

Lake/Sumter Hi-Lites



Presidents' Letter

Moving farther into the new year, we need to assess where we're going, and where we've been. Looking back, our February General Meeting was a good one! AAUW Florida co-Presidents Susan Berlin and Virginia Farace were our guests for a potluck lunch and then our guest speakers. Their speech was memorable and moving: Memorable because it pointed out important AAUW initiatives, and moving because it pointed directions we need to move in the future.

So looking ahead, Susan and Virginia shared ways to become involved in AAUW at the state level, such as Lobby Day, Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting and Tech Trek. They also spoke about AAUW Florida's Public Policy Impact Grant 2014 - 15 received from National. Equal pay and human trafficking are central elements of the grant. At the local level, Susan and Virginia suggested ways we can become involved: Join organizations that support these issues, distribute materials, and write letters to our legislators or letters to the editor of local newspapers. We urge you to seek more information about these events and issues on the AAUW Florida Web site (www.aauw-fl.aauw.net). The password to get into the members-only section is *Florida1929*.

Susan and Virginia alerted us to the upcoming AAUW National Election and reminded us of the Association's one-member-one-vote policy. As a branch, we will be seeking ways for all members to vote on important issues, such as eligibility criteria for membership in AAUW.. So when you receive the Spring/Summer edition in March of the AAUW's *Outlook* magazine, keep it, and read it, because the AAUW National election will be the focus of that issue.

As an aside, our state co-presidents were amazed at all the golf carts in our community. Following the meeting our own Diane Jacobson was seen taking them for a golf cart ride. We hope they found our branch and community as enjoyable as we found them.

If you've not checked out our own Lake/Sumter branch Web site, you need to do so! Co-Webmasters Anne Wilkins and Diane Reichert created and maintain the site, and post up-to-date branch activities and issues regularly. They have also included links on our home page to the AAUW state and national sites as well as

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Co-Presidents Margaret Kaufman (L) and Beverly Grappy

Presidents' Message *(Continued from page 1)*

a link to Facebook. They make it more than easy to find these sites. So logon at www.lakesumter-fl.aauw.net and add our page to your favorites. But if you misplace it, the URL for the site is always on the back page of our branch newsletter. Anne and Diane's many efforts are sincerely appreciated.

Congratulations to Rosella Valentine and her Scholarship Committee for a job well done in raising monies for our local scholarships. We were pleased to see member Joyce Tisovec win the drawing for the beautiful ring generously donated by Riche Kluesener, owner of Gold-In-Art.

As our branch continues to grow, we remember our mission, and continue to support local, state, and national issues. We urge you to become involved in any way you feel you can be helpful. Fundraising ideas are always needed, or you can volunteer for a local committee. Currently the Hospitality Committee has a need for additional help. Call Liz Schweers at 850-247-9489 for more information.

We hope you will be able to attend our future meetings, and we look forward to seeing you there.

Beverly Grappy and Margaret Kaufman

Co-Presidents

Meetings and Programs

March General Meeting: A Change of Program



Come join us at our Saturday, March 14 General Meeting from 10:00 AM to noon at the Allamanda Recreation Center in The Villages. Although our program was to feature a pre-tax talk, the plan has changed and we will have a second presentation by Dr. Donald Wyman who will talk about *Benedict Arnold, An American Tragedy*. We also will enjoy a mid-morning strawberry treat as we conduct our general election. See the slate of nominees on page 5. No reservations needed.

Directions: Allamanda Recreation Center is located at 1515 St. Charles Place, The Villages. It is north of 466A and south of Lake Sumter Landing. From either north or south, take Buena Vista Boulevard to St. Charles Place at the Village of Liberty Part gate; Allamanda will be on the right.

April General Meeting: Polo 101

We will be selling tickets for the general meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 21 from 11:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. at The Polo Club at 703 N. Buena Vista Boulevard. Reservations will entitle AAUW members, and their family and friends who attend, membership in The Polo Boosters Club as well as a box lunch provided by Honey Baked Ham. After a brief AAUW meeting, participants will learn about the sport of polo, delivered by Paige Boone and leaders of the Polo Boosters. Members of Polo Boosters support injured polo players and become eligible to attend the opening and closing Polo Club parties. Since the opening party will take place at The Polo Field on the afternoon of April 1 for a nominal charge, the sooner we reserve the better. Contact Linda Ferens (352) 633-3175 immediately before and after our March 14 meeting. You can pick up the \$16 tickets at the March meeting. A number of husbands have signed up for this event: The more the merrier.



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Meetings and Programs *(Continued from page 2)*

May General Meeting: Save the Date



Our final meeting of the program year will be a High Tea on Saturday, May 16, from 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. at Allamanda Recreation Center in The Villages. So save the date and don't miss the fun! Look for more information about this event in the April newsletter.

A Quick Follow-up to the February General Meeting

Thank you to the membership for providing so many delicious dishes for the February General Meeting. But one of you now is missing two very nice round green plastic serving plates. Liz Schweers will bring these to the March meeting, unless you need them sooner. If so, please call Liz at 850-247-9489.

Board Meeting



The next meeting of the Lake / Sumter Executive Board will be from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon on Monday, March 9, 2015, at the Sumter County Sheriff's Annex, which is at the corner of 466 and Morse Boulevard. Board meetings are open; all members are welcome to attend. Please note: The date of the April Board meeting has been changed from Monday, April 13 to **Tuesday, April 7.**

Special Interest Groups

Bridge Groups

Lake / Sumter AAUW offers two Special Interest Bridge groups:

- ◆ The Monday Bridge group plays on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 1:00 P.M.; it is open to any interested member who wishes to play regularly. Location is scheduled on a date-to-date basis, with members volunteering to host in their homes. New members are welcome! And the group would appreciate hearing from those who might want to be substitutes. To join this group, as a regular player or as a substitute, contact Mary Ann Swisher at mswiper@mindspring.com or 352-259-3739. The Monday Bridge Group will play this month on March 9 and 23. Hosts will be announced before the meetings.
- ◆ The Thursday Bridge group meets on the first and third Thursdays every month at 1:00 P.M. This month, they will play on March 5 and 19. The group is comprised of 12 regular members. Currently they have openings and are always in need of substitutes. If you would like to join the group or substitute, please contact Carolyn Johnson at cgljohnson@comcast.net or 352-751-4103.



Diversity Book Club



The Diversity Book Club meets the third Wednesday of the month at 10:30 A.M. at Freedom Pointe. This month's meeting is on March 18, and the book will be *Brooklyn* by Colm Toibin. For more information, contact Pat Bays at 751-3777 or stanbays@embarqmail.com.

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Special Interest Groups *(Continued from page 3)*

Because all visitors to Freedom Pointe must sign in, Pat has asked that club members arrive no later than 10:25 A.M. She will meet the group in the lobby to escort them to the meeting area. Parking may also be a challenge, so carpooling is encouraged. Club members often go out for lunch after the meeting.

And for those of you who like to read ahead, there have been changes to the list of books the group will be reading for the remainder of this program year. Here they are:

April: *Flight Behavior* by Barbara Kingsolver. Lu Michaels will lead the discussion.

May: *Me Before You* by Jo Jo Moyes. Mary Ann Swisher will lead the discussion.

June: *The Presidents Club* by Nancy Gibbs and Michael Duffy. Margaret Kaufman will lead the discussion.

July: *A Husband's Secret* by Liane Moriarty. Diane Jacobson will lead the discussion.

Conversational Mah Jongg



The Conversational Mah Jongg group — it's relaxed and talking is permitted — plays at 1:30 P.M. on the first and third Mondays of each month. This month, the group will play on March 2 at the home of Kathy Howe (1391 Eagle Ridge Drive in Liberty Park, 631-219-4289) and March 16 at the home of Barbara Fisler (471 Gaskin Lane in Amelia, 446-0039). If you plan to play, it is essential to contact the host by the Friday prior to the game. Contact Anne Schlick (aroyrogers@centurylink.net, 750-1027) for more information about this group.

Finger Food and Fun

Sallie Whitehurst will host a Finger Food and Fun gathering on Sunday, March 29 from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. She has space for 35 people at her home at 1840 Madero Drive in Santo Domingo, so be sure to call to reserve space. Bring an appetizer to share, your own beverage, and your spouse, partner, significant other, or friend.



Golf Anyone?



Our group is golfing on Friday mornings, and our reservation is entered into the tee time system on the Sunday evening before we play. Contact Carmel Leese by Saturday evening if you are interesting in playing. The requested time is based on the weather forecast during the winter season. It has been 11:30 A.M. with a window of 10:30 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. Golf courses we play alternate weekly between those north of Hwy 466 and those south of Hwy 466. We do not include the courses north of Hwy 441 or south of Hwy 466A. If you are interested in joining, contact Carmel Leese (352-71-0119, crleese@gmail.com). You can participate weekly or when your schedule allows as there is no weekly commitment required. But if you haven't participated in the past, also please include your Villages ID number when you call since this is needed for entry into the tee time system.

Branch News

Spotlight on Philanthropy: Eleanor Roosevelt Fund



The Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, launched by AAUW in 1988, supports the organization's research in topics such as pay gap and other gender equity issues, educational access for women, sexual harassment in educational and employment settings, and women in STEM fields. From its inception, the mission of the fund has been to "remove barriers to women's and girls' participation in education, promote the value of diversity and cross-cultural communication, and develop greater understanding of the ways women learn, think, work, and play."

The Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Award was established in 1989 to honor women, organizations, projects, or institutions that fulfill the fund's mission. The award has been given for an array of activities, including legal and legislative work as well as research and education. According to the AAUW Web site (www.aauw.org/resource/eleanor-roosevelt-fund-award), although the focus of the award is education, the recipient does not need to be an educator.

The Lake / Sumter AAUW branch of AAUW supports the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund and Award in two ways. The portion of each member's dues that goes to National helps support all programs that National operates. However, our branch also makes a \$50 donation to the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund in honor of members who have passed away.

Branch Elections

The nominating committee announces the following members as candidates for office:

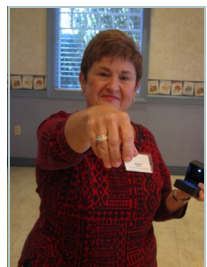
Co-Presidents-elect	Anne Wilkins and Julee De La Rosa
Co-Membership Chairs-elect	Mary Ann Swisher and Diane Jacobson
Co-Secretary-elect	Diane Starr and Rosemary Scarfia



The election of officers will take place this year during our General Meeting in March. Nominations will be accepted from the floor, providing that the nominee agrees. New officers will be installed at the May General Meeting.

Scholarship Committee Updates

Fundraiser: The Scholarship Committee is pleased to report that February receipts totaled \$540, which brought the total of ring ticket sales money for this year's campaign to \$4,150. Plus \$100 donated by Rich Mayoras in memory of Barbara brought us to a grand total of \$4,250!!! What a successful year with our jewelry fundraiser!!!



And the winner is... Our own Joyce Tisovec! The February 14 Lake / Sumter AAUW General Meeting was a festive and colorful Valentine's Day celebration and the culmination of a very successful gold and diamond ring fundraiser. Rosella Valentine, Chair of our Scholarship Committee had a huge basket of tickets sold throughout the past eight months, and Richie Kluesener from Gold-in-Art Jewelers (who donated the ring) was on hand to draw the winning ticket. Congratulations to Joyce on winning this beautiful ring! Wear it proudly, Joyce, and be sure to tell admiring friends that it came from our generous sponsor, Gold-in-Art!

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Branch News *(Continued from page 5)*

Selection Process: This year's process of selecting new scholarship recipients for the 2015 - 2016 academic year is well underway. Rosella and Scholarship Committee member Patti Weasel revised the application form and related papers in December and Patti got them out on the Lake-Sumter State College campus in January. The deadline for submission of applications is March 13 and the committee will meet later in March to review the applications and select this year's two newest scholarship winners. The winners will be notified and Lake / Sumter AAUW will provide \$1,000 scholarships for each of their last two years of University work.

We expect to announce and introduce these two women to our membership at the May 16 High Tea AAUW General Meeting. You won't want to miss this special event!

Support Scholarship Recipient Amber Sode

As you may know, Amber Sode, one of our scholarship winners, really needs our financial support to see her through two unpaid teaching internships she is completing this year. Amber, a senior at UCF in the BS degree program in Elementary Education plans to graduate in December 2015.

First, however, she must complete the two unpaid teaching internships required by UCF. This is not easy for her as her parents are both deceased, she has no family to support her, and she works to pay her own way.

Rosella Valentine and Beverly Grappy are coordinating an effort to assist her. They are putting together a package for her last semester, asking organizations, foundations, and individuals to contribute. Work on that is progressing well. They have asked AAUW members to donate funds for support for this first semester (January - May), and the response so far has been wonderful! Many caring and generous members have stepped up to help Amber with her living expenses and we are hopeful this support will continue right through May.

If you wish to contribute toward Amber's success, you may send a check (payable to Amber Sode) to Rosella Valentine or give your donation directly to Amber at an upcoming meeting. We don't simply give our scholarship recipients scholarships and then forget about them. Rosella keeps in touch with them on a regular basis and, if they need a little more help to get to graduation, we, as an organization which empowers women, are there to give them that additional support if we can.

Thank you to every member who has helped Amber to date! What a good investment you are making in the future of this young woman and in good teachers in Lake County!

Winter Coffees

Following our successful summer coffees, we are testing members' interest in gathering occasionally for coffee (or tea, or breakfast, or whatever) during the winter months. Our intent is threefold:

- ◆ To offer seasonal residents an opportunity to get to know, and possibly join, AAUW
- ◆ To offer members who are seasonal residents an opportunity to get to know our branch better
- ◆ To offer members who are full-time residents another opportunity to spend time with their AAUW friends

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Amber and Rosella at our February General Meeting.

Branch News *(Continued from page 6)*

So Carmel Leese organized our first “test coffee,” scheduling it for Thursday, February 26 from 9:00 ‘til 10:30 A.M. at Perkins on 441. And it was a rousing success: 26 people turned up for the event — including 21 members and five guests, four of whom joined our branch on the spot! We had a great time, as usual, and new members as well as potential members joined the fun. Now Anne Schlick has scheduled another coffee for Tuesday, March 24 from 9:00 to 10:30 A.M. at Perkins. So save the date and join us for coffee again this month.

STEM Awards



Our branch is gearing up for presentation of STEM Awards. Each year, Lake / Sumter Branch awards Certificates of Achievement and \$50 to two girls in four local schools. Participating schools in Lake County are Carver Middle School and Oak Park Middle School. In Sumter County, the schools are The Villages Charter Middle School and Wildwood Middle/High School. The purpose of the awards is to encourage girls to excel in the STEM subjects (i.e., Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and to recognize two girls – one in mathematics, the other in science – from each school who have shown the **most improvement** from the seventh to the eighth grades. The awards are presented at each school’s annual awards or graduation ceremonies. Diane Starr and Kathleen Buckley, co-chairs of this program, are looking forward to the upcoming presentations.

Member Updates

Please welcome the following new members and add their information to your membership booklet:

- ◆ Judy Brzezinski 1870 Oxford Lane
The Villages, FL 32162
Village of Winifred
sjbrzezinski@embarqmail.com
352-453-7185
352-205-1414 (cell)
Georgia Southwestern State University, BS
- ◆ Andrea Guogas 33133 Irongate Drive
Leesburg, FL 34788
guogasan@gmail.com
352-343-0558
Trenton State College, BS
Rowan University, MA
- ◆ Myra Mervine 7108 SE 172nd Hazelwood Loop
The Villages, FL 32162
Village of Chatham
MDMMLM59@gmail.com
352-259-8330
352-408-5138 (cell)
Saginaw Valley State College, BA
Bryn Mawr Graduate School, MSS

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Branch News *(Continued from page 7)*

Please make the following change to your membership booklets:

- ◆ Pat Awood-Yates' new address in the Village of Lake Deaton is 1964 Gatehouse Terrace, The Villages 32163

Let's remember a past member of Lake / Sumter AAUW with birthday wishes. . .

- ◆ Susan Christen, who was a very active member of Lake / Sumter AAUW prior to her move to Maryland will be 96 on March 9!!! Yes, that's correct. . .96!! So, if you remember Susan, why not send her a birthday card at this address:

Susan Christen
19310 Clubhouse Road
616
Montgomery Village, MD 20886

We are sure she would appreciate hearing from old friends.

State and National News

Tech Trek 2015



Our branch Tech Trek Committee spent several days in early February interviewing the 14 girls who applied for Tech Trek and their parents. When interviews were complete, the Committee met to evaluate each applicant and develop the list of names to forward to State.

It was a difficult task, but the Committee submitted the names of six girls from Lake and Sumter Counties. They also forwarded an additional name: A girl from the Tallahassee area heard of the camp and asked if we would support her application as there is not an AAUW branch in her area. Materials for all seven girls were sent to State by the deadline; we are now waiting to find out which of our applicants made the cut.

Public Policy



AAUW focuses on several public policy issues: **civil rights** including affirmative action, hate crimes prevention, human trafficking, and reproductive rights; **economic security** including pay equity, health care, and retirement security; **education** including STEM education, sexual harassment and violence in schools, and career and technical education; and **Title IX** including equity in school athletics and single-sex education.

At our February General Meeting, AAUW Florida co-Presidents Susan Berlin and Virginia Farace (pictured at right) spoke about the Public Policy Impact Grant the State received for 2014-15. The grant provides \$1,000 to focus on GOTV activities, equal pay, and human trafficking.



AAUW Florida co-Presidents Susan Berlin and Virginia Farace

GOTV, or Get Out The Vote, activities are already a focus for our branch as we have collaborated with the League of Women Voters to register students at Lake-Sumter State College to vote in state and national elections.

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State and National News *(Continued from page 8)*

Equal pay and human trafficking will be the focus of Lobby Days on March 17 and 18 in Tallahassee. While many of our members may not be able to participate in that event, we can all help by writing letters to the editor of our local paper, sending messages to legislators at both the state and national levels, and by posting pieces about these topics on our branch Web site and on our Facebook page. For those members interested in participating in Lobby Days, contact AAUW Florida Public Policy Director Diane Schrier (jschrier55@aol.com) or AAUW Florida Regional Field Rep. Char Singleton (Singletonc@aauw.org).

All of these public policy issues are important, but the data about human trafficking are compelling so we include here some information about this issue in an effort to urge our members to get involved. We drew from AAUW documents, Foreign Policy Association publications, and the comments of our State co-presidents for this piece. Members are encouraged to add their own perspectives on this issue and to participate in activities to address it. Thanks to Anne Schlick, our branch Public Policy Chair, for contributing to this piece.

Human Trafficking. Human trafficking is an international crisis and a growing problem for every state in the U.S. It is considered a modern form of slavery and is illegal in all countries and banned by international conventions. While many think of human trafficking as something that occurs outside of our country, in fact, federal reports estimate that between 14,500 and 17,500 victims are trafficked in the U.S. annually.



Trafficking occurs in several arenas but sexual exploitation and forced labor account for over 90% of all human trafficking worldwide. Moreover, in this country, 83% of confirmed human trafficking cases are U.S. citizens, and 85% of these are women. In the U.S., the average age of trafficked children is 12 years, and a quarter of trafficking cases detected internationally are children.

Bringing the situation closer to home, Florida ranks number three in the nation (after New York and California) for human trafficking. The state's large number of trafficked children under the age of 18 poses a major challenge as these victims are targeted between the ages of 8 and 14 and kept enslaved for many years.

Attempting to solve the problem, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) has a national hotline number funded by the Department of Health and Human Services. The toll-free hotline is available to answer calls from anywhere in the country, 24/7 and in more than 200 languages. Twenty-five states require or encourage the hotline number to be posted or promoted throughout the state.

Florida does not have a requirement that the NHTRC hotline be posted. . .yet. However, bi-partisan legislation is now wending its way through the Florida legislative process. According to the Florida Legislature Web site (www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=53359), **HB369/SB534 Human Trafficking**, will mandate the display of human trafficking awareness signs at specified locations and will provide civil penalties for violations.

Unfortunately, efforts to enact these bills have hit a snag. The Transportation Committee is the first Senate committee to hear the bill, but the committee's chair, Jeff Brandes (R-South Tampa) is not scheduling it to be heard. So we need members to call him and/or send emails asking him to schedule a hearing. And if you know people in the South Tampa area, ask them to contact him too, as contacts from his home district will be especially effective.

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State and National News *(Continued from page 9)*

Here is contact information to reach Senator Brandes at his office as well as a “script” that can be used in your email message or phone conversation.

Senator Jeff Brandes, Chair, Senate Transportation Committee
850-487-5022
brandes.jeff@flsenate.gov

Dear Senator Brandes:

I am writing (calling) to urge you to schedule a committee hearing on SB534 Human Trafficking. The bill requires that the National Human Trafficking Center hotline and text number be posted in critical locations throughout Florida, including highway rest stops, transit hubs, emergency rooms, strip clubs, and other establishments where employees and the public should be aware of how to recognize and report labor and sex trafficking.

During their talk at our February meeting, Farace and Berlin affirmed that, if passed, the law would require that the NHTRC hotline phone and text numbers be posted in all Florida transportation hubs and other places where people need to be aware of the problem.

Clearly, AAUW’s involvement in challenging human trafficking is an appropriate expenditure of the organization’s resources. It is a focus at both national and state levels, and will be a major emphasis of the upcoming Lobby Days in Tallahassee on March 17 and 18. But we are encouraged to address the issue at the local level as well through letter-writing and activities that educate the public about human trafficking.

Two-Minute Activist



If you’re ready to get involved and would like to make your voice heard in Congress, become a two-minute activist. AAUW’s Web site (www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/) provides links to summaries of current federal legislation related to the organization’s targeted public policy issues. At the end of each issue summary is a space to enter your zip code, which allows the site to select your representatives in Congress. The site then provides a letter to those representatives that you “sign” by providing your name and contact information. When you submit the letter, you will be given the option to request a response or simply indicate that you wanted to voice your opinion. So go to AAUW’s Web site and let your voice be heard!

FloriVision

Beginning with the Winter edition, *FloriVision*, will be delivered by email to all Florida members who have an email address in National AAUW’s Member Services Database.

If you do not have an email address, a black-and-white paper copy will be sent to you by ground mail. According to our State co-presidents, sending the newsletter via email saves AAUW Florida about \$4,500 per issue, but it also allows for inclusion of more branch news, and it saves trees. If you haven’t received this publication, contact one of our branch treasurers — Barbara Fidler and Carolee Litwinka — and ask them to check National’s Member Services Database to ensure that your email address is correct.



General Meeting Minutes

AAUW Lake/Sumter Branch General Meeting February 14, 2015

Welcome/Call To Order. Co-President Margaret Kaufman called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Three new members have joined the Lake/Sumter branch.

Minutes of January 17, 2015, Meeting. No changes were made to the January 17, 2015, minutes. Upon motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried, the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report. Carolee Litwinka delivered the report. She reported that the balance at the beginning of February was \$12,530, with income of \$1,726, plus dues from new members.

Membership Report. Connie Konatsotis reported that two or three new members had signed up at this meeting.

Special Event. Carmel Leese reported that periodic winter coffees will be held. The first one is set for Thursday, February 26, 2015, from 9:00 to 10:30 A.M. at Perkins Restaurant on 441.

Drawing for Jewelry. Rosella Valentine represented the Scholarship Committee, whose other members are Joyce Tisovec and Patti Weasel. She stated that a current scholarship recipient, Amber Sode, will have two unpaid internships to complete her degree. She has been on the President's List with a 4.0 and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

The Owner of Gold in Art Jewelry, Richi Kluesener was present with the diamond ring that his stores had donated for a fund-raising raffle. A total of \$4,000 has been raised for scholarships through the sale of raffle tickets for the ring. The winner of the raffle was Joyce Tisovec. Rosella thanked the members who sold a large number of tickets. Co-President Beverly Grappy sold the most—80 tickets.

Newsletter. Linda Carpenter stated that the March newsletter deadline is February 23.

Election of Officers for Next Year. The officers to be voted upon at the March meeting include Co-presidents-elect Julee DeLaRosa and Anne Wilkins. (See the newsletter for a complete list of candidates.)

Social. The next Finger Food and Fun event will be held on March 29 at the home of Sally Whitehurst. Sally can accommodate up to 45.

Tech Trek. Cathy Cirocco reported that there were 14 applicants for the summer course. The procedure is that first teachers nominate individuals, who submit applications with an essay concerning science, and then the applicants are interviewed. The 14 applications are narrowed to six.

Golf. Carmel Leese reported that the group plays on Fridays, anywhere between 8:30 and 11:30 A.M.

Guest Speakers. Ginger Ryan introduced the guest speakers, the Florida State AAUW Co- Presidents, Susan Berlin and Virginia Farace. Susan has her D.D.S. and has practiced general and cosmetic dentistry for 20 years. She is immediate past-president of Palm Beach County. Virginia ("Ginger") Farace has been active 30 years with the Boynton Beach Branch until its merger with the Palm Beach Branch. She is a retired director of the Boynton Beach City Library.

The co-presidents reported that a \$1,000 grant had been received for 2014-15 for lobby day, during which the issue of human trafficking is to be addressed. They asked the members to participate by writing letter to the editor and joining with other organizations to distribute materials. Members were urged to participate on March 17 and 18 in Tallahassee.

A leadership workshop is set for April 17 and 18 in Melbourne

The co-presidents were thanked for attending the meeting and telling the members about opportunities to participate in lobby day.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Barone



Empowering Women
Since 1881



Coming Soon. . .

Membership Renewal

Spring is coming (no, really, it is!) and with it will be our annual membership renewal.

Renewal forms will be available at the March and May General Meetings, so be sure to pick yours up.

And remember. . .dues has been increased to \$80 for the 2015-16 membership year, which runs from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

Send questions, comments, and suggestions
about the newsletter to the editor, Linda Carpenter, at
Linda.J.Carpenter@gmail.com

March 2015 Calendar of Events (clip and save)

Mah Jongg	March 2	1:30 P.M.	Host: Kathy Howe
Thursday Bridge	March 5	1:00 P.M.	Host: TBA
Board Meeting	March 9	10:00 A.M.	Sumter County Sheriff's Annex
Monday Bridge	March 9	1:00 P.M.	Host: TBA
General Meeting	March 14	10:00 A.M.	Allamanda Recreation Center
Mah Jongg	March 16	1:30 P.M.	Host: Barbara Fisler
Diversity Book Club	March 18	10:30 A.M.	Freedom Pointe
Thursday Bridge	March 19	1:00 P.M.	Host: TBA
Monday Bridge	March 23	1:00 P.M.	Host: TBA
Winter Coffee	March 24	9:00 A.M.	Perkins on 441
Finger Food and Fun	March 29	5:00 P.M.	Home of Sallie Whitehurst

Golf: March 6, 13, 20, 27; courses TBA

Great Decisions: March 3, 10; Sumter County Sheriff's Annex