



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

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# APRIL 2019

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## AAUW Asheville Branch Board

President	Rachel Sossoman
Pres. Elect	Pat Ashe
Co-VPs, Programs	Barbara Robinson & Johanna Manasse
CoVPs Membership	Susan Ikerd & Millie Massey
Treasurer	Wendy Haner
Secretary	Barbara Pressman
Equity	Eleanor Lane
Advocacy /Public Policy	Kitty Schaller & Johanna Manasse
ABTech/UNCA	Jan Huskey
GEM	Karen Mauro
Co-SIG Coordinators	Linda Stover & Jean Toxen
Newsletter	Lynette Miller
Webmaster	Molly Keeney

## A Vision Board for our 2019-2020 AAUW Year Johanna Mannasse

I'm proposing a totally different activity for all AAUW members during the month of June that's separate from our branch meetings and strictly voluntary. Have you ever heard of Vision Boards or created one? It's a simple process in which you envision what you'd like to attract in the coming year (people, adventures, wisdom, dreams fulfilled, creative endeavors, etc.), select pictures reflecting those visions and collage them onto a good-sized poster. What you end up with is a visual for the coming year that you view periodically to create receptivity to having that happen. And it works!

I've done lots of vision boards over the years, manifesting personal and professional growth, enhancing relationships, pursuing passions and sharing intentions with friends and families. What I'd love to see us do as AAUW-Asheville is to create visuals for the coming year that we can display at our branch meetings and SIG meetings and committee meetings—as reminders of our intentions for this great organization. Imagine the new Board gathering around a table supplied with magazines, glue and scissors, chatting amiably and randomly selecting images that reflect how they see AAUW evolving next year; imagine a resultant display that graces the wall when we meet as a branch where women study the message and respond with questions and observations. Imagine if the STEM Committee also created a vision board, and the Advocacy/Policy Committee...imagine if the SIG Upstreamers and Film Buds and Lunch Buds met to create vision boards...we could have a whole branch meeting devoted exclusively to our own small group and collective visions!

Does that interest you? Might you want to play with pictures and glue in June in the company of friends? Send me an email at [jvm795@gmail.com](mailto:jvm795@gmail.com) to indicate your interest. I'll probably offer several different dates in June to accommodate all our busy lives. I plan to offer my home for this venture unless there's a big demand; then I'll find a bigger venue for us. Meanwhile, consider this teambuilding and thoroughly satisfyingly fun time. What a great way to get better acquainted. Let's play!

### **April AAUW Branch Meeting Tuesday April 23rd**

Evergreen Community Charter School---Harvard educated students in grades 1 through 8! What do YOU know about this school??

Our speaker will be Ms. Susan Haldane, Director of Development, a woman who chose to join this public charter school in Asheville because of its excellent academic program created by the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Her enthusiasm for the students and curriculum is notable, and she'll fill us in how they are fostering community, and teaching equity to girls in today's world.

We'll meet again at [The Famous Toastery Restaurant](#) on Tunnel Rd. **Tuesday April 23<sup>rd</sup> from 11:30 AM til 1:30 PM.** Plan to join us for lunch, an interesting look at education today from a different perspective, and in the company of friends.

Watch for an email coming April 8 for reservations and menu options.

**AN ALERT FROM THE ADVOCACY/PUBLIC POLICY  
COMMITTEE**

Did you know...

The ERA Bills have been introduced in the NC Legislature! Now the hard work begins and we want you to help. In fact, without a massive and continuous effort on all our parts, this ERA effort could easily languish in committee and never get a vote. If you take two quick actions right now, you amplify the message. Contact the NC Senate Rules & Operations Chair (Senator Bill Rabon, 919-733-5963, [Bill.Rabon@ncleg.net](mailto:Bill.Rabon@ncleg.net)) to urge him to send SB184 to an appropriate committee to be heard and send to the floor for a vote expeditiously. Then contact NC House Judiciary Senior Chair, Representative Ted Davis, Jr. (910-763-6249, [Ted.Davis@ncleg.net](mailto:Ted.Davis@ncleg.net)) and House Judiciary Chair Representative Sarah Stevens (336-755-0883, [Sa-rah.Stevens@ncleg.net](mailto:Sarah.Stevens@ncleg.net)) to respectfully request that HB271 be heard in their committee, find favorably for the B=bill and send it to the floor for a vote as quickly as possible.

Then one more thing: ask a friend or three to take the same actions. There's power in numbers. Millions of women and girls are counting on you.



**Women in S.T.E.M**

The Abel Prize was created by the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters in 2003, and is widely viewed as the mathematics equivalent of a Nobel Prize. This year's winner honors its first female recipient, **Karen Uhlenbeck**, whose seminal work has "led to some of the most dramatic advances in mathematics in the last 40 years," the prize citation reads.

Uhlenbeck, who was born in 1942 in Cleveland, was a voracious reader as a child, but she didn't become deeply interested in mathematics until she enrolled in the freshman hon-

ors math course at the University of Michigan. "The structure, elegance and beauty of mathematics struck me immediately, and I lost my heart to it," she wrote in the book *Mathematicians: An Outer View of the Inner World*.

Uhlenbeck attended graduate school at Brandeis University, In the mid-1960s. Her adviser was exploring what was then mostly uncharted territory lying between analysis (a generalization of calculus) and topology and geometry (which study the structure of shapes). "I was attracted to that — the area in between things," Uhlenbeck said in an interview last year in *Celebratio Mathematica*. "It was like jumping off a deck where you didn't know what was going to happen."



## **Committee News**   **Equity**   Eleanor Lane

*Equity Committee: Promoting Equity for ALL Women and Girls, especially women and girls with less access to power and resources.*

### **More on Education in Asheville: Student Voices**

#### ***Moving Equity Forward: The Glitter Sisters at Asheville's School of Inquiry and Life Sciences (SILSA)***

SILSA, which is located on the campus of Asheville High School, offers dynamic, challenging courses that are more rigorous than the typical Honors level courses and feature a Project-Based Learning approach. The principal, Nicole Cush, created The Glitter Sisters, who are girls of color meeting weekly to discuss mindfulness, campus resources and leadership. To hear what these Glitter Sisters say about choosing this rigorous academic curriculum and their future goals, go to: <https://theurbannews.com/generation-now/2019/interviews-with-silsa-students/>

#### ***Moving Equity Forward: The Listening Project***

In the Listening Project, conducted in 2017-2018, Asheville City Schools Foundation staff collaborated with Asheville High School and SILSA to hear student perceptions about their educational experiences. The voices of students of color and white students were disaggregated to identify differing experiences. Some examples of the difference from the executive summary:

"Students of color named encouragement from school staff as the most powerful determinant in their decision to pursue AP/Honors classes and to take on leadership roles at school. A much smaller percentage of white students named teachers/staff as having the same level of influence.

"This relationship is complicated by a perception that teacher expectations of students vary by race. Students of color most commonly answered that teachers' expectations for students of color are lower than those for white students. Students of color are split: 46% believe that teacher expectations have a positive impact on them and 36% believe they have a negative impact. 19% of students of color named teacher relationships as the reason students struggle."

To read the complete executive summary, [CLICK HERE](#)

We'd love for you to join our **next Equity Committee meeting on April 1.**

For more information contact Eleanor Lane, [elane@northstarlane.com](mailto:elane@northstarlane.com).



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

#### **APRIL Birthdays**

4/1 Marlene Shaklan  
4/6 Susan Hensley  
4/8 Linda Nicodemus  
4/8 Jeanne Smolkin  
4/8 Jean Toxen  
4/8 Barbara Weatherall  
4/10 Pat Ashe  
4/10 Pamela dement  
4/13 Helen McClintock  
4/14 Judy Duncan  
4/14 Jill Preyer  
4/18 April Mace  
4/19 Amy Barry  
4/26 Linda Fitzhugh  
4/27 Barbara Mayer  
4/28 Marcy Woodrow  
4/29 Barbara Robinson



## S.I.G News



**4/14 Film Fans met to discuss *Capernaum*** From Left: Lyn Miller, Beth Johnson, Sherry Brown, Barbara Pressman, Susan Roderick, Carol Samsky, Kitty McKeithan

### AAUW Adventures Toured All Souls Cathedral 4/19

From Left: Arlene Christiansen, Linda Stover, Michelle Nichols, Sherry Brown, Barbara Pressman



\*\*\*\*\*  
**Save the date of May 17.** Our annual field trip experience is the Black Mountain College Museum on College Street in Asheville for a personalized tour of the newly renovated space, with plenty of time to browse through the special exhibits of Aaron Siskind's vintage photographs and Politics at Black Mountain College. Plan to be there. And if at least 35 of you sign up, we can lunch at Daphne's at the Twisted Laurel!  
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# **Cocktails And Books 1st Mondays at 4:30, Metro Wines, Contact Anne Reis , [annereis2@gmail.com](mailto:annereis2@gmail.com)**

April	THE HIDDEN LIFE OF TREES, BY PETER WOHLLEBEN	leader Anne Reis
May	THE TEA GIRL OF HUMMINGBIRD LANE, BY LISA SEE	leader Diane Mooney
June	WARLIGHT : A NOVEL ,BY MICHAEL ONDATJEE	leader Barbara Hearn
July	No Meeting	
August	COME WITH ME, BY HELEN SCHULMAN	leader Hedy
September	EDUCATED, BY TARA WESTOVER	leader Linda Solalski
October	A WELL BEHAVED WOMAN; A NOVEL OF THE VANDERBILTS, BY THERESE ANNE FOWLER	leader Susan Gabel
November	BECOMING, BY MICHELLE OBAMA	leader Lynn Harmon
December	THE GREAT ALONE, BY KRISTIN HANNAH	?

# **Tea Time Book Club 2018-19 Selections 4th Thursdays at 2 Juanita Spanogle**

Date	Book	Location
Apr. 25	<u>Lab Girl.</u> 2016. 336p. Hope Jahren	Barbara Mayer 100 Wesley Drive, Apt. 706 28803 277.5319 <a href="mailto:bmayer8804@aol.com">bmayer8804@aol.com</a>
May 23	<u>Daring to Drive: A Saudi Woman's Awakening</u> 2017. 304p. Manal Al-Sharif,	Jo Yates 15-H Wesley Drive, 28803 c828.275.4948 <a href="mailto:joyates4@gmail.com">joyates4@gmail.com</a>
June 27	Book Selection	Judy Balsanek 299 Whitfield Lane Weav 28787 c616.510.6073 <a href="mailto:jbalsanek@sbcglobal.net">jbalsanek@sbcglobal.net</a>

## **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. We meet monthly at the YWCA 183 S. French Broad St. – second Wednesdays at 11:30 am. Potential new members, plus those interested in learning more about advocacy and public policy initiatives are welcome to join us.

**Contact:** Johanna Manasse at [jvm795@gmail.com](mailto:jvm795@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, [huskeyjanl@charter.net](mailto:huskeyjanl@charter.net)

### **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:** Susan Ikerd, [sandcikerd@gmail.com](mailto:sandcikerd@gmail.com)

### **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:** Rachel Sossaman [rachelmsossoman@gmail.com](mailto:rachelmsossoman@gmail.com)

### **Equity Committee**

We want to promote equity for ALL women and girls, with a special focus on 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)

Jean Toxen & Linda Stover

Currently AAUW Asheville has 11 SIGS with a wide range of subjects (see details below) and over 100 members participating. Please contact the individual SIG coordinators if you have questions or want to attend a meeting. 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 Adventures:** Planned trips and tours to regional places of interest and fun on the third Tuesday in the months of September, October, February, March, April and May. Locations, times and information will appear each month in the AAUW newsletter. Coordinator: Sherry Brown, [sherrysaerie@gmail.com](mailto:sherrysaerie@gmail.com)

**AAUW Upstreamers:** This group works with Riverlink to clean up a stream at Reed Creek Park near UNC-A two 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:** Film Fans: This film discussion group meets the second THURSDAY of each month from 12-1:30 pm, location TBA. Film is often but not always the same as that discussed by the Monday Film Buds group. Film Fans is 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)

*Please remember to notify the hostess or group leader if you plan to attend this month's meeting so they can predict attendance*

**Hiking:** A group to enjoy the outdoors meeting on the second Thursday of each month. Hikes are tailored to meet the interests and wishes of the members. Hikes vary in level of difficulty and length. Dogs welcome on most hikes if participants agree. Contact Susan for location and time of hikes. Coordinator: **Susan Beachum**, [cabinflats2@gmail.com](mailto:cabinflats2@gmail.com), 860-912-6789

**Financial FUNDamentals:** Education & discussion of topics, strategies and current events, to build confidence in your financial know-how and choices. Share what you've learned; understand what's seemed "over your head." Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:30 at 4 Olde Eastwood Village Blvd, Suite #204, Asheville. For questions, contact **Leslie Apple**, [lifrey@gmail.com](mailto:lifrey@gmail.com), 303-946-8141

**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 [jsmolkin@gmail.com](mailto:jsmolkin@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 2018-19, meetings are scheduled for **Oct., Jan. March & May** at 2 p.m. Please contact **Eve Miller** ([evhigginsmiller7@gmail.com](mailto:evhigginsmiller7@gmail.com) or 828-299-8107) for additional information.



## Calendar Details

**Board Mtg Tuesday April 2** 3:30-5, board room at 1201 Patton Avenue on the 2nd floor. Contact Rachel Sossoman, [rachelmsossoman@gmail.com](mailto:rachelmsossoman@gmail.com)

**Lunch Bunch** will meet **Friday April 12, 11:30**, at **Pack's Tavern**, 20 S. Spruce St., Asheville. Adjacent to Pack Sq. Park and Asheville Fire House



Street parking or in public garage across from the park & court house bldg.

Reservation deadline - Wednesday, noon, April 10. Contact Sherry Brown - [sherrysaerie@gmail.com](mailto:sherrysaerie@gmail.com) or 357-8455

**Photo Group Returns - Again!**  
**Wed. 4/17, 1pm - Visit to the TMG TRACEY MORGAN GALLERY**  
**Wed. 5/15 Annual Photo Scavenger Hunt!**  
 Contact Lynette Miller, [LCMillerStudio@gmail.com](mailto:LCMillerStudio@gmail.com)

### **AAUW Adventures Tuesday, April**

**16, 1p.m.**, the Asheville Radio Museum Tour and Talk, Elm Bldg., AB Tech campus. Tour limit 10. Optional lunch 11:30a.m., at 12 Bones BBQ.

The discovery of radio waves forever and dramatically changed the development of America and the world at large - come see how.

Reservation deadline Friday, April 12.

Sherry Brown - [sherrysaerie@gmail.com](mailto:sherrysaerie@gmail.com), 357-8455



### **International Dining -**

will present Northern Italy at the home of Cathy Battle and Dave Castel on April 28, 2019. If you're interested in participating and haven't yet joined this exciting SIG, contact Jeanne Smolkin at [jsmolkin@gmail.com](mailto:jsmolkin@gmail.com) for oodles of information!



## **FILM FANS**

Please note that our Film Fans discussions have been changed from Tuesdays to Thursdays.

Film Fans will meet on **THURSDAY, APRIL 11 from 12 to 1:30 p.m.** at the **Famous Toastery**, an eatery across from the Asheville Mall and around the corner from Whole Foods. They have a private room in the back which is perfect for us. Please plan to buy lunch. For questions contact Beth Johnson [johnson1ea@earthlink.net](mailto:johnson1ea@earthlink.net).

### **World Affairs Meeting**

World Affairs will meet **May 16** to make plans for next year.

Please contact Eve Miller for additional information at

[evehigginsmiller7@gmail.com](mailto:evehigginsmiller7@gmail.com).

## **2019 AAUW Branch Meeting Programs**

### **Branch Meeting--New Venue**

We've found a new venue offering meal choices, ambiance, and plenty of parking! Though the First Baptist Church was centrally located, we listened to many members who felt parking was inadequate and wanted more choice of meals. So please join us for the March 26 and April 23<sup>rd</sup> branch meetings to see for yourself. Our new meeting location is the [Famous Toastery Restaurant](#), 4 South Tunnel Rd., across from the Asheville Mall. It's at the opposite end of the Whole Foods Market; turn left when you get into the shopping area, and you'll see the the Famous Toastery Restaurant down at the end of the strip.

**April 23, '19 Elections to board and speaker Ms. Susan Haldane, Director of Development, Evergreen Community Charter School**

May 17, '19 Field Trip Surprise---- tour of Black Mountain College Museum and lunch