



American Association of University Women Lake/Sumter Newsletter

April 2018

Presidents' Letter

Dear AAUW Sisters,

It's said that March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. This year March came in like a lion and it seems to be going out like a lion. Not only is that true of the weather in parts of our country, but also of the activities and hard work of many of our members.

Many thanks to **Katie Haviland** and **Angela Vickers** for a spectacular trip to the St. Johns River on Mar. 7. Members and guests who shared the day were treated to a delicious lunch and entertainment aboard the paddle boat Barbara Lee.

A big thank-you also to **Diane Jacobson** and **Carol Richardson** for once again leading the eight weekly sessions of Great Decisions. This stimulating 1 1/2 hour discussion of American foreign policy became so popular that they held two sessions this year!

Kudos to **Connie Konatsotis** and her Tech Trek committee for their hard work in recommending girls from three Middle Schools in Lake and Sumter Counties to attend Tech Trek camp this summer. We were notified Mar. 14 that five of those girls were chosen by the State Committee to attend. Thanks to the grant from the Mt. Dora Community Trust, we are able to send all five girls this year. Two girls are from Oak Park Middle School, two are from The Villages Charter Middle School and one is from South Sumter Middle School.

Once again our tip of the hat goes to **Anne Schlick**, who arranged a superb program for Mar. 10. The speakers were Carolyn Ruhe and Frank Russo, founders of Tutors for Kids. Our book drive this year collected over 120 books which **Emily Holman** delivered to Carolyn and Frank for distribution to children who are being tutored.

We will be electing officers for 2018-2019 at our Apr. 14 meeting. Please plan to attend. Here is the slate of nominees:

- Co-Presidents: **Kathy Mason** and **Liz Schweers**
- Co-Presidents Elect: **Carolee Litwinka** and **Linda Ferens**
- Program Co-Chairs: **Diane Reichert** and **Ruth Martin**
- Finance Director: **Bea Newell**

Looking forward to seeing you soon,
Jacquié Latzer and Susan Gold, Co-Presidents

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Lake/Sumter Monthly Meetings

Branch Meeting Apr. 14

Our next Monthly Meeting will be at Alamanda Recreation Center, 1515 St. Charles Place in The Villages, on Sat., Apr. 14. Doors will open at 9:15 AM for socializing, with the program beginning at 10 AM. Beverages and light snacks will be provided and guests are welcome. After a brief business meeting and the election of officers for 2018-2019, these three presenters will discuss 'Mental Health Problems in the United States':

1. Dr. **Ruth Martin** will discuss her work as a practicing psychiatrist for 38 years in the Cleveland, Ohio area. Her talk will include a perspective of changes during that period for the field of psychiatry and mental health professionals. She will also address mental health courts, day treatment programs, mental health clinics and chemical dependency issues.
2. Attorney **Angela Vickers** will discuss the interaction of mental health with the legal system.
3. Practicing psychiatrist Dr. Ayesha Lall will speak on new medications and treatments for mental illness, and changes she envisions for psychiatry over the coming years.

There will be a Q&A session after the presentations, and the meeting will end at noon.

Reservations Needed For May 12 Meeting

Reservations must be in by Thur. May 3 for our 11:00 AM May 12 Monthly Meeting luncheon at Hacienda Hills Country Club, 1200 North Morse Blvd, The Villages 32159. Please send your check for the luncheon, payable to AAUW Lake/Sumter with menu choice A, B, or C written on the memo line, to: Angela Vickers, 1912 Yearling Way, The Villages, FL 32163 before May 3.

May 12 Menu Choices (prices include taxes and gratuity):

A - Hacienda Grilled Cheese \$20

Brie, honey, sliced apple and mustard on grilled wheat bread with two sides and dessert

Sides: French fries, potato salad, coleslaw or 3-bean salad (*write two choices on check Memo line*)

B - Apple Walnut Salad \$21

Greens. apple, grapes, tomatoes, onion. peaches, nuts with apple vinaigrette, roll, and dessert

C - Chicken Bruschetta \$24

Grilled chicken breast topped with diced tomatoes, basil & olive oil topped with mozzarella cheese

Served with rice, green beans and dessert

May 3 Reservation Deadline

Checks payable to AAUW Lake/Sumter, with menu item Letter (and two side items for choice A) on the Memo line, are due before May 3 to: Angela Vickers, 1912 Yearling Way, The Villages, FL 32163.

Monthly Meetings (Continued from page 2)

Tutors For Kids at Mar. Meeting

Speakers at our Mar. 10 Monthly Meeting were the founders of Tutors For Kids, Carolyn Ruhe and Frank Russo. Starting just over nine years ago with six tutors, they now have over 400 tutors volunteering in 12 elementary and middle schools in Lake, Sumter and Marion Counties. Five of our Lake/Sumter branch members who tutor at Wildwood schools attended the meeting and are pictured with Carolyn and Frank below.



L to R: **Susan Gold, Arlene Stein, Carolyn Ruhe, Frank Russo, Gretchen Lewis, Liz Schweers, Diane Starr**

Interest Groups

Bridge

Lake/Sumter AAUW offers two bridge groups, and players volunteer to host in their homes. Any AAUW member who wishes to play regularly or to be put on the substitute list should notify the appropriate group leader below.

- The Monday Bridge Group plays 2nd and 4th Mondays at 1:00 PM. This month's games will be held on Apr. 9 and 23. The Monday Group leader is **Cindy Anderson** at (352) 430-5856 or email cmc37738@yahoo.com.
- The Thursday Bridge Group plays 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 1:00 PM, Apr. 5 and 19. The Thursday Group Leader is **Lu Michaels** at (352) 750-0246 or email lum2800@gmail.com.

Diversity Book Group

Our branch Book Group meets the third Wednesday of the month at 10:30 AM in the Peace Room at North Lake Presbyterian Church on Rolling Acres Road. The book for Apr. 18 is *The Circle* by Dave Eggers. If you have questions, call April discussion leader **Mary Ann Swisher** at (352) 259-3739. The book for May 16 will be *Black and Blue* by Anna Quindlen.

Interest Groups (Continued from page 3)

Day Trips: Paddle Boat Cruise

AAUW Lake/Sumter's Mar. 7 day trip was a dinner cruise on the St. Johns River aboard the Barbara Lee, a beautiful replica of a Mississippi paddle boat. It was a lovely sunny day, and the trip was made truly enjoyable by music, an engaging wait staff, a very tasty multi-course dinner and a history lesson (not only of the sites along the river as we cruised, but also the history of the boat and family of owners). Highly recommended for an outing.



Pictured (L to R) are 15 of the 23 participants on the Mar. 7 paddle boat river cruise. *Standing:* Barb Athanasiou, Sharon Squires, Peggy Best, Kathy Mason, Carolee Litwinka, Gretchen Lewis, Dorothy Dobbs, Sue Machol, Helen Ware, Liz Schweers, Patti O'Connor-Allen *Seated:* Ginger Ryan, Irma Benner, Angela Vickers, Susan Gold *Missing from the photo:* Char Griffin, Kathleen Schiefler, Linda Carpenter, Beth Hicks, Marcha Herring, Carolyn McMurtrie, Katie Haviland, Gloria Thesen

Golf

The Golf Group plays on Fridays. Contact **Carmel Leese** at crleese@gmail.com or (352) 751-0119 if you are interested in joining or need specific details.

Mah Jongg

Conversational Mah jongg is played at 1:00 PM the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month. If you'd like to play, *please call the hostess by the Saturday preceding the game* so that she can have enough tables, game sets, etc. April mah jongg games will be at these homes:

Apr. 2 **Anne Schlick** (352) 750-1027 17301 SE 82nd Pecan Terr. (Village of Piedmont)

Apr. 16 **June Love** (352) 259-3967 17880 SE 89th Natchez Ave. (Village of Piedmont)

Interest Groups (Continued from page 4)

Singles

On Mar. 25 the AAUW Singles group will see *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* at the Melon Patch Theater, with dinner following the play. They're planning a train ride on the Royal Palm Railway Tavares-Mt. Dora-Eustis on Apr. 6 with lunch in Mt Dora, and will get together for an evening of socializing at **Gay Birchard's** home on Apr. 28. If you would like to join, contact **Carolee Litwinka** at (352) 750-0617 or mctwinka@yahoo.com.



Pictured above enjoying a St. Patrick's party at Linda Ferens's home are Seated (L to R): **Dorothy Dobbs, Marilyn Milne, Gretchen Lewis, Kathy Mason, Marianne Bender-Powers, Carolee Litwinka** Standing: **Lu Michaels, Barbara Jones, Liz Schweers, Gay Birchard, Ginger Ryan, Eileen Buck** (friend of Linda Ferens), **Carolyn Johnson, Myra Mervine, hostess Linda Ferens.**

Special Events

“Purchase for a Purpose” Fundraiser

Our “Purchase for a Purpose” AAUW branch fundraiser had a successful kickoff on Mar. 23, with a shopping party at the Changes Ladies Apparel store at Lake Sumter Landing. Members enjoyed browsing the racks, trying on new outfits, and partaking of refreshments provided by the store. 15% of all sales will be donated back to our branch, thanks to **Char Griffin** and **Diane Starr**, chairpersons for this fundraiser.

Another shopping party will be held on Sun. Apr. 8, from 12 noon until 2 PM. *Please contact Diane Starr at (330) 219-8648 or dwestarr929@gmail.com if you would like to attend this event.* The Changes store is available on weekday mornings and weekend afternoons in April and May for additional shopping parties. Groups of 6-20 people can be accommodated. Please consider scheduling a date and inviting friends and neighbors to your own party for the benefit of Lake/Sumter AAUW.

Branch News

Neighborhood Gatherings

Outsiders Lunch

On Mar. 20, the "Outsiders" group (Lake/Sumter members residing outside The Villages) met for their monthly lunch get-together at The Rose Plantation in Fruitland Park.



Pictured (L to R): Rosella Todd Valentine (Leesburg), Monika Lamud (scholarship winner, Mt. Dora), Lynn Scott (Oxford), Carolyn Pasquale (Leesburg), Josana Katz (Mt. Dora), and Carolyn's friend, Grace, visiting from Jamestown, NY.

District 5 Coffee

A neighborhood coffee was held Tues. Mar. 20, at **Gay Birchard's** house in Belvedere.



(L to R) are: Barbara Jones, Peggy Best, Bea Newell, Diane Reichert, Joan Irwin, and hostess Gay Birchard

Branch News (Continued from page 6)

Membership

At the April 14 and May 12 Monthly Meetings we will continue to accept AAUW membership renewals and new memberships for the year beginning July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. Renewal forms will be given out at those meetings. Please make any corrections necessary on the renewal form and return it with your check made payable to AAUW Lake/Sumter. Your renewal form information will be printed in the 2018-19 Membership booklet.

National AAUW has raised dues by \$10 to \$59 this year. Florida State AAUW remains at \$12 and our Lake/Sumter branch at \$19, which brings the total 2018-19 dues to \$90. In case this proves to be a hardship for any of our members, we are establishing a fund to help anyone who finds they are unable to continue their membership because of the \$10 increase. The contact for this fund is **Mary Ann Swisher** at mnjswisher@icloud.com or (352) 259-3739.

Please update your Membership booklet with the following new member information, and change **Margaret Kaufman**'s email address to: dawk2507@centurylink.net

Jeannie Hamilton Spouse: Bob
1085 Alcove Loop
The Villages, FL 32162 Hemingway
303-817-9988
jeannie@jeannierealtor.com
Univ. of Colorado, Boulder BA Anthropology

Beatrice (Bea) Newell Spouse: David
3124 Combs Court
The Villages, FL 32162 Pine Ridge
352-661-3301
beatricenewell@gmail.com
Madison College, VA BA German/French Lit Ed.
Jas. Madison Univ. VA M ED Counseling & Psych.

(Note: Lake/Sumter AAUW members' names appear in **bold** type in this Newsletter.)

EDITOR'S NOTE

I am pleased to announce that **Beth Hicks** will be the editor our Lake/Sumter AAUW Newsletter in 2018-2019.

Jo Anne Kelch, Newsletter Editor
(352) 391-1182
joannekelch@yahoo.com

April 2018 Calendar of Events

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION & CONTACT
Mah Jongg	Apr. 2 & 16	1:00 PM	(see page 4 for host and location)
Thursday Bridge	Apr. 5 & 19	1:00 PM	Call Lu Michaels for location (352) 750-0246
Singles	Apr. 6 & 28	TBD	Call Carolee Litwinka (352) 750-0617 (see page 5)
Golf	Friday AM	TBD	Call Carmel Leese for details and sign-up (see page 4)
Purchase for Purpose	Sun. Apr. 8	12- 2 PM	coordinator: Diane Starr (330) 219-8648 (see page 5)
Monday Bridge	Apr. 9 & 23	1:00 PM	Call Cindy Anderson for location (352) 430-5856
Monthly Meeting	Sat. Apr. 14	9:30 AM	Allamanda Rec Center, 1515 St. Charles Pl. (see page 2)
Book Group	Wed. Apr.18	10:30 AM	Peace Room, North Lake Presbyterian Church

AAUW Web Sites

National Web Site: aauw.org

State Web Site: aauw-fl.aauw.net

Branch Web Site: lakesumter-fl.aauw.net