



*The purpose of the AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.*

## President's Letter

Just a short while ago we had our last Board Meeting for calendar year 2021. The holidays will be on us before we know it and winter not far behind. Has it been nearly two years that we've been dealing with COVID? As of now, we will continue with virtual Board Meetings via ZOOM in the new year.

Our attempt to schedule an in-person General Meeting with a wonderful speaker was tabled due to Delta variant concerns and the rush to get booster shots. Trinity Presbyterian Church currently closes on Fridays so we may need to choose another day of the week for our get togethers.

We did however manage a perfect luncheon for about 20 members at Kenmure Country Club outside in the fresh air with plenty of social distancing. The ability to see each other again was worth the small risk involved. Kenmure's staff was so efficient and friendly, and our food and the day were absolutely wonderful. Thank you, Barbara Beckerman, for being our member-sponsor. Pat Ashe, the new NC State AAUW President, came as our guest and provided her gracious support for our branch.

Interest Group Committees are surveying those interested in Art and Garden outings to create a few events in the new year. The Book Club (Tuesday and Thursday combined) and Bridge groups continue to meet on their regular schedules. Due to COVID concerns again, the groups will be kept small and with less walking involved for all of us. Dining Out groups will not be formalized at this time but members are encouraged to get out on their own with a group of 2 or 3 friends for lunch now and then.

Next Spring new officers will be voted on for the Board. Jody Davidson has taken on the responsibility of creating a slate of officers for members to choose from. Because our membership has declined and how we do things is changing, some positions may be eliminated or combined in order to make the best use of our resources.

We are making plans for a Holiday Luncheon to be held at the Hendersonville Country Club on Wednesday, December 8, 2021, starting at 11:30 a.m. The invitation with more information is included in this newsletter. Since this will be a buffet luncheon, we are asking for volunteers to assist any member who needs help. We will be collecting unwrapped gifts for women and children in shelters to deliver before Christmas. Your gift could be a toy, clothing, books or personal essentials. Let us close out this year on a high note!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

*Norma Treadwell and Sandi Lancaster, Co-presidents*



## **ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON SOCIAL**

To be held  
Wednesday, December 8, 2021  
11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

**HENDERSONVILLE COUNTRY CLUB**  
1860 Hebron Road, Hendersonville, NC 28793

*Wine, beer & cocktails are available from the Bar.*

*Price for attending is \$25 for the  
**HOLIDAY LUNCHEON BUFFET**  
to include:*

*Canadian Salmon, Pot Roast Jardiniere, Vegetable Lasagna, Salads, Potatoes, Breads plus Chocolate Tuxedo  
Cake and Peppermint Ice Cream*

PLEASE RSVP to Sandi Lancaster by Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at (864) 542-5288 or  
sandillancaster 44@gmail.com

Make checks payable to *AAUW-Hendersonville Branch*. You may bring a check to the luncheon or mail  
to:

Margi Rex, Operating Accounts Manager  
121 Cypress Point, Hendersonville, NC 28739

*Please bring an unwrapped gift for a child in a shelter. Spread the joy of  
the holiday season!*



## Things You Need To Know

Hope you can join us at ***Equity in 1881 – Equity in 2021***. Attendees will be joining us virtually from across the United States from AZ, CO, FL, IL, IN, LA, MD, ME, MO, NC, NH, VA, WV, and MA to hear Gloria Blackwell speak. PLEASE FORWARD the invitation to those you know are interested in DEI initiatives and leadership development for girls and women.

To register click on the [\*\*Register Now!\*\*](#)

Cristina Ajemian & Katherine Honey – AAUW-MA Co-Presidents

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**Are you reading the CONNECT AAUWNC newsletter?** You receive it via e-mail every month. If you are concerned about staying CONNECTED with what AAUW is doing, this is your channel. There are important events and dates you need to know! Read CONNECT every month!

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### ***AAUW INTEREST GROUPS WORKING TO RECONVENE***

**Art Group Survey:** 16 members responded. Of these 4 people wanted to start back with our monthly schedule. 3 are not comfortable starting up (citing COVID but plan to return in the future) and the remainder 9 people want every other month.

We would like for the first meeting to be a planning meeting. Art Group, Please contact Cathleen Yordi or Honey Burrell with your preferences for getting started!

**Garden Group:** Here is our effort at trying to find suitable programs for our group, and to find out how many people may participate. Some possible outings with dates we discussed. All are close by and are not strenuous. Our choices are in bold.

- ♦ B.B. Barns, possibly with a presentation, early Spring.
- ♦ Jump Off Rock, Spring or Fall
- ♦ The Flat Rock Playhouse Garden, late Spring or early Summer (May, June).
- ♦ Bullington Gardens in Dahlia season, Fall (September).
- ♦ The NC Arboretum. There are ongoing exhibitions, both indoor and outside, year round.
- ♦ Rhododendron Lake Nature Park, Laurel Park (October).

It's difficult to pick a precise date because they are all outside activities. Lunch is possible in a restaurant for most. We have been meeting on the fourth Wednesday.

Mary Scott and Jan Allen, Co-chairs

## More Things You Need To Know

**Book Group:** Always open to all interested members via ZOOM, the first Thursday of the month, at 1:30 p.m. This month we are reading *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig. Discussion leader is Mary Ann Bents. This is a powerful and thought-provoking novel that explores what life could have been like if we had followed other paths. Come and explore the possibilities with us! Contact Mary Ann Bents at [mabents@verizon.net](mailto:mabents@verizon.net) to receive an invitation.

### AAUW Hendersonville Public Policy Committee

After a long hiatus due to covid the Branch Public Policy Committee met in October. Members in attendance were: Sandi Lancaster, Princess Ferguson, Cecille Masters-Webb and Sue Hammer, Chair.

We reviewed recent AAUW policies and Sue reported on the AAUW NC meetings she has attended via Zoom. The AAUW NC State Public policy chair is Beverly Larson. Beverly has announced upcoming meetings and opportunities to be involved with the State Public Policy Committee.

Our Branch Committee agreed to notify our NC State Legislators about the importance of adopting Medicaid expansion for our state. If approved 600 000 North Carolinians would finally be able to access the care they need to fill their prescriptions and see a doctor without fear of medical bankruptcy. We encourage AAUW Hendersonville members to also write letters. If you wish more information on this, please call or e-mail Sue Hammer.

Princess Ferguson presented very interesting material on the process of redistricting currently underway in North Carolina. This is necessary as a result of the last census. We are all encouraged to follow the process as it moves forward.

If interested in joining this AAUW committee, please contact Sue Hammer – 828-694-3686.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Next Hendersonville Branch Board Meeting to be held on January 21, 2022. Location TBA.

Next Hendersonville Branch General Meeting will be held on Friday, February 11, 2022. Location TBA.

## AAUW Hendersonville Newsletter

Susan Huff, Editor/Publisher  
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From the CONNECT AAUWNC newsletter, "A big CONGRATULATIONS TO BREVARD. They were able to add 15 new members, mostly women who attended their large book sale!"

This makes me think that if Hendersonville could come up with a fund-raising project that encompassed the community, we might generate the interest we seek in increasing our membership. Ideas, anyone?

### ***With sadness:***

We note the passing of **Joan Truman**, in October. She had been a member since 2013, according to the directory. Joan was a neighbor of Virginia Newsum. There was an obituary in the Times News.

## News and Notes

We are thrilled to invite you to attend our **140th Anniversary celebration on November 17, 2021, at 4 p.m. ET**. Join us as we mark a milestone year and unveil our distinguished 2021 AAUW Alumnae Recognition Awardee. This year's recipient is a trailblazer and globally recognized leader, and we are excited to reveal their identity soon.

We'll also give special recognition to AAUW affiliates celebrating big birthdays of their own, including states and branches with 50th, 75th and 100th anniversaries this year. And you'll hear from AAUW National Board Chair, Julia Brown, and our newly appointed Chief Executive Officer, Gloria L. Blackwell. They'll share their reflections on our rich past and look ahead to a bright—and equitable—future for women and girls.

**Register Now**

Finally, you'll be the first to learn about the historic gift matching opportunity made possible by this year's board of directors, committee leaders and staff, allowing your donations to be doubled through the end of 2021.

I hope this event serves as a small token of our gratitude for everything you do for AAUW. I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,

Katrina Sun Breese  
Senior Director of Institutional Advancement