

VENICE VIEWS

VOLUME XLV, No. 5

JANUARY 2019

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, VENICE, FLORIDA BRANCH

P.O. BOX 515, VENICE, FL 34284

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NATIONAL: aauw.org

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

GENERAL MEETING THURSDAY JANUARY 10, 2019

AT 12:15 (11:30 for refreshments)

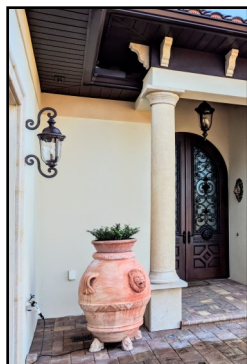
EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, 790 S. Tamiami Trail, Venice, FL 34285

PROGRAM: "SAFETY CONCERN FOR WOMEN IN TODAY'S WORLD"

From the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, Deputy Cathy Duff will discuss programs offered by the Sheriff's Department and safety concerns for women in today's world.

REMINDER - USE aauwveniceviews@gmail.com TO SEND ALL NOTICES TO VENICE VIEWS

~ ~ THE LATEST DETAILS ON HOME TOUR 2019 ~ ~



Five homes, all newsworthy and all on Venice Island have been secured for our 2019 Home Tour on Friday, February 8.

House managers have been enlisted and many more have signed up to help staff these properties. **More staffers are needed, especially for the afternoon shift 1:00 to 4:00.** Three of this year's residences are two-story which will require more personnel from AAUW than in some past years. You will only be stationed on one floor so little stairclimbing will be involved for house volunteers. Please use sign-up sheets at our meetings or phone or e-mail Sue Farstrup. Our collection includes:

- an historic West Venice Avenue home built in 1927 with many original features;
- a waterside retreat perched on the shore of Roberts Bay with a sweeping view;
- an Italian Mediterranean exterior with contemporary, "smart home" features inside;
- a home and studio of a fabric artist with separate office for her husband;
- and a gracious family home that reflects three generations.

Raffle items will be in the garage (wait till you see this garage!) of one home located near the corner of Menendez and Park Boulevard South, a highly visible location. We'll be able to allow the public to stop and purchase raffle tickets separately without participating in the tour. Hopefully, that may generate additional revenue! If you have connections to a business or are a good customer of one, please consider helping to put together a raffle basket. Suggestions? Contact Suzi Barbee.

Along with the raffle items, we plan to stage and staff an AAUW display at this same location. We will include photos, information and membership brochures.

Tickets are printed and available for purchase now. Price for tickets purchased on the day of the tour will be \$25; **sales prior** to that day will be \$20. It is hoped that the two tier pricing will encourage purchases ahead of time so advise your friends and neighbors to buy early.

The committee has been working hard. Please participate. Our upcoming crop of scholarship recipients are counting on you! [Judith Houston]

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

PAULA DULSKI



I have been putting together a skills list to be used by several committees. This list will be shared with the nominating committee for selecting new officers, with the education chair to find members interested in STEM activities, with our fundraising chair to find volunteers for activities such as the Home Tour, with the communications chair to find help with publicity for our branch, and by the Vice President to recruit facilitators for new programs, such as Salary Negotiation. Please tell me your interests and skills as I visit your table at the branch meeting. We encourage all of our members to be active in branch functions.

COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

JUDITH HOUSTON



Communications is everyone's business.

It is my honor to serve as communications chair for this branch. I have spent my working life doing that on behalf of companies and clients and it's a delight to promote such a great group of women and support our mission.

The most succinct formula for public relations is: **Doing something good and getting credit for it.**

AAUW does many good things as we all know – Tech Trek, Local Re-entry Scholarships, and the Legal Advocacy Fund – to name just a few. In today's media environment with shrinking newspapers, getting space becomes a challenge. Standing out on the internet via our website and Facebook page is an extremely competitive endeavor where we are fighting for a share of attention with thousands of other ideas and organizations doing the same.

Special events are another opportunity to promote. That is why our Home Tour is so much more than a fundraiser. It's a platform to demonstrate that we are part of the community and we are giving back to the community. Each of you who volunteer to plan and staff this special day are helping to make Venice branch visible to our neighbors.

Each of us is an ambassador for AAUW to the community. I'm a member because another member invited me to come because "I know you would like it." She was right and I try to promote this organization within my circle of neighbors and acquaintances. I hope you will do the same. It's easy and it's probably the most effective public relations we can have.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR MESSAGE

KATHY BLACK



As the new year starts, I am very thankful. As with many of you, AAUW Venice is where I have made some lifelong friends. The way for new members to do this is to get involved! The monthly meetings are the beginning. The best way to meet other members, is to attend some of the Special Interest Group (SIGs) activities printed in our newsletter. If something looks interesting, go! No commitment, just sign up at our monthly meeting, or contact the person listed in the newsletter. Because we have such an active branch, many members have stated that it was this that was the catalyst in their joining AAUW Venice. We want to extend a very sincere thank you to Paula Dulski, our Membership Director for the past few years and our current Vice President. It is not easy wearing two hats! I don't know how you make it look so easy. Thank you also to Jane Farley for hosting our New Member breakfast in November. We look forward to our next one in the spring.



LEGACY CIRCLE

At our January meeting Judy Evenson will be presented with her pin for joining the Legacy Circle. Doing the honors will be our State President Pat Ross. Other members who are in the Legacy Circle are Bea Holt, Carol Newnam, Shirley Reid, Barbara Stevens and Mimi Welch.

The Legacy circle is a way you can assure the perpetuity of AAUW.

You will hear about the Legacy Circle in the future.

■ We are happy to announce that our AAUW State President Pat Ross will be at our
 ■ January meeting. Let's give her a warm Venice Branch Welcome!
 ■

U.S. AND RUSSIAN WOMEN MEET TO BOOST STEM TRAINING FOR GIRLS

A meeting between university-educated Russian women and members of Venice branch of American Association of University Women (AAUW), who hosted the gathering, took place in Venice to discuss the success of TechTrek, the AAUW science-based summer camp for girls in the U.S.

The two groups were brought together through Friendship Force Sarasota, a volunteer organization with global interests, one of 98 clubs in 36 states, to promote peaceful interchange on a citizen level. This group sponsored the visit of the Russian educators along with their translator and facilitator.

Marge Ostrom, past president of our branch, explained how the American camp was launched by a California AAUW branch in 1998. Tech Trek has expanded since 2013 to a national program with 22 camps, including one in Florida. AAUW Venice has been a strong supporter of this opportunity to foster learning opportunities in STEM for young girls. To date, AAUW Florida branches have sponsored more than 240 camperships at a cost of \$1,000 per camper. The state organization expects to sponsor nearly a hundred girls in 2019.

Pat Weber, who is one of the chairpersons for this AAUW undertaking, described how the girls are selected. They must have completed seventh grade, be nominated by a teacher, completed an application and essay and be evaluated through an interview with the AAUW committee.

Jami Naylor, a librarian from Jacaranda branch of the Sarasota Library System, gave a demonstration of “ozobots,” miniature robots used to teach even younger girls about computer coding at a cooperative event held recently by the library and AAUW Venice.

The Russian contingent, who are members of the Federation of Graduate Women (Russia), had many questions about the structure and staffing of TechTrek and plans to hold a similar camp in Russia in the summer of 2019. The two women’s groups plan to stay in contact as their respective projects proceed.

Friendship Force Sarasota coordinates hosting opportunities with Open World Leadership Center, an initiative started by President Jimmy Carter and is an independent government agency of the United States Congress.



Russian women educators were hosted at a joint meeting with members of Venice branch AAUW. Front row, left to right, the visitors are: Fatimat Chochaeva, Irina Senchilo, Anastasiya Menshikova, Lyudmila Vayner, and Anastasiya Kadyrova. Standing left to right: Kathleen Pickering, our current president; Marge Ostrom, past president; Friendship Force members Dave Burke, Barbara Peterson, Marie Beck and Ramona McGee; and Venice TechTrek coordinator Pat Weber.



The Russian women study how the miniature robots called “ozobots” work. They were used initially in a joint AAUW event with the Sarasota County Jacaranda Library to help young girls understand how computer coding works. [Judith Houston]

ART IN THE AFTERNOON



January 14 at 1 p.m. AAUW and IslandWalk at the West Villages present an entertaining program of music, storytelling and art. Just sit back and enjoy. Pictured here is our own Samira Easton's painting and one of the storytellers from IslandWalk Ellen Badger. If you would consider participating in the future, we will also have performances February 20 and March 27. If interested, call Trena Kelly.

To attend please send an email message to "iwartintheafternoon@gmail.com" for confirmation of

attendance and type "AITA Registration January 14" in the subject line. We are fortunate to get the room and they need to know how to set it up.

This year we will have a colorful bucket for donations to pay for easels and copy material. Please donate if you can.

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON CLOSES OUT THE YEAR



Lots of festive apparel and holiday jewelry were in evidence at this annual luncheon gathering at the Venice Yacht Club on Thursday, December 13. Entertainment was provided by husband and wife Chris and Karen Romig on piano and flute. This talented duo were joined on some numbers by their son Nicholas on percussion.



The welcoming committee, left to right: Chris Cairns, Paula Choyke, Donna Wilson and Karen Mullen. **Kudos to Co-Chairs Karen Cianci and Lynn Fox and their entire committee for a wonderful event!**

NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKING OFFICERS FOR 2019-2020

The Nominating Committee is looking for candidates for President, Membership Director and Secretary for our Venice Branch AAUW.

Elections will be held at our Annual Meeting in April.

If anyone has any candidates in mind or would like to be a candidate, please contact Suzanne Biviano or any one of the following members of the Nominating Committee - Dottie Bingman, Fran Brinkman, Judith Houston and Bev Weltzien plus Paula Dulski.

Also, we would like to find a candidate who would be willing to be nominated to the state board. Venice is the biggest branch in Florida and we would like to have a representative on that board. [Suzanne Biviano]

CHECK OUT THESE PHOTOS FROM LAST MONTH'S OUTDOOR ADVENTURE SIG THE GROUP TOOK TO THE INLAND WATERWAY!



Captain Joan Fagnoli, Kathy Black, Bea Holt, and Paula Dulski; [Not shown: adventure photographers Jane Metcalf and Judy Weber]



The dolphins jumped for joy!



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

ARMCHAIR TRAVELERS

Armchair Travelers gathers at members' homes on the third Thursdays of the month (during peak season) at 1:30 PM to share experiences in other lands. This year we will have 3 meetings:

Jan. 17 - Paula Dulski will begin by presenting her recent trip to China. Capacity is 20 but few spaces are left so a Wait List will be started.

Feb. 21 - Joan Kieran, a new member, will tell us about one of her travels.

Mar. 21 - Kathy Black will cover her recent trip to New Zealand.

You can call or write Chair Anne Finger, join her Travelers email list or sign up at the general meetings for these intimate and fun sessions. (Turnout often outstrips capacity so it is important to notify the Chair of a cancellation which allows members on a Wait List to attend.)

We are also looking for a new Chair for this SIG. if you are interested, please contact Anne Finger .

EXPLORING WITH YOUR CAMERA

We are planning a trip on January 15 to Bradenton's Cortez Village which offers genuine and historic charm, as one of the last remaining fishing villages in Florida. Time of departure from Venice to be announced via email to members.



FINANCIAL FITNESS

Financial Fitness Interest Group is a forum to discuss and learn more about investing and other financial topics of interest and importance to women. The group brings together members with varying levels of knowledge and experience in an environment in which we can all learn from each other. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. Come join us in the New Year! For more information contact Fran Potter.



OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

WHERE: Historic Spanish Point, Osprey

WHEN: January 8th 9:45 - 2:00

DETAILS: Docent-led, two-hour Tour of Historic State Park

Tram for 7 will accompany the Tour for those not comfortable walking on shell paths or who need a rest along the way.

Docent will drive Tram ... walkers will not miss any narrative.

\$13 cash only. Carpool will be arranged as needed.

Lunch will follow at a nearby restaurant of choice.

Please contact Bea Holt to register.



BOOK CLUB

Come join us for a cup of tea and one of Bertha Honoré's famous chocolate brownies as we reminisce about her life and times. (She'll leave a copy of her recipe for you bakers.) As we sip our tea we'll be discussing Frank A. Cassell's book "Suncoast Empire: Bertha Honoré Palmer, Her Family and the Rise of Sarasota." Perhaps you have read another book on Florida's early history such as "A Land Remembered" by Patrick Smith (rated the number one "best Florida book" 8 times) and would like to see how her life intertwined with that history. Perhaps you'll also enjoy reflecting on your experiences touring her Spanish Point home.

Tea will be served at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, January 14, 2019 at the Jacaranda Library. January begins another new year for us to enjoy the world of books. Check the Book Club's calendar below for those books we have selected. We'd love to have you join us each month or drop in as you find a book we're reading of particular personal interest. You'll find our discussions most interesting and that all perspectives are valued and respected.

February - *The Killers of the Flower Moon*, David Grann

March - *A Gentleman in Moscow*, Amor Towles

April - *Secret Lives of the First Ladies*, Cormac O'Brian

May - *Into the Gray Zone*, Adrian Owen

A reminder that the One County, One Community selection for 2019 is David Grann's "Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI" - a true story. The author will be speaking January 24 at 10:30 a.m. at the Venice Theater. Register online or with the library for a free ticket to his talk. For additional information call 941-861-5000.

You might also be interested in attending a talk by Sarah O'Donnel, from the Osage Nation Historic Preservation Office in Pawuska Oklahoma, entitled "The Osage Nation: A Brief History". Her talk is scheduled for 10:30 a.m., January 3 in the Selby Library Geldbart Auditorium.

Do check out our book exchange table before meetings - bring one, take one. You never know the perfect read may be awaiting you there. [Barbara Martinage]



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



1 - Patsy Campbell

1 - Ellen Elie

1 - Barbara Stevens

1 - Barbie Swenson

2 - Joyce Mikulski

3 - Caroline Zucker

4 - Valerie McKenzie

5 - Lynn Fox

6 - Andrea Lucy-Putwen

7 - Elaine Winkuist

13 - Roberta Cardamone

15 - Carol Carlson

20 - Judith Rovins

21 - Diane Feiring Hill

21 - Anne MacIntyre

25 - Rosario Morgan

26 - Mary Lloyd Burroughs

30 - Kathryn Nelson

SHARING and CARING

Quick healing wishes to Sue Luterbach who broke her femur

Get well and thinking of you to Marcia Seman

Our sincere condolences to Karen Cianci on the passing of her husband, Jay

Our sincere condolences to Pat Blair on the passing of her husband, Don

Please notify Sunshine Contact Marge Collin 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.

SAVE THE DATE!!

There will be a brief orientation meeting for Home Tour managers and hostesses in conjunction with the General Meeting on Thursday, January 10. The orientation will be offered twice: at 10:30, before we begin refreshments or at approximately 1:30, after the General Meeting is adjourned. Hostess volunteers may choose which meeting time they prefer. They will receive an email with confirmation of their assignment around the 7th of January.

JANUARY 2019 CALENDAR -- AAUW VENICE BRANCH ACTIVITIES

DAY	Date	Time	Event	Contact	Location/Notes
Wed	2	10:00	Bridge Discussion	Barbara Stevens	Meet at Barbara Stevens' home
Thurs	3	11:15	Duplicate Bridge	Susan Legee Karen Mullen	Mission Valley Country Club. Players should have experience with modern conventions, duplicate strategy and bidding boxes
Fri	4	11:30	Euchre	MaryAl Gagnon	Euchre and lunch at Pelican Pointe
Fri	4	11:30	Mahjong for Fun	Nancy Donelson Wendy Orlando	Hotel Venezia, 425 US 41 Bypass N., Venice
Tues	8	9:30	Board Meeting	Kathleen Pickering	Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Room 103
Tues	8	9:45 - 2:30	Outdoor Adventure	Bea Holt	Docent led Tour of Historic Spanish Point, Osprey. Tram available, if needed. Lunch follows. Contact Bea Holt.
Tues	8	10:00	Financial Fitness	Fran Potter	Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Room 103
Thurs	10	11:30/ 12:15	Refreshments/ General Meeting		Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 790 S. Tamiami Trail. Refreshments - 11:30; mtg - 12:15
Fri	11	10:30	French Conversation	Jane Metcalf	Jacaranda West Country Club
Fri	11	11:30	Bridge for Fun	Anne Russell Georgie Ann Fedako	Bridge and lunch at Jacaranda West Country Club. You must sign up in advance
Mon	14	1:00	Art in the Afternoon	Trena Kelly	IslandWalk at the West Villages Event Center. Contact Trena Kelly for more info.
Mon	14	1:30	Book Club	Barbara Martinage	Jacaranda Library. Book: <i>Suncoast Empire: Bertha Honore Palmer Her Family and the Rise of Sarasota</i>
Tues	15	Deadline - February VV		Send ALL articles/photos to aauwveniceviews@gmail.com	
Tues	15	TBD	Exploring with your Camera	Stephanie Hallowell Diane Sisko	Historic Cortez Fishing Village, Bradenton. Contact Stephanie Hallowell
Wed	16	Noon	Cooks Corner	Janet Schotz	At the home of Barbara Stevens. Theme: Green and Purple
Weds	16	6:00	Evening Out	Lois and Melanie Odom	Kumo Japanese Steakhouse. Call or e-mail Melanie Odom by Mon. Jan. 14
Thurs	17	1:30	Armchair Travelers	Anne Finger	Meet at Paula Dulski's home to hear about her trip to China. Maximum: 20
Thurs	17	11:15	Duplicate Bridge	Karen Mullen	Mission Valley Country Club. Players should have experience with modern conventions, duplicate strategy & bidding boxes
Fri	18	Noon	Euchre	MaryAl Gagnon	Euchre and lunch at Pelican Pointe
Fri	18	1:00	Mahjongg for Fun	Nancy Donelson	This game is geared for experienced players
Weds	23	3:30	Lunch Bunch Etc.	Paula Choyke	Happy Hour at Naples Flatbread Kitchen/Bar in Siesta Key Mall, Sarasota. Contact Paula Choyke to make reservation or add'l info
Thurs	24	10:00	Play Readers	Fran Brinkman	At the home of Fran Brinkman
Fri	25	10:30	French Conversation	Jane Metcalf	Jacaranda West County Club
Fri	25	11:30	Bridge for fun	Anne Russell Georgie Ann Fedako	Bridge and lunch at Jacaranda West Country Club. You must sign up in advance
Mon	28	Noon to 4:00	Coastal Cruising	Paula Dulski	Venice Marina at 990 Laguna Drive near the Yacht Club. This trip will be for members only. Contact Paula Dulski



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E-copies Circulation: Kathy Black

Printed Copy Circulation: Anne Russell

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.
- _____ **FOR TECH TREK ONLY:** *Checks payable to "Tech Trek Florida" should be mailed to P.O. Box 2938, Jupiter, FL 33468*

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

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