

AAUW-Orange, Durham, Chatham Branch

From the President: Bea Keller

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Happy New Year to all of you and your families! We wish you good health throughout 2017.

2017 promises to be an interesting year for our nation. Our branch has been reaching out to our sister branches in NC to learn more about what they do to increase community awareness of our organization, and to grow their membership. In a conversation with Treka Spraggins, president of the Raleigh-Wake chapter, she commented that when she attends other women's group, she tells them that AAUW is not for everyone—that we stand for principles. We take positions on policies essential for democracy and the pursuit of happiness for all members of our society with an emphasis on women and girls. The health, prosperity, and equality of women directly impacts that of their families. It is a message to take to heart as we hear developing public policy both nationally and in our state. Below is a list of some of the policies impor-

tant to us.

AAUW believes that high-quality public education is the foundation of a democratic society and the key to economic prosperity and gender equality. We advocate equitable climates free of harassment, bullying, and sexual assault. We support academic freedom, civic education, protection from censorship, bias-free education, and responsible funding for all levels of education, including early childhood education and programs for students with disabilities. We advocate increased access to higher education, especially for women in poverty. We promote equitable efforts to close the persistent achievement gap that disproportionately affects low-income children and students from minority communities.

AAUW promotes the economic, social, and physical well-being of all persons. Essential to that well-being are an economy that provides equitable employment opportunities; reduction of poverty; a living wage; quality affordable dependent care; paid family and medical leave; safe, livable, and affordable housing; quality affordable and accessible health care including reproductive health care; and a clean and healthful environment. We support a Social Security system that provides inflation-

protected, guaranteed lifetime benefits with a progressive benefit formula, spousal and widow benefits, and disability and survivor benefits. We oppose any efforts to undermine Medicare and Medicaid, including privatization and block grant proposals.

AAUW believes in the right to privacy and freedom from violence. We firmly believe in the separation of church and state. We support a fair, balanced, and independent judiciary. We support public budgets that balance individual rights and responsibility to the community. We see an urgent need for meaningful campaign finance reform, open and fair elections, and nonpartisan voter education efforts that will promote equitable political participation and representation in appointed and elected office.

AAUW supports affirmative action to improve racial, ethnic, gender, and cultural diversity and inclusion. This includes creating a culture of involvement, respect, and connection, where the richness of ideas, backgrounds, and perspectives is fully appreciated and utilized.

AAUW believes that global interdependence requires national and international policies against human trafficking and that promote peace, justice, human



ZingerBug.com

Rosetta Moore: The Impact of Slavery on the Education of Blacks in Orange County, NC 1619-1970

Saturday, January 21, 2017, Chapel Hill Public Library, Rm. A, Social Time: 10:30 a.m., Meeting: 11:00 a.m.

AAUW-ODC is honored to have Rosetta Austin Moore present her research on *The Impact of Slavery on the Education of Blacks in Orange County, NC*.

Rosetta Moore attended the first five years of her schooling in a one-room school, which was built by her grandfather--William (Will) Lyles--and his relatives on his land in Fairfield County, South Carolina before public schools for Blacks were provided by the state. She



continued her education in the Chester County, South Carolina public school system. She received a BS degree from Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina; a master's degree from North Carolina Central University in Durham, North Carolina; and certification in elementary education from St. Augustine's College in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Moore is a retired teacher with 32 years of experience in teaching. She taught in segregated public schools in South

Carolina (3 years in Gaffney, South Carolina and Chester, South Carolina) and a segregated public school in North Carolina (5 years in Orange County, North Carolina); and for 24 years, she taught in an integrated public school in Orange County, North Carolina. She lives in Hillsborough, North Carolina with her husband, Caleb, a retired band director. Copies of her book by the same title will be for sale.

— Bea Keller

Mark Your Calendars

February 18th Meeting

AAUW Fellows: Adela del Valle (UNC-Chapel Hill), Richelle Suttle (UNC-Chapel Hill), Michelle Wolf (Duke)

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

Chapel Hill Library,

Room A

10:30 (social meet and greet). 11:00 AM Business Meeting

—Donna Wilson, Vice President, Programs

Membership News

We warmly welcome four new or returning members this year:

- Hannah Andrews
- Sandy Mold
- Valerie Schreiber
- Laurie Tepper

Membership Reminder

New members can sign up at half-rates for \$35.00 after January 1 through March 31.

—Shirley Ahmed



Presidents Message (continued from page 1)

rights, sustainable development, and mutual security for all people. We support the civil and human rights of all immigrants, including a fair and just path to legal status. We support a strengthened United Nations and its affiliated agencies. We advocate implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action from the 4th World Conference on Women* and subsequent declarations. We affirm our active participation in the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women and our commitment to ratification of the U.N. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). We support international family planning programs that are consistent with AAUW policy.

Remembering for what we stand will be essential this year. We must speak our minds and encourage others to think rationally, with generous hearts, for the good of all. I look forward to seeing all of you at the Chapel Hill Library, Room A, at 10:30 on January 21. The program is appropriately near our national commemoration of Martin Luther King, Jr. and highlights the struggle of Afro-Americans for lives of freedom and dignity.

*Beijing Declaration PFA held in 1995 is a wonderful document too lengthy to reproduce here which:

3. Determined to advance the

goals of equality, development and peace for all women everywhere in the interest of all humanity,

6. Also recognize that this situation is exacerbated by the increasing poverty that is affecting the lives of the majority of the world's people, in particular women and children, with origins in both the national and international domains,

9. Ensure the full implementation of the human rights of women and of the girl child as an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

12. The empowerment and advancement of women, including the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief, thus contributing to the moral, ethical, spiritual and intellectual needs of women and men, individually or in community with others and thereby guaranteeing them the possibility of realizing their full potential in society and shaping their lives in accordance with their own aspirations.

14. Women's rights are human rights;

16. Eradication of poverty based on sustained economic growth, social development, environmental protection and social justice requires the involvement of women in economic and social development, equal opportunities and the full and equal participation of women and men as agents and beneficiaries of people-centered sustainable development;

17. The explicit recognition and

reaffirmation of the right of all women to control all aspects of their health, in particular their own fertility, is basic to their empowerment.

Good Morning Book Club

*Good Morning Book Club will meet Thursday, January 5 in the home of Shirley Ahmed to discuss the book *The All Girl Filling Station* Last Reunion by Fannie Flag.*

—Dona Koeberl



Treasurer's Report

Current Account

Balances:

Checking Acct.

\$1,337.68

Money Market

Acct. \$1,504.41

C. D. -

\$5,563.44

**Karen Piplani,
Treasurer**



Are you Willing to Share your Story?

Many of us have faced challenges, biases, and/or discrimination in pursuing our passions and yet overcame those obstacles to find satisfying and rewarding careers. How we wish it were different for young women today, but we know that in some many ways things have changed very little for women. But there are things that we have learned in our own journeys that may inspire or encourage the next generation. And so the question is: are you willing to share **your** story (or that of a daughter or friend) with high students who need to know what it takes to make a difference. All that is required from you is a brief written description of a defining moments, unexpected events, helpful individuals, or new insights or sources of strength – whatever it was that allowed you to

achieve your dream in the face of adversity. No matter what your field, your experiences can inspire.

How will these stories be used? Several female graduate women at Duke University have secured funding to provide a two-week backpacking trip for 8-10 young women from **underrepresented** groups who will be high school juniors and seniors next fall. The program is called Girls on outdoor Adventure for Leadership and Science (GALS). The participants will learn about the environment from a range of perspectives and develop leadership skills. After a day of hiking and activities, the evening will be devoted to reading stories of other women's lives using them as the stepping off point for discussions of fulfilling one's dreams.

I have agreed to serve as the point of contact for collecting stories, which I will pass on to the leader of the Duke group.

Stories could be anywhere from a paragraph to a page or so: shorter is probably better. It would be good to have these stories in hand by the end of March. Please send stories to me at pamvictor1@att.net.

There is a website set up at Duke that explains the program and introduces the graduate students: <http://sites.duke.edu/GALS>.

There is also a link to apply to the program. Applications need to be in by March 10th. Girls from anywhere in NC can apply as long as they can get themselves to Durham, so if you know of potential candidates or teachers who might be interested, please let them know about this opportunity and share the link.

Thanks for your help!

Pam Stephens

Schwenning Scholarship Fund

Our goal is \$1,500.00

\$695.00 has been donated by 10 members out of our current membership of 50. Please give what you can!

Checks should be made out to UNC-CH, with

"Schwenning Fund # 6725" in the memo line. Checks may be mailed to me at the ad-

dress below, or given to me at meetings.

Karen Piplani, 1502 Halifax Rd., Chapel Hill, NC 27514-2728

Plenary Meeting, December 3, 2016

ODC AAUW Plenary Meeting
December 3, 2016

The December meeting of the ODC AAUW was held at the main library in Durham. Members and guests had an opportunity to socialize over refreshments for the 30 minutes prior to the official start of the meeting which was convened by President Bea Keller at 11.

After greeting the audience, President Keller introduced the morning's presenter Dr. Tanya Shields, associate professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Women's and Gender Studies at UNC-CH. Citing Dr. Shields' accomplishments as a scholar, author, educator and dramatist, Bea noted how fortunate our affiliate is to have access to such multitalented and accomplished women and leaders. As has been noted on many occasions, we are fortunate to have a program committee that ably mines our community's assets to the benefit of members and guests.

Dr. Shields introduced her topic, Women Plantation Owners in the Caribbean and U.S. South: *Rosehall's Reverberations: Annie Palmer and Plantation Sexual Economies*, by playing *The Ballad of Annie Palmer*, a song by Johnny Cash crafted around the myths that have long defined this female Jamaican plantation owner of the late 1800's. Dr. Shields used this creative opening to introduce her thesis that

the reality of women as competent leaders, entrepreneurs and successful business owners is often fictionalized to include attribution of malevolent, mysterious and murderous qualities. As evidenced by written and spoken narratives, women who either intentionally -or due to circumstances such as death of a spouse- shift from traditional female roles to those society categorizes as "male" are often portrayed as practitioners of the dark arts and dominatrixes. Dr. Shields went on to share what she has learned through comparative studies of literature grounded in the lives of women plantation owners and through scripts shared by of docent tours of plantations. She focused on the socio-cultural meaning of myths associated with Anne Palmer and their implications- many of which still resonate through contemporary society.

The discomfort which males-and some females - feel when confronted with women in power and the tendency to sexualize the context and enactment of female power was traced through the development of the Rose Hall legends: all of which have in common the demonization of Annie Palmer. Through comparative analysis of original source documents, literature and artifacts, Dr. Shields revealed that in actuality Annie Palmer did not possess the negative qualities or enact the evil deeds attributed to her in the many versions of her story that have evolved

and been made famous by (and lucrative for) others.

Dr. Shields went on to note that analyses of historical texts reveal that the care and protection of women is a frequently used rationale for imperialistic nation building. Furthermore, Dr. Shields argued that demonization of women is a means of managing and controlling those that move outside of the boundaries of what is traditionally characterized as feminine (or compliant). She introduced the idea that men (and in some cases women) of the ruling class feel a strong need to have power over land, body and language and that this motivation affects the treatment of not only gender but race and class -based relationships. The language of literature often reveals this dynamic in that the less powerful are characterized as wild, incompetent and weak; thus needing to be "tamed", "contained" and "lead" for their own and other's good. Dr. Shields' research and her writings detail and build upon these ideas and their legacy.

The audience thanked Dr. Shields for such a timely presentation. They posed a number of questions that indicated many connections were being made between the story emerging from historical research and the contemporary treatment of women and others who challenge and choose to live and work outside conventional



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.

AAUW Plenary Meeting (continued)

norms- especially in relationship to socio-economic and political positions of power.

After thanking Dr. Shields and presenting her with a small token of thanks, President Keller went on to remind members that the meeting on January 21 is at the Chapel Hill library. The presentation is *The Impact of Slavery on the Education of Blacks in Orange County* by Rosetta Moore. Given the current focus on educational equity and excellence across our region and state this should be a well-attended session. Tickets for the May 4 Literary Tea that will feature well known author Margaret Maron will be on sale at that time.

January 21 is also the date for the planned Women's March on Washington which is intended to highlight of issues related to human rights, dignity and justice. Bea noted that while AAUW is not sponsoring buses transportation information has been sent to us.

Rally buses depart from Chapel Hill at 4:19 AM on January 21 and will return at 12:10 AM on the 22nd. The cost is currently \$90. More information can be found on line at <https://www.womensmarch.com> or e mail northcarolina@womensmarch.com.

Donna Wilson, Program Chair, promised that the February meeting will be inspiring as we will hear from 3 of the local Fellows whose research and studies have been aided through AAUW grants.

We are currently soliciting donations for the Schwenning Scholarship. These can be sent to Treasurer Karen Piplani.

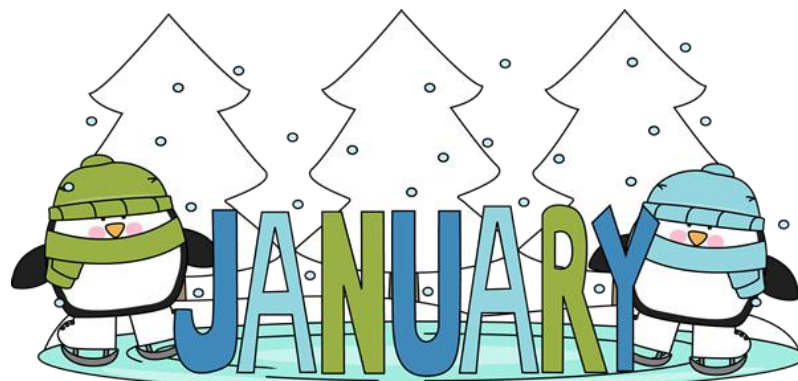
Book club continues to meet monthly. Information on the selections and location is available on our website, chapelhill-nc.aauw.net.

Michelle Hoyman and Bea Kel-

ler are serving as a nominating committee and are putting together a slate of officers for the upcoming year. Please contact them if you are interested in serving.

Respectfully submitted,

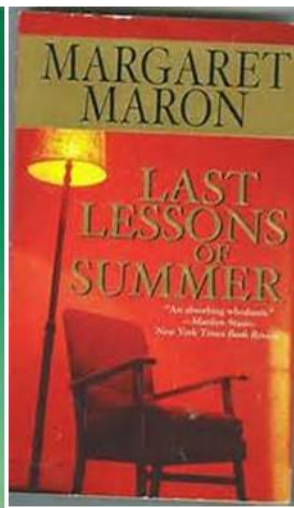
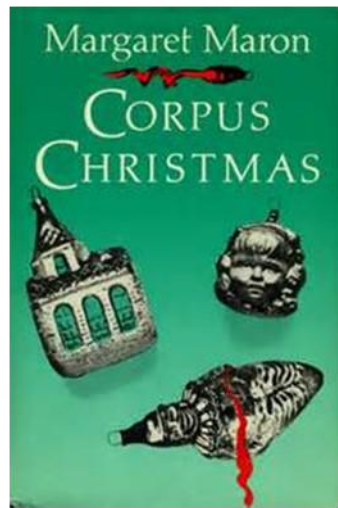
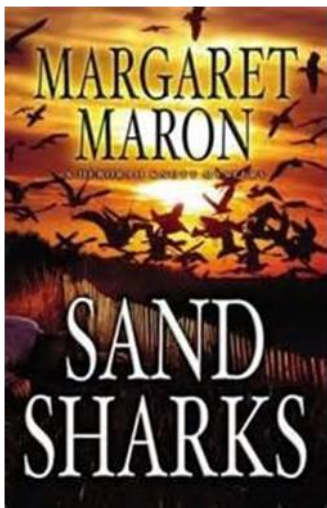
Dr. Mary Monroe Kolek, recording secretary



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

Margaret Maron

Thursday, May 2p.m.-4p.m. at Extraordinary Ven-
tures, 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