

VENICE VIEWS

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, VENICE, FLORIDA BRANCH

P.O. BOX 515, VENICE, FL 34284

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NATIONAL: aauw.org

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, 790 S. TAMIAMI TRAIL, VENICE, FL 34285

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8 AT 12:15 (11:30 - REFRESHMENTS)

PROGRAM: *SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND THE ASSAULT ON WOMEN IN THE MILITARY*

Come hear the presentation by Nancy Parrish, a nationally known figure from Protect Our Defenders, on this important topic.

2018 HOME TOUR UPDATE

Jan Harris and Bev Weltzien, Co-chairs

The January 11 branch meeting was abuzz with member interest and enthusiasm for the 2018 Home Tour. The Tour Sneak Peek featured a chat with the 401 Bayshore Dr. homeowners, Susan and Bruce Kelling, who gave members behind the scenes insights into all that makes their home unique and reflective of their personalities. And this was a preview of just *one* of the wonderful homes on this year's Tour – all of this year's owners have the same level of passion for their homes and treasured collections.

Here's an update on select activities leading up to February 9:

•**Posters** are going up all over Venice – if you have a store or shop with whom you do business that you think would post one, please contact Bev or Jan to get a poster. (continued on pg. 2)



Standing, June Lee Reninger;
Seated L to R: Georgie Ann Fedako and Anita Kunkle



L to R: Home Tour Co-Chair Jan Harris, Susan Kelling,
Bruce Kelling, Home Tour Co-Chair Bev Weltzien

*** * SAVE THESE DATES * ***

February 21 — Art in the Afternoon—Storytelling, Paintings and Song, [Pg. 3](#)

March 15 and April 5 — LAF Fundraiser Dinners, [Pg. 3](#)

Saturday, April 21 — Honors Luncheon, [Pg. 7](#)

Note: Important Message — [Pg. 9](#)

2018 HOME TOUR UPDATE (cont'd)

•**Tickets** are now available at the Art Center and the other commercial locations. Experience has shown that members are the most prolific sellers of tickets and if you need tickets (or more tickets), please contact Anita Kunkle.

•**Facebook** posts are a great way to share information about the Home Tour so be sure to like and share the AAUW Venice page with Home Tour information.

•**Other promotional activities** include a mayoral proclamation of February 9 as "AAUW Home Tour Day" at the January 23 Council meeting; listing it on many local calendars and articles in the Venice Gondolier Sun. Venice Main Street will be promoting it with the poster at the Centennial Park kiosk, distribution of Home Tour flyers by the Downtowners and the Home Tour date on the electric arch sign. We are also working with the Venice Art Center to promote it to their members and with our artisan partners.

Please remember to bring your envelopes with money from the tickets you sold to the February 8 meeting. If you have money to turn in and are not coming to the meeting, please contact Anita Kunkle.

A note about the tax deductibility of the ticket cost. Many have asked about this and we have received guidance on this from knowledgeable experts at AAUW National. In their words: "The cost of the ticket should not be considered tax deductible as goods or services was rendered for that ticket's cost. The IRS mandates that no goods or services can be received for a donation to be considered tax-deductible. Anything paid above the cost of the ticket, however, could be considered a tax deductible donation."

AND IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE HOME TOUR. . .

KICK BACK, CELEBRATE!

Make sure you buy your ticket for the Celebration Party which is being held on February 9, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., post-Home Tour. It is a great chance to bring your husband and friends to celebrate the success and hard work of this year's Home Tour.

The wine and cheese party will be held at the Venice Art Center in the lovely gallery room with its adjoining patio. The party will be similar in format as last year's with happy and lively music provided by the Women of Steel and a complimentary wine bar.

Tickets are \$12. There is a limit on how many people may attend. If all the tickets are not sold, they will be available at the door that evening.





ART IN THE AFTERNOON

A PERFORMANCE OF STORYTELLING, PAINTINGS AND SONG AN AAUW EVENT

Come to IslandWalk at the West Villages Wednesday, **February 21** at 1:00 p.m. for an entertaining immersion into the arts. Sit back and listen to storytellers interpreting paintings, musicians playing songs about the paintings, and the artists explaining their work.

This event is FREE and open to AAUW members and their friends. At the front gate, state that you are attending the AAUW Art in the Afternoon at the Event Center. Follow the entry road straight to the dead end tee, turn right and the event center will be on your left with parking lots in front.

AAUW members Barbara Martinage, Judy Houston and Dottye Yakovakis will be among the storytellers or artists featured. Can you tell a story about this cat? It's always fun to see if the storytellers see the painting as you do.

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND (LAF) FUNDRAISER DINNERS

Every year, because of the generosity of its members, AAUW raises money for the LAF. These hostesses give their time and energy to make these social functions possible. The following two affairs this spring are part of this fundraising effort.

All the food, preparations, etc. are donated by the hostesses. There is no budget and the *entire* \$35 *donation* goes strictly to the LAF.

WHAT: AN ITALIAN DINNER (BYOB)

WHEN: Thursday, **March 15**, 2018 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

HOSTESSES: Linda Friedman, Cheryl Tortora, Connie Smith

LOCATION: 13181 Ipolita Street in Island Walk, Venice

RESERVATIONS AND DIRECTIONS: Call Linda at [401-714-1585](tel:401-714-1585)

\$35.00 donation to LAF



WHAT: WINE AND CHEESE TASTING

WHEN: Thursday, **April 5**, 2018 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

(Date subject to change)

HOSTESSES: Donna McQuain and Kathy Black

LOCATION: Heron Creek Golf and Country Club, North Port

RESERVATIONS AND DIRECTIONS: Call Donna at [941-876-3977](tel:941-876-3977) or Kathy at [518-744-3379](tel:518-744-3379)

\$35.00 donation to LAF



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

KATHLEEN PICKERING



What a year it is going to be! We are off to a great start. It was such fun to have the homeowners of one of the homes at our January meeting. Hearing all about their house makes me want to go there tomorrow and see what else is on the tour. I know Jan and Bev will work with all of us to make the goal of \$30,000. Kudos!

On January 12 I had the opportunity to join Shirley Reid and Sue Shea to meet the National AAUW President Julia Brown. She shared with us that the AAUW is looking closely at their finances and making some changes that will make the organization more efficient and financially secure. She is very excited about their strategic plan and looking for input from the branches.

At our meeting in January, State President Shirley Reid shared with us about the upcoming State Convention on April 22-24 at the Hyatt in Sarasota. She told us our keynote speaker will be Kimberly Church, AAUW national CEO. I urge you to think about attending and hearing her. She is truly dynamic and will share her thoughts with us for the future of AAUW.

On January 17 your Board met to begin working on our strategic plan. In the months ahead, we will be asking you to help us create our new vision for the future. As Eleanor Roosevelt said, "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

See you at our February 8 general meeting and the following day at the Home Tour and post-Celebration on February 9.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

PAULA DULSKI, MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR



We have 251 energetic and clever members who are psyched up for our Home Tour Fundraiser.

Please welcome five members who joined in January:
Kindra Muntz, Claudia Hanley, LuAnn Cusic, Joan Mills and Suzi Barbee.

We are investigating why our members who have a Comcast email provider are not getting messages from the veniceaauw@gmail.com address. We will definitely try to correct the issue. Let us know if you have a non-Comcast email that we can use to send the Venice Views and notices in case we cannot correct it in a timely manner.

When you have a request for photos, directory changes or anything at all, please put it in writing. I get more requests than my limited memory can handle.

I can answer some basic computer questions to make you feel more comfortable working with emails and other common programs. I will come to your home to work one-on-one. Send me an email if you are interested.

I will continue the Pontoon boat cruises monthly. They are a great relaxing way for members to connect. I will keep you posted when I reserve a boat. The cruise lasts about one hour and then we dine for an hour.

We will continue the free book exchange at the meetings. Bestow a book, -take a book.

Directories are available at every meeting. Updates will be posted to the web in the members only section. The newsletters are also posted on the web at venice-fl.aauw.net



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

MEET BEA HOLT



This former insurance executive has made her mark on the Venice branch of AAUW and a number of other organizations she has joined since retiring in 2010.

A graduate of St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia, Bea earned a degree in health care administration there.

Connecticut was home. It is where she grew up and lived for many years, eventually becoming vice president of a medical malpractice insurance company based in Glastonbury, near Hartford. In 1995, she married Richard Mullin, a steel company executive and was widowed in 2005.

Venice became a destination when her sister, Carol Sbabo and husband bought a home here back in the '90s. She followed suit in 2004, purchasing a condominium on the Island. She likes Venice because it is "a smaller town near the water and an easy place to walk around. Venice has great resources for the arts as well."

Retirement for her meant time to pursue her wide-ranging interests. With AAUW, she jumped in as co-chair of the Home Tour in 2011 with Shirley Reid. She continued in that role with Kathy Black from 2012 to 2015.

She sees our branch as evolving, "from a women's group to a true member of the non-profit community, worthy of receiving grants." To that end, she initiated and maintains a Giving Partner Profile for the branch, which is an on-line repository of data that qualifies a non-profit as eligible to receive grants. That information is available at the Community Foundation of Sarasota County and the Gulf Coast Community Foundation where it can be viewed by potential donors. She says, "Our profiles with these organizations are kind of like Good Housekeeping seals of approval for our branch."

Two years ago, she took on a role as development chair for Venice branch, recognizing "how difficult it was becoming to manage the scholarship funds we were raising." She worked directly with the branch scholarship committee. The endowment of a Venice AAUW Scholarship Fund with Gulf Coast as a partner is the outcome of her efforts. The additional funds raised by our Home Tour will be supervised by branch members and also flow through the Foundation. "This maximizes our ability to attract recipients and offers a complete service to deserving women."

Her ongoing AAUW involvement includes Outdoor Adventures, a special interest group (SIG) she chairs which has sponsored "everything from zip-lining, horseback riding and kayaking" to expeditions to museums and other less physically challenging activities.

She is also a board member for two other organizations, the Venice Area Historical Society (VAHS) and the Venice Board of Performing Arts, which manages the Venice Performing Arts Center (VPAC).

Travel is another facet of her busy life. In addition to far-flung exotic destinations where she has already been — including Uzbekistan, Tibet, India and Nepal — she has an upcoming trip to Dubai. Closer to her home base, she explains she has six stepchildren who live in six different states and a brother in New Orleans. You never quite know where she'll turn up next!

NEW MEMBERS

SANDRA R. MILLER



My passion is supporting women in their growth in literacy and careers through Scholarship support. AAUW is a leader in bringing issues to the forefront and easing the way for me to actively advocate for a variety of issues to help women.

My interest in the STEM initiative comes from teaching at the high school and adult levels as part of my early career —a result of my undergraduate degree in Family Resources and Consumer Sciences from the University of Wisconsin Madison. My graduate degree of MS in Business Marketing research was a basis for 15 years in analytical Marketing Research work.

Travel takes my husband Marc and me to visit our two daughters in Boston and Dallas and other adventures. My current volunteer work involves activities with Selby Botanical Gardens, Zonta and Literacy.

AAUW will bring new connections and partners in helping women.

JOAN E. MILLS



It is a real honor to be a member of the Venice Branch of AAUW and I look forward to getting to know as many of you as possible.

I am a snowbird from the wonderful state of Iowa where I returned after spending 30 adventurous years with my now deceased husband as he served as a JAG in the US Air Force.

During those years I was privileged to serve as President of the Officers' Wives' Club at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, the largest Officers' Wives' Club in the world. We had fun hosting a visit by author Tom Clancy.

At other times I taught classes for the Washington Business School in Washington, DC, and also presented motivational seminars to various corporations.

I am originally from Newton, Iowa, the home of the Maytag family and the location of the Maytag washing machine company. In 1960 I graduated from the University of Iowa with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree and teaching credentials. While at the University I was a member of the Scottish Highlanders, an authentic Scottish Bagpipe Band, where I was a dancer and performed the Highland Fling on national television at the Iowa-Michigan State college football game during half-time.

I have three claims to fame: (1) I rode a bicycle throughout Europe after the age of 66, (2) I learned to ride a motorcycle after the age of 62 and am a former owner of a Harley-Davidson, and (3) I am most proud of my third claim to fame: My two lovely children, daughter Terry, and son Matthew, who have presented me with a total of four beautiful grandchildren. My blessings overflow!

2018 AAUW

HONORS LUNCHEON

Saturday, April 21 - 11:00 a.m.

Venetian River Club

502 Veneto Blvd., North Venice/Nokomis



"BLOOM WHERE YOU ARE PLANTED"

MENU

House Salad and Choice of:

Hoisin Glazed Grilled Salmon & Jasmine Rice and

Seasonal Vegetables; or

Chicken Milanese & Fingerling Potatoes and

Seasonal Vegetables; or

Vegetable Napoleon

Flourless Chocolate Torte, Coffee or Tea

\$30

Sign up for the luncheon at our General Meetings; or
Mail your check with choice of entrée noted to either:

Wendy Orlando

4956 Wild Daisy Lane

Venice, FL 34293; or

Maggie Surwilo

560 Lake of the Woods Dr

Venice, FL 34293

SPECIAL INTEREST Group Update

BOOK CLUB



Welcome all you returning snow birds to the AAUW SIG BOOK CLUB. Join us Monday, Feb 12 at 1:30 at the Jacaranda Public Library as we discuss *Book of Ages: The Life and Opinions of Jane Franklin* by Jill Lepore. Call 497-4752 for additional information. Check the SIG folder for upcoming reads and for a listing of the books the group has previously read. You would be interested to know that this is one of the oldest SIG groups - seems we are "readers all" and that we have always enjoyed extending our reading pleasure through interesting and lively discussion with other AAUW members. This month's selection will be a good excuse to slip away to the beach to think about what it means to be a not so invisible woman and to make a difference.

SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND LAUNCHED BY AAUW VENICE

An endowment fund of \$25,000 to provide scholarships for Sarasota County area women has been established with the Gulf Coast Community Foundation by our Venice branch.

This money was raised through recent Home Tours which the chapter holds annually on the second Friday in February. "In the past, we have searched for and screened applicants with our own scholarship committee," according to chapter president Kathleen Pickering. "The broad-based resources of the Gulf Coast Community Foundation will enable us to reach a larger number of women needing educational support. We are also hopeful that the investing expertise of the Foundation will grow this fund and enable us to assist even more women."

In addition to the endowment, AAUW Venice will channel additional funds from the 2018 Home Tour, scheduled for February 9, for immediate distribution as scholarships. In 2017, 10 scholarships of \$2,000 each were awarded from Home Tour receipts.



The endowment check for the AAUW Scholarship Fund with Gulf Coast Community Foundation was presented, left to right: to Mark Pritchett, Foundation President and CEO and Kirsten Fulkerson, Philanthropic Advisor, by Kathleen Pickering, Branch President and Bea Holt, 2017 Development Committee Chair.

AAUW VENICE BRANCH
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 11, 2018



Kindra Muntz presented a program on the Sarasota Alliance for Fair Elections.

Jan Harris and Bev Weltzien, Home Tour chairs, presented information about the 2018 Home Tour, to be held on February 9th.

At 1:00, President Kathleen Pickering called the meeting to order.

The minutes were approved as printed in the Venice Views.

Fran Potter gave the treasurer's report. The current balance is \$9,765.80. This is the balance after the \$25,000 endowment was presented to Gulf Coast Community Foundation.

For the rest of the year, the profit from the 50-50 drawing will go to Tech Trek.

Fran Brinkman explained the fund-raiser, Patriotic Bridge, to be held January 30.

The Hospitality Committee was recognized.

Kathleen reported plan for a new effort to coordinate better with the Sarasota AAUW branch.

Karen Cianci and Lynn Fox were recognized for the success of the Holiday Luncheon.

The Honors Luncheon will be held at Venetian Golf and River Club on April 21.

Shirley Reid spoke on some policies and activities of the State AAUW.

Chris Cairns announced some Legal Advocacy Fund dinners.

Paula Dulski gave the membership report. 120 women were present for this meeting.

Kathy Black spoke about Public Policy issues of interest to AAUW.

Paula Choyke reported on Special Interest Groups.

The 50-50 drawing split \$156 between the winner and Tech Trek.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Suzanne Biviano, Secretary

IMPORTANT MESSAGE RE VENICE VIEWS SUBMISSIONS

ALL Venice View submissions need to be sent to the *designated* and *dedicated* email address of [**aauwveniceviews@gmail.com**](mailto:aauwveniceviews@gmail.com). This is the email address that has been set up in order that no article is overlooked.

WHEN articles are sent to the above address, all three editors receive what is submitted and the editor for that month will review and include your information.

[Note: Please do **not** send articles/info to an individual *personal* email address of any of the editorial team nor to the Veniceaauw@gmail.com email address. Emails sent to Veniceaauw@gmail.com go only to Paula Dulski and are **not** seen by the VV editorial team.]





FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1	<i>Ginny Hurney</i>	13	Erna Cunningham	21	Ilda Deming
2	<i>Carol Johnson</i>	13	Beth Gamel	21	Jeri Jaminet
8	<i>Mary Lou Thetford</i>	13	Karen Mullen	22	Adele Cohill
10	<i>MaryAl Gagnon</i>	14	Mary Ann Dillahunty	23	Lidia Madrazo
10	<i>Joani Leeds</i>	16	Jan Middendorf	24	Gayle Grant
12	<i>Katie Morey</i>	19	Charlotte Skaggs	27	Paula Choyke

SUNSHINE

HEALING WISHES TO:

Trena Kelly — back surgery

Lois Odom — a recent fall

OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF:

Nancy Bennet on the passing of her husband

Roberta Cardamone on the passing of her son

Ilda Deming on the passing of her daughter

[Please notify Nancy Bradtmiller if you are aware of someone who needs get-well wishes, if there is a serious illness or passing of an AAAUW member or family member so that we can acknowledge this on behalf of the Branch.]

AAUW VENICE BRANCH ACTIVITIES

FEBRUARY 2018 CALENDAR

Day and Date		Time	Event	Contact	Location/Notes
Thurs	1	11:30	Duplicate Bridge	Karen Mullen	Mission Valley Country Club. Players should have experience with modern conventions, duplicate strategy & bidding boxes.
Fri	2	Noon	Euchre	MaryAl Gagnon	Euchre & lunch at Hotel Venezia (Ramada)
Fri.	2	1:00 - 4:00	Mahjong for Fun	Nancy Donelson	Judy Houston's home. This game is geared for beginning players. If you have any interest, please call Nancy Donelson
Sat.	3	11:00	Exploring the Arts	Beth Gamel	Venice Art Center. Ukrainian Egg Dyeing with Mary Acton - \$5
Sun.	4	12-00—4:00	Outdoor Adventure	Bea Holt	Polo Match @ Sarasota Polo Grounds. Tailgate Picnic, \$12 Admission
Tues	6	9:30	Board Meeting	Kathleen Pickering	Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 790 S. Tamiami Trail, Venice, Room 103
Wed	7	10:00	Bridge Discussion	Barbara Stevens	Barbara Stevens' home
Thurs	8	11:45/ 12:30	General Meeting, preceded by refreshments	Hospitality - Lynn Crandall	Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 790 S. Tamiami Trail, Venice. Refreshments at 11:45; meeting at 12:30.
Fri	9	10:00 -4:00	Home Tour	Jan Harris Bev Weltzien	Different Venice Locations
Fri	9	4:00 - 6:00	Home Tour Post-Celebration		Wine/cheese party @ Venice Art Center
Fri	9	Not Meeting	French Conversation	Jane Metcalf	
Fri	9	Not Meeting	Bridge for Fun	Anne Russell/Georgie Ann Fedako	
Mon	12	1:30	Book Club	Barbara Martinage	Jacaranda Library. <i>Book of Ages: The Life and Opinions of Jane Franklin</i> by Jill Lapore
Tues	13	10:30 -Noon	Financial Fitness	Fran Potter	Gulf Coast Community Foundation
Thurs	15	Deadline for December Venice Views		Send articles and/or photos by email to the editorial team at aauwveniceviews@gmail.com	
Thurs	15	11:30	Duplicate Bridge	Karen Mullen	Mission Valley Country Club. Players should have experience with modern conventions, duplicate strategy and bidding boxes.
Thurs	15	1:30	Armchair Travelers	Anne Finger	Karol Olson presents "Iceland". Contact Anne for location.
Fri	16	Noon	Euchre	MaryAl Gagnon	Euchre & lunch at Hotel Venezia (Ramada)
Fri	16	1:00	Mahjongg for Fun	Nancy Donelson	Game is geared for experienced players.
Mon	19	9:30	Exploring with Your Camera	Nancy Gorno	Meet at Caspersen Beach. Contact Nancy Gorno for further information.
Wed	21	Noon	Cooks Corner	Janet Schotz	Pat Boruff's home. Theme: Deep South
Wed	21	Not Meeting	Evenings Out	Melanie Odom	
Fri	23	10:30	French Conversation	Jane Metcalf	Jacaranda West County Club
Fri	23	11:30	Bridge for Fun	Anne Russell Georgie Ann Fedako	Bridge and lunch at Jacaranda West Country Club. Must sign up in advance.
Mon	26		Interclub Bridge	Barbara Stevens	Players must be registered.
Wed	28	11:30	Lunch Bunch Etc.	Paula Choyke	Beach Road Wine Bar and Bistro, Englewood. Call or email Paula to RSVP.



Venice Views Editor for February: Jeri Jaminet
E-copies Circulation: Paula Dulski
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DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

Mail this form with your check to:

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.
- _____ **LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND:** Checks payable to "AAUW-LAF".
Write **Legal Advocacy Fund** on the memo line.
- _____ **RE-ENTRY SCHOLARSHIP FUND:** Checks payable to "AAUW, Venice Branch".
Write **Re-entry Scholarship Fund** on the memo line.
- _____ **TECH TREK:** See next month's Venice Views for donation payment info.

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

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