



American Association of University Women

September 2014

AAUW-Chapel Hill

From the President: Bea Keller

In January 2013, two female students, Andrea Pino and Annie Clark, and three others, filed a 34-page complaint against the University of North Carolina with the United States Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights. Pino and Clark organized the complaint, but Pino asserted in an e-mail that the contributions of the other three women were essential. The five plaintiffs had been sexually assaulted and had asked for protection and support on numerous occasions from University administrators. UNC administrators had responded repeatedly to the plaintiffs that their policies were in compliance. Fifteen months after the complaint was filed, UNC-CH formed a 21-member task force of administrators, faculty, staff and students led by former Philadelphia sex crimes prosecutor Gina Smith. "By filing a com-

plaint, we created a conversation that never would've happened," said Andrea Pino. (News and Observer, Jane Stan- cil).

The complaint (as well as others made against other universities) garnered a great deal of publicity, and eventually brought the issue of sexual assault on campus into the political arena. Pino and Clark were primary organizers of an underground national network of activists (IX Network) and with others, helped organize a website, *End Rape On Campus* (endrapeoncampus.org), which advises collegiate women on how to file complaints against their institution. Using these two avenues, the two young women began assisting others in Filing Title IX and Clery Act complaints. The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and

Campus Crime Statistics Act is the landmark federal law that requires colleges and universities across the U.S. to: 1.) publish an annual security Report by October 1, 2.) to have a public crime log, 3.) to disclose crime statistics for incidents in seven major categories that occur on campus, in unobstructed public areas immediately adjacent to or running through the campus and at certain non-campus facilities.

In March, 2014, Pino and Clark visited Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, a sponsor of earlier legislation dealing with the military's handling of sexual assaults in its ranks, to breathe more fire into their campaign of awareness. Started by the efforts of activist college women, the problem came to the forefront and a bipartisan group of senators introduced a bill on July 30, 2014, aimed at addressing the rampant

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“Women as Political Actors” with Professor Tolleson–Rinehart

Dr. Sue Tolleson-Rinehart is a feminist and gender politics scholar who has always seen women’s education as critical to their political development. Before she commenced her current responsibilities on the health affairs

side of campus, she published books and articles in gender politics, including *Gender Consciousness and Politics* (Routledge; 1992), and *Claytie and the Lady: Ann Richards, Gender, and Politics in Texas* (University of Texas Press, 1994; with Jeanie R. Stanley). With Jyl Josephson, she has co-edited two editions of *Gender and American Politics* (M.E. Sharpe, 2001; 2005).

September 20 – Sue Tolleson-Reinhart, “Women As Political Actors”

Dr. Tolleson-Rinehart is the Assistant Chair for Faculty Development in the Department of Pediatrics in the School of Medicine at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the Associate

Director of the MD-MPH program, a joint effort of the School of Medicine and the Gillings School of Global Public Health, a senior Research Navigator in the North Carolina TraCS Institute (UNC’s CTSA), and the President-elect of the Academy of Educators of the UNC School of Medicine. Most of her current research activity is on biomedical and health policy questions, especially on

patient-reported outcomes measurement and health reform. She is the founder and a former president of the Health Politics and Policy Section of the American Political Science Association.

We are so happy that she will be sharing research on women voters and women in politics. We are fortunate she has agreed to speak because she literally wrote the book on Gender and Politics. Please join us September 20 at the Seymour Center in the Dogwood room for this wonderful talk.

– Michele Hoyman, program committee member

Book Club will meet September 4, 10 a.m. at the home of Dona Koeberl, 2749 McDowell Road, Durham, NC 27705, 919-403-6643. We will discuss the novel *Butterfly's Child* by Angela Davis-Gardner.

We extend a warm welcome to our new members!

Jennifer Redmon graduated from University of California, Davis, 2005, with a B.A. in Art History, and Economics. She completed her graduate studies at Duke University this year with an MBA. Congratulations, Jennifer!

Alice Bordsen earned her B.A. in History and then her M.S. in Library Science at UNC-CH. She then went on to become a lawyer after completing her J.D. at NCCU.

Elaine Herndon graduated from Duke University with a B.A. degree. She taught elementary school in Newton, Mass., as well as in the Durham Public Schools. She earned a Master’s degree from UNC-CH in The Teaching of Reading. She was a Reading Resource teacher in the Chapel Hill Public Schools until her retirement in 2001. She comments that seeing the excitement in a child’s eyes as

s/he learns to read and write is amazingly rewarding.

Forty three members have renewed their membership and we have two new members. If you have not renewed, please consider this is a friendly reminder to send in your dues or bring them to our first meeting.

– Genoveva Aguirre

Member of the Month – Alice Parsons

Eight times a year, Alice Parsons sends out a newsletter that is so well done and beautiful that, in addition to being informed, we are treated to a visual feast. As you read on, you'll see that this talent is one of many. This skill was developed while at the University of California at Irvine, where she designed and produced flyers, as well as advertising brochures.



Alice grew up in High Point, NC, in an old house on Main Street, part of which was put together with wooden nails. Her grandfather owned a furniture factory which provided Alice and her 3 sisters with wooden blocks, left-over from the furniture manufacturing. All four girls, raised by their admirable single mother, earned college degrees and had successful careers.

After getting her music education degree at High Point University, Alice taught violin, viola, cello, and bass in the public schools in and around High Point. Alice has played the violin since elementary school, but

her deepest love has always been vocal music. After teaching, she switched to Social Work and began graduate studies toward a Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling at UNC-CH. She then met and married husband George and their traveling life began. They were stationed in Germany for two years and subsequently lived in many states. Wherever she settled, Alice sang in vocal groups.

Alice and George raised one daughter, Rachel, who, after graduating from UC Irvine, has opened two bakeries in Irvine and is planning to open a third one soon. Rachel and her husband have four children, one of whom is starting her second year at West Point.

Prior to her retirement, Alice was Programs Manager at UC Irvine for 20 years. She managed a staff of 30 UCI students, and helped them achieve their goals. She also assisted and organized Commencement Ceremonies, and negotiated, coordinated and publicized special lectures as well as internal University events. Some of the notables included Maya Angelou, Magic Johnson, Amy Tan, Spike Lee, Kurt Vonnegut, Richard Leakey, William F. Buckley, Jr., and the Capitol Steps. What an impressive and

eclectic group! She managed the Cultural Events Series, which included performances by Ballet Folklorico, American Indian Dance Theatre, Joe Goode Performance Group, and Marcus Roberts, pianist, among others.

In addition, Alice has an impressive community service record and continues to add to it. She was on the board of the Newport Theatre Arts Center and produced plays. She was a member of the Chorale at Concordia University for more than eight years, and sang in many performances. She developed, organized, and publicized a successful writers' series for AAUW. She is currently co-chair of the Fearington Concert Series, a member of the Fearington Village Singers, as well as a member of her church choir. She is president of the board of the Shared Learning Association of Chapel Hill, a voluntary organization of people who wish to continue learning by attending classes designed and conducted by fellow members. She practices Tai Chi, plays duplicate bridge, and Mah Jongg. Alice, we need to know your secret source of energy!! When asked about future plans, Alice says simply that she wants to stay active and involved. It is excellent advice for all of us!

— Bea Keller

Upcoming Programs for 2014-15

October 18 – Janet Hoy, “North Carolina-Take the Money”. The real facts about Medicaid Expansion in North Carolina.

November 15 – Dr. Bill Rohe, UNC, “Research Triangle Park: Then and Now”

December 6 – Ratma Swaminathan and Shayela Suvarna “A Conversation on Women in India”

January Date 2, 2-4 p.m. – Panel:

Women in the Clergy. Speakers: Emma Akpan, Jen Feldman, Susannah Smith.

February 21 -AAUW Research Fellows in the Triangle. Our branch will host 2-3 Research Fellows who are studying at nearby universities. Speakers TBA at a later date.

March 21 – Dr. Erika Wise, “Global Warming: Impact on the Carolinas”

April 18 – Emily Kass and Meg

McGurk, “Downtown as a Cultural Arts District.”

– Donna Wilson Vice President for Programming

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..

Presidents Message (continued)

problem of sexual assault on college campuses. Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-Mo), one of the bill’s sponsors, released the results of a survey that showed that more than 40 percent of the schools had not conducted a sexual assault investigation over the last five years, and that 33 percent provided no training to students. (Washington Post Blogs, She-the-People) Among the bill’s provisions are more training for personnel at colleges and universities, new campus resources and support services for student survivors, enforceable Title IX penalties and stiffer penalties for Clery Act violations. Under the bill, a nationwide survey of college students about their experiences of sexual assault would be required, and a uniform process would be created for reporting and investigative procedures. “It creates a system where there is no special preference because somebody

can dunk a basketball or throw a ball 80 yards down the field,” said Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla). While I confess to some skepticism about Sen. Rubio’s hope, it may spark a change in campus culture.

The courage and resourcefulness of these two women have publicized a problem on university campuses that has existed for decades. Less than two years after they filed their complaint and were joined by a national chorus of voices – women who had undergone similar experiences – the White House released guidelines aimed at increasing pressure on universities to more aggressively combat sexual assaults on campus. The government will also open a website, NotAlone.gov, to track enforcement and provide victims with information. (NY Times, Jennifer Seinhauer) At UNC-CH, Gina Smith said that just meeting standards is not enough. “Compliance is the floor,”

she said. “We want the well-being of our students to be – the sky is the limit.” (N&O, Jane Stancill)

To help campus organizations and administrators, AAUW has assembled an *Ending Campus Sexual Assault Tool Kit*. I urge those of you who have access to a computer, especially if you are affiliated with a campus, to peruse the information. Sexual assaults beget victims. As individuals, we need to know how to help them and ensure that our laws and institutions protect them.

I look forward to seeing each one of you at our **Saturday, September 20 meeting in the Dogwood Room (downstairs) at the Seymour Senior Center at 10 a.m.** We will open our next year’s programs with Sue Tolleson-Reinhart, a professor with a broad academic background and an interesting perspective.

– Bea Keller

In Memoriam: Jean Hungerford Joseph, 1921–2014

We wanted to feature Jean Joseph in a Member of the Month article last year, but Jean declined, saying modestly that she hadn't done much. Her obituary, written by her daughter Deborah, with help from Jean's husband, Ken, and grandson Ben, tells of a life filled with accomplishments and adventure. Jean was a Smith College graduate, worked briefly for Encyclopedia Britannica in the Library of Congress, and then joined OSS, working in Washington and London. After returning to Washington, DC, she met her future husband, Ken. They married, and loving the political and cultural atmosphere of Washing-

ton, they continued to live there off and on for 25 years. Jean worked for Rand Corporation as a researcher for three years. An opportunity for Ken to work in Germany sparked a lifelong love of traveling. After Jean's daughters grew up, Jean worked actively on voter registration and education with the League of Women's Voters. She returned to graduate school to earn a Master's degree in Library Science, and worked as a reference librarian with the Fairfax County Libraries. Upon her retirement, she and Ken moved to the Outer Banks of NC, and enjoyed dozens of Elder Hostel's tours throughout Europe,

Australia, and New Zealand. Ken built a 35-foot sailboat which they sailed in the Caribbean. In their small RV, they toured the National Parks of the west. In 2000, Jean and Ken moved to CW retirement community in Chapel Hill where Jean helped out in the library and with the summer camp for children with special needs. She continued her association with the League and AAUW. She was predeceased by her daughter Martha.

– Bea Keller

October 18 – Janet Hoy, "North Carolina-Take the Money". The real facts about Medicaid Expansion in North Carolina.

Treasurer's Report, August 21, 2014

We have donated \$25 to the Anne Chipley Education Opportunity Fund in memory of long-time member Jean Joseph, who died this year. She was an amazing lady and will be sorely missed.

The following Budget for next year has been approved by the Board:

President's Expenses - \$100; Programs - \$50; Membership - \$50; Recording Secretary - \$5; Corresponding Secretary - \$5; Treasurer - \$50; Meeting Room - \$240; Newsletter - \$50; Yearbook - \$35; Website - \$120; Legal Action Fund - \$100; Memorials - \$50. **Total = \$880**

Our income is \$10 from each mem-

ber's dues, and periodic donations from members for specific branch activities. We are fortunate that many officers do not request that their expenses be reimbursed. In effect, they are donating those costs to the branch. This is wonderful, but we want to ensure that we will have sufficient funds to reimburse for all of our costs. We currently have 55 members, but many have not yet renewed for the coming year. For folks who have not yet renewed their memberships, we urge you to do so.

Current Account Balances:

Checking account: \$1962.69 (Of that

amount, \$500 is earmarked for expenses for our Spring Tea Money raising event.)

Money Market Savings Account: \$1504.06

CD: \$6,434.35 (Earmarked for our \$1500 annual obligation to the Schwenning Fund at UNC if we are unable to cover)

Karen Piplani, Treasurer
