



VOLUME L No. 1 OCTOBER 2024 PUBLISHED MONTHLY
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, VENICE, FLORIDA BRANCH
P.O. BOX 515, VENICE, FL 34284
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Dear *Members*,

We want to extend a warm hello as we enter a new VAAUW season. Autumn marks a time of renewal and growth, and we are excited to continue our journey with you.

When we started our first year in 2023, we enthusiastically introduced our DIVA goals and asked you to come aboard and share our visions. Your active participation and dedication have been instrumental in achieving these goals:

- Make a **Difference**
- Be **Inclusive**
- Increase our **Visibility**
- Be **Aware** and **Accountable**

With these objectives, we continued to support our VAAUW mission to empower and support women. So, as you read through this month's *Venice Views*, we encourage you to embrace the planned initiatives that reflect our dedication to fostering personal development, advocating for women's rights, and building a supportive network that uplifts us all.

None of this would be possible without your unwavering support and commitment. We are incredibly grateful for your continued involvement and contributions, which are the backbone of our organization. Your passion and dedication inspire us daily, and we look forward to achieving even more significant milestones together this year. It will be the best year yet, and we couldn't do it without you being "on board."

With warm regards,

Jan and Bev

Co Presidents



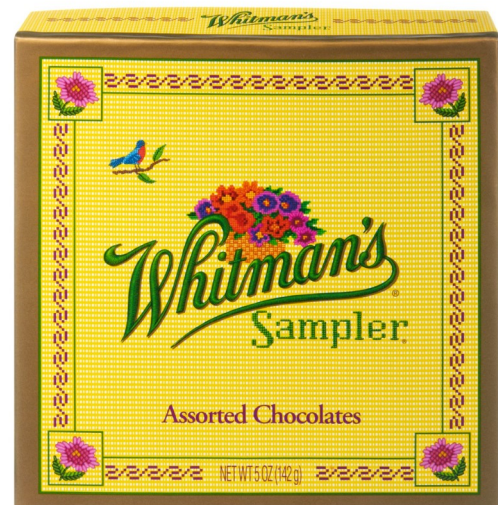
Love is in the Air!

Our biggest fundraiser of the year will be on February 14, and the 2025 Venice Home Tour is capitalizing on the Valentine's Day theme. Remember Whitman's Sampler box of candy? The ticket design reflects that nostalgia, and we call it "In Love with Venice Home Tour."

Three fabulous homes have been secured. Two are waterfront homes on the Island of Venice and the third house, owned by an accomplished artist, is located in Aria, one of the newer neighborhoods in Venice proper. A big thank you to Judy Napier, Degen Sayer, and Charlene Turczyn, who found the homes. We are actively looking for the final place. Stay tuned!

This is the one time during the year when we all come together to support our mission of helping women continue their education by raising scholarship money. All members are expected to participate in some way. There are numerous opportunities, each one playing a crucial role in the success of our event, from ticket committees to pre-tour publicity. On the day of the tour, you can volunteer in one of the four homes as a greeter, a ticket taker, or a hostess. Your helping hands are needed, and your role is integral to our cause. Let's join these dedicated team leaders who have stepped forward to make this coming year's event one of the best! Sign up now or at our first general membership meeting on November 14.

Home Tour Chair – Patti Warner
Tickets - Sybil Hoffmeyer
House Manager Coordinator –Anita Kunkle
Raffle - Bev Weltzien
Parking - Dee Collins
Treasurer - Bobbi Amero
Publicity-Communications - Deb Jackson
Artisan Coordinator – Jan Harris
Development Director - Cynthia Bioteau



COME ONE, COME ALL OCTOBER 10TH –10:30 AM

Supporting Women -Owned Venice Businesses

If you are in town, join us for our first meet-up at the Gazebo in Centennial Park to visit and shop at several women-owned businesses. A list of participating shops will be handed out, shop for an hour then off to lunch at the Harbor Bistro, a new women-owned restaurant. What a great way to start the season socializing!

CELEBRATE FALL WITH AAUW WINE TASTING ON CASEY KEY!

Our newest fundraiser, on November 11 from 4 pm—7 pm, will be a delightful wine tasting at the home of Leona Crosskey on Casey Key. Wine and delicious food will be presented by Carmel of the Farfelu Wine and Cheese Cafe in Venice, a woman-owned business. The event will be limited to 60 people, and a shuttle service will bring participants to and from the home through the public parking lots before the Key. Tickets for the event are \$75, inclusive of all wine and food.



Your help is crucial for the success of this event. We will need volunteers to host it and encourage you to contact one of our member co-chairs, Cindy Sproehnle, Leona Crosskey, or Cynthia Boteau, Development Director. We are also looking to borrow several high-top tables and stackable plastic chairs for poolside enjoyment of the tasting.

This promises to be an event to savor in many ways. We will enjoy each other's company, a beautiful setting, and delectable wine and food. Mark your calendar today!

Upcoming Meetings

November 14, 2024—Welcome our first speaker of the season from the MOTE Aquarium, which is opening its newly constructed facilities in early 2025. Learn more about how the ocean serves us all and how their science and educational programs achieve a lasting impact on our shared marine resources, particularly in our area.

December 12, 2024 - A time to celebrate! Get your reservation for the holiday luncheon and entertainment from “The Silver Foxes!” The lively, professionally-directed dance troupe of retirees will perform for us this year. It will be a joyous festivity at the Venice Golf and Country Club. Contact Paula Dulski and Mitzi Fiedler for tickets.

“Play Ball!”

Once again, we are sponsoring **the Miss Venice Fastpitch** team. This fall, we delight in supporting an 8u team (eight years and under). How cute is that?

Opening Day was September 14 at the Wellfield Park in Venice. Thanks to Marge Collin for representing us. Please check missvenicefastpitch.com for the game schedule (our team is 8u Maggie). Those little athletes would love to have us watch and cheer them on.

An announcement will be made soon about doing just that. Joyce Milkulski will set up a time for us to enjoy a pre-game meal and root for our team!

DON'T HAVE YOUR AAUW POLO SHIRT YET?

These shirts are made of a beautiful fabric and are so stylish and comfortable. And...they come in all sizes. We also hope to wear these for the Home Tour. What a great way to have a cohesive and sharp look for the day.

If you are interested, contact Joyce Mikulski for details or check them out at our next meeting on November 14. There is interest in a $\frac{3}{4}$ sleeve style. Let her know if you would prefer this version. She will look into the possibility if enough members are signed up to place an order.

We're looking for a volunteer to handle the ordering of these polo shirts. This is an easy task, a way to become involved and meet new and seasoned members. Please get in touch with Joyce if you are interested.

Kinds Thoughts

The summer had several members who were in our thoughts.

Cards wishing speedy recovery were sent to Jan Harris who had knee surgery, Bea Holt for health issues, Sue Donovan who had knee surgery and Anita Kunkel for hip replacement surgery.

Sympathy cards were sent to Ellen Frank in memory of her husband, Jo Rahaim for her brother's death, and Janet Schotz for her spouse Arthur's death.

A card was sent to Karol Olson because of her husband's death resulting from a fall.

From Melanie Odom...I want to say on behalf of my family how much I appreciate all of your cards, notes, and your presence at the service and the celebration after my Mom's passing in February.

This branch was very special to her and is special to me, too.

I feel very fortunate to be a part of this organization and to call you, my friends. Again, thank you so very much.

Please send information for members who should receive cards to Bonnee Hagen.

LUNCH BUNCH

You are invited to join Lunch Bunch on October 23, 11:30, at Anna Maria Oyster Bar in North Port. RSVP to Anita Kunkle or Lydia Russo by October 21.

EVENING OUT

Evening Out will be Wednesday October 16 at 6pm at Sharky's on the Pier.

Contact Melanie Odom by phone or email to make a reservation.

Please respond by Monday October 14.

Membership Matters... AAUW has been transforming women's lives for more than a century. And now that we've won the fight to give women equal access to education, we're taking on one of the most defining issues of our time: gender equity. But we can't do it alone.



QUESTION: When do I pay my AAUW dues?

ANSWER: National will contact you on your anniversary date to renew your dues.

HOW: Pay with a credit card on the AAUW Community Hub at <http://my.aauw.org/onlinejoin>. Or pay by Mail to AAUW Venice Branch, PO Box 515, Venice, FL 34284

Annual Dues - \$103 (fully tax-deductible), including National membership dues of \$72 + Florida State and Venice Branch Dues of \$31 = \$103 annually.

Membership Options: Lifetime membership Dues are \$1,440/one-time payment. Student dues (College/University Member School) are Free, and Student Membership Dues (Non-College/University Member School) are \$18.81 annually.

...NEW MEMBERS...



DIANE CASEY

Diane is not only a new member of AAUW but also a brand new resident of South West Florida. She moved here from Columbus, Ohio, where she belonged to a similar group. She has experience leading Special Interest Groups and is eager to join ours. Yet, for the time being, she is working from home as a dietitian/nutritionist and health coach. Hmmm! Could we have a Wellness Group in the future as a SIG? Time will tell...

PAULA SCHUTZMANN



Paula grew up in California, raised her family in Massachusetts, and moved to Florida in 2020. She has two daughters and five grandchildren. Her first college degree was a BA in history and political science from the University of California at Berkeley, followed by a teaching credential from San Francisco State College. She taught for two years but decided to become a home care nurse and director of a Visiting Nurse agency in Lee, MA. She was a national home care consultant for several years before retiring in 2014. She still enjoys working as a nurse doing long-term care assessments. In addition, she likes theater, reading, playing MahJongg, cooking, and participating in political activities. The man in her life is a six-pound toy poodle.

The AAUW Florida Public Policy Education Forums

Wouldn't you like more in-depth information on the important issues facing Florida from an equity focused viewpoint? Then be sure to attend as many AAUW Florida Issue Forums this year as you can. All sessions start at 6:00 PM, are open to AAUW members and guests and require pre-registration. Below is the information for the next two sessions.

TOPIC	DATE	SPEAKER	RSVP
LGBTQ+ Families and Florida's Don't Say Gay Laws	Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2024	Join a conversation with Clark University Professor Abbie Goldberg where she shares some findings from her research on Impact of HB 1557 (Florida's Don't Say Gay bill) on LGBTQ+ parents in Florida; and we discuss next steps in regard to research and collaborations on this important issue.	Meeting Registration - Zoom
Addiction, Public Health & Criminal Justice	Thursday Nov 14, 2024	Come hear Rutgers Professor Patricia Roos talk about her new, deeply personal book sharing her son's struggles with mental health and addiction, that led to his death at twenty-five years old. Professor Roos will share ways to realign our public health and criminal justice policies to address the overdose crisis.	Meeting Registration - Zoom

You will need to RSVP for each session individually. Once you RSVP you will receive a Zoom link for the session. If you have any questions, contact Mary Gatta, Co-Public Policy Director, AAUW Florida at gatta.mary@gmail.com



AAUW VENICE BRANCH ACTIVITIES—OCTOBER

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	CONTACT	LOCATION/NOTES
Fri	4	11:30	Euchre	Jeri Jaminet Charlene Turczyn	Paradise Grill, Nokomis
Thurs	10	TBD	French Conversation	Jane Metcalf	Contact Jane for location and time.
Thurs	10	10:30	Shopping in Venice	Charlene Turczyn	Meet at Gazebo in Centennial Park.
Fri	11	11:30	Bridge for Fun	Bernadette McEnerney	Bridge & lunch at Venetian Golf & River Club. RSVP – Sign up in advance
Mon	14	1:30	Book Group	Hilda Dillman Lynda Weston	ZOOM Call. Book: <i>Lady Tan's Circle of Women</i> by Lisa See 1:25 Social before meeting
Mon	14	6:00	Mix and Mingle	Judy Houston Kathleen Pickering	Hotel Venezia (Ramada Inn) 421 US 41 North
Tues	15	Deadline for November Venice Views		Send Word formatted articles and/or jpg formatted photos by email to aauwveniceviews@gmail.com	
Wed	16	12:00	Cook's Corner	Joan Kieran	RSVP to Joan for location and theme
Wed	16	6:00	Evening Out	Melanie Odom	Sharkey's by the Pier RSVP to Melanie by 10/14 either phone or email.
Fri	18	11:30	Euchre	Jeri Jaminet Charlene Turczyn	Paradise Grill, Nokomis
Tues	22	10:00	Coastal Cruising	Paula Dulski	Marina Jack's in Sarasota RSVP to Paula
Wed	23	11:30	Lunch Bunch	Anita Kunkle Lydia Russo	Anna Maria Oyster Bar 14132 Tamiami Trail, North Port, RVSP to Anita or Lydia
Fri	25	11:30	Bridge for Fun	Bernadette McEnerney	Bridge & lunch at Venetian Golf & River Club. RSVP – Sign up in advance
Mon	28	TBD	Banned Books	Lynda Weston	TBD



Venice Views Editor for October: 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 November issue of Venice Views is 10/15/2024

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 in our **Roster and can be found on our branch website:** venice-fl.aauw.net .

(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**.