

floriVision

A PUBLICATION OF AAUW-FLORIDA WINTER SPRING 2013



Eileen L Recchia

PRESIDENT'S CALL TO CONVENTION

It is time for us to **CELEBRATE!!** Our state convention 2013 is fast approaching and there will be many offerings for everyone: motivating keynote speakers, exciting workshops taking us to new places, pre convention trips, sharing opportunities, first timers' event, Presidents' Tea, class entertainment and "Bingo Blingo." We have planned a convention for the 21st century AAUW member.....new in many respects! Mark your calendars now and encourage your fellow AAUW members to join in the celebration of accomplishments and future endeavors. **Early discounted registration deadline is Monday, April 1, 2013.**

What a year for us to celebrate! AAUW-FL is involved in its first statewide AAUW branch collaborative effort which is called TECH TREK , a summer STEM camp for 8th grade girls on the UCF campus in Orlando. It is the first for AAUW- FL branches. Your state leadership applied for the \$10,000 grant and was one of 5 AAUW states selected to receive it. This is your statewide project

which will only become a reality if all of you support it. Every branch should be thinking about an activity that will provide financial support for TECH TREK. It may be as small or as large as you want; it may be a new activity or a repeated activity; it is to be your branch's contribution to make the TECH TREK "dream" come true.

As your state president I want every branch to know that this is our projecta project that will touch the lives of many that probably would never have such an opportunity if it wasn't for our AAUW-FL **I ask you to make this happen!** Your efforts, dedication to the education of young girls and your willingness to join the AAUW-FL TECH TREK team will be the grandest celebration for all AAUW members in the state of Florida. How can we not join in this marvelous undertaking!

You will bring smiles to the faces of the girls who participate; create excitement in their eyes; challenge inquisitive minds; offer opportunities for laughter, friendship development and independence; and broaden their world of knowledge in science, technology , engineering and mathematics. **What we do is not for ourselves but for the betterment of our young girls in our state of Florida. CELEBRATE WITH ME AT CONVENTION 2013 AND LET US ALL MAKE TECH TREK THE BEST WE DO IN 2013!**

**BINGO/BLINGO FOR TECH TREK
FUN EVENT AT CONVENTION
PLAY BINGO - WIN JEWELRY
SUPPORT TECH TREK**

Time is NOW, Register TODAY
AAUW-Florida Convention
April 19 – 21, 2013

Kamala Anandam, Director for Program

AAUW at national, state and branch levels has overcome many challenges as women of all ethnicities have worked so hard to bring us to where we are today. Our challenge now – and for years to come- is to attract younger women to carry our banner and execute our mission. No challenge is too great for us to overcome when we work together. Let us rally behind our convention theme: ***Turn Challenges to Celebrations***. We'll think anew, we'll brainstorm, we'll think outside the box, we'll celebrate!

To help us confront our challenges, we have invited some dynamic speakers. On Friday night, meet JoAnn Corely, an inspiring speaker, trainer and career and management coach who has learned to leave her comfort zone, time and again to meet her challenges. She is the Founder of Human Sphere and will speak on ***The Inspired Professional: Going from Ordinary to Extraordinary***. www.joanncorley.com. Saturday's luncheon speaker, Sharon Saylor, is an internationally known communications trainer, speaker and author who founded Competitive Edge Communications and will speak on ***Confidence is being Yourself – On Purpose***. www.SharonSaylor.com. Saturday's banquet will allow us to relax and enjoy the melodious music of world renowned harpist Victoria Lynn Schultz. www.FloridaHarpist.com. The speakers' most recent books and Victoria's CDs will be available for purchase for your own enjoyment or as gifts for others.

Prior to the banquet is the ***Bingo Blingo for TECH TREK!*** Let us all play bingo for a worthy cause, a STEM project for girls going into the 8th grade. It is a week-long summer camp to be held at the University of Central Florida, July 21 - 26. We urge every attendee to join us and have fun playing bingo. Attractive prizes are in store for the winners. Let us celebrate receiving a \$10,000 grant from

AAUW for the Tech Trek project. Read more about the Tech Trek project in Jen McDaniel's article in this issue. You'll hear more about it at the convention too.

If we want to attract younger women to our folds, we need to get to know them. Saturday morning starts with our general session on ***Generational Conversation*** moderated by Kate Farrar, AAUW Director for Campus Leadership Programs. Participating in the conversation are branch members: Carol Richardson, Miami; Betty Martin, Lake Wales; Shirley Reid, Venice; Barbara Buchele, Orlando/Winter Park; and Lois Miles, Vero Beach. Also participating in the conversation are Abigail Lemay from Stetson University and Alexis Schwartz from Florida State University. Alexis is currently a member of the Florida Student Advisory Council and Abigail is a past member of National Student Advisory Council. There will be time for questions from the audience.

You are well aware of how times are changing. All of us face the opportunities to learn new ways to achieve our goals and fulfill our mission. Are you ready for this? None other than AAUW Vice President **Patricia Fae Ho** will take us through a journey into the future. Listen well and watch for ideas to turn your branch challenges to celebrations. She speaks at the general session on Saturday afternoon.

NCCWSL is an acronym that has been tossed around quite frequently in recent months. It stands for **National Conference for College Women Student Leaders**. Several branches in Florida have sponsored students to attend this annual national conference. Last year the state Board honored the outgoing president Carol Napper with a donation to sponsor Florida college students to attend this conference. With our new president Eileen Recchia, the need to educate all Florida branches about NCCWSL has taken on a new dimension. We now have Susan Berlin, president of Palm Beach County Branch appointed to the Board to inform and promote NCCWSL among our branches. She'll be speaking on ***Why NCCWSL Matters to Florida*** on Sunday general session.

Call to first-time convention attendees!

Don't miss the special reception for you on Friday afternoon.

Four breakout sessions have been planned and will be offered twice, once in the morning and again in the afternoon on Saturday. If you want to know what the younger generation is all about, you'll want to attend *Elect Her: Empowering College Women to Run* led by Kate Farrar, Director, AAUW Campus Leadership Programs. Some of you might have been thinking about forming a separate 501 c 3 entity for your branch. We have a breakout session to show us the benefits of such an entity and how to get it established led by Dr. Jill Birdwhistell, Chief Operating Officer, AAUW. Her topic is *Innovative Fundraising/501 c 3 Support Foundations*. Nationally and statewide we have witnessed an increasing interest in the College and University (C/U) Partnerships as a way of attracting young women to join AAUW. Elizabeth Koenig, Director of C/U Partnership AAUW-Florida, and Lisa Fuller, Director for Student Advisory Council AAUW-Florida, will lead a breakout session on *C/U Partnerships: What's in it for the Branches?* Last but not least is the breakout session on *The Power of You - How to Ensure Personal & Professional Success* led by JoAnn Corley, Friday night keynote speaker.

There is a 45-minute slot in the Saturday afternoon schedule for

1. *Informal Dialogues and Discussions* among attendees.
2. *State President's Tea* for branch presidents.
3. *An update on Tech Trek* project. Get involved.

As you make your plans to attend the convention, plan to come early and enjoy one of the optional tours we have planned for you on Friday April 19, 1:30 – 3:30 pm.—the Holocaust Museum or the Waterhouse and Art & History Center Museum. Traffic on I-4 going east on a Friday afternoon is heavy so please allow yourself plenty of time.

A Reminder: If you haven't visited our state website www.florida-aauw.org, please do so now and read much more in "On Our Way to the Convention" and the links to several articles. Spread the word.

**TECH TREK UCF
Powered by AAUW**



Florida is just one of five states that will be rolling out Tech Trek which is a weeklong STEM (Science Technology Engineering & Math) residential experience for girls going into the 8th grade. Tech Trek provides attendees' hands-on experiences in a STEM activity every day for a week

How did AAUW-FL get involved in Tech Trek?

Under the leadership and encouragement of Florida President Eileen Recchia, a team of AAUW members (Eileen Recchia, Flossie McNally, Jennifer McDaniel, Diane Schrier, Abby Lemay, Emily Schmitt, Carol Newnam, M.C. Santana) applied for and received a \$10k grant from AAUW. This seed money is provided to assist with the development of Tech Trek in Florida.

What is Tech Trek?

Tech Trek is a model that AAUW has been using in California since 1998 starting at Stanford University. Over the last 14 years, Tech Trek camps have expanded to eight college campuses across California and have served more than 8,000 girls. "Our hopes and dreams are to see Florida

continue to grow STEM activities and events like this. We currently are doing amazing STEM work here in Florida! It is our time to share the branch success, collaboration, expertise, and talents with others” says Jennifer McDaniel, an electrical engineer, AAUW STEM Task Force Leader, Director and author for the Florida Tech Trek grant.

When and where will Tech Trek take place in Florida?

Tech Trek will take place on the University of Central Florida campus in Orlando Florida July 21 – 26, 2013.

Who is eligible to attend?

Tech Trek is open to any young girl in the state of Florida who will be going into 8th grade and is nominated by a teacher or AAUW branch to attend. Nomination forms are located at <http://techtrek-fl.aauw.net/>. The girls must complete a written application and participate in an interview. All girls will be chosen by an AAUW-FL selection committee.

What will the finances entail?

The \$10,000 grant which was awarded to AAUW-FL will cover only a portion of the weeklong residential camp which will have a \$30,000 budget to meet a goal of 50 girls. Additional fundraising and sponsorships are necessary throughout AAUW-FL. Financial support from every AAUW-FL branch is needed to make the Tech Trek dream become a reality!

Is sponsorship available?

In addition to fundraising efforts branches, AAUW members and friends of AAUW may sponsor a girl to attend. A donation of \$100 sponsors 1 day of camp for a girl. A donation of \$500.00 sponsors a girl for the entire week. All donations go directly to the girl’s STEM experience! One may contribute directly at <http://bit.ly/AAUWTechTrek>. When making a donation, be sure to indicate FLORIDA!

There are incentives for those who donate more than \$130.00. A copy of Lilly Ledbetter’s book Grace and Grit will be given to donors in this category. AAUW is designated a 501(c)(3)

charitable organization; therefore, donations to the Tech Trek Fund are tax deductible. Donations may be made online or by check.

To donate online go to <http://techtrek-fl.aauw.net/> Choose “Donate” at the top and indicate Florida. To donate by check make the check out to AAUW and write in the memo line Tech Trek Florida. Mail to AAUW, P.O. Box 98045, Washington, DC 20090-8045. Corporate sponsors are also welcomed to support STEM and Florida Tech Trek!

Who is the AAUW-FL contact person?
Jennifer McDaniel, Tech Trek Director
Email: j2mcd@yahoo.com

Branches, individuals, and corporate sponsors are all needed to make this DREAM a REALITY!

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE Candy Fish, Chair

PROPOSED SLATE

President Elect: Vacant

Director for Program Candidate: Kamala Anandam, Weston Branch (nominated by Diane Jacobson, Lake Sumter Branch)

Director for Finance Candidate: Nancy Pura, West Pasco County Branch (nominated by Flossie McNally, West Pasco County Branch)

Director for Public Policy: Diane Schrier, Ocala Branch (nominated by Carol Napper, St. Augustine Branch)



**KAMALA ANANDAM
for Director for Program**

Kamala joined AAUW in 1995. A founding member of the Weston Branch, she has served as its president and before that as chair of International Affairs in the Ft. Lauderdale Branch. She served as secretary of

AAUW-FL from 2008-2011 and is currently serving as Director for Program and serves on the Branch Program Resources Committee of AAUW. Kamala has attended three national conventions and all state conventions since 2006. She is retired from her position as Associate Dean of Educational Technology, Miami-Dade College, where for two years she served as IBM Consulting Scholar helping colleges in the US and abroad integrate teaching and technology. Kamala has an EdD from the University of Tennessee, Educational Psychology, and an MS from the University of Tennessee, Child Development Home Science Extension. As the president of AAUW Weston and chair for International Affairs, Ft. Lauderdale Branch, she has coordinated several mission based projects and collaborated with local organizations and universities. As an officer on the state Board, she has learned, "how conventions are planned and a lot about how the Board interacts with the branches. I am very aware of the useful information the Board provides through its website and newsletter and its efforts to listen to branches' needs and to help them forge ahead. As Director for Program I have helped organize the 2012 Convention and am presently aiding in the planning of the 2013 Convention."



DIANE SCHRIER
for Director for
Public Policy

Diane joined AAUW in 2004. She has served as the chair of Public Policy in her branch as well as president and secretary. In AAUW-FL, she served as a Director at Large, as

Director for International Affairs, and presently serves as Director for Public Policy. Diane has attended five state conventions, co-chairing one. She has degrees from Syracuse University (Psychology/Fine Arts, BA), New York University (International Business/Finance, MBA), Skidmore University (Computer Certification, MCP) and Western Connecticut State University (Teaching Certification). She has been an active participant in

her community's political and social activities and issues. Diane's goals for the Public Policy position: "AAUW must continue to be a major player in governmental discussions involving the role of women in our society. We must continue to fight for equal pay and equal opportunities. We need to be aware of what is happening in Washington, D.C., our country and around the world. In this time of economic hardship for many, we must fight to ensure that women and children do not suffer the brunt of the economic hardships. Laws and government policies need to be analyzed. In Florida, with its very diverse cultures, we must find a way to inform and educate women about these policies and about initiatives that could benefit them. I want to insure that AAUW is a major force in influencing public policy in Florida and in the nation. Action requires knowledge and I will disseminate knowledge as quickly as possible."

NANCY PURA
for Director for Finance

Nancy joined AAUW in 1983. She has served as treasurer in branches in New York, Connecticut, and Florida and served as AAUW-New York Treasurer until she moved to Florida in 2006. Nancy has attended one national convention and state conventions in New York, Connecticut, and Florida. Nancy is a Full-Charge Bookkeeper/Registered Tax Preparer. She obtained her AA degree in Accounting/Computer Science from Hartnell Community College in Salina, CA, and her BS in Administrative Studies/Economics from the University of California, RIVERSIDE. Nancy belongs to the National Society of Tax Professionals. Her goal is to support education for women and girls and to assist AAUW-Florida in financial matters.

Fun Fair
Diane Jacobson

This year at the 2013 AAUW-Florida State Convention there will be a ticket exchange Fund's Fun Fair sponsored for AAUW Funds by the AAUW-Florida Director for Development. At the

fair baskets will be on display for you to try and win. The winners will be announced at the Funds breakfast on Sunday. Also instant prizes will be available at the event. Exchange tickets for the prize of your choice and be an instant winner. All baskets and instant winner prizes are donations made by participating branches. Prize tickets will cost one dollar each.

Every dollar received from ticket sales will be donated to NCCWSL. You must be present at the convention to enjoy the Fund's Fun Fair.

Is your branch participating in the Fund's Fun Fair? It is easy to do. Does your branch like to create a beautiful basket filled with items for convention goers to try to win? Does your branch or any member have items such as cookbooks, book marks, greeting cards, or jewelry that they would like to donate as instant prizes? Your baskets and/or items will be on display at the convention in the Fund's Fun Fair room. Donors will support your branch as they use their tickets to win prizes donated from your branch. All the money collected from selling tickets will be sent directly to NCCWSL crediting each branch one dollar for every ticket they collect from their donated prizes. If you have any questions or your branch would like to participate in the Fund's Fun Fair, email Diane Jacobson at chasanddi@embarqmail.com by April 1st.

Another way to support NCCWSL, even if you can't be at the convention, is to make a personal tax deductible donation supporting NCCWSL. All donators who complete the form on page ## will have their name entered in a drawing for a thank you prize from AAUW-Florida. You do not have to be present to win the prize. **Simply fill out the form on page 17 and deliver it to the Fund's Fun Fair room at the convention or mail it as indicated on the form by April 10th.**

Thanks to Branch Treasurers
Diane Boyce, Director for Finance

It was great meeting so many of you at the November Training Session. Your questions were pertinent and insightful.

I would like to commend all the branch treasurers for keeping their records in great order. Please remember that January – March is half dues for incoming new members. This is only acceptable for incoming new members and not members with a lapsed membership. The new members will then pay full membership dues starting the new fiscal year of July 1, 2013.

With the upcoming elections of some new treasurers, please remember to pass along important documents and explain the procedures. This is a healthy way of starting the year off correctly. Remember that you and the membership chairs are a team.

PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES
Diane Schrier, Director for Public Policy

The Fiscal Cliff Act was passed by the US Congress but a resolution on taxes and spending remains to be accomplished

The new AAUW research report *Graduating to a Pay Gap: The Earnings of Women and Men One Year after College Graduation* states that new female college graduates receive \$.82 to the \$1.00 a male college graduate receives. For already employed women it is still \$.77 to \$1.00, a number that has not changed for many years. AAUW must support the Paycheck Fairness Act – US Senate Bill 3220/House Bill 1519.

The Violence Against Women Act continues to be voted down in the U.S. House. The inclusion of Native American, immigrant, and transgender women is the problem for many members.

Roe vs. Wade remains under attack forty years after women won the right to make decisions about their own bodies. New Mexico State Representative Cathrynn Brown, introduced House Bill 206 that would make it a crime for a rape or incest victim to destroy the fetus as it would be “destroying evidence” and the victim as well as the doctor performing the procedure could be arrested for “tampering with evidence.” In Florida Representative Van Zant has again introduced HB

395 stating that life begins at conception and anyone hurting a life is guilty of a felony.

Governor Scott has proposed a one-time bonus of \$2,500 for Florida teachers; however, there is no money for this. The 3% pension deduction was upheld by the Florida Supreme Court. Originally the contribution to pensions was made by the school systems to compensate for the lower teacher salaries.

Florida Representative Diaz introduced HB 113 prohibiting adults from knowingly distributing “materials harmful to minors” or from posting such materials on school property. There is no explanation for what constitutes harm to minors.

Senators Gwen Margolis and Arthenia L. Joyner are cosponsoring a bill to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Senator Joyner has also introduced SB 70 to create the Helen Gordon Davis Fair Pay Protection Act and SB 80 to expand the availability of early voting sites and to increase voting hours.

Final Report on the 2011-2013 National Impact Grant **by Carol Napper**

I am happy to write this “final report” on the major project that involved us all for the past two years. It all began when we were contacted by the AAUW Public Policy department in June 2011 and were asked to apply for the “Impact Grant” to be awarded to 15 states to participate in a major effort to get more women, particularly younger women, out to vote in the 2012 election.

I formed a committee that included Diane Schrier, Sally Bailey, Kamala Anandam, Karen Zalkin and myself and we began planning for a presentation for all Florida branches which was held at a special meeting in April at the Hutchinson Island Marriot Resort. Sam Lehman came from Washington to lead the “training session,” and we were very pleased to have 37 branches represented. Our committee took part in a mandatory series of monthly conference calls that included all the states involved in the Impact Grant. Each call had a different agenda of subject matter pertaining to how

to implement our Get Out the Vote project and our goals. Although this was interesting and well organized, we found that we had some obstacles. Our impression following our April meeting was that those attending were very enthusiastic about this major national project. The challenge involved the timing. We were asked to have our branches present their specific plans for the Get Out the Vote Campaign by the end of June, and most of our branches were not prepared to do that as many members leave Florida for the summer. Yet we were expected to hit the ground running with all plans in order in August. Another problem that we encountered was that we were promised a person who would work part time under the direction of AAUW but who would be stationed in a central location in Florida and whose job was to be our liaison with all our branches and help with our branch projects. This didn’t happen.

In spite of the above problems, many branches did work hard and had creative activities and also registered a lot of new voters. We were able to get permission and a special authorization number that allowed us to register voters throughout the state. Although we don’t have official numbers of women voters in Florida, we do know that the numbers increased, and we also know that more women voted nationally and that more women candidates won Senate seats and seats in the House of Representatives as well as in state legislatures. Certainly AAUW’s efforts contributed to these successes. We were also able to get more publicity for the AAUW issues that we care about and bring more attention to women’s issues.

AAUW-Florida derived benefits from this project too. Many branches had much more contact with colleges and universities in their areas and also were involved in meaningful local coalitions.

Thank you for all that you did and I hope you are proud and pleased with what has been accomplished.

Kimberly Fountain, who took over the direction of this whole project from Washington in mid-July when Sam Lehman and Seth Chase resigned, has a new position with the title of State Grassroots

Advocacy Manager. She did a good job with the Impact Grant project under difficult circumstances. I'm sure we will be working with her in her new job.

NCCWSL Update **Susan Berlin, AAUW-FL Liaison**

Have you selected your student leader for NCCWSL 2013? Registration for the conference, "Leadership for Today and Tomorrow," begins February 1st. NCCWSL will be held May 30 through June 1, 2013, at the University of Maryland and will feature workshops, speakers and networking. Take advantage of the reduced registration rate of \$395.00 (vs. \$445.00) through April 12th.

Ten branches have expressed interest in participating in our state initiative to increase representation from Florida at NCCWSL. Please keep me informed of your branch progress as the conference approaches svberlin@bellsouth.net.

Even if your branch is not sponsoring a student, you will have an opportunity to participate at the AAUW-FL convention. The AAUW-FL Board will hold a live auction of some fabulous prizes during the Sunday AAUW Funds breakfast. Bring your checkbooks and soft money and help local Florida students develop the skills that they will need to become our future leaders.

MAKE A LIFETIME GIFT TO AAUW **Susan Barley**

Have you considered making a legacy gift to AAUW? Your gift will help ensure that the work of AAUW continues long into the future. By providing for AAUW in your estate plans, you can become part of the distinguished AAUW Legacy Circle.

The simplest form of a legacy gift is a bequest or a gift left to AAUW in your will. Bequests often can allow donors to make a sizable gift to AAUW that may not have been possible during their lifetime. In a simple bequest the donor gives a stated amount or

percentage to AAUW without attaching any conditions.

You can also name AAUW as a beneficiary of your life insurance, bank account, stock account, or retirement plan. In addition charitable gift annuities are available that can provide you with tax savings and income during your lifetime.

To make your gift a reality or for more information, contact Susan Barley, AAUW Legacy Circle Chair for Florida 239-948-9012 barley@ameripost.com, or Catherine Heffernan at the AAUW Planned Giving office 877-357-5587 heffernanc@aauw.org.

Visibility on Website Pages and Facebook **Sally Bailey, AAUW-Florida Web Manager**

Are your branch activities and your branch calendar of events up to date on your branch website, your branch page of the state website or Facebook page? People rapidly lose interest in a site that is not updated frequently. If you want to increase traffic on any of these you must keep them current so potential new members and AAUW members considering a move to Florida will become interested in your branch activities, make return visits to your site to see what's happening, and become interested in joining your branch.

Even if your branch has a website or a Facebook page, adding flwebmgr@comcast.net to the email list of branch members who receive your branch newsletter electronically is the easiest way to keep your branch page on the state website current and allow potential members to read about your upcoming and past successful activities.

Please remove all personal contact information except email addresses from your newsletter before it is linked to any location on the internet in order to maintain the privacy of your members. Personal information such as addresses, phone numbers, colleges attended, degrees, and employer information should go only to your members and not be included in any newsletters, flyers, etc., that are readily accessible on the Internet.

Please contact me flwebmgr@comcast.net if you have questions about anything pertaining to the

state website or want to make changes to your branch page.

NEWS FROM BRANCHES

SAINT AUGUSTINE

Debbie Brinsfield

The St. Augustine Branch hosted an Author Luncheon fundraiser to benefit our Scholarship Fund and the Branch Legacy Fund on Saturday, November 3, 2012. The authors were Diane Thompson Cortese and Greg Dawson. Cortese is the author of Sweet Dreams, St. Augustine, a children's bedtime story set in St. Augustine. The story centers on a moonlit tour, catching the city's spirit and reveling in its Spanish-inspired architecture and historic landmarks.

Greg Dawson is the author of Hiding in the Spotlight: A Musical Prodigy's Story of Survival 1941-1946. It is the story of Zhanna, a young Jewish girl from Ukraine, a gifted piano prodigy giving concerts by the age of six. When her family is forced into exile and execution, Zhanna manages to escape the infamous Nazi death march to Dorbitsky Yar and uses her exceptional musical gift to stay alive. She performs for the occupying German troops as they move throughout Europe. Zhanna is able to keep her true identity a secret until a young American soldier with ties to Juilliard adopts her. Upon her emigration to America, Zhanna's gift flourishes and she becomes one of the first Jewish refugees to enter Juilliard. Zhanna is the author's mother. He is also the author of Judgment Before Nuremburg: The Holocaust in the Ukraine and the First Nazi War Crimes Trial.



Greg Dawson, Vicki Gibson, Diane Thompson Cortese

The luncheon was held at Amici Italian Restaurant with approximately 54 attendees. The event netted \$886 and we are looking forward to offering this event in 2013.

ST. LUCIE COUNTY

Rowena Cardoza

The St. Lucie County Branch AAUW celebrated its 18th fall luncheon as a fund raiser for scholarship awards and AAUW Funds. This is our only yearly fundraiser. The theme was Moving Forward with Education. The venue was at Gator Trace Country Club in Fort Pierce. The main focus of this branch is community action and working with girls to promote self esteem. The guest speaker was Ms Ivy Jones, MSN nurse practitioner. Her message included info on STEM and school academics. Entertainment was a musical selection by an Hispanic youth group, tap dancers from the Savannah Club Tappers, a poem by a member, and modeling of hats by 4 members. A delicious lunch was enjoyed by all, the ambiance was great, and it was a pleasant occasion well worth the planning. We sold 120 tickets.

SARASOTA AAUW HONORS

STUDENT LEADERS

Kathy Oarr



President Audrey Laue, Barbara Helfrick, Katherine Oarr

The Sarasota Branch of the American Association of University Women heard from one of its two scholarship recipients to the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders at its fall luncheon on September 21st at Laurel Oak Country Club. The students who attended the conference at the University of Maryland were Grace Fisher, a New College student, and Barbara Helfrick, a USF student. Nearly 600 women students from across the country attended this year.

Barbara Helfrick spoke about her experience at the conference held last May where she learned from other accomplished women how to acquire the leadership skills needed for success in academic and professional careers. She was impressed with the outstanding speakers and workshops and inspired by the stories of the women who were honored as "Women of Distinction."

Grace Fisher is studying abroad this semester and will speak at a later meeting.

The students sponsored by the Sarasota Branch were recommended by the Student Affairs Administrators at their colleges. The branch will award scholarships for the 2013 conference to be held next May.

STUART BRANCH SUPPORTS STEM AT IRSC—2012 Rosemary Villano

For the third year the Stuart Branch supported the Quest Career Exploration Program at Indian River State College in Ft. Pierce. This three-week summer program was for 14 and 15 year olds from Martin, St. Lucie, and Indian River Counties.

The students toured the Treasure Coast Public Safety Training Complex on campus and experienced a virtual reality simulator used in law enforcement and emergency medicine.

They were introduced to computer animation and video production through the college's Digital Media Institute, producing their own live broadcast.

A visit to the IRSC biotechnology labs provided them an understanding of careers in the health care

field such as nursing, medical lab technology, medical research. They extracted DNA from strawberries and learned how to "purify" proteins.



They were provided with employability skills training and career exploration in the STEM related fields. They explored ways to obtain information necessary in choosing a career. The students wore tee shirts to class with the AAUW logo and name (see picture) thus

introducing them to our organization.

Assistant Dean of Technology at IRSC Cedric Gibson stated, "This very worthwhile program could not have happened without the support of AAUW."

VENICE BRANCH

Evelyn Hively

Venice Branch is Second in Contributions to Eleanor Roosevelt Fund



President Shirley Reid announced that the Venice Branch of AAUW has been recognized nationally as the second highest branch contributor for 2011-2012 to the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund. Established in 1898, the fund recognizes work that supports its goals of removing barriers to women's and girls' participation in education, promoting the value of

diversity, and developing greater understanding of the ways women learn, think, work, and play. The award has been given for classroom teaching, educational research, and legal and legislative work in equality for women.

Venice Branch Teams with Local Library to Offer STEM Event



Denise DeLong, Pat Weber, Marge Ostrom, Shirley Reid, Georgie Ann Fedakis, Lynn Fox

Twenty-five girls age nine to twelve from thirteen area schools in southwest Florida entered a brightly decorated room at the Frances Bourne Jacaranda Library in Venice on a Saturday morning to participate in “Girls, Gadgetry and Galvanizing Genius.” The latest event in the southwest Florida branch’s ongoing STEM projects, the program set up four separate stations to show the attractions of careers in science and technology. All the girls spent time at each of four hands-on demonstrations.



The science station, “Butterflies, Beetles and Bugs, Oh My,” examined those creatures under a microscope with instruction by AAUW member Pat Weber. The technology demonstration of amazing “Wearable Light” was conducted by librarian Andrea Gehringer. At the engineering table, the girls constructed a clever “Lego Balloon Car” devised by AAUW member Denise DeLong. For the math segment, AAUW’s Lynn Fox taught probability theory in her exciting game “Chances

Are.” Refreshments at the break were provided by Marge Ostrom and Georgie Ann Fedako AAUW.

This pilot program was rated “awesome” by fourteen girls and “exciting” by eight. Sheila Kaufer, youth services librarian who chaired the event, reports that other regional libraries have already expressed interest in duplicating the experience for elementary school girls.

VERO BEACH BRANCH

Lois Miles

VERO BEACH BRANCH HOSTS TEA AND TRIVIA FUNDRAISER

In a continuing effort to complete the balance on the MacPhail-Strong Endowment, the branch held a fundraiser at the Garden Club on November 9th, 2012. Attendees were grouped in teams of six and answered eight rounds of ten questions which tested their knowledge of women in music, literature, television, science and other fields. Judges checked the answers and declared a winning team. Each of the six members received a prize.



Nancy Aadland, Linda Barker, Nancy Marx Erickson

During the breaks, the ladies enjoyed delicious teas, homemade sweet treats and tea sandwiches while they strolled through the garden. Several donned fashionable hats which added an elegant touch to the occasion. The event was marked by a competitive spirit and lots of laughter.

The idea was borrowed from the St. Charles, Missouri, branch which developed the prototype and also had a successful fundraiser.

Vero Beach Mystery Theater Raises Endowment Funds

As one in a series of fundraisers for the Jannetta MacPhail-Harriett Strong Endowment, several members of the Vero Beach Branch were transformed into lovely ladies of the acclaimed social register who had fallen prey to a jewel thief. During the performance of Sherla Combs and the Case of the Great Jewel Robberies, they detailed the loss of their precious gems to Sherla Combs and her gemologist sidekick, Dr. Whatstone, who effectively solved the case, and made the thief, who was one of their own, return their jewels to them.



The cast of characters as pictured included: (back row, left to right) Sherla (Carole Strauss who also directed the production); Jewel Reebox (Olive Detering); Sapphire Blue (Joan Foster); Dr. Whatstone (Lois Miles)

Seated l. to r. Opal Winfree (Bruna Picco) and Lady Diamond Worthalot (Marlowe Arnold). Ruby Ring in the person of Theresa Domino is not pictured.

Audience members assisted in solving the case and had the opportunity to interview the cast. Prizes were awarded to winning teams who worked together with others seated at the same table. Light refreshments were served. Held at the Elks Club on

a Saturday afternoon, the event was well attended. Tickets were \$25.

The branch also hosted two writing workshops conducted by published author and branch member Suzanne Fox. Topics included Feast and the Kitchen: Writing Life Stories from Memorable Meals, and Snapshot Stories: Memory Writing from Personal Photographs. Admission to each two and a half hour workshop was \$25. A continental breakfast was served, and materials were provided.

WEST PASCO COUNTY BRANCH Flossie McNally

West Pasco County Branch has had a busy year starting with a successful Candidates' Forum in October as part of the IT'S MY VOTE campaign. Over these past few months we have branch planning sessions, crime prevention presentations, scholarship program activities and a very successful and informative program on Islam this past month featuring the Imam of the new Port Richey Mosque.



The photo is of Imam Shah Hashimi, some of his congregates, and a few of our branch members.

FROM THE EDITOR

I appreciate the many branches that sent pictures for publication in this issue of *floriVision*. Unfortunately with the number of articles I needed to include for the bylaw amendments and the convention, I was not able to use all of the pictures.

FROM YOUR AAUW-FL PRESIDENT

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING ELECTIONS AND BYLAW PROPOSALS

In this issue of *floriVision* the slate of officers as defined by the AAUW-FL Bylaws is listed with the candidates' photos and bios. This year it became apparent that there is need to present bylaw proposals that will allow potential candidates to run that may not be interested according to the existing bylaws. Therefore, on Friday, April 19, two bylaw proposals will be presented as the first item of business at the General Session. One will allow co-officer positions effective immediately and the other will allow nominations from the floor. Following the membership vote on the bylaw proposals the election process will begin.

A third bylaw proposal, "One Member-One Vote," will be presented at the Second General Session for membership voting.

Please read the bylaw proposals in this issue and the rationale for each. It is very important that every convention attendee arriving on Friday plan to be at the hotel in time for the First General Session.

Eileen L. Recchia, President AAUW-FL 2012-2014

PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS

The AAUW-Florida Board of Directors is supporting the following bylaw amendments. Please read the rationale and the changes. You will see that where there are amendments, the wording from the current bylaws has been crossed out (deleted) and the new language is underlined (inserted). If you wish to see a complete copy of the current bylaws, they are posted on our state website www.aauw-org and can also be found in the annual state directory that is given to each branch president.

The first amendments will be considered at the Friday evening business session and inserts two sentences in Article IX, Section 2b: Co-officers may be nominated who shall be treated as a single person for voting in the election and who shall share one vote in any Board of Directors' action. Nominations from the floor may be accepted at the Annual Business Meeting.

Rationale for Co-officers: This bylaw amendment will put AAUW-Florida Bylaws into compliance with AAUW Bylaws. Co-officers make it possible to get more AAUW leaders actively involved in AAUW. Co-officers help encourage potential candidates to run for office by allowing sharing of the duties of the office. Co-officers could assist in covering the geographic challenge of Florida.

Rationale for nominations from the floor: This bylaw amendment will put AAUW-Florida Bylaws into compliance with AAUW Bylaws.

The remaining amendments will be discussed at the Saturday afternoon business session and integrate two major conceptual changes to the bylaws. "One Member – One Vote" must be adopted in order for "biennial conventions" to be possible. Each change impacts the other in several places in the bylaws and so will be presented as a package.

FROM credentialed delegates TO "One Member – One Vote"

Commonly called "One Member - One Vote", the rationale for this change is to bring us in line with the national AAUW voting rules that were passed in 2009 and implemented beginning in 2011. We have been told that we are the last state, or among the last, to continue to use the old credential voting method. Most

importantly, this means all AAUW-Florida members everywhere have a chance to vote for all candidates and on most issues brought up for a vote. This will increase membership participation and interest in all AAUW-Florida matters and simplify the voting procedures at our conventions and business meetings which will also give us more time for important discussions and presentations. A Voting and Elections Committee will be set up and details, training and assistance will be provided.

FROM annual conventions TO biennial conventions

The rationale for changing to a biennial convention includes new formats for state meetings. It would make it easier and less costly for members to attend both the state convention and the national convention as they would NOT be held in the same year. This new structure provides more flexibility for AAUW-Florida in the “even” year (non-national convention year) and more leadership development opportunities in the “odd” year (national convention year). AAUW-Florida would be able to address issues pertinent to regional areas in the respective regions (bring branches together in their own area and/or a central location). We believe the flexibility in this change will lead to more membership participation. We believe it could be less costly for leadership development as workshops could be repeated, just updated where needed.

Continuation of the collaborative event as done in 2012 with UCF is so beneficial for AAUW-Florida; we have benefitted from this as proven in the Tech Trek project. Combining a Leadership Development Weekend with an AAUW-Florida Board meeting saves money for travel and room, etc. Excitement and motivation for attendance at the state convention should be at a higher level as members will only have a state convention every other year! And change can be invigorating! The president and director for program will only have one convention to plan in a two-year term which will allow for more focus on other initiatives and needs of AAUW-Florida.

The Board is listening and responding to the AAUW-Florida membership as it has heard these suggested changes come from the members and believe that now is the time for action!

BYLAW AMENDMENTS

ARTICLE VI. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Section 2. Dues. The annual state dues for branch members shall be fixed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of 5% of the state convention AAUW-Florida members upon recommendation of the State Board of Directors. ~~The vote shall be by multiple card vote.~~

(the remaining Article remains the same)

ARTICLE IX. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominating Committee.

a. There shall be a nominating committee of five (5) members elected by the following procedure:

- (1). Two (2) members elected by the board of directors at the board meeting prior to the ~~state convention~~ annual meeting; two (2) alternates may be elected also;
- (2). Three (3) members elected by the voting body at the ~~state convention~~ annual meeting.

(the remaining Section remains the same)

Section 2. Elections.

- ~~a. The elected officers shall be elected at an AAUW-Florida convention by duly accredited delegates.~~
- a. All AAUW-Florida members in good standing are eligible to vote following procedures proposed by the Voting and Elections Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.
- b. The president, director for membership, director for communications, director for development, and the secretary shall be elected in even-numbered years. The president-elect, director for program, director for finance, director for public policy shall be elected in the odd-numbered years. Co-officers may be nominated who shall be treated as a single person for voting in the election and who shall share one vote in any Board of Directors' action. Nominations from the floor may be accepted at the Annual Business Meeting.
- c. Elections shall be by ballot except where there is only one candidate for an office. Then the election may be by voice vote- acclamation.
- d. A majority vote of 5% of the membership shall constitute an election unless there are 3 or more candidates for an office, and then a plurality determines the election.

Article XIV. Meetings of AAUW-Florida

Section 1 Time, Place and Notification

- a. AAUW-Florida shall hold an annual business meeting to conduct the business of the state, which shall include receiving the annual financial report and other reports.
- b. In even-numbered years the annual business meeting will be held during a state-wide meeting or convention and in odd-numbered years during the leadership conference or similar meeting.
- c. Additional statewide or regional meetings or events may be held as determined by the Board of Directors.

(the remaining Section remains the same but is relettered)

Section 2. Representation – Annual Meeting

- a. The voting body at an annual meeting or state convention will include all AAUW-Florida members in attendance.
- b. Quorum. 40% of the AAUW-Florida branches being represented by the voting body shall constitute a quorum. Delegates representing a majority of the branches shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3. Voting.

- c. The Board of Directors will determine the voting method (electronic, paper, or a combination) to be used for elections, bylaws, public policy, dues and other issues identified by the Board of Directors.
- d. Attendees at the annual business meeting shall be entitled to discuss and amend state business items, including proposed bylaws amendments, noticed resolutions, nominations and the biennial public policy priorities. Any amended language shall be posted on the state website following the meeting.
- e. The final vote shall be conducted for all state members by electronic or paper ballot immediately following the state meeting. Voting shall close at a date proposed by the Voting and Elections Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.
- f. A member of the voting body shall cast no more than one (1) vote.
- g. A majority vote of 5% of the membership shall be required for passage except as otherwise stated in these bylaws.

~~Voting Body. The voting body of the annual meeting of AAUW-Florida shall be composed of:~~

- ~~(1) state representatives, including~~
 - ~~(a) elected and appointed officers,~~
 - ~~(b) chairs of all committees and task forces,~~
 - ~~(c) past presidents of AAUW-Florida.~~
 - ~~(2) branch delegates, including:~~
 - ~~(a) branch presidents;~~
 - ~~(b) one delegate for each twenty five (25) members of the branch or major fraction thereof,~~
 - ~~(i) each branch shall be entitled to at least one delegate;~~
 - ~~(ii) associate members serving as delegates shall constitute no more than twenty percent (20%) of the delegates of the branch. If associate members should exceed twenty percent (20%) of the voting body of the state meeting, a sufficient number chosen by lot shall be disqualified as delegates.~~
 - ~~(3) other delegates, including~~
 - ~~(a) one delegate appointed by the Florida AAUW president for each fifty (50) paid-up members-at-large of the state,~~
 - ~~(b) one delegate for each college/university member of the state~~
- ~~A member of the voting body shall cast no more than one (1) vote except in a card count when chairs of branch delegations may cast their own votes and those representing unregistered delegate votes to which the branch is entitled.~~

ARTICLE XVIII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. The provisions of these bylaws not governed by the AAUW Bylaws may be amended by the AAUW-Florida membership provided notice of the proposed amendment shall have been sent to the Bylaws Committee chair by December 1. The committee shall examine the proposed amendment to the bylaws and shall report out those amendments the committee considers appropriate. ~~at any AAUW-Florida convention by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting.~~ Notice shall be sent to each branch in the state at least thirty (30) days prior to the business meeting at which discussion of changes will take place. ~~action is to be taken. If previous notice has not been given, a unanimous vote of the convention is required.~~

Section 2. Attendees at the state business meeting shall be able to discuss and amend proposed bylaws amendments. Following the state business meeting, any amended language will be posted on the state website for the final vote. All eligible members shall be entitled to vote electronically or by paper ballot. Voting shall close at a date proposed by the Voting and Elections Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. A two-thirds vote is required for the adoption of bylaws amendments, provided a quorum of 5% is attained.

(The remaining Article remains the same with the addition of Section numbers)

Making a personal tax deductible donation to any of the AAUW Funds is easy to do:

1. Circle the fund/s you would like to support:

- #9110 AAUW Funds
- #3999 Legal Advocacy Fund
- #9170 Eleanor Roosevelt Fund
- #4337 Public Policy Fund
- #4336 Educational Opportunities
- #4339 Leadership Programs
- #2505 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)
- #2504 NCCWSL Scholarship Fund
- #4146 Sarasota - Research & Projects Grant
- #4290 Jannetta MacPhail/Harriett Strong, Vero Beach – Research & Projects Grant
- #4243 Greater Naples Branch - American Fellowship
- #1071 Anna Forbes Liddell, Tallahassee - American Fellowship
- Tech Trek Florida

2. Indicate the donation amount \$ _____
Make checks payable to **AAUW FUNDS**.

3. Circle the branch that should be credited for your support:

- FL3032-BocaRaton FL3043-Bradenton FL3029-Clearwater FL3002-Daytona Beach FL3003-DeLand
- FL3065-Flagler County FL3004-Fort Lauderdale FL3006-Gainesville FL3037-Greater Naples
- FL3044-Highlands County FL3009-Jacksonville FL3011-Key West/Lower Keys FL3058-Lake/Sumter
- FL3013-Lake Wales FL3005-Lee County FL3014-Manatee County FL3054-Marco Island FL3015-Melbourne
- FL3016-Miami FL3061-New Smyrna Beach FL3039-Niceville/Valparaiso FL3017-Northern Palm Beach Cty
- FL3073-NOVA Southeastern University FL3018-Ocala FL3019-Orlando/Winter Park FL3021-Palm Beach Cty
- FL3041-Pompano FL3069-Port St Lucie FL3047-Punta Gorda/Port Charlotte FL3024-Saint Augustine
- FL3071-Saint Lucie County FL3026-Sarasota FL3042-Stuart Area FL3064-Sun City Center
- FL3027-Tallahassee FL3050-Tamiami FL3028-Tampa FL3052-Venice FL3034-Vero Beach
- FL3053-West Pasco FL3072-Weston FL-University N. Florida or San Juan

4. Bring your completed form* to the Fund's Fun Fair at the 2013 AAUW Florida Convention or mail it by April 10th to: Diane Jacobson, 755 Mallory Hill Drive, The Villages, FL 32162

*Note – Donations made using this form are not part of the Fund's Fun Fair ticket exchange.

CALL TO CONVENTION 2013
Judy Bonn and Barbara Jones, State Convention Co-Chairs

This year our convention will be held at the Sheraton Orlando North Hotel in Maitland, Florida. This beautiful hotel is less than 5 miles from the Altamonte Mall and only 6 miles from downtown Orlando.

The Sheraton is an elegant hotel with a grand atrium featuring a beautiful waterfall, surrounded by a tropical paradise. Our Friday night buffet will be held in a most unusual setting; the Sheraton has a real, honest to goodness imported Irish pub where we will enjoy our dinner.

Not only is this hotel close to the famous Walt Disney World and Universal Studios , but there are many other attractions close by. Among these are the Holocaust Memorial Center and the historic Waterhouse Residence which are being offered for your enjoyment as pre-convention tours for only \$10.00 each complete with transportation from the hotel and back. In addition to these, there is also a historical center and the Audubon Center for Birds of Prey, a rehabilitation center and home for injured and disabled raptors. There are so many great things to do, why not consider extending your stay to take it all in? Come for our wonderful AAUW-FL Convention and stay for a fun getaway. Just remember the traffic on Interstate 4 can be a real challenge on a Friday afternoon, so leave yourself plenty of time and turn that challenge into another celebration!

The convention registration and hotel information are located in this issue of *floriVision*. We have some excellent presenters who will speak on moving from ordinary to extraordinary professionalism and learning to tap into our own internal power. There will also be a “Generational Conversation” on campus leadership with college students and branch members participating.

This is a fabulous opportunity to learn more about AAUW and to network with other women with the same goals and ideals. We hope to see many, many of you at what promises to be one of the best AAUW-Florida state conventions ever!

A

Convention Reward

One drawing for

One- or two-night stay at 2014 convention site

*If 114 register early, the drawing is for **one** night.*

*If 144 register early, the drawing is for **two** nights.*

***Bonus:** Free convention registration for the winner*

Hurry!

Hurry!

Hurry!

Hurry!

Board members are excluded.

*Deadline for Early Registration is **April 1, 2013.***

AAUW-FLORIDA

Director for Communications Jacqueline D'Alessio

30 Putnam Street

Somerville, NJ 08876-2737

HOTEL REGISTRATION MADE EASY

The Sheraton Orlando North Hotel has created a personalized Web site for guests at the AAUW-FL Convention. Guests can access the site to learn more about the event and to book, modify, or cancel a reservation from Feb. 5 to April 5, 2013.

Below you will find the appropriate link.

<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1302051123&key=7BOE1>



Site of AAUW-Florida Convention April 19-21, 2013

Please send address changes or corrections to:

AAUW Records Office
1111 Sixteenth St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

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THE PURPOSE OF AAUW IS TO ADVANCE EQUITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS THROUGH ADVOCACY, EDUCATION, PHILANTHROPY AND RESEARCH.

Founded in 1881, AAUW is open to graduates holding an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate or higher degree from a qualified educational institution, or from a foreign institution acceptable as a basis for admission by graduate schools at regionally *accredited* universities in the United States.

AAUW-FLORIDA

AAUW-Florida is represented by branches in 42 Florida communities with almost 3000 branch members, in addition to over 1000 Members-at-Large. AAUW-Florida was founded on March 30, 1929

Eileen Recchia, President

Vacant, President-elect

Kamala Anandam, Director for Program

Diane Jacobson, Director for Development

Diane Boyce, Director for Finance

Carol Richardson, Director for Membership

Jacqueline D'Alessio, Director for Communications

Diane Schrier, Director for Public Policy

Karen Zalkin, Secretary

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30 Putnam Street, Somerville, NJ 08876-2737
or preferably emailed: jgline@att.net

Addresses and other information for AAUW-FL Board members and branch officers may be found on the website.

AAUW Help Line: 1-800-326-AAUW (2289)

AAUW Home Page: <http://www.aauw.org>

AAUW-Florida Web Site: <http://www.florida-aauw.org>