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Orange, Durham, Chatham
Counties (NC) Branch

President's Message



Let me brag on **Jan Holland**, our Membership VP a moment: Our branch experienced a **35%** increase in membership over 3 years. Sadly, most branches in our state experienced decline. Membership counts. Find out what's behind the numbers.

[Read More](#)



Primary Election May 17th

There are serious repercussions to voter apathy; Durham School Board is exhibit A. The primary is the election with all 5 seats up for grabs. An organized partisan effort in a designated nonpartisan race has more to do with hardcore political opportunity than it does with the campaign slogan: "Better Board, Better Schools."

Pay attention to where you pay attention.

To see your specific sample ballot, use the State Voter Lookup Tool: <https://vt.ncsbe.gov/RegLkup/>. Research the candidates in every race. Help get out the vote in your neighborhood. Knock on doors. Vote!

To learn more about the Durham School Board race, [read this article in NC Policy Watch](#).



Time to Renew

AAUW dues: \$88 (\$67 National, \$11 NC, \$10 Branch). AAUW-ODC, PO Box 9303, Chapel Hill, NC 27515.

[Learn More](#)

Tired of Zoom?

Decisions depend upon library policy, space availability as well as scheduling and travel considerations for guest speakers. The Chapel Hill Public Library plans to have new reservation software operational by the end of June. Policy allows a 90-day booking window. Competition for September dates will be fierce. We're trying hard to bring back AAUW in-person gatherings.

Volunteers are using their time behind the scenes this spring to bring us a great line up of programs next year. Please don't use Zoom fatigue as a reason to let your AAUW membership lapse. Stay active and stay tuned!

[Historic Stagville - IN PERSON - Guided Tour](#)

Durham | Saturday, May 21 | 10AM - 11:30AM

"An enslaved woman tried to set fire to one of the property's homes. It was filled with members of the Cameron family. She laid the fire starter on an oak board, hoping for a quick blaze." (Source: diaries and oral histories)

White plantation owners documented their history and dominated the narrative of slavery in America through letters and land deeds. But below the surface of Stagville's paper trail lay the fingerprints of a larger story — one of horror, resistance, and sacrifice. **Tour for AAUW members and friends. FREE.**

Sign Up



Welcome to **Cheryl Chandler**. She recently rejoined the branch. Cheryl would like to start a **bridge player** interest group: "I would love to find someone interested in attending The Bridge Academy when it starts back in person." [EMAIL to connect.](#)



Congratulations to NCCU scholarship recipients: **Dakeisa Parker** (MA, Public Administration), and **Kyra Glover** (MA, School Counseling). NCCU used federal covid relief funds for scholarships last academic year so AAUW-ODC approved two (2) \$1500 scholarships this academic year when NCCU contacted us to inform us of 2 qualified candidates with demonstrated financial need. **Your generous support of AAUW-ODC scholarships made this possible. Thank you!**



The cost of a college education has risen over 100% in the last 30 years while the average income's risen only 14%.

Women bear most of this financial burden, as they hold 2/3 of national student debt and earn only 83% of what men do.



Did you know ...

You can set up **automatic monthly credit card contributions to our LOCAL branch scholarships**. It's a budget-friendly way to donate without having to give it another thought. **BONUS:** You'll be recognized as a sustainer. We'll add your name to the birthday cards we send to members. Our secure PayPal page makes it easy and safe to become a birthday dollars sustainer today.

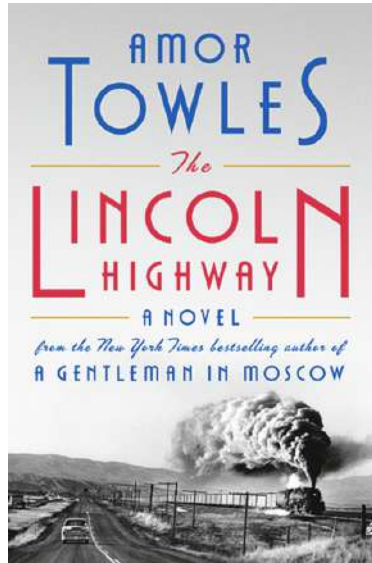
[Give Now](#)



Birthday Dollars seed AAUW-ODC scholarship funds established at UNC-CH, NCCU, Durham Tech, and Central Carolina Community College. Fellow members, friends and family may donate in your honor. AAUW-ODC Board sends monthly birthday e-cards. No obligation to donate. Let's celebrate birthdays. Let's put "fun" in meeting our annual \$5K fundraising goal.

Add Your Day/Mo.

May birthdays: Donna Mergliano and Sandra Pickering. [View the list.](#)



Book Club

Meets via Zoom on **May 19, 11AM**. Please ask **Mary Kolek** for the link with subject line: AAUW Book Club.

Request Link

AAUW Social Justice Webinar

THURSDAY | MAY 26 | 7PM



Social justice is at the core of what AAUW does every day. Whether at the national, state, or local level, AAUW staff, volunteers and members work incredibly hard to help share a more equitable world. What does it mean to support social justice and how is that different (or the same) as racial justice, economic justice, and the other core issues that AAUW works on? Please join us for a discussion of social justice and what it truly means to be a part of AAUW's impact.

Register Now

Title IX



Title IX **turns 50** on **June 23rd**. AAUW supports federal legislation that strengthens students' civil rights protections and Title IX enforcement, including comprehensive training and support for Title IX coordinators.

[Learn More](#)

Fun Fact:

In 1927 the Chapel Hill branch of AAUW would become one of eight charter members of the North Carolina State Division. The members agreed that the first goal should be 'to do something for the women students of the university.' Accordingly, they sought a physical education instructor for the women students and asked the architect to plan a basement room for physical exercise in new Women's Building.



While we have many voices, all AAUW members share a commitment to advancing gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. More than ever, we must embrace our values and continue to strive towards **diversity, equity and inclusion**; it's a journey that will never end.



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