

President's Message:

Before RUTH ECKERD HALL, it was PACT - Performing Arts Center & Theatre

Once upon a time –

In the late '70's many of us, now living in Clearwater, had come from communities with lots of cultural facilities. So news of a performing arts center to be built here in Clearwater was exciting news! "Good for the community, good for the residents. Vital to the health of our community!" That was the message.

In 1980, I was outgoing President of Clearwater AAUW. I received a letter from the President of PACT, Al Hoffman, with a challenge to our AAUW Clearwater Branch to become a fully funded Life member. To become a Life member, our organization needed to make a donation of \$25,000. As there were already 8 of our members who were Dress Circle members, (for donating \$1,000 to purchase a chair), we needed only \$17,000 more.



In the spring of 1981, the Clearwater Branch AAUW pledged \$25,000 to become permanent "Dress Circle" members of PACT. Within two years our branch of 300 members met the pledge. The success of the pledge must be attributed to first, the support of all the members of the branch when they approved a contribution of \$1,000 from the budget for the purchase of an AAUW chair.

But what truly made the pledge possible were the 16 members who individually pledged \$1,000 for a chair and the 4 members who pledged \$2,000. We are Dress Circle members of PACT/Ruth Eckerd Hall.

Our Branch's commitment to PACT, now Ruth Eckerd Hall, and now its educational program, the Marcia P. Hoffman Performing Arts Institute, has continued through the years especially because of the perseverance of one person: Marian Lowrie Major. Every year she has encouraged members and friends to buy tickets for performances. Because of her ticket sales, we have contributed scholarship funds she raised to donate to the Ruth Eckerd Hall Performing Arts education program for young people. We will continue to support Ruth Eckerd Hall through scholarships for young people with an added special note. The Board, at the May Board meeting, approved the Marian Major Scholarship Fund and in the proposed budget, have started this year's donation with \$500 allocated for REH scholarships in her name.

Thank you, Marian. Thank you, AAUW Clearwater.

Let us, like Marian, continue in our efforts to make our community a better place for all.

Rita

October Reminder

AAUW members, students, faculty, teachers, professional and community leaders who want to help improve the lives of women and girls and also increase the numbers of people needed in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics are encouraged to attend our Branch's meeting Saturday, October 26 in the ES Building, Room 104 at the St. Petersburg College Campus at 10:30 a.m.

See **Andresse St. Rose** on page 2.

Ruth Eckerd Hall Students Perform for Clearwater AAUW and friends

On Saturday, **November 16, 2013**, students from the Marcia P. Hoffman Performing Arts Institute of Ruth Eckerd Hall will be performing. Some of these students have benefitted from the programs and fundraising done by supporters of Ruth Eckerd Hall's education program. Please join us on Saturday at 9:30 a.m. at REH's Murray Studio to enjoy a lovely brunch served by Ovations in the Murray Studio and to marvel and enjoy the performances of some very talented young people. The cost of the rental of the Studio has been waived, so that a portion from sale of the Brunch tickets will be donated to the Performing Arts Institute of Ruth Eckerd Hall.



More details and reservation forms on page 4.

Members Invited

Before our 10:30 a.m. program on October 26, there will be a Board meeting of officers, committee chairs, and any members of our Branch who would like to attend. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and will also be in the ES Building in Room 104.

Agenda includes:

President's & Secretary's Reports

Treasurer's Report and Annual Budget

Program Report

Fundraising Event

And any other business.

Meeting to follow at 10:30 a.m.

Members are very welcomed to attend and contribute ideas for upcoming programs and events we may sponsor. Your help is needed and wanted.



**Senior Researcher for AAUW
in Washington DC**

**Speaking at Clearwater Campus
St. Petersburg College**

**ES Building Room 104
Saturday, October 26 at 10:30 a.m.**

Andresse St. Rose is a senior researcher at the American Association of University Women (AAUW) where she is responsible for managing major research projects on gender equity in education and the workplace. She is the author or co-author of several reports, articles, and book chapters, including *Women in Community Colleges: Access to Success (2013)* and *Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (2010)*. She is also a sought after speaker on the imperative to increase the participation of women and other underrepresented groups in STEM, and gender equity in higher education.

Issues that might be brought up during this presentation could be

1. The need for childcare for women attending community colleges
2. Funding assistance for childcare
3. Encouraging women into higher paying fields (STEM)
4. Better student data collection to promote better funding
5. Training for faculty to help recruit students for STEM subjects; to encourage students in STEM classes
6. Possible STEM experience for college and secondary students at the college

Directions to Clearwater Campus

2465 Drew Street
Clearwater, FL 33765 go to SOUTH parking lot

From Northern Pinellas County:

- Drive south on U.S. 19
- Turn right (west) at Drew Street
- Campus is at the next light (Old Coachman Road) on your left

From Southern Pinellas County:

- Drive north on U.S. 19
- Turn left (west) at Drew Street
- Campus is at the next light (Old Coachman Road) on your left

From Tampa:

- Drive west on Courtney Campbell Causeway
- After you pass under U.S. 19, turn right (north) at the next light (Old Coachman Road)
- Campus is about ¼ mile on your left

Turn left onto Old Coachman Road. Park in South Parking Lot which is accessible from Old Coachman. SPC is located at the intersection of Drew Street and Old Coachman Road. Head south on Old Coachman from Drew Street to the second right turn into the parking area. The first right turn will put you in front of the administration building which is on the north part of the campus and a longer walk to the ES Building.

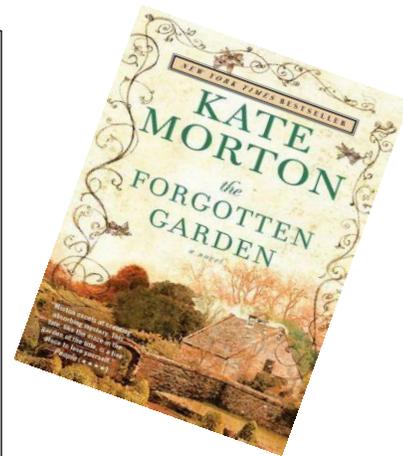


Snowbirds not all back, so first Friday Morning Book Group to start in October.

Why not join us as we start the second year of the Morning Book Club? Call Salome Harasty, Book Group Leader, for more information. See our fall calendar below.

- October 18-- *Forgotten Garden* by Kate Morton, a long book to read over the summer
- November 15—*The 100 Year Old Man Who Climbed Out of the Window and Disappeared* by Jonas Jonasson
- TBA—*One Thousand White Women* by Jim Dodd
- We do not meet in December.

As I worked on our families geneology over the years, I found connections with relatives from years ago. Kate Morton, who wrote *The Forgotten Garden*, illustrates how strong those ties can be. If attending the October 18 Morning Book Group, please contact Host, **Lucy Ann Day** by Oct. 14. Her contact information is in the Directory or go to our website at <http://clearwater-fl.aauw.net/> and leave a message



Member Info



Welcome to new member,

Cathy DelGrosso who graciously offered her assistance and edited and published our directory and yearbook this year. (I owe her big time!!) Here is what she shared about herself..." I was born and raised in Clearwater, graduated from the University of South Florida with a degree in Management Information Systems. My work history is a mix of accounting and, most recently, payroll. After living in south Florida for some time, I returned to this area to attend St. Petersburg College (Health Education Campus in Pinellas Park) for the Physical Therapist Assistant program which I absolutely love. I currently live in Redington Shores.

School is very intense and all-consuming, but when I make time for a hobby, I enjoy riding my bicycle."

As you can see, Cathy is a busy lady, much like her mom, Rita Garvey.



Millie Latlief has a new address. Please update your yearbook to the following: Phone: 727-400-4011
Her email address is melatlief@aol.com
Millie now resides at Coral Oaks
900 West Lake Road Apt. C206
Palm Harbor, Florida 34684

PS. Palm Harbor members, Millie would also appreciate a ride if you have the room.

Carmen Sagnella, right, took a tumble this summer, but is feeling so much better now and looking for a ride from her Largo home to our meetings. Anyone wishing to give Carmen a lift should give her a call.



Flossie McNally, our dual member from West Pasco, also fell and is recuperating but still sore. That doesn't stop her from using her computer and letting our congressmen know exactly what she thinks of the goings-on in Washington. Nothing like a giving a good scolding to help you forget the aches and pains for awhile! They better watch out when you're REALLY feeling better. Flossie!



Is there something we should start thinking about?



Shhhhhh.....

ED's note: This is a surprise. We want to honor Marian Major for all her hard work for us and especially for the young people that she continues to support through REH's Performing Institute. She has always dedicated her life to young people. She was a teacher and counselor and a mom. In her lifetime, she adopted four children and had nine foster children. Her latest love has been the work supported by the education programs at Ruth Eckerd Hall. In her words, "The Hoffman Institute gives children who might not be able to afford the lessons, the chance to fly. There are so many success stories from there."

On November 16, we will honor Marian for her efforts to support these young people for so many years. That is why we hope that you will invite friends and family to come with you to this event. We have room for 80 people, maybe more. So join us and bring friends and family. You will not only have an enjoyable time and a delicious brunch, you will not only hear the voices and witness the talents of many young people, you will also help us to say thank you to Marian for encouraging us to support this program for so many years. For every ticket sold, \$10 will go toward Ruth Eckerd Hall's Marcia P. Hoffman Performing Arts Institute on her behalf.

Please come join us on this very special day.

*Ruth Eckerd Hall's
Marcia P. Hoffman Performing Arts Institute
Student Performance at the Murray Studio
following
Brunch
Served by Ovations
Saturday, November 16, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.*

Tickets: \$25.00 per person

9:30 a.m. Doors Open

10:00 a.m. Brunch Menu includes

*Fresh Baked Three-Cheese Quiche
Nicoise Side Salad with Green Beans and Baby Red Potatoes
Bread Basket with Assorted Rolls and Scones and Butter
Small Fresh Fruit Salad Preset on Table
Assorted Gourmet Cookies for Dessert
Water and Unsweetened Iced Tea
Gourmet Coffee/Decaf
Hot Tea (upon request)*

11:00 a.m. Performing Arts Students Presentation

(There will be a cash bar available.)



Name: _____

Please reserve _____ place(s) for me. _____ I can't come, but would like to make a tax-deductible donation.

List names of guests: _____

RSVP with check payable to **Clearwater AAUW** sent to Treasurer Carol Zepf, 1000 McFarland Street, Dunedin, FL 34698
Please complete this form and send it with your check to Carol by November 11.