

# LAKE/SUMTER NEWSLETTER

January 2020



*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



Happy New Year! 2020 is special because we are celebrating the 100th anniversary of a woman's right to vote in the U.S.A.

In the spring of 2020, our Lake/Sumter branch will be voting for new board members. The women on the nominating committee are "making a list and checking it twice," looking for capable members to serve. Please say "yes" when you are called as it is a great opportunity to share your ideas in a role of leadership.

Please don't forget to support our scholarship program by purchasing tickets for Music of the Night dinner and show, February 23 at the Savannah Center, and returning your money for tickets to win the beautiful gold bracelet.

A gentle reminder to mark your calendars for our next meeting on the third Saturday, January 18 at the Allamanda Recreation Center. Plan to arrive early to socialize and enjoy treats before the meeting which begins at 10:00 a.m.

We are looking forward to seeing you.

Carolee and Linda

## Meetings

### December Holiday Party

We had a joyful Holiday Luncheon in December at the Continental Country Club. A buffet lunch was served with plenty of food for everyone, as well as a delicious cake for dessert. Entertainment was provided by several of our own members. Arlene Stein gave a wonderful presentation about Hanukkah and the meaning of the menorah in the Jewish faith. With the help of audience members, Arlene showed us several of her

personal menorahs, including a special one from Israel. With Hanukkah coinciding with Christmas this year, Arlene's information was particularly timely and interesting! Marianne Bender-Powers read the ever-popular poem *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*. She preceded the reading with a brief biography of the author, Clement C. Moore. It was interesting to learn several little-known facts about Moore's life, as well as how his poem came to be written.

Dorothy Dobbs presented the song *Not Another Fruitcake, Please* and turned the whole gathering into a chorus to sing the refrain. Dorothy then donned an apron and chef's hat to transform herself into a rum-drinking baker who was showing us all how to make a rum cake. Dorothy was so hilariously convincing as she swigged from her rum bottle (that actually contained tea), that someone asked if she had a ride home! After we all sang, *We Wish You a Merry Christmas*, our Holiday Luncheon came to an end, and we went forth with merriment in our hearts.



## January Program

Our January 18, 2020, meeting at Allamanda Recreation Center will feature a special STEM presentation by Tech Trek summer campers. Two students will be accompanied by family members, and there may also be a representative from the Charter School. Additionally, our own Dr. Linda Carpenter will be providing us with a presentation about the 4-year VPK (Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten) study. Doors open at 9:15 a.m. for socializing and a bite to eat; meeting officially begins at 10:00 a.m.

# Board News

## Election Process Changing

In past years the election for directors of Program and Finance have been held in even numbered years and the election of Directors for Membership and Secretary have been held in odd numbered years. This practice has resulted in there often being two new people in a specific office who have no knowledge of the procedures and practices required to accomplish the goals of the position.

After considerable discussion the Board agreed that each position should be voted on each year for a two-year term thereby ensuring that an experienced person is always in position. Beginning with the 2020 election one person will be elected for one year and one for two years. Where two people are in currently in position, one person will step off. This practice should facilitate smooth transitions.



## Board Openings

There are several board openings...please see Linda or Carolee for details if you are interested: Co-Chair of Finance, Webmaster for the Branch website, and Speakers' Bureau. Fund Raising is looking for some workers for upcoming events. Also, consider saying yes when the nominating committee calls looking for interested members to run for office.

## Membership

As of the end of December our branch has 148 members! Please add two new members to your membership directories. The membership co-chairs have reached out to each of them to determine their areas of interest.

- Dr. Pauline Pan (Frank)  
378 Ellenton Run  
The Villages, FL 32162  
973-769-8778  
[paulinepan37@gmail.com](mailto:paulinepan37@gmail.com)  
Bryn Mawr, PA. B.A. Biology  
Rutgers Univ. NJ. Ph.D. Microbiology & Biochemistry

- Dr. Margaret Raub-Hunt (Margie) (William)  
2169 Madero Drive (Village of Palo Alto)  
The Villages, FL 32159  
352-259-4803  
[Margie314159@aol.com](mailto:Margie314159@aol.com)  
Nova Southeastern University Ed. D. Management  
Cleveland State University, Ohio M.A. Mathematics

## Public Policy

### How the Wage Gap Hurts Women in Retirement (Source: National AAUW News)

"The gender pay gap, which begins as soon women enter the workforce and grows throughout their working life, continues to disadvantage women during their retirement years, according to a new analysis by the American Association of University Women.

- Women collect only about 80 percent of what men do in Social Security benefits, a result of the fact that women have earned less than men throughout their life, and therefore have paid less into the Social Security system.
- Women's pension income is only 76 percent of that collected by men.
- Women's overall retirement income, which includes Social Security, pension, interest and dividend income and other sources of income, is only 70 percent of men's retirement income. . . ."

AAUW National offers Work Smart Online, a free 1-hour course designed to train women in salary negotiation. Check our Branch website for the pointer to the Work Smart online training.

## Fundraising

### Spice and Tea Exchange "Donation Week"

The first week of December Spice and Tea Exchange partnered with Lake/Sumter AAUW donating a percentage of sales to our branch. Thank you to them for their support and thank you to all who shopped there during "donation week."

### Belk Charity Sale

A big Thank You to Helen Ware and Liz Schweers for working the November 9 Belk Charity Sale. Our branch received \$385 from their efforts.

## Shopping Extravaganza

Branch-member and artist Linda Schnoll is having a Shopping Extravaganza offering her original jewelry pieces for sale from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on January 22 and 23 at her home in the Village of St. James. Find unique gifts for every occasion for others and/or for yourself. A portion of sales will be donated to AAUW Lake/Sumter. See page 10 for details.

## Farewell-to-the-Old-Card Mah Jongg Celebration

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Farewell-to-the-Old Card Mah Jongg Celebration will be on Friday, March 20 at the Truman Recreation Center from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Reservations for tables of four will be accepted beginning in February; the cost will be \$20 per player. This Play for a Purpose Fundraiser is open to all players with a Villages or a Guest ID. Diane Jacobson is looking for help to host this fun party. Those who don't play mah jongg are most welcome as volunteers, contact Diane at [chasanddi@embarqmail.com](mailto:chasanddi@embarqmail.com) to let her know you would like to help.

## Spice and Tea Exchange Luncheon April 7

A Spice and Tea Exchange luncheon for 24 people will be held at noon on Tuesday, April 7. Gay Birchard will be selling tickets for the luncheon starting in February.

## Jewelry Drawing

You could be the winner of the 14K gold mesh bracelet, valued at \$4,000 and donated by Gold in Art Jewelers. Support local scholarships for women by making a minimum donation of \$5 per chance. Pick up drawing tickets at our General Meeting and be sure to pay and return outstanding tickets to Carolyn Johnson (352) 775-0084. The drawing will be February 23 at the Music of the Night dinner and show. Ticketholders need not be present to win.



## Music of the Night – Dinner and Show



Ready to dress to impress? If you haven't already done so, it is time to complete your table reservation for the Music of the Night dinner and show event. Go to our web site (<https://lakesumterfl.aauw.net>).for a reservation form and instructions.

Be sure to invite all your friends and neighbors to join in the fun, everyone is welcome to attend this fun night. While we love to have our members attend this fundraiser it is a perfect opportunity to introduce our causes to others.

## Community News



### Beacon College

Beacon College Salon Series continues on January 22 at 7:00 p.m. Inspired by the Paris salons of the Enlightenment, the series offers interesting and stimulating presentations along with “heavy hors d’oeuvres” (read: “dinner”) starting at 6:15 p.m.

Admission is free, but a reservation is required. Get more information about the full series [here](#). What a great opportunity for knowledge and entertainment at no cost! Why not get a group together and attend? The January talk by **Kimberly Wilmot Voss on Politicking Politely: Well-behaved Women Making a Difference in the 1960s and 1970s** is partly sponsored by The Local League of Women Voters chapter...let's come out and support the League!

## Activities

### Singles Group

The Singles Group has scheduled the following activities for the next two months:

**January 1**, Wednesday, 10:30 a.m., New Year's Brunch, Kathy Mason's home: 2444 Lay Lane, Village of DeSoto. Please be sure to RSVP to Kathy at [kmason0826@gmail.com](mailto:kmason0826@gmail.com) or (850) 556-7986. And please bring a dish of your choice for the brunch. Punch will be served or if preferred BYOB.

**January 7**, *Little Black Dress* show at the Savannah. Information sent in previous email, reservations made, and tickets already purchased.

**January**, Dinner at Katie Belle's with the Singing Servers; Each person pays for their own dinner. Volunteer needed to set date, receive RSVPs, and call Katie Belle's restaurant to reserve seats.

**February 9**, Sunday, Musical Show, *Violet*, Winter Garden Theatre, dinner to follow in Winter Park. Information sent in previous email, reservations made, and tickets already purchased.

**February 23**, Music of the Night, Sunday, 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the Savannah Center. Dinner with music and a show following is an AAUW program to support scholarships and Tech Trek programs. Singles tables are being reserved; friends are welcome. Tickets are \$75. Kathy Mason is collecting checks made out to AAUW Lake-Sumter along with choice of entrée: turkey, pork, or eggplant parmesan. Contact Kathy (850) 556-7986 ASAP to make a reservation at the Singles Tables.

**February 27**, AAUW Spring Day Trip. See Day Tours (below) for details.

## Day Tours

### Spring Outing Features 4-hour Cruise from St. Petersburg

Our spring outing is scheduled for Thursday, February 27. This outing is a 4-hour cruise on the Starlite Majesty Dining Yacht with a luncheon onboard and a wide variety of entrees from which to choose. The excursion is out of St. Petersburg and up the smooth inland waterways of Pinellas County, Reservations may be made through Senior Adventures at 352-753-5404 Monday through Friday between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm. The cost is \$87, which includes the cruise, lunch, and round-trip bus travel, leaving The Villages at 9:00 a.m. and returning at 6:00 pm. When you call to make your reservation, be sure to tell Senior Adventures that you are with the AAUW group so that they seat us all together on the bus.

Excursions such as this fill up fast, so to avoid being disappointed, make your reservation as soon as possible. It's such a pleasant tour, with views of some of the most beautiful waterfront vistas along the coast, why not decide to make it a Christmas gift to yourself and sign up today?!

Questions should be addressed to Kate Manion at [kmanion52@gmail.com](mailto:kmanion52@gmail.com) or via phone at 352-689-2626.

## Great Decisions



Great Decisions is meeting for eight sessions beginning January 6. The topics include: Climate Change and the Global Order, India and Pakistan, Red Sea Security, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, U. S. Relations with the Northern Triangle, China's Road into Latin America, The Philippines and the U.S. and Artificial Intelligence and Data. For more information about the program contact Diane Jacobson at [chasanddi@embarqmail.com](mailto:chasanddi@embarqmail.com).

## Mah Jongg

Our January games will be held at 1:00 p.m. at the following member's homes:

- January 6 – Barbara Fisler, 471 Gaskin Lane (Village of Amelia), The Villages, FL 32162. Phone: (352) 446-0039; email: [kiddielit5@comcast.net](mailto:kiddielit5@comcast.net)
- January 20 – Katherine Howe, 1391 Eagle Ridge Dr. (Village of Liberty Park), The Villages, FL 32162. Phone: (631) 219-4289; email: [kamphowe@aol.com](mailto:kamphowe@aol.com)

Please remember to call the hostess by the Saturday preceding the game so she can arrange for tables, chairs, and game sets.

## Bridge

The Monday Bridge Group plays on the second and fourth Monday's at 1:00 p.m. The Monday Group Leader is Cindy Anderson (352) 430-5856; [cmc37738@yahoo.com](mailto:cmc37738@yahoo.com)).

Thursday Bridge is held on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 1:00 p.m. Members offer to host in their homes. If you are interested in playing regularly with this group, please send your name, phone number, and email address to Mary Ann Swisher ([mnjswisher@icloud.com](mailto:mnjswisher@icloud.com)).

## Book Club

In lieu of a book discussion, 16 members of the AAUW Book Club enjoyed a festive holiday luncheon at Miz Kathi's Cotillion Restaurant in Wildwood on Wednesday, December 18.





The Book Club will meet on Wednesday, January 15 to discuss *Carnegie's Maid* by Marie Benedict, the story of a woman who may have spurred Andrew Carnegie's transformation from a ruthless industrialist into the world's first true philanthropist. The meeting will be at 10:30 a.m. in the Peace Room of the North Lake Presbyterian Church on Rolling Acres Road (behind the Home Depot). We will adjourn to lunch immediately following the meeting.

February's read is *The Girl with Seven Names* by Hyeonseo Lee. The book provides extraordinary insight into life under one of the world's most ruthless and secretive dictatorships, and the story of one woman's struggle to avoid capture and guide her family to freedom. The Book Club will meet to discuss this book on Wednesday, February 19 at 10:30 a.m. in the Peace Room of North Lake Presbyterian Church.

Diversity Book Club 2019-20 Reading List			
Date	Title	Author	Discussion Leader(s)
Jan 15	<i>Carnegie's Maid</i>	Marie Benedict	Mary Ann Swisher
Feb 19	<i>The Girl with Seven Names</i>	Hyeonseo Lee	Diane Jacobson
March 18	<i>The Jungle</i>	Upton Sinclair	Peg Tabor
April 15	<i>America for Beginners</i>	Lea Franqui	Linda Carpenter
May 20	<i>The Bluest Eye</i>	Toni Morrison	Ginny Rivera
June 17	<i>The Island of the Sea Women</i>	Lisa See	Sue Nelson
July 15	<i>Our Souls at Night</i>	Kent Haruf	Carmel Leese
Aug 20	<i>Select Books for Next Year</i>		Kate Manion

# FUND-RAISER

## JAN 22-23, 2020

to support



American Association of University Women  
Lake/Sumter Branch

Artist, jeweler, and AAUW member, Linda Schnoll, is holding a SHOPPING EXTRAVAGANZA and she is generously donating 10% of the proceeds to AAUW

You and your friends are cordially invited to an exclusive showing of unique, fine jewelry and a large offering of silver, gold, and fashion jewelry at substantially reduced prices!

- ❖ Earrings, necklaces, bracelets, bangles, and more !!
- ❖ Original, one-of-a-kind pine needle baskets/vessels utilizing ceramics, glass, wood, and metal.

When you shop at Linda Schnoll Originals on January 22 & 23 you will make your shopping count by giving 3 ways:

- ❖ Supporting local women and girls that benefit from scholarships that AAUW's Lake/Sumter Branch provides
- ❖ Supporting a local, woman-owned business
- ❖ Giving gifts to others and/or to yourself

So, shop and invite your friends to do the same.

Directions:

Located in the Village of St. James  
Enter using the St. Charles entrance off Buena Vista  
Go west on St. Charles to Ashville, turn left  
A short block later, turn right onto Paisley  
It is the third house on the right

**Support Local  
Women and Girls**

**Linda Schnoll  
Originals  
Partners with  
AAUW**

**Find gifts for  
every occasion**

**LINDA SCHNOLL  
ORIGINALS**

2063 Paisley Way  
The Villages, FL 32162

(414) 429-1618

leschnoll@gmail.com

Wednesday & Thursday

From

10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Special appointments upon  
request

# January

2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Single's New Year's Brunch	2 Bridge	3	4
5	6 Great Decisions Mah Jongg	7 Board Meeting 10 AM Sheriff's Annex	8	9	10	11
12	13 Bridge	14	15 Book Club	16 Bridge	17	18 Monthly Meeting 10 AM
19	20 Great Decisions Mah Jongg	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Great Decisions Bridge	28	29	30	31	

## EDITOR'S MUSINGS



As always, the deadline for the February newsletter will be January 20. A HUGE thank you to all who respect the due dates for the newsletter. Please continue to use the newsletter email address below for submissions.

Editor: Beth Hicks  
[aauwsnews@gmail.com](mailto:aauwsnews@gmail.com)

### AAUW Websites

National: <https://www.aauw.org>  
State: <https://aauw-fl.aauw.net>  
Local: <https://lakesumter-fl.aauw.net>