Volume XXXII, Issue 9

https://orlando-fl.aauw.net

May 2024



Orlando *** Winter Park BRANCHLINE



MAY

GUEST SPEAKER

DEREK DEMETER

SATURDAY BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Saturday, May 11, 2024

Time: 9:30 to 11:30

First Congregational Church of W.P.

225 S. Interlachen Avenue, Winter Park

From Ancient Healers to Modern Medicine: How Space is Helping Save Lives

The stars have always been an inspiration for discovery. In the night sky our ancestors saw healers who helped protect humanity. Today, humans travel into space and spend prolonged periods of time on the International Space Station two hundred and fifty miles above the earth. They undertake research into cures that could otherwise not be possible on Earth. These experiments and observations have led to both a better understanding of disease pathology of cancer, Alzheimer's disease, bone loss and shingles and the development of breakthrough medical technologies such as ear thermometers, insulin pumps, artificial heart defibrillators and mammograms.

Our speaker is Derek Demeter, Director of the Emil Buehler Planetarium, Seminole State College. He has degrees in physics with specialization in astronomy and technical education. He has held a number of leadership positions in local, state, national and international astronomy societies and associations and served as President of the Southeastern Planetarium Association.

Mr. Demeter is the recipient of many awards and was featured in *Smithsonian Magazine*. He is a photographer, especially of astrophotography, has unearthed important fossils and even sings opera. In an interview, he is quoted as saying "I am most proud of being able to translate my passion for science to my community." And we know from last year's presentation on the James Webb telescope that he does this expertly.

COST: \$20

\$10 for first-time guests & visitors

HOW TO PAY

- 1. Cash or check at the door or
- 2. ZELLE (see page 3 for explanation)
- 3. Send check to the following:

AAUW

P.O. Box 884 Winter Park, FL 32790 (allow 5 days delivery time)

Make check payable to

AAUW-Orlando/Winter Park

RSVP BY WED., MAY 8 USE THE NEW RESERVATION EMAIL:

AAUWreserve@gmail.com

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

Volume XXXII, Issue 9

Orlando-fl.aauw.net

May 2024

Page 2

From the President



May, for our Branch, signals the last general meeting before our summer hiatus. Our meeting on May 11 will have the introduction and installation of our new and continuing Board of Directors led by our Parliamentarian, Barbara Knapp. In addition to our Guest

Speaker, Mr. Derek Demeter, we will also introduce two of our scholarship winners this year. Along with our Board of Directors and activity leaders, I extend our thanks for your support this past year.

We will open are next active year with a Kick-Off Celebration on September 14, from 2-4 p.m. Our various groups will have displays and information on their activities in the coming year. May has two significant holidays – MOTHERS' DAY, May 12 and MEMORIAL DAY, May 27.

The American incarnation of Mothers' Day was created by Anna Jarvis in 1908 and became an official U.S. Holiday in 1914 – 110 years ago - when Woodrow Wilson officially established the second Sunday in May as Mothers' Day in honor of all mothers.

Memorial Day is celebrated this year on Monday, May 27. It is a Federal Holiday in the United States for honoring and mourning U.S. military personnel who have died in service to our Country. This holiday, originally called "Decoration Day," was celebrated from 1868 to 1970. In 1971, Congress renamed the holiday "Memorial Day" and marked its observance as the last Monday in May.

Best wishes to all of you for a happy and safe summer

Díana Secor, President AAUW, Orlando/Winter Park Branch

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Co-VP Membership: Irene Pruzan irene-pruzan@juno.com and				
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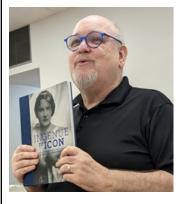
Volume XXXII, Issue 9

Orlando-fl.aauw.net

May 2024

Here's what You missed if you did not attend the General Meeting on April 13:

Professor Howard Vincent Kurtz spoke about the *Fashion* of Marjorie Merriweather Post. Most of us knew some facts about the Post Cereal heiress, but Professor Kurtz revealed stories about her trend-setting fashions, her multiple marriages, and her 3 daughters, one of whom was the actress Nedenia Hartley, better known as Dina Merrill.





Installation of new officers will take place on Saturday, May 11.

Vice President for Membership: Irene Pruzan has been a member of AAUW Orlando/Winter Park branch since 2000, where she did PR and created the branch's first website. As a member of the University Club of Winter Park, Irene was on the Membership, Program, and PR committees. She served for twelve years on the Board of the Florida Flute Association as Program Chair for the annual convention, Vice President, President and Board Chair, as well as 5 years on the National Flute Association's Pedagogy Committee.

Co-VP Finance Director: Collette Davis has been a member of AAUW for more than 10 years. She has served the Branch in the capacity of Secretary for the Saturday meetings; and although not yet elected, she has recently attended Board meetings to learn about the Branch finances and the proposed budget. She will join Co-Finance Director Parveen Wahid.

We are grateful to the following officers who have agreed to serve a second 2-year term:

President, Diana Secor Secretary, Linda Fessel

Leslie S. Lieberman, Ph.D. Chair, Nominating Committee



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Page 3

Orlando-fl.aauw.net

May 2024



VP Membership

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER

Kay Canavan CanavantJR@aol.com Regis University, B.S., Tech Mgmnt, 1988

Addresses and phone numbers can be found on the website under Members Only. Contact Linda Fessel, Maria Bonnet or Ann Burnham (see their contact information on page 2 of the newsletter) to get the password.

Ann Burnham V.P. Membership annmburnham@gmail.com

AAUW National plans to send out renewal notices and email reminders. They want you to send your dues to them. Ignore those renewal notices and email reminders. Our Branch will collect your dues as we have always done. Do not let them bully you into paying your dues. That is OUR job!



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, June 29, at 7 p.m.

The Fannie Lou Hamer Story

A One-Woman Play Written and Performed by

Mzuri Moyo Aimbaye thefannielouhamerstory.com

Women's Club of Winter Park 419 S. Interlachen Ave. Winter Park, FL 32789

Cost: \$25

More Info Contact: Bchandler@crealde.org



VP Finance

It is time to renew

your dues!

REMINDER:

If you receive a request for dues, and the request comes from National, treat it like spam. <u>DO NOT</u> <u>SEND THEM ANY MONEY!</u>

Ignore their pleas, threats, admonishments, coercions or intimidations.

Our branch is the sole collector of your dues!!.

Dues remain the same: (\$98) The breakdown is as follows:

National

State

Branch

 \$72 (only this portion is tax deductible;)
 (Supports the many programs that AAUW Champions)
 \$12

\$14 (used for operations)

Our fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30, i.e., July 1, 2024—June 30, 2025. Any payments received for dues and new memberships collected March through June will cover that fiscal year. Dues are payable in June. But if you pay earlier, you will be covered for the whole fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. The directory is scheduled to be assembled over the summer, and we must have a record of your payment in order for you to be an official member and be included in the Directory.

Make your dues check payable to:

AAUW Orlando/Winter Park

Pay at the meeting or mail to:

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

Zelle is also an option (see page 3)

NOTE: If you pay your dues at the May meeting, please use a separate check (do not include the \$20 meeting charge). Using separate checks helps with accounting. Orlando-fl.aauw.net

May 2024

Page 5

Scholarships

Five outstanding women have each been awarded a \$1500 Branch Scholarship.

This year our Scholarship Committee received 17 applications from women and one man ranging in age from 18 to 30, attending 8 different colleges/universities and pursuing bachelors, masters or doctoral degrees. It is a challenging task to only select a few, and we wish we could assist them all. The five most outstanding ones were chosen! Hope you enjoy reading a brief excerpt from the essays of each scholarship recipient:

Clarissandra attends UCF and is pursuing a Ph.D. in Chemistry. Clarissandra wrote, "After completing my Ph.D. degree, I would like to pursue an academic career where I can educate the new generation of environmental chemists. Teaching and mentoring others is something that always brings me a sense of joy and purpose. Overall, I find joy in knowing that pursuing this degree will allow me to give back to the science community which has helped in shaping the person and scientist I am today." Clarissandra volunteered at the Orlando Science Center where she provided hands on scientific experiences for K-12 students.

Trinidee is working on her M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling at Stetson University in Deland. She noted, "As a Latina woman, I am aware I am a minority within my field. It is imperative that the Hispanic and Latino communities have adequate representation within the mental health field. Twenty years from now, I will be aiding survivors of violent crime by leading a victim Assistance Rapid Deployment Team within the Victim Services Division of the FBI." Trinidee is currently writing a book chapter with a former professor at Rollins College where she completed her bachelor's degree; the chapter explores the effects of para-social relationships on social media marketing.

Shivani is pursuing a Ph.D. in Securities Studies/ Intelligence & National Security at UCF. Shivani wrote, "In my culture, which is West Indian, there is a common proverb that goes, 'They can take everything from you, but they can't take your education.' My desire to achieve higher degrees is rooted in my parents' dreams when they arrived in the US in the mid-90s from Guyana." Shivani has participated in various community service projects. Her interest in supporting creative artists prompted her in January 2024, to co-found a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Vaani Inc., which is dedicated to the promotion and preservation of West Indian cultural arts.

Daniella is working on her B.S. in Molecular & Cellular Biology/Chemistry at UCF. Daniella noted, "I aspire to be a technician and work my way up to becoming a manager in a molecular diagnostics or research laboratory." She has already been accepted into the Georgia Institute of Technology's Master's in biology program. "Upon moving from Puerto Rico to the US at the age of 14, I was unfamiliar with the country's educational system and did not know what to expect." She graduated in the top 10% of her high school class and has maintained a 4.0 GPA in college! Daniella had the opportunity to be involved in several organizations and groups at UCF, most notably the UCF National Center for Forensic Science's biological evidence branch.

Yana is completing her B.S. in Health Sciences at Stetson University and will pursue a Masters in Public Health this fall. Yana is a citizen of Ukraine. She wrote, "The war in Ukraine threw my aspirations into sharp relief, highlighting the critical role of public health in a nation's resilience. My ultimate career aspiration is to return to Ukraine and contribute to the rehabilitation of its healthcare system in the aftermath of war. Growing up with parents as English teachers instilled in me a passion for TEFL." She has a strong spirit of volunteerism and noted, "These experiences, from English clubs to refugee aid, have been more than just acts of service; they've been testaments to the enduring power of community."

Clarissandra and Trinidee plan to attend our May Brunch program!

A BIG THANKS to our Scholarship Committee: Barbara Knapp, Sherry Kragler, Sue McDonald and Suzanne Schneider. We welcome two new members to our committee: Mary Young and Deborah Hartline. During the summer, we will be reviewing scholarship applications for our Valencia Foundation Endowed Scholarship.

> *Karen Buchan* Scholarship Committee Chair

May 2024

Interest Groups	<u>Dining In</u> : Dining-In meets at noon on the following dates:			
<u>Booklovers:</u> So many reasons to celebrate	Friday, May 3, home of Sherry Levy Friday, June7, home of Diana Secor Friday, August 2, home of Jane Rosen			
Booklovers have reason to celebrate. Our active partici- pation results in many benefits, only two of which I'll mention here.	No meetings in July. Contact Jane Rosen for more information: 321-295-7689 or mjcrosen@hotmail.com.			
Our Booklovers dues funded \$600 towards materials for the PACE Center for Girls summer program. This session can now incorporate books about computer coding, en- trepreneurship, and creative writing. Our thanks to Anne Landrum and her committee for making this sup- port possible.	Exploring Central Florida (ECF): Plans are being made for an outing in May. If you are not currently on the ECF contact list, you need to do so in order to get infor- mation for this and upcoming tours. Contact Linda at LFessel@Comcast.net. Or fessel.linda@gmail.com			
And Booklovers may celebrate the coming 2024-25 read-	Foreign Affairs: All readings are from the <i>Great Decisions</i> book.			
ing season. After members nominated, individuals coor- dinated, and groups voted, our book selections are as follows:	Sunday, May 19, 2 p.m. Chapter 6: Invisible Indonesia Home of Mary Himes; Jackie Hughes, Presenter			
2024 September: The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride October: Differ We Must by Steve Inskeep	Sunday, June 23, 2 p.m. Chapter 3: Risky science across borders Home of Mary Himes; Mary Himes, Presenter			
November: Party Going by Henry Green December: No book assigned. We party as we wish.	Sunday, July 28, 2 p.m. Topic and location to be determined			
2025	Sunday, August 25, 2 p.m. Topic and location to be determined			
January: Old God's Time by Sebastian Barry February: Gator Country by Rebecca Renner March: First Ladies by Marie Benedict and Victoria C. Murray	Check with Mary Himes for more information: m.waltzhimes@gmail.com			
April: The Hidden Life of Trees by Peter Wohlben May: Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt	Interest Groups Continued Next Page			
To all Booklovers: enjoy this final month of 2023-24. I look forward to another good year. If you are interested in learning more about our wonderful Booklovers groups, please contact me, Missy Baker, Booklovers Co- ordinator, bakerworks@gmail.com.	From Our Members			
(Note: Not all booklovers groups are reading the same books. Contact individual group leaders to see their lists.)				
Booklovers Lite : Booklovers Lite meets monthly on the last Wednesday at 1 p.m. The reading list is independ- ent from those of the other book groups. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 29, from 1-3 p.m. We will be discussing <i>The Engineer's Wife</i> by Tracey Enerson Wood. Contact Karen Deo at	You have to keep challenging yourself: Get exercise, use your brain, and find projects that you can really contrib- ute to," says Mayflower resident Martha Williamson. "The key to thriving as an older adult is planning ahead			

and facing the future head-on."

Karen.deo@gmail.com for more information.

May 2024

Page 7

More Interest Groups

<u>Global Dining aka International Cooking</u> <u>Tuesday, May 21</u>

The doors open at 11:30--we eat around noon. Club 24 is located at 1824 Summerfield, Winter Park.

Our theme will be SEAFOOD! I am making "A Whole Yellowtail Snapper Baked in Salt Crust." It's not salty and your house never smells like fish using this recipe.

Some dishes I've suggested to buy or make are:

Shrimp Cocktail, Shrimp Creole, Shrimp Etouffee

Clam Chowder, Red or White)

Tuna Fish Salad Smoked Fish Dip Crab Dip

Salmon Patties/Fritters Corn Fritters Hush Puppies

Caesar Salad Fruit Salad Key Lime Pie Lemon Meringue Pie





Well, you get the idea!

Our diners number anywhere from 4 to 20, so please bring enough to share. Leftovers are a side benefit of our gatherings, besides great conversation!

Call Adrienne Katz Katz (321-695-4445) to discuss your choices and to let me know you're coming.

You are welcome to bring a friend to join the fun!

Hugs from Adrienne Katz Katz (321-695-4445), or (katzaid@yahoo.com)

Lunching Out: Lunching Out will be meeting on Monday, May 13, at 11:30. Please check your emails for details. Lunching Out hopes to meet through the summer. 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

The Trollopians

We are a Booklovers reading group that meets only once each year in the summer. Anthony Trollope is one of the greatest Victorian writers of all time with an international following. The Trollopians have been reading and discussing one of his books each year since



2000. Please join us at 2 p.m. on July 31, 2024, at the home of Barbara Buchele for our next discussion.

We will be reading *The Small House at Allington*. Published in 1864, this is the fifth novel from Trollope's famous Barsetshire series. Set in the vividly imagined cathedral town called Barchester, it is the story of the embittered old bachelor Squire Dale and his impoverished nieces, Lily and Bell. Trollope displays all the humor, drama and subtle grasp of character and motive that have, for more than a century, made his novels a total pleasure to read.

Please contact group leader Joyce Folsom at folsom_joyce@yahoo.com or at 407-696-0769. You will be contacted by email prior to the meeting.

MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

AAUW National has a very important By-Law change coming up for a vote of the members which will affect all branches. In short, the AAUW Board of Directors and the AAUW Governing Committee are recommending that AAUW open membership to any individual who supports AAUW's important mission of advancing equity for women and girls. This will be the sole requirement for eligibility and admissibility to AAUW membership. (Going forward, no college or university degrees would be required!)

Sadly, although we have been working to correct our membership roster with National, many will not be able to vote before the May 15 deadline. If you DO receive an email ballot from National, please vote! It will take 60% of the voting membership to pass.

MAY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <u>9:30 a.m.</u> B-Lovers IX B-Lovers VIII <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	4
5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers I	8	9 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	10	11 <u>9:30—11</u> General Meeting
12 Mothers' Day	13	14 <u>2 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VI		16 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	17	18
19 <u>2 p.m.</u> Foreign Affairs	20	21 <u>11:30</u> Global Dining <u>1:30</u> B-Lovers V	22	23 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day	28	29 <u>10:30 a.m</u> . Brd. Mtg. <u>1-3</u> Booklovers Lite	30 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	31	