

Orlando * Winter Park BRANCHLINE

DECEMBER PROGRAM



Holiday Gift Sale
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2013
10 am to noon

Come to a Holiday Gift Boutique featuring jewelry, hand sewn accessories, candles, photography, cards, books, silver and fashion accessories.

GENERAL MEETING

SATURDAY

December 14, 2013

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 Contact:
Rosemary Vendena
407-282-1023
rovendena@hotmail.com

Make checks payable to
Orlando/Winter Park AAUW
and mail to:

Rosemary Vendena
291 Isle of Sky Circle
Orlando, FL 32828

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

From the President's Desk



The book *Christmas with the First Ladies* has officially put me in a festive mood. When you think about it, the task of creating holiday magic in the White House has given many first ladies the opportunity to influence the world through their choos-

ing of a unique and appropriate Christmas theme for the year, decorating style, as well as the sharing of traditions and recipes. And on that note, I was surprised that my mother's Christmas cranberry salad mold was the exact recipe as Lady Bird Johnson's.

In the spirit of holiday magic, Jean Walker has festively orchestrated a fabulous Holiday Boutique for our December 14 meeting with many interesting vendors for our shopping pleasure. Come prepared to do some serious shopping for yourself or others on your "list." Since there will not be a business meeting, we will have ample time for merriment and holiday cheer. Also, if you have not done so already, please remember your

"miracle box" — it means so much to the girls at PACE.

Before 2013 becomes a faded memory, words cannot adequately express my gratitude to all of you for your tireless efforts, generous contributions, innovative ideas and enthusiasm that has made our branch a wonderful organization where we can not only passionately work to break through barriers so that all women have a fair chance, but nurture an environment where members can learn, discuss issues of the day, and build friendships through our many interest groups. You have made my job as president a real pleasure. I thank you for playing an integral role in our branch and look forward to continuing to move AAUW's mission forward into 2014.

Wishing all of you peace and joy this holiday season! Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, and Happy Holidays to my AAUW sisters!

Myra Gaziano, President



I wish to send out my very deeply felt thanks to all the members who gave contributions of money or food for the scrumptious Thanksgiving Luncheon that Orlando/Winter Park AAUW gave for the students, parents and staff at PACE Orange on Thursday, November 21. The room was overflowing with love, appreciation and great thanksgiving. Thank you doesn't express it all but they are the only words I have.

Many, many thanks also for the number of Miracle Boxes which were brought to the November general meeting. If you did not bring your donation at that time, please be sure to bring it to the December meeting on the 14th. If you need to have your Miracle Box picked up, please call

Barbara Knapp at 407-282-5449. You may also take it to your Booklover's meeting and have your leader call me for pick up. We need 50+ so your donation is much needed. They will be distributed on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20 at 12 noon and you are invited to come and participate.

Next month I will list the many wonderful things happening at PACE - one of which is the great impact the APEX virtual school classes are having. One young lady has been able to pick up an additional three credits to those she is earning in class this semester. It's a wonderful way for the students to make up lost credit and catch up with their grade.

**Barbara Knapp
PACE Liaison**

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER:

Linda Dowdell
lsdowdell@yahoo.com
 University of Florida, BA, El. Ed. 1967
 Rollins College, MA, Ed. 1975



Report from the Finance Director

Because our *Holiday Boutique* fundraising event this month will provide a generous donation to the EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FUND, I will highlight that fund for December.

Education and equality of opportunity for girls and women is such a general topic, it is daunting to think of how we, as individuals, can make a difference. However, we have done just that — right here in Central Florida!



The donations we make individually help fund the highly successful Tech Trek camps to encourage girls' interest and achievement in the STEM curriculum. When you make a tax-deductible donation to the EDUCA-

TIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FUND #4336, you may specify your donation to Tech Trek.

In addition to Tech Trek, there are hundreds of endowed fellowships funding important works. Dr. Linda Walters, UCF professor who presented her outstanding program to the Branch in May 2013, was a recipient of an AAUW Fellowship for her work on marine conservation and community engagement. What a wonderful thing we have done for ourselves when we fund such impressive work.

If you want to include donations to AAUW funds in your year-end tax planning, preaddressed envelopes and donation forms will be at the check-in table this month and every month.

Rosemary Vendena

If you hear of any member who is ill, undergoing surgery, has experienced a loss, etc., please let our corresponding secretary know so that a card can be sent on a timely basis.



Contact: Linda Dunlap
Ldunlap@earthlink.net

We are sad to report that Joyce Folsom's mother passed away on November 11. Comforting thoughts go out to Joyce and her family.

Calendars

Don't forget to bring any new 2014 calendars to the December AAUW meeting. Interest group members please funnel these calendars to AAUW sisters (and you know who you are) who will steer them into the hands of Lynda Hincley. She will distribute them to Winter Park residents on fixed incomes in various



assisted housing locations. All will be distributed in early January, therefore, donations cannot be accepted after January 10. Thank you for this small contribution which typically involves no cost to members and is so valuable to those in need. It also reduces trash in our landfills.

Linda Hincley

Scholarships

Scholarship applications will be accepted through the deadline, March 1, 2014. More information and the application are on the branch website (www.aauworlwp.org). The committee is especially interested in applicants majoring in the STEM areas: science, technology, engineering or math.

Karen Buchan

OFFICERS / EXECUTIVE & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Recording Secretary Debbie Raczek (General Meetings) debbieaczek@bellsouth.net	Hospitality Dee Smith deedadocent@aol.com
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Branch Historian Emily Hartmeyer Emily.hartmeyer@gmail.com	Newsletter Mailer Karen Deo Karen.deo@gmail.com



Wednesday, December 20, 2013
 All are invited to PACE
 PACE girls open miracle boxes!

Saturday, January 25, 2014
 Student Union, UCF campus
 Elect Her! is coming again to UCF and our branch is ready to help! Please let me know if you can volunteer to register participants in the morning for about 1 hour. Contact Dr. Maria Cristina Santana at Santana@ucf.edu

Monday, Feb. 3, 2014
 Maitland Public Library
Ol' Man on a Mountain by Stuart Omans will be a selection on the next Booklovers' ballot. Professor Omans will be speaking about his book, an entertaining memoir of the summer Stu and wife Jan bought a home in the mountains of North Carolina. Time of the event will be announced later.

Saturday, March 8, 2014 at 11:30 a.m.
 Annual Literary Luncheon
 Speaker: Richard Lapchick, human rights activist and pioneer for racial and gender equality in sports. More details to come.

Interest Groups



Through the holiday season many of our interest groups choose to party instead of “meet” or simply cancel regular meetings in order to devote themselves to family obligations and house-guests. Some groups will perform targeted philanthropic projects. I know many of us will enjoy watching the PACE girls unwrap the miracle boxes we have prepared for them. Those of us who never had teenage girls will especially enjoy shopping for them. Next month I hope to report on some of our non-routine holiday adventures, so be sure to share. Meanwhile enjoy the madness!

Martha Williamson

Booklovers: Coordinator (8 groups) Ellen James (407-857-0044) jamese3@bellsouth.net

Bridge Group: Resumes in January, 2014 if there is enough interest

Current Issues: Co-Chairs Juanita Blumberg (407-327-0398) juanitablu@yahoo.com and Martha Williamson 407 677-1186 Bibliamor@aol.com

Dining-In Group: Chair Dee Fuentes (407-629-0865) dfuentes1@cfl.rr.com

Dining-Out Group: Chair Pat Stamm (407-971-0565) patsnpans@yahoo.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

Garden Group: Chair Ann Winn (407 831-9685) harriswinn@hotmail.com

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

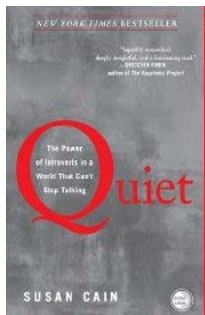
Museums/Galleries Group: Co-Chairs Shay Silver (407-628-1023) Shaydsilver@gmail.com and Diane Kennedy (407-834-3992) kennedd@aol.com

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 (407 790-7635) (321 276-9416) mariaormary@gmail.com

Walking Group: Chair Lois Kolski 407 352-1146 lkolski@aol.com

Booklovers



In December, a book was not chosen for Booklovers. Instead, each group has a social event of its own choosing. Some go out to lunch, some have lunch in. All Booklovers resume reading in January. The book for January is *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Won't Stop Talking* by Susan Cain.

A brief hint about that book:

“At least a third of the population is considered introverted. Though often labeled ‘quiet,’ we owe them for many of our greatest contributions to society. An indispensable read for anyone who aims to understand the introverted. Obviously those of us who are introverted would also like to be better understood.”

Ellen James

Interest Groups

(Continued)

Dining Out

For information on this group's upcoming dining out days and locations, contact Pat Stamm. (407-971-0565)
patsnpans@yahoo.com

Dining In

Meets on Dec. 6. (7-10) at the home of Myra Gaziano. RSVP to Myra at gazianomyra@yahoo.com
Chair: Dee Fuentes (407-629-0865)
dfuentes1@cfl.rr.com

Current Issues

Current Issues Discussion Group will not meet in December. Check the Branchline for the next meet-up in January. Contact Juanita Blumberg for additional info.

Juanitablu@yahoo.com or
407 327-0398.

Foreign Affairs

Jo-Ann McCaffrey 407-841-3640
JoAnnRoux327@gmail.com

No meeting in December

TOPIC: Threat Assessment

DAY: Sunday, January 19, 2014

TIME: 2 p.m.

PLACE: Home of Jocelyn Deprez

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Foreign Films

Foreign Films will not be meeting in November.

Next movie will be on Monday, December 30.

Walking Group

The Walking Group will meet at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 12, 2013 in the Gift Shop at Bok Towers and Gardens, 1151 Tower Blvd, Lake Wales FL 33853. We will visit the Pinewood Estate at 11 a.m., join the guided tour of the Gardens at 11:45 a.m., and have lunch at approximately 1 p.m. in the Blue Palmetto Cafe. The charge for the combined tour of Pinewood Estate and Gardens is \$20.00 but you may tour the Gardens only for \$12.00. There is a \$3.00 discount for AAA members. More specific information will be sent out at the end of November to those on the Walking Group Contact List, at which time an RSVP will be requested. If you wish to be added to this contact list or have questions about the group, contact Lois Kolski at lkolski@aol.com, or call 407 352 1146

Bridge

Beginners Bridge met on Thursdays during the summer. During the last session, the ladies were introduced to Mah Jongg, a game to which they quickly became addicted. They are now playing Mah Jongg every Thursday; however, several of them are still interested in bridge.

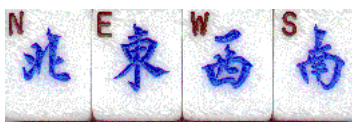
Please contact Karen Deo or Linda Fessel (see their contact info under Mah Jongg on this page) if you are interested in playing bridge and what your skill level is. If there are at least four interested beginners, Linda will start another class in January. We hope we can get a game going with intermediate players as well. We will contact you at that time with more details.

Mah Jongg

Co-chairs: Karen Deo(407-679-6186)
Karen.deo@gmail.com; and
Linda Fessel (407-677-0317)
Lfessel@embarqmail.com

BEGINNERS WELCOME

Contact Linda or Karen for more information on this new group.



From the Nov. 9 General Meeting
Speaker: Karen Castor Dentel



From our Members

When someone says "Festival of Lights," the Jewish celebration of Channukah comes to mind. But for millions of Hindus, the Festival of Lights, known as Diwali, signifies the end of the harvest season and is the last major celebration before winter.

Three AAUW members (Aruna Moidu, Karen Deo and Linda Fessel) celebrated Diwali at the home of Rana Tiwari. Like the American Thanksgiving, food was the centerpiece, featuring a dazzling array of vegetarian dishes. In consideration of more delicate palates, our hostess even separated the dishes into spicy and not-spicy. (Linda headed right to the children's table!)

There was singing, dancing and other entertainment provided by the guests.



Linda and Aruna

Recollections From the Past

After teaching high school for over a year, Dorothy Blair enlisted in the Navy in Nov. 1943. She left Boise, Idaho, on Jan. 1, 1944 for Hunter College (Boot Camp) in New York City, where she auditioned and was chosen for the Singing Platoon. None other than Leopold Stokowski directed them in their graduation program.

From there, Dorothy was sent to Aerial Gunnery School at Pensacola, where she learned to handle all sorts of guns, including 30- and 50-cal. machine guns in turrets, and operate two 16-mm projectors while instructing other gunners.

After finishing that, four ex-teachers in her class were picked to go to the ABTU (Air Bombers Training Unit) at NAS Banana River, Florida, at a new program for WAVES, to learn how to use and instruct the Norden Bombsight.

While waiting for the next class to begin, she was put through a short

course and taken up in an SNB, a plane that had a Plexiglas nose where the bombsight was located when it wasn't locked in a vault. It was all very hush-hush in those days.

Dorothy became the first Navy WAVE to drop a bomb (even though it was only a practice one) from a plane. The target was a big circle painted on the sand at Cape Canaveral.

A few years ago, the Norden Company presented Dorothy with a miniature bombsight encased in acrylic. The inscription paid tribute to her being "on target."

Joining the WAVES had other benefits for Dorothy. She met and married K.C. Baier and had their first child at NAS Banana River. (That first child was AAUW member Karen Deo.)

[Excerpted from the *Whidbey News-Times*, Oak Harbor, Washington, ca. 2004.]



Above: Dorothy Blair (now Baier) follows classmate Martha Fugate onto a Beechcraft SNB for their historic bombing run.
Below: A Norden rep presents Dorothy a miniature bombsight as a memento of her adventure.



December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 1:30—3:30 Booklovers I	4 1:30—3:30 Booklovers VII	5 1—4 Mah Jongg 7—10 Booklovers III	6 7—10 p.m. Dining In	7
8	9 11:30—1:30 Dining Out	10 1-3 B-Lovers VI	11 11:15—1:15 B-Lovers II	12 a.m.—p.m. Walking Grp. 1:00 - 4:00 Mah Jongg 7 - 10 p.m. B-Lovers VIII	13	14 9—noon Holiday Boutique
15	16	17 1 - 3:30 B-Lovers V	18 1 - 3:30 B-Lovers IV	19 1:00 - 4:00 Mah Jongg	20 PACE Miracle Box Opening	21
22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28
29	30	31 New Year's Eve				

JANUARY 2014

Wed. 1 New Year's Day
 Thurs. 2 Booklovers III (7-10 p.m.)
 Thurs. 2 Mah Jongg (1-4)
 Tues. 7 Booklovers I (1:30 -3:30)
 Wed. 8 Booklovers II (1—3:30)
 Wed. 8 Booklovers VII (1:30—3:30)
 Thurs. 9 Walking (all day)
 Thurs. 9 Mah Jongg (1—4)
 Thurs. 9 Booklovers VIII (7-10 p.m.)
 Fri. 10 Dining In (7-10)

Sat. 11 General Meeting (9-11:30)
 Mon. 13 Dining Out (11:30—1:30)
 Tues. 14 Booklovers VI (1—3)
 Wed. 15 Booklovers IV (1—3:30)
 Thurs.. 16 Mah Jongg (1—4)
 Thurs. 16 AAUW Board Meeting (3-5)
 Sun. 19 Foreign Affairs (2-5)
 Mon. 20 Current Issues (10:30—1:30)
 Tues. 21 Booklovers V (1:30—3:30)
 Thurs. 23 Mah Jongg (1-4)
 Mon. 27 Foreign Films (1-4)
 Thurs. 30 Mah Jongg (1-4)

AAUW Orlando/Winter Park BRANCHLINE
c/o Karen Deo
3901 Orange Lake Drive
Orlando, FL 32817



**“...because
EQUITY IS STILL
AN ISSUE.”**

AAUW and the AAUW Educational Foundation

MISSION: To advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research. AAUW, founded in 1881, is open to all graduates who hold an associate's or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university. 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.

Advocating for Women and Girls

Equity is the legal right of all women and girls. AAUW frames and fosters factual, in-depth, objective dialogue among legislators and change-makers that results in political, institutional and legal support for women's equity in all areas of life and work.

For more information about AAUW, call the HELPLINE, 1-800-326-2289, Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST or go online: helpline@aauw.org