



Orlando * Winter Park
BRANCHLINE**



American Association of University Women
Invites Members, Neighbors, Friends, and Guests to the

AAUW SEPTEMBER KICK-OFF
OF ITS 97TH SEASON

September 14, 2024 From 2-4 p.m.

First Congregational Church of Winter Park
255 S. Interlachen Avenue, Winter Park

***Refreshments, Socializing, Information on our Interest Groups
and Monthly Programs***

Members: \$5 + Snacks

Free for Guests and Visitors

RSVP by Tuesday, September 11

AAUWreserve@gmail.com

Questions? Ann Burnham, Co-V.P. Membership—annmburnham@gmail.com
Irene Pruzan, Co-V.P. Membership—irene-pruzan@juno.com

From the President



The month of September has a number of holidays and designated observances – including Labor Day, and Patriot Day (9/11). It also lists designated celebrations for the month-- including: National Fruit & Veggie Month and Italian Cheese Month — a nice pairing!

This month traditionally leads us into the fall and winter months. Children are back in school, the weather gets cooler, and organizations begin new activities.

Our AAUW branch is growing. We start off our active year with the September KICK-OFF event on Sept. 14 for our members and guests to meet and socialize, enjoy refreshments, and learn about some of the many activi-

ties in which our branch participates including, among others, Booklovers groups, dining groups – both in and out, discussion groups, excursions and our scholarship and charitable projects.

We urge you all to come together with us on Saturday, September 14, for a fun and informative meeting.

Looking forward to a successful year....

Diana Secor, President
AAUW, Orlando/Winter Park Branch



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Tech Trek

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

Here's what you missed if you did not attend the General Meeting on May 11:



Derek Demeter, Director of the Emil Buehler Planetarium at Seminole State College, and an AAUW favorite speaker, spoke about how space is helping save lives.



Karen Buchan introduced Clarissandra and Trinidee, two of our scholarship recipients, who spoke briefly about their current studies and future goals.

From Our Members

The long hot summer did not stop some of our members from traveling. Here are some of their pictures and comments.



If the class looks like it's being held in a cave, that's because it is. You'll have to ask what purpose those ominous-looking sticks served.

On the right, Lynda Hinckley, Myra Gaziano and Leslie Lieberman of Dining In fame pose on their rooftop terrace in Modica (Sicily). They will attend a week of cooking classes and return with recipes worthy of their group. Excess weight is not in suitcases, but may show up elsewhere.



Christine Porter sent back photos from Greece. On left, Christine on Mount Cynthus; Oia; Santorini

More From Our Members



Linda Fessel visited her family in Irvine, California. On a clear day, you can see the San Bernardino Mountains from the backyard.

After their return from Sicily, the Dining-In group resumed their favorite activity: dining in! At the home of Jane Rosen, the group enjoyed chicken cordon bleu and summer salads with delicious cold retro desserts (chocolate pie with whipped cream and a blueberry pineapple creation).



Leslie, Adrienne, Sherry, Diana, Jane

Fannie Lou Hamer (Revisited)

In January, 2024, President Emerita, Dr Leslie Lieberman, arranged a preview of a one-woman show about Fannie Lou Hamer, "the mother of black voting rights," for our monthly meeting. Leslie then arranged for our AAUW branch to be one of its community partners in finding more venues to spread its message.

On Saturday, June 29, in-charge Lieberman helped to make the traveling production come to fruition. It was a sold-out packed house (\$25 a ticket) at The Woman's Club of Winter Park to see Hamer's story as written and portrayed by Mzuri Moyo Aimbaye, who also sang. The narration was by Djehuty Se Hotep.

The evening was a high achievement and a feather in Lieberman's cap--and the accomplishment--a credit for our Orlando/Winter Park chapter of AAUW, as the show's community partner.

Leslie stayed behind the scenes in the kitchen, seemingly single-handedly making sure the unexpected refreshments (more like dinner!) were ready to serve at the show's conclusion. Even more than usual, she deserves our appreciation and plaudits.

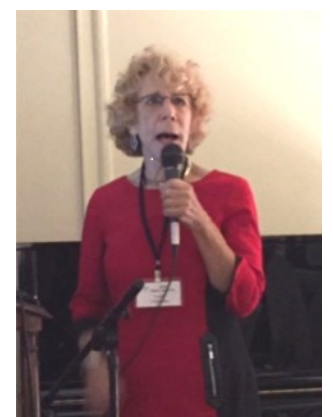
Submitted by Georgiana Havill



Martha Williamson, Betzy Ingle, Barbara Buchele, Maria Rubin



Mary Himes with Linda Fessel and friend



Dr. Leslie Lieberman

VP Membership



**ON SEPT. 14,
LET'S WELCOME
OUR NEW &
RETURNING MEMBERS**

We have a dedicated team preparing this year's directory. Maria Bonnet keeps the website up to date. Linda has been collecting your additions and changes to update the website and directory. Ann and Irene will assist in coordinating all the lists (including tracking dues payments). The final lists will then be compared against each other and against last year's directory. When lists don't agree, you may receive a text or phone call. If you have not yet notified Linda, please send her your current address, phone(s) and email. That way, you can be sure that all your information will be correct on the website and in the directory. If we do not hear from you, we will assume that your last input is still current.

Most Branches, indeed most organizations, have switched to on-line directories. In order to protect members' privacy, addresses and phone numbers are normally placed in a password-protected area.

Our Branch is unique in providing a printed members' directory. But the future is catching up with us. The value of a printed directory is becoming counter-productive in terms of both our members' time spent in producing a new one each year, plus the rising cost of printing, and keeping pace with the ultimate goal of a paperless society. That is why it is so important that all our members be able to access the directory on the website. Contact Linda Fessel, Maria Bonnet, or Ann Burnham (see their contact information on page 2 of this newsletter) to get the password and instructions to navigate the website. It's not difficult.



Ann Burnham
V.P. Membership
annmburnham@gmail.com
Irene Pruzan
V.P. Membership
Irene-pruzan@Juno.com

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. **DO NOT SEND THEM ANY MONEY!**

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	\$72 (only this portion is tax deductible;) (Supports the many programs that AAUW champions)
State	\$12
Branch	\$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 active 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

NOTE: If you pay your dues at the September meeting, please use a separate check (do not include the \$5 meeting charge). Using separate checks helps with accounting.

Scholarships



BRANCH SCHOLARSHIP

The application is on the website, and applications are submitted to my email (kgb@unknownegg.org) between January 1 and March 1. Applicants need to be enrolled at a regionally accredited college or university, preferably in the Central Florida area, or at least in Florida. Women (and men) are eligible—with some preference given to applicants who are returning to complete a degree or have overcome some challenges in completing their degree, plus their obvious enthusiasm and passion in pursuing their chosen career.

VALENCIA COLLEGE FOUNDATION ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

During the summer, I was notified that the Valencia Foundation was changing their scholarship review and award process to move the decision process from the sponsoring organization/donor to their large Foundation Committee. While this simplifies our work, we still have input. As stated in the Endowed Scholarship Agreement, the Fund will provide scholarship for Valencia College students who meet the following criteria established by AAUW:

1. Pursuing a degree in Business (criteria set forth by the originator of the scholarship, a member of AAUW).
2. Minimum GPA of 3.0.
3. Demonstrate participation in extracurricular and/or volunteer activities.
4. Demonstrates financial need.
5. Preference will be given to students who have overcome educational challenges prior to entering college (an alternative solution since we cannot name PACE attendance specifically).
6. Students awarded money from this fund may use the money for tuition, books, and fees.
7. When feasible, annual awards will be distributed evenly between a minimum of two recipients.

We will receive the names and brief information about the student(s) chosen to receive our Scholarship each year.

PACE NEXT-STEP GRANT

This grant was begun several years ago specifically for girls who have attended PACE and graduated from high school. While funds can be used for college/university degree programs, funds can also be used for trade/technical courses. There have not been many applicants – but – we are planning to work with the PACE staff this fall to promote this opportunity.

Karen Buchan
Scholarship Committee Chair



AAUW
Atlantic Regional
Conference



Empowering for Equity

SAVE the DATE

AAUW Atlantic Regional Conference
September 27th–29th, 2024
 Virginia Crossings Hotel & Conference Center
 1000 Virginia Center Pkwy, Glen Allen, VA 23059

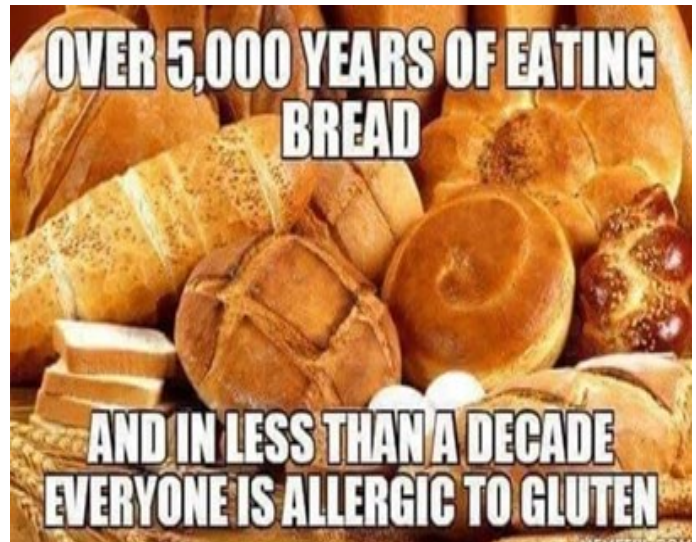


Hotel Amenities
 The Tavern Bar & Grill
 The Club Restaurant
 Fitness Center
 Free WiFi
 Room Service
 Free parking

Nearby Attractions

Levine Center Botanical Garden
 J. Murrey Brinkley Center
 Richmond National Battlefield Park
 Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
 Chickahominy Museum of Richmond
 Colonial Staff Course

"Each time a woman stands up for herself, without knowing it possibly, without claiming it, she stands up for all women."
 – Maya Angelou



Interest Groups

Booklovers:

A warm welcome to our 28th year of Booklovers! We continue a strong tradition of once-a-month stimulating discussions.

Some of the 10 various Booklovers groups met over the summer; others took a break. Last winter, members selected our September's title: *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Story* by James McBride. In store for the remainder of our 2024-25 reading season are the following books:

2024

October: *Differ We Must* by Steve Inskeep

November: *Party Going* by Henry Green

December: No book assigned. We party as we wish.

2025

January: *Old God's Time* by Sebastian Barry

February: *Gator Country* by Rebecca Renner

March: *First Ladies* by Marie Benedict and Victoria C. Murray

April: *The Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wohlben

May: *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt

True to our independent nature, some groups may opt for different selections.

Are you interested in joining the 77 other Booklovers? Stop by the Booklovers display at our local AAUW branch kick-off on September 14.

If you cannot attend our kick-off in September but wish more information, please contact Missy Baker, Booklovers Coordinator, bakerworks@gmail.com.

Booklovers Lite: Booklovers Lite meets monthly on the last Wednesday at 1 p.m. The reading list is independent from those of the other book groups. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 25, from 1-3 p.m. Contact Karen Deo at Karen.deo@gmail.com for more information.

Dining In: Dining-In meets at noon Friday, September 6, at the home of Myra Gaziano. Contact Jane Rosen for more information: 321-295-7689 or mjcrossen@hotmail.com.

Exploring Central Florida (ECF): If you are not currently on the ECF contact list, you need to do so in order to get information for upcoming tours. Contact Linda at LFessel@Comcast.net.

Foreign Affairs:

All readings are from the *Great Decisions* book.

Sunday, September 22, at 2 p.m.

Chapter 1, the U.S. and the Middle East

Susan Rogers will be the presenter and hostess for this discussion.

Check with Mary Himes for more information:
m.waltzhimes@gmail.com

Global Cooking: Our next Global Cooking LUNCHEON will be on Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 17! I open the doors at 11:30--we eat around noon. Club 24 is located at 1824 Summerfield, Winter Park. Our September theme will be "Middle Eastern" cuisine! If you have a preference for a particular country's recipes (like Iran or Turkey), go for it! If you found Middle Eastern dishes in a grocery or restaurant that you like, buy some and bring it to share. We are not purists--our goals are camaraderie, tasting different cuisines and trying new recipes. I will make Baba Ganoush, (roasted eggplant with roasted garlic, sesame oil, cumin, lemon juice and tahini.) I will also bring lavosh and pita. Meat dishes (grilled, gyro or kabobs) will fit well. Salads are appropriate, and side dishes can include tabouli, crudites, or any veggies you like! Baklava for dessert can be purchased at Whole Foods and other specialty stores. (I know some of you actually have made it!) There also are Middle Eastern Rice Pudding recipes. Please suggest ideas for the upcoming year! We always welcome new members, so bring friends or neighbors. Please let me know what YOU'RE bringing!

Adrienne E. Katz Katz 321-695-4445

Lunching Out: 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





PACE Center for Girls – A Little Background

More than 25 years ago, our AAUW branch began supporting PACE Center for Girls. This relationship is based on our mutual belief in equity for women and girls, along with our knowledge that education and belief in ourselves are key to accessing choices in life. The PACE program has proven to be an excellent match for our branch. Over and over, statistics show that 8 in 10 girls who had been failing in school, and then enter the PACE program, will improve their grades as well as their positive belief that they will succeed. Our AAUW members offer support to PACE in several ways – books, supplies, food pantry, scholarships and sponsoring special events.

Thanksgiving Lunch

Our first big event with PACE is the traditional Thanksgiving Lunch, held the Thursday before Thanksgiving, 11/21/2024. All AAUW members are invited to attend and serve the lunch, to bring a dish for the meal, or contribute money to purchase the turkeys and anything else needed. The girls and their families really look forward to this meal, and we AAUW women certainly enjoy providing it. There will be sign-up sheets at the September and October meetings to designate your contribution. Checks should be made out to AAUW Orlando Winter Park.

Food Pantry

A few years ago PACE asked AAUW to start a food pantry. One of the first girls to need the food was a girl whose mother was dying in the hospital leaving this girl to go home and fix dinner for her younger siblings. We

ask that you bring food to each general meeting. Leaders of our interest groups are encouraged to collect food and arrange for it to be delivered to PACE. This year PACE wants to create meal kits which provide balanced and nutritious meals for the girls who need food for their homes. Each month we will feature two different meals and ask that members bring items needed to prepare those meals.

1. Barbequed Chicken Burrito Bowls
 - 1 (9.76 oz) can white chicken
 - 1 bottle BBQ sauce
 - 1 (15 oz) can black beans
 - 1 (15 oz) can corn
 - 1 (14 oz) box instant brown rice
 - 2 cans pears or other fruit
2. Chicken Chili
 - 1 (14.5 oz) can chicken broth
 - 1 (4.5 oz) can diced green chilies
 - 1 (12.5 oz) can chicken breast
 - 2 (15.5 oz) cans beans, kidney, red, pinto or black
 - 1 (14.5 oz) can petite diced tomatoes
 - 1 can white corn
 - 1 (8 oz) tomato sauce
 - 1 packet chili seasoning

Personal Items Needed

Deodorant
Body Wash
Tooth Paste
Tooth Brush

Your PACE Team

Pat Stamm, Barbara Knapp, Karen Gillett, Karen Buchan, Roberta Cooper, Sue McDonald, Anne Landrum

**DON'T FORGET TO RSVP FOR THE
KICK-OFF ON SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 14.**

RSVP BY WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.
AAUWreserve@gmail.com

Some Additional Reminders:

THIS EVENT STARTS AT 2 P.M.

PLEASE BRING SNACKS FOR 8-10 PEOPLE. (Drew only provides beverages)

\$5 WILL HELP PAY THE RENTAL FOR THE CHURCH.

Refer any questions to Ann Burnham or Irene Pruzan

More News From PACE

PACE BIG (BELIEVING IN GIRLS) BREAKFAST

The annual PACE Believing in Girls Breakfast was held on June 6 in the beautiful DeVos Room at the Dr. Phillips Performing Arts Center in downtown Orlando. Five AAUW members attended. Pictured from left to right: Rhoda Spang, Linda Hammersla, Karen Buchan, and Adrienne Katz. Maria Rubin also attended. As always, there were joyful moments when the girls were singing, and tearful moments with personal testimonies.

Mary Marx, PACE National Director attended and gave brief remarks. It was a glorious morning filled with the heartfelt feeling that all is right in the world when we are helping girls be all they can be – right here in our community!

This is PACE’s once a year main “ask” event and a BIG THANK YOU goes out to all the AAUW members who made a contribution.

Please stop by the PACE table at our September Kick-off event on Saturday, September 14, to learn more about PACE and how you can be involved in our annual Thanksgiving luncheon planned for Thursday, November 21.



Submitted by Karen Buchan

Comments from Our Members

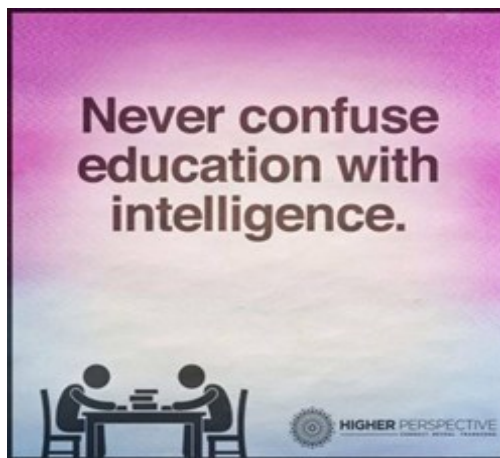
[The following was submitted by Georgiana A. Havill]

Opinion comment in today's *Washington Post* Aug 28, 2024: **“Masked protesters, kids’ unmasked book picks: When is anonymity okay?”** By Marc Fisher

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“To mask or not to mask. In the late 70s, my advertising offices were on the ninth floor of the Dupont Circle Building (1346 Connecticut Avenue). Often I was the only person on a descending elevator not wearing a brown paper bag over my head. It was understood that the (purportedly) Iranian students were headed out to march and demonstrate in protest to their country's leadership (and I was told, sometimes to US policies). However, it was clear that they had safety to do so only if their identities stayed unknown. Remaining anonymous was an imperative.

As for "unmasking" children's reading choices from libraries, they are seeking knowledge and information. Their freedom to navigate history, opinion, and facts is a fundamental right to being a fully-realized citizen who'll help propel this nation forward.”

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## IN MEMORIAM

Virginia (Ginny) Stuart  
August 19, 1931—May 19, 2004

Virginia Emilie “Ginny” Stuart, 92, passed away on Sunday, May 19, 2024, after a long, heart-breaking decline brought on by dementia.

Ginny was born in Irvington, NJ, the beloved only child of Henry Kriegsmann and Emilie Kurzenberger. She graduated from Columbia High School in Maplewood, NJ, and in 1953, earned a BA in South American Studies from Douglass College at Rutgers University.

At a local NJ farm called Mrs. Prince’s Fruit Stand, Ginny met James R. “Jim” Stuart, and they were married in 1956. Together, they raised three daughters:

Donna Stuart (Dean Pickering) of Forest, VA; Holly Stuart (Jacob Stuart Sr.) of Winter Park, FL; and Joy Stuart Willey (David Willey) of Delaplane, VA. Over the years, their family grew to include six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren who lovingly called her “Gram.”

Following college, Ginny worked for Prudential Insurance Company in the Group Insurance Department as a calculation reviewer. In 1967, Jim was offered the opportunity to work for Martin Marietta and the family moved to Winter Park, Florida. Ginny devoted herself to her family and to being an active volunteer at the Central Florida Civic Theater, the Citrus Council of Girl Scouts, First Congregational Church of Winter Park, and the American Association of University Women.

Ginny’s volunteerism paved the way for a return to the workforce at the Women’s Program Center at Valencia Community College. By the time she retired in 1996, she



was the manager of the program, and oversaw the local Displaced Homemaker Program which prepared divorced and widowed women to obtain employment to support their families. While working at Valencia, she returned to school and earned a Master’s in Counseling from Rollins College, and became a Licensed Mental Health Counselor.

For her deep commitment to the community, she was honored by numerous civic, arts, and education organizations and was recognized with a Summit Award from the Women’s Resource Center in 1993.

She enjoyed travel and, in her lifetime, visited seven continents and more than 50 countries. She was happiest spending summers in Banner Elk, NC, weekends in New Smyrna Beach, and visiting family and friends around the country. She enjoyed knitting, theater and symphony performances, was a competitive Bridge player, and loved hosting large family holiday celebrations. Among her greatest joys was taking care of her daughters and newborn grandbabies.

Services will be held privately and will also honor Jim, her beloved husband of more than 64 years who passed away in 2020. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the James R. and Virginia E. Stuart Scholarship fund at Bowdoin College – Office of Development, 4100 College Station, Brunswick, ME 04011-8432. To make a gift online or by phone, please visit [www.bowdoin.edu](http://www.bowdoin.edu) or call (888) 385-2254.

### We are sad to inform you of the passing of three other former members:



**Jean Walker**

Linda Fessel shares a moment with Jean (Life Member)



**Beulah Ali-Carr**

(VP Membership 2017-2018)



**Catherine (Kate) Adda**

Long-time member

# SEPTEMBER 2024

| Sun                                                                    | Mon                           | Tue                                                       | Wed                                                                                                                      | Thu                                             | Fri                           | Sat                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 1                                                                      | 2<br><b>Labor Day</b>         | 3                                                         | 4<br>9:30 a.m.<br>B-Lovers IX<br><br>10 a.m.<br>B-Lovers VIII<br><br>1 p.m.<br>B-Lovers II<br><br>1 p.m.<br>B-Lovers VII | 5<br>1-4<br>Mahjongg                            | 6<br>12 noon<br>Dining-In     | 7                                         |
| 8                                                                      | 9                             | 10<br>1 p.m.<br>B-Lovers I                                | 11<br>11:30—1<br>Lunching Out                                                                                            | 12<br>1-4<br>Mahjongg                           | 13                            | 14<br><b>2-4<br/>Kick-Off<br/>Meeting</b> |
| 15                                                                     | 16                            | 17<br>11:30<br>Global Dining<br><br>2 p.m.<br>B-Lovers VI | 18                                                                                                                       | 19<br>1:30<br>B-Lovers X<br><br>1-4<br>Mahjongg | 20<br>11:30—1<br>Lunching Out | 21                                        |
| 22<br>2 p.m.<br>Foreign<br>Affairs<br><br><b>1st day of<br/>autumn</b> | 23<br>11:30—1<br>Lunching Out | 24<br>11:30<br>Global<br>Dining<br><br>1:30<br>B-Lovers V | 25<br>10:30<br>Brd. Mtg.<br><br>1 p.m.<br>Booklovers Lite                                                                | 26<br>1-4<br>Mahjongg                           | 27                            | 28                                        |
| 29                                                                     | 30                            |                                                           |                                                                                                                          |                                                 |                               |                                           |

