

The Branch Beacon

empowering women since 1881

AAUW was founded in 1881 by 17 women from 8 colleges.

The Lake Wales branch was founded on May 16th, 1953.

The purpose of this branch shall be to unite graduates of different educational institutions in order to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

A LETTER FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

“There is no greater pillar of stability than a strong, free and educated woman.”

- Angelina Jolie

Welcome back to a new year of AAUW events and comradery! Much has been happening over the Summer. A successful Planning Meeting was held in June and resulted in a calendar of monthly meeting programs that will be of interest to our members. In addition, a lot of thought was given regarding how to raise funds to ensure that we will be able to offer our scholarships at the end of the year to deserving college-bound women. The smile on the face of this year’s recipient gives a hint of how meaningful this scholarship is to her, which inspires us to work to be able to continue this worthwhile program for other deserving women. Art-in-Schools has ensured that many local students will, once again, be exposed to the works of different artists up close, which will assuredly foster in them a lifetime appreciation of art. Members of the Book Club met outside at the Bok Café to share thoughts and impressions of several books and had expressed great pleasure at being able to meet in person again. To help keep our organization and its fantastic programs and community projects visible to the public, we arranged to host a tent during the “Pioneer Days” Celebration at Lake Wailes Park in late October.

Arrangements were made to resume our in-person meetings at Water’s Edge, as well. Unfortunately, the Delta variant of Covid seems to have other plans for the start of our year. Being “strong, free and educated women”, we will face this challenge by thinking outside of the box and by moving forward in spite of the disappointment of possibly returning to Zoom meetings until it is safe to meet again in person. Figuring out what to do next might require deciding month by month how and where to meet, but we intend to keep everyone informed well in advance of each meeting. As Coco Chanel once said, “Don’t spend time beating on a wall hoping to transform it into a door.” By necessity, we must create new ways to keep our AAUW Lake Wales Branch vital and moving toward our goals in this new situation. Please feel free to share any creative ideas that you might have which would help us better accomplish this.

Looking forward to seeing you all, be it in-person or virtually, soon.

Jacque & Juanita

MEMBER & PROGRAM NEWS

Wine Down Into the Weekend



Zoom meeting ID:
Meeting ID: 829 2104
1729

Our First Friday Wine and Conversation will resume on September 3rd at 4:30pm. We were all hoping to be able to hold it in person, but until it gets a little cooler to be able to sit comfortably outside, or until the Delta variant stops rearing its ugly head, we will have to lift a glass virtually. At least we can lift it together as we catch up with one another. Hope to "see" you there!

Congratulations, Constance Morgan!



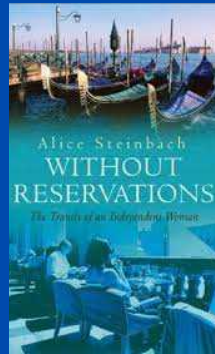
Constance receiving her scholarship from presidents, Jacque & Juanita.

For nearly 30 years, Constance Morgan dreamt of returning to college to earn an advanced degree. As the winner of the 2021 Educational Achievement Award, the 1983 Lake Wales High School graduate is getting her wish. She will be attending Broward College to obtain her associate's degree in computer technology. We wish her the best!

Book Club is Back!

Due to the availability of the Covid-19 vaccine, the book group is back to in-person meetings at Bok Tower. In July, we discussed the book *Into Africa* by Martin Dugard, which is about the explorations of Henry Morton Stanley and David Livingston in central Africa. In August we discussed two books: *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd, and *The Music of Bees* by Eileen Garvin. We concluded that neither book was really about bees but that both provided interesting insights about human nature. We also bade farewell to Hazeldean Meyers, who offered to give books from her extensive library to those who wanted them.

For September, we will discuss *Without Reservations: The Travels of an Independent Woman*, by Alice Steinbach, and our book for October will be *The Paris Architect* by Charles Belfoure, which is about a French architect who created temporary hiding places for Jews in Nazi-occupied Paris.



The book group meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the Blue Palmetto café at Bok Tower Gardens at 10:00 AM. Due to the resurgence of the Delta variant of the Covid virus, we are meeting outdoors on the patio. All who are interested are welcome to attend. - Carol Gillespie

So Long Dear Friend, Until We Meet Again



Our Book Group Chair and one-time Vice President for Programs, Hazeldean Meyers, is relocating to her hometown, West Portsmouth, Ohio. She will be living at Hillview, an assisted living facility. Hazeldean will be missed by those who knew her as an interesting, helpful member and friend. We will learn her exact contact information at a later date when she is settled in.

L-R Carol Gillespie, Hazeldean Meyers, Betty Martin, & Michael Ann Wiley

MEMBER & PROGRAM NEWS

**YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
MATTERS**

*WE VALUE EACH OF OF OUR MEMEBERS
AND THANK YOU FOR RENEWING YOUR
MEMBERSHIP THIS YEAR. IF YOU HAVE
NOT DONE SO YET, PLEASE SEND YOUR
MEMBERSHIP FEES OF \$85.00 TO:*

PO BOX 1264

LAKE WALES, FL 33859

*REMEMBER TO LIKE, VISIT,
CONTRIBUTE & SHARE OUR AAUW
FACEBOOK PAGE*



**THANK
YOU**

**Thank you Sharon Allen for
volunteering to step into
the role of recording
secretary. Welcome aboard,
the board!**



In memory of Marilyn Newell

March 20th, 1929 - August 10th, 2021

Originally from Rochester, NY, Marilyn and her husband, Dr. Bruce Newell, moved to Lake Wales in 1958. Early in her adult life, she was a member of Indian Lakes Estates Methodist Church and also the choir director for 28 years.

Marilyn graduated from Duke University and was an avid Blue Devils fan. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega Sorority and of Phi Beta Kappa. She was a member and former president of AAUW in Lake Wales where she was an Education Foundation Honoree as a "Woman Who Has Made History in Lake Wales". She was former President of the Lake Wales Arts Council two times and served on its board. She founded and chaired the annual Lake Wales Art Show and the Marilyn Newell Youth Music Festival and was Pioneer of the Year in 2017-2018.



ART-IN-THE-SCHOOLS DISTRIBUTION 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Submitted by: Art-in-the-Schools co-chairs, Linda Brown & Betty Martin



Art-in-the-Schools Distribution for 2021-2022 School Year The Art-in-the-Schools program under the direction of Betty Martin and Linda Brown has recently been busy distributing various framed pieces of art to eight local schools. The mornings of August 3rd through August 6th were spent choosing and cleaning the artwork and then transporting them to the schools taking part in the program. Thanks to volunteers Juanita Zwaryczuk, Sharon Allen and Michael Ann Wiley the task was accomplished in record time. The program also involves a PowerPoint presentation on famous artists (this year Vincent Van Gogh and Grandma Moses) that is available to elementary students at any local school that is interested during the school year. Several have expressed interest this year.



LUNCH & LEARN

September Luncheon With Dianne Schmoyer



QUIET THE MIND AND THE SOUL WILL SPEAK

This month's luncheon program will feature our own member, Dianne Schmoyer covering the topic of stress levels. This has been an incredibly stressful year for all of us and this is an opportunity to acknowledge our stresses and regain mindfulness. Dianne will overview yoga, mindfulness, and breathing. She will also provide demonstrations and opportunities to join in practice sessions. Please join us via Zoom on Tuesday, September 28th @ 11:30am.

Mark Your Calendars

- 9/3 - First Friday Wine & Conversation 4:30 pm via Zoom
- 9/8 - Book Club @ Bok Tower
- 9/28 - Luncheon With Dianne Schmoyer 11:30 am via Zoom
- 10/23-10/24 -Pioneer Days @Lake Wailes

NOMINATIONS FOR WOMEN WHO MADE HISTORY ON THE RIDGE



MARCH 2022 PROGRAM

Women Who Made History on the Ridge will be our March program in 2022. Because of the long planning time and the need to give honorees adequate advance notice, we ask for nominations in September. Please give thought to someone you would like to nominate.

CRITERIA



1. The candidate made notable history in the ridge area in one or more of the following ways:

- Initiated a program(s) or achievement(s) that was more than short lived and is important to the community*
- Was the first person to do something particular or make an important original contribution*
- Made a lasting impact in several ways.*

2. Other criteria to keep in mind include:

- Candidates that represent the diversity of the community*
- Avoid choosing based on popularity or likability or friendship*
- Choose without regard to membership in AAUW; this is a community wide honor*

SUBMIT

Please submit your nomination in writing and describe the contributions and achievements made by your nominee; the Selection Committee needs these details in order to make a selection. Give your nominations to any member of the Selection Committee: Jean Donaldson, Joan Dick, or Jennifer Nanek, no later than November 1st, 2021. If you have questions or suggestions about this project please contact Charlene Bennett or Pauline Phillips.