



Orlando * Winter Park **BRANCHLINE**

DECEMBER PROGRAM



Winter Park High School proudly presents ***Belle Chanson***, a group of talented young women who perform a wide range of music from classical to Broadway. Today they will be performing a variety of holiday music. This is an all-women's group, grades 10—12.

We are extremely fortunate to have them sing for us for the third year in a row. Don't miss this wonderful program.

GENERAL MEETING

SATURDAY

December 10, 2016
9 a.m.

First Congregational Church of
Winter Park
225 S. Interlachen Avenue
(at New England Ave.)
Winter Park, FL 32789

\$15.00 per person
Reservations Required

RSVP: Diana Secor
407-929-3735
(Voice or text)
Dianasecoraaauw@gmail.com

Cash or check
payable at the door
(Checks should be made out to
"AAUW Orlando/Winter Park")

Or mail your check to:
Diana Secor
4153 Leafy Glade Place
Casselberry, FL 32707

You are responsible for
payment in full if you do not
keep your reservation.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:
Reservations must be received
no later than Thursday
at 3 p.m.



AAUW Public Policy team reflects on some of the milestones achieved by women over the last year.

January

Iowa elects first woman as Speaker of the House

Iowa State Rep. Linda Upmeyer (R-Clear Lake) made history when she became the first woman to hold the gavel as Speaker of Iowa's House of Representatives. Speaker Upmeyer stated that she hoped her historic election would encourage young women to take advantage of opportunities for leadership. The election of Speaker Upmeyer means that the presiding officers in both the Iowa House and Senate are led by women. Sen. Pam Jochum (D-Dubuque) currently serves as president of the Senate.

February

First Native American woman confirmed as U.S. District Court judge

Diane Humetewa, a member of the Hopi tribe, was confirmed to the federal court in Arizona. Her nomination was unanimously approved by the U.S. Senate in February. She is the third Native American individual to be named to the federal bench.

April

Historic Sewall-Belmont House becomes nation's newest national monument

On Equal Pay Day, President Barack Obama designated the Belmont-Paul Women's Equality Monument at the Sewall-Belmont House — an historic achievement for which AAUW gives thanks. The new monument is named after suffragist Alva Belmont, former president of the National Woman's Party (NWP), and Alice Paul, NWP founder and author of the Equal Rights Amendment.

August

New innovative efforts to boost voter registration

Connecticut began its automatic voter registration program, which registered over 700 voters in its first two days after launching. A similar program in Oregon registered an average of 735 voters per day in August. In the same month, California passed a bill to create an online link between class enrollment and voter registration for almost three million students in the state's public colleges and universities.

September

First female and African American Chief Librarian of the Library of Congress sworn in

Carla Hayden was sworn in as the new Chief Librarian of the Library of Congress in September. Hayden, who was once an AAUW member, is the first woman and the first African American to hold the role.

October

Historic Sexual Assault Survivors' 'Bill of Rights' signed into law

The new law grants survivors the right to have a rape kit preserved for the entirety of a case's statute of limitations, be informed about forensic exam results, and be notified before the kit is to be destroyed. The measure currently applies to the federal rights of over 25 million survivors.

November

Women in the Senate make gains

In 2017, there will be 21 women serving in the U.S. Senate — the highest number in history. The chamber will also feature a record number of women of color. Senators-elect Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV), and Kamala Harris (D-CA) will be the first Thai American, first Latina, and first biracial woman, respectively, to serve in the U.S. Senate. They will join Sen. Mazie Hirono (D-HI), the chamber's first Asian-American member, thereby quadrupling the number of women of color in the Senate.

Scholarships

Two Valencia College Scholarships Awarded

The Valencia College Foundation Scholarships were recently awarded to two non-traditional students. This scholarship is specifically for women enrolled at Valencia studying business, and this year the two women received \$600 each.

Both students are involved in Valencia College activities and in their community. Both believe that returning to college as an older adult is providing a good role model for their children. The ladies are maintaining a 3.5+ GPA, provided very nicely written statements about their need for scholarship monies, and also had very complimentary recommendation letters.

One young lady is pursuing an Associate of Science in Office Administration/Computer Programming and Analysis. She plans to transfer to UCF to complete a Bachelor's Degree in Software Development and was recently selected as the

Executive Secretary to the Osceola Campus Student Government Association. One of her letters included, "Not only does she strive and push herself to succeed in all of her classes, but she is setting a great example for her twin daughters."

The other student is pursuing an Associate's Degree in Business with plans to complete her Bachelor of Business Administration at UCF. A counselor wrote, "She has proven that she is a dedicated and focused student."

All the applications reviewed by the committee revealed women who were serious about their pursuit of higher education. Two of the comments really spoke to me.

- "I truly believe that the more you are able to know the more you are able to grow."
- "I feel that I am an excellent candidate for the scholarship because I wish not to be better than anyone but better than who I was yesterday."

Karen Buchan

From the VP Membership



Have a say in AAUW's Future. Information is being gathered for the AAUW National Convention to be held in June 2017. What changes would you like to see in AAUW's work? Now's the time to share your thoughts about the degree

requirement, our position on the Equal Rights Amendment, or another issue that members are discussing now. **Visit the website to comment, propose an amendment, or make a resolution** before December 5, 2016.

Membership Is Everyone's Business! As we head into fiscal year 2017, remember that everyone can help recruit new members to AAUW. The AAUW website (AAUW.ORG) has many great resources to help you get

started. And coming soon: recruiter pins! Members who recruit five or more new members to AAUW throughout the course of the fiscal year will receive an exclusive lapel pin! At the 2005 AAUW National Convention in Washington, D.C., AAUW members voted to expand membership to include graduates who hold an associate or equivalent degree from a qualified educational institution in response to the growing population of women who have entered economically advantageous careers with this kind of educational background.

Correction for Diana Secor
Use the following email address:
dianasecoraaauw@gmail.com.

Beulah Ali-Carr
(407) 359-8416
aysheroose96@hotmail.com

NOVEMBER 12, 2016 GENERAL MEETING/HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE



PACE THANKSGIVING—THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2016



Everyone's favorite—the dessert table!



Pat organizes the servers and inspects the tables. Everything looks ready and . . .

Here come the girls!



Now that's a mighty fine-looking turkey . . . cake.



How many of the ladies on this page do you recognize?



Time to switch. The second team of servers takes the field.

If you did not attend, we hope to see you next year.



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MaxReedFL@gmail.com

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ceroca1974@gmail.com

Blankets! Blankets!

Please gather your old (gently used) or new blankets AND coats. They will go to the Health Care Center for the Homeless. Bring them to the next general meetings (Dec. 10 and Jan. 14). They need to be in good shape, and please, no afghans. Thank you.

Eleanore Cowan



Sat., December 10
MIRACLE BOX GATHERING at
the general meeting for
distribution to the PACE
students!

Wednesday, May 17, 2017
12 noon
**ANNUAL PACE HORIZON
LUNCHEON**
place TBD

Interest Groups

Our AAUW branch is proud to announce that we now have seven Interest Groups that meet in the evening—two Booklovers and five other groups. If you are interested in starting other special interest groups, let me know, and I'll help you place a blurb in *The Branchline* to see if others are interested in your idea.

Barbara Buchele

Interest Groups Coordinator
babuchele@gmail.com or 321-972-9114



Booklovers: Coordinator (10 groups) Ellen James (407-857-0044) jamese3@bellsouth.net

Cooking Globally: Co-chairs Karen Buchan (407-678-1212) kqb@unknownegg.org and
Rana Tiwari (407 810-6781) ranatiwari@usa.net

Current Issues: Chair Marcy Kysilka (407-855-3321) kysilka@bellsouth.net

Dining Couples: Co-Chairs Susan Turo (407-740-8293) tomsuet@aol.com
Suzy Kerr (407-960-1376) SuzyKerr@msn.com

Dining-In: Chair Beth McCarty (407-612-6440) cemccarty2013@yahoo.com

Dining-Out at Night: Chair Susan Hoke (407 637-6857) shoke@cfl.rr.com

Foreign Affairs Group: Chair Jo-Ann McCaffrey (407-841-3640) JoAnnRoux327@gmail.com

Foreign Films Group: Chair Linda Fessel (407-677-0317) Lfessel@embarqmail.com

Lunching Out Group: Chair Linda Fessel (407-677-0317) Lfessel@embarqmail.com

Mah Jongg: Co-Chairs Karen Deo (407-679-6186) Karen.deo@gmail.com
Linda Fessel (407-677-0317) Lfessel@embarqmail.com

Museums/Galleries Group: Chair Pat Wilson (407-415-3874) wavespw@gmail.com

PACE Center for Girls Support Group: Co-Chairs Anne Landrum (407-539-1667) alandrum2@cfl.rr.com and
Pat Stamm (407-971-0565) patsnpans@yahoo.com

Theatre Group: Chair Maria Rubin ... (321-276-9416) mariaormary@gmail.com

Walking Group: Chair Missy Baker (407-644-5661) (407 346-6561-cell) bakerworks@gmail.com

Interest Groups

Lunching Out

DATE: Monday, Dec. 12

TIME: 11:30 a.m.

PLACE: TBA

The Lunching Out Group meets on the second Monday of each month. We seek out interesting (often ethnic) non-chain, local family-owned restaurants.

If you would like to join us, call or email me to get on the contact list.

Linda Fessel

(407) 677-0317

LFESSEL@embarqmail.com

Current Issues

Current Issues will not be meeting in December. The next meeting will be Monday, January 23 at 10 a.m. For more information, contact

Marcy Kysilka

Kysilka@bellsouth.net

407-855-3321



Foreign Films

At the Home of

Linda Fessel

407-677-0317

LFESSEL@embarqmail.com

Call me at the number or e-mail shown above if you would like to be added to the list in order to receive more information about each movie.

No film in December. Happy holidays to all.

Next film: (TBA) Mon., January 30, 2017 at 1 p.m.

Linda Fessel



On Nov. 14, 15 Ladies attended Lunching Out at Pepe's Cantina in Winter Park.



Booklovers...

Good news, Booklovers!! The Survey Monkey is up and running so Booklovers can log in their favorite book(s) to be recommended for reading next year. We encourage each Booklover to send in suggestions and we're hoping to have 100% participation. So, read up, and recommend. The website for the Survey Monkey is:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2017BookSelections>

No book was scheduled for December so all Booklovers are meeting for lunch or dinner. Check the calendar to note when and where your group is meeting.

Happy Holidays,

Ellen James

Booklovers Coordinator

Mah Jongg

Co-chairs:

Karen Deo (407-679-6186)

Karen.deo@gmail.com

Linda Fessel (407-677-0317)

Lfessel@embarqmail.com

BEGINNERS WELCOME

We meet every Thursday at 1 p.m. (except the 2nd Thursday of the month).

Contact Linda or Karen for more information.

Linda & Karen



Interest Groups

Dining Couples

The Dining Couples Group for fall of 2016 held the first two of three dinners in mid-October and the third dinner in early November. Reports from the three hostesses were that everyone enjoyed good food and great company. Hosts were pleasantly surprised that guests stayed so long! **Our next dinner is Dec. 17.** We have not used our substitute list because we have been able to fill in a vacancy from our list of regulars.

Susan Turo and I welcome three more couples to sign up to be "hosting" members so we can start a fourth dining group of four couples. If interested in joining, please contact Suzy Kerr at suzykerr@msn.com. There are still two more dinners scheduled in 2017 for February and April.

Suzy Kerr suzykerr@msn.com.
407 960-1376 or

Susan Turo, tomsuet@aol.com
407-740-8293.

Dining Out at Night

DATE: Tuesday, Dec.13

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

PLACE: Bulla (at the corner of 17-92 and Morse Blvd.)

Spouses are welcome to join us.

RSVP to:

Susan Hoke
shoke@cfl.rr.com
407-637-6857

Walking Group

November Walk Recap and December Plans

Fresh air was the theme for November's Walking Group outing. Barbara Knapp arranged our morning at DeLeon Springs State Park. A boat tour followed by lunch at the park's Old Spanish Mill Grill and Pancake House kept the walking group smiling. Thanks, Barbara! (see photos on p. 9)

The Ladies of the Sneakers will be in a holiday mood as we walk along the Halifax River in Ormond Beach on December 8. Our adventure will begin with a stroll through John D. Rockefeller's Public Garden. Refreshed by the morning air, we will tour his winter home, The Casements. Even though the wealthiest man in the world purchased this house, he maintained its homey, comfortable quality.



The deadline to attend the December walk in Ormond Beach has already passed. If you'd like to join the Walking Group and receive notices of our adventures, contact Missy Baker, Walking Group coordinator, at (407) 644-5661 or bakerworks@gmail.com.

Missy Baker



"The Jewel of Ormond Beach," The Casements has been officially listed on the National Register of Historic Places and has been designated as a Florida Heritage Site.

Interest Groups

The Walking Group visits De Leon springs followed by lunch at the Old Spanish Mill & Griddle House



The outstanding feature of the 625 acre park is the spring, producing 19 million gallons of water a day at 72 degrees year-round. The swimming area is accessible by stairs, ramp, and a swimmer lift. Local residents changed the name from Spring Garden to Ponce de Leon Springs and referred to the spring as the Fountain of Youth. According to the guide, Ponce de Leon never made it to this area. Fountain of Youth? Not likely.



Above: Posing in front of the Methusalah tree.

Below: The popular Sugar Mill Restaurant, located in a 100-year-old replica of the original 1830s sugar mill, features cook-your-own pancakes at the table.



Interest Groups

Museums and Galleries

The Museums and Galleries group enjoyed a most informative and sobering visit to the Holocaust Memorial Resource and Education Center in Maitland followed by a delightful lunch at Francesco's Ristorante. We even had a couple of spouses along for this visit!

We were treated to a scholarly discussion and historical presentation by Mitchell Bloomer, an historian and resource teacher at the Center. This presentation spanned portions of history pertaining to European Jewish people. Topics touched on the emancipation of Jewish people in France and elsewhere during and just after the Age of Enlightenment under Napoleon, as well as contributions and later persecutions of citizens of Jewish heritage through mid-twentieth century Europe. Lessons from history regarding divisions among people based on heritage and perceived threats were brought to light in a clear and reflective manner. The Center will be expanding soon and, always, welcomes visitors to tour the facility and attend any one of several talks given monthly.

We all had a bit of trouble finding parking at Francesco's but eventually settled down for a perfectly delightful lunch.

We will be touring the Guang Ming Buddhist Temple in January and, as of this writing, the meeting date will change to Thursday, January 26. Lunch will follow and more details will go out in the January email.

Wishing everyone a thoughtful and generous holiday season.

Get out there!

Pat Wilson



At the Holocaust Memorial Resource and Education Center

Neutrality helps the
oppressor, never the victim.
Silence encourages the
tormentor, never the tormented.

There may be times when we are
powerless to prevent injustice, but
there must never be a time when
we fail to protest.

Elie Wiesel (1928—2016)



Dining In

The next dining in will be on Saturday, December 3, at the home of Beth McCarty.

Beth McCarty

407-496-1440

cemccarty2013@yahoo.com



On December 10, don't forget

Brunch
2017 Calendars
Miracle Boxes
Blankets/Coats
To have a good time!

From Our Members



Members of Booklovers IV enjoy Georgia Sweet Potato pecan pie and Florida ambrosia made by member Charmaine Sell to accompany discussion of Linda Dunlap's "Rail Walking."



Dear Sisters-in-AAUW,

We are so appreciative of all the things you did to make the PACE Thanksgiving a huge success. Your culinary delights and service were well noted. The

girls were very happy and the environment was positive. In speaking with one of the girls and complimenting her on her progress from last year in attitude and work, she said she realizes that she wants to move on and do well. Isn't this what we hope each girl will achieve?

Now, the girls have two more events that will be handled by AAUW. The first will enable each girl to make a bracelet for herself or a family member.

The second event is the presentation of the Miracle Boxes. All Miracle Boxes are due by the December meeting on December 10. Distribution to the girls will take place on December 13 in the afternoon at PACE. Anyone wishing to participate is more than welcome to attend.

Again, thank you for all you do to let the girls know we care about them and we want them to succeed.

*Karen Gillett
Barbara Knapp
Pat Stamm*



The staff of the Branchline opted to end the year with some laughter. So please enjoy these tidbits from Dave Barry's *History of the Millennium*.

"In 1877, inventor Thomas Alva Edison leaned over a device and recited 'Mary Had a Little Lamb' in a loud and clear voice. Nothing happened because the device was a pencil sharpener. Embarrassed, Edison vowed that one day he would invent an electric light so he could see what the hell he was doing."

"Important governmental changes were also taking place in the United States, which, in 1919 and 1920 passed two historic constitutional amendments:

- ◆ The 18th Amendment, which banned alcoholic beverages. This worked like a charm. All of a sudden, *bang*, everybody stopped drinking alcoholic beverages! And there was no crime! This paved the way for the War on Drugs.
- ◆ The 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote (for men)"

"And so this New Year's Eve when the clock strikes twelve, raise a glass to toast the millions of our ancestors who went before us paving the way for the safe and secure civilization that we enjoy today. Then, when the clock strikes thirteen and the lights go out, start your generator and load your gun."

IN REMEMBRANCE OF EMILY



Four generations: Emily is pictured with her daughter Jane (seated), her granddaughter Mary Jane Simpson, and great-grandson Baby Jack. The picture was taken in June, 2016, in Durham, NC.

[Emily Towers Hartmeyer, 83, died at home in Altamonte Springs, FL on November 13, 2016. Some of us who knew her would like to share some thoughts and memories.]

Emily was a valued member of our Booklovers group for many years. When she took her turn to host the group, I commented on two decorative pillows which featured giraffes. "I collect giraffes," I said, admiringly. Despite my protestations, she insisted that I take them. As she wouldn't take no for an answer, I did finally leave with them. Although a little faded over the years, they still grace my couch—a perpetual reminder of our friendship and her kindheartedness.

As our branch's historian, her scrapbooks reflected the goings-on of the branch in loving detail. We owe her a tremendous debt.

Linda Fessel

As a member of Booklovers I, Emily was always well prepared and contributed a great deal to the discussion. There was one book in particular that she loved when everyone else gave it a thumbs down. This was one example of how Emily always saw the positive side. She was very strong in her faith, and, as fellow Methodists, we often had deep conversations about the church.

Susan Hoke

Emily went to Washington, D.C., to an AAUW convention and transformed herself into a vital member of our branch. When Barbara Knapp invited Emily to the con-

vention, Emily was relatively new to our decades old organization. Afterwards she became a Board member, first as secretary and later as historian/archivist. She came to every event, took pictures and produced beautiful scrapbooks. The latter became valuable recruiting tools for new members as they showed vividly our members having fun and promoting our goals for women and girls. So we have a lot to thank Barbara for in engaging Emily.

My personal recollection of Emily is that she came to all my lectures and book reviews. Afterward she always sent e-mail praise including specifics that showed she had paid careful attention. I treasure each of these mis-

Martha Williamson

To try in a few words to capture the essence of someone like our Emily is impossible. She was different things to the different people in her life. Mother, grandmother, friend, author, world traveler. To us in AAUW, she was the faithful member who scurried about at meetings with camera in tow, capturing those moments which told our AAUW story best.

But Emily was much more than just our photographer, album keeper and history maker. Since she looked for every opportunity to smile, she was our principal giver-of-smiles as well. That smile and her generous spirit along with pats on the back and words of encouragement made her our quintessential cheerleader. She nurtured us in ways that made us feel better about ourselves and each other.

I remember Emily most fondly, however, because of our mutual love of color. Since my attire, usually a carnival of rowdy colors, was easy to spot a mile away at meetings, Emily and her camera would head my way. "Oh, you're so photogenic," she'd say, and I'd say, "No, Emily, what I am is really just flashy and loud."

We were blessed to have Emily with us for so many years. Her kindness and the unassuming humility that we loved exemplified her spirit, a spirit that will live with us forever.

Emily, we'll miss you.

Linda Dunlap


In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Humane Society, 949 N Pine Hills Rd, Orlando, FL.

DECEMBER 2016

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 <u>1 p.m.</u> Mah Jongg	2	3 <u>High Tea</u> Dining In (St. Pete)
4	5	6 <u>11:30 a.m.</u> B-Lovers I (Dubsdread) <u>12 noon</u> B-Lovers IX (Alfond Inn) <u>6:30 p.m.</u> Booklovers III (Alfond Inn) <u>6:30 p.m.</u> Board Mtg.	7 <u>11:30 a.m.</u> B-Lovers II (Thai Basil) <u>12 noon</u> B-Lovers IV (Seasons 52) <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VII (Marlow's Tavern) <u>7 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VIII (Ocoee Taco Co.)	8 <u>a.m. thru</u> <u>lunch</u> Walking Grp.	9	10 <u>9 a.m.</u> Gen. Mtg.
11	12 <u>11:30</u> Lunching Out <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers X (Brio's)	13 <u>12 noon</u> B-Lovers VI (Alfond Inn) <u>6:30 p.m.</u> Dining Out at night	14 <u>12:30 p.m.</u> B-Lovers V (Member's Home)	15 <u>1 p.m.</u> Mah Jongg	16	17 <u>7 p.m.</u> Dining Couples
18	19	20	21	22 <u>1 p.m.</u> Mah Jongg	23	24
25 Christmas Hanukkah	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29 <u>1 p.m.</u> Mah Jongg	30	31 New Year's Eve

NOTE: Many Booklovers groups will be meeting on different days and different times in December. Some have incorporated a book exchange in with the festivities. If the dates and times shown above do not match with your own calendar, please check with interest group chairs to verify day, time, and place of the December lunch/dinners. [ed.]

JANUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 New Year's Day 	2	3 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers I	4 <u>10 a.m.</u> B-Lovers IX <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers II <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VII	5 <u>1 p.m.</u> Mah Jongg <u>7 p.m.</u> B-Lovers III	6 <u>7 p.m.</u> Dining In	7
8	9 <u>11:30 a.m.</u> Lunching Out	10 <u>1:30 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VI <u>6:30 p.m.</u> Dining Out at night	11	12 <u>a.m. thru lunch</u> Walking Grp. <u>7 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VIII	13	14 <u>9-11</u> Gen. Mtg.
15	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	17 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers V	18 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers IV	19 <u>1 p.m.</u> Mah Jongg <u>1:00</u> B-Lovers X	20	21
22	23 <u>10 a.m.</u> Current Issues	24	25	26 <u>a.m.—lunch</u> Museums/ Galleries <u>1 p.m.</u> Mah Jongg	27	28
29 <u>2 p.m.</u> Foreign Affairs	30 <u>1-4</u> Foreign Films	31				

“The most formidable weapon against errors of every kind is reason. I have never used any other, and I trust I never shall.” (Thomas Paine)

“It’s useless to hold a person to anything he says while he’s in love, drunk, or running for office.” (Shirley MacLaine)

“If I read a book and it makes my whole body so cold no fire can ever

warm me, I know that is poetry.” (Emily Dickinson)

“Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.” (John Dewey)

“Even if you are on the right track you will get run over if you just stand there.” (Will Rogers)

“When the people fear the govern-

ment, there is tyranny. When the government fears the people, there is liberty.” (Thomas Jefferson)

“When two people today engage in an argument, each tends to spend half of his time and energy not in producing evidence to support his point of view but in looking for the hidden motives which are causing his opponent to hold his.” (W.H. Auden)