



Synthesis



FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING

WEDNESDAY, February 19, 2020

MEETING: 2:00 pm

LOCATION: Community Foundation, 2635 Fruitville Road

SPEAKER: Georgia Whitlock, Former Chief Psychologist,
Federal Prison, Coleman, Florida



We welcome Georgia Fulton Whitlock as our speaker at our February 19 meeting. A graduate of the University of Tampa with a Psychology degree, Georgia continued her studies at the Florida Institute of Technology, where she earned her Masters and Doctorate degrees in Clinical Psychology.

Her professional career began in 1986 at Florida State Hospital, and in 1990, she joined the Federal Bureau of Prisons, and served as Chief Psychologist at federal correctional institutions in Georgia and Texas. In 1995 she was selected to activate the Federal Correctional Complex in Coleman, Florida, eventually serving as the Complex Chief Psychologist, until her retirement in 2015. Her primary responsibilities included

management of the mentally ill, suicide prevention, drug abuse treatment, and preparation for re-entry.

After being “on call” for 25 years, Georgia now devotes her time to family, friends, dogs and travel. This program could bring some very interesting viewpoints -- don't miss it.

Virginia Waring



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

February, 2020

AAUW's CEO, Kim Churches, has highlighted 10 accomplishments from 2019 and they can be seen on the AAUW website.

Number 4 "AAUW led the effort to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act in the House of Representatives last spring. And we delivered testimony to Congressional committees on the Equal Rights Amendment, LGBTQ anti-discrimination protections, and paid family leave, as well as sending letters to Congress in support of the Building Blocks of STEM ACT for women and girls, and on ending workplace harassment," and **Number 5** "Shifted the state legal landscape toward fair pay, helping 11 states to pass equity legislation" have particular relevance as we approach Lobby Days, where Ellen Roche and I will join about 25 members from around Florida to lobby for equal rights to be enshrined in Florida law. Kim also thanked members who donated to AAUW Funds in the past year. Our branch gave over \$3600, including the \$1500 we sent to the Legal Advocacy Fund from our Norma Heeps Fund. For the future, they have requested that any money sent by the branches or members go to the Greatest Needs Fund.

We have had some requests from other organizations to publicize their events and have decided that unless it is something particularly relevant to our mission, it will only be mentioned at a branch meeting so as not to inundate you with emails. Also, at the end of every meeting, any member is invited to briefly publicize any event of another group they belong to.

I am looking forward to the February Brunch/Fundraiser – Carol and her team have created a fun social event (and a painless way to fund our operating budget without raising dues!).

Diana Sells, President



WOMEN'S HISTORY NEWS

In 1911, Marie Curie was the first woman to win the Nobel Prize in Chemistry, and the first person (and only woman to date) to win two Nobel Prizes, and the only person to win a Nobel Prize in two different sciences.

And were you aware that AAUW helped raise the money for Marie Curie to buy the gram of radium needed for her research?

Way to go Marie Curie and AAUW.

EDUCATION PROGRAM NEWS

NCCWSL:

Funds have been sent for 4 students to attend the NCCWSL Conference this summer in Maryland!

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### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE NEEDS:**

The Education Committee has many needs and we are asking our membership to step up and volunteer! Many of these positions do not require a lot of time at all--but the success of our initiatives require many hands! Please help in any way you can! The young women we help will be very grateful!! There are many opportunities for service:

#### **Tech Trek**

- Tech Trek coordinator Leiland could use assistance securing a place and times for the Tech Trek interviews, which are usually the two Saturdays in February.
- We need 2 Tech Trek interviewers in each of those rooms.
- We need a communications person, after the students are selected, for the camp to get a photo and a brief story in the newspaper (maybe with Ryan McKinnon reporter).
- We need a person to present the students at a school board meeting.
- We need volunteers for the Tech Trek reception in September, which we have been hosting at the Selby Library's auditorium.
- Volunteers needed for the "Bytes and Bites Committee" Ellen Roche is spearheading to increase fundraising for Tech Trek.

#### **Start Smart/Work Smart**

- We need a person to oversee the programs. That entails participating in planning meetings of about 1 hour each for Start Smart and Work Smart workshop sessions, held 3 to 4 times a year, and to assist during the workshops as needed. Much of the business is completed via email. No prior experience is necessary.

The next workshop is scheduled for February 4 @ USFSM 6-8 PM. Most of the planning for this event has been completed.

#### **Academic Olympics**

- Moderator - Read questions, listen to student's answer, decide if answer is correct based on printed answer. There are content judges there if you have any concerns. You will be trained.
- Scorekeeper - When moderator says answer is correct, you hit a button on the laptop. If the answer is incorrect, you hit a different button. Score is automatically tallied. You then add points for team questions at the end of each round. There will be someone there if you need help. You will be trained.

Please contact:

*Mary Stephenson, Education Program Chairman* ([stephensonmary9@gmail.com](mailto:stephensonmary9@gmail.com))

## NEW MEMBER NEWS

### GAIL HAYWOOD

Gail was born and raised in Elyria, Ohio. Attended Bowling Green State Univ. Ohio and graduated with a BS degree in education and a minor in Library Science & Educational Media. She received her Masters from Kent State Univ. in Educational Media and received 40+ hours mostly in computers and software. The majority of her career was as a Media Specialist in the Elyria City Schools at all levels: Elementary, High School and Middle School.

She is married, with no children, but has a very spoiled miniature golden doodle. She and her husband bought a home in Sarasota in The Meadows in 2009, but it's only been the last few years that they started spending 6 months here and 6 months in Ohio - true snowbirds. She was a member of AAUW many years ago in Elyria, but quit when she moved out of town. She is very interested in women's issues and meeting new people in Sarasota, so decided to renew her membership in an organization that she enjoyed many years ago.

*Liz Smith and Sue Ritchey, Membership Committee*

## FABULOUS FEBRUARY FUNDRAISER BRUNCH

**Please mark Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup> on your calendar for our upcoming fundraiser!** Our branch needs your support to continue meeting our goals and fund our initiatives. Join us for a fun event that will include a European-style brunch buffet and a White Elephant Silent Auction.

In case you missed the details in the January Synthesis, a copy is attached below, but all you need to do is send a check (made out to AAUW Sarasota) for \$35 per person and mail it to:

Carol Bernasconi  
5645 Cape Leyte Dr.  
Sarasota 34242

Your check will serve as your reservation, and, if you wish to bring a guest, include their name, so we can welcome them. Again, the event will be Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at the University Park Country Club at 10am.

We also need your donated items for the silent auction. Please contact a committee member for pick-up of any and all of your 'ready-to-part-with' treasures, gift cards, books, bottles of wine or other goodies.

Thank you so much and we hope to see you there!!!

*Carol Bernasconi, Kathy Oarr, Audrey Laue, Sue McGowan, Anne Salamone, Virginia Waring*

**AAUW Sarasota Branch  
Officers and Directors 2019 - 2020**

**Officers**

|                |                                 |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| President      | Diana Sells                     |
| Vice President | Lois Fisch                      |
| Secretary      | Susan Teel<br>Louise Oleyourryk |
| Treasurer      | Susan Serling<br>Jackie Zukley  |

**Directors**

|                                             |                           |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Program                                     | Joan Nasser               |
| Membership                                  | Sue McGowan               |
| Public Policy                               | Jean Henry<br>Mary Muller |
| Communications                              | Sue Casey                 |
| Education Programs                          | Mary Stephenson           |
| Nominations                                 | Ellen Roche               |
| Past President, (ex-officio,<br>non-voting) | Ellen Roche               |
| Parliamentarian                             | Mimi Welch                |
| Synthesis Editor                            | Roz Lurie                 |



Visit us on Facebook at

[www.facebook.com/AAUWSarasota](http://www.facebook.com/AAUWSarasota)

Or on the web at:

<https://sarasota-fl.aauw.net/>

<https://www.aauw.org/>

(national organization)

<https://aauw-fl.aauw.net/>

(Florida branch)

or

email us at: [Sarasota.AAUW@gmail.com](mailto:Sarasota.AAUW@gmail.com)



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Sarasota Branch  
P.O. Box 3554, Sarasota, FL 34230

**Deadline**

**February 10th** is the deadline for the March issue of the Synthesis. Please submit either an email or attached Word document to me, Roz Lurie. Photos are appreciated. I cannot edit a PDF file.

Roz Lurie, [roz.lurie@gmail.com](mailto:roz.lurie@gmail.com)

**C A L E N D A R - February 2020**

To place items in the Calendar, get in touch with Lois Fisch by the 10th of February for the March newsletter:  
[lfisch@utica.edu](mailto:lfisch@utica.edu)

**AAUW Board Meeting**

**Feb 4 – Tuesday at 10 am.** The AAUW Sarasota Board will meet at the Community Foundation at 2635 Fruitville Rd. All members are welcome! Plan to join us for lunch afterwards.

**First Wednesday Bridge**

**Feb 5 -- Wednesday at 12:45 pm.** Social bridge on the first Wednesday of the month. We meet at the In-Between Bridge Club at 4414 Bee Ridge Rd. We welcome new members at all levels of play. Contact Maureen Firth at 941-358-6451 or [firthent@yahoo.com](mailto:firthent@yahoo.com).

**February Brunch/Fundraiser**

**Feb 8 – Saturday at 10 am.** See this newsletter for details.

**Play Reading**

**Feb 12 -- Wednesday at 1 pm.** Contact Nancy Brennan at [nbrennan617@gmail.com](mailto:nbrennan617@gmail.com) or call 924-5951.

**North County Book Group**

**Feb 18 – Tuesday at 11 am.** The North County Book Group will meet at the North Sarasota Library. All are welcome to attend. Lois Fisch will lead the discussion of *Miss Jane: A Novel* by Brad Watson. We meet from 11:00 to 12:00 with optional lunch afterwards. Contact Lois Fisch, 941-735-0378 or [lfisch@utica.edu](mailto:lfisch@utica.edu)

**Branch Meeting**

**Feb 19 – Wednesday.** Branch meeting at the Community Foundation, 2635 Fruitville Road. Join us to hear our speaker, Georgia Whitlock. Optional lunch before the meeting at 11:45. If you plan on attending lunch, please make a reservation with Nancy Brennan, at [nbrennan617@gmail.com](mailto:nbrennan617@gmail.com) or 941-924-5951, by noon, Tuesday, Feb 18, 2020.

**Film Group**

**Feb 20 – Thurs at 11 am.**

The Film Group will meet at Selby Library, second floor conference room (third Thursday this month instead of the second Thurs). Members will be notified of the selected film by email a week prior to the meeting. New members are welcome to join in the discussion and enjoy an optional lunch after the meeting at a nearby restaurant. For information call or email Sylvia Rosenfeld (924-8603, [sylros10@yahoo.com](mailto:sylros10@yahoo.com)) or Kathy Schoenhals (346-8161, [katevrs@gmail.com](mailto:katevrs@gmail.com)).

**North County Neighborhood Group**

**Feb 21 – Friday at 11:30 am.** All AAUW members are invited. We will lunch at a nearby restaurant and then go to the Bishop Museum of Science at 201 10<sup>th</sup> St W, Bradenton at 1:30 pm. We will see the new exhibit of the Myakka River, visit the 2 manatees in rehab and take in a Planetarium Show. Senior museum admission is \$21.95. Car pool location from Sarasota to be determined. Contact: Roz Lurie, [roz.lurie@gmail.com](mailto:roz.lurie@gmail.com) or leave a message at 773-218-1005.

**Gulf Gate Book Group**

**Feb 25 – Tuesday at 11:30 am.** The Gulf Gate Book Group will meet at the Gulf Gate Library in the first floor meeting room. Maureen Meenan will lead the discussion of *The Woman Who Smashed Codes* by Jason Fagone. All AAUW members are invited to join the discussion and then enjoy an optional lunch after the meeting at a local restaurant. For more information contact Sylvia Rosenfeld at [sylros10@yahoo.com](mailto:sylros10@yahoo.com) (or 924-8603), Audrey Laue, [sarafen@fastmail.us](mailto:sarafen@fastmail.us) (or 922-1778) or Jocelyn Baskey (419-559-6319) or [baskey0@gmail.com](mailto:baskey0@gmail.com).



**JOIN US FOR  
MARVELOUS FOOD  
AND FUNDRAISING**



University Park Country Club offers a superb European Continental brunch. Join us for a brunch buffet and white elephant fundraising event. The buffet includes traditional breakfast offerings starting with a variety of juices, coffee/tea, eggs, bacon/sausage, potatoes, French toast/waffles, and even the most discriminating taste will enjoy the fresh fruits/berries, assorted muffins, pastries and croissants with fruit preserves. This event will be one you won't want to miss. It is a fundraiser, and included with enjoyment of a fantastic meal, our white elephant sale gives each of us an opportunity to support our branch by finding "treasures" among the white elephant offerings – those things you didn't know you needed until you saw them.

WHERE: University Park Country Club  
7671 The Park Blvd.  
University Park Florida 34201

WHEN: Saturday, February 8, 2020

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

COST: \$35.00 per person



Deadline for reservations is **FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2020**. Please send your check – payable to **AAUW Sarasota** to:

Carol Bernasconi  
5645 Cape Leyte Dr.  
Sarasota, FL 34242

Please include a list of any food allergies with your check so we can ensure that everyone has a wide selection of foods available from the buffet.

For the **White Elephant** sale:

New or like new decorative/useful household items, your own purchased gift cards for restaurants, bottles of wine, themed gift baskets, culinary contributions, jewelry – how about lessons or services – anything of value. If in doubt, ask a member of the Fundraising team, including Audrey Laue, Kathy Oarr, Anne Salamone, Sue McGowan, Virginia Waring, or Carol Bernasconi. Call a member to arrange pick-up for your donations.