



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

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asheville-nc.aauw.net

and
[FACEBOOK](#)

DECEMBER 2019

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 CAB 4:30	3	4	5	6	7
8 International Dining	9 Film Buds 5:30	10 Advocacy/PP 11:30	11	12 Film Fans 12pm	13 <i>Lunch Bunch will resume in January</i>	14
15 Jingle & Mingle 3-5pm	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 	23	24	25 	26 <i>Tea Time Books resumes in January</i>	27	28
29	30	31				

AAUW Asheville Branch Board

President	Pat Ashe
Pres. Elect	Leslie Apple
Programs	Johanna Manasse
Membership	Michele Anderson
Treasurer	Susan Ikerd
Secretary	Barbara Robinson
Advocacy /Public Policy	Kitty Schaller & Johanna Manasse
ABTech/UNCA	Jan Huskey
GEM	Alice Doner
SIG Coordinator	Barbara Robinson
Members-at-Large:	
Peg Steiner & Karen Wallace-Meigs	
Newsletter	Lynette Miller
Webmaster	Molly Keeney

From the President

Pat Ashe

The mission of AAUW is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy

If you haven't been to a branch meeting this year, please put it on your calendar to do so. Our new venue is roomy, the acoustics great, the parking is level and plentiful, and our programs interesting and informative. Our next meeting on December 15th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. is actually a social event focusing on celebrating being members of AAUW Asheville. Bring a friend or a significant other for an afternoon of shared food and conversation. Find all the details about the event in the Program section of this newsletter and watch for Johanna's reminder email. Hope to see you there!

While the holidays are already upon us, planning continues for the AAUWNC annual state meeting and conference which will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Asheville on March 27-28, 2020. I will keep you updated in newsletters and on our website asheville-nc.aauw.net, and you can also find details on the state website aauwnc.org. You will find the various activities, including an original performance montage celebrating the centennial anniversary of the 19th Constitutional Amendment, Women's Right to Vote, and interest sessions to be well worth your time starting Friday at 4:00 through Saturday at 2:30 p.m.

The board has identified two branch goals for this year: 1) To achieve successful logistics for the 2020 AAUWNC meeting as determined by the AAUWNC Board, and 2) To increase branch meeting attendance by 10% over total attendance in 2018-2019.

Many of you may have known Jennifer Dickson Kantonen, a long time member of AAUW Asheville, who passed away on November 10th. Her association with AAUW is mentioned in her obituary and Pat Argue said she was a member of the Adelante book club. Our condolences go out to her family, friends, and those of you who knew her.

My hopes are that you will have a wonderful Thanksgiving with friends and family. See you in December.

Pat Ashe, President 828-545-5426

Membership Michele Anderson

Please welcome new member **SUSAN KOSMA**, who will be attending the December 15 Jingle & Mingle Holiday Celebration!

Susan Kosma

24 Griffing Boulevard
Asheville, NC 28804
828-778-3351 (C)

susankosma@gmail.com

Indiana University, BS Education
Western Carolina University, MS
Health Science (Nutrition, Dietetics)

Jingle & Mingle December 15

3-5pm

[Click HERE for more INFO!](#)

LEAVING A LEGACY: OUR NOVEMBER MEETING

With 39 members in attendance at our November branch meeting, we listened with tender hearts to speaker Carolyn Wallace as she read some legacy letters from other writers and then challenged us to begin now to create our own legacy letters for those we love. An ancient tradition, such letters pass along our values and beliefs, our wonderings and wanderings, our life lessons, our love and gratitudes, and our personal messages to particular people. We practiced such thoughts in dyads, first sharing what we would like

to say to one of the significant people in our own lives and later

creating questions we would have liked to ask an adult we loved as children to learn more about who they were. It was well worth our time and thought. And it may the start of some new family traditions.

We also heard from Kitty Schaller as she described the significant work and intention of the *Advocacy & Public Policy Committee*, especially the opportunity for the AAUW Asheville branch to promote the new voter photo ID process. If

interested in helping, call Kitty at 828.777.1370 or Johanna at 708.224.7199. That presentation was followed by Helen McClintock who filled us in on the delight of the *International Dining SIG* and assured us all that we should participate. Both Kitty and Helen had posters too—a real show and tell.

And.....drumroll.....winner of the door prize (a brand new cuddly fuzzy throw from the Goodwill store) was President Pat Ashe. She'll be warm this winter. At our December Jingle & Mingle gathering there'll be another door prize. Will you be there?



Advocacy/Public Policy

Johanna Manasse & Kitty Schaller

Public policy activism is foundational to our National AAUW organization, and the national staff works tirelessly and competently to advance the AAUW agenda. In fact, we have a chance to influence that agenda, as we members can vote on it in the spring of odd-numbered years. AAUW Asheville cannot work on their entire agenda -- almost 30 areas! We are guided by the national stance, and we support their "5-minute activist" pleas that you receive by email. (If you aren't receiving them, please contact us.)

Advocacy & Public Policy members (A/PP) met on November 13 and heard a report from Robbie Madden, urging us to continue to race for NC lawmakers to ratify the ERA. Even though recent election good news in Virginia suggests strongly they are likely to become the 38th and last necessary state to ratify. NC still needs to support ERA passage to be the **"39th in 2020!"**

Barbara Robinson and Kitty Schaller had recently attended the **Voter Assistance** training on **Voter Photo ID** and led a conversation about the possibilities of our taking up the cause.

The A/PP wants YOU -- as we partner with our Buncombe County Board of Election in a project to inform the public about the **Voter Photo ID – that will be required for the March 3 Primary**. We'll have details soon, so please be ready to join us in January for a brief training, so we can work in teams to educate people. This *"done-in-a-day"* commitment will place us in congregate residences (assisted living, condo communities and apartment buildings) or libraries and schools. The Photo ID rules are not difficult to understand nor to interpret. And most everyone will easily be able to qualify with an ID. But without plenty of voter awareness and assurance, voters will be intimidated, and thousands of voters will stay away from the polls! **Help us help neighbors to Get Out The Vote.**

Our Advocacy & Public Policy Committee seeks to work with other like-minded non-profits and governmental offices in Buncombe County, so we'll keep you up to date about seminars and workshops we think fit our priorities.

In addition to working with the Board of Election, we have this news: A key nonprofit partner is League of Women Voters that is super focused on public policy, especially voting. They will be bringing their wonderful women's suffrage displays to our AAUW January Branch meeting, and a League member will talk briefly about looking back as a key to LOOKING FORWARD, as we celebrate the centennial in 2020 of women getting the vote.

As we have said, Asheville AAUW A/PP has concentrated our efforts on just two issues: **ERA and Fair Voting** – though we will continue to pay attention and report on healthcare – as it has been so pivotal at our state level. ERA support seems an obvious choice, but do you ever wonder why Voting -- Or Healthcare... is considered a women's issue? We can promise you, whatever the problem our nation, state or city faces, it falls especially hard on women. Yes, poor nutrition, education, healthcare – missing human rights in general -- always disadvantage womenMORE. And then there are issues of abuse! So what seems to be an ISSUE is a WOMEN'S issue .

We encourage our Branch members to inform ourselves on these pivotal issues of the day with written pieces in the Newsletter and Public Policy Primer that come emailed to you – to both inform and call Branch members to action. That's usually asking you to contact elected officials – timed to influence an upcoming vote. AAUW does not -- and cannot -- speak out on candidates or other partisan actions. But we are welcomed as good citizens to be public in our support of policy issues.

We A/PP have a small group that also has fun! – and you'd be so welcome at our monthly meetings at the YWCA on South French Broad – **second Wednesdays at 11:30 am to 1 pm**, offering you a bite to eat for lunch. Get involved as little or as much as you wish. Either way, you'll be a star! See if A/PP is right for you on **December 11**. AAUW Asheville stands for citizenship -- informed, advocating, and active!



"Monet's Table: a Country French Dinner" took place in October at the home of Alice Doner. The four course dinner for 12 was an experience offered in the GEM Friends' Silent Auction Fundraiser. Yum!



**Tell your friends
"Happy Birthday"
and honor them with
a gift to G.E.M.**

December Birthdays

5 Verna McGaughey

7 Eleanor Johnson

8 Patsy Beyer

12 Beverly Briedis

15 Kitty Schaller

19 Merrill Grinblat

21 Ellen James

22 Karin Ellis

24 Barbara Davidow

24 Lola Rooney

26 Jane Hatley

Don't see your name on the list?

Incorrect date? Please contact Michele

Anderson, michanders1232@gmail.com

Time to Jingle and Mingle in December

For next month's event, we are gathering **December 15** for two merry hours from **3-5PM** to celebrate our two sister organizations, the AAUW Branch and the GEM Fund. Learn a bit more about each of us while mingling with other members and their guests (most welcome.) Consider inviting a potential new member or bring your spousal escort. Our GEM scholars will be in attendance, too, to share their stories of gratitude for our support. Our venue, the **clubhouse at Beaverdam Run**, will hold about 99 people, which allows for plenty of mingling and jingling our festivities. Do get your reservations in early; **RSVP to Susan Gabel at susangrabel2@gmail.com**.

While there is no charge for you and your guest to mingle, we ask you to **bring either a snack or sweet** —enough for 6—all in finger food fashion so we can avoid wasting plastic ware (and avoid juggling glasses and utensils and plates all at the same time. We are jingling, not juggling.) Sparkling wine and hot mulled cider are complimentary.



We'll also continue our tradition of collecting new and gently used children's books which are especially suited for reading aloud. Incarcerated moms will record the stories which are then gifted to their children along with the books. It's a great connector for families enduring separation and supports our vision of empowering women however we can. Marilyn Kolton will have a box for your contributions.

DIRECTIONS to the Beaverdam Run Clubhouse: take Beaverdam Road off Merrimon Ave. for 2 ½ miles. Look for the entrance sign to Beaverdam Run, go through the gate and follow signs to Clubhouse at 54 Clubhouse Drive. Parking's aplenty! See you there.

S.I.G. News

International Dining Helen McClintock

International Dining

Our most recent event was at LaDean Peterson's house on November 3. We were 17 in all and began the evening with a potent Greenland cocktail. Laughter, fun, and lively conversation ensued. Two guests, BA and Gary Schenk, had actually been to Greenland, so we were able to learn a lot about the people, the culture, and the geography of Greenland from people who had been there.

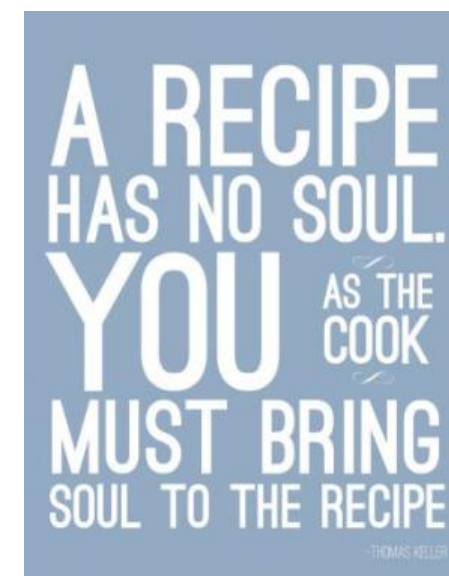
Our next event is on December 8 at the home of Pat and Ron Ashe. We'll be cooking and tasting the foods of Estonia. Because, of necessity, the number of places at the table is limited, reservations are taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, contact Helen McClintock, Chair, International Dining

SIG: HOMcClintock@gmail.com or 828 424 8455.



2019-2020 Schedule	Country Theme	Home of Main Menu Planner	Number of Guests & Hosts
December 8	Estonia	Pat Ashe	14 guests, 2 hosts
February 9	Vietnamese	Bette Feingold	10 guests, 2 hosts
March 29	Modern Irish	Jeanne Smolkin Helen McClintock	14 guests, 3 hosts
May 10	Catalonia	Alice Doner	14 guests, 2 hosts
July 12	Turkey	Cathy Battle	14 guests, 2 hosts



Tea Time Book Club 2019-2020 Selections 4th Thursdays at 2 Juanita Spanogle

Date	Book	Location
No December Meeting		
Jan. 23	The Ninth Hour 2017 256p Alice McDermott	Marcia Liebman 16 Park Ave. 28803 818.606.0331 PAN4T8@yahoo.com
Feb. 27	Where the Crawdads Sing 2018. 384p Owens, Delia	Jane Lance 3001 Timber Trail 28804 h. 505.8192 c208.569.5318 janlance@aol.com
Mar. 26	The Lost Girls of Paris 2019 368p. Pam Jenoff	Judy Balsanek 299 Whitfield Lane Weav 28787 c616.510.6073 jbalsanek@sbcglobal.net
Apr. 23	Women Rowing North: Navigating Life's Currents and Flourishing As We Age Mary Piper 2019 272p.	Jo Yates 15-H Wesley Drive, 28803 c828.275.4948 joyates4@gmail.com
May 28	American Wolf : a true story of survival and obsession in the West 2017 300p. Nate Blakeslee	Barbara Mayer 100 Wesley Drive, Apt. 706 28803 277.5319 bmayer8804@aol.com
June 25	Book Selection	Juanita Spanogle 19 Stony Ridge 28804 258.0096 jspanogle@aol.com

“A book is a gift you can open again and again.” – Garrison Keillor

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

December	THE GREAT ALONE, BY KRISTIN HANNAH	Leader, Juanita Wagner
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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 or Kitty Schaller at 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

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: Michele Anderson, michanders1232@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: Nancy Donnelly , nad6558@gmail.com



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)

Barbara Robinson

Currently AAUW Asheville has 10 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 **Barbara Robinson** at baritar16@gmail.com, cell **828.230.7113**

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: 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

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 **Helen McClintock** 828 424 8455 or HOMcClintock@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.

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 2018-19, meetings are scheduled for **Oct., Jan. March & May** at 2 p.m. Please contact **Eve Miller** (evehigginsmiller7@gmail.com or [828-299-8107](tel:828-299-8107)) for additional information.

Your S.I.G. Idea
could be here...

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



BOARD MEETING

No meeting for December 1

Lunch Bunch will resume in January

FILM FANS

Film Fans will meet on Thursday, December 12 from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. This month we will meet at the Ingles that is right by the tunnel on Tunnel Road. There is a large eating area with tables and chairs right in the front of the store by the produce department. This is a central location with plenty of parking and a variety of food. In consideration of the fact that we are using their space, you might plan to buy lunch. For questions contact Beth Johnson, johnson1ea@earthlink.net

World Affairs will meet on January 21 to discuss the world food supply. Time is 2 p.m. but the location is still unknown. Please contact Eve Miller (8280299-8107 or evehigginsmiller7@gmail.com) for additional information.