

# AAUW Raleigh-Wake County

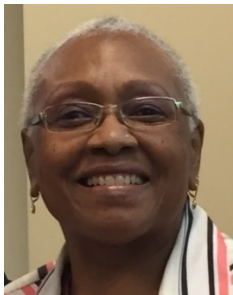
## March, 2018

### BRANCH NEWSLETTER

#### **Editor's Note**

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*from the President's Pen*

Guess what.....this is the season for WOMEN. We've been pushed and prodded to regroup and literally make ourselves Born Again. So we're in a new birth canal. It's narrow, uncomfortable and very very painful. Usually, we bear the pain of childbirth. We already know the drill. However, now we are the drill that's holding the bit and without the benefit of any painkiller. Our national leadership has made sure of that! Entitlements are now a gift that comes with a price: freedom. We know trojan horses when we see them. We're on our own. Well...now we are going to vote and become elected officials because we *HAVE TO*. Democracy is in trouble: real trouble. We've got Wonder Woman in the cinemas and we've become Wonder Women at home and in our communities. Okay...we're the clean-up crew. Send us where others are now and can't seem to just "get the job done". We know who they are. Now "they" are about to find out who We Are.

*Remember: bullets don't change policy. Ballots do. \*Our Mission: Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.*

## **Officers and committee chairs:**

President: Treka Spraggins	momcat2@minas-v.com
VP and Membership: Terry Wall	terry.c.wall@gmail.com
Treasurer: Lisa Lowe	lisalenorelowe@gmail.com
Secretary: Joyce Gad	gadabout2@yahoo.com
Program: Gregoria Smith	gregoria@IdentityWork.net
Public Policy: Denny McGuire	jmcguire11@nc.rr.com

## **Upcoming meetings and programs** (Programs are subject to change.)

Announcement about the state AAUW meeting: The dates are Mar 23 & 24, 2018. The meeting will be in Winston-Salem. In the near future you can find program details at [www.aauwnc.org](http://www.aauwnc.org)

## **March meeting**

### **WHEN:**

Tues., March 20  
5:15 to 7 PM  
Come at 5:15 for Hospitality; 5:30 for program  
6:30 PM Business Meeting & Announcements

### **WHERE:**

Junior League Center  
711 Hillsborough St, Raleigh  
(Parking on street and behind building)

Program: Missy Hatley, Resource Development Director, CASA

CASA is a local nonprofit housing developer and property manager, offering affordable apartments to individuals and families with barriers to the conventional housing market – including income, poor or little credit, work history, history of homelessness, and the use of housing vouchers to name a few. CASA was created in Raleigh in 1992 and over the past 26 years has expanded to cover Wake, Durham and Orange counties. At CASA, tenants pay 30% of their income on housing, freeing up limited funds for other important needs, such as health care, groceries, transportation, and saving for emergencies. 43% of CASA's renters are women, many of whom experienced homelessness.

Missy Hatley has served as CASA's Resource Development Director since 2014 and is responsible for engaging people, businesses, foundations, and communities of faith in supporting CASA's housing mission. Prior to joining CASA, Missy worked with Habitat for Humanity of Wake County and One80 Place, a shelter, soup kitchen and health clinic, in Charleston, S.C. Missy is a proud alum of NC State.

## **BRANCH NEWS**

### **Election of Officers:**

Here is the schedule for election events.

#### **March 2018**

Nominating Committee to meet

Slate to be presented at (or before) March 20 meeting

Nominations from the floor accepted at March 20 meeting

#### **April 2018**

Platforms presented to Membership by email PRIOR TO the April 17 meeting

Feedback given "live" at Business Meeting or in writing from those absent

#### **May 2018**

Election to be held during May 22 Business Meeting

#### **June 2018**

Final meeting of 2017-18 year

### **Membership Renewal:**

Annual membership expires on June 30, 2018. It is almost time to renew your membership. Here's a reminder of an update from national.

Membership **Dues** Update. The AAUW Board of Directors voted in June 2017 to enact the first **dues** change in almost a decade. Effective March 16, 2018, national **dues** will increase from \$49 to \$59. Annual **dues** currently account for 13 percent of AAUW's annual budget. They help to sustain and grow AAUW's programs. <https://www.aauw.org/resource/membership-dues-update/>

AAUW national membership **dues** are \$59, of which \$56 is tax deductible as a charitable contribution.

### **Member in the News:**

AAUW Raleigh/Wake- Student member Aisha Turner (North Carolina Central University) has entered her art work for the AAUW Annual Art Contest.

She is soliciting votes for her submissions "A Sunlight Bloom" and "Violet Bliss". Voting deadline is March 4<sup>th</sup>. Six winning entries will be featured in a collection of note cards mailed to AAUW members in the spring.

Go to the following link provided and select Vote Now. <https://www.aauw.org/contests/>

**Personal note from the editor:** I've looked through the many entries and they are beautiful. You can search by name of the submission if you want to go directly to Aisha's entries.

**Smart Girls, Smart Choices: This is the flagship project for our branch.**  
**Please consider how you can support this initiative.**

Another major accomplishment for Smart Girls, Smart Choices and Brandy Burnett! Brandy Burnett, a member of our branch, is the founder of Smart Girls, Smart Choices. Supporting that program is a high priority for our branch.

As a result of our Smart Girls Smart Choices Inc. commitment to improving the financial aptitude of young girls, we have pledged to provide a series of financial literacy workshops for girls ages 11-17. We have received some seed funding from Triangle United Way to start the series. We are in need of facilitators for the following workshops. If you are interested in facilitating a workshop please reach out to Brandy Burnett at [bburnett@smartgirlssmartchoices.com](mailto:bburnett@smartgirlssmartchoices.com) or call 919-412-7675. Workshops are held on Saturdays from 2pm-4pm.

The initiative needs 2 facilitators for each workshop.

- Money & Banking
- Value of Money
- Earning Power – College & Career exploration
- Understanding and Creating Budgets
- Using a budget & NC College Foundation FAFSA application workshop
- Savings & Checking Accounts
- Credit & Credit cards
- Understanding Loans
- Introduction to Investing
- Capital gains & losses
- Job interviewing techniques.
- Entrepreneurship
- Vocational credentialing workshop

**Public policy:** Many thanks to Denny McGuire for being our public policy liaison. Here's her report.

So much is happening in North Carolina and at the national level that this report will be only a snapshot of key topics:

**Class Size in NC Public Schools**—last year the General Assembly directed school systems to reduce class size in the lower grades—Kindergarten, first, second and third grades. Schools were to implement the smaller sizes starting in Fall 2018. There were no funds appropriated (targeted for class size reduction). Cutting class size has a ripple effect: smaller classes mean more teachers, more classrooms and all of the associated furniture, learning materials, etc. School said that in order to comply they would have to do several things they did not want to do—increase class sizes in other grades and eliminate certain school faculty such as art, music, physical education, etc. to create funds for new K-3 teachers. The resulting uproar led to calls for the General Assembly to either give additional funds and/or to phase in the new requirements over several years.

Until last week, the General Assembly took no action. Then, they introduced a bill, HB90, which would phase in the class size reduction and appropriated some additional funds. HB90 has been described as a “Christmas Tree” bill—one with something in it for everyone and alternatively as a “poison pill” in that in order to provide the school funding, the bill also addresses several other issues that legislators might have rejected if they were in separate pieces of legislation. . They include: more money for school vouchers, removing money from the Governor’s office designated for future abatement of environmental problems related to the Atlantic Coast Pipeline bill (and giving control of it to the General Assembly) and a continuation of the Board of Elections merger with the Board of Ethics, despite court rulings.

Where are we on this? The Senate passed the bill last week. This week, the House passed it and the bill is on its way to the Governor for signature. The Governor has 30 days to either sign or veto the bill. Stay tuned. A rumor has also surfaced that the General Assembly may begin to split large school systems into smaller units.

**Popular Elections of Judges, House and Senate Districts, Congressional Seats**—As you know, several of the topics received attention by the General Assembly. Several organizations including Democracy NC and the League of Women Voters sued the legislature over district lines, no primaries for judicial elections, etc. Federal courts at the district level overturned key actions of the GA, but the Supreme Court has not ordered NC to change all of these actions. I recommend that you follow NC Policy Watch on-line to keep up to date on what is happening.

**Federal Budget**—This week President Trump presented his proposed budget to Congress. I have not read the proposed budget but based on press reports there are increases in funding for the military but decreases in many social programs. AAUW National has expressed concern for Title IX. More to come.

**AAUW NC**—The annual meeting for AAUW NC is being held in Winston Salem, NC on Friday March 23 and Saturday March 24<sup>th</sup>. In past years, the annual meeting focused on

branch presidents. This year the Board is encouraging branches to send several members. The theme for the meeting is “Strong Women—Fine Tuning Our Message.” See the state newsletter or the state website for more information.

## **Upcoming Events**

AAUW-NC sent the following reminders.

- AAUW NC Annual Conference Information for March 23 & 24, 2018  
Winston Salem

AAUW NC – Strong Women Fine Tuning Our Message Together!

Leaders from many NC women's organizations are joining us.  
Find out who is participating in this year's Annual Conference.  
See <http://www.aauwnc.org/2018/02/join-us-in-winston-salem-next-month/>

You can be there, too! Register now at [www.aauwnc.org](http://www.aauwnc.org).

- AAUW NC Salary Negotiation Workshops in February & March

You can sign up to receive AAUW's [Washington Update](https://www.aauw.org/resource/washington-update/) E-bulletin at <https://www.aauw.org/resource/washington-update/>

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AAUW National: web site <http://www.aauw.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AAUWMembers/>

AAUW Raleigh-Wake County branch: web site <http://rwc-nc.aauw.net/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/aauw.raleigh/>

***Please send suggestions for content to Elizabeth Margolis [elizabethamargolis@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethamargolis@gmail.com)***