

AAUW The Suncoast Bulletin December, 2012

Newsletter of the Clearwater Branch of AAUW *A tradition of activism and impact since 1949* Editor: Kathleen Kimpel

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> Announcing Our Website: http://clearwater-fl.aauw.net/



Happy Holidays!

AAUW FL Leadership Training Day Kathleen Kimpel, Secretary

On Saturday, November 10, 2012 I attended an

Informative leadership training meeting at University of Central Florida in Orlando. Specifically I participated in a Membership Workshop conducted by Carol Richardson and Elizabeth Koenig. Small group discussions centered on best practices in engaging University partners. Action planning techniques were shared on how to set realistic goals, how to establish NCCWSL partnerships, and how to engage with students about the many benefits of membership in AAUW.

Two Workshop recommendations:

(1) **Social Media**: we were encouraged to use these tools to enhance our recruitment efforts. Twitter, Facebook and texting are here to stay! Carol Richardson pointed out how easy it is to remain relevant to younger women by mastering at least **one** of these tools.

(2) **Outside the Box thinking** is increasingly needed to enhance membership growth using options such as:

- Give a Grad a Gift
- eMembership
- Go paperless
- Utilize website for communication



AAUW Supports STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) details on Page 3





the Way (WOW) Annual Luncheon

was held November 2, 2012 at Ruth Eckerd Hall. Representatives of over 23 community organizations, AAUW Clearwater among them, were treated to a delicious luncheon sponsored by Transamerica. Speakers included former WOW student Patricia Colin, center, whose amazing story of overcoming heavy odds to complete her degree (and pursue more) illustrates why and how programs like WOW yield multiple and cascading benefits to the wider community. (Read more about her story on page 3.) Pictured above (Left) are Shirley Crumbley, WOW Program Coordinator (on left) Patricia Colin (center) and AAUW Clearwater Branch President Rita Garvey. Board members in attendance shown above right: Kathleen Kimpel, Jackie Kruse, Carol Zeph, Rita Garvey and Dana Garlick, and Margaret Hyde (although not pictured here. Sorry Margaret).

You Made a Difference! Who Me?

Read on..... Dana Garlick

Last year, four St. Petersburg College students from their Women on the Way program in Clearwater offered to help at our annual scholarship fundraiser. As you know, the funds we raise are donated to SPC Scholarship Fund for W.O.W. students. **Patricia "Tricia" Colin** was one of the recipients of those scholarships. On November 2, I was honored to be among the organizations invited to attend the W.O.W. Appreciation Luncheon representing our AAUW Clearwater branch. Tricia was one of the speakers who expressed gratitude to donors of the W.O.W. program which had made it possible for her to attain her dream.

Tricia described the W.O. W. Warriors: women self-named Warriors because they keep fighting—taking care of home, working full and/or part time, raising children, often managing shaky finances, and going to school full or part time. Among her classmates and with support from faculty, Tricia learned to be interactive, to be involved, to be available, and to give back to the community. She made the President's List which requires a 3.8 or better GPA.

Because of scholarships, she was able to attend school full time and complete her degree in hospital administration. She has passed her board for nursing home administration and in December after graduating from SPC, Tricia will be working in nursing home administration in December.

Tricia has inspired her daughters to pursue their dreams as well. A side note, for her graduation, Tricia bought a cap and gown. Her two daughters, also students at SPC will use the same cap and gown when they graduate. One will graduate this spring; the other next year.

I share this with you because you, as AAUW Clearwater members, helped make the difference. You bought and /or sold tickets to our play; you donated items and/or helped make baskets for our annual fundraiser. You made a difference in Tricia's life and in the lives of many other WOW students. One of the things that Tricia said rang true to me: "be interactive, be involved, be available, and give back to the community." By being members of AAUW, you are active and can be involved and available; you can give back to the community. After all the busyness of the coming holidays, I hope you once again will help us get ready to raise funds for these very hardworking and deserving women of SPC's Women on the Way. I have tickets to distribute and baskets to be filled. Call me and let me know how you would like to help. Dana Garlick



PLEASE remember to bring an unwrapped toy to our Holiday Luncheon for the children at the *Haven*, a temporary shelter for abused women with children. Information at: <u>www.rcspinellas.org/haven</u>

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Tickets for our annual fundraiser, *Damn Yankees*, are available now for holiday giving. The performance date is March 07, 2013 at Francis Wilson Playhouse. Tickets make great stocking stuffers!

Price: \$26.00 each

Call Carol Zeph, Treasurer, for details



A Tisket, a tasket....We need Items for our baskets*:

Gift Certificates	Babysitting
Cooking items	Desserts/ Catering
Spa Products	Books and Games
Get-aways	Pet Stuff

This is a great season to be on the lookout for items for our fabulous gift baskets full of prizes for raffle at the fundraiser. Think about *Re-gifting* some of those not-so-favorite holiday presents.

- Last year our gift basket raffle proceeds exceeded \$500.00
- We aim to double that amount this year!
- As a non-profit organization, your favorite merchants can obtain tax relief by donating.
- A downloadable form letter will be available via the local website for use as a receipt.
- Remind vendors of the great work done by WOW, and how the benefits extend to the local economy.

STEM Program in Pinellas County described by administrators:

Rose Mack and Pamela Moore......



were our guests for the November 17th meeting held at St Andrews Dunedin. Pam is Pinellas County Public Schools Executive Director for Curriculum, and Rose has responsibility for implementing and measuring STEM efforts in Pinellas County. Rose reported on the ways STEM has been introduced as early as K-1 with robotics (legos), and increasing through High School with clubs, teams and demonstrations of solutions to problems that student teams brainstormed and produced models to solve. Of critical importance is County's Guidance Program which provides ideas and resources for applying what students have learned to the world of work.

Also attending were *Mayme Hodges*, *Jennette Crabbe*, and *Erma Johnson*! We were very happy to see and greet you!

