



Orlando *** Winter Park
BRANCHLINE

Twenty-first Annual Spring Literary Luncheon

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2023

10:15 a.m. to 2 p.m.

University Club of Winter Park

841 North Park Avenue, Winter Park, FL 32789



Geri Throne is a journalist, freelance writer and author of *Secret Battles*, her first novel. A native of New Jersey, she studied journalism at Syracuse University. Most of her career was spent at the *Orlando Sentinel* newspaper as an investigative reporter, editor, and editorial writer before turning to creative writing and fiction. Her writing accomplishments include a first-place national award from the Education Writers Association for her editorial series on voucher schools and a first-place short story fiction award from the Florida First Coast Writers.

During her later years at the *Orlando Sentinel*, Throne became interested in writing a book set in World War II when her father gave her a box full of wartime letters and journals. Not until after he died did she open the journals describing dangerous near-misses and heartbreaking losses in gripping detail. Yet letters to his wife rarely mentioned those events. Wondering what scars her father brought home from the war, she subsequently wrote a nonfiction account of his war time experiences for the *Sentinel's* Florida Magazine.

Throne's book, *Secret Battles*, stays as close as possible to her father's Ninth Infantry Division's role in the war while using her imagination to create the novel and its unforgettable non-historic characters. Through her parents' letters, Throne shares the intimate struggle in *Secret Battles* of two people writing to keep hope and love alive during dark years in their lives.

Throne lives in Winter Park with her husband Ron and Coco, the wonder dog. She loves traveling, camping, boating and the sea.



From the President



Dear Branch Members,
MARCH has been designated as WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH which is a celebration of women's contributions to history, culture and society and has been observed annually in the month of March in the United

States since 1987.

The National Women's History Alliance has announced the theme for 2023—"CELEBRATING WOMEN WHO TELL OUR STORIES." Throughout 2023, the NWA is encouraging the recognition of women, past and present "who

have been active in all forms of media and storytelling, including print, radio, TV, stage, screen, blogs, podcasts and more. The timely theme honors women in every community who have devoted their lives and talents to producing art, pursuing truth, and reflecting the human condition."

The NWA poster for this year, which is entitled *Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories*, contains photos of Toni Morrison, Maxine Hong Kingston, Jovita Idar, Maya Angelou, Gerda Lerner, Gloria Steinem, Winona La Duke, Lillian Hellman, Betty Soskin, Willa Cather, Gertrude Stein, Marjory Stoneman Douglas. Some of these names are well known and familiar to me, others not. I will be doing a little research!

(Continued next page)

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Dr. Leslie Lieberman will continue on the Board, not only as President Emerita, but also as our liaison with the National AAUF and other organizations external to our Branch.

REMINDER:

Our General Meeting brunch is now \$20. The former \$18 charge is no longer sufficient to cover the room rental, food, set-up and clean-up.

From the President

(Continued from Page 2)

March 8 is INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY which celebrates the social, cultural, economic and political achievements of women across the globe. The day focuses on unity, equality, and advocacy especially in a world where the differences and injustices between women and men are still prevalent.

Over 20 countries celebrate this holiday which has been recognized as a holiday by the United Nations (since 1977) and over 20 countries around the world—though not by the country from which the idea sprang—Ours! This was started in 1909 when thousands of women marched for better working conditions and higher wages in New York City. Its first official acknowledgment was in 1911. At this point, efforts to have it declared a

National Holiday in this country have not succeeded. For more information, access the website for THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY ALLIANCE <https://nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org/2023-theme/>

On a lighter note:

The oft-heard comment—*March comes in like a lion, and goes out like a lamb*—does not, for Floridians, seem to be at all apropos; thankfully, here we celebrate beautiful weather days during this month. This certainly does not apply in many other States—witness news reports of snowstorms this past week!

Best wishes for a great March with its Spring Equinox and . . . the return of Daylight Savings Time.

Diana Secor

President, AAUW
Orlando/Winter Park Branch



VP Membership

It's time to start thinking about dues! Here's what you need to know:

DO NOT PAY ANYTHING ONLINE TO NATIONAL—EVEN IF THEY BEG YOU.

National Dues have been increased this year. State and local dues remain the same. Here's the breakdown

National:	\$??
State:	12
Branch:	14
Total	\$??

Why the "???" There is currently some confusion over the current amount for the National dues. So until this is resolved, please hold off sending any checks. But while you're waiting for the final number, grab an envelope and copy the following:

AAUW
P.O. Box 884
Winter Park, FL 32790

DO NOT PAY ANYTHING ONLINE TO NATIONAL—EVEN IF THEY THREATEN YOU.

Ann Burnham

V.P. Membership
annmburnham@gmail.com

This Day in Science History



On this day (23 Jan) in 1911, The French Academy of Sciences turned down the membership application of Nobel Prize winner Marie Curie. Later in the same year, she won her second Nobel Prize.

Our AAUW (American Association of University Women) branch has a cablegram from Madame Curie thanking our branch for our \$5 donation to her research. In addition to actually engaging in her research, she had to raise the funds necessary to continue her work. Her cablegram is greatly treasured by our branch.

(Submitted by Adrienne Katz)

Advance gender equity for women and girls at Lobby Days 2023

March 13 to March 15

We will meet legislators face to face after two years of virtual lobbying due to the pandemic.

The AAUW Florida Public Policy Committee is working now to establish the 2022-2023 legislative agenda and planning a Lobby Day experience that will focus on public policy priorities: economic security, education, and civil rights.

Strength in numbers.

Meeting legislators in person is an effective and exciting way to make sure they understand AAUW positions on our priority issues. And there's strength in numbers. If every branch sent representatives to lobby, our case would be more powerful. Please start now to assemble a group from your branch.

We realize it is a commitment of time and money, so AAUW Florida will offer a small stipend to help offset travel costs. Stipend: graduated scale (\$50-\$80) depending on your driving distance plus \$50 to help with lodging. This is to help with expenses, not cover all of them.

Schedule: Our Lobby Days are planned near the start of the 2023 legislative sessions, which runs from March 7 to May 5.

AAUW advocates should plan to arrive in Tallahassee on **Monday night, March 13**, for a short meeting in preparation for our visit to the capitol on **Tuesday, March 14**.

A **Pre-Lobby Day Legislative Agenda/Public Policy Discussion and training session** will be conducted, **2 March 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.** prior to our departure for Tallahassee, addressing the "who, what, when, where, why and how of Lobby Days." **Please register for this Zoom event even if you will not be attending lobby days for information on how to advance gender equity through advocacy.**

You are invited to a Zoom meeting.

When: **Mar 2, 2023 7:00 P.M.** Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0sce6grjkvH9KFRB-DYykJVIYME40k5zg8>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Dinner together Tuesday evening location TBA.

Continued next page

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

Lobby Days 2023

(Continued)

A Lobby Day action alert will be distributed while we are in Tallahassee. In order to receive the alert, you must be signed up as a Two Minute Activist.

Plan ahead:

If you are planning on attending Lobby Days 2023, start making your appointments with your state legislators today.

Also, it's not too early to **make hotel reservations**. The public policy committee has secured a block of rooms at the **Tryp By Wyndham, Hotel for Lobby Days**

Hotel Address: **Tryp By Wyndham**, formerly
Comfort Inn & Suites Tallahassee North - I-10
Capital Circle

**1978 Village Green Way
Tallahassee, FL 32308**

t: 850.204.4000

Hotel Booking: Please contact the hotel via phone to book (AAUW Florida Block) before 27 February 2023

Room Rate: \$85 per night

Leslie Sue Lieberman, Ph.D.
Professor Emerita UCF

Given the recent necessity to register for absentee ballots, you might be interested in this painting by Mary Cassatt. Although she was known for her paintings of mothers and children, this painting bore a powerful political message. The sunflower was the official symbol of the National American Woman Suffrage Association. By the time Cassatt painted *Woman with a Sunflower* around 1905, sunflowers had appeared on all kinds of official and promotional suffrage materials, such as a button emblazoned with the phrase "We want to vote for president in 1904."

Cassatt, *Mother with a Sunflower*, ca. 1905, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC



Submitted by Susan Rosoff

Interest Groups

We need an Interest Group Chair to act as liaison between the groups and the Branchline editor. This is not a difficult or time-consuming job. Got an idea for a new interest group? Let Linda publicize it in the Branchline. Lfessel@Comcast.net

Booklovers: Booklovers has a busy month—mainly the annual Literary Luncheon at the University Club. Most groups will be reading *Of Women and Salt* by Gabriela Garcia. BL VII will be reading *The Pioneers* by David McCullough. We hope you enjoy the many gift baskets put together by Booklovers Groups. They are clever and imaginative, so get to the luncheon and bid on all of your favorites. All proceeds from the auction go to our scholarships and is the only fundraising event for scholarships.

Ellen James, Booklovers Coordinator
Ellenjames54@gmail.com

Booklovers Lite: Booklovers Lite meets monthly on the last Wednesday at 1 p.m. at Marbeya Club Condominiums. The reading list is independent from those of the other book groups. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 29, when we will discuss *The Cater Street Hangman* by Anne Perry. If you are interested in joining this group, contact Karen Deo at Karen.deo@gmail.com

Dining In: The March Dining In luncheon will be hosted by Adrienne Katz on March 10. Contact Jane Rosen for more information: 321-295-7689 or mjcroser@hotmail.com.

Exploring Central Florida (ECF): Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. The Winter Park Garden Club has commissioned the Orlando Museum of Art to present a program specifically about *Flowers in Art*, and they have invited the AAUW Exploring Central Florida members to attend this free lecture, *Beyond Ornamental: The Significance of Flowers in Western Art* by Susan Rosoff. (Susan is a long-time member of AAUW, so as a show of support, let's have a

nice turnout.)

To assure you a seat at the lecture, please contact Barbara Buchele by March 6 at babuchele@gmail.com. If you would like to join ECF, please contact Linda to get on the email contact list at Lfessel@Comcast.net.

Foreign Affairs: The Foreign Affairs Group will meet on March 26. We will discuss the Great Decisions chapter on *Climate Migration*. Anne Coppenhaver will moderate the discussion. For further information, please contact D. Fuentes at tucu662@gmail.com or 407-310-1154.

Global Cooking/Dining: will meet at Club 24 on Tuesday, March 21, featuring the foods of Ireland in celebration of St. Patrick's Day—Shepherd's Pie, Irish Soda Bread, etc., yum. If you are interested in joining this fun activity, contact Adrienne Katz at katzaid@yahoo.com

Lunching Out: Two locations have been chosen for March. Check your emails for specific information. Contact Linda to be added to the Lunching Out contact list: Lfessel@Comcast.net

MahJongg: meets 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

WANTED

Members to join Booklovers Lite!

If you don't want to commit to the often challenging books of Booklovers, then give Booklovers Lite a try.

Our reading list includes mysteries, romances, westerns, humor, and stories with lots of plot twists.

Contact Karen Deo at Karen.deo@gmail.com

FUN FACT:

We have never found a cave painting of a salad.

I hate it when people act all intellectual and talk about Mozart, while they've never even seen one of his paintings . . .

Who knew that the hardest part about being an adult is figuring out what to cook for dinner every single night for the rest of your life until you die.

FROM OUR MEMBERS

The following was submitted by Leslie Lieberman.

I am the president of FL National Organization for Women and the Greater Orlando National Organization for Women. We are planning an Equal Pay Day Rally for March 18 (the first equal pay day is March 15, but that's during the week) at 11 a.m. outside of City Hall. We have a number of organizations participating or we are waiting on their confirmations. We think the gender pay gap fits into your mission, so we want to invite you to have a speaker and ask you to get the word out to attend the rally. This event is about keeping awareness up and being seen rallying around closing the gender pay gap.

Story of a 25 year old member: She works for WAWA right

now. She got a raise of \$.30/hour, but found out that the men got a 50 cents to \$1.00 raise. When she asked why they said it was based on productivity which is baloney. I was surprised that this overt discrimination could happen at a big company. The tip worker and domestic worker worlds underpin a lot of the gender pay gap.

We should connect on advocacy in the future if you are interested."

Debbie Deland

*President FL NOW, President Greater Orlando NOW
FL NOW Book Club Chair*

[If anyone is interested in speaking, call Leslie at 321-231-2007]

TAKING PRIDE IN WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH!

By Adrienne E. Katz Katz

Learn how far we've come--and how far we have to go!

Every woman today who has—in her own name—a job, a bank account, a credit card, a lease, a car, a mortgage, a diploma or a pension has these because she is standing on the shoulders of millions of women before her who fought for the right to vote and to gain these privileges.

Our grandmothers didn't have these rights—the generations of women since the 1920s have continued to open doors, break glass ceilings, and raise children who now take these rights for granted! Women voting, being politically aware and involved is the only way women will retain these hard-won rights!

Did you know:

-- A woman (Stephanie Kwolek) holds a patent for inventing Kevlar bullet-proof protection for our military and police? She worked for Dupont for 14 years without a promotion or a raise!

-- A woman (Hedy Lamarr) patented the technology now used for cell phones, and a Black woman ophthalmologist (Dr. Patricia Bath) patented the use of lasers in eye surgery?

-- A woman (Rear Admiral Grace Hopper) invented COBOL, the international computer language?

--More than half of students becoming doctors, lawyers, accountants, and vets are women?

-- Women hold nearly two-thirds of the outstanding student debt, and receive less Social Security and pensions--amounting to 70% of the retirement income that men

have?

-- Women decide more than 85% of purchases in the US economy?

-- Women's unrecognized inventions and discoveries in medicine and science impact every aspect of our lives?

-- Women are paid an average of 82 cents for every dollar a man earns for the SAME job? (See the Lilly Ledbetter law that President Obama signed in 2009!)

-- Women die from many medical procedures and drug doses that are safe for men? Why? Because they were developed largely by men, using men for research!

-- Same goes for airbags, seat belts and other safety equipment? A woman will die from a car accident that three men would survive!

Women have invented, discovered, and created so many improvements to our lives—but women's history that might inspire the women in our world—our daughters and granddaughters—has not been taught. Inform yourselves!

March has been designated as Women's History Month! Celebrate by registering to vote, continue learning about issues that affect you and your community, supporting and voting for candidates who will represent your best interests!

Join and participate in women's advocacy organizations such as the non-partisan American Association of University Women and the League of Women Voters in your state! That is a great way to honor our foremothers and maintain the momentum and the equality of women!

Progress is like riding a bicycle--if you stop moving forward, you fall over! DO YOUR PART!

MORE FROM OUR MEMBERS

Booklovers 5 visited our AAUW centenarian Thelma Robinson before her move to Atlanta. She is moving closer to her nephew, a cardiologist. A light lunch was served, and Booklovers reminisced about the way we all became connected with this remarkable lady. Thelma has lived in Orlando since 1988 when she retired from her work in New York. She welcomed all of us into AAUW when we moved here.

Born in Philadelphia, Thelma along with seven siblings was raised on a farm in West Chester, Pennsylvania. As a young girl she loved sports, and as an adult she continued her participation in tennis, volleyball and water aerobics. She kept a strong body and an inquisitive, independent mind. Excelling in academics, Thelma chose to pursue her education at Empire College, Harlem Hospital, where she was graduated with a degree in Community Health. New York Public Schools hired

her to be a school nurse, and it was there in New York where she touched so many young lives.

Thelma prides herself on her independence, but she has two children and countless nieces and nephews who are important parts of her life. Some of them wanted to go along when she planned her travel itineraries for Australia and Dubai. She was always going on a trip. On the road or at home, Thelma relaxes with books. Right now she is reading a book about her favorite new actress, Viola Davis, but of course, she reads the AAUW Booklovers choices too. When the Booklovers 5 left her on Tuesday, she was studying the Book Ballot for next season's picks.

We wish Thelma good things in Atlanta and a connection with AAUW there!

Article and photos submitted by Judy McDonald



Congratulations to Thelma Robinson who is celebrating her 100th birthday!



Holly Mandelkern sent the following:

"I am honored that three songs from my album '*Beneath White Stars*' are part of the radio program 'Songs for Holocaust Education Month' presented by [Mike Regenstreif](#)."

The songs featured are:

"No Art"

Vocals Meghan Hone / Piano Julian Bond / Violin Gustavo Eiriz

"Kissing the Wall"

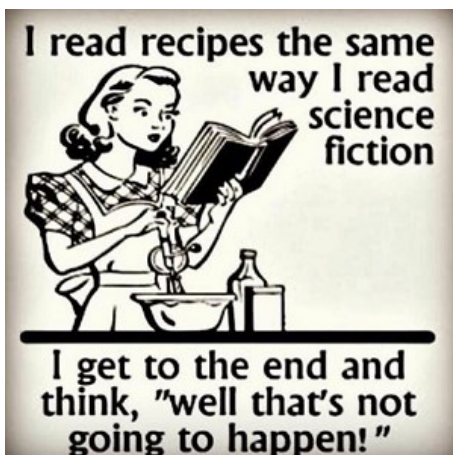
Vocals and Guitar Brendan Nolan / Fiddle Colin Farrell / Backing Vocals Michelle Amato

"Mr. Sugihara's Eyes"

Vocals, Guitar, and Mandolin Dave Curley

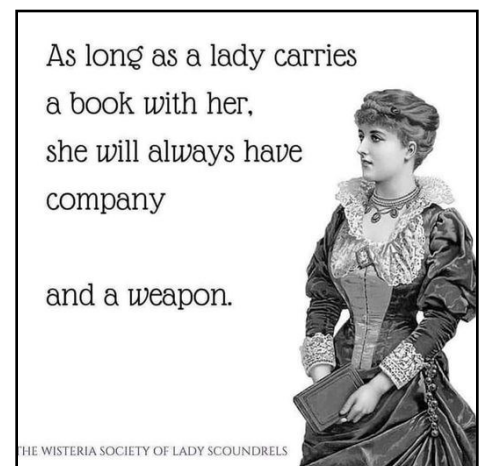
MARCH 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <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	2 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	3	4 <u>10:15 a.m.—3 p.m.</u> Literary Luncheon
5	6 <u>3:30</u> B-Lovers VI	7 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers I	8 <u>10:30</u> ECF combined with Orlando	9 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	10 <u>12 noon</u> Dining-In	11
12 Daylight Saving Time Begins	13	14 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers V	15 <u>11:30</u> Lunching Out	16 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg <u>1:30</u> B-Lovers X	17 <u>10 a.m.</u> B-Lovers IV St. Patrick's Day	18
19	20	21 <u>11:30</u> Cooking Globally (Ireland)	22	23 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	24	25
26 <u>2 p.m.</u> Foreign Affairs	27	28	29 <u>10:15</u> Brd. Mtg. <u>1-3</u> B-Lovers Lite	30 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	31 <u>11:30</u> Lunching Out	



It's never too late to start exercising.

That's why I'm waiting until later.



Sabor de España

At this year's Annual Literary Luncheon the Dining-In Group will offer a fun and memorable event. "A Taste of Spain" catered dinner will transport you on a savory experience with a menu that celebrates the classic and authentic flavors of the country. You will begin with a delightful medley of small plates or *tapas* (hot and cold appetizers) served with *Sangria Espumosa de Prosecco* which will gently lead you into a hot Andalusian lentil soup and a magnificent *plato principal* with your choice of pork or chicken. In the dreamiest and creamiest way to end this luxurious meal, you will enjoy a classic flan with fresh berries.

This is your opportunity to "travel" to Spain with seven of your amigas! The Dining-In "chefs" will offer the "A Taste of Spain" dinner as a silent auction item. Winning bidder will enjoy an authentic Spanish dinner for eight guests in her home prepared by the Dining-In "chefs." And that's not all! Your own private butler, Louie, will elegantly serve your guests. Don't miss your chance to bid on this delightful and delectable experience.



The Dining-In Group of eight discriminating foodies have been cooking together for over nine years and have traveled to Italy to enjoy hands-on cooking classes at Casa Gregorio, just south of Rome. Catered and exquisitely served, "A Taste of Spain" will be a truly memorable experience.

Please note:

Opening bid for the "A Taste of Spain" for 8 persons and butler service begins at \$400.

Winning bid includes delivery of the "A Taste of Spain" dinner for 8 persons with butler service.

Only last-minute preparations and finishing touches will be done in the hostess's home.

The hostess will provide linens, china, glassware, cutlery and other table service items.

Beverages will be provided by the hostess unless indicated in the menu.

Unfortunately, special diets cannot be accommodated.

The "A Taste of Spain" dinner will be provided at the convenience of the hostess, but please, no holiday weekends.

See the menu next page

Sabor de España!

TAPAS

Servido con Sangria Espumosa de Prosecco

Pimientos de piquillo rellenos , Patatas Brava, Albondigas Pequeñas, Plato de Charcutería con: queso manchego, olivos, uvas, rebanadas de naranja, almendras Maticas *(petite stuffed peppers, crisp roasted potatoes, petite meatballs, Charcuterie platter with manchego cheese, olives, grapes, orange slices and savory almonds)*

SOPAS

Sopa de Lentejas Andalusia

(Lentil Soup)

PLATO PRINCIPAL

(Main Dish)

ESTOFADO CATALÁN

Costillas Cortas de Cerdo

(braised pork short ribs with olives)

OR

POLLO MARBELLA

Pollo Marinado con Cirudas y

Albaricoques

*(marinated roast chicken with
prunes and apricots)*

ACOMPANAMIENTO

POLENTA SUAVE CON MANCHEGO

(creamy polenta with cheese)

ENSALADA DE ESPINACAS

(spinach salad with pine nuts and beets)

PAN ESPAÑOL CRUJIENTE

(crusty Spanish bread)

POSTRE

FLAN CON BAYAS FRESCAS Y GALLETAS DE ALMENDRAS

(Flan with fresh berries and almond cookies)