

AAUW-Orange, Durham, Chatham Branch

FEBRUARY

From the President: Bea Keller

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It has been just over a week since the new U.S. president was inaugurated. We as citizens and members of AAUW are facing challenges the like of which have not been on the horizon in quite some time. I urge you to pick up the phone and call your senators to voice your complaints. Member Laurie Tepper, who calls them often, says the staff members are generally very polite and has provided us with the phone numbers of our two senators.

Sen. Richard Burr
Winston-Salem office no. 800-685-8916

Sen. Thom Tillis
Raleigh office no. 919-856-4630

Writing letters and signing petitions also garners attention but most effective is a phone call—better still, get together with your friends and light up the phone lines.

The Women’s Marches were a beautiful start but we cannot bask in the glow of solidarity. This administration has people who are affiliated with white supremacy groups as well as other extremists both here and abroad. Some high ranking officials have court records documenting spousal abuse. *(Three Key Members of Trump’s*

Team Have Been Accused of Violence Against Women, by Kali Holloway 12/9/2016). The judicial system, so crucial to social justice, is under attack as well. It is important that we stay informed and let our voices be heard.

AAUW supports the civil and human rights of all immigrants, including a fair and just path to legal status. President Trump, whose mother immigrated from Scotland, whose grandparents immigrated from Germany, and whose wife immigrated from Slovenia, has made xenophobia the lynchpin of his candidacy and his early presidency.

The U.S. Mexico wall and Sanctuary Cities—President Trump signed an executive order to build a wall between Mexico and the U.S. and also said that he would block Federal funding to sanctuary cities. It is unclear how this executive order would work but it could impact health care, food programs, schools, police departments etc. The Pew Research Center estimated that in 2014 there were 11.1 million undocumented people in the U.S.—a number that has not changed since 2009. *(Alejandra Cancino, What’s at Stake for Chicago if Trump Comes Down On Sanctuary Cities, 12/9/2016)* We can understand why whole families are in a state of apprehension. *(By the*

way, the NC legislature passed a law in 2015 (HB 318) making it illegal for any city to declare itself a sanctuary for undocumented people. As a result, undocumented victims are hesitant to report crimes).

Targeting a Second Group: Limiting People of the Muslim religion entering the U.S.—When the final draft of President Trump’s executive order is signed, an indefinite ban on any Syrian refugees entering the U.S. is planned, a cap of 50,000 refugees will be allowed in 2017 (less than half of 2016—and there are approximately 60 million refugees in the world), and for 30 days “immigrants and non-immigrants” (U.S. citizens?) will be banned from entering the U.S. from: Iraq, Syria, Iran, Yemen, Libya, Somalia and Sudan. Among other requirements, in-person interviews will be required for all persons seeking a non-immigrant visa. I can’t fathom what that means—tourists? Student visas? Also proposed is a biometric system keeping track of ingress and egress of visitors to the U.S.

Targeting Women--Global Gag Rule—“Trump’s executive order reinstates and expands a Reagan-era policy often referred to as the “Mexico City Policy” or the ‘Global Gag Rule.’ It forbids giv-



Mark Your Calendars

March 25 Meeting

Locale: Durham SW

Regional Library

3605 Shannon Road,

Durham, NC

****1:30 PM (Social**

Meet and Greet)

****2:00 PM (Meeting**

Begins)

Speaker: Brandy

Burnett, "Smart Girls;

Smart Choices"

****Please note differ-**

ent start time for the

March meeting

April 22 Meeting

Locale: Chapel Hill

Library, Room A

10:30 AM (Social

Meet and Greet)

11:00 AM (Meeting

Begins)

Speaker: Gretchen

Aylsworth, "Eyes,

Ears, Nose and

Paws"

—Donna Wilson, Vice

President, Programs

AAUW Fellows: , February 18, 2017. Chapel Hill Library, Room A, 10:30 AM (Social Meet and Greet); 11:00 AM (Meeting Begins)

"Women's Ways of Knowing and Healing: Global and Multicultural Perspectives."

One of the highlights for AAUW-ODC Counties is the annual Fellows Meeting for all members to meet Triangle area grant recipients for 2016-2017 and learn about their research, community outreach and leadership.

For more than 125 years, AAUW has been a leading source of funding for graduate women, providing more than \$100 million in fellowships and grants to more than 12,000 women and nonprofit organizations in the United States and around the world. During 2016-2017, AAUW awarded more than \$3.7 million in funding for fellows and grantees. This exceptional group of recipients will pursue academic work and lead innovative community projects to empower women and girls.

The State of North Carolina was well represented during

the 2016-2017 award year, in which eleven (11) women were honored with fellowships and grants. This year, our branch is fortunate to host three (3) Fellows from the Triangle: Adela del Valle, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Richelle Suttle, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; and, Michelle Wolff, Duke University.

Adela del Valle - Career Development Grant

Adela will earn her Master's in Public Health at UNC-Chapel Hill in 2017, focusing on Public Health Behavior. Her experience and graduate research include health care policies, social support, outreach education and patient motivation of individuals with Type II Diabetes in Lima, Peru.

Richelle Suttle - Career Development Grant

In line to finish her Master of Science in Occupational Therapy at

UNC-Chapel Hill in 2017, Richelle is an experienced health care professional. Her background spans coaching and training in self-care for individuals with developmental disabilities and dementia. Her coaching goals include working with individuals, families and group home settings.

Michelle Wolff - Dissertation Fellowship

Michelle will earn her Ph.D. at Duke University in 2017. Combining her doctoral studies research, Michelle has developed expertise in issues related to same-sex marriage, Christian theology and ethics in South Africa, religion and sexuality.

Please join us at the February meeting to meet our AAUW Fellows and to enjoy most engaging and informative presentations from Adela, Richelle and Michelle.

—Dr. Donna M. Wilson, Vice President, Programs

We Extend a Warm Welcome to Our New Members!

Tracey Porter is Clinical Research Coordinator at NIEHS and is interested in STEM outreach. She earned her BLA at Johns Hopkins University in Liberal Arts/ Writing and went on to complete an MSHS at George Washington University in Clinical Research Administra-

tion/Leadership.

Mary George was a UNC-CH Professor of Dental Ecology. She completed her B.S. in Dental Hygiene at West Virginia University and continued her studies at the University of Cincinnati where she earned an M.Ed. She is currently retired.

Sandy Mold is a Licensed Professional Counselor. She attended the University of Rochester and earned a B.S. General Studies/Social Science. She later earned an M.Ed. from the University of Central Oklahoma in Counseling-Psychology. She is currently retired.

—Bea Keller

Presidents Message (continued from page 1)

ing federal funding to any foreign organization that performs abortions or, in many cases that even mentions them as an option to women.” (Maggie Fox, *nbcnews.com*). We have had other administrations that have enforced the gag rule so professionals working in world health organizations have seen the results. “When the gag rule was last in place under the Bush administration, it had profound implications, particularly for the poorest girls and women around the world. Some of the most important providers of family planning services end up losing their U.S. funding for even their work on family planning, on maternal health, HIV testing and counseling, provision of contraceptives, et cetera. So

we see the poorest girls and women around the world losing their access to basic health care.” (Seema Jalan, director of the Universal Access Project) President Trump expanded the scope to apply to all global health funding, Ebola, and maternal and child health. (*advocacy@aauw.org*)

Targeting Women and Families-- Affordable Care Act—President Trump’s executive order concerning the Affordable Care Act is more of a mission statement offering broad guidance as it would take legislation by Congress to dismantle it. It could end the individual mandate by giving out hardship waivers in unprecedented numbers, expand section 1115 Medicaid waivers which govern who and what the state Medicaid and CHIP programs cover, encourage the creation of interstate insurance markets (allowed under the ACA), and undo some revenue-generating taxes of the ACA. I’m leery of the meaning of *accessible* bandied about by the current

administration versus *affordable*. Saying that healthcare will be accessible to everyone does not mean that healthcare will be affordable for everyone.

A friend commented: “I have never felt so strongly the desire to turn off the news because it upsets me but I also feel that it has never been more important to stay informed.”

Next month’s meeting will be a well-deserved breath of fresh air! Three of our AAUW fellows at local universities will talk about women’s ways of knowing and healing. We hope to see you February 18 at the Chapel Hill Public Library, Room A. at 10:30.

Outreach Efforts of our Branch

Our branch successfully applied for a \$500 grant from AAUW NC to help pay for copies of *Year of Yes: How to Dance It Out, Stand in the Sun, and Be Your Own Person* by Shonda Rhimes for the Women of Worth project at UNC-CH. The Women of Worth project addresses the mental health needs of women students of color at the university. The AAUW-ODC Board has agreed to match AAUW

NC’s grant with a \$500 grant and the project will find backing for the rest of the funding required. We are very grateful to AAUW NC’s assistance and interest in the project.

On December 20, Michele Hoyman, Mary Kolek and Bea Keller met with Clare Counihan, Program Coordinator for Faculty and Staff, Carolina Women’s Center and vice-president of UNC-

CH’s Association of Women Faculty and Professionals. We discussed the possibility of co-sponsoring a program next year concerning salary parity and negotiation skills and are looking forward to teaming up and pursuing that goal.

-Bea Keller

Good Morning Book Club

Good Morning Book Club will meet Thursday, February 2 in the home of Carol Zeller to discuss the book “Marriage of Opposites” by Alice Hoffman.

—Dona Koeberl

Membership News

There is a reduced rate for anyone joining AAUW between Jan. 1 and March 31. The rate is only \$35.00 for that time period.

We are happy to welcome 3 new members who have recently joined AAUW. They are:

Tracey Porter
Mary George
Sandra Mold

—Shirley Ahmed



Margaret Maron Thursday, May 4, 2-4 Extraordinary Ventures, 200 S. Elliott Rd., Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Yes, Margaret Maron will be the guest speaker at our tea! Margaret, who joins Thomas Wolfe, Maya Angelou, Elizabeth Spencer, Doris Betts, John Hope Franklin, Carl Sandberg as a member of the North Carolina Literary Hall of Fame, has agreed to leave the comfort of her farm in eastern North Carolina to speak to us. Many of us are familiar with NYC homicide

detective Lt. Sigrid Harald and District Judge Deborah Knott of Colleton County but those of you who are not might want to investigate her wonderful books! Please spread the word and invite friends. A poster is attached to this newsletter giving all the details.

At our next meeting, please sign up for savory and/or sweet finger food. If you can help organize and actualize the tea fundraiser, we

welcome your help. This is OUR fundraiser. We need everyone's participation.

—Bea Keller

Treasurer's Report

January 27, 2017

Checking Account: \$

880.68 (After Matching
the AAUW NC Mini-
Grant)

MM Savings: \$1,504.42

CD: \$5,563.90

Karen Piplani, Treasurer

Proposed Slate of Officers for 2017-2018

On even years, we choose another president, treasurer and membership vice-president. Mary Kolek is leaving the recording secretary position so we needed to fill it as well. Michele Hoyman did an extraordinary job of assembling our slate of officers while consulting with Donna Wilson, Mary Kolek, Shirley Ahmed, Vickie Healey, Laurie Tepper, Jan Holland, Randy Rosser, and Bea Keller. We

are grateful for all her hard work and the willingness of those members who agreed to be on our board. Our 2017-2018 proposed board: Mary Kolek, President, Membership Vice-president: Michele Hoyman, Program Vice-president, Donna Wilson (continuing), Treasurer, Karen Piplani, and Recording Secretary, Margaret Herring. We will induct our new officers at our April meeting. Their new terms will begin on July 1. Members Randy Rosser, Laurie Tepper and Jan

Holland will help Michele in recruiting and other membership duties. Bea Keller will sit on the board for a year as President Ex-officio. Sandy Smalley will be correspondence secretary. Ruth Freed will continue as Hospitality Chair. Alice Parsons will continue as our unparalleled editor of the newsletter. The latter three positions are non-board positions.

Schwenning Scholarship Fund

Our goal is \$1,500.00

12 Member contributors, including brand new member Sandy Mold, have contributed a total of \$820.00 to this year's commitment of \$1,500 for the Carrie

Heath Schwenning Scholarship.

Only \$680.00 to go! Any amount will help us to reach to reach our goal. Please send your **tax-deductible** check, made out to **UNC-Chapel Hill**, with Fund

#6725 in the note section, to Karen Piplani, 1502 Halifax Rd., Chapel Hill, NC 27514-2728.

Thank you.

—Karen Piplani



Plenary Meeting, January 21, 2016

.At 11 AM, at the conclusion of a social hour during which members and numerous guests enjoyed interacting over coffee and refreshments, President Bea Keller called the meeting to order.

She thanked the Chapel Hill Historic Society for co-sponsoring the morning's event and introduced Marcia Jepson who gave a brief overview of the CHHS and previewed upcoming events. In particular she invited audience members to attend a February 19 presentation by Kim Smith about noted Civil Rights activist and author, Pauli Murray. (Incidentally, as noted below, along with Eleanor Roosevelt, Pauli Murray is the subject of next month's book club selection.)

Bea thanked Kay White and Ruth Freed for providing refreshments and reminded members that their help in providing finger foods is always needed and appreciated. Ruth does yeomen's work ensuring we have volunteers for each meeting. Contact her if you have not yet had a turn helping with this important task.

Given there were a number of guests present, Bea provided an overview of our non-partisan organization's mission – serving as a leading voice for equity and education of women and girls through advocacy, philanthropy and research. At the end of the meeting, in response to an audience member's very good question, Bea emphasized that membership is open to all- women and men- who have and Associate's Degree, an RN or other undergraduate or graduate degrees. Over the past several years there has been a concerted effort at the local, state and national level to be even more inclusive, inviting members who support the mission

and principles of the organization regardless of formal degrees. (A motion of this nature is expected at the upcoming national convention). As President she stressed that all interested guests are welcome to attend our public programs.

Bea announced that UNC CH Women's Center has been awarded a \$5000 grant in support of the *Women of Worth* program. This program is designed to support and fortify female students of color as they often experience unique challenges and stresses. Bea collaborated with staff and students from UNC as they prepared the grant submission and additionally submitted a grant for \$500 to the State organization to help provide a text to the young women who will participate in the program. Use of a shared text (*Year of Yes* by Shonda Rhimes) will allow participants to build shared understanding and connections.

Bea introduced Ms. Rosetta Austin Moore, author of [The Impact of Slavery on the Education of Blacks in Orange County, North Carolina](#). A resident of Hillsborough, Ms. Moore recounted her personal and family history – which included years of living, learning and working in segregated communities and organizations prior to her 24 year career as a teacher in integrated Orange County Schools- and described its powerful influence on her desire and motivation in authoring this text.

Ms. Moore opened what would be a lively, entertaining and instructive 50 minute presentation, with the description of the writing process as "a scholarly labor of love", originally inspired by her grandfather's story and then morphing into a much larger narrative that encompassed the history of many whose stories were similar to his. Blacks who worked tirelessly, dreamed coura-

geously, strove relentlessly and succeeded in school, business and as community leaders. Although the book focuses on Orange County it is, Ms. Moore noted, really a story reflective of Blacks in America. Her book speaks to the importance of standing tall and speaking with conviction- of "claiming in life what is rightfully yours" and succeeding "despite the odds." For example, when her grandfather had 9 daughters to educate and no school available, he built one. When South Carolina did not offer young Black women the opportunity to pursue their master's degree in state but did offer a stipend to go "out of state", Ms. Moore packed her bags and went to NYU.

Clearly well versed in the socio-economic-political and cultural antecedents of contemporary education in Orange county, Ms. Moore provided an overview of key events and conditions from 1619 to the mid 1970's that serve as markers and influences for today's circumstances. These included the historical roots of Orange County being considered a desirable location for those fleeing the harshest conditions of indentured servitude and slavery. Factors included the local Quakers' advocacy for some, (albeit minimal) education for slaves. In many instances providing education was self-serving for those in power due more to the geographic and economic conditions than benevolence. Slaves were still treated as chattel but were given access to education when they were needed to fill roles in trades and households rather than in fields.

Ms. Moore noted that ultimately, what may have been an earlier bent toward allowing some access to instruction (albeit very limited) was quashed and through beginning of



Website News

Remember if you have questions about our next meeting or need to check on the book club's selection, please check our web page: <http://chapelhill-nc.aauw.net>.

If you want to check our archive of past newsletters in our "members only" section, remember the password is the word "dogwood" in lower case letters.



**Margaret Herring
Honored**

On January 15, in commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., member Margaret Herring was honored at the Community Church of Chapel Hill Unitarian Universalist for her extensive work to promote civil rights and social justice. Margaret helped plan the voting rights struggle in Selma, organized with poor whites in Kentucky, and was a member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

—Bea Keller

AAUW Plenary Meeting (continued)

1800's it was still illegal for slaves to learn to read and write. Those who provided instruction were also subject to sanctions. The 1800's are replete with examples of African Americans who spoke up and fought back, advocating for education and access to its institutions and benefits (Harriet Tubman, Dred Scot and Fred Douglas were examples Rosetta named.) With or without laws, the public pressure to uphold the norms that maintained lack of access and segregation in education and the systematic withholding of incentives for educational achievement contributed significantly to fears and reticence on the part of Black students and, in some cases, their teachers. Rosetta reminded us that this long history of disenfranchisement and disillusionment continues to impact us today and must be understood and recognized in order to be overcome.

Ms. Moore offered the observation that while the Civil War did result in the Emancipation Proclamation and early attempts were made to improve the situation of freed peoples, ultimately politics resulted in worsening conditions for Black and poor Whites in the South. Only the wealthy had access to high quality education, especially in later elementary and secondary years. Through the early 1900's African Americans who did receive public education instruction did so in a limited way, restricted to the equivalent of grades 1-3. Ms. Moore offered evidence of inequitable educational services and resources culled from the minutes and records of Orange County school boards, noting that in earlier years Orange County was much larger than it is today and encompassing of surrounding counties such as Alamance and Chatham.

Although some relief from Jim Crow laws was sought and earned through the government and courts, Rosetta noted that the impact of Jim Crow laws and practices- discrimination and disenfranchisement- continues to exist. Ms.

Moore reviewed early 20th century civil rights landmark events in education including: the establishment in 1913 of the Hackney's Education and Industrial School in Chapel Hill (a private school for Black secondary students who were at the time only educated up to the 7th grade); 1954 Brown v Board of Education; 1964 UNC Chapel Hill protests due to the refusal to admit Black students; and in 1965 Chapel Hill School Board rejection of civil rights plan. A good many of these dates were in the lifetime of many in the audience and several offered the observation that although some gains have been made, the legacy of the history described by Ms. Moore continues to impact the community, our state and nation. Her call to stay informed, alert and involved and to "demand your rights be given" is as relevant as it ever has been; a conclusion echoed by the audience through their questions and comments.

As they queued up to purchase copies of her book, a number of audience members suggest she write a sequel covering the last half century. It should also be noted that the poster boards of photos that Ms. Moore displayed around the room were of great interest to the audience.

After offering our speaker profuse thanks accompanied by a small gift of appreciation, Bea asked Program Chair Donna Wilson to provide an overview of upcoming programs (full descriptions available on the website.)

Our February 18 meeting is in Chapel Hill and is our annual Fellows meeting. It features 3 women from local universities who received Fellow scholarships. Their work, while diverse, is connected through the theme: Women's Ways of Knowing and Healing.

Donna reminded the audience that AAUW members provide support for scholarships and grants that can be substantial (some are over \$10,000).

Our annual Literary Tea is May 4 at Extraordinary Ventures. Mystery author Margaret Maron will be our speaker. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased using the form available on our website.

Traditionally we contribute \$1,500 to the UNC Carrie Schwenning Scholarship. We are less than half way to our goal so we encourage members to contribute. Checks should be directed to our Treasurer, Karen Piplani.

Book club meets the first Thursday of the month. This month's book is A Marriage of Opposites. Next month the selection is The Firebrand and the First Lady.

In response to a question from the audience about how to propose the ODC AAUW adopt a position in support of cities standing against deportation, Bea suggested a first step of submitting a statement in writing, to be brought to the membership as part of a meeting agenda.

Guest Deborah Stroman, a Clinical Associate Professor with the Kenan Flagler School announced an upcoming event for the spring, From High Tops to Pumps. (We will get more information to share next month as one of our goals is to work collaboratively with other organizations who share our mission.)

The meeting adjourned at 12:15.

Respectfully submitted,

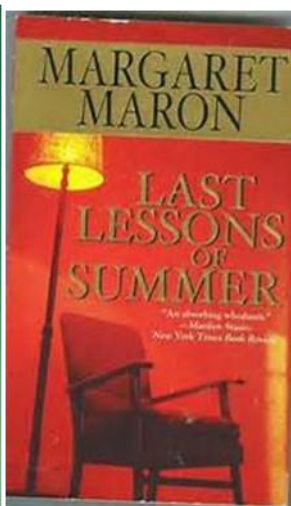
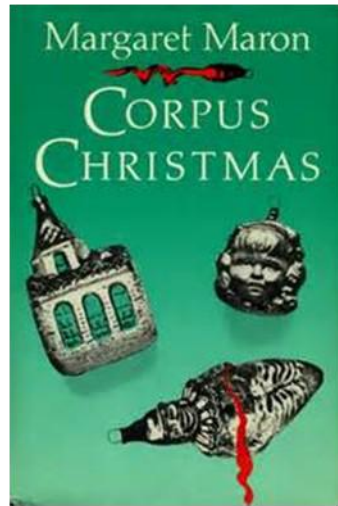
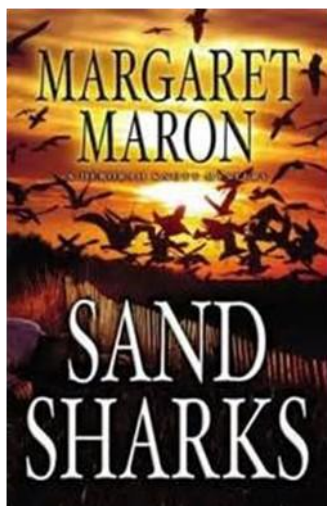
Mary Monroe Kolek, Ph.D.

Recording Secretary

Love mysteries?
Help a good cause and hear NC's own
award winning mystery writer!

Margaret Maron

Thursday, May 4, 2p.m.-4p.m. at Extraordinary
Ventures, 200 S. Elliott Rd., Chapel Hill, NC 27514



Please make plans to come! Invite friends! It is a fun event every year. Our members always provide delicious finger food, and there will be plenty of coffee and tea. But best of all, all proceeds go to AAUW Scholarships—this year, we have 4 recipients at UNC-CH and 3 at Duke. Some years, we have as many as 12 in area universities and community colleges.

ALL PROFITS GO TO: AAUW's SCHOLARSHIPS WHICH FUNDS FEMALE STUDENTS, LOCALLY, AROUND THE WORLD & THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR COLLEGE WOMEN STUDENT LEADERS.

Name _____

No. of tickets @ \$20 _____ Send tickets ___ Will pick up at event ___ (✓ one)

Telephone: _____

Name of guests: _____

Make checks payable to: AAUW-ODC Karen Iplani, 1502 Halifax Rd., Chapel Hill, NC 27514-2728

<http://chapelhill-nc.aauw.net/> Tel: B. Keller 919 929-4432, K. Iplani 919 929-6553 chapel-hillncaauw@gmail.com