

Vol. 83 No. 6 Daytona Beach (FL) Branch Newsletter

December 2016



### Please Join Us At The

AAUW Daytona Beach Holiday Scholarship Tea

### Hotchkiss House

(1000 Peninsula Dr., Daytona Beach 32118)

Sunday, December 11, 2016

2:00-4:00 pm

Featuring Tours of Historic Lilian Place, Gift Basket Raffles and Holiday Music

\$25

**RSVP by December 3:** 

Ellen O'Shaughnessy (386-253-0335)

jebk75@gmail.com

Please mail check to: Ellen O'Shaughnessy, 1210 Gamble Place, Daytona Beach, FL 32118

If you are unable to attend, please consider making a donation in support of our local scholarship programs.

Patricia Ross Paross@aol.com

### Board of Directors 2015-16

President: Patricia Ross paross@aol.com

VP Programs: Carol Buckels & Synthia Fletcher

VP Membership: Needed

Secretary: Pat Rae

Treasurer: Pat Rae

Publicity: Betty Parker

STEM Coordinator: Mary Ann Sines

Public Policy: Laura Addolfi

Scholarships: Ellen O'Shaughnessy

Newsletter Editor: Tamara Sines Lyhne

Tech Trek Fundraising: Laura Addolfi

Literature Group: Susan Jano

Parliamentarian: Betty Stem

Author's Luncheon: Susan Bayley & Susan Jano

Day Trippers: Pat Ross

Deadline for submitting info for Tidings: 3rd week in month prior Contact:

### **President's Musings**

# Happy Holidays!

I hope to see you at the Holiday Scholarship Tea. It is a great way to launch your holiday celebrations! This event helps to raise funds for our scholarship programs. AAUW Daytona has a long tradition of providing scholarships for non-traditional female college students in our community. We recently also added a STEM scholarship which we co-sponsor with the Flagler and New Smyrna AAUW branches. If you look in your directory you will see a partial listing of the women who have received our scholarships. For many, those funds were life changing. This year, we will enjoy a lovely the at the Hotchkiss House, the former home of the "Stapler King" We will enjoy holiday music, gift basket raffles and tours of historic Lillian Place. I want to recognize the committee who make this event such a success. Your efforts are so important!

Thank you to all who attend and who bring guests for your support of this event.

Patricia Ross
Paross@aol.com

### **AAUW Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting Wednesday, October 19, 2016**

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm by President Ross. Present were: Pat Race, Mary Ann Sines, Pat Rae, Ellen O'Shaughnessy.

MINUTES: The minutes of the AAUW Author's Luncheon September 17, 2016 were approved with the following correction: "The event began at 11 am with the introduction of Sarah Symons, author of "this is no ordinary joy, How the Courage of Survivors Transformed My Life".

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting September 17, 2016 were approved as read. The minutes of the AAUW/League of Women Voters Luncheon October 15, 2016 were approved as read.

Advancing equity for women and girls 2 through advocacy, education, philanthropy,

and research.



FINANCIAL REPORT: Treastifer Pat Race read the financial report. The Author's Luncheon profited \$384.30 for the Legal Advocacy Fund. President Ross suggested that we increase this amount to \$400.00. Pat Race moved that we donate \$400.00 to LAF; motion seconded by Mary Ann Sines; motion carried. Scholarship was discussed and defined as anything that educates. The 50/50 raffle at the AAUW/LWV Luncheon October 15 earned \$75.00 for NCCWSL. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Ross reported the AAUW/LWV Luncheon at Embry Riddle cost \$1068.98.

PROGRAMS: President Ross announced how to order the lunches for the Cici & Hyatt Brown Museum of Art program November 19, 2016. The form will be attached to Tidings as a PDF file, to be filled out and sent with checks to Pat Race. Cost of the program/lunch is \$18.00 for non-members of MOAS and \$10.00 for MOAS members.

PUBLIC POLICY: President Ross reminded us of the Candidates Forum Thursday October 20<sup>th</sup> at United Church of Christ, New Smyrna Beach, which she will attend.

MASTERPIECE FUNDRAISER: Mary Ann Sines gave cards to hand out to friends and encouraged us to invite as many as possible. The event is Wednesday October  $26^{th}$  from 2-5 pm.

MEMBERSHIP: President Ross informed that we had 4 members join at the AAUW/LWV Luncheon at Embry Riddle. The Branch Directory is nearly ready for printing. It will be mailed to members along with the invitations for the Holiday Scholarship Tea.

HOLIDAY SCHOLARSHIP TEA: Ellen O'Shaugnessy reported that all is in order for location at Hotchkiss House, details to follow. Discussion ensued regarding raffle items. The cost remains at \$25.

Next Board meeting is Monday, November 28th at 5 pm, location TBA.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Rae, Secretary

#### **Book Club**

# Meets Second Monday of the Month at 10:30 AM City Island Library, Daytona Beach For more info call Susan Jano: 386-671-2593 or email sszjano@msn.com

December 12<sup>th</sup>- Book Club: *H is for Hawk* 

### Everyone is welcome!

### **Policy Watch**

This is my first report in my new Policy position and I'd really like your feedback on issues of importance to you or your policy interests. Following are some items of potential interest:

- --December 5 AAUW National Comment Period Closes for Bylaws and Public Policy Program (<a href="www.aauw.org">www.aauw.org</a>) then, sign in. Note, major changes proposed for membership eligibility.
- --Become an AAUW Two-minute Activist and "receive urgent e-mail notices [from National] to contact your members of Congress right in your inbox."

To initiate the process, steps are:

go to: www.aauw.org

log-in using your AAUW ID # and password

click on tab: "what-we-do"

go down the page and click on: "public policy"

go down page and click on: "Become a two-minute activist"

type in your email address

press "sign up"

- --Patricia DeWitt, PhD is AAUW-FL's Public Policy Director.
- -- March 7 FL Legislature convenes
- --March 14-15 tentative dates for annual FL Lobby Days in Tallahassee.
- --Rep. Lori Berman is expected to introduce a bill to stregthen protections against gender-based workplace discrimination such as, improve wage transparency, prohibit retaliation against employees who discuss wages, and to tighten up the list of permissible reasons for wage differential. Know of other organizations we should partner with on this effort? Please contact me.
- --If you know "our" Florida legislators personally, or if you have working knowledge, I would greatly appreciate your assistance and guidance. If possible, it would be good to have a courtesy call with them while they are home.
- --FYI Links http://www.leg.state.fl.us/

Advancing equity for women and girls 4 through advocacy, education, philanthropy,

and research.



Submitted by Laura Adolfie, Policy

Contact: FL4STEM@gmail.com; 703-850-9833

Laura Adolfie, PhD AAUW-FL STEM Chair

Email: <u>FL4STEM@gmail.com</u>

### **AAUW New Member Spotlight**

This month, two new members are featured:

JOAN KOECHLER: Joan joined our Branch at the General Meeting in October. She is happy to meet with other educated women, to share experiences and life issues. Having graduated with a BSc in Biology (St. Francis College, Brooklyn, NY) and a MS in Science Ed (St. John's University, Queens, NY), it is no surprise that Joan is interested in helping promote STEM and Tech Trek. She also welcomes the opportunity to get involved in AAUW's legislative activism, the issue of equal pay, and other justice issues. Joan taught 43 years, in primary and biology at the secondary level. Her first 13 years of teaching were while she was a Dominican religious. She met her husband, Joe, and they have been married for 38 years. Joan likes reading and discussing history and literature, as well as needlework. She currently volunteers to record books for the blind. She retired to Florida from New York with Joe, loves our weather, and is very happy that her sister and niece are now in Florida as well.

JOE KOECHLER: Joe joined the Branch in October along with his wife, Joan. He welcomed the chance to meet people of similar educational background and was intrigued by our program of events. Joe is very interested in advancing equal pay for women, political activism and awareness of civic issues. His education includes a BA in Philosophy from Cathedral College, Brooklyn, NY and a Theology degree from the University of Innsbruck, Austria. Joe spent 10 years as a Catholic priest, followed by 30 years in the field of Client Service for an Insurance Data and Actuarial Firm. He has been married to Joan for 38 years. His interests include travel, photography and classical music. Since he and Joan were very familiar with Florida, having

spent time visiting his sister and nieces, it seemed a perfect spot to retire to in order to "get away from snow".

WELCOME TO THE BRANCH. WE'RE THRILLED YOU'VE JOINED US!

#### **AAUW's Member Benefit**

#### Office Depot and Office Max

Every branch needs office supplies! AAUW has collaborated with Office Depot and Office Max to give members a discount savings of up to 80% online and in stores. This includes print orders as well! Shop or print your in-store savings card now.

#### **AAUW National News**

Five Takeaways from Election 2016 November 17, 2016

#### Go More In-Depth



AAUW Vice President of Government Relations and Advocacy Lisa Maatz discussed the general election and more in a conference call with members.

#### Listen now

The seemingly never-ending 2016 election is finally over, and it was one for the record books. It was a year fraught with controversial candidates, positions, statements, and tweets — one that saw an <u>uptick in voter</u> interest and engagement but then a <u>major decline in voter turnout</u>. It was an election that saw <u>increased levels of anxiety among voters</u> as well as incidents of bullying in schools.

One important takeaway I have about this election is that candidates did speak to issues affecting women and families. Remember in the first presidential debate when both candidates had mentioned equal pay AND child care in the first five minutes? While America, and the world respectively, try to process last week's outcome, I'm here to help you nurse your election season hangover with a few takeaways to mull over.





Donald Trump speaking at CPAC 2011 in Washington, D.C. <u>Photo credit: Gage Skidmore. Flickr. Creative</u> Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0 Generic.

No one saw this coming. Reading the polls and looking at early voting and registration numbers, who could have guessed it? For the first time ever, America elected a president with no background in politics or public service, who touted his role as a business leader as his main qualification for office. All most Americans have to go on is the controversial racist, sexist, and xenophobic language President-elect Donald Trump used on the campaign trail.

While campaign rhetoric is one thing and governing is another, we do have to continue to hold Trump accountable for his behavior both during the campaign and after. AAUW, along with the rest of the country, will be waiting with bated breath to see what we can expect from the Trump administration and the appointees who will make up his cabinet. We believe personnel is policy. We will continue to speak truth to power as we have for 135 years and will act as valuable allies or fierce critics, depending on what's warranted at the time.

## 2. Congress Stays the Same, Mostly



The GOP ended the night still controlling both chambers of Congress. Remember, this is the Congress we had before; it hasn't changed that much.

We will still be focusing on <u>AAUW policy priorities</u>. Women are still facing unequal pay and calling for relief through the <u>Paycheck Fairness Act</u> and <u>Pay Equity for All Act</u>. Students are still waiting for real action on <u>college affordability</u> and high student debt, and they expect a continued commitment to <u>combating campus sexual assault</u>. Working families are still looking for good jobs with <u>paid family and medical leave</u> and other <u>workplace equity policies</u>. And Americans still don't have the basic necessity of a <u>full Supreme Court</u>.

Interesting fact to remember: Vice President-elect Mike Pence was a U.S. representative for more than a decade and knows the ins and outs of the process. The vice president-elect looks to be a major player in a Trump presidency, but it'll be interesting to see what his impact will be on policy and if Trump administration priorities will line up with Speaker Paul Ryan's (R-WI) and those of other House Republicans.

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# 3. Good Night for Women in the Senate



U.S. Congresswoman Tammy Duckworth (D.-Ill.) is the keynote speaker at the 2013 U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Veterans' Day Observance. <a href="Photo credit:">Photo credit:</a>
U.S. Department of Agriculture. Flickr. Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic.

Women did make impressive gains in Senate representation this cycle. In 2017, there will be <u>21 women</u> serving in the U.S. Senate — the highest number in history. The chamber will also feature a record number of women of color. Senators-elect Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV), and Kamala Harris (D-CA) <u>made history</u> by becoming the first Thai American, first Latina, and first biracial woman, respectively, to serve in the Senate.

4. AAUW-Supported Ballot Initiatives Did Well



Image by Gene Han, Flickr Creative Commons

Ballot measures related to AAUW's priority issues had a pretty successful night. Voters in Maine, Colorado, Washington, and Arizona voted to increase their state minimum wages. Arizona and Washington also approved new paid sick leave programs. In Missouri, a ballot question on raising the cigarette tax to help fund a school voucher scheme failed. But it was disappointing to see that the state passed a measure requiring government-issued photo IDs in future elections. Alaska passed an initiative to automatically register all qualified voters when applying for a Permanent Fund dividend. In addition, California passed a number of AAUW-supported ballot initiatives, including wins for community college funding and improving health coverage for low-income Californians.

These ballot initiatives serve as reminders that it's not only candidates that matter on the ballot each election cycle.

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# 5. Voter Suppression Tactics in Motion



Photo credit: Voter Suppression Trend NC by Democracy Chronicles. Flickr. Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 License Generic.

I'm sure I wasn't alone at 10 p.m. on election night wondering why there were so many states too close to call amid reports about polls going haywire. From miles-long early voting lines to extended voting hours due to Election Day glitches, many would-be voters saw their right to vote stymied at every turn. This wasn't a complete surprise since it is the first presidential election in 50 years without the full protections of the Voting Rights Act (VRA). Since the Supreme Court's decision in Shelby County v. Holder, states have been emboldened to pass harmful voting restrictions in response to discredited claims of voter fraud.

All told, in 2016, 14 states had new voting restrictions in place for the first time in a presidential election, and many amount to a return to the poll tax, which disenfranchised so many would-be voters. Politicians should not be allowed to choose their electorate — or to manipulate it in a way that not only silences voters' voices but affects the outcome.

You can show your support for enhanced voting rights <u>by urging your member of Congress</u> to cosponsor the Voting Rights Advancement Act to restore the protections of the VRA and ensure equal access to the ballot box in all future elections.

#### Give A Grad A Gift

Did you know you that you can share AAUW with a recent graduate for free?? AAUW members can give recent college graduates a free, one-year AAUW membership within two years of graduation, at no cost to you or them. **With a gift of AAUW membership, you will...** 

- Expose the grad to the power that comes from belonging to a national women-led organization of more than 170,000 members and supporters who believe in and advance equity and education for women and girls.
- Expand their networking opportunities through career development opportunities and community action projects.
- Keep them current on the events and people that affect their life as they receive *Mission & Action, AAUW Outlook, Action Network* alerts, and more.
- Increase their buying power with access to member only discounts.

Look for the form at the Salad Lunch or sign them up online.

#### **AAUW WANTED AD**

WANTED: A Few Good Women

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. The branch is in need of a member who is willing to serve as VP Membership and Policy Director. Please contact Pat Ross, if you might be willing to volunteer.

Please consider how you could help to make the branch stronger and volunteer your talents and time.

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1900 North Atlantic #602 Daytona Beach FL 32118