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www.aauw.org/resource/aauw-in-the-statehouse/

Outgoing President's Message

I have been most honored to have been your president and I thank each of you for your dedication and support. As I have always said, you are amazing and strong women.



Shirley Reid
Outgoing President, AAUW-FL

2018 convention concludes. It was indeed most gratifying to see you at our 85th Florida State Convention this April in Sarasota. Overall, I feel it was a very good gathering. We appreciated hearing your concerns about the expense of the meeting, the days it was held, and the location, and, of course, we appreciated the compliments. We will seriously keep these suggestions and concerns in mind as we prepare for our next conference together.

Attendance at our statewide gatherings has remained fairly constant in recent years, and this year was no exception. About 100 of the approximately 2,150 members of AAUW-FL were in attendance. However, we must continue to adjust and improve, so that more members will attend this important event in the future. Convention is a time of renewal, reflection, re-energizing, and celebration.

Foundation aids fund raising. We are pleased that our AAUW-FL Supporting Foundation is now in place. This will be a plus to us, as we can turn our energies to fundraising to ensure that our fine programs, especially Tech Trek, will continue. I urge all branches to include Tech Trek as one of your budget items for the upcoming years.

State, national elections held. Your voice is your vote, and I do hope that you availed yourselves of this opportunity to be heard in the recent state and national elections. *(See page 4 for the results.)* Change is coming. It is indeed a new day. Let us not be discouraged, but encouraged and energized to face the challenges ahead for AAUW.

Let us welcome and support our new president, Patricia Ross, a very dedicated, knowledgeable, and caring leader, and our new state Board of Directors. We applaud you! *(Read a message from Ross on page 3.)*

To all the women of AAUW-FL: Always remember that you are appreciated for all that you have done and continue to do for AAUW and our great, caring mission.

With much gratitude and appreciation,

Shirley Reid

Outgoing AAUW Florida President 2018 ■

Calendar/State Officers and Appointees

Looking Ahead

July 20 – Deadline to register for July 26 AAUW conference call on Supreme Court. Sign up at:

<https://www.aauw.org/event/2018/07/supreme-court-review-call/>

July 26 – AAUW conference call on Supreme Court. 6 to 7 p.m. Free. Review of several significant decisions made during the October 2017 term. Details on AAUW web site.

August 25 – Women’s Equality Day marking the passage of the 19th Amendment which gave women the right to vote.

September 8-9 – AAUW-FL board meeting. Island Crowne Condo, 1900 N. Atlantic, Daytona Beach, meeting room. Hotel accommodations at Daytona Beach Hilton Garden Inn Oceanside. Reservation information TBA.

Spring 2019 – AAUW-FL Leadership Conference. Date, time, place TBA.

2018-19 AAUW-FL Officers and Appointees

Elected Officers

- President – *Patricia Ross*
- Director for Program – *Jacqueline D’Alessio*
- Director for Membership – *Karen Zalkin*
- Director for Finance – *Kathy Vandervliet*
- Director for Development – *Judith Bonn*
- Director for Communications – *Antoinette Kruse*
- Director for Public Policy – *Patricia DeWitt*
- Secretary - *Susan Baird*

Appointed Officers

- Bylaws, Policies, Resolutions – *Virginia Farace*
- Historian – *Linda Barker*
- Parliamentarian – *Mimi Welch*
- Administrative Assistant – *Open*

Other Appointees

- C/U Partner Liaison – *Susan Cornehl*
- Web Manager – *Antoinette Kruse*
- floriVision Editor - *Carol MacDonald*
- Tech Trek Director – *Sue Slone*
- Voting and Elections Chair – *Susan Berlin*

You’re needed

Share your skills and experience with AAUW-FL. Can you help with conference arrangements? Enter data for the directory? Help with social media? Public relations or marketing? Check the articles on page 3 and 7 and make your interests known. ■



Mission: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. **Value Promise:** By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance. **Vision Statement:** AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential. **Diversity Statement:** 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.

2018-19 State Board

Strategic plan key to reaching goals

By Patricia Ross, President-Elect

"A bend in the road is not the end of the road... Unless you fail to make the turn." (Helen Keller.)



Patricia Ross
President-Elect, AAUW-FL

At this year's convention, we were reminded that AAUW is in the midst of changes in priorities and actions. The national board has developed a new strategic plan

which we hope will make our organization more dynamic and more relevant.

You will soon be able to view the plan on the AAUW website, www.aauw.org. While the goal of empowering women and girls remains the same, we need to reexamine our methods of reaching that goal. We need to make the turn!

The new state board will be meeting to review and update our strategic plan so that we are better aligned with the national plan and so that we meet our primary goals of serving and supporting branches.

What branches can do

Create a plan. I hope your branch will also begin the work of developing a new and updated strategic plan. Without a plan, any road will do, but we may not reach our desired destination.

Provide contact information. We need to share both our successes and our concerns, so accurate contact information for leaders and members is essential.

Every branch needs to submit forms for new officers to both AAUW national and to AAUW-FL. It must be done separately, but it only takes a minute, and it ensures that officers get the information they need.

Also, all members should check their own contact information on the AAUW Member Services Database to ensure e-mail, phone number, and postal address are up-to-date and to make any changes needed. Let state board members know, too. (Email addresses are on the AAUW-FL website, <https://aauw-fl.aauw.net/resources/officers/>.)

Support Tech Trek. Be sure to include Tech Trek in your branch

plans. This AAUW-FL project is a wonderful investment in the future, as I saw first-hand this year when I moderated the Professional Women's Evening at Tech Trek 2018 and visited classes. The enthusiasm and curiosity the girls showed was remarkable.

Our new AAUW-FL Supporting Foundation makes it easy to make a tax-deductible donation to Tech Trek and other special projects. If you have corporate connections in your community, share them with us or ask for materials on how to sponsor a girl or a portion of the camp (field trips, core classes, workshops, events, supplies, etc.).

I hope that we can all work together to put our mission into action and to make AAUW Florida more relevant in our communities. We need to honor our long and distinguished past and to plan for the future.

As John F. Kennedy pointed out, "Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future." Let's look to the future together! ■

New officers join board; volunteers needed for appointed posts

Four openings on the AAUW-FL board of directors were filled by acclamation at the April convention/annual meeting: Judith Bonn, development; Susan Baird, secretary; Antoinette Kruse, communications; and Karen Zalkin, membership.

They'll take office July 1, when Patricia Ross, president-elect, takes the helm, joining the direc-

tors for program, finance, and public policy – Jacqueline D'Alessio, Kathy Vandervliet, and Patricia DeWitt, respectively.

Appointed officers include Virginia Farace, bylaws, policies, resolutions; Linda Barker, historian; and Mimi Welch, parliamentarian. Other appointees are Susan Cornehl, C/U Partner liaison; Antoinette Kruse, web manager; Carol

MacDonald, *floriVision* editor; Sue Slone, Tech Trek director; and Susan Berlin, voting and elections.

Volunteers needed. We still need an administrative assistant to fill an appointed-office opening plus volunteers for two new tasks – conference arrangements and directory data entry.

If you can help, Email Pat Ross at paross@aol.com. ■

State, National Election Results

Floridians okay state issues; nix national membership change

AAUW-FL members went to the One Member One Vote ballot box twice this spring: once on state-only issues, and a second time on proposed changes in national bylaws.

State issues. Both state issues were overwhelmingly approved, with almost 11 percent of the 2,154 eligible Florida voters participating. That more than met the 5 percent quorum.

Voters also okayed using

national's public policy priorities as Florida's, with almost 92 percent in agreement. (Review the priorities at <https://www.aauw.org/resource/principles-and-priorities> .)

Also, almost 96 percent voted to send an official thanks to state representative Lori Berman and legislative assistant Abby Ross for their work toward attaining pay equity for women.

National bylaws. Only one of three proposed changes to national bylaws fared as well, both in Florida and

nationally. More than 19 percent of eligible members nationally voted.

Staggering the terms of members on the board of directors was approved by 96 percent. Defeated were the proposals that would have eliminated the degree requirement for membership and would have allowed non-AAUW members to be on the board. (Results by state are at <https://www.aauw.org/resource/national-election>.)

– Virginia Farace, Voting and Elections Chair. ■

How many members in your branch voted?

Online voting made it easy for AAUW-FL members to make their views known on state and national bylaws proposals, but not everyone took advantage. Just under 11 percent of those eligible cast votes on state issues, with about 29 percent, voting on national issues. Check these tallies to see how your branch did. ■

Branch	Eligible Voters*	Number Voting	
		State Bylaws	National bylaws
Daytona Beach	48	8	12
Fort Lauderdale	14	2	2
Fort Myers/Lee County	81 (73)	9	17
Gainesville	41(42)	10	8
Jacksonville	35 (34)	7	11
Key West-Lower Keys	8 (9)	0	2
Lake Wales	72 (71)	2	13
Manatee County	65 (63)	3	10
Melbourne	55	1	10
Miami	16	2	8
Northern Palm Beach County	62 (60)	11	28
Ocala	14	1	9
Orlando-Winter Park	159	11	23
Palm Beach County	46 (44)	10	17
Saint Augustine	89 (87)	6	29
Sarasota	104 (100)	15	43

Branch	Eligible Voters*	Number Voting	
		State Bylaws	National bylaws
Tampa	45	5	16
Clearwater	14	3	1
Vero Beach	169 (166)	14	41
Greater Naples	100 (94)	11	25
Pompano	51	3	16
Stuart Area	74 (70)	10	19
Bradenton	42	7	14
Punta Gorda-Port Charlotte	40 (39)	8	9
Tamiami	12	0	1
Venice	245 (232)	23	83
West Pasco	18	3	5
Lake Sumter	146 (144)	17	44
Marco Island	78	6	15
New Smyrna Beach	73 (78)	10	24
Flagler County	41 (43)	9	25
Sun City Center	55	4	21
Weston	33	4	4
NOVA Southeastern University	9	0	2

* Voters eligible for national election show in parentheses when different from state eligibility. Eligibility determined by paid membership in Member Services Directory on a specific date. State and national elections used different dates to set eligibility, so numbers are different. Also, dual members voted in their home state branch for the national election. ■

Tech Trek 2018

64 girls inspired by another successful camp

By Sue Slone, Tech Trek Camp Director

Sixty-four girls arrived at the 2018 AAUW Florida Tech Trek Camp on the Palm Beach State Campus in Boca Raton on Sunday June 10, ready to attend core courses and workshops that would pique their interest in STEM careers.

Beginning on Monday, each camper attended one of four core courses – App Inventor, Robotics, Marine Biology, or Engineering. The core classes met every morning through Thursday.

Each afternoon, the girls attended workshops that included DNA, Cybersecurity, Chemistry, Art and Math, Weather, Rockets, and Problem Solving. In addition, they attended a personal finance course presented by local Wells Fargo Bank personnel.

By the end of Thursday afternoon, every girl had attended all eight of the workshops, finished their core courses, and attended Professional Women's Night sponsored by AT&T.



Getting to talk with women professionals in STEM, at left and right, is a favorite activity for Tech Trek campers.



Sue Slone, Tech Trek director, left, with Patricia Ross, incoming AAUW-FL president, who moderated Professional Women's Night.

Ready to visit branches. As part of the problem solving workshop, the campers learned how to make and give Power Point presentations. They are looking forward to being invited to a branch meeting to talk about their experiences. Hearing from the girls themselves is the best way for your branch to really learn about Tech Trek and the extraordinary girls who attend.

Meeting STEM professionals. Professional Women's Night is a favorite of the girls. When asked which woman they liked best, their response was that they loved hearing from all of the women. The campers had the opportunity to ask questions and I believe everyone

was impressed with the quality and maturity demonstrated in those questions.

Unexpected issue. On Friday the entire group was to take an hour-and-a-half bus trip to visit the Aerojet Rocketdyne site in Jupiter. Unfortunately the eagerly anticipated visit had to be cancelled due to a stomach bug that made its appearance Monday morning. By Thursday morning six girls had been affected.

After much consideration, parents were asked to pick up their daughters Thursday evening or before noon on Friday to keep the bug from spreading to any more girls and staff. Fortunately, the only camp event that the campers missed was the visit to Aerojet.

As the girls were departing, their responses regarding camp were all positive. Parents were thankful for their daughters' experiences and understood the decision we had made. The girls hated leaving, but had made good friends. ■



\$70,600 from branches, corporations made Tech Trek possible

Tech Trek Camp is a worthwhile project, but without the support of many it wouldn't be possible.

This year, 16 branches sent girls to camp, and 22 made donations, joining individuals as well as AAUW-FL and corporations Praxair, AT&T, and Symantec to

contribute the total \$70,652 needed to fund the camp. That amounted to \$1,104 for each of the 64 campers.

It's not too early to start planning how your branch can support next year's camp. The newly formed AAUW Florida Supporting Foundation, Inc., makes tax-deductible

donations easy.

Talk with businesses that might want to contribute or sponsor a camp event. Plan a fund-raiser. Ensure local educators know about the program.

For more about Tech Trek, visit <https://techtrek-fl.aauw.net>. ■

Tech Trek 2018 (Continued)



Robotics core course



Dorm group after team-building exercise



Chemistry workshop



Chemistry workshop



Starting a team-building exercise



Marine biology



Top and bottom: App Inventor class



AAUW member Becky Mercer, associate dean for STEM at Palm Beach State College, teaching a class about DNA.



Left: Dissecting a small shark.



Right: Engineering course

State News

Help spread the word about AAUW

The AAUW-FL Communications Committee needs your help to spread the word about who we are and what we do.

Can you help with web development and maintenance? Do you know the ins and outs of social media, like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram? How about data visualization and infographics? Or public relations and marketing?

You're needed if you're interested in or have experience in those areas. Plan on a commitment of 3 to 5 hours a month and on participating in a monthly conference call that

provides advice to branch leaders.

The committee is also developing a statewide list of media sources that will help the state social media and web site be more relevant to news throughout Florida.

Your branch can help by sending the media names and contact information you use.

Email Antoinette Kruse, Director for Communications, at aauwflcommunications@gmail.com to volunteer for the committee and to submit your branch media contact lists. ■

Get ideas to increase branch diversity

A workshop on diversity and inclusion at our April convention gave attendees the opportunity to address this important issue.

Led by Synthia Fletcher, AAUW-FL Diversity Coordinator, the main focus was on the conscious and unconscious biases that affect us. Making assumptions is a difficulty found in our organization

and addressed in the workshop through interactive activities, discussion, and sharing.

Fletcher is available to continue the conversation begun at convention, develop a program about other concerns, and assist in promoting a more diverse and inclusive AAUW. Email her at SLSFoxx@att.net. ■

Membership continues to grow

Outgoing Co-Directors for Membership, Coral Miller and Maria Barbosa, proved the importance of having accurate contact information in the Member Services Database maintained by national AAUW.

With MSD information, they reached out to many branches to offer advice and support. They'd set

a 20 percent increase in members as their goal, and their records show nearly every branch added members, with the smallest, Key West, doubling from four to eight members. AAUW has many tips on recruiting and retaining members: <https://www.aauw.org/resource/top-tip-for-mvps/> ■

Silent auction at convention yields \$1,480

Ten of the 35 AAUW branches in Florida contributed 25 items to the silent auction held at our April convention. These included glassware, gift cards, paintings, wine baskets, etc. The items were purchased by 21 individuals for a total of total of \$1,480. For more on the convention, visit our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/AAUWFlorida. ■

Candidates sought for 2019-20 board posts

The Nominating Committee is working to ensure strong leadership for AAUW-FL in the coming years. We are organizing this summer to find diverse candidates from across our state.

We plan to identify at least one person for each the following positions: president elect and directors for Program, Finance and Public Policy. Nominations are due November 15, and those elected will officially begin their responsibilities on July 1, 2019.

The committee will contact every branch president to encourage suggestions from our local leaders. In addition, the members of the Nominating Committee will reach out to individual members who have demonstrated leadership skills and interest.

You can help! AAUW-FL is an important link in member services, leadership training, and public policy activity. We need committed AAUW members to take the lead in these important activities. Recommend members who can forward our mission, and consider nominating yourself for a position.

Contact any member of the AAUW-FL Nominating Committee:

- Maria Barbosa (drbarbosacounseling@hotmail.com)
- Carolyn Brox (thebroxlake@gmail.com)
- Synthia Fletcher (SLSFoxx@att.net)
- Gloria L. Hilton (GloriaLHilton@verizon.net)
- Ellen Roche (eroche9425@aol.com), Chair ■

Branch News

Panel focuses on women's economic security

By Patricia DeWitt, Director for Public Policy

A diverse and dynamic panel addressed the topic of economic security for women on Tuesday, June 19, at the St. John's County Public Library in St. Augustine. The event was sponsored by the AAUW branches of Daytona Beach, St. Augustine, and Jacksonville.

Inspired by the research report by Mary Gatta, "Women, Economic Insecurity and Aging in the Florida Sunshine" (presented at this year's AAUW state convention in April), a committee headed by Laura Adolfe of Daytona recruited panelists from organizations interested in the topic in northeast Florida. Approximately 50 people attended.

Karen Zalkin of the St. Augustine branch introduced the moderator and the topic, stressing AAUW's concern and involvement.

The panel was moderated by Melanie Patz of Baptist Health and the Women's Giving Alliance. Maureen Paschke, also of the Women's Giving Alliance, presented Florida and county-specific information from the Institute for Women's Policy Research, commissioned by the Florida Women's



Left to Right: Patricia Dewitt, Justine Conley, Monica Hernandez, Robin Winters Frazier, Mary Gatta, Maureen Kingsley Paschke, and moderator Melanie Patz.

Funding Alliance. For example, in Florida 40 percent of families with children living in poverty are female-headed households. Florida's grade for women's employment and earnings has worsened since 2004, from a C- to a D+.

Paschke pointed out that in order to meet basic needs, a single adult in Florida must earn \$14.52 an hour while the minimum wage is \$8.25.

Gatta presented key points from her research, which focused on northeast Florida. She found that Florida women have fewer economic resources in retirement than do Florida men. Women's savings are less and while the median Social Security income for men was \$16,200, women's was \$11,587 – a

28.6% difference. More women than men are more economically insecure in both St. John's and Duval counties.

Panelists Justine Conley of AARP, Robbin Winters Frazier of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and Monica Hernández of the First Coast Hispanic Chamber of Commerce discussed individual and corporate strategies for addressing economic insecurity. They emphasized starting early, teaching children about money and saving, and for adults, learning about financial resources and retirement options.

Patricia DeWitt described AAUW's efforts nationally and in Florida to pass legislation to close the gender pay gap. Key provisions include prohibiting employer retaliation against employees who discuss one another's salaries, stopping the practice of asking for salary history during interviews, and establishing criteria for job-related reasons for pay differences.

She also described AAUW's programs to help women negotiate a better salary, Start Smart and Work Smart. ■