

From the President: Bea Keller

We look forward to our 2013-2014 year, but owe a large dose of gratitude to Sandy Smalley and Kay White who have carried us through the last two years. In addition to gracing our meetings with her warmth and organizational skills, we can credit Sandy for the July newsletter innovation. Thanks to her, we will now be informed about our board's and our members' activities during the summer months giving us some continuity in the lengthy April to September hiatus. While Kay's official title was that of treasurer, her contributions went far beyond that. A former president of our chapter, Kay has a broad knowledge of all things AAUW. She rewrote our bylaws to conform to the new standards, and was the general go-to person when we had questions. Our chapter is better due to Sandy's and Kay's dedication and hard work. We wish them a pleasant respite from their duties.

We also welcome our new Membership Vice-President, Genoveva Aguirre, (who is featured elsewhere in the newsletter as our Member of the Month) and Karen Piplani, our new treasurer, who can't resist a new challenge and learning opportunity, and is always willing to go the extra mile. Michele Hoyman, program chair, and Mary Paterson, secretary, and Alice Parsons, our newsletter editor, will continue their excellent service on the board.

Recently, the news that forty

percent of all households were headed by single mothers received a great deal of media attention. However, the news out of Raleigh is not encouraging for women and children in general. Data from the *American Community Survey* (UNC School of Law) indicates that 43.1 percent of our female headed households with children under 18 in NC live below the poverty level. Almost a quarter of NC children are living in poverty with 7 percent of children in extreme poverty. In the general population, Hispanics (34.2%), Native Americans (29.8%) and African Americans (27.1%) dominate the number of people living in poverty as contrasted to Whites (12.9%). Broken down in a different way, almost 1 in 5 (17.2%) of North Carolinians are living in poverty and depend on many of the programs that are currently on the chopping block. Lack of education is a factor regarding poverty in NC. However, the majority of those living below the poverty level (55.2%) has some education beyond high school; 30.1% have no high school diploma, 14.7% have only a high school diploma.

As in much of the US, NC manufacturing jobs, which sustained many small towns and communities, have gone overseas. To some extent, these jobs have been replaced by service jobs which pay less and offer fewer benefits. The NC legislature's attempt to restructure our state tax system is, in part, due to our state's tran-

sition from manufacture to service jobs. AAUW is a national grassroots organization which strives to improve the lives of women and their families. We need to advocate for fairness—be it in the tax code, or health services for the poor and our seniors, and especially for educational opportunities from preschool through higher education. Opportunities for all our citizenry will result in a more just and functional society. I urge you to stay abreast of the discussion in both Raleigh and Washington. Write or call your representative and your governor on those issues which concern you. Consider writing a letter to the editor if you are so moved. What is at stake is worth the effort!

Bernetta Thigpen, NC Council for Women Regional Coordinator, will be our speaker on September 21. Her topic will be "The Status of Women in North Carolina." She is a warm and spirited speaker so please make plans to come. At this point in time, we do not know where we will be meeting—Carol Woods cannot accommodate us until our January meeting because of construction work. I will be busy looking for another venue in the next few weeks; the September newsletter will reveal the new location. If you have any ideas, please contact me (mikebeakeller@bellsouth.net).

I am looking forward to serving as your president for the next two years.

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Our 2013-2014 Programs: An Exciting Line up!!!

Travel with Us! Where else can you sit comfortably in your chair sipping coffee and homemade goodies and experience the following: Seeing Egypt through the eyes of a local Egyptian author Samia Serageldin on December 7? Answer: our AAUW meetings this year, starting each Saturday at 9:30 am.

Where else can we get up to date on Public policy so important to AAUW members? We will start the year with a talk on the Status of Women in NC by Bernetta Thigpen on Sept. 21. Then on January 18,

we will learn about the progress of the Equal Rights amendment with Roberta Madden and Florry Glasser. We will get up to speed on important women's issues such as Sex Trafficking on March 15 and don't forget Micro Lending, which has been so important to the economic advancement of women in less developed countries, on October 19, 2013 with a lecture by Dr. Erica Field.

Also, not wanting to forsake the AAUW Fellows, we will get to meet two wonderful young women in the February session (Feb.

15) who will give talks on their research funded through AAUW.

Finally we will cap off the year on an artistic lilt with a group of local poets, Carrboro Poetica, who will share their work with us at the April 12 meeting.

What a wonderful seminar series we have coming!!!

Michele Hoyman, program chair.

AAUW Programs for 2014-2014

Please save the following program dates for 2013-2014! We do not know where we will meet for our September through December meetings. Carol Woods is undergoing construction and cannot accommodate outside groups until January. We will publish our new meeting place (Sept. through Dec.) in our September newsletter which comes out September 1. Our meetings will begin at 9:30 a.m. for coffee and conversation, our programs will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Sept. 21, 2013	Bernetta Thigpen
Oct. 19, 2013	Erica Field
Nov. 16, 2013	Betsy Bennett
Dec. 7, 2013	Samia Serageldin
Jan. 18, 2014	Roberta Madden, Jane Smith Patterson, Florry Glasser
Feb. 15, 2014	AAUW Fellows
Mar. 15, 2014	Ellie Kinnaird, Jessica Porta
Apr. 12, 2014	Carrboro Poetica —Bea Keller

Passing of Syd Elstran
When AAUW-CH needed a worker who we knew would get the job done, we called on Syd. In a confused and confusing time in our history Syd became the president, calmed us down and straightened us out. She worked on the yearbook and edited the newsletter. She designed flyers and invitations to the first and second fundraising teas. She was a faithful and supportive member of the bridge club and the book club. She was always there when we needed ideas and effort. She was, above all, a good friend. We will miss her.

—Mary Paterson

Membership Report

Thirty members have renewed their membership plus we have three new members as of 6/24/13.

Thank you!

Bernlohr, Doris
 Dechard, Jeanne
 Effron, Marion
 Flashner, Esther
 Green, Jean

Hamilton, Lelia
 Hammersly, Donna
 Healey, Vickie
 Henderson, Diane
 Herring, Margaret
 Holland, Jan
 Hoyman, Michele
 Irish, Kathleen
 Jacquith, Marcia
 Joseph, Jean

Keller, Bea
 Koeberl, Dona
 Meece, Judith
 Mitchell, Norma
 Parsons, Alice
 Passero, Sandra
 Paterson, Mary
 Pedone, Amanda
 Piplani, Karen
 Price, Lisa

Rapoza, Morita
 Rohrdanz, Sally
 Rose, Nancy Jane
 Samulski, Ricka
 Smalley, Sandy
 Whisnant, Anne
 White, Kay
 Zellen, Carol

—Bea Keller

Member of the Month - Genoveva Aguirre

Genoveva Aguirre, our new Membership Vice-President, comes from strong matriarchal stock who waged war, traveled, and fled their homes when necessary. Her great-grandmother fought with Pancho Villa in the revolution and came to Tampico alone from northern Mexico. Her widowed grandmother worked hard to raise 4 children on her own as did her mother with Genoveva, her older brother, and sister. Genoveva's mother wanted an education but her father would not let her go to high school. In his work for the oil refineries, he had traveled the world, learned to speak 5 languages fluently, but could not justify educating his daughter. She was determined that her 3 children would go to high school and to university too—and she succeeded in her goal.

Genoveva explains that in Mexico, high school is neither free nor compulsory. Even today, there are very few public high schools in Mexico, but in her day, there were none. She studied to become a bilin-

gual secretary and worked full-time for an oceanic shipping company. At night, she attended high school. She did this to spare her mother the additional burden of funding her education. After high school, she attended night classes at college. At the time, the college was a pilot project. Today, she says, the college is thriving and has its own campus.

Armed with an accounting degree, Genoveva worked for a bank. The banks in Mexico were subsequently nationalized, then privatized and finally, the bank that employed her closed. In the meantime, Genoveva had married and was expecting her first child. After her son was born, she substituted as an accounting teacher, and the school asked her to stay on to teach various business classes.



A life-long dream had been to travel and live in another country. Her husband saw an advertisement in a newspaper for teachers in the U.S. Genoveva had all the qualifications, was interviewed and soon was on her way to Alamance county, N.C., with her 3 children where she now teaches all levels of high school Spanish. It was a time of self-discovery. She learned that adventure requires problem solving and that she was good at it. She met many kind people who helped her and became her good friends. "You are never alone," she says. She especially likes the diversity of U.S. society.

Genoveva still aches to travel. She has visited friends in Germany and Spain, seen Paris and Prague, and hopes to have many other adventures.

— Bea Keller

AAUW Has a New Logo

This past winter AAUW introduced its new logo, only the fourth one in its 131 year history. The previous one was introduced in 1990, and it had three triangles, representing the three separate corporations which were merged in 2009, and the triangles formed a "W." Digitally this logo did not work, as the lines all ran

together. The national Board of Directors moved forward on a new design.






The new logo has a more readable type and a tag line of "empowering women since 1881." It emphasizes

the "W" as the main element in our name and mission. This current design is already in use on the website, the magazine, and other communications.

—Sandy Smalley

AAUW Logos throughout the years ... the fourth one in its 131 year history.

AAUW LOGOS THROUGH THE YEARS

<p>1898 First appears in December 1898. Association of Collegiate Alumnae seal adopted in 1902.</p> 		<p>1970 Lowercase AAUW adopted.</p> 	<p>1982 Uppercase variation of 1970 logo adopted.</p> 	<p>1990 Most recent logo debuts.</p> 
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empowering women since 1881

Obituary for Charlotte Ruth (November 12, 1944 - May 23, 2013)

Charlotte Brewer Ruth died on May 23, 2013 after a long battle with ovarian cancer. She was a new member to our chapter and few of our members got to know her, because her illness caused her to decrease her activities. Charlotte was born in Alexandria, Louisiana (to Frank and Charlotte Gorman Brewer), the second of two sisters. Charlotte's mother died of breast cancer at the age of 42, when Charlotte was just 6 years old. Her father remarried and Charlotte grew up with 4 brothers, adopted by her father. In addition to her sister Frances, 10 years older than she was, 2 younger children were born later.

Charlotte graduated from Southern Methodist University where she met her husband, John Edwin Ruth, Jr. She and John had 2 children, Greg Ruth and Jennifer

Ruth. She was a homemaker and a teacher. After getting a MS in social work at UNCH, Charlotte worked as a psychiatric social worker at Butner Hospital, Duke, and OPC. She also taught English as a Second Language. She and John moved extensively for John's job, and lived mainly in Plano, Texas, in Atlanta, Georgia, and most recently for 22 years in Chapel Hill.

Besides her husband John, Charlotte is survived by her son Greg, daughter Jennifer, and grandchildren: Brenna Ruth, Wyatt Ruth, Charlotte Cowan-Ruth, and Tian Cowan-Ruth. She is also survived by her sister Frances and her Frances's children, her sister-in-law Beryll Ruth, brother-in-law George Ruth and their children.

Charlotte and her friend Jean Ebert established an organization called "No to Ovar-

ian Cancer" to build awareness of Ovarian cancer, support research, and provide services to those suffering from the disease. Her family suggests donations to "No to Ovarian Cancer" (NotoO.org) as an appropriate tribute to her life.

Charlotte was a welcoming, warm, empathetic person who could light up a room with her presence. She was fascinated by people. She was curious, an insatiable reader and traveled extensively in Europe and Asia. As a friend reported, it was typical of Charlotte that when she returned home from one of her many hospitalizations, her comments were not about her condition or treatment, but about the fascinating people she had met while there. Charlotte will be greatly missed.

—Karen Piplani

AAUW and Rachel Carson - 2013 AAUW Convention

At the June, 2013 AAUW National Convention in New Orleans, the AAUW archivist told a story about a letter she found in the archives. The archivists have begun a project to go through boxes of papers they have in the Washington DC office of AAUW. In one of those boxes, this archivist found a letter written in 1959 by Rachel Carson to AAUW. Ms. Carson was writing to thank AAUW for its financial support to help Ms. Carson do research on

her next book. What was that book? Well, Rachel Carson's next book was "*Silent Spring*", first published in 1962. It is particularly thrilling to learn that AAUW helped play a part in helping protect our environment by providing support to Rachel Carson. Even though I was not a member at that time, I am very proud that AAUW was able to help such an American icon as Rachel Carson.

—Kay White

Renew for Next Year

Just a reminder . . . Please renew for next year. We are already planning for our programs next year. You may have already filled out your program suggestions for 2013-2014. Michele Hoyman and Morita Rapoza assembled their committee in May and began contacting potential speakers late spring and early summer. We hope to make the next year the best year ever!

—Bea Keller

AAUW-NC Annual Meeting, Saturday, April 13, 2013

About 45 women from 15 of our 20 AAUW branches in North Carolina attended the annual meeting. One of the attendees from the national AAUW was Julia Brown. Many of us were impressed with her enthusiasm. [She won election for Vice President of AAUW at the June, 2013 convention]. A discussion on "how to write your local editor" to push forward

AAUW issues was held; we were told how to be succinct but be clear that we represent AAUW. Letters do count, as well as emails and phone calls. Mary Peterson, President, said that the current Public Policy Program (PPP) has announced that it was (1) limiting the issues to economy, education, civil rights, social justice and health and (2) using a free program from

national AAUW, called CQ State Track to help North Carolina keep AAUW in North Carolina abreast of the issues now occurring in the North Carolina General Assembly. If you are not currently receiving these "pp- alerts" and would like to, please contact Kay White, 919-542-1138 or at kay-white@earthlink.net. — Kay White

Presidents' Council—AAUW NC Annual Meeting, April 12, 2013

The Branch Presidents' Council, held Friday afternoon, was the first event of the 2013 AAUW NC Annual Meeting. I was in Burlington representing the Chapel Hill Branch and was accompanied by our new President Bea Keller. Also Kay White participated in all the weekend activities.

We discussed briefly the new AAUW NC structure and moved on to the Nominating Committee which has had difficulty functioning. The decision was to have the Presidents' Council fill that role, with the Branch Advocate as the convener.

There will be regional state meetings this fall held in Charlotte, Asheville, and Wilmington on either September 21, 28, or

October 3, or 12. Branch STEM projects were also discussed.

Roberta Madden talked about the proposed ERA amendment to the US Constitution, which will be brought up again for passage in states that have not ratified it, including NC. Only three more states are needed for acceptance of this amendment.

PPPP was discussed and is now called Public Policy Program, PPP, eliminating the word Pilot. We also reviewed issues with the spring Webinar. Nine Branches participate in PPP, along with Chapel Hill.

A big topic was the new AAUW NC By-laws which would be voted on the following day at the annual business meeting.

President and Branch Advocate are to be elected in even years and Treasurer and Vice President in odd years. The Board of Directors will come from the Presidents' Council, where the Branch Advocate is head. The system is set up as one member/one vote.

More important than the meeting itself was the opportunity to speak with other NC Branch Presidents and talk to people from whom I have been receiving emails. I was pleased Bea was present and could meet many people with whom she will be working.

Sandy Smalley

Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2013

As of May 31, 2013, our combined checking and savings account balance was a net \$2,720.44, and our Carrie Heath Schwenning Scholarship Fund CD totaled \$6,606.69. In the future, your treasurer report will be presented by our new treasurer, Karen Iplani. Our finances are in good shape. When you review our budget,

we will see that we need to use monies in the Treasury to pay for our expenses. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, we used \$56 from the Treasury to balance the budget. Increasing our membership would

decrease the need to use the Treasury for some of our expenses. However, we have a nice cushion in our Treasury for many years if we continue our fiscal frugality.

— Kay White

We will update our webpage this summer to reflect our new programs and locations: <http://chapelhill-nc.aauw.net>. Please do check our archive of past newsletters in our "members only" section, remember the password is the word "dogwood" in lower case letters.

New Members

Please welcome two new members!

Judith Meece completed her B.S. in Human Ecology in 1973 at Michigan State University, her M.A. (1977), and Ph.D. (1981), both in Educational Psychology from the



University of Michigan. She is currently a professor of Educational Psychology at UNC-CH.

Amanda Pedone completed her B.A. (English) at Clayton State University in 2012. She is currently seeking a high school teaching position.



Good Morning Book Club, 2013-2014

All members of the Chapel Hill Branch AAUW are invited to attend any meeting of Good Morning Book Club. Please bring interested friends too. They might join AAUW!

The September 5 book discussion will be about the novel *Flight Behavior*, by one of my favorite authors, Barbara Kingsolver. This delightful story of two families is woven into questions about climate change and clear cutting on hillsides. We will meet at 10 a. m. in the home of Dona Koeberl, 2749 McDowell Road, Durham, NC 27705, 403-6643, dkoeberl@frontier.com.

On October 3 we will meet in the home of Kay Irish and discuss the book *The Invisible Wall* by Harry Bernstein

The November 7 at 10 a.m. discussion will focus on *March* by Geraldine Brooks and meet at the home of Annette Jurgelski.

December 7 - *The Financial Lives of Poets* by Jess Walter, meeting at the home of Carol Zellen.

The February book will be *My Beloved World* by Sonia Sotomayor meeting at the home of Kay White.

Other books were selected by those pre-

sent: *Life after Life* by Kate Atkinson, *Margaret Fuller; A New American Life* by Megan Marshall, *Lucky Jim* by Kingsley Amis.

Other book club members may select a book to review and a month to host.

Dona Koeberl



Genoveva Aguire, Bea Keller, Karen Piplani, Sandy Smalley

Minutes: AAUW BRANCH MEETING, APRIL 20, 2013

Sandy called the meeting to order at 10:00A.M. She thanked the members who contributed food for the potluck. Bea displayed a book, *The White City* by John Clarke Bemis, given to the Branch by National AAUW. Bemis is a North Carolina author. The Branch will donate it to the Chapel Hill Public Library.

New Officers

Norma Mitchell thanked Alice Parsons for editing the Newsletter and announced the 2013-2014 Board. Michele Hoyman and Morita Rapoza will continue as Vice Presidents of Program, Mary Paterson continues as Secretary. Bea Keller is the next President, Karen Piplani, Treasurer, and Genovera Aguirre will be the Membership Vice President.

Board Meetings

Sandy announced two summer board meetings. The first will be June 2 and the second will be the week of August 12. The date has not yet been decided.

Program

Kathleen Clarke-Pearson MD, a pediatrician, spoke on "The Effect of Media on Children". She made the following points:

1. Family time is decreasing with the advent of the internet.
2. Children's brains are being re-wired by screens.
3. Media is part of the future of family life.
4. Early TV exposure causes children to have attention deficit problems.
5. Anxiety is caused by

violent TV.

6. Aggression in boys may be attributed in part to violent TV programs.

The meeting concluded with a potluck.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Paterson





CHAPEL HILL BRANCH, AAUW
Membership Renewal/Application
July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014

DUES BREAKDOWN	
<i>National</i>	\$49
<i>State</i>	\$11
<i>Branch</i>	\$10
TOTAL	\$70

Please complete the form below and make your check to:

AAUW-CH Branch

Send to: **Genoveva Aguirre, 709A West Main St., Carrboro, NC 27510.**

Branch member renewals, you need only to fill out any changes in your information.

Personal Information:

Name: _____ Check enclosed: _____

Address: _____

Phone: H _____ Cell: _____

E-mail address: _____

Newsletter: (check one) e-mail _____ regular mail _____

Education, Occupation, AAUW Experience

Degree (s), College Name, Year Degree Conferred, Major Field of Study

Undergraduate: _____

Graduate: _____

Occupation: _____

Membership Category:

Branch ____ Dual Branch ____ Student Affiliate ____ E-Student Affiliate ____

Honorary Life ____ Paid Life ____

Previous Experience in AAUW _____

Groups at Chapel Hill Branch and/or Other Areas of Interests for Our Branch

(Please check your areas of interest and tell us of your ideas)

SPARC/STEM ____ (Students Participating and Researching Careers / Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

Good Morning Book Club ____ Bridge ____

Areas of Interest Hospitality ____ Public Policy ____ Publicity ____

Program Ideas: _____

Other Volunteer or Interest Ideas: _____