

Orlando *** Winter Park Branchline



DO THE FLORIDA AMENDMENTS LEAVE YOU CONFUSED AND READY TO TEAR YOUR HAIR OUT?

If you vote YES, does that mean you're actually against it? If you vote NO, does that mean you're actually for it? Don't despair. Help is on its way.

AAUW Members Adrienne Katz Katz and Anne Coppenhaver will explain it all (except the hair—that's your problem.)



See their bios on the next page.

GENERAL MEETING

Saturday October 10, 2020

Time: 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

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 had a good turnout for our September General Meeting with speaker Florida Representative Anna Eskamani.

If you still need assistance using Zoom, please contact Linda Fessel at LFESSEL@embarqmail.com or Maria Bonnet at marpazbonnet@gmail.com. We will work with you one on one.

Adrienne Katz and Anne Coppenhaver are our speakers for the October 10 General Meeting. Here is some information about each of them.

Adrienne E. Katz Katz is a lifelong Floridian, born and raised in Miami, Florida. She has visited Orlando since the mid-1950s, and moved to Westminster Winter Park in 2015. She joined the non-partisan League of Women Voters of Orange County more than a decade ago and began its Speakers Bureau. The twenty-nine Leagues in Florida spoke to over 40,000 voters in past elections.

Adrienne has been politically active since high school, working on the campaign of John F. Kennedy; she has volunteered on behalf of candidates and marched for political causes ever since. She earned a Bachelor's degree in history from the University of Florida and a Master's degree in history from the University of Miami. She and her husband, Bill Katz, have traveled extensively.

Adrienne has taught at all levels of education and lectured to audiences from 9 to 99+ on Women's History, the importance of voting, and explaining non-partisan "translations" of issues on the current ballot. She worked as College-wide Director of Grants at Miami-Dade College, in fundraising at the University of Miami, as the first in-house Director of Marketing for a major Florida law firm, acted as a "Media Escort for Celebrities" and has written numerous articles in local, state, national and international publications. She has been an active member of AAUW for three years.

Anne Coppenhaver (née Charlotte Anne Powers) was born in the southwest of Virginia and reared in North Carolina. Duke University was the site of her higher education (B.A. in History, M.A.Ed. in Social Studies Education, and Ed.D. in Curriculum Development). Her working life was almost equally divided between public school teaching and administration (including 10 years as a high school principal in Texas) and university teaching. At the University of Houston Clear-Lake, during the last 19 years of her career, she both prepared social studies teachers and mentored prospective school principals. Preparing future citizens and supporting the people who do that preparatory work has been the focus of all aspects of her career.

Once she and her husband Dorian retired and moved to Westminster Baldwin Park 3 years ago, she has been active in the governance structure of her community, and, through Adrienne Katz, has become active in both the League of Women Voters of Orange County and AAUW. She is a member of the League's Government Committee, and, as the Chair for the varied AAUW Interest Groups, is an active member on the AAUW Board. Beginning in November, she will take her seat as an elected official in Baldwin Park on the Urban Orlando Community Development District.

2020 Orange County Charter Ballot Amendments Originated by the Orange County Charter Review Commission

Amendment Question 1

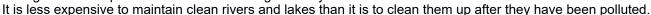
Prohibiting pollution of the Wekiva River, Econlockhatchee River and all other waters of Orange County.

Explanation: Amending the charter by providing charter protections for the natural rights of the Wekiva and Econlock-hatchee Rivers and all other Waters of Orange County by prohibiting pollution, providing a definition of Waters, providing a private right of action and standing for citizens of Orange County to enforce these protections against governmental agencies, non-natural persons or corporate entities that intentionally or negligently pollute the Waters, and providing for severability and exceptions.

VOTE YES IF YOU BELIEVE:

The citizens of Orange County have the right to clean water.

Rivers and lakes have the right to exist, flow and maintain a healthy ecosystem and citizens should have the right to sue to protect the waters of Orange County.



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VOTE NO IF YOU BELIEVE:

This Charter Amendment will negatively impact the local economy and slow down growth.

Orange County could be sued for polluting waters and such suits could be costly for the County.



The League of Women Voters of Orange County urges a yes vote Question 1.

Amendment Question 2 Protecting Split Oak Forest by restricting Board of County Commissioners' amendment of restrictions and covenants.

Explanation: Amending the charter by providing charter protections for Split Oak Forest by restricting the Board of County Commissioners' ability to amend, modify, or revoke the current restrictions and covenants running with the land, which limit the use of Split Oak Forest, in whole or in part, to conservation and the protection of its wildlife, vegetation, and environment as set forth in current agreements and restrictive covenants; and providing exceptions as provided by law.

VOTE YES IF YOU BELIEVE:

Split Oak Forest Wildlife and Environmental Area should be protected "in perpetuity," to protect endangered plants and animals from development and to provide citizens of Orange County protected natural forest lands within the county.



Orange County Commissioners should be prevented now and into the future from transferring control or ownership of Split Oak Forest conservation lands.

Future County Commissions should be limited in their ability to convert Split Oak Forest to other uses.

In a system where precedents are used to justify policy, then this amendment can be invoked to ensure protection for other conservation lands.

VOTE NO IF YOU BELIEVE:

Orange County Commissioners should be able to dispose of or change conservation lands to build roads and allow development through Split Oak Forest.



Orange County Commissioners are elected by voters, and therefore will respond appropriately and accurately to the expressed desires of citizens.

The League of Women Voters of Orange County urges a yes vote Question 2.

Amendment Question 3

Suspending time for gathering petition signatures during mandatory reviews and setting deadline for 1% notification.

Explanation: Shall the charter be amended by suspending the one hundred eighty (180) day time period for gathering signatures during mandatory reviews and procedures specified under Sec. 602.E. of the Charter and setting a ten (10) day deadline for the Supervisor of Elections to provide the 1% notification to the County Commission, the Comptroller and Legal Review Panel under Sec. 602.E.(1) of the Charter?

VOTE YES IF YOU BELIEVE:

Citizens should have the right to place an issue on the countywide ballot in case the Board of County Commissioners or the Charter Review Commission doesn't take action to put issues on the countywide ballot.

That a realistic and practical option for putting a citizen-initiated question on the countywide ballot is necessary.



That the 180-day period for gathering signatures for a citizen-initiated petition on a countywide ballot is short and difficult to accomplish.

That when signatures or language are being reviewed, that time should not count against the time allotted to gather sig-

(Note: The 1% notification is already embedded in the Charter.)

VOTE NO IF YOU BELIEVE:

Citizen-initiated petition ballot questions can be frivolous and further believe that the process should be challenging to have such questions placed on the ballot.

The Orange County Charter should be amended only by the Charter Review Commission which meets every four years or by the Orange County Board of County Commissioners.

That citizen-initiated petitions to put questions on the countywide ballot do not reflect the desires or opinions of most of Orange County citizens.

(Note: The 1% notification is already embedded in the Charter.)

The League of Women Voters of Orange County urges a yes vote Question 3.



VOTING TIPS FROM LESLIE

Stay Home, Stay Safe, Vote-By-Mail

Don't Make These 6 Mistakes

- 1. Improperly filling out your ballot—Follow instructions. Fill out on a flat, dry surface. Use black or blue ink. No stray marks.
- 2. Forgetting to sign your envelope.
- 3. Using a different signature from what the state has on file—You can update your signature by submitting a new voter-registration form or on your paper mail ballot application.
- 4. Not including required additional documentation— In addition to mailing back your ballot, some states require a copy of your Driver's license or a picture/signature document; some require a bill with your address on it to be included with your ballot. Some states require that your ballot have the signature of a witness. Florida does not require this. These are seen as methods of voter suppression when this additional documentation is required.
- 5. Not including postage stamps in the appropriate amount—Some states and counties include postage and some do not.
- 6. Sending your ballot back too late—Fill-out and mail back your ballot as soon as it is feasible to do so. Some states require delivery on election day, some postmarked by election day.

Until you do 30min+ of CPR in a plastic gown, N95, surgical mask, two pairs of gloves and a face shield, you should probably stop complaining about wearing some fabric on your face to the grocery store.













2020 Constitutional Amendments on Florida's Ballot

Amendment 1: Citizen Requirement to Vote in Florida Elections

This amendment provides that Only United States Citizens who are at least eighteen years of age, a permanent resident of Florida, and registered to vote, as provided by law, shall be qualified to vote in a Florida election. The Florida Constitution currently says Every citizen of the United States who is at least eighteen years of age and who is a permanent resident of the state may register and vote.

LWVFL Position: Oppose.

Amendment 3: All Voters Vote in Primary Elections for state Legislature, Governor and Cabinet

Allows all registered voters to vote in primaries for state legislature, governor, and cabinet regardless of political party affiliation. All candidates for an office, including party nominated candidates, appear on the same primary ballot. Two highest vote getters advance to general election. If only two candidates qualify, no primary is held and winner is determined in general election. Candidate's party affiliation may appear on ballot as provided by law. Effective January 1, 2024. LWVFL Position: Oppose.

Amendment 5: Limit on Homestead Exemption

Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution, effective date January 1, 2021, to increase, from 2 years to 3 years, the period of time during which accrued Save-Our-Homes benefits may be transferred from a prior homestead to a new homestead.

LWVFL Position: Oppose.

Amendment 2: Raising Florida's Minimum Wage

Raises minimum wage to \$10 per hour effective September 30th, 2021. Each September 30th thereafter, minimum wage shall increase by \$1 per hour until the minimum wage reaches \$15 per hour on September 30th, 2026. From that point forward, future minimum wage increases shall revert to being adjusted annually for inflation starting September 30th, 2027.

LWVFL Position: Support.

Amendment 4: Voter Approval of Constitutional Amendments

Requires all proposed amendments or revisions to the state constitution to be approved by the voters in two elections, instead of one, in order to take effect. The proposal applies the current thresholds for passage to each of the two elections.

LWVFL Position: Oppose.

Amendment 6: Ad Valorem Tax Discount for Spouses of Certain Deceased Veterans who had Permanent, Combat-related Disabilities

This would amend Section 6 of Article 7 of the Florida Constitution to allow a homestead property tax discount to be transferred to the surviving spouse of a deceased veteran. This would be in effect until the spouse remarries, sells or disposes of the property.

LWVFL Position: Oppose.

From the President



Dear Members:

October is the month for voting. It is urgent that you vote early. Let your vote be your voice. Do not wait. Mail in your carefully filled-in and signed ballot and, if needed, put on the required amount in stamps. Mail early

or drop it off at the post office, Supervisor of Elections, at early voting polling places or in special ballot mailboxes. If you wish to vote in person, follow the Centers for Disease Control COVID-19 guidelines. AAUW has recognized that the politicization of the USPS has slowed mail and that the enactment of disenfranchising voter identification laws and the purging of voter rolls have increased voter suppression and decreased voter access. Please get your friends and family to vote and vote for politicians who embrace the mission and values of AAUW and who will enact legislation ensuring gender equity and equity for all.

October is the month that officially starts 'the flu season' in Florida. We will face the emergent risk of the double whammy of COVID-19 and seasonal flu. Get your flu shot. It is unlikely that many of our members will be in the first wave of COVID-19 vaccine recipients when it becomes available. Stay safe—wear your mask, keep your distance, wash your hands, stay home and learn to Zoom. We do not want to lose any members. We look forward to seeing each other in person in the spring.

Happy Halloween!

Time for a new facemask!!



Leslie Sue Lieberman, Ph.D.

President, AAUW Orlando/Winter Park Branch
Professor Emerita UCF

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.

Our Branch has partnered with the League of Women Voters of Seminole County to offer these informative candidate Zoom forums from 7:30-9:00 p.m.

10/5/2020 —State House Districts 28, 29, 30

District 28 Pasha Baker --

Michael Riccio -- NPA

David Smith -- R

District 29 Tracy Kagan -- D

Scott Plakon -- R

Juan Rodriguez -- NPA

District 30 Bob Cortes -- R

Joy Goff-Marcil -- D

10/7/2020 Clerk of the Court and Comptroller

Grant Maloy -- R Kristina Renteria -- D

10/12/2020 Property Appraiser

David Johnson -- R Jeff Triplett -- NPA

10/19/2020 Sheriff

Paul Spike Hopkins -- D Dennis Lemma -- R

Denny's has a slogan, 'If it's your birthday, the meal is on us.' If you're in Denny's and it's your birthday...your life sucks!

The biggest lie you tell yourself is "I don't need to write that down. I'll remember it.

Tech Trek



Tech Trek is a math, science, and engineering summer camp for 7th grade girls run by the Florida AAUW. Individual AAUW chapters nominate and sponsor girls from their area. Last year, we picked two amazing girls, but the 2020 camp was cancelled due to Covid-

19. However, the girls we chose will have the opportunity to go next year, along with two other girls from our area.

We need your help on the STEM committee that selects these girls. The committee will interview and choose the girls that our chapter will sponsor for the Tech Trek camp. The girls we interview are outstanding, and it's a pleasure to talk with them about their interests and goals. If you'd like to be a part of this committee, please contact Hanna Kruczek: hkruczek@gmail.com, 321-287-9227.

We will start by sending letters to schools asking them to nominate students. The Florida Tech Trek committee will send us all the material we need. We have a number of contacts in the schools from last year which will make our life simpler. In February, we will interview the girls who are nominated by the teachers. I anticipate that we will conduct the interviews via phone or zoom.

We also need to approach businesses that may like to sponsor or contribute toward the sponsorship of the girls. If we get enough outside financial help, we may be able to send more girls to camp.

Please contact Hanna or go to https://techtrek-fl.aauw.net/2018-tech-trek-camp for more information about Tech Trek.

Hanna Kruczek

VP Membership





María Bonnet

Elizabeth Powers-Byrd

Welcome to our new members:

Geraldine Ossana (Geri)

user106688@aol.com Hunter College, B.S. Home Ec., 1956 Hunter College, M.S. Education, 1958

Deborah Kirkwood

dakucf@aol.com UCF, B.A., Comm., 1987 UCF, M.A., Comm., 2004

Other personal information (i.e., address, telephone numbers) for new and former members can be found on our website:

Orlando-FL.AAUW.net

This information is passworded under Members Only.

If you have forgotten the password,

Please contact Maria Bonnet at

marpazbonnet@gmail.com

BREAKING NEWS

Wearing a mask ⊕
inside your home is now
highly recommended.
Not so much to prevent
Covid-19 but to stop eating.

People are scared of getting fined or arrested for congregating in crowds, as if catching a deadly disease and dying a horrible death wasn't enough of a deterrent.

Keep in mind, even during a pandemic, no matter how much chocolate you eat, your earrings will still fit.

PACE

Anne Landrum reminds us not to forget the girls at PACE. Following are their wish lists. Please do what you can to help! Thanks.







It finally happened to me today. I knew it would eventually, but I was ready. I came out of Publix with my mask on and keeping six feet distance to everyone, pushed my cart to my car, all the while wearing my mask. A woman was getting out of her car next to me with no mask. As I'm putting my bags into my trunk she says, "Let me guess—you're a no brainer sissy. Cause that mask ain't gonna do anything for you except make you look stupid." In anticipation of this happening, because I figured it might someday, I already had a response ready. I said "Look, I woke up with a temperature of 102 this morning (I didn't) plus I work around hundreds of people in close quarters (I don't) so this is for your protection, not mine. How about I take it off and we hug like old friends?" I stepped toward her and acted as if I was taking off my mask. She stepped back away from me and went across to the next row of cars. I followed her. She kept walking away. I chased her. She ran. She fell down. I grabbed her foot. I pulled on her leg, just as I'm pulling yours. WEAR YOUR MASK PLEASE IN PUBLIC.

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

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.

Ellen James

Booklovers Coordinator (ellenjames54@gmail.com)

Booklovers: See the Calendar for individual meeting days and times.

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

<u>Couples Dining Party</u> (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.

<u>Current Issues</u>: 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.

<u>Dining In:</u> Normally meets monthly on the first Friday. Contact Jane Rosen for more information about this group: 321-295-7689 or mjcrosen@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:

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

<u>Dining Out (at night)</u>: 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 Ifessel@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 October 26 at 2 p.m. We will discuss *Modern Slavery*. For more information, please contact Delia Fuentes at tucu662@gmail.

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@embargmail.com

<u>Lunching Out</u>: 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

<u>MahJongg</u>: 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

On October 12, 1492, Christopher Columbus discovered America. He landed on the east coast of the Bahamas and was not more than 10,000 miles from where he thought he was.

OCTOBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 12 noon Dining In ZOOM	3
4	5	6 1:30—3 Board Meeting ZOOM	7 B-Lovers VIII ZOOM 10 a.m. B-Lovers IX ZOOM 1 p.m. B-Lovers II ZOOM 1 p.m. B-Lovers VII ZOOM 2 p.m. B-Lovers VII ZOOM	8	9	10 a.m. General Meeting ZOOM Check your email for link to enter meeting. Several reminders will go out.
11	12 Columbus Day	13 1 p.m. B-Lovers I 3:15 p.m. B-Lovers VI ZOOM	14	15 1:30 p.m. B-Lovers X ZOOM	16 10:30 a.m. B-Lovers IV ZOOM	17
18	19 10-1 Current Issues ??	20	21	22	23	24
25 2 p.m. Foreign Affairs ZOOM	26	27 1 p.m. B-Lovers V ZOOM	28 1 p.m. Booklovers III ("Lite") ZOOM	29	30	31 Halloween

I wish corona could've started in Las Vegas because what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas

If I had only known in March it would be my last time in a restaurant, I would have ordered dessert. They said a mask and gloves were enough to go to the grocery store.

They lied. Everybody else had clothes on.

