July 2022

Rejuvenate!

It's been a tough two+ years. There are bound to be many studies in the future about how isolation impacted us. Anxiety and depression for some, boredom and anger for others, and loneliness for almost all of us. We missed our family, friends and the opportunities to gather together.

Now we are emerging slowly and cautiously to a new reality. An exciting and challenging reality fired by technology, innovation, and new strategic alliances – new ways of living and working. We are reinventing our lives, our organizations and our society. And we are rejuvenating our Hendersonville AAUW Branch. Streamlining, innovating, building our collaborative efforts and developing new programs. But as we refresh, revive and restore, we are recommitting to what brought us together in the first place.

Our mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

Our vision: Equity for all.

Our values: Nonpartisan · Fact-based · Integrity Inclusion and Intersectionality

Our unity: Fellowship, friendship, connections and a powerful network of more than 170,000 women and men across the country who are as passionate as you are about building a fairer future.

Like you, we are emerging stronger than ever. We're ready to claim our power and use it for good.

To join us, or to renew your membership, please send your check for \$91*, payable to AAUW Hendersonville, to Diana Bagwell at 615 Laurel Lake Drive Apt. A-205, Columbus, NC 29722.

*\$96 for new members and renewing members after Sept. 30. Questions? Call Diana at 828-974-2810

Sandy Bernard, President ssmreb@bellsouth.net 828-290-5561



Dear AAUW Member, Welcome to a new year full of opportunities for you to learn, interact with other members, and support AAUW's mission. We want your membership to be enriching and fulfilling. To that end, we're pleased to announce a new meeting site.

Many of our luncheon meetings will be held in the Hendersonville Co-op's beautiful Community Room. You'll be able to bring your own lunch or preorder one that will be provided from the Co-op's catering service. Stay tuned!

This summer we are successfully transitioning from a very large board to a small but mighty Leadership Team. We're grateful to all of you who have agreed to help sustain and build our branch. To those participating in a "One and Done" activity or filling a role critical to our success, Thank You!

The Leadership Team looks forward to seeing you at all the programs and events planned to celebrate our 45th year. And we'd love to hear from you -- kudos, concerns and ideas are all welcome. Here's to a great year!

Sandy Bernard, Carol Walters, Barbara Beckerman, Diana Bagwell, Margi Rex and Joen Goodman

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			July		1 Bridge SIG	2
3		5	6	7 Book	8	9
10	11	12 Commu- nications Comm. Mtg	13	14 Equity SIG <mark>Launch</mark>	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 Leader- ship Team Meeting	30
31						
			August			
	1	2	3	4 Book	5 Bridge SIG	6
7	8	9	10 Explore	11 Equity	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 Herstory	20
21	22	23	24 Leader- ship Team Meeting	25	26 Taps and Tasters SIG Launch	27
28	29	30	31			

What's Happening Now? What Next?

See following page for calendar notes!



Calendar of Summer Events—Notes

SIGs are Special Interest Groups. These are our opportunities to really get to know other members (and their friends) on a more personal basis and enjoy those areas where we are particularly drawn to share, learn, and be active in the community. Each SIG will have a facilitator to direct the group.

SIG Bridge: WANTED: Bridge Players. We play on the first Friday afternoon each month at Marjean Smith's home in Hendersonville. For details contact Cecille Masters-Webb, phone: 693-4081 or email: treetop3136@gmail.com.

SIG Book Group: July will begin hybrid sessions (Zoom and In Person). Meetings are the 1st Thursday of each month at 1:30 pm. If joining in person, the location is at the Church of Christ Annex at 1975 Haywood Road (across from Pi-Squared Pizza). Zoom details will be distributed prior to the meeting. Check to make sure that Mary Ann has your email address if you want to participate. Encourage other AAUW Hendersonville members to participate. Guests are also welcome for 2 sessions; after which they are expected to join AAUW. Mary Ann Bents (mabents@verizon.net).

Meeting Month/Date	Book Title	Discussion Lead
July 7, 2022	Destiny of the Republic	Susan Huff
August 1	The Rose Code	Mary Ann Bents
September 1	The Other Einstein	Dianna Bagwell
October 6	Grace After Henry	Debbie Cope
November 3	Nomadland	Susan Huff
December 1	Memphis	Debbie Cope
January 5, 2023	The Boys	Mary Ann Bents
February 2	The Woman They Could Not Silence	Peggy Judkins
March 2	The Lincoln Highway	Ann Hartig
April 6	Mary, Mrs. A. Lincoln	Peggy Judkins
May 4	Sisters of War	TBD

Equity Advocates SIG LAUNCH: Join us for the lunch launch of this SIG that will focus on Public Policy, LAF, AAUW Community programs such as Work Smart, Start Smart, and StemEd. With so many of our rights being threatened at this time, this group will help us advocate for our mission and our vision of equity for all.

Date: July 14 Time: 11:30 – 1:00pm Location: Sol y Luna, 1715 Brevard Road (Laurel Park Plaza) Please contact Sandy Bernard at <u>ssmreb@bellsouth.net</u> by July 12 to reserve your spot.

Coming in August!

Explore AAUW– We are reestablishing the former practice of holding a welcome/orientation session for new members. All those who have joined the Hendersonville Branch since 2019 are invited to a gathering which will explore the history, opportunities, and social activities available to members.

Herstory Networking—Join us in celebrating women-owned businesses! At this event for members and non-members we will enjoy a glass of wine, networking with other women, and hear a bit of *herstory* about how this successful business came to be. Date: August 19 Time: 4:30—6:30pm Location: Willow Road Market, 1126 Willow Road (corner State Street) Please e-mail your name to ssmreb@bellsouth.net by August 16.

Roe vs Wade Fall-Out in North Carolina

"The American Association of University Women (AAUW) strongly condemns the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization. The decision overturns the landmark Roe v. Wade ruling that established abortion as a constitutionally protected right nearly 50 years ago and ignores the will of the American people, 80% of whom support legal abortion." Exerpt from Gloria Blackwell, AAUW CEO statement on the Supreme Court decision

Top Republicans in the state legislature and the state's attorney general are squaring up to fight over the line North Carolina drew on abortion nearly 50 years ago. North Carolina is poised to be one of the only states in the South to allow abortions after the U.S. Supreme Court struck down Roe v. Wade last week in a 5-4 decision. The high court said each state should be able to decide whether to allow, regulate or ban abortions. Since then, officials in eight states announced that abortion has been outlawed. Several states have a so-called "trigger ban," which was set to prohibit abortion if the high court also overturned Roe.

While no trigger ban is on the books in North Carolina, a 1973 state law bans abortions after the 20th week of pregnancy. However, a federal court awarded an injunction against that ban in a 2019 case, Bryant v. Woodall. That injunction still stands, which prevents state officials from enforcing the ban on abortions after the 20th week of pregnancy.

State Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger, R-Rockingham, and State House Speaker Tim Moore, R-Cleveland, the top Republicans in the GOP-controlled General Assembly, asked (Attorney General Josh) Stein and his office to defend the state's 20-week ban in a letter last week. Several other states, including South Carolina and Georgia, are likely to ban abortion, too, according to The New York Times. When the dust settles, North Carolina, Virginia and Florida may be the only Southern states that do not outlaw the practice. And it's entirely possible that Virginia and Florida, which both have Republican governors, could outlaw abortion in the near future, depending on how political winds blow.

As surrounding states ban abortion, clinics in North Carolina expect a rise in the number of patients without a corresponding increase in appointment availability. Amber Gavin, spokeswoman for A Woman's Choice abortion clinics, said estimates for the increase in demand range from a 20% increase to nearly double the demand, although it's too soon to be certain. While North Carolina has a 72-hour waiting period for abortion, the first appointment can happen over a video or phone call. "AWC clinics are prepared to be open for longer hours and additional days to accommodate as many people as we can that need care," Gavin said.

If Stein's office takes legal steps to restore the 20-week ban, Horsch said, "then the General Assembly likely won't have to get involved any further." But if Stein doesn't act to restore the ban, the situation gets more complicated. Both chambers of North Carolina's legislature currently have Republican majorities, although neither has enough votes to override a veto by Gov. Roy Cooper, a Democrat. In a press release sent Friday, Stein directly associated the future of abortion law in North Carolina with elections. State law currently "protects women's reproductive freedoms," Stein said. "If we want to keep our freedoms under state law, then we have to elect state officials who commit to protecting them."

Excerpted from "Abortion Raises Stakes for NC Legislative, High Court Elections," Carolina Public Press, by Kate Martin, 6/30/22.

Across the State

Greetings from Jackson County! I'm very excited to be stepping into the role of state policy chair for AAUW-NC. I look forward to getting to know you better as we continue to advocate for gender equity. I'd like to meet to discuss our post-Roe advocacy strategy. I'd like to hear your ideas and share what I've gathered in recent days as well. Please join me via Zoom on Friday, July 8 from 7-8 pm. Please save the date. We'll be sending a Zoom link shortly.

Katie Pincura

We can tell our legislators to support House Bill 1119 and Senate Bill 888, which would codify Roe v. Wade rights into NC state law. You can find your representatives here: <u>https://www.ncleg.gov/FindYourLegislators</u>
We can support the Carolina Abortion Fund. Learn more here: <u>https://</u>www.carolinaabortionfund.org/

We can become trained advocates engaged in clinic defending and clinic escorting with NC organizations such as Charlotte for Choice. Learn more here: <u>https://</u> <u>www.cltforchoice.com/</u> (please note that Charlotte for Choice has requested that supporters NOT just show up outside clinics to protest or engage with protesters--this disrupts patient care)

AAUW Celebrates Title IX's Golden Anniversary

"No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." —Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

50 years ago, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 changed the face of education. This groundbreaking civil rights law prohibits sex discrimination in education and protects people of all genders, both staff and students, in any educational institution or program receiving federal funds. Title IX ushered in an era of enormous progress for girls and women from classrooms to playing fields, but advocates continue to fight efforts to weaken it. Join AAUW as we honor five decades of advancing educational equity for all and engage where advocacy is still needed to achieve the full promise of Title IX.



New Title IX Stamp

AAUW Hendersonville Branch Newsletter

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We want to take a moment to say a sincere "thank you" to those loyal Hendersonville Branch members who have renewed for the coming year.

Like the rest of the world, we are coming through a period of turmoil and confusion. We are emerging with confidence that we can achieve a more relevant position incorporating traditional AAUW values, and a renewed purpose of gender equity for all women and girls.

We look forward to seeing many new and returning faces at upcoming events and programs. You are what it's all about! Thank you.

Your Leadership Team

AAUW Hendersonville Branch c/o Susan Huff, Newsletter Editor 2746 Holly Hill Drive N. Hendersonville, NC 28791

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