

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



January is the month for the national State of the Union and the North Carolina state addresses, so I will add the State of AAUW Brevard to the mix. I think it is important to look at our organization as a whole as most of our time is focused on committee work.

This is AAUW Brevard's 63rd year of service to our community. For an organization to exist that long is a tribute to the women who have worked and supported our mission since 1955. The book sale

celebrates its 42nd year as we continue to offer scholarships to women (from the 5th grade to college age) in our community. Our scholarships total is \$19,840 for the present budget year.

The AAUW endowment is fully funded at Blue Ridge Community College and in two years the Brevard College endowment will be complete, which will free up \$5,000 to be used for our mission in new ways.

The executive committee welcomed Laura Ledford as treasurer; and we moved the scholarship committee to the executive committee in recognition to the important work it does for the branch.


The treasurer reports that our financial health "has been stable due to the nature of our funding. As we record our next year's income, this lets us know the exact amount of money we have. Committee chairs are able to align their requests to this amount. Book sales vary; but by working a year ahead, we can adjust expenses accordingly."

The book storage facility represented a challenge for our branch. The new Book Nook is smaller than what we had, but the facilities are nicer with a private bathroom along with heat and air. That change necessitated added rent in the budget and thus lessened the amount of scholarship money we were able to commit to Brevard College and Blue Ridge Community College. We hope to be able to bring those amounts back to \$5,000 as soon as possible.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## COMING EVENTS

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Feb 7</b><br>2:00 p.m.  | <b>Book Group</b><br>College Walk                                |
| <b>Feb 12</b><br>1:00 p.m. | <b>Board Meeting</b><br>St. Timothy's<br>Methodist Church        |
| <b>Feb 13</b><br>12 noon   | <b>Branch Meeting</b><br>Lutheran Church of<br>the Good Shepherd |
| <b>Feb 27</b><br>1:00 p.m. | <b>Bridge Group</b><br>Pat Clow's home.                          |
| <b>Mar 7</b><br>2:00 p.m.  | <b>Book Group</b><br>College Walk                                |
| <b>Mar 23-24</b>           | <b>AAUW NC Annual<br/>Conference</b><br>Winston-Salem            |



### BRANCH MEETING

**12 noon, February 13**  
**Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd**

**The Impact of Alcohol & Drug Addiction  
on the Community:**  
**Kathleen Mallet**

Hostesses: Sue Barrett & Connie Kay Hughes

## FEBRUARY BRANCH PROGRAM



After hearing in January what Pisgah Legal Services is doing to care for area veterans and other populations at risk, Kathleen Mallet, a clinical counselor specializing in addiction, will speak on “The Impact of Alcohol and Drug Addiction on Our Community” this month. It will be a timely program as there is so much focus on the opioid epidemic sweeping the nation.

Earning a Masters Degree in Clinical Counseling in 1987 from Westfield State College in Massachusetts, Kathleen worked until 1999 for several agencies in Palm Beach County, FL before coming to Brevard. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) and Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist (LCAS).

The Counseling Centers of Brevard which Kathleen founded in 2002 provides a range of services from relationship counseling and anger management treatment to substance abuse therapy for individuals, families and groups. Her practice provides a holistic approach both for the individuals in need and their family members – both parents and grandparents. She describes the Centers’ areas of expertise as substance abuse disorders, relationship/ marriage problems, mood disorders including depression and bi-polar disorder, PTSD and military family life transitions as well as stress management and adjustment disorders.

Kathleen was formerly the director of the CARE Coalition, a grassroots, community group representing diverse community interests dedicated to reducing substance abuse and misuse in Transylvania County. Started in 2010 by a small group of healthcare professionals concerned about rising numbers of overdoses, the coalition has grown to include over 60 members, a staff of 2, and has acquired federal funding under the Drug Free Communities Program. Her counseling practice is one of more than two dozen partner organizations and agencies.

Please welcome Kathleen Mallet, an AAUW Brevard member, to learn more about the effects of alcohol and drug addiction in this area.

*Carole Pohl and Ellen O'Brien, Program VPs with Carol Elliott, Publicity Chair*

## BOOK SALE UPDATE

We are making great progress on the Choice Books category in anticipation of Raoul's retirement in June. Choice/On-Line Sales has 4 parts:

1. Evaluation - Ellen O'Brien has taken over this responsibility.
2. Large Donations - Bill Arnold and others have agreed to assist Ellen with these. Pinkie and Kristen are the contact people.
3. On-Line Data Submissions - Annette Blum and Jean Fallis will continue to do this, but would like more helpers.
4. EBAY! - We need to set up a new eBay account and have no one familiar with this. Any new members with experience with on-line sales?

Please let us know if you can help with any of these activities.

*Kristen Alpert and Pinkie Byrd, Co-Chairs*



From the January Branch meeting: 1 to r, Ellen O'Brien (VP Membership), Madeline McKeller Offen, attorney for Pisgah Legal, Bess Newton, Senior Development Office for Pisgah Legal, Carole Pohl (VP Membership)

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Continued from p. 1**

Our work for the book sale has already begun; in fact, it continues year round. The sale begins on June 13 and ends on June 22. We have members to replace our volunteer extraordinaire, Raoul Gagne, who will identify and price the more valuable books, thus continuing Raoul and Veronica's work that adds much to our proceeds.

We have hired two interns from Brevard College to work on our social media, specifically the Facebook page and website. The branch has developed an on-going relationship with Brevard College's IWIL (Institute for Women in Leadership) program. At our September meeting we had forty IWIL students join us for a round table discussion and dinner. The IWIL committee presented a Start Smart program at Brevard College in October to thirteen coeds to help them learn about salary negotiations.

Monthly meetings remain robust with good attendance and excellent programs. We are now meeting earlier to gather for refreshments to save time for our speakers and business meeting that follows. Please be sure to look for the new orange stickers on the name tags of new members. We want them to feel welcome and a part of what we do.

Five former presidents will be serving as co-presidents next year. In answering the challenge of filling leadership positions, a leadership development program has evolved. You will be hearing more about this in coming months. We now have a complete slate of officers for 2018-2019, and we thank the women who have agreed to serve.

Volunteers are the life blood of AAUW. We have ten members serving on the executive committee, twenty-four members serving as committee chairs, and approximately 115 members who work on the book sale. That level of service is unparalleled in most organizations. We have members who care and who back up their dedication with hours of hard work.

This has been a challenging year; this has been a good year. AAUW Brevard remains a vital organization in our community. We are well known for our book sale and the scholarships we give. I believe that we will continue to serve our community in the future as we have done in the past. More dollars will be raised, new members will be welcomed, and new officers will agree to serve. We are alive and we are kicking. We continue a fine, honorable legacy of those who have come before us.

*Paula Bennett Paddick*

### **Bridge Group**

Thank you to Connie Kay Hughes for serving as our bridge hostess in January. We also congratulate Connie Kay for having the highest score this month.

The AAUW Bridge group will next meet on February 27 at 1:00 p.m. at Pat Clow's house. If anyone has questions or would like to join our AAUW bridge group, contact Linda Thompson.

### **Book Group**

AAUW book group will meet in the downstairs meeting room at College Walk at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 7, to discuss *The Invention of Nature* by Andrea Wulf. On March 7, we will discuss *A Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood. For more information contact Carol Carrano.

### **2018 AAUW NC ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

AAUW of North Carolina will host allies from around the state at its annual conference: Friday-Saturday, March 23-24, 2018, at the Hawthorne Inn and Conference Center, Winston-Salem. For more information, go to: <http://www.aauwnc.org/events/2018-annual-conference/>

### **HISTORIC ROSENWALD TOUR OPPORTUNITY**

Participate in an engaging, educational and Brevard Rosenwald African American experiential journey. Learn first-hand about the first school to integrate in NC along with the first integrated football team. Your "student" experience includes a Rosenwald school breakfast and lunch. You won't soon forget this historic "tour!"

Friday, February 23rd from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

\$25 for adults and \$10 for students.

Bethel "A" Baptist Church on Oakdale St., Brevard.

Contact Nicola Koresh at 884-4565 (home), 421-8615 (cell) or [nicola@comporium.net](mailto:nicola@comporium.net) for more information.

## NEW MEMBERS

**Alane Klink** joined AAUW in April 2017. She has a BS in Education from Florida State University and a MS in Guidance and Counseling from the University of Central Florida. After retiring in 2016 and 22 years with St. Thomas Aquinas High School in Fort Lauderdale, she and her husband moved into a mountain community south of Brevard and a home they had been planning and constructing since 2014. Alane loves the outdoors: “it’s been a joy to learn about mountain landscaping and designing and bringing to life garden areas around our new home. Every day I walk or hike with my yearling Australian shepherd Skye Bleu. Other interests include cooking, reading and volunteering. In the near future, we hope to continue visiting National Parks across the nation and return to some special areas of Canada.” They have 2 adult sons: one son and grandson in Los Angeles and another son in Durham, NC.

**Barbara Belli** joined AAUW after our January meeting, but she is familiar with the Brevard Branch, having been a member 4 years ago, before moving away to care for a family member. She has a BS in Psychology with a minor in Sociology from Florida State University. She retired from the Palm Beach County, Florida school system. She and her husband have had many cocker spaniels over the years. She is a member of the Transylvania Garden Club and a Master Gardener for Transylvania County. She has volunteered at the Silvermont History Museum, for Free Rein and with the City of Brevard Planning Group.



**Gretchen Herbert** retired as a Rear Admiral from the Navy in 2014 after completing 29 years on active duty and moved with her husband Roger to Brevard in 2015. A native of Rochester, NY. Gretchen graduated from the University of Rochester with a BA in Geology and the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA, with a MS in Systems Technology. She has an additional MS in Military Studies from the Marine Corps College. Her last duty assignment was as Commander, Navy Cyber Forces Command at Norfolk, VA, where she was responsible for manning, training and equipping the fleet for cyber security readiness, telecommunications, electronic warfare, signals intelligence, cryptology, space systems and network operations afloat and ashore.

*Maury Bandurraga, Membership Vice-President*

### AAUW BREVARD CONTRIBUTIONS

*Donations made since the January newsletter*

#### **Blue Ridge Community College Scholarship Endowment**

**Donor:**

John & Carol Carrano  
Judy Baghose

**In Memory of:**

Peggy Gibson  
Grace Thompson

**Donor:**

Robert Fearheiley & Katherine Courtney  
Harriet Walls

**In Honor of:**

Brevard Branch Scholarship Committee

#### **Susan Bacon Renson Memorial Scholarship Endowment**

**Donor:**

Mr. and Mrs. Steven R. Orr, Jr.

#### **Brevard College Scholarship Endowment**

**Donor:**

Annette Blum  
Carol Carrano  
Grace Roy  
Grace Roy

**In Memory of:**

Grace Thompson  
Dorothy Bauer  
Larry Shoffner  
Grace Thompson

If you or family members are looking for a gift idea, please consider contributing to one of the AAUW college endowments. You can link to the forms at: <http://brevard-nc.aauw.net/donate/>