



## Orlando \*\*\* Winter Park Branchline



HIT THE ROAD TWIG!  
THE BRANCH IS  
B A C K !!

### WELCOME BACK ANNA ESKAMANI



Born and raised in Orlando, Representative Anna V. Eskamani, the daughter of working-class immigrants, has a proven track record in building consensus while fighting unapologetically for progressive

values. Anna previously served as the Senior Director of Public Affairs and Communications for Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida and is a PhD student studying Public Affairs at the University of Central Florida. On November 6, 2018, Anna was elected to serve the great people of House District 47 with a vote margin of 57% to 43%, flipping a legislative seat, and becoming the first Iranian-American elected to any public office in Florida. During her first two legislative sessions, Anna fought hard to increase funding for arts and culture, pushed back against anti-LGBTQ legislation, voted to preserve the environment 100% of the time, and to increase access to healthcare. Tough, authentic and unafraid, Anna has been recognized across the state and nation for her tireless work during the COVID-19 outbreak. She continues to call on the state demanding more testing, immediate benefits for the hundreds of thousands struggling to receive unemployment, and for equitable small business relief. Heading into her November re-election bid, she continues to build collective power and advocate in support of Florida's hardworking families.

### GENERAL MEETING

**Saturday  
September 12, 2020**

**Time:** 10:15 a.m. to 11:40

**Place:** Your couch, chair, bed

**Cost:** \$0

(Bring your own coffee, tea, juice, donuts, yogurt, fruit, breakfast burrito, etc.)

Brought to you by **ZOOM**

You will receive your email invitation about one week before the General Meeting.  
DO NOT click on the http address until the morning of the meeting.



**We are now living  
in a ZOOM world!  
Don't be left behind.  
Get on board.**

## From the President



Dear Members,

Welcome back. We are literally zooming into the 2020-2021 season of our Branch activities. After 92 year of doing it in the conventional face-to-face fashion, we are embarking on a new virtual reality for our monthly Saturday morning meetings, interest groups, and other events. The

new ways of virtual Zoom meetings are easy but take a little practice to be able to enjoy them. Because we still carry on the legacy of being the “high IQ gals” noted in the 1952 *Orlando Sunday Sentinel-Star* article, a tutorial on Zoom participation will be offered by some of our Branch’s Zoom “experts” on September 9, at 3 p.m. There are hundreds of tutorials available on line, and further instructions will be sent via e-mail blast.

Karen Gillett, Vice-President for Programs, and member Adrienne Katz have arranged for two timely programs for September and October. In September, Representative Anna Eskamani will be our speaker, and in October, a member from the League of Women Voters—Orange County—will present the pros and cons of the amendments that will be on the November ballot. We will invite other Florida Branches to our Zoom meeting for Rep. Eskamani’s presentation, and it will be posted on the AAUW-FL website at <https://vimeo.com/aauwflorida>.

Although there are numerous issues that concern our members, AAUW has identified six key issues for 2020:

1. Voting access,
2. Pay equity,
3. Paid sick and family leave,
4. College affordability,
5. Campus sexual harassment and violence, and
6. Healthcare access and reproductive rights.

AAUW has resources to help inform members:

- The 2020 Voter Issue Guide provides nonpartisan information about the policy concerns that are critical to women and their families.
- The Federal Election Head to Head Voter Guide Template can be used for comparing congressional candidates’ positions on AAUW issues such as economic security, education, and civil rights.
- The Head to Head Voter Guide Template focuses on state elections and is being revised by AAUW-FL to reflect specific Florida issues.

It is important that our votes be counted and that we do this safely by mail ballot or observing the CDC guidelines if you go to the polls. As we celebrate the centennial of passage of the 19th Amendment (1920), we recall a long struggle to get there; but it has been even longer for African-Americans (1965), Native Americans (1948) and Chinese-Americans (1943). Voting is a right and a privilege.

### Critical Dates for **Get Out The Vote** For the November Election

**October 5:** Last day to register to vote or update your voter registration.

**October 24:** Last day to apply for a mail-in-ballot.

**October 24-31:** Early voting; however, check with your county Supervisor of Elections.

**November 2:** Find your polling place. If you prefer to vote in person, be sure to check your polling place. Many were moved in the primary because of Covid-19.

**November 3: 7 p.m.** Deadline to return your mail-in-ballot. Complete your ballot and send it back as soon as possible to avoid mail delays. For more information, go to: <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections>.

*Leslie Sue Lieberman, Ph.D.*

President, AAUW Orlando/Winter Park Branch  
Professor Emerita UCF

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### VOTER INTIMIDATION

Voter intimidation is illegal and unlikely. But this is what it looks like—and what you can report:

- Aggressive questioning about voting qualifications
- People falsely presenting themselves as election officials
- False information about voting requirements
- Harassment, especially targeting non-English speakers and voters of color

You can report intimidation to the Election Protection Hotline:  
**1-866-OUR-VOTE**



## PACE



### PACE CENTER FOR GIRLS – ORANGE

PACE is most in need of the following items:

Please help if you can.

Food pantry: All non-perishables

Toiletry Closet: Soap, socks, pads, and deodorant

School supplies: Composition notebooks, journals, pencils, spiral notebooks and poster board

If you want to deliver items directly to the school, call first: 407-992-0456, or call Karen Buchan: 407-678-1212, and she will arrange to pick-up and deliver your donations.

*Karen Buchan*

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## Scholarships



The scholarship committee reviewed the 13 applications for our AAUW Endowed Valencia College Foundation Scholarship and chose to divide the \$1400 allocation among three well-deserving women. Jasmine, Melinda, and Pennie are pursuing either an Associates or Bachelor's

Degree in Business. Their well-composed and thoughtful essays described how this scholarship would help them at Valencia. They shared their educational goals and career aspirations, and all three have above a 3.5 GPA.

Again, my sincere gratitude to the Committee for their time and talent in assisting with the selection of these scholarship recipients. THANK YOU: Barbara Knapp, Judy Chatelain, Ellen James, Sherry Kragler and Sue McDonald.

*Karen Buchan*

## VP Membership



September is our membership event, and this year I am thrilled that we are holding it on Zoom. Invite your friends to join us.

Our speaker is Florida Representative Anna Eskamani (see her bio on page 1). A brief general meeting will follow Anna's talk. Looking forward to seeing all of you and your friends for our first virtual brunch. Bring mimosas and log in. Not sure how to become a participant? Just contact Anne Coppenhaver (ccoppenhaver@me.com), Linda Fessel (LFESSEL@embarqmail.com), Phyllis Hall (phylliscath814@gmail.com) or Maria Bonnet (marpazbonnet@gmail.com) for a few minutes of individual instruction. You'll be a pro in no time. Then join the Branch for a "test run" on Wednesday, September 9 at 3 p.m. Watch for an invitation on your email.

*Maria Bonnet*

**What is happening?  
Humans are all wearing muzzles.**



**3rd Day of  
Home School**

**Does anyone  
know how long  
toilet paper will  
last if you freeze  
it?**



## Interest Groups



Anne Coppenhaver, our new Interest Group Chair, has agreed to support the interest group chairs as they navigate their way through this Zoom/virtual period.

Her contact information is 832-704-2854 (cell) or ccoppenhaver@me.com.

*Anne Coppenhaver*  
Interest Group Chair

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### Booklovers:

Our AAUW year is off to a great start and Booklovers are leading the advance. We are encouraging all Booklovers Groups to meet each month, and we recommend meeting on Zoom until such time as we are comfortable meeting in person.

If you would like to learn how to participate in or host a Zoom meeting, contact Anne Coppenhaver at ccoppenhaver@me.com. She'll teach you the skills you need. Watch for an email from Anne giving directions for connecting to Zoom.

**See next page for more Booklovers information.**

*Ellen James*

Booklovers Coordinator  
(ellenjames54@gmail.com)

**Cooking Globally:** Will not meet until it is safe to do so. For more information, contact Adrienne Katz at katzaid@yahoo.com

**Couples Dining Party** (Formerly Dining Couples) will not meet until it is safe to do so.

For more information, contact Eileen Garrison at 407-620-9703 or Robbi Willenkin at 407 960 4151.

**Current Issues:** Meets monthly on the 3rd Monday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you wish to participate in Current Issues, please contact Marcy Kysilka at kysilka@bellsouth.net or 321-972-5315 and let her know so she can contact you to set up a schedule of meeting times and topics.

**Dining In:** Normally meets monthly on the first Friday. Contact Jane Rosen for more information about this group: 321-295-7689 or mjcrozen@hotmail.com.

Our Dining In Group is going to Zoom meetings for the rest of the year. Our actual meetings ended in February. The meal hosts will be the members who did not get a chance to host a meeting in March, April, May or June. We will develop our 2021 schedule to start in January. Our plan is for the host of the month to select a theme. Each member will then submit a recipe for that theme to me. I will distribute the recipes to everyone before the meeting. Ginny will host all the Zoom meetings but the Hostess of Month will be:

September 4, 2020 - Ginny Gillmer  
October 2, 2020 - Dee Fuentes  
November 6, 2020 - Sherry Levy  
December 4, 2020 - Adrienne Katz

**Dining Out (at night):** Dining Out will not meet until it is safe to do so. For more information, contact Susan Hoke at (407-637-6857) or shoke5581@gmail.com

**Exploring Central Florida (ECF):** ECF met via Zoom to plan upcoming visits. We hope to have the first (outdoor) "exploration" in November. To be added to the contact list, please contact co-chairs Linda Fessel at lfessel@embarqmail.com or Christine Porter at portercl7166@gmail.com. Participation in last year's excursions does not guarantee your place on the new email contact list. The old list has been deleted. You MUST contact Linda or Christine to get on the new list.

**Foreign Affairs:** The Foreign Affairs Group will meet via Zoom on September 27, at 2 p.m.

Topic: ***Artificial Intelligence and data.*** Hanna Kruczek will moderate the discussion. For more information contact: D Fuentes, chair: tucu662@gmail.com

**Foreign Films:** Foreign Films will not meet until it is safe to do so. For more information about place, time, and location (or to be added to the email list), contact Linda Fessel at LFessel@embarqmail.com

**Lunching Out:** will not meet until it is safe to do so. For more information about place, time, and location (or to be added to the email list), contact Linda Fessel at LFessel@embarqmail.com

## Interest Groups

(Cont'd)

**MahJongg:** will not meet until it is safe to do so. Some of our members have been playing on-line. For more information, contact

Linda Fessel: LFessel@embarqmail.com or

Karen Deo: Karen.deo@gmail.com

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### More on Booklovers

**Booklovers I:** B-L I normally meets on the second Tuesday at 1 p.m. Because Susan Hoke, leader of B-L I, is at home recovering from a broken femur, the members of B-L I have been invited to participate in the Zoom meeting of B-L VIII. (*We heard that there were some plans in the works to hold the discussion at a member's home. ed.*) Contact Susan for more information: (407) 637 6857).

**Booklovers II:** meets the first Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. The September meeting (9/2) will be B-L II's first meeting on Zoom. If you would like to join this discussion of *A Woman of No Importance*, call Linda Fessel to request a Zoom meeting invitation.

**Booklovers III: (aka Booklovers Lite):** meets the 4th Wednesday of the month. Next "Lite" meeting will be Zoomed on Wednesday, Sept. 23, at 1 p.m. Interested in joining us? Contact Karen Deo at Karen.deo@gmail.com

**Booklovers IV:** meets Friday, September 18, at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom. They will be reading *A Woman of No Importance* by Sonia Purnell. If you would like to join this discussion, contact Phyllis Hall to request a Zoom meeting invitation.

**Booklovers V:** Booklovers V has been meeting via Zoom since May. Since the May meeting went so well, they added two meetings, one in July and one in August. B-L V will conduct its September 22 meeting via Zoom also.

**Booklovers VI:** meets the second Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. B-L VI will be meeting on Tuesday, 9/8 via Zoom. If another Booklover wants to join us because she can't join her assigned gathering, then call Missy at (407) 346-6561 to request a Zoom meeting invitation to *A Woman of No Importance* by Sonia Purnell.

**Booklovers VII:** will meet on Zoom the first Wednesday of the month (Sept. 2) at 1 p.m. B-L VII will be discussing the *Little Paris Bookshop* and thereafter, if all goes well, will proceed with the regular schedule.

**Booklovers VIII:** is inviting Booklovers I to join their Zoom meeting on Sept. 2 at 10 a.m. Anne Copenhaver is their Group Leader and she will be sending you an invitation for this Zoom Event. The book for September is *A Woman of No Importance* by Sonia Purcell. Try to find a copy of the book and join in the conversation.

**Booklovers IX:** will meet on Zoom the first Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. The group has selected Dani Shapiro's book *Inheritance* for September rather than *A Woman of No Importance* which many of their members had already read. Let Lynda Hinckley know if you want an invitation (which will be sent by Maria Bonnet). Lynda read the book last year and thought it was very thought-provoking and should encourage a lot of conversation about fitting in and belonging. "A fascinating read."

**Booklovers X:** plans to meet via Zoom on Thursday, Sept. 17, at 1:30. They are reading *A Woman of No Importance*.

### WANTED!

**Fabulous author/speaker for the  
2021 AAUW Literary Luncheon!**

**All suggestions are welcome.**

**Please forward to Myra Gaziano:  
gazianomyra@yahoo.com**

It's anyone's guess when we'll be able to meet face-to-face again. But your program committee would still like to bring in speakers. This Zooming thing has suddenly opened up the whole world to us. We don't need to find speakers in our own backyard. If you know someone who could speak to us via Zoom (from any zip code or time zone), please contact Program Chair Karen Gillett. They could pick their own day, date, and time but would have to provide their own coffee. (ed.)

# SEPTEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1  <b>2-3 p.m. ZOOM Host Training</b>	2  <u>10 a.m.</u> B-Lovers VIII <b>ZOOM</b>  <u>10 a.m.</u> B-Lovers IX <b>ZOOM</b>  <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers II <b>ZOOM</b>  <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VII <b>ZOOM</b>	3	4  <u>12 noon</u> Dining In <b>ZOOM</b>	5
6	7  <b>LABOR DAY</b>	8  <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers I  <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VI <b>ZOOM</b>	9  <b>3 p.m. ZOOM Test Run</b>	10  <b>1-3 Board Mtg. ZOOM</b>	11	12  <b>10:15 a.m. General Meeting ZOOM</b>
13	14	15	16	17  <u>1:30</u> B-Lovers X <b>ZOOM</b>	18  <u>10:30 a.m.</u> B-Lovers IV <b>ZOOM</b>  Rosh Hashana begins at sun- down	19
20	21  <u>10-1</u> Current Issues ??	22  <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers V <b>ZOOM</b>  Autumn Begins	23  <u>1 p.m.</u> Booklovers III ("Lite") <b>ZOOM</b>	24	25	26
27  <u>2 p.m.</u> Foreign Affairs <b>ZOOM</b>  Yom Kippur be- gins at sundown	28	29	30			

Remember all those times when you wished the weekend would last forever? Well, wish granted. Happy now?

If you believe all this will end and we will get back to normal just because we reopen everything, raise your hand.  
Now slap yourself with it.