

# AAUW ASHEVILLE NEWSLETTER

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



## MAY 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 <b>CAB Books</b> <i>Being Mortal</i> @ Metro Wines 169 Charlotte St. <a href="mailto:ktminnc@gmail.com">ktminnc@gmail.com</a> <b>4:30</b>	5	6 <b>Literatae Books</b> <i>The Local Souls</i> @ Fusako Krummel 146 Hillside Ave. #42 <a href="mailto:fusakok@bellsouth.net">fusakok@bellsouth.net</a> <b>1:00</b>	7 <b>Branch Meeting</b> First Baptist Church <b>11:30</b> RSVP by May 3 to Karen Mauro at <a href="mailto:ktminnc@gmail.com">ktminnc@gmail.com</a>	8 <b>Lunch Bunch</b> Blk Mtn Bistro 203 E. State St. Black Mountain <b>Noon</b> RSVP by 5/6 to <a href="mailto:sherrysaerie@gmail.com">sherrysaerie@gmail.com</a> 828-357-8455	9
10	11 <b>Film Buds</b> <b>5:30</b>	12	13	14 <b>Film Fans</b> <b>Noon</b>	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28 <b>Tea Time Books</b> <i>Defending Jacob</i> @ Sherry Brown's 295 Ninth St., Blk Mtn <a href="mailto:sherrysaerie@gmail.com">sherrysaerie@gmail.com</a> <b>4:00</b>	28	30

### Our next Branch Meeting

Our May 7th Branch Meeting at the First Baptist Church on Charlotte Street will feature Connie Mitchell, one of the first professional women architects licensed in North Carolina. For her presentation she plans to "stalk Rafael Guastivino by following his works as they were experienced by me from growing up in NY to my college in DC and finally to living with his final works, St. Lawrence, Biltmore and his estate at Christmont in Black Mountain." RSVP to Karen Mauro at [ktminnc@gmail.com](mailto:ktminnc@gmail.com) by May 3rd. Cost is \$12.

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## Branch Board

*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>**

## A cartoon-style illustration of a birthday cake. The cake is round with a pink frosting top layer and two brown frosting layers in the middle, separated by pink frosting. It sits on a white circular base. Three lit candles with yellow flames and pink bases are on top. The cake is on a light blue surface against a light purple background.

Ann Anderson	5/6
Melinda Brown	5/8
Susan Grabel	5/2
Pat Hammond	5/10
Eleanor Lane	5/5
Lynn Lederer	5/19
Renee Levine	5/25
Jansen McCreary	5/16
Judy Nelson	5/14
Francella Poston	5/7
Shirley Quisenberry	5/12

**Susan Ortiz** (DOB 7/3)  
21 Rocking Porch Rd, Asheville, NC 28805  
(Cell) 614-432-0252; sortiz@warren-wilson.edu  
NMSU BS Education  
The Ohio State University MA Sociology  
The Ohio State University PhD Sociology



We will be updating participants on activities of AAUW members over the last month. In addition, we will discuss future opportunities for involvement in the community and making plans for advocacy work to be done. All are welcome and if additional information is needed, feel free to contact Anne Sayers at [annesayers432@gmail.com](mailto:annesayers432@gmail.com)

Join us - along with 63 million French men and women - to celebrate Bastille Day.  
**Tuesday, July 14th.**  
**Time: 6:00 pm -8:30 pm**  
**Where: Jeanne & Stuart Smolkin's**  
**66 Crestwood Road, Asheville**

The International Dining Group is composed of AAUW members who enjoy sharing great cuisine and conversation, with a dash of history, storytelling and personal experiences. Member may bring one guest.

Dinner is potluck, with menu suggestions from the host.

Reservations are a MUST as seating is limited and reservations are first come-first serve basis.

**As of April 1, 2015, we have \$3,587.92 in the checking account and \$4,071.59 in the Term Certificate at Self Help Credit Union.**

## FROM THE BRANCH PRESIDENT

Dear AAUW Friends:

*Undecided spring is definitely here. Meanwhile, we are continuing our Centennial Celebration culminating in the GEM June soiree at Fernihurst. Participate in your way. I'll be there and Farley will, too.*

*Astonished anew at the talents and generous sharing of same by our members, as the end of my term as President nears, I am thinking about what has been accomplished and what lies ahead for the new leadership. The Board has faced challenges and has wrestled them to a useful conclusion. Not the end of knotty problems but creative and productive solutions. How grateful I am to the Board I have had the privilege of heading though not always leading.*

***Be at the May 7 Branch meeting at the First Baptist Church for election of officers! The nominating committee's slate is Joanne Swenson Exec VP, Marlene Shaklan Co-VP Programs, Judy Nelson Co-VP membership, and Portia Alexander, secretary.***

*AAUW national's annual meeting is coming up and it's time to vote for officers and directors and on policy and issue wording changes. Every AAUW member is eligible to vote on any candidate and issue even if you are not attending the annual meeting. This is a huge opportunity to make an impact on the direction of AAUW. I just voted. Some proposed wording changes are confusing. For example, passage of the ERA (Equal Rights Amendment) was removed from policy goals to an action item. AAUW national will be lobbying for passage of ERA, a boost of significance.*

***I want to tell you that I voted to remove the degree requirement for membership (Article IV). The conversation about joining us "to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research" (AAUW Asheville Branch Directory 2014-2014, p.2) ends when I am find myself talking with someone who has no degree. I want the conversation to continue.***

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

## 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 Karen Mauro at [ktminnc@gmail.com](mailto:ktminnc@gmail.com) or 891-5963

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



All AAUW members who have paid their full national dues by 9 p.m. EDT, May 19, 2015, are eligible to vote. Online voting is fast, easy, and secure. To vote online, enter your member ID and voter PIN (listed on the back cover of your Spring/Summer *AAUW Outlook* magazine), and click on Start to Vote, below. If you have lost your magazine you can go to [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org) and request your ID number and PIN. Be sure to list your name as it appears in your AAUW registration. You can click on the links beside each candidate and item on the ballot for more information. Online voting begins April 15 and ends June 19, 2015, at 9 p.m.

Members who wish to use a paper ballot may request to have one mailed to them before May 8 by e-mailing [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org) or calling 800.326.2289

For more information about the voting process, read the [FAQs](#), e-mail [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org), or call 800.326.2289.

## GEM: CHANGING WOMEN'S LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION

Thanks to the generosity of the AAUW Asheville family, GEM awarded 15 scholarships for the current academic year: twelve \$1000 scholarships to students at A-B Tech, plus a special award of \$1500 to a student enrolled in the Culinary Arts program; and two \$2000 scholarships to students at UNCA. This is what GEM is all about.

Over the last thirteen years, the GEM Fund of AAUW Asheville has awarded over 90 scholarships totaling close to \$100,000. The words from this year's scholars show how GEM (and the branch members, friends, and family who support it) have **changed lives**. During that time we have also forged a bond with the scholarship folks at A-B Tech. As a consequence, GEM/AAUW Asheville is the only organization outside of A-B Tech to be allowed to use the facilities at Fernhurst, the location of our annual fundraiser.

## PLEASE COMPLETE THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION MEMBER SURVEY

As you know, 2015 marks the 100th anniversary of the Asheville branch of AAUW. To preserve our current history the Centennial Committee is going to produce a book about ourselves and has compiled a survey to gather information. So far we have received about 73 responses to the member survey; that's nearly 100 more that could come in.

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. To receive the survey link or to request a phone interview please send the request to Alice Doner at [aadoner@gmail.com](mailto:aadoner@gmail.com). THANK YOU!

## 2015 GEM FUND DRIVE SALUTES AAUW ASHEVILLE'S CENTENNIAL BIRTHDAY

As you know, 2015 marks the one hundredth birthday of AAUW Asheville. Consequently, GEM's annual spring fund drive is dedicated to our original founding sisters. Imagine what it would have been like for women in 1915 seeking a college degree. At that time, women did not even have the vote. The barriers facing women seeking higher education in 2015 are different but perhaps no less daunting for many. Hence, in 2002 our branch, in its amazing wisdom and generosity, created the GEM Fund, whose sole purpose is to raise funds to help women whose college careers have been interrupted or delayed. Typically, our scholars range in age from mid-twenties to mid-fifties. What they all have in common is a desire to better their lives — and those of their families — through education. **What could be more in keeping with the mission of AAUW? If you have never participated in the GEM fund drive, never been a GEM sponsor, or never contributed in any other way, this year — our Centennial year — would be a great time to start.**

The **annual fund drive** begins in mid April and continues through mid June, culminating in the fundraiser party. At right is the invitation to the party that you should have received in the mail. On page 8, you can read more about party details.

If you cannot attend or, if parties are not your thing, please know that there are several ways to participate in the fund drive and help women to achieve their potential through education.

### Giving Options

As in previous years, this year's fund drive includes a number of giving options:

- ◆ Attendance at the fundraiser party at \$50 per person
- ◆ Bidding in the GEM Friends Silent Auction and/or purchasing tickets for chances on items in the Raffle
- ◆ **Sponsorship** at one of three gifting levels:
  - ◆ Millennial                 \$1000 or more
  - ◆ Quincentennial         \$500 to \$999
  - ◆ Centennial                \$100 to \$499
- ◆ Other contributions in any amount
- ◆ Sponsorships or contributions as tributes
- ◆ Legacy gift to GEM as part of your will

Note that reservations for the June 7 party are separate from sponsorships and other contributions. All non-reservation donations are acknowledged and donors may designate how their contributions are to be distributed. **Return the giving card you received in the mail, along with your check made out to the GEM Fund, to Helen McClintock at 2 Nichols Hill Drive Extension; Asheville, NC 28804.**





## 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:** This group works with Riverlink to clean up a stream at Reedy Creek Park near UNC-A 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).

### Slate of Officers to be Elected at the May Branch Meeting

<b>Joanne Swenson</b>	<b>Exec Vice President</b>
<b>Marlene Shaklan</b>	<b>Co-VP Programs</b>
<b>Judy Nelson</b>	<b>Co-VP Membership</b>
<b>Portia Alexander</b>	<b>Secretary</b>

### Board Members Continuing for 2015-16

Carolyn Worthington	President
Laurie Powell	Treasurer
Karen Mauro	Co-VP Programs
Wendy Haner	Co-VP Membership
Ann Clarke Snell	Past President
Betsy Kirk	Public Policy
Eleanor Johnson	Interest Groups
Molly Keeney	Newsletter