



Marco Island (FL) Branch

P.O. Box 841  
Marco Island, FL 34146

# WAVE

November  
2023

[www.MarcoIsland-FL.AAUW.net](http://www.MarcoIsland-FL.AAUW.net)

## Welcome Back!

It is so good to see our members returning to SW Florida (just our friends, not everyone else!). November's Cocktails & Convo was attended by 14 women who enjoyed a breezy outdoor evening catching up and just enjoying the time spent together. The food was excellent, as always. We welcomed our newest member, Laura Owen, General Manager of CJ's. (Due to company policy, Laura couldn't join us for a drink, but she did stop by to chat for a little while.)

We have several new members, which is FABULOUS! Recruiting is an ongoing effort we all need to be involved with. As a reminder from last year's Membership Workshop, some of the reasons members join AAUW are:

- to join the Fiction Book Club - this was #1
- to belong to an active community group that supports women
- to support women continuing their education
- to be with educated women to continue learning
- to meet other likeminded women

If you know women who might fit in any of the above, please reach out to them, invite them to a meeting or C&C. New members are the Branch's future.

As we age (don't you just hate that phrase) several of our members need help with transportation to get to and from our gatherings. If you would be willing to pick up and/or take home a member, please let me know. I think this would be a great way to ensure everyone who wants to attend Branch events is able to. If you are interested in coordinating our Ride Program "Get a Ride, Give a Ride" please let me know. You would not have to do everything yourself, but rather, have members in need contact you and then arrange a driver from a list of volunteers. Supporting women is what we do!

I am looking forward to our November 13<sup>th</sup> program, "Journey of a Female Entrepreneur." Clarice Dowdle, Owner of the Coton Fras Boutique, will share her story. I hope to see you all there. We are meeting one week early both this and next month due to the holidays. We will be back to our regular third Monday of the month meeting in January.

In closing, it is not too early to start thinking about our Fundraiser. This year, Nina Tomaino will be coordinating the Gift Card category. You can sign up at a meeting with a business you frequent that you will ask for a contribution (we don't want any one business to have too many of us asking). Even a matching gift card is good (you buy a card, and the business matches it). I recently got a facial at RENU and was talking about our scholarship program and fundraiser with the esthetician. She said her boss was very supportive of community services and offered to provide a basket for our Time, Talent, & Treasures fundraiser. Businesses want to support worthy causes. We just need to talk about what we do!!

Fondly,

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, November 13, 2023  
10:00 a.m.

New Life Community Church  
489 W. Elkcam Circle

### Journey of a Female Entrepreneur



Ever fantasize about having your own boutique? Judging from the number of shops that seem to burst onto the scene only to fade away in a few years, it is indeed a common but elusive dream.

What does it take to succeed? Clarice Dowdle and her daughter Christina ought to know. Their boutique “Coton Frais” in Marco Town Center is the duo’s third successful boutique featuring their own private label designs as well as beautiful apparel from France, Italy and Greece.

Clarice will describe the journey, the challenges of keeping the business going and plans for the future.

## Our December Meeting



# *AAUW Holiday Luncheon*

Monday, December 11 @ Noon

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

*Let's celebrate the holidays with lunch and conversation*

See additional menu and sign-up information at the end of this newsletter



## 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:

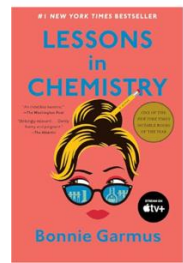
## Fiction Book Club

Chairs are: Jessica Barron – 239-302-6773 – [jessdbarron@gmail.com](mailto:jessdbarron@gmail.com)  
Gwyn Goodman – 239-595-4064 – [gsgoodman11@comcast.net](mailto: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](#)

November's read is:  
*Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus - Liz Haines, lead  
10:00 a.m. on November 14, 2023



Click on the book to connect to the Amazon Review page

For those Book Club members who like to read ahead:

January's read is *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge

\*\*\* 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](mailto:psantiago378@gmail.com)

The group will resume 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)

The readings are usually short stories/essays which makes this an ideal group for those who do not want to commit to reading novels. The group welcomes book selection suggestions and encourages all members to consider what our “next read” will be. Over the summer we experimented with some very short flash fiction reads.

Group members will continue to read selections from *Cloudbursts* by Thomas McGuane (two or three stories per meeting) Please join us if you are available.

### Schedule Information Follows:

Thursday, November 2, 2023 / 3:00 p.m. / Library Porch

Readings for November 2<sup>nd</sup>:

1. “The Refugee” pp. 206-253
2. “Gallatin Canyon” pp. 254-266

Remaining Meeting Dates for 2023:

Thursday, November 16

Thursday, December 7

Thursday, December 21

All at 3:00 p.m. at the Marco Island Library Porch



## Great Decisions Study Group

Chair is Liz Haines, 239-642-1843 [echaines3@aol.com](mailto: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](#).



## In its Second Year - Casual Contract Bridge !!!

AAUW - Marco Island Bridge will meet at CJ's by the Bay on the first Monday of the month from 2:00 to 5:00 beginning on November 6, 2023. Regular players and subs are needed.

Contact Lynn Tuttle at [tuttlemarco@gmail.com](mailto:tuttlemarco@gmail.com) or 603 289-1448 to be part of this group known as "Bridge Before" since we meet "before" Cocktails and Conversation at CJ's.



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

Welcome back to all our members who have renewed their AAUW Marco Island Branch memberships. Thank you for navigating the new AAUW National website. It has been a real challenge for everyone, but I think we are finally on the right track. Please remember that we still need new members so KEEP RECRUITING.

## 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](mailto:Linda.corea@gmail.com) or 410-652-4508 to sign-up.

## 2023-2024 Board of Directors

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



### AAUW - Our Mission

Gender Equity – and – Economic Security

### AAUW - Our Values

Intersectional – Inclusive – Intergenerational - Empowering





## AAUW Holiday Luncheon



Monday, December 11 @ Noon

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

*Let's celebrate the holidays with lunch and conversation*

Please print your name below and circle your meal and dessert selections. Mail along with your check payable to AAUW-Marco Island to:

Nina Tomaino  
825 Newell Terrace  
Marco Island, FL 34145

*Your form and check must be received by NOVEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>*

Luncheon with no dessert: \$23 With dessert: \$38 (Tax & Gratuity included)  
Beverages are separate and will be charged at the luncheon

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Selections: (circle one)

Key West Salad – Grilled shrimp, feta cheese, hearts of palm, mango, strawberries, dried cranberries and toasted almonds on a bed of romaine lettuce, with sweet onion dressing (gluten free)

Spinach Salad – Grilled chicken breast, caramelized pecans, red onion, strawberries, sliced egg, and crispy bacon on a bed of baby spinach, with a sweet and sour dressing (gluten free)

Roast Turkey Wrap – Roast deli turkey with local tomatoes, lettuce, guacamole, and provolone cheese, inside a flour wrap, served with French fries or mango coleslaw

Fish Platter – (blackened, grilled or fried) 10 once crispy white fillet of fish, cooked the way you prefer. Served with lemon, a side of tarter sauce, and French fries or mango coleslaw

Sweet Selections: (choose one if opting for dessert)

Peanut butter pie - or - Key lime pie