



AAUW Mission: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

[Find us on the Web](http://asheville-nc.aauw.net)
asheville-nc.aauw.net
 and
[FACEBOOK](#)

FEBRUARY 2018

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 Equity 10am CAB 4:30	6 Board Mtg 3:30	7 <i>RSVP Deadline for Lunch Bunch, 12pm</i>	8	9 Advocacy/PP 10am Lunch Bunch 11:30	10
11	12 Film Buds 5:30	13 Film Fans 12:00	14 	15 World Affairs, 2pm	16 <i>RSVP Deadline for Branch Meeting</i>	17
18	19	20 S.T.E.M. 3:30 <i>March Newsletter deadline</i>	21 Photo Group 1:00	22 Tea Time Books 2:00	23	24
25	26	27 Branch Meeting 11:30	28			

AAUW Asheville Branch Board	
President	Wendy Haner
Pres. Elect	Rachel Sossoman
Co-VPs, Programs	Susan Grabel & Barbara Robinson
CoVPs Membership	Linda Beltran & Susan Ikerd
Treasurer	Wendy Haner
Secretary	Barbara Pressman
Fundraising	Mary Ellen Lewis
Equity	Eleanor Lane
Advocacy /	Anne Sayers
Public Policy	Kitty Schaller
ABTech/UNCA	Jan Huskey
GEM	Marilyn Kolton
STEM	Cindy Stephens
Publicity	Lynn Harmon
Newsletter	Lynette Miller
Co-SIG Coordinators	Linda Stover & Jean Toxen
Webmaster	Molly Keeney

From the Branch President Wendy Haner

Opportunities To Build Bridges

I received a holiday card this year which had a lovely, wintry rendition of a beautiful bridge, covered in snow. In the corner was a quote by Ralph Ellison, which said "Education is all about Building Bridges". Inside, the card expressed the hope that "the new year be filled with endless opportunities to build bridges." To my mind, this is a perfect New Year wish and sentiment for our AAUW Branch.

Looking for a Few Good Leaders For Next Year! Are you willing to help? It is also time for us to begin to build our leadership positions for next year. Please consider your hearts and think of how your participation can help our AAUW Branch. Being part of the leadership team is a wonderful opportunity for you to use/develop your skills and talents and to get to know a great group of women with similar goals and values. We are looking for women to fill the following positions: President-elect(1),CO-VP-Programs(1), CO- VP- Membership (1). Many of our leadership positions are filled with 2 people to share ideas and responsibilities and provide an opportunity to learn from one another. The Board meets once a month from August to June then members work independently or within a committee to carry out the various activities. It's a great way to get to know other members! There is supportive materials and information that will assist you in

doing various jobs available through the AAUW national website, the North Carolina website and from our current board members. Thank you for considering this opportunity to further the mission of our branch of AAUW! If you are interested in helping, or if you would like more information about a particular job, please contact me at wendyhaner@icloud.com or (828)-252-5334

As your President and Acting Treasurer , I am working on our upcoming budget for 2018-2019. Please let me know if you have any recommendations for this year's budget. We look forward to receiving valuable input and great ideas from each of you.

We are extremely happy to announce that our committees (Advocacy, UNC-A, STEM, Equity) have received \$200.00 for this year's projects. These dollars were raised by our Community Impact Fund Committee headed by **Mary Ellen Lewis, Jan Schwartz** and **Kitty McKeithen**. Thank you all for your contributions. All the dedication and hard work of our board members and committees fills me with joy at all of our accomplishments. I am very proud and humbled to serve as your president.

Thank you,
Wendy Haner, Asheville Branch President of AAUW

AAUW February Branch Meeting

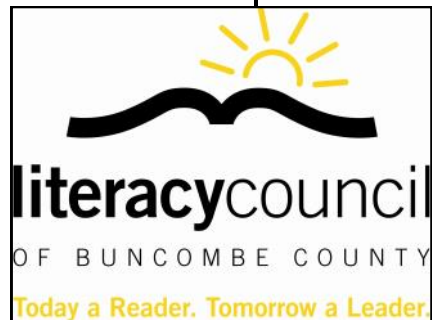
What do Dolly Parton and the Asheville AAUW have in common?

Find out **TUESDAY February 27th, 11:30 AM**

First Baptist Church downtown Asheville (3rd floor dining room)

Speaker: Ms. Ashley Lasher, executive director of the [LITERACY COUNCIL](#) will explain our common interest and goals, how the Literacy Council is working with volunteer tutors and imaginative programs to help educate not only children, but adults from many countries and cultures to speak the language of their "new" country and help them on their way to a better life.

Check your email for reservation information Feb. 6th!



Please note: You may attend the meeting without having lunch. However, members who reserve lunch but do not attend, still owe \$12. AAUW is responsible for all ordered lunches.

Membership News Linda Beltran

Dear AAUW – Asheville Branch Members,

Our AAUW dues are increasing after having been the same for nine years. This increase was approved at the National AAUW Conference on June 13th 2017. The increase is \$10 for the National portion but State and Branch amounts will not change.

In looking at the dues increase, it's important to consider what our National AAUW, State and branches are accomplishing. In 2017:

- ◆ 17,000 people learned to negotiate their salary through AAUW workshops
- ◆ \$3.7 million was awarded to women and community projects
- ◆ 8,000 students brought AAUW program to their campuses
- ◆ 35 states held AAUW STEM Programs
- ◆ 270,000 messages were sent to lawmakers by AAUW members and supporters (<https://www.aauw.org/2017/12/11/action-activism-advancement-a-year-with-aauw/>).

AAUW conducts significant research and produces reports on issues related to gender equity in education and the workplace, which impact national discussion on issues such as “pay gap between women and men, sexual harassment in schools and on college campuses, and the underrepresentation of women in science and engineering.” (<https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/research/>)

We know that increases in cost are going up all the time. The expense of materials, printing, and salaries is a legitimate issue. We all benefit from the valuable

information and the wonderful support we get from National through research, advocacy, campus leadership programs, and suggested ideas to implement for the improvement and growth of our branch. AAUW depends on donations to keep its larger impact going and yet it is extremely hard to budget effectively based on what might occur. Annual dues are a more stable source of income. A combination of dues and donations both are necessary to support AAUW.

The new dues will be \$83.00 per year, effective March 15, 2018:

- ⇒ \$59.00 goes to National (\$56.00 is tax deductible)
- ⇒ \$11.00 goes to our State Board
- ⇒ \$13.00 goes to our Local Branch
- ⇒ Dues for Life Members remains at \$24.00. Honorary Life Members (with over 50 years of Membership) will continue to be free with our deepest appreciation for this long history of commitment to AAUW.

Thank you for your commitment to AAUW and our Asheville branch. We will continue to empower women and girls well into the future.

Sincerely,

AAUW-Asheville Board Members

New Member

THOMPSON, Gail D
10207 Legacy Oaks PL
Asheville, NC 28803
Illinois State University
DePaul University (Chicago)

704-287-5631 (C)
tgail8000@gmail.com

BS Finance
MS Accounting

Gail found out about us at OLLI - She's new to AAUW so be sure to greet her at the next meeting and let her know your favorite thing about AAUW, and tell her about your SIGs and Committees!

[Check It Out....](#)
[AAUW ASHEVILLE](#)
[DIRECTORY ONLINE](#)

Committee News

Advocacy & Public Policy Kitty Schaller and Anne Sayers

The A/PP Committee welcomes members to join us! **Our Committee meeting time has changed to 10:00 am on 2nd Friday of each month.** Our Issue Work Groups are now formed, are meeting, and are led as follows:

- ✳ Healthcare (i.e.ACA, Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, etc.) — Coordinator (temporary) Kitty Schaller ([828-777-1370](tel:828-777-1370)) Meets monthly at 9:15 am 2nd Friday at YWCA
- ✳ Equal Rights for Women, the ERA — Coordinator Robbie Madden ([225-315-0303](tel:225-315-0303)) Meets monthly at 11:30 am 1st Thursday at Cornerstone Restaurant.
- ✳ Fair Vote (stop Gerrymandering) — Coordinator Rebecca Hertz (509-546-441) Meets monthly at 9:00 am 2nd Friday at YWCA
- ✳ Early Childhood Education and Care — Coordinator Kathleen Mainardi ([828-633-2119](tel:828-633-2119)) Monthly meeting TBD

AAUW members are cordially welcomed at our general meeting or at any of the Work Groups. For information, call these coordinators for Work Groups. For more on the overall A/PP Committee, please call Co-Chairs **Anne Sayers** ([919-302-0084](tel:919-302-0084)) or **Kitty Schaller** or ([828-777-1370](tel:828-777-1370)). We mean to provide to the AAUW membership timely background and calls to action on public policy on our priority issues. Our meetings are rich with learning and leading our AAUW sisters to advocate for women and their families. Join us to stay up to date on critical issues of our time.

UNC-A S.T.E.M. Lecture Series

Women in Nursing
Cindy Stephens Tues. Feb. 20
*Our own AAUW-Asheville S.T.E.M.
 Committee Head!*

UNC-Asheville Reuter
 Center 4:30-6:00



The **YWCA Empowerment Center** could use Plants for the classrooms for science observations, Beta Fish (8-10) for classrooms, Heating Pads, Breast Feeding body support pillows, High chair with straps



**Please bring donations to
 General AAUW meetings,
 drop off at the Y, or email
 Eleanor Walther for pick up.
etbuckly5@gmail.com**

Equity Committee Eleanor Lane

Upcoming Community Events:

Speaker Nikole Hannah-Jones, New York Times investigative reporter, “Ending Racial Inequity in Our Schools: What Actually Works,” Wednesday, Feb. 28 at 7pm, Lipinsky Auditorium, UNCA, \$25 benefit for Asheville City Schools Foundation.

Speaker Christine Darden, one of NASA’s “human computers “ as featured in the book, *Hidden Figures*, Thursday, March 1, 7pm in Lipinsky Auditorium, UNCA. Free.

An Asheville organization doing important work:

Sistas Caring 4 Sistas: Doulas for Social Justice is a new program, begun in 2016, that addresses the health crisis in Buncombe County, African-American babies are 3.1 times more likely to die in infancy than white babies. Doulas are building community with moms in child birthing years, 12-45, who previously had difficulties accessing services. The doulas provide labor support, breastfeeding information, prenatal and postpartum support, and develop lasting relationships with the moms. The four pillars for doulas are: distribute evidence-based information; advocate for patient’s wishes; provide support to the moms/dads/families; and provide non-pharmacological pain relief during delivery.

Please join us at the next Equity Committee meeting on Monday, February 5. For more information, please contact **Eleanor Lane**, elane@northstarlane.com.



Do you have an idea for a new SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG) ?

The Asheville AAUW SIG program currently has nine SIGs ranging from book groups to World Affairs to Film to International Dining to Photography to Upstreamers to the Lunch Bunch. See a description of each on Page 8 of this Newsletter.

Are there SIG subjects that AAUW members would like to see added? Maybe a Gardening group? Or Genealogy, Bridge, Hiking, Writing, Travel Discussions, Crafts or Antiquing groups? The possibilities are endless. Only requirement to set up a new SIG is a member to be the Coordinator and a minimum of five AAUW members interested in the group.

Please contact Jean Toxen (jtoxen@bellsouth.net; 404-784-0603) or Linda Stover (lindalstover@gmail.com; 704-905-6530) if you have ideas for new SIGs. All ideas are welcome.

Women in S.T.E.M.



Grace Brewster Murray Hopper (1906 – 1992)
 American computer scientist and United States Navy rear admiral earned a Ph.D. in mathematics from Yale. One of the first programmers of the Harvard Mark I computer, she was a pioneer of computer programming , leading the team that created the first **computer language** compiler, which led to the **popular COBOL language**. (Hopper is responsible for "debugging" the computer - she also coined the phrase after finding a moth inside a computer.)

The most dangerous phrase in the language is "we've always done it this way."
 Rear admiral Grace Hopper



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

February Birthdays

- 2/4 Lynn Harmon
- 2/4 Anne Reis
- 2/5 Maria Roloff
- 2/7 Millie Massey
- 2/7 Frances J. Myers
- 2/10 Betty Paine
- 2/14 Carol Samsky
- 2/16 Nini Abbott
- 2/18 Betty Letzig
- 2/23 Jayne Gallinger
- 2/24 Molly Keeney
- 2/25 Marion Mayfield-Johnson

Tea Time Book Club 2017-18 Selections 4th Thursdays at 2 Juanita Spanogle

Date	Book	Location
Feb. 22	<u>Hillbilly Elegy</u> J.D. Vance	Sherry Brown, 295 Ninth St. Black Mt 28711 357.8455, c 828.551.0432 sherrysaerie@gmail.com
Mar. 22	<u>The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story</u> Diane Ackerman	Rosey Bily, 130 Lookout Dr. 28804 252.1210 robily@att.net
Apr. 26	<u>Vinegar Girl : the Taming of the Shrew Retold</u> Anne Tyler	Jane Lance, 3001 Timber Trail 28804 505.8192, c 208.569.5318 janlance@aol.com
May 24	<u>The Marriage of Opposites</u> a novel based on the life of Rachel Pizarro by Alice Hoffmann	Jo Yates, 15-H Wesley Drive, 28803 c 828.275.4948 joyates4@gmail.com
June 28	Book Selection	Juanita Spanogle, 19 Stony Ridge 28804 258.0096 c 828 425 5385 jspanogle@aol.com

Cocktails And Books 2018-2019 Selections 1st Mondays at 4:30, Metro Wines, Contact Anne Reis , annereis2@gmail.com

February	BEHOLD THE DREAMERS by Imbolo Mbue
March	LITTLE FIRES EVERYWHERE by Celeste Ng
April	LAST CASTLE: THE EPIC STORY OF LOVE, LOSS AND AMERICAN ROYALTY IN THE NATION'S BIGGEST HOME by Denise Kiernan
May	ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE by Elizabeth Strout
June	THE EVOLUTION OF BEAUTY:HOW DARWIN'S FORGOTTEN THEORY OF MATE CHOICE SHAPES THE ANIMAL WORLD-AND US by Richard O Prum
August	THE LAST BALLAD by Wiley Cash
September	FIRST GENERATIONS: WOMEN IN COLONIAL AMERICA by Carol Berkin
October	CHURCHILL AND ORWELL: THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM by Thomas E Picks
November	BETWEEN THE WORLD AND ME by Ta- Nehisi Coates
December	SPY OF THE FIRST PERSON by Sam Shepard
February	BURNING BRIGHT by Ron Rash

Board Committees

If you are interested in serving on any of these committees, please contact the committee head.

Advocacy & Public Policy Group

The purpose of the Advocacy & Public Policy Committee is to advance equity for women and girls through education, partnering, advocacy and action. At our monthly meeting (2nd Friday 9:30 am) we focus on increasing awareness and involvement of Branch members on a few issues, including those adopted by National AAUW and those we choose locally. In 2017-18, the A/PP Committee will develop new means of communication to Branch members - both timely and targeted — to facilitate their attendance at education events and to take action with public officials when advised.

For more information, contact Anne Sayers at annesayers432@gmail.com or Kitty Schaller at kittyschaller@gmail.com. New members are always welcome.

College/University Partnership with UNCA

Our objective is to provide women students with advisers, mentors and supporters from all walks of life to help them hone life and career skills. Our goals with UNCA include offering programs on salary negotiation, how to build leadership skills, and how to advocate on key issues impacting women today.

Contact Jan Huskey, huskeyjan@charter.net

Community Impact Fund

The 2017/2018 mission of the Community Impact Fund is to raise dollars to support STEM, UNCA, YWCA, Equity, Public Policy and any other committees that meet the mission of AAUW-Asheville. Contact Mary Ellen Lewis, emmyjoellen3@gmail.com



Membership Committee

Membership has two basic goals: Recruitment and Retention, by maintaining databases and general membership information, writing newsletter articles and initiating special membership campaigns, and most importantly, making new people feel welcomed and integrated in our branch.

Contact Linda Beltran at linbeltran09@yahoo.com or call 828-575-9964.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Committee

This committee is engaged in promoting STEM for women and girls by providing fieldtrip experiences, expert panels, parent programs (in development) and mentoring opportunities.

Contact: Cindy Stephens DNP, RN, FNP-BC cstephens30@thefhc.net
Cell: 828-337-3011

Equity Committee

We want to promote equity for ALL women and girls, with a special focus on those women and girls who have less access to power and resources. Our approach is two-fold: 1- Education, bringing information to our members about disparities in Asheville and Buncombe County and issues of inequity researched by our national AAUW, 2- Direct action in our community, supporting local organizations that address the development of women and girls to increase access to power and resources. Please join us at our monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month at 10:00am.

Contact Eleanor Lane, elane@northstarlane.com, for more information.

AAUW DIVERSITY STATEMENT

In principle and practice AAUW values and seeks diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Currently we have 9 SIGS with over 100 AAUW members participating. The SIG group topics include international dining, photography, world affairs, film, clean streams, book clubs and local restaurants (see below for full description of each). Please contact the SIG Coordinator listed for each group if you have questions or would like to attend one of the meetings.

If you have any questions about the overall SIG Program or if you would like to establish a new SIG, please contact either **Jean Toxen** (jtoxen@bellsouth.net; 404-784-0603) or **Linda Stover** (lindalstover@gmail.com; 704-905-6530)

AAUW Upstreamers: This group works with Riverlink to clean up a stream at Reed Creek Park near UNC-A three times a year. For more information contact Barbara Robinson at baritar16@gmail.com 230-7113.

CAB Book Group: The “Cocktails and Books” discussion group meets at 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 Ann Reis, annereis2@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 **second** Thursday of each month from 12-1:30 pm, location TBA. 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 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 pot-luck, with menu suggestions from the host. Dinners are approximately every other month. For more information, contact Jeanne Smolkin at 828-254-4789 or jmolkin@gmail.com

Lunch Bunch: The Lunch Bunch is an informal gathering for lunch on the second Friday of each month at 11:30 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 noon the Wednesday before at 828-357-8455 or sherrysaerie@gmail.com to reserve space and get directions to the restaurant.

Photography Group: The Photography Group is open to anyone with an interest in photography—with or without a camera. The group will meet on the 3rd Wednesday at 1pm though field trips/events may necessitate changes. More information at our website aauwphotog.weebly.com or email Lynette Miller at lcmlisterstudio@gmail.com.

Tea Time Book Group: This book discussion group meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 2 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.

World Affairs Group: A group to study and discuss events across the globe. In 2018, meetings are scheduled for Jan. 18, March 15 and May 17 at 2 p.m. Please contact Eve Miller (evhigginsmiller7@gmail.com or [828-299-8107](tel:828-299-8107)) for additional information.

Please remember to notify the hostess or group leader if you plan to attend this month’s meeting so they can predict attendance and you can be apprised of any last-minute changes!

Picture Page



December **Equity Committee** with Joele Emma, (2nd from L) Dir. of Education, Asheville Greenworks

Beautiful AAUW-Asheville display at Capital Bank made by **Lynn Harmon**, Publicity



Getting ready to march, 2018



Kitty Schaller holding our banner high for the 2018 Women's March, Asheville, in the Citizen-Times!



January Branch meeting, Leslie Council (and 2 UNC-A student volunteers) of MySistahTaughtMeThat.org with **Eleanor Lane**

Calendar Details

AAUW Equity Committee Meeting

Next meeting in FEBRUARY 5
For more info Contact Eleanor Lane,
elane@northstarlane.com.



Photo Group Meets on Wed. February 21

Field Trip!

We'll meet at 1pm at [Tracy Morgan Gallery](#),

[188 Coxe Ave](#), Asheville, NC 28801

To learn more, Visit our Photo Group Website:

AAUWPhotog.weebly.com or contact

Lynette Miller, LCMillerStudio@gmail.com



Lunch Bunch

Friday, Feb 9, 11:30, Chestnut Restaurant,
48 Biltmore Ave., Asheville.
Reservation deadline Wed. Feb .7, noon.
Contact Sherry Brown

Sherrysaerie@gmail.com Or 357-8455



Easy parking right across the street at the Aloft Hotel - 1st hour free.

Film Fans

Film Fans next month will be held on **Tuesday, February 13**
from 12:00 - 1:30 at Atlanta Bread Co., [484 Hendersonville Road](#) (just south of Biltmore Village). Since we are using their space, participants will hopefully buy their lunch or at least a drink from the restaurant. Please plan to come a few minutes so that we can start on time. **For more info - contact Beth Johnson, johnson1ea@earthlink.net**



January **World Affairs** discussion was canceled due to icy roads and has been rescheduled .
World Affairs will meet at 2 p.m. Feb. 15 at the home of LaDean Peterson to discuss The Rising Tide of Nationalism.

Please contact Eve Miller ([828-299-8107](tel:828-299-8107) or evehigginsmiller7@gmail.com)

S.T.E.M. Meeting

Feb. 20, 3:30pm-4:30pm ,
[Battery Park Book Exchange](#)

For more info contact Cindy Stephens
cstephens30@thefhc.net

