



Orlando *** Winter Park Branchline

APRIL PROGRAM

Speaker:

Deputy Chief Anthony (Tony) Raimondo



Deputy Chief (Tony) Raimondo has 25 years of Florida law enforcement experience. He is currently assigned as the Deputy Chief of Police for the Sanford Police Department. Deputy Chief Raimondo has served in numerous leadership positions within his department, including Patrol, Street Crimes, and Narcotics/Vice Unit. Deputy Chief Rai-

mondo has also held administrative leadership positions in Professional Standards, Training, and Tactical Operations.

Deputy Chief Raimondo has a Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Central Florida. His undergraduate degrees include Criminology and Law Enforcement Technology. He is also a graduate from the F.B.I. National Academy 260th Session and the 47th Session of The Command Officers Development Course through the Southern Police Institute, University of Louisville.

Deputy Chief Raimondo is a member of the national training team for Fair and Impartial Policing. As a member of the team, Deputy Chief Raimondo has become recognized as a leading authority on the impact of bias in police organizations. He has presented for the FBI National Academy, The International Association of Chiefs of Police, The Women's Leadership Institute and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.

Continued next page . . .

GENERAL MEETING

Saturday

April 10, 2021

Time: 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Place: Your couch, chair, bed

Cost: \$ 00.00

This event will be brought to you by ZOOM.

You will receive your email invitation about one week before the General Meeting with a follow-up email the night before or that morning.

DO NOT click on the http address until 15 minutes before the start of the meeting.



(continued from page 1)

Deputy Chief Raimondo has also trained numerous state and local law enforcement agencies on strategies to minimize the impact of bias in those organizations. In June 2015, Deputy Chief Raimondo was published in Police Chief's Magazine regarding implementation of Fair and Impartial Policing programs. Deputy Chief Raimondo is an adjunct faculty member for Seminole County Public Schools, Seminole State College and the University of South Florida. In 2012, he gained international notoriety as the responding officer who tried to save the life of Trayvon Martin after he was shot by self-appointed neighborhood watchman George Zimmerman. Deputy Chief Raimondo sealed Mr. Martin's wounds with a plastic grocery bag and did CPR for seven minutes until rescue units arrived.

Prior to entering law enforcement, Deputy Chief Raimondo served nine years in the United States Marine Corps as an infantryman at Camp LeJeune, NC and ANGLICO fire control team member at Camp Pendleton, CA. He attended Airborne and Ranger training at Ft. Benning, GA, and is a veteran of operations in Panama and the Persian Gulf War.

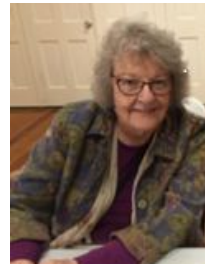
Deputy Chief Raimondo is a lifelong resident of Edgewater Florida and a graduate of New Smyrna Beach High School class of 1986. He has been married to his wife Jodi for 25 years. Together they live in Edgewater with their son Christian. Their oldest son John is currently serving in the Navy. The Raimondos spend their free time together enjoying coastal living and salsa dancing.

Co-VPs Finance



The 2021/2022 budget will be reviewed at the April 10 business meeting following the program. This budget draft has been reviewed by the finance committee. Thanks to the finance committee who reviewed and approved the original draft: Rosemary Vendena, Ann Winn, Pat Nichols and Debbie Travis. The board has approved the budget. Members will be asked to approve it at our meeting. If you would like a copy of the budget to review prior to the meeting, contact Phyllis Hall phylliscath814@gmail.com. The 2021/2022 budget is also available on the website under Finances in the Members Only section. [This section is password-protected, so if you don't remember the password, you will need to get it from Linda Fessel or Maria Bonnet.]

Phyllis Hall

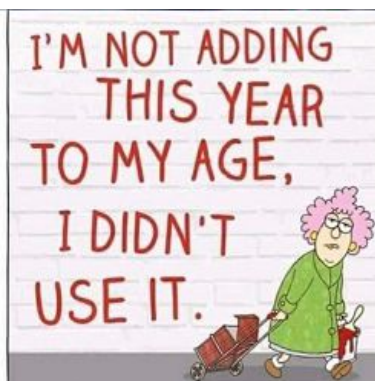


We raised \$2279 in donations from the virtual Literary Luncheon!

Special thanks go to AAUW member and speaker Anna Elias who generously donated her proceeds from book sales to our fundraiser.

Also, emails and written cards were sent to all those who contributed.

Ginny Gillmer



Contact Judy McDonald if you hear of any member who is ill, having surgery, experienced a loss, etc.

Judy McDonald
murran@bellsouth.net



From the President



Dear Branch Members,

It is time to 'Spring into Action.' The FL AAUW Leadership Conference is virtual this year—*Women Together in the Sunshine State*, April 16, 17, 18. You can register at: <https://aauf-fl.aauw.net/2021/02/02/leadership-conference/>. [See Page 8 for more

information.]

I am pleased to write that our Branch will be represented in a video presentation of a Power Point that I have put together based on pictures and other materials from our Pandemic Year of political activism with the Leagues of Women Voters of Orange and Seminole Counties and the Central FL International Black Women's Congress and our celebrations with the PACE Center for Girls.

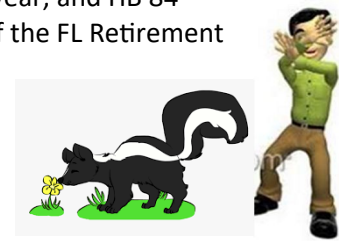
The 2-Minute Activist is a springboard to reach your legislators. You can sign-up at <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>. You will receive alerts to send written and formatted emails and texts to your legislators regarding bills and other actions on issues such as equal pay, family leave, stopping sexual harassment, equality in education, etc. Contact your Representatives and Senators about the Paycheck Fairness Act (PFA), the Equity Act, the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization Act of 2021 and also removing the deadline for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and the voting rights act titled, For the People Act of 2021 (H.R. 1).

Please make your voices heard. At the state level, there is an excellent fact sheet for each of the bills we are supporting or opposing. <https://files.constantcontact.com/46b8bc1e501/17af53a2-c35d-41ed-b36d-a248fad55ee5.pdf>. These are: SB 256 / HB 107 Discrimination in labor and employment, SB 180 / HB 275 Office of diversity, equity, and inclusion, SB 554 / HB 1303 Human trafficking education in schools, SB 812 / HB 523 Human trafficking survivors increased court protections, SB 808 / HB 875 Intelligence-led policing, SCR 500 / HCR 475 Equal rights for men and woman, SB 410 / HB 545 Materials harmful to minors- opposing this bill.

Two other bills that we must oppose are HB 1, the Combating violence, disorder and looting and law enforcement protection act, that curtails free-speech and has

passed the House and SB 90 that has many provisions that suppress the right to vote. There are also threats to the implementation of the minimum wage amendment passed by FL voters last year, and HB 84 threatens the integrity of the FL Retirement System.

Spring is in the air but what is blooming in Tallahassee is not the sweet fragrance of spring flowers. It is the stink of many of the politicians who oppose the values and mission of AAUW.

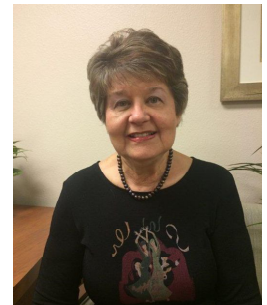


Leslie Sue Lieberman, Ph.D.

President, AAUW Orlando/Winter Park Branch
Professor Emerita UCF

Scholarships

The Scholarship Committee met on March 25 and is recommending that the Board approve \$6000 to award scholarships to seven amazing women. Six are at UCF; one is at Rollins; all are studying in STEM areas; one is pursuing a Master's Degree; the other six are working on a Bachelor's Degree. We received 22 applications this year – the most ever!



These outstanding young women are all very smart, motivated, accomplished, well-rounded...and the adjectives could go on and on + **four have a 4.0 GPA!** Look for more information in the May Branchline.

THANK YOU to our own dedicated members for reading all those applications and also for attending an in-person meeting: Barbara Knapp, Ellen James, Judy Chatelain, Sue McDonald and Sherry Kragler!

Karen Buchan

Scholarship Committee Chair

[The Board unanimously approved the \$6000 amount recommended by the Scholarship Committee. ed.]

From Our Members

Booklovers VI can now celebrate that every BL VI member received their full course of Covid vaccinations by our next gathering in April. We will meet at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, April 13, in person.



Booklovers X solved the problem of getting together during Covid by shifting its settings to outdoors. Adhering to safe-distancing recommendations, our group met outside at three members' homes (Suzy Kerr, Cynthia Pesch, and Georgiana Havill) and thrice in local parks: Mead Botanical Garden, Hannibal Square, and most recently, in the great egret-rookery-dotted Kraft Azalea Garden with Lake Maitland lapping the shoreline next to us. This last time, it was finally safe to go maskless within our closed circle. What a pleasure to see and really hear everyone.

If the last picture from Booklovers X bears a similarity to the first picture below, it's because **Exploring Central Florida (ECF)** and -BL-X both held their activities this month at the Kraft Azalea Garden.



How often do you get to see and hear a woodpecker?



We were fascinated watching one pair of large snowy egrets taking turns flying twigs from the ground back to the nest. But the fascination soon turned to shock

when it became apparent that the birds were also doing some spring cleaning. Raining down from the nest was an assortment of egg shells, dead shrimp, mummified frogs, desiccated lizards, and the final straw — a large gutted fish with its head still attached which glanced off Linda F's leg. With Passover mere weeks away, this simulacrum of an 11th plague was enough to send us packing up and fleeing to our cars. All in all—an e-great day!



PACE CENTER FOR GIRLS -- ORANGE



Special thanks to Diana Secor, Roberta Cooper, and the University Club of Winter Park

Thanks to Diana Secor for facilitating the donation of computers and other equipment from the University Club of Winter Park to PACE – Orange. PACE really appreciated getting the donation! Thanks also goes to Roberta Cooper who has

facilitated a cash contribution from the University Club of Winter Park. A big note of appreciation to both ladies who are UCWP and AAUW members for making the connection for the two organizations!

The PACE Believing in Girls Annual Breakfast was on March 30. AAUW was represented by Linda Hammersla,

Diane Willson, Karen Buchan, and President Leslie Lieberman who accepted the "Volunteer of the Year" award given to our AAUW Branch. This is a huge honor and a direct reflection of our year-round support of PACE. (See page 7 for a photo of 4 of our volunteers.) Hopefully this year, we will be able to resume our traditional Thanksgiving lunch and Holiday gift bags/brunch with the girls.

It is not too late to make a contribution to this annual fundraising event. An online donation can be made here: <https://www.pacecenter.org/locations/orange/believing-in-girls-benefit-breakfast>. Or a check made out to PACE Center for Girls can be mailed to: PACE Center for Girls, Inc. – Orange, 445 North Wymore Road, Winter Park, FL 32789. Please note your affiliation with AAUW on your check.

THANK YOU to all the members who have already sent a check or made a contribution online.

Karen Buchan

PACE Liaison and Board member

It's time to vote for our new officers

As of April 1, the slate of nominees is as follows:

Ginny Gillmer: Co-VP Finance

Pat Nichols: Secretary-Board Meetings

Linda Fessel: Secretary-General Meetings

NOMINATIONS are open for VICE PRESIDENT of PROGRAMS or Co- Vice Presidents of Programs.

These are two-year positions which run from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023.

Karen Gillett, who did an excellent job as our VP of Programs, convened a committee to help identify speakers—so you will have help! (Speakers are needed for 7 programs each year—Oct-Feb, April & May)

Send your name or nomination to Leslie Sue Lieberman at lsieberman@gmail.com or call 321-231-2007.

Voting will take place at the General Meeting on May 8.

VP Membership



Maria Bonnet



Elizabeth Powers-Byrd

It's time to renew our memberships! Here is the info and where to send the check since we can't hand it to Phyllis in person right now.

\$88 (National \$62; State \$12; Chapter \$14)

\$26 Life members (\$12 state; \$14 chapter)

Deadline June 30!!

Make check to: "AAUW-Orlando/Winter Park"

Mail check to:

Phyllis Hall

481 Forest Court

Altamonte Springs 32714

\$57 New Member

If someone joins as a result of attending a meeting, they get 50% off the National dues so their initial dues would be: **\$57** (\$31 National; \$12 state; \$14 chapter)

Interest Groups



Contact Anne Coppenhaver if you have any questions about our interest groups. Her contact information is 832-704-2854 (cell) or ccoppenhaver@me.com

Anne Coppenhaver
Interest Group Chair

Booklovers:

Most Booklovers are reading *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett this month but Booklovers VII will be reading *A Florida State of Mind* by James D. Wright. Booklovers will want to reflect in May on reading through the summer or taking a break. Some groups read, others do not. It's the option of each group.

Ellen James

Booklovers Coordinator
(ellenjames54@gmail.com)

Booklovers Lite will meet on Wednesday, April 28 at 1 p.m. at Club Marbeya.

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.

Current Issues: Has not been meeting. If you have any questions about this group, contact Marcy Kysilka at kysilka@bellsouth.net or 321-972-5315

Dining In: The Dining In group will meet on Zoom on April 2 at 12 p.m. The Zoom hostess will be Ginny Gillmer. The theme will be "salads." Contact Jane Rosen for information about this group: 321-295-7689 or mjcrozen@hotmail.com.

Dining Out (at night): Dining Out will not meet until it is safe to do so.

Exploring Central Florida (ECF): See details of April's outing on the calendar page. To be added to the contact list, please contact co-chairs Linda Fessel (407-376-9410) or lfessel@embarqmail.com. or Christine Porter (248-504-9879) or portercl7166@gmail.com. You MUST contact Linda or Christine to get on the new list.

Foreign Affairs: The Foreign Affairs group will meet, via Zoom, on April 25 at 2 p.m. For more information contact D. Fuentes at tucu662@gmail.com or 407-310-1154

Foreign Films: Will not meet until it is safe to do so.

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

MahJongg: For more information, contact Linda Fessel: LFessel@embarqmail.com or Karen Deo: Karen.deo@gmail.com



"We are what we pretend to be, and so we must be careful what we pretend to be." (Kurt Vonnegut)

"Show me a hero, and I'll write you a tragedy." (F. Scott Fitzgerald)

"There are worse crimes than burning books. One of them is not reading them." (Poet Joseph Brodsky)

A BIG THANK YOU!

The 20th Annual Virtual Literary Scholarship Fundraiser with speaker Anna Elias was a great success! Our fabulous Branch raised a remarkable \$2,279 in donations. A BIG THANK YOU to all members who made a donation and Zoomed into our wonderful program. Anna Elias amazed us with her exciting career in the TV and film industries and how her passion for justice, equality, and the environment translated into her life, writing, and work. Our speaker also gave us a glimpse into her murky debut novel, *The Vessels*, which is Book I in a trilogy and a planned TV series.

The generous donations raised from this virtual event will maintain our local Branch scholarship funds. In years past, literary luncheon ticket sale proceeds funded National AAUW educational programs while the proceeds from our 50/50 opportunity and silent auction supported our local Branch scholarships. This year the scholarship committee received 22 scholarship applications for funding consideration. Through your generosity, we continue our mission of supporting advocacy, education, and professional opportunities for women.

A special "Thank You" to all of the behind-the-scenes

members who helped to make our Branch's only fundraiser run smoothly and contributed to its success:

Hanna Kruczek provided outstanding ZOOM technical assistance and timely email blasts,

Rosemary Vendena obtained our wonderful speaker,

Ginny Gillmer managed all donations along with personal thank you's,

Anna Elias generously offered 10% of *The Vessels* book sales from her March presentation,

Linda Fessel marketed and advertised the virtual event in the Branchline and on our website and,

Our board members and president, Leslie Lieberman, provided ongoing consultation and input to make things happen.

And most importantly, a big thank you to all of our members who "attended" and financially supported our Branch's only fundraiser. In spite of Covid-19 and its restrictions, once again we were able to complete our mission. It could not have been a success without all of your support! THANK YOU!

Myra Gaziano
Literary Luncheon Chair



We are proud to announce that our branch has received a "Volunteer Organization Award" from PACE.

The award represents our volunteerism for the year 2020, and was presented on March 30, 2021, at the *Believing in Girls Annual Breakfast* held at the Citrus Club.

Accepting the award are
Linda Hammersla, Karen Buchan,
Leslie Sue Lieberman, and Diane Willson.

[Those of us who can't quite make it to the 8 a.m. event are especially grateful to those ladies who can and did! ed.]



"Save the Date"

Virtual Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting

April 16, 17, & 18

"Women Together in the Sunshine State"

April 16th - Late Friday Afternoon

- View video of branch successes
- Hear our keynote speaker

April 17th - Saturday Morning

- Explore the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Toolkit developed by AAUW National
- Learn how to address the realities of economic security thru financial literacy

April 18th - Sunday Morning

- Branches share their highlights of 2020
- Annual Meeting - includes reports, election of officers and review of proposed Bylaw Changes.

(This year's conference will be held virtually.)

The Leadership Conference is a Bi-Annual Event.

Mark Your Calendars

Watch for More Information

For more information about AAUW Florida contact

Bea Holt, AAUW Florida Director for Programs, beaholt45@gmail.com

Patricia Dewitt, AAUW Florida President, aauwflde Witt@gmail.com

APRIL 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 April Fool's Day	2 <u>12 noon</u> Dining In ZOOM Good Friday	3
4 Easter	5	6 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers I ZOOM <u>1:30</u> Board Meeting ZOOM	7 <u>10 a.m.</u> B-Lovers VIII ZOOM <u>10 a.m.</u> B-Lovers IX ZOOM <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers II ZOOM <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VII ZOOM	8 <u>10 a.m.</u> Exploring Central FL * <u>1:30</u> B-Lovers X ZOOM Holocaust Remembrance Day	9	10 <u>10 a.m.</u> VIRTUAL GENERAL MEETING
11	12	13 <u>3 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VI (LIVE)	14	15	16 <u>10:30</u> B-Lovers IV ZOOM	17
18	19	20 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers V ZOOM	21	22 Earth Day	23	24
25 <u>2 p.m.</u> Foreign Affairs ZOOM	26	27	28 <u>1 p.m.</u> Booklovers III ("Lite") Club Marbeya	29	30	

EXPLORING CENTRAL FLORIDA

Thursday, April 8, at 10 a.m.

This month, Exploring Central Florida will join the Art Exploration Group of the University Club of Winter Park for a docent-guided highlights tour of the Orlando Museum of Art.

This highlights tour will include a new exhibition of 21 U.S.-based artists of Arab and Iranian Heritage, entitled *A Boundless Drop to a Boundless Ocean*.

Masks must be worn during the tour. (Call Linda or Christine if you'd like to join the group.)

Lunch arrangements have not been finalized.