



Marco Island (FL) Branch

P.O. Box 841  
Marco Island, FL 34146

# WAVE

October  
2023

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

## President's Message

Welcome everyone to our 2023-24 AAUW year. I'm excited for us to get the year started.

Nina Tomaino, Director for Programs has a great lineup for this year. Lenore Yale, Director for Communication has information in this WAVE edition about this month and next month's programs. The full year of programs is on our website: [marcoisland-fl.aauw.net](http://marcoisland-fl.aauw.net).

Fabulous News!! Lynn Tuttle, Director for Development was able to secure a special location for the February Time, Talent, & Treasures Fundraiser. The location is the newly remodeled Marco Island Country Club. So, be sure to save the date, February 16, 2024. As you know, this is our only fundraiser and provides funding for our annual grants and scholarships. This Branch activity will require all members to get involved if we are to be successful.

Update: Our application for approval of our Foundation as a 501 (c)(3) is still pending with the IRS. Our attorney and Registered Agent for the Foundation, Jennifer Tenney, of Tenney Law has generously funded the application process as well as donated her time in filing all the necessary documents. We are hopeful the approval is received in 2023.

My hope for this year is that all members of our Branch will become involved with some aspect of our Branch, in some small, medium, or large way. We will be forming committees to expand our reach and effectiveness. So, start thinking of what area(s) you may have a special interest in and say yes when asked. Areas of interest may be in Hospitality, Fundraising, Community Outreach, Public Policy, and Membership, to name a few. Consider where your talents and interests would be best utilized. The first two committees that need to be filled are the Nominating Committee and Hospitality Committee. Please reach out to me if you have an interest in either. The more volunteers, the less work for each member of the committee.

I'm getting off my soapbox now. I hope to see you at the meeting on Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>.

In Friendship!  
Jacky Childress



## 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.



Mark your Calendars!

## Our Next Meeting

Monday, October 16, 2023  
10:00 a.m.

New Life Community Church  
489 W. Elkcam Circle

Activity is Ageless

***Create a Healthy, Strong and Flexible Body at Any Age.***

With over 25-year's-experience and certifications in multiple modalities

Presenter Irene Miller-Lubin specializes in Adult Fitness

Prepare to be Inspired!



***Lunch After to be Announced***

# Our November 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.

## 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. Elcam 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 2023-2024 Book List  
[CLICK HERE](#)

October's read is:  
*Carnegie's Maid* by Marie Benedict - Lynn Tuttle, lead  
10:00 a.m. on October 24, 2023



[Click Here to go to the Amazon Review web page](#)



## Great Books Discussion Group

Chair is Pat Santiago – 239-389-4767 [psantiago378@gmail.com](mailto:psantiago378@gmail.com)

**The group meets all year.** Meetings are planned on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 3:00 p.m. The readings are usually short stories, which makes this an ideal group for those who do not want to commit to reading novels.

As the Group usually reads 2-3 short stories per meeting additional anthologies will be chosen as the year progresses. Selections are not limited to American authors. Past reads have included works penned by authors from around the world. The group welcomes book selection suggestions and encourages all members to consider what our “next read” will be.



## 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



## 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.

AAUW - Our Mission

Gender Equity – and – Economic Security

AAUW - Our Values

Intersectional – Inclusive – Intergenerational - Empowering



## 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>

### A Note from the Editor

This newsletter is a work-in-progress and, as such, I welcome and encourage your comments and suggestions.

You can reach me at: [Lenore.Yale@gmail.com](mailto:Lenore.Yale@gmail.com) / 203-506-5075

Please send any news + photos + captions to: [Lenore.Yale@gmail.com](mailto:Lenore.Yale@gmail.com)

Photos from the 2023 Annual Scholarship Luncheon Follow



**AAUW-Marco Island Branch Member  
Colleen Moser (left)**

**Colleen introduces scholarship recipient  
Kathryn Barry (below).**

After serving on the Scholarship Committee for an incredible 15 years, Colleen has decided to "retire". Of note: During those 15 years, Colleen has also shared her talents in other ways, most recently serving as Chair of Programs for our Branch from 2021-2023.

*Thank You for your contribution Colleen*

### **2023 High School Scholarship Recipient**

**Kathryn Barry**, right, is a senior at Marco Island Academy who holds a straight A average and ranks #1 in her class. She has been captain of her basketball team setting MIA female scoring records. She is also a long-distance runner with cross country and track teams. In addition, she has been a member of MIA Key Club, National Honor Society, and the Science National Honor Society. Her list of volunteer activities on the Island is impressive. She will be attending Rice University in Houston with a proposed major in Biosciences hoping to attain dual MD and PhD degrees.



## Martha Yates Scholarship for Adult Women Winner 2023

**Katie Goetzmann** (left) introduces **Carla Melendez**. Carla is enrolled at Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) taking one class at a time to prepare for a degree in Software Engineering. She started her degree at Florida Gulf Coast University before going on-line with SNHU. Carla and her husband have three-year-old and one year old sons. They both work at C.J's on the Bay. Her firm dream is to get out of the service industry and get her degree! She takes courses like "Operating Platforms" and "Software Development." She loves working with computer software. She can do this with our help!



## Martha Yates Scholarship for Adult Women Winner 2023 Emmanuelle Mergue

Proud mother **Lisa Mergue** reads a letter of thanks to AAUW-Marco Island from daughter **Emmanuelle** who is currently studying in Scotland!

Emmanuelle, a graduate of University of Central Florida, currently is enrolled in a two-year graduate program in Occupational Therapy at Glasgow Caledonia University. Her program will place her all over Scotland in various clinical settings such as schools, hospitals outpatient clinics, medical facilities, and refugee clinics. She is writing a dissertation involving the transition period from working to retirement.

