



# Tar Heel News

American Association of University Women of North Carolina

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research

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If you have questions, comments, or need to request a particular form to be sent by regular mail, please call or fax the number above.

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

## A Bit of This & That...

- Annie Houle, the WAGE Project Director who is responsible for presenting \$tart \$mart workshops, has moved to Asheville. \$tart \$mart has now been presented on over 200 campuses in 36 states. The fall schedule for \$tart \$mart workshops is filling up fast, so if you are considering sponsoring a workshop or reaching out to a campus to participate in \$tart \$mart, please contact Annie for more information. The WAGE Project 104 Beaver Ridge Rd., Asheville, NC 28804, 1-828-505-4553 (home & office), 1-207-329-4572 (cell), [ahoule@wageproject.org](mailto:ahoule@wageproject.org)
- Branches are encouraged to remember that there are two AAUW Educational Opportunities Fund endowments of particular concern to AAUW NC that have not yet reached stipend producing level. The Fellowship established 1996-97 honoring Ann Chipley, past president of AAUW NC, still needs \$39,000 (Fund 4051); the Charlotte Research and Projects Grant, established in 1999-2000, needs an additional \$6700 (Fund 1429). [www.aauw.org/contribute/index\\_aauw\\_donation.cfml](http://www.aauw.org/contribute/index_aauw_donation.cfml).
- The consensus from those attending is that a national convention is an energizing and inspiring event. Mark your calendar now and start planning to attend the next biennial convention: June 9-12, 2013 in New Orleans.
- AAUW has honored 13 remarkable women in North Carolina with Fellowships and Grants for 2011-2012. Find their institutions and a summary of their work in the AAUW Fellows Directory. Branch Presidents have been sent information on how to contact the Fellows, so if you're planning your year's program, do consider including them in some way.
- Nancy Shoemaker, AAUW NC web master and President of the Tar Heel Branch, has been appointed to the AAUW Leadership Corps. The Corps is a group of volunteer field organizers from across the country who serve as a resource to AAUW branches, states, and national members. Shoemaker hopes to concentrate on helping other states establish "virtual branches" such as our Tar Heel branch.
- Members of the Salisbury Branch will celebrate 60 years of efforts this year to empower women and girls. Organized in 1951, the Salisbury Branch of AAUW has been involved in a variety of issues, including putting a woman on the city school board in 1953 and promoting the establishment of a mental health clinic, finally created in 1960. The Salisbury Branch has 30 active members.
- Planned Parenthood of Central North Carolina has joined a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of a new North Carolina law that requires abortion providers to show women an ultrasound and describe the images in detail before having an abortion, even if the woman objects. The bill makes no exceptions for women in any circumstances. The lawsuit alleges that the new law violates the rights of health care providers and women seeking abortions. The North Carolina General Assembly passed the law in July over the veto of Governor Bev Perdue.
- AAUW NC branches were congratulated by AAUW Executive Director Linda Hallman at the national convention in June for achieving 8th place among the Top Ten Advocates for our State Per Capita Giving to the Public Policy Fund. AAUW NC also placed 7th among the Top Ten Advocates for Total State Giving to the Public Policy Fund. Special thanks to AAUW Wilmington who placed 7th among branches in total giving for the Public Policy Fund.

## President's Message

Lill Van Order AAUW NC Co-President

### *Today We Can Make a Difference.*

Just recently I heard a speaker on successful non-profits. I immediately thought, wow, AAUW NC seems to be doing a lot right! According to the speaker, successful non-profits sharpen their vision, and can tell what they are doing right now to fulfill their mission. They collaborate with others locally and globally and engage people in the vision so that others are willing to commit to the organization. It seems that we are doing a great deal of that. We have branches engaged in our new Public Policy Pilot Program, some of us lobbied at the National Convention to continue our vision of equity for women and girls. We are working with college students to educate and help young women become leaders and learn to negotiate for fair wages through \$tart \$mart. We are helping our communities and at the same time raising awareness of AAUW and its mission.

We hope that the branches are having a successful start to your 2012 AAUW NC season. Send us your news, share your successes and keep all of us posted. Enjoy this THN and share it with others. Let us know how things are going and join us all as we move forward with our Public Policy Pilot Program, new enthusiastic members, and various activities in all the branches.

So, here we are a non-profit organization that "advances equity for woman and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research". What are we doing today to make a difference?

## Adding Money to Your Valuable Time.

Mary Fran Schickedantz, Past Treasurer

### *Time and Money.*

### *With enough of either we can change the world.*

We know that time is your most valuable resource. Time to plan, time to lead, time to build partnerships, time to assess the needs of your community.

If you have a good idea to advance the mission in your community but you need some money to make it happen, AAUW NC is here to help.

Simply apply for an AAUW NC minigrant for up to \$500. AAUW NC has \$5000 in its budget to support projects across the state.

Go to [www.aauwnc.org/minigrant/](http://www.aauwnc.org/minigrant/) in your browser to find a link to the application form. See page 7 for an article on a grant awarded to Chapel Hill.

## "Millennials" and the Future of AAUW

At the AAUW Convention in June, "What Makes Women Decide to Join or Stay in an Organization?" was a workshop that included not only a summary of AAUW's Every Member Survey but significant insights into a group called Millennials.

Millennials, born between 1976 and 1996, are the largest and most diverse generation in the United States, representing over 80 million people. Data from Millennial Donors: A Study of Millennial Giving and Engagement Habits ([www.millennialdonors.com](http://www.millennialdonors.com)) present some interesting facts which distinguish Millennials from the current membership in AAUW.

First the Millennial generation is slightly more supportive to efforts to ensure equal rights than are members of other generations. Millennials represent over 15% of the workforce and this percentage is growing. Also Millennials volunteer more than those of other generations – 57% of Millennials said they volunteered in the past 12 months.

84% the Millennials generation is slightly more supportive of a "compelling mission or cause" as the reason to donate or volunteer for an organization.

Second the Millennial generation is more comfortable with and dependent on technology. 90% use the internet; 94% have a

cell phone; 75% use social networking sites; 55% check social networking sites at least once a day; 88% use a cell phone to text; 59% get most of their news from internet; 14% use twitter.

In addition to a profile of the Millennial generation, the workshop also compared data collected in AAUW Prospective Member Studies with Every Member Survey feedback. There were striking differences in the reasons for joining AAUW and remaining a member of AAUW.

Noteworthy is the finding that the first-listed motivation for joining AAUW from the Every Member Survey was "connection" rather than "cause" -- in contrast to the primary motivation uncovered in the Perspective Member Studies. "Believing in the mission" rose to the top as the reason for staying in the organization for current AAUW members.

AAUW NC branches interested in target-

ing their recruiting efforts to younger prospective members will find helpful information on the AAUW web site. Just type "What Makes Women Decide" in the search box on the [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) home page to get all the slides and notes from the workshop.



Joan Robertson (Raleigh/Wake County) signals the AAUW NC delegation to begin organizing at convention.



The AAUW NC delegation gathers outside Senator Kay Hagan's office prior to their visit.

## The Debt “Supercommittee” Options Through a Woman’s Eyes

Mary Peterson

You’ve probably been reading/hearing about the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction or debt “supercommittee.” All 12 members of this committee are veteran lawmakers; many have budget experience. Senator Patty Murray (D) of Washington and Representative Jeb Hensarling (R) of Texas are the committee co-chairs.

Their goal is to cut \$1.5 trillion over the next decade. But if they can’t come up with at least \$1.2 trillion in savings by November 23, or Congress does not adopt their recommendations by the end of the year, government spending will automatically be cut by \$1.2 trillion over the next 10 years, split evenly between defense and domestic programs.

If at least 7 of the 12 committee members vote for a final proposal, both chambers of Congress must vote up or down on the proposal by Dec. 23. Votes will be based on a simple majority with no amendments or Senate filibuster allowed.

The committee invited comments/ideas from the public sector and heard from members of Congress and other government departments. The deadline for this input was Oct. 21.

The Director of the Congressional Budget office testified that attaining a sustainable budget for the federal government will require the U.S. to deviate from the policies of the past 40 years in at least one of the following ways:

1. Raise federal revenues significantly above their average share of the Gross Domestic Product
2. Make major changes to the sorts of benefits provided for Americans when they become older.

3. Substantially reduce the role of the rest of the federal government relative to the size of the economy, including federal programs such as defense, unemployment compensation, education and training.

Several proposals to cut Social Security and Medicare are on the table. This would especially hurt women. The current Social Security system is one of the most successful anti-poverty programs in our nation’s history, providing benefits to many children, disabled workers, surviving spouses and retirees. Older women especially benefit from this program, since many depend on it for their primary source of retirement income. More than half of older women would fall into poverty without Social Security benefits. In fact, the traditional three legged stool model for retirement – Social Security, pensions, and savings – does not support most women because pensions and private savings options are often unavailable or inadequate for women.

Large cuts in the Medicare program would increase health care costs, threaten access to doctors and reduce the benefit checks that many seniors rely on to pay their bills.

The task of addressing the challenge of putting the federal budget on a sustainable path, while a vital issue for all Americans, is particularly important to women. Women are often the victims of economic insecurity and wage discrimination so AAUW encourages the supercommittee to pay close attention to women when making their suggestions. According to the Wall Street Journal of Oct. 15, “Little has leaked from the supercommittee, and few know whether it is making progress.” We all need to keep alert and “tuned in” to the work and proposals of this supercommittee.

## HERvotes Responds to Attacks on Women’s Rights

In recognition of the anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote, and the anniversary of the 1963 civil rights march on Washington, a coalition of women’s organizations, representing millions of women, announced plans to counter the attacks on women’s economic and health security through a new multi-organization effort entitled HERvotes. The goal is to mobilize women voters in 2012 around preserving women’s Health and Economic Rights (HER rights.)

AAUW is a major partner in this new coalition. HERvotes has published a list of the Top Ten Advances in support of women rights which are **threatened** in the coming months. Through the efforts of HERVotes, women are being encouraged to use their voices and votes to preserve the progress which has been made.

See [www.hervotes.us](http://www.hervotes.us) for more information on **threats** to each of

these advances for women:

1. Women’s Right to Vote (1920)
2. Social Security Act (1935)
3. The Equal Pay Act of 1963 and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
4. Medicare (1965)
5. Medicaid (1965)
6. Title X, The National Family Planning Program (1970)
7. Title IX of the Education Amendments (1972)
8. Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision (1973)
9. The Violence Against Women Act (1994)
10. The Affordable Care Act (2010)

## Reception for the 2011-12 Fellows

The Tar Heel, Chapel Hill, Raleigh/Wake County and Greensboro branches hosted a reception for the 2011-2012 AAUW Fellows and Grantees in the state on Sunday, Oct. 23 at the Chapel Hill home of Michele Hoyman. Five of the 13 fellows with ties to North Carolina attended.

Fellows and branch members at the reception included (left to right) Michelle Hoyman, hostess for the event with Kristin Johnson, American Fellow, Kay White, Doris Bemlohr, Bea Keller, and Trenette Clark, American Fellow.



## SAVE THE DATE!

### AAUW North Carolina Annual Meeting

March 30-31, 2012 Country Inn Suites Burlington, NC 27215

We will follow a format similar to last year, beginning mid afternoon on Friday, March 30 and ending in the early afternoon on Saturday, March 31. Details will follow later but please mark your calendars now and plan to attend.

### 2012 Annual Meeting Preview

One of the programs planned for our members will address the question, "What's new in tech to advance the mission?"

From keeping your branch records up to date to telling the world about the good you are doing, the web has changed the way a branch can communicate with members and the public. Nancy Shoemaker, AAUW NC web master, will lead this workshop and include demonstrations of how [AAUW.org](http://AAUW.org) and related websites support the members in ways we couldn't have imagined just fifteen years ago. Getting full value from your membership involves knowing about these new ways of communicating. Feel free to bring your skepticism — *but do join us!*

## AAUW NC Juvenile Literature Award

Elizabeth Laney

AAUW of North Carolina sponsors, with the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association, a competition for an award for juvenile literature. AAUW NC awarded its first prize in 1953; 2011 is the 59th year for the award.

To be eligible for consideration for the award, the book must be an original book published during the twelve months on the year in which the award is given. The deadline for submission is June 30. In addition the author(s) must have maintained legal or physical residence, or a combination of both, in North Carolina for three years preceding the close of the contest period. Three copies of the entry are submitted to the Awards Coordinator for the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association. Books are read by a panel of judges who consider creative imaginative quality, excellence of style, universality of appeal, and relevance to North Carolina and her people in making their award.

Each year AAUW NC presents a silver goblet inscribed with the name of the winner. In addition, a plaque is maintained at the North Carolina Museum of History on which the names of the winners and their books are inscribed.

The winner for 2011 is *Miss Dorothy and Her Bookmobile*, by Gloria Houston. The book is about Dorothy Thomas who lived in the northwestern mountains of North Carolina. The bookmobile which Miss Dorothy drove served Gloria Houston when she was a child, as well as her neighbors.

Ms. Houston, who won the award in 1997 and 1999, was not able to attend the awards ceremony in Raleigh in November but efforts are underway to honor her in a ceremony when her health improves.

## Updates on the Launch of the AAUW NC E-Newsletter

AAUW NC has launched an e-newsletter that we expect to complement, not replace, the *Tar Heel News*. We plan to use this publication for short, timely messages and reminders about information that can be found on the web. (It's hard to click a link that's printed in the *Tar Heel News!*)

The difficulty with using email to communicate with all our members goes beyond the fact that a significant number aren't online. It's simply a fact that many of us don't read all of our email.

As we launched the e-newsletter, we started with a list of 1,324 AAUW members (including those who aren't members of branches). Of those, 965 had email addresses in the AAUW records, but 116 of those turned out to be invalid. When we sent a message to the remaining 849 members asking if they wanted to subscribe, 4 said "no", 157 said "yes", and we never heard back from 688.

So we sent our first e-newsletter to the 157 (12% of the membership) who said they wanted to receive it. Of those, 73 people opened the email. That's actually a phenomenally good open rate of 46%. But 73 of the original 1,324 is only 6%. Obviously, this kind of communication won't replace the *Tar Heel News* any time soon in the ability to "touch" all the members with a significant AAUW NC communication.

So if you were one of the 1,167 members who didn't get the e-newsletter or if you want to make sure you're subscribed, find the subscription form here: [bit.ly/aauwnc-eneews-subscribe](http://bit.ly/aauwnc-eneews-subscribe)

## Update on the Public Policy Pilot Project

Pat Abell

AAUW NC Board proposed a Public Policy Pilot Project for branch participation in the coming year. Ideally each branch will pick a public policy issue to monitor at the state and federal level for the year. A majority of the branches have picked issues and identified a member of the branch to follow these issues. That member is to send updates and alerts to a specific email address. Other members have agreed to receive the updates and alerts and act on them.

Branches will be notified soon what issues they have been assigned to follow based on their preferences while avoiding duplication of coverage. AAUW NC will provide support and training on how to monitor the issues using information from a lobbyist in Raleigh and other sources at the national level.

Two email lists have been established: one for members who agree to send updates and alerts and another for members who agree to receive updates and alerts and act on them.

Members who participate are asked to keep a record of every time they take action as requested by an alert they have received. This info will be used to evaluate the response to the project and the need to allocate additional state funds for the next year, 2012-13.

The Board hopes to encourage members to learn more about and become involved with the vital issues coming before the legislature and make our collective voices heard on the issues that matter to women and girls.

# Capitol Hill, Wal-Mart, SaVE Campuses and AAUW Convention, Washington DC June 2011

In DC, AAUW launched a REAP agenda, "a desire for women and girls to 'REAP' the benefits of AAUW." It is an acronym for research, education, advocacy, philanthropy. Sound familiar?

Our mission reads "AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research."

This convention had a different atmosphere than ones in the past. With the change to one member one vote, many of us had already voted. For that reason there was basically no campaigning at convention. It was more a place to catch up with friends, listen to the speakers and learn more about AAUW.

We laughed, we cried, and we got angry, all while we learned and shared.

We started off with a briefing on Thursday for Lobby Day on Friday.



Nancy Shoemaker (Tar Heel) and Kay White (Chapel Hill) pause between visits on Advocacy Day at convention.

For this we had a packet of information and appointments with our representatives, or their staff on Capitol Hill. The three topics of discussion that fit our vision and mission were to protect Social Security, take action on the National Women's History Museum Act (S. 680/ H.R. 1269) and to Co-sponsor the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (SaVE) Act (S 834/ H.R. 2016). We

encouraged staff members to relay our wishes to the senator or representative.

Saturday and Sunday flew by as we met in smaller groups, heard speakers, and role played. One big thing that came up was many of us are not good "lazy" leaders! Cynthia D'Amour through her humor suggested that we needed to lead by developing others, we need to celebrate at the end of each meeting and we needed to be "lazy leaders". We were inspired by Edith Arana, a named plaintiff in the Wal-Mart vs Dukes. By the way, that is still in the works. We heard about safe schools as well as safe campuses.

There is so much that we could do and are doing. We all have a lot more information. Please email us if you are interested in some of the topics mentioned. Also [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) has a lot in regard to the details.

The closing ceremony was all fun! We were invited to New Orleans in 2013 in a traditional New Orleans fashion. When they asked us all to don our blinking stars and they turned out the lights you should have seen the room! Is anyone else ready for New Orleans?



Lill Van Order leads the AAUW NC delegation to the capitol complex on Advocacy Day.

## Remembering Gloria Blanton



Dr. Gloria H. Blanton, 86, of Raleigh died Friday June 17, 2011 in Raleigh, North Carolina. Blanton served as AAUW North Carolina President in 1976-78 and later served as Raleigh Branch President from 1989-1991.

Blanton was born in 1924 in Teachey, North Carolina. She completed her undergraduate work at Wake Forest University in 1947. She earned an MA at Columbia University.

Her PhD work at UNC-Chapel Hill was supported by an AAUW American Fellowship, starting her long involvement with AAUW. Campbell University granted her its Distinguished Alumni honor for professional contributions in the fields of education and psychology.

Blanton's career took her to Greenville, NC, where she became the Baptist Student Union Director and then to Laurinburg, NC where she was named Associate Dean of Students of Saint Andrews Presbyterian College. She served as Associate Professor of Psychology and Assistant to the President of Meredith College. She was a practicing psychologist in Raleigh, NC, well into her 70s

Blanton's involvement with AAUW spanned more than three decades of advocacy on behalf of women and girls on several fronts. She championed especially public education and will be

remembered as instrumental in the Raleigh branch's support of the Wake County School Board candidate forums and the Wake County Agenda Assemblies. She also was counted on to keep the branch members informed on issues of national, state and local public policy. She was a passionate supporter of the AAUW Educational Foundation, and spoke at fundraising events to teach others about the philanthropic priorities of AAUW. Those are, however, just a few of the more recent projects to which she gave her energy and unparalleled devotion to advance equity for women and girls.

She was a faithful attendee at AAUW NC state meetings, and her well-respected opinions shaped discussions and decisions at the state level. Blanton was a seasoned member of the NC delegation to national AAUW conventions, attending each biennial convention for decades. Her last convention, at age 78, was the 2003 convention in Providence, RI.

Blanton was a member of the AAUW Legacy Circle which includes members whose planned gifts assure a legacy of opportunities by expanding AAUW programs and its public policy agenda. Blanton's commitment to the future of women and girls lives on through this gift.

We in AAUW NC were fortunate to have known her and to have been inspired by such a gracious leader.

## Benefits of College/University Partnerships with AAUW

AAUW enjoys a close relationship with colleges and universities across the country. There are several benefits to a C/U partnership with AAUW. The annual fee is based on enrollment, and this year, in celebration of AAUW's 130th anniversary, new campuses can join for only \$130. Partner institutions receive community connections, nationwide visibility and networks, member-only discounts, opportunities for grants and awards, invitations to special events, and subscriptions to valuable publications.

Enrolled C/U Partner undergraduates can connect to AAUW as e-student affiliates for free and have access to information about \$3 million in AAUW fellowships and grants, cutting-edge research, and leadership development programs tailored especially for women on campus action projects. [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

One recent program that shows AAUW's mission in action is the Elect Her – Campus Women Win program that encourages and trains young women to run for student government on their campuses. Both Duke University and UNC Wilmington held programs to train their students in the last year.

Ada Gregory, Director of the Women's Center at Duke, notes that "AAUW is helping us change the landscape here for women on

campus." Michelle Scatton-Tessier, Director of Women's Studies and Resource Center at UNC Wilmington, explains, "Our partnership goes beyond UNCW to provide our young women opportunities to build skills and reinforce talents, such as attendance at the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders."

Michelle and Ada are both AAUW NC branch members (Wilmington and Tar Heel branches, respectively) as well as the AAUW representatives for their institutions.

*College/University member institutions in NC include:*

Bennett College for Women, Duke University, Elon University, Martin Community College, Mitchell Community College, North Carolina State University, UNC - Charlotte, UNC - Greensboro, UNC - Wilmington, Western Carolina University

For more information about the benefits of AAUW membership for campuses, see [www.aauw.org/connect/campus.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/connect/campus.cfm). Over on the right, you'll see a link to download "Recruit and Retain College/University Partner Members" Program-in-a-Box with many more tips and resources.

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See <http://members.aauwnc.org> for more details.

## Gaston Regional Branch

Gaston Regional is working at the Boys and Girls Club in Gastonia to bring science and math sessions to the fourth and fifth grade girls.

The sessions include 10--20 girls and are well received. At our November meeting we will discuss "Half the Sky" by Nicholas D. Kristof and his wife, Sheryl WuDunn. This book stands to become a classic, spurring us to spare impoverished women these terrors, and elevate them to turn around the future of their nations.

## Tar Heel Branch

Welcome Western Carolina Members! The Tar Heel Branch worked with Laura Wright, AAUW College/University representative for Western Carolina University to run an AAUW membership campaign on campus. We are pleased to report that 15 members of the WCU faculty/staff joined the branch during this campaign, giving AAUW a firm foothold on campus. Watch for more details about AAUW-related events on campus as Laura and their new second College/University representative Chesney Reich build on this base to support the women on campus.

## Brevard Branch

The Brevard branch has formed a committee to implement the PPPP. The branch has also formed a new Public Education Committee to help the public schools in Transylvania County. In cooperation with our local newspaper, we are proposing to change the direction of our Voter Guide Committee to concentrate on the HERvotes issues in a series of guest columns in our local paper and then aggregate them into a new type of Voter Guide to come out as a supplement to our local paper. Our October program was a play about the most celebrated residents of Transylvania County, in recognition of the county's sesquicentennial celebration, and played to a standing room only crowd of 150+ members and friends of Brevard AAUW.

## Wilmington Branch

\$tart \$mart, sponsored by UNC Wilmington, AAUW, and The Wage Project was held on the campus of UNC Wilmington on September 23. There were twenty young women in attendance. Michelle Scatton-Tessier, Director of the Women's Studies & Resource Center at UNC Wilmington, led the workshop and was assisted by Wilmington branch members Jean D'addario, Rita Karr, and Sandra McLaurin.

UNC Wilmington has been selected by AAUW to run the workshop Elect Her: Campus Women Win for a third year in late February.

Again this year AAUW Wilmington will sponsor a young woman to attend the Leadership Conference held in June, 2012, in Washington, D. C. Our fundraiser for this purpose will be a wine tasting.

## Chapel Hill Branch

Late spring we had an excellent Literary Luncheon with speaker, Valerie Yow, author of "Betty Smith: Life of the Author of 'A Tree Grows in Brooklyn'." Betty Smith lived in Chapel Hill and wrote her classic novel here. Valerie Yow's passions are women's history, North Carolina history, and oral history research.

In September, the Chapel Hill Branch began the fall with eleven new members and an opening coffee. In October we had a speaker from the Hillsborough Historical Society on "Spencer Hall: Design and Feminine Space in a Masculine University - UNC Chapel Hill." In November our speaker will be Chapel Hill's State Senator Ellie Kinnaird, on "Education Reform Efforts in North Carolina."

## Asheville Branch Designs Website

Asheville is the first branch in North Carolina to take advantage of the new AAUW program to provide subsidized web sites for branches and states. "Using the template from AAUW helped us create an organized and informative website.

We are excited to have a more attractive site that is user friendly while we continue to upgrade it's content. It was easy working with site-resources at national headquarters and, of course, Nancy Shoemaker, has been an excellent resource for us," said webmaster, Sue Reynolds.

"I am looking forward to being able to put our branch information on meetings, programs and events in a convenient, easy to navigate site and have all the information and resources of National just a click away," stated Asheville branch president, Jeanne Smolkin. <http://ashevill-nc.aauw.net>

Other branches who wish to create their own websites can find more information at [site-resources.aauw.org](http://site-resources.aauw.org).

## The Power of the Mini-Grant

AAUW NC awarded a mini-grant to the Chapel Hill Branch to underwrite a program on the topic Women's Clothing of the 19th Century. Elizabeth Watkins and Sherry Graves of Halloway House in Petersburg, VA discussed the social and cultural influences upon 19th century women in their clothing choices. Original garments were modeled. Undergarments, outer wear and accessories were all part of the presentation.

The purpose of this program was to make community groups aware of the work of AAUW CH and to expand interest and membership in the branch. There was a positive response and much interest shown about the topic. Over eighty people attended this presentation. Flyers were designed; information was widely distributed; articles were written for the *Tar Heel News*, the *Fearrington* monthly bulletin and the *Chapel Hill News*; emails were sent to local civil war groups.

This project utilized the talents of many branch members. The result was a gain of two members and promises of several more joining the AAUW Branch for 2011-2012 year. It was a wonderful collaboration of efforts which produced outstanding results.

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### When & Where!

**June 9-12, 2013**

AAUW Convention, New Orleans

**May 31-June 2, 2012**

National Conference for College  
Women Student Leaders,  
University of Maryland

### Tar Heel News

Post to [www.aauwnc.org](http://www.aauwnc.org) blog  
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## Tar Heel News

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## Hats Off to Mary Fran Schickedantz

Mary Fran Schickedantz of Greensboro has officially retired as Treasurer of AAUW NC. Denny McGuire of the Raleigh/Wake County branch has now taken this position after recuperating from surgery this summer.

Mary Fran is a past president of AAUW NC (1994-1996), a charter member of the Tar Heel Branch, and a member of the Greensboro branch. Her enthusiasm for AAUW and its mission has been mirrored as president, membership chairperson and newsletter editor at various times for the Greensboro branch. She continues to be a champion of Greensboro's STEM activities with students at UNC Greensboro and a supporter of young women at Bennett College.

At the state level, in addition to acting as treasurer since 2007, Mary Fran has kept her eye especially on issues affecting senior women and the work of the NC Council on Aging. She continues to assist with coordination of our statewide annual meetings. She serves on the mini grant reading team. She was part of the team that crafted the new structure adopted at our High Point meeting last March.

In addition to AAUW activities, Mary Fran

is a member of the Leadership Greensboro Seniors, a program of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce.

While we will miss Mary Fran's oversight of our dollars, we believe her vacation from statewide conference calls and meetings is well deserved.

However, we are heartened by the fact that if Mary Fran spent 29 years as the administrative and billing agent for the Green Valley Park in Greensboro -- a forty year-old premier swim and tennis club in the area -- she might miss AAUW "action." If she looks as happy as she did when she retired from that position after almost three decades (see below), we would not be surprised to see Mary Fran step up again in the future to be a new part of our state officer team.

All past and current officers offer thanks for her stewardship and a job well done!

