



President's Message

“Let us pick up our books, our pens. They are the most powerful weapons. One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world.” Malala Yousafzai

How does it feel, fellow AAUW members, to be in the philosophical company of an inspiring young woman who

received the Nobel Peace Prize at the age of 14?

Malala Yousafzai won for her courage in standing up to the Taliban in Pakistan to defy their edict that women should not be educated. Malala spoke even when soldiers stormed her school and shot her because of her fearless reputation for encouraging girls to attend school.

We know that education can be one of the most valuable resources we can provide young women. Our branch not only offers scholarships for young women of all ages, but our state and national organizations also offer scholarships and are constantly pushing for equity and equal participation in society.

Reading about Malala, I found her book *Malala's Magic Pencil*. During the trials of her remarkable life, she dreamed of another world – a world in which education would be a universal right for all women and peace would return to her homeland. *(continued on p.3)*

COMING EVENTS

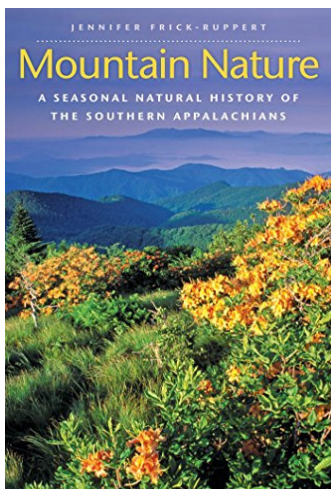
Nov. 1 Book Group
2:00 PM College Walk, downstairs meeting room to discuss *The Soul of An Octopus* by Sy Montgomery.

Nov. 13 Board Meeting
1:00 PM St. Timothy's Methodist Church

Nov. 14 Branch Meeting
7:00 PM Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. ***Come earlier to socialize before meeting starts.***

Nov. 28 Bridge Group
1:00 PM Judy Lauter's home at 342 Qualla Circle, Brevard. Kudos to Connie Keeney for highest score at October Bridge Group meeting.

Dec. 6 Book Group
2:00 PM College Walk to discuss *Atomic Weight of Love* by Elizabeth J. Church.



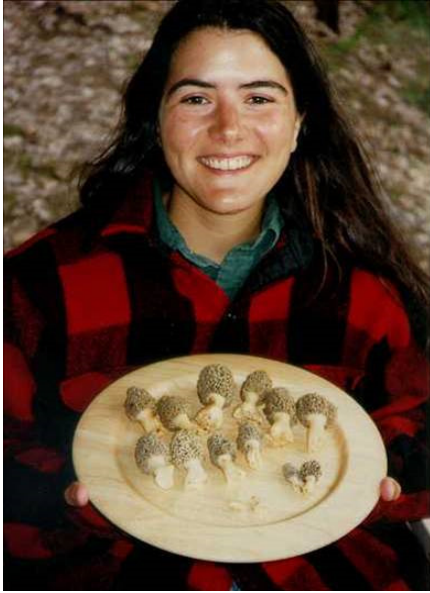
BRANCH MEETING

Tuesday, Nov. 14 - Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd - 7:00 PM

Appalachian Biodiversity
Dr. Jennifer Frick-Rupert, Brevard College

Introduction of Clemson WISE recipients
Hostesses: Paula Bennett Paddick and Judith Wolf

NOVEMBER BRANCH MEETING PROGRAM



For all nature lovers and outdoor enthusiasts, you are in for a real treat. Dr. Jennifer Frick-Ruppert will be giving a presentation on the biodiversity of our own backyard. Much of her presentation will be drawn from her popular and highly acclaimed book, ***Mountain Nature: A Seasonal Natural History of the Southern Appalachians***.

An editorial review of the book by the *Southeastern Naturalist* describes it as “a lively and engaging account of the ecology of this remarkable region... Stories of animals and plants are intertwined with descriptions of the seasons, giving readers a glimpse into the interlinked rhythms of nature, from daily and yearly cycles to long-term geological changes.”

Perhaps what is most striking is the lushness of the language she uses to describe the science: “These gently rolling hills are carpeted with a rich and beautiful tapestry, intrinsically woven from diverse and colorful threads of biological diversity. Life flourishes in the temperate and moist conditions ... where ecology is elegantly

Jennifer with Plate of Morels complex, vistas are breath-taking and waterfalls abound.”

The Southern Appalachians boast some of the highest biodiversity in the world and are legendary for the magnificent variety of wildflowers, but this diversity pales in comparison to other organisms. Her presentation describes not only the diversity that exists here among plants and animals but also explains which factors contribute to the region’s biodiversity. All our rain does remarkable good!

Jennifer is professor of Biology & Environmental Science and Chair of the Science and Math Division at Brevard College. She is also Executive Director of the Appalachian Center for Environmental Education and a Board member of the Cradle of Forestry. She has her B.S. in Biochemistry and PhD. in Zoology from Clemson University. Her Curriculum Vita lists pages of academic and professional articles, honors and awards. She is also author of ***Waterways: Sailing the Southeastern Coast*** and her most recent book is ***The Legend of Skyco: Spirit Quest***, which describes the world of the native people of the region before European arrival. Join us for a most extraordinary evening.

*Carole Pohl, Program VP with
Carol Elliott, Branch Publicity Chair*

AAUW BREVARD CONTRIBUTIONS

Donations made since the October 2017 newsletter to:

AAUW Brevard College Endowment

Donor:

Geri Hambly

In Memory of

Joyce Reaume

Grace Roy

In Honor of

Pat & Ray Dorner, Ray & September Fisher, Wanda Moser,
Carol & John Carrano and Bob & Sara Kellar

Gift donations may also be made to our Blue Ridge Community College Endowment by linking to:

<http://brevard-nc.aauw.net/files/2012/05/Blue-Ridge-Community-College-Endowment-Form.pdf>
Gifts to the BRCC scholarship endowment must be mailed to the college with the completed form.

Judicial Politics Continue in Raleigh



Efforts to politicize and restructure the judicial branch of North Carolina state government continue. Last month we reported that: 1) judicial candidates on the ballot will now be identified as Republican or Democrat; 2) the size of the Court of Appeals will be reduced from 15 to 12 judges; and 3) the Department of Justice budget will be cut by \$7 million. The Senate has yet to consider the NC House's redrawn judicial maps to divide district and superior court districts into smaller, more irregular areas - with obvious partisan advantages.

Now, Senate Rules Chair Bill Rabon has filed legislation calling for a CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT to shorten the terms of ALL NC judges to two years with every current judge's term ending in 2018. All would need to run for re-election this fall and every two years after that. There are currently 403 judges serving in the courts at all levels, including the Supreme Court. No other state has two-year terms for their Supreme Court judges.

This amendment would literally turn judges into partisan politicians spending as much time raising money and campaigning as they do hearing cases. In defending the amendment, House Rules Chair David Lewis told a reporter that if judges were "going to act like legislators, then perhaps they should run like them."

Some observers see this proposed legislation as a threat to force court officials into accepting a Senate plan to move to a "merit" selection of judges with legislative leaders making the appointments. Reportedly, such a merit selection plan is in the works but no details have been released. As with so much else in Raleigh, the public will likely be the last to know.

Karla Atkinson, Public Policy/Voter Ed Committee
Excerpted from [NC Policy Watch 10/19/2017](#)

President's Message (continued)

This holiday season ***Malala's Magic Pencil*** might make a wonderful gift for our granddaughters (or great granddaughters). Let us never miss a chance to share the fact that 130 million girls and women worldwide need our help.

AAUW has awarded \$3.7 million in fellowships and grants in 35 countries so that women can claim their rightful place in our world. Hallelujah to that!!

Please Remember: Last year our Board voted to have our refreshments and socializing BEFORE our branch meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. rather than breaking after our speaker and prior to our business meeting. We hoped that this would streamline our meeting and we could get home a little earlier. So if you want to nosh a little and catch up with friends, plan on arriving at least by 6:45 pm.

Paula Bennett Paddick, President

THE IMPACT OF CHOICE BOOK ONLINE SALES ON AAUW SCHOLARSHIPS



This past year has been a “Wake-up Call” for many of us who have been active in the book sale which is the principal and ONLY generator of funds for the scholarships we give to local girls and young women. In this last year we experienced a “double-whammy”. First, we lost much of the impact of the person who has driven online sales of choice books when he reduced his time and energy in this endeavor (he’s going to be moving closer to grandchildren). Then, our “cost of doing business” significantly increased when we lost our specially discounted facilities for sorting, pricing, and storing our books.

We’ve wanted to think that the e-readers like kindles and nooks have not had an impact on our book sales BUT they have. It’s just that this loss has been masked by the fact that we had a selfless hard-working husband of a member who spent time selling choice books online which made up for the difference in actual book sale receipts.

If we keep all of these “choice” books in our regular inventory and sell them for the prices we normally do, we lose THOUSANDS of dollars. Finding these “choice” books and selling them online can get us hundreds of dollars for a book rather than \$1 or \$2 for the same book at the sale. Make no mistake, these online sales can add up to \$7,000 of our final revenue for the book sale.

This is the time for anyone in this organization who has some time and feels comfortable going online to come forward and volunteer for this MOST IMPORTANT endeavor. Raoul Gagne who has driven our online sales of choice books will train ALL who are interested to take on this business. **YOU** can make a huge DIFFERENCE in what we are able to give local girls and women in scholarships.

NOW is the time to step forward! Call Pinkie Byrd or Kristen Alpert and say, “YES, I want to make a difference.”

The Book Sale Committee

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!



ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

When: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2017
Where: Conneestee Falls Overlook Clubhouse
Time: 12:00 – Homemade Apple Cider and Cash Wine Bar
12:30 – Lunch served
Cost: \$18 inclusive

The menu* will include:

Roasted Winter Squash
Sliced Roasted Turkey Breast with Foraged Mushroom Gravy
Steamed Broccoli & Heirloom Carrots
Duo of Sweet and Yukon Potatoes
Rolls & Butter
Apple Strudel with Chantilly Cream
Coffee (Reg. & Decaf.) Hot Tea

*Vegetarian option available upon request

*******DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF CHECKS – DEC. 4th, 2017*******

Please tear off and send to our treasurer OR Give to Judith Johnson at the Nov. branch meeting:

MY RESERVATION: # RESERVATIONS Total Cost (\$18/pp)
NAME: _____ \$_____

Make Holiday Luncheon checks payable to: AAUW BREVARD BRANCH

Mail your reservation check to our Treasurer:

Laura Ledford
38 Jasmine Lane
Brevard, NC 28712