



# VENICE VIEWS

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NOVEMBER 2021

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, NOVEMBER 11, 2021**

**AT 10:00 A.M. (9:30 SOCIAL)**

**EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, 790 S. TAMIAMI TRAIL, VENICE**

## **NOVEMBER 11 GENERAL MEETING PRESENTATION “KEEPING THE ARTS ALIVE”**



We all appreciate how the arts and cultural environment contributes to our quality of life here in Venice! It attracts visitors and new residents alike, enriches our social life, and makes a huge impact on the economic development of Sarasota County and beyond!

Have you wondered how successful performing arts venues navigated the pandemic? Are you curious about gender equity in the theatre arena? Do you wonder about behind the scenes planning and development within various venues? Perhaps, you ask, what kind of leadership is required to stay abreast

of trends and ahead of competition?

Linda DiGabriele, Managing Director of Sarasota’s famed Asolo Repertory Theatre will join us on Thursday, November 11th to share insights from 40+ years in professional theatre management. We’ll no doubt get a taste for what lies ahead in the 2021-22 season! It will be a great time to invite a guest.

A graduate of Florida State University, Ms. DiGabriele’s professional theatre experience includes acting and directing. She is honored to have been recognized by the Florida Professional Theatre Association’s Richard G. Fallon Award for Excellence in Professional Theatre and the Florida Theatre Conference’s Lifetime Achievement Award.

As Venice AAUW thoughtfully moves into a “new normal” after of year of Zooming, we are experimenting with modified meeting protocol. Our meeting site, Emmanuel Lutheran Church, has changed maximum capacity guidelines for the Fellowship Hall to 100 people. We encourage members to use discretion about wearing masks and respecting personal space. Refreshments for the November event, small scones and assorted cold beverages, will be provided by the branch for \$2 per person contribution. Coffee drinkers are encouraged to bring their favorite brew in portable cups! [Pam Swarts]

**MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT  
PAULA DULSKI**



I was browsing the AAUW National Website and I saw an article titled 'Education doesn't open every door.' That is a surprising statement since we support education. However, the point being made is that as of 2020 women mostly outnumber men in attaining degrees but there is still a wage disparity.

Women receive:

- 61% of Associate's Degrees
- 57% of Bachelor's Degrees
- 59 % of Master's Degrees
- 48% of Medical and Law Degrees

The major is very important. Men dominate in the STEM fields where they can make more money. Women often are not steered toward STEM fields. This is why it is important to introduce girls to STEM activities and Tech Trek science camps. It can guide them into a lucrative and fascinating career path.

My Bachelor's and Master's degrees were in the sciences. I never regretted my decision to seek a research scientist position right out of college. First there is a sense of pride because my company's mission was to create pharmaceuticals for acute and chronic diseases. The company was progressive with pay raises, promotions, pensions, 401Ks, medical benefits and reimbursements for University courses. In short, there are clear financial incentives in pursuing a STEM based career. Education really does open this door.

**MESSAGE FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR  
PATTI WARNER  
MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**



A New Beginning!

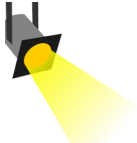
We start the year with 174 members--five new members and one transfer included in that count.

Our first meeting brought 42 members and three guests to hear our informative speaker, Judge Rochelle Curley. It worked out well for us to have table discussions afterwards where we could ask more questions about the criminal justice system in our area and how AAUW might be able to help. Stay

tuned for some volunteer opportunities from Judge Curley later.

We were all happy to see each other again at a regular style meeting where we could enjoy coffee, bagels, and visiting time. We hope more of you will come out next month.

This is the month to be most thankful. Thank you for being part of this wonderful organization of women with a great mission and do have an enjoyable Thanksgiving with your family and friends!



## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT ON BEV WELTZIEN



It was her home that brought AAUW to her attention. In 2015, this design professional was approached to include her personal residence in our upcoming Home Tour. She became so interested she not only joined this branch, she went on to head the Home Tour the following year.

Since then, she's gone on to take on the duties of development chair and is now on the board as our branch secretary.

A native of Ohio, she and her husband moved to Florida 19 years ago. She says, "I met my husband in high school," received an associate degree in computer programming, and after marriage, was a stay-at-home mom until her two sons were school age.

Then it was on to a degree in design from the University of Cincinnati. As a co-op student in a five-year curriculum, she planned offices for a major steel company in the work portion of her study program. She went on to a career as an architectural designer, planning facilities for major corporations, retail clients, health providers and more. She also found time to join, then become president of the Cincinnati/Dayton International Business Designers.

The move to Florida prompted her to start a second career in real estate, joining Michael Saunders where she was awarded "rookie of the year." During 15 years with this firm, she also served a stint as president of the Women's Council of Realtors in Venice.

Now retired, she and her husband divide their year between their Venice home and a second one in Montana where a son and grandson live.

She credits her achievements, in part, on the support of her family. "Having boys and feeling that men can sometimes get a raw deal...just like women, it was important that I show them it didn't matter what gender you are, one can succeed. Each of us deserves respect and equal opportunities based on our efforts and actions." [Judith Houston]

**\* \* PLEASE NOTE \* \***

### GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION

**Our new time to meet is at 9:30 am.** We will start with social time and our program will begin at 10:00 am. Programs will include a short one-on-one discussion after the speakers. The Business meeting will follow, adjourning no later than 12:15 pm.

Meetings will be held at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 790 S. Tamiami Trail, Venice.

We hope this new schedule will encourage members to plan spontaneous **"Let's do lunch"** gatherings following the meetings.

## **AAUW GENERAL MEETING MINUTES - OCTOBER 14, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 11:15 am by President Paula Dulski following the program with Circuit Judge Rochelle Curley. Location: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Venice FL 34285

Minutes from May 21, 2021 were approved as posted in the 2021 Summer Newsletter.

Treasurer's Report shows net assets as of September 30, 2021 at \$30,604.00. Of that balance, \$15,000 is designated for Tech Trek and \$6000 is designated for the Scholarship Fund.

The 50/50 drawing of \$48 was won by Lydia Russo.

The President's Update: Paula asked for volunteers for Hospitality, Book Exchange and 50/50 ticket sales.

Membership: Patti Warner announced that the current membership is at 174. Three guests, one new member, Linda Taylor and 1 transfer, Debbie Blackwell were present. Name tags and new member ribbons will be presented to new members when they join.

Education: Wendy Seeley reported on Tech Trek. 11 schools with 7th graders are eligible. She needs a volunteer to help contact schools. The Luncheon honoring the past recipients has been cancelled the last 2 years. \$4000 is in reserve for future attendees. The luncheon will be planned in the Spring.

Development: Susan Hotzler announced the upcoming Fundraiser: Baila Miller Lecture to be held at the Venice Community Center on January 13, 2021. Patriotic Bridge will be held in early 2022. Date to be determined.

Study/Interest Groups: Stephanie Hallowell announced that there are 12 groups. To participate, contact the leaders directly. Contact information is in the directory. She asked for more ideas. The next speciality events are the Photography Group at Mote Marine on October 21 and Coast Cruisers on October 25 and November 15.

Old Business: None

New Business: Notify Marge Collin, Sunshine, for those members who should receive a card. Contact Kathy Black with any Historical information.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beverly Weltzien, Secretary

*HOLIDAY LUNCHEON*  
*THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2021*  
*11:00 AM*  
*VENICE YACHT CLUB*  
*1330 TARPON CENTER DR., VENICE*



**\* \* \* MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW! \* \* \***

**Menu**

**CHICKEN PICCATA**

**with Lemon & Caper Beurre Blanc  
Haricots Verts with Roasted Red Peppers  
Parmesan Risotto**

**OR**

**PASTA PRIMAVERA (Vegetarian Option)**

**Dessert**

**White Chocolate Cheesecake with Raspberry Coulis  
Coffee/Iced Tea and Dessert  
(Tickets available to purchase wine, beer or soft drinks)**

**\$35.00 (CHECK or CASH ONLY)**

**Music by Betty Badawi & Cinny Schein  
Entertainment by our very own AAUW Play Readers**

**SIGN UP AT THE NOVEMBER 11  
GENERAL MEETING**

**OR CALL SAMIRA EASTON  
BEFORE DECEMBER 5  
TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT**



## OCTOBER 14, 2021 PROGRAM

### “A JUDICIAL PERSPECTIVE ON WOMEN AND GIRLS”

AAUW Venice’s new year began with a face-to-face meeting of 45 members at Emanuel Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall. A revised schedule allowed members to mingle and enjoy light refreshments beginning at 9:30 am, and the program began at 10 am.

The featured speaker was the Honorable Judge Rochelle Curley of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit Court. Judge Curley was elected to the Circuit Court bench in 2006, becoming the first African American female judge in the 12<sup>th</sup> Circuit. Her candid talk allowed the audience a glimpse into the complex issues judges must balance. And while popular media often portrays a court judge as stern, omnipresent, uncaring, Judge Curley wiped that image away with her genuine compassion.

The Twelfth Judicial Circuit is comprised of Sarasota, Manatee and Desoto Counties. While Judges within the circuit rotate assignments every two years, Judge Curley was assigned to the juvenile division for four years where she presided over dependency and delinquency cases. Judge Curley characterized youth in the juvenile division as desperately needing purpose and structure, as this is often missing in families where crime or drug abuse is pervasive. The need to separate children from this environment brings more difficulty. For example, the lack of foster homes, in our area, cause the children to be placed hours away from where their parents or siblings can visit.

Judge Curley often encounters youth that need life skills, guidance and a mentor. Her view is that it is rare that anyone comes back better from an experience in the correctional system.

During our Q & A time, several members asked what could be done to affect change and, specifically, how can WE help? To the first question, Judge Curley said, “There’s much to be done, especially in the arenas of mental health and early intervention” and she acknowledged many organizations, like Big Brothers Big Sisters, who make a significant difference.

So, how might AAUW members make a difference? Judge Curley alluded to various avenues: become a Guardian ad Litem, assist in identifying foster homes, become a mentor, partner with Judge Charles Williams (Twelfth Judicial Court – Probate and Guardianship Division) and Judge Curley as they identify further needs. [Pam Swarts]



Program committee member, Joy Mahler (left), presented an AAUW mug to the Honorable Rochelle Curley, Circuit Court Judge, Sarasota and Manatee County



## SAVE THE DATES

### SCHOLARSHIP FUND RAISER - JANUARY 13, 2022 - 2:00 P.M.

Baila Miller has offered, once again, to do a presentation for our Venice AAUW to assist us with raising funds for scholarships. The presentation will be on Peggy Guggenheim known as the Art Addict who worked to cement the USA as the Art Capital of the World.

The presentation will be at the Venice Community Center at 2:00 pm on January 13. Tickets will be sold for the event at the November general meeting and December Holiday Luncheon and online via the internet. The ability to purchase the tickets online will be found on the Venice AAUW web site in early November.

Baila Miller has taught or is currently teaching at The University of Memphis, Road Scholar International, ACE Adult & Community Enrichment, Longboat Key Education Center, The Venice Art Center, Historic Spanish Point, and The Ringling College of Art & Design.

Susan Hotzler, Development Director

### ART IN THE AFTERNOON 2022

January 19, February 23 and March 30 at 1:00 p.m. are the three dates for Art in the Afternoon performances. We are still looking for artists or photographers to show their interesting works of art. Email it to [iwartintheafternoon@gmail.com](mailto:iwartintheafternoon@gmail.com) or Trena Kelly.

Also, if you are wanting to challenge your storytelling, let us know which dates you would be available and we will give you a choice of art to choose from. It's always fun to see new faces and perspectives on stage.



**SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS– 2021 –2022**

**BOOK GROUP**

The AAUW SIG book group hardly missed a beat during the pandemic thanks to Pam Swarts and Zoom, but we have news for all those who would rather meet in person. As of now we plan to hold our November 8 meeting in the Jacaranda Library meeting room. The meeting is scheduled for 1:30, but plan to come a little earlier for a time to catch up. For more information or to make sure you get the latest information, email Lynda Weston.

For all who have considered the book club but haven't taken the plunge, here are the basics. In the spring everyone who has read a book or ten and wants to share, those books go into the mix to be voted on. The top twelve vote getters become the books for the year. We still have seven books to talk about from November, 2021 through May, 2022. Here they are:

DATE	TITLE	AUTHOR
November 8, 2021	The Warmth of Other Suns	Isabel Wilkerson
December 13, 2021	Caste	Isabel Wilkerson
January 10, 2022	Woman of No Importance	Sonia Purcell
February 14, 2022	Exiles	Christina B. Kline
March 14, 2022	Fast Girls	Elise Hooper
April 11, 2022	Hamnet	Maggie O'Farrell
May 9, 2022	Nickel Boys	Colton Whitehead

**COASTAL CRUISING**

Monday, November 15 at 2:30 pm out of Marina Jack's in Sarasota. Paula Dulski will arrange carpools.

**LUNCH BUNCH**

On Thanksgiving eve, November 24, we are going to have a Happy Hour at Plaza Mexico at 405 US-41Bypass, Venice at 3:00pm. We thought a break from Turkey and stuffing would be a welcome change and a margarita puts most people in a festive mood. RSVP to Paula Choyke.



**QUESTION: Where are our other SIG groups? When will they start up?**

**ANSWER: Our regular Monthly Calendar will start up next month.**







11	5	Pat Perry
11	6	Sharon Carter
11	6	Phyllis Shonk
11	7	Boneeta Hagen
11	8	Hilda Dillman
11	8	Susan Luterbach
11	10	Irene Falcetti
11	13	Janet Hemond
11	13	Eleanor Locke
11	14	Patty Otto
11	15	Wendy Orlando
11	16	Phyllis Barth
11	17	Nancy Bradtmiller
11	21	Cheryl Tortora
11	22	Alice Haber
11	26	Ann Murphy Herre
11	29	Barbara Wyshner
11	30	Rosemary Smith

## SHARING and CARING

Judy Evenson -- A sympathy card was sent to our dear friend and member on the death of her spouse, Tom.

Judy Evenson -- Get well card as she continues to recover from her recent illnesses.

Pat Weber - A Thinking of You card with words of encouragement were sent to another dear friend and member who is in Hospice care now.

**GENERAL MEETING 10/14/21**



Members enjoyed a “modified return to normal!”



Our new President, Paula Dulski, led a most efficient business meeting



New member, Linda Taylor, introduces herself



Venice Views Editor for November: Jeri Jaminet

E-copy Circulation: Paula Dulski

VENICE VIEWS: All submissions to our monthly Venice Views need to be sent by the 15th of the previous month to **[aauwveniceviews@gmail.com](mailto:aauwveniceviews@gmail.com)**

**[Text in Word Formatted File \[or if necessary in an Email\]](#)**

**[Pictures in JPG Format Only!](#)**

Deadline for the **DECEMBER** issue of Venice Views is **11/15/2021**