



Orlando * Winter Park
Branchline**

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**BECAUSE THE SEPTEMBER MEETING
HAS BEEN CANCELLED.**

DO YOU EVEN NEED TO ASK WHY?

From the President



Dear Branch Members,

Welcome back to the 2021-2022 season of our Branch's 93rd year and the 140th anniversary of the founding of AAUW. Last year was tough and most interest groups did not meet, but Booklovers groups remained active on Zoom as a much welcomed activity. The Branchline was published on

schedule; we held monthly meetings on Zoom with speakers' topics ranging from the election, to refugees, to racism, to policing reform, to art museums and women artists. We were entertained via Zoom by the Orlando Gay Chorus at our December general meeting. Undaunted by the virus, our members were as generous as ever contributing thousands of dollars to the scholarship funds through donations as well as our very successful virtual 'Literary Luncheon.' Other donations for the PACE Thanksgiving, holiday gift cards, and miracle bags ensured a good holiday for the PACE girls.

In fact, our Branch was honored this spring as the Volunteer Organization of the Year by PACE, and six of our members were given awards at the AAUW-FL Leadership Conference for their contributions to national AAUW. Our partner, Florida Polytechnic University, was awarded a national AAUW grant for STEM education of women students and faculty, and we sponsored middle school girls for Tech Trek. Our voices and actions were influential in a number of GOTV (get out the vote) voter education activities with AAUW-FL voter guides and locally with our partners from the League of Women Voters in both Orange and Seminole Counties. We co-sponsored 17 primary and general election candidate forums with the LWVSC.

Our thanks to Karen Gillett, past Vice President of Programs (2019-2021) and Christine Porter, Recording Secretary (many years of service!) who rotated off the Board, and we welcome Dr. Patricia Wilson as the new VP of Programs and we marvel at Linda Fessel as she assumes another role for our Branch, that of Recording Secretary.

THIS YEAR we hope to meet face-to-face for our opening Membership Reception and program on Saturday, October 9, at 9 a.m. in the First Congregational Church—our usual site—with its entrance on New England Ave in Winter Park (225 S Interlachen Ave, Winter Park, FL 32789). We have booked the church and Drew, our caterer, for the year. Depending on the course of the new COVID-19 surge, the Board will re-evaluate the necessity to move to a Zoom meeting. A decision will be sent by BLAST on Tuesday, Sep-

tember 14.

Pat Wilson and her hardworking Committee have lined up terrific presenters for the year; Myra Gaziano already has booked our Literary Luncheon Speaker, and we will enjoy a holiday musical program by the Caroling Company. We are excited about the prospect of Representative Stephanie Murphy as the October speaker. Future programs will present topics on social justice and the court system; water rights and development; the design of space suits; activities of the Valencia College's Peace and Justice Institute; and Second Harvest Food Bank. Of course, planning has already started for our PACE holiday celebrations, and your Board has planned a few surprises. In future columns, I will share with you some of the other activities we might want to implement based on those that have been successful in other Florida Branches.

Your hardworking Board has held one meeting by Zoom and plans to hold the September and October meetings by Zoom. Money has been allocated to reimburse any interest groups who wish to use Zoom for their meetings.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in October. Wishing everyone good health,

Leslie Sue Lieberman, Ph.D.

President, AAUW Orlando/Winter Park Branch
Professor Emerita UCF

Doesn't wear a mask because he thinks it makes him look stupid.



Our new member Geri Ossana is currently also a member of a branch on Long Island in N.Y. If, like me, you just can't get enough of the Olympics, Geri shares a story that shows how the Olympics and AAUW have sometimes crossed paths.

AN EMPIRE STATE OF MIND

By Geri Ossana

In my last column for the Orlando members, I said I would tell you the story of how my New York branch passed the Torch of Liberty from Eastern Long Island to numerous branches around New York State. Our goal was to repeat the passage of the torch which actually took place in the year 1915. In that year, women carried the "suffragist torch to enlighten the State of New York upon the needs of its women." Also the Torch of Liberty symbolized women having the full rights of citizenship.

Our Islip Area branch members started the torch on its journey on August 26, 2017, at the actual home of Mary Manson, the woman who started it originally. On the computer, we were able to find an attractive 10" plastic duplicate of the Torch of Liberty held by the Statue of Liberty in New York harbor. This gave an air of validity to the replication of the transfer as we were able to physically pass it hand to hand to branch members across the state. The Torch was given from one New York State branch to the other by hand or by mail, by women wearing a yellow sash, representing

suffragists from the past and reading a prepared speech. It was passed to 26 branches, 3 Conferences, 32 parades, and 2 NYS conventions. The passage continued for 3 years until September 2020. This outreach was enjoyed by approximately 3500 people.

It was people with ideas, courage and determination who won for women the Right to Vote in NYS. The passing of legislation by NYS giving women the vote was a turning point in the national campaign. When President Woodrow Wilson realized that a very major state like New York approved votes for women, he changed his mind and became a supporter of the 19th Amendment which was ratified in 1920.

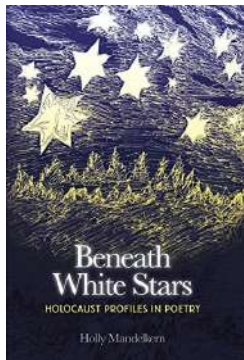
Dressed as a suffragist, I have taken part in numerous Power Point presentations prepared by my branch



members. A special thanks for helping me with an accurate account of this exciting process goes to my friend Nancy Mion, former New York State AAUW President.

I often ask non-working people what, if anything, they accomplished during the past 18 months. Most of the answers ranged from "I did a lot of reading;" to "I should have used the time more productively, but who knew how long this thing was gonna last?"

Well, one AAUW member who did use the time in a most unusually productive way was Holly Mandelkern, our literary luncheon speaker from three years ago. At the luncheon she reviewed and read some of her poems from *Beneath White Stars: Holocaust Profiles in Poetry*.



"So," I asked, "what have you been up to lately, Holly?"

Her response took my breath away, as I'm sure it will yours.

"For the past two years, I've been working on an album of songs based on poems from my book. It's been a challenge in terms of getting musicians safely into a recording studio, but I've also reached out to musicians in Chicago, Nashville, NYC, Budapest, London, and Buenos Aires who have participated! My son has actually made most of the out-of-town connections, but I'm the "producer" and lyricist for the album. It's kept me out of trouble and should be released this fall. It's eclectic music-wise with eight songs by Irish musicians, one by my cantor, one by Ed Krout (jazz pianist) and Chris Cortez (owner of the Blue Bamboo), several written by my son, a few written by a fabulous fellow in Buenos Aires, and two sung by a mezzo soprano opera singer (who needed to sing more casually as if, we explained, she were singing to her kids in the car.)

[We'll keep you posted on when the album is released. ed.]



Welcome back! Fall will present opportunities for AAUW members to participate in several ways with PACE. Our first major event will be PACE Thanksgiving.

Hopefully this will be face-to-face with the PACE girls and families, along with staff and each of us. The tentative date is November 18.

Since our September welcome reception has been postponed until October 9, we will be having signup sheets available at the October reception for you to sign up for your traditional Thanksgiving culinary delights. We will gladly accept monetary donations to supplement any dishes that are provided, including providing the turkeys. We like to have plans organized well ahead of our traditional Thanksgiving event, so if you know what dish you'd like to provide, and/or that you'll be willing to donate \$20 for a turkey, please email either Pat Stamm or Karen Gillett prior to our October meeting (see email addresses below).

Plans hinge on COVID, so we must have an alternative plan for our in-person Thanksgiving in case we're unable to be with the girls and families in person. Our alternative plan will be to present a gift card to each family so they will be able to enjoy a Thanksgiving dinner from AAUW. In this case, we'd ask for monetary donations for gift cards rather than your special Thanksgiving food specialties. We will let you know if this alternative plan must be implemented so you can be prepared prior to our October meeting.

Another opportunity will present itself in December for you to be involved with our PACE friends. The much-anticipated Miracle Bags will be back.

Please, members, consider picking the name of a girl and fulfilling her wish (usually at least a \$25.00 donation will assure all girls will have a wonderful holiday.) Much more about this holiday tradition will follow in the next couple of months.

If relaxation of virus restrictions comes to pass, and you've not been to PACE (and are vaccinated), treat yourself to a tour of PACE. We'll let you know as soon as tours become available. These tours help visitors to learn more about what a special learning and growing opportunity PACE provides for its students.

Pat Stamm patsnpans@yahoo.com

Karen Gillett karen555g@hotmail.com

More from PACE

As in the past, PACE has asked our assistance to provide many educational and personal items that the girls need. Contact Karen Buchan if you have items to donate toward their "Wish Lists." She can tell you where and to whom they should be left:



Karen Buchan

School Supplies	Toiletry Supplies
College ruled paper	Shampoo
Notebooks	Conditioner
Calculators	Body wash
Folders	Toothpaste
Post it notes	Toothbrushes
Pencils & pens	Deodorant
Art supplies	Lotion
Construction paper	Hairbrushes
Glue sticks	Combs
Highlighters	Tissues
Books	Socks
Copy paper	Cleaning supplies
Poster board	Feminine products
Paper towels	New undergarments
Hand sanitizers	Wash cloths
Kleenex	Makeup
Sanitizing wipes	Clothing gift cards
Food Pantry	
Family meals kits:	
Pasta & sauce	
Chili mix & beans	
Tuna fish & crackers	
Pepperoni pizza kit	

PACE is now open from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. To make donations please call PACE at 407-992-0456 to let them know you are on the way.

You can also contact Karen Buchan for help on where to take your donations.

Karen Buchan kgb@unknownegg.org



**Notes from
the
CHAPTER
HISTORIAN**

**AAUW Orlando-Winter Park
History Archives**

Our chapter history began in 1928 with 18 charter members. Chapter history documents are safely stored

in the archives at the Winter Park Library. In addition, there are two scrapbooks at the Orange County Regional History Center: 1953/1954 and 1954/1955 which include newspaper articles to promote meetings as well as Awards for Excellence in Publicity from the FL division of AAUW.

The Winter Park Library archives include scrapbooks from 1996-2015 which include the Branchline, photos of members at meetings and other memorabilia. Since 2015, archives have been updated following the

archives guidelines from National AAUW and recommendations for the Winter Park Library archivist. Phyllis Hall, chapter historian, maintains the history archive and adds to the library archive collection each year. She also annually updates a compiled history of the chapter. If you are interested in seeing this history or learning more about the chapter archives, contact Phyllis.

Phyllis Hall

Historian

phylliscath814@gmail.com

VP Membership

Maria Bonnet

Elizabeth Powers-Byrd



We are all ecstatic to announce that our Annual Membership Reception in September 2021 is now scheduled for October! Details will be coming to you as the date draws nigh. But now is the time to poll your friends and neighbors to see who might be interested in attending as your guest and a potential new member. Be sure to hype it up!! Make them excited to dress in real clothes, go out of their house, take a ride in a car, see people other than the folks in their little bubble, and share some good food.



Also, this is a reminder that it's past time to pay dues for 2021! If you haven't done so already, here's the info you need to know:

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

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

**The Deadline has been extended
because we want you back!!**

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)

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

Judy McDonald
murransouth@bellsouth.net

IN MEMORIAM

Rev. Susan J. Hoke 1941 - 2021

ORLANDO, FL - Rev. Susan J. Hoke 79, of Orlando and formerly of Utica, passed away on Saturday, May 1, 2021, in Orlando. Susan was born on August 30, 1941, in Ilion, the daughter of the late John and Hazel (Fitch) Blowers. She was a graduate of Ilion schools and has a degree in Theology from Emory University. In 1976, she was united in marriage to Bennett Hoke; he passed away in 1981. She is a retired HOSPICE minister having worked for 20 years in Syracuse and 20 years in Florida. She was a member of the National Chaplin's Association, the American Association of University Women, and embroiderers guild. She is survived by a brother, Edward; and a sister, Ann; as well as several nieces and nephews.

It is with sadness that we report the passing of our AAUW sister Susan Hoke. She was active in many of our interest groups and fund-raisers. She will be missed. We searched in our archives and came up with some photos of Susan participating in some of those events. We hope you will remember Susan through these photos.



Interest Groups



The Annual Membership Reception, live and in person, (fingers crossed) has been re-scheduled for October, and we hope to be back and active in the fall—for at least most folks.

Give this process some thought, consult with your members, then let Linda know about what you are planning so she can share your future events with everyone through the Branchline.

Anne Coppenhaver

Interest Group Chair
ccoppenhaver@me.com
832-704-2854 (cell)

Booklovers are ready to begin the year with a list of very interesting titles and we'll all go back to regular schedules. Some will continue to meet on Zoom while others will go into homes, etc.

If you are unsure where/when you'll meet, please contact your Booklovers Leader. If you would like to be a member of a group, please contact Ellen James, Booklovers Coordinator. She'll find you a group.

Titles for the year cover a kaleidoscope of interests. To get started, most groups will read *Big Sister, Little Sister, Red Sister* by Jung Chang. Booklovers VII will read *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell. Booklovers Lite will read *Still Life* by Louise Penny.

Happy Reading, Booklovers!
Ellen James: ellenjames54@gmail.com

Booklovers Lite: Booklovers Lite meets monthly on the last Wednesday at 1 p.m. at Marbeya Club Condominiums, 1100 Lake Howell Rd., Casselberry, 32707. The reading list is independent from the other book clubs. Booklovers Lite will meet on Wed., Sept. 29 at 1 p.m.

Cooking Globally: Hopes to be meeting soon. For more information, contact Adrienne Katz at katzaid@yahoo.com

Couples Dining Party (Formerly Dining Couples) Hopes to be meeting soon. For more information, contact Eileen Garrison at 407-620-9703.

Current Issues: If you have any questions about this group, contact Marcy Kysilka at kysilka@bellsouth.net or 321-972-5315

Dining In: Dining In: Meets for lunch the 1st Friday of the month (except January & July), usually at members' homes. Dining In will be meeting on September 3. Ginny will host on Zoom. Contact Jane Rosen for more information: 321-295-7689 or mjcrossen@hotmail.com.

Dining Out (at night): Dining Out is looking for a new leader. Contact Anne Coppenhaver if you would like to chair or co-chair this group.

Exploring Central Florida (ECF): Exploring Central Florida (ECF): No events have been planned for September. To be added to the contact list, please contact co-chairs Linda Fessel at lfessel@Comcast.net. or Christine Porter at portercl7166@gmail.com.

Foreign Affairs: Foreign Affairs will meet Sunday, September 26 at 2 p.m. via Zoom. Mary Himes will present and moderate *The Korean Peninsula*. For more information contact D. Fuentes at tucu662@gmail.com or 407-310-1154

Foreign Films: Foreign Films is looking for a new leader. Contact Anne Coppenhaver if you would like to chair this group.

Lunching Out: Hopes to meet soon. To be added to the email list, contact Linda Fessel at LFessel@Comcast.net

MahJongg: Is currently meeting (masked) on Thursdays at Club 24 in Winter Park from 1-4 p.m. For more information, contact Linda Fessel: LFessel@Comcast.net or Karen Deo: Karen.deo@gmail.com

From Our Members

Many people hunkered down during the pandemic, but some of our members braved the virus and other people. We thank them for sharing their fun memories.



Hanna and hubby Jerry look as if frozen in place. Not surprising considering they were in Iceland.

“On one excursion we saw a beautiful geyser which erupted every 5-10 minutes. It was great getting so close to the geyser.”

“Iceland has two of the most spectacular waterfalls—the ‘Golden Falls,’ and the ‘Waterfall of the Gods.’”



Myra Gaziano is pictured making mint juleps for our Dining In Group in celebration of the KY derby. Fascinators were the fashion of the day as modeled by Sherry Levy and Diana Secor, but Jane Rosen chose a perfect sun hat.



More From Our Members



Booklovers VI finally got to enjoy the dinner they bid on at the Literary Luncheon in 2019. Thank you Dining-In!



In May, 2021, members of Booklovers II celebrated the end of another year of educational and entertaining book discussions.



Exploring Central FL met at Lotus Park in May. In addition to a lovely walk while enjoying the flora and fauna, the ladies also celebrated Linda F's birthday with a box of donuts.



One night this past summer at the end of May, there was a special Super Flower Blood Moon. Driving home that night, Linda F. grabbed her cell phone to catch a picture of the moon just as it moved between 2 red traffic lights.



SEPTEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <u>10 a.m.</u> B-Lovers VIII <u>10 a.m.</u> B-Lovers IX <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers II <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VII	2 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	3 <u>12 noon</u> Dining In ZOOM	4
5	6 LABOR DAY Rosh Hashana	7 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers I <u>1:30</u> Board Meeting	8	9 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg <u>1:30</u> B-Lovers X	10	11 NO GENERAL MEETING
12	13 <u>1-3</u> Board Mtg.	14 <u>3 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VI	15 Yom Kippur	16 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	17 <u>10:30</u> B-Lovers IV	18
19	20	21 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers V	22 Autumn begins	23 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	24	25
26 <u>2 p.m.</u> Foreign Af-fairs ZOOM	27	28	29 <u>1 p.m.</u> Booklovers III ("Lite") Club Marbeya	30 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg		

If you are not sure whether or not your group is meeting on Zoom, you will need to contact your group leader.

Did you know?

Leonardo da Vinci invented the scissors;
Peanuts are one of the ingredients in dynamite;

Butterflies taste with their feet;
In the last 4000 years, no new animals have been domesticated;

If you are an average American, you will spend in your whole life an average of 6 months waiting at red lights.

There'll Be No Escape in Future From Telephones

PASADENA.—P—The telephone of the future?

Mark R. Sullivan, San Francisco, president and director of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co., said in an address Thursday night:

"Just what form the future telephone will take is, of course, pure speculation. Here is my prophecy:

"In its final development, the telephone will be carried about by the individual, perhaps as we carry a watch today. It probably will require no dial or equivalent, and I think the users will be able to see each other, if they want, as they talk.

"Who knows but what it may actually translate from one language to another?"

Not sure of the date or where this came from, but the writer sure stuck the landing!