

# AAUW PALM BEACH COUNTY BRANCH

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## We Celebrated At Tea!

On January 16, your branch celebrated the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to our Constitution with a High Tea at the Chesterfield Hotel. The Tea was delicious, company fun, and Sue Stone, Tech Trek Camp Director, brought us up to date with the Tech Trek plans. All this plus we raised money through silent auction donations and Maria Asensio's fabulous money hat. We also had table discussions regarding attendees' concerns for next year's AAUW. An informal fashion commentary was conducted by Deborah Nesbit and Virginia Brooks much to everyone's delight or chagrin, depending.

## Coming Next – Title IX

Title IX, promoting gender equality in education, was passed 40 years ago and AAUW has been actively supporting it ever since. AAUW has investigated Title IX compliance, cheered on women athletes, supported educators who called for fairness, lobbied for equitable school policies and helped teach about the law's requirements. AAUW is now accepting nominations for Title IX Champions – just submit a summary of their Title IX work and a picture to [laf@aauw.org](mailto:laf@aauw.org). AAUW's web site lists some of the current nominees so you can get an idea of the breadth of their activities. Mareta Iosia-Sizemore from Palm Beach State College will share information about Title IX at our February 20, Grumpy Grouper meeting.



## Notes

**Happy Happy February Birthdays!**

Karen Lippe  
Jean Matula  
Lisa Peterfreund  
Linda Schrader  
Jackie Winchester

**February 20, 2016**  
**Join us for our luncheon and general meeting**

**Where:** Jack's Grumpy Grouper, 308 N Dixie Highway, Lantana 33462

**When:** Saturday, February 20, 2016

**Time:** Noon

**Directions:** I95 (north or south) to Exit for Lantana Road – go East on Lantana toward the Intracoastal- Turn right onto US-1S. N Dixie is sometimes US-1, sometimes Federal Highway depending on location. After you turn onto US-1/N Dixie, Grumpy Grouper will be on your left. Large parking lot.

### Educational News from AAUW National

Compiled by Betty Rigdon

“Barriers & Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership” - AAUW’s newest research report available in March

- Examines why men still outnumber women in leadership positions  
Women comprise 50% of workforce but make up:
  - 4% of executive officers in Standard & Poor’s 500 index companies
  - 19% of S & P 500 board seats
  - 26% of college and university presidents
  - 19% of members of Congress and smaller fraction of governorships
- Sponsoring Women in STEM careers
- Different types of mentorships but sponsorships are likely the best method of mentoring
- Mentoring and sponsorships improve women’s recruitment and retention in STEM
- Women must be especially recruited for computer science and engineering
- Ways a sponsor helps:
  - Provides a role model
  - Offers advice
  - Uses their social and political capital to promote the other person
  - Expands the other person’s perception of what one can do
  - Provides connection to senior leaders
  - Promotes visibility by connecting to career opportunities
  - Advises on appearance
  - Makes connections outside company
  - Gives career advice

### Did you know.....

**AAUW** was started with only 17 women....

Mary Grainger Ithaca NY worked Title IX to get girls' varsity ice hockey in H.S, plus a state wide league...

Lori Schrader-Becher and Charlotte Nelson got Title IX compliance in Iowa and wrote a brochure

“Sexism in Education: Does Gender Equity Exist in your Community School District?”

It is amazing what 17 women can accomplish.

### Fun Evenings Out!

Friday, February 26 – celebrate Lincoln's Birthday joining us for dinner at Taste of India, 7750 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach – it is West of the Florida Turnpike on the South side of Okeechobee at Golden Lakes.

Contact Donna Artes if you are going: 561-215-2711 or [donna.artes@gmail.com](mailto:donna.artes@gmail.com).

### In Memoriam

Longtime member Ruth Dooley passed away in January. She had moved to Broward County and attended PB AAUW when she could.

### Changes

Dagmar Pelzer has a new email:

[dr.dagpel@gmail.com](mailto:dr.dagpel@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Event Invitation from Center for Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies

This is open to the public and the presentation should be riveting given the speaker and her international experience and renoun.

**When:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 **Time:** 4:00p.m.-5:30p.m. open to the public

**Where:** Live Oak Pavillion 1-2. **Presenter:** Zainab Hawa Bangura, United Nations Under Secretary General with special responsibility for Sexual Violence in Conflict

In addition a symposium is being sponsored February 11-12, 2016 on "The Politics of Women's Empowerment in Post – War Sierra Leone". Contact Josephine Beoku-Betts at [beokubet@fau.edu](mailto:beokubet@fau.edu) to register or request more information.

## 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.

## BOOK CLUB NEWS By Virginia Farace

The AAUW Book Club will meet on the third Friday, February 19, at 2:00 pm, at the Palm Springs Library. Donna Artes will lead the discussion of **The Power of One** by Bryce Courtenay.

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This book was originally scheduled for January but the terrible weather with tornado warnings made us cancel and push this discussion forward onto our regular February meeting. For a description of the book, please see January's Poste Haste.

Amy Schwed will present three titles for a future discussion and we will also decide whether we want to read and discuss Palm Beach County's Read Together selection, **The Light in the Ruins**.

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## February 2016 President's Message from Susan and Deborah

At the January fundraiser, we participated in an activity entitled "What AAUW Means to Me." The issues that concern our members are varied but concern improving the lives of all women. I would like to share some of the postings with those who were not present.

- More availability of childcare for working women
- Promote science for women and expand Tech Trek
- Protecting women's reproductive rights
- Closing the digital divide
- Retirement funding
- Equal pay for equal work
- Mentor and support young women
- Scholarship Funding



To me, AAUW means all of this, but so much more. It provides me a chance to interact with like-minded women and to discuss issues that impact my daily life. AAUW is tolerant of differing views and allows me to express my views without fear of harassment or reprisals. AAUW is a vehicle by which I can contribute to my community through our various programs, such as Tech Trek, Start Smart and Elect Her. And AAUW is a place where I can be me, and have fun while accomplishing things that I would have never thought possible.

Thank you to all of you who contributed to our January fundraiser. Furthering our goals and addressing the issues that concern our members does require financial support. Thanks to those who solicited merchants, donated their time, purchased tickets and made monetary donations. However, the attendance was small and we did not raise nearly the amount that we had hoped to support Tech Trek. Sue Slone, Tech Trek 2016 Camp Director, told us that it costs about \$1,000.00 to send one girl to camp for the week. We hope to send 3-4 girls and desperately need your help to achieve this goal.

Our branch is trying to find easy ways to raise funds, such as the Fitbit drawing. Another opportunity would be to write a tax deductible check to Tech Trek Florida. If you have community connections and can help identify corporations and business that might be interested in supporting our camp, please let us know so that the names can be passed along to the Tech Trek committee.

Tech Trek campers often say that the experience changed their lives and provided them with direction. Please help us continue Tech Trek's wonderful work.





THE POLITICS OF WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN POST-WAR SIERRA LEONE:  
CONTRADICTIONS, SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

FEATURING A KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY

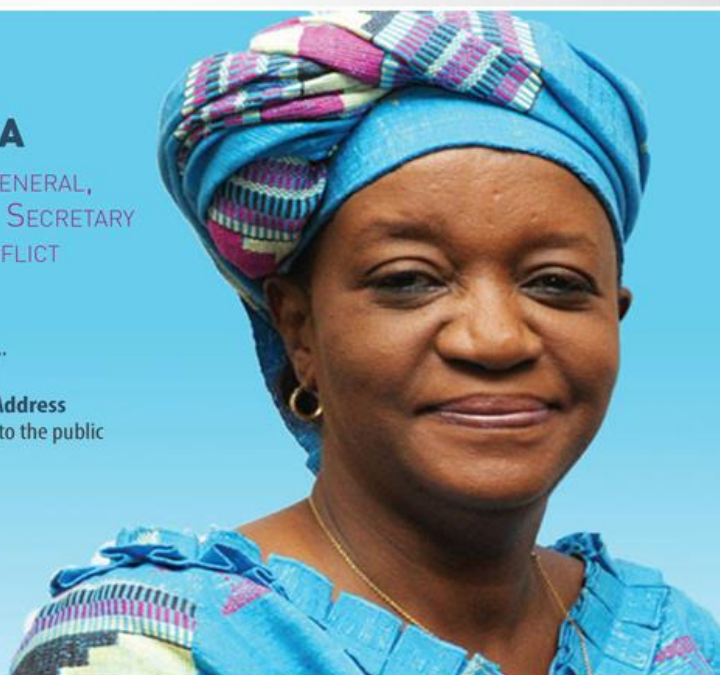
**ZAINAB HAWA BANGURA**

UNITED NATIONS UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL,  
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE U.N. SECRETARY  
GENERAL ON SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT

"Sexual Violence in Conflict:  
The Moral Challenge of Our Time"

**Wednesday, February 10, 4 – 5:30 pm, Keynote Address**  
Live Oak Pavilion 1-2, FAU Boca Raton - Free and open to the public

**6 – 7 pm, Keynote VIP Reception**  
Live Oak Pavilion 4, FAU Boca Raton - \$35 donation  
to scholarships for FAU's Center for Women, Gender  
and Sexuality Studies. To attend the reception,  
register online at: [Fauf.fau.edu/bangura](http://Fauf.fau.edu/bangura)



SYMPOSIUM LOCATION

**HOUSE CHAMBERS**  
FAU BOCA RATON

SYMPOSIUM DATES

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 9:30 am – 4:30 pm**  
**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 9:30 – 11:30 am**

The symposium will examine accomplishments and challenges regarding women's empowerment in Sierra Leone and the role of the state and civil society in addressing these issues following the end of the Sierra Leone civil war in 2002. Conference participants will examine a broad range of themes related to women's empowerment, including women's political representation, legislative reforms, gender based violence, health, education, refugees and returnees, and the role of Women NGOs. *The symposium is free and open to the public.*

**Zainab Hawa Bangura** was among the top nominees selected for the 2015 Nobel Peace Prize. Before taking her U.N. position, she served in the capacity of Minister of Health and Sanitation, and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for the Government of Sierra Leone. She is a strong women's rights advocate and has more than 20 years of policy, diplomatic and practical experience in the field of governance, conflict resolution and reconciliation in Africa.

For more information, call **561-297-3865** or email [kwilsonmccoy2016@fau.edu](mailto:kwilsonmccoy2016@fau.edu).

*Please call five working days in advance of event if special accommodation of a disability is needed.*

SPONSORS:

FAU CENTER FOR WOMEN,  
GENDER, AND SEXUALITY  
STUDIES  
FAU PEACE STUDIES  
FAU OFFICE OF THE VICE  
PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT  
AFFAIRS  
WALTER AND LALITA JANKE  
FOUNDATION  
SKEETS FRIEDKIN  
MORGAN STANLEY

CWGSS ADVISORY COUNCIL

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LISA ARMBRUST, CO-CHAIR  
LAUREN ABBOTT  
PENNY ASHWANDEN  
HEATHER BLUMBERG  
MARILYN DAVIS  
SARA DILL  
CHARLIE GLEEK  
LALITA JANKE  
TONYA JARVIS  
ALINA O'CONNOR  
JULIE PAVLON  
SENATOR NAN RICH  
CYMONIE ROWE  
EDITH STEIN



## Notes and Pics from the Tea!!!



Susan Berlin and Deborah Nesbit at the podium leading the meeting and Sue Stone talking about Tech Trek progress. Various members and guests who attended the Tea, some auction items and a visual sample of Chesterfield Tea's yummy food.



Susan King, Virginia Farace, Sharon Trost, Susan Berlin, Deborah Nesbit, Virginia Brooks, Maria Asencio, Donna Artes, Barbara Wagner, Maurcy Selko, and Betty Rigdon for all your hard work in organizing, and making sure the Tea went off smoothly!! Designing and printing the tickets – a time consuming job was done by Virginia Farace, the arrangements were made, auction items prepared, set up, registration taken, tickets sold, and clean up all led by Susan Berlin.

Many members brought guests – Maria Asencio brought 3, two of whom joined, Virginia Brooks brought 2, one of whom donated to Tech Trek, Susan Berlin, Maurcy Selko to name a few.

The following donated items for auction: Duncan Theater at PBSC, City Cellar in City Place, Lion Country Safari, Crista McCarthy Pilates, Flannigans on 10thAve N., Facial and Hand Paraffin from Xiomara L. Morin at Xio Skincare, Hair Cut and Blow Dry by Ben of New Creations Hair Design, Maria Asencio - wicker basket and gift certificate for a Manicure and Pedicure. A list with all donators with their address and contact information will be forthcoming.

February 20 meeting will be at Jack's Grumpy Grouper

March 19 meeting will be at Jack's Grumpy Grouper. There will be a panel discussion regarding the Dimensions of Diversity. This should be an interesting panel that will provide plenty of ideas for further exploration by all of us.

April 14-17 is the State Convention and this will take the place of our monthly luncheon. It will be held at LPGA Marriott, RCA Blvd, Palm Beach Gardens. Special rates have been negotiated for Convention attendees who come Friday, stay overnight and share at least one meal with the convention. Since both Susan B and Virginia F share the State leadership role we would really like to see a large group of you at the convention. The Convention will be an excellent way to see how the AAUW leadership functions at a State level. You will have a lot of fun too!

May 13 – Last meeting of the season with induction of new officers.



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**Save These Dates**

**February 20 – Title IX**

**March 19 – Dimensions of Diversity**

**April 14 -17 – State Convention**

**May 13 - Officer Installation**

