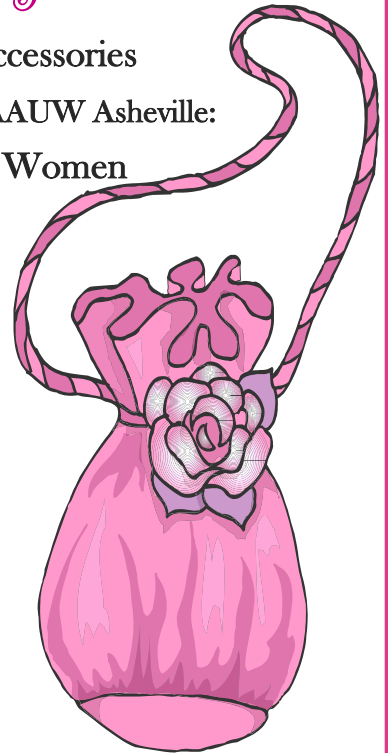
Scholarships for Local Women

Saturday, April 6

10:00 — 2:00

Fire Station at
450 Beaver Dam Road

- ◆ Jewelry ◆ Gloves
- ◆ Handbags ◆ Belts
- ◆ Scarves ◆ Hats



Pre-Call for Items

for the

MEMBERS' BOUTIQUE



Begin thinking about donating some of your original works of fine art or crafts or — new this year — offers of services to put up for silent auction at the **June 2 GEM Fundraiser Party**.

FINE ARTS AND CRAFTS

- ◆ Ceramics
- ◆ Paintings, Drawings, & Watercolors
- ◆ Photography
- ◆ Handmade Books and Boxes
- ◆ Handmade or hand painted furniture
- ◆ Handmade Jewelry
- ◆ Textiles
- ◆ Other original works of art or crafts

SERVICES AND EXPERIENCES

- ◆ Host a dinner party
- ◆ Plant a flower bed or house sit
- ◆ Lend a cabin or vacation spot for a weekend
- ◆ Help organize a garage or closet
- ◆ Provide music for a dinner party
- ◆ Host a gallery walk or an outing in a nearby town
- ◆ Provide a tutorial on cooking, using technology, arts and crafts, etc.
- ◆ Whatever other wonderful thing you can think of

To drop off items or share your idea, contact Cathy Battle at 348-0505 or catherinebattle@earthlink.net.

Branch Board

President	Molly Keeney
Vice-President	Catherine Battle
Secretary	Deb Fulton-Helmer
Treasurer	Laurie Powell
Co-Vice Presidents, Programs	Andriette Kinsella Susan Gabel
Co-Vice Presidents, Membership	Barbara Robinson Emily Quinn
Public Policy	Karen Rubin
Newsletter	Alice Doner
Webmaster	Eleanor Johnson
GEM President	Alice Doner
Study Group Chair	Eleanor Johnson
Past President	Jeanne Smolkin

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!

Roberta Carney	3/31
Janet Graham	3/11
Helene Hill	3/18
Marilyn Kolton	3/26
Jo Ann Setzer	3/25
Wendy Owen	3/17
Carol McLimans	3/1
Lynette Miller	3/17
Judith Rhodes	3/23
Michael Siegendorf	3/30
Peg Steiner	3/3
Eleanor Walther	3/25
Vera Mulinix	3/20

Welcome New Members!

Please welcome these new members who joined since the publication of the last newsletter; they will be great new assets to our organization. **Please add their contact information to the Members' Directory.**

◆ **Lillian Alexander —**

Lillian earned an AB in Mathematics at Sweet Briar. Following is her contact information:

343 Sunset Drive; Asheville, 28804
(H) 828-285-8935;
Lillian.alexander@gmail.com

◆ **Patricia (Pat) Bastian —**

Pat graduated from Denison University with a BA in French and from the University of Minnesota with a MA-ABT in Mass Communication.

5 Knoll Hill; Black Mountain, 28711
(C) 813-493-3012; pat.bastian@gmail.com

◆ **Jane Lance —**

Jane earned a BS in Political Science and History from Mankato-Minnesota State University and an M Ed in Education from Worcester State University.

3001 Timber Trail; Asheville, 28804
(H) 828-505-8192; (C) 208-569-5318
janlance@aol.com

◆ **Linda Conroy McCracken —**

Linda graduated from Emory University with a BA in Psychology and a MAT in Elementary Education.

4698 Paint Fork Road; Mars Hill, 28754
(H) 828-680-9812; (C) 205-420-8847
Lmccrn@juno.com

◆ **Lynette Miller —**

Lynette earned a BFA and an MFA in Photography from SUNY Buffalo.

295 Ninth Street; Black Mountain, 28711
(H) 828-357-8455; (C) 828-606-9335
Lcm353@gmail.com

◆ **Nancy Stewart —**

Nancy graduated from the College of William and Mary with a BA in Asian Studies and Psychology.

239 Senator Reynolds Rd; Asheville, 28804
(C) 828-215-6367; ragedynan@aol.com

CAMPAIGN FOR EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT HEATS UP



A spirited statewide campaign for the Equal Rights Amendment has begun, according to Roberta Maden, co-director of *RATIFY ERA-NC* and longtime AAUW member. The amendment is needed, she declared, in order "to form a more perfect union." Written 90 years ago by suffragist Alice Paul, the ERA reads as follows: "*Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.*"

Thirty-five states ratified the ERA before the time limit contained in its preamble was reached (later changed from 7 years to 10 years). It takes three fourths of the states (38) ratifying to put an amendment into the Constitution.

In 1992, a major development occurred that resurrected the original ERA. That year, the Madison Amendment, concerning congressional pay raises, won

ratification after 203 years. The 27th Amendment's incorporation into the Constitution after such a long delay signals the continuing viability of the ERA.

ERA supporters have adopted the "three-state strategy" and are working to have three more states ratify the amendment and challenge the deadline. Our focus now is to pass congressional resolutions to clarify that the deadline does not apply and that only three more states have to ratify the ERA in order to make it part of the Constitution.

What you can do:

Contact your members of Congress: Rep. Meadows or McHenry; and Senators Burr and Hagan. These new resolutions will be introduced in March. Urge your House member to co-sponsor the House resolution (like HJR 47 in the last Congress) to eliminate the

deadline. Urge Senators Hagan and Burr to co-sponsor the Senate resolution (like SJR 39 in the last Congress). It's a toll free call and takes only a minute. The number is **877-762-8762**.

RATIFY ERA-NC plans to have the ERA introduced in the General Assembly in 2015—but well before then, talk to your legislators (who may not know anything about this issue). Urge them to take a stand for equal rights for women and men. Change has always been accomplished by a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens. As Dr. Martin Luther King said: "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

For more information, see the *RATIFY ERA-NC* website: www.era-nc.org.