

February 7, 2010

Cultural event is Feb. 27

The AAUW Statesville February cultural event is a dramatic and musical presentation called "Bright Lights, Big City," by Paul Scott Goodman, Sunday, Feb. 27, 2 p.m. at Catawba College, 2300 W. Innes St., Salisbury.

"The guy I talked to at college states that it is not a comedy, but very modern, about New York City in the 80's, has dance, etc," said Bonnie Kennedy, branch membership vice-president.

The play is based on a book of the same name, by Jay McInerney. Even though the main character is a guy, the gamut of situations in which he finds himself can happen to almost anyone.

Tickets are \$4 for senior adults and \$5 for other adults. Pre-purchase is not required, but we have been asked to contact the box office a few days ahead so they can reserve a block of seats. See RSVP information at right.

Following the performance, we will eat supper nearby, at Zaki's Bistro, 1621 W. Innes St. Read the review in the *Salisbury Post* to learn more: www.salisburypost.com/News/020710-biz-Zakis-Bistro

Carpooling from Mooresville: Meet at Belk's on Hwy 150 at 12:45 p.m. and leave no later than 1 p.m. for the 45-minute drive.

Carpooling from Statesville: Meet in the back parking lot of Broad Street UMC, at 12:45 p.m. and leave no later than 1 p.m. for the 40-minute drive.

An invitation has been extended to the Salisbury Branch to join us for this cultural event, and their president, Brunetta Franklin, is in the process of contacting the members.

March 3 board meeting open to all branch members

Karla Atkinson, AAUW NC co-administrator, will meet with us to present the plan to restructure our state organization. Many of you provided input last July, which was forwarded to the state team. All branch members are invited to join us at Julia's Talley House on Thursday, March 3, at 6:30 p.m., to hear Karla and to provide feedback to her presentation.

All members who attend the convention in High Point, March 25-26, will be eligible to vote (see page 2).

Supper is Dutch treat, from the cafeteria line. A head count is needed to have a space set aside for us. See RSVP information above right. Please indicate if you need transportation and/or wish to carpool when responding. Thank you.

2 Events, 1 RSVP

Please RSVP for the **cultural event**, Feb. 27, and/or the **board meeting**, March 3, to Virginia Palmer, 704.872.7133 or e-mail marty@forestlightdesign.com by Feb. 18. Also indicate if you need transportation and/or wish to carpool with the Statesville or Mooresville groups for the cultural event and/or the board meeting. Thank you.

Lilly Ledbetter to speak at Women's Advocacy Day, March 1, in Raleigh

Lilly Ledbetter is the keynote speaker at Women's Advocacy Day on at the opening session, Tuesday, March 1, 9-10:30 a.m. It will take place at the Sheraton, 421 S. Salisbury St., Raleigh. She will also speak at the 11:30 a.m. press conference.

Ledbetter was the namesake for the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act which was the first piece of legislation signed by President Obama in 2009.

Her experiences are an excellent illustration of the fact that we indeed do not live in a post-feminist world but also of our collective power when we unite and work toward a common goal.

The lead organization for bringing Ledbetter to Advocacy Day is North Carolina Women United. AAUW NC was supportive of this effort and Nancy Shoemaker, past AAUW NC President, worked with NCWU President Allison Kiser, to confirm Ledbetter's participation.

NCWU will also host a reception featuring Ledbetter the evening before WAD on Monday, Feb. 28.

See www.ncwu.org for more information and updates. The deadline for reservations at a group rate has expired, but Shoemaker is checking into other options, possibly at better rates. Contact her at shoemaker@acm.org or 866-525-2155 (voice mail and fax)

Shoemaker notes "AAUW branch presidents and members need to be out in full force on March 1, not only to speak personally to our legislators but to welcome Lilly Ledbetter as our spokeswoman for Advocacy Day."

Branch Notes

• **March 21 Meeting, 7 p.m.**
 Mitchell Community College
 Kirkman House (see map at right)
 123 N. Mulberry St., Statesville
 Speaker: Kelly Wisdom, who teaches English and creative writing at Mitchell, will talk about 19th century women writers. The daughter of AAUW Statesville member Joy Bradley, she is the author of *The Prince and the Spoon*.

• **Drink Cans/School Supplies:**
 Please bring both to our March and April meetings. We collect and recycle cans as a branch fundraiser. The supplies are donated to Statesville Middle School. To learn about specific needs, contact Kelly Owen at kowen@iss.k12.nc.us

• **April 18 Meeting, 7 p.m.**
 Mitchell Community College
 Mooresville Campus, Room 122
 219 N. Academy St., Mooresville
 Speaker: Ashleigh Owen, M.D. daughter of AAUW Statesville member, Virginia Owen. Ashleigh has co-published Chapter 5, Myocardial Basis for Heart Failure: Role of the Cardiac Interstitium, of Douglas Mann's book Heart Failure: A Companion to Braunwald's Heart Disease: Expert Consult. Our program is going to be along the lines of recent updates in the treatment of heart attacks- and also a new plan to communicate a simpler version of CPR to everyone called "CPR Anytime". I will give you an exact title for next newsletter. Ashleigh wants to come and present herself, but it will depend on her schedule.

• **New Member:**
 Welcome to Brenda Lutz-Kiser. Contact her at 3900 Bellingham Lane, Charlotte NC 28115.
 H: 704.517.2805
 W: 704.660.6182;
 e-mail: bglkiser@bellsouth.net

• **Treasurer's Report:**
 As of Jan. 18:
 General account balance.....\$1,322.94
 Plus receipts (\$35)1,357.94
 Minus disbursements (38.80) =
 General account balance.....\$1,319.14
 Scholarship fund.....\$13,646.15
 Total 2010 4th quarter report of giving to AAUW funds by branch members is \$950.50. This is mainly from the auction. Members may give at any time.

Kirkman House
 Big white house at 123 N. Mulberry St, on the MCC campus). The building will be opened at 6:30 p.m. If you enter MCC from West End Ave., go to stop sign, turn left, and go to the end of the parking lot. Turn left at Kirkman House sign.
 Park in back Mitchell parking lot. There are signs that say Kirkman House and the walkway is paved. We enter at the back door. Recommended routes are from West End Ave., Center St. or Broad St. Left turns are banned at the corner of Center and Broad.

2011 AAUW NC Annual Meeting | March 25-26

Best Western, 135 N. Main St., High Point | \$69/night + taxes
 336.889.8888 | www.bestwestern.com/reservations/hotels

For All AAUW NC Members

(Branch Members, Members at Large and College/University Reps)

- Features:**
- Discussion and Vote on Proposed State Framework for AAUW NC
 - National AAUW speaker | Workshops
 - Friday "fun" night

Voting: The old delegate system of voting has been replaced with "one member present - one vote." Every member who attends the meeting will have a vote on any issues brought to the membership for a vote.

Registration: Details are now being finalized for registration process and costs. Details will be sent to all branch presidents as soon as possible.

Board Meeting: Late afternoon on Friday, March 25. All branch presidents are members of the AAUW NC Board.

The annual meeting will end by mid-afternoon on Saturday. No formal banquet will be held. Questions: Contact Lill Van Order at Lillvo@earthlink.net or Karla Atkinson at bardofb@comporium.net

- **Programming for 2011-2012:**
 Sylvia Helms, program vice-president, reports that we will continue the team concept for planning and implementation of next year's programs. Some changes will be made to improve the system. She is working on it, and will share the refinements as soon as possible.
- **Prayers needed:**
 Nancy Reichenbach's son, Tripp, of Atlanta, recently had a life-threatening viral infection, but is better now. Bill Gill, husband of Billie-Fae Gill, is hospitalized at Iredell Memorial. Marty Folsom's daughter, Katie, is facing a long, difficult recovery from a third intensive back surgery, Feb. 5, in Phoenix.
- **Contact information changes:**
 Sylvia Helms, new e-mail address: sylviahelms1@charter.net
 Kelly Owen, new address: 166 Lytton Farm Road, Troutman NC 28166

More notes on next page

- **Reading Is Fundamental:**

The first RIF distribution was Thursday, Feb. 3, at East Elementary School in Statesville. Eight members distributed books to nearly 300 children, grades K-2. Thanks to Virginia Palmer, for coordinating our RIF program, as always, and to Pat Abell, Maryette Bost, Joy Bradley, Mary Green, Sylvia Helms, Peggy Waugh and Jackie White for helping. The next distribution is March 17. RIF is a national program. Learn more at www.rif.org

Notes from the children:

Dear RIF teachers, Thank you for my book. I promise to take extra good care of Powerful Polar Bears. I can't wait until next time. Thanks, Jordan.

Dear RIF teachers, Thank you for my books that you have given us. The book is cool. It makes me feel happy. Thanks, Kaleel

- **MCC/Statesville Branch are AAUW-C/U partners:**

Mitchell Community College is now a college/university partner with Statesville Branch. Carol Johnson, cjohnson2@mitchellcc.edu, is our representative. She attended our October meeting when Judy Morgan spoke about the Early College Program at Mitchell. The partnership is posted at <https://svc.aauw.org/about/branchlist.cfm?stateid=NC>

Learn more about the importance and role of C/U partners, at www.aauw.org/about/join/colleges/index.cfm

- **2011-13 Officer Nominations:**

Terms for two officers end this year: President and Treasurer. The current officers, Marty Folsom and Mary Green, respectively, are willing to continue to serve in 2011-13. Branch members have two choices: accept them as candidates with the option of nominating candidates from the floor at the March meeting prior to the election or request that a nominations committee be appointed to recommend different candidates by contacting Virginia Owen at clmsonmom@aol.com or Virginia Palmer at 704.872.7133. The branch continues to need a secretary. Volunteers are welcome.

- **Funnel cakes equipment:**

Pat Abell contacted the Girl Scout Office in Hickory after consulting with Mary Green about donating the branch funnel cake equipment when storage space was no longer available. The scouts accepted

Branch Scholarship News

Statesville Branch awards two scholarships each year, the Bobbie G. Edmisten Memorial Scholarship for a high school senior who plans to enter a field that is non-traditional for women, and the scholarship through Mitchell Community College for a non-traditional student. Mary Green administers the scholarships funds.

Mary recently sent scholarship information to the Guidance Departments at Statesville High, North High, South High, West High, Lake Norman High, and Mooresville High Schools, as well as to the NC School of the Arts and the NC School of Science and Math. The scholarship will be publicized in the *Statesville Record & Landmark*, too.

Paula Cruz of Mooresville is the most recent recipient of the MCC scholarship and wrote the following message to our branch:

It was such a wonderful surprise today when I opened a letter that informed me of this scholarship. It was so unexpected and so appreciated.

I am going back to school after separating from my husband. I really have no skills at this point in my life that would allow me to be self-supportive. I was a wife and mother for the last 25 years, still a mother of course, but not prepared to be able to support myself. I have discovered just in this last week that I like accounting very much. I didn't do so well at math last semester, but I think I am getting the hang of it. I think that I will pursue a career somewhere in this area.

I can't tell you how much this money will help me and also how much it means to me that someone cares about my future and has helped me to become self-sufficient. I look forward to meeting you and thanking you in person. – Paula Cruz

four tables, two of six pans, and six camp stoves as a donation from AAUW Statesville. Pat searched unsuccessfully for a buyer before the decision to donate was made.

- **National notes:**

AAUW Convention, June 16-19 Renaissance Hotel, Washington, D.C. <http://convention.aauw.org/index.aspx>

See www.aauw.org regularly for up-to-date opportunities to help "Break through Barriers." Do more in less time to improve equity, education, career courses, and justice for women and girls. Find grants, fellowships, scholarships and award competitions. Share the information with others.

- Congratulations to Pat and Curtis Abell on their new grandchildren: Juliet Antonia Abell, born Oct. 10, in San Diego to Geoff Abell and Isabel Newton. Marly Elizabeth Abell, born Nov. 27, to Tony and Cari Abell, in Alexandria, Va. Pat recently enjoyed quality family time at both locations.

- Sylvia Helms spent the November in California with her daughter, four grandkids who live nearby, a granddaughter from Twentynine Palms, Ca., and a grandson, Eric, from Las Vegas. All the N.C. family were in CA for Eric's wedding, so they had a great family reunion.

Spread the Word

When you come in touch with people who may be interested in AAUW, but not joining a local branch, tell them about the Tar Heel "Branch Without Borders."

This is one of the newest branches of AAUW – advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. It serves the entire state of North Carolina.

Joining AAUW means joining a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Traditionally the AAUW mission has been carried forward by members in local groups that sponsor projects, programs, and special events.

As women's lives have become busier, more individuals join "at-large," connecting to AAUW, but missing the benefits of close connections with other members. The Tar Heel Branch without Borders provides a community for those in areas of the state where there are no local branches and those for whom local branches are not a good "fit."

The dues are \$5 a year, in addition to state and national membership dues for a total of \$65. Learn more at <http://site.tarheel.aauwnc.org>