

AAUW-Chapel Hill Branch

From the President: Bea Keller

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July 1 begins a new year for our chapter so this will be the last newsletter for this cycle. Our new cycle always starts July 1—we use the summer to plan the next year’s meetings and to make changes or updates that seem necessary. April is a busy month for us. It begins with the annual conference of AAUW NC in Chapel Hill, followed by our April 16 chapter meeting (description in a separate article) with a potluck lunch at Carol Woods, and finally our Literary Tea on April 28. I have been reading one of our speaker’s books, *Mexican Enough: My Life Between the Borderlines*. A third generation Mexican-American on her mother’s side, Stephanie Elizondo Griest did not learn Spanish until she was thirty. Her mother was punished for speaking Spanish in school. Brought up in an English speaking household, Stephanie could not really converse in Spanish. This book chronicles her emersion into her mother’s language and culture colorfully and humorously. Episodic in nature, it is easy to pick up and read as life permits.

Immigration has been a hot topic for a long time and this election year is no exception.

Most of us do not have far to look before we too can identify an immigrant in our forebears. For me it was my mother, for my husband, one set of grandparents (who arrived from different countries but shared a language). Our nation is indeed a melting pot but those who have settled here and “melted in” seem to have short memories. We ignore that most people do not leave their native land for adventure. War, poverty, hunger, gang violence and parents’ desire for their children to have a life without these scourges lead many people to leave the land and people they love. Immigrants also often leave their status and their professions behind. For example, a doctor arriving in the U.S. might find work in the medical field after training and a licensing process, but not as a medical doctor. If such a path is beyond their linguistic capability or financial means, lower paying jobs are the only hope for immigrants. Language barriers, cultural differences, illiteracy and lack of documentation compound the problem of finding work, assimilation and feeling safe.

Historically, our immigration laws have had a bias toward western Europeans. In 1790, Congress adopted rules that permitted only free white people the right to apply for citizenship after two years of residency. Eight years later,

provisions were made to expulse “dangerous” aliens. Many states with huge immigrant influxes passed their own laws but after the Civil War, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that immigration was a responsibility of the Federal Government. In 1882, the Chinese Exclusion Act suspended Chinese immigration for 10 years and barred Chinese in the U.S. from citizenship. In 1885, the Contract Labor Law made it unlawful to import unskilled aliens from overseas as laborers but the regulations did not pertain to aliens crossing land borders. Six years later, the Bureau of Immigration was established along with quotas for immigrants arriving from countries and health inspection of immigrants. Women traveling alone had to be met by a man or they faced immediate deportation. In 1903, anarchists, epileptics, polygamists, and beggars were barred from entry in the U.S. The Ellis Island of the West, Angel Island, was established to control the flow of the Chinese into the country who were officially unwelcome. In 1907, the U.S. agreed to eliminate the segregation of Japanese students in the San Francisco schools in return for Japan’s assurance to limit Japanese emigrants. The 1917 Immigration Act provided for literacy test for anyone over



April 16 Potluck:

We look forward to our potluck lunch every year.

It's a warm and gracious way to end our year! We hope all of our members will participate. If you haven't signed up yet, please call Bea Keller (919 929-4432—don't be afraid to leave a message) or e-mail me:

mikebeakeller@bellsouth.net. Don't forget, we will be in the Carolina Room at Carol Woods.

“Animal Welfare: Why It Matters”

Lisa Price and Suzanne Roy

April 16 Program at Carol Woods

For many of us, animals are a source of joy and wonderment be they domesticated or wild. In spite of this, we tend to forget that we too belong to the animal world and need to balance our needs with theirs. Even Abraham Lincoln weighed in on the matter: *I care not much for a man's religion whose dog and cat are not the better for it.*

We are proud to have two presenters for our April program who are very dedicated to the welfare of animals. Suzanne Roy is executive director of the American Wild Horse Preservation Campaign. Prior to entering the animal welfare field, Roy was a political consultant, working on a variety of campaigns from local state senate to congressional to presidential election bids. She grew up in New York and Pennsylvania, got her BS degree in biology from Boston College. During her 20+ year career in animal protection she has worked to improve the plight of elephants, chimpanzees, marine mammals and other ani-

mals both in captivity and in the wild. In the 1990's, she launched the fight to save America's Air Force Chimpanzees, an effort that ultimately led to the retirement of these deserving animals to a Florida sanctuary. An avid horse lover and mother of a horse-crazy daughter, she turned her attention to the fight to save America's wild horses and burros in 2009.

Lisa K. Price grew up near Alexandria, Virginia—her life reflects a tireless effort to improve our society in many important ways. She was an English major at Maryland's Goucher College and holds a MSW from Boston University School of Social Work. Lisa was very active in the civil rights movement as a college student and later worked in the “War on Poverty” to help people become self-sufficient. Other jobs included casework with foster children and teenage unmarried mothers, Head Start, and serving as administrative assistant to two Chapel Hill mayors. In 1993, she and two friends founded North

Carolinians Against Gun Violence, the first statewide gun violence prevention organization in NC. One of the few southern gun violence prevention groups, NCGV is active in NC and nationally. Lisa's volunteer activities have included the New Haven Board of Aldermen, Chapel Hill Public Library Board of Directors, NC Council of the Humane Society of the US, a local service dog organization, and AAUW-CH program committee. Lisa is married to David Price, a former Duke University professor of political science and public policy, now serving in his fourteenth term as congressman from North Carolina's 4th district. Lisa and David have traveled around the world with other Congressional families, working to strengthen democracies in emerging nations. Lisa and Suzanne met at the General Assembly while lobbying against puppy mills.

— Bea Keller

Presidents Message (continued from page 1)

16 and established an “Asiatic Barred Zone,” which barred all immigrants from Asia. 1924 marked the beginning of quotas—82% of all immigrants allowed in the country came from

western and northern Europe, 16% from southern and eastern Europe, 2% from the rest of the world. No distinctions were made between refugees and immigrants which limited Jewish

emigres during the 1930's and 1940's. The War Brides Act (1945) allowed my mother, along with many other European spouses, to come to the U.S. But Filipinos and Asian

Member of the Month: Nancy Shoemaker

North Carolina is the 10th state Nancy has lived in since she graduated from Swarthmore in 1971. She joined AAUW in 1994 in state #9 (Mississippi), and some of the first folks she met in NC in 1996 were the welcoming members of the AAUW Raleigh branch.

She started her professional life as a mathematician, but switched to computer support, running systems and doing training for research engineers, software developers, and private sector system administrators.

She was president of AAUW NC 2006-2008, and for more than 15 years has supported AAUW NC tech activities - the website, social media, and more. In 2008 she co-founded (with Chapel Hill branch member and for-

mer president Doris Bernlohr) the AAUW Tar Heel Branch (a statewide virtual branch), and she is in her second term as branch treasurer. She currently serves as AAUW NC web manager and College/University coordinator. Her work at the national level of AAUW includes time on the Program Development Committee, the Technology Usability Advisory Group, two Task Forces considering governance changes, and the Leadership Corps. Informally she is active in AAUW Facebook groups (the large one founded in 2007 and more recent ones dealing with Virtual Branches and Social Media), as well as the group, Open Up AAUW, that continues to advocate for dropping our degree requirement for membership.

She lives in Wake County with her husband Steve Davis and welcomed her mother to the county in July of 2014. (Ruth, a member of the Tar Heel branch, lives at Cambridge Village of Apex and has been cajoled into helping to proof read the Tar Heel News -- if you see an errant which/that, please let her know.)

She joined the branch as a show of support for the Chapel Hill leadership. While she is unlikely to attend many events, she hopes to be an informal resource to the branch and is glad to help any fellow branch member navigate the maze of AAUW issues and programs. Reach her at 919-819-2598, nancy.e.shoemaker@gmail.com

—Shirley Ahmed



Nancy Shoemaker

Induction of Officers

During the business portion of our April 16 meeting, we will induct Donna Wilson as our Program Vice-President for a second term. Donna has graciously offered to be in charge of planning our programs. During Donna's tenure, we have enjoyed an exceptional slate of programs all related to our

mission—thanks to her vision and efficacy, and her willingness to collaborate. We will also induct Mary Kolek as our recording secretary. Mary distills a great deal of information into a crystal clear *eau de vie* synthesis at each of our plenary meetings and at our board meetings. It takes exceptional

skill to listen and transcribe, leaving off the unnecessary but keeping the crucial parts. Both Donna and Mary contribute in many other ways to our organization--to our branch's great benefit.

— Bea Keller

Good Morning Book Club

Thursday, April 7 (10 a.m.) the Book Club will meet at Shirley Ahmed's home to discuss *The Rosie Project* by *Grame*

Simon.

dkoeberl@frontier.com

—Dona Koeberl



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, March 20, 2016

President Keller called the meeting to order at 10:30 by thanking Genoveva Aguirre, Mary Kolek and Margaret Herring for supplying refreshments for members and guests. She then reminded members of upcoming special events including both the NC State AAUW Meeting, which this year is being held in Chapel Hill at the Sheraton on April 1 and 2, and the upcoming Annual Literary Tea April 28, 2 PM at Extraordinary Ventures. Details about how to sign up were provided.

Bea introduced program committee member Lisa Price who kindly arranged for Duke Professor Dr. Frederick "Fritz" Mayer, to address the audience on the topic of The Pros and Cons of the TransPacific Pact: Effects of Trade Agreements. Dr. Mayer is affiliated with the Sanford School of Public Policy and has extensive leadership experience writing, brokering, interpreting and analyzing multinational and bilateral Trade Agreements. His area of research is the effects and impact of globalization on the economy and environment. Although Dr. Mayer warned the audience that the topic might prove "a bit dry", it is safe to say, based on audience reaction and feedback that everyone present was educated, enlightened and entertained throughout the entire course of his 75 minute presentation.

His clear and cogent slides provided the audience with a highly accessible introduction to the

key vocabulary, concepts, relationships and potential outcomes embedded in the TransPacific Pact (TPP). As good teachers often do, he lead with his summary point and over the course of the lecture proceeded to explain why, given his expertise and experience, he has arrived at the conclusion that with respect to the Pros and Cons of the TPP:

The truth lies somewhere in the middle- it is neither a panacea nor disaster. [Interestingly the public seems to understand this as political opinion polls favor free trade and are not reflected in the politics of the moment.]

After reviewing the following key points of the agreement:

- 12 nations are participants
- 40% of the world's GDP is covered by this group
- The agreement is 30 chapters long and includes a number of fine points but primarily focuses on reducing the tax on imports; has provisions on intellectual property rights; and speaks to procedures and safeguards in areas such as services, labor and the environment
- Approval falls under the trade promotion authority – it is governed by the "fast track rule" which precludes any amendments or filibustering by Congress.
- A 2 year implementation timeline is required

Dr. Mayer went on to provide an analysis of the perspective and claims of "Champions and Critics". As part of his conclusion, in a section entitled, *Who's Right*, he

offered the following general assessment about the effects of the Agreement:

- Economic Growth - small but positive in the aggregate (primarily because we already have trade agreements with large countries in the TPP)
- Overall impact across factors related to the agreement- small but positive.
- Jobs and Wages - small but positive growth when considered across the members involved in the TPP. Some loss of jobs in the US but might happen anyway with or without TPP.
- Workers' Rights- Better than no agreement (best can get now, won't make it worse).
- Environment- Same as above
- Investor Dispute Settlement - real but overstated concerns that privileges business over governments. The bottom line is that the Internal Revue Body has no jurisdiction over governments and
- Access to medicines- Imbalanced toward "Big Pharmaceuticals".

Circling back to his opening, Dr. Mayer underlined his opinion that both stances- Pro and Con- have legitimate concerns and neither is totally accurate in their claims and predictions: The TPP is "not black or white and not a boon or a disaster." He predicted that most people would, in the long run, barely notice the impact "when it is approved". His anticipation that the TPP would be approved was

March Minutes (continued from page 4)

offered with the caveat that any prediction about global trade agreements is, at this stage, particularly tentative given the very fluid national political situation as well as unpredictable global conditions.

During the final minutes of the presentation, Dr. Mayer offered some insights into the role the TPP plays in the arena of “popular politics”. He noted that despite a generally favorable perspective of the US public in recent polls, the issues being raised by politicians in connection with the TPP and agreements like it, are “hot buttons”, easily used to trigger people’s fears about the economy and environment. As such, he characterized the TPP as a “lightning rod” for the stress resulting from “the inequalities created by a changing world –

the economy and technology being 2 factors that were examined in more detail during the presentation.

The astute nature of the audience’s questions demonstrated the effectiveness of Dr. Mayer’s presentation and our member’s dedication to keeping up with world and national issues. Dr. Mayer closed with the optimistic observation that over time, as a nation, “once we have identified a problem and given it a name, we have been able to successfully tackle it”. Knowing that experts such as Dr. Mayer continue to research these issues and are available to educate future leaders and guide our elected decision makers allows us all to share in his optimism.

After Lisa Price thanked Dr. Mayer and provided him with a small token of thanks, President Keller introduced Donna Wilson who

reviewed upcoming programs including April’s focus on Animal Rights. The meeting will be held on April 16 at Carol Woods and will be followed by a pot luck luncheon. Elections will also be held: the slate reflects the commitment of current officers to continue in their respective rolls.

The Book Club is meeting at Shirley Ahmed’s home on April 7 and will discuss *The Rosie Project*.

A second reminder about the April 1-2 State Meeting and the April 12, Tea and scholarship fund raiser was provided.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55.

— Mary Kolek, Recording Secretary

Treasurer’s Report

2-16-16

Account Balances:

Checking: \$1,601.97

Money Market

Savings: \$1,504.29

C.D.: \$6,053.68

— Karen Piplani,

Treasurer

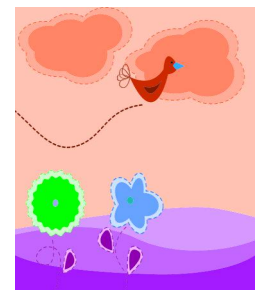
Presidents Message (continued from page 2)

Indian spouses had to wait until 1946 to enter the U.S. Japanese and Korean spouses were denied entry until 1947. In 1965, the Hart-Cellar Act abolished national origins quotas and established ceilings for the eastern and western hemispheres. Entry preference was based on family ties, critical skills, artistic excellence and refugee status. Since then, refugees have been removed as a preference category, and in 1990, unskilled workers were limited to 10,000 a year. The 2001 U.S.A. Patriot Act specifi-

cally denies entry to aliens tied to subversive or terrorist groups.

In 2013, alien groups entering the country were as follows: Asians (400,548), followed closely by people from the Americas (396,605), Africa (98,304), and Europe (85,556). These numbers do not include undocumented aliens. This very limited history shows clearly that our policies toward immigration have always been fraught with prejudice and fear. My personal hope is an immigration policy that springs from an appreciation of all people and cultures, and the knowledge that

our country is enriched by their contributions no matter their wealth or station. As the Dalai Lama has said, “Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them humanity cannot survive.” (My sources include: *Flow of History*, Southeast Vermont Community Learning Cooperative, U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security (History Section), Office of Immigration Statistics).



AAUW Tea Stephanie Elizondo Griest Thursday, April 28 2p.m.–4p.m. at Extraordinary Ventures

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, 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.

AAUW-Chapel Hill is again sponsoring a tea to raise money for fellowships/ scholarships that AAUW-National gives ONLY to women in the US and all over the world. I hope all of you will once again help to make this a success. Tickets are only \$20 each. So buy one, buy two, buy eight! We will have round tables of 8, so if you sell 6-8 tickets for a group, we will reserve a table for you. All the food, coffee and tea will be served buffet style, so you can go back as often as you want.

We will need donations of food from our members to cut down on costs. If you want to donate some food, I would suggest some of the following: finger sandwiches, mini cupcakes, cut-up fruit, bite-sized brownies or cookies, candies, nuts, cheese and crackers or any other wonderful ideas you may have. Please call or email Bea Keller (mikebeakeller@bellsouth.net) or Karen Piplani.

If you need tickets to sell, please call Karen Piplani, 919- 929-6553. Or we can reserve them at the

front table. Or you can come to our next meeting, April 16 (11 days before the tea) to buy more tickets. Checks should be made payable to AAUW-CH. Please make sure to note the names of people who are buying tickets so we can make a name tag for them.

Last year we gave \$1,500 to AAUW-National. Let’s see if we can match the \$1,500. Donations will also be graciously accepted if you cannot attend.

— Kay White

You Don’t Have to Be a Scientist...

...in order to support the AAUW STEM mission! The National Conference for Graduate Women in Science (GWIS) is being hosted this year by the Rho Tau Chapter in Raleigh on Saturday, June 25th. The theme, “Educating Scientists for Effective Science Outreach,” focuses on **communicating** science to people of all ages. Besides financial donations, the organizing committee (an amazing group of dynamic and talented young women) needs volunteers to help with logistics and program support. Needed are people to:

1. Help with registration and other conference logistics – either for a few hours or all day

2. Serve as timekeepers for presentations

3. Serve as judges for the poster session where young women will be presenting their work – it is not the science that will be judged, but how successfully the presenter has **communicated** her science

4. Donate items for a silent auction that will be held at the banquet on Saturday night. Donations should not be the white elephant in your attic (!), but could be anything from tickets to a local event to jewelry to gift baskets (e.g., of coffee and tea, books, chocolates), art or craft items, especially with a science theme (birds, animals, rocks, etc.)

NOTE: many of the banquet attendees will be from out of

town, so items that can easily be taken on a flight would be appreciated. Even if you can’t attend the conference, this is a great way to help.

5. Provide transportation for out-of-town attendees. Since the conference is being held in several different places near NCSU, there will be a need to transport people from the morning venue to the afternoon and evening venues.

The website for the event is: <http://www.rhotaugwis.org/gwis-national-meeting/>. If you are interested in helping in any way, please let me know (pamvictor1@att.net). And please consider attending the conference yourself!

— Pam Stephens



AAUW-CH
Annual Literary Tea
Thursday, Apr. 28 2-4 p.m.
Extraordinary Ventures,
200 S. Elliott Rd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Featuring

Stephanie Elizondo Griest

A globe-trotting author from South Texas, her books include the award-winning memoirs: *Around the Bloc: My Life in Moscow, Beijing, and Havana*; *Mexican Enough: My Live Between the Border-lines*; *100 Places Every Woman Should Go*; *All the Agents & Saints: Dispatches from the U.S. Borderlands* (forthcoming UNC Press 2017)



ALL PROFITS GO TO: AAUW'S EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY FUND WHICH SUPPORTS FEMALE GRAD STUDENTS IN THE US AND AROUND THE WORLD. Questions? chapelhillncaauw@gmail.com (919) 929-4432

Name _____

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

Telephone: _____

Name of guests: _____

Make checks payable to AAUW-Chapel Hill.

Send to Karen Piplani, 1502 Halifax Rd., Chapel Hill, NC 27514-2728, (919) 929-6553