

AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

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Kicking off our 2021 Programs

Meet and Greet Members for Advocacy, Advancement, and Action

- o Wednesday, September 22, 2021
- o 6:30-7:30pm
- o Virtually – a link to Zoom to be sent on Sunday, 9/19

Factory Flaw: The Attrition and Retention of Women in Manufacturing.

Join us for a presentation and panel discussion of AAUW's new research report

- o Wednesday, October 20, 2021
- o 6:30pm-7:30pm

Note: We will be sending out newsletter every other month. Please mark your calendar



Membership

While we are saddened by the loss of two of our longtime members this last year, we are delighted to welcome four New Members! We introduce two of them in this issue



August

14 Woman Suffrage in Black and White	2
19 Literary Muse and Memory	4
26 Women's Equity Day	

September

9 Back to School Report Card	2
22 Branch Kickoff Program	

October

20 Factory Flaw Panel	
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Ruth Pordes
Ruth moved to Charlotte in February 2021 after living outside Chicago for several decades. For about the last ten years she was a member of the Jane Adams branch of AAUW <https://janeaddams-il.aauw.net> participating in the book sale and Tech Savvy activities.



Thomas Blue is a former capital markets business manager who is starting a real estate investment firm in Charlotte. He's a Charlotte native and West Charlotte HS graduate. He served as a United States Army military policeman in Europe, the Middle East and Latin America before earning an undergraduate degree from East Carolina University in Biotechnology and Political Science. He spent most of his professional career in capital markets businesses, risk management and international financial services. Thomas enjoys traveling the world and just recently returned from El Salvador, Honduras, Dominican Republic and Panama.

Membership News

* Congratulations to Suzanne Elsberry-Schwelkert on her election as President of the local League of Women Voters. On June 28 she presented testimony before the Charlotte City Council urging fair redistricting practices be in place.

* Beverly Larson is wearing two hats as she has been appointed to the NC AAUW State Board as Public Policy Chair.

* Long-time member, Mary Craig Hudley has been moved to facility in South Charlotte and will not be rejoining our branch. She will be turning 92 years old in September. You may write to her at: Brookdale South Memory Care, 5515 Rea Road, Charlotte, NC 28226.

President's Notes

Dear AAUW Friends,

It's my hope that your summer has been one of family and friends. I know some of you have been able to travel to see family again or perhaps they have been able to visit you. It seems that may be changing again as my trip to Portugal was recently cancelled. So too are plans for us to meet in person again as Mecklenburg County Libraries have not yet opened Community Rooms.

As requested when I agreed to another two years as your President, several members are stepping forward to assist. A big thank you to Rita Law for leading our Program Committee, Lucille Howard for

Public Policy, and Queen Thompson for Diversity, Equality and Inclusion. Please note these are Committees and they would appreciate your participation. See their contact information below.

One of my goals this year is to increase Charlotte AAUW's visibility in the community. In this effort, the Board has also agreed to take steps toward AAUW Five Star national recognition. It's also been a busy summer for me as local and state lawmakers received feedback on important issues related to AAUW's mission. See those actions under Public Policy. We are off to a great start. So glad you have joined us.

Beverly Larson

Mission Related Virtual Programs

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion streaming on PBS: 1) **Asian Americans**; A five part series on the history, contributions, and challenges they have experienced. 2) **Racism in America** examines the racial disparities in education, the economy, health care and criminal justice system. pbsupdates@pbs.org

Thursday, September 9, 7- 8:30pm "Back to School Report Card on NC Public Schools"

Our state constitution promises to ensure all children receive a sound, basic education. But, are we living up to that promise? Join us on Zoom for a legislative update and discussion about public school funding with Lynn Edmonds, Outreach Director for Public Schools First NC. Our conversation will include updates on the Leandro court case. [Zoom URL: https://tinyurl.com/3z xu3vk9](https://tinyurl.com/3z xu3vk9). Preregistration is not required. Use this Zoom link on the date/time of the event.

PUBLIC POLICY – YOU HAVE THE POWER

Local: On behalf of the branch your Charlotte AAUW President signed a "JOINT RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AN OPEN AND NONPARTISAN PROCEDURE FOR THE 2021 COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REDISTRICTING [Learn More](#)

Contact your NC representative to request the same. Find NC legislators at: [NC Legislator Search](#)

State: Upon the recommendation of the state Public Policy Committee, the NC AAUW Executive Board endorsed a resolution in support of the Equity Act. [Learn More](#) The NC General Assembly has also drafted a state budget. There are concerns that educational funding for compromised schools is not included.

Nation: The House and Senate are now determining what will be included in the Federal budget. Call or email the legislator below to let them know YOU are calling on the 117th Congress to ensure that paid leave and other child care supports are included in the budget reconciliation process.

Senator Richard Burr (202) 224-3154 <https://www.burr.senate.gov/>

Senator Thom Tillis (202) 224-6342 <https://www.tillis.senate.gov>

Representative Alma Adams (202) 225-1510 <https://www.adams.house.gov>

AAUW In the News:

The May issue of Charlotte Magazine provided a Theatre Charlotte Update: "The Charlotte Branch of the American Association of University Women founded the organization that would become Theatre Charlotte in 1928, inspired by a

national interwar vogue for community theatre." Theatre Charlotte's auditorium was significantly damaged by a fire on Monday, December 28th. Their new season will feature performances in venues throughout Charlotte. We are starting a new interest group for Theater performances? See page 3 if interesting in attending some performances this year.

For: CHANGED CHOICES / Social Services Organization ~ Support for formerly incarcerated women

Where: Grace Covenant Church ~ 1800 South Boulevard~ Charlotte, 28203

What: Clothing for Women Re-Entering Society as they go to Interviews and for On the Job

Suits/Dresses/Pant Suits/Shoes/Purses/Rain Coats/Jackets

For Further Information Contact: Terre Lucas- Staff Member at (704)332-6388 or Diane Schneider

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AAUW NC Awards Junior Literature Was Created in 1975

On July 20, 2021 the AAUW Charlotte branch members Lynne Bogguss and Diane Schneider donated the 2019 and 2020 "Young Peoples Literature Award" books to Dawn Schmitz, Associate Dean of Special Collections and University Archives at J. Murry Atkins Library at UNC Charlotte.

Your NC state dues benefitting UNCC future teachers

Award winners are recognized on a trophy that is displayed in the NC Historical building in Raleigh.



BOOK BUDDIES



'The Tar Heel State: Literary Muse and Memory

North Carolina Public Press invites us to:
Thursday August 19th from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. This free, virtual panel includes **Annette Saunooke Clapsaddle** (*Even as We Breathe*), **Jacqueline DeGroot** (Brunswick Islands fiction and nonfiction), **Jaki Shelton Green** (the Poet Laureate of North Carolina), **Terry L. Kennedy** (poet and Director of the MFA Writing Program at UNC Greensboro and Editor of The Greensboro Review) and **Ed Southern** (executive director of NC Writers). Will discuss N.C. as a popular setting and literary inspiration and explore why our state is such a fertile resource for authors.

[Register Here](#)

THEATER AND ARTS

We are starting a new interest group for Theater performances? Let Marleen know if you are interested in notifications. Interested in seeing a performance of *The Fantastics* any date between September 2-18 ??

Contact Marleen Hansen at 662--574-6250

"SOLE MATES" Walking Group

The Branch Walking Group has been put on hold until additional walking venues are selected

We hope you've had many opportunities to walk and get exercise over the summer in your local parks and neighborhoods.

Co-Chairs

Rita Law

rita.law90@gmail.com

(704)560-0714

Diane Schneider



Charlotte Branch Leaders



President,
Beverly Larson 980-498-7570

Membership VP
Marleen Hansen 662-574-6250

Finance Officer
Lola Sloop 704-582-1267

Communications
Kathy Johnson 704-455-6688

Past President
Diane Schneider 704-598-6268

Committees

Program	Diane Schneider Rita Law Sally Bailey
Public Policy	Lucille Howard
AAUW Funds	OPEN
DEI (Diversity++)	Queen Thompson
Workshops	Diane Schneider
Newsletter	Beverly Larson
Book Buddies	Lynne Bogguss
Sunshine	Linda Horky



AAUW Diversity Statement

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.