

VENICE VIEWS

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, VENICE, FLORIDA BRANCH

P.O. Box 515, Venice, FL 34284

PRESIDENT: KATHLEEN PICKERING

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AAUW ADVANCES EQUITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS THROUGH ADVOCACY, EDUCATION, PHILANTHROPY, AND RESEARCH

MONTHLY MEETING

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, 790 S. Tamiami Trail, Venice, FL 34285

Thursday, October 12 at 12:30 (11:45 for refreshments)

Pamela Clifford, program, Lynn Crandall, hospitality

Hostesses: Barbara Zittel (chair) Nancy Donelson, Linda Friedman, Kay Northrup, Suzanne Biviano
Janet Schotz, Sue Luterbach, Sue Shea, Evelyn Kent, Carolyn Bondreau.

PROGRAM: SPARCC: Its Mission and Services

TECH TREK CAMPERS EXPRESS THEIR APPRECIATION

Marge Ostrom shared thank you notes from our local campers. All were addressed to the Venice Branch.

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to attend Tech Trek 2017. I'm so grateful for the amazing experience that I got and the wonderful people that I met.

The best part about this camp was all of the wonderful women and girls that I met. My roommates Julia, Meg, and Indhira made the experience that much better. This camp reinforced my plan to go into engineering when I go to college.

Many thanks, Audrey Ayette

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to attend Tech Trek 2017. I had such an amazing week meeting new friends who share my passion for STEM. The best part of the week was engineering class when we learned how to make a stable bridge using supports. I now have a better idea of what my career will be like. I can't wait to use what I have learned.

Sincerely, Carmen Cirar

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to attend Tech Trek 2017. I had an amazing time. I met a lot of new people that have the same interest as me. I had robotics as my core class and it was amazing and I hope I can use it in my future. Thank you again for this amazing opportunity.

Thank you, Gianna Falbo

Thank you so much for helping send me to Tech Trek 2017. It was a great experience. I had a great time at the app inventor class. I got to code and download apps I made. It was so cool. I'm so grateful that you helped send me to Tech Trek and giving me an opportunity to make friends.

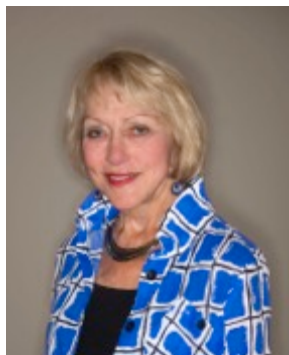
From, Ashley Ayette



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kathleen Pickering

In the past weeks, most of us have done nothing but get prepared for Hurricane Irma. She was nasty, but most of our area escaped heavy damage to property and no lives were lost. We were fortunate and only lost 24 hours of power. I know many people are still without electricity. Let us hope that the rest of the hurricane season spares us.



And in AAUW we are just ramping up for a busy year filled with interesting programs, participating in SIGS, forming new ones and just getting engaged in our important work. At our meeting in October, I will be asking you to help us flush out our Strategic plan. There will be copies for you at the meeting.

Another issue that will be discussed at our October meeting will be the proposal about putting funds in the Gulf Coast Community Foundation.

We started the discussion in September, but it became obvious that you needed more information about the proposal. A motion was made and seconded to put funds in the Foundation. An amendment to this motion was made and passed that the vote on such an important motion should be one vote for every member, which is set up electronically with AAUW national. In this Venice Views is the information that was provided by Marge. At the October meeting, there will more discussion. Please call Marge Ostrom, Bea Holt or myself if you have questions.

In October, we also meet our Tech Trek campers. Volunteer sheets will again be available at the October meeting. Thank you to Mary AL Gagnon for bringing back 50/50 and to Claire Sears for assisting her.

See you October 12.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

At the September Board Meeting the Venice Branch Board approved the Scholarship Fund Ad Hoc Committee Report.

The Committee recommends establishing a Scholarship Fund at Gulf Coast Community Foundation, Venice, FL.

GCCF requires a minimum of \$25,000 to create an Endowment Fund enabling granting of scholarships in perpetuity from the fund. Distribution rate 4% annually.

ADVANTAGES: GCCF provides the following support to the branch:

- Continue to use board-approved criteria to grant non-traditional scholarships
- Branch continues to review, interview and select recipients
- Branch continues to hold Honors Luncheon to award scholarships

ADMINISTRATIVE ADVANTAGES of GCCF:

- Provides secure up-to-date on-line application
- Provides access to large pool of applicants
- Has dedicated administrative staff
- Assures compliance with non-profit IRS rules granting scholarships
- Coordinates transfer of funds and verifies student enrollment.

(continued on next page)

ADDING ADDITIONAL FUNDS

Endowment Fund: branch can add funds to initial \$25,000

Option for Pass-through Scholarship Gift Fund

From Home Tour, other fundraisers and donations

Grant up to \$20,000 in pass through scholarships annually

COST TO VENICE BRANCH

Endowed Scholarship Fund

Minimum \$25,000 to establish fund

Quarterly fee of 1.50% on fund balance = \$375 yearly initially

Pass-through Scholarship Gift Fund

Flat annual fee = \$250

Fees charged from endowed fund

Fees charged regardless of fund activity

Ad Hoc Committee: Bea Holt, Marge Ostrom, Kathleen Pickering with input from 2016/17 Treasurer Carol Cudia and the 2016/17 Scholarship Committee (Susan Luterbach and Sue Owen, co-chairs)

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Paula Dulski, Membership Director

Welcome back to a new year of interesting AAUW programs and group events. We currently have 230 fully paid members and expect to sign up many more. Contact me if you are willing to give me a hand. I need help greeting the new members, passing out directories, collecting money for the magnetic name tags, and doing some excel spreadsheet work on the database.

I doubt that you can lose the hot pink directory. Contact me if you need to make a change to the information.

I send out 'blasts' from our Membership gmail account VeniceAAUW@gmail.com. Apparently some names get randomly dropped preventing those members from getting the Venice Views and announcements. The Venice Views is emailed near the end of the month so you can make plans for the next month. If you do not get a copy monthly please let me know.

The account for Venice Views is AAUWVeniceViews@gmail.com. Please put that in your directory and use it to send articles directly to Venice Views.

I will bring the National roster to our meetings so you can check your information to see if it needs to be updated. I can help you make changes if you bring your password.

I will organize a book exchange at the November 9 meeting. There is no charge. Just bring a book or books that you enjoyed and take home a book or books that you would like to read. I need a volunteer to help with this.

Member Spotlight: Meet Marge Ostrom

Judith Houston

You could easily say about her that she's done it all – marriage and family, a career in science and until recently, president of the Venice AAUW branch.

Her parents emigrated from Sweden in the first quarter of the twentieth century. She says, "For them, their opportunity was coming to America. I've always liked math and science. Education has always been my opportunity."

After growing up in New Jersey, she got her bachelor's degree in chemistry from Rutgers University, then joined Lederle Labs, a pharmaceutical company, where she synthesized organic compounds for research.



Marriage to her high school sweetheart and his job offer from General Electric meant a move to Schenectady, New York. The four children who followed "put a damper on career plans" and converted her into a stay-at-home mom. GE was bringing in a large number of scientific and technical employees and many of the men had wives with similar backgrounds. She found them when she joined the AAUW chapter there. "It was a younger crowd," she says. "The branch even had daycare so the women could meet without their children."

In 1972, another career move for her husband took the Ostroms to Connecticut. While family remained her focus, she also went back to school and was awarded a master's degree in biology from the University of Hartford in 1978. While she was pursuing her master's, the University opened a health center in 1974. Her new degree and academic contacts she made helped her land a position there initially doing research in pediatric dentistry. She stayed there for seven years and was part of a study team funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). This brought her in contact with professors of nutrition and their suggestion she look into a fellowship program offered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that would allow her to pursue a doctorate in nutritional sciences.

So it was back to school. This time, she was commuting to the university while two of her children, also enrolled there, were living on campus. In 1989, with a Ph.D. in hand, both she and her husband were looking for new jobs. The search took them to Columbus, Ohio, and for her a new opportunity with the Ross Product Division of Abbot Labs, in charge of nutrition research focusing on improvements for soy formula isomil (for babies intolerant of milk). For her, it was a "dream job," that involved a great deal traveling and research.

When it was time to retire, she and her husband began as Florida snowbirds, spending a half-year in Port Charlotte and the rest of the year in Connecticut. Their children had relocated to a number of different states so they made the decision to become full-time Florida residents. Luckily for us, that meant Venice. That was in 2009 and she connected with this branch after taking that year's home tour.

Her skills and dedication were quickly recognized and she served as the Venice branch secretary for four years from 2011 to 2015. At the same time, she took on assistant director duties for Tech Trek, the science camp for middle school girls, when it was based at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg. She enthuses about getting girls interested in careers in science and technology, and says, "At Tech Trek, girls learn that if they want to pursue studies and a career in a STEM field, they can. There is nothing to stop them from succeeding."

She has just "retired" again; in July, she finished a two-year term as president. She says her enthusiasm for the Venice branch is sparked by our dedication to advancing equity for women.

Given her past achievements, keep watching what's next for this talented woman.

SIG NEWS

Several members have suggested creating new Interest Groups in the following areas:

- Hand and Foot – This is an easy to learn card game – a version of Canasta.
- Sew Fun - This group would get together for crafts (knitting, crafting, sewing, etc.) and conversation.
- Financial Fitness for Women – This group would discuss and learn more about investing and other financial topics of interest and importance to women.
- Theatre - Enjoy a play at one of the area's many fine theatres with your fellow AAUW members once a month.

We need to find out who might be interested to determine the level of potential participation. If you are interested in participating in one of these groups, or have another interest you'd like to suggest, please contact the SIG Chair, Fran Potter at veniceaauwsigns@gmail.com. You can also sign up on the Indication of Interest sheets for these groups at the SIG Table at the October meeting.

Also, two existing interest groups are in need of leaders: the Movie Group and the Exploring the Arts Group. If interested in leading these groups, contact Fran Potter.

BOOK CLUB--All are welcome to join AAUW's Book Club members on Monday, October 9, at 1:30p.m. when Dottie Bingman leads the ladies in a discussion of *Claude & Camille: A Novel Of Monet* by Stephanie Cowell. Our meeting place is the Jacaranda Public Library. Bring your favorite summer read and share a short synopsis of why you think readers might be personally interested in it and whether it would be a good suggestion for next year's reading list.

If you can't join us on the 9th you may want to consider tuning in to AAUW Adelante! Book of the Month Club on October 26. This month's book is *A Disability History of the United States* by Kim E Nelson in celebration of National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Additional info is available on the web. A shout out to our members for being ahead of the curve this year in selecting books celebrating women authors.

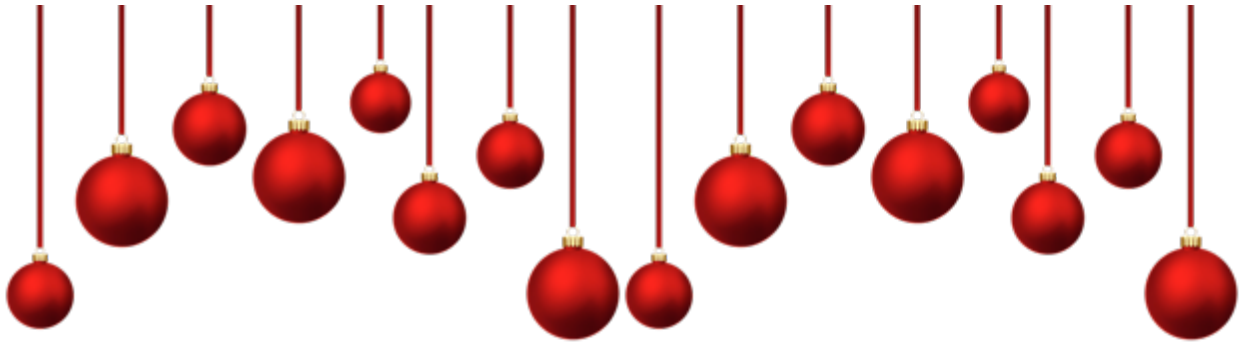
A quick reminder to all local members - please consider donating new or gently used children's book to be distributed as Christmas gifts to children who don't have access to books in their homes - we'll pick the organization(s) at a future meeting.

Equity Day Lunch

Each year the AAUW branches from Sarasota, Manatee, Bradenton, and Venice along with The League of Women Voters from Sarasota and Manatee organize an Equity Lunch to celebrate the passing of the 19th amendment to the constitution, giving women the right to vote. There were over 300 attendees from many different organizations and many different exhibitors. Paula Dulski assisted the other AAUW branches with our table. Thank you, Paula. There were 12 members of the Venice Branch in attendance. Carol Newnam and Kathleen Pickering served on the committee.



AAUW Display Table



2017 HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

CO-CHAIRS: Karen Cianci and Lynn Fox

VENUE: Venice Yacht Club

DATE: Thursday, December 14th

TIME: 11:30am – time for socializing

LUNCH SERVED: 12:15pm

COST: \$35.00

Please join all your AAUW friends for a festive holiday lunch.

Menu choices include:

CHICKEN CREPES: crepes with chicken and leek filling, topped with chevre, mango, and toasted almonds, served with rice pilaf; or

PISTACIO CRUSTED SALMON: salmon with orange Valencia reduction, served with rice pilaf and chef selected vegetable; or

SEASONAL VEGETABLE RISOTTO: Arborio rice slow cooked with seasonal vegetables and veggie stock, finished with parmesan cheese and butter

All served with a small house salad with clementine dressing, rolls and butter, key lime pie, and coffee, tea, or iced tea.

Tickets available to purchase mixed drinks, beer and wine.

The festivities will begin with a holiday themed trivia game, so bring your thinking caps. For those who aren't aware, the Board has decided to discontinue the basket silent auction. There will be a 50/50 raffle for those interested.

We were lucky to secure Chris and Karen Romig for our entertainment. They are a flute and piano duo and their program will be an eclectic blend of classical, jazz, and holiday music.

Luncheon tickets will be available at the October and November meetings. You may also mail your check made out to AAUW Venice Branch to Karen Cianci. Please indicate your menu choice.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, SEPTEMBER 13, 2017

Suzanne Biviano, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Kathleen Pickering at 12:28. Following the speaker, Alison Nash of the State College of Florida Foundation, Kathleen began the business portion of the meeting. A new addition to the regular meetings will be a Focus on the Mission. Title IX and its importance and success in promoting women was the presentation for this meeting.

The minutes of the annual meeting in May were approved as published in the Venice Views.

Carol Cudia presented the Treasurer's Report and Budget. A motion to approve the budget was made by Fran Brinkman and seconded by Judy Evenson. There was no discussion, and the motion was passed by voice vote.

The president's announcements included:

- The Giving Challenge will take place in May. When the exact date is announced, notice will be sent to our members to participate.
- Funding from Education Foundation of Sarasota for Academic Olympics has been discontinued, so the branch will also discontinue the program locally.
- A brief report on the National Convention and the Equity Luncheon.
- Members who have not filled out volunteer forms were urged to do so, and turn them in to Kathleen. Volunteers are needed in these areas: LAF dinners, Spring Luncheon and additional help to further the Strategic Planning.

New Business:

Marge Ostrom presented the findings of the Ad Hoc Committee on Scholarship Fund. It was approved by the board to establish a Scholarship Fund at Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice. A motion to accept the recommendation of the board was made by Sue Owen and seconded by Susan Luterbach. Discussion followed.

An amendment to the motion was made to postpone the vote until the branch institutes a one member, one vote process. All members of the branch would get information on the proposal and be able to vote. AAUW National will help set up the process. The motion was seconded by Kitty Rodriguez. The amendment vote passed. All further discussion was discontinued until the process in the amendment is carried out.

Old Business: Information from various chairs.

- Karen Cianci announced the Holiday Luncheon will be held on December 14th at the Venice Yacht Club. Raffle baskets have been discontinued and the annual event will be just a celebration.
- Bev Welzien reported on the Home Tour. It will be held on February 9th and is titled Homes and Treasures. A celebration party will follow at the Art Center. The price for tickets sold on the day of the Tour for both the Home Tour and the Celebration Party will be higher compared to pre-sales.
- Suzanne Biviano presented SIGS news. Four new SIGS have been proposed and interest sheets were available to gauge interest. Lunch Bunch will meet on 9/20 for Happy Hour at the Table Creekside in Sarasota at 4:00 PM. Chairs for Movie Group and Exploring the Arts are needed if those groups are to continue. Mahjonn will continue to meet on the 1st and 3rd Fridays in homes.

The Meeting was adjourned at 2:07.

VENICE BRANCH ACTIVITIES CALENDAR FOR **OCTOBER**

Day	Date	Time	Event	Contact	Location and Notes
T	3	9:30	Board Meeting	Kathleen Pickering	Emmanuel Lutheran Church room 103
W	4	10:00	Bridge Discussion	Barbara Stevens	Meet at Barbara Stevens' home.
Th	5	11:30	Duplicate Bridge	Karen Mullen	Mission Valley Country Club. Players should have experience with modern conventions, duplicate strategy and bidding boxes.
F	6	1-3	Mahjongg for Fun	Mitzie Fiedler	This game is geared for beginning players.
F	6	12:00	Euchre	Mary Al Gagnon	Euchre and lunch at Pelican Pointe
M	9	1:30	Book Club	Barbara Martinage	<i>A Novel of Monet: Claude and Camille</i> by Stephanie Cowell plus favorite summer reads. Meet at the Jacaranda Library.
Th	12	12:30	General Meeting	Hospitality: Lynn Crandall Program: Pamela Clifford	Refreshments served at 11:45 EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
F	13	10:30	French Conversation	Jane Metcalf	Meet at Jacaranda West Country Club.
F	13	11:30	Bridge for Fun	Anne Russell Georgie Ann Fedako	Bridge and lunch. You must sign up in advance.
S	15	Deadline for October Venice Views			Send articles and/or photos by email to the editors at aaುವveniceviews@gmail.com
M	16		Exploring with Your Camera	Nancy Vass Gorno	Photograph at Michael's Bromeliads, a nursery in Venice. For information contact Nancy Gorno.
T	17	2:00	Kaleidoscope	Susan Farstrup	Meet at Susan's home. Contact Susan for gate info. TOPIC: <i>How might we raise our children, both girls and boys, in a way that fosters gender equality?</i>
W	18	11:30	Lunch Bunch Etc.	Paula Choyke	Gulf View Grill on Beach Road on Englewood Beach
W	18	12:00	Cooks Corner	Janet Schotz	Meet at Janet's home. Theme: Harvest
W	18	6:00	Evening Out	Melanie Odom	Dinner at Valenti's 1200 E. Venice Ave.. Call or e-mail Melanie Odom by Sunday October 15.
Th	19	11:30	Duplicate Bridge	Karen Mullen	Mission Valley Country Club. Players should have experience with modern conventions, duplicate strategy and bidding boxes.
F	20	1-3	Mahjongg for Fun	Mitzie Fiedler	This game is geared for experienced players.
F	20	12:00	Euchre	Mary Al Gagnon	Euchre and lunch at Pelican Pointe
W	23		Interclub Bridge	Barbara Stevens	Players must be registered with Barbara Stevens.
Th	26	10:00	Play Readers	Fran Brinkman	Call Fran if you would like to come.
F	27	10:30	French Conversation	Jane Metcalf	Meet at Jacaranda West Country Club.
F	27	11:30	Bridge for Fun	Anne Russell Georgie Ann Fedako	Bridge and lunch. You must sign up in advance.



Venice Views Editor for October:
Susan Farstrup

Paula Dulski: e-copies circulation

Anne Russell: Printed copy circulation



- 2 Judy Bosch
- 4 Patricia Ritner
- 5 Janice Hollister
- 7 Paula Dulski
- 9 Penny Nuttleman
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- 20 Helen Boruff
- 20 Leie Carmody
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**AAUW, VENICE BRANCH, P.O. Box 515
VENICE FL 34284**

€ **Fellowship Fund:** checks payable to AAUW. Write Venice (FL) American Fellowship #4390 on the memo line.

€ **Tech Trek:** checks payable to AAUW. Write Florida Tech Trek on the memo line.

€ **Legal Advocacy Fund:** checks payable to AAUW-LAF.

€ **Re-entry Scholarship Fund:** checks payable to AAUW, Venice Branch. Write Re-entry Scholarship Fund on the memo line.

For more information about these Funds, go to <http://venice-fl.aauw.net/donate>

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