



BREVARD BRANCH NEWS

Breaking through barriers
for women & girls

A Platinum Branch

Our 57th Year
December 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. We have a lot to be thankful for. I received a message from National giving thanks for all of the advances for women and girls we've seen this year. Among the long list: three women were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize; women were elected to lead Australia, Brazil and Thailand; the president's top legal team is composed entirely of women for the first time in U.S. history; and U.S. Agency for International Development established a new Office of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. And, I'm thankful for all the hard work that you do to make this branch such a success.

I was expecting the roll-out of NC's AAUW Public Policy Pilot Program by now, but we are still waiting for it to go live. The NC legislature is back in session, which means we must be vigilant. The committee will be monitoring the national AAUW website and receiving AAUW Washington updates and action alerts. On the state level we will be receiving NOW's lobbyist report from Raleigh and monitoring the following websites (among others): NC Policy Watch (a project of the NC Justice Center); Raleigh Report: Legislative Newsletter of the NC Council of Churches; NC State Assembly; and Raleigh *News and Observer*.

When the program starts, we will be sending you email alerts with a standardized format so that you will be able to recognize what you are getting. The subject line will always read: **AAUW Public Policy Alert**. The title will address the issue and/or legislation number. There will be a short summary of the issue/legislation with a statement about what's at stake. Then there will be a call to action within a specified time period. Links to our elected representatives will be included at the bottom of the message so that you can voice your opinion to them.

The PPPP committee will review the alerts we receive from other state branches before they are forwarded to you. We don't want to overload your inboxes and defeat the purpose of this project – namely, to make our voices heard in Raleigh and Washington. Let's put our democracy to work!

Now we look forward to another holiday season. I hope to see you all at the December luncheon, which is always a lively and joyful celebration. If you have not already, please sign up for Ingles' Tools for Schools program so that a portion of what you spend there can go to a school of your choice to purchase computers and school supplies.

Carol Elliott

BRANCH MEETING: Holiday Luncheon

12:00 noon, December 13 at Connestee Falls Clubhouse

Enjoy seasonal entertainment & bring a contribution of art supplies for the
TCarts Art in Schools program.

Reservations must be received by December 4; see p. 4 for more information.



AAUW/IWIL INITIATE NEW PROJECTS



Brevard Branch is co-sponsoring two AAUW-developed projects with Brevard College's Institute of Women in Leadership.

We are splitting the cost of the film *Miss Representation*, that AAUW National is making available, with IWIL. The film will be premiered in Brevard on April 2, 2012, at The Porter Center. The evening will feature a media panel including local notables, such as Jody Evans, General Manager of WCQS Public Radio.

"Miss Representation exposes how mainstream U.S. media contribute to the under-representation of women in positions of power and influence.... [It] features interactive interviews with journalists, entertainers, activists and academics ... and presents startling facts and statistics that will leave the audience shaken and armed with a new perspective...."

AAUW and IWIL are also undertaking *Start Smart*, a program to provide female college students entering the job market with tools to negotiate salaries and benefits. AAUW National's Wage Project Trainer, Ann Houle, who lives in Asheville, will lead the training. We are applying for an AAUW NC grant to reduce the program costs which AAUW and IWIL are sharing. IWIL expects to open the project to all female students on the campus and to offer *Smart Start* training each year, starting this spring.

Dr. Margaret Brown, Director of IWIL, Joann McCarthy and Sue Ziegler have worked on the projects, but are looking for AAUW members who can lend their talents to both the College and local community. Please contact me at 883-4342.

Sue Ziegler, IWIL Liaison

GIVE-A-GRAD-A-GIFT PROGRAM

Without cost or effort to you, you can sponsor a college student to become an AAUW member. Your name and AAUW ID number on a form will provide a free 1-year membership to a qualified student. Our branch currently provides scholarship funds to 5 students at BRCC or Brevard College and previously provided some conference funds to two IWIL students, all of whom are eligible for these "membership gifts". If you are interested in participating in Give-A-Grad-A-Gift, please contact me for more information.

Carole Pohl, Scholarship Chair



AAUW has initiated "HERvotes" to preserve women's health and economic rights. Over this year each newsletter will feature one of the top ten historic advances for women's lives that AAUW considers to be at risk.

The Equal Pay Act of 1963 & Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

Taken together, these laws prohibit employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, including pregnancy, and national origin. The Equal Pay Act deals specifically with pay discrimination on the basis of sex. Title VII covers all employment actions, including hiring, promotion, pay and termination, as well as all of the other terms and conditions of employment. Both have been central to expanding women's economic opportunities and helping women achieve economic and retirement security.

Threat: Recent rulings by the Supreme Court have weakened employment discrimination laws, placing women's rights in the workplace in jeopardy, and actions by conservative Senators, such as filibustering the Paycheck Fairness Act in 2010, have undermined efforts to restore these acts and strengthen employment protections for women.

COMING EVENTS

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| Dec 7 | Book Club |
| 2:00 p.m. | College Walk |
| Dec 12 | Board Meeting |
| 1:00 p.m. | St. Philip's Episcopal Church |
| Dec 13 | Branch Meeting |
| 12:00 noon | Connestee Falls Clubhouse |
| Dec 27 | Newsletter Submission Deadline |
| Jan 4 | Book Club |
| 2:00 p.m. | College Walk |
| Jan 24 | Bridge Club |
| 1:00 p.m. | Pam Brannon's home |

HOLIDAY BASKET PROJECT 2011



Last year St. Philip's Church initiated a Christmas project that allowed the children of the Boys and Girl's Club and Rise and Shine to select a Christmas gift for their two primary caregivers. Please consider contributing gently-used items by December 2.

This is a re-gift program, but the items need to look good. Everything not used for the gift packages will be taken to the Shop of St. Philip's. Items can be dropped off downstairs at St. Philip's, next to Steve Womble's office. It is accessed easily from the back of the church.

Men's Items: Caps, tools, socks, gloves, flashlights, rain ponchos, tool belts, sports stuff (fishing, golf, football, baseball etc.), car items, mugs and travel mugs, water bottles, men's books, barbeque sets, watches, woolen scarves/gloves, CD's and DVD's. **Women's Items:** Jewelry (all kinds), watches, scarves, gloves, spa items (lotions, soap, bath gels, perfumes, make-up, small mirrors, etc.), notepads, stationary, playing cards, books (inspirational, novels, gardening, cookbooks, etc.), CD's and DVD's, candles, mugs, frames, gardening items and seed packets, gift basket food items, small coffees and teas, make-up bags and Christmas mugs, ornaments and other Christmas items.

Containers to hold gifts: Purses, baskets, book bags and buckets. **For wrapping:** Large gift bags (solid colors or Christmas)

Mary Read, Rise & Shine Chair

BOOK SALE 2012

Yes! Those lovely yellow boxes are ready -- thanks to the superb crew who reconditioned previously-used boxes and prepared new ones for the 2012 campaign. They accomplished our task in a record 90 minutes with time to socialize over celebratory food. Another Yellow Box Party success!

The heart of our annual book sale is a vast assortment of books. While distributing the yellow boxes is several months away, it is imperative to spread the word: *We want your used books!* Tell family, friends and neighbors that AAUW will happily pick up books. Just call Judy at 966-9068.

Susan Becker, Book Sale Publicity, is promoting the donation of books through articles in the *Transylvania Times* and spots on WSQL Radio. Norah Davis, Branch Publicity, is promoting the scholarship benefits funded by book sale proceeds each year.

Yellow boxes will be distributed to member volunteers for 50 locations at the February meeting. Sign-up for locations will begin at the January meeting.

Judy Baghose, Book Sale Committee Chair

BRIDGE CLUB

AAUW bridge club members will begin 2012 at Pam Brannon's home, 1:00 p.m. as usual, on the fourth Tuesday, as usual. That would be January 24. Pam will notify bridge club members. Anyone wishing information on this august group should contact Connie Kay Hughes at 862-6654.

BOOK GROUP

AAUW book group meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 2:00 p.m. at College Walk in the downstairs activity room. On Dec. 7, 2011, we will discuss *The Fish Can Sing* by Halldor Laxness. On Jan. 4, 2012, we will discuss *Sarah's Key* by Tatiana de Rosnay. For further information, call Carol Carrano at 883-3424.

DECEMBER MEETING PROGRAM



AAUW will celebrate the holidays with a luncheon on December 13 at the Connestee Falls Clubhouse. Seasonal entertainment will follow the meal. Again members are asked to support the art supplies drive held by the Transylvania Community Arts

Council's "Arts in Our Schools" program. The supplies are distributed to art teachers at nine schools.

Pinkie Byrd, Program Vice President

**AAUW BREVARD SCHOLARSHIP
ENDOWMENT FUND**

AT BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The endowment fund received these donations since the last newsletter:

In Honor of:

Mary Kay Jennings
Dr. Arsenia London

Donors:

Patty MacDuff
Carol Carrano
Ruth Daniel

When thinking about your holiday giving, please consider a gift to the AAUW/Brevard Scholarship Endowment at BRCC. A gift now benefits young women over the years.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

When: Tuesday, December 13th
Where: Connestee Falls Overlook Clubhouse
Time: 12:00 noon
Menu:
Caprese Salad with Tomatoes & Fresh Mozzarella
Connestee Chicken Wellington with Mushroom Duxelles & a light Sherry Sauce
Gourmet Rice Pilaf
Fresh Seasonal Local Vegetables
Classic Banana Foster over Vanilla Ice Cream
Cost: \$16.00, including tax & gratuity
Reservations: Must be received by Monday, December 5. Please make checks payable to *AAUW Brevard Branch*, & mail to: Ann Grant, 12 Galuyasdi Court, Brevard, NC 28712

BREVARD COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

Stacie Bulluck graduated from Rosman High School in 2011. She lives at home in Lake Toxaway and is the proud mother of an 18-month old baby girl. Stacie had not thought about attending college until Brevard College pursued her and offered her a scholarship. She is an art major with a concentration in painting. Upon graduation, Stacie would like to be an art teacher and pursue the art of tattooing. As a hobby, Stacie enjoys singing.

Katie Smathers graduated from Brevard High School in 2011 and lives in Pisgah Forest. Brevard College has been her dream school from when she was quite young. Her major is vocal performance and she hopes to sing opera roles. You may see Katie as a singing waitress at The Gate Keeper's Table. Her hobbies include reading, writing, photography, guitar and spending time with her family.

Carole Pohl, Scholarship Committee Chair



Left to right: Judith Johnson, Katie Smathers, Stacie Bulluck and Geri Hambley at the Scholarship Brunch, Sunday, October 23, 2011.