

VENICE VIEWS

VOLUME XLVI, No. 6

FEBRUARY 2020

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, VENICE, FLORIDA BRANCH

P.O. Box 515, Venice, FL 34284

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

General Meeting Thursday, **FEBRUARY 6, 2020**

(NOTE MEETING IS FIRST THURSDAY OF FEBRUARY - THIS MONTH ONLY)

At 12:00 PM (11:30 for refreshments)

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 790 S. Tamiami Trail Venice, FL 34285

Program: AAUW Play Readers Present

"THE FIRST NATIONAL WOMEN'S RIGHTS CONVENTION"

***** MEMBERS WHO NEED TICKETS TO SELL SHOULD CONTACT JAN HARRIS *****



A collection of Venice Island homes for a look at great city living within walking distance of each other as well as downtown restaurants and shops.

Proceeds enable many deserving women in our area to continue their higher education.

Presents
**16th Annual
HOME TOUR**

**ON & OFF
the AVENUE**



**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2020
10 A.M TO 4 P.M.**

VINTAGE VENICE CIRCA 1948
640 West Venice Avenue

TRADITION FOR TODAY
633 West Venice Avenue

COMFORT WITH CHARACTER
617 West Venice Avenue

CAROLINA COASTAL
216 Park Boulevard South

TRANQUIL PALETTE, WHIMSICAL DETAILS
214 Park Boulevard South

Advance tickets: \$25

Day of the Tour: \$30* at any of these homes unless "sold out."

*(*Ticket sales will be limited so purchase early to avoid disappointment.)*

Tickets available from AAUW members and these fine merchants:

Coles Postal Service USA • 2357-3 S. Tamiami Trail

Collectors Gallery & Framery • 114 S. Nokomis Ave.

Down Island Way Boutique • 225 W. Miami Ave.

Venice Olive Oil Company • 101 W. Venice Ave. Suite 5

Venice Art Center • 390 Nokomis Ave. South

Venice AAUW is a 501(c)(3) registered with the IRS (Federal tax identification 35-567464) and the State of Florida (2015-5015052620C-4) and does not engage in professional solicitation. 100% of contributions received are used to further the organization's mission. A copy of the official registration and financial information can be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free (800) 435-7352. The state registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state. Registration #20142325 (Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services).

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

JANE FARLEY

The theme for January's Program was "We give, We Share, We Help. I think that sums up the AAUW members and the goals of the organization. Carol Murray began with sharing her story and how the generosity and direction from mentors guided her to seek an education. In addition, she interviewed some of the 2020 homeowners, who so generously open their homes for the Home Tour. Finally, Jessica Pope a past scholarship winner and graduate of Ringling College, shared her career progress as a videographer. Hearing her story validates the reason we support women and girls going back to college.

The February Program is exciting as some of our own members are presenting "The First National Women's Rights Convention." Fran Brinkman and members of the Play Readers SIG are the stars of this play.

Barb Martinage and Jane Farley want to thank all the members for your program suggestions these past two years. Please continue to provide ideas for programs in the future. Programs are meant to reflect our members ideas and honor our Mission: AAUW advances equity for women and girls. This is the main purpose of AAUW's mission:

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

*** * * * * VIDEO LINKS FROM JANUARY MEETING * * ***

Paula Dulski videotaped the January 9 Venice branch meeting. There are two links to the short movies. Copy and paste the URL addresses into your browser to view these videos or, if you are reading Venice Views online, just click on the address and it will go directly to the video.

The first is of Jessica Pope, the scholarship winner, speaking about her videography studies at the Ringling.

Jessica Pope:

https://drive.google.com/openid=1_xTm3hhNAMz7lOqjT9uhnINtBbW7EI_1/view

The second is the interview of homeowners who are participating in the Home tour.

Homeowner Interview:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1lPnypM1nY9NzfXrRrdFdPrfxl8GmOjHA/view>

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

PATTI WARNER

It's a Happy New Year in AAUW with SEVEN new members since December, bringing our total to 249! Thank you members for recruiting and especially for answering the call for MENTORS.

NEW MEMBERS mark your calendars: January 28 - Informal Coffee Klatch at Coffee Cafe, 101 Capri Isles Blvd.

It's a new members Meet and Greet sort of meeting at 9:30 a.m. Let me know if you can come.

ALSO the New Member Breakfast with the Board will be held on the morning of March 6 at 9:30 a.m. An invitation with details will be emailed to you later.

NOW onward to the fun of the HOME TOUR and the ELEANOR EVENT!!!

Hope you are all involved in these two great fundraisers for 2020!

Patti Warner, Membership



MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

JAN HARRIS



Jan is one of our hardest working members yet her educational and research interests were leisure! Currently, she's the ticket chair for our 2020 Home Tour but in the past she's been the overall co-chair of this fundraiser and has been working on the tour since she joined Venice branch 10 years ago.

Her teaching credentials included instructing ballet and modern jazz. After earning a bachelor's degree in sociology at the University of Massachusetts/Amherst, she went on to earn a Master's and Ph.D. from Boston University. She says, "After I hung up my leotard, I taught sociology with a focus on leisure." She goes on to say, "If you start talking to someone about what's important in life - after family, work and education - most people mention quality of life issues which almost always center around one's leisure choices. Her studies included research into John Nolen, the city planner who shaped the physical landscape of Venice. "His goals in Venice were to produce a community that had great charm as well as a city that met the everyday needs of its residents - to live, work, learn, and play." Strangely, it was not her awareness of John Nolen that attracted her to our town. She says it was a visit she and her husband made to friends in Bradenton which led them to come down to a Venice beach. "We're beach people," she says, and they own a second home in Nantucket.

In 2009, they bought their first home in Venice. After meeting an AAUW member during volunteer activities at the Venice Art Center, she immediately joined our branch and started working on her first AAUW Home Tour. "The one mission, that of scholarships for women, touched my heart," and she encourages all members to participate, sell tickets, and encourage friends and neighbors to come.

About our members she says, "It's a vibrant group of women who are truly engaged in empowering other women." I think we can all agree with that assessment.

Then and Now: An Afternoon with Eleanor Roosevelt

In a one hour play, nationally known actress Jane VanBoskirk brings this First Lady to life as she reinvents this role and becomes a force in her own right; as her husband's representative and activist for human rights .

WHEN: Thursday, February 20, 2020

WHERE: Venice Community Center

TIME: Doors open at 3 pm—Performance at 4 pm

TICKETS: \$40.00 (includes one free beverage and "light bites") following the performance.

Proceeds benefit AAUW Tech Trek.

Tickets will available at the February 6 meeting.



SHARING AND CARING TO:

David Nuttleman and Family on the sad passing of our dear AAUW member, Penny.

Diane Larkin, a new AAUW member - Thinking of you going through a difficult time.

Fran Potter - Speedy Recovery

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

BRANCH DIRECTORY CHANGES: Changes in name, address, email, or telephone **need to be sent** to veniceaauw@gmail.com or contact Joyce Kamm, Membership Committee.

AAUW NATIONAL DATABASE CHANGES: National database information is changed *by the member* through the National site. Changes in name, address, email, or telephone **need to be sent by the member to:** connect@aauw.org.

PRIVACY: Since Venice Views is available to the general public, for the privacy of our members, we do **not** publish personal contact information. Member contact information can be obtained in the Membership Roster of our 2019-2020 Directory or website.

JANUARY 9, 2020 AAUW VENICE BRANCH GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was held at Emmanuel Lutheran Church on January 9, 2020.

President Kathleen Pickering called the meeting to order at 12:58 P.M. Motion to approve the agenda by Kathy Black, seconded by Karol Olson. The November minutes were approved as printed in the Venice Views.

Member Announcements:

Mary Al Gagnon - 50/50 brought in \$64 for Tech Trek

Karol Olson – Patriotic Bridge is January 30, 2020 at Clubside in Plantation. It is \$10 and proceeds support STEM.

Trena Kelly – Art in the Afternoon is January 22, 2020 at Islandwalk and is a free event.

Samira Easton – Home tour training will be held a half hour before and after the next general meeting. House managers will notify volunteers of the time.

Anne Finger is continuing the Arm Chair Travelers SIG.

Treasurer Report: Fran Potter presented the treasurer's report - Currently, the savings account has a balance of \$12,203.33 The checking account has a balance of \$10,302.65 Restricted fund balances – Tech Trek - \$6,364.13 and Scholarships/American Fellowship Fund - \$7,794.30. The endowment fund is at \$26,691.96.

President's Update: Thank you to Lydia Russo and the hospitality team. Penny Nuttleman has passed away. The membership observed a moment of silence in remembrance. Reminder - The State Convention is scheduled for April 18-19, 2020. Title IX– No report.

Public Policy: Kathy Black – reported that nine members plan to attend Lobby Days Jan 21-22, 2020 and that they have an appointment with Rep. Steube.

Membership: Patti Warner reported we currently have 249 members including 7 new members. New members were introduced.

Development: Elaine Izzi is seeking a chairperson and volunteers (esp. Chairperson, bartenders, and sponsors) for the Eleanor program. Tickets are available for purchase at \$40 each. Pat Comeau was thanked for her generous donation to cover the costs of the performer.

Work Smart Start Smart: Paula Dulski announced that a college student oriented Start Smart session is scheduled for February 4, 2020. She is also approaching the Women's Resource Center and My Mother's House regarding the Work Smart program. Paula is also videotaping the general meeting for publication on the branch Facebook page.

Communications: Judy Houston announced Home Tour press releases are planned in the Gondolier, and the Herald-Tribune. If possible, there will be a live interview on Suncoast TV with a homeowner. Judy thanked Mary Emerson for her hard work in maintaining the website and announced that Bobbi Amero is the content manager and requested that members notify Bobbi of the hours expended in support of AAUW. Judy announced that Phyllis Vogel has volunteered to help her. Judy offered to write a pitch letter for sponsors for the Eleanor program and provided a list of women-owned businesses in the area to Kathleen.

Programs: Jane Farley thanked Lydia Russo and her team for providing the luncheon, Carol Murray and Susan Farstrup for the program, and Nancy Donelson for getting donations. The February program will be the branch Playreaders and the topic is the First National Women's Rights Convention.

Old Business: Kathleen Pickering - reviewed progress in meeting the 5 Star program goals several of which have been met; stated that the results of the member survey will be reported in the Venice Views and presented at the next meeting.

New Business: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:56.

Submitted by Elaine Izzi, Secretary

VENICE AAUW SURVEY RESULTS

Last October, the Board invited members to participate in a survey to get feedback in several critical areas. Your AAUW Board wants to know what you, the branch's members, think is important. Seventy seven members responded to the survey ranging from veteran to newer members. Many respondents were actively involved in the branch as board members, committee or special interest group chairs and participants, fundraiser volunteers, or other branch functions.

The Board reviewed the survey results at their November and December meetings and want to share the findings with you. There are many positive comments supporting our policies. There are members who have suggested areas for improvement. Your Board is working to address them.

Statement #1: I have a clear understanding of our mission and goals as a branch. 87% are in agreement while 1 % disagree with the statement and 12% are undecided. One member suggests putting goal statements in the directory to show that it supports the mission statement.

Statement #2: The programs that are held are effective in pursuing our mission. Here 74% of the respondents agree. There are 3% who disagree and 22% are undecided. The board recognizes the need to diversify the programs and will explore more options.

Statement #3: Branch leaders and other members made me feel welcome and included. The survey shows that 78% of the respondents agree to the statement There are 16 % who are undecided. There are 5% who disagree which shows that there needs to be a greater effort to reach out to new members. Making new members feel welcome and included is very important. A branch goal is to increase, retain and broaden membership, providing education and other benefits.

Statement #4: I have a clear understanding of ways I can be involved in the branch. Over 90% agree with it, 7% are undecided and 3% disagree. One respondent explains her views this way: 'While there are many calls for volunteers at the meetings, there is little recognition of the wealth of expertise members bring to this organization and no organized forum to establish a group of experts to guide this organization and bring new ideas to the membership.' We need to know our members strengths and ambitions since we recruit volunteers for fundraisers, STEM events, and chair positions.

In the survey there were requests for suggestions on how to improve the branch. These will be addressed next month.

Voting for branch officers will take place at our Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 9.

Here is the list of members who are up for election:

Vice president: Susan Farstrup

Treasurer: Bobbi Amero

Program: Pam Swarts with co-chair Wendy Seeley

SIG Chair: Stephanie Hallowell

Nominating Committee: Mary Al Gagnon



*** * SAVE THE DATE * * ***

Our AAUW Venice Branch **Scholarship Luncheon** will be held on **May 2** at the **Venetian Golf and River Club**.

Menu choices will be fish, chicken or vegetarian entrée, salad, strawberry shortcake and all non-alcoholic beverages.

Ticket cost is \$35.00.

Further questions, contact Wendy Seeley.



**FEBRUARY
BIRTHDAYS**

1	Ginny	Hurney
3	Lynda	Irvin
8	Pat	Hirt
8	Mary Lou	Thetford
10	MaryAl	Gagnon
10	Joani	Leeds
12	Katie	Morey
13	Beth	Gamel
13	Karen	Mullen
14	Mary Ann	Dillahunty



14	Elizabeth	Stannard-Letcher
15	Suzanne	Biviano
15	Eileen	McGurk
16	Jan	Middendorf
21	Ilda	Deming
21	Jeri	Jaminet
22	Adele	Cohill
23	Lidia	Madrazo
24	Gayle	Grant
26	Diane	Larkin
27	Paula	Choyke

ART IN THE AFTERNOON

The event will be **February 12** at **1:00 p.m.** at the **IslandWalk Event Center**. Be sure to sign up at the February 6 meeting as space is limited. Member Diane Sisko will be a featured artist with below photo. Contact Trena Kelly for gate access if you do not sign up at the meeting.



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

PLEASE NOTE: Euchre and Mahjong have been **canceled** on **February 7** due to the Home Tour.

****Mahjongg for Fun SIG needs MORE members. If you are interested in learning to play, contact Nancy Donelson or Wendy Orlando ****

You may sign up for any of our recreational Special Interest Groups by calling/ emailing the individual Chair (SIG list and contact information in Directory) or sign up on the informational pages provided at the SIG table at General Meetings.



Pictures from January's adventure to Marietta Museum of Whimsy in Sarasota by the Exploring with Your Camera SIG.

FEBRUARY 2020 – AAUW VENICE BRANCH ACTIVITIES

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	CONTACT	LOCATION/NOTES
Wed.	5	10:00	Bridge Discussion	Barbara Stevens	Meet at Barbara's Home
Thurs	6	11:15	Duplicate Bridge	Susan Leege	Mission Valley Country Club. Players should have experience with modern conventions, duplicate strategy and bidding boxes.
Thurs	6	12:00	General Meeting	Kathleen Pickering	Emmanuel Lutheran Church. Lunch – 11:30, Meeting – 12:00
Fri	7	10:00 - 4:00	2020 HOME TOUR		
Mon	10	1:30	Book Club	Barbara Martinage	Jacaranda Library. Book - <i>Where the Crawdads Sing</i> by D. Owens
Fri	14	9:30	Exploring with Your Camera	Stephanie Hallowell	Peace River Botanical & Sculpture Gardens, 5827 Riverside Dr., Punta Gorda
Fri	14	10:30	French Conversation	Jane Metcalf	Jacaranda West Country Club
Fri	14	11:15	Bridge for Fun	Carol Cudia Jan Hollister	Jacaranda West Country Club. Lunch/Bridge – you must sign up in advance
Sat	15	DEADLINE FOR MARCH VENICE VIEWS SEND ALL ARTICLES/PHOTOS TO aauwveniceviews@gmail.com			
Weds	19	Noon	Cook's Corner	Janet Schotz Shirley Schaefer	Home of Kathy Nelson Theme: United Nations
Weds	19	6:00	Evenings Out	Melanie Odom Lois Odom	TJ Carney's, 231 W. Venice Ave. Call/email Melanie Odom by Feb 16.
Thurs	20	11:15	Duplicate Bridge	Susan Leege	Mission Valley Country Club. Players should have experience with modern conventions, duplicate strategy & bidding boxes
Fri	21	11:15	Euchre	MaryAl Gagnon	Lunch and Euchre at Jacaranda West Country Club
Mon	24	3:00	Coastal Cruising	Paula Dulski	Cruise from Venice. Contact Paula Dulski to sign up.
Weds	26	11:30	Lunch Bunch	Mary Greenberg Paula Choyke	Marina Jack, 2 Marina Plaza, Sarasota Contact Paula Choyke for reservation.
Thurs	27	10:00	Play Readers	Fran Brinkman	Meet at Fran's Home
Fri	28	10:30	French Conversation	Jane Metcalf	Jacaranda West Country Club
Fri	28	11:15	Bridge for Fun	Carol Cudia	Jacaranda West Country Club. Lunch/Bridge — You must sign up in advance.

Venice Views Editor for February: Sue Hotzler/Jeri Jaminet

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