

LAKE/SUMTER NEWSLETTER

November, 2018



Lake/Sumter branch of AAUW is committed to a diverse community that stimulates a culture of learning and understanding and enhances a member's experience. We aspire to create an inclusive and equitable branch that represents, supports, and celebrates diversity of all kinds.



President's Message

In anticipation of the November elections we were very fortunate to have had co-members of AAUW and League of Women Voters Beth Hicks and Jeannie Hamilton educate participants on the constitutional amendments at the October Membership Meeting. We were also pleased to introduce many guests who sought the same information and heard about the educational opportunity through members as well as the Daily Sun newspaper. Many Thanks to Beth and Jeannie.

A New Members Coffee was held on November 3rd which served to introduce and orient new members of the branch to the goals and activities of our organization. Diane Jacobson coordinated the event which was held at the lovely home of Barbara Jones. It was well received and all who attended left with new friends and colleagues as well as commitments to participate in various programs and social activities sponsored by our organization.

Also on November 3rd a unique fundraising event was held at Belk's store in the La Plaza Grande shopping center. Linda Ferens, one of our Co-Presidents, facilitated the event. Tickets were sold for \$5. each which offered discounts on items purchased at the store. The store then donated that same amount to our branch of AAUW. The store will also reward all support organizations with a donation based on all the tickets sold that day. We expect to earn over \$350 which will be allocated to our scholarship and Tech Trek programs.

The November Membership Meeting will be held on November 17, at the Allamanda Recreation Center. Everyone is welcome to join together at 9:15 for some socializing before the 10:00 start of the business meeting and monthly program. We will learn about Title IX, the Equal Opportunity in Education Act, as well as the Equity and Diversity Program at Lake Sumter State College. Arina Muniza, the Director of these programs at the College will be the speaker.

As the holidays approach, we have a special fundraising activity that will provide opportunities for gifts for ourselves, family and friends while supporting our scholarship and Tech Trek educational opportunities for young women in our Lake Sumter area. The Tea and Spice Exchange store in Brownwood will donate 10% of all purchases during the week of **December 2nd through the 8th** to our organization. Last year we earned just under \$1,000. A note of appreciation is extended to Jacquie Latzer who organized this fundraising opportunity again this year.

The other opportunity for purchasing gifts to support our educational programs is provided by a donation from Gold in Art Jewelers (which has recently changed the store location and is now 103 Clay Avenue South, just off of Rt. 466 in Lady Lake). Tickets are being sold by Carolyn Johnson, the Chair of the Scholarship Committee, for a chance to win a beautiful opal necklace. Tickets are \$5. each. Contact Carolyn at (352) 603-2876 or bring your pocketbook to the membership meeting November 17th.

November is Native American Heritage Month



What started at the turn of the century as an effort to gain a day of recognition for the significant contributions the first Americans made to the establishment and growth of the United States, has resulted in a whole month being designated for that purpose.

In 1915, the American Indian Association directed its president, Rev. Sherman Coolidge, an Arapahoe, to call upon the country to observe an American Indian Day. Coolidge issued a proclamation which declared the second Saturday of each May as American Indian Day. His statement contained the first formal appeal for recognition of Indians as

citizens. FYI: The Snyder Act of 1924 admitted Native Americans born in the U.S. to full U.S. citizenship. Though the Fifteenth Amendment, passed in 1870, granted all U.S. citizens the right to vote regardless of race, it wasn't until the Snyder Act that Native Americans could enjoy the rights granted by this amendment.

The first American Indian Day in a state was declared on the second Saturday in May 1916 by the governor of New York. Some states celebrate the fourth Friday in September. Presently, several states have designated Columbus Day as Native American Day, but it continues to be a day we observe without any recognition as a national legal holiday.

President George H. W. Bush approved a resolution designating November 1990 as National American Indian Heritage Month. Similar proclamations, under variants on the name (including Native American Heritage Month and National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month), have been issued each year since 1994.

November Meeting – November 17, 2018

AAUW opens the meeting doors at 9:15 a.m. at Allamanda Recreational Center, 1515 St. Charles Place. This is open to the public. Your early morning coffee will be ready.

Ms. Arina Muniz, Director of Equity and Diversity/Title IX at Lake Sumter State College, will be our presenter for the meeting. She will present the challenges in this new age and touch upon Title IX changes. Come to the meeting and hear about how rules have changed since we all experienced college life.

Day Trippers!



Seated: Susan Gold, Kate Manion, Char Griffin, Carolyn Johnson, Peg Tabor **Middle row:** Jeannie Hamilton, Gay Birchard, Susan Machol, Suzanne Beason, Liz Schweers, Angela Vickers, Carolee Litwinka, Gail Berman **Last row:** Barb Athanasiou, Gretchen Lewis, Cathy Cirocco, Georgiana Ackley, Linda Ferens, Kathy Mason, Katie Haviland, Ellie Chapman

October 18 was a beautiful fall day, and AAUW members and their guests took a trip to the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park. We were greeted at the gate by period-dressed docents who told us about Marjorie's love of the orange groves on her property, her love of the farm and surroundings, and the cracker people she came to know. Learning about their simple life style and way of speaking added to the authenticity of her writing about life in Florida. At the same time, she was a woman ahead of her time, taking up the role of hosting dinners, entertaining famous writers, and challenging the locals on racism. Among the mostly original furnishings in the home, are the table and chair located on one of the several screened porches where Marjorie did the majority of her writing. The home and farm are truly a step back in time.

A second highlight of the trip was lunch at The Yearling Restaurant with a menu featuring gator and catfish as well as other local favorites. The restaurant included a museum-like exhibit of the 30-some animals that would have been seen at and around the Marjorie Rawlings farm. Jim, one of the locals who single-handedly created the display, had many stories to tell. All in all, an informative trip well-worth taking.

FUNDRAISING

The Spice & Tea Exchange, Brownwood, Dec 2 - 8

Once again, Jody Nelson, the owner of The Spice & Tea Exchange in Brownwood will **donate 10% of her week's net sales** to us for the week of **December 2 – 8**. She stated that is a good week because it includes the tree lighting at Brownwood and she is also having an open house during that time.

We can help her and help those we support with our AAUW dollars by shopping at her store. Please mark your calendars and tell your friends to patronize her shop **December 2 – 8**. In addition to

spices, teas, sugars, and salts, she has related gifts that would work well for stocking stuffers, hostess gifts, grab bags, or whatever.

This is a very generous offer; last year she donated \$970 to AAUW. Let's see if we can help her donate more than that this year.

Holiday Party – December 8, 2018

Allamanda Recreation Center Door opens at 10:00 a.m.

Luncheon Menu Choices

#1. Silverlake Salad

Grilled chicken breast over mixed greens, onion, cucumber, tomato, hard-boiled egg with toasted almonds
served in a crispy tortilla bowl

or

#2. Vegetarian style or #3. Gluten Free

Rolls and butter, salad dressing choices on the tables
Coffee, Tea, Water, Dessert included

BYOBs are welcome. Wine Glasses on the table for your use.

The Villages Dulcimer Club will perform at 10:30 a.m.
prior to the welcoming address from our co-presidents

We are accepting only checks: \$25 / person
Please make checks to **Lake Sumter AAUW**
Indicate your meal choice in the memo area

All reservations should be submitted no later than November 30. Checks will be accepted at the November General Meeting. Reservations and checks may also be sent to Diane Reichert, 1766 Millwood Way, The Villages, FL 32162



The Fundraising Committee needs members. We will work as a team to generate small and big ideas and make plans to raise \$\$ for women and girls. Contact Carolee Litwinka (352-759-0617) or Linda Ferens (352-633-3175)

Co-Directors of Programs needs committee members (2-3) to plan themes for monthly general meetings, plan meals for special events, and manage ticket sales. Contact Diane Reichert (352-391-6467) or Dorothy Dobbs (352-461-0776) for more information.

Help wanted continued on next page

Chair Public Policy is the backbone of grassroots advocacy for AAUW's priorities including voter education/registration and legislative lobbying to promote public policies that empower women and girls. The Chair encourages local membership to support AAUW's priorities.

The following **committees or positions** are also in need of assistance so please consider offering your time and talents as you support our organization: **Tech Trek, Hospitality, Webmaster.**

Florida AAUW Board of Directors is looking for ladies to get involved in the following areas: Finance, Public Policy, Program, and President-elect.

Tech Trek/STEM Committee

Selection for the Florida AAUW 2019 Tech Trek camp is now starting up. The week-long camp is an adventure in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) projects. Our committee works with Lake and Sumter County middle schools whose STEM-program teachers recommend 7th grade girls for possible admission to the camp. Our branch has sponsored five or six students each year for the past four years. Wildwood Middle High School, South Sumter Middle School, Oak Park Middle School, The Villages Charter Middle School, and Tavares Middle School have embraced our project and have participated in our program.

As a committee we contact the middle schools, coordinate nominations and applications for each candidate, and enjoy meeting the girls during the school year. The State AAUW then reviews all applications and makes the final camper selections. Every year the attendees return filled with enthusiasm and joyful experiences following their week at Tech Trek in June. Our branch funds the tuition for each of our branch candidates selected to attend. We are looking forward to hosting this year's campers during our January 2019 monthly branch meeting. Mark your calendars now for this special presentation.

In addition, our branch also gives \$50 gift cards to 8th grade girls in our county middle schools who are most improved in their math and science studies over the school year as recommended by their teachers. These students are recognized during their school award ceremonies prior to graduation.

If you would like to join our committee and discover more about our "Trekies," please email Connie Konotsotis at ck3555@hotmail.com. Many thanks for your interest.

Membership

Saturday, November 3rd we enjoyed a New Member Coffee where our members who joined since last year's coffee could get to know how they might best connect with our AAUW Lake/Sumter branch. Thank you to Barbara Jones for opening her home for the event.

There still are several members who have not picked up their membership booklet. We will have them at the November General Meeting. If you would like to arrange to pick yours up sometime other than the general meeting, call or email Diane Jacobson (750-0032; chasanddi@embarqmail.com).

If you would like to have your booklet mailed to you send, \$3 to Mary Ann Swisher, 821 Ramos Drive, The Villages, FL 32159.

Membership News from National: There will be no half-year dues for those joining in January. All members must pay the full year dues of \$90. In years past we asked interested applicants to wait for the "half-year" special when joining towards the end of the calendar year. With the special no longer available, all interested applicants are encouraged to join as soon as they are able. Because National is accepting 2019-2020 dues beginning in March, we will register any new member joining after February for the 2019-2020 membership year. All paid members, old and new, are welcome to fully participate in all branch activities no matter when they join.

Member Updates

Two new members joined our branch at the September meeting. Information about those new members as well as others who have joined since last month are shown below.

Peggy Hoffsten
1750 Townsend Terrace
The Villages FL. 32162
605-222-4592
phoffsten@aol.com

Spouse: Dr. Phillip
Village of Winifred
University of South Dakota, AA in Nursing
South Dakota State University, BA in Nursing

Mary Ann Hume
534 Kempton Place
The Villages, FL. 32162
352-633-0004
mannmail120@gmail.com

Spouse: Robert
Village of Belvedere
DePauw Indiana, BA in English
Manhattanville, MA in Humanities

Diane Osofsky (dual member at Staten Island NY)
2984 Buttercup Way
The Villages, FL. 23163
917-797-6479
ddiana1045@aol.com

Village of Pinellas
Brooklyn College MA in Education
St John's University SF in Education

Sharon Paradiso
530 Loma Paseo Drive,
Lady Lake, FL 32159
352-205-9200
integrity2028@aol.com

Village of LaReynalda
Western Illinois University, BA

Mary Terrazas
3119 Zipperer Way,
The Villages, 32163
714-401-0367

Spouse: Ralph
Village of Fenney
Cal State Fullerton, BSN in Nursing Leadership
MSN in Nursing Education

Ellen Thompson

7851 SE 173rd Panorama Place,
The Villages, FL 32162
410-353-1053
ethompson53@gmail.com

Village of Chatham-Sherwood
Boston College, BS in Nursing
U of Pennsylvania, MS and DNS in Psychiatry

Angel Books

We are collecting books for grades 3 through 6. Books should not include religious books, coloring books, or sticker books, but they may be new or slightly worn.

The collection continues all year round, and the books will be delivered to Tutors for Kids in the Spring. Frank Russo is happy to distribute them for us.

Scholarship News



Support our local scholarship for women and possibly win a **14 Karat Gold Chain with a Diamond-Enhanced Fire Opal (valued at over \$4,000) donated by Gold-in-Art Jewelers (www.goldinart.com)**.

Tickets will be available at our general meetings in November, December, and January. Please be generous with your donation and increase your luck to win. The minimum donation per ticket is \$5. The Scholarship Committee asks for your help in making this campaign a success. Consider signing out a packet or two of 10 tickets and collect donations from your friends and neighbors. The drawing will be held

February 16, 2019 - no need to be present to win this beautiful necklace.

Contact Carolyn Johnson at (352-775-0084) for more information.

Richie Kluesener of Gold-in-Art Jewelers announced the Grand Opening of his new store on Friday, September 28. The new location is the old Anchor Home Furnishings building on the corner of Route 466 and Clay Street South, between Rolling Acres Road and Route 441.

As you know, Gold-in-Art Jewelers is a good friend to AAUW and donates the jewelry item that we auction off to support our scholarship winners. In turn we would like to support them.

40th Anniversary Celebration



40th Anniversary Committee Hard at Work

Lake/Sumter AAUW will hold a celebration in honor of the 40th anniversary of this branch on Saturday, March 16, 2019, at Allamanda Recreation Center as an early brunch and program. Tickets for this special event will go on sale at our next general meeting. The cost is \$25.00. Look for our table at the fall meetings and don't miss out.

Diversity Committee

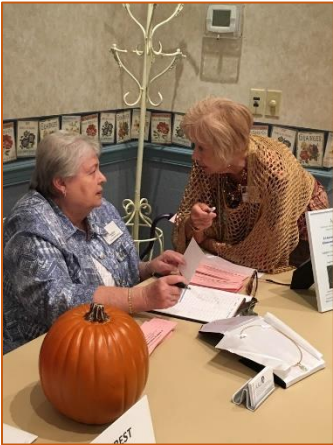
The Diversity Committee met on October 24 and welcomed Jeannie Hamilton as a new member. We discussed a list of clubs in The Villages that Peg Tabor developed for us, and we clarified the purposes for which we would use the list. Toward that end, we decided that the primary use would be for outreach, and we sorted the list into several categories:

- “Like-minded” groups that we may partner with for mission-driven activities as well as recognition and branding activities
- Culturally, linguistically, socially, and politically diverse groups to invite to our programs and whose programs we may want to attend
- Groups that may be interested in our (to-be-developed) speakers bureau
- “Non-like-minded” groups that we may engage with to expand our branch members’ awareness of different perspectives

The original list is long with 60+ entries. The Committee divided up the list, with each member taking some entries to contact to determine interest in working with us.

The Committee will meet again on November 7 to continue to refine the list. Any branch members interested in learning more about the Committee’s work should contact Linda Carpenter

October Meeting Sights



Carolyn Johnson talked with Blanche Boyne about scholarships



Carolyn Johnson introduced scholarship winners.

Interest Groups

Bridge

Lake/Sumter AAUW offers two bridge groups. Dates of the bridge games are emailed to members. Members must respond to emails to get notification of the next bridge game. Game locations are scheduled on a date-to-date basis, with members volunteering to host in their homes. Days before the play, directions to the host's home will be emailed to those playing. Any member who wishes to play regularly or to be put on the substitute list should notify the appropriate Group Leader.

- The Monday Bridge Group plays on the 2nd and 4th Monday's at 1:00 P.M. Games in November will be held on November 13 and 27. The Monday Group Leader is Cindy Anderson (352-430-5856; cmc37738@yahoo.com)
- The Thursday Bridge Group plays on the 1st and 3rd Thursday's at 1:00 PM. Games will be held on November 1 and 15. For the present time, contact Cindy Anderson (see above)

Finger Food and Fun and Dine Around

Our groups will begin this month. Please send me your name if you are interested in assisting me with either event. The Finger Food and Fun group requires someone to offer to host their home for a 2-hour event. The hostess provides paper products only. All guests bring an appetizer and their choice of beverage to this function. The Dine Around group requires a member to set up a restaurant event for a certain month.

Hoping I will get a great response for the two above events.

Warm regards, Judith Anderson, Chairperson

AAUW Lake / Sumter Branch

November 2018

Great Decisions Group - Topics for Great Decisions

Refugees and Global Migration; The Middle East: Regional Disorder; Nuclear Negotiations: Back to the Future?; The Rise of Populism in Europe; Decoding U.S.-China Trade; India and Its Neighbors; Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics; The United States and Mexico: Partnership Tested; State of the State Department and Diplomacy

Sign up at the November 17th meeting or contact Diane Jacobson (chasanddi@embarqmail.com) if you would like to participate in the Great Decisions sessions. The sessions are free to members. Members may invite a guest to participate, non-members are asked to donate \$20 to participate. The group size is limited due to space limits of the room. The 2019 Great Decisions Briefing Books are \$32, all book orders must be placed before November 30th.

Carol Richardson and Diane Jacobson will facilitate the group however, participants are welcome to volunteer to lead a discussion if they wish. There will be two sessions each week one starting at 8:30 a.m. until 9:55 a.m. and the second at 10:05 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. We will meet at the Sumter County Sheriff's Annex (Hwy 466) on Monday's starting January 7th and run weekly for 8 (possibly 9) weeks.

AAUW Singles Group

AAUW Singles Group welcomes all single branch members to join our group. It's a great way to get to know other single women with common interests and have some fun. We currently have 37 members. Please contact Carolee Litwinka (mctwinka@yahoo.com) if you are interested in learning more about our group.

Eight members of the AAUW Singles group went to the Ocala Civic Theatre Sunday October 28 to see the play Born Yesterday. After the play they enjoyed dinner together at Harry's Seafood restaurant. A special thanks is extended to Carolyn Johnson for organizing the trip.



On the left: Gretchen Lewis, Kate Manion, Carolee Litwinka, Liz Schweers
Right side back to front: Carolyn Johnson, Connie Konatsotis and Anne Schlick. Kathy Mason took the photo.

Mexican Train Dominoes

I would like to offer my home to play Mexican train dominoes for AAUW members during the months of January, February, March, April, and maybe May 2019. We live at 975 Fairhope Lane in the Village of Bridgeport - Lake Miona.

I have two sets and could accommodate 14 people. However, if there are more interested, I could get more sets. Please call if you would like to join us: Ellen Gagnon (856-296-8161)

Golf

AAUW's golf group is on hiatus until January 2019 due to Ms. Leese's travel, the heat of the summer and lack of participation. The day of the week will change in January to either Monday or Wednesday with a tee time request of 10:00 AM. Contact Carmel Leese at crleese@gmail.com or at 352-751-0119 for specific details.

Diversity Book Club

There is no regular book club meeting in November.

The book club's annual holiday party is slated for Wednesday, December 19 at 11:30 a.m. at Ricciardi's in Brownwood. RSVPs should be sent to kmanion52@gmail.com by December 1.

Date	Title	Author	Discussion Leader
November	No Meeting		
December	Holiday Luncheon		
January 16	Writing my Wrongs	Shaka Senghor	Judy Reinhardt
February 20	A Little Life	Hanva Yanghilara	Diane Jacobson
March 20	Educated	Tara Westover	Linda Carpenter
April 17	The Soul of America	Jon Meacham	Carolyn Moores
May 15	Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey	Candice Millard	Kate Manion
June 19	The Califfs of Baghdad, Georgia	Mary Helen Stefaniak	Kathy Mason
July 17	The House of Broken Angels	Luis Alberto Urrea	Blanche Boyne

November 2018 Calendar of Events

Event	Dates	Time	Location and Contact
Thursday Bridge	November 1 and 15	1:00 P.M.	Contact Cindy Anderson for info, 352.430.5856 email at cmc37738@yahoo.com
Board Meeting	November 6	10:00 A.M.	Sheriff Annex Building
Monthly Meeting	November 17	9:15 A.M.	Allamanda Rec Center
Monday Bridge	November 13 and 27	1:00 P.M.	Call Cindy Anderson for location 352.430.5856
Singles		TBD	Call Carolee Litwinka for information 352.750.0617
Book Group	None this month	10:30 A.M.	North Lake Presbyterian Church
Mah Jongg	November 5	1 PM	Katie Manion 583 Bradford Loop (Village of Sanibel), The Villages, FL 32163. Phone: (352) 689-2626; email kmanion52@gmail.com
Mah Jongg	November 19	1 PM	Carol Sellers, 372 Hengan Pl (Village of Mallory), The Villages, FL 32162. Phone: (352) 259-5410; email robertsellers@embarqmail.com

EDITOR'S MUSINGS

Committee Chairs ... PLEASE send updates for your news articles. I am not a mind reader who "knows" what should run for a second month and what needs to be updated. Thanks so much to all for your support on this!

Next issue will be a combination December/January edition. Please try to send dates and info for both months by the standard deadline date of November 20.



AAUW Websites

Editor: Beth Hicks
aauwsnews@gmail.com

National: www.aauw.org

State: aauw-fl.aauw.net

Local: lakesumer-fl.aauw.net