



Vol 45 #6

March 2016

Gail DeGioia, Editor

MARCH HOTLINE

VERO BEACH BRANCH

(772)321-9156 or

gmcrd222@gmail.com

Salad Luncheon Branch Meeting

March 12, 2016 11:30 am



**Christ by the Sea United Methodist Church,
3755 Hwy A1A, VB, 32963**

Please bring a salad or dessert to serve 6.

Program: The Learning Alliance Speaker, Barbara Hammond.

The goal of the Learning Alliance is to have 90% of third graders be literate. They provide tools, knowledge, and support for teachers. They hope to create solutions that serve as a model for the nation



President's Message

We're In a Good Place

I'm borrowing the perspective of Lois Miles, one of our Nominating Committee members, about our place in AAUW Vero Beach Branch history. Our recent past has been weighed down by the stock market crash of the early 2000's, the hurricanes of 2004-05, and the recession following 2008. Many members were forced to attend to critical matters, decreasing the membership ranks to a low of 130. Our Nominating Committees found it difficult to create a slate of nominees for elected offices to the Board of Directors each year.

We also had a \$ 10,000 gift from a past member, donated in the terms of an endowment of \$75,000. We needed to add \$ 65,000 to it over eight years, which created a demand for money that was taxing (in more ways than one) for members. We were ALWAYS asking for money. In addition, we reduced the amount we gave to our scholarship recipients due to these difficult years and to the fact that our Book Author Luncheons were less lucrative than they had been in the past.

Contrast those days with where we are now.

Our membership is increasing steadily. Thanks to Gail Helgeson and Pam Papendick, we are now at 155 members — our highest mark in several years. According to Treasurer Cindy Beres and Assistant Treasurer Becky Barkett, our bank account is healthy. Our ratio of Administrative expenses to Philanthropic expenses was 26% to 74% last year, and we hope to improve that this year. We still run a deficit each year as our membership dues do not cover our Administrative expenses, and you'll see a proposal to fix this in this edition of Hotline.

Our 2016 Nominating Committee has come up with a full slate of candidates for the Elected Officer positions and has even built a succession plan for future years! Thank you to all of you who have stepped up to a leadership position (See announcement on page 4).

As for the endowment, our brilliant past president Carole Strauss managed a major fundraiser—*Senior Moments*, a play about Alzheimers, and brought the proceeds to AUUW. That enabled us to pay off the endowment in 2014. It also started the practice of having a "second fundraiser" other than our Annual Book Author Luncheon. Since then, we have put on *Tea for Three: Lady Bird, Pat & Betty* and *Girl Rising: A Movie Fundraiser*. The proceeds from these events have enabled us to expand our philanthropy beyond scholarships. We now support scholarships, grants and programs for women and girls in Indian River County.

And our 2016 Book Author Luncheon is about to sell every seat Bent Pine Country Club can fit into its dining room. Due to getting a very popular author, the 34th Annual Book Author Luncheon will ratchet up the success of this event once again.

Carole Strauss and Martha Kucinsky also worked tirelessly on getting us our designation as a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization, so we are able to solicit sponsorships that make all our fundraisers possible. Soliciting sponsorships has gotten our name out into the business community. Our goal is to be known in the community as the organization that supports girls and women in Indian River County. We're well on our way.

We really do deserve our current good fortune!

We welcome all submissions for our Hotline. Please note that the deadline is the 5th of the previous month and the Hotline will go out the 15th of the month.

Thank you all for your support

BOOK REVIEW BREAKFAST + DISCUSSION

March 14, 2016
Indian River State College
The Richardson Center
6155 College Lane

This event is free and open to the public. Continental breakfast begins at 9:30 am followed by the lecture at 10 am. All are welcome,

Devil in the Grove, by Gilbert King

Presenter: Julianne Price

Co-founder, Every Dream Has a Price

Facilitator: Joyce Levi

Winning the Pulitzer Prize nonfiction award as well as the Edgar Award for best factual crime book is an unusual combination. **Devil In The Grove: Thurgood Marshall, the Groveland Boys, and the Dawn of a New America** is a mesmerizing work about race relations and justice in the early 1950s, and is the book chosen by Julianne Price, co-founder of the Every Dream Has a Price, Inc. for discussion at the March 14, 2016 Book Review Breakfast, held at the Richardson Center at IRSC at 9:30 a.m. Come and join us!



Called “one of the best books I’ve ever read” by a reviewer on Amazon, the book explores a topic that is timely and important. Given the recent reactions to Ferguson, the recent deaths of Trayvon Martin and Freddie Gray, and the Black Lives Matter movement, the book is a necessary read for every Floridian, if not for every American. While the events described happened many years ago, the conversation around civil rights continues.

The mission of Every Dream Has a Price, Inc. is to build and repair homes for those in need of safe and affordable housing in the community.
Julianne Price

MARCH is DONATION MONTH

Every March, AAUW National sends out a letter requesting an annual (calendar year) donation to its many funds. While we contribute to three of these funds as a branch,* we have also established a Local Program Fund to support Indian River County organizations we work with as volunteers. We would like you to consider local funds as well as national funds for your donation, so please respond to the donation request letter from AAUW Vero Beach. If you choose national funds for all or part of your donation, we will send them in and “get credit” as a branch *and* as individuals. We will send the branch donation letter to you by March 1.

Last year, the branch supported the AAUW Fund, the Legal Action Fund and the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund.

Important Issues to be Voted on at Annual Meeting, Saturday April 9th, 1:30 pm

Increase in branch dues

While our bank account is healthy, our budget for annual activities has run in a deficit condition for many years. Our membership dues do not cover our General & Administrative costs, mainly because our overhead costs, such as venues, printing and supplies are increasing. We have made up the deficit primarily from other sources. This year, your Board of Directors voted to recommend a \$3.00 increase in local dues to partially make up this deficit. This recommendation will come up for a vote at our annual meeting on Saturday, April 9th. If you have any questions about the need for this increase, please contact Cindy Beres at 492-8466 or dgbcab@yahoo.com.

Also, **election of our new board.**

Nominations for 2016 - 2017

Election to be held at the April meeting; installation at the May meeting

President - Linda Barker

Executive Vice-President - Joyce Burkett

Vice-Presidents for Programs - Eileen Finestone

Sylvia LaRocca

Vice-Presidents for Membership - Suzanne Jones

Pam Papendick

Recording Secretary - Linda Clerch

Treasurer - Cindy Beres

Assistant Treasurer - Barbara Spelman



The Nominating Committee thanks all the nominees for their willingness to serve our very fine branch as we start our 52nd year.

Please Welcome Our New Members

Lisa Hinkley
500 Beach Rd. #106
Vero Beach, 32963
760-505-9772
mlhinkley@gmail.com

Darlene Forage
1010 Southlakes Way SW.
Vero Beach, 32968
772-453-5727
dforage@gmail.com

Deb Farley
437 Melrose Ln.
Sebastian, FL 32958
772-571-5135, cell 870-672-1657
debra_farley@yahoo.com

Ursula Duguid
7270 30th Ct.
Vero Beach, 32967
772-794-1667 cell 772-480-1115
uruladuguid41@gmail.com

CORRECTION– Betty Sullivan email Tapper5831@yahoo.com (not Tepper)



FOR OPERA LOVERS....

Join new member Dr. Jennifer Proper and her husband every Thursday for their Opera Club discussion:

Location: Woodfield Club House (just north of the Indian River Mall)

Time: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Format: DVD

Occasionally Ballet DVDs shown as well.

Contact: Jennifer Proper 772-774-8644

Indian River Regional Science & Engineering Fair

The 24th annual regional Science Fair took place on Saturday, January 30, 2016, at Gifford Middle School. AAUW members, Flora Balu and Linda Clerch were judges in the Secondary Division. Two middle school girls were chosen to receive AAUW Vero Beach STEM awards of \$50.00 each. Emily Cisneros is a student at Storm Grove Middle School; her project was entitled "Board Games for Blind Children". She used pipe cleaners, textured fabrics, and jar lids to engineer a board game that blind children could play using their sense of touch. Alyssa Rivas, a student at Sebastian River Middle School, designed a simple but elegant engineering project entitled "Wired" to test what kind of wires would resist ice buildup – an idea applicable to power lines that might resist breakage in an ice storm. We hope our award will encourage both these girls to continue their interest in STEM.

TOUR OF INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE SET FOR MARCH 21

In appreciation of our contribution to scholarships at Indian River State College, the IRSC Foundation has extended to AAUW Vero Beach's membership an opportunity to tour the Fort Pierce campus with a guide from the Foundation Office. The tour will take place on Monday, March 21 from 10:00 AM until 12:00 PM. The visit will provide an opportunity to see present developments in the current world of education, something we all feel is highly important. Golf carts will convey those who have a problem with mobility. We will also try to organize carpools for those interested. If you would like to be included, please contact Carla Calwell at (772) 257-6469 or email cacalwell@aol.com. We hope you will plan to join us for a very interesting morning.

HELP WANTED!!!!!!!!!!



Let 's close the Gender PAY gap!!!!

Lots of people think unequal pay for women ended 50 years ago after the passage of the Equal Pay Act, or with the more recent Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act in 2009. Not so. Those of us that are active and aware members of AAUW know we still have a long way to go. Twenty one percent more to be precise. As of the most recent statistics published by AAUW, women still earn 21% less than their male counterparts.

On April 12, we have the opportunity to have our voices heard regarding unequal pay standards based on gender and ethnicity that is still prevalent today. But our public policy group needs your help.

On March 1, we will begin canvassing Vero Beach merchants asking them to give all women coming in to their business on April 12, Equal Pay Day, a 21% discount on qualifying purchases. This is where you come in. We need "a few good women" to help contact merchants to ask for their participation. A script will be provided to assist you and a map designating the area to be covered. Posters will be given to each store to place in their window promoting the event, and a small poster for them to display in their store describing their specific item (s) to be discounted 21%.

The areas yet to be assigned are:

- Orchid Island from Beachland Blvd. North to the Village Shops
- Miracle Mile area on the South side including 6th Ave.
- Miracle Mile area on the North side including 7th Ave.

These areas can be divided and shared, but we would really like to cover as many Vero Beach businesses as we can. We have other tasks related to this promotion if you are interested.

Please consider helping. It 's not hard and you will be promoting equal pay representation for your daughters, granddaughters, and all women in the current and future business marketplace. This year is the first year AAUW Vero Beach has taken part in the Equal Pay Day National Promotion and our goal is to promote awareness and advocacy. So, our public policy group needs YOU.

If your are interested in helping please contact Suzanne Jones at [248-767-9402](tel:248-767-9402) or email suzanne-jones@yahoo.com.

Regional Opportunities

We have another regional opportunity coming up—the Stuart Fashion Show on Wednesday, March 9th. I went last year, and it was excellent, showing off the expertise Stuart AAUW has gained in putting on such a show for many years. They hire Rose Meyerowich, fashion show coordinator, to bring outfits from five or six different shops in the area. They also stage an amazing Chinese auction. So I invite anyone who wants to go to join me this year. Here 's the information:

Send check for \$ 65 made out to AAUW Stuart Branch to:

Nancy Erwin

2892 NE Sewell 's Landing Way

Jensen Beach, FL 34957-6521

772-221-1543

Email: nancyjean5211@gmail.com



Let me know that you sent your check and I' ll create car pools—another chance to get to know each other while driving to and fro!

New Formula for New Members

We have enjoyed many New Member Teas in the past 51 years, welcoming new members to the branch. This event has evolved over the years, and this year, on February 3rd, Gail Helgeson and Pam Papendick, our Membership VPs, hosted a Meet & Mingle reception at the elegant Vero Beach Country Club, where we were served appetizers and soft drinks or a glass of wine.



The group included fourteen AAUW Board members, our BAL Chair, and 10 of our 31 new members. Two members were so new that they brought their applications to the event!

During a break in the mingling, the Board and new members introduced themselves. We learned about each other and enjoyed the energy of people finding a place for their talents in our branch.

We think Gail and Pam have found a winning formula. We hope to see our membership grow and meet more new members at this event next season!

Names Honored

Those who have given significant service to AAUW Vero Beach and/or AAUW Florida or AAUW National. Please submit names and the reason for your recommendation to Martha Kucinsky by March

1st. Martha.kucinsky@gmail.com



ACTIVITIES AND INTEREST GROUPS



New Members interested in joining ?

Please contact Linda Mattone at 564-7038

Reminder! Any prospective member can attend any Study/ Interest Group once before they join. They might like to get a taste of these meetings before making a commitment.

MARCH ACTIVITIES



Date Time

- | | | |
|----|----------|--|
| 2 | 1:30 pm | Bridge 1 , (1st Wednesday of month) TBD |
| 8 | 1:30 pm | Reading Group 5 , (2nd Tuesday of month) Hostess, Mary Breglia, 425 West Forest Trail, Vero Beach, 516-642-4804 |
| 9 | 1:30 pm | Reading Group 2 , (meets 2nd Wednesday of month) Hostess, Angeles Davis, 234-5201, call for address and directions |
| 9 | 1:30 pm | Reading Group 4 , (2nd Wednesday of month) Hostess, Pam Barry-Boyczuk, 710 Marbrisa River Lane, VB, 226-5962 |
| 11 | 12 pm | Bridge 2 , (2nd and 4th Thursday of month) Call Eleanor Wade, 778-4605 |
| 11 | 10 am | Reading Group 6 , (2nd Friday of month) Hostess, Sandy Leary, 1180 Reef Road, Apt. A17, VB, 515-702-6721 |
| 11 | 2 pm | Public Policy , Village Loft (in the Village Shops), 6220a, Highway A1A, stairs across from Citron Bistro. Contact Linda Barker for information, 703-898-8260 |
| 15 | 9:30 am | Reading Group 1 , (3rd Tuesday of each month) Indian River Estates West, Fire place, Library, Call Margaret Heinrich 299-0142 |
| 15 | 1:30 pm | Creative Writing , (3rd Tuesday of month), Hostess, Leslie Carson, 5059 N. Hwy A1A, Apt. 306, Ft. Pierce, FL 34949, 908-531-8582 |
| 18 | 11:30 am | Lunch Bunch , Ocean Grill, Rt. 60 at the Ocean, VB, 231-5409
Contact Sylvia LaRocca, 559-2172 or Birgitta Byers, 231-1083 for information |
| 21 | 10 am | Reading Group 3 (3rd Monday of month) Hostess, Hostess, Laurita Samuels, 3870 N. Hwy A1A, Apt. 803, Ft. Pierce, 34949, 631-834-7111 |
| 24 | 12 pm | Bridge 2 Call Eleanor Wade, 778-4605 |
| 28 | 1:30 pm | International Relations Group , contact Barbara Mandell, 231-5052 |



Vero Beach Branch

PO Box 2043

Vero Beach, FL 32961