



A Legacy of Leadership

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research

Greensboro Branch Jan. 1, 2009 Volume 96, #3
<http://onlinegreensboro.com/~gbbaauw>

Dear AAUW Friends,

Since the last publication of the newsletter, history has been made time after time. President Obama has signed the Ledbetter Law but equity is STILL an issue. Let us continue to forge ahead - there is still much to do.

The March meeting will feature a panel discussing the topic **“Where Guilford County Schools Stand in Relation to the National Assessments in *Where the Girls Are*”** by two prominent advocates of education. Let us receive our special guests with an AAUW-Greensboro Branch hospitable welcome. We have a custom now of enrolling our guests as new members during our scheduled meetings. Let’s keep the momentum going.

The deadline is fast approaching for the AAUW-North Carolina 2009 Convention. You must be there to celebrate 100 years of AAUW in North Carolina. Fine registration information in the next column. Let’s go!

As a reminder, AAUW members belong to a unique community that breaks through educational and economic barriers. Plan to attend the 2009 National Convention which will convene in St. Louis, Missouri in June and see first hand how it happens. See the next column for registration information.

Kudos to Sue Mengert, our Nomination chair, for preparing our slate of officers for the 2009-2010 year. Thank you all who responded “Yes.”

Please stay informed to all the excitement in AAUW by reading your e-mail constantly

Everlena Diggs, Branch President

<p>Book Browsers</p> <p>April 6: <u>House of the Spirits</u>, by Isabel Allende Leader: Donna Hodgman</p> <p>The meetings are 1:30-3:00 p.m. at the KCE Branch Library in Price Park off Hobbs Road.</p>

<p>SAVE THE DATE – SATURDAY, APRIL 25 – Spring Awards Luncheon & Installation of Officers The Walnut Room at Guilford College, 11:00 a.m.</p>
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Greensboro Branch Programs

The meetings are at Congregational United Church of Christ, 400 W. Radiance Drive, Greensboro	
March 10 Tuesday 6:45 p.m.	Where Guilford Stands in Relation to the National Assessments in <i>Where the Girls Are</i> – Panel Discussion with Dr. Michelle Ungurait and Mrs. Dot Kearns with moderator, Sue Metz. The meeting will be hosted by Lila Lloyd, Josephine Patterson, Gertrude Royal, and Clea Baker. Members should come and bring their Leprechauns in honor of St. Patrick’s Day on the 17th.
March 19-20 Thurs. – Fri.	2009 AAUW NC State Convention Carpool to Wilmington – Details below and in “Tar Heel News.”
http://www.aauwnc.org/category/general/2009-nc-convention/ Hotel rate is \$99 plus tax (including breakfast) Deadline for this rate: March 12, 2009 Call the Blockade Runner Hotel at 910.256.2251 or make your reservations online at www.blockade-runner.com , stating that you want a room in the AAUW block. or call: Phyllis Guberman, 910-395-8427	
April 25 Sat. 11:00 a.m. 1:30 pm	Spring Awards Luncheon and Installation of Officers Location and Speaker TBA
June 26-29	2009 National Convention in St. Louis, Missouri. For details go to the website below.
http://www.aauw.org/convention/conv2009/index.cfm	

March 10 Branch Meeting - 6:45 p.m. at CUCC

Dr. Ungurait is the Magnet and Choice Program Director for Guilford County Schools (GCS). Having reviewed the statistics in “Where the Girls Are,” she will focus on a summary of similar categories of statistics related to GCS and the conclusions drawn by the Board of Education (BOE) and school administrators.

After serving on the former High Point BOE, **Mrs. Kearns** was for many years an elected member-at-large of the Guilford County BOE until her recent retirement. Mrs. Kearns will describe programs that the GCS already have in place in an effort to help children who live in poverty. Following the program, there will be nominations of officers, followed by an election.

Looking Forward – Branch Leadership

Elected in 2008 and continuing through 06-31-10	
President	-- Everlena Diggs
Program VP	-- Elaine Morehead-Hughes
Ed. Foundation Co-VP	-- Sue Metz
Public Policy VP	-- Elaine Ostrowski

The following are to be nominated for election (serving 2009-2011) at March 10th meeting. Installation of Officers will be at the April 25th luncheon.

Ed. Foundation Co-VP	--	Libby Haile
Ed. Foundation Co-VP	--	Flossie Smith

Finance VP/Treasurer -- Mary Fran Schickedantz
Communications Co-VP -- Janie Dominique
Communications Co-VP -- Jo Patterson
Membership Co-VP -- Debra Richardson
Membership Co-VP -- Sue Mengert

Open Position – Looking for a Candidate:
President-Elect to be President (2010-2012)

The STEM Project Escalates

The STEM Project committee members discovered a new direction was needed in order to raise the level of awareness of Informational Technology among high school girls. Hopefully more students will sign up since we have revamped the Project.

The Guilford County School System has permitted AAUW-Greensboro and High Point Branches to market the Project in the high schools. March 30 is the targeted date for presentation. There are 6 designated sites: UNC-G, NC A&T, Bennett College, Greensboro College, ITT Technical Institute and High Point City Government Offices. Technical activities are being planned by the professors and employees at each site. Volunteers will be needed to assist the girls at each site. Please be ready to become apart of this adventure.

April 1 is Women's Advocacy Day

Mark your calendars! This year's **Women's Advocacy Day** will be held on Wed., April 1 at the Legislative Building in Raleigh. Join women from across the state in advocating for women's issues. The exciting and energizing day gives us an opportunity to meet with our elected officials on imminent legislation such as the paid sick leave act, school violence prevention act, and healthy youth act. Plan on carpooling with other Greensboro Branch members by contacting Elaine Ostrowski, telephone 292 2690, or e-mail etostrowski@earthlink.net. Do it today!

-- Elaine Ostrowski, Public Policy Vice President

A New Legislative Season Begins

AAUW won an early victory in the new 111th Congress when both houses passed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. It restores the long-standing interpretation of civil rights laws and EEOC policies that allow employees to challenge any discriminatory paycheck they received. President Obama signaled his support for this significant issue by making this Act his first Presidential piece of legislation signed into law.

Related legislation has been introduced in Congress titled the Paycheck Fairness Act. Having passed in the House, this would provide additional tools to deter wage discrimination. Branch members are encouraged to contact both Senator Hagan and Senator Burr to support the Act when it comes up for a vote in the Senate (use the Two Minute Activist at www.aauw.org).

In the State Legislature, three early legislative proposals are supported by AAUW-NC. These are the Healthy Families and Healthy Workplaces Act (H 177), supporting paid sick day legislation; the School Violence Prevention Act,

addressing the problem of bullying in schools; and the Healthy Youth Act (H 88, S 221), providing a parental option for comprehensive sex education. Branch members will have an opportunity to learn about new legislation at Women's Advocacy Day in Raleigh on April 1 – see previous article.

-Elaine Ostrowski, Public Policy Vice President

New Opportunity to Raise a School for Girls

This year, we have an opportunity to offer our support to a foundation that is working hard for peace in the Middle East through education and stabilization of communities in Afghanistan and Pakistan. The book *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School at a Time*, describes the epic adventure of a young mountaineer who fails at scaling the large Asian peak of K2, but succeeds in building as many as 90 tiny schools in the towns that are found in that rugged part of the world.

The author, Greg Mortenson, an American, found his life mission as he developed friendships and connections with the men of the small village that rescued him. He promised he would return and build them a school. His success in building schools all over this barren and remote land in the high mountains of Afghanistan and Pakistan is remarkable

It is Mortenson's idea that the women of the community need to be educated as it is they who raise the children. We can buy copies of this book through Barnes and Noble and pass it along. A percentage of the sale will go to his foundation, The Central Asia Institute. We can also give a tax-deductible donation directly to his foundation that will go directly toward necessities for building another school.

I would encourage each of you to get a copy of this remarkable book to find out how much difference one man can make in the world. Mortenson will be speaking here in Greensboro in April. We will try to organize a group to go from the branch. A letter will also be sent out to allow everyone to donate to this cause if they can. It is an exciting way we can make our presence felt on an international level once again.

- Sue Metz

We Welcome Two New Members

Lakshmi Iyer, PhD., 804 Bass Landing Place 27455
549-0662, Lstyer@uncg.edu

Donnette Spruill, 7800 Airport Center Drive STE 401, 27409,457-4636, donnettespruill@gmail.com

Sad News

We are very saddened to learn that Nina Lieberman passed away on Friday, January 16th, apparently of a stroke. She was a delightful addition to the Book Browsers, we miss her input.

Editors: Louise Brown & Mary Fran Schickedantz