

VOLUME XLVIII, No. 7

MARCH 2022

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, VENICE, FLORIDA BRANCH**

P.O. BOX 515, VENICE, FL 34284

PRESIDENT: PAULA DULSKI

BRANCH: [venice-fl.aauw.net](http://venice-fl.aauw.net)

STATE: [aauw-fl.aauw.net](http://aauw-fl.aauw.net)

NATIONAL: [aauw.org](http://aauw.org)

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

**GENERAL MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022**

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

**EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**“Gateway to Hope”**

**Featuring Dr. April Glasco, former AAUW scholarship recipient,  
Crisis intervention specialist, and Author. [\[See Page 3\]](#)**

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT PAULA DULSKI



There will be necessary changes to our monthly branch meetings coming soon.

In March we will meet at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall beginning at 9:30 AM as usual. The speaker is April Glasco, the founder of Second Chance/Last Opportunity.

There will be changes for the Annual Meeting in April. As you know, our meetings were held remotely on Zoom in the first year of Covid. In the second year of Covid we resumed in-person meetings, but attendance dropped 50% compared to 2019.

Many members were wary of meeting socially indoors. The cost of meeting at the Fellowship Hall increased significantly from \$200 to \$250 per month. The current meeting price strains the branch resources. In addition, parking spots close to the hall have become very limited.

A committee composed of Susan Farstrup, Bev Weltzein, Pam Swarts, and Wendy Seeley investigated new locations. They took into consideration price, parking, central location, audio/visuals, kitchenette, and so on. The Venice Public Library rose to the top of the list as it has a modern and well equipped conference room with a capacity for 120 people. It has ample parking and is free. It is booked for the April when we elect and install our new officers. The final branch meeting in May will be at the library as well.

The library opens at 10 AM so we will need to change the room set-up and social gathering time to 10:00 AM and start our program at 10:30 AM. We will still be able to make lunch plans with friends at the many nearby restaurants.

Your board believes that the new arrangements will put us in a better situation overall. We sincerely hope that members will be comfortable with the changes. We welcome all members' suggestions on how to make the meetings a great experience.

**PLEASE READ IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM AAUW NATIONAL on Page 5**

**FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR PATTI WARNER**  
***AN INVITATION TO THE NEW MEMBER COFFEE***



Membership's main event this month is the New Member Coffee at Suzanne Biviano's home on March 28. The details of the traditional event with board members and new members will be in the invitations via email soon.

Mark your calendar!

The board looks forward to getting to know our new members better and for them to know more about AAUW Venice and how to get involved.



**HEADS UP**

**GIVING CHALLENGE IS COMING IN APRIL!**

The Venice Branch of AAUW is participating in the 24 hours online Giving Challenge. This online event will only accept donations using a credit card. All funds raised during this event are matched by The Patterson Foundation which doubles the donations made to AAUW. Spread the word to family and friends about the event so they can continue to support AAUW.



## MARCH 10 GENERAL MEETING PRESENTATION

### “Gateway to Hope”



Dr. April Glasco, Founder & CEO of Second Chance/Last Opportunity.

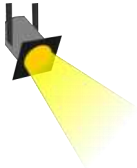
Dr. April Glasco opened Second Chance-Last Opportunity (SCLO), a hands-on intervention center, in 1995. Since then, SCLO programs have grown to include life-management and parenting skills training, counseling, mentoring, HIV-AIDS education, summer/after-school youth programs, food, clothing and shelter referrals, and meals/food distributions. Says April, “Our vision is to serve as a gateway to hope for individuals who want to change their lives for the better.”

Her life-management training programs have transformed lives by restoring and building healthy relationships between parents, children, couples, family members, and friends. Today, April continues to reach youth, women, and men seeking and needing a second chance by helping to change, rebuild, renew, and reset lives.

Instead of handing out charity, April is on the streets, looking for, finding, and helping people by providing respect, counseling, training, and high expectations. Her goal for this nonprofit organization is to give people the skills and confidence that will enable them to make positive choices and build a better future for themselves and their families.

She went back to college part-time in 2004 and graduated in May 2008 with a BA in Human Development as part of Eckerd College’s Experienced Learners’ Degree Program. She received her Master’s in Mental Health Counseling from Webster University in December 2011. This formal education, added to her innate compassion, street smarts, drive, and faith in human potential, ensures that SCLO continues in the community for as long as there are people who need a helping hand, a committed staff, and volunteers who assist her, and generous donors and foundations who help fund the programs.

[Pam Swarts]



## SPOTLIGHT ON MEMBER FRAN BRINKMAN



Fran is an exemplar of what it takes to keep our branch both lively and effective. A member since 1995, she joined a year after moving from her native Michigan where she had also been in AAUW for some time.

Invited to join our branch by a friend, she was almost immediately pressed into service as membership chair, a responsibility she took on for two years. Later, she agreed to serve on the nominating committee. After 20 unsuccessful phone calls to solicit a candidate for secretary, she was asked to take on that office.

Along the way she's also served on the branch committee to interview candidates seeking one of our re-entry scholarships.

Almost immediately after joining Venice branch, she became a part of the Playreaders SIG group, which she now chairs. From time to time, that group performs for the branch, most recently as featured entertainment at our holiday luncheon.

For 19 years, she has also chaired Patriotic Bridge, an annual fundraiser which will raise money this year to support our scholarship program. When she moved to Venice, it was to a home in Plantation Golf & Country Club, and she has been able to utilize her neighborhood clubhouse to hold this event. It's a non-bridge game, she tells us, and urges us all to participate for a fun afternoon. It will cost \$15 and you can invite non-member friends as well. "No skill required," she says.

Before heading to Florida, she taught elementary and middle grades in Michigan for 32 years. When her college education was interrupted after two years due to finances, she began teaching in a private school and when able, returned to finish her degree. She remarks, "I had to do my student teaching to complete degree requirements after I had already been teaching five years!"

Her husband died just a year after she retired. A second marriage was cut short when his advanced Parkinson's necessitated he move to a care facility. Her family includes a daughter and two granddaughters, both graduates of the University of Michigan.

For two decades, Fran has been a real linchpin of our branch, wearing many hats with dedication and grace. Here's to many more!

[Judith Houston]

**A Message From  
Katrina Sun Breese  
Senior Director of Institutional Advancement**

I'm very pleased to introduce the new [AAUW Community Hub](#), your personal portal into AAUW. Thanks for your patience over the past week while we prepared this improved system, where you can manage your giving, membership, **contact details and personal preferences with ease.**

But first things first: We'd like you to create your account login. To access your account, visit <https://my.aauw.org> or click the "Log In" link at the top right corner of the AAUW website. **The first time you log in, you will need to reset your password by clicking the "Forgot Password" link.**

Once you create a password and log in, we hope you'll take the time to update your profile with us. You can do this by clicking "My Profile" in the menu on the left side of your "Personal Snapshot" screen. Visit our [Systems Update](#) page for more instruction and video tutorials.

As always, you'll be notified when it is time to renew, vote or take action on other important issues.

I also invite you to attend a [special webinar](#) at 3:30 p.m. ET on Thursday, March 3, for more in-depth training on the new system. If you have additional questions or feedback, please reach out to [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org).

AAUW is committed to continuously enhancing our members' experiences, and I hope you find the Community Hub a valuable resource for doing that. Thanks again for your patience and cooperation.



**REMEMBER - The first time you log in, you need to reset your password by clicking the "Forgot Password" link.**

**PAT WEBER SCHOLARSHIP**

AAUW Venice Branch is accepting donations for a special annual scholarship in Pat Weber's name. The scholarship will be awarded to a high school female graduate pursuing a Stem career. Checks should be made out to "AAUW Venice". Write 'Pat Weber scholarship' on the memo line.

## **PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE**

The Convention and Annual Meeting for the Florida AAUW will be held 4/1/22 to 4/3/22. You won't want to miss this fun event. Information can be obtained at the website [my.aauw.org](http://my.aauw.org)

January 18, 2022 thru January 21, 2022 was the AAUW Florida Virtual Advocacy Week.

The opening day discussions centered around the following: Women's economic security, Education, Civil Rights and Voting issues.

The conference programs were recorded and available on the website and address the following: pay equity, human trafficking, diversity and Inclusion, the partisan election of school boards, and racial and sex discrimination.

The website also contains a sample letter to send to our legislators expressing our commitment to the AAUW principals of economic security, education, Title IX and Civil Rights.

It takes just minutes and an internet connection to make your voice heard on issues impacting women and girls by signing up for Two-Minute Activist at [aauw.org](http://aauw.org).

[Alice Haber, Public Policy]

### **AAUW General Meeting Minutes – February 10, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 11:03 AM by President, Paula Dulski, following the program featuring Jennifer Fagenbaum, Director of Family Promise.

Minutes from January 20, 2022 were approved as published in Venice Views.

Treasurer's Report: Director of Finance, Bobbi Amero distributed a report including restricted and unrestricted funds, showing total net assets of \$44,535 as of January 31, 2022.

President's Report:

Paula Dulski announced that we will be participating in the Giving Challenge.

She stated that the new proposed slate of officers lacked a Director of Development and requested volunteers or suggestions for a chair or co-chairs. New officers will be elected and installed at our annual meeting on April 14.

She announced that beginning with the April meeting, we will meet at the Venice Public Library on the island. She provided a rationale for the change of venue.

Membership: Patti Warner introduced new member Catherine Paulsen.

Development: Upcoming fundraising events are Patriotic Bridge on March 29 and the Giving Challenge from noon to noon on April 26-27.

SIGs: Upcoming meetings of the Coastal Cruisers and the Book Club were announced.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Farstrup, Vice-president



## Highlights from February “Community Impact Day”

Kudos to the members who shopped and then packed “Neighbors Helping Neighbors” kits for Family Promise of South Sarasota County! In her opening comments as program speaker for our February general meeting, Jennifer Fagenbaum, Family Promise Executive Director, said she was overwhelmed by our generosity!

We learned that Family Promise is a nation-wide, non-profit organization that seeks to reduce the experiences related to homelessness for children. That means helping parents, mainly moms, get resituated in stable housing. And when a family that has previously been living in a string of tenuous situations finally moves into ‘a roof of their own’, basic kitchen essentials and cleaning supplies (not covered by food stamps and not available at food banks) can impact a sense of control and dignity.

Collectively, Venice AAUW contributed 12 complete cleaning supplies kits and 10 kitchen essentials kits, plus dozens of miscellaneous items, for a total value of \$2,150. Donated checks exceeded \$600!

We are blessed to be able to accomplish this!! Members who wish to support Family Promise may send tax-deductible contribution to:

Family Promise of South Sarasota County, 850 Cockrill Street, Venice, FL 34285. Indicate ‘Donation/AAUW Program’ in memo.

[Pam Swarts, Program Director]



What fun it was to deliver all of our contributions!



Jennifer Fagenbaum, CEO of Family Promise of South Sarasota County, explained how the program has grown exponentially in less than 10 years and gave a compelling glimpse of how her organization is combatting homelessness.



Program Director, Pam Swarts, presents a mug full of checks to Jennifer Fagenbaum.

FAMILY PROMISE FOR SOUTH SARASOTA COUNTY PHOTOS





PHOTOS FROM STUDY/INTEREST GROUP  
AWAY DAY EXCURSION TO  
PEACE RIVER WILDLIFE CENTER, PUNTA GORDA



**PATRIOTIC BRIDGE FUNDRAISER**

Patriotic Bridge will be held on Tuesday, March 29, at 1:00 PM.

The cost will be \$15, with profits going to the Local Re-entry Scholarship Fund.

The event will be held in the Clubside Clubhouse, same venue as in years past.

It is a non-Bridge game - No skill required!

Coffee and cookies will be served.

For more info, contact Fran Brinkman!



**ART IN THE AFTERNOON EVENT**

**MARCH 30- 1:00 PM**

**LOCATION: ISLANDWALK EVENT CENTER**

The final Art in the Afternoon for 2022 will be March 30 at 1 p.m. at the Islandwalk Event Center. Our own Maida Zamhoff will have a painting featured and you'll love the paintings and storytelling. Call or email Trena Kelly to reserve your spot as it's apt to sell out. She will give you gate access. No fee.



**STUDY/INTEREST GROUP BRIDGE FOR FUN**



## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS– 2021 –2022

### BOOK CLUB

If you are of a certain age, the term “fast girls” might conjure up a certain picture. Be assured, *Fast Girls* by Elise Hooper will be far from that picture. In the infamous 1936 Olympics three women from the United States compete in the Summer Olympics under Adolf Hitler’s watchful eye. The AAUW SIG book club will meet in person at the Jacaranda Library on Monday, March 14 at 1:30 pm for a discussion of *Fast Girls* led by Joyce Mikulski.

### COASTAL CRUISING

Coastal cruising will be March 21 at 3:00 pm from Marina Jack's in Sarasota. Contact Paula Dulski if you have any questions.



### COOK’S CORNER

Wednesday ,March 16,2022

11:30 A.M. - 1:30 pm

#### A St. Patrick’s Day Tea Party !

Cooks are asked to bring a tea party savory\*  
At Debbie Blackwell’s home

**CONTACT Joan Kieran for RSVP and location.**

**Contact info for Joan is in our 2021-2022 Directory**

\*savory -- belonging to the category of food that is salty or spicy rather than sweet.



### EXPLORING WITH YOUR CAMERA

Our March camera outing on Tuesday, March 15 will be to the Children's Garden at 411 Orange Street in Sarasota with lunch following at The Rosemary nearby. Please call or email Trena Kelly for details. This is a funky little garden and will be fun.



### EVENING OUT

The March Evening Out will be Wednesday, March 16 at 6:00 pm at Cafe Venice 101 W. Venice Ave., Venice. Call or email Melanie Odom by Monday, March 14. Looking forward to seeing you there.

### LUNCH BUNCH, ETC.

Lunch Bunch is Wednesday, March 23 at 11:30 am and we will be dining at Ken and Barb's Grove City Kitchen in Englewood. Please contact Paula Choyke to reserve your spot.

### Sharing and Caring

Cards sent to:

Fran Brinkman - recovering from pacemaker procedure

Carol Murray - recovering from COVID



MARCH		BIRTHDAYS	
3	Kathleen Pickering	24	Karol Olson
5	Cathy Edwards	26	Pam Biever
9	Trena Kelly	28	Mary Greenberg
10	Sharon Whiting	30	Evelyn Harriet Kent
15	Beatrice Holt	30	Carol Miske
15	Lois Minnich	30	Melissa Stofko
17	Patricia Bull		

[We apologize if your birthday has been omitted. Membership rosters are being updated.]



**AAUW VENICE BRANCH ACTIVITIES — MARCH 2022 CALENDAR**

Day	Date	Time	Event	Contact	Location/Notes
Thurs	3	10:00	Duplicate Bridge	Susan Leege	The Floridian. Players experienced with modern conventions, duplicate strategy & bidding boxes.
Fri	4	11:30	Euchre	Charlene Turczyn	Elks Club, Nokomis.
Mon	14	1:30	Book Group	Linda Weston Hilda Dillman	Jacaranda Library, in person. Book: <i>Fast Girls</i> by Elise Hooper
Fri	11	TBD	French Conversation	Jane Metcalf	Venetian Golf & River Club
Fri	11	11:30	Bridge For Fun	Carol Cudia	Bridge & lunch. Venetian Golf & River Club. Sign up in advance.
Tues	15	<b>Deadline for April Venice Views</b>		Send Word formatted articles and/or jpg formatted photos by email to <a href="mailto:aauwveniceviews@gmail.com">aauwveniceviews@gmail.com</a>	
Tues	15	TBD	Exploring with your Camera	Trena Kelly	Children's Garden, Sarasota
Wed	16	11:30	Cook's Corner	Joan Kieran	Theme: St. Patrick's Day Tea Party at Debbie Blackwell's home
Wed	16	6:00	Evening Out	Melanie Odom Lois Odom	Cafe Venice 101 W. Venice Ave., Venice. Call or email Melanie Odom by Monday, March 14.
Thurs	17	10:00	Duplicate Bridge	Susan Leege	The Floridian. Players experienced with modern conventions, duplicate strategy & bidding boxes.
Fri	18	11:30	Euchre	Charlene Turczyn	Elks Club, Nokomis
Mon	21	3:00	Coastal Cruising	Paula Dulski	Sarasota Marina Jack, Freedom Boat Club. Car pool from Venice.
Wed	23	11:30	Lunch Bunch, Etc.	Paula Choyke	Ken and Barb's Grove City Kitchen, 2000 Oyster Creek Dr, Englewood. Contact Paula to reserve your spot.
Thurs	24	10:00	Play Readers	Fran Brinkman	Fran's home
Fri	25	TBD	French Conversation	Jane Metcalf	Venetian Golf & River Club
Fri	25	11:30	Bridge For Fun	Carol Cudia	Bridge & lunch. Venetian Golf & River Club. You Sign up in advance.
Mon	28	10:00	New Member Coffee	Patti Warner	<i>By Invitation Only</i> for new members. Suzanne Biviano's home.
Tues	29	1:00	Patriotic Bridge Fundraiser	Fran Brinkman	Clubside Clubhouse
Wed	30	1:00	Art in the Afternoon Event	Trena Kelly	IslandWalk Event Center, Venice. Reservations needed.



Venice Views Editor for March: 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**

**[Text in Word Formatted File](#)**

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

Deadline for the **APRIL** issue of Venice Views is **3/15/2022**