



Melbourne (FL) Branch

EMPOWERING WOMEN SINCE 1881



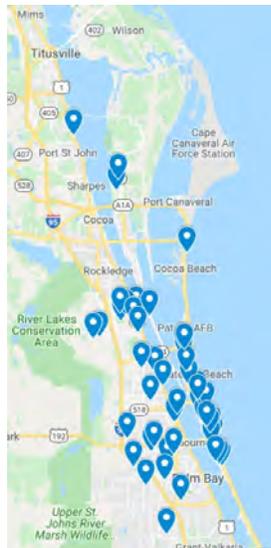
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The holiday season is a perfect time to reflect on our blessings and seek out ways to make life better for those around us. As an organization, in three short months, we have brought to light the struggles of our Brevard county public teachers, began the search for girls to send to AAUW Tech Trek 2020 and learned about the unimaginable plight of human trafficking within our community. I

encourage you to read a thought provoking article in this issue of the Intercom on human trafficking written by a new member, Sue Ebersberger. She provides us with hard facts and resources to provide help. It is clear we have much work to do.

As we look towards 2020, the Board wants to make sure that you are getting the most out of our programs based on content, ability to attend, and location, cost and quality of venues. It can be challenging to find locations that are central for *all* our members.

Each  in the map represents one of our members homes. To make sure we are doing our best to reach the largest percentage of our members, I will be sending out a survey shortly. If something is inhibiting you from attending meetings, we want to know about it.



For our holiday lunch, we will have a wonderful musical performance by Marshall Frank, with a special guest Tomas Lopez, who is a young musician from the Creative Arts Foundation Program. The Creative Arts Foundation of Brevard, Inc., is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization formed in 2007 to provide assistance and support to creative artists of Brevard County with exceptional talents in the fields of music, drama, dance, literature and visual arts.

I look forward to seeing you out our Holiday Lunch. My best wishes to you and your families during this holiday season.

Natalie C. Twine





AAUW-Melbourne Holiday



DATE & TIME

Saturday, December 14, 2019

TIME : 11:30 AM

COST: \$25

BUFFET LUNCH

Greek Salad Pita

Spinach Pie Dessert

Gyro Meats

LOCATION

Niki's Rainbow Restaurant

570 Highway A1A , Satellite
Beach

<https://nikisrainbow.restaurant/>

MUSICAL GUESTS

Marshall Frank

Tomas Lopez



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



MARSHALL FRANK is a retired captain from the Miami-Dade Police Department where he spent the majority of his thirty years investigating homicides or commanding those who did. Frank has traveled extensively across the country as a law enforcement/security consultant, instructor and lecturer on criminal justice. He is a member various professional law enforcement and writers organizations.

Since retiring, Frank has authored 14 books, seven fiction and seven non-fiction. Three of his fiction books have been contracted for movie rights. His latest non-fiction release by Everly Books, "Amerikastan: Conquest From Within" is a well-researched chronicle of how the radical forces of global Islam are conspiring to conquer western civilization.

Frank has also authored over one-thousand articles in magazines and newspapers, and is a frequent editorial contributor to Florida Today, in Brevard County, Florida. He maintains a blog site where he posts stimulating articles about a myriad of subjects, from politics, crime, social issues, radical Islam and even motion pictures. His blogs generate many controversial responses. Visit www.marshallfrank.com and click on "Frankly Speaking."



TOMAS LOPEZ, 21, is a multi-instrument musician with a primary focus on violin and guitar. His music has taken him all over the U.S., Europe, South America and etc. He has served as concertmaster of the Berklee/Boston Conservatory Scholarship Symphony Orchestra, concertmaster of the F.I.U Symphony and Principal 2nd with the Villages Symphony. Tomas has studied violin and guitar with the top level teachers in Florida and elsewhere. He is currently living in Florida, available for performances. Contact him at Tomasprh@gmail.com

He has been part of the Creative Arts Foundation program list since the age of 14.

AAUW's Long Road to Women's Suffrage

By: Suzanne Gould August 23, 2013 AAUW National Website

Women's Equality Day, August 26, marks the anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote. It may come as a surprise to you that the road to women's suffrage was not an easily travelled one for AAUW, then called the Association of Collegiate Alumnae (ACA). On the contrary, it was filled with lots of delays and roadblocks. It wasn't until 1914 that ACA leaders and members even began to discuss the issue. Only then did they support a watered-down resolution that simply called for branches to "study the issue."

Why, you might ask, would a group of such brave, trailblazing, educated women oppose women's suffrage? The answer is that most ACA members supported suffrage in principle but remained fearful of discussing it because it was considered outside the stated purpose of the association. If they became involved in this "external" issue, what else would follow? Would they then become stretched too thin and not be able to accomplish their original mission?

The fear of losing membership loomed large in this decision. Remember that in the 1910s, the pool of potential members, women with college degrees, was still rather small. So with limited womanpower at their disposal, early leaders wanted to conserve their membership and dedicate their focus on the original purpose: "for practical education work, for collection and publication of statistical and other information concerning education, and in general for the maintenance of high standards of education." This first generation of college-educated women still faced insurmountable barriers to their full participation in the educational world; there was much work to be done without tackling the issue of suffrage.

Despite these fears, ACA members were also acutely aware of their responsibilities, as college educated women, to create a better society. The importance of their civic responsibility is a consistent message in records from the archives. But how could women carry this out without being able to vote? In 1914, Mary Woolley, president of Mount Holyoke College and an ACA member, wrote about this in an article titled "Civic Responsibility of the College Woman."

"It is impossible to consider the question of civic responsibility," Woolley wrote, "without reference to the question of woman suffrage." (Woolley would later become AAUW president, in 1927.)

The following year, 1915, the association met in San Francisco. Now that the branches had studied the issue for a year, the organization deemed it safe to cast its ballots for or against the issue. The suffrage resolution passed by a vote of 247 to 19. It read as follows:

"Recognizing that, under our government, education in both its academic and social aspects is controlled by the electors, be it Resolved that we, as a body of college women dedicated to the promotion of education and desirous of furthering our ability for usefulness, favor suffrage for women."

Despite the association's struggle to fully support women's suffrage, it's important to note the many individual ACA members who were suffragists: women like Anna Kelton Wiley, a member of the Washington, D.C., branch who was jailed at Occoquan Workhouse for picketing the White House, and Maud Wood Park, who organized the College Equal Suffrage League to gather support from what critics called an apathetic younger generation. Along with our ACA founders, leaders, and members, they are just a few of the brave women we honor on Women's Equality Day.

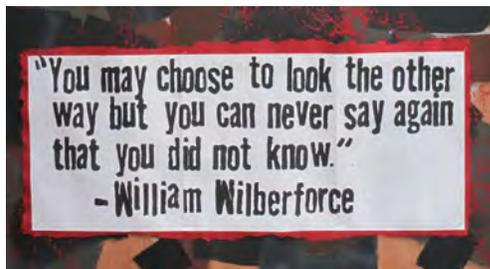
Sex Trafficking

By: Sue Ebersberger



Most of us just gathered around a Thanksgiving table with family and friends to celebrate the good things in our lives. You might even have had a 15 year old girl or a 12 year old boy at our table. They are the children we love... and want to protect with our very being from any kind of harm.

I was shocked when I remembered what the girls around our table were doing and saying at the ages when many children fall prey to sex traffickers. At fifteen...our girls were dreaming about boyfriends, the next dance and how to get their homework done...not hovering in the corner of a room after being beaten and raped by multiple men. All for the sake of money... money which is taken from her by her trafficker. "Younger than that for the boys"... when they should be playing football and videogames... not wondering if they will ever survive this horrible ordeal. Children and women of all ages are caught in the web of sex trafficking despair... seemingly ALONE...with no one to help them.



Sex trafficking is horrible and must be stopped. It "is more than statistics and basic definitions though. It is America's daughters, sisters, mothers, nieces and sometimes America's men" (Guardian Group). That's why we cannot sit by and do nothing...that's why we have to raise our voices to make change.

Peace,

Sue Ebersberger

Legal Definition

Federal law defines sex trafficking as activities "...in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age"; or "the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force ..."

Exploiting any child for sex is a federal crime.

Just How Big of a Problem is Sex Trafficking?

Reliable numbers regarding the size of the problem are tough to collect, but here are a few statistics to help get our arms around just how huge this problem is...

In 2016, victims of sex trafficking globally:

Adults: estimated 3.8 million

Children (under 18): 1 million

*(Source: *UN International Labour Organization - USA Today)*

- Profits from forced sexual labor estimated \$99 BILLION worldwide
- Average of 5.4 victims of trafficking (all forms) for every 1,000 people in the world!
- Sex Trafficking: One of fastest growing areas of crime world-wide
- Makes sense... drugs and guns are a one-time deal. But a child or woman can be sold over and over again for sex... sometimes up to 10 times or more a day; 7 days a week. (Guardian Group)
- Sex trafficking happens in all states. In 2018, Florida ranked 8th largest in Human Trafficking Cases on a per capita basis. (Source: National Human Trafficking Hotline)

A Little about the Victims

Average age of Girl entering into sex trade:

15 years old (that's a 9th or 10th grader)

Average of Boy entering into sex trade:

Younger than 15 years old

Victim Profile – many are:

Looking for love

Looking for understanding and acceptance

Have low self-esteem

Something to Think About: What 15 year old doesn't feel the need to look for these things outside their homes at one point or another?

99% victims are **women**

(USA Today)

83% victims of sex trafficking in US are **US citizens**

(Guardian Group)



What You Can Do

Sex trafficking can be stopped, but not without wide involvement of our community. And that means you... and me...and your friends and colleagues...our neighbors.

If you think someone is being sex trafficked, call 911 or one of the organizations on the list below for help.

A WORD OF CAUTION: One website says

“It’s normal to want to protect the survivor and urge them to flee as soon as possible. However, fleeing from trafficking is much more complicated than many would think. Often, the trafficker has the survivor’s family’s information. They may control their living space, money, phone, social media, jobs, relationships, everything. For most, it’s not as simple as just walking away.

Escaping a trafficker comes with severe and immediate danger and shouldn’t be taken lightly. Often, the survivor themselves isn’t the only one in danger, either. As much as you may want them to leave, acknowledge that safety is a concern and talk about what barriers the survivor has in the way of their freedom. Pushing them to do something dangerous is only going to alienate them more, so be mindful.”

Encourage the schools to include a human trafficking (including sex trafficking) and the methods traffickers use to recruit kids... in their curricula. Educate parents, teachers and administrators of sex trafficker tactics so they can talk with children about the issue.

Contact local, state and federal lawmakers to say you are concerned about the fight against human trafficking. Advocate for changes in sex trafficking laws. Ask what your representative what he/she is doing to fight sex trafficking.

New laws are in place here in FL requiring training for those working in the Hospitality Industry, Schools, Medical Field and Law Enforcement fields. Support the mandated training requirement with your government representative.



Zonta
Chocolate
Festival

**EXPERIENCE BREVARD'S
FINEST CHOCOLATE**
Sunday, March 3, 2019
Melbourne Auditorium
11:00am - 4:00pm
General Admission \$25 (in advance) \$30 (at the door)
"With-A-Kick" (Adults Only) \$40
www.ZontaSpaceCoast.org



The **Zonta Club of Melbourne's** Annual Chocolate Festival will touch your heart and your sweet tooth. Brevard's best chocolatiers, pastry chefs and restaurateurs come together with community volunteers to raise funds to support programs to improve the lives of women and girls. Proceeds benefit local scholarship programs, community service projects and the local and international fight against Human Trafficking and Violence Against Women!

SEX TRAFFICKING RESOURCES

If you think something is off kilter (eg a 15 year old shows up at a hotel at 11 p.m. with no family or luggage) or someone tells you that she or he is being sold for sex, you call 911 or the Brevard County Sheriff's Office.

In addition the following National Hotlines might help you find the information that you need.

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

1-888-373-7888

The National Human Trafficking Hotline is a national, anti-trafficking hotline and resource center serving victims and survivors of human trafficking and the anti-trafficking community in the United States. The toll-free hotline is answered live 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

humantraffickinghotline.org

The National Runaway Switchboard

1-800-RUNAWAY

The National Runaway Switchboard serves as the federally-designated national communication system for homeless and runaway youth. NRS, with the support of more than 150 volunteers, handles an average of 100,000 calls annually – more than 3 million calls since the organization's inception. Through hotline and online services, NRS provides crisis intervention, referrals to local resources, and education and prevention services to youth, families and community members throughout the country 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

1800RUNAWAY.org

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

1-800-843-5678

As the nation's clearinghouse and comprehensive reporting center for all issues related to the prevention of and recovery from child victimization, NCMEC leads the fight against abduction, abuse, and exploitation – because every child deserves a safe childhood.

MissingKids.com

Source: Shared Hope International



If you suspect a child is being sexually exploited/trafficked in Florida, please call the Florida DCF Hotline: (800)96-ABUSE (22873)

Save the Date: AAUW Coffee Talk

Saturday, January 11, 2020

Location: 6210 Erik Court, Melbourne

Meet our members, share ideas and have a great cup of coffee or tea!



- 11 Virginia Bluhm
- 17 Kathy Ebersberger
- 28 Grace Svitak



2020 Women's Vote Centennial

Volunteer to Celebrate

Committee Chair: Kathy Ebersberger

Email: kathyebbersberger@yahoo.com



AAUW Melbourne Tech Trek Committee

Tech Trek Coordinator: Natalie C. Twine

Email: nctwine@gmail.com



2020 Brevard Regional Science Fair

Brevard South

Melbourne Square Mall,

Saturday, February 22, 2020 @ 9AM

Contact: Kyle Lieneck



President Donald Trump signs H.R. 2423, the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commemorative Coin Act, at the White House on November 25, 2019. The Women's Suffrage Centennial Commemorative Coin Act passed with unanimous consent.

The bill directs the Treasury Department to create currency that honors the women who played a major part in passage of the 19th Amendment, which was ratified in 1920.

The bill was introduced by Representative Elise Stefanik of New York, one of the first states to give women the right to vote.

The designs will honor many women's suffrage activists, including Susan B. Anthony, Carrie Chapman Catt, Lide Meriwether, Alice Paul, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Mary Church Terrell, Harriet Tubman and Ida B. Wells.

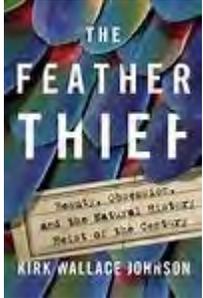
This bill directs the Department of the Treasury to mint and issue up to 400,000 \$1 silver coins that are emblematic of the women who played a vital role in rallying support for the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Such coins may be issued during the period beginning on January 1, 2020, and ending on December 31, 2020.

All surcharges received from the sales of such coins shall be paid to the American Women's History Initiative of the Smithsonian Institution.



AAUW DECEMBER'S BOOK SELECTION



On a cool June evening in 2009, after performing a concert at London's Royal Academy of Music, twenty-year-old American flautist Edwin Rist boarded a train for a suburban outpost of the British Museum of Natural History. Home to one of the largest ornithological collections in the world, the Tring museum was full of rare bird specimens whose gorgeous feathers were worth staggering amounts of money to the men who shared Edwin's obsession: the Victorian art of salmon fly-tying. Once inside the museum, the champion fly-tier grabbed hundreds of bird skins—some collected 150 years earlier by a contemporary of Darwin's, Alfred Russel Wallace, who'd risked everything to gather them—and escaped into the darkness.

Two years later, Kirk Wallace Johnson was waist high in a river in northern New Mexico when his fly-fishing guide told him about the heist. He was soon consumed by the strange case of the feather thief. What would possess a person to steal dead birds? Had Edwin paid the price for his crime? What became of the missing skins? In his search for answers, Johnson was catapulted into a years-long, worldwide investigation. The gripping story of a bizarre and shocking crime, and one man's relentless pursuit of justice, *The Feather Thief* is also a fascinating exploration of obsession, and man's destructive instinct to harvest the beauty of nature.



BOOK CLUB

DATE: December 11

TIME: 9:45 AM

LOCATION: Ruth Schechter

OUT TO DINNER GROUP

DATE Sunday, December 15th

TIME: 5 PM

LOCATION: River Rocks

6485 S US 1, Rockledge

RSVP no later than Dec 12

Andrea @ 321-868-0627 or email shanninaj@gmail.com

INTEREST GROUPS



BRIDGE GROUP

Coordinator: Margaret Marcotte

Contact: (321) 848-2181



BOOK GROUP

Coordinator: Janet Peller

Contact: jpelle004@yahoo.com



VICARIOUS TRAVELERS

Coordinator: Kathy Ebersberger

Contact: kathyebbersberger@yahoo.com



OUT TO DINNER GROUP

Coordinator: Andrea Shannin

Contact: shanninaj@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBERS

2019-2020

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Since our founding in 1881, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political.

Mission

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Vision

Equity for all.

Values

Nonpartisan.
Fact-based.
Integrity.
Inclusion and Intersectionality.

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| President | Natalie C. Twine |
| President– Elect | |
| Vice President-Programs | Andrea Shannin |
| Vice President-Membership | Joann Jacobs |
| Vice President-Finance | Margaret Marcotte |
| Vice President-Communications | Natalie C. Twine |
| Recording Secretary | Patricia McDonough |
| Corresponding Secretary | Patricia McDonough |
| Immediate Past President | Kyle Lieneck |
| Directors By-Laws & Policies | Kyle Lieneck |
| Public Policy | Inge Flynn |
| AAUW Fellowships, Grants, & Research | Diane Baccus Horsley |
| Research & Projects | Diane Baccus Horsley |

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

2019-2020

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Membership | Joann Jacobs |
| Membership Roster | Natalie C Twine |
| Greens Sale | Joann Jacobs, Joy Cook |
| Hospitality | Terry Smith |
| Name Tags | Joy Cook |
| Reservations & Phones Chair | Janet Pellar |
| Science Fair | Kyle Lieneck |
| Web Master and Intercom | Natalie C. Twine |
| Publicity | VACANT |

American Association of University
Women
Melbourne Branch
PO Box 33264
Indialantic, FL 32903

National Web Address: aauw-fl.aauw.net
Local Web Address: melbourne-fl.aauw.net

