



The Suncoast Bulletin

Newsletter of Clearwater AAUW Branch

February 2015

AAUW advances equity for all women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

NEXT MEETING: SATURDAY FEBRUARY 21, 2015

Oh, No! I've been scammed! Identity and Scam Fraud

Speaker: Anna Marie Millett from

Pinellas County Department of Justice and Consumer Services

Location: Dunedin Library 223 Douglas Ave., Dunedin in Room B

Schedule: Saturday, February 21, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

10:00 Doors open and light refreshments served

10:30 Speaker's presentation

If you wish, lunch to follow at Marguerite's next door to the library.

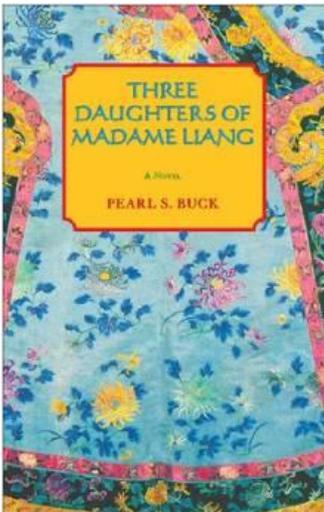
Alfresco and indoor dining. On your own.



Meet Anna Marie Millett

In 2002, Anna Marie Millett joined Pinellas County Department of Justice & Consumer Services as a Consumer Fraud Investigator. She worked in the Department's Criminal Section, investigating cases involving unlicensed contracting, theft, and home solicitation. She is certified as a mediator through the Supreme Court of Florida. Currently, she is with the Department's Dispute Resolution section, where she assists parties in resolving civil complaints through mediation. Anna Marie is also the Department's Outreach Coordinator. As Outreach Coordinator she provides consumer education to Pinellas County residents through presentations, community events, and distribution of literature. She has presented in the past and will not disappoint you. You will leave more informed and enlightened.

Friday Morning Book Group



Next month, meeting at Dana Garlick's home to discuss one of Pearl Buck's books, Friday, February 20,

The Three Daughters of Madam Liang

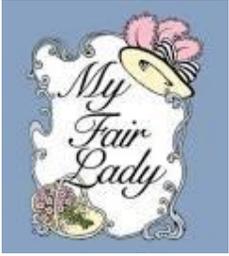
Anyone interested in joining the book group is invited to come just to experience the discussion.....even if you have not read all of the book. RSVP Dana by January 12 (508-776-6722). Thank you.

Clearwater Branch Planning and Board Meeting February 9, 2015 at 3:00 P.M.

will be held at Clearwater's Main Library, 100 Osceola Street, conference room. All members encouraged to attend this business and planning meeting to help prepare for our annual fundraiser. Please come.

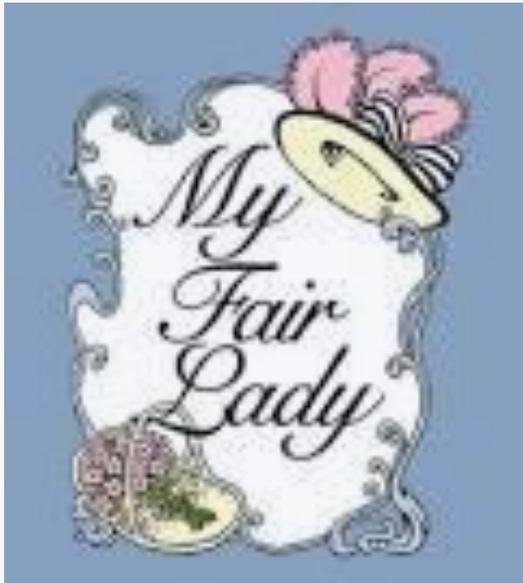
March 11, 2015.....Annual Fundraiser Coming

The Broadway hit, **MY FAIR LADY**, will be playing exclusively for Clearwater AAUW on the evening of March 11, 2015, to help raise scholarship funds that benefit women and girls attending St. Petersburg College. Along with the play, we also have a Silent Basket Fair for the same purpose. We need help with contributions for the Fair and for setting up the evening of the performance. Let us know how you would like to help. **Donations of baskets to be displayed or gift cards and fillers for baskets will be gratefully received.** More information will be forthcoming at our February board meeting. You are strongly urged to attend this business meeting so we can plan the details. Please come and help plan the event. Your help is needed. Also, let us know how many tickets you would like to purchase ASAP. These tickets will go fast once people hear about the musical. We are selling them for \$30.00 a seat. It's open seating. We ask a little more because we are raising funds for the scholarships. We have already paid for the performance, so the whole \$30 is a tax deductible donation.



Below is a little flyer you can copy and take to friends and neighbors to tell about this very important event. You can also show it to merchants who might donate an item or a gift card for the Basket Fair. On the next page is a little larger poster you can also copy and share on bulletin boards at schools or churches or in shops where friends go. Make sure you leave contact information on the bulletin if you post it.

If you'd like to have a fun enjoyable evening and help women get a college education, please call me.



I'm selling tickets to our Annual Scholarship Fundraiser sponsored by the Clearwater Branch of American Association of University Women.

The Play: MY FAIR LADY
The Place: Frances Wilson Playhouse
302 Seminole Street

Cost: \$30 per ticket. Open seating
(It's a small theater. All seats are good!)

Time: Wednesday, March 5, 2014
7:00 p.m. Doors Open with a Free Wine Reception
AND Bring spare \$\$\$ for our "Basket Fair"
8:00 p.m. Curtain opens
Intermission with more wine, food, and Basket Fair
After Play: Basket Fair Winners Announced

Many of our scholarship recipients are working mothers, putting themselves through school to improve their lives and what they can earn. Your participation helps real people who live in our community and who go to our nearby college, St. Petersburg College, Clearwater Campus.

Have some fun and really help people at the same time!

Save the date **March 11, 2015** for an ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER
at the Francis Wilson Playhouse on 302 Seminole Street, Clearwater



MY FAIR LADY

The Clearwater Branch of the American Association of University Women
is sponsoring their Annual Scholarship Fundraiser

The Play: MY FAIR LADY

The Place: Frances Wilson Playhouse
302 Seminole Street.

Donation: \$30 per ticket. Open seating
(It's a small theater. All seats are good!)

Time: Wednesday, March 11, 2015

-7:00 p.m. Doors Open to a Free Wine Reception

AND our very popular "Basket Fair"

-8:00 p.m. Curtain opens

-Intermission with more wine, food, and Basket Fair

Immediately following the Play: Basket Fair Winners Announced

Many of the scholarship recipients are working mothers who are putting themselves through school to improve their lives and what they can earn. Your participation helps real people who live in our community and who go to our nearby college, St. Petersburg College, Clearwater Campus.

Have some fun and really help people at the same time!

Fantastic Job, Steve Bousquet



All of the 54 members and guests in the audience for the January 17 Hot Topics presentation by Steve Bousquet thoroughly enjoyed the event and, I will wager, learned something. Mr. Bousquet, Tallahassee Bureau Chief for *The Tampa Bay Times*, gave us a talk about how he views the 2015 legislative session just starting in Tallahassee. He then answered a number of questions from audience members. One interesting thing Mr. Bousquet pondered was how this state could elect two times each both Barack Obama and Rick Scott, who have, needless to say, very different political stances. The response: very different groups of voters turned out for the presidential elections (2008 & 2012) than did for the mid-term gubernatorial elections (2010 & 2014). The presidential elections had a much larger turnout. Mr. Bousquet answered, among others, questions on Medicaid expansion, Senate and House leadership personalities, charter and public school funding, and the best time in the session to make our voices heard. (The answer to the last question is both: early in the session, when bills are being discussed and written, and right at the end when bills

are voted on.) Thank you Mr. Bousquet!

This was an event co-sponsored by both Leagues in Pinellas County and the Clearwater AAUW (American Association of University Women). Thank you to Marti Folwell, LWVNPC for recruiting our fabulous speaker, to Ashley Pimley, LWVNPC and Marti for working with the Belleview Biltmore Golf Club to set up our wonderful lunch, to Carolyn Underwood, LWVNPC, for coordinating the silent auction and “donation ticket” events (which helped underwrite this event), and for everyone who attended. We hope to see you again soon. Keep checking *The Voter* and websites for more information about upcoming events.



Article and photographs submitted by Donna Sharpless, President, North Pinellas LWV

AAUW
Clearwater (FL) Branch
AAUW advances equity for all women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.