

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



While on vacation recently in the UK, I was asked why such a big country (the U.S.) did not have a deeper bench of candidates. Good question, and there is no simple answer. I guess my first reaction was why did it take so long to get the first woman presidential nominee of a major party on the ballot? And why are there so few women in Congress and in state legislatures, a potential source of women candidates for Congress?

Other countries - older, newer, and even third world - have left us standing when it comes to women elected to their highest offices. Just google 'women political leaders historical and current' and you will see what I mean. I truly believe we would be a far better, fairer, and

more successful country if more women were in elected office. We currently have 20 women serving in the senate (20%) and 84 women in the House (19%). I find that discouraging.

What can WE do to make a difference? Well one idea is for our branch to continue our strong support of IWIL and NCCWSL. These are great programs that offer women leadership training and mentoring. Our October meeting was a great way to interact with the IWIL students. Many of us would like to see that effort continue. Our branch can offer Brevard College students free membership to AAUW. And we can continue to engage them in our organization by making a special effort to invite them to our meetings and luncheons. One student at my table not only offered to assist us with our branch website but also volunteered to work at our book sale in June. So the interest in AAUW is there.

Individually we can increase our support of local, state, and national female leaders - directly, through campaigning and financial contributions, and indirectly, through participation in AAUW and other organizations that support women's equality, advancement, and campaigns. And lastly, in the immortal words of our 44th President, 'Don't boo - vote.' By the time you read this I am proud to say that I will have already voted. And I will have also contributed to the campaigns of some wonderful women candidates on the 2016 ballot.

Aleta Tisdale



Branch Meetings

Shining a Light on Human Trafficking

November 1, 7:00 PM

Rachel Parker, World Relief Program Manager

November 15, 7:00 PM

Carla Damron, Writer and Victim Advocate

Hostesses: Paula Bennett Paddick and Carole Pohl

Both programs will be held at the Lutheran Church of the Good Sheperd

(More information on page 2)

NOVEMBER BRANCH MEETINGS (2)

Shining a Light on Human Trafficking

Our November “program” will actually consist of two presentations – one of Nov. 1st at 7:00 pm and the second on Nov. 15th at 7:00 pm. In an effort to inform the public about the realities of human trafficking at home and abroad, the AAUW Brevard Branch and the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd are co-sponsoring these presentations. Both presentations will take place at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, where we normally have our monthly meetings.

When you hear the terms “human trafficking” or “human exploitation,” you might be thinking of distant, economically-challenged countries where the rights of women and children are not protected. If so, you are partially correct. But, human trafficking is a serious global problem happening everywhere - in distant lands, in the US, in North Carolina, and even in our region of western North Carolina.

Sexual exploitation is the most common form of human trafficking, but involuntary servitude, child labor, and debt bondage are other expressions of modern day slavery. Right now, 20 to 30 million people are estimated to be held in bondage worldwide, with 14,000 to 18,000 of those in the United States.

Human trafficking is currently the world’s second largest illegal trade, just behind drug trafficking, and is the fastest growing illegal enterprise. It is a billion dollar industry built on the suffering of millions of victims – most of them women and children.



At the first presentation on Nov. 1st, Rachel Parker, the Program Manager for World Relief High Point’s Anti-Human Trafficking Program, will provide an overview of human trafficking, including categories of servitude, global and domestic statistics, and an analysis of the economic and cultural factors that contribute to human trafficking. Before coming to World Relief High Point, a part of the North Carolina Coalition Against Human Trafficking, Rachel worked and volunteered abroad in places such as Kenya and the Occupied Palestinian Territories researching, developing programs, and advocating for the rights of Internally Displaced Persons. She is currently part of the human trafficking regional rapid response team responding to victim identification.



At the second presentation two weeks later, Carla Damron, a writer and licensed clinical social worker, will relate her experiences working with victims of human trafficking, highlighting what these victims endure. In 2012, as a result of her experience working with victims, Carla collaborated with victims and other social policy advocates to pass a progressive anti-trafficking bill in South Carolina. She is currently a member of the Richland County Human Trafficking Task Force where she focuses much of her energy on raising public awareness and reducing the risk of domestic sex trafficking. As a writer as well as a social worker, Carla is working on her second novel, based on the experiences of a teenage survivor of human trafficking.

Kathleen Milligan, Program Vice President

Scholarship Committee

Last month Betty Schenfield and Laura Ledford attended the annual Blue Ridge Community College Scholarship Luncheon. There they met this year's recipients of our AAUW scholarships: Lauren Chandler, a Rosman High graduate majoring in Animal Science; Amber Kerner who graduated from Brevard High and is studying pharmacy; Cameron McCathern, also a Brevard High grad majoring in art as she prepared for a career in costume design; and Victoria Simmons, a married mother of 2 who returned to Brevard 3 years ago as her family originated from here, and she is studying welding.

These students will attend our April meeting so members may meet them.

Sandy Tooman



Left to right: Victoria Simmons, Amber Keener, Cameron McCathern, Lauren Chandler, Betty Schenfield, chair AAUW Brevard Branch

Bridge Club

Bridge will be at Carole Pohl's house on Tuesday, November 22nd at 1:00 p.m.

Carole's address is 870 Soquili Drive in Connessee.

Book Group

AAUW book group will meet on Wed., Nov. 2, 2016 to discuss **LOVING ELEANOR** by Susan Wittig Albert. Please note that is different than the original schedule because we are changing the month for this book. On Wed. Dec. 7, 2016 we will discuss **The Warden** by Anthony Trollope. For further information call Carol Carrano

COMING EVENTS

Nov. 2
2:00 p.m.

Book Club
College Walk

Nov. 1
7:00 p.m.

Branch Meeting
Lutheran Church of
the Good Shepherd

Nov. 7
1:00 p.m.

Board Meeting
St. Phillips Episcopal
Church

Nov. 15
7:00 p.m.

Branch Meeting
Lutheran Church of
the Good Shepherd

Nov. 22
1:00 p.m.

Bridge Club
home of Carole Pohl

Gifts to AAUW Endowment

Judith Baghose: In Memory of Ron Lavery
Judith Baghose: In memory of Caroline Wells

Grace Munro Roy: In Honor of Gil & Dovie Coan's 75th wedding anniversary
Grace Munro Roy: In Honor of David & Lynne Joyce and their outstanding leadership at Brevard College
Grace Munro Roy: In Honor of Bob & Sara Keller for their loyalty and friendship.

MEMBERSHIP

Jody Schuld joined us at the September meeting. She arrived in Brevard in April after living in Ohio and Virginia. Jody grew up as an air force brat -living all over the country, in Germany and the Philippines. She graduated from Winthrop University with an BA in English and Spanish, then went on to Nola Southeastern University for a Masters in Teaching and Learning. She is a retired English teacher. Jody enjoys sewing, crochet, reading and cooking. She and her husband have two children and one grandson.

Kathy Piersol, Membership Vice-President



HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Tuesday, December 13 @ 12 Noon
Porter Center Foyer – Brevard College
Hot mulled cider at noon
Lunch at 12:30 p.m.

MENU

Spinach Salad with Apples &
Apple Cider Vinaigrette
Champagne Chicken Garnished with
Mandarin Orange & Grapes
Sautéed Vegetables
Wild Rice
Assorted Rolls – Whipped Butter
Assorted Cheese Cakes, including Tuxedo,
Chocolate Chip, Raspberry Swirl & New York
Coffee / Tea

Please submit a check for \$20.00 payable to
AAUW Brevard Branch
to Ann Grant,
12 Galuyasdi Court, Brevard 28712, by
Tuesday, December 6. Ann will be available at
the November branch meetings for members
who wish to pay at that time.