



President's E-Letter

January 18, 2016

Your AAUW NC Board met by conference call on January 14 and made three important decisions: **Complete** the Ann Chipley Fund, **Join** the Team to Ratify the ERA, and **Plan** an amazing Annual Meeting.

In, 1996, AAUW Educational Foundation **Board** set up an endowment to honor the late **Ann Chipley**, an active member of AAUW, past president of AAUW North Carolina, and, at the time of her death, AAUW Director of Public Policy. Approximately \$10,000 are needed to complete the Fund. The Fund must be completed by the end of this year or there will be no Ann Chipley Fund. It is clear that we can do this. We can still honor our members by contributing to the AAUW Fellowship, as usual, but for this year we must designate that funds go to the Ann Chipley Fund(#4051). This is a one-year campaign. It is imperative that we complete this fund in a timely fashion to honor **Ann Chipley** and **AAUW NC**.

Two groups, lobbying for the ratification of the **Equal Rights Amendment**: NC4ERA and Ratify ERA-NC, together with other groups, plan to establishment an ERA alliance, ERA-NC. It will consist of these two lead organizations along with other state organizations and individuals interested in the passage of the ERA. ERA-NC will work in conjunction with a national ERA Coalition. The board voted to become a lead organization in the ERA alliance. Lead Organizations pledge support of ERA-NC, endorses ERA or recognizes it as a legislative priority. Lead organizations will have representatives designated as Board Members and members are eligible to serve on committees.

This year the theme of the **Annual Meeting** will be a follow-up to last year's theme on **Leadership**. We will focus on Community Outreach and Membership Recruitment through Inclusion and Diversity and Social Media. There will be a Strategic Planning Workshop for the board on Friday from 11 am to 2 pm, including time for lunch. The Chapel Hill Branch will plan activities on Friday for branch members traveling with state board or branch presidents. The Branch Presidents' Council Session will meet on Friday from 3 pm to 5 pm. Dinner will be in the hotel, followed by "Wine and Wisdom" conversation. Saturday's meeting will be from 9 am to 2 pm. The meeting will be held at the **Sheraton in Chapel Hill** on April 1 and 2, 2016.

**Congratulations** to the **Brevard Branch** for receiving an AAUW NC Community Action Mini-Grant! Their project focuses on using Social Media to **GOTV**(Get Out The Vote) in 2016. The goal is to establish a social media tool for GOTV activities, beginning in 2016 and continuing forward to other future GOTV campaigns. We look forward to seeing this project come to life because it is something all of our branches can utilize in the future to recruit new members, advertise events and branch projects, and reach out to a larger community.

Sandra McLaurin, Co-President, AAUW NC

**Please forward to your membership**