

AAUW PALM BEACH COUNTY BRANCH

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Holiday Party

Our Holiday Party was hosted by CalTaro's Steak House and a good time was had by all! We enjoyed good food and company. Those who wanted to, amid much "ooh and aahing" drew tickets to choose a present from the present table. We realized we have very good shoppers in our Branch. This was a quite pleasant way to start the Holiday Season.

Our next gathering will be **Tea at the Chesterfield** held in the Leopard Lounge on January 16, 2016. This is our fund raiser for the year and all members have three tickets to sell and are also asked to obtain donations from local businesses for items to be used during the Tea's auction. If you need more Merchants' letters contact Susan Berlin 561-642-4720 or AAUWFLberlin@gmail.com.

If you need more tickets contact Virginia Farace 561-965-9426 or AAUWFLfarace@gmail.com. Remember to return any unsold tickets to Virginia by placing them in an envelope with your name on it.

We are remembering the women who worked so hard to get the Nineteenth Amendment passed and suggest members wear some clothing reminiscent of those past women. Hats were a big part of these women's wardrobes. So let's have fun with this fundraiser!!



Notes

Happy Happy January Birthdays!

**Francesca Huneus
Martha McMullen**

January 16, 2016
Join us for our fund raising Tea!!

Where: Chesterfield Hotel

**When: Saturday,
January 16, 2016**

**Time: Registration 1:30p.m.,
Tea begins at 2:00p.m.**

Directions: I95 to the exit for Okeechobee Blvd – go East on Okeechobee toward the water – once over the Intracoastal bridge take the first right – Cocconut Row. Two blocks and you get to 363 Cocconut Row (Chesterfield). Valet Parking!!

**EF and LAF News from AAUW National
Compiled by Betty Rigdon**

Educational News:

Boston's Office of Women's Advancement and AAUW are partnering to offer free AAUW

Work Smart salary negotiations training to half of Boston's women in next 5 years

85,000 women to receive training to close pay gap in Boston Registration for NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders)

Conference to be held June 2-4, 2016 at University of Maryland, College Park

Early bird registration Dec. 7-April 1, \$425

Regular registration April 1-May 10, 475

AAUW Art Contest open to AAUW members

Submission dates Jan. 6-28

Contest rules at AAUW.org

Legal News:

AAUW is supporting the following legal cases:

Rizo v. Fresno County Office of Education

Case highlights contributing factor to wage gap- that employers rely on employees' past

salary history to set new salary

Kurz et al v. Trustees of Indiana University et al

Former members of Indiana University East (IUE) filed suit under Title IX

Alleges IUE hired volleyball coach with history of sexually harassing female athletes

and then failed to protect athletes after notification of his past misconduct

Coach dismissed athletes who complained and these athletes then lost scholarships

Burhans v. Yale

Burhans alleges sex discrimination and unlawful retaliation under Title IX

Claims she was fired after years of trying to help survivors of sexual assault on campus

and alert Yale to potential Title IX violations

Mashak v. University of Tennessee

3 former employees allege sex discrimination and retaliation under Title VII, Title IX and

Equal Pay Act

Allege they were forced out of their positions when men and women's athletic

departments merged

Did you know.....

AAUW was started with only 17 women....

AAUW has an online collection of resources for members called Leader Essentials to help members be effective and successful in their leadership roles

AAUW has salary negotiation workshops designed to empower women to confidently negotiate salary and benefits package

Amazing what 17 women can accomplish.

Introduce yourself to one member you don't know.

Make sure you greet each member at your table.

Look around the room and think about what an amazing group of women are gathered for Tea!

Public Policy Report By Marcy Selko

AAUW continues crucial work to empower women and girls—Just look at the accomplishments!

We awarded more than \$3.7 million in fellowships and grants to 241 women during 2015-16 academic year

We tackled the gender pay gap on a bigger scale than ever before with the AAUW Work Smart Salary negotiation program in Boston

We fought to keep girls safe in classrooms and on campus by pushing for enforceable regulations to support the Campus SaVE Act

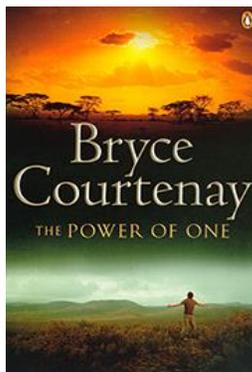
We continued to bring women and girls into STEM fields through our AAUW National Tech Trek and Tech Savvy programs and our acclaimed research report Solving the Equation: The Variable for Women's Success in Engineering and Computing

AAUW joined coalition partners and members of Congress at the White House to watch the President of the United States sign into law the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Of course we have much more work to do. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics is predicting that the U.S. will add 10 million new jobs by 2024 but predicted that most growth will not require a bachelor's degree, therefore will pay significantly less, increasing concerns about rising income inequality.

Book Club News By Virginia Farace

The AAUW Book Club will meet on the third Friday, January 15, at 2:00 pm, at the Palm Springs Library. Donna Artes will lead the discussion of *The Power of One* by Bryce Courtenay.



First with your head and then with your heart... So says Hoppie Groenwald, boxing champion, to a seven-year-old boy who dreams of being the welterweight champion of the world. For the young Peekay, it is a piece of advice that he will carry with him throughout his life.

Born in a South Africa divided by racism and hatred, this one small boy will come to lead all the tribes of Africa. Through enduring friendships, Peekay gains the strength he needs to win out. And in a conflict with his childhood enemy, the Judge, Peekay will fight to the death for justice.

Bryce Courtenay's classic bestseller is a story of the triumph of the human spirit – a spellbinding tale for all ages.

All AAUW members are invited to join the book discussion group. If you are interested, please email Virginia at faracevk@bellsouth.net to receive a copy of the Book Club Guidelines and a list of past titles.

Combating Human Trafficking: Florida Today Conference By Betty Rigdon

POAST (Partner Organizations Against Sex Trafficking) hosted a half day conference January 7, 2016 at the Atlantis Country Club. AAUW is a member organization of POAST . Nine speakers addressed the issue of sex trafficking and what is currently being done to combat it here in Palm Beach County.

Representative Dave Kerner, Florida District 87, has introduced several bills to combat the problem. Kerner spoke to the fact that more citizens need to be involved in contacting their various elected officials so that the will of the citizenry will be made known and representatives will be held accountable. Kerner praised POAST for its advocacy of the National Trafficking Hotline legislation which was passed in 2015.

Detective Dale Fox, Detective James Suarez and Sergeant Randy Fox from the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, expressed the challenges facing law enforcement in combating trafficking. Justin Hoover, Assistant State Attorney, explained human trafficking laws and prosecutions here in Florida while Barbara Martinez, Chief Special Prosecutions, Miami U.S. Attorney's Office, spoke about trends in federal prosecutions. The morning session ended with a panel discussion on rescuing trafficking survivors and meeting their needs. Klm Grabert, Statewide Human Trafficking Prevention director, DCF, and Regina Bernadin, Program Manager, International Rescue Committee, discussed what their organizations are able to do at this time.

After a light lunch Angelina Spencer from COAST (Club Operators Against Sex Trafficking) explained how this organization is working to ensure club workers are not underage and other measures to work against this problem that is prevalent in clubs. The conference explained from various agencies and governmental positions how sex trafficking is now more readily recognized and addressed. Although strides have been made, all agreed that much more must be done to eventually eliminate the problem.



The following AAUW Palm Beach County members were in attendance but not all were on the pix:

Standing: Deborah Nesbit, Betty Rigdon, Maurcy Selko,

Seated: Donna Artes, Virginia Farace, Helen Gilmore

Also attending: Mary Jane Range and Suzanne Turner

AAUW Florida Legislative Agenda 2016

We support:

Equal Rights Amendment: SCR 74 (*Joyner (D) 19*), HCR 8001 (*Berman (D) 90*)

Three states are needed to ratify the ERA and we believe Florida should be one of them.

Fair Pay, Helen Davis Fair Pay Act: HB7 (*Cruz (D) 62*), SB454 (*Joyner (D) 19*),

We support all efforts to assure pay equity for women, since the typical woman in Florida makes only 78% of what the typical man makes in annual salary. This bill will make a small contribution for little cost.

Sick Leave—relationship to Pay Equity:

SB 294 (*Thompson (D) 12*), **HB 205** (*Williams (D) 8*) sick leave for state employees

SB 384 (*Bullard (D) 39*) **HB 603** (*Cruz (D) 62*) use sick leave for family care

Women have been the ones most frequently charged with family care. A woman who misses work to care for family is viewed as unreliable, thus contributing to pay inequity. However, these bills are family friendly, not just woman friendly.

Anti-Discrimination

SB120 (*Abruzzo (D) 25*), **HB 45** (*Raschin (R) 120*)-prohibited discrimination

SB 512 (*Soto (D) 14*), **HB 4019** (*Williams (D) 8*) same sex marriage

AAUW Public Policy supports affirmative action to improve racial, ethnic, gender, and cultural diversity and inclusion. We support freedom in the definition of family and a guarantee of civil rights in all family structures.

Anti-Bullying and Harassment

HB 229 (*Geller, (D) 100*), **SB 268** (*Ring (D) 29*):_bullying and harassment

AAUW Public Policy advocates equitable school climates free of harassment, bullying, and sexual assault.

Anti-Human-Trafficking

HB469 (*Kerner (D) 87*), **SB 818** (*Latvala (R) 20*) would require physicians in Florida to take a 1-hour course on human trafficking, approved by the Florida Board of Medicine, as part of their 40 hours of continuing education for licensure-renewal.

We oppose:

HB1 (*Hill (R) 2*), **SB 602** (*Stargell (R) 15*):_Physician Admitting Privileges

We oppose this bill because it is unnecessary according to the American Medical Association and will create hardship and place a barrier in front of women seeking abortion.

HB4001 (*Steube (R) 73*), **SB68** (*Evers (R) 2*) **Concealed carry on campuses**

We oppose this because most of those who work on actual campuses oppose it. AAUW Public Policy advocates for a safe environment on campus.

GET FIT WITH AAUW

The Palm Beach County branch is holding an opportunity drawing for a Fitbit Charge Wireless Activity Wristband. Proceeds will benefit Tech Trek Florida, AAUW Florida's weeklong STEM camp for girls entering eighth grade.

The Fitbit accurately tracks all-day stats like steps taken, distance traveled, calories burned, stairs climbed and active minutes. Daily stats and the time of day are easily read on the LED display. The monitor also tracks how long and how well you sleep, and features a wake-up silent vibrating alarm.

Young and old can benefit from monitoring their activities.

Booklets of 5 tickets will be distributed to members. Each ticket is \$5.00. This is an easy way for all our members, young and old, to help support our camp and enable deserving girls from Palm Beach County to experience our STEM camp.



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Save These Dates

**January 16 – Tea at the
Chesterfield**

February 20 – Title IX

March 19 – Dimensions of Diversity

April 14 -17 – State Convention

May 13 - Officer Installation

