



VENICE VIEWS

Volume XLVX No. 6 **February, 2023** **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 State: aauw-fl.aauw.net National: aauw.org
AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research

February Program Alert
Change of Date & Time – And Opportunities!

Instead of the second Thursday of the month, we will meet on the first Thursday, February 2, & instead of the morning, we will meet in the afternoon from 1 – 3:30 pm!

This unusual schedule was planned months ago as a segway to the home tour and to allow for volunteer orientation, but, after the hurricane, it was determined to postpone the tour one more year. Now, we’re making lemonade from lemons by:

1. Saluting our scholarship awardees with a reception (yes, punch and dessert!)
2. Hearing from the “Schoolhouse Link” director regarding our holiday stocking donations and more
3. Engaging in small group interaction to help shape the future of our organization

Mark your calendar for this special afternoon at the William H. Jervy Library on the island on Thursday, February 2 starting at 1:00 pm.



Ellen McLaughlin (center), "Schoolhouse Link" director, accepts the contribution of over 4 dozen Christmas stockings from Pam Swarts and Marigene Witten.

LOOKING FOR ASSISTANCE WITH THE 2023-2024 DIRECTORY

Our organization needs assistance with editing and proofing the Venice Branch Directory for the coming year. We can provide the current Publisher file for the person(s) who are interested in assisting with this task. The person needs to have a knowledge of the Publisher application in Microsoft Office.

The main tasks are to add new members' information for the next year's directory, update information for the 2024 meetings, and make changes of the board members and committee members. Also, we need members who will proofread the directory to ensure information is correct.

Nancy Brex and Susan Hotzler, Co-Chairs for Communication

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The New Year is off to a very good start. We had our numerous social events listed on the Calendar. Then there was a great One Woman Show honoring Ruth Bader Ginsburg which was hosted by the Fort Meyers/Lee County AAUW branch. Eighteen members of our Venice branch viewed the impressive performance honoring the women's rights champion and Supreme Court Justice.

There will be at least three fundraisers for scholarships during the winter season of 2023. February 10th brings 'Love, Libations and Lite Bites'. This is the inspiration of Jan Harris and Bev Weltzien. March 30th offers 'Cards for Fun' hosted by Fran Brinkman. Many members will remember this as 'Patriotic Bridge', same game - new name. Finally, April 20th has something special for game enthusiasts. It is called Game Day Shuffle and champions will try out a variety of fun card, dice, tiles, and Q&A games. It is still in the planning stages and you will get more details in time.

Lobby Days at the Capital in Tallahassee provides the in-person opportunity to advocate for bills that promote gender equity. All AAUW Florida branches are invited to participate. We meet with Representatives and Senators and sit in on legislative sessions. There is a training session on Monday night on March 13 to review pending legislation that is important to AAUW. Then we lobby at the capital on March 14 and 15. Consider joining your fellow Florida AAUW branches for this Capital Event.

Paula Dulski

JANUARY PROGRAM RECAP



Jennifer Johnson, Director of Community Leadership at the Gulf Coast Community Foundation, was our guest speaker on January 12th, and she captivated the audience with her engaging personality. Joy Mahler, program committee member, introduced Jennifer and indicated how highly respected she is among non-profit partners.

Johnson spoke about the importance of instilling civility in all interpersonal connections, and introduced the 'Civility Squad,' a team of animated characters designed by Ringling College of Arts students to convey and inspire positive change, one interaction at a time. Their key messages include: Stay Positive, Respect Others, Keep Your Cool, Speak Kindly, Rediscover Silence, Make a Difference, Pay Attention, Accept Others, Listen, and Say Thank You.

Members enjoyed the interactive portion of Jennifer's message. As one member stated: "You are speaking to an exceptional group of women – maybe speaking to the choir – but your message is very relevant."



Members react to shared examples of 'paying it forward.'

A take-away quote by Jennifer that resonated is "Curiosity is so much more fun than judgment."

Pam Swarts & Joy Mahler

MEET NEW MEMBER MARIGENE WITTEN



Having grown up in Louisville, Kentucky, I chose to attend Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana, where I was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority, a disc jockey for WIUS, and president of the IU chapter of Alpha Epsilon Rho (the national academic honor society of electronic media).

After working for a radio station in North Carolina, I began a career in college admissions. For over 20 years, in North Carolina and Kentucky, I worked for three private, selective colleges and one public university (High Point University, Transylvania University, Guilford College, and Northern Kentucky University). In 2005, I started a career at Churchill Downs holding several positions including selling Kentucky Derby tickets, event manager, and customer service manager. However, I couldn't leave what I love the most, which is guiding high school students through the college admission process, so I created a company to serve as an independent college counselor and worked in this position part-time while I was at Churchill Downs and continue to do this advising with my move to Florida.

I have two children. My daughter Meredith lives in Raleigh and is the mother of my three grandchildren. My son John lives in New York City with his chocolate lab and works in growth marketing. He will be getting married in June in Charleston, South Carolina.

I moved to Venice in December 2021 and have been involved with Venice Presbyterian Church.

AAUW FLORIDA LOBBY DAYS 2023



Lobby Days are scheduled in Tallahassee to let legislators know where AAUW stands on important issues. All are invited to this very important event. Join us in advancing gender equity for women and girls through advocacy at our annual Lobby Days event, March 14-15. Travel on March 13. Carpooling information will be forthcoming. Additional schedule and information available at aauw-fl.aauw.net. Hotel: Tryp By Wyndham, 1978 Village Green Way, Tallahassee, FL 32308 t: 850-204-4000. Contact the hotel via phone to book (AAUW Florida Block) before 27 February Room Rate \$85 per night.

Submitted by Alice Haber, Public Policy Director



| | | | |
|------|-------------------|------|-----------------|
| 2/1 | Ginny Hurney | 2/15 | Suzanne Biviano |
| 2/3 | Lynda Irvin | 2/21 | Jeri Jaminet |
| 2/7 | Debbie Blackwell | 2/23 | Lidia Madrazo |
| 2/8 | Mary Lou Thetford | 2/24 | Gayle Grant |
| 2/12 | Katie Morey | 2/27 | Paula Choyke |
| 2/13 | Beth Gamel | | |

AAUW-Venice Branch General Meeting Minutes - January 12, 2023

President Paula Dulski called the Branch's General Meeting to order at 11:30.

Treasurer Bobbi Amero reported 12/31/22 balance sheet reflecting Total Liabilities and Total Equity \$36,674.92

Membership Chair Patti Warner reported we have 163 members

Education Chair – Wendy Seeley

- Scholarship reception for our awardees February 2, 2023 1-3:30
- 10 nominations for Tech Trek have been received.

Communications – Sue Holtzer

Venice Main Street is an excellent resource for everything Venice

SIGs – Lynda Weston

- Announcements made regarding the many SIG sign-ups available at our meeting site
- SIG Calendars distributed.

Public Policy

Announcement by President Dulski of Lobby Days in Tallahassee March 13-15

Old Business – none

New Business - none

Meeting adjourned at 12:01 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Harris
Secretary

ART IN THE AFTERNOON

Join us as we combine storytelling, music and artworks into a fun and inspiring set of performances.

ART IN THE AFTERNOON

Wednesday
January 25, 2023
at 11:30 am

Saturday
February 25,
2023
at 1:00 pm

Wednesday
March 29, 2023
at 11:30 am



Artist: Maggie McClellan

All events are at the
Community Room
William H. Jervey, Jr
Venice Public Library
300 Nokomis Ave S

Co-sponsors



Mark your calendar for **SATURDAY, February 25th** for Art in the Afternoon. Again, because the Islandwalk Event Center is under hurricane reconstruction, we will be meeting at the Venice Jervey library downtown. This is a great opportunity for those of you that had conflicts during the week.

The program will start at 1 p.m. and will feature interesting pieces of art, music, and storytellers...a most interesting immersion of all the arts. It is free and open to all without reservation.

Trena Kelly



Study/ Interest Groups

EXPLORING WITH YOUR CAMERA



Our February camera outing will be Tuesday, February 14 – a Valentine treat for us. Mark your calendar as this is the second Tuesday of the month.

We will carpool to Mixon Fruit Farms—a working citrus farm in Bradenton that has a tram ride and lunch for \$25 each. They have a wetlands pond, wildlife rescue, butterfly garden and more subjects for great photos.

I need to book the tour, so be sure to contact me to have fun.

Trena Kelly

BOOK CLUB



You've heard that behind every successful man, there stands a strong woman, and Clementine, the wife of Winston Churchill, certainly fit that description. Mary Fritz will lead the AAUW book club in a discussion of Lady Clementine by Marie Benedict on Monday, February 13 at the Jacaranda Library. Book discussion begins at 1:30, but come any time after 1pm to catch up on what others are reading. Hilda Dillman

You're Invited

EVENING OUT

Evening Out will be Wednesday Feb 15 at 6 pm at TJ Carney's.
Call or e-mail Melanie Odom by Monday Feb 13.

Melanie Odom

MIX AND MINGLE

Join Venice AAUW members on February 20 at Café Venice from 4 to 6. Please RSVP to Kathleen Pickering or Judy Houston. If you know a new member, consider extending a personal invitation to one or more of them. It's a chance to get to know them better!

Kathleen Pickering

MAH JONGG

The MJ group meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, Feb. 14, at the Elks Club, Knights Trail, Nokomis (right side entrance). Arrive by 12:15, play 12:30 to 3:30. Cost is \$5 per session (please bring exact dollar amount). Also bring your MJ card and wear your name tag.

Contact Naureen Zimmermann or Rosemary Smith with questions.

COOKS CORNER



The next Cook's Corner will take place at the home of Nancy Brex on Wednesday, February 15, at noon. The theme will be the Mediterranean diet. Please let Joan know if you plan to join us.

Joan Kiernan

SHARING AND CARING



A card was sent to Paula Dulski, who has been battling some nagging issues from her bout with Covid.

A card was sent to Nancy Savenko. Her husband Val passed away.

A card was sent to Kathleen Pickering wishing her well with her shoulder replacement surgery.

Marge Collin

AAUW VENICE BRANCH ACTIVITIES CALENDAR FEBRUARY 2023

| DAY | DATE | TIME | EVENT | CONTACT | LOCATION/NOTES |
|-------|------|-------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Fri | 3 | 11:30 | Euchre | Charlente Turczyn | Location to be determined. |
| Tues | 7 | 9:00 | Walk and Talk | Beth Gamel | Maxine Barritt Park, Meet at Big Pavilion, 20-to-30-minute brisk walk. |
| Fri | 10 | 11:00 | Bridge for Fun | Carol Cudia | Bridge and lunch – Venetian Golf & River Club. You must sign up in advance. |
| TBD | TBD | TBD | French Conversation | Jane Metcalf | Contact Jane for dates, times, and location The goal is to meet twice a month. |
| Mon | 13 | 1:30 | Book Group | Lynda Weston Hilda Dillman | <i>Lady Clementine</i> by Marie Benedict Jacaranda Library |
| Tues | 14 | 9:00 | Walk and Talk | Beth Gamel | Maxine Barritt Park, Meet at Big Pavilion, 20-to-30-minute brisk walk. |
| Tues | 14 | 11:30 | Exploring with Your Camera | Trena Kelly | Carpool to Mixon Farms |
| Tues | 14 | 12:30 | Mah Jongg | Rosemary Smith Naureen Zimmermann. (Off Knight's Trail) | Elks Club, 1021 Discovery Way, Nokomis |
| Wed | 15 | | | Deadline for March Venice Views | Send Word articles and/or jpg formatted photos by email to aauwveniceviews@gmail.com |
| Wed | 15 | 12:00 | Cook's Corner | Joan Kieran | Location: home of Nancy Brex. Theme: Mediterranean diet |
| Wed | 15 | 6:00 | Evening Out | Melanie Odom | TJ Carney's |
| Thurs | 16 | 1:30 | Duplicate Bridge | Susan Leege | The Floridan, Players should have experience with modern conventions, duplicate strategy & bridge boxes |
| Fri | 17 | 11:30 | Euchre | Charlene Turczyn | Location to be determined. |
| Mon | 20 | 4-6 | Mix and Mingle | Kathleen Pickering | Café Venice |
| Tues | 21 | 9:00 | Walk and Talk | Beth Gamel | Maxine Barritt Park, Meet at Big Pavilion, 20-to-30-minute brisk walk |
| Wed | 22 | 11:30 | Lunch Bunch | Beth Gamel | Meet at 11:30 at The Salty Dog |
| Fri | 24 | 11:30 | Bridge for Fun | Carol Cudia | Bridge and lunch – Venetian Golf & River Club. You must sign up in advance |
| Mon | 27 | 10:00 | Coastal Cruising | Paula Dulski | Venice Marine Max |



Venice Views Editor for February:

Nancy Brex

E-copies Circulation: Susan Donovan

Reminder for Sharing and Caring Cards:

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!!

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 March issue of Venice Views is **2/15/2023**.