

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 PRESIDENT

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." - Anne Frank

Welcome back to a new club year! I hope your summer activities left you feeling energized both in body and spirit. At our Branch's planning session last May, a consensus was reached among those present to accept the challenge to be mission based, so our Lake Wales Branch Program Committee has arranged an impressive lineup of programs. The presentations and speakers are planned to align with the National and State Strategic Plans and will focus on national, state and local priorities. Look forward to some very informative meetings, followed by interesting conversation as we work together to advance equity and education for women and girls. We are excited to have developed an arrangement with Wales Pointe Restaurant in Lake Wales to hold our luncheon meetings in a convenient, private place, complete with media setup to enhance our programs. Menus have been planned to ensure variety from month to month and the Branch Yearbook will be in your mailbox soon with the particulars about each meeting. I am looking forward to seeing us all there together on September 27th at 11:30.

We are delighted to welcome three new members to our Branch. Carole Essy, Trish Sheesley, and Kristen Vanpraet joined us in the past few months. With approval of the Executive Board, we have committed to participate in several local community activities, like Pioneer Days, which will give us more exposure and perhaps attract like-minded people to our meetings with an eye toward diversity and inclusion. Perhaps those who attend a meeting will eventually decide to join as members. A Committee has been working on creating an "Elevator Speech" to help us all spread the news more easily about the benefits of being a part of the AAUW Lake Wales Branch. Do you know someone who would enjoy being a part of a group that "is starting to change the world"? That is what we do in AAUW through our scholarships, advocacy and Branch projects like Art in Schools and STEM. If you do, why not invite that someone to one of our meetings, perhaps treat them to lunch, or bring them along to one of our Wine and Conversation socials?

It is said that many hands make light work. Let's start the club year with all hands on deck!

Regards,
Juanita Zwaryczuk

MEMBER & PROGRAM NEWS



Wine Down Into the Weekend

Our Friday Wine and Conversation events have been taking place successfully outdoors on the patio at the Palmetto Café at Bok Tower Gardens. Please join us the 1st & 3rd Friday of each month 4-6pm. Food, wine and beer are available to purchase inside the café until 5:00 pm. Some of us bring our own beverages and refreshments. If a member wants to participate and does not have a Bok membership, entrance as a guest with another member can be arranged ahead of time by calling Juanita at 631-317-0159.

**YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
MATTERS**

**Friendly reminder that membership fees are due.
The \$90 annual fee may be paid in person at the
September Branch meeting, by mail, or online.
Thank you!**

Book Club

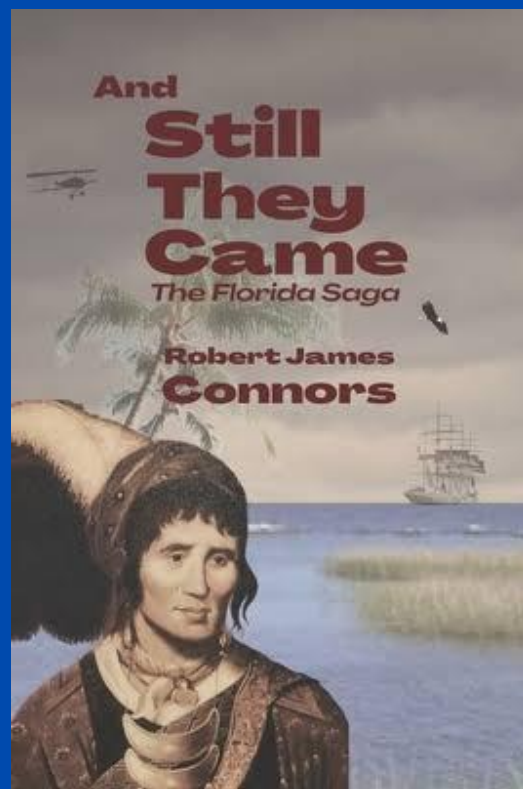
The book group continues to meet on the outside patio of the Blue Palmetto Café at Bok Tower. Upcoming selections are as follows:

October: **AND STILL THEY CAME** by Robert Connors

November: **DEVIL IN THE GROVE** by Gilbert King

December **HOLDING THE LINE** by Geoffrey Berman.

The book group meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the Blue Palmetto Café at Bok Tower Gardens at 10:00 AM. All who are interested are welcome to attend.



Branch Yearbook Archive Project

A committee is working on inventorying and examining our branch yearbooks and other archival materials with an eye toward donating them to the Lake Wales History Museum for permanent storage and eventual digitalization. Anyone interested in participating in this process is invited to contact Chair Dorothy Scott Wilson at 863-287-7347 or Pauline Phillips 307-630-8002 for the meeting schedule.



MEMBER & PROGRAM NEWS



AAUW DINING GROUP

THE AAUW DINING GROUP (FORMERLY THE EVENING DINING GROUP) HAS BEEN MEETING AT 1:00 PM IN VARIOUS LOCAL RESTAURANTS. MANY OF US ARE OLDER AND HESITATE TO DRIVE AT NIGHT, SO THE TIME WAS MOVED TO ACCOMMODATE THOSE PEOPLE. IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED THAT THERE ARE SOME WHO ARE STILL WORKING AND UNABLE TO LEAVE IN MIDDAY. THERE IS CERTAINLY AN OPPORTUNITY TO FORM ANOTHER GROUP THAT DOES MEET IN THE EVENING IF SOMEONE WANTS TO ESTABLISH ONE.

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

HOLIDAY

Holiday Dinner is 5:00 pm on Friday December 2 at L'Incontro on the patio. The exact menu and price are yet to be determined.

Check Your Mailboxes!

2022-23
Yearbooks
have been
shipped!



MEMBER & PROGRAM NEWS



Branch Meeting with Marian Ryan

Our first AAUW Lake Wales Branch Meeting of the new club year will take place on Tuesday, Sept. 27 th at 11:30 a.m. The guest speaker will be Marian Ryan, Vice Chair of Polk Forever, who will give a multimedia presentation providing information about Polk Forever,

including the Ballot Initiative which will be voted on in November. We are fortunate to have arranged with Wales Pointe Restaurant, 207 E. Park Ave., Lake Wales, to provide us with a comfortable, private place for our meetings with facilities to enhance presentations. Jessica Bray and Juanita Zwaryczuk have worked with the owner to plan a different, delicious, and varied lunch entree for each month, so we can be sure to enjoy this new venue. Lunch is \$15 which includes a full lunch with beverage including tip. As in the past, there will be a raffle to benefit AAUW Funds.

This month's raffle theme is FLORIDA FOREVER which includes yummy products made exclusively in our Sunshine State. Guests and non-members are welcome. Reservations are required of ALL who attend by 5:00 p.m. Thursday Sept. 22nd, even if not purchasing the lunch. Of course, since this is being held in a restaurant, no outside food is permitted to be carried in, however the bar area will be open if you care to purchase only a beverage.

R.S.V.P. to Juanita at 631-317-0159 or via email at namastejzfz@gmail.com

Join for October's meeting on October 25th AAUW Florida Research Puts Spotlight on Inequities

All women are entitled to economic security – but that's not the reality in Florida. To highlight the inequities, AAUW Florida and several local branches sponsored research that not only provides data about the problem, but offers policy recommendations, too.

Three research projects were conducted by Mary Gatta, Ph.D., associate professor of sociology at The City University of New York, and widely known for her research on gender, workforce, education, and aging. The projects for AAUW show that retired women in Florida are, in general, less economically secure in retirement than their male counterparts. Her research on Hispanic women and working Black women indicates even greater economic insecurity among those groups across their lifespans.

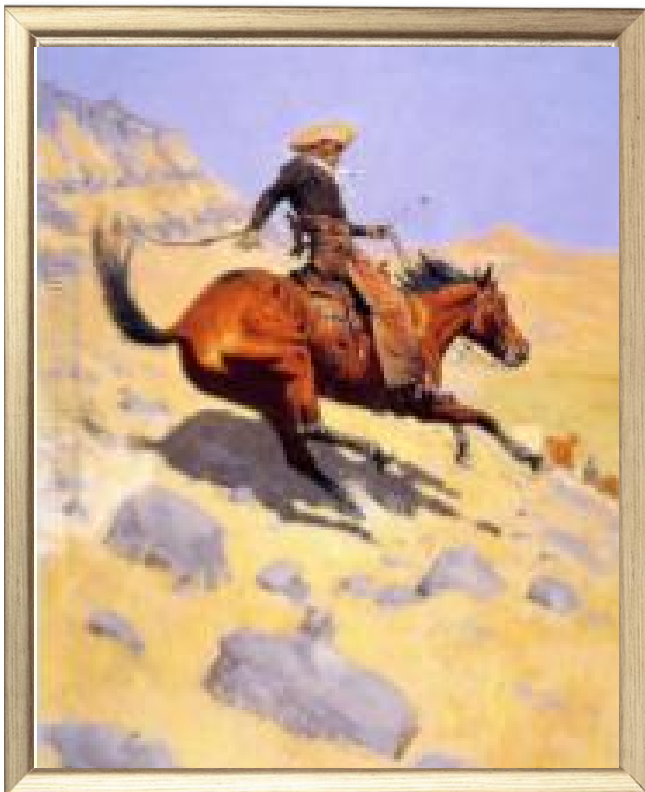
MEMBER & PROGRAM NEWS

Art-in-Schools Update

Two new prints have been framed and displayed in memory of Marilyn Newell, our over-50-year branch member, past president and avid Art-in-Schools volunteer who passed away last year.

SUNLIGHT AND SHADOWS

BY WINSLOW HOMER



THE COWBOY

BY FREDERIC REMINGTON