



VENICE VIEWS



VOLUME XLVX No. 10 SUMMER 2024 PUBLISHED MONTHLY
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, VENICE, FLORIDA BRANCH
P.O. BOX 515, VENICE, FL 34284
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BRANCH: venice-fl.aauw.net STATE: aauw-fl.aauw.net NATIONAL: aauw.org

Dear Members,

As we bask in the warmth and vibrancy of summer, we are filled with immense pride and excitement as we look ahead to the second year of our term as your co-presidents.

One of our goals was to empower each other. We hope you have felt that *empowerment* by volunteering and attending our many meetings, special events, SIGs, and programs. We also believe we have created an inclusive, unique, caring environment amongst our members. With you, we have strengthened the bonds that link us to each other and our Venice community.

As we embark on year number two, our enthusiasm and commitment remain steadfast. The coming 2024-2025 year is filled with continued opportunities for growth and advocacy. We have an incredible lineup of programs, projects, and events planned that again promise to inspire, engage, and further our goals.

We want to express our gratitude for your trust, energy, and unwavering commitment to our shared visions. Your contributions have been instrumental in our collective success.

With warmest regards,

Jan and Bev

Co-Presidents

2023-2025



Venice AAUW Summer Outing

University of South Florida (USF)

Sarasota-Manatee Campus

Thursday, June 13

9:30 am – 12 noon

For carpooling, contact:

Pam Swarts



Atala Hall

Enjoy a behind-the-scenes peak at the recently constructed residence hall with our host, Kaitlyn Reeves, & learn about its original name. Then, participate in a 'Sip & Chat' session with available students & faculty . . . a great intro to our Community Involvement activity!

A dutch treat lunch nearby will follow.

WHEN DO I PAY MY DUES?

Annual Dues are \$103. AAUW National dues are \$72 and will be fully tax deductible this year. State dues are \$12, and branch dues are \$19. Renewing your dues is a simple process. There are two versions:

1. Just visit <https://www.aauw.org/membership> and follow the instructions. You may be asked to change your password, but don't worry, it's just a security measure to protect your account.

OR

2. You may also pay your dues by sending a check payable to the AAUW Venice Branch. Mail to P.O. Box 515, Venice, FL 34284.

2024 SUMMER SOCIALS

NOTHING TO DO?
NOWHERE TO GO?

Join your fellow VAAUW members for a memorable 2024 summer!
We will carpool (most of the time) somewhere to beat the heat and
enjoy the summer months!

If you would like to take part in any of the following activities, email
Jeri Jaminet **now** (email address in Directory). She will acknowledge your
email and put you on the list. Afterwards, you will receive details about two
weeks before the event.

REGISTER NOW!

Monday, **JUNE 17** - **C'est La Vie Restaurant**, Sarasota, authentic French bakery and café.

Thursday, **JULY 11** - **Sea Life Eco Boat Tour**, Sarasota, on Sarasota and Roberts Bays with
marine biologist.

Wednesday, **JULY 17** - **The Imagine Museum**, contemporary glass art, St. Petersburg.
Bea Holt to organize. Email your interest in attending **directly** to Bea.

Thursday, **AUGUST 15** – **Movie TBD**, AMC Sarasota 12 Movie Theatre, Sarasota.

****This event needs a volunteer to organize.** Jeri will be away. ******

Thursday, **AUGUST 22** – **The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art** (only), Sarasota.
Possible docent talk.

Monday, **SEPTEMBER 9** - **The James Museum**, St. Petersburg.

Wednesday, **SEPTEMBER 18** - **Koreshan State Park** (nationally registered historic site),
and Six Mile Cypress Slough Nature Preserve – **easy** 1.2 mile walking on a *board-*
walk/interpretive center, Fort Myers area.

Membership Vote Outcome

The 2024 AAUW election is now complete and we are grateful for all those who took the time to vote to change the requirements of membership to include non-degreed individuals. The initiative to open AAUW's membership did not pass. Therefore, it will remain as is.

Changes to AAUW's bylaws require 2/3 majority (66.6%) to pass. AAUW members voted 65.1% to approve the measure, just shy of passing.

We understand that this outcome may feel exclusionary to some. But AAUW's history is one of continual change and growth, even in the face of challenges. That same resilient spirit must guide us now as we seek to fulfill AAUW's purpose to advance equity for women and girls.

There are many ways to engage with AAUW and support our mission beyond membership. Please encourage your fellow members and non-members alike to engage with us — to become [Two-Minute Activists](#), to attend our webinars and events, to apply for a [fellowship or grant](#), and to share the information and resources from our [website](#), which support women's economic empowerment.

National Grants for Graduate Level Degrees

In April AAUW awarded \$6.25 million to 260 exceptional fellows and grantees to achieve their graduate level and professional goals or lead community-based projects that empower women and girls. AAUW is the oldest non-institutional funder of graduate-level women. The Venice branch has three funds at National that support these awards: Venice (FL) Branch, Francis T. Bourne and the American Fellowship.



New Members Breakfast on April 23.

The board members plus other invited guests hosted a new members breakfast at the home of Suzanne Biviano.

Upcoming Changes for this Fall...

There will **NOT** be a general meeting in October. However, for those of you who are in town that month, join the program planners for another great outing. It will replace the formal meeting. Keep your eyes peeled for the e-blast announcement in late summer.

You may ask why. We have more late arrivals than in the past. Half of the board and one-half of the membership start to arrive in October. But fear not, November will be a meeting to remember, filled with exciting discussions and new ideas. Ergo, we look forward to seeing all of you ready to swing into the month and the holiday season with us!

“Happy Summer Days and wishing you a great summer no matter where you are.”

We’ve had the privilege to welcome many new members due to the numerous successes and social opportunities within VAAUW this past year. We wish to continue this growth. To make this very enticing, we have been presented with fun and exciting events to share with potential new members during the summer.

Plan to attend one or more of these activities with a friend or neighbor. It’s a great way for them to meet us outside of a structured meeting.

USF College Outing in June set up by Pam Swarts

Mix and Mingle on the first Monday of each month scheduled by Kathleen Pickering and Judy Houston

Summer Socials (numerous) planned by Jeri Jaminet

Do you know of a past member who no longer belongs? Your Membership Committee is planning a “Welcome Back” social event. Let Marge Collin know who to invite and let’s welcome them with open arms.

In the meantime, enjoy your summer and we hope to see you and someone new at one of the many socials already in the planning.

Vote!

Debbie Blackwell, Public Policy Director, is urging us to:

Mark YOUR calendars for August 20, 2024, as it's not just a Primary but a crucial election for the School Board and Hospital Board members in Sarasota County. This is your chance to make a difference, as everyone can vote for these significant positions.

November 5, 2024, on the Florida State ballot:

Floridians will vote on Amendment 1 to the State Constitution. If passed by 60% of the voters, **it would require district school board elections to be partisan.** Future ballots would list each candidate's political party. School board elections would become part of Florida's closed primary system.

Arguments for school boards to remain nonpartisan (A "NO" vote on Amendment 1): *All registered voters, regardless of party affiliation, can vote in nonpartisan elections.

Nearly 4,000,000 NPA voters in Florida would be excluded from voting for school board candidates in primaries if school board elections become partisan. In some circumstances, **only voters of one party would have a say in selecting candidates.**

Kind Thoughts...

It is with sad hearts that we hear of the passing of Ralston Reid (June 26, 1933 ~ April 9, 2024, age 90), Shirley Reid's husband. Many of you will remember Shirley's contributions to our branch as a past President and State President.

Memorial Service for Lois Odom will be on Wednesday, July 17, at 11:00 am at Trinity Presbyterian Church at 4356 SR776 in Venice. A reception will follow. One correction to Lois's obituary in last newsletter, she was born in Castleberry, AL.

Bea Holt is recovering at home following a heart attack, please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

MISS VENICE FASTPITCH

Two of our members, Joyce Mikulski and Pam Swarts, enjoyed watching our 12 and under (12U) Fastpitch Softball Team become CHAMPIONS in their final spring tournament in Sarasota. VAAUW is so proud of their amazing talent and heartwarming sportsmanship! Many thanks to head coach John Colalillo and his outstanding assistant coaches for bringing not only their expertise but also their compassion and encouragement to these young women. John kept our organization informed of the team's progress throughout the entire spring season. Congratulations and good luck to John, who was chosen as the coach of the All-Star team.



Venice AAUW made it happen!

Six - 7th Grade Girls go to the 2024 Summer Tech Trek Camp

This is a banner year for Tech Trek, with the best attendance since the pandemic. The Venice branch had over 10 nominations, and 7 girls completed their applications. Interviews were held at the Jacaranda Public Library with the students and their parents. Rating these seven young women was challenging as each of them would be an exceptional Tech Trek participant. For the first time, there were more applicants than available spots. Six of the Venice applicants were selected for the camps, with one on the Wait List. Each excelled in math and sciences, all of them had dreams for their futures, and for some, the Tech Trek Camp would be a life-changing experience. Thanks go out to Wendy Seeley and her committee for selecting these outstanding young women.

Women's Resource Center Update

The Women's Resource Center has two volunteer opportunities in the Venice office. The roles and descriptions are below. If any members are interested in volunteering for these duties, please get in touch with Nervely Sainvil, the Client Services Coordinator, at nsainvil@wrc.org. She will provide further instructions on how to proceed.

- 1. Digital Navigator**—Digital Technology has become one of the most widely used methods of communication. However, access to the Internet, devices, and computer skills are wide and varied. Digital Navigators help clients with 1:1 computer tutoring, navigate affordable internet options, and find affordable devices. NO ADVANCED COMPUTER SKILLS ARE NECESSARY.
- 2. Clothing Transporter** – Clothing transporters help transport donated clothing from our Venice office to our Sarasota office.

In addition to these volunteer opportunities, we have decided to support the Women's Resource Center with clothing drives at two of our monthly meetings next year. These drives are a vital part of our support for the center. The first one will be held in November, and the second will be held at one of the spring meetings. As you change your wardrobe for the seasons or clean out closets, be sure to think about donating your unwanted clothing to this great organization.

The WRC accepts a wide range of women's clothing, shoes, and accessories in good condition. This includes scrubs, formal wear, coats, hats, scarves, purses, and jewelry. Clothing does not need to be only work attire. Slacks, sweaters, blouses, etc. are all welcome. The WRC also uses donations to supply their Unique Boutique in Bradenton. The Unique Boutique of the Women's Resource Center is an upscale resale boutique offering gently worn, brand-name women's clothing and accessories at reasonable prices. Sales at the boutique are used to help fund the programs offered at the WRC. The WRC also welcomes any reusable bags you don't need to help individuals carry their new items.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me: Delores (Dee) Glatz, Liaison, with the Women's Resource Center, Community Involvement.

BOOK CLUB

Summer is the perfect time to relax and read, so join along with the VAAUW SIG book club. From June until November, the club meets via Zoom, so you can be anywhere and still meet on the regular date, **the second Monday of the month**, and at the same time: 1 pm to catch up with others and **1:25 for the book discussion.**

Summer 2024 selections are:

June 10	Remarkably Bright Creatures <i>by Shelby VanPelt</i>
July 8	Mad Honey <i>by Jodi Picoult and Jennifer Finney Boylan</i>
August 12	Olive Again <i>by Elizabeth Strout</i>
September 9	Collected Regrets of Clover <i>by Mikki Brammer</i>
October 14	Lady Tan's Circle of Women <i>by Lisa See</i>

To be included on the Zoom list, contact Lynda Weston, SIG Director.



Joyce Mikulski leading May's book club discussion

MAHJONG UPDATE

The first mahjong meet up has taken place and it was great fun! Players are asking for more!!!

So, take note!!

Next mahjong play is scheduled for

Friday, June 28th at noon.

If you can play, make your commitment to Marge Collin by Monday, June 24.

Once the number of members playing has been determined, a meeting place will be decided and Marge will let you know.



We had a perfect day for the May 21 Coastal Cruising. Suzanne Talbott, Paula Dulski, Pam Swarts and Pat Coelho cruised the intracoastal then had lunch at Nokomo's.

Expressing thanks...

On behalf of the Venice Branch members, the Co-Presidents, Jan Harris and Bev Weltzien, presented me with a parting gift bag during the May 9th Branch meeting. Inside, among other "goodies" was a charming sculpture of a seated woman with her pet and book. Various styles of type cover her body. This couldn't be more perfect! She will always have a special spot alongside a folded book I received before moving to Florida. I'm calling it my "round-trip" collection!

Thank you, Venice AAUW, for your great memories and friendships!! Pam Swarts



AAUW VENICE BRANCH SUMMER CALENDAR

JUNE 2024					
DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	CONTACT	LOCATION/NOTES
Fri	7	11:30	Euchre	Charlene Turczyn	Paradise Grill, Nokomis RSVP
Mon	10	1:30	Book Group	Hilda Dillman Lynda Weston	<i>Remarkably Bright Creatures</i> by <i>Shelby VanPelt</i> 1:00 - Zoom opens
Tues	11	4:00	Mix and Mingle	Judy Houston	Hotel Venezia (Ramada Inn) 421 US 41 North
Fri	14	11:30	Bridge for Fun	Bernadette McEnerney	Bridge & lunch. Venetian Golf & River Club. RSVP – Sign up in advance.
Fri	17	11:30	Euchre	Charlene Turczyn	Paradise Grill, Nokomis RSVP
Tues	25	10:00	Coastal Cruising	Paula Dulski	MarineMax in Venice RSVP
Fri	28	11:30	Bridge For Fun	Bernadette McEnerney	Bridge & lunch. Venetian Golf & River Club. RSVP -Sign up in advance.

JULY 2024					
DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	CONTACT	LOCATION/NOTES
Fri	5	11:30	Euchre	Charlene Turczyn	Paradise Grill, Nokomis RSVP
Mon	8	1:30	Book Group	Hilda Dillman Lynda Weston	<i>Mad Honey</i> by <i>Jodi Picoult</i> and <i>Jennifer Finney Boylan</i> 1:00 - Zoom opens
Tues	9	4:00	Mix and Mingle	Judy Houston	Hotel Venezia (Ramada Inn) 421 US 41 North
Fri	12	11:30	Bridge for Fun	Bernadette McEnerney	Bridge & lunch. Venetian Golf & River Club. RSVP – Sign up in advance.
Fri	19	11:30	Euchre	Charlene Turczyn	Paradise Grill, Nokomis RSVP
Fri	26	11:30	Bridge For Fun	Bernadette McEnerney	Bridge & lunch. Venetian Golf & River Club. RSVP -Sign up in advance.

AAUW VENICE BRANCH SUMMER CALENDAR

AUGUST 2024					
DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	CONTACT	LOCATION/NOTES
Fri	2	11:30	Euchre	Charlene Turczyn	Paradise Grill, Nokomis RSVP
Fri	9	11:30	Bridge for Fun	Bernadette McEnerney	Bridge & lunch. Venetian Golf & River Club. RSVP – Sign up in advance.
Mon	12	1:30	Book Group	Hilda Dillman Lynda Weston	Olive Again by <i>Elizabeth Strout</i> 1:00 - Zoom opens
Tues	13	4:00	Mix and Mingle	Judy Houston	Hotel Venezia (Ramada Inn) 421 US 41 North
Fri	16	11:30	Euchre	Charlene Turczyn	Paradise Grill, Nokomis RSVP
Fri	23	11:30	Bridge For Fun	Bernadette McEnerney	Bridge & lunch. Venetian Golf & River Club. RSVP -Sign up in advance.

SEPTEMBER 2024					
DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	CONTACT	LOCATION/NOTES
Fri	6	11:30	Euchre	Charlene Turczyn	Paradise Grill, Nokomis RSVP
Mon	9	1:30	Book Group	Hilda Dillman Lynda Weston	Collected Regrets of Clover by Mikki Brammer 1:00 Zoom opens
Fri	13	11:30	Bridge for Fun	Bernadette McEnerney	Bridge & lunch. Venetian Golf & River Club. RSVP – Sign up in advance.
Sun	15		Deadline for September Venice Views		Send WORD formatted articles and/or JPG photos to
Fri	20	11:30	Euchre	Charlene Turczyn	Paradise Grill, Nokomis RSVP
Fri	27	11:30	Bridge For Fun	Bernadette McEnerney	Bridge & lunch. Venetian Golf & River Club. RSVP -Sign up in advance.



Venice Views Editor for Summer: Susan Hotzler
E-copy Circulation: Susan Donovan

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 October issue of Venice Views is 9/15/2024

MAKING VENICE VIEWS BETTER FOR YOU!

The Venice Views Editorial team continually tries to make our newsletter more informative and easier to read and may be edited. In order to do so we came up with the following requests:

Everything that is emailed for inclusion in a monthly newsletter **MUST BE SENT ONLY** to: aauwveniceviews@gmail.com. Venice Views has its very own email address.

(1) We ask that each member who submits a notice to please keep the article down to a reasonable size. Too much information is often **not read** at all!! All submissions should be sent in **WORD** format, either as an attachment to the email (preferably) or may be written in the body of the email.

Because the newsletter is posted on the internet, personal contact information is **not** to be included. Personal info is located in our Annual Directory. Contact Membership Director Marge Collin for a copy.

(2) We LOVE your photos! **BUT** please do **not** send them **twice**. [Often photos are sent to the SIG chair and by the individual straight to the Venice Views.]

(3) Not everybody knows everybody! **Please** label your photos, as much as possible, with the event and the names of the people in the photos.

(4) All photos are to be sent in **JPG format ONLY**.