

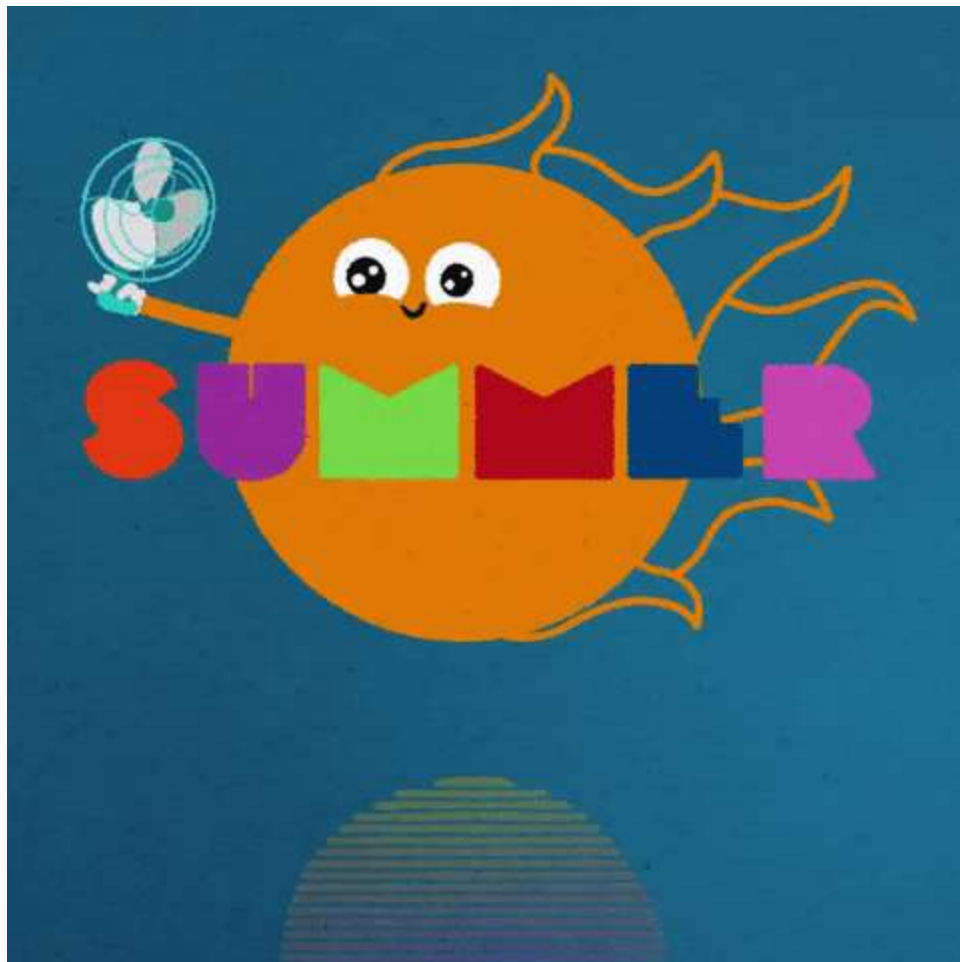
[View this email in your browser](#)



Orange, Durham, Chatham  
Counties (NC) Branch

## Renew and Recharge

Renew by mail with check payable to AAUW-ODC. [Printable Form - click here.](#)



**Save the date: Sept. 10th**

**[New program year begins!](#)**

***Fighting to a Draw: Redistricting in the 2022 NC Elections***

Speaker: [Prof. Asher D. Hildebrand](#)

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AAUW fiscal year starts July 1st.

Join before July 1 | 50% off National Dues | NEW members only!



## Membership VP's Message

Thanks to volunteer Kay White we'll be sending out a branch Yearbook (directory) to members later this summer. The most current version of the AAUW Membership roster will be used for the Yearbook. Please [join now - submit this online form and mail a check](#) or renew ASAP! - Jan Holland

## Easy Way to Renew

**Renewing members** may wish to use our [branch Pay Pal page](#) to use a **credit card** to pay dues. **Thank you for your support of AAUW and our branch's local scholarship funds.** We are pleased to be able to offer this easiest renew option to our branch members. It is made possible by your checking the box to include fees the branch incurs for use of the secure Pay Pal portal.

Easy Renew

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## Gun Violence Awareness Day

### TOMORROW

### Friday, June 3rd, 11AM

This virtual event is open to the public. **Congresswoman Alma Adams (NC-12), Mecklenburg County District Attorney Spencer Merriweather**, and gun violence prevention advocates will participate in a virtual event for Gun Violence Awareness Day. Zoom attendees are encouraged to wear orange. Spread the word and the registration link!

Register Now



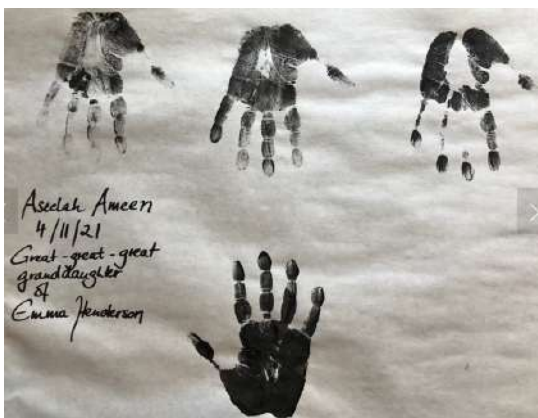
## Get Outside!



A group of 10 toured Historic Stagville in northern Durham on May 21. The tour ended at the great barn, a magnificent structure built by enslaved people. The center beam was hand hewn from a single tree. It is a testament to the talent and perseverance of the 900+ people who lived here under a system of oppression. If you have a suggestion for a future **Get Outside!** group tour, please [contact us](#).

## More to the story

By: Cindy Parks



Pictured above is Aseelah Ameen, the great-great-great granddaughter of Emma Henderson, an enslaved woman and later a sharecropper at Stagville. Aseelah was part of the [NorthStar 2020 art installation project](#) at historically African American Beechwood Cemetery located at 3300 Fayetteville St., Durham, NC. (Courtesy: Jackie MacLeod, Metal Artist, Durham, NC)

After Emancipation, Emma Henderson stayed at Stagville as a sharecropper. One day her former enslaver accused her of insolence. With the words *“My hair is as straight as yours, my skin is as light as yours and now I am quite as free as you,”* Emma turned and left Stagville for Durham.

Together with her husband, Dempsey, she started a family in Durham. Over time they owned 70 acres of land in the city. Many Durham families can trace their lineage back to the enslaved people at Stagville. Their oral histories help fill in the gaps of information gleaned from the extensive property records and letters the Camerons kept and donated to the NC historical collection at UNC’s Wilson Library.

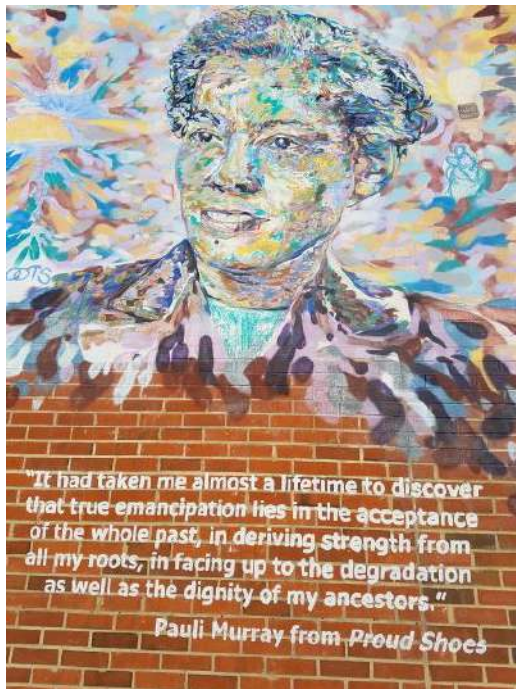
*“Emma walked out of Stagville a free woman, but many enslaved people only had the light of the NorthStar to follow. As the sun moves over the bench, the shadow of the star moves and so do the handprints inside the star.”* - Jackie MacLeod, Metal Artist.

## Juneteenth - June 19th

Say their names and learn about others as you scroll through the [NC Historic Sites #TrueInclusion webpage](#). In 1865, more than 1000 people were freed on Cameron plantations. Connections to Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill are visible today.

**Recommended summer day trip:** [Somerset Place](#), Creswell, NC. **Special thanks** to [Vera Cecelski](#) and [Khadija McNair](#) for the work they do for the NC Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources and the people of NC at [Historic Stagville](#). Contact them to find out about tours, volunteer opportunities and genealogical research. **Donations:** Historic Stagville State Historic Site, 5828 Old Oxford Highway, Durham, NC 27712.

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## Pauli Murray Center 10th Anniversary

The Pauli Murray Center is celebrating its [ten-year anniversary on Saturday, June 18th!](#) We will honor our community and look to the future through dance, art-making, "meeting" the Fitzgerald ancestors, and unveiling a gift belonging to Pauli Murray.

[Learn More](#)

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# Summer reading



After visiting **Stagville**, member **Brenda Rogers** recommended [A Mind to Stay](#) (2017) by Duke Professor Emeritus Sydney Nathans. It's about Paul Cameron's **Alabama plantation** and what happened there after Emancipation. Branch ad-hoc book club is "officially" on summer break.

[Learn More](#)

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# New members



**Marge Yanker, Betty Myers and Katy Jones** recently joined our branch. Marge attended our Stagville tour. Betty attended the January book club discussion. Katy was referred to us by our new secretary, Emily Hare.

[Learn More](#)

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# Celebrate Summer birthdays



June: **Kathleen Corrao, Susan J. Henning**; July: **Lori Bunton, Gloria Thomas**; August: **Emily Hare, Sophia Santillan, Laura Tew**.

[Learn More](#)

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# NC NOTABLE WOMAN

## Congratulations!



**Lori Bunton**, our **Program VP**, was honored recently for her work with **ERA-NC Alliance** by the organization, **WomenNC**.

Meet Lori

## About WomenNC

Founded in 2009, WomenNC **trains college and university students to engage in rigorous research, public policy formulation and advocacy to improve the lives of women and girls across the state.** In 2018, WomenNC embarked on a fruitful collaboration with RTI International’s Global Gender Center that has enriched its leadership training program. Under the direction of [Dr. Wendee Wechsberg](#), the Gender Center provides individual “femtors,” what we call mentors, to each WomenNC scholar.

Together scholars craft their own research project that not only explores instances of gender disparity, but also provides public policy solutions to improve the status quo, insuring an engaged research project with a practical purpose. Scholars’ work serves as the basis for WomenNC’s advocacy efforts to effect change locally and globally. Since its inception, WomenNC has directly impacted over 20,000 change agents including legislators, policymakers, community leaders, students, and community at large through annual seminars, workshops, events, personal meetings and panel discussions in North Carolina and at the United Nations annual Commission on the Status of Women (CSW).

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*“But the girls and young women who talked with [Salvador Ramos](#) online in the months before he [allegedly killed 19 children](#) in an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas, rarely reported him. His threats seemed too vague, several said in interviews with *The Washington Post*. One teen who reported Ramos on the social app Yubo said nothing happened as a result.” (Washington Post, “Before Massacre, Uvalde Gunman Frequently Threatened Teen Girls Online,” May 28, 2022)*

# President's Message



Feels like we all need a “time out,” a break to reflect and recharge our batteries for the battles ahead of us. I leave you with a reminder about why we will - why we **MUST** - do this AAUW thing again in the fall.

[Read More](#)



## Public Policy Updates:

Did you know that your AAUW membership includes advocacy at the **state and local levels** as well as the **national level** on important **public policy** matters? Legislators in both the North Carolina House and Senate have just filed bills to codify the protections of *Roe v Wade* in our state. At the same time, there's an effort underway to require NC schools to inform parents of lessons, changes at school and school resources. **Have you heard about NC HB 755?** Click the Learn More button for details about these bills and a legislator look up tool. Educate and advocate!

[Learn More](#)



“Maybe everything hurts,  
Our hearts shadowed & strange.  
But only when everything hurts  
May everything change.”

Hymn for the Hurting, Amanda Gorman

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