

# AAUW-Chapel Hill Branch

## From the President: Bea Keller

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The last page of the spring 2016 *Outlook Magazine* (also its cover) focused on the subtle and obvious sexism in language. Language is a powerful tool; it shapes our thoughts and perceptions, often slipping into our minds, forming unconscious connections. It creates our world—wordsmiths are very aware of the power of words and use them to influence our thoughts. Skillful usage of words is at the heart of Madison Avenue's power over us—and may determine who might win an election regardless of their veracity or merit. In truth, the language we have heard from childhood has already left its mark on our perceptions: for example: repairman, mailman/versus mail carrier, hussy, slut, firm instead of obstinate, cautious as opposed to timid—well, you get the picture.

The Women's Media Center, a non-profit founded by writers and activists Gloria Steinem, Jane Fonda and Robin Morgan, states that WMC "works to ensure women are powerfully and visibly represented in the media" and "to diversify the media in its content and sources, so that the stories and perspectives of women and girls are more accurately portrayed.

The media is the single most powerful tool at our disposal; it has the power to educate, effect social change, and determines the political policies and elections that shape our lives." ([www.womensmediacenter.com](http://www.womensmediacenter.com))

The WMC points out that sixty-seven percent of the reporters covering contraception and abortion issues in the presidential election are men. Gloria Steinem noted, "Since women play a greater role in reproduction, it would make sense for women to be the majority of the sources and authorities in its coverage." Men were predominant in discussions of the historical significance of the first woman nominee of a major party. Only *The Rachel Maddow Show* had a 50/50 mix discussing the event. Most shows' panels were all male.

Controversial women or what they do are often described with words designed to off-put, belittle, or disapprove. None other than Paula Broadwell has formed a foundation to combat bias called *Think Broader*. Her involvement with General Petraeus resulted in Broadwell being labeled home-wrecker, stalker, temptress, and mistress whereas Petraeus was largely viewed as a victim or a good guy who had a moment of weakness. For him, "the affair is a

footnote to an otherwise celebrated career. But for her—not as decorated, not as public, but still accomplished in her own right—it has become a lasting stain." (New York Times, May 29, 2016) Professionally, Petraeus suffered some losses but managed to hold on to his rank and retirement; however, Broadwell had to abandon her PhD program, and her promotion from major to lieutenant colonel was revoked. Broadwell particularly objects to the word "mistress" preferring "lover" to describe both individuals involved.

Women who run for office are scrutinized and often described with adverse language. Paul Krugman, in an opinion piece in the New York Times on June 20, 2016 wrote, "Harvard's Shorenstein Center released a report on media treatment of the candidates during 2015, showing Ms. Clinton received by far the most unfavorable coverage. Even when reports focused on issues rather than alleged scandals, 84 percent of her coverage was negative—twice as high as for Mr. Trump."

The WMC site also notes that women are woefully underrepresented in newspaper bylines and on-line only news sites. TV and radio talk show hosts are overwhelmingly male. David Letter-



## AAUW-Orange, Durham, & Chatham Counties Programs and Speakers: 2016-2017

### WE WELCOME TWO NEW MEMBERS!

**Suzanne Haff** earned a BA at Mary Washington College of the U. of Virginia, and a M.Ed. at the University of Virginia. She is a retired ESL teacher.

**Raé Nicole Lundy** joined us last spring. She earned her BS at Xavier University, her MA and PhD at the University of Notre Dame. She is currently a psychologist and Group Coordinator in the Student Health and Counseling Services at NCCU.

We also welcome our NCCU College/University representative, **Deborah Brame**, Director, Student Professional Development.

During June 2016, the AAUW-Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties Program Planning Committee members (Donna Wilson (Chair), Bea Keller, Vickie Healy, Lisa Price, and Pam Stephens), met to discuss, identify and begin confirmation of speakers and topics for our 2016-2017 meetings. In compliance with the AAUW mission: advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research, the identified slate of programs and speakers that are pertinent issues in North Carolina, nationally and internationally.

Our Branch meetings begin in September 2016. Please note that some future topics and speakers (listed as TBD or Work in Progress) are currently in negotiation and are tentative. Branch members will be apprised in a timely manner about the exact meeting room location and other details ahead of a monthly meeting. **All meetings that are scheduled for Saturdays at the Chapel Hill Library will begin at 10:30 AM (social time) with the business**

meeting beginning at 11:00 AM. Meetings will conclude at 12:30 PM. In keeping with our new name, we will consider other venues in Durham and Chatham County. If our members have any suggestions, please share them with us.

Program Dates – Mark Your Calendars

**September 17, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM** Ferrell Guillo, “Culture of Politics in North Carolina” Chapel Hill Public Library, Room B

**October 15, 10:30 – 12:30 PM** Speaker and topic: TBD

**November 19, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM.** Keith Harris  
Topic: Health Benefits of Chocolate (Work in Progress)

**December 3 or December 10, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM.**  
One of three (3 options):  
Women Plantation Owners;  
Immigration in NC and the South;  
Durham Judge-Karen Bethea-Sheilds (All Work in Progress)

**2017**

**January 21, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM** Rosetta Moore.  
Topic: The Impact of Slavery on the Education of Blacks in Orange County (Work in

Progress)

**February 18, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM** AAUW Fellows: Fellows will be identified in October 2016 and an invitation will be extended at that time. Topic: Work in Progress.

**March 18, 10:30 AM- 12:30 PM** Speaker (s):  
Work in Progress Topic:  
STEM and Two-Colleges  
(Work in Progress)

**April 22, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM** Speaker: TBD  
Topic: Eyes, Ears, Nose & Paws (Work in Progress)

We look forward to seeing everyone at this year's meetings and know that you will enjoy the diverse and excellent array of topics and speakers we have identified!

—Donna M. Wilson, Vice President, Programming

## Member of the Month: Jan Holland

Should any of us ever be shipwrecked on a deserted island, the experience would definitely be a happier one with Jan Holland by our side. Ebullient and witty, perceptive and practical, hope would override the calamity at hand, and with her infectious enthusiasm, we would quickly adopt a *Swiss Family Robinson* mindset! After taking care of shelter needs and perhaps one meal, Jan would suggest that we cobble toothbrushes from the materials at hand—for Jan is a dental hygiene educator!

Jan grew up in Yardville, a suburb of Trenton, NJ. While in high school, Jan started working for a dentist as a receptionist and then was trained as a dental assistant. She was immediately captivated and the dream to become a dental hygienist was launched. “When I was choosing a career (1970), I thought the only avenues open to women were teaching and nursing. I decided to be a dental hygienist as a “compromise”, because I enjoyed helping people and being in a health profession. My father (who was born in NC) encouraged me to look at the University of North Carolina School of Dentistry in Chapel Hill because of its excellent reputation. My specialties are in disease prevention and education.” Jan worked as a clinical hygienist for five years—three of those years in Zurich, Switzerland— during which time, she realized that she

wanted to teach after all. “(I) enrolled as the first graduate student in the newly developed Master of Science program in dental hygiene education in 1979. Upon graduation in 1981, I became a full-time faculty member in the dental hygiene program at UNC.” Her time in Switzerland gave her an appreciation for other languages and cultures and bestowed her with lifelong friends.

While in Switzerland, a colleague proposed a trip to the south of France to visit an acquaintance. In the small village of Haut de Cagnes, a village near Nice on the Mediterranean Sea, she met Jim, an NC State University College of Engineering graduate who was working for IBM in France. Jim returned to the U.S. to work at IBM and was aware through their mutual friend that Jan was in school in Chapel Hill. “A year later he took me back to France and proposed in the village where we met.” Jim and Jan have two children, Chase, a structure analysis engineer for Boeing, and Jaclyn, an elementary school French teacher. “After my second baby was born, I started teaching part-time and have been an adjunct faculty member ever since. I have been extremely blessed to be able to teach part-time in the profession that I love and still be home for my children during their growing years.”

In Jan’s childhood, her parents and brother were significant

influences in her life. She gives credit for her wonderful sense of humor and love of life to her father, but it was her older brother Rick, who was born with Down syndrome, who made a profound difference in her view of the world. “I believe I am a more compassionate and understanding human being because of the challenges yet unexpected gifts of having a family member with this disability.”

Jan’s decision to teach proved to be a good fit. She describes her philosophy of teaching in this way, “I love Dental Hygiene and I love teaching students, especially beginning ‘pre-clinical’ students! I think it is important to be experienced and an expert in your area in order to teach, but I also think it is important to acknowledge when you need more information and learn how to search for answers. Lifelong learning and evidence-based practice is essential to teaching and practicing dental hygiene. I also believe it is important to model the behavior/ professionalism you want to cultivate in your students.”

In her rich, very full life, Jan values her children and family above all and considers Chase and Jaclyn her proudest accomplishments. “I am still learning what it means to be a parent every day.” She and her husband are very active in their church—especially with the youth ministries. And her father at 93 needs her constant support. However, Jan finds time to go to Y classes, to indulge in



Jan Holland

her love of books, to take a few hikes and spend time with friends.

After retirement (no date set yet), she hopes to have time to travel, and to help elementary children with their reading skills. Whatever Jan decides to do, her positive energy will be an asset for the fortunate recipients of her gifts.

— Bea Keller

Continued →



### 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.

## Plenary Meeting Minutes, April 16, 2016

President Bea Keller called the meeting to order by welcoming those in attendance to the annual Potluck luncheon. She reminded members that the April 28 Annual Literary Tea is not only a wonderful opportunity to hear a local author of interest, but also serves as a fundraiser for scholarship and professional development opportunities for women. This year's guest author is Stephanie Elizondo Griest, Assistant Professor of Creative Non-Fiction at UNC-CH and author of several books, including her soon to be published, *All the Agents and Saints: Dispatches from the U.S. Borderlands*.

Bea then introduced guest speakers, member Lisa Price and her friend and colleague, Susanne Roy, whose impressive backgrounds are summarized in the last newsletter and include leadership in numerous civil and animal rights groups and organizations. Using a Powerpoint show that offered powerful visual reminders of the strong connections between animals and humans, Lisa and Suzanne went on to present an informative and motivating talk on Animal Welfare issues concluding with a call to action.

As part of their introduction both women spoke about the source of their dedication to this issue and agreed that they were born with a natural empathy for animals that showed up in their very early childhood. Each followed a path that allowed them to work for human and animal welfare issues both as social and political activists. Suzanne, a leader in the fight to save America's Airforce Chimps, is currently Executive Director of American Wild Horse Preserve Campaign which of course has special significance for North Carolina and its native wild horse population. Lisa, who cofounded North Carolinians

Against Gun Violence, also serves our community through her work with the Humane Society, a service dog organization and through her international advocacy work along with her husband, Congressman David Price.

After discussing their early background, each went on to discuss the "evolution of thinking" they and others have gone through as the focus has broadened from animal rights to animal welfare. This has happened as part of increasing general consciousness that our wellbeing and destiny is linked to that of animals and our environment. Our presenters shared numerous quotes from great minds and scholars, including Albert Einstein and Abraham Lincoln, one memorable one reflected the former's sentiment that we "free ourselves by widening our circle of compassion to include all living creatures". Lisa and Suzanne noted that the work of advocates over the past decades has resulted in "watershed progress" in the fight to demand better conditions for animals including: awareness of and regulations associated with factory farming, use of animals in entertainment and research and safety and health regulations regarding breeding, rearing, "farming" and restriction/housing of animals.

Such practices as illegally hunting, trapping, mill breeding, chaining and hoarding are all issues addressed through public information and lobbying for litigation and regulations that support and promote animal welfare. The speakers shared the surprising news to some that North Carolina law continues to allow such practices as breeding and raising of dogs who are sold as competitive dog fighting on the international market, puppy mills and private ownership of exotic animals with no restrictions. They reviewed the

status of HB554- *A bill to Protect the Public from Dangerous Wild Animals* and HB159- *Commercial Dog Breeders State and Law Enforcement Tools*. Both of these passed the state Congress and will be before NC Senate during the upcoming short session. The presenters anticipated the Senate maybe more conservative in their action given previous records related to such issues and encouraged the audience to learn more as a basis for action. Addition information about these issues, how to get involved as a volunteer and about the June 7 animal welfare Lobby Day is available at

[www.humanesociety.org/volunteer](http://www.humanesociety.org/volunteer) or [www.humanesociety.org/hld](http://www.humanesociety.org/hld).

Lisa and Suzanne closed their talk by addressing questions from the audience that included a discussion of "Eating with a Conscience" (be aware of sourcing and how meat, dairy and eggs are raised and the impact on animals, the environment and your health); Zoos and Preserves (be conscious of their certifications and practices and of the evolution of our ability to learn about and interact with animals using technology and research based practices); and pending legislation that will expand the breeding pool (and health) of NC Wildhorses, particularly those on Corolla.

The presenters passed out literature summarizing the most recent NC Legislature long session bills related to animal welfare (available from the Humane Society) and the 2015 Humane Society Annual Report.

Bea thanked Lisa and Suzanne with a gift of spring flowers while the audience offered appreciation with generous applause.

Bea went on to provide a summary of events and actions that occurred at the annual state AAUW meeting

## April Minutes (continued from page 4)

that recently took place in Chapel Hill. The Juvenile Literature Award, initiated by Chapel Hill educator Mary Scroggs, was awarded to Frances O'Roark Dowell for her latest work, *Anybody Shining*. A copy was provided by the state organization to each chapter for their local library. As a follow up Donna Wilson, who represents us at the state level, also discussed how enriching and informative it was to learn from others at the Annual State meeting. In particular, she noted the Asheville branch has been particularly successful recruiting members and raising scholarship dollars (over \$22,000.) Bea agreed and encouraged members to attend this annual event next year.

Bea shared with the members a recommendation from the Board that the name of our branch be changed from AAUW of Chapel Hill

to be AAUW of Orange, Durham, Chatham, which is more reflective of membership and our expanded area of work and sharing. The motion was moved and seconded and passed unanimously.

Bea introduced Donna Wilson, Program Chair, and praised her and the committee for their work in developing and presenting quality programs. Donna passed out a questionnaire intended to solicit input from members to be used for program planning for the upcoming year. Members may return those to Donna at the address listed in the membership book. See the website for additional information.

Bea conducted the swearing in process for officers for the upcoming 2 years: Donna Wilson as Program Chair and Mary Kolek as Recording Secretary. She generously presented a personal thank you to both for service over the past year. Bea was resoundly thanked

by the membership for her dedicated, effective and gracious leadership.

Book Club is meeting the first Thursday in May at Donna Koeberl's home for a planning meeting.

After a final mention of the Tea, April 28, 2-4 at Extraordinary Ventures, the meeting was adjourned and members were invited to enjoy conversation over luncheon that included a number of selections prepared by the members.

— Mary Kolek, Recording Secretary

## Presidents Message (continued from page 1)

man said recently that he hoped that a woman would take over the Late Show. "I don't know why they didn't give my show to a woman," but it wasn't his decision to make. Ten percent of the directors of top grossing films and thirty-nine percent of the directors of documentaries at festivals are women. Moreover, women are overlooked even in death—men far outnumber women in the obituaries.

Exclusive language does not just pertain to gender. "When someone says, "What a Christian thing to do!" (meaning kind or good-hearted), it leaves out all kind, good-

hearted people who are not Christian." (*Unspinning the Spin: The Women's Media Center Guide to Fair and Accurate Language* by Rosalie Maggio) Race is another issue; we read descriptions such as black or African-American lawyer, but not white lawyer, gypsy instead of rom, Eskimo rather than Inuit. In this electoral season, listen carefully and analyze the barrage of words that cross your path. Ask yourself, is there a bias I am missing? Is someone trying to influence me and how? Further thought and research to get at the truth may be essential in this world awash in words.

I hope all of you are healthy and enjoying your summer. The program committee is hard at work

and contacting an interesting list of speakers. I hope to see everyone at our September 17 meeting at the Chapel Hill Public Library, room B. This year, we will start our social half-hour at 10:30 a.m. to give us time to set up the room from 10 a.m. to 10:30. In order to start at ten, the library charged us for the extra hour to set up as it was not normal business hours. Our programs will begin at 11:00 a.m.

### Treasurer's Report

*Thanks to all of you who donated money, time, goodies, and energy to both of our fund-raising efforts.*

*You made it possible!—*

*Schwenning Scholarship*

*16 of our members*

*donated a total of*

*\$1,005.00.*

*\$495.00 was withdrawn from our CD, and a check for \$1,500 was written to*

*UNC-CH for the 2016-*

*2017 Schwenning*

*Scholarship year.*

*2016 Tea with Stephanie*

*Elizando Greist*

*Income from Ticket Sales:*

*\$940.00*

*Expenses: - \$432.45*

*Profit \$507.55*

*Donations + \$200.00*

*Total for the Ann Chipley*

*Fund \$707.55*

**Current Account**

**Balances:**

*Checking: \$2,083.62*

*MM Savings: 1,504.34*

*CD: \$5,560.64*

*— Karen Piplani,*

*Treasurer*

### How to Renew Your Membership on Line

Nancy Shoemaker has devised an easy way for all of us to renew our memberships. Type in: AAUW NC or [www.aauwnc.org](http://www.aauwnc.org), then type "join or renew" in the search box on that site.

It will take you to the renewal page. Have your member number handy (it's above your address on your AAUW Outlook publication), and click which branch you are joining.

This will automatically take you to a site where you can use a credit card to renew.

If you belong to more than one branch, no problem!

After completing the first transaction, go back to the join and renew page, click on the second branch, and you will be charged only for the second branch membership.

## Time to Renew Memberships!

Only 11 member renewals have been received. AAUW relies on its members' dues to provide for their programs and policies. We look forward to your continued support.

Thank you to the following members for renewing!

Shirley Ahmed, Suzanne Haff

(new), Caywood Hendricks, Michele Hoyman, Bea Keller, Dona Koeberl, Norma Mitchell, Karen Piplani, Suzanne Smalley, Anne Whisnant, Donna Wilson

You may renew in two ways:

- Online at [www.AAUW.org](http://www.AAUW.org) with a Credit Card and your Member number (Look on the

address label of your AAUW Magazine or Call Karen Piplani at 919-929-6553 for number.)

- Send Check for \$70.00, made out to

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

— Karen Piplani

## AAUW-North Carolina State Meeting: April 2016

The Sheraton Hotel, Chapel Hill was the host setting for this year's AAUW-North Carolina annual meeting, April 1-2. What a beautiful hotel and perfect venue to schedule the annual AAUW-North Carolina meeting---and right in our backyard!

More than 46 members, spanning the 18 state branches, assembled for the two-day conference. Attending from our branch were Shirley Ahmed, Bea Keller, Mary Kolek and Donna Wilson. In addition,

a special call-out to Bea, Pam Stephens and Sandy Smalley for coordinating logistics and details for a flawless meeting and making sure everything went well at the Sheraton.

Branch members were inspired by Deepti Gudipati from the national AAUW office. Her excellent workshop presentation and discussion of strategies for recruitment and community outreach to help fulfill branch missions and objectives were insightful and designed for immediate implementation.

In addition, another highlight of the meeting was the introduction of the three area AAUW Fellows: Tamar Malloy (Ph.D. candidate, Political Science, UNC-Chapel Hill); Erin Maher (Ph.D. candidate, Musicology, UNC Chapel Hill; and, Brittany Zick, MPH, Global Health, Duke), each of whom shared their projects with us.

Donna M. Wilson, Vice President, Programming

## Good Morning Book Club

The September 1 meeting of Good Morning Book Club will be in the home of Dona Koeberl, 2749 McDonald, Durham, NC 27705-5715, phone 919-403-6643. We will discuss the book *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson. This book tells the story of Alabama justice gone wrong, racism, juvenile justice failure and successes in redeeming some of these wrongs.

October 6 Good Morning Book

Club will meet in the home of Morita Rapoza, Apartment 275, Croasdaile Farm Parkway, Durham, NC 27705, phone 919-384-2096. We will discuss the book *Enrique's Journey* by Sonia Nazario. This book is a true account of the dangerous journey of 15-year-old Enrique from Central America to the United States.

Other books which were chosen for discussion this year are: *Truman* by David McCullough lead by Kay Iris; *The All Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion* by

Fannie Flagg lead by Shirley Ahmed; *Reading Lolita in Tehran* by Azar Nafisi lead by Annette Jurgelski; *The Marriage of Opposites* by Alice Hoffman lead by Carol Zellen

Two more books will be read and discussed in the 2016-2017 Good Morning Book Club year.

In September there will be a sign up sheet for the remaining months in the Good Morning Book Club.

—Dona Koeberl

## Ref-u-gee: a person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster

There is a great deal of political turmoil in western countries concerning immigration and refugees. I compiled these refugee numbers from two Diane Rehm shows: Aug. 10, 2015 and June 23, 2016.

The UN reports that by the end of 2015, 65 million people were refugees fleeing war or disaster. The population of France is approximately 65 million.

Most are refugees within the borders of their own country. 20 million are refugees outside

their country. The largest number is Syrians but failed states like Somalia, Eritrea, Sudan produce many refugees too. Situations in Colombia and Iraq are also producing refugees. The Ukraine and areas of Africa are producing flows of refugees.

Turkey has taken in almost 2 million Syrian refugees. One in 4 of Lebanon's population is a Syrian refugee. Libya, a failed state, attracts a large number of African refugees who see it as a gateway to Europe.

10,000 Afghans who worked for the US forces were promised immigrant visas to come to the US. In spite of efforts by Sen. John McCain and others, Congress has tabled the program.

Europe has taken in approximately a million refugees in the last year, the U.S. 70,000 or 80,000 but only about 2000 Syrians.

By Bea Keller

## Great Investment!

A great investment, that is, of AAUW dollars and volunteer time. Bea Keller and I, joined Barbara Ann Hughes (of AAUW-Raleigh), as volunteers for the Graduate Women in Science (GWIS) National Conference on June 25<sup>th</sup>, which was hosted at NCSU by the local chapter (Rho Tau) of GWIS. Investment was in the form of a donation by our group towards the conference expenses and the time of the volunteers. It was a truly rewarding experience.

The conference theme, "Educating Scientists for Effective Science Outreach," dovetails nicely with the GWIS goal of "increasing awareness of women's impact in science by fostering connections, mentoring, and advocating for science literacy

*in our community.*" The conference consisted of morning talks and a panel discussion by leaders in science communication. In the afternoon, there were opportunities for the attendees to do outreach activities for the public at the NC Museum of Natural Sciences or to present their research in a poster session. How inspiring it was to see a room full of bright young women, many local and several from out-of-state, deeply engrossed in discussing science and networking. The event finished with a silent auction and a banquet and speaker.

Bea and I so impressed by how capable, hardworking, smart, and fun the local organizing committee members were.

And the group really appreciated our help. Needless to say, we have all agreed to stay in touch about possible collaboration to further STEM goals.

By Pam Stephens

