



Marco Island (FL) Branch

P.O. Box 841
Marco Island, FL 34146

WAVE

February
2024

www.MarcoIsland-FL.AAUW.net

**HAPPY
VALENTINE'S
DAY ♥**



Happy Valentine's Day and American Heart Month!

Now that Season is in full swing, that means so are we with our Annual Fundraiser, the Time Talent, & Treasures Auction and Luncheon - on February 16th at the beautiful MI Country Club. It continues to boggle my mind just how fast time goes. We are less than two weeks away from the event.

If you haven't sent in your reservation form yet, there is still time. We need to have our count in on February 9th. If you don't have a table (of eight), no problem. We will seat you with other fabulous ladies to fill their tables. Reservation and Silent Auction Donation forms at the end of this newsletter.

We need: Donations, Chefs, *Meal Organizers, Volunteers (before the event), Volunteers (at the event), Your Friends (attendees), and finally, YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT of our one and only fundraiser to provide the funding for scholarships and grants. It takes every member to participate for the event to be successful. I hope I can count on YOU again this year. (If this paragraph is familiar, it is from last month's WAVE and bears repeating. *Thanks to the Meal Organizers for assuming this task.)

I want to take this time to thank Lynn Tuttle for starting the TT&T and keeping it going for so many years (18?). I am happy to have been her partner in this during most of my 10 years in AAUW. It has been a passion and labor of love for me, and I am so proud of our work. And let me tell you, it is a lot of work. But the benefits the funds provide far outweigh the effort that is expended.

As many of you already know, this will be my last year participating in the fundraiser. Tim and I are moving back to Ohio to be closer to our family. When we moved here in 2010, we did not have grandchildren. Timmy is now 10 and Lydia is 7. We simply need to spend more time with them and the only way to do that is leave the Paradise Sun for Family Fun.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

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

Monday, February 19, 2024
10:00 a.m.

New Life Community Church
489 W. Elkcam Circle

Charlette Roman

(AAUW Marco Island Branch Member)



Charlette works hard every day to restore America's Everglades, improve water quality, protect the region from flooding and ensure an adequate water supply for millions of South Floridians.

[from South Florida Water Management District website](#)

A retired U.S. Army colonel, as well as a former Marco Island City Councilor, Charlette Roman has now turned her talents toward serving the State. In 2019 Governor Ron DeSantis appointed her to the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District and she was confirmed by the Florida Senate. Roman was reappointed in 2021.

In her seat on the Governing Board, she covers 10 counties and serves as Chair of the Big Cypress Basin Board, a separate taxing district covering all of Collier County and part of mainland Monroe County.

A dedicated Environmentalist, Charlette Roman is a certified Florida Master Naturalist. In recognition of her many years of educational and stewardship efforts, in 2009 she received the prestigious Collier County Audubon Society Fellowship.

In 2022, Roman was honored with the Laverne Norris Gaynor Environmental Champion Award by the Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Board of Directors for her years of service in protecting the coastal environment.

To learn more about Charlette Roman's background and work, [click here](#) (and come to the meeting!)

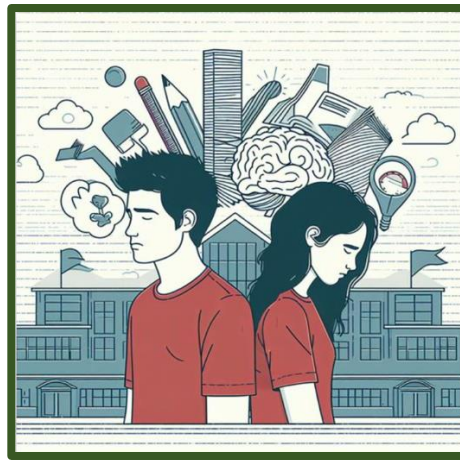
Our March Meeting

Monday, March 18, 2024
10:00 a.m.

New Life Community Church
489 W. Elkcarn Circle

Presenter: Jana Csenger
Coordinator for Psychological Services for Collier County Public Schools (CCPS)

The Mental Health Crisis



(illustration above created by AI for use in this newsletter)

Jana Csenger is currently the Coordinator for Psychological Services and Section 504 for Collier County Public Schools (CCPS). She has been working for CCPS since 2002 and has worked as a behavior specialist and a School Psychologist throughout the county. Prior to moving to Florida, she was a School Psychologist in Hawaii, Illinois, and New York. She has her Masters of Science in School Psychology from St. John's University and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology/Child Development from Hampshire College. In addition to being a DOH licensed and DOE certified School Psychologist in Florida she is also a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst. In 2016 Jana was named the Florida School Psychologist of the Year by the Florida Association of School Psychologists and in 2015 she received the Stand Up for Justice Award from the Jewish Federation of Greater Naples. Jana is married and has two adult children and one wonderful grandson, all in Florida.

Interest Groups

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

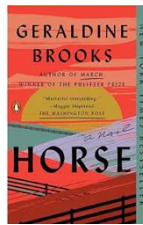
Fiction Book Club

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](#)

February's read is:
Horse by Geraldine Brooks - Linda Corea, lead
10:00 a.m. on February 27, 2024



Click on the book to connect to the Amazon Review page

For those Book Club members who like to read ahead:

March's read is: Lessons by I. McEwan -

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!

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



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

February 1, 2024

February 15, 2024

Great Decisions Study Group

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

Our Marco Island AAUW Branch 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.

A note from Liz Haines

Our AAUW Great Decisions group will meet from 3:30 to 5:30, by zoom, every other Wednesday starting on January 17th until April 24th. Jessica Barrons will send out the zoom link. There are eight topics to cover, listed below. The topics they pick are always timely! The book is available from the [Foreign Policy Association website for \\$35](#). They also have a video available

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](#)

If you would like to participate call Liz Haines 718 249 7450.
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*")

If interested in playing Bridge at CJ's, please contact
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

Let's all be recruiters for AAUW Marco Island! There are many ways to recruit, but please remember that people join people not organizations. Be sure to tell prospective members that fellowship is one of the benefits of joining us in community service.

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

An Update from Rosalie Tornello, Director for Public Policy

LOBBY DAYS

In mid-January AAUW FL Co-Director of Public Policy Pat DeWitt and a group of AAUW members travelled to Tallahassee for Lobby Days. There they met with our legislators to inform them of AAUW's positions on certain bills that will come before them during this legislative session.

The AAUW position papers can be found at <https://aauwadvocacyflorida.blog/2024/01/10florida-2024-legislative-session/>

It is not too late to contact our representatives, see below, and voice your opinion and support..

Senator Kathleen Pasidomo
409 The Capitol
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

805 487-5028

Representative Bob Rommel
303 House Office Building
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

850 717-55081

Photos from our January Meeting



Left

Presenter, Author
Christine J. Relli-Kunz

Shares her book and stories of
Captivating Creatures of Southwest Florida

Right
Director for Membership Linda Corea
And JoAnne Tobin
Check-in members at the start
Of the meeting
And monitor the
"Lunch After" sign-ups



To the Left

Lisa Andrews and Josette Bonewitz

Peruse
Captivating Creatures

To the Right

Gwyn Goodman and Pat Richardson
Review
Christine J. Relli-Kunz's book



AAUW – Marco Island

Time, Talent and Treasures Live Auction: February 16, 2024

Get your Live Auction bidding group organized NOW.

Generous and talented cooks have donated amazing meals to the AAUW – Marco Island Time, Talent and Treasures Live Auction. Below is a list of the meals to be auctioned on February 16, 2024. These 5 meals help you form a bidding group among your friends and neighbors to assist in your bidding. You can agree to share the cost, select the top bid you are willing to pursue, and get an idea of what meals interest your group of friends. It helps to organize this bidding consortium *before* you attend the luncheon and to appoint one person to do the bidding for your group. Remember, everyone in your bidding group does not have to attend to win! These meals are delivered to the location of your choice, on a date you agree on with the cook(s.) Good luck to you and your friends and thank you for helping to fund scholarships. Have fun, bid high and bid often, and feel the pride of helping young women succeed.

1. **Italian Extravaganza for 8 to 10:** Authentic meatballs, pasta, green salad, dessert and wine.
2. **French Gourmet Meal for 8 to 10:** Boeuf Bourgogne, egg noodles (could include gluten free noodles), salad, crusty bread, lemon dessert and wine.
3. **Greek Feast for 8 to 10:** Moussaka, Spanakopita, Baklava and wine.
4. **Elegant Brunch for 8 to 10:** Choice of two quiches, homemade scones, fruit salad, green salad and mimosas.
5. **American Dream Dinner for 8 to 10:** Grilled tenderloins and shrimp, hot appetizer, bowtie pasta salad, vegetable medley, Better Than Sex Cake and Premium wines.

I hope to see you at our Time and Talent Auction on February 16.
Have fun and bid high!

Lynn Tuttle

AAUW – Marco Island
Time, Talent and Treasures Live Auction: February 16, 2024

There is still time to contribute to the Silent Auction Cache

DONATION FORM (one form per item)

Description:

|

Value _____ Starting Bid _____ Donor Name _____

Please drop off silent auction items at Bob and Lynn Tuttle's home at 1490 Caxambas Court anytime before Tuesday, February 13.

It is not necessary to call or text first. We keep an eye on our front stoop at this time of year! If you can, please fill out one form for each item.

DIRECTIONS: Take South Barfield south, past Publix to the fourth street past Winterberry, Caxambas Court. Turn right. We are the first house on the right after the little bridge. Drop off anytime.

DO NOT ring the bell.

Time, Talent, and Treasures Auction and Luncheon Reservation
Marco Island Country Club - Friday, February 16, 2024 @11:30 a.m.

Lunch is an ICC Salad with either Grilled Chicken or Salmon. Dessert is the Chef's choice (chocolate). Also includes Rolls/Butter; Soda, Tea, or Coffee. Drink tickets will be sold for Beer, Wine, and Cocktails (cash only).

Seating is at tables of 8. Reserve a table or join one.

Number of Reservations at \$55 per person: _____ Total: _____

Person Submitting Reservations: _____ Phone: _____

If you are not reserving an entire table, please indicate below the names of ladies with whom you might like to be seated.

Select your meal choice.

Name & Email Address

Chicken (C) or Salmon (S)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

Cost: \$55, payable to AAUW - Marco Island

Notify Durell Buzzini, 421 Pheasant Ct., Marco Island, FL 34145 by February 9th

Reservation Questions: Durell Buzzini 207-745-4679 or meddybliss@gmail.com

Schedule of Events

11:30 - 12:15 - Bid on Silent Auction Items

12:15 - 1:00 - Enjoy Lunch and Conversation

1:00 - ?? - Live Auction (Bring your checkbook or cash - Sorry, No Credit Cards)