



Orlando *** Winter Park BRANCHLINE

DECEMBER PROGRAM



Husband and wife team John and Theresa Segers have been performing as professional entertainers together for over a quarter of a century.

Theresa sang with Orlando Opera for sixteen years. Her stage appearances include musicals at the Icehouse Theatre, the State Theatre, Moonlight Players and the Athens Theatre. Her favorite roles among those were Nimue in *Camelot* and Baroness Schraeder in *The Sound of Music*.

John's many onstage roles include Captain von Trapp in the Mark Two Dinner Theatre's production of *The Sound of Music*, King Arthur in the Helen Stairs Theater production of *Camelot*, and *Don Quixote* in Surfside Theater's *Man of La Mancha*.

The two have collaborated on favorites such as *My Fair Lady* (as Henry Higgins and Eliza Dolittle) and *South Pacific* (as Emile de Becque and Nellie Forbush), but it all began when they met onstage in the Osceola Center for the Arts' production of *HMS Pinafore* where the characters they played (Sir Joseph Porter and Cousin Hebe) are engaged to be married as the curtain falls.

(Continued on Page 3)

SATURDAY BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Saturday, November 14, 2024

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 or
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., DECEMBER 11

USE THE RESERVATION EMAIL BELOW:

AAUWreserve@gmail.com



From the President



Dear Friends,

Our AAUW branch, as usual, has contributed its goodwill during the holiday season with its PACE Thanksgiving and through the year with our donations and scholarships.

At this season, more importantly, to quote from the Selected Letters of George Woodberry:

“The Holidays are welcome to me partly because they are such rallying points for the affections which get so much thrust aside in the business and preoccupations of daily life.”

Wishing you and yours a safe, healthy and happy holiday season and a new year that brings you all good things!

Diana Secor, President
AAUW Orlando/Winter Park Branch



OFFICERS	Ann Burnham annmburnham@gmail.com	Co-VP Finance: Parveen Wahid piecee@hotmail.com and Collette Davis, dcollette@aol.com
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Co-VP Membership: Irene Pruzan irene-pruzan@juno.com and		

COMMITTEE CHAIRS	<u>Literary Luncheon Chair</u> Myra Gaziano gazianomyra@yahoo.com	<u>Print Media</u> Georgiana Havill g@havill.org
<u>Booklovers Coordinator</u> Missy Baker bakerworks@gmail.com	<u>Membership Directory</u> Ann Burnham annmburnham@gmail.com	<u>Scholarship Chair</u> Karen Buchan kgb@unknownegg.org
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<u>Director for Development</u> Rosemary Vendena Ro.vendena@gmail.com	Anne Landrum alandrum2@cfl.rr.com	Maria Bonnet marpazbonnet@gmail.com
	Karen Gillett karen555g@hotmail.com	Contact Judy McDonald if you hear of any member who is ill, having surgery, experienced a loss, etc.
	Roberta Cooper rdeecooper@gmail.com	

(Continued from Page 1)

A year later, in a ceremony presided over by the actor (and notary) who had played the *Pinafore's* Captain, and surrounded by their former cast-mates, John and Theresa were married on the stage where they had met.

Because the Segers have such an enormous repertoire, we've given them carte blanche to entertain us with some of their favorites as well as traditional songs of the season. ed.



Scholarships

Our Branch Scholarship application is on our website, and applications are accepted from January 1 – March 1.

The application should be emailed to Karen Buchan at

kgb@unknownegg.org.

We prefer to award scholarships to students at local colleges and universities, and applicants must already be enrolled at a school. AAUW members can apply. Please publicize this opportunity to your friends, neighbors, family.

Karen Buchan
Scholarship Committee Chair

If you are interested in more information regarding fall prevention, you can arrange to have a Physical Therapy Appointment at the UCF Clinic: 407-823-0377.

To contact Dr. Dawson: 407-823-1863

Nicole.Dawson@ucf.edu

Excellent resource: SEADI- Older Adult Fall Prevention from the Centers for Disease Control:

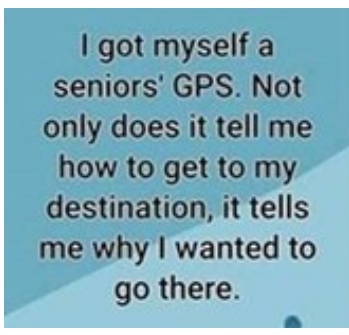
www.cdc.gov/steady/index.html

STARTING THIS MONTH

MEMBERS' BULLETIN BOARD

- (1) Would you like to advertise the goings-on of some group that you're in? Is your church having a winter festival? Are you in a choral group? Are you having a garage sale? Are you or someone you know having a book signing? Send us the information, and it will be posted on the bulletin board on the last page of the Branchline. Don't send events that our members would already know about (i.e., the Winter Park Art Festival, local plays, sports events). See p. 10.
- (2) Many clubs, companies, etc., list the names of people who have birthdays in that month. Several of our members have asked about this, so we will try to collect birthdays (just month and day—NO YEAR). This is, of course, up to the individual. We will ask all interest group chairs to collect birthday information from participants. You can also send it to me at LFessel@Comcast.net.

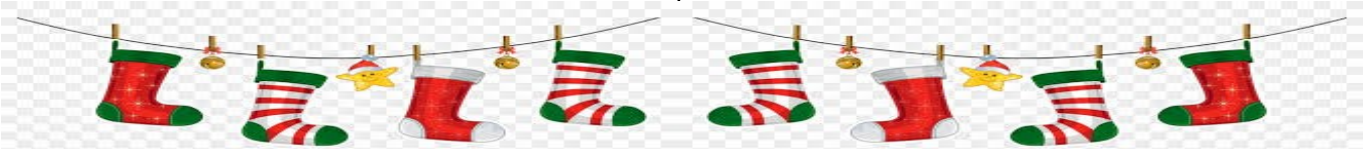
Linda Fessel, ed.



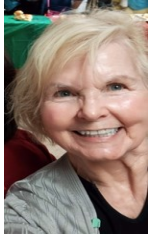
"Freedom is a fragile thing and it's never more than one generation away from extinction." (Ronald Reagan)

"Never underestimate a man who overestimates himself." (F.D.R.)

I don't want to go through things that don't kill me but make me stronger anymore.



From Our Members



Rousing music set the tone for the November 9 AAUW monthly meeting.

Arriving at 8:30, I wasn't the first! The long, welcoming business table was full of reliable volunteers who make our AAUW possible!

Dr Leslie Lieberman arranged for Dr. Scott Lubaroff, Director of Bands at UCF, to talk to us about Concert Bands. We all learned answers to questions we didn't know we had. The morning was, in other words, a broad education with brunch as a bonus.

Dr. Lubaroff interspersed pieces of music to illustrate points made. One familiar focus was John Philip Sousa, known as The March King. He served as the 17th Director of "The President's Own" (US Marine Band) for twelve years. Born in the nation's capital, his accomplishment in patriotic themes seems unavoidable. Dr Lubaroff said some of us might want to catch the Music For All UCF-Orlando Concert Band Invitational on April 9, 2025 (time to be announced). slubaroff@ucf.edu

Georgiana Havill



On October 29, Barbara Buchele arranged a tour of Crealde. Sandy Goldstein and Linda Fessel observe sculptors at work.

Many, many thanks to all my AAUW sisters for their many cards and kind thoughts as I move into my new world of widowhood. You lifted my spirits in so many ways. I hope to be back with you in January.

Barbara Knapp

On Sunday, November 3, Linda Fessel and Leslie Lieberman took a drive to Penney Farms to visit Pearl, who was leaving on a cruise before her 103rd birthday.



While many of us enjoy Saturday evenings traveling to art shows, going to the Steinmetz, or just chillaxing, this trio, on the night of November 1, was cooking and serving a gourmet meal out on site to fatten AAUW's coffers. To date, Dining-In's efforts have reaped nearly \$3000 for our scholarship fund. Shown here are (L-R) Natalie Meyers, Myra Gaziano, and Diana Secor.

And always, thanks for all you do and do...



Exploring Central Florida visits the Chocolate Museum for a fascinating tour of the history of chocolate. Behind them, some historic sites have been sculpted out of chocolate. .

VP Membership

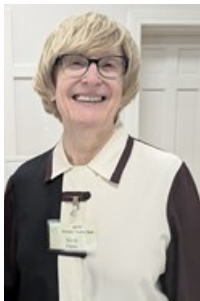


The new membership directories will be available at the December 14 general meeting for the low price of \$2 each or two for \$3.

Plans are currently in place to eliminate future directories. If you have the most recent one, it will be easy to make changes as soon as they are known. Of course all members' information is always available on our website in the Members Only section.

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

VP Membership



NEW MEMBER DISCOUNT

Tell your friends that they can save over one third by joining AAUW at the Saturday meeting on December 14. The cost is \$62 rather than the usual \$98 for the year, saving \$36! They can pay at the meeting by cash, check, credit card or Zelle.

Irene Pruzan
co-V.P. Membership
irene-pruzan@juno.com



I think it's disgraceful that after 50 years, people don't know who Neil Armstrong is, or the type of trumpet he played.

VP Finance



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

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. That's OUR job.

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

Kwanzaa begins on December 26. But what is it? Kwanzaa is a secular festival observed from December 26 to January 1 as a celebration of African-American cultural heritage and traditional values. It culminates in a communal feast called *Karamu*. Based on African harvest festival traditions from various parts of Africa, Kwanzaa was first celebrated in 1966. Estimates place the number of Americans who celebrate Kwanzaa between 500,000 and 2,000,000. Seven candles in a *kinara*

symbolize the 7 principles of Kwanzaa: (1) Unity; (2) Self-determination; (3) Building our community; (4) Cooperative economics; (5) Purpose; (6) Creativity; (7) Faith.



PACE Center for Girls

What an amazing Thanksgiving dinner our AAUW branch provided for our PACE girls and their families on Thursday! It was just heartwarming to see the girls and their families enjoy themselves so much. Some even dared to try food that was unfamiliar to them. Many came back for seconds with smiles on their faces. When their awards ceremony was finished, there was quite a line forming to take home some extra turkey and trimmings to enjoy later.

AAUW members, you deserve a huge thank you for making the day such a success! You contributed money, delicious dishes, and you volunteered. Many of you came and even brought friends or family members to set up, serve, and clean up –and with such good help, everything was handled smoothly. Thank you so much for your part in making this a special celebration for PACE girls and their families.

Now that the wonderful Thanksgiving lunch is over, we are looking forward to our PACE Valentine Celebration. As you may know, AAUW will not be providing a holiday party this year since so many other organizations sponsor food and gifts for the girls at this time. We at AAUW offered PACE the opportunity to change our sponsorship to another holiday and we all chose Valentine’s Day. Plans for the day include a pizza party, chair yoga, three crafts (bracelets, keychains cards – and small Valentine presents). Homemade cookies, which the girls love, will be a great part of the day. Once again, we are asking all members to be part of that day. We will need volunteers to assist with the crafts and yoga, bakers to make some delicious cookies and donors to help with the presents. This special event will be celebrated on Wednesday, February 12. Look for sign-up sheets at the branch meeting in January or contact Anne Landrum to volunteer. Anne can be reached at 407 620-2525 or via email at alandrum2@cfl.rr.com

PACE Food Pantry – this month we ask you to bring items which can be part of this month’s meal kit or personal items needed by the girls. PACE staff will put the meal kits together.

CHICKEN RICE CASSEROLE Meal Kit to contain:

- 1 pkg Uncle Ben’s long grain and wild rice Ready Rice
- 3 (2.6 oz) packages of chicken, eg. Starkist
- 1 (6 oz) can sliced water chestnuts
- 1 (14 oz) can chop suey vegetables
- 2 (10.5 oz) can cream of celery OR cream of chicken soup

Personal

- Body Wash
- Tooth Paste
- Deodorant
- Tooth Brush

Your AAUW/PACE team wishes all a wonderful holiday season.

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

Nov. 22, 2024

Thanksgiving at PACE Orange



Leslie holds a certificate of appreciation presented to AAUW from the girls at PACE.



More pictures on next page

LITERARY LUNCHEON
PART I

By Myra Gaziano
Chair, Literary Luncheon

Our AAUW Branch is pleased to announce Madeline Martin as the featured speaker for our 23rd Annual Spring Literary Luncheon. Ms. Martin is a *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Publisher's Weekly* and internationally bestselling author of historical fiction and historical romance novels, whose books have been translated into over twenty-five different languages.

At our luncheon, Ms. Martin will speak about her latest book, *The Booklover's Library* that has been nominated for the 2024 Goodreads Choice Award for Best Historical Fiction.

For a little fun, Missy Baker, Book-lovers' Coordinator, will publish a quiz in the January Branchline on this book. One member who emails the correct quiz responses will win a prize. That person could be you! Since no book has been scheduled for December, Book-lovers and members may want to take the opportunity to pick up a

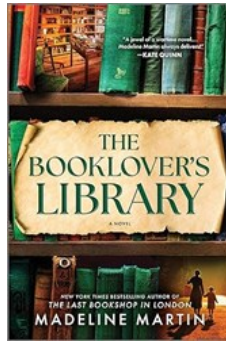


Madeline Martin

copy of *The Booklover's Library* that is available at the Writer's Block in Winter Park or online from your preferred retailer.

"A spectacularly well-researched and well-plotted tale of WWII, motherhood, and the solace we find in books. The Booklover's Library is filled with characters you will root for, drama that will bring you to tears, and the kind of emotional journey that will earn this novel a permanent place in your own book-lover's library. I loved every page."

Kristen Harmel – *New York Times* Bestselling author and our 2020 Literary Luncheon speaker.



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 at
Gazianomyra@yahoo.com**

More Pictures from the PACE Thanksgiving



Interest Groups

Booklovers:

Keeping with tradition, Booklovers celebrate at lunches and holiday gatherings this month. As the sun sets at an even earlier hour, it's a good time to get cozy with good friends and good books.

Here's a good book suggestion: our Literary Luncheon speaker's current work of historical fiction is set in World War II Nottingham. Madeline Martin will discuss with us *The Booklover's Library*. I encourage you to read her book and, as an incentive, the Branchline will publish a quiz based on this book in the January issue. One lucky member who emails the correct answers to me will win a \$50 gift certificate to the Writer's Block bookstore.

May you enjoy winter festivities. Our greatest gift is kindness to each other.

If you are interested in joining a book group, 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. Due to holidays, we will not meet again until January, 2025.

Dining In: Dining-In normally meets at noon on the first Friday of the month. Contact Jane Rosen for more information: 321-295-7689 or mjcrozen@hotmail.com.

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



Foreign Affairs will meet for a holiday lunch.

Lunching Out: will not meet in December. Two restaurants will be chosen in January. 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. No meeting on December 25. Want to learn the game? We will teach you. For more information, contact Karen Deo: Karen.deo@gmail.com



The AAUW Florida Public Policy Education Forum

Zoom (aauw-fl.aauw.net) at 6:00 p.m. (All programs are at 6 p.m.)

Thursday, Jan. 9
Black Girls in Florida Schools- Bayliss Fiddiman, esq
National Women's Law Center

Thursday, Feb. 13
Florida Legislative Preview- Pat DeWitt, Ph.D.,
AAUW-FL

Thursday, March 8
Pay Gap, Caregiving & Economic Security-
Mary Gatta, Ph.D., Director, Research & Public Policy,
National Association of Colleges and Employers

Thursday, April 3
Gender and Race Equity in STEM- Prof. Amanda Koontz, UCF



DECEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 1-4 Mahjongg	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 1-4 Mahjongg	13	14 9:30-11 GENERAL MEETING
15	16	17	18	19 1-4 Mahjongg	20	21
22	23	24	25 Christmas Hanukkah	26 Kwanzaa	27	28
29	30	31 	New Year's Day 			

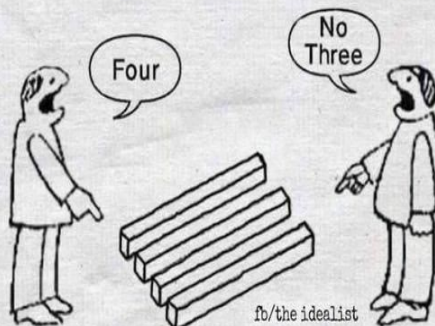
How unusual is it for Christmas and Hanukkah to fall on the same day? Since 1900, the first night of Hanukkah has fallen on Christmas Eve three times (with 2016 being the fourth). With eight total occurrences in 117 years, Hanukkah starts on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day roughly once every 15 years.

When told the reason for Daylight Savings Time, the Old Native American said, "Only a white man would believe you could cut a foot off the top of a blanket, sew it onto the bottom of the blanket, and you'd be left with a longer blanket."



"Everything we hear is an opinion, not a fact. Everything we see is a perspective, not the truth."

- Marcus Aurelius



Merry Everything! See ya next year.

An announcement from Leslie

**ARE YOU INTERESTED in ASSESSING----
YOUR MOBILITY, BODY COMPOSITION and FALL RISK?**

You are eligible to participate in this research study if you are:

- Female or male age 55 or older
- Post-menopausal by at least one year
- Live in your own home
- Not actively receiving treatment in a rehabilitation/
skilled nursing facility
- Do not have any medical condition that prevents you
from completing a physical function test

This study includes:

1. An online survey completed at home (about 20 minutes).
2. An in-person visit to UCF (parking available) on
Dec. 12 or Dec. 19. It will last about 40 minutes

Please contact: Kworweinski.Lafontant@ucf.edu

**Mr. Kworweinski Lafontant is a doctoral student in the School of
Kinesiology and Rehabilitation Sciences at UCF**

Linda Fessel announces her 3rd holiday performance with the Orlando Gay Chorus. If you haven't yet had your fill of holiday shows and concerts, and if you'd like to try something a little different this year, then Contact Linda for information about cost and directions.

LFessel@Comcast.net 689-290-8729

If you have an event you would like to advertise/promote, send it to Linda

LFessel@Comcast.net

Reminder: Don't send fliers, etc., that advertise known events like art fairs, sports events, etc.



Orlando Gay Chorus
Merry Everything
The Gayest Time of the Year
Sunday, December 15 - 4:00PM
Plaza Live, Orlando
Monday, December 16 - 7:30PM
Ritz Theater, Sanford

Logos at the bottom: ORLANDO GAY CHORUS, ORLANDO CULTURE, UNITED ARTS, CENTRAL FLORIDA FOUNDATION, and the Orlando Gay Chorus logo.