



GUEST SPEAKER JEAN WRIGHT



Jean Wright was an Aerospace Composite Tech for United Space Alliance—the prime contractor for NASA’s Space Shuttle Processing. As one of 18 women in this critical role, she and

her co-workers, who dubbed their group, “The Sew Sisters,” were responsible for fabrication, assembly, disassembly, installation and repair of Thermal Protection System (TPS) hardware. This involved using detailed measurements, heavy-duty industrial sewing machines, and intricate and physically demanding hand stitching which covered many areas of the shuttle orbiter.

A motivational speaker, Jean has been asked to present at many prestigious events such as the International Quilt Festival along with astronaut Karen Nyberg, in Houston, Texas; the Northeast Astronomy Forum (NEAF) in N.Y.; the Keynote Speaker at MQX -Machine Quilters Exposition in N.H.; Women’s History Month at KSC Visitor Complex; Family Day at the Udvar-Hazy National Air and Space Museum; and at Spacefest. Jean has done many TV, radio, and online interviews and has been featured in many magazine and newspaper articles.

Currently a docent at the Space Shuttle Atlantis Exhibit, educating and entertaining guests at the KSC Visitor Complex, Jean also does launch support and VIP Tours as needed, including a recent tour for former NASA Administrator, Jim Bridenstine. And now a part of the media photographing launches as a team member for the space blog, “*SpaceUpClose*.”

(Continued next page)

Orlando *** Winter Park Branchline

GENERAL MEETING

Saturday

May 14, 2022

Time: 10 to 12 noon

First Congregational Church of W.P.
225 S. Interlachen Avenue, Winter Park

You asked for it so
the full breakfast is back!

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
Thursday, May 12
Contact Phyllis Hall
phylliscath814@gmail.com
Cell: 407-233-6181

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



Check out these Jean Wright websites:

<https://www.facebook.com/jean.wright.39>

<https://www.facebook.com/Sew-Sister-Space-Creations-181439602530081>

From the President



AAUW is a leading voice in advancing gender equity for women and girls – and everyone – through research, education and advocacy. We have been ‘at this’ for nearly twice my life time—141 years which is why this year I am so profoundly disgusted with our Florida state legislature and Governor for the passage of bills—by partisan votes—that undermine our fundamental mission. The bills that gerrymander districts hamper voters’ ability to submit valid ballots, and police patrolling the polls suppress voter turnout among individuals in opposition to the ruling party. These measures disproportionately affect women who hold the majority of hourly-wage low-paying jobs and are burdened by the high cost of childcare.

More directly egregious are the bills that take jurisdiction over women’s reproductive health decisions and criminalize and significantly limit options that are still the law of the land. In addition, many bills passed that severely curtail the content of public school education for Florida’s nearly 2.8 million PreK-12th grade children and adolescents. The dictum seems to be: spare the historic and contemporary truths and spoil the ability of young citizens to think critically and to knowledgeably engage in the democratic process. America’s past and

present are ‘mixed bags’ of laws, events, and people about which we should feel embarrassed, uncomfortable, and dismayed. How could this be our heritage? . . . But it is, and there is a plethora of racial, religious, sexist, xenophobic and other forms of individual and legal institutional discrimination that students should know about. ACE’s are real but these adverse childhood experiences, that can have lasting influences on one’s life, are not perpetrated in the classroom by teachers discussing factual information about slavery and gender diversity. They are perpetuated by parental and family dynamics embracing ignorance over knowledge and hate over tolerance and acceptance.

So, in my last column as your President, I encourage us all to use our tools of research, education, and advocacy as we work to make changes in our institutions and elect candidates who support our mission.

In closing, an enormous ‘thank you’ to our Orlando/Winter Park Branch members for their support, generosity, and accomplishments over the last four years. I am proud to have served with the most incredibly committed, smart, and talented past and current Board members. We are in good hands, and our AAUW Branch has a bright future—maybe even another 94 years!

Leslie Sue Lieberman, Ph.D.

President, AAUW Orlando/Winter Park Branch
Professor Emerita UCF

The Branchline is happy to announce that Leslie will continue on the Board not only as President Emerita, but also as our liaison with the National AAUW and other organizations external to our Branch. Thank you so much, Leslie, for agreeing to do this for us.



Jean Wright

(Cont’d from page 1)

One of the biggest thrills of her life was being asked by Mark Armstrong to cut and prepare for auction, pieces of historic fabric from the Wright Brothers 1903 Flyer that his father, Neil Armstrong, carried to the moon aboard the Apollo 11 Lunar Module!

Jean sews custom face masks and apparel—space-themed and otherwise.



VP Membership



Please welcome our new members

Glenda Bogan
milford47@yahoo.com

University of Illinois, B.A., English, 1969
Butler University, M.A. Guidance Counseling, 1974

Victoria (Vikki) Lemle
V.lemle@aol.com

FIU B.S. Edu, 1974
FIU, M.S., Early Child. Edu, 1981

It's time to renew your membership!

Membership renewal dues are \$88:
\$62 National
\$12 State
\$14 Chapter

Make check to AAUW Orlando-Winter Park
Mail to: Phyllis Hall
481 Forest Court
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714

If you have already mailed your dues,
please disregard this message.

María Bonnet
V.P. Membership
marpazbonnet@gmail.com



Maureen Mikel
from 2nd Harvest
Food Bank spoke
to us at our Gen-
eral Meeting on
April 9.

Exploring Central Florida

Will Visit

Second Harvest Food Bank

411 Mercy Drive, Orlando
Monday, May 23, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

At our April general meeting, several of us learned about Second Harvest Food Bank in Orlando. Now is your chance to actually go to the food bank facility for a tour and to learn more about the many programs, services, and volunteer opportunities Second Harvest provides. We're fortunate to live in a community where such a facility exists, and now visiting it with our AAUW friends is an opportunity not to miss!

Please note: **Everyone is required to wear closed toed shoes in the warehouse.**

Following our tour, we will enjoy a Premium Box Lunch brought to us in one of Second Harvests' private catering rooms. For \$15 you may choose one of 3 delicious options. The choices will be emailed to you for your selection when you RSVP that you will be going on our adventure. You'll also receive driving directions closer to May 23.

Please RSVP by May 13 to Karen Gillett (karen555g@hotmail.com) or 407-252-3169.

Branch Scholarships

Thank you to the Scholarship Committee who worked so diligently to review, discuss and choose our 2022 Scholarship recipients. THANK YOU – Ellen James, Barbara Knapp, Sue Burton, Sherry Kragler and Suzanne Schneider! A special thanks to the Booklovers groups who contributed \$500 to this year's scholarship fund. Seven - \$1000 scholarships have been awarded to smart, motivated and inspiring women who range in age from 18 – 50+ and represent five different Florida colleges/universities. Six of the seven women are planning to attend our May meeting.

Karen Buchan
Committee Chair

Tracey

Tracey graduated from high school in Zimbabwe and began her college education in England almost 30 years ago. She is now about to graduate from the Hamilton Holt School at Rollins College with a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Studies and Sustainable Urbanism with a 4.0 GPA. Tracey stated, "Ideally, I would like to find a position with state or local government that entails natural resource management or environmental planning." Tracey is a passionate volunteer and listed numerous organizations and projects, including working with our own member, Phyllis Hall, President of the Seminole Audubon Society.



Victoria

Victoria writes, "Moving from the Republic of Moldova to America as a teenager has been challenging, yet it did not discourage me from following my dream of becoming a physician." She has a special interest in geriatrics and gerontology and, as a UCF college freshman, began working as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) at a local Assisted Living Facility. She is fluent in Romanian, Russian, French, and English and is currently learning Spanish. Her linguistic skills have proven invaluable including as a research fellow at the Mayo Clinic last summer.



Tori

Tori is pursuing a Master's Degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders/Speech Language Pathology at UCF. Her motivation to become a Speech Language Pathologist comes from a life-threatening swallowing disorder experienced by her mother. She wrote, "If it was not for the SLP's early intervention, then my mother may not have been here today." Tori is a volunteer for several medical-related groups including UCF's Aphasia Family House and Central Florida Lewy Body Dementia support group. Her ultimate career goal is to work in an inpatient hospital, acute care setting with a concentration on swallowing.



Sophia

Sophia has just completed her AA in Zoology at College of the Florida Keys in Key West, FL and is transferring to UCF this fall. She wrote, "My biggest passion in life is caring for the environment and working with animals. I made my educational/career goals because I believe animals and their environment have been entrusted to us, and it will be my life's goal/work to protect them and their environment/habitat and ensure their survival." Sophia has an impressive resume of community service/volunteer work including raising money for Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium in Sarasota. She has secured a summer internship so won't be available to attend our May meeting.



Tatiana

Tatiana is just beginning her Bachelor's Degree in Biomedical Sciences/Molecular Microbiology with the goal of attending medical school and completing a dual MD/MPH (Public Health) Program. She related, "After being a doctor for a while, I hope to work for programs such as Doctors Without Borders or the Plasticos Foundation." She genuinely feels that it is her life's purpose to help others and becoming a medical doctor will allow her to empower African-American women to seek medical attention, advocate for themselves and report negligent behaviors. By giving back to the community through volunteer work she has already positively impacted the world.



(Continued next page)

Scholarships (continued)

Hajar

Hajar’s interest in podiatry started when she was working with UCF athletes and later shadowed two podiatrists. She observed that they often gave almost instant gratification to their patients through routine foot care treatment. Hajar related, “I sat in shock as I listened to my sixth grade teacher tell my father there is no chance I would ever be able to pursue medicine. Born and raised in Belgium, and coming from an African Muslim family, I was aware of racism and discrimination.” The words strengthened her resolve to pursue medicine, and today she is pursuing a Master’s in Medical Science at the University of South Florida with a 3.5 GPA.



Veronika

Veronika is studying Mechanical Engineering at Florida Polytechnic University in Lakeland. Her educational aspirations include completing her degree with certifications in entrepreneurship and health systems that will provide structure to work within the prosthetic field while having an understanding of how to open her own business. Veronika wrote, “My overall career vision is to design affordable prosthetics with amazing design aspects for veterans and kids.” She volunteers on campus as a Peer Health Educator and wants to encourage other girls to go after their dreams just as she has.



NEWS FROM PACE

Following is the thank you note from the counsellor at PACE who will be mentoring the girls in the Art Club.

“To the Wonderful Ladies of AAUW,

Thank you so much for your generous donation of art supplies for our students here at PACE Center for Girls. We will be receiving these items shortly and we are

SO EXCITED to get started creating beautiful pieces of art for the world to enjoy!

We don’t know what we would do without your generosity and dedication to our program. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

*Love,
Steph Choo and the girls at PACE”*



On Tuesday, April 26, **Exploring Central Florida** toured the historic DeBary Hall. First, we experienced a virtual steamboat ride down the St. John’s River (complete with rotating seats). A tour of the mansion (the builder/owner called it a hunting lodge!) was one of the best tours this group has ever taken—and all for the pre-inflation cost of \$4! Lunch followed at the famous historic Swamp House Riverfront Grill on the St. John’s River.





PACE Orange Believing in Girls Breakfast

WHEN: Thursday, June 9, 8:00 a.m.,
WHERE: Citrus Club in Downtown Orlando
WHAT: Believing in Girls Breakfast
WHY: The event directly supports the girls at PACE Center for Girls-Orange with academic and mental health programming.

Our AAUW Branch is a \$1000 event sponsor! As a PACE Board member and Table Captain, I am responsible for filling my table. Thank you to the AAUW members who will join me at the breakfast: Leslie Lieberman, Diana Secor, Barbara Knapp, Linda Hammersla, Pat Nichols, Debbie Travis, Mary Himes, and Carol Gort (friend of PACE).

This is PACE's major annual fund-raising campaign with a goal of \$65,000!

You don't have to attend the breakfast to support this effort, so PLEASE consider making a contribution. All contributions made by AAUW members and friends will be credited to the AAUW table. In past years, our table has had one of the highest contribution amounts, and I hope to continue that tradition.

I will be at the May meeting or contributions can be sent to me: Karen Buchan, 1085 S. Lakemont Avenue, Apt. 412, Winter Park, FL 32792. All checks received before the breakfast will be turned in at the breakfast.

Please make checks payable to: PACE - ORANGE

Another way to make a contribution: Text BIG22 to 76278.

Thank you!

Karen Buchan

Since this will be the final Branchline until the fall, a few of us want to let you know that there will be some opportunities for you to get involved with PACE for the 2022 holiday season.



For many years, AAUW has invited our members to provide a traditional Thanksgiving for PACE girls and their families. Members provide food that they make, monetary donations, and assistance the day of the dinner to set up, serve, or clean up. It's a festive, fun event enjoyed by our members as much as by the PACE families and staff.

Pat Stamm initiated this event several years ago, and has ably led us each year so that we now have good estimates of what is needed based on the numbers of PACE students each year. Pat and her crew are needing to pull back a bit, and would warmly welcome some new leadership to handle this event. Former crew members would continue to assist, but we'd like to train new leadership to take the helm. This could be one individual or a team effort. We just see this as an opportunity for new leaders to get involved with PACE and with AAUW. Give it some consideration – you won't regret it!

Shortly after Thanksgiving, a very festive holiday event has evolved over the years. Our branch of AAUW hosts a party for the PACE students with crafts, a brunch, and with Miracle Bags filled with gifts for each girl. PACE staff works with us to order a gift which each girl would like, and our members "adopt" a girl to provide that gift for her adopted girl. We've had a hard-working, fun-loving committee headed by Pat Stamm and Anne Landrum, and would like to share the fun with other members who would be interested in being involved.

This is your chance to step up and make a difference in PACE girls' lives. The committee would work with you, so that you could see what has been done in the past. It's so rewarding – probably one of the most rewarding volunteer opportunities you could ever be involved in.

Please give these opportunities some serious thought. You can email Pat or Anne with questions or suggestions.

Karen Gillett
 karen555g@hotmail.com

Pat Stamm: patsnpans@yahoo.com

Anne Landrum: alandrum2@cfl.rr.com

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

Our Booklovers reading year is winding up with most groups reading *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell.

Booklovers VII will read *Big Sister, Little Sister, Red Sister* by Jung Chang.

We welcome all new AAUW Members who wish to join a book group. While the reading year is almost over, we will be finding a place for all new members who wish to join a group, so you will have a place next year. To get a head-start for next year, please note that the reading list is out for next year, and the first book we'll be reading in September is *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge. Happy Reading!

Ellen James, Booklovers Coordinator
Ellenjames54@gmail.com

Book lovers IX will meet throughout the summer months at 9:30 a.m. on the first Wednesday. (Note time change.) For more information, contact Lynda Hinckley (lyndahinckley217@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 meets on May 25 at 1 p.m. to discuss *Murder at Archly Manor* by Sara Rosett. If you are interested in joining this group, contact Karen Deo at Karen.deo@gmail.com

Cooking Globally: See page 8 for news regarding the resumption of this deliciously popular activity. For more information, contact Adrienne Katz at katzaid@yahoo.com

Couples Dining Party (Formerly Dining Couples) Six couples will meet on Sat., May 21, at the "Dovecote" in downtown Orlando. For more information, contact Eileen Garrison at 407-620-9703.

Dining In: Meets Friday, May 6, at noon at the home of Karen Buchan. 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 Linda Fessel at Lfessel@Comcast.net if you would like to chair or co-chair this group.

Exploring Central Florida (ECF): See page 3 for information on ECF's next outing. If you would like to be part of this tour, please contact Linda or Christine to get on the email contact list.

Linda Fessel at Lfessel@Comcast.net or Christine Porter at portercl7166@gmail.com. If you are already on the contact list, you may RSVP directly to Karen Gillett (see page 3).

Foreign Affairs: The Foreign Affairs Group will meet on Sunday, May 22, at 2 p.m. We will discuss "Changing Demographics." Martha Williamson will moderate the discussion. 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 Linda Fessel at Lfessel@Comcast.net if you would like to chair or co-chair this group.

Lunching Out: Time, date, and location for Lunching Out in May has not yet been determined. However, all members currently signed up for the Lunching-Out group will soon be sent more information. Contact Linda to be added to the list: Lfessel@Comcast.net

MahJongg: Is currently meeting on Thursdays at Club 24 in Winter Park from 1-4 p.m. Want to learn the game? We will teach you. For more information, contact Linda Fessel: Lfessel@Comcast.net or Karen Deo: Karen.deo@gmail.com



IT'S BAAACK!!

Cooking Globally *aka* Global Cooking *aka* International Cooking *aka* Global Dining has survived the pandemic, grabbed frying pans and aprons and will march back triumphantly into the kitchen—or in this case Club 24. [We suggest that your first order of business should be deciding on a permanent name for your group! ed.]



International Cooking/Global Dining will meet on the THIRD TUESDAY of the month at 11:30, in Club 24.

MAY 17 will feature recipes from AAUW member and cookbook author extraordinaire, Myra Gaziano. Her recipe choices in May will be Polish. Check with Myra for her suggestions for appetizers, salads, side dishes and desserts.

Myra is cooking a pork entree, and Adrienne Katz Katz will prepare Blueberry Mazurka from Myra's cookbook.

June will feature recipes from Greece.

The group has already prepared recipes from 25 countries since it began. We learn about the countries, customs, music, culture and share our own travel experiences and souvenirs. Join us for fun, friendship...and, oh yes, great food!

Please call or email Adrienne (321-695-4445, katzaid@yahoo.com) to confirm your attendance a week in advance and for directions.

POET'S CORNER

If you need to shed some extra pandemic pounds to get into that bathing suit you bought 3 years ago, why not try another exercise regimen. I heartily endorse mine. It's called . . .

Shoppercize

I hate the word aerobics,
I sneer at Jazzercise,
So I've begun a fitness plan
that I call "Shoppercize."

I work my thighs and knees and calves
and do it all at Saks,
I lift my legs, I bend and stretch
while trying on some slacks.



Dilliard's has the activewear,
the workout is ideal,
'Cause struggling into biker shorts
should give me buns of steel.



I need no gyms, salons or spas,
I've simply changed my goals,
So you can find me every day,
in the dressing room at Kohl's.

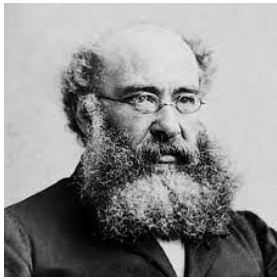
Though body building's all the rage,
I've gotta tell ya sister,
I'd much rather be bench-pressing
dacron-polyester.

Sit-ups, knee-bends, biceps curls
will leave you dripping wet,
But when I flex my credit cards
I never break a sweat.

Let the dumb belles lift the dumbbells,
I keep fit from head to toes,
I may not lose a lot of weight,
but boy do I have clothes!

Linda Fessel

MISCELLANEOUS



The Trollopians have been meeting for 25 years, reading one book by the great author, Anthony Trollope, each year. We welcome newcomers. Anyone who would like to meet one of the best Victorian writers of all time is welcome to participate. The group will meet on

Wednesday, July 13, 2022 at 1:00 p.m., either in person or on Zoom. Members will be notified by email where we will meet as we get closer to the date. If you would like to join, please contact Joyce Folsom at 407-696-0769 or at Folsom_joyce@yahoo.com

The book we will be discussing this year is *Dr. Thorne*. Written in 1858, *Dr. Thorne* is the third book in Trollope's Barchestershire series. Son of a bankrupt landowner, Frank Gresham is intent on marrying his beloved Mary Thorne, despite her illegitimacy and apparent pov-

erty. Frank's ambitious mother and haughty aunt are set against the match, however, and push him to save the family's mortgaged estate by making a good marriage to a wealthy heiress. Only Mary's loving uncle, Dr. Thorne, knows the secret of her birth and the fortune she is to inherit that will make her socially acceptable in the eyes of Frank's family, but the high-principled doctor believes she should be accepted on her own terms. A telling examination between society, money and morality, "*Dr. Thorne*" is enduringly popular for Trollope's affectionate depiction of rural English life and his deceptively simple portrayal of human nature. (Amazon)



NOTE: The book has 562 pages, so members should plan to start reading it early.

A VISIT TO THE CANNABIS FARM



Exploring Central Florida visited the Cannabis Farm with 20 members on Tuesday, March 29.



Sandy snuggles up for a closer look!



John, our tour guide, proved to be a fount of information on the subject of cannabis.

What's new from Nickwhistle?



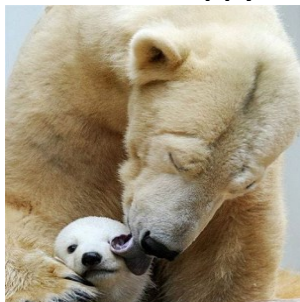
Our Branch was able to fund the registration for 8 students from UCF and FPU to attend the virtual 2022 National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). They will present a short write-up of their experiences for our first fall Branchline. The following students were recommended by their professors:

Saoulikie Bertin (UCF), Alisha Garner (UCF), Danielle Kassab (UCF), Yuki Lieu (FPU), Cassandra Parker (UCF), Vanessa Townsend (FPU), Anamaria Unzueta (FPU), Maria Valencia (FPU).

MAY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers I	4 <u>9:30 a.m.</u> B-Lovers IX <u>10 a.m.</u> B-Lovers VIII <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers II <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VII	5 1-4 Mahjongg	6 <u>12 Noon</u> Dining In	7
8 Mother's Day	9 <u>3:30 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VI	10 <u>12:30-1:30</u> Brd. Mtg.	11	12 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	13	14 General Meeting 10 a.m. — noon
15	16	17 <u>11:30</u> Global Cooking <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers V	18	19 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	20 <u>10:30</u> B-Lovers IV	21 Couples Dining Armed Forces Day
22 <u>2 p.m.</u> Foreign Affairs	23 Exploring Central FL	24	25 <u>1-3</u> B-lovers Lite	26 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg <u>1:30</u> B-Lovers X	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day	31				

Happy Mothers' Day



Wishing you all a
safe and healthy
summer . . .



See ya in September.

Linda Fessel, ed.,
The Branchline