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President's Message

As this unusual season of AAUW-Marco Island reaches its conclusion I am thankful to the amazing women who worked to make this challenging year interesting and fulfilling for our membership. Zoom kept us together while socially distanced for meetings and interest groups. I am grateful to all of you for your dedication and participation. Together we examined the issues of hunger and abuse in our community and donated to these causes during the pandemic. We enjoyed the history of our artistic community and women's suffrage, as well as the secrets of successful estate planning. We explored the creative path of a delightful author who began writing in her 70s, then picked prizes and awarded them to our generous members and friends who wrote checks to support our grants and scholarships. Finally, to capstone our year, we anticipate the stories of the vibrant young women who will receive our scholarships this year. You'll meet some of them on Zoom on Monday, April 19 at 10:00. This is an amazing group of women and I am proud to be your president again next year. We will gather in person on October 18 at the new Marco Island Academy and on November 15 at the Marco Island Police Department and share the comradery that is so much a part of our branch. Watch for information about next season's meetings in a "Splash."

With sincerity and gratitude,
Lynn Tuttle

Lunch after our April 19th Zoom meeting will be at the Smith House in Old Marco. Lynn has reserved a table outside for those interested. Please RSVP to Lynn at 603-289-1448 or tuttlemarco@gmail.com



210 Royal Palm Dr



It is now time to pay your dues for 2021-22. As noted earlier, National raised the dues by \$3 which means our Annual Dues are now \$88. You can pay your dues online or send a check payable to AAUW-Marco Island to P.O. Box 841, Marco Island, FL 34146

2020-2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Lynn Tuttle

Director for Program: Dolores Burton

Director for Membership: Linda Corea & Susan Pullman

Secretary: Josette Bonewitz

Director for Finance: Durell Buzzini

Director for Development: Lynn Tuttle

Director for Communications: Jacky Childress

Director for Publicity: Pat Santiago

Director for Public Policy: Rosalie Tornello



American Association of University Women
Marco Island, Florida
Monthly General Meeting Minutes, March 15, 2021
Virtual Zoom Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Lynn Tuttle at 10:00 a.m.

Dolores Burton introduced Suzi Weinert, Author of the *Garage Sale Mysteries*, who presented a program on "My Improbable Writing Adventure."

On behalf of the Marco Branch of AAUW, Lynn and Dolores expressed appreciation to Ms. Weinert for her informative and entertaining presentation and responses to members' questions and discussion items.

A brief business meeting ensued.

The minutes of the February 15, 2021, AAUW Monthly Meeting were approved as submitted.

President Lynn Tuttle announced that Durell Buzzini has been nominated to the Board of Directors to continue as Director for Finance and Colleen Moser has been nominated to the Board of Directors as Director for Programs.

The Marco Branch of AAUW membership is invited to register on March 15, 2021, for the State Conference Zoom Meeting keynote address to take place on April 16 and the presentation and voting of the proposed Slate of Directors to take place on April 18.

Membership dues of \$88.00 for 2021-2022 will be accepted beginning in April 2021. Members were encouraged to participate in the Two Minute Activist program, which forwards notifications on issues of importance to AAUW to specified geographical areas of the State.

Director for Development: Lynn Tuttle

Lynn Tuttle and Jacky Childress conducted the drawing for Pick-A-Prize winners. The fundraising event resulted in \$10,850.00 for scholarships and grants.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Minutes submitted by: Josette Bonewitz

2021 Martha Yates Scholarship Winners

1. **Stephanie M. Pepper** continues to pursue her associates degree which is only a “few” courses away. She has seven courses left for her bachelors’ degree. She took one course last semester. Stephanie maintains a 3.88 GPA. She also takes online schooling to update coursework for her work certification. She continues to run the children’s programs at the Marco Y and, this year, the Naples Y as well. She “lives and breathes the Y.” This year Stephanie ran the Naples’ Y during the day, then ran the Marco program online at night, working 60 to 70 hours per week. In August she will have been with the Marco Y for 20 years! Her daughter is Brook. Her gratitude to AAUW-Marco Island for being instrumental in her educational journey is profound. This is Stephanie’s eighth MY scholarship. We continue to be her only support. Her success is our success; we stand by her.

2. **Ashley Schneller** graduated from Florida State University with a degree in Family and Child Sciences and is in graduate school for Speech and Language Pathology at Jacksonville University where she maintains a 3.75 GPA, always striving for a 4.0. She calls her graduate studies, “nothing short of incredible.” She was inspired to do this work at Marco’s Camp Able. She is on her own financially for graduate school and living expenses. This tenacious, compassionate woman received our high school scholarship five years ago. Now that she has no financial support can we help her again with her third MY scholarship.

3. **Karin M. Davidson** is currently enrolled in online classes at Johnson and Wales University in Rhode Island with a 3.66 GPA and a goal of receiving a Bachelor of Science in Restaurant, Food and Beverage Management. Kari has been employed at Hideaway Beach Club on Marco Island for nine years where Lynn Tuttle worked with her to set up the TT&T venue and menu many years. She has 105 hours in CMAA, Club Management Association of America, where 300 credits are required to become a General Manager or COO of a club, which will take 6/7 years. Kari is a Marine veteran with three children: her son is a Lee County Deputy, her daughter is a U.S. Marshall, and her youngest daughter is 12. Kari carries some college debt from Hodges courses she took earlier. This kind, confident, multi-tasking single mother deserves our help. Many of our members know she’s wonderfully competent at her job and it will be a pleasure to help her continue as a student with her second MY scholarship.

5. Maya Roux received a Martha Yates scholarship in 2019 and graduated from University of Florida the same year with a BA in Political Science. Maya worked for three years in Miami Beach, Florida full time in at Luxe Living Realty as the Digital Marketing Executive Assistant. In addition to full time employment, she founded Brand and Company to do free-lance branding. She returned to Marco Island to work for Premier Sotherbys and attend Georgetown University virtually at night. She founded Literally Hired, a brand coaching service to help college educated women prepare the first steps toward a career. It is her goal to remain in this area after her graduation from Georgetown with a Masters in Real Estate. She is hopeful of another scholarship for her new career and is grateful for her previous award.



AAUW MARCO BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS

COCKTAILS & CONVERSATION - First Monday of the month at 5:00 P.M. at CJ's.



Gail, Liz, Katie, Dolores, Marilyn, and Jacky - April 5th at CJ's

If you are interested in the **FICTION BOOK GROUP**, contact Jessica Barron at 239-302-6773 or jessdbarron@gmail.com or Gwyn Goodman at 239-595-4064 or gsgoodman11@comcast.net. The group meets the third Tuesday of the month at 10:00 on Zoom.

Books selected and schedule for the 2021-22

October 26, 2021	<i>Midnight Library</i>
November 16, 2021	<i>The Vanishing Half</i>
January 25, 2022	<i>The Giver of Stars</i>
February 22, 2022	<i>Such a Fun Age</i>
March 22, 2022	<i>Disappearing Earth</i>
April 12, 2022	<i>The Four Winds</i>

AAUW MARCO BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS (continued)

GREAT DECISIONS STUDY GROUP - Chair is Liz Haines, 239-642-1843, echaines3@aol.com. Zoom meetings starting in the middle of January for 8 weeks. We will be using the 2021 Great Decisions briefing book, published by the Foreign Policy Association. Cost is \$37.30. The topics are:

The Role of the WHO
End of Globalization

We will meet on Wednesday from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm every other week starting in the middle of January. You must be a member of AAUW or spouse of a member. Usually, members of the group take turns leading the discussion. We have seven members from the MI AAUW branch. Contact Liz Haines if you are interested in joining.

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION GROUP - Chair is Pat Santiago, 239-389-4767, patsantiago378@gmail.com. ZOOM meetings on the FIRST and THIRD THURSDAYS of the month at 3:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time) - November through April. This group provides members an opportunity to gain a fuller understanding of the classics by reading and discussing topical anthologies. Our first readings will be from *Interpreter of Maladies* by Jhumpa Lahiri with additional book selections to be made by group members. Ms. Lahiri's debut collection was a Pulitzer Prize Winner.