



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

[Find us on the Web](#)

[asheville-nc.aauw.net](http://asheville-nc.aauw.net)

and

[FACEBOOK](#)

# APRIL 2018

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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
Co-SIG Coordinators	Linda Stover & Jean Toxen
Newsletter	Lynette Miller
Webmaster	Molly Keeney

## From the Branch President

Wendy Haner

Hello! While the weather cannot decide what it is going to do, AAUW Asheville is clear about its mission and activities! We have lots going on and once again all of our programs give you opportunities to celebrate and learn.

April is our Annual branch meeting. What does this mean – it means it is time to elect new officers. The Nominating Committee has been hard at work finding members willing to step up and take on board positions that need to be filled. We needed a President Elect and 2 other positions filled. We are very excited to announce that **Pat Ashe** will be stepping up to take the President Elect position working with **Rachel Sossoman**. **Johanna Manasse** has agreed to fill the position of VP of Programs and will be working along side of **Barbara Robinson**. We still need one of our members to step forward to help take on the position of VP of Membership and work with **Susan Ikerd**. We truly hope that you will consider giving of your time and volunteer for AAUW.

My position as President will end and I have agreed to take on the Treasurer position. As I look back when I took on this position of President 2 years ago - I had a big dream for our AAUW branch. There are many times that I felt that we achieved our goals by developing new Committees and strengthening SIG groups. There were times that I felt we took one step forward and 2 steps back, but overall we achieved our goals. I want our AAUW Branch to aim high and think big as we approach 2018. To think outside of the box and ask ourselves “Where are we now, where do we want to be and how will we get there?” I feel the process has begun and Rachel will do a superb job in leading this Branch. I truly am honored to have had such a terrific board to help guide our initiatives forward and I wish to thank everyone for their understanding, guidance and friendship.

Sincerely,  
Wendy Haner

**Branch Meeting Tuesday, April 24, 11:30 am, [First Baptist Church](#), upstairs dining room (3rd floor )**

**Join friends and fellow members to hear plans to help students AND teachers to “Learn. Discover. Thrive.”**

**Speaker: Dr. Denise Patterson, Superintendent of Asheville City Schools**

**A North Carolina native with 24 years of experience and ideas, Dr. Patterson believes each child is unique and worthy.**

**Board member elections will be held at the April meeting**

**Watch your email for Reservation information to be sent out April 9!**

*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 & Susan Ikerd

### TIME TO RENEW BRANCH DUES for 2018-2019!

Membership dues have increased to \$83. The breakdown of the yearly dues: \$59 goes to National, \$11 to the State and \$13 to our branch. Remember that only \$56 is tax deductible. Dues for Life Members have not changed and are still \$24 to cover State and Branch dues.

First Step: Check your information in the directory for accuracy! The most up-to-date information is on the website! If you have changes, email those to [Linbeltran09@yahoo.com](mailto:Linbeltran09@yahoo.com)!

Paying: By Check: Make it payable to AAUW, and mail it to Linda Beltran, 11 Outlook Circle, Swannanoa, NC 28778 – or give it to her at the next branch meeting

Paying Online: Go to AAUW's Home Page at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

1. Click "login" at the top of the page, enter your member id and password. Or click "need to register" if
2. it's your first time on the website. Registering takes a few extra steps.
3. Click on the Member Services Database at the bottom of the page.
4. Click on "Enter the Membership Services Database" (blue rectangle).
5. Click on "Renew My Membership" at the left. You will be asked to pay by credit card...THAT AMOUNT WILL BE \$83!

**National AAUW's deadline to renew dues is June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017!**



### Membership Co-Vice-President    Linda Beltran

This is the Board position that meets and greets new and prospective members first. The conversations I've had with those just arriving to our branch have been entertaining and enlightening, and gave me a real appreciation for the quality of our membership. What a group! Now that our directory is entirely online, this "job" has become a fun social experience, averaging about 10 hours a month, split between two people. Yes – there is still an excel database and that may sound scary but it's easy to use now and is almost like a game!

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

This year I had the pleasure of submitting two of our members for National's Honorary Life Membership status. (You read about them last month.) It was one of my highlights. Others include the Shape the Future in 2017 when we gained ten new members and were able to "gift" memberships to our Chief of Police and the UNC-A Chancellor and two others. That was an "extra" that made the whole year wonderful.

I've occupied the Membership "HOT SEAT" for over two years now, and will be moving on. I'm asking **you** to come play on the Home Team and do some wildly creative recruiting activities and a host of conversing to the newest folks in town! **You** can be the first person who talks to them and really make quite a difference. **You** can promote the Start Smart Workshop Effort, STEM, Advocacy/Public Policy and Diversity! **You** can also help them find just the right fit with a Special Interest Group. When the day is fading, **you** will have quite sense of achievement. And, Susan Ikerd, the upcoming Senior Co-VP will be overjoyed!

(Contact Nominating Committee - Rachel Sossoman - [rachelmsossoman@gmail.com](mailto:rachelmsossoman@gmail.com),  
Jan Schwartz - [blucottage@bellsouth.net](mailto:blucottage@bellsouth.net), Ann Snell - [ann.clarke.snell@hotmail.com](mailto:ann.clarke.snell@hotmail.com) )

## Committee News - S.T.E.M.

Cindy Stephens

Barriers to STEM careers for women

- Stereotypes
- Unconscious bias
- Lack of female role models and mentors

In the US more than half the undergraduate students who declare a STEM major in their freshman year do not graduate with a STEM degree. About 75% of undergraduate minority students leave their STEM major for a different field of study.

Often a combination of factors, including stereotypes, unconscious bias, and a lack of female role models and teachers discourages girls' interest in these fields. The clothes we wear, the toys we are given, the gender roles we are encouraged to fill, may all implicitly or directly tell our girls they do not have the intellectual capacity or ability to pursue their interest in STEM fields.

AAUW has long supported women by investing in their education and has a long

and distinguished history of advancing educational and professional opportunities for women in the United States and around the globe.

Through research, campus initiatives and STEM education and public policy involvement AAUW breaks through barriers so that all women have a fair chance.



### Women in S.T.E.M.



Do you often think about hyperbolic geometry while crocheting?

**Margaret Wertheim** studied mathematics and physics at university in Australia. She and her twin sister Christine founded The Institute for Figuring, an organization dedicated to the poetic and aesthetic dimensions of science, mathematics and engineering. The sisters developed the Crochet Coral Reef, “a project that invites participants to crochet hyperbolic coral forms that are massed into vast reef-like installations.” The basic process for making the crochet coral reef is a simple pattern or algorithm, which on its own produces a mathematically pure shape. By varying or mutating this algorithm, endless variations and permutations of shape and form can be produced. “It turns out that hyperbolic structures are very common in nature, and the place where lots of people encounter them is coral reefs,” says **Margaret Wertheim**. “Sea slugs, and a lot of other organisms with frilly forms, are biological manifestations of hyperbolic geometry, which is also found in the structure of lettuce leaves and kales, and some species of cactus.” Who knew?



Listen to [Margaret Wertheim: The beautiful math of coral | TED Talk](#)

## Committee News

### Equity Committee Eleanor Lane

#### Why I Started the Equity Committee:

I arrived in Asheville ready to enjoy the splendor of the mountains, relish creative restaurants and revel in the arts and crafts. Upon arriving, I also learned about the [State of Black Asheville](#) and major disparities in our community. I wanted to do something, was a member of our local AAUW branch and believed that our mission, advancing equity, needed a special focus to extend to **all** the women and girls here. The new Diversity Committee was born and quickly evolved into the Equity Committee:

- Promoting equity beyond diversity and equality;
- Understanding disparities in our city and immediate community AND positive activities happening to increase equity;
- Directly engaging with the community with our current special focus on My Sistah Taught Me That; and
- Bringing diverse speakers to branch meetings.

We were thrilled to have **Leslie Council** bring her passion about [My Sistah Taught Me That](#) to a branch meeting are excited about an upcoming program with **Marta Alcala-Williams** who created two creative and unique groups in Asheville Housing Authority communities: Hillcrest Motherhead and Pisgah View Marvelous Math Club. I still love the mountains, local restaurants and arts and crafts, but I also feel committed to working toward making equity for all our women and families real and am glad that our Equity Committee is part of that effort.



Eleanor Lane (R) with Leslie Council

Come join us at the next Equity Committee meeting April 2. For more information contact Eleanor Lane, [elane@northstarlane.com](mailto:elane@northstarlane.com)

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](mailto:etbuckly5@gmail.com)



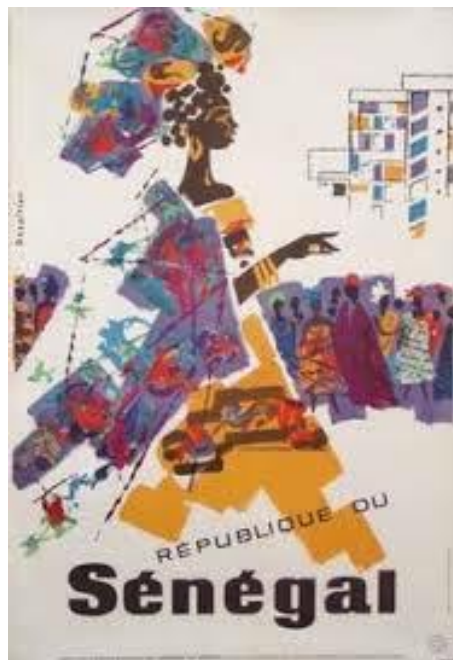
The AAUW Upstreamers, a SIG group of active outdoors-loving women, are gearing up for our first clean-up sessions this year in **April** at Reed Creek - and we want YOU to join us. New members, it's a perfect way to meet like-minded women in a small group setting with an easy time commitment.

We meet just 3 times a year to help keep the French Broad River clean and water-sports perfect in conjunction with RiverLink, the well-known local organization whose main focus is keeping the French Broad River, its tributaries, and feeder streams environmentally clean and usable. Our area is a mile and a half stretch along the Reed Creek Parkway, right on Broadway across from the UNC-A campus. We spend about 2 hours in wading boots, bright orange vests and old clothes and talk and laugh our way downstream as we play "pick up" with our pick-up sticks. Come join us in **April, July and October** for an easy but important job to save our stream and clean our environment. And you, too, can have your picture in the newsletter in a fetching orange vest!



Contact Barbara Robinson at [baritar16@gmail.com](mailto:baritar16@gmail.com) or call me at 828-230-7113

## Special Interest Groups News



*AAUW International Dining Presents*

# *Senegalese Independence Day*

*Wednesday April 4, 2018 at 6:00 pm*

*Home of Cathy Battle & Dave Castle [159 Skyview Circle, Asheville](#)*

*Enjoy an evening of great food and fabulous conversation-learn about Senegalese cuisine, culture and history and share your travel stories!*

*Dave and Cathy will provide the recipes for this fabulous blend of West & North African, French and Portuguese dishes.*

*Each member is permitted to bring one guest.  
Seating is limited, so make your reservation quickly.*

*Please contact Jeanne ([jsmolkin@gmail.com](mailto:jsmolkin@gmail.com)) to reserve your place at the table. A suggested menu and recipes will be sent to those attending this exciting international dinner.*



## Financial FUNdamentals - Introducing a new AAUW Asheville SIG



*“Women with money and women in power are two uncomfortable ideas in our society” – Candace Bushnell*

How do we get more comfortable as women with money and power? By educating and empowering ourselves. We're excited to create a new SIG for Asheville AAUW where members of all levels of expertise or inexperience can grow in their understanding and comfort with money and personal finance. Each month, we will gather to discuss topics such as current events in the economy, budgeting basics, investing, college savings, health care, estate planning, retirement, and financial scams & fraud.

Meetings will be the second Wednesday of the month at either 10:30\* or 5:30\* at [1185 Charlotte Highway, Suite I](#) (Edward Jones' office) in Fairview. First meeting is tentatively planned, depending on response, for April 11th. \*There will only be one meeting, either 10:30 or 5:30; please indicate your preference when you RSVP.

**Please call or email SIG Coordinator Leslie Apple at [828-628-1546](tel:828-628-1546) or [leslie.apple@edwardjones.com](mailto:leslie.apple@edwardjones.com) with questions and to RSVP.**

## GEM News Marilyn Kolton

### GEM Increases Both Number and Amount of Scholarships

Thanks to the generous contributions of our members, AAUW-Asheville's GEM Fund has grown significantly. In 2002, our first year, we were able to award only a modest two scholarships for \$500 each, but in 2017 we awarded 25 scholarships totaling \$27,500. To date, we have awarded a total of \$140,371 to AB-Tech and UNCA students. There are now 110 women who are GEM-AAUW Scholars. Through these scholarships, we improved the lifetime opportunities of the awardees, something we can all be proud of. This accomplishment is tangible proof of the philanthropic spirit of AAUW-Asheville. Now GEM is at a place where we can expand the pool of women who are eligible for GEM-AAUW scholarships, award a higher number of scholarships, and increase the dollar amount of each scholarship. To this end, the GEM board made these changes:

#### A-B Tech

A-B tech first-year students are eligible; previously only second year students were eligible.

Students in a 2-year degree program are eligible; previously students had to be in a transfer program to a 4-year school.

The scholarship amount is \$1500, increased from \$1000.

#### UNC-Asheville

Priority is given to GEM scholars transferring from A-B Tech.

Next in priority are other students transferring from A-B Tech.

Scholarships are renewable for a second year to GEM scholars who attend UNCA full time and have at least 3.0 cumulative GPA.

Scholarship amount is increased to \$2000 per semester or \$4000 per academic year; previous amount was \$2000 per academic year.

The GEM board appreciates the continued support of AAUW members. A special thank you to all our AAUW members who have made possible this expansion of the scholarship program. We invite you to visit one of our board meetings, to volunteer for the GEM board, or to help with a GEM fundraising event. Please come to the next **GEM fundraiser on June 2 at Fernhurst on the A-B Tech campus**. You won't want to miss the opportunities to bid on silent auction and raffle items. The food will be great—catered by A-B Tech culinary graduates—and the company couldn't be better.

Marilyn Kolton, President, The GEM Fund

GEM Auction Info - Click [Here](#)



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

#### April Birthdays

- 4/1 Marlene Shaklan
- 4/8 Linda Nicodemus
- 4/8 Jeanne Smolkin
- 4/8 Jean Toxen
- 4/8 Barbara Weatherall
- 4/10 Patricia Ashe
- 4/10 Pamela dement
- 4/13 Helen McClintock
- 4/13 Maria Svechkova
- 4/14 Judy Duncan
- 4/14 Jill Preyer
- 4/16 Susan Hensley
- 4/24 Adele Moffat
- 4/27 Barbara Mayer
- 4/29 Barbara Robinson

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

Date	Book	Location
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 <a href="mailto:janlance@aol.com">janlance@aol.com</a>
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 <a href="mailto:joyates4@gmail.com">joyates4@gmail.com</a>
June 28	Book Selection	Juanita Spanogle, 19 Stony Ridge 28804 258.0096 c 828 425 5385 <a href="mailto:Jspanogle@aol.com">Jspanogle@aol.com</a>

“No entertainment is so cheap as reading, nor any pleasure so lasting.” ~ Lady M. W. Montagu

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

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 Committee

The purpose of the Advocacy & Public Policy Committee is to advance equity for women and girls through education, partnering, advocacy and action. At our **A/PP monthly meeting (2nd Friday 10:00 am at the YWCA)** 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, we have chosen four areas of concern for education and action and the four work groups and meeting times are as follows:

- **Health Care - (variety of state & federal policies)**  
*Meets 9:10 am 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday - YWCA*
- **Early Childhood Education & Care (state & local concerns)**  
*Meets 9:00 am 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday- YWCA*
- **Fair Vote -Stop Gerrymandering (state & federal issue)**  
*Meets 9:00 am 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday - YWCA*
- **Equal Rights for Women -ERA -Fair Wage/Pay Gap**  
*Meets 1:30 pm 1st Thursday -- Cornerstone Restaurant*

During 2017-18, the A/PP Committee will develop the Public Policy Primer, a new means of communication to Branch members. Both timely and targeted, it facilitates members' attendance at education events and action steps with public officials when advised.

Contact: Anne Sayers at [annesayers432@gmail.com](mailto:annesayers432@gmail.com)  
or Kitty Schaller at [kittyschaller@gmail.com](mailto:kittyschaller@gmail.com)

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:linbeltran09@yahoo.com) or call 828-575-9964.

### S.T.E.M. ( 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:jtoxen@bellsouth.net); 404-784-0603) or **Linda Stover** ([lindalstover@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://aauwphotog.weebly.com) or email Lynette Miller at [lcmlerstudio@gmail.com](mailto:lcmlerstudio@gmail.com).

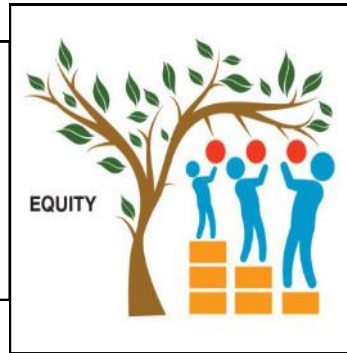
**Tea Time Book Group:** This book discussion group meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 2 pm at the homes of various members. All are welcome; for this month’s book and location or to obtain more information, contact group leader Juanita Spanogle at 258-0096 or [jspanogle@aol.com](mailto:jspanogle@aol.com) .

**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 ([evehigginsmiller7@gmail.com](mailto:evehigginsmiller7@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!***

## Calendar Details

**AAUW Equity Committee Meeting**  
**April 2 in Asheville at 10am.** For anyone who would like to come, we'll go out to lunch after the meeting at 9 Mile in Montford.  
For more info Contact Eleanor Lane, [elane@northstarlane.com](mailto:elane@northstarlane.com).



### Lunch Bunch

Will meet **Friday, April 13, 11:30,**  
**CharBar Restaurant,** Gerber Village,  
2 Gerber Rd., Asheville

Reservation deadline Wednesday, April 11,  
Noon  
Sherry Brown, [sherrysaerie@gmail.com](mailto:sherrysaerie@gmail.com)  
357-8455



### Film Fans

Film Fans are on the move. At our recent meeting, members of the Film Fans discussion group voted to permanently move our meeting to the second Tuesday of each month. Film Fans will meet on Tuesday, April 10, from 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Both the location and the film are to be determined. Stay tuned. **For more info - contact Beth Johnson,** [johnson1ea@earthlink.net](mailto:johnson1ea@earthlink.net)



### Photo Group Meets on Wed. April 18, 1pm

To learn more, Visit our Photo Group Website:  
[AAUWPhotog.weebly.com](http://AAUWPhotog.weebly.com) or contact  
Lynette Miller, [LCMillerStudio@gmail.com](mailto:LCMillerStudio@gmail.com)

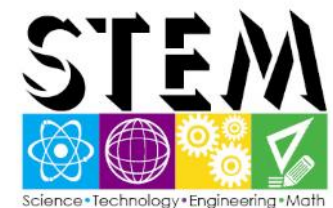
### World Affairs

World Affairs will not meet in April. The next scheduled meeting will be Thursday, May 18 at 2 p.m. Contact Eve Miller ([828-299-8107](tel:828-299-8107)) if you have questions

### S.T.E.M. Meeting

April 10, 4:45, ABTech

For more info contact Cindy Stephens  
[cstephens30@thefhc.net](mailto:cstephens30@thefhc.net)



## CALL FOR GEM FRIENDS' SILENT AUCTION SERVICES & EXPERIENCES

The annual GEM fundraiser event is coming up soon — as always, the first Sunday in June, which, this year, is **June 3**. For several years now, the event has included a **GEM Friends' Silent Auction**, in which our branch members and friends may offer experiences or services for silent auction. This is a great way to raise a little money for women's scholarships and to feature things you're good at or just love to do, and, even better, spend some time with other branch members and friends. It doesn't have to be anything fancy, elaborate, or expensive. What do you like to do that you can share with others?

Past offerings have included a wide array. A day "class" in ceramics, papermaking, Zentangle drawing, knitting, photography, and more have been very popular. Several of our members have offered various kinds of "Fun and Games" nights — with simple fare like pizza, wine, and beer. Others have offered elegant dinners or lunches. Last year Julie Hettiger and Alice Doner hosted a "Day of the Dead" Mexican brunch. For three years now our caterer, Michelle Kelly, has catered a romantic dinner for two in the winning bidder's home. GEM Board president Marilyn Kolton usually offers a nature and bird hike which so many of our winning bidders have enjoyed. One year branch member Peg Steiner and her husband Bill, an Audubon expert, offered a tour of their amazing Audubon collection, including a print to take home. Other members have offered dog sitting, movie critic studies, massage therapy,

picnics, and more. There is really no limit to what you might offer. Consider some of the following:

- ◆ Arrange an art gallery tour
- ◆ Show a film in your home, with discussion and snacks
- ◆ Teach a session, or just do a demonstration, in cooking, fine arts or crafts, photography, gardening, or whatever you love
- ◆ Arrange a garden tour or a half day hike on your favorite trail
- ◆ Offer massage, meditation, or yoga therapy
- ◆ Host a games night, with a variety of games or just your favorite
- ◆ Invite winning bidders for lunch or dinner, based on any theme you like
- ◆ And so on —

The GEM Friends' Silent Auction is really fun and for a great cause and we are currently in need of additional experiences and services. **Please take a moment to consider what you might offer. We are accepting offers now. If you have an idea that you'd like to offer, please contact branch member and GEM Vice President, Susan Gabel, at [susangrabel2@gmail.com](mailto:susangrabel2@gmail.com) or (828) 505-3826.**

