



Orlando * Winter Park
Branchline**



DECEMBER PROGRAM

The Caroling Company



**Join us for a special celebration
as Pearl Steele
turns 100 right before your eyes!**

**Our 2021-2022 Members' Directory will be
available for \$1.00. See Maria.**

****We hope to see you in person but
we are pleased to offer a ZOOM op-
tion. The Link will be sent closer to
the time of the meeting.**

**GENERAL MEETING
Saturday
December 11, 2021
Time: 10 to 12 noon**

First Congregational Church of W.P.
225 S. Interlachen Avenue, Winter Park
The entrance is on New England Avenue.

JOIN US FOR OUR SECOND
IN PERSON MEETING SINCE MARCH 2020!

**A poll of the members indicated a
preference for the full breakfast.
To-go boxes will be provided!**

COST: \$18 (cash or check)
Pay at the door or mail to
Phyllis Hall, 481 Forest Court
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
(The cost covers food, room rental,
set-up, clean-up)

**Reservations required
You must RSVP no later than
Wed. Dec. 8
Contact Phyllis Hall
phylliscath814@gmail.com
Cell: 407-233-6181 or
Ginny Gillmer
Aauwvirginia.gillmer@gmail.com**

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

***The Church has requested that we wear
masks when not eating or drinking.***

From the President

Dear Branch Members,

It has been a tough year, yet we emerged triumphant at our first in-person meeting in November. A fantastic meeting is scheduled for December 11 with singing and celebrations of two birthdays: one venerated worldwide over the millennia; the other a worldwide traveler for nearly a century. Pearl Steele is 100 years old and has been a member of AAUW for more than two-thirds of her life!



I wish all our members, their families and friends, safe, healthy, and happy holidays that celebrate the people and pets in our lives, our comfortable life-

styles, our kindness to all and generosity to others less fortunate.

Happy Hanukkah, Winter Solstice, Christmas, and Kwanzaa.

Peace and Joy,
Leslie

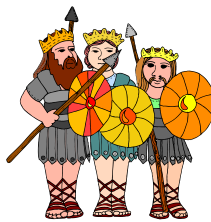
Leslie Sue Lieberman, Ph.D.
President, AAUW Orlando/Winter Park Branch
Professor Emerita UCF



December, named after the Latin *decem*, was originally the tenth month, when it was beginning to get cool enough for the Romans to switch from cold baths to hot. The abbreviation for December is Dec., which reminds us that there is no abbreviation for May, and also that May is Yam when spelled backward, which makes more sense than Rebmeved. This suggests a poem for remembering lengths of the months:

Thirty days hath Rebmepes,
Lirpa, Enuj, and Rebmefon.
All the rest, save Yraurbef,
Have thirty-one, like Tsugua.

This would be even better if it rhymed,
but you can't have everything.



Save the Date

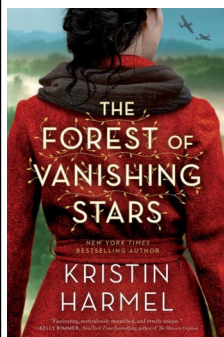
EXPLORING CENTRAL FLORIDA

When? Tuesday, December 14
Where? Mt. Dora
What? Lunch at 1:45
Strolling the shops
Christmas Cruise at 5 to see the lights

It's not too late to come aboard. Contact Christine Porter at portercl7166@gmail.com to get your name on the list!

Save the Date

March 5, 2022
AAUW Annual Spring
Literary Luncheon
Interlachen Country Club
Speaker: Kristin Harmel





Holiday time is here! Our branch of AAUW has a special opportunity each year to assure the girls from PACE a meaningful Christmas.

This year we will be hosting our festive event on Friday, December 17, at the PACE Center. We begin the morning doing two separate crafts with the girls. We've learned through the years that teens absolutely love doing crafts! Following the craft time, the girls gather in their Community Room for a yummy breakfast which our members provide for them. After a short time to eat and socialize, this brings us to the much-anticipated Miracle Bag gifts.



Our branch asks as many members as possible to support one PACE girl for Christmas. PACE staff work with our AAUW/PACE committee to provide a wish for every girl totaling up to \$25.

Our AAUW committee then orders each gift online. The wishes are delivered to PACE, and the committee gathers to fill the bags with the delivered wishes as well as donated gift cards and smaller items that teens would

use, love, and appreciate. We ask our AAUW members to support one girl's Miracle Bag by sending a check for \$25 (see directions below). Your name will be on the gift tag for the girl, and the committee will keep in touch with you so you know your girl's name and wish. You could include a card with a message to your "adopted" girl if you would like. Cards could be brought to the Saturday, December 11, General Meeting and taken by a committee member to PACE on the day the bags are filled.

We need to work quickly to make this event perfect for each girl. So, if you'd like to support one PACE girl for Christmas with a Miracle Bag, please send a \$25 check made out to Karen Gillett as soon as you possibly can. Put AAUW Miracle Bag on the memo line. The first 40 members will be given a girl's name, and any above 40 will help to fill bags with the smaller items.

Send checks to: Karen Gillett

555 Karen Avenue
Altamonte Springs, FL 32701

Questions? karen555g@hotmail.com
407-252-3169

PACE THANKSGIVING HELD AT PACE ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2021



250 years from now, people will be asking:
"Who were those masked women?"

From Our Members

Sandy Goldstein celebrates another birthday



Thank you from Karen Gillett

Ladies, you truly outdid yourselves for our annual Thanksgiving Dinner for PACE girls and their families. The turnout of participants was even larger than anticipated, the food contributed by you, our members, was just delicious, and many of you came to socialize and to serve. It was a very special event that was enjoyed by nearly 100 people. A very big thank you to all who contributed in so many ways. Because of you, the bond between AAUW and PACE is stronger than ever. This is a definite win-win for the young women of PACE and for our organization. Way to go!



The Dining-In Group makes it look almost good enough to eat!



From Delia Fuentes

We lost one of our dear members this month. Nancy Megill passed away on October 5. She was a patient at the Mayo Clinic at the time. She will be missed—always with her friendly smile, kindness and good humor.

The *New Yorker* holds a cartoon caption contest. The winning caption was submitted by AAUW member Georgiana Havill.

"Most people only have roadside assistance."



HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY, PEARL

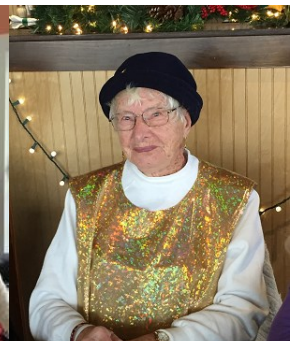
Pearl Steele was born in Scranton, PA on December 14, 1921. She attended the secretarial section of high school, then one year of business college. She subsequently worked for Met Life Insurance Company and Globe Department Store in the accounting office and was a secretary in the Pennsylvania Baptist Convention.

On her twenty-fifth birthday in December 1946, she moved to Rangoon, Burma (now Myanmar) where she worked for the American Baptist Mission as secretary for 3 years. She traveled first on the Queen Mary ocean liner to England and then by sea plane with stopover landings in various rivers including the Nile. After coming back from Burma, she went to college in Ottawa University in Kansas for a year, then transferred to Peabody College in Nashville, TN where she received her B.S degree. During her travels, she took graduate level courses in Japan, Korea, Hawaii and Florida. After graduating from Peabody, she taught elementary school in Michigan for one year. She decided it was too cold there so she moved to Hawaii and taught for 2 years. In Hawaii she also worked for the census bureau and the Department of Health. Pearl joined AAUW in 1953 in Hawaii.

Pearl moved to Korea in 1956 and was there until 1964 working in the U.S. Foreign Aid Program. She worked in Tokyo, Japan for a year in 1958. She met and married her husband Dick in Korea. They moved to Hilo, Hawaii in 1964 where she continued to be active in AAUW as chapter treasurer as well as active in her church. Pearl and Dick moved to College Park, FL in 1987 to be closer to her aging parents. She then joined the AAUW Orlando-Winter Park chapter. She also joined the Orlando Garden Club and the Methodist Church in College Park.

Pearl has been a world traveler from an early age. In 1969, Pan Am airline offered around-the-world flight passes as a packaged flight plan. The only rule was you had to keep traveling in the same direction. Pearl, Dick and her parents spent several months traveling the world on this plan. Pearl has continued her world-wide travels with various tour companies. Her most recent trip was an Alaska Cruise in September.

Pearl continues to stay very active attending AAUW meetings and special interest groups as well as church and garden club meetings. She enjoys reading, gardening, doing 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzles, embroidery, and corresponding with friends all over the world.



It is a grim reminder that in the middle of seasonal celebrations and a special 100-year-old birthday, the news is not always joyous. As wonderful as it is to have so many "sisters," it is a sad fact of life that as our branch and our members age, we start to lose them. It is with a sad heart that we report the loss of another one of our sisters. ed.

IN MEMORIAM

Nancy Anne Megill



Born in Peterborough, Ontario May 5, 1947, and went to be with Jesus October 5, 2021.

Nancy loved Florida. She belonged to many groups, professionally and in leisure.

Master Gardener's, Audubon, Bromeliad Society, Rose Club, to name a few. Nancy especially loved St. Andrew's chapel in Sanford and the warm fellowship and learning she found there. Professionally she worked diligently to help clients who were in need, to assist them in their issues. Nancy leaves behind sons Jason, Jonathan, daughter Jessica, and sisters, Joyce (Warren), Carol (Ross), and best friend Charlotte. Nancy, you are loved and will be dearly missed.

*Published by Orlando Sentinel
from Nov. 17 to Nov. 18, 2021.*



Tech Trek Summer Camp

We will be sponsoring two girls for the tech trek camps which immerses 7th grade girls in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) courses such as computers, marine biology and chemistry. The girls are recommended by their STEM teacher as ones especially dedicated to STEM. Go to the following website for more information. <https://techtrek-fl.aauw.net>

Please contact Hanna Kruczek hkruczek@gmail.com for more information or if you'd like to help interview the girls and help decide which ones we'll sponsor.





AN EMPIRE STATE OF MIND

By Geri Ossana

UNEXPECTED CONNECTIONS IN AAUW

As members, we don't always realize how far our reach and influence extends with AAUW. One fall day, two members of the Islip Area branch decided to take a ride "out east" on Long Island. Sue Furfaro, our branch president, and Debby Benzinger, our funds coordinator, visited a craft shop which displayed quilts and supplies for crafters.

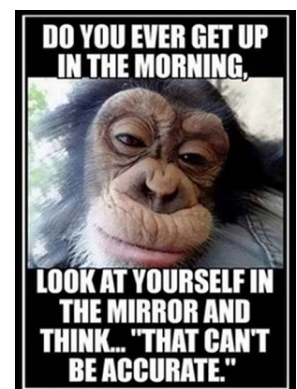
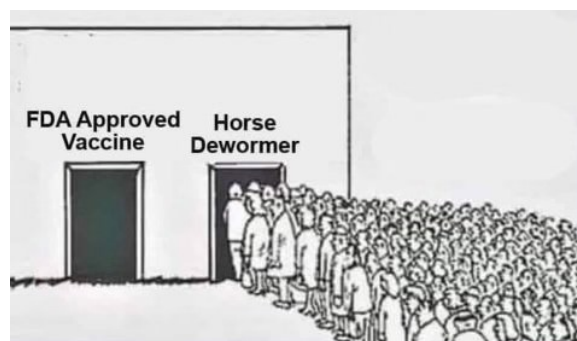
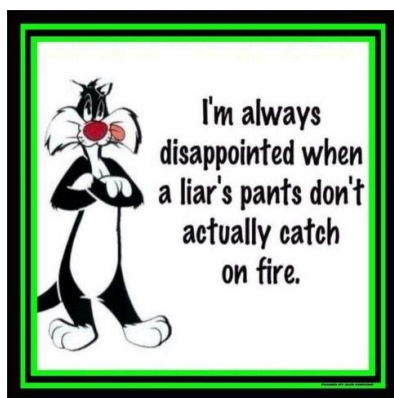
During a casual conversation with the owner, they mentioned their association with AAUW. The proprietor was excited to hear they were members because she had a beloved grandmother in California who was also a member. The owner had made a quilt for the grandmother, but, unfortunately, was unable to send it to her before the grandmother passed away.

Asking them to wait, she went to the back of the store and came out with a beautiful red, white and blue quilt. Without any hesitation, she donated the quilt to our branch to raffle off at a fund-raiser. With great appreciation, our ladies accepted this lovely donation.

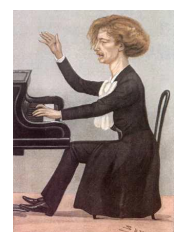
Our branch sold tickets for our upcoming functions and raised a good sum of money over several months. When the raffle finally was held, guess who won it? None other than myself! It went perfectly with my blue and white living room and became a new family treasure.

I feel that it was really a gift to our whole branch. I display it at all times in my home, and occasionally bring it to meetings to be admired. I am proud to be the recipient of such a thoughtful gift which represents our organization and our surprising links to other people in our country. We have friends in unexpected places!

[Thank you, Geri, for this inspiring article. ed.]



On December 12, 1792 in Vienna, Ludwig van Beethoven took his first music lesson from Franz Joseph Haydn. When Ludwig came into the parlor, he did not at once see his teacher, who was inside the clavier, tuning it up. "Where are you Haydn?" he asked. "I'm not Haydn," said Haydn, "I'm here." It was quite a while before the confusion was resolved and the lesson could begin. Some think the incident suggested the famous "Who's on first?" routine of Abbott and Costello, but it must have been funnier in German, with two musicians.



VP Membership



Address Change:

In order to be closer to their adult children, Harriet Sawyer has moved to the cold weather and snow of Indiana. If you want to reach her, her new address is:

Dr. Harriet Sawyer
51943 Primrose Road
South Bend, IN 46628-9535

Her cell phone and email are the same.

Maria Bonnet
marpazbonnet@gmail.com

ARE YOU TIRED OF THOSE PEEL-OFF, STICK-ON NAME BADGES?

NOW YOU CAN GET A REAL AAUW NAME BADGE THAT WON'T FALL OFF.

Durable (and wipeable!) plastic, this 3" x 1.5" name badge comes standard with a Pin Clasp, but can be ordered with a Magnetic Clasp for an extra \$2.00. Get yours today!

Note: Customized Name Badges arrive in approximately 7-10 business days via US Mail after ordering. (This item will ship separately from any other Shop-AAUW item(s) ordered.)

Shipping is FREE for this item!

Option:

With pin backer — \$9

With magnet backer — \$11.50

Here's the link. Order yours today.

<https://aauw.source4.com/b2c/ProductInfo.asp>



Calendars



Lynda Hinckley is grateful to AAUW sisters for so many new 2022 calendars. She will deliver them to persons in need in Orlando and Winter Park in mid-December. Therefore, none will be collected after December 10. If you have calendars to donate, please let Lynda know so she can arrange to pick them up.



Thank you for another successful year!

Interest Groups

Make sure to keep Linda Fessel informed as to what your interest group is planning so she can share your current and future events with everyone through the Branchline. Got an idea for a new interest group? Let Linda publicize it in the Branchline.

Lfessel@Comcast.net

Booklovers

Booklovers are taking their customary reading break in December in favor of a social gathering. If you are not sure where or when your group is meeting, contact your group leader. Serious reading resumes in January.

All newcomers are welcome to join a Booklovers Group. Please contact Ellen James, Booklovers Coordinator, for more information. 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 those of the other book groups. Booklovers Lite will not meet until January.

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

Couples Dining Party (Formerly Dining Couples) For more information, contact Eileen Garrison at 407-620-9703.

Dining In: Dining In: Meets for lunch the 1st Friday of the month (except January & July), usually at members' homes. Dining In will meet on December 3 in person at the home of Lynda Hinckley. 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 President Leslie Lieberman if you would like to chair or co-chair this group.

Exploring Central Florida (ECF): Exploring Central Florida (ECF) will meet on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, with a visit to lovely Mt. Dora. We will have lunch at the famous Lakeside Inn, explore the shops, then board a sightseeing boat to enjoy the spectacular lights of the season. 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: The Foreign Affairs group normally meets on the third Sunday. This month, the group will meet at Colibri restaurant at Lake Baldwin Park on Wednesday, December 15, at 11:30. 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 President Leslie Lieberman if you would like to chair this group. lsieberman@gmail.com

Lunching Out: Will meet in December at Las Carretas. Those on the contact list have already received information. To be added to the email list, contact Linda Fessel at LFessel@Comcast.net It's not too late to make your reservation.

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

Winter is supposed to last from around December 21 to about March 21 or in other words (words which we have never quite understood) from the winter solstice to the vernal equinox. On December 21 or 22 the sun enters Capricorn, originating from the constellation of Capricornus, the tenth sign of the zodiac, represented by a figure which is part goat and part fish, a combination you don't come upon every day.



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

Judy McDonald
murrnan@bellsouth.net

DECEMBER 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>11:30</u> Dining In	4
5	6 <u>10-12</u> Brd. Mtg.	7 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers I	8	9 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	10	11 GENERAL MEETING
12	13	14 <u>1-7 p.m.</u> ECF: Mt. Dora Lakeside Inn Boatride <u>3 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VI	15 <u>11:30</u> BL.Lite Dubsdread <u>11:30</u> Foreign Affairs Colibri	16 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg <u>1:30</u> B-Lovers X	17 <u>11:30</u> B-Lovers IV Another Broken Egg Cafe	18
19	20	21 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers V	22	23 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	24	25 Christmas
26	27	28	29	30 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	31 New Year's Eve	

As another year draws to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have contributed to the Branchline in 2021. We hope that you will continue to support YOUR newsletter in 2022. We apologize if your article or photo either didn't make it into the newsletter or was incorrect in some way. The amount of material we receive increases each month. Smaller items, in particular, often do get lost or misplaced. [Unfortunately, multi-tasking is no longer in our wheelhouse. So we ask your indulgence as we stumble our way through the next 5 issues.]



Our website limits us to a maximum of 3 megabytes for the entire newsletter. The average photo we receive from the newest cell phones are normally in the range of 3-6 megabytes each. If your photo doesn't look as good as it did in your camera, it's because we had to shrink those megabytes down resulting in a loss of sharpness.

From the entire Branchline staff, we would like to wish you all a wonderful holiday season and the healthiest and happiest of new years. Do what you need to do to stay safe out there. Covid is still lurking around.

Linda Fessel, ed.