

The Suncoast Bulletin

Newsletter of Clearwater AAUW Branch

April-May 2015

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

Join Us for the Annual Clearwater Branch Meeting and Pot-Luck Lunch

Date: Saturday, May 2

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Location: St. Andrews Presbyterian Church's Patio Room

705 Michigan Blvd, Dunedin, FL 34698 (727) 734-5493

Members are invited to bring a salad or dessert to share Saturday afternoon before the annual reports, the proposed budget for the coming year, and the installation of 2015-2017 office of Secretary and First Vice President of Programs. We have invited students from St. Petersburg College Women on the Way to attend as well, so bring a little extra. Dana is completing a list of responses and what individuals are bringing. Rolls and butter and beverages will be provided. So, RSVP to danagarlick36@gmail.com or 727-799-6029 by April 29, and she will share that information with you also.



President's Comments

As we close out another year it's important to thank our Board members who gave of their time to run your organization and bring us together and be active. Thank you 2014-15 Board members!!

Our Annual Meeting is the time of the election of the officers who will start a two year term in July.

For Secretary – our candidate is Pat Windon who has served as Secretary 2014-15 and is willing to serve for 2015-17. Thank vou Pat!

For 1st Vice President (Program Chair) – I want to thank Dana Garlick for all she did this year (and last year) as Program Vice President as well as Newsletter Editor and everything else when needed. Unfortunately we do not have anyone to fill these positions at this time. Dana will not be publishing the newsletter any longer. If interested, or you and a friend interested (co-chairs) in either of these, please contact me. See you at the Annual Meeting.

I don't know about you, but the people I sold tickets to for "My Fair Lady" had a great

night at the Francis Wilson Theater! It was another successful fundraising event for our Branch. A special

thanks to our members and their friends who gave of their time to add to the fun and excitement of the night. Thank you, Carol Zeph, for making arrangements and getting the tickets out and, of course, collecting the monies. Thank you, Jan Stephens, for the reception arrangements. Thank you, Dana Garlick, Barbara Simshauser, Carol Zeph, Julia Haupt and her friends, and everyone else who

helped with the Baskets. Another outstanding showcase of

beautiful baskets! Thank you, Members and Friends, for donating gift items and money for the baskets or gift cards that were important in the amount of money raised for the scholarships. It was a wonderful night!

Julia Haupt, center, with visiting friends, Margaret and Linda, who pitched in and helped make baskets, enjoying the evening together at Francis Wilson Playhouse.

(See more about our fundraiser and list of donors on page 2.)

Clearwater Branch Planning and Board Meeting April 13, 2015 at 3:00 P.M.

will be held at Clearwater Main Library, 100 Osceola Street, conference room. All members encouraged to attend. All meetings are open and we encourage new ideas. We want to hear from all our membership! Budget planning.

> This is the time for planning and sharing ideas. Please come. {REMINDER: DUES ARE DUE.}



St. Petersburg College Women on the Way Volunteers

From left to right are the following volunteers: Letesha Ousley, Danielle Washington, Andrea Coston, Rebecca New, and Dominique Geter with Dana Garlick of Clearwater Branch and Rosemary King, SPC Student Assistant. Jan Stephens coordinated this help with Shirley Crumbley, Coordinator of the Women on the Way program at St. Petersburg College, Clearwater Campus. Their assistance helped make the evening run smoothly as they helped our guests with refreshment and helped members with setting up, serving guests,

and cleaning up after.

Rebecca New left her comfort zone and did a wonderful job explaining the

importance of the scholarships these and other students are able to receive because of the work and the donations of the people who participated in this and other fundraisers. Meeting and working with these hard-working students was an honor.

Report from Treasurer Carol Zeph:

March 11, 2015 Clearwater AAUW Scholarship Fundraiser raised \$4679.00.

Income: Expenses: 134 tickets sold \$4020.00 Francis Wilson Playhouse \$900.00 Gift Card Donations: 435.00 Baskets & Gift Cards 512.00 925.00 248.00 Cash Donations (below) Refreshments Basket Fair 993.00 16.00 Paper supplies \$6373.00 \$1676.00 Totals



We thank the following members and their friends for donations to Clearwater AAUW's Annual Scholarship Fundraiser:

Dale and Ron Anderson* Barbara Perkins* Rita Garvey* Gay and Elbert Gentry* Jovce Barnett Lucille Sharp Hattie and Leon Bradlow* Patricia Gravatt Barbara and Walt Simshauser* Kathleen Bell Salome Harastv" Nancy Russo Slige Kenneth Burke Bob DeNofrio and Jan Stephens* Julia Haupt* **Charles Carter** Eileen Huntington Willard Sutton Kathy Egolf* Margaret Hyde* Jane Urban Dana and Rick Garlick* Christopher laquinto Helen Watts **Beatrice Good** Marian Major* Pat Windon* Jane Martin Carol Zeph* *Members of Clearwater AAUW



Friday Morning Book Group

For our April 17 10 a.m. gathering, we will be reading Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor's *My Beloved World*.

Contact Dana Garlick at danagarlick36@gmail.com or call 727-799-6029 for location information.

briefly beckie

Are you aware that:

More women enroll in college than men—68% versus 63% according to Bureau of Labor Statistics. Yet women make up only about a guarter of the tech force.

Tampa Bay area, right now has 13,000 job openings for people educated in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and local leaders are working to draw even more such jobs here.

Hillsborough County has more than 36,000 jobs identified in STEM-related fields and women make up just over 25% of that work force. By 2024, STEM-related jobs in this area are projected to grow by 17%.

Florida Chamber of Commerce presented concerns that there are not enough young people choosing STEM careers because they don't know the opportunities.

Mazda Motorsports sent a race car and a driver to a local high school to discuss a future which involves the need of STEM educated employees and Mazda is working with the high school to find ways to help.

WOMEN IN TECH, a free event sponsored by Hillsborough County Economic Development Innovation Initiative was held Monday, March 30th at the Seminole Heights Library.

"Young women need to meet role models in these fields. And confidence is another key, said county Economic

Development Director Lindsey Kimball. "Girls are typically intimidated by science and tech," said Ayesha Hackman, principal and founder of Harman STEM School, a private K-8 Tampa school that focuses on STEM curriculum. "These fields can be lonely if you are the only woman in the work place." In June students from Pinellas County will be attending a Tech Trek camp at



nearby Eckerd College. We met several seventh grade girls who have an interest in STEM careers and are looking forward to finding out more about them at this camp in June. AAUW Florida has sponsored the camp and Clearwater Branch has donated funds to help these girls attend. With efforts like ours and other organizations such as the Chamber and companies such as Mazda Motorsports, more young girls will be inspired and start to prepare to go into STEM careers.

Doris Weatherford

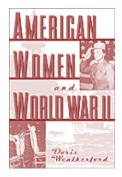


Our guest author, Doris Weatherford, author of women's history for over twenty years was not a disappointment, and the information she shared was fascinating. She has published books about American women, including the four-volume History of Women in the United States: A State-by-State Reference. She

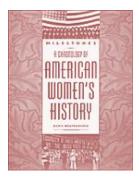


(I-r) Beckie Weber, Pat Windon, Karen Flannery, Gay Gentry, and Carol Zeph

has been associated with the Center for Florida History at Florida Southern College and the National Women's History Museum in Washington D.C. We were honored to have her as our guest speaker to celebrate Women's History Month. Our members and members of the North Pinellas League of Women Voters thoroughly enjoyed the information shared and would like Doris to return after her latest book has been published.









For more information or to order her books, one of the places you can search is http://www.alibris.com/search/books/author/Doris-Weatherford?aid=5350569 or google her name on the internet. There are many books to choose from!