

VOLUME XLVIII, No. 9

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**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, MAY 12, 2022

**AT 10:00AM SOCIAL AND SET UP OF CHAIRS; MEETING AT 10:30AM**

**COMMUNITY Room, William H. Jervey, Jr. Venice Public Library.**

**300 Nokomis Ave South, Venice**

“Seeds of Leadership” is the theme of the May 12<sup>th</sup> program featuring Barbara Hines, Leadership Venice Director for the Venice Area Chamber of Commerce, and representatives of the inaugural “Teen Leadership Venice” program. The meeting takes place at the Jervey Library (on the island) at 10:30 am, with social time (and set-up) beginning at 10:00 am when the library opens.

Teen Leadership Venice is a program that provides area high school students a chance to enhance their knowledge and develop leadership skills that will empower and motivate them to become involved and committed to their community.

Plan to learn how this first-year ‘class’ met its goals, how the students were selected and progressed, and what challenges they faced. We might even be challenged by a leadership activity ourselves!!

Looking ahead to **JUNE**, when our program year is officially over -- but our desire to connect and learn still grows -- plan to attend “Behind the Curtain”, a back-stage tour at the Venice Theatre on June 9. [Pam Swarts, Program Director]



**HEADS UP -- NEW MAH JONGG SIG COMING AND  
SUMMER SOCIALS ARE RETURNING!!! - SEE PAGE 5**

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT PAULA DULSKI



The confirmation of Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson broke a barrier for a very high profile position and it is fully supported by AAUW. AAUW wants progress in bringing underrepresented women into the mainstream. There will be four women on the Supreme Court for the first time. There will be a black woman on the Supreme Court for the first time, as well. The four women justices may be serving on the court for upwards of 25 years as there is no required retirement age.

The confirmation process involved face to face interviews with most of the 100 senators and three days of hearings by the judiciary committee. Subsequently her nomination was moved to the Senate where she was confirmed. She will be sworn in when Justice Steven Breyer retires in June.

This is a step in the right direction for closing the gender leadership gap. Our members can continue to follow the AAUW agendas that address equal pay, family leave, stopping sexual harassment, equity in education and more. You can use the Two Minute Activist program on the National website to contact members of Congress and your state legislators and leave a message on your stand on issues. We will continue to advocate for women and girls.

## INFORMATION RE 2022-2023 DUES

Normally at this time of year, we would be reminding you that dues should be paid for next year. However, AAUW National is rolling out a new system to keep track of members and to collect dues but the system has problems which still need solving. So we will not be asking you for dues by July 1, 2022. Please **do not send a check** at this time as we cannot process it. Our Venice Branch Director of Finance, Bobbi Amero, has talked with Angela Cooper at National to get updates. You will get a notice from us when National says that the site is cleaned up and ready to collect dues.

**However, if you choose, members can now pay with a credit card using the Community Hub.** You should have received an email about this change. If you have not, you can request the link from [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org). In the link you will be asked to click on 'forgot password' and you will need to set up a new password. The old password that you used will no longer work for the Community Hub.



## HEADS UP

## GIVING CHALLENGE IS TUES/WED, APRIL 26-27 NOON TO NOON

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.



## **FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR PATTI WARNER**



GOOD NEWS travels fast when you aren't able to be there. I heard the Annual Meeting went very well and our new venue at the Library is perfect! If I had been there I would have added some appreciative comments for the members who help me with the Membership Director's responsibilities.

Thank you to Suzanne Biviano, my assistant, who is there every meeting to welcome new members as well as order their new magnetic nametags. Also, she hosted the New Member Coffee at her beautiful home in March. Thanks to Paula Dulski for updating the Directory and publishing it for us, to Jeri Jaminet for keeping the Birthday List current and including it every month in the Venice Views, and for all the members who have volunteered to be Mentors for our new members. Also, I appreciate Stephanie Hallowell for being a loyal substitute at meetings if needed.

My thank yous are representative of how many volunteers are needed for just one Board position. This is what makes this organization so great. . .all the members who are willing to help the Board with their jobs so our organization can run smoothly and so we can accomplish our

### **JOIN A THINK TANK FOR FUTURE PROGRAMS!**

**Members, new and seasoned, are invited to participate in a fun “think tank” on Monday, May 9, 9:30-11:30 am in the conference room of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Suncoast, 1000 Tamiami Trail South, Venice.**

Hosts Joy Mahler, Anita Kunkle, and Pam Swarts will provide brain-stimulating caffeine, carbs, fruit, and protein – aka brunch! The ideal outcome of this event will be a program proposal plus some alternatives for the 2022-23 program year. (Note that programs are approved by the board of directors during the summer.) Interested members are asked to RSVP to Pam Swarts via email no later than Wednesday, May 4.

Our promise: You will NOT be drafted to serve on the program committee simply because you attend this meeting! You MIGHT, however, have a compelling desire to assist the committee with a specific topic, and this is optional. We hope to hear from you! [Pam Swarts, Program Director]





## SPOTLIGHT ON MEMBER Susan Farstrup



This much traveled member spent most of her early years in California, teaching in both east Los Angeles and south San Francisco, where she met her husband.

His degree program took them to Minnesota, and after that to a number of other states. She says, “Within the contiguous U.S. states, I’ve lived in the two largest (California and Texas) and the two smallest (Rhode Island and Delaware).

During all these moves, she continued to work, primarily in elementary school education but also a stint in job development and training with Rhode Island state government.

Her late husband’s role as executive director of an international literacy organization was the springboard for much of her international traveling. She says they met many people, a number of whom remain close friends.

It was a friendship that initially motivated them to visit, then move to Venice. She joined our branch twice, initially as a snowbird, then again when she became a full-time resident. Her membership has paid off for our branch as well. She’s currently serving as branch vice president. As one of the past editors of *Venice Views*, she helped keep us all informed for eight years. And she was co-chair of the Home Tour in 2020.

Like the rest of us, her life was constricted during the pandemic shutdowns. As a quilter and a member of the Sarasota Modern Quilt Guild, she made use of the hiatus to complete a large multi-quilt project that is now installed in her great room. She intends to expand her hobbies after taking painting classes at the Venice Art Center, and find more time for reading.

She hopes to get back to traveling but she also keeps a focus on the goals of AAUW. “As we look back on the history of women, yes we have come a long way...but we still have a long way to go.” She adds, “Women still need help with their rights as well as agency over their lives.” [Judith Houston]

**\* \* THE RETURN OF SUMMER SOCIALS! \* \***

Now is the time to think about hosting summer socials, popular activities from the “before times.” These are one-time events for fun get-togethers when our regular AAUW meetings and activities are on summer hiatus. These can be gatherings and fieldtrips. Some ideas are fieldtrips to interesting venues such as museums, gardens, exhibitions, and tours; see a movie together; stream a movie and discuss afterwards; host a cocktail party, a poolside party or game afternoon—there are many possibilities!

If you wish to host a summer social, email your activity details by [Clicking Here](#). Include activity title, description, date and time, and whom to contact to sign up. Summer socials will be listed in Venice Views.



**\* \* \* CALLING ALL MAH JONGG PLAYERS \* \* \***

**POSSIBLE NEW MAH JONGG SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP FORMING**

At the New Member Coffee there was a discussion about trying to start up a MAH JONGG SIG again. The last time a MAH JONGG SIG group met was on the same Fridays of the month as Euchre. There are several Euchre players who would like to play MAH JONGG too.

A different day of the week to meet needs to be found. Looking at the calendar the 4th Monday or 4th Tuesday seem like a possible acceptable day.

**Interested parties:** Email Lynda Weston by [Clicking Here](#) and let her know you are interested. Meeting times and dates will be chosen and a chair appointed after six or more members sign on.

We are also looking for suggestions as to **where** we can play and if you **prefer morning or afternoon**.





## **ELECTION RESULTS FROM ANNUAL MEETING**

Elections were held on April 14 for four Board positions and one nominating committee member post. It was a great chance to thank all of the directors and their committee members for their efforts in promoting the activities of the AAUW Venice Branch. It was our first meeting at the Venice Jervey Library and the location worked well for our members.

### **AAUW VENICE BRANCH BOARD 2022-2023**

President	Paula Dulski
Vice President	Bev Weltzien [1 <sup>st</sup> Term]
Program Director	Pam Swarts [2 <sup>nd</sup> Term]
Membership Director	Patti Warner
Study/Interest Director	Lynda Weston [1 <sup>st</sup> Term]
Secretary	Jan Harris
Director of Finance	Bobbi Amero [2 <sup>nd</sup> Term]
Director of Development	TBD - OPEN
Education Director	Wendy Seeley
Communications Director	Phyllis Vogel
Public Policy Director	Alice Haber

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Elected	Marge Collin [1 <sup>st</sup> Term]
Elected	Trena Kelly
Elected	Lynda Weston
Appointed	TBD - OPEN
Appointed	Joyce Mikulski

### **RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS**

Susan Farstrup	Vice President
Stephanie Hallowell	Study/Interest Director
Susan Hotzler	Director of Development

## AAUW ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 14, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 10:37 a.m. by President Paula Dulski at the Jervey Venice Public Library on Nokomis Avenue.

Minutes were approved as published in the March Venice Views.

Development Director Susan Hotzler recognized the National and State donors from our Branch with certificates for their monetary contributions.

Pam Swarts, Program Director, introduced and thanked her committee. A “Think Tank Breakfast” will be held on May 9 at the offices of Big Brothers and Big Sisters. It is open to the membership to discuss programming for the upcoming year.

Each committee member, who was present, was introduced and thanked for their service this year.

Jan Harris announced who was on the Nominating committee and thanked them for their contribution for selecting a slate of officers. The following positions were elected by proclamation by Paula Dulski and installed by Kathleen Pickering:

Vice President - Beverly Weltzien

Study/Interest Group Director - Lynda Weston

Nominating Committee Member - Marge Collin

Jan Harris was appointed as Secretary

Study/Interest Groups reported on upcoming events. Each activity will have their detailed information published in the Directory. A new group is being formed for MAH JONGG. Information will be announced.

A Giving Challenge Event, April 26-27, noon to noon, will be held at Paula Dulski’s home with assistance to on-line giving. Donations of \$25 to \$100 will be matched by the Patterson Foundation.

Pam Swarts requested photos from all groups to use for future presentations.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Weltzien, Secretary



## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS– 2022 –2023

### BOOK CLUB

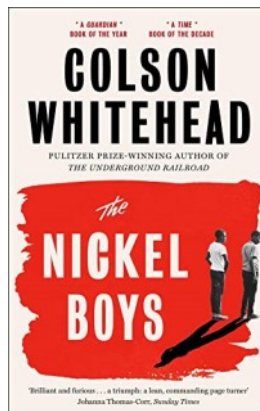
The last in-person meeting of the AAUW SIG book club this season will be on Monday, May 9, 2022 at 1:30. Hilda Dillman will facilitate the discussion of *Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead. This may be the last in-person meeting for a while, but we never stop reading.

**Book club members have voted, and here is the list for 2022-23.**

**Dates marked with an asterisk will be Zoom meetings.**

Date	Title	Author
*June 13, 2022	<i>Lincoln Highway</i>	Amor Towles
*July 11, 2022	<i>Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law</i>	Mary Roach
*August 8, 2022	<i>Finding the Mother Tree</i>	Suzanne Simard
*September 12, 2022	<i>West with Giraffes</i>	Lynda Rutledge
*October 10, 2022	<i>Music of Bees</i>	Eileen Gavin
November 14, 2022	<i>Dictionary of Lost Words</i>	Pip Williams
December 12, 2022	<i>Downstairs Girl</i>	Stacey Lee
January 9, 2023	<i>Black Cake</i>	Charmaine Wilkerson
February 13, 2023	<i>Lady Clementine</i>	Marie Benedict
March 13, 2023	<i>Women and Leadership</i>	Julia Gillard & Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala
April 10, 2023	<i>Personal Librarian</i>	Marie Benedict & Victoria Murray
May 8, 2023	<i>The Rose Code</i>	Kate Quinn

You know you don't want to miss the books on the Zoom discussions, June through October. Email Lynda Weston if you have not been part of the previous Zoom meetings.



### COASTAL CRUISING

Coastal cruising will be May 23 at 3pm from Cape Haze Marina in Englewood. Contact Paula Dulski if you have any questions.



**YOU ARE INVITED TO A  
COOK'S CORNER SPRING PICNIC  
at Maxine Barritt Park, 1800 Harbor Dr S., Venice  
Wednesday, May 18, 2022  
12:00 - 1:30pm**

Enjoy sandwiches to share, nibblies, cold drinks, cookies,  
a beautiful setting and wonderful company!

**RSVP to Joan Kieran by May 14**



### **EXPLORING WITH YOUR CAMERA**

For our final outing this year we will go to Matlacha (the cutest artiest town in Florida) on Pine Island on **Tuesday, May 17.**

Check online to see how charming it is. We will need to leave at 9:00 a.m. and carpool. We can decide on lunch at Matlacha or go to the north end of Pine Island to Bokeelia.

Please call, text or email Trena Kelly for details and to register.

### **LUNCH BUNCH, ETC.**

**APRIL** -- We will be having lunch on Wednesday **April 27** at Magnolia's on the Bay on Manasota Key at 11:30 a.m. They are new and located at 2395 N. Beach Road on Manasota Key.

**MAY** -- Off to the Venice Art Center for lunch on the patio at 11:30am on Wednesday, **May 25.**

### **SHARING AND CARING**



Thinking of You card sent to Barbara Stevens now at home after a recent rehab stay. Get well, Barbara!

Please email Marge Collin and let her know of any illnesses/accidents/deaths or other events happening to our members within our branch. We need your input!!

## May 14 Annual Meeting

The May 14<sup>th</sup> annual meeting marked a smooth transition to a new location – the main library on Venice Island. Members enjoyed socializing in the half hour before the meeting began.

President Paula Dulski moderated the various member recognitions, and former President Katherine Pickering sparked laughter with the official but humorous installation of officers.



Exploring with Your Camera in April at The Children's Garden, Sarasota



Betty Ehik and Val Dwek



L to R: Val Dwek, Lynda Weston, Joan Kieran, Trena Kelly, Lynda Friedman, Beth Gamel, Betty Ehik



Maida Zamoff Presenting  
at Art in the Afternoon Event Held March 30



3	Christine Cairns	9	Lynda Weston
4	Mary Castell	11	Colette Sears
5	Wendy Seeley	19	Sherry Lynaugh
6	Betty Badawi	20	Sue Shea
7	Susette Bryan	29	Bobbie Huibregtse
7	Samira Easton	30	L. Carol Newnam
7	Gale Young	31	Barbara Swartz

## AAUW VENICE BRANCH ACTIVITIES — MAY 2022 CALENDAR

Day	Date	Time	Event	Contact	Location/Notes
Thurs	5	10:00	Duplicate Bridge	Susan Leege	The Floridian. Players experienced with modern conventions, duplicate strategy & bidding boxes.
Fri	6	11:30	Euchre	Charlene Turczyn	Elks Club, Nokomis.
Mon	9	1:30	Book Group	Linda Weston Hilda Dillman	Jacaranda Library, in person. Book: <i>Nickel Boys</i> by Colson Whitehead
Fri	13	TBD	French Conversation	Jane Metcalf	Venetian Golf & River Club
Fri	13	11:30	Bridge For Fun	Carol Cudia	Bridge & lunch. Venetian Golf & River Club. Sign up in advance.
Wed	15	Deadline for <b>Summer Venice Views</b> [June, July and August]		Send Word formatted articles and/or jpg formatted photos by email to <a href="mailto:aauwveniceviews@gmail.com">aauwveniceviews@gmail.com</a>	
Tues	17	TBD	Exploring with your Camera	Trena Kelly	Matlacha on Pine Island. Call/text/email Trena Kelly for details and registration
Wed	18	12:00	Cook's Corner	Joan Kieran	Theme: Spring Picnic. At Maxine Barritt Park. RSVP by May 14
Thurs	19	10:00	Duplicate Bridge	Susan Leege	The Floridian. Players experienced with modern conventions, duplicate strategy & bidding boxes.
Fri	20	11:30	Euchre	Charlene Turczyn	Elks Club, Nokomis
Mon	23	3:00	Coastal Cruising	Paula Dulski	Cape Haze Marina, Englewood. Contact Paula D. to RSVP.
Wed	25	11:30	Lunch Bunch, Etc.	Paula Choyke	Venice Art Center on the patio. Contact Paula C. to reserve spot.
Fri	27	TBD	French Conversation	Jane Metcalf	Venetian Golf & River Club
Fri	27	11:30	Bridge For Fun	Carol Cudia	Bridge & lunch. Venetian Golf & River Club. You Sign up in advance.



Venice Views Editor for May: 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](#)**

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

Deadline for the **SUMMER** issue of Venice Views is **5/15/2022**