

AAUW ASHEVILLE NEWSLETTER



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



OCTOBER 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 CAB <i>Never Let Me Go</i> , Ishiguro 4:30— 6 at home of Renée Levine rsvp to adoner@ frontier.com	2	3 Adelante <i>Lark & Termite</i> , Phillips, 1:45 at home of Martha McMullen; rsvp to mrthnncy2@aol.com	4	5	6 International Dining Indonesian 6 pm at home of Rudi Simko rsvp to r.simko@ morrisbb.net
8	10 Film Buds Film & Location: TBA 5:30—7 	9	10 Reservation deadline for Lunch Bunch; contact Sherry Brown at 357-8455 or sherrysaerie @gmail.com	11 Film Fans Film & Location: TBA 12—1:30 	12 Lunch Bunch 12:00 Strada's 127 Broadway 	13
14	15 Reservation deadline for Branch Meeting Lunch; rsvp to andriettek@ bellsouth.net	16	17 Branch Meeting 11:30 GEM Board 10:00 1st Baptist Church	18	19	20
21	22	23 World Affairs South Africa 1:30 pm at home of LaDean Peterson; rsvp to 650-3005	24	25 Evening <i>Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</i> , 7 pm at home of Marilyn Kolton, rsvp to ldwmkd@aol.com	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Contents	
Calendar & Activities	pp.1-2
Public Policy	p. 2
President's Message	p. 3
Community Events	pp. 3-4
GEM News	p. 3
New Members	p. 4
Member Birthdays	p. 4

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.

Events & Activities, continued:

- ◆ **CAB Book Group:** The “Cocktails and Books” group meets the first Monday of each month, from 4:30 to 6 pm, at the Battery Park Book Exchange & Champagne Bar in the Grove Arcade, unless specified otherwise. To get more information or add your name to the list of members, contact group leader Alice Doner at adoner@frontier.com.
- ◆ **Evening Book Group:** The book discussion group meets the fourth Thursday of each month 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; 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 group leader Beth Ellers at slark1@att.net.
- ◆ **Film Fans:** This film discussion group meets the first Thursday after the second Monday of each month from noon to 1:30 at the homes of members; film is the same as that discussed by the Monday Film Buds group; members bring their own lunch; open to new members; for the location 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 ssmred@bellsouth.net or 692-3620 or Debra Benjamin at debrabenjamin100@gmail.com or 650-0311.
- ◆ **Lunch Bunch:** The Lunch Bunch is an informal gathering of

Monthly Branch Meeting and Luncheon

Wednesday, October 17

First Baptist Church

5 Oak Street

Lunch at 11:30*

Program at 12:30 –

“Sharing Volunteer Opportunities”

Guest Speaker: Beth Mazcka,
Executive Director, YWCA



*If you plan to be there for lunch (\$12), please
RSVP to Andriette Kinsella at
andriettek@bellsouth.net

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 at sherrysaerie@gmail.com or 357-8455 by the **deadline date**.

- ◆ **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 eve@higginsmiller.com or at 299-8107.

Public Policy —

“It’s My Vote – I Will be Heard”



- ◆ AAUW National is encouraging branches to hold **presidential debate watch parties** for members and others, if desired. Our board thinks it’s a great idea and encourages you to host a party or attend one. If you decide to host a party, please contact Molly Keeney at mollykeeney@charter.net so we can coordinate, help with invitations and report back to national. For more information, including questions to use, go to: <http://www.debates.org/index.php?page=debatewatch-overview> .

The dates of the debates between the presidential candidates are:

1. Wednesday, October 3, moderated by Jim Lehrer, Executive Editor of the *PBS News Hour*
2. Tuesday, October 16, moderated by Candy Crowley, Chief Political Correspondent, CNN, and Anchor, CNN’s *State of the Union*
3. Monday, October 22 Bob Schieffer, Chief Washington Correspondent, CBS News, and Moderator, *Face the Nation*

The single vice presidential debate is Thursday, October 11, and it will be moderated by Martha Raddatz, Senior Foreign Affairs Correspondent, ABC News. All of the debates will begin at 9 p.m. ET and end at 10:30 pm ET.

- ◆ America’s women fought for decades for the right to cast their ballot. Honor our foremother’s commitment and sacrifices by registering, becoming informed, and exercising your right to vote. You can check your voter registration at the following web address, as well as get more information about early voting and other voting issues — <http://www.aauwaction.org/my-vote/>.



FROM THE BRANCH PRESIDENT



Dear AAUW Friends:

By now, we will have had our first official activity of the membership year – the pot luck dinner at the home of BA Schenck. I know it was a big success with a great location (thank you BA,) food, and friendship. Thanks to all who attended. And special thanks to all the board members and study group leaders for all you've been doing to plan for the coming year and to organize such interesting and enjoyable activities and events.

As promised, here's an update of where we regarding board goals and actions:

Membership – As of September 15, we have 135 members, compared to 123 at this time last year. Thanks to Barbara Robinson and Emily Quinn for their great job in making new members welcome. The mentor program is continuing, so, if you would like to mentor a new member, contact Barb or Emily.

Finances – As of August 31, our AAUW branch has \$8,468 in our checking account. Note that more than half of that amount is owed to AAUW national for membership dues, so the available cash is much less than it appears.

Projects – The sink for the YWCA drop-in center is still in the works but there have been some hurdles to overcome. We'll keep you posted on its progress.

Get Out the Vote Postcards – We have received a generous supply of these postcards from AAUW national and they will be distributed at

the pot luck dinner and the first branch meeting.

Announcements of Community Events – If you are involved in a community group and want to invite AAUW members to attend an event, we ask that you write a short description of the event (including the who, what, where and when) and send to me and to Alice Doner. If it aligns with our mission, we will do our best to include the information in appropriate news-letter(s). Note the deadline for inclusion is the 20th of the month before newsletter publication.

I hope to see many of you at our first branch meeting on October 17th at 11:30 at First Baptist Church. We'll enjoy the fellowship of members and the talk by Beth Mazcka, the new executive director of the YWCA.

*Take care,
Molly Keeney*

mollykeeney@charter.net or 828-337-5044



GEM News

A-B Tech has announced the names of our ten **GEM Fund scholarship recipients** for 2012-13:

- ◆ Angelica Coffey
- ◆ Julia Considine-Heck
- ◆ Tiara Edwards
- ◆ Amelia Garcia
- ◆ Mary Gionanniello
- ◆ Kristin Kahl
- ◆ Charlotte Leonard
- ◆ Guenevere Seastrom
- ◆ Christina Spetz
- ◆ Roxanna Vess

Watch for more information on these GEM Scholars in the Fall "GEM Chips," GEM's biannual newsletter, and in future monthly AAUW Asheville newsletters.

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 "Scholarships" at <http://asheville-nc.aauw.net> or contact Alice Doner at adoner@frontier.com.

Community Events of Interest

Following are some events and activities, in keeping with our AAUW mission, that are happening in our community and that may be of interest to our members:



◆ Womansong Anniversary Concert: 25 Years of "Synergy, Sisterhood, and Song"

Womansong, Asheville's oldest and largest women's community chorus, presents its 25th anniversary gala concert, *Sing My Sister Sing!*, at Diana Wortham Theatre on Saturday, **November 10** (7:30 PM), and Sunday, **November 11** (3:00). The concert will feature dynamic choral singing; along with drumming, dancing, and colorful visuals to celebrate the unity, diversity and empowerment of women. Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased at the Diana Wortham box office or

from Womansong members.

Womansong's mission is "singing together to nurture and uplift ourselves and our community." A 2011 YWCA "Tribute to Women of Influence" honoree and recipient of the 2005 "Community Kindness" award, Womansong awards scholarships and emergency assistance to local women in need through its New Start Program. The chorus also supports the work of like-minded organizations, and one of its ensembles performed at AAUW's GEM scholarship fundraiser in June.

Continued on next page —

AAUW Asheville

Branch Board

President	Molly Keeney
Vice-President	Catherine Battle
Secretary	Deb Fulton-Helmer
Treasurer	Bobby Carney
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 Representative	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!*

Cathy Battle	10/11
Cynthia Earle	10/6
Beth Eilers	10/25
Barbara Griswold	10/27
Toni Hicks	10/11
Joyce Horni	10/18
Mary Ellen Johnson	10/4
Jennifer Kantonen	10/25
Marion Mathews	10/9
Edith Boubray	10/
Eleanor Powers	10/31
Ann Snell	10.23
Juanita Spanogle	10/17
Alice Wutschell	10/23

This Month's GEM Tributes

♦ Alice Doner made a gift to GEM in honor of the birthday of her life-long friend and college roommate, Mary Howell Mueller.

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.

♦ Jean Bailey —

Jean writes, "I am a native Floridian and graduated from the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Therapy. I practiced in Atlanta at Emory University Hospital for a few years. While in Atlanta, I met and later married my late husband. He was transferred to Melbourne, Florida and then again to Jacksonville in 1975. Most of my career has been working in the acute care setting (hospitals). After 41 years of working, I retired in October 2011 and moved to Asheville. In November 2011, I moved my Mother here from Highlands NC .

So far, most of my time has been spent unpacking, getting Mother settled in her apartment and trying to whip my yard into shape. I have taken several courses at A-B Tech ... trying to get in touch with my right brain! There are so many classes I'd like to try. I also enjoy walking my dogs, Sadie and Buster. They love the walks but also enjoy long car rides exploring this beautiful city and surrounding area."

The following new members joined just as the newsletter was about to go out, so we just have a little information right now. Note that

Susan Holmes and Betty Paine joined after the directory went to press, so we've included their contact information:

♦ Vivian Roberti —

Vivian graduated from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, with a degree in psychology, and from the University of Illinois, Urbana, with a master's degree in social work. She has been in Asheville for about two years and is a second generation AAUW member.

♦ Susan Holmes —

Susan graduated from Bowling Green State University with a BA in business administration and from Bentley College, with a master's degree in accounting. She can be reached at 828-989-2674, 109 East Charleston, Swannanoa, 28778, or shecaretaker@yahoo.com.

♦ Betty Paine —

Betty graduated from the University of Iowa, with a degree in education. You can reach her at 828-277-0542, 18 Boddington Court, Asheville, 28803, or bettypaine@yahoo.com.

Community Interest, continued from p. 3

♦ Status of Women Report Kickoff:

The "2012 Status of Women Report" will be released to the public on Thursday, **October 11** at the office of MAHEC Ob/Gyn Specialists — located at 119 Hendersonville Road behind the Doubletree Hotel — 5:30 - 7:00 pm.

The "2012 NC Status of Women" report will detail the results of data analysis and research regarding the wage gap for women earners, the poverty rate, and the impact of education and job training on women.

Women for Women, a giving circle of the Community Foundation of WNC, NC Council for Women, and Wells Fargo funded this state-wide research.

For more information send an email to abromitis@msn.com. Please register for our event at <http://statusofwomen.eventbrite.com>.

♦ Planned Parenthood of Asheville event:



"Singers of the 70's — and Introducing Condom Couture"

Come out on **Tuesday, October 2** to Jubilee, 46 Wall Street, at 6:15 (show at 7 pm) to support Planned Parenthood of Asheville and join in the fun: music of Joni Mitchell, Carole King, Carly Simon, and Roberta Flack performed by local women singers, with a special fashion show featuring local designers incorporating condoms in their originally designed clothing. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door and can be purchased on-line at pphsinc.org/cart.

Look for the **new branch directory** that will be distributed in September and October at the Potluck and by study group leaders. If you haven't received yours by the end of October, contact Barbara Robinson at robarb@charter.net.

