

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

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Our successful Home Tour enabled our branch to award four scholarships this year. The winners of the 2020 AAUW scholarships are: Heidi Tinney, Marjorie Bautista, Mariah Guinart and Sahskia Celestin. All four recipients are receiving a \$5000 scholarship.

The nontraditional scholarships were awarded to these four women who told heart-warming stories about their journeys to fulfil their goal to become a nurse.

The selection committee was comprised of Dottie Bingman, Joani Leeds, Flo Raber, Joyce Kamm and Wendy Seeley. Pat Comeau served as Scholarship Committee Chair.

Since the Scholarship Luncheon was one of the many events that was canceled in the wake of the pandemic, we hope to introduce and congratulate the recipients in the fall.

THE GIVING CHALLENGE

As Kathleen Pickering has explained in her recent letter sent by email, this year the Venice Branch will not be participating in the 2020 Giving Challenge. However, the need is even greater for charitable giving during the pandemic crisis. In recent conversation with Barbara Cruz, President & CEO of United Way South Sarasota County, Kathleen and Pat Weber learned that the top challenges individuals and families are facing are in the areas of unemployment, child-care, rent/mortgage assistance, utility assistance and healthcare emergencies. Contributing to the Giving Challenge is a great way to support those in need.

THE GIVING CHALLENGE RUNS FROM APRIL 28 NOON TO APRIL 29 NOON.

Remember that donations up to \$100 per organization will be matched.

The United Way of South Sarasota County is one of the organizations participating in the Giving Challenge. A full list of the participants in the Giving Challenge can be found at

https://www.thegivingpartner.org/search?show_all=true

The summer issue of Venice Views will be postponed. We need additional time to determine whether we will be able to have summer socials this year.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kathleen Pickering



What can I tell you except I miss all of you and hope you are safe and well. None of us ever signed up for a pandemic. It is really quite exhausting to stay home 24/7. I walk with a friend every morning so that is about the only time I see anyone besides my husband. I think of all of you who live alone and know that has got to be difficult.

All of AAUW has come to a screeching halt except the activities that have become Zoom events. I know the book club is on Zoom and the board has met on Zoom as well as some of the board committees. If we can go back to meeting people in person again, we certainly will try to have some summer socials. We will just have to see how the Covid-19 plays out.

The May member meeting is cancelled, and the **Annual Meeting** has been postponed to September. This means that our new officers will not be officially elected until September. These office positions are Vice President, Treasurer, Program, and Study Interest Director.

The positions that are appointed by the board will take office on July 1, because they do not have to be voted in. Just for a refresher, those positions are Director of Development, Education Chair, Public Policy and Communications.

A board task force met via Zoom to work on the Strategic Plan. When working on our plan, we always have to be conscious of what are the state and national goals. All the topics we discussed align with their plans. This was a time for the board to begin thinking about what we want to do in the future. The task force has a few more meetings scheduled and will bring the updated plan back to the board and to the membership.

How we can make a difference in our community is our first priority and to do that, we must determine what the community needs. Should we be looking at helping to support STEM Clubs in the various schools? Should we be thinking about having on-going mentors for Teck Trek recipients and maybe working more closely with other organizations like The Women's Resource Center? These are just some ideas. With an organization of over 250 members we should find opportunities to make a difference in ways we not thought about before.

So, looking forward to when we move about again and continue on the many journeys we have ahead of us. As it is said so often, we are all in this together and we will get through it together.

My best to all,
Kathleen

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Patti Warner, Membership Director



NUMBER ONE- After the official yearly national count, Venice is still the largest branch in FL! Along with that distinction, we will be receiving also a certificate for maintaining a little over 100% of our members from February 2019-February 2020!

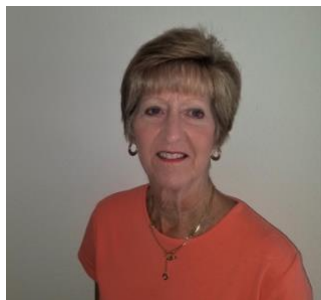
CONGRATULATIONS - Our branch qualified for three Shape the Future free national memberships which have been awarded to Trena Kelly, Bea Holt, and Kathy Black. They are just a small token of our appreciation for their service to AAUW - Trena Kelly for her almost 50 years as a member and for coordinating Art in the Afternoon, Bea Holt for her commitment as National Program Chair, and Kathy Black for her nonstop participation on the Board as Home Tour, Membership, and Public Affairs Chairs and Past President.

RENEW - So many members are deserving of awards like this so it is hard for the Board to choose who should receive them. We thank ALL of our members and appreciate all your service to our branch this past year and in other past years. We can't accomplish our mission without YOU! So RENEW today!

It is so easy to renew online with a credit card as you have already received the link from memberinfo@aauw.org. We will look forward to working with you again in 2020-2021!

WAVES OF CHANGE and OCEANS OF OPPORTUNITY (The title of the now cancelled AAUW-FL State Convention). Little did we know that the waves of change would be so influenced by Covid-19: however, the oceans of opportunity still exist for our branch as we make plans for next year! Stay well and healthy, DEAR MEMBERS. We will weather these uncharted waters TOGETHER!

NEW MEMBER--Delores (Dee) Glatz



I grew up in central Michigan and attended Western Michigan University where I earned an BBA in Accountancy and an MBA in Finance. While at Western Michigan I was a member of WMU Women in Business and Beta Alpha Phi honor society. I started my working career as an Internal Auditor in Iowa but spent 25 years working for a major pharmaceutical company in Kalamazoo, Michigan. My career included 10 years as an Internal Auditor traveling all over the world to company facilities. The rest of my time was spent as a Financial Consultant in several accounting areas which included designing accounting systems and training users on those systems. My husband and I moved to Venice in 2004 and were snowbirds for 2 years before we became full time residents. Since moving to Venice, I have spent time serving as Treasurer for our neighborhood association and volunteering with the South County Food Pantry and Venice Mainstreet as a Downtowner. My interests include golf, walking, cooking, reading, and gardening. My husband and I have four children and are expecting our 13th grandchild and 1st great grandchild in June of this year.

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR AAUW MEMBERSHIP AND PAY YOUR DUES

A message from Fran Potter, Treasurer

Thanks to the many members who have recently renewed their AAUW membership for the 2020-21 year. There are two convenient ways to pay your dues: 1) all members have been sent an email notice through AAUW's Membership Payment Program which offers you the option of paying your dues by credit card using a secure link. Members who have used this option report found it easy to do. OR 2) mailing a check (payable to AAUW Venice) to PO Box 515, Venice, FL 34284. The deadline to pay dues to be included in the Directory is June 30.

A list of dues amounts for members is below.

AAUW Venice Branch Dues

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Regular Membership	\$90
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Includes: Branch dues of \$19;

Florida state dues of \$12;

AAUW National dues of \$59*

Dual Membership (branch/state dues)	\$31
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Paid Life Membership (branch/state dues)	\$31
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Printing and Postage for Venice Views	\$15**
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Honorary Life Members pay no dues except dual members who pay Florida State dues of \$12

Make checks payable to: AAUW – Venice Branch

* \$56 of the National Dues is deductible as a charitable contribution for federal income tax purposes.

**If you choose to have Venice Views mailed to you (and you have internet access), the cost is an additional \$15 for the year. There is no charge for those without internet access.

Please note that dues are not prorated, and members must pay the entire amount regardless of the time of year they are paid.

Member Profile: Meet Elaine Izzi

by Judith Houston



This Pennsylvania-born and educated member also lived and worked there much of her life. It was also a springboard for a career that included a great deal of European travel.

Elaine Izzi and her family, where she was the oldest of five girls, lived mainly in the Pittsburgh-Erie corridor of the state. She enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh, her mother's alma mater. "My love was for psychology," she says, but you also had to take "something else." And that led to a bachelor's degree in economics.

Graduation and marriage took her to Texarkana, Texas, where, as an employee of the U.S. Department of Defense, she attended a one-year course in logistics and was posted to the Major Item Data Agency where she and her team kept track of tanks, weapons and other high value articles. While there, the group converted the paper system to an electronic data base to track and maintain this inventory.

The birth of two children, both boys, led her to retire for ten years. A divorce "brought me back to work." By now she was living in Chambersburg, Pa. and in the middle of a graduate program in psychology at Shippensburg University. She counts herself "very lucky" that she was able to be rehired by the federal government. This time she headed a team for the Department of Defense to develop and maintain software for Conventional Forces in Europe International Treaty & Agreements.

Prior to 9/11, she headed up a transition team working on the renovation of the Pentagon.

A bout with Lyme's disease and a broken ankle sidelined her for a while. Eventually, her master's degree in psychology allowed her to find a place with a Pennsylvania behavioral health program where she wrote treatment plans and oversaw the treatment of children with diagnosed mental health issues and provided mental health counseling to children and adults, a career she stayed with for 15 years until she retired again.

She's been living full time in Venice for the past three years, a place she had vacationed for several years and "fell in love with." In a "moment of indecision" about leaving her native state, "I put my house on the market in the middle of a snowstorm." It sold to the first people who came to look and her move to Venice got underway.

Now that she's settled in, she's embarked on yet another (part-time) career. In an effort to bolster her retirement funds, she's an active swing trader although she says, "I'm very conservative." If you want to know more, you'll have to ask her about it as this writer has barely mastered checkbook 101.

An AAUW member she met while volunteering at the Venice Performing Arts Center, encouraged her to come to a meeting. She's now going into the second year of a term as our secretary. "It's a fabulous organization," she says. "I'm so impressed with everyone I met...everyone is willing to do whatever it takes to get things done."

And that's high praise from a woman with a history of getting things done.

AAUW BOOK CLUB

Selected Reads 2020-2021

Jacaranda Library 2nd Monday 1:30

Date	Title	Author	Facilitator
June 8	Nickel Boys	Colin Whitehead	TBA
July 13	American Story	David Rubenstein	TBA
August 10	Chronicles of a Radical Hag	Lorna Landvik	TBA
Sept. 14	The Dutch House	Ann Pachett	TBA
October 12	My Beloved World	Sonia Sotomayer	Marge Ostrom
Nov. 9	The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek The Giver of Stars*	Kim M. Richardson Jojo Moyes	Barb Tompkins (N-Z) Joyce Mikulski (A-M)
Dec. 14	The Map Thief	Michael Blanding	Dottie Bingman
Jan. 11	American Dirt or Sarasota Reads	Jeanine Cummins	Lynda Weston
Feb. 8	The Island of Sea Women	Lisa See	Gail Densler
March 8	The Library Book	Susan Orlean	Barb Martinage
April 12	This Is How It Always Is	Laurie Frankel	Joyce Mikulski
May 10	The Immortalists	Chloe Benjamin	Hilda Dillman

*Both books deal with the same topic. Both will be discussed. If possible, choose according to your last initial indicated by the facilitators.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

3	Chris Cairns	14	Charlotte Galluccio
4	Mary Castell	18	Pat Blair
5	Wendy Seeley	19	Sherry Lynaugh
6	Betty Badawi	19	Susanne Owen
7	Susette Bryan	20	Sue Shea
7	Samira Easton	24	Pamela Clifford
9	Joan Mills	29	Bobbie Huibregtse
9	Lynda Weston	30	Carol Newnam
11	Colette Sears	31	Carol Cookson



CARING AND SHARING

Condolences to Patricia Campbell for the death of her daughter Belinda



Venice Views Editor for May: Susan Farstrup

E-copies circulation: Patti Warner

Printed copy circulation: Anne Russell