



Orlando * Winter Park
BRANCHLINE**

JANUARY PROGRAM



The New Year is when we take stock of what we have and make resolutions to do better—more healthful diets, be nicer to relatives, give more to charities . . . and maybe be less wasteful by reducing water use and recycling food waste. You could resolve to engage in

more environmentally sustainable actions and reduce your contribution to the landfill. Those food scraps from dinner, the tomatoes that rotted in the back of the refrigerator, and even paper towels can be turned into organic soil to grow edible crops and flowers.

Today’s speaker, Charlie Pioli, Founder and CEO of O-Town Compost will talk about the benefits of composting and how it is convenient for individuals, housing complexes, companies, schools and even events like conventions and weddings. His company has composted over 6 million pounds! His commitment to a future of environmental sustainability has led to the implementation of programs in Orlando public schools and many speaking engagements in central Florida. His topic today is: “Simple Techniques to Reduce Waste at Home and Enrich our Environment.”

Mr. Pioli has a degree in economics from Northeastern University and took courses at the London School of Economics and Political Science. His extensive travels in Latin America shaped his interests in agricultural economics and environmental issues.

See the Calendar Page for January Birthdays.
If you would like to have your birthday listed in the Branchline, send me your name, month and date (no year). LFessel@Comcast.net

SATURDAY BREAKFAST PROGRAM
Saturday, January 11, 2025
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., JANUARY 8

USE THE RESERVATION EMAIL BELOW:

AAUWreserve@gmail.com

In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.

Martin Luther King, Jr.



Do YOU have a Water Footprint?

YES!

Everything we use, wear, buy, sell and eat requires water to produce it. Your water footprint measures the amount of water you use daily or annually. It can be measured for a single process, such as growing rice, for a product, such as a pair of jeans or for direct water use like taking a shower. You can calculate your consumption at this website: <https://waterfootprint-calculator.org/> My footprint was alarmingly high for a single person household! "Americans consume a staggering 750,000 gallons annually, nearly double the amount of the United Kingdom, Japan and Germany." (Dr. Patricia Wilson, May/June 2024, *Lake Mary Life*, p. 90).

Direct and indirect water use



Many of you are already turning off the water when you brush your teeth; using faucets and toilets that reduce water flow; running the washing machine and dishwasher when there is a full load; growing native, drought resistant plants, etc. Since every purchase carries a water footprint associated with production and often pollution, Wilson (2024, p.90) reminds us to **Reduce, Reuse and Recycle** what we have.

January is the month for new year’s resolutions. Let one of yours be to reduce your water footprint. Your mindful consumption can have a positive economic and environmental ripple effect. (The Orlando/Winter Park Branch and particularly our spokesperson, Dr. Pat Wilson, have been educating community members on water issues since we held our AAUW grant-funded event “Sewage: If Your Pipes Could Talk” in 2023.) Leslie Sue Lieberman, Ph.D., Vice President for Programs

I signed up for an exercise class and was told to wear loose fitting clothing...



If I HAD any loose fitting clothing, I wouldn't have signed up to begin with.

From the President



Our past year at our AAUW ORLANDO-WINTER PARK BRANCH has been filled with many activities—both for fun and achievement—many at the same time.

Our various groups, which include Booklovers, Foreign Affairs, Mahjongg, Lunching Out, Exploring Central Florida, are fun ways to socialize. Our work with PACE and our Scholarships benefit our community.

Our Saturday Breakfast meetings present interesting programs, announcements of events, and a

chance to meet with friends.

For our New Year of 2025, AAUW has many events on tap. We urge you to read your Branchline and join in!

On a personal note, a New Year coming up can bring some pressures to set goals, make resolutions and do more things.

Forget the stress. Look forward to a new year that fulfills your hopes and dreams and brings all the good things you are wishing for.

Diana Secor, President
AAUW Orlando/Winter Park Branch

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

At the December 14 General Meeting, John and Theresa Segers presented a program of holiday favorites and other songs from their vast repertoire. This was their 2nd holiday appearance attended by more than 40 members.



From Our Members



Missy Baker and Martha Williamson joined Book-lovers IX for a holiday lunch chez Lynda Hinckley.



It's snowing in Orlando!

L-R: Georgiana Havill, Betzy Ingle, Martha Williamson, and Helene Samii (Martha's Daughter-in-Law) at Leu Gardens' "Dazzling Lights."

Plans are moving ahead for our 23rd Literary Luncheon.
Reservation form and seating list can be found on the last 2 pages of this newsletter. Be the first to sign up!



Booklovers X had its holiday lunch at The Glass Knife.
L-R: Susan Turo, Myra Gaziano, Eileen Garrison, Cynthia Pesch, Roberta Cooper, Polly Saunders, Georgiana Havill, Pat Wilson

More From Our Members



Booklovers Lite celebrates the holidays at Francesca's



Dining In celebrates the holidays chez Lynda. .

To all AAUW sisters:

Thank you for rounding up and delivering over 100 calendars to me in November and December. Initially I was going to deliver some to PACE for the students and staff, but after hearing about their other holiday contributors, I took the calendars to our regular recipients who reside in assisted housing programs in Winter Park.

Elderly and disabled renters who do not have an abundance of disposable cash were delighted with their finds. Some people selected calendars with dogs or cats, others with breathtaking photography of National parks and still others with advertised nonprofits such as Easter

Seals or St Jude's Children's hospital.

The residents always look forward to this activity which gets them out of their apartments and socializing. The calendars offer a spot of color to the apartments, and they help residents keep track of appointments and comings and goings in their lives.

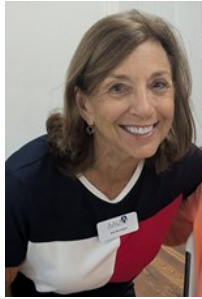
We do as much as we can for as many as we can for as long as we can. Thank you for the part you play in that endeavor.

Happy New Year!

Lynda Hinckley



Orlando Gay Chorus performs at Epcot Candlelight on Saturday, December 28. Can you spot Linda Fessel?



VP Membership

The new membership directories will be available at the January 11 general meeting for the low price of \$2 each or two for \$3.

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

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Ann Rubin
arubin2carmodylaw.com 203-729-6953
Cornell University, B.A. 1979
UConn School of Law, J.D., 1983

Louise Dotson
mardigras1776@gmail.com
407-333-9661 407-920-5184 (cell)
Louisiana State U., BSN, Nursing, 1969
Rollins College, MAT, History, 1997
UCF, MSN, Nursing, 2014

VP Membership



NEW MEMBER DISCOUNT

Tell your friends that they can save over one third by joining AAUW at the Saturday meeting on January 11. 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



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 January 11 or mail to:

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

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



HOORAY! HOORAY!! HOORAY!!!

After several years in the planning stage, then moving on to filings, fees, and lawyers, Orlando/Winter Park Branch has finally achieved 501(c)(3) status. As a designated non-profit, your donations to the branch are now tax deductible.

PACE Center for Girls

February is coming and love is in the air – AAUW’s love and care for the girls at PACE. This year on Wednesday, February 12, our branch will be providing PACE our first-ever Valentine Party. 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 this celebration. We will need volunteers to assist with the crafts and yoga, or prepare the Valentine gift bags, bakers to make some delicious cookies, and donors to help with the presents. 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. Checks should be made out to AAUW Orlando/Winter Park.

Meet PACE girl Isabella.

“Before PACE, the idea of graduating wasn’t even an option. I was kept out of school from fifth grade through ninth grade, and during that time, I felt hopeless, and my mental health suffered. PACE gave me a second chance, and I could finally see the light again. I’ve grown so much since enrolling at PACE and had opportunities I never imagined five years ago. And now I am going to graduate high school!”

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 can put the meal kits together.

Pasta and Chicken Alfredo Meal

- 1 box bow tie pasta
- 1 (25 oz) can white meat chicken
- 1 (15 oz) jar Alfredo sauce
- 1 (15 oz) can asparagus or green beans
- 1 package sundried tomatoes. slivered

Your PACE team: Pat, Karen B, Karen G, Barbara, Roberta, Sue, Susan and Anne

Personal Items

- deodorant
- tooth paste
- tooth brush
- body wash

Letter from the Editor

A few weeks ago, our Branch was informed that there would be certain changes made on AAUW websites. If you have gone to our website, you have undoubtedly seen the changes.

As the branch administrator for our website, I was not at all pleased by the changes. There was no warning, no consultation, and no vote regarding the new “theme.” Apparently, National decided to eliminate the individual formats of the branches in favor of creating a clone-like

appearance. It saddens me that our home page no longer features the iconic photo of Lake Eola. And identifying photos of other branches have also been deleted. It seems that National has opted to remove our branch’s unique identity to march in lock-step with the other branches. And watch out! You will see a red square on the top of every page labeled “Donate.” One guess who gets your donation! Maybe I’m being overly negative, so if you have any opinions on our new website, I’d love to hear them.

Linda Fessel, ed.



Interest Groups

Booklovers:

If you are interested in joining a book group, please contact Missy Baker, Booklovers Coordinator, bakerworks@gmail.com (See next page for more from Missy!)

Booklovers Lite: Booklovers Lite meets monthly on the last Wednesday at 1 p.m. On January 29, we will discuss *What Angels Fear* by C. S. Harris. The reading list is independent from those of the other book groups.

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 mjcrossen@hotmail.com.

Exploring Central Florida (ECF): Plans are in the works for an outing (with lunch) on Friday, January 24. 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. See next column for information on this month's ECF.

Foreign Affairs

Foreign Affairs Interest Group will discuss chapter 7, "High Seas Treaty" in our *Great Decisions* book on Sunday, January 26, at 2 p.m. Elisa Staley will be presenting this topic. Contact Mary Himes for more information. mwaltzhimes@gmail.com

Lunching Out: Check the dates on the calendar. An email with more information will be sent to those on the Lunching Out contact list. 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 Karen Deo: Karen.deo@gmail.com

Exploring Central Florida leads off the new year with an exciting trip to Lake Nona's Sculpture Garden and the Wave Hotel.



Adjacent to the newly opened Lake Nona Wave Hotel—the world's most technologically advanced hotel—the Sculpture Garden is a 50,000-square-foot outdoor space designed for the exploration and discovery of a distinguished selection of sculptures from one of the world's largest private art collections, The Lewis Collection.

The sculptures are placed in a garden with plants (which are labeled) from all over the world. It is not a long walk to see the sculptures, but there are several other acres to walk around after lunch if you choose.

Some members have offered to drive a carpool for those in the Winter Park area.

Sign up for the walk and lunch. More details will follow.

Linda Fessel (LFessel@Comcast.net)



SAVE THE DATE:

MARCH 8, 2025

23rd LITERARY LUNCHEON

**RESERVATION FORM AND SEATING REQUESTS
CAN BE FOUND AFTER THE CALENDAR.**

The Booklover’s Library Quiz for January 2025.

Happy New Year fellow AAUW members!

To begin the new year, let’s fire up brain cells, read, and answer a few questions.

Below is a quiz open to all members who have read *The Booklover’s Library* by Madeline Martin. Martin will be our guest speaker at our March Literary Luncheon.

Enjoy the read, enjoy the quiz, enjoy anticipating the luncheon.

If you’d like to continue the enjoyment, contact me about joining one of our Booklovers groups.

Missy Baker, Booklovers Coordinator,
bakerworks@gmail.com

The Quiz

Based on *The Booklover’s Library* by Madeline Martin

NOTE: The 15th person to submit correct answers in an email to bakerworks@gmail.com will receive a \$50 gift card from The Writer’s Block. The certificate will be presented at the Literary Luncheon in March, but you do not need to be present to win.

Fine print: Arbiter extraordinaire Myra Gaziano will resolve any questions or challenges. Her decisions shall be final. The order of submissions will be based on the order of gmail receipt times.

Directions To avoid confusion, number your answers and use “the quiz” as your subject line. Correct answers are not contingent on spelling or syntax, although proper usage will cause hearts to sing and make recognizing correct responses more likely. Kindly email your responses to Missy Baker, bakerworks@gmail.com

1. What is your first and last name?
2. What is the best email for contacting you?
3. List 3 ways that *The Booklover’s Library* reflects the life and experiences of Madeline Martin.

4. List 3 types of shelters the author mentions as available to Nottingham residents during an air raid.
5. What book sparked Olivia’s interest in reading?
6. Why was Charles unable to enlist in the military?
7. Paper cups were not ubiquitous in the 1940s. When cups and mugs ran out, what work-around did the volunteers use when serving tea from the mobile canteen?
8. Who was responsible for the mysteriously mis-shelved books?
9. What was Mr. Sanderson’s Christmas gift to Emma?
10. Was there a character you most admired? Who was it and why? If this story contained no characters for you to admire, what was missing that led you to this conclusion?

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

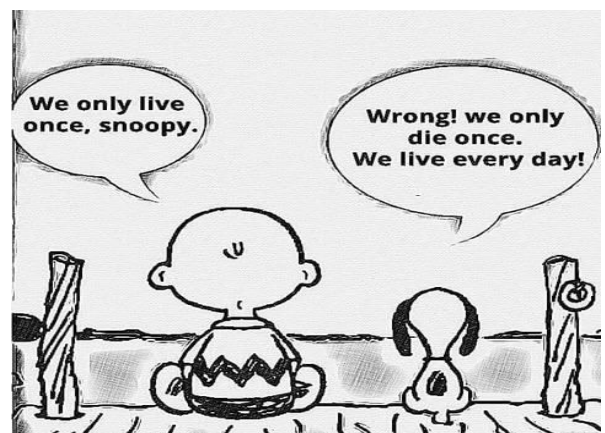
**Most people are at the age where they are using their phones to document the good times in their lives.
I am at the age where I use my phone to take pictures of labels that I can't read and use my phone to enlarge the print so that I can read it.**

JANUARY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 	2 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	3 <u>12 noon</u> Dining-In	4
5	6	7	8 <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 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VII	9 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	10	11 <u>9:30-11:30</u> General Meeting
12	13	14 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers I	15	16 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg <u>1:30 p.m.</u> B-Lovers X	17 <u>12 noon</u> Lunching Out	18
19	20 MLK Birthday	21 <u>2 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VI	22	23 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	24 <u>10:30-2:00</u> ECF	25
26 <u>2 p.m.</u> Foreign Affairs	27 <u>12 noon</u> Lunching Out	28 <u>1:30</u> B-Lovers V	29 <u>10:30</u> BOD <u>1-3</u> B-Lovers Lite	30 <u>1-4</u> Mahjongg	31	

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Betty Wasicek	January 1
Irene Pruzan	January 3
Susan Levine	January 10
Pat Stamm	January 19
Collette Davis	January 26
Jocelyn Deprez	January 30

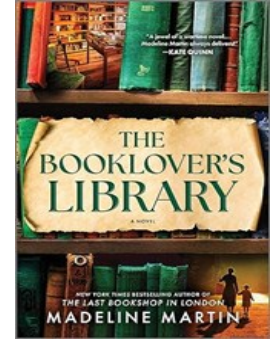


23rd Annual Spring Literary Luncheon



Saturday, March 8, 2025
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Interlachen Country Club
2245 Interlachen Ct., Winter Park

Speaker: Madeline Martin
Cost: \$65



Madeline Martin is a *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Publisher's Weekly* and internationally bestselling author of 40 historical fiction and historical romance novels whose books have been translated into over twenty-five different languages.

At the Literary Luncheon, Ms. Martin will speak about her latest heartwarming novel, *The Booklover's Library* that has been nominated for the 2024 *Goodreads* Choice Awards for Best Historical Fiction. *The Booklover's Library* is a well-researched tale of a mother and daughter in wartime England and the power and solace of books

that brings them together and helps them to find hope in the darkest of times. According to the author "this book truly comes from my heart and is based on so much of my personal life."

The Booklist Starred review noted "Martin infuses *The Booklovers Library* with an array of historical details, highlighting the strength and courage needed by every citizen in a wartime effort. The novel is a feast for the senses – the sound of air-raid sirens, the taste of rationed butter, the smell of freshly brewed tea."

Reservation Form

Name **(Clearly print first and last name)**

Telephone E-mail

Please Reserve: seats @ \$65 Total: \$ Number of Vegetarian Entrees:

All reservations, including payment, MUST be received by February 22, 2025.

Please mail this form and checks payable to AAUW Orlando-Winter Park to:

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

(Allow five days for mail to reach the P.O. Box)

Use the next page to list everyone you would like seated at your table.

Questions? Contact Pat Curenton at lilcreativdragon@gmail.com or 407 366-7866 (text preferred)

Or Diana Secor at dianasecoraaauw@gmail.com or 407-929-3735 (text preferred)

I am unable to attend but would like to donate \$ to AAUW

By supporting AAUW, you provide educational opportunities and legal advocacy for women and girls.

www.orlando-fl.aauw.net

AAUW Orlando/Winter Park

23rd Annual Spring Literary Luncheon

Please **Clearly PRINT** the names of all individuals you wish to be seated at your table. Sorry, sometimes we cannot accommodate all requests, but we do our best!

Only 8 persons will be seated at each table.

Please include payment for all individuals listed below.

You may send individual checks OR one check for the whole table.

Reservations and checks must be received by Saturday, February 22.

NAMES and PHONE NUMBERS of persons requesting to sit at the same table :

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

6 _____

7 _____

8 _____