



VOLUME I No. 2      NOVEMBER 2024      PUBLISHED MONTHLY  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, VENICE, FLORIDA BRANCH  
P.O. BOX 515, VENICE, FL 34284

CO-PRESIDENTS: JAN HARRIS AND BEVERLY WELTZIEN  
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)



## Welcome back, Everyone!

We have heard several of our members' properties were damaged by the storms, and we are here to help and support you however we can. Please reach out to any of us, and we'll be there for you. We are a sisterhood!

With this new VAAUW year, as we strive for some sense of normalcy after Florida's summer heat and the two hurricanes, we hope you all can be as energized and excited to get going as we are! Your Co-presidents have just returned (Bev from Montana and Jan from Massachusetts), and let us tell you..." *We are so very pumped to be back!*"

Off we go, onward and upward...

Our whole VAAUW Board is delighted to dive into this new season of impactful work, unmatched inspiration, and unstoppable teamwork! This edition of *Venice Views* has significant new details to share. Many changes, outstanding activities, and events have been planned, starting with our new meeting location.

*Our new location: **The United Church of Christ** at 620 Shamrock Boulevard, Venice. The doors open on Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. Come early to socialize with other members. The formal program will begin at 10:30 a.m. We are fortunate to have Aly Busse, an accomplished marine biologist and the VP of Mote Education at Mote Aquarium. She will update us on Mote's programs, new buildings, and recovery efforts from the millions in hurricane damage!*

(continued from page 1)

*After-meeting* lunch: Planned for everyone! Join us at the **Shamrock Café** across the street from our meeting place. The Café owners are happy to accommodate our large group. We only need to notify them of how many of us will be there. So, sign up as soon as you get to the meeting! Each of us will pay for our own. We anticipate this will become a warm tradition of visiting with friends and new members throughout our VAAUW year.

*Important November Announcement* - Due to the hurricanes hitting our barrier islands, we needed to reschedule our AAUW WINE TASTING ON CASEY KEY. Carve out a little time in the spring to join us for this special event. All the details will be shared with our group closer to the date. It may be postponed, but it is not forsaken! ***Cheers! Salute! Skol! Santa!***

*Holiday Luncheon*: There's more! Holiday excitement is in the air, and it is time to mark your calendars. Note that this is a new time and place...

**Hotel Venezia Ballroom – Wednesday, December 11, 2024, 11-3 pm**

We offer a delicious menu, a cash bar, and lively festive entertainment, all at a reasonable price (even in today's environment)! See details on page 5.

*New positions*: We are happy to announce that Lynda Weston will assume the role of Program Director for the new term. To take her spot is Hilda Dillman. She has graciously agreed to become the new SIG Director. Please welcome them to their new duties on your board.

*Again! We are off! Fasten your seatbelts...*

Our best to all of you,

***Jan Harris & Bev Weltzien***

Co-Presidents 2024-25

## Genie Clark and women of MOTE



Dr. Aly Busse will join us at our November Meeting to present on the Mote Marine Laboratory 's history, current status and the work of Genie Clark known as The Shark Lady who was a pioneer in the field of scuba diving for research purposes. She will provide information on the new Mote Marine Laboratory which is being built on the UTC site. In keeping with AAUW advocacy for providing young girls with STEM education, she will discuss the courses that the Mote Marine Laboratory offers to young women.

Aly Busse joined Mote Marine Laboratory in April 2011. She comes from a diverse background in informal science education, including aquariums, museums and community outreach programs. Before joining Mote Marine Laboratory, Aly was Education Director at Underwater World, Guam and Youth and Family Programs Coordinator at the Pacific Science Center. She also held dual roles at Rutgers University. She was the Senior Program Coordinator for a mobile science outreach program connecting STEM graduate students with middle schools around New Jersey through interactive science programs and served as Associate Director of the Rutgers Geology Museum, developing and implementing new school and public programs. In her past and current positions, she works to bring scientists and their research to the public, translating current scientific findings into meaningful, interactive opportunities for a variety of audiences.

### Kind Thoughts

Betty Ehik, a member of our branch since 2022, passed away unexpectedly in mid-October. A card was sent to her family.

Bea Holt's sister Carol passed away on October 19. Please keep Bea in your thoughts and prayers.

Please email Bonnee Hagen with information about members who can use a kind thought.

## VENICE HOME TOUR UPDATE

# Home Tour 2025 - It's a go!

“**IN LOVE WITH VENICE**” Home Tour is still a go even though we have faced and recovered from two devastating hurricanes. Our committee has exciting news and is eager to share its progress with you.

**TICKETS**—The ticket prices are **\$35** (\$40 at the door).

This is our largest fundraiser of the year. Members are **expected** to purchase tickets for themselves and sell additional tickets to others. 1000 tickets will be printed, and each member will receive a packet of five tickets distributed in December and January. Our goal is to make \$35,000 this year on ticket sales!

**ADVERTISING**—We will advertise early this year in many ways: On our website, Facebook, and Venice Main Street, and we plan to increase online ticket sales.

This year, we will also have street signs displaying the information and small posters for each of you to take to display at your HOA bulletin boards or your favorite places of business that you frequent. All the information for ticket purchasing will be on them.

**TICKET VENDORS**—We are thrilled with the following businesses, which have again agreed to sell tickets. Please give them your business when you can.

Venice Olive Oil Company

Venice Art Center

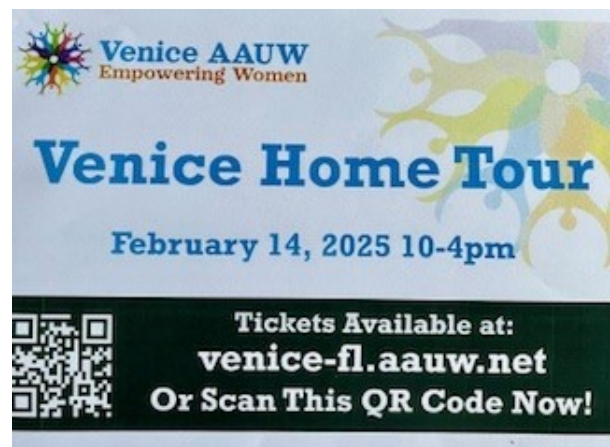
Collector's Gallery and Framery

Naples Soap Company (Wellen Park)

**VOLUNTEERS**—Many of you have already signed up. But, as always, we need volunteers to be greeters, hostesses, and ticket takers on the day of the tour. If you have not done so already, sign up at our meeting or through the email you were sent. We can't do this without your help!

**HOMES** –And...this is so significant! I can't wait to share the four beautiful homes we have acquired at our first meeting!

Patti Warner—Home Tour Chair





# Holiday Luncheon

Our holiday event will be on **WEDNESDAY,**  
**December 11.**

Hotel Venezia, 425 US 41 Bypass N

11:00 AM - Gathering and cash bar

A choice of lovely luncheon plates will be served at  
11:30 am

Holiday entertainment by the phenomenal “Silver  
Foxes”

**\$27.50/PP**

Tickets will be on sale at the November meeting.

## **Women’s Resource Center Clothing Drive**

Our branch is supporting the Women’s Resource Center with clothing drives at two of our monthly meetings this year. These drives are a vital part of our support for the center. The first one will be held in December, and the second will be held at one of the spring meetings. As you change your wardrobe for the seasons be sure to think about donating your unwanted clothing to this great organization at the Holiday Luncheon.



## Meet New Member - Judy Pearson

We are pleased to welcome Judy Pearson to our Venice Branch. She is a best-selling author, an accomplished presenter and a graduate of Michigan State University. She was a member of AAUW in Michigan before moving to Phoenix. She is looking forward to getting involved in our branch.

Her writings cover a wide range of interests from World War II heroics to inspirational books on surviving cancer to a history of the women's medical health revolution. Her WWII book has been purchased for a movie.

She was named one of Chicago's Most Inspirational Women, was selected as a finalist for the Arizona Healthcare Leadership Awards and was named Phoenix Healthcare Hero the same year.

She and her husband, David moved to their Florida paradise in the fall of 2023.

### Book Club

Can wearing another woman's shoes change a life? Read "Someone Else's Shoes" by Jojo Moyes and join the VAAUW SIG book club on November 11, 2024 at **The United Church of Christ** at 620 Shamrock Boulevard in the Parlor Room.

Joyce Mikulski will lead the discussion at 1:25, but join any time after 1pm to catch up.



### Cook's Corner

The meeting is at noon on November 20 at Beverly Weltzien's home. Bring an item to share with the theme "Stuffed" in mind. Contact Joan Kieran if you plan to come.

## AAUW Public Policy Update

Be a 2-minute activist and contact your representatives by phone, email, United States Postal Service.

An in person visit!

Let them know the ERA needs to be passed

Let them know school voucher accountability needs to be transparent

Let them know the importance to democracy of a strong education system

Here is a link to contacts:

<https://www.myfloridahouse.gov/MyElectedOfficials?lat=27.0609763&long=-82.2448911>

Talk to your neighbors about Amendment 1 vote NO!

Talk to your neighbors about Amendment 4 vote YES!

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Blackwell Public Policy



## AAUW VENICE BRANCH ACTIVITIES—NOVEMBER 2024 CALENDAR

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	CONTACT	LOCATION/NOTES
Fri	1	11:30	Euchre	Jeri Jaminet Charlene Turczyn	Paradise Grill, Nokomis
Fri	8	11:30	Bridge for Fun	Bernadette McEnerney	Bridge & lunch at Venetian Golf & River Club. <b>RSVP</b> – Sign up in advance
Mon	11	1:25	Book Group	Hilda Dillman Lynda Weston	Book: <i>Someone Else's Shoes by Jojo Mayes</i> , Join anytime after 1:00 pm.
Mon	11	4:00	Mix and Mingle	Judy Houston Kathleen Pickering	Hotel Venezia (Ramada Inn) 421 US 41 North
Thurs	14	TBD	French Conversion	Jane Metcalf	Contact Jane for location
Fri	15		Deadline for <b>December Venice Views</b>	Send <b>Word</b> formatted articles and/or <b>jpg</b> formatted photos by email to <b><a href="mailto:aauwveniceviews@gmail.com">aauwveniceviews@gmail.com</a></b>	
Fri	15	11:30	Euchre	Jeri Jaminet, Charlene Turczyn	Paradise Grill, Nokomis
Tues	19	10:00	Coastal Cruising	Paula Dulski	Marina Jack's—Venice <b>RSVP</b> to Paula
Wed	20	12:00	Cook's Corner	Joan Kieran	<b>RSVP</b> to Joan
Wed	20	6:00	Evening Out	Melanie Odom	Café Venice, <b>RSVP</b> to Melanie by 11/18 either phone or email.
Fri	22	11:30	Bridge for Fun	Bernadette McEnerney	Bridge & Lunch at Venetian Golf & River Club. <b>RSVP</b> – sign up in advance
Mon	25	1:30	Banned Books	Lynda Weston	Jacaranda Library
Wed	27	11:30	Lunch Bunch	Anita Kunkle Lydia Russo	Pop's Sunset Grill in Nokomis, <b>RVSP</b> to Anita or Lydia





Venice Views Editor for November: 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](mailto:aauwveniceviews@gmail.com)

[Text in Word Formatted File](#)

[Pictures in JPG Format Only!](#)

**Deadline for the December issue of Venice Views is 12/15/2024**

#### 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](mailto: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](http://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**.