

The Suncoast Bulletin

AAUW February, 2013

Newsletter of the Clearwater Branch of AAUW
A tradition of activism and impact since 1949

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2012-2013

Elected Officers

President
Rita Garvey

Program Committee

Margaret Hyde
Barbara Perkins

Membership

Directory: Maureen Melton

Secretary

Kathleen Kimpel 475-8762

Treasurer

Carol Zeph 734-1667

Committee Chairs

Corresponding Secretary

Julia Haupt

Cultural Affairs

Marian Major

Fundraising

Jan Stephens

Hospitality

Judy Lauzen

Webpage Manager

Newsletter

Dana Garlick



***February Program* Wednesday**
Feb. 21, 2013 10:00 am at Clearwater Library
Main Branch on 100 Osceola Street,
Clearwater
“Renew, Recycle: It Begins With You”
Speaker: Katrina Miller

President's Corner

Speaker: Katrina Miller,
City of Clearwater Recycling Department

As many of you know (if you've ever received copies of reports with unrelated information on backs of my message and reports), recycling is something I live. You have an opportunity to find out how you can make a difference in our environment. It is open to the public and you are strongly urged to bring friends along. Everyone is invited. We can all help when it comes to recycling.

Here are some examples: Did you know that Americans use about 392 cans per person per year? Did you know that by recycling just one of those aluminum cans you could save enough electricity to run a TV for three hours?

So join us and bring a friend. Find out: What is recycling? Why should we recycle? What items can be recycled? What happens to items after they're recycled?

Come and hear one city's program of recycling and find out how you can make a difference with so little effort.

Feb. 21 – 10:00 – 12:00

Clearwater Main Library

100 Osceola Street

Clearwater, Florida

Meeting Room (across for Gift Shop)

Open to public. Bring a friend!

**GOT YOUR TICKET FOR DAMN
YANKEES YET?**

**IT'S COMING SOON!
OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISER
THURSDAY, MARCH 7,**

**AT FRANCIS WILSON
PLAYHOUSE
DETAILS NEXT PAGE!**

Announcing Our Branch Website:

<http://clearwater-fl.aauw.net/>

Contact Dana for password to member page.



Now Hear This!  Welcome to a New Member

Lucy Ann Day
Graduate of
Fordham University and
Columbia University



Basket Assembly Continues

We still need items for baskets. Some examples what we need are as follows: gourmet cookies, crackers, and candies. Chocolate! Gift Certificates and Coupons for Services, Cooking items, Desserts/ Catering, Spa Products, Books and Games, Pet Stuff, Crafts, Sports items, Jewelry, etc. Call Kathleen or Dana to have items picked up or bring them to Carol Zeph's home.

Hurry! Tickets Still Available But Not for Long



Tickets for our annual fundraiser, *Damn Yankees*, are still available but perhaps not for long. *Damn Yankees* is a very popular musical and will be a lot of fun for those who attend. Dana is very pleased with how well the tickets are going compared to last year, and therefore, concerned that some members might not be able to attend if they don't get their tickets soon. The performance date is Thursday, March 07, 2013, at Francis Wilson Playhouse. Don't be disappointed, call now!

Price: \$26.00 each

Call Carol Zeph, Treasurer

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Clearwater Branch

Morning Book Group

Meeting at the home of Salome Harasty at
on Friday morning, 10:00 a.m. February 15 to
discuss *Clara and Mr. Tiffany* by Susan Vreeland.

RSVP ASAP

Reports so far.....

BASKETS: Feb. 6, 2013 Jan Stephens, Hattie Bradlow, Marian Major, Julia Haupt, Barb Perkins, Kathleen Kimpel, Dana Garlick, and St. Pete College student, Maria Ele-Bengono Quenero, met and assembled baskets at Carol Zeph's home. (Thanks for the coffee, Carol!) Thanks to donations from these ladies and several members and their friends, we were able to assemble 10 baskets and have about 6 more that need some work (in other words, more stuff). Our goal is 20 baskets. So keep the stuff coming! Millie Latief donated at least 20 beanie babies in pristine condition of all kinds, and we had fun figuring out how best to use these adorable creatures. We'll be having another basket making session February 25 at 9:30 a.m. at Carol's home, so don't stop sending in those donations for the baskets. **WE NEED THEM! AND WE APPRECIATE THEM!** We'd love more help, so call Carol if you'd like to join us. We had loads of fun putting these baskets together.

SET-UP: We've been collecting some Yankee tee shirts and baseball gloves and other paraphernalia for members to wear who will help serve refreshments and/or sell raffle tickets. Call Jan Stephens if you'd like to help that night setting up, decorating, serving, cleaning up, and selling tickets, before, during or after the show. It's going to be a lot of fun!! We'll start about 4:00 in the afternoon. Some members bring a sandwich and stay; others go home to freshen up and return by 7:00. Remember: many hands make light work.

FUNdraising: Our goal is to make \$4000. This is Treasurer's latest information: "By Wed. the 6th, \$1170 more was turned in for tickets plus donations of \$258 for a Grand total of \$3456 – less \$800 expense for FWP and probably \$200+ for refreshments...so total profit so far will be almost \$2456 for scholarships." We are getting there and with your help, we can do it. If you had met the student who worked with us the other day, you'd see first-hand why helping the students in the Women on the Way program is so important. Thank you for all your help. Sell or buy tickets, make donation, fill baskets.



LWVNPC and AAUW Clearwater Hosted Florida Representative Carl Zimmermann

On Saturday, January 26th AAUW and the League of Women Voters of Northern Pinellas County jointly greeted newly-elected Florida Rep. Carl Zimmermann from Dunedin at Dunedin Golf Club. Carl was introduced by Judy McSwine, past President of LWVNPC, asking him to address LWV priorities in light of the upcoming legislative session beginning in March.

Mr. Zimmermann shared both his background as a teacher at Countryside High School, and his passion for broadcast journalism, as evidenced by his recent return from the Sundance Festival in Park City, Utah. His ambition is to write a successful movie or screenplay to be featured at the annual filmmakers artistic banquet called Sundance.

He reflected on his recent transition to the legislature, succeeding in his third attempt to unseat the incumbent. Persistency paid off for Carl, but the challenges include NOT accepting free lunches and or other appearances of impropriety. Consequently, he said he might begin to carry a “lunch pail” to events such as ours. How refreshing to hear a public servant who actually is mindful of improper persuasion.

Carl hopes to see ethics reform in the House and naturally his experience as an educator means he will apply his understanding of current reform strategies, both those that work in the real world and those that don't. One of these areas is teacher performance evaluation. The trends have been to link teacher pay with student performance; however the prevailing methodology is flawed. Instead of being based on actual performance data for each student, students are compared to large compilations of statistical surrogates. In other words, each student can get lost in aggregate groupings that are meant to predict how the individual is expected to perform. Of course, the devil is in the details, and individual students can get lost in the data.

His second area of concern is for school safety. In his experience it would be better to simply improve the classroom door locks so that teachers and students don't become targets of violence.

In responding to a question about the Governor's recent announced pay raise for teachers, he reminded us that teachers and public employees

were required to contribute to their retirement accounts last year, and this “raise” is essentially paying them back with their own money; hardly an “increase” in the traditional sense.



Carl was very generous in answering audience concerns about gun violence, the Equal Rights Amendment and mental health parity. Further, his expectation is that Florida will await Federal guidelines on “healthcare exchanges” rather than create an entirely new program.

We collectively wished him well as he approaches his audacious new assignment. He can be reached at: Carl.Zimmermann@myfloridahouse.gov.

**Needed: A 10' x 10' or 12'x12'
free standing dining canopy**

We will have a table at St. Pete College Clearwater Campus on March 27 when we exhibit our branch at SPC's celebration of Women's History Month. We can set up a table but it would be nice to have it under a canopy during that time. Call Dana Garlick if you have one we could borrow.
Thank you.

AAUW Clearwater Board Meeting January 09, 2013 Minutes

The meeting at St. Petersburg College in Room 145 of the Administration Building was called to order at 9:35 am. In attendance: Rita Garvey, Barbara Perkins, Marian Major, Carol Zeph, Julia Haupt, Dana Garlick, Jan Stephens and Kathleen Kimpel. The Minutes from November, 2012 were accepted as read.

Programs Barbara Perkins reported on the upcoming joint meeting with LWV to be held at Dunedin Country Club on Saturday, January 26 at 11:00. Speaker is announced as Rep. Carl Zimmerman, a newly elected legislator and former educator. To reserve your luncheon please send a check for \$25.00 to Susie Rodenbech by January 22, 2013 (send to 1681 Sparkling Court, Dunedin, FL 34698.

The general meeting topic for February was announced as "Renew, Recycle, It Begins With You" to be held at the Clearwater Main Library (Osceola Avenue) at 10:00am.

March is the month for our fundraiser, which includes reception, basket raffle and the show "Damn Yankees" at Francis Wilson Playhouse Thursday March 7, 2013. Doors open at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$26.00 each.

Nominating Committee

Marian Major and Kathleen Kimpel announced the following slate:

VP Programs, Dana Garlick
Membership Committee, Maureen Melton (Membership Roster) and Gay Gentry

(Greeting and sign-ups)

Secretary, Kathleen Kimpel
Corresponding Secretary, Julia Haupt
Hospitality, Barbara Perkins
Publicity, Dale Anderson

Treasurer's Report Carol Zeph reported a minor overrun on the December luncheon owing to the guest Harpist who had not been included in the menu count. We are well on our way to selling 180 seats for the annual fundraiser "Damn Yankees" at Francis Wilson Playhouse. 88 tickets remain available for sale. Marian Major requested 20 tickets on the spot!

Carol investigated the status of the branch Certificate of Deposit at the Bank. A letter of request to shift it to an interest bearing savings account will require Rita's signature and Carol will prepare. The Board voted favorably on the transfer (unanimously) since the yield is marginal and we need to gain access to the funds. Rita requested a draft budget be prepared for next board meeting, Feb 13. (SEE NOTE BELOW)

Dana Garlick reported a Basket assembly meeting will be held at the home of Carol Zeph on Feb 6, 2013 at 9:30. Items can be picked up by calling Dana or Kathleen.

Julia Haupt reported having sent 38 cards. She requested any extra blank cards be collected for her use.

Jan Stephens reported that she will be assigning tasks for the fundraiser, including recruiting students from St Pete College, especially the recipients of scholarship funds. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted, 01/14/2013

Kathleen S. Kimpel, Branch Secretary

***PLEASE NOTE: Additional information:** Due to schedule conflicts, Board meeting was postponed to **THURSDAY, February 14**, at 10:00 at the Clearwater Main Library Conference Room. (DG)

Important Dates to Remember

Feb 14....Thursday...Board Planning Meeting at Clearwater Main Library, 100 Osceola Street, Clearwater **ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!**

Feb 15....Friday...Morning Book Group 10a.m. Salome Harasty's home to discuss *Clara and Mr. Tiffany* by Sue Vreeland

Feb 21....Thursday....10:00 a.m. General Meeting at Clearwater Main Library, 100 Osceola Street, Clearwater Renew; Recycle: It Begins with YOU with Katrina Miller from Clearwater Recycling Department

Feb 25....Monday....9:30 a.m. Basket Filling at Carol Zeph's home

March 7...Thursday...4:00 SET UP for Fundraiser
7:00 Doors Open for **Damn Yankees!!**