

AAUW-Orange, Durham, Chatham Branch

From the President: Bea Keller

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the President	1
Fellows Meeting	2
Save the Dates	
Public Policy	3
Treasurer's Report	
Fundraiser, Hal Crowther	
November Minutes	4
Thank You	
Annual Literary Event	5



We are one month into 2019. Despite its unsettling political start, I hope all of you and your families are faring well.

AAUW-ODC is pleased to announce a new Public Policy Chair, Elizabeth Leone. Elizabeth will take over this very important work in this issue of the newsletter. Elizabeth continues her work as a consultant to educational institutions and has a long and distinguished career in education which encompasses every level—elementary to graduate studies. She has experience in training, mentoring, and coaching in Collaborative and Team Learning, Consensus Decision Making, and Adult Learning Models in her most recent professional work. We encourage you to read her article.

We have three interesting programs coming up in 2019. Please note the dates and times in the side column Save the Date and Donna Wilson's announcement concerning our next meeting which will feature one of our AAUW fellowship recipients. The newsletter also includes

an update on our April 23 fundraiser. Invite friends and neighbors to our programs as our aim is to educate and spread the word about these community programs and issues.

AAUW-ODC member Gloria Thomas, Director of the Carolina Women's Center, graced the January 8, 2019 cover of the Daily Tar Heel owing to her work to secure a National Science Foundation ADVANCE grant "to encourage women and women of color to succeed in STEM fields." (DTH) Gloria wrote in the CWC Winter 2018 Newsletter that the grant "will focus on implementing and evaluating effective mentoring models in STEM. As a partner on this 3-year grant project located in the Center for Faculty Excellence, CWC will assist in program development for the faculty mentors and mentees." AAUW-ODC worked with Gloria and her team on the first Gender & ... programs (a Carolina Seminar Series) in October for Gender & Politics, a very successful program attended by 100 students. One of our members, Sally Greene, was a panelist. And while you are on the

computer, check out the CWC website, in particular <https://womenscenter.unc.edu/news/> --interesting facts of herstory.

And finally, the US Supreme Court will hear the case Common Cause v Rucho which concerns redistricting NC's Congressional Districts. Also, a three judge panel made up of NC judges will hear Common Cause v Lewis in the next few months. This case deals with redistricting NC's legislative districts. So, stay tuned!

I hope all of you will come meet our AAUW fellow at our next meeting February 16 at 10:30 at the Chapel Hill Public Library.

AAUW Fellows Meeting, February 16, 2019. Chapel Hill Library, Room A, 10:30 AM (Social Meet and Greet); 11:00 AM (Meeting Begins) Empowering Women's Voices: Advocacy, Accessibility and Accountability

Save the Date!

Saturday, March 16,
10:30 a.m., Durham
Public Library,
Southwestern Branch,
3605 Shannon Rd,
Durham, 27707: Mental
Health Resources in Our
Area

Saturday, April 13, 10:30
a.m., Durham Public
Library, Southwestern
Branch, 3605 Shannon
Rd, Durham: Balancing
Family Life in Our
Digitalized World
presented by Dr.
Kathleen Clarke-Pearson

Tuesday, April 23, 5:30
p.m.-7:30 p.m., our
annual fundraiser at
Extraordinary Ventures,
200 S. Elliott Rd., Chapel
Hill, featuring hors
d'oeuvres and author
Hal Crowther

One of the highlights for AAUW -ODC schedule of speakers and topics is the annual Fellows Meeting for all members to meet Triangle area grant recipients, and learn about their research, community outreach and leadership.

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) announced awards of \$3.9 million to its 2018–19 class of fellows and grantees. These 250 recipients represent diverse backgrounds, locations, and areas of study but have one thing in common: They all aim to promote equity for women and girls.

AAUW is one of the world's oldest leading supporters of graduate women's education, having awarded more than \$115 million in fellowships, grants, and awards to 13,000 women and projects from more than 145 countries since 1888. Candidates are evaluated on the basis of scholarly excellence, quality and originality of project design, and active commitment to helping women and girls through service

in their communities, professions, or fields of research.

The State of North Carolina was well represented during the 2018-2019 award year, in which nine (9) women were honored with fellowships and grants. This year, our branch is honored to host:

Ms. Sarajaneé Davis, Ph.D. candidate at The Ohio State University in Columbus. She is the recipient of the AAUW American Dissertation Fellowship. Ms. Davis' background includes experience at Miami Dade County Schools, Durham Literacy Center, and the National Civil Rights Museum where she has taught general education curriculum in reading, mathematics and social studies. As a graduate Teaching Assistant at The Ohio State University, she has aligned her dissertation research and background in modern U. S. history, Black Wom-

en's history and African American studies to her undergraduate teaching assignments in global history, African American history and the U.S. Constitution. Ms. Davis has also authored research articles in national juried publications to include: [50 Events that Shaped Latino History: An Encyclopedia of the American Mosaic, Bustle and Origins](#). Please join us on Saturday, February 16th for an engaging presentation from Ms. Sarajaneé Davis, who is one of many nationwide educational leaders making a difference in our world through advocacy, connections and inspiration.

Dr. Donna M. Wilson,
Vice President, College &
University Partnerships

Public Policy, Elizabeth Leone, Public Policy Chair

A while ago I clicked on a link about women in science and met Cecilia Payne-Gasposchkin, who discovered the makeup of the universe and the sun and in 1925 wrote what astronomer Otto Struve called “the most brilliant PhD thesis ever written in astronomy” although she was discouraged from including some of her most significant findings. I was intrigued by Cecilia’s journey. After winning a scholarship to Cambridge and being denied a degree because of her gender, she left the U.K. for the US where she earned a PhD in physics from Harvard. Advancement to professor was not open to women in the 30’s but she stayed at Harvard in lesser positions while writing several books that revolutionized astrophysics.[1] Her work is equivalent in its significance to the work of Einstein, Newton and even Copernicus but her name is not generally recognizable. She did make professor (and department chair) before she died.

If you are thinking “We’ve come a long way, Baby”, think again.

An updated 2018 analysis of the 2004 study, Still A Man’s Labor Market: The Slowly Narrowing Gender Wage Gap by Stephen Rose, PhD., and Heidi I. Hartmann, PhD. lwpr@iwpr.org yields some discouraging results. This study measured the different labor force experiences of women and men across a 15-year time period

and showed that only 28 percent of women and 59 percent of men actually worked persistently full-time, year-round between 2001 and 2015. This analysis reveals a truer picture showing how common it is for women to be out of work for a year and how that impacts their earnings.

The commonly used figure describing the gender wage ratio that a woman earns 80 cents for every dollar earned by a man leaves out the factors that influence women’s weaker labor force attachment. **Women today earn just 49 cents to the typical men’s dollar, much less than the 80 cents usually reported.**

This study reveals that this is caused by the fact that women take time out to bear children, raise children, take care of aging parents or take part-time work based on family responsibilities. The penalties of taking even one year off can result in a 12 percent cut in earnings! Those women who worked for 15 years without taking time off had earnings 39 percent higher than women who took time off. While one’s knee-jerk reaction to the wage disparity between women and men is to claim discrimination, this study points to things that are more concrete – instituting policies such as paid family leave, affordable or on-site childcare, and policies that recognize the legitimacy of caring for parents who are living longer and may need occasional support. The US lags far behind comparably wealthy nations in providing public policies that

impact women’s labor force participation.

Finally, this study concluded that **strengthening enforcement of equal opportunity policies and Title IX in education is also crucial to narrowing the gender wage gap further.**

Discrimination abounds in many arenas. An article in INC (June 15, 2018) by Shiela Herrling noted that less than 10 percent of venture-backed companies have a female founder even though women are the fastest growing group of entrepreneurs. Reflect on this: when pitches are made to venture investors, men are asked “promotion-oriented questions” and women are asked “prevention-oriented questions”. Hmmm.

Two glimmers of hope. One, the mid-term elections brought a diverse and determined group of women to Congress with all kinds of amazing experience and success behind them. And two, Christine Lagarde, Managing Director and Chair of the International Monetary Fund who is a strong outspoken advocate of women representation in corporate and government. In a recent Firing Line interview on PBS she indicated that 90 percent of countries have barriers to women in financial leadership roles. Some are cultural or religious and resistant to gender parity but she is committed to changing that by demonstrating that equality results in higher GDP’s for those countries that make the necessary changes even if it means using quotas at first.

Financial Report 10/282018

Account Balances:

Checking: \$ 1,481.72

MM Checking:
\$1,005.35

CD: \$4,993.90

Karen Piplani, Treasurer

April 23 Fundraiser features Hal Crowther

Hal Crowther, journalist and essayist, will be our speaker at Extraordinary Ventures. After hearing many people say, “I would love to come but I have to work,” we have changed the hours to early evening hours. We will start at 5:30 and end at 7:30. It should still be light at that time. We will still serve finger food and non-alcoholic drinks. We have decided to go up on the price as rental fees and other costs have gone up as well. The price will be \$25 a ticket. **All** the profits of this event provide funds for scholarships for women. Please come and bring friends.

OCD AAUW General Meeting Minutes, November 17, 2018

**Dear AAUW-ODC
Counties Members,**

**I want to express my
gratitude for your
support as I worked
to complete my PhD.**

**I am so grateful for
the financial support
from AAUW and the
encouragement from
local chapter mem-
bers during the 2017-
2018 school year. I
truly appreciate all
the work AAUW
does on a national
and local to support
women seeking high-
er education and ca-
reer advancement.
Thanks for all the
work you do.**

**Sincerely, Dr. Cora J.
Person**



The meeting began with our president Bea Keller, welcoming everyone. She announced that we were collecting donations for our Schwenning Scholarship and that there were flyers with the information featuring last year's scholar, Gale Greenlee. Gale Greenlee has finished her PhD--her experience, research and interests focus on Black and Latina Literature and Culture. She has published or presented on power and privilege and global perspectives.

This month we met at Haven Medical, (121 S. Estes, Unit 205, which is free) because the library was unavailable.

She introduced our speaker, Dr. Allan Freyer who spoke on "Poverty in North Carolina: How the Working Poor Live." He is from the NC Justice Center, and has worked on economic development, immigrant rights, and working conditions.

Dr. Freyer described conditions in the Triangle for working people and said that people are falling behind economically, despite the "golden age of corporate profits." Wages

have stayed the same, but the cost of living has gone up. One in seven people in NC live in poverty; one in 5 children live in poverty. Women are 20% more likely to experience poverty than men, and women of color are 50% more likely to experience poverty than white women.

Increased productivity does not equal increased wages. In NC, there has been a decrease in manufacturing jobs and suppression of union activity. In addition, corporations use profits to buy back their stock and to pay exorbitant salary and bonuses to their CEO's.

He led us in a Living Wage experiment during which we got in to small groups and filled out a chart with our estimates of how much it costs to live in Chapel Hill and Carrboro. In other words, what we thought the minimum rent, food, childcare, healthcare and transportation would be per month. Most people totaled around \$2800/month. Then he gave us a total of \$1160/month, which is what

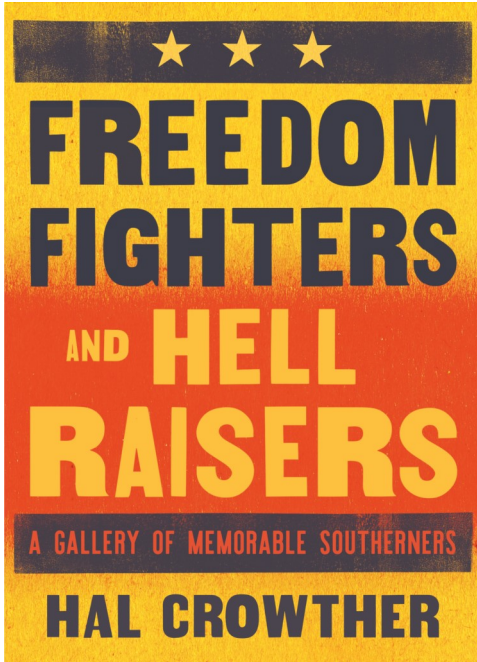
we would earn if we were paid minimum wage. The results were very discouraging. Most people had to give up healthcare, transportation, slashed childcare expenses.

He recommended that we advocate for a living wage. Everyone learned a lot and enjoyed this program. Our next meeting will be February 16, 10:30 a.m. at the Chapel Hill Public Library.

Respectfully Submitted,
Margaret Herring
Secretary

Questions about our programs and locations? Check <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.

February 2019



AAUW-ODC

Annual Literary Event

Tuesday, Apr. 23 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Extraordinary Ventures, 200 S. Elliott Rd.

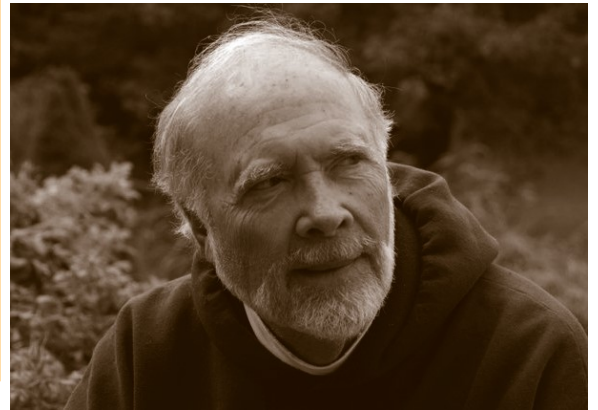
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

HAL CROWTHER

AWARD WINNING ESSAYIST , CRITIC,
JOURNALIST

PUBLISHED WORKS

- *Freedom Fighters and Hell Raisers: A Gallery of Memorable Southerners* (2018)
- *An Infuriating American: The Incendiary Arts of H. L. Mencken* (2014)
- *Gather at the River: Notes From the Post Millennial South* (2005)
- *Cathedrals of Kudzu: A Personal Landscape of the South* (2002)
- *Unarmed but Dangerous: A Withering Attack on All Things Phony, Foolish, and Fundamentally Wrong With America Today* (1995)



ALL PROFITS GO TO: AAUW'S EDUCATION FUND WHICH SUPPORTS FEMALE GRAD STUDENTS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR WOMEN Questions? kellermarieb@gmail.com (919) 929-4432

Name _____

No. of tickets @ \$25 _____ Send tickets ___ Will pick up at event ___ (v one)

Telephone: _____

Name of guests: _____

Make checks payable to: AAUW-Chapel Hill

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