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**POSTE HASTE**

AAUW-PALM BEACH COUNTY’S NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2013

**President’s Message**

Dear Members,

“Toughness doesn’t have to come in a pinstripe suite.” Diane Feinstein

We had a wonderful turnout of members for our October meeting with Palm Beach County Commissioner Shelley Vanna. Ms. Vanna challenged us to become educated about and active in our local communities. Many thanks to Roz Homer for arranging this program.

Although we were not chosen to receive a grant from AAUW for a Tech Savvy Conference, AAUW-Palm Beach County is planning to hold our own one-day STEM event for middle school girls. We have had a tremendous amount of support from our surrounding branches – Northern Palm Beaches, Stuart and Port Saint Lucie. Our branch is fortunate to have Fenee Russ, Principal of Eagle Landings Middle School, as a member. She has developed STEM –based programs at her school and also worked on a similar project with Boynton Beach branch. We will be holding our tech program at her school on a Saturday in February. This is a wonderful chance for AAUW to interact with middle school aged girls and encourage them to consider majoring in science, technology, math or science and hopefully pursue a career in one of the STEM fields. More information will be in future newsletters.

Due to popular demand, we will having a fashion show and luncheon on March 15, 2014 in the Leopard Lounge at the Chesterfield Hotel in Palm Beach. Save the date and dust off your animal prints!

The board is searching for someone to fill the position of Secretary, This position involves attending meeting and recording minutes from the meetings. Please consider joining the board.

“I decided it’s better to scream. Silence is the real crime against humanity.” Nadezhda Mandelstam

Susan

**Branch Meetings**

Saturday, November 16, 2013 at 12:00 pm.

Location: Crazy Buffet Restaurant, 2030 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., W. Palm Beach

**Kate Grangard**, Chief Financial Officer for The Gehring Group will discuss the **Affordable Healthcare Acts**

Luncheon Cost: $11.99, plus tax and tip. Beverages extra.

Buffet includes a choice of appetizer, salad, entrée, fruit and dessert, as well as a sushi bar.

There will be a **white elephant auction** to support educational funds and scholarships. Please bring a wrapped, unused item for auction.

**Save the Date**

Saturday, December 7, 2013 at 12:00 pm

Holiday Party Extravaganza

Location: Atlantis Grill, NW corner of Congress Avenue and Lantana Road

January 2014 – Wine and Jazz in the Garden. Date and location to be announced

February 2014 – Tech Program for middle school girls

March 15, 2014 – Fashion Show and Luncheon at the Chesterfield Hotel

Board Meetings: 11/9/13, 12/7/13, 1/4/14, 2/1/14, 3/1/14, 4/12/14, 5/3/14

Save the Date: AAUW Florida State Convention in Tampa 4/4 - 4/6/14

Book Club News

By Virginia Farace

The next meeting of the Third Friday Book Club will be November 15 at the Palm Springs Library, starting at 2 pm. Jackie Winchester will lead the discussion of **The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet** by David Mitchell. In 2007,Time Magazine named the author one of the most influential people in the world.

Godreads gives the following synopsis: “In 1799, Jacob de Zoet disembarks on the tiny island of Dejima, the Dutch East India Company’s remotest trading post in a Japan otherwise closed to the outside world. A junior clerk, his task is to uncover evidence of the previous Chief Resident’s corruption.

Cold-shouldered by his compatriots, Jacob earns the trust of a local interpreter and, more dangerously, becomes intrigued by a rare woman – a midwife permitted to study on Dejima under the company physician. He cannot foresee how disastrously each will be betrayed by someone they trust nor how intertwined and far-reaching the consequences.

Duplicity and integrity, love and lust, guilt and faith, cold murder and strong immortality stalk the stage of this enthralling novel, which brings to vivid life the ordinary – and extraordinary – people caught up in a tectonic shift between East and West.

Also at the November meeting, Susan Berlin will present the titles for the January selection. There will be no December meeting. In October, Lillian Ostiguy led the discussion of **The Light Between Oceans** by M. L. Stedman.

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

Dining Out Restaurant Review

Table 427

Table 427 is a small chef-owned restaurant in the old Northwood section of West Palm Beach and our party of eight dined there on October 22nd. Two diners tried the balsamic fig salad with blue cheese and roasted almonds and declared it a winner. Our entrees included a beautiful cioppino with clams, mussels, calamari and fish, gnocchi sautéed with prosciutto and peas in a vodka sauce, homey glazed salmon with a roasted corn salsa and grilled Argentinian chorizo. The dishes were tasty and beautifully presented. There was one glaring problem with the restaurant – there was no air conditioning the night we visited and it was very warm and uncomfortable despite the fans. We would encourage you to dine here but make sure the air conditioner is functioning first!

Public Policy November, 2013

October is the beginning of the federal fiscal year. The Supreme Court comes back in session and the Affordable Care Act sign up starts this month

Congress was unable to reach agreement on the raising of the debt limit and passing a budget by October 1st so the government shut down. Only essential services remained open. On October 16 Congress agreed to extend the debt limit until February 7 and will work on negotiating a budget. A bipartisan group of women Senators led the effort to end the shutdown.

 A budget conference committee was appointed with 2 senators and 2 representatives from both parties. They will tasked with reconciling the proposed budgets from the Senate and the House.

The shutdown of the government has caused most people to have a very low opinion of all involved.

Many thousands tried to sign up for the Affordable Care Act insurance policies but were unable to gain access to the website. Problems were blamed on overloaded sites and “glitches” in the program. Hearings are being held and programs are being worked on to overcome these problems. The administration is pleased that so many Americans were eager to sign up.

The Supreme Court heard a case challenging the Michigan Constitution’s ban on affirmative action which was enacted by the voters approved a 2006 ballot initiative. Major universities and civil rights groups are arguing against the ban.

The Court will hear about 80 cases between now and June.

Midterm elections will be held in 2014. All members the House of Representatives are up for reelection. Some of the senators are up for reelection. State officials including the Governor are running as well as some local offices. Fundraising has already started. Both parties are trying to gain or keep a majority and thus control. We will hear more of this starting in 2014.

Please let your legislators know how you feel about various bills and policies.

About Town

Tickets are on sale now for the 2013-2014 season of the Delray Beach Chorale. Dorothy Bradley is a member of the chorale and has tickets ([GandDBrad3@aol.com](mailto:GandDBrad3@aol.com)). “Voices of the Season” will be performed 12/5 at the Duncan Theater and 12/7 at the First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach. For more information, go to [www.delraybeachchorale.com](http://www.delraybeachchorale.com).

**Educational Highlights from AAUW National**

By Betty Rigdon

Travel to Cuba to learn of women’s role in Cuban society- Jan. 4 – 12, 2014

            Study women’s issues, opportunities and challenges in Cuba

Meet with government agencies, women’s groups, university faculty, entrepreneurs

Topics include challenges and responsibilities of gender roles, traditional and non- traditional work, urban and rural work, women in government, science,  medicine and protection of women’s rights

            Must be a professional in a related field to participate

            Call Taunya DeYoung at 800-252-4910 to see if you qualify

            Information about trip at : [www.betchartexpeditions.com/cen-sa\_cuba2014.htm](http://www.betchartexpeditions.com/cen-sa_cuba2014.htm)

Join conference call to learn about NCCWSL- Dec. 3 at 2:30 p.m. EST

            Register at: [www.aauw.org/event/2013/12/conference-call-nccwsl/](http://www.aauw.org/event/2013/12/conference-call-nccwsl/)

Join conference call about AAUW student organizations- Nov. 13 at 7:30 p.m. EST

            Register at: [www.aauw.org/event/2013/11/student-orgs-101-conference-call](http://www.aauw.org/event/2013/11/student-orgs-101-conference-call)

Help to recruit college students to join AAUW as e-student affiliates

            Information available at: [www.aauw.org/resource/recruit-e-student-affiliates/](http://www.aauw.org/resource/recruit-e-student-affiliates/)

Inform community about gender pay gap

            Includes facts on state-by-state rankings of pay gap and race/ethnicity

            Study “The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap” (Fall 2013) available at:

[www.aauw.org/research/the-simple-truth-about-the-gender-pay-gap/](http://www.aauw.org/research/the-simple-truth-about-the-gender-pay-gap/)

Tech Trek video shows how the program impacts students:

            View at: [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com/)

Type:”AAUW Present Tech Trek” in the search box

Help review applications for fellowships and grants

            Information at : [www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/selection-panels/](http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/selection-panels/)

Fellowship and Grants deadlines are approaching

            Information at: [www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/](http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/)

Talk and Tapas

Join us for happy hour on Wednesday, November 13th at 6 pm at City Cellar on the second floor of City Place. Stop by after work for our lively discussions about the pay gap, politics and gender equity. P.S. The “small plates” at City Cellar are excellent.

The Wick Museum and Lunch

We are trying to organize a visit to the new museum at the Wick Theater in Boca Raton, followed by lunch in early December. Anyone interested in participating, please email Susan at [svberlin@bellsouth.net](mailto:svberlin@bellsouth.net) or MJ at [mjrange@comcast.net](mailto:mjrange@comcast.net).

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