



Orlando *** Winter Park BRANCHLINE



October

Election 2024: The Proposed FL Constitutional Amendments and County Charter Amendments

Our very own Adrienne Katz and a member of the League of Women Voters of Orange County will present the non-partisan pros and cons of the 6 proposed Constitutional Amendments that are on the ballot. Many have a direct and greater impact on WOMEN from school board elections to homestead exemptions to limiting government interference in abortion access.

Adrienne Katz is a native Floridian who has lived in many FL cities. She earned degrees from the University of Florida and the University of Miami. Adrienne has taught American History to students at all grade levels through college, worked for major law firms as Director of Marketing and was President of Consulting for the Professions, Inc. She and her husband, Bill Katz, have been Westminister Winter Park residents since 2015. Adrienne has been the Government Relations Chair for Residents for nine years.

Adrienne may be assisted by Anne Copenhaver, Carol Fogelsong and Rhoda Spang, members of AAUW and the League of Women Voters. Also worthy of a quick analysis are the 3 Seminole County Charter Amendments and 8 Orange County Charter Amendments.

Check out vote411.org to see what the candidates are saying about the issues.

The LWV develops a presentation with slides and handouts that is the basis for each Speakers Bureau presentation. The presentations cover: 1. Ballot Language, 2. The LWV position – yes, no, no position, 3. Synopsis & Historical Background, 4. Opponents of the Amendment, 5. Supporters of the Amendment, 6. What a “yes” vote would do/mean and 7. What a ‘no’ vote would do/mean.

SATURDAY BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Saturday, October 5

9:30-11:30

First Congregational Church of Winter Park
225 S. Interlachen Ave., Winter Park

COST: \$20

HOW TO PAY

1. Cash or check at the door or
2. Zelle
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., OCTOBER 2

USE THE RESERVATION EMAIL BELOW:

AAUWreserve@gmail.com

You are responsible for payment in full

if



From the President



With temperatures still climbing into the high 80s here, it is difficult to think that fall is here! The Autumnal Equinox arrived Sunday, September 22, 2024, at 8:44 a.m., so it's official.

Our Kickoff meeting, held September 14, was very successful – and judging by the buzz of talk and laughter in the room, everyone had a good time meeting old and new friends and browsing our activity exhibits. Thanks to all of you who participated.

This month we have a change in our regular breakfast meeting, moving from the second Saturday of the month, to the First Saturday—October 5. The Winter Park Fall Art Festival will be held the second weekend in

October with its accompanying traffic and parking problems which we wanted to avoid. Luckily, our meeting room was available for Saturday, October 5.

Looking forward to seeing you there – 9:30-11:30 breakfast and program.

Our BRANCHLINE, thanks to the efforts of our editor, Linda Fessel, is a gold mine of coverage of recent past events, photos, Interest Group news, coming programs and national and state AAUW news which concern our Branch. What a great resource.

Looking forward to a productive and fun year for all of us!



*Diana Secor,
President*
AAUW, Orlando/
Winter Park Branch

OFFICERS

President: Diana Secor
dianasecoraaauw@gmail.com

Co-VP Membership: Irene Pruzan
irene-pruzan@juno.com and

Ann Burnham
annmburnham@gmail.com

VP Programs: Dr. Leslie S. Lieberman
lslieberman@gmail.com

Co-VP Finance: Parveen Wahid
piecee@hotmail.com and
Collette Davis, dcollette@aol.com

Secretary: Linda Fessel
Lfessel@Comcast.net

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Booklovers Coordinator
Missy Baker
bakerworks@gmail.com

Branchline Editor
Linda Fessel
Lfessel@Comcast.net

Bylaws and Parliamentarian
Barbara Knapp
bcknapp1949@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary
Judy McDonald
murransouth.net

Director for Development
Rosemary Vendena
Ro.vendena@gmail.com

Literary Luncheon Chair
Myra Gaziano
gazianomyra@yahoo.com

Membership Directory
Ann Burnham
annmburnham@gmail.com
Linda Fessel
Lfessel@Comcast.net
Irene Pruzan
irene-pruzan@juno.com

PACE Liaisons
Pat Stamm
patsnpans@yahoo.com
Anne Landrum
alandrum2@cfl.rr.com
Karen Gillett
karen555g@hotmail.com
Roberta Cooper
rdeecooper@gmail.com

Print Media
Georgiana Havill
g@havill.org

Scholarship Chair
Karen Buchan
kgb@unknownegg.org

STEM coordinator
TBA

Tech Trek
TBA

Website
Linda Fessel
Lfessel@Comcast.net
Maria Bonnet
marpazbonnet@gmail.com

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 Kickoff on Saturday, September 14.

Cheerleaders! (I'll bet in your day, quite a few of you led your peers to champion school and team goals, and in my opinion, that essential spirit stays with you. That trait's vital to make good things happen!)

Solid achievements evolve from intangibles, such as enthusiasm and attitude. Let's build together, lifting each other up to a greater good.

Displays were set up at the Kickoff Open House reception to demonstrate the many programs under AAUW's Winter Park/Orlando auspices. I signed up for a new one. Did you? These activities enlarge us and re-enforce our connections and feelings of relevancy to one another. . . plus we're just a little bit smarter!

The meeting was opened by perennial over-achiever, President Diana Secor, who later had to sit still—a task for her—and listen to everyone sing Happy Birthday to her.

A reminder: Check with Parveen to see if you've renewed your membership for 2024-25! (Also don't forget: our total dues check goes ONLY to our AAUW branch.)

On the right, snapshots of a few of the people who helped carry the day. (As reported by Georgiana Havill)



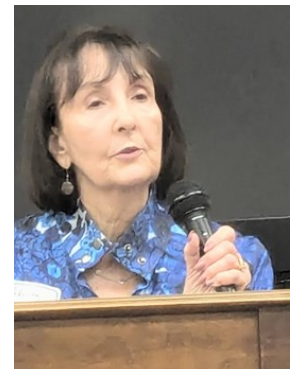
President Diana Secor marked a birthday.



Myra is thrilled about finding an author for March, but she wouldn't reveal the name.



Karen Buchan explained our scholarship programs.



Roberta Cooper updated us on goings-on at PACE.



L to R: Ann Beck, Barbara Zeitz, author Geri Throne, Corresponding Secretary, Judy McDonald

A note from Myra

A team of volunteers is needed to help coordinate the silent auction for the 2025 Literary Luncheon. We need your help!

**Please contact Myra
Gazianomyra@yahoo.com**

2024 FLORIDA CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

No. 1 would make school board elections partisan statewide (e.g., the candidate’s party affiliation would appear on the ballot).

No. 2 would preserve hunting and fishing “as a public right and preferred means of responsibly managing and controlling fish and wildlife.” This would not change existing authority granted to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

No. 3 would legalize recreational marijuana.

No. 4 would expand abortion access. It would reverse Florida’s 6-week abortion ban.

No. 5 would implement cost-of-living increases for some homestead exemptions (this amendment does not apply to school board taxes).

No. 6 would end public funding for statewide campaigns.

VP Membership



**PLEASE
WELCOME
OUR NEW
MEMBERS**

Marie Pisano
MPisano15@cfl.rr.com
Hunter College, 1956

Barbara Turnage
bturnage822@yahoo.com
Univ. of Nebraska, B.S. Social Work, 1982
Univ. of Nebraska, MSW, Social Work, 1987
Tulane, Ph.D Social work, 1998

Stacy Xin Xin
StacyXinXin@Outlook.com
Calif. State University, L.A., Masters Accounting, 2016-2019
UCF, Ph.D in Marketing, 2023-2028

In order to protect our members' privacy, addresses and phone numbers can be found on the website under Members Only. Contact Linda Fessel, Maria Bonnet, Ann Burnham, or Irene Pruzan (see their contact information on page 2 of the newsletter) to get the password.



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

VP Finance



Due to a delay in printing the Directory, you can still make it on time, but you must have your dues paid by October 5.

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)

Make your dues check payable to:

AAUW Orlando/Winter Park

Pay at the meeting on October 5, or mail to:

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

Parveen Wahid
V.P. Finance
piecee@hotmail.com

In **October of 2005**, Hurricane Wilma blasts across Florida, knocking out power to the eight homes that still had electricity after the seventeen previous hurricanes to hit the state this year. Critics, noting that Wilma was not a particularly strong storm, ask why Florida Power & Light's utility poles seem to fall down every time a moth passes gas. FPL officials attempt to answer these charges in

a press conference but their microphones keep tipping over.

[Dave Barry's History of the Millennium]

Some people argue that protecting freedoms of "religion, speech, assembly, press, and petition" were the most important issues, and that's why they're in the First Amendment. James Madison

initially proposed twelve amendments to the Constitution, but only ten were approved. The now-famous First Amendment was actually the Third Amendment in Madison's original draft. What were the first two? They dealt with congressional pay raises and reapportionment.

[Leland Gregory's Stupid History]

STAYING ON YOUR FEET: FALL-PREVENTION STRATEGIES



Nicole Dawson , PT, PhD

The university Club of Winter Park and AAUW Orlando-Winter Park are presenting a joint program on FALL PREVENTION STRATEGIES.

The program will be presented on Wednesday, October 23, at 1:30 p.m. at the University Club.

The program is open to the public at no charge.

The Facts: In 2023, more than **one million** people went to US emergency rooms because of injuries from falls. In 2022, **44,653** people died from falls. **Half** of accidental deaths at home are caused by falls, and older women fall more frequently than men.

The Presentation: Dr. Dawson will present a comprehensive overview of factors that increase the risk of falls (e.g. medications, low or high blood pressure, eye conditions, low vitamin D, osteoporosis, cognitive impairment, depression, diseases affecting balance, strength and gait, footwear and environmental trip hazards). She will discuss approaches to risk reduction and fall prevention.

The Presenter: **Nicole Dawson, PT, Ph.D** is an Associate Professor in the Division of Physical Therapy of the Col-

lege of Health Professions and Sciences at UCF and is a Board Certified Geriatric Physical Therapist Emeritus. She is Director of the **ALIVE™** (Aging & Longevity Initiatives for Vitality & Enrichment) Lab at UCF that was funded last year by a grant of \$1.85 million. She is the recipient of many awards from the Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy, the American Physical Therapy Association, and UCF for teaching excellence. She is a sought-after lecturer presenting at numerous international and national conferences on successful aging. Dr. Dawson has published in *The Gerontologist*, *Dementia*, and the *Journal of Geriatric Physical Therapy* among other journals.

Leslie Sue Lieberman, Ph.D.
Professor Emerita UCF



Interest Groups

Booklovers:

"If for this you and I must differ, differ we must."

- A. Lincoln to his slaveholding friend, 1855

In October we turn to autumn and cooler weather. In Booklovers we turn to Abraham Lincoln and his cooler head. Though challenged at every turn, Lincoln kept patience and grew as a leader. By delving into his interactions with friends and opponents, our groups will consider the revered man revealed in Steve Inskeep's *Differ We Must*.

Booklovers is a wonderful opportunity to keep patience and grow as a reader and friend. If you are interested in joining a book group, please contact me:

Missy Baker, Booklovers Coordinator,
bakerworks@gmail.com

(Note: Not all booklovers groups read 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 independent from those of the other book groups. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 30, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. We will be discussing *What Angels Fear* by C.S. Harris. Now is a perfect time to get involved with this fun group as we will be suggesting then selecting our future reading list. Due to holidays, we will not meet again until January, 2025.

Dining In: Dining-In meets at noon on Friday, Oct. 4, at the home of Diana Secor. Contact Jane Rosen for more information: 321-295-7689 or mjcrozen@hotmail.com.

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

Global Dining aka International Cooking

Our next Global Dining LUNCHEON will be on Tuesday, October 15.

The doors open at 11:30; we eat around noon. Club 24 is located at 1824 Summerfield, Winter Park. A small parking lot is available, as is nearby safe street parking.

Our October theme will be Moroccan cuisine!

Check out Middle Eastern dishes in a grocery or restaurant that you like, buy some and bring enough to share. We are not purists--our goals are camaraderie, tasting different cuisines, and trying new recipes if you like to cook.

Meat or vegetable 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 have actually 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. Let me know what YOU'RE bringing! Hope to see you there!

Adrienne E. Katz Katz

321-695-4445

katzaid@yahoo.com

Lunching Out: Check the calendar page to see the two dates of this month's lunching out. Check your emails for more information. Contact Linda Fessel to get your name on the 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 Dining-in Group kicked-off the new AAUW year with a Spanish-themed luncheon hosted by Myra Gaziano. Paella was the centerpiece of the luncheon.



More about PACE

For many years our AAUW branch has hosted and shared a heart-warming, delicious Thanksgiving meal with PACE families and staff. This meal, always held the Thursday before Thanksgiving, includes a variety of traditional Thanksgiving dishes and encourages our members to provide time, food, and financial support for this wonderful shared event. We have learned over past years that this meal is highly anticipated by PACE students and families, and they love meeting our members and tasting the foods we bring. The meal is held at their school, so excitement builds as the yummy smells drift into the hallways!

Here are ways you can be involved: (Choose as many as you feel you can.)

- Contribute \$25 (check or cash) for turkey
- Sign up to bring a dish to be served
- Volunteer to help at the event (November 21) from 11:00 a.m. to about 1:00 p.m.
- Sign up sheets and baking pans will be on the PACE table at our Saturday meeting October 5. Or call Karen Gillett (407-252-3169) to check the list of food items needed. With your help, we can make this Thanksgiving event memorable. Thank you for reaching out to support our AAUW branch and the PACE community!

Meet PACE Girl Shea.

For Shea the road to success has never been easy. Navigating buses and trains, she begins her commute to PACE at 5 a.m., traveling up to 4 hours daily to get from Deland to Winter Park. Shea’s story is one of resilience, determination, and the transformative power of education and holistic mental health support. In her own words, “I come to PACE because I am able to share my feelings and get good feedback that will help me in the future. I plan to go to Full Sail University after graduating from high school because I’ve always loved music. It was always a big part of my life growing up. Because we didn’t have money, we couldn’t do a lot of things or go a lot of places. Music was the one thing I could have for free.”

PACE Food Pantry

A few years ago PACE asked AAUW to start a food pantry. 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 to our meetings one or more items needed to prepare those meals.

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 |

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

- Deodorant
- Body Wash
- Tooth Paste
- Tooth Brush

Your PACE Team

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



PROJECT 2025

With an important election coming up, most of us have heard something about PROJECT 2025, but with the exception of a few items that made the news, very few people are aware of the import of this document. As AAUW is nonpartisan, the following is not an interpretation or analysis of the plan, but a factual description of many of the statements described in Project 2025, summarized by someone who actually read the 900-plus pages of the report. We have selected only some of the items of possible interest to our readers. (Project 2025 came out of the Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank.)

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

- Overhaul executive branch;
- Remove career and political bureaucrats;
- Infuse government and society with conservative Christian values designed to steer the US toward an autocracy;
- Executive branch should make “aggressive use of vast powers;”
- President to take control of FBI, DOJ, Dept. of Commerce, FCC, Dept. of Homeland Security;
- Expand president’s commander-in-chief powers;
- President has control over the entire executive;
- Increase presidential power without Congressional oversight;
- President should push Christian Nationalism;
- Get rid of civil service employees and install employees loyal to the president regardless of their expertise;
- Get rid of separation of powers theory;
- Abolish Federal reserve and return to gold-backed currency;
- Eliminate Dept. of Education

IMMIGRATION

- No benefits for immigrant children—return them to home country;
- Increase standards that create fear of persecution;
- Finish the wall;
- End asylum system; end dreamer program; end birthright citizenship;
- Use active duty military and National guard to help with arrests of migrants

WEATHER/CLIMATE

- Eliminate clean energy programs;
- Eliminate National and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) so no central agency to warn wide areas of approaching hurricane, floods, droughts;
- Cut funding for climate research;
- Cut funds for Forest Service, Dept. of Energy, Dept. of Agriculture;
- Cut or end funds to organizations that deal with clean rivers, clean water, and fossil fuel;
- Phase out National Flood Insurance Program.

DEPT. OF JUSTICE

- Make DOJ a political prosecutorial arm of the president;
- Go after people who are watchdogs;
- Fire all US attorneys appointed by Biden;
- Prosecute Biden administration, poll worker, former military generals, former administration workers who fell out of favor;
- Give far-right judges, politicians more control.

HEALTH

- Repeal \$35 insulin cost and \$2000 per year cap on medications;
- No mask or vaccine mandates;
- CDC is not qualified to offer professional medical opinions;
- Replace experts at CDC with political appointees;
- National Institute of Health to stop funding research with embryonic stem cells;
- Cut back or cap Medicare and Medicaid
- Collect data on women who have abortions;
- Ban IVF and make it hard to get birth control/contraception.
- All pregnancies are to be carried to term even if it ends in death.
- Eliminate insurance coverage for emergency abortions;
- Eliminate HIPPA law which prevents doctors from disclosing patients’ private information to law enforcement.

SECURITY/LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Stifle dissent/crack down on protests;
- Broaden surveillance of protestors, communities of color, people seeking abortions;
- Target journalists and protesters;
- Use the military for domestic law enforcement;
- Remove existing legal protections against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.
- Promote capital punishment.

Continued Next Page

WEATHER/CLIMATE

- Eliminate clean energy programs;
- Eliminate National and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) so no central agency to warn wide areas of approaching hurricanes, floods, droughts;
- NOAA to do less research, eliminate climate change research, and focus on data gathering;
- Cut funding for climate research;
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WORK/EMPLOYMENT

- Allow corporations to dissolve labor unions;
- Eliminate overtime protection;
- Disregard federal minimum wage;
- Relax child labor laws (allow teenagers/children to work in unregulated and dangerous jobs, work extended hours on school nights);
- Relax worker safety laws;
- Allow employers to impose their religious and moral beliefs on employees;

RELIGION

- Faith-based organizations to have access to federal funds;
- Allow organizations that believe marriage is between only a male and female to have healthy marriage programs paid by federal govt.;
- Allow health insurers and workers broad exemptions from requirement to provide services for which they have moral/religious objections (hospitals could refuse care based on its religious affiliations);

EDUCATION

- Expand eligibility for school voucher and school choice programs;
- Eliminate Head Start;
- Eliminate curriculum that talks about the evils of slavery;
- Eliminate or reduce student visas for students from enemy nations;
- Attack/get rid of concept of academic freedom;
- Forbid schools from using name other than the name on a child's birth certificate and using pronoun other than what is on birth certificate without written permission of parents;;
- Eliminate the Department of Education.

CULTURE

- Stop public funding of NPR and PBS —("leftist and not educational");
- Require media to carry conservative speech;
- Get rid of Consumer Financial Protection Bureau;
- Get rid of concept of separation of church and state;
- Suppress negative stories in the media about the president and administration;
- Transgender people "don't exist";
- Use Bible-based definitions of family and marriage;
- No federal funding for Planned Parenthood;
- Reverse rules about sex discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity;
- Reverse LGBTQ rights;
- Allow discrimination against LGBTQ youth in federal agency care;
- Roll back protection against gender identity discrimination in housing, credit services, lending, etc.
- Use child welfare funds for marriage education;
- Require family planning clinics to provide information on the importance of marriage.

- Employers should be free to run their businesses according to their religious beliefs, nondiscrimination laws notwithstanding;
- Allow employers to impose their religious and moral beliefs on employees;
- Agencies allowed to make adoption placement based on religion of prospective parents.