

Lake/Sumter Hi-Lites



Presidents' Letter

We've all heard it said that time flies when you're having fun. Well, it's certainly been true for us because we're trying to figure out just where this year has gone. As we look back, we can see that much has been accomplished during our presidency. We have continued to fulfill our mission by awarding scholarships and engaging young women in Tech Trek, and we have increased the ways we connect with each other socially through a new golf group and monthly Winter Coffees. But just because we are at the end of our presidency doesn't mean our branch activities will stop! We have some good things going, and we encourage you to continue (or begin) to participate in AAUW. . . through our Lake / Sumter branch and/or at the state/national levels. As a first step, don't forget to vote in the AAUW National election. Online voting continues through June. (See page 10 for more information about the election.)

We are grateful to our loyal Board members who served with efficiency and enthusiasm this year. Their participation has made our term not only rewarding but enjoyable, too. To each of you we say "Thank You."

New officers will be installed at our last meeting of the program year on May 16. We hope you will plan to attend our High Tea to meet our new officers as well as our 2015 - 16 scholarship winners. (See page 2 for more information about the May meeting.)

Monthly General Meetings will resume in September; until then, plan to join us for weekly breakfasts during the summer. (See page 6 for more information about our Summer Breakfasts).

We urge you to support the incoming officers and Board to help our organization be even more successful. Our new leadership certainly brings change, but revitalization often goes hand-in-hand with change. So help us gain new energy. Don't be afraid to get out there and be creative. Plan to use your personal networks to boost the effectiveness of AAUW. You'll be glad you did.

Beverly Grappy and Margaret Kaufman
Co-Presidents

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Co-Presidents Margaret Kaufman (L) and Beverly Grappy

Meetings and Programs

May General Meeting: High Tea



Don your fancy pants, hats, and white gloves for High Tea on May 16 at the Allamanda Recreation Center. From 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. we will enjoy a member-provided High Tea as we meet our newest scholarship recipients and install our new officers. **A reservation is essential** so we can arrange to have enough hostesses. So please contact Liz Schweers (eas42_mh@hotmail.com; 850-247-9489) to reserve your place. (*Please note:* Liz's email address has **two** underscores between eas42 and mh.)

Members, please bring your own china cup, saucer, small plate, and cutlery as well as a food item to accompany the afternoon tea. If your last name begins with A-L, please bring a sweet dish; M-Z please bring a savory dish. Not clear on what's sweet and what's savory? Check out Whatscookingamerica.net/Menu/HighTea.htm for sweet vs savory high tea recipes. No cakes or pies, please.

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: Follow-up

In lieu of a General Meeting, we gathered (along with other Booster Club members) at The Villages Polo Club on April 21. Lord Lyall and Paige Boone presented Polo 101, which covered the basics of polo: field size, period (chukker) time, players, equipment, rules, fouls, penalties, and more. We all are now ready to attend a match and maybe even know what's happening. Between Lord Lyall's introduction of the sport and Paige Boone's introduction of Cupid, one of their polo ponies, we enjoyed a sack lunch from Honeybaked Ham. Thank you to Ginger Ryan and Linda Ferens for arranging this program. And for those of you who weren't able to be there, here are a few shots of the event.



Special Interest Groups

Our Branch Bridge Groups, Diversity Book Club, Conversational Mah Jongg, and Golf will continue through the summer; contact group leaders for details. Finger Food and Fun, Dine Around, Educated Palates, and Great Decisions will resume in the fall.

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 mswisher@mindspring.com or 352-259-3739. Because of the Memorial Day holiday, the Monday Bridge Group will play this month on May 11 only. The host will be announced before the meeting.
- ◆ The Thursday Bridge group meets on the first and third Thursdays every month at 1:00 P.M. This month, they will play on May 7 and 21. 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 May 13, and the book will be *Me Before You* by JoJo Moyes. For more information, contact Pat Bays at 352-751-3777 or stanbays@embarqmail.com.

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.

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 May 4 and May 18 at the home of Anne Schlick (17301 SE 82nd Pecan Terrace). If you plan to play, please contact Anne (aroyrogers@centurylink.net, 750-1027) the Friday prior to the date of play, or for more information about this group.



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Special Interest Groups *(Continued from page 3)*

Golf Anyone?



Our golfing group will continue on Friday mornings through the summer. The reservation is entered into the tee time system on Sunday so let Carmel Leese (352-751-0119, crleese@gmail.com) know by Saturday evening if you are interested in playing. The requested time is 8:30 A.M., with a window of 8:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. Golf courses are alternated weekly between those north of Hwy 466 and those south of Hwy 466.

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. If you are interested in joining, contact Carmel.

We will also be playing Twilight Golf starting June 4 through the end of September. We will be playing on Monday evening on the Championship courses, and a 5:00 PM tee time will be requested. The cost is \$6.00 for as long as you want to play. The group so far is planning on playing nine holes each week and then socializing. If you would like to join us weekly or occasionally contact Carmel.

Branch News

Spotlight on Philanthropy: Leadership Programs



AAUW's mission of empowering women and girls doesn't happen all by itself. Rather, AAUW offers an array of programs to help members achieve the organization's goals, and our dues support these programs. In particular, AAUW offers leadership programs for members as well as programs to facilitate women's leadership on college campuses.

According to AAUW's Web site (<http://www.aauw.org>), **Member Leadership Programs** "provide leadership development opportunities to AAUW members." These programs are intended and designed to help members advance AAUW's mission at the National, State, and/or local levels. Through member leadership programs, AAUW helps members themselves by offering formal training and opportunities for members to lead at the branch, state, and national levels. AAUW provides members with tools and resources to make them the best leaders they can be, offering everything from in-person workshops to online resources. Included in this array of programs are:

- ◆ **Workshops** at National and State conventions. An example of these programs is the AAUW Florida Leadership Conference, which was held in April in Melbourne. (See page 10 for Judy Bonn's report from the AAUW Florida Leadership Conference)
- ◆ **In-person trainings.** On request, AAUW National sends presenters to branch or State events. Training topics include member recruitment, working with volunteers, marketing, and designing engaging meetings.
- ◆ **Webinars** to train members to lead other training sessions
- ◆ **Online resources** to improve personal leadership skills

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AAUW National's Web site also includes descriptions of **College Leadership Programs**, which are intended to "help shape the lives of the next generation of women leaders." Each year, AAUW's campus leadership programs impact thousands of college women who will be the next generation of leaders. Institutions must apply for these programs and those that belong to the college/university partners members program receive priority application preference. Included in this array of programs are:

- ◆ **NCCWSL** (pronounced "nick whistle") is the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. The conference is held annually to help college women address important leadership issues.
- ◆ **Campus Action Projects** are student-led, grant-funded projects awarded annually. These projects enable college women to take action on women's issues on campus.
- ◆ **National Student Advisory Council** is a year-long program in which college women serve as AAUW ambassadors on their campuses.
- ◆ **Elect Her**, intended to build a pipeline for women to run for elected office, trains college women to run for student government positions.
- ◆ **Start Smart**, a salary negotiation workshop, helps college women enter the job market with skills to negotiate salaries and benefits.

Lake / Sumter AAUW Branch is actively involved in campus leadership programs. We support NCCWSL effort financially as well as by sending a representative from our area to the meeting. We are also approaching local colleges to participate with us in Elect Her and Start Smart (see the College/University Relations article below about upcoming meetings with Lake Sumter State College and Beacon College).

Scholarship Committee



The Lake-Sumter AAUW Scholarship Committee (pictured at right) met at the end of March to select the new scholarship recipients for the coming year. Your scholarship committee consists of (L to R): Joyce Tisovec, Rosella Valentine, and Patti Weasel. The committee will introduce our two newest scholarship winners to you at the May High Tea meeting. And...all of our winners from the previous three years will also join us to welcome the 2015 -2016 winners! We look forward to seeing you at High Tea.



College/University Relations



Rosella Valentine and Frankie Smith will be meeting in May with administrators at Beacon College and Lake Sumter State College to discuss two AAUW Workshops for their campuses. The goal of these meetings is to create excitement and generate administrators' interest in submitting applications to implement Elect Her and/or Start Smart on their campuses.



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Branch News *(Continued from page 5)*

Elect Her is the only program in the country that encourages and trains college women to run for student government and future political office. A collaboration between AAUW and Running Start, Elect Her addresses the need to expand the pipeline for women running for office and to diminish the longstanding political leadership gender gap.

\$tart \$mart prepares college women who are approaching the job market with the confidence, knowledge, and skills they need to negotiate salaries and benefits. When students leave the three and a half hour \$tart \$mart campus workshop, they have learned

- ◆ how the gender wage gap affects their lives
- ◆ how to develop a personal budget to determine salary needs
- ◆ how to benchmark salary and benefits
- ◆ how to negotiate for their first salary out of college

You can view the documents associated with the presentations on our Branch Web site (<http://lakesumter-fl.aauw.net>). Go to the Members Only section by scrolling over the link at the top right side of the home page, and then click on "Working Documents." This section is for Lake / Sumter AAUW members only and is password protected. The password is **1998**.

Summer Breakfasts



Summer Breakfasts will start June 2 and run through August 31, so join us at Perkins on 441 on Tuesdays from 9:00 'til 10:30 A.M. Jacquie Latzer will be coordinating these gatherings again this year so we can look forward to great camaraderie and conversation. Recall that these used to be Summer *Coffees*, but they have morphed into Summer *Breakfasts* because whatever the group spends needs to cover the cost of the room. So come hungry! And for those of you new to this activity, Perkins is at the corner of Avenida Central and 441, in front of La Plaza Grande.

Belk Spring Charity Sale

Don't forget the Belk Spring Charity Sale from 6:00 A.M. 'til 12:00 noon on May 2. You can get tickets in the store during the week before the sale. All proceeds for our Branch will go to support Amber Sode as she completes her unpaid internships during the fall semester.



Branch Web Site Updates



Diane Reichert has joined Anne Wilkins as co-Webmasters for our Branch Web site. Although the site is still under development as we are waiting for a tech person from AAUW National to be assigned to our Branch, we now have a "members only" area, which is password-protected. The password is **1998**, which is the year our Branch was established. Be sure to visit regularly (<http://lakesumter-fl.aauw.net>) to see the new postings and what has been done to update the site. And thanks to Diane for her hard work on this project!

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Branch News *(Continued from page 6)*

Facebook: Announcing Lake / Sumter AAUW Branch Facebook Page!

Through the efforts of Frankie Smith, our Branch now has a page on Facebook. It is a “public page,” so anyone can view it. . .even if you don’t have your own Facebook page.



Opinions vary as to why an organization like AAUW would want to be involved in social networking, particularly through media like Facebook. Frankie has provided us with the top five reasons why our Branch is on Facebook:

1. **ENGAGE AND CONNECT.** Underlying our social media strategy is the desire to help our stakeholders and help them help others. Facebook is a perfect platform for asking questions and opening up discussions with our audience as well as addressing questions or concerns people may have about our organization and its cause.
2. **DRIVE TRAFFIC.** Facebook is a great tool to help drive traffic to our Branch Web site, and subsequently attract donations, volunteers, and raise general awareness for our cause. Because most people may not visit our Web site often, having our supporters “like” our page on Facebook provides an opportunity to give them daily reminders of our mission and directs them to our Web site more frequently.
3. **SHAREABLE CONTENT MEANS MORE EXPOSURE.** Given how easy it is to share content online, Facebook is a great place to create momentum for our organization and any campaigns we may be running. The more shareable content we post, the more people will see what our organization is doing and be motivated to get behind it.
4. **MARKETING TOOLS.** As opposed to traditional means of advertising such as television, radio, and print ads, Facebook is a great and affordable way to run a marketing campaign that has potential for wide reach.
5. **EXTEND OUR PUBLIC RELATIONS REACH.** We can link any press coverage our Branch receives regarding news and events and use Facebook as a way to work our public and media relations.

There are several ways to get to our Branch Facebook page:

- ◆ If you have a Facebook account, you can go to your own page and search for “AAUW Lake Sumter Area — FL Branch.”
- ◆ If you do not have a Facebook account, you can go to <http://www.facebook.com/AAUWLakeSumter>, OR you can go to our Branch Web site at <http://lakesumter-fl.aauw.net> and click on the link to our Facebook page.



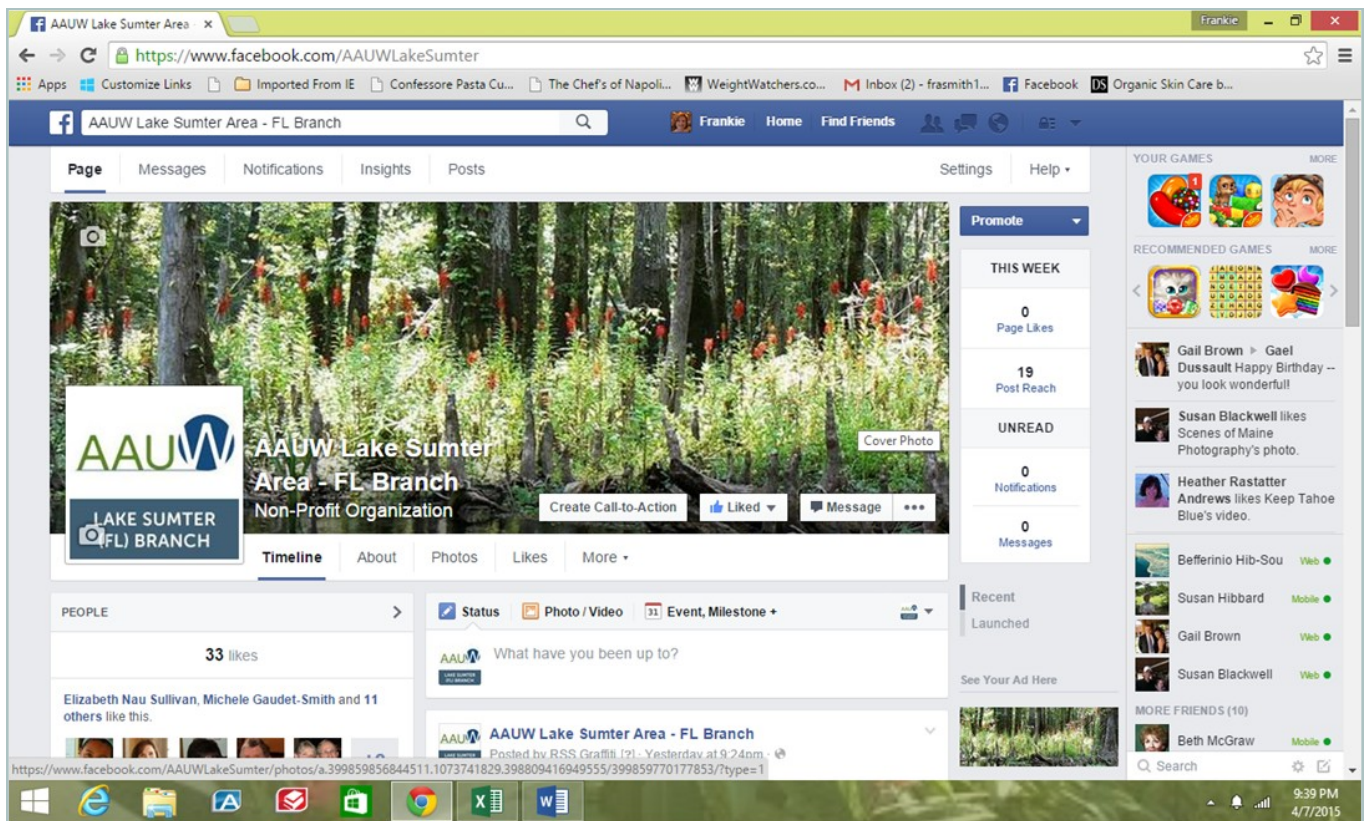
Even if you don’t use Facebook yourself, we encourage you to visit the site and see what we’re presenting to the public. And you can urge your friends to see the page, too, to learn more about our organization. And everyone can “like” us; just click on the link when you visit our site.

To further tempt you to visit, here’s a shot of our Branch’s “profile picture.” Now scroll this newsletter to page 8 for a screen shot of our Facebook page.



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Branch News (Continued from page 7)



Branch Membership Renewals

It's time to renew your membership in AAUW for 2015-16! Full time member dues are \$80.00. If you pay your AAUW National dues in another state, then dual membership dues are \$31.00 for you to be a member of the Lake / Sumter Branch.

Renewal letter responses with checks must be received by June 15, 2015, in order for your name to appear in the 2015-16 Membership Booklet. If you have not already received your renewal letter, they will be available at the May 16 High Tea. Letters remaining after May 16 will be mailed.

Please pay by check! Even though there is a space for providing your credit card number, the treasurer who could scan it has gone north for the summer. Sending it to her via e-mail is not secure.

Update Membership Information at National

Have you moved, or changed your name, phone number, or email address recently? If so you must change your contact information with AAUW in order to continue to receive *Outlook*, *FloriVision*, Public Policy Alerts, and the like and, if you are an officer, to continue to receive timely information pertinent to your position. It's easy to do this. Follow the instructions below.

Log on to AAUW National's Web site (<http://www.aauw.org>) and click on the login link at the top of the page. If you don't know your member number, click on "Forgot AAUW Member ID" and follow the directions. It's probably a good idea to write down your member number and password for future reference.

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Once you are logged in and have entered or created your password, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on "Member Services Database," which will be in red on the lower left side of the screen. Then click on the green "Enter the MSD" link and then on "Enter Member Services Database." You can then review your membership information and follow the directions to make any changes needed.

Member Updates

Please welcome the following new members and add their information to your Members Handbooks.

- ◆ Pat Greenwald 1462 Golden Ridge Drive
The Villages, FL 32162
Village of Poinciana
ptgreen9@comcast.net
352-562-4967
443-995-2693 (cell)
Mary Washington College, BS
George Washington University, MBA

- ◆ Sandy Karlan 1739 Kingfisher Court
The Villages, FL 32162
Village of Pennecamp
sandykarlan1@gmail.com
305-332-7384
University of Miami, BA
Nova Southeastern University College of Law, JD

Long-time AAUW member Zubeda Hamdani passed away in Mt. Dora on April 13 from complications of a surgery. As is our custom, Lake / Sumter branch will make a \$50.00 donation to AAUW's Eleanor Roosevelt Fund in Zubeda's name.

State and National News

Tech Trek



The news is in and it's all good! Four of the girls our Tech Trek committee nominated for the 2015 camp were accepted! Sydney Irwin and Mariah Grant from The Villages Charter Middle School, Desere Holloway from Carter Middle School in Leesburg, and Skylah Rault from Cornerstone Learning Community in Tallahassee were selected to attend Tech Trek from June 27 through July 3 at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg. We anticipate that all of the girls will join us at our September meeting to share with us their experiences at Tech Trek. We wish them all a wonderful time and look forward to seeing them in the fall.

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

AAUW Florida Leadership Conference



Incoming Branch co-President Judy Bonn submitted the following report about this year's State Leadership Conference.

This past weekend I attended the AAUW-FL State Leadership Conference at the Hilton Rialto Road in Melbourne. What a wonderful conference! You all missed a good one as there were great workshops to take part in, great food to eat, and great networking to be done.

On Friday I attended the State Board meeting and the Co-Presidents' Reception honoring branch leaders. There I had the honor to meet Shirley Reid, the leader of our Tech Trek program.

The opening session featured a video presentation by Robin Gerber called *Leadership the Eleanor Roosevelt Way*. I gained a new understanding of Mrs. Roosevelt, both her life and her leadership techniques. She was a truly remarkable woman.

I also learned exciting ways to spice up mission-based programming, plans and goals for Tech Trek, and all about the Lobby Corps. And I'm looking forward to sharing the details with all of you in the coming year.

At the annual meeting, the Lake/Sumter Branch won an award for increased membership. While we are a large and growing branch, I was dismayed to find I was the only Branch member there to accept our award. So start planning now to attend future conferences. Our next State Leadership Conference won't be held until 2017, but here are the dates of our upcoming State and National conventions. We need to be there! They are too good to miss!

- ◆ AAUW Florida State Convention: April 15-17, 2016, in Palm Beach Gardens at the Marriott. Hotel cost is \$99.00/night.
- ◆ AAUW Convention: Dates TBA in 2017 in Washington, DC.

AAUW National Elections: Membership Eligibility on the Ballot

Don't forget to vote in AAUW's national elections. Online voting started April 15 and closes June 19 at 9:00 P.M. PT. If you requested a paper ballot, it must be post-marked by May 26.



Recall that, as a member of AAUW, every one of us has a vote in how the association operates, and as civic minded and educated women, we are obligated to exercise our voting right in the organization. But perhaps more importantly, the ballot includes a proposed bylaws amendment that eliminates the degree requirement for membership in AAUW. So be sure to read the May issue of *Outlook*, which contains complete information about the election as well as your member ID number and password, which are needed for online voting. And please vote!

Public Policy: Human Trafficking



Great news on the human trafficking issue here in Florida and nationally as well! Florida is on its way to getting a law passed that mandates posting of the Human Trafficking Hotline number. HB 369 passed unanimously in the House, and SB 534 passed the Appropriations Committee, which is its last committee hurdle. And the U.S. Senate recently passed legislation to help victims of human trafficking. The vote was 99-0 to approve the Justice for Victims of Trafficking act, which expands law enforcement tools to target sex traffickers and creates a new fund to help victims.



Empowering Women
Since 1881



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

May 2015 Calendar of Events (clip and save)

Belk Charity Sale	May 2	6:00—10:00 A.M.	Belk Store
Mah Jongg	May 4	1:30 P.M.	Host: Anne Schlick
Thursday Bridge	May 7	1:00 P.M.	Host: TBA
Monday Bridge	May 11	1:00 P.M.	Host: TBA
Diversity Book Club	May 13	10:30 A.M.	Freedom Pointe
General Meeting	May 16	2:00 P.M.	Allamanda Recreation Center
Mah Jongg	May 18	1:30 P.M.	Host: Anne Schlick
Thursday Bridge	May 21	1:00 P.M.	Host: TBA

Golf: May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; courses TBA

Twilight Golf: Mondays starting June 4 through the end of September