

# Northern Palm Beach County Branch Out

Volume 64, Number 1 September 2022

#### Calendar

Monday, September 19 – 6;30 p.m. Season Kickoff, Annual Salad-Dessert Potluck. North Palm Beach Library and via Zoom.

**Monday, October 3** – 6 p.m. Branch board meeting. Via Zoom.

**Tuesday, October 4** – 7 p.m. Bridge group. Via Zoom.

**Tuesday, October 11** – Voter registration deadline.

Monday, October 17 – 6:30 p.m. Branch meeting. Wendy Link, Palm Beach County Election Supervisor. North Palm Beach Library and via Zoom.

**Thursday, October 20** – 1:15 p.m. "Lincoln Highway" by Amor Towles. Via Zoom.

**Monday, November 7** – 6 p.m. Branch board meeting. Via Zoom.

**Tuesday, November 8 -** 7 a.m to 7 p.m. Election Day.

Thursday, November 17 – 1:15 pm. Book Club. "The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History" by Elizabeth Kolbert.

Saturday, November 19 – 10 a.m. Branch meeting. Barbara McQuinn. Palm Beach County School Board. North Palm Beach Library.

#### Save the Date

Annual Gala Benefit Luncheon & Auction

Saturday, February 11, 2023 DoubleTree by Hilton Palm Beach Gardens

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## Annual Salad-Dessert Potluck

Monday, 6:30 p.m., September 19
North Palm Beach Library
303 Anchorage Drive, North Palm Beach, FL

Summer's over, and it's time to kick off the 2022-2023 year with our annual salad-dessert potluck. Be sure to join us September 19 as we get together to start the year in person for the first time in two years!

We've also made arrangements to carry the meeting via Zoom, for any of you who are still out of town or who won't be able come in person. Zoom links will be emailed.

At the meeting, you'll find out about the programs for the coming year and learn about plenty of opportunities for participation in committees and in our special interest groups.

You'll also meet Drew Burgess, the student we sponsored to attend this year's AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. And you'll hear from Skyler Malmberg, the latest recipient of the Benjamin School Junior Woman Award given by our branch for many years.

#### What to bring

Judging from past potlucks, we're in for a tasty, eclectic selection. To keep the offerings balanced, members whose name begins with letters from A through L, bring a salad to share. Everyone else, bring a dessert. Bring your food in an appropriate serving dish and include a serving utensil. Paper goods, eating utensils, and beverages will be provided. ◆

## Plans underway for in-person February gala

Our annual Charitable Foundation fundraiser will be held Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023, starting at 11:30 am at the Doubletree Hotel in Palm Beach Gardens.

Congresswoman Lois Frankel will be our guest speaker.

It's our first in-person benefit in two years, after holding virtual events in 2020 and 2021 because of Covid-19.

The money raised virtually allowed our branch to award twelve college scholarships, fund middle school girls

to attend Tech Trek, send a college student to the virtual NCCWSL meeting, and honor two branch members with AAUW Greatest Needs Funds donations.

We hope this year's benefit will continue that success, but we'll need your help.

You can sign up at the Sept. 19 branch meeting to work on committees for publicity, program, auction baskets, and table decorations. Or you can email Diane Cochran, benefit chair, at

dianecochran6902@comcast.net . •

## MJ Saunders is 2022 Branch Named Honoree

Every year since 1967, our branch mittee and the local scholarship committee. She now chairs the scholarship committee and is se National fund.

mittee and the local scholarship committee. She now chairs the scholarship committee and is se tary of the branch Charitable Fo

Mary Jane Saunders is this year's honoree, recognized for her contribu-

tions in support of AAUW's mission. The award was announced at the annual spring dinner in May. The donation will be made to AAUW's Greatest Need Fund



Mary Jane Saunders

Saunders joined the branch shortly after moving to Palm Beach Gardens in 2015. She immediately started serving on the program committee and the local scholarship committee. She now chairs the scholarship committee and is secretary of the branch Charitable Foundation board. In the coming year she will also be the branch representative to Tech Trek.

Saunders, who holds a Ph.D. in botany, had a distinguished career as a professor of biology and academic administrator, serving as a director of a biotech institute, dean of a college of science, provost and, finally, president.

Upon receiving the honor, she said how touched she was and that the mission of AAUW is close to her heart after advocating for women and minorities in education throughout her life. ◆

## Branch selects AAUW-FL award winners

Last year, AAUW-FL members and branches contributed \$60,660 to AAUW Funds. AAUW Florida is proud of members' commitment to supporting AAUW and recognizes them through Named Gift Awards.

For every contribution of \$750 to AAUW funds, a branch may nominate one member to receive a Branch Named Gift Award. Our branch was able to recognize four members: Carol Whalen, Jane

Wattick, Liz Shapiro, and Carol MacDonald.

The members nominated are not necessarily the largest financial contributors. This is an opportunity for the branch to recognize the contributions of its members to branch activities and AAUW in general.

Awardees are announced at the state conference and at our branch spring dinner. •

## It's not too late to renew your dues

If you haven't renewed your dues yet for the branch year July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, you still can.

The best way is to set up your account on the new Community Hub on AAUW National's website, where you can manage your profile, add affiliations for state and branch, and pay your dues. You'll find FAQs, instructions, and videos there, too.

You can also renew by sending a

check made out to AAUW NPBC for \$94 to treasurer Cheryll Plotkin. But if you join more than one branch as a dual member, you must set up those affiliations on the website yourself.

Getting set up on the National website will help you become familiar with the priorities and activities of the organization. Also, use your Community Hub account to be sure your email is up-to-date, since that's the primary way AAUW will contact you. •

#### Interest groups

We're a mission-based organization, advancing equity for women and girls. But that doesn't mean we're all work and no play. If you like to read, play bridge, or visit local places of interest, consider joining our branch interest groups.

- Book Club meets via Zoom at 1:15 pm on the third Thursday of the month. Contact Doris Noble.
- **Bridge Club** meets via Zoom at 7 pm on the second Tuesday of the month. Contact <u>Shirley Koo</u>.
- Out and About Group— visits local areas of interest. Contact Dorothy Evangelista.

If you have suggestions for other activities, contact Gloria
Kaplan know. ◆

### Hospitality help needed

We need a hospitality chair to coordinate food and beverages for our regular branch meetings and for other events as needed.

Contact Gloria Kaplan if you can help and for more information. ♦

#### Sunshine and Shadow

- The Plotkin family welcomed Jareth Rabin Andrew Plotkin, Cheryll's first grandchild and Wendy's nephew, Sept. 1.
- Condolences to Susan Seufert, whose husband, Bernie, died in August. They had been married for 55 years. Susan was a long-time member of our branch. ◆

#### Update: Cheryll Plotkin

Cheryll is still recovering from the accident May 16 as she was on her way to our spring dinner. Her heartfelt thanks to everyone who emailed her and sent cards.

She is walking now with some assistance. Home physical therapy is helping to increase range of motion and strength in her right leg and knee. We wish her continued progress and a full recovery soon.

## Spring dinner photo gallery

It was like old times before Covid on Monday, May 16, when we got together for our installation of officers dinner and honored other members, scholarship winners and our NCWWSL attendee.



Doris Karlik and scholarship winner Naomi Francisco.



The outdoor patio at Juno Beach Fish House was the perfect setting for members and guests. And there was cake!





Susan Seufert, Gloria Kaplan, Marian Knapp.

Scholarship winner Megan Serin; with Carol MacDonald and Jane Wattick.





Liz Shapiro, Shirley Koo, Wendy Plotkin.



Jacquie Balaschak and Jane Wattick.



Left: Wendy Plotkin with her father, Andy.

Right: Judy Pierman, Liz Shapiro, Shirley Koo.

Below: Scholarship winner Isabella Whedbee and her mother.



Drew Burgess, attendee at AAUW's National Conference for College Women Students, held virtually in May.







Right: Doris Noble, Carol MacDonald, Jane Wattick

Left: Thanks to Wendy Plotkin for photos.





## Northern Palm Beach County Branch: 2022- 2023 Calendar

American Association of University Women Meetings are held in the Obert Meeting Room, North Palm Beach Library, 303 Anchorage Drive, NPB\_unless otherwise specified. Ask us about our Branch Interest Groups: Bridge Group, Book Club, Dining Group, Theater and Out & About. Interested persons are welcome. Contact Us through website for questions or let us know you plan to attend, need a ride.

Monday, September 19, 2022 6:30 pm - Season Kickoff, Salad and Dessert Pot luck; introducing the upcomingSeason's programs and activities and honoring the Benjamin School Junior Woman Award winner and the NCCWSL attendee. This in person branch meeting will also be available via Zoom.

Monday, October 17, 2022, 6:30 pm - Wendy Link, PBC Supervisor of Elections

Saturday, November 19, 2022 10:00 am - Barbara McQuinn, PBC School Board, District 1

Monday, December 5, 2022 - Branch Holiday Party

2023

Monday, January 9, 2023 6:30 pm - Dr. Julie Earles, FAU Wilkes Honors College

<u>Saturday, February 11, 2023</u> – 11:30 – 2:30 Doubletree Hotel, Palm Beach Gardens; Benefit luncheon for Charitable Foundation Inc. supporting Doris Karlik Local Scholarships and the AAUW State and National programs for women. U.S Representative Lois Frankel will be the guest speaker.

March 24, 2023 Deadline for Scholarship Applications - Charitable Foundation Inc. Northern Palm Beach County AAUW

Saturday, March 18, 2023 10:00 am - Women's History Month

April, 2023 - Virtual AAUW Florida Convention & Annual Meeting

Monday, April 17, 2023 6:30 pm- TBD

Monday, May 15, 2023, 6:30 pm - Spring Dinner - Installation of officers; Scholarship winners hosted June, 2023 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, Univ. of Maryland, College Park. June/July, 2023 Tech Trek Florida STEM camp for 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls, held on the campus of Florida Atlantic University Jupiter campus and Stetson University in Deland, FL.

2023-2024 Annual Branch Dues: Pay on-line at <u>aauw.org</u> through the national membership database.

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