

LAKE/SUMTER NEWSLETTER

October, 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

We are off to a strong start of a very busy year with many business and social activities on the calendar or currently being scheduled. See many of them in this newsletter along with others that are posted on our Lake Sumter website: lakesumter-fl.aauw.net. The Members Only password is 1998

Our first monthly membership meeting was held on September 15 and was well attended with approximately 80 members and guests. The combination of educational and social activities was well received by the participants. The meeting began with an introduction, recognition and appreciation of all leaders who coordinate the many business, educational, and social activities of our branch.

The educational presentation was a very special one as one of our members, Dr. Ruth Martin introduced her husband, Dr. Lawrence Martin, who presented real life examples from his experience caring for patients in intensive care settings who were near death when decisions needed to be made about continuing lifesaving treatments. The ethics of this decision making was discussed and there were many questions as well as personal examples from participants after the formal part of his presentation. Dr. Martin has written a book on this topic, *We Can't Kill Your Mother*, which is available for sale on national websites.

We will not hold one big fundraiser this year such as last year's Casino Night; instead we will have a few smaller fund-raising activities that we are confident you will enjoy and appreciate. Two of them were presented at the September meeting. Linda Ferens, one of our co-Presidents-elect, introduced a representative from Belk department store who shared information on the first of the fund-raising events. And Carolyn Johnson, Chair of the Scholarship Committee, presented a raffle opportunity to win a beautiful opal necklace. It will be presented to the lucky winner at the monthly membership meeting on February 16 of next year. If you have ideas for additional fund-raising events you have either participated in or think you would like to participate in, please contact Carolee Litwinka and/or Linda Ferens, co-Presidents-elect who are serving as fundraising coordinators.

In March 2019 we look forward to a very special event: a celebration of our branch's anniversary. Anne Wilkins and Liz Schweers are leading the planning of the event. Tickets will be available at our October meeting. More information to come.

Next month's meeting on Saturday, October 20, will be another very special one as two of our members will lead the educational component of the program. Beth Hicks who is also the President of our local chapter of the League of Women Voters will be joined by Jeannie Hamilton, another Lake/Sumter AAUW branch member. They will provide information on the constitutional amendments that will be included on the ballot in November. Be sure to join us. The meeting will be held at the Allamanda Recreation Center, 1515 St. Charles Place on Saturday, October 20, from 9:15 A.M. to noon. We will have time for socializing and enjoying coffee together prior to calling the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. There will be a short business meeting prior to the formal presentation. Be sure to add this meeting to your calendar. We look forward to seeing you there.

We hope you will participate in and support our branch activities over the coming months of this exciting 2018-2019 year!

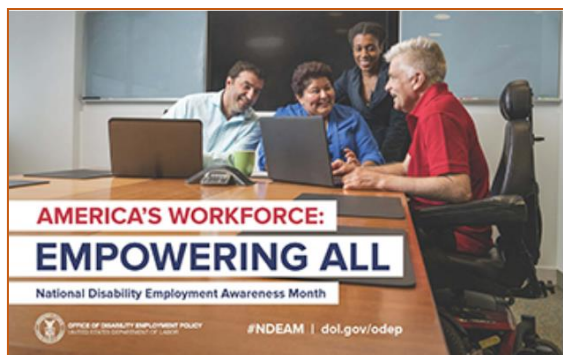


Co-Presidents Kathy Mason and Liz Schweers

Strategic Plan Information from National

Welcome to your 2018–19 leadership year. This is an exciting time at AAUW as we focus on education and training, economic security, leadership, and governance and sustainability, the four pillars of [AAUW's new strategic plan](#). Based on feedback from thousands of members, AAUW is currently focusing heavily on the economic security pillar. As state and branch leaders, your support will be critical to reach our bold goals to achieve pay equity by 2030 and train 10 million women to negotiate their salaries by 2022.

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month



This year's theme is "America's Workforce: Empowering All." The national campaign is spearheaded by the Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) to raise awareness about disability employment issues and to celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities. There were nearly 40 million Americans with a disability in 2015, representing 12.6% of the civilian non-institutionalized

population, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Those with a disability earned a median of \$21,572 in 2015, less than 70% of the median earnings for those without a disability (\$31,872).

For further background, read *A Disability History of the United States* by Kim E. Nielsen. Using primary sources and social histories, the author portrays familiar stories like slavery and immigration in a new light, highlighting the role ableism played in the growth and flourishing of democracy.

October Meeting - October 20, 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. Welcome our recent scholarship winners. Your early morning coffee will be ready.

The main program is a presentation by Jeannie Hamilton and Beth Hicks, members of the League of Women Voters. The Florida Constitution Revision Commission (CRC) convenes every 20 years and has seven proposed amendments to the Florida Constitution remain on the November 6, 2018, ballot. The other five are from citizens' initiatives and the legislature to make a total of 12 amendments this year. Come and learn more about the amendments.

If you attended the September meeting, don't forget to wear your nametag. We are not collecting them anymore!

FUNDRAISING

Our AAUW branch is participating in the Charity Sale at the Belk store to raise funds for our scholarship fund. Details on where the funds will go in the next issue. It will be held on Saturday, November 3, beginning at 6:00 A.M. Customers can reserve their desired merchandise for this event beginning Monday, October 22. We will be selling tickets at our October 20 meeting for \$5.00 each. Be sure to buy tickets for yourself and friends



Our AAUW branch is proud of the help we have given to young women and girls over the years to achieve their education goals. We need NEW ideas to raise the funds needed to continue supporting college scholarships and sending 8th grade girls to TechTrek summer camps.

Please consider joining the **NEW Fundraiser Committee**. We will work as a team to generate small and big ideas and make plans to raise \$\$ for women and girls. We need your help!

Contact Carolee Litwinka (352-759-0617) or Linda Ferens (352-633-3175)

TechTrek/STEM Committee

Selection for the Florida AAUW 2019 TechTrek camp is now starting up. The week-long camp is an adventure in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math 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 TechTrek 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 "Trekkies," please email Connie Konotsotis at ck3555@hotmail.com. Many thanks for your interest.

Membership

The New Member Coffee will be held on Saturday, November 3 at 10:00 A.M. in the home of Barbara Jones. Invitations to all new members as of the last coffee will be mailed out October 9. Due to limited space, only one of each co-chair pairs need to be present to share information.

Member Updates

Three new members joined our branch at the September meeting. Information about those new members as well as others who have joined since the book went to print are shown below.

Jerrilyn Marks Eisen

1232 Kettle Loop
The Villages, FL 32163
Phone: 702-234-1374
Email: jerrimeisen@gmail.com

Village of Dunedin

Moore College of Art PA: BS in Art Education

Suzanne Nelson

3206 Holley Terrace,
The Villages, FL 32163
Phone: 561-906-1257
Email: sknarnp@earthlink.net

Village of Pine Hills

Barry University, FL, NRS Administration, Post Masters

Espi Walmsley

1773 Bassinger CT.
The Villages, FL 32162
Phone: 352-633-3989
Email: espin@comcast.net

Spouse: Ian
Village of St Charles

McGill University, Canada: CGA Accounting
University of the East, Philippines: B. Com in Finance

Marilyn McKay

2071 Duxbury Lane
The Villages, FL 32162
Phone: 407-754 4745
Email: dramadoc@aol.com

Village of Pennecamp

University of Denver CO, BA in Theatre
University of Georgia, GA, PhD in History

Anna Whipple

4198 Deskin Lane
The Village, FL 32163
Phone: 951-440-9531
Email: awhipple39.aw@gmail.com

Village of Osceola Hills

Ohio State University, B.S.
Pacific Oaks College, M. A.

Anne Sobocinski

2364 Clearwater Run,
The Villages, FL 32162
Phone: 352-633-3604
Email: annesobocinski@yahoo.com

Spouse: Paul

Bridgeport Miona Shores

Northern Illinois University, IL Degree BSN in Nursing

Please add these new members and make the following correction to your membership booklet.

Susan Machol

University of Southern California, CA

Angel Books

Books are for grades 3 through 6, and should not include religious books, coloring books, or sticker books. But books 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

The Scholarship Committee is happy to report that our Scholarship winners plan on attending our meeting on October 20. They will briefly share with us their experiences which we always enjoy hearing.



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 starting in October. Please be generous with your donation and increase your luck to win. The minimum donation per ticket is \$5.00. 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 has announced the Grand Opening of their new store beginning on Friday, September 28. The location of their new store is the old Anchor Home Furnishings building on Route 466 between Rolling Acres Road and Route 441. Prizes and drawings for two weeks!

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.

Public Policy



Char Griffin explained the registration process to a Beacon College student.



Linda Fogg registered a student at Beacon College. Monday September 24. Great job!

Char Griffin and Linda Fogg registered voters at Beacon College in Leesburg on Monday, September 24. Great job!

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 on Saturday, October 20. The cost is \$25.00. Look for our table and don't miss out.

Diversity Committee

Members of this year's Diversity Committee are Jacquie Latzer, Kathy Mason (ex officio), Judy Reinhardt, Laurel Rowen, Diane Starr, and Peg Tabor; Linda Carpenter is chairing the committee. At their first meeting on September 7, members selected actions to oversee.

- Diane Starr will be submitting heritage month articles to the newsletter each month.
- Peg Tabor is developing a list of clubs in The Villages that may offer experiences that are different from those we know well. We'll be using the list to begin to build relationships with other groups.
- Jacquie Latzer, as chair of the Communications Committee, will link activities of the two committees: creating a PowerPoint presentation for use by our (soon to be developed) speaker's bureau, and announcing our General Meetings to diverse clubs.
- Judy Reinhardt will be working with the Membership Committee as that group develops a "buddy" system for new members.
- Linda Carpenter will be working with the Membership Committee as that group tracks responses to invitations to our meetings.

Laurel Rowen will select an action to oversee when she returns to The Villages this fall.

The committee will meet again in October to begin addressing their main task: to develop a plan for branch and individual member participation in a community event that highlights diversity. Suggestions are welcome, so contact Linda Carpenter or any of the committee members with your ideas

September Meeting Sights



Ann Marie Lombardi and Barbara Jones greeted members and guests at the door.



Kate Manion and Diane Geach negotiated 50/50 tickets.



Mary Ann Swisher and Diane Jacobson provided membership information.



Diane Reichert and Kathy Mason thanked presenter Dr. Larry Martin

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 October will be held on October 8 and 22. 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 October 4 and 18. For the present time, contact Cindy Anderson (see above)

Finger Food and Fun and Dine Around

Our groups will begin next month in November. 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.

Normally I have an October meeting for this committee to arrange the year's schedule. However, I will be having a hip replacement this month, so I am doing everything through emails.

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

Warm regards, Judith Anderson, Chairperson

AAUW Singles Group

On Oct 14, we will carpool to the Show Palace Dinner Theater in Hudson, FL, for a buffet lunch and a musical production of *Dames at Sea*.

Kate Manion and Carolyn Pasquale are hosting a light dinner at Kate's home on Oct 21. Group members will each bring a dish to share and enjoy socializing and catching up with each other.

On Oct 28, we will carpool to the Ocala Civic Theater to see a comedy production of *Born Yesterday* and have dinner at a restaurant in Ocala. Carolyn Johnson is purchasing tickets for group members who are interested.

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.

Diversity Book Club

The book club's October meeting is set for Wednesday, October 17 at 10:30 A.M. in the Peace Room at the North Lake Presbyterian Church. The book of the month is *The Buddha in the Attic* by Julie Otsuka.

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. There will be no book club meeting in November.

Date	Title	Author	Discussion Leader
October 17	The Buddha in the Attic	Julie Otsuka	Peg Tabor
November	No Meeting		
December	Holiday Luncheon		
January 16	A Little Life	Hanya Yanagihara	Linda Fogg
February 20	Writing My Wrongs	Shaka Senghor	Judy Reinhardt
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 Cailiffs of Baghdad, Georgia	Mary Helen Stefaniak	Kathy Mason
July 17	The House of Broken Angels	Luis Alberto Urrea	Blanche Boyne

Great Decisions Group

Once again AAUW will host a Great Decisions discussion group in 2019. Diane Jacobson and Carol Richardson will lead the eight weeks of discussions in January and February, with a **change in day to Monday**. We will continue to have two sessions: one at 8:30 A.M. and the other at 10:05 A.M. We will be meeting again in the Sumter County Villages Annex Conference Room, 8033 East CR 466. In October, the Foreign Policy Association will announce the topics and the briefing book cost. All AAUW members are invited to sign up at no cost other than the price of the book. Non-members may attend as a guest; we ask that they make a \$20 donation to AAUW. Sign up and payments will be due in December.

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)

October 2018 Calendar of Events

Event	Dates	Time	Location and Contact
Thursday Bridge	October 4 and 18	1:00 P.M.	Contact Cindy Anderson for info, 352.430.5856 email at cmc37738@yahoo.com
Board Meeting	October 2	10:00 A.M.	Sheriff Annex Building
Monthly Meeting	October 20	9:15 A.M.	Allamanda Rec Center
Monday Bridge	October 8 and 22	1:00 P.M.	Call Cindy Anderson for location 352.430.5856
Singles		TBD	Call Carolee Litwinka for information 352.750.0617
Book Group	Wed October 19	10:30 A.M.	North Lake Presbyterian Church

EDITOR'S MUSINGS

Thanks for all your kind words and for ignoring the mistakes in my first issue. I will eventually get a routine and figure things out to make the process smoother. And a special THANK YOU to Linda Carpenter for volunteering to be my proof reader. Not sure she realized it was a full-time position, but I appreciate it greatly.



Submissions for November issues will be due October 20. Please submit to the address below and not my personal one.

Editor: Beth Hicks
aauwlsnews@gmail.com

AAUW Websites

National: www.aauw.org

State: aauw-fl.aauw.net

Local: lakesumer-fl.aauw.net