

# MARCH HOTLINE

**VERO BEACH BRANCH**

**Gail DeGioia, Editor**

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**Vol 46 #7 MARCH 2017**



AAUW Vero Beach March Branch Meeting

## The Widening Impact of Title IX



When we think of Title IX, we think of sports, but the original statute made no explicit mention of sports! It states (in part): *No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.* Shirlyon McWhorter, the Director of Equal Opportunity Programs & Diversity at Florida International University where she also serves as the Title IX Coordinator, will tell us about the current impact of Title IX and the challenges it and women and girls still face. Shirlyon is a graduate of Bethune-Cookman College and the University of Florida Law School and has served as a County Court Judge in Miami.

Saturday, March 18th

Blue  Star Brasserie

2227 14th Ave (across from the Heritage Center)

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

### MENU

Sweet Corn Chowder

Choice of:

\_\_\_ Tomato, Spinach and Chevre Quiche

\_\_\_ Shrimp Pasta with Lemon Cream Sauce

Tahitian Vanilla Pineapple Bread Pudding with Crème Anglaise

Please send check for \$ 20, payable to AAUW Vero Beach Branch, with your meal choice on the memo line, to:

**AAUW Treasurer**  
**P. O. Box 2143 Vero Beach, FL 32961**

--or--

**Pay now with credit card:**  
**<http://verobeach-fl.aauw.net/>**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Stepping up to the plate. I guess that's a baseball image. It's what a number of members have done in agreeing to take on elected and appointed positions for next season. I can't tell you who yet, but we have some wonderful candidates.

It's all about what you love to do—what you're passionate about. When you do that for the Branch, you're tapping into your own talent. Members have agreed to next season's roles on that basis. An example: "I love to meet new people and welcome them. I don't know so much about AAUW Vero Beach, but I'll learn from Lois as I take on the ambassador role she has created so successfully."

Those who have agreed to positions will be a powerful team for 2017-18. And they need you. What do you love to do? How can your talent help the branch? Call Jane Matyniak at 772-217-3209 or cell 541-788-3549 or [jane.matyniak@gmail.com](mailto:jane.matyniak@gmail.com) if you'd like to explore where and when you might contribute your energy to the branch. We're growing and have found our voice and welcome yours!

Thanks in advance for your contribution,

*Linda*

### Members Helping Members

Our Members Helping Members group is fully staffed and "all dressed up with no place to go". We are here for anyone in our chapter who needs us. Helping with a new computer/phone, riding you to a meeting or just talking to someone are a few ways we have assisted. There are times when we all stop and wish we had help with a task. Maybe we can provide that. Call us and we'll try.

*Joyce Burkett*

Corresponding Secretary

Members Helping Members Coordinator

(772) 918-8267

## NAMES HONORED AWARDS

Do you know someone who has given significant service to AAUW Vero Beach (or State or National)? If so, please let us know. In May, we will give Names Honored awards to a number of members who have given **significant service to AAUW Vero Beach Branch and/or AAUW state or national**. This is NOT an award for community service nor for monetary donations. Any Vero Beach branch member is eligible for this award, including past award recipients. A named gift may also be designated in memorium. We have many members who donate time and talent that contribute to the success of our branch. Any member may recommend another member for this honor.

Please submit recommendations for the awards in writing to Martha Kucinsky ([martha.kucinsky@gmail.com](mailto:martha.kucinsky@gmail.com)) by March 1st. In your recommendation, give the name and the reasons for your recommendation.

### Public Policy Notes

The Public Policy group met on Friday, February 10. Kathryn Den Houter showed a video *Hope for the Voiceless*, about the objectification of women and sex trafficking. A good discussion followed the provocative video. Sex trafficking is considered one of the biggest barriers for young women to overcome, both nationally and in Indian River County. Judy McNulty suggested that we consider making a presentation to those who train volunteers that help young people.

Suzanne Jones will lead the Public Policy group next year. She is busy preparing for Equal Pay Day for Women which will be on April 4<sup>th</sup> this year.

## **AAUW Book Review Breakfast , last of the season**



**March 6 at 9:30**

**The Richardson Center  
6155 College Lane, Vero Beach**

**Presenter: Rev. Casey Baggott  
Community Church**

***When Breath Becomes Air*, by Paul Kalanithi**

**Facilitator: Jean Wengenroth**

Dr. Baggott is currently the Executive Minister of the Community Church of Vero Beach. Prior to coming to Vero Beach she served on other church staffs in Minneapolis and served as Ethics Consultant for the Good Samaritan Society. In addition to her professional work, she has enjoyed serving the community in a variety of volunteer roles. She takes particular joy in reading – theology, poetry, science, philosophy, history – or anything else.

*When Breath Becomes Air* is a New York Times bestselling memoir written by a young neurosurgeon, Paul Kalanithi, who is confronted by a diagnosis of Stage IV lung cancer. The book seeks answers to the questions of what makes life both worthwhile and meaningful when time is running short. Beautifully written, the critics found his work brilliant and compassionate.

### **Science Fair AAUW Awardees!**

Our branch awarded two \$50.00 awards at the Indian River Regional Science and Engineering Fair that took place on February 4, 2017. Gaelle Philippe is a student at Sebastian River Middle School. She entered the Chemistry category with a project entitled “Salty Situation” in which she examined the effect of salt on boiling water. Our second awardee is Seneca Turechek, a student at Gifford Middle School. Seneca entered the Plant Science category with a project entitled “A Salty Fruit Sensation”. She examined the effect of either salt or ascorbic acid on rates of apple and strawberry dehydration. Congratulations to both winners. Our branch is proud to provide these awards to encourage middle school girls to pursue their interest in STEM.

We welcome all member's submissions for the Hotline. Please submit your articles by the 5th of the previous month. Thank you.

**American Association of University Women, Vero Beach, Florida  
Branch, Creative Writers  
ENTRY FORM AND RULES**

for submitting your written works, to be published in our book,  
Women's Word sub-title, "Tide Lines"

Who may enter:

Members of the Creative Writers interest group and any current or past paid member of the American Association of University Women, Vero Beach, Florida Branch

Each entry must be the original work of the author entering their work. Each entry must be typed in the standard font [14 pt Times, New Roman or Garamond] and standard format [single-spaced, one inch margins] Title in bold print.

Poetry should be single-spaced with one poem per page, two pages for longer poems.

Your name, address, Email address and phone number to be placed in the upper right hand corner with category and word count. The title of your work will be at the center or heading in bold print.

One copy of each entry should be submitted to Rosemary Brofos.

[rosemarybrofos@bellsouth.net](mailto:rosemarybrofos@bellsouth.net) beginning January 15, 2017 and ending May 15, 2017

Categories:

Memoir and Essay: 3,000 word maximum

Short Story, Fiction: 3,000 word maximum

Essay/Personal Experience: Non-Fiction 3,000

Children: Short Story: 3,000 word maximum

Poetry: Traditional/Standard, Free Verse, Haiku, Children's poetry

A black and white drawing, painting or photograph of a half page size may be entered with each article but not necessary.

Some minor editing may be done to your work such as punctuation, spelling and/or grammar corrections.

Your work should not contain profanity [some creative license here] but no inflammatory language. Editing may include returning your work for corrections and then re-submitting your work within 10 days. A full explanation or the return will be attached to the entry and done in a positive, helpful suggestive form.

If your work has been previously published, it may be submitted as long as that publication has left you free to re-publish your writing. Please state this at the onset of your work and attach it to this form.

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I, \_\_\_\_\_ [Your signature] \_\_\_\_\_ [date]

hereby, give permission to AAUW Creative Writers, to publish the following entry or entries.

Title of work \_\_\_\_\_

4

Category \_\_\_\_\_, word count \_\_\_\_\_

Another example from the Creative Writers Group:

## INTERFERENCE

By Beatrice Gheorghiu [1985]

On a Sunday morning I sat at a small organ playing “Rock of Ages” hidden behind a screen and giant wreath of gladioli and carnations. People were filling the funeral parlor.

Two men in dark suits moved slowly down the aisle and seated themselves in the front pew. The younger man took the fragile old man’s hand and began to stroke it.

During “Blessed Assurance,” I glanced over at the old man-alarmed. I was sure he would never make it through the service. Huddled in the pew, head sunken, clinging to his son, he was too frightened to look up even once at the silvery tranquil form of his wife at rest in a satin lined casket. I must play my best. My fingers felt their way, and I heard the notes of “In the Garden” as I fixed my eyes on the old man.

“Lift your head,” I whispered. The son continued stroking the hand locked in his. My fingers played on alone, “How Great Thou Art.” Still the old man looked down – was he even breathing? “Courage – you’ll make it,” I whispered [how much courage can you pour into a small organ?].

I prayed for a direct line of communication. “I’m talking to you” I prodded him, almost angrily. Another, indefinable presence seemed to hover between us. Was there a far-out chance my words were reaching him? “Lift-lift” I urged during “Amazing Grace.”

Suddenly the old man stirred, looked about him, then slowly turned his eyes toward the casket where his lovely wife lay – his face open, unlined, accepting.

Later that day my telephone rang. “This is Mr. Brierley,” the voice said. “Father and I wish to thank you for your music – it made a difference, all the difference.”

I wanted to say, “I think a third party was on our line this morning,” but I know this might be hard to explain.

Looking back, I think he would have understood.

## **THE COLLEGE CONNECTION**

By Lois Miles, University Liaison

The IRSC AAUW Club has selected two of its motivated members to attend the 2017 National Conference of College Women Student Leaders. They are Moesha Cobb and Sara Lattimore.

Moesha enjoys science, art, communications and digital media. She will soon complete her Associate of Arts degree in Multimedia studies, and will then enroll in the Digital Media program with a concentration in Visual Communication.

Moesha's dream is to apply her communication skills to digital media and create short films, animations and music videos. She is now ready to step into a leadership role which will enable her to empower women and girls.



Sara is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Organizational Management. She has already completed an Associate of Science degree in Business Administration and a certification program for nursing assistant. Sara hopes to administer a small assisted living group home for the elderly with the hope of helping them enjoy productive and healthy lives. "I know they will keep me humble," she reflects.



In addition to full-time work and course studies, Sara helps with building homes for Habitat for Humanity; participates in United Way's Day of Caring; is active in Delta Chi Epsilon (DECA), the professional organization for business students; and is a reading tutor/mentor for behaviorally challenged first graders at Vero Beach Elementary school. She wants to make a difference in changing attitudes about women trying to achieve success in fields previously not open to them

## Sister Million Women's March in West Palm Beach

On January 21 two groups of our members and some non-members attended the sister Million Women's March in West Palm Beach. Susan Grandpierre invited a few friends to ride with her and Suzanne Jones organized a group of our AAUW members including Martha Kucinsky, Kyp Wasiuk, Grace Morris and potential member Quentin Walter. The March started at noon and took place at the Meyer Amphitheater which holds approximately 10,000 people. By the time the Rally started the grounds there were full of men, women and children of all ages, ethnicities and colors carrying signs and banners proclaiming women's rights. It was peaceful, joyful, determined and pointed with several outstanding speakers including local and county politicians, NOW representatives, and other women's rights groups.



It truly was a remarkable experience with all of us asking each other afterwards, "What now?". How do we keep AAUW's core values supporting women's rights in front of our politicians and voting public? Our branch has an active public policy group which meets on the second Friday each month for those interested in investigating this question and finding answers.

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### EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

To note previous attempts to give women fair pay, we have witnessed the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, the Equal Pay Act of 1963, the Equal Pay Act of 1997, (which the U.S. Senate has failed to move forward each year since then) and now comes the Florida Senate Bill 410 and House Bill 319 know as the Helen Gordon Davis Fair Pay Act of 2017. This act was filed on January 20, 2017 and is aimed at closing the gender pay gap in Florida.

With all this, WHAT CAN WE DO? SO happy you asked.....!

1. Contact the creators of the HGD Fair Pay Act Florida Senator Linda Stewart, House Democratic Leader Janet Cruz and Rep. Lori Berman to support their efforts on your behalf.
2. Contact your Florida legislators who have yet to vote on the bill and demand our rights for fair pay and passage of this bill to close all loopholes.
3. PARTICIPATE IN OUR LOCAL EFFORT TO BRING AWARENESS OF THE WAGE GENDER GAP FOR WOMEN IN OUR OWN COMMUNITY.

**This year Equal Pay Day falls on April 4, 2017.** To bring awareness to our community, your AAUW Public Policy group is actively making our voices heard. We are asking you to attend 2 Proclamation presentations proclaiming April 4 as Equal Pay Day in our city and our county.

The first presentation is with the Vero Beach City Council at Vero Beach City Hall on March 21st at 6 pm. The City Hall is located at 1053 20th Place. We will be meeting with the city council to hear our Proclamation read.

The second presentation is with the IRC Board of Commissioners. They will read our Proclamation at their Council meeting on March 14th at 9 am. The County Board of Commissioners meeting is located at 1801 27th Street, Bldg A.

Suzanne Jones will be giving a presentation on equal pay on both occasions.

4. We will be setting up tables with Equal Pay Day information at 3 visible locations throughout Vero Beach on April 4. Please contact Suzanne Jones via email or call 248-767-9402 for more information and to volunteer to take a shift at one of these tables.

# AAUW FLORIDA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

## April 2-3 at the Hyatt Regency in Sarasota



Ms Sonja Garcia will be our Keynote Speaker. Her topic will be “Unleashing the Power of Pink” – how appropriate! Mrs. Garcia is a local community leader and advocate for young girls and women. She believes there is untapped energy and potential among groups that could breach the gap between the communities and the university. Understanding her message can help us assist more girls and women in achieving their potential.

Sonja is a former administrator of the University of South Florida Library, and was the first African-American woman to be appointed to the University's Board of Trustees. She is a native Floridian, spent some of her childhood in Williamson, NY, and returned to Florida for high school in Orlando. She earned a BS degree from Florida A&M University and has an MA in Library & Information Sciences from USF.

There will also be workshops presented by FL Branches: you'll learn about successful STEM and Public Policy events. Another workshop offers concrete ways to maintain a healthy branch.

Please see reservation form on the next page. The special rate at the Hyatt Regency expires on March 9<sup>th</sup>. If anyone would prefer to stay in one of our host homes for overnight lodging, let Linda Barker know as soon as possible. Our sister branch, AAUW Sarasota members have graciously opened their homes.

### REGISTRATION FORM

#### 2017 AAUW-FLORIDA CONFERENCE/ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, APRIL 2nd AND MONDAY, APRIL 3rd

Print or type clearly. Complete one form per attendee.

PLEASE make your Hotel Room Reservation with the Hyatt Regency:

1. 888-421-1442 and request “Florida AAUW Annual Meeting” OR
2. Online at <http://aws.passkey.com/go/aauwfl>

The Convention Rate of **\$139.00 plus tax** (Single or Double Room) will be available until **March 9<sup>th</sup> ONLY**

#### Attendee's Information

\_\_\_\_\_  
 First Name                      Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
 City                                      State                      Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Email or Phone Number

Type of Membership (Check one)

- Branch Member
- National Member
- You Are a Past State President
- You Are a First Time Attendee

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Branch Name                      Current Branch Position

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Current State Position              Current National Position

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Preferred Name for Badge

#### Registration

	Rate	Your Cost
1. Member Registration (Includes Sunday's Dinner & Monday's Lunch)	\$50.00	_____
2. Donation for 2017 Tech Trek Summer Camp		_____
3. Cost per Guest for Sunday's Dinner	\$42.00	_____
<b>Total</b>		_____

4. Please List Any Dietary Restrictions:

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Payment Information

(No Refund after **March 21, 2017**)

Mail this form and your check payable to AAUW-Florida Conference by March 9<sup>th</sup> to Nancy Pura, 11645 Bayonet Lane, New Port Richey, FL 34654 (njpura@gmail.com, Tel. 727-389-7138)





## STUDY/ INTEREST GROUPS



*Coordinator: Ursula Duguid*

*For further information regarding joining a specific group, contact Ursula (794-1667) who will liaison with the groups chair.*

### *MARCH ACTIVITIES*

*Date Time*

- 6 9:30am **Book Review Breakfast**, Richardson Center, 6155 College Ln., VB
- 8 1:30 pm **Reading Group 4**, (2nd Wednesday of month) , Chairs, Linda Bara, 847-485-8364, [retiringlinda@yahoo.com](mailto:retiringlinda@yahoo.com)
- 8 1:30pm **Reading Group 2** (2nd Wednesday of Month) , Chair: Sheila Troob 794-5356 or [irvero@bellsouth.net](mailto:irvero@bellsouth.net)
- 9 12:30 pm **Duplicate Bridge**(2nd & 4th Thursday of month), Chair, Becky Barkett, 567-9688, 847-485-8364, and Pam Barry-Boyczuk, 226-5962
- 10 1:30-3pm **Public Policy**, at The Boulevard Clubhouse, 1620 Boulevard Village Ln. Speaker: Wendy Grow, Equal Employment Opportunity Council. Contact: Cate Wending at 240-529-3997 or [cwenzing@hotmail.com](mailto:cwenzing@hotmail.com).
- 10 10 am **Reading Group 6**, (2nd Friday of month) Hostess, Sally Fitzgerald, 1360 Almiranta Ln, VB, 492-1851
- 14 1:30pm **Reading Group 5**, (2nd Tuesday of month) Hostess, Jackie Jacobus, 330-703-1137, 4101 Ocean Blvd., Apt 3-B, VB, 32963
- 15 12:00 **Creative Writing**,(3rd Wednesday of month), Chair, Rosemary Brofus, 231-4786, [Rosemarybrofus@bellsouth.net](mailto:Rosemarybrofus@bellsouth.net)
- 20 1:30pm **Reading Group 3** (3rd Monday of month) , Chair, Barb Spelman, 703-851-0887 or [barbspelman@gmail.com](mailto:barbspelman@gmail.com)
- 21 9:30am **Reading Group 1**, (3rd Tuesday of month), Indian River Estates West, Fire place Library, Call Margaret Heinrich 299-0142 or [bhm683@gmail.com](mailto:bhm683@gmail.com)
- 23 12:30 **Duplicate Bridge** (2nd & 4th Thursday of month), Chair, Becky Barkett 567-9688
- 24 11:30am **Lunch Bunch**, (last Friday of month), Sake, 42 Royal Palm Pointe, VB, 978-9798 Call Sylvia LaRocca (772)-559-2172 or Birgitta Byers 231-10834 .
- 27 1 pm **International Relations**, (4th Monday of the month), Chair Barbara Mandell 794-1719. Citrus Room, Indian River Estates, East Building





empowering women since 1881

Vero Beach Branch

PO Box 2143

Vero Beach, FL 32961