

# AAUW Bradenton Branching Out

March 2020



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P.O. Box 14099, Bradenton, FL. 34280-4099

## President's Message

Dear Members,

Hello, members! We had such an interesting meeting last month with elder law attorney **Donna Irvin Sobel** both answering our questions and sparking new questions we didn't know we had! Many of you commented to me about how much you enjoyed hearing from her. Thank you, out-going program director, **Phyllis Omilak** for introducing Donna to us.

March's meeting, the last at Peridia this year, I think you will find equally engaging. We will welcome an old friend, **Jane Plitt**. We have previously featured Jane, a 2018 Women of Achievement

~~ Continued at [Marcia](#)

## Program:

### Jane Plitt "Suffragettes and Women's Equality"

Inspiring author, historian, and speaker, Jane R. Plitt, will tell us about the "Suffragettes and Women's Equality in History" at our March 17th meeting. Jane asks us to "like" the book [Martha Matilda Harper](#) on Facebook. To learn more about Jane you may visit her website at a [www.marthamatildaharper.org](http://www.marthamatildaharper.org) or at the Women Know History website: <https://womenalsoknowhistory.com/individual-scholar-page/?pdb=3886>

## Menu

- California Cobb Salad (mixed greens with bacon, tomatoes, egg, chicken, bleu cheese & dressing)  
Or  
Broccoli Quiche with seasonal fruit
- Vanilla Ice Cream with Strawberry Topping & Whipped Cream
- Water, Coffee, Iced Tea

## Quick Links

Press **CNTRL**, then click your mouse on any underlined phrase to move to that article.

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## Member News:

### Condolences Extended to member Dolores Domermuth.

Her mother Malinda Mistendirk passed on February 19 at age 106. Send remarks to 4842 Raintree Street, Circle E, Bradenton 34203 or [dolorbill\\_2@aol.com](mailto:dolorbill_2@aol.com)

Please send any updates or changes to Barb Coolahan at [bjcoolahan@gmail.com](mailto:bjcoolahan@gmail.com) or (740) 816-5095

Marcia –

honoree, introducing us to Martha Matilda Harper, the greatest businesswoman you've never heard of.

This month she focuses on "Mobilizing Women from Suffrage to Equality - the Challenge Continues." Her books will be available for purchase so be prepared! Bring your friends! New members joining in March will be paid through next year, June 2021! They get 16 months for the cost of 12. On March 16th, AAUW will open the national website for membership renewals. Members will be able to go online to update contact information as well as renew for the 2020-21 year. If going online is difficult for you, you may complete a membership renewal form and send the paper form along with a check for \$83.00 to Barb Coolahan at 8832 17th Ave Cir NW, Bradenton Florida 34209. Mailing must be completed by May 15, 2020. After that date, only on-line registration will be available.

Speaking of the future, we are seeking new board members for positions that will open this summer. We need a treasurer, director of program, director of membership, and a president elect. None of members in these positions are expected to act alone, and each will have guidance from the out-going officeholder as well as continuing board members. AAUW FL offers us additional resources online, through conference calls, and through personal contact as well. You each know you have talents to contribute. Now is a good time! I like our team and want you to be part of it. You will make us stronger.

This spring we continue implementing our strategic plan goals 2 and 3 through branch projects. Our plans for **Tech Savvy and Tech Trek** are moving forward, and we are exploring more options for our first Work Smart session with the Women's Resource Center. (Exciting news may be on the horizon!) Additionally, our collaboration with the Cross-College Alliance remains strong along with their commitment to Start Smart. Our synergy with our sister branches is thriving as well.

I will be representing the branch at the **AAUW FL 2020 Convention**, Waves of Change, Oceans of Opportunities in April at Daytona Beach. Want to come along? Let's talk!

*Continued at Prez Speaks*

## AAUW BRADENTON

### Monthly Meeting

**Date:** March 17, 2020

**Location:** Peridia Golf & Country Club, 4950 Peridia Blvd E, Bradenton

**Time:** 11:30 a.m.

**Program:** Suffragettes and Women's Equality

### Next Monthly Meeting

**Date:** April 21, 2020

**Location:** IMG Academy Golf Club, 4350 El Conquistador Pkwy, Bradenton

**Time:** 5:30 p.m.

**Program:** AAUW Florida Programs

## Save the Date

**March 8 – International Women's Day**

**March 28 – Tech Trek Tea Party**

**Branch meetings are held 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday monthly September thru May – note time and location each month**

# VOLUNTEER



*You know You'd Be Appreciated*

Test Dates for Proctoring at Palmetto High School  
(1200 17<sup>th</sup> Street, W., Palmetto)

Date	Times	# of Proctors Needed
Tues., April 28	11:30 – 3 p.m.	3
Wed., April 29	7:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.	12
Thurs., April 30	7:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. 11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.	5 3
Fri., May 1	11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.	4
Mon., May 4	7:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. 11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.	5 4
Tues., May 5	7:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. 11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.	2 2
Wed., May 6	7:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. 11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.	1 5
Thurs., May 7	11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.	4
Fri., May 8	7:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. 11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.	12 1
Mon., May 11	11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.	1
Tues., May 12	11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.	4
Wed., May 13	11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.	2
Fri., May 15	7:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. 11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.	4 1
Thurs., May 21	7:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.	2
Fri., May 22	7:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.	2
Tues., May 26	11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.	1
Wed., May 27	11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.	2
Fri., June 5	7:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. 11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.	2 2

If for whatever reason you cannot make it, please call Karla Brogdon at (941) 722-4692, preferably no later than the day before the test.

## Interested in books?

Besides our own book group, there are other opportunities to read and share:

### 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Author Luncheon and Book Signing

with

Mary Walton, author of  
"A Women's Crusade"

### Where HIStory meets HERstory

Join acclaimed journalist and author Mary Walton who shares her historic account of one woman's perseverance and self-sacrifice that resulted in the inalienable right for all women, the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

**Friday, March 27, 2020**

**11:15 AM – 2:30 PM**

Lakewood Ranch Golf & Country Club, 7650 Legacy Drive, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202

\$45 pp

Tickets available for purchase on our website  
[www.lwrlibraryfriends.org](http://www.lwrlibraryfriends.org)

Donations are tax deductible as permitted by law.







## Update

In 2020, AAUW Florida will hold its eighth "Tech Trek", a week-long STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) residential experience for girls going into the 8th grade at Florida Atlantic University in Jupiter and another at Stetson University in Deland. In 2020 the Stetson camp will be June 14 -20; the second will be at Florida Atlantic University in Jupiter from June 21-27. Each will have an enrollment of 48 girls.

The Bradenton Rotary Club has donated \$1350 for the 2020 Tech Trek Camp. In addition, the Bradenton Branch allocated additional funds to support five Manatee County Middle School participants. If you are interested in making an in-kind contribution, please contact us at the AAUWBradentonbranch@gmail.com.

In Manatee County, eleven young women completed the application and required essay. These candidates represented six local middle schools which are as follows:

- Braden River Middle School
- Dr. Mona Jain Middle School
- Haile Middle School
- King Middle School
- State College of Florida Collegiate School
- Sugg Middle School

Personal interviews were conducted in February of 2020 by members of the Bradenton and Manatee AAUW branches. All candidates were deemed to be exceptional and worthy of this scholarship opportunity. Their names were submitted for AAUW State consideration and evaluation. In March, the nominees will be announced and shared with the branch membership.

*This tea party dedicates all proceeds to benefit the AAUW Florida Tech Trek summer camps. Reserve your fast as space is very limited.*

March 28, 2020

Time: 11:00-  
2 :00PM



## Tea Party



Charms of Leffingham  
905 Leffingwall Ave.  
Ellenton, FL 34222

Charms located at the end of Leffingwall Ave. (south of 301)

**Cost \$35.00**  
Room for 28  
**Reserve ASAP**  
Finger foods and tea

Email: Pattybeenutty@gmail.com  
Send your checks to Pat Benson, 1406 90th Ct. NW, Bradenton FL 34209  
Checks should be made out to **AAUW Manatee Branch**

**RSVP by March 21st**  
Join us for fun and friendship. Proceeds to benefit AAUW FL Tech Trek.

## *From our Friends in LWV, Two Events Honoring Women's Suffrage...*



### **Book Group**

Thursday, March 26,  
6:00 PM  
Panera Bread, 1520 Cortez  
Rd W, Bradenton

### ***The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote*** **Elaine Weiss**

Join the group discussion of the cliff hanger story of getting the last state needed to ratify the 19th amendment, giving women their right as a citizen to vote. Per the New York Times Review, "In 'The Woman's Hour,' the Battle Over the 19th Amendment Comes to Life" Stephen Spielberg bought the rights to this book, so look for it in film this next year! *Join the fun, get the book and come to the discussion!*



### **Suffrage Trivia Night**

Tuesday, May 12,  
6:30 - 8:00  
Alice Newlon's Home,  
7524 3rd Ave W, Bradenton

Have fun with Suffrage Trivia. The 100-year anniversary of the 19th Amendment is 2020 is almost here, and what great way to celebrate. Questions well known and obscure, bookish and weird. Discussion for sure and perhaps you will learn something new...the challenge is on. COME, bring a friend and have fun playing. Prizes for the winners. Drinks and healthy and unhealthy snacks provided.

## *Prez Speaks* (Cont'd)

Our branch is well represented at the annual **Women's Equity Day Luncheon** in August sponsored by the Suncoast Commission on the Status of Women. This Centennial of the Women's Right to Vote will include opportunities on the Friday prior to the Saturday luncheon. Mark your calendars for August 22 at the Hyatt in Sarasota. This is the premiere 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary event in the state and will sell out quickly. I now represent us on the planning committee after **Mickie McElroy's** years of service, so I'll keep us informed.

Thank you, **Meg Newsome**, for updating our branch website to keep us informed. Check us out on Facebook, too! If you have suggestions, we're open to them.

Happy March Birthday to \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank.) No members are listed as March babies. If you are one, please let me know. See you at the meeting!

**Alone we are a drop. Together we are an ocean.**

Thank you, Marcia



The book group has selected its reading gems for the 2020-2021 year. Come join us and enjoy the discussions. We are meeting at a new time starting in September -- 1:30 on the first Thursday of each month through May.

### **September -- Presenter: Ricki Cunninghis**

**Book:** My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry (Fredrik Backman)  
(The Manatee library has 6 hard copies, 1 ebook, 0 audio)

### **October -- Presenter: Jackie Kelsey**

**Book:** The Taster (V. S. Alexander)  
(not in library, \$7.19 Kindle, \$7.57 Paperback on Amazon)

### **November --- Presenter: Maggie Carlson**

**Book:** The Giver of Stars (Jojo Moyes)  
(The Manatee library has 35 hard copies, 10 ebooks, 0 audio)

### **December -- Presenter: Doreen Colket**

**Book:** Washington Black (Esi Edugyan)  
(The Manatee library has 6 hard copies, 1 ebook, 0 audio)

### **January -- Presenter: Mickie McElroy**

**Book:** The Canterbury Tales (excerpts – Prologue, 2 Tales) (Chaucer)  
Mickie will provide the pages

### **February -- Presenter: Mickie**

**Book:** Run Away (Harlan Coben)  
(The Manatee library has 7 hard copies, 6 ebooks, 0 audio)

### **March -- Plan for next year – bring suggestions**

### **April -- Presenter: Ruth Qualich**

**Book:** Educated: A Memoir (Tara Westover)  
(The Manatee library has 27 hard copies, 12 ebooks, 6 audios)

### **May -- Presenter: Jane Snyder**

**Book:** Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup (John Carreyrou)  
(The Manatee library has 4 hard copies, 2 ebooks, 0 audio)



**BRADENTON BRANCH AAUW MEMBERSHIP**

July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

**RENEWAL BRANCH MEMBER**

**\*\*PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY\***

***Note: The information you provide will be printed in the Branch Membership Directory unless you indicate otherwise.***

**Member Type and Dues**

Membership Type?  Annual  Life  Dual (if Dual, name primary branch \_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_ Dues for Annual Members: \$83 [\$59 National + \$12 State + \$12 Bradenton Branch]  
***(\$46 of the National Dues plus \$12 Branch Dues are Tax Deductible)***

\_\_\_\_ Dues for Life Members: \$24 [\$12 State + \$12 Bradenton Branch]

\_\_\_\_ Dues for Dual Members: \$12

\_\_\_\_ I would like the branch newsletter *emailed* to me monthly - no charge.

\_\_\_\_ I would like branch newsletter *snail-mailed* to me. I am adding \$10 to my dues to cover postage.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Florida Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

The branch sends invitations for monthly dinner meeting reservations by e-mail to save postage. If you do not have email, enter NONE. ***Those without email will be contacted by phone.***

Summer Address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Summer Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**BRANCH INTEREST** -- Check any of the following that you might enjoy.  
(It's OK to check all of them!!) (It's also OK to check just 1, 2, or .....)

- Evening Book Club
- Friday Friendly Bridge Group
- Evening Gourmet Group
- Publicity
- Communications
- Public Policy
- Scholarship Selection
- Membership
- Greeting at Monthly Meetings
- Membership Directory Update
- Website Updates
- Women of Achievement Luncheon
- Trivia Night Event
- Tech Savvy Event
- Work Smart Event
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECK OUT TO "BRADENTON BRANCH AAUW"**

**MAIL TO:**  
Barb Coolahan  
8832 17t Ave Circle NW  
Bradenton 34209  
(740) 816-5095  
bjcoolahan@gmail.com





## Seneca Falls Convention: The Beginning Of The Women's Suffrage Movement



*Suffragists at a pageant by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. June 1908.*

*Source: Wikimedia Commons*

According to *The Smithsonian*, married women had no right to property or ownership of their wages by the time the Seneca Falls Convention gathered in 1848. The mere concept of casting ballots was so unfamiliar to women that even those attending the convention had to process the idea.

The Seneca Falls Convention led to a vital precedent. Attended by mostly women, the gathering was centered on finding solutions to a woman's inability to own her own wages and property rights. The female abolitionists — invited by founding suffragists Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott — were met with heartening prospects as most attendees believed themselves to be on the correct side of history, agreeing that (white) American women were independent people who deserved the right to be autonomous political participants.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident," the Declaration of Sentiments created by the delegates read, "that all men and women are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

The meeting saw unanimous support for the issue and passed resolutions to support a woman's right to her own wages, to divorce abusive husbands, and to have representation in government. But all the progress in women's suffrage achieved at the Seneca Falls Convention would be momentarily hampered by impending war.

## FRIENDLY FRIDAY BRIDGE GROUP

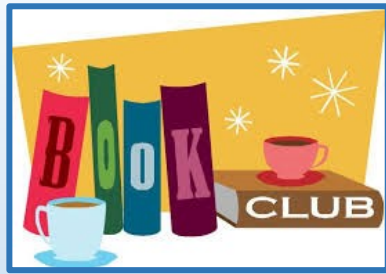
**Every Friday**, the Bridge group meets at **10:45 a.m.** at **American Legion** on 75th St. W.

We play until lunch. Then, we order from a menu (good food and reasonably priced) and eat our lunch about 12:00. We follow that with more cards until about 3:00.

From each person, we collect \$2.00 for service tip, and \$2.00 for our Scholarship Foundation.

We welcome new players. Call Lois Blevins at 941.226.2090 (h) or 941.962.0975 (m) to join the group.





The group meets on the first Tuesday of each month, at 7:00 pm, in Westminster Tower, Bradenton. All are welcome.

**March: Plan for next year**

**Presenter:** Entire Group – bring ideas

**April:** Eunice: The Kennedy That Changed the World (Eileen McNamara)

**Presenter:** Ruth

The Manatee Library has 4 copies, no ebooks, no audiobooks

For more information, contact Mickie McElroy at [mickiemc@utexas.edu](mailto:mickiemc@utexas.edu)

**National AAUW** <http://www.aauw.org/>  
**Florida AAUW** <http://aauw-fl.aauw.net/>

**Bradenton Branch**

Website: <http://bradenton-fl.aauw.net>

President Marcia Hill: [mshanerhill@gmail.com](mailto:mshanerhill@gmail.com)

President-Past: Judy Griffin: [jdthgriffin@gmail.com](mailto:jdthgriffin@gmail.com)

Scholarship Info: [aauwbbscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:aauwbbscholarship@gmail.com)

Meeting Reservations:

[AAUWBradentonbranch@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWBradentonbranch@gmail.com)

Membership: Barb at [bjcoolahan@gmail.com](mailto:bjcoolahan@gmail.com)

Condolence/Congratulations Cards to Members:  
[pbissell@gmail.com](mailto:pbissell@gmail.com)

Bridge Group: Lois at [lwblevins@msn.com](mailto:lwblevins@msn.com)

Book Club: Mickie at [mickiemc@utexas.edu](mailto:mickiemc@utexas.edu)

Just for Girls: [deeisnice@gmail.com](mailto:deeisnice@gmail.com)

## Important to Know

*AAUW promotes equity for women, education and self-development over the life span, and positive societal change. AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. Founded in 1881, membership is open to all graduates who hold an Associate or equivalent or higher degree.*

