

President's Message

*"And now let us welcome this New Year, full of things that have never been."
Rainer Maria Rilke, poet.*

As we begin our New Year, let's re-dedicate ourselves to a mission that is simple and sound: Advancing equity for women and girls. Women's priorities are America's priorities, so let's enthusiastically embrace the challenges ahead.



Shirley Reid
President, AAUW-FL

Strategic Plan

Our AAUW-FL Strategic Plan continues to emphasize membership, STEM education, and public policy.

- **Membership.** National has designated February for the Shape the Future Membership Campaign, targeting baby boomers, in particular. A recruitment tool to use at branch-sponsored events allows you to offer a discounted rate to prospective members who join at the event.

We welcome the Younger Women's Task Force in Jacksonville and its director, Kimberley Beasely, to the AAUW-FL family. YWTF, a community of younger women fighting for social justice, became an affiliated entity of AAUW on a national level in 2013.

- **STEM Education.** Tech Trek Florida will again be held at Palm Beach State College and Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. Director Sue Slone and her team have been working tirelessly to ensure the weeklong camp this summer goes smoothly. It takes approximately \$1,000 to send one girl to camp, so branch donations are both important and expected, to ensure the program can continue.

- **Public Policy.** Patricia DeWitt, director for public policy, is planning Lobby Days in Tallahassee in March, where your representatives can hear from you in person. In the meantime, keep their telephone numbers handy, and call them when needed to keep them accountable.

Leadership Conference

This year's conference, Branches Leading the Way, will be held Sunday, April 2, and Monday, April 3, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Sarasota. Registration opens at 3 p.m. Sunday, with a meet-and-greet event at 4 p.m., followed by dinner in the restaurant overlooking the Gulf. You won't want to miss our dynamic keynote speaker, Sonja Garcia. *(Details, page 4)*

You'll find conference workshops helpful to your branch, whether you hold an office or board position, or not. And if you'd rather not stay at the hotel, members of our Sarasota branch have graciously opened their homes to you, in the true spirit of caring and sharing.

You are all valued and appreciated. Let's step together to accomplish our mission. ■

What's Inside

Calendar 2

2017 Leadership

Conference/Annual

Meeting 3, 4

Voter's Guide

Introduction, bylaws ... 5

Candidates 6, 7

State News

STEM 8

Membership 8

Lobby Days 9

Tech Trek 9

Branch News

Jacksonville 10

Weston 10

Venice 10

2016 Annual Meeting

Minutes 11

2017 Leadership

Conference/ Annual

Meeting Registration ... 12

Calendar/State Officers and Appointees

Looking Ahead

February 25 – Deadline, hotel reservations for March 14-15 Lobby Days.

March 9 – Deadline, hotel reservations for April 2-3 Leadership Conference/Annual Meeting

March 14-15 – Lobby Days, Tallahassee

April 2-3– 2017 Leadership Conference/Annual Meeting, Branches Leading the Way. Hyatt Regency, Sarasota. Keynote speaker, Sonja Garcia.

May 4 to June 2 – Online voting, AAUW-FL officers, bylaw amendments

May 30 – Deadline, mailing paper ballots for AAUW-FL officers, bylaw amendments

June 11-17 – Tech Trek, Palm Beach State College and Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton

June 14-17– AAUW National Convention, Washington, D.C.

AAUW-FL Officers and Appointees

Elected Officers

President – *Shirley Reid*
 Director for Program – *Jacqueline D’Alessio*
 Co-Directors for Membership – *Coral “Corky” Miller, Maria Barbosa*
 Director for Finance – *Nancy Pura*
 Director for Development – *Florence McNally*
 Director for Communications/ floriVision – *Carol MacDonald*
 Director for Public Policy – *Patricia DeWitt*
 Secretary - *Susan Baird*

Appointed Officers

Bylaws, Policies, Resolutions – *Carol Newnam*
 Historian – *Linda Barker*
 Parliamentarian – *Mimi Welch*
 Administrative Assistant – *Sue Shea*

Other appointees

C/U Partner Liaison – *Susan Cornehl*
 Social Media Chair – *Diane Schrier*
 Web Manager – *Open*
 Tech Trek Director – *Sue Slone*
 Voting and Elections Chair – *Virginia Farace*
 STEM Chair – *Laura Adolfie*
 Diversity Coordinator – *Synthia Fletcher*
 Research Director – *Kamala Anandam*

New floriVision editor named; web manager needed

A sincere thank you to Carol Napper, St. Augustine branch, for her years of service to AAUW-FL, most recently as Director of Communication. Carol MacDonald, Northern Palm Beach County branch, has stepped in as editor of floriVision.

We need someone to take over as web manager. If you’re interested, let Shirley Reid know.

Leadership Conference/Annual Meeting

Branches will lead the way at April conference

Branch members are an integral component of the 2017 Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting. With the theme, Branches Leading the Way, workshops are designed for you to educate, inspire, and support each other in fulfilling the mission of AAUW.

President Shirley Reid and the members of the state board believe that participation and investment by all branches will make the leadership conference exhilarating and informative for all participants.

Make your plans early and register now for the conference, Sunday, April 2, to Monday, April 3, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel - Sarasota. (*Print the registration form on page 12. Go to page 4 for the schedule.*)

Here's more information about what's in store:

Branch networking. On Sunday, April 2, at a 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. meet-and-greet event, you'll have an opportunity to network and share stories of your branch's successes in attracting new members, in providing STEM programs in your communities, and

in implementing the AAUW-FL public policy program.

Keynote speaker. Following dinner, the opening session of the conference will feature Sonja Garcia as the keynote speaker. Garcia, an energizing speaker whom President Shirley Reid heard at an AAUW meeting in Tampa, is a retired University of Florida Library Administrator and educational advocate.

Her talk, "Unleashing the Power of Pink," is sure to motivate AAUW-FL members to become involved in programs empowering girls and young women to succeed.

Garcia has led efforts for literacy programs for primary grades to women's leadership, as well as empowerment programs at the college level and self-actualization for community volunteers.

National update. Also at the opening session, AAUW national board member Joanna Amberger will give members AAUW updates and answer your questions about AAUW.

Annual meeting. On Monday

morning, the annual meeting will include the introduction of candidates for 2017-2019 put forth by the Nominating Committee, including two for president-elect, as well as candidates for directors for public policy, finance, and program. (*See pages 6 and 7.*) Also on tap are a call for nominations from the floor, a clarification on voting procedures, the finance report, a discussion of bylaw amendments, and the election of three members for the 2018 Nominating Committee.

Workshop overview. After the annual meeting, workshop presenters will give an overview of their workshops to help you decide which you would like to attend. The workshops will be repeated in the afternoon, so you'll be able to attend two.

Branch awards, town hall. During lunch, Monday, AAUW-FL will present branch recognition awards. Following the afternoon workshop sessions, we'll all gather for a town hall with AAUW-FL board members and AAUW national representative Joanna Amberger.

—*Jacqueline D'Alessio, AAUW-FL Director for Program.* ■

Workshop topics have AAUW mission in mind

You'll be able to attend two of four workshops at the 2017 Leadership Conference:

Finance and Membership – Treasurer Nancy Pura will address the importance of finance and membership working together, and discuss everything a branch treasurer needs to know.

Nuts and Bolts of Running a Branch will include a dialogue among branch participants on

fundraising necessary to sustain a branch, bylaws and their relation to Florida state laws, and the implementation of the AAUW-FL Strategic Plan for 2017-2019.

Public Policy Workshop led by Director of Public Policy Patricia DeWitt – Public Policy is about advocacy, and advocacy requires reaching out to people outside our branches. Three branches will report on the ways they success-

fully carried AAUW's message to government officials and the public during 2016-2017. Projects include public awareness campaigns, information sessions, working with local officials, and promoting voting on college campuses.

STEM Workshop, led by Laura Adolfie, AAUW-FL STEM chair, will feature branches involved in STEM projects and an update on this year's Tech Trek Camp. ■

Leadership Conference/Annual Meeting *(Continued)*

Keynote Speaker: Sonja W. Garcia



Our keynote speaker, Sonja W. Garcia, is a retired University of South Florida Library Administrator.

Her talk, “Unleashing the Power of Pink,” is sure to be informative and motivational.

Garcia earned a bachelor of science degree from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University and a master of arts degree in library and information studies from USF. She has completed numerous leadership, management, and development training programs.

An advocate for a broad range of educational initiatives, from Pre-K through college, Garcia has led efforts for literacy programs among primary grades to women’s leadership and empowerment programs at the college level, and self-actualization among community volunteers.

She was appointed to the USF Board of Trustees, serving from 2003-2010. ■

AAUW representative



Joanna Amberger, a member of the AAUW Board of Directors, will join us to

provide updates on national initiatives and answer any questions you have about the organization. ■

Schedule

AAUW-FL 2017 Leadership Conference/Annual Meeting Sunday, April 2, and Monday, April 3 Hyatt Regency Hotel, Sarasota, FL

Sunday, April 2

1 pm to 3 pm	AAUW-FL Board meeting
3 pm to 5 pm	Registration
4 pm to 5 pm	Branch networking
5 pm to 6:30 pm	Dinner (included), cash bar
7 pm to 9 pm	Opening session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keynote speaker: Sonya Garcia “Unleashing the Power of Pink” • National AAUW representative: Joanna Amberger, board of directors

Monday, April 3

8 am to 9 am	Registration/breakfast on your own
9 am to 10 am	Annual meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominating Committee report • Nominations from the floor • Introduction of candidates • Proposed bylaws • Election, three members to next year’s Nominating Committee • Finance report
10 am to 10:45 am	Overview of workshops
11 am to 12:15 pm	Workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance and membership: Nancy Pura, AAUW-FL State Treasurer • Nuts and bolts of running a branch • Public Policy: Pat DeWitt, AAUW-FL Director for Public Policy • STEM projects from branches: Laura Adolfe, STEM chair
12:30 pm to 1:15 pm	Lunch (included)/branch recognition awards
1:30 pm to 2:45 pm	Repeat of workshops
2:45 pm to 3 pm	Town hall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAUW-FL board members • National AAUW board member, Joanna Amberger

Voter Guide: Introduction/ByLaw Changes

Ballots for board, bylaw changes on tap

Nominations for four positions on the AAUW-FL Board of Directors and two amendments to our bylaws are on the agenda for the annual meeting part of our 2017 Leadership Conference, on Monday, April 3.

And in keeping with the One Member, One Vote initiative, you no longer have to attend a conference to vote on such issues. The 2013 bylaw changes that created OMOV in Florida require that the annual meeting be opened at a conference (or a convention) and left open for at least 30 days.

Members then get the chance to vote online or by mailing in a paper ballot. National AAUW handles the balloting process, using email addresses and mailing addresses recorded in the Membership Services Database. (See story, below.) The annual meeting is not closed until the votes are tallied and results announced.

Our annual meeting for 2017 will open at the leadership conference April 3. (See pages 3 and 4). Voting is open to all who were state members as of March 1. **Online voting begins May 4 and ends June 2, at 9 p.m., EDT. Paper ballots must be postmarked by 11:59 p.m., May 30, EDT.**

The results of the vote will be announced in an email to branch presidents and on our state website.

Board members. The Nominating Committee put forward candidates for president-elect and three board members. (See pages 6 and 7.) Additional nominations (with the consent of the nominee) may be made from the floor at the annual meeting.

Any non-contested offices will be elected by voice vote at the in-person portion of the annual meeting in April. Contested offices will be by OMOV ballot conducted by AAUW national.

Bylaws. Two bylaw amendments are proposed. (See box at right.) The first is to bring our bylaws into compliance with Florida statutes when the board votes in writing between meetings.

The second adds to the same section a provision to allow for voting between board meetings by conference call or other remote communication methods.

Discussion is allowed at the annual meeting, and voting on the amendments will be on the OMOV ballot.

– Virginia Farace, Voting and Elections Committee Chair. For questions, email AAUWFLfarace@gmail.com. ■

Accurate info in national database crucial

Make sure your contact information is correct in the Membership Services Database.

National AAUW will use what's recorded there to send you information for the One Member, One Vote ballot that will fill open board positions and determine whether to approve two bylaw amendments.

(See story above.) Check both your email and postal mailing addresses at www.aauw.org/login. Anyone who doesn't have an email address in the database will receive a paper ballot.

Branch presidents are asked to verify that members' addresses have been entered correctly. ■

Proposed bylaw changes: Article XI Board of Directors, Section 4, Ballot

a. In the interim between meetings of the board of directors, a ballot may be taken at the request of the president on any question submitted in writing to each member of the board. All board members must sign and submit consent to the proposed action. When all consents have been received, the proposed action will be effective on the date so indicated in the proposal. Consents may be faxed or mailed. They may also be signed, scanned and then emailed.

Underlined text is added to bring this paragraph into compliance with Florida statutes.

b. Ballots may also be taken between meetings by any means of remote communication such as a conference call, provided that the President verifies that there is a quorum of board members participating and all participants are provided an opportunity to communicate and to read or hear the proceedings of the meeting substantially concurrent with the proceedings, and provided the President verifies and records each board member's vote.

This provision allows for the board to vote, when necessary, between meetings via conference call or other remote communication methods. It is written to comply with Florida statutes and Roberts Rules of Order. ■

Voter Guide: Candidates

Candidates for president-elect

Statements from the two candidates put forward by the Nominating Committee for president-elect are below. Statements from candidates for directors of Public Policy, Finance, and Program are on page 7.

Editor's note: Statements were lightly edited only for spacing and adherence to style guides for such elements as abbreviations.

Patricia Ross



Patricia Ross

If elected, I will partner with members of the AAUW-FL board and with members and branches throughout the state to keep AAUW Florida relevant, strong, and focused on equity and education.

Together, we can ensure the vitality of AAUW through active, involved members working together and with other organizations to make positive changes in our communities.

After earning bachelor of arts and bachelor of education degrees, AAUW became my bridge when relocating to new communities. Moving around the country cultivated my understanding of diversity within AAUW and our strong, shared commitment to our mission.

I have served in branch and state leadership in Florida, California, Alaska, and Texas. I was AAUW-TX vice-president for program and president.

Since coming to Florida, I have been active in the Daytona Beach branch, first serving as vice-president for program and then as president for the last four years. I co-chair the national Branch Program Resources Committee and am part of the Legacy Circle Team. ■

Diane Schrier



Diane Schrier

Diane Schrier is a widow, with two adult daughters living in Alexandria, Va. She grew up on Long Island, New York, and in Minnesota.

Her undergraduate major was psychology, with a minor in fine arts at Syracuse University. She received her master's in business administration at New York University School of Business in finance/international business.

Her careers include acting, assistant to the vice chairman of Cushman and Wakefield (earned real estate license), financial controller at Citibank, community activist, and teacher for the past 13 years. She has directed over thirty talent shows and plays for students. She has taken over 35 courses on East Asia.

She was a school board candidate in 2014, national Public Policy Committee member, AAUW-FL Public Policy Chair from 2011-2015, branch president, Florida Social Media Chair.

She envisions AAUW keeping its core strengths of activism for women's rights, combined with modern techniques, to create a strong focus on our goals in fair pay, education, STEM, and other women's issues (which are human issues). ■

Voter Guide: Candidates (Continued)



Patricia DeWitt

Patricia DeWitt, Candidate – Director for Public Policy

A longtime member of AAUW, Patricia DeWitt was elected Florida state AAUW secretary in 2014 and Director for Public Policy in 2015. She is a member of the Jacksonville branch.

Pat served as Georgia AAUW state president from 2008 – 2010 and state Public Policy Chair from 2010 – 2012. The founding state president of the Georgia Association for Institutional Research, Planning, Assessment, and Quality, Pat also served on its national parent board as a member at large.

She earned a Ph.D. in musicology from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in decision science, a quantitative business field, at Georgia State University. In Jacksonville, she is subdean of the American Guild of Organists chapter and directs a Renaissance music ensemble, RareSong. ■



Kathy VanderVliet

Kathy VanderVliet, Candidate – Director for Finance

Kathy VanderVliet was born and raised in rural Michigan, the second of five children. She earned a bachelor of science degree from Calvin College, a master of science from Purdue University, and a Ph.D from Colorado State University, all majoring in mathematics.

She moved to Jacksonville in 1972, to teach at Jacksonville University, where she developed the instructional program in computer technology. Retired since 2007, her activities include travel, sewing, various boards, and playing bridge.

Since 2013, she has lived in a continuing care retirement community and has served on the residence's board of directors for almost three years. She is now president until her term ends on April 1.

She joined AAUW in 1972 and has held most of the offices in the local branch, including Director of Finance. She hopes to contribute to the sound management of financial resources, while AAUW pursues its goals for women and girls. ■



Jacqueline D'Alessio

Jacqueline D'Alessio, Candidate – Director for Program

After 43 years teaching language arts literacy to eighth graders in the Bridgewater-Raritan Regional School District in New Jersey, I retired in June 2007. Missing teaching and especially my days directing and producing plays for the sixth, seventh, and eighth graders, I searched for activities to fill my days, and found them with AAUW.

As a past president of AAUW-NJ and a past Middle Atlantic Regional Director, I was aware of the need for branch member participation. When I started wintering in Florida, I joined the Manatee County and Bradenton branches and soon became Director for Communications for AAUW-FL. At the national level, I served as chair of the Branch Program Resources Committee from 2011-2015.

I have served as Director for Programs since 2015. Because I believe it is important for the AAUW-FL board members to stay connected to the branches and provide a link between branches and national, I am again running for a second term as AAUW-FL Director for Programs.

I am also active in my church and the Friends of the Sarasota Ballet, and help out with my high school archives and college reunions. ■

State News

Get up-to-date on STEM initiatives

By Laura Adolfie, Chair, STEM Education

STEM education is a key focus of AAUW. The initiatives and news items, below, will keep you in-the-know. Email Laura Adolfie, flstem@gmail.com, if your branch has a STEM project to share.

Tech Savvy

The Bradenton Branch will host Tech Savvy at the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee, in May with the Manatee Branch providing marketing. The daylong STEM experience – one of 18 in AAUW's 2017 National Tech Savvy Program – is designed to attract sixth–ninth grade girls to these fields and to inform families about STEM education and careers. Registration is open to Florida girls and will be online April 1.

Technovation 2017

Technovation offers girls around the world the opportunity to learn the skills they need to emerge as tech entrepreneurs and leaders.

Each year girls are invited to identify a problem in their community, and then challenged to solve it. Girls work in teams to build both a mobile app and a business plan to launch that app, supported by mentors and guided by curriculum.

The program culminates in a World Pitch event, August 7-11, where regional finalists compete to win funding for their app.

Let schools and students in your area know that registration closes March 8. Get more information at www.technovationchallenge.org/.

STEM news

- **Teacher training.** The Every Student Succeeds Act authorized \$2.3 billion annually for the long-standing Title II-A program, which will provide funding to every state and school district to support professional development, training, and other teacher-quality-related activities.

This section of ESSA was greatly enhanced by the addition of a number of STEM-related provisions to encourage states to use the funding to support modern professional approaches in STEM subjects, align professional development with workforce needs, and emphasize hands-on learning.

- **Early childhood education.**

The Early Childhood STEM Working Group of scholars, policy-makers, curriculum developers, and educators from across the United States, released a new policy report – Early STEM Matters: Providing High-Quality STEM Experiences for All Young Children.

The report describes guiding principles and offers six recommendations for educational leaders, policy makers at the local, state, and federal levels, researchers, and funders. Read the report at <http://ecstem.uchicago.edu>. ■

Early dues deadline facilitates collecting from snow birds

By Coral "Corky" Miller and Maria Barbosa, Co-Directors for Membership

Congratulations to branch Directors for Membership who brought the renewal rate for 2017 from just 35 percent in November 2016 to 100 percent by the end of the year. It wasn't easy, but their dedication made it possible.

They'll be working on renewals and new memberships for 2018 soon, since dues will be due in July, in line with AAUW's fiscal year.

Admittedly, the July deadline presents challenges for many Florida branches whose membership includes snowbirds who leave in March or April and return in October

or November. A summer deadline makes renewals, new memberships, and member information updates more difficult.

If that's an issue with your branch, try setting an earlier deadline and collecting dues before summer begins. That's what the Marco Island branch does. It's announced at the January meeting that dues must be received before March 31.

Funds could then be kept in the bank until June or July when a check is sent to state and national. However, Marco Island has found another process successful. The

branch uses an AAUW debit card from its bank to pay state and national, rather than writing a check.

To ensure that member information is current, Marco Island has sign-in logs at every monthly meeting to encourage members to keep the information up-to-date.

Has your branch found a way to get dues in early? Let us know, and we'll spread the word.

And don't postpone paying your own dues. If we all paid by the July deadline, ours could be the first state to meet that goal. ■

State News (Continued)

Get face-time with legislators at Lobby Days

By Patricia DeWitt, Director for Public Policy

Plan to join AAUW members from around the state as they converge on Tallahassee for Lobby Days 2017, Tuesday and Wednesday, March 14 and 15.

The annual event gives you the chance to meet with your representatives and make sure your voice is heard on issues important to AAUW.

At a training session Monday evening, March 13, you'll get tips and information to help you prepare for your meetings. Dinner with women legislators is planned for Tuesday evening. The women legislators will participate in a panel discussion Wednesday morning.

At noon Wednesday in front of the Senate chambers, a Rally for Equal Pay for Equal Work, will be sponsored by three legislators in connection with proposals aimed at closing Florida's gender pay gap/

One legislator, Representative Lori Berman, spoke at the AAUW-FL conference last April, and

worked with AAUW after that on the legislation, which clarifies current state law banning discrimination in employment based on gender. *(See box at right.)*

The remaining time will be spent on visits to legislative offices, where members will present talking points on the bills chosen by AAUW-FL's Public Policy Committee to support or oppose.

You'll arrange these visits on your own, because legislators want to hear from constituents. The Public Policy Committee will help with talking points at the Monday training.

Depending on the legislative schedule, we may spend time in the House or Senate gallery, visit a committee meeting, or tour the historic capitol building. Lobby Days will end at noon Wednesday.

The AAUW-FL state board offers a partial subsidy to participants based on distance from

Equal Pay bill highlights

Provisions in Senate Bill 410 and House Bill 319:

- Clarify reasons for pay differentials that do not include gender.
- Prohibit employers from assigning employees to less favorable tracks of employment based on sex or gender.
- Bar employers from asking applicants for prior salary history.
- Increase civil penalties for violation.

Details at www.myfloridahouse.gov. ■

Tallahassee. A special AAUW Florida group rate of \$109 per night is available at the Marriott Fairfield Inn Tallahassee North if you book by February 25.

Let Pat DeWitt, AAUW-FL Director for Public Policy, know you're coming before making reservations. Email her at aauwflde Witt@gmail.com or phone 706-766-5068 for information and materials. ■

Branch fund raisers needed to bring campers to Tech Trek

By Sue Slone, Tech Trek 2017 Camp Director

Sixty-four girls will soon learn that they have been chosen to attend this year's Florida Tech Trek camp, June 11-17 at Palm Beach State College and Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton.

Volunteers help make the camp a success, but it also takes fund raising, since it costs \$1,000 for each camper to attend. This year, that means \$64,000 is needed – and because two large contributors have cut back their support, fund raising is especially important. Verizon is no longer providing its \$5,000

grant, and national AAUW cut its donation from \$10,000 to \$5,000.

AAUW-FL has donated \$5,000, but new sources are needed. Financial support is crucial from every branch, even those not sending girls to camp, since Tech Trek is an AAUW-FL initiative.

Twenty branches and 60 schools nominated some 230 girls. Branches interview candidates and submit rankings in February. The Tech Trek Committee makes selections in March, and tries to have a diverse group of campers

and to provide an opportunity to those who aren't attending other camps or participating in similar activities in summer. Branch rankings of the girls, comments from interviews, and other suggestions are helpful.

See applications from your branch at the Tech Trek website <http://techtrek-fl.aauw.net>. You can also get information on making a tax-deductible donation. If you have difficulty accessing the site or need a username or password, contact Susan Holzschuh at aauwtechtrekfl@gmail.com. ■

Branch News

Jacksonville branch celebrates 90th year



Charlotte Cudd and Kimberly Beasley

Jacksonville branch members and their guests got a hint about life in the 1920s when they celebrated the group's 90th anniversary last December.

As part of the event marking the branch founding in 1926, member Kimberly Beasley, assistant professor of voice at Jacksonville University, sang songs from the 1920s, and Dorothy Fletcher, author and retired public school English teacher, recalled events and special places where branch members of the 1920s might have been.

Past presidents were honored, as well as members who helped the branch found the Friends of the Jacksonville Public Library in the 1960s.

Guests included representatives from groups related to AAUW's mission: the St. Augustine branch; the Philanthropic Services for the Community Foundation of Northeast Florida; the Jacksonville Public Library system; Jacksonville's chapter of NOW; the Women's Center of the University of North Florida; and the Women's Center of Jacksonville.

Guests were reminded of the branch's past and current projects to meet AAUW's mission, including plans for the upcoming Equal Pay Day and a STEM event for middle school girls in coordination with women in research at Johnson & Johnson's Vision Care, UNF's Women's Center, and UNF's Women in Engineering. ■

—Carolyn Smith

Mayor, city commissioners help Weston mark anniversary

In 2006, a small group of women huddled together under the leadership of Kamala Anadam to launch an AAUW branch in Weston.

It became a reality in 2007 with fifteen members, and currently has 35 members and eight supporters. To celebrate its tenth anniversary, the branch held a "Cocktails and Convos" party in January, a two-hour event featuring live music. Among the guests were the mayor of Weston and city commissioners.

During the past ten years, the Weston branch has offered an annual leadership conference for high school girls and organized

public meetings on human trafficking, bullying, domestic violence, and teaching tolerance.

It established a partnership with the Weston YMCA to offer a STEM workshop for elementary school children. The branch also partnered with the Florida League of Women Voters for a program to prevent gun violence. In addition, Weston will sponsor two college students to attend AAUW's National Conference for Student Leaders, May 31 - June 3.

We are looking forward to many more years of advancing equity for women and girls. ■

—Kamala Anadam.

Venice fund raiser adds art to home tours

If your branch is looking for ideas for fund raisers, consider the home tours that the Venice branch has found successful and what they've added this year.

As in years past, the upcoming tour this February raises funds for scholarships and promotes the branch to the wider community. But this year, the branch is partnering with the Venice Art Center, hoping to garner even greater interest.

Each of the five homes in the Homes & Art tour will be paired with a local plein-air artist painting outdoors or an artisan displaying works. (Details at <http://venice-fl.aauw.net/activities/hometour>.)

For an added charge, a post-tour celebration at the Venice Art Center will offer wine and cheese and a women's steel band. The plein-air paintings will be auctioned, and winners of four baskets, each worth at least \$200, will be announced.

Proceeds of the tour support educational scholarships for women applicants re-entering college after a break or post college-age women who want to advance their education.

Art in the Afternoon, another AAUW event, gave 60 participants a venue to open their imagination and combine visuals – art or photography-- with music.

Not the oldest branch in Florida but its largest, Venice is in its fifth decade of service to the goals and ideals of AAUW's founders. Its 260 members received a Certificate of Honor from national AAUW when the branch reached its 40th year at the end of 2015. ■

—Judith Houston.

2016 Annual Meeting Minutes

April 15-17, 2016: Readers Jacqueline D'Alessio and Susan Cornehl

AAUW FLORIDA ANNUAL MEETING 2016: General Session III

April 16, 2016 – Shaping the Future: Fair Pay, Fair Play – Marriott Palm Beach Gardens, FL

Opening Remarks

Virginia Farace, Co-President called the Annual Meeting to order at 4:18 p.m.

Liz Shapiro, reported 115 attendees from 26 branches. The chair declared a quorum.

Appointment of Parliamentarian

The chair appointed Barbara Knapp as Parliamentarian. She stated that the Annual Meeting Rules are found on page 10 of the Convention program. Barbara Knapp moved that the Annual Meeting Rules be adopted and Susan Berlin seconded the motion. Motion was passed.

Appointment of Timekeeper

The chair appointed Deborah Nesbitt as timekeeper. She announced a two minute limit on speeches

Appointment of Committee to Review the Minutes

Susan Baird, Secretary appointed Jacqueline D'Alessio and Susan Cornehl as readers of the minutes.

One Member One Vote (OMOV)

It was explained that those members with email addresses will receive an email directing them to the website to enter their member number and PIN which will be in their email. Those members who do not have active email addresses will receive a paper ballot to be returned by mail. The timeline of when the ballots will be available and the deadline of voting were reviewed. The Annual Meeting began but won't end until the election results are announced. This session is the in-person part of the Annual Meeting.

As of now, the Election of Slate of Officers is uncontested so no vote will be needed. A vote will be needed on the Florida Public Policy Program.

Bylaws, Policies and Resolutions Report

None to report

Public Policy Report: Pat DeWitt

Lobby Days were very successful. Nine people interviewed many Florida House

and Senate Legislators. She encouraged more branches to be involved. Members of the Lobby Corp 2016 were acknowledged.

Public Policy Program: Pat DeWitt stated that AAUW FL Bylaws state that Public Policy Program for Florida be set every two years. She made a motion that the AAUW FL Board recommends in lieu of setting a Florida Public Policy Program, we approve the National Public Policy Program to follow for the next two years.

Pat DeWitt spoke of the reasons for substituting AAUW National Public Policy for Florida Public Policy.

Discussion on the Motion: Clarification that this is a stop gap measure. Adopt a two year measure because that is what is needed now.

Motion passed. The Public Policy proposal will now be transferred to the ballot for voting online and through the mail by each member.

Pat DeWitt presented the AAUW FL Legislative Scorecard showing how Legislators voted.

Nominating Committee Report: Susan Cornehl, Chair of the Nominating Committee presented the slate of officers:

–Maria Barbosa- Flagler County Branch and Coral “Corky” Aiken-Miller- Marco Island Branch, Co-Directors for Membership

–Carol Napper-St. Augustine Branch, Director for Communications

–Florence “Flossy” McNally- West Pasco Branch, Director for Development

–Susan Baird- Flagler County Branch, Secretary.

The chair accepted the nominations.

Nominations were requested from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor, and the nominations were closed.

The candidates were given two minutes to speak about their experiences and commitments to AAUW.

The officers were elected by acclamation.

Shirley Reid – Venice Branch had been elected as President Elect and will become President July 1, 2016.

Incoming Officers were acknowledged.

Financial Report

Nancy Pura, AAUW FL Director for Finance presented her report.

Income and Expenses as of March 31, 2016 AAUW FL has a balance of \$37,602

Nominating Committee 2016-2017

Positions to be elected in 2017:

President Elect

Director for Program

Director for Finance

Director for Public Policy

It was stated that three members are needed from membership to serve on the committee. Deborah Nesbit, Palm Beach County Branch, Judy Bonn, Lake Sumter Branch and Linda Kropp, Marco Island Branch were nominated. The members were elected unanimously.

Director for Development: Joan Dick Branches who contributed to AAUW Funds were acknowledged.

Basket room will be open until 6:00 pm. All proceeds from sale of basket tickets will go to Tech Trek.

Final Report will be in the next issue of the FloriVision.

New Business

None

Announcements:

Members are asked to leave their badges in boxes and to fill out the evaluation form at the end of the session.

Co-President Virginia Farace closed the in-person session of the Annual Meeting at 5:08 p.m.

The Annual Meeting will officially adjourn when results from One Member One Vote are announced.

Recorded by Susan Baird, Secretary

Conference Registration

REGISTRATION FORM
 2017 AAUW-FLORIDA CONFERENCE/ANNUAL MEETING
 SUNDAY, APRIL 2nd AND MONDAY, APRIL 3rd
 HYATT REGENCY HOTEL SARASOTA
 100 Boulevard of the Arts, Sarasota, FL 34236

Print or type clearly. Complete one form per attendee. PLEASE
 make your Hotel Room Reservation with the Hyatt Regency:

1. **888-421-1442 and request "Florida AAUW Annual Meeting" OR**
2. **Online at <http://aws.passkey.com/go/aauwfl>**

The Convention Rate of **\$139.00 plus tax** (Single or Double Room) will be available until **March 9th ONLY**
Checks for the AAUW FL Conference MUST accompany this form returned to Nancy Pura (below)

Attendee's Information

Registration

First Name **Last Name**

Mailing Address

City **State** **Zip**

Email or Phone Number

Type of Membership (Check one)

- Branch Member**
- National Member**
- You Are a Past State President**
- You Are a First Time Attendee**

Branch Name **Current Branch Position**

Current State Position **Current National Position**

Preferred Name for Badge

	Rate	Your Cost
1. Member Registration (Includes Sunday's Dinner & Monday's Lunch)	\$50.00	_____
2. Donation for 2017 Tech Trek Summer Camp		_____
3. Cost per Guest for Sunday's Dinner	\$42.00	_____
Total		_____

4. **Please List Any Dietary Restrictions:**

Payment Information
 (No Refund after **March 21, 2017**)

Mail this form and your check payable to AAUW-Florida Conference by March 9th to Nancy Pura, 11645 Bayonet Lane, New Port Richey, FL 34654 (njpura@gmail.com, Tel. 727-389-7138)