



## AAUW 'Sheroes'

We've all had the privilege and blessing of standing on the shoulders of women who came before us. We've benefitted from their courage, ingenuity, strength and wisdom. Let me tell you about some of my AAUW 'Sheros.'

Our 1979 State AAUW convention in Jamestown, NY featured a theme of "Action for Equity...Marching into the 80's." There, while attending a local Catholic church, our member **Karen Ladley** was denied communion because AAUW supported choice. When she told her story on the convention floor later, the delegates rose up and strengthened their support of our choice policy. Karen taught us to march.

In 1983, **Marcia Dugan**, a member of my NY State Board began losing her hearing and by the end of my term had lost it completely. Our board and branches increased our efforts to make our AAUW meetings accessible in every way. Marcia taught us sensitivity and inclusion.

**Fannye Belle Evans, Ph.D.** came into my life in 1997 by accepting the newly created AAUW Board position of Director of Leadership Development. She and many other women of color helped AAUW begin to truly understand discrimination, racism and cultural differences. They taught us how to listen.

And finally, there was **Wilma Mankiller**, first female Chief of the Cherokee Nation and winner of the 1993 AAUW Achievement Award. It's hard to put her teaching in words. She taught kindness, quiet strength, the power of community development and curiosity. She taught us to break barriers. This is just a sampling of AAUW women who have not only touched lives -- they've changed lives!

**And you, by belonging to this great organization, are changing lives too.** Through your generous funding of

- ★ our Blue Ridge Community College, Henderson County Foundation scholarships, and AAUW Funds
- ★ AAUW programs such as Work Smart, Start Smart, STEMEd, Money Smart, the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), and
- ★ our groundbreaking research reports like *Deeper in Debt: Women & Student Loans*, *The Latina Initiative*, and *Crossing the Line: Sexual Harassment at School*.

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**"Celebrate Leadership!"**  
**22 September 11:15 - 1:15pm Hendersonville Co-op**  
**Community Room\***

Join us for our first luncheon at the Co-op where we'll celebrate

☑Our panel of outstanding community leaders

☑Our 2020 and 2021 winners of the newly renamed Legacy of Leadership Award for exceptional service to AAUW's mission and our branch.

We all stand upon the shoulders of women leaders who came before us. We are the beneficiaries of their courage, insight, tenacity and activism. And now we are lucky to visit with three women in our own community who, through their leadership, continue to make huge impacts on our lives through public policy, health care, publishing and advocacy. They are, like AAUW, committed to advancing equity.



**Ruth Birge** came to Hendersonville in 2002 to serve as Publisher of the Times-News, a position she held until December 2008. After 22 years in the newspaper business, Birge became Executive Director of the United Way of Henderson County in 2009, a position she held until March of 2015. In 2016, she was honored with a lifetime membership into the North Carolina Press Association due to her distinguished service in the field of journalism and newspaper publishing.



**Barbara Volk** has served on the City Council since 1989. She is originally from Chicago and moved to Hendersonville in 1975. She is a professional registered parliamentarian and before retirement was self-employed providing computer services for small businesses and nonprofits. She is the first female mayor serving the City and has served as Mayor since December 2009.



**MaryShell Zaffino, MD**, serves as Chief Medical Officer (CMO) of Blue Ridge Health. She previously served as the Medical Director of BRH – Chimney Rock Road before being promoted to Assistant CMO in February 2017. Dr. Zaffino moved to WNC to complete her Family Medicine Residency with the MAHEC Family Medicine Residency Program in Asheville. She has special interests in prenatal care, rural medicine, and migrant health, and previously served as the Board Chair for the Western Carolina Medical Society Board of Directors.

**Plan to bring a guest and reserve early.**

## Legacy of Leadership

At our September Luncheon we will be honoring the winners of the branch's Legacy of Leadership Award. **Diana Bagwell** will receive the 2020 Award and **Cathy Veal** the 2021 Award. Both members have more than met the criteria of furthering the AAUW mission and making a significant/sustained contribution in support of the program and goals of the branch. **Be there to cheer them!**



**Diana** has long desired to help girls and women to meet their individual goals. Aside from working in many aspects of AAUW, she has served as a mentor and support person for girls hoping to go to college and start careers in science and other fields. She founded the Mecklenburg County Guardian ad Litem Advocacy Foundation to support girls, boys, and Guardians involved in the Courts. Since her retirement as biology teacher, principal, and assistant superintendent for high schools in Charlotte-Mecklenburg, she has stayed busy working on special projects and has still enjoyed being retired!

Currently Diana is being trained as a Docent at the Polk County Historical Foundation, to serve as a provider of information to those learning about the history of their region in Columbus, North Carolina, where she recently moved.



**Cathy** is an active member of the AAUW and volunteers for her past employers, Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy and North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics both of which develop girls who become accomplished professionals in STEM and other fields.

To support entrepreneurs who are alumni of IMSA, Cathy is a founding partner in Blue Titan Ventures, an early-stage venture capital syndicate. One of their portfolio companies is The Planting Hope Company Inc. led by CEO & Co-Founder Julia Stamberger, IMSA '92 — an all-women corporate leadership team! Learn more about this unique company and its innovative plant-based and planet-friendly food & beverage brands here: <https://plantinghopecompany.com/> You can find some of their products locally.

## Important Information about our meetings at the Hendersonville Co-op.

✓ Since space is limited, you must reserve for yourself and your guests

✓ You can bring your own lunch and drink or reserve a box lunch.

✓ Please carpool if at all possible. Meet your friends in the nearby Ingles or Planet Fitness parking lot and come together.

✓ The Community Room is located in a building adjacent to, NOT inside, the Co-op business.

✓ As a courtesy to the Co-op business, which is providing our meeting room at no charge, plan to park at the edges of the parking lot.

✓ There is a walkway to the Community Room building where you can let those in your car exit before you park.

## Special Interest Groups—

to Enhance Your Every Pastime

### **Art Study Group, now “Explorers of the Arts”**

The date, time and a brief description of the 5 scheduled outings for the 2022-23 year are listed below so you can mark your calendars. Reminders and more information about each trip/outing will be sent by email closer to the time of each trip/outing.

1. Art on 7th - Fine Art Gallery (Tour by gallery owner and an art demonstration) - Hendersonville  
Friday, September 23 at 10:30 a.m. (lunch to follow)
2. Saluda Moon Glass Art Studio (Demonstration and hands on experience) - Saluda  
Monday, November 7 at 11:00 a.m. (lunch to follow)
3. Black Artists in Hendersonville and the People's Museum (presentation and tour) -Hendersonville  
January, Date and Time TBD
4. Ikebana Flower Arranging (history of and a demonstration) - Hendersonville  
March, Date and Time TBD
5. Pat Morgan watercolorists and Richard Morgan poetry (studio tour and art coupled with poetry)  
- Hendersonville, Tuesday, May 19 at 10:00 a.m. (lunch to follow)

New members are always welcome! Questions -- *Please contact Cathleen Yordi [clyordi@aol.com](mailto:clyordi@aol.com).*

### **Book Group**

We meet the first Thursday of the month at 1:30. If joining in person, the location is Church of Christ Annex at 1975 Haywood Road. To join via ZOOM, *contact Mary Ann Bents at 667 967-0147 or [mabents@verizon.net](mailto:mabents@verizon.net)* for the link. This month our discussion is *The Other Einstein* by Marie Benedict, a fictional recreation of the life of Mileva Maric, the brilliant physicist wife of the renowned scientist. If you haven't read the book, come and listen! For October our book will be *Grace After Henry* by Eithne Shortall.

### **Bridge Group**

Bridge is open to new players! The group meets to play the first Friday afternoon each month at Marjean Smith's home in Hendersonville. *Contact Cecille Masters-Webb at 828 693-4081 or [treetop336@gmail.com](mailto:treetop336@gmail.com).*

### **Taps and Tasters**

If you are interested in exploring the numerous local wineries and tasting their wares, this group is for you! Our next date is October 14. Watch for coming information as the event place and time are finalized.

More fun, see page 6



# Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>September</b>			
				1 Book Group SIG	2 Bridge SIG	3
4	5	6	7	8 Equity/Pub. Policy SIG	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 <b>Branch Luncheon Meeting</b>	23 Art Group SIG	24
25	26	27	28	29 Leadership Team Mtg.	30 Herstory Networking	
			<b>October</b>			
						1
2	3	4	5	6 Book Group SIG	7 Bridge SIG	8
9	10	11	12	13 Equity/Pub. Policy SiG	14 Taps & Tasters SIG	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 Herstory Networking	22
23/30	24 Leadership Team Mtg.	25	26	27 <b>Branch Luncheon Meeting</b>	28	29

**AAUW Hendersonville  
Branch Newsletter**

Susan Huff, Editor/Publisher

Thorazgirl@gmail.com

828 217-5944

*Correction:*

Please change the phone number for **Joen Goodman** in your directory. Her cell number is 828 606-8011.

*New Member:*

Please welcome **Pat Argue**  
Wm. Smith College, BA English  
Long Island Univ., MA Eng Ed  
83 Lake Point Circle 28792  
828 891-4521  
pkargue@gmail.com

**More SIG Opportunities**

**Equity/Public Policy Group** is looking to expand to new members. Come join us for lunch at Sol y Luna in Laurel Park on September 8 and discuss the many pressing needs for our involvement. Reservation is required. Contact Sandy Bernard at ssmreb@bellsouth.net.

**Upcoming — How To Group.** Look for more information on the relaunch of this previously successful group that visited various local businesses and discovered what they do and how they do it!

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**Sheroes—Continued from page 1**

**Women and girls are standing on your shoulders.** They are learning how to be strong, inclusive, independent. They're learning how to break barriers, march when necessary and the power of community. They're learning how to use their voices for 'good trouble.'

**Thank you for your strong shoulders and your support of AAUW!**

Our leadership team looks forward to seeing you at one of our many events!

*Sandy Bernard, President*

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