



Marco Island (FL) Branch

P.O. Box 841
Marco Island, FL 34146

WAVE

December
2023



www.MarcoIsland-FL.AAUW.net

Welcome Back Everyone, and Happy December!!

Every month as I start writing this message, I find it hard to believe that another month has passed so quickly. But here we are in December already. In a little over two months, we will be having our one Fundraiser, the Annual Time, Talent, and Treasures Luncheon & Auction. As we announced earlier, it will be held at the newly remodeled Island Country Club on February 16th. I hope we have 100% participation this year with donations of quality items, baskets, and fabulous meals. I am equally hopeful that most of you will be able to attend the luncheon and that you will bring friends who like to support causes like ours. With a successful fundraising event, we will be able to meet the growing needs for scholarships and grants.

We need everyone to consider being part of a meal team. If you have a dish you would like to contribute, please let me know, or better yet, get with your friends and put a whole meal together. It's easy. Simply recruit someone to make one or two of the following: appetizer, salad, rolls, main dish, dessert, and wine. If you have something you would like to contribute but don't have a team, please let me know and I will help you build or join a group.

It's not too early to start getting your table of eight (8) women set up for the Luncheon. We will have the flyer out soon. Invite friends that you know are supportive of women and women's issues. We have several new members who started out as guests at the Annual Fundraiser. We welcome each of them and appreciate their past contributions and are happy they have chosen to join our branch.

Nina has a lovely lunch planned at Mango's for this month's meeting. I hope you have signed up. If not, reach out to Nina and let her know you would like to attend.

I wish you all a wonderful holiday season with family and friends!

Jacky Childress
President, AAUW - Marco Island Branch



Looking Ahead



Nina Tomaino, Director for Programs has planned a varied and interesting schedule of meetings for the upcoming season from October 2023 through April 2024. Most of our meetings will be held on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. at the [New Life Community Church](#)

[Click Here](#)

For a list of all the General Meeting Details for 2023-2024

When planning your meeting time, don't forget

"Lunch After"

After the formal meeting, all interested members reassemble at a local restaurant for friendship and a meal. Generally, the details of the lunch gathering are announced at the meeting.



Our Next Meeting



*AAUW
Holiday Luncheon*

Monday, December 11 @ Noon

MANGO'S DOCKSIDE BISTRO
760 N. Collier Blvd (in the Esplanade)

To celebrate the holidays with lunch and conversation

If interested, Call Nina Tomaino by December 8

Nina: (412) 400-4352



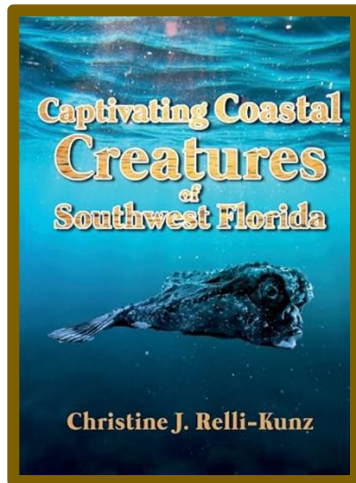
Our January Meeting

Monday, January 15, 2024
10:00 a.m.

New Life Community Church
489 W. Elkcam Circle

Captivating Creatures of Southwest Florida

Presenter, Author
Christine J. Relli-Kunz



“Join the author on a tour of Southwest Florida’s incredible coastal marine life. In thirty years of recreational fishing, boating, and harvesting of stone crabs, she has seen a remarkable array of unique fish, crustaceans, birds, mammals, and other stunning displays of nature.”

From the Amazon.com website



Interest Groups

Interest Groups provide members with similar interest an opportunity to learn together and to enjoy one another’s company. Current Interest Groups are:

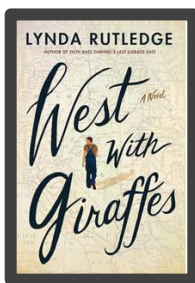
Fiction Book Club

Chairs are: Jessica Barron – 239-302-6773 – jessdbarron@gmail.com
Gwyn Goodman – 239-595-4064 – gsgoodman11@comcast.net

The group meets at 10:00 a.m. in the Choir Room at
New Life Community Church
489 W. Elkcam Circle
On the following dates:
10/24/23 - 11/14/23 - 1/23/24 - 2/27/24 - 3/26/24 - 4/16/24

To see the complete, updated 2023-2024 Book List
[CLICK HERE](#)

January's read is:
West With Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge - Katie Goetzmann, lead
10:00 a.m. on January 23, 2024



Click on the book to connect to the Amazon Review page

For those Book Club members who like to read ahead:

February's read is: [Horse](#) by Geraldine Brooks

*** Reminder there is no Book Club meeting in December ***

Great Books Discussion Group

Chair is Pat Santiago – cell phone (talk or text) 239-776-9319

Email: psantiago378@gmail.com

The group has resumed its regular in-person meetings for the 2023-2024 season at the Marco Island Library Porch at 3:00 p.m. on the first and the third Thursdays of the month. (November thru May). As a reminder, The readings are usually short stories/essays which makes this an ideal group for those who do not want to commit to reading novels.

A note from Pat Santiago ~

Dear Great Books Discussion Group Friends:

We will continue to read selections from *Cloudbursts* - Two or three stories per meeting. Please join us at the **Marco Island Library Porch** for a lively discussion!

Here's the December Schedule:

December 7, 2023 | 3:00 pm Eastern Standard TIME

Readings for December 7th:

1. "Grandma and Me," p. 288.
2. "Hubcaps," p. 299.

December 21, 2023: Next two stories/and perhaps we should meet for lunch somewhere?

January 2024 | 3:00 p.m., Marco Library Porch

(I've pushed the January dates back by one week because members will either be traveling or recovering from holiday guests.)

January 11, 2024

January 25, 2024



Great Decisions Study Group

Chair is Liz Haines, 239-642-1843 echaines3@aol.com

Our Marco Island AAUW Chapter has established a Great Decisions Study Group. Great Decisions is a program sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association and is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watching the documentary film series and meeting in a Discussion Group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today.

Our Great Decisions Study Group will meet on Wednesday, in person and via Zoom, from 3:30-5:30 p.m. every other week starting in January (Books will be available after October 23, 2023.)

Topics for discussion this year are:

Mideast Realignment	NATO's Future
Climate Technology and Competition	Understanding Indonesia
Science Across Borders	High Seas Treaty
U.S.-China Trade Rivalry	Pandemic Preparedness

[Click Here for more information on these topics and speakers](#)

For more information contact Liz Haines (details above) / [Check out our Chapter's website](#) and take a look at the [Foreign Policy Association website](#).



Now In Its Second Year - Casual Contract Bridge !!!

aka - Bridge Before

Just another reason to mark your social calendar
to reserve the first Monday of the month

You already know about Cocktails and Conversation (C&C) at CJ's. Now you can join your friends a few hours earlier for Bridge. Players meet from 2:00-5:00 and then can segue into C&C. (Hence the name "*Bridge Before*") Participants this past December 4 were Linda Corea, Katie Goetzman, Pam Callinan and Lynn Tuttle.

If interested in playing Bridge at CJ's, please get in touch with
Lynn Tuttle at tuttlemarco@gmail.com or 603-289-1448

Don't Forget
Cocktails and Conversation



The first Monday of every month
5:00 p.m.
At CJ's on the Bay

Membership



A note from our Director for Membership
Linda Corea

New Member Mentorship Program

Volunteers Needed

In an effort to provide a better experience, our branch has initiated a mentorship program for new members. We need volunteers to befriend our new members and help them navigate our meetings, activities, and programs. The Membership Committee will match you to a new member and for one season, we'll ask you to contact that member twice a month. It will be as simple as introducing your new friend to others at General Meetings or inviting her to join Book Club or to be on your cooking team for TT&T. Think back to when you were a new member and how difficult it was to attend activities not knowing anyone. Please consider volunteering to guide a new member to have a successful first year in AAUW. Contact Linda Corea at Linda.corea@gmail.com or 410-652-4508 to sign-up.



2023-2024 Board of Directors

President	Jacky Childress	jacky3348@gmail.com
Director for Membership	Linda Corea	Linda.Corea@gmail.com
Director for Development	Lynn Tuttle	tuttlemarco@gmail.com
Director for Finance	Durell Buzzini	meddybliss@gmail.com
Director for Programs	Nina Tomaino	Nina.Tomaino@gmail.com
Director for Public Policy	Rosalie Tornello	Rosalie.Tornello@outlook.com
Director for Communication	Lenore Yale	Lenore.Yale@gmail.com
Director for Publicity	Laura Furlong	FurlongFamily@mac.com
Secretary	Kathi Parris	kpa7005202@aol.com



AAUW - Our Mission
Gender Equity – and – Economic Security

AAUW - Our Values
Intersectional – Inclusive – Intergenerational – Empowering



Photos from our November Meeting

Journey of a Female Entrepreneur

Clarice Dowdle (right)



Clarice Dowdle (left), President and co-owner of the Coton Frais Clothing Company, recounted her life, and the many varied experiences and opportunities that led her to her Marco Island business.