

AAUW Bradenton Branching Out

May 2020



Vol. 42 No 9 5/20 Branching Out is published monthly by the American Association of University Women, P.O. Box 14099, Bradenton, FL, 34280-4099

President's Message

Dear Members,

Hello, Branch members. It seems like our branch year was short, but the month of April lasted two decades!

Even though our "active" year was abbreviated, we have accomplishments to celebrate including:

- Start Smart workshop on the New College Campus, October 4, 2019
- Holiday Celebration for students at Just For Girls, December 13, 2019
- Bradenton Rotary Club approved our grant application to support Tech Trek girls, November 18, 2019
- Trivia Night fundraiser netting more than \$1,600 to support all of projects, January 25, 2020
- A full Start Smart/Know Your Worth session on the USFSM campus, February 4, 2020

~~ Continued at [Marcia](#)

Quick Links

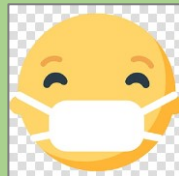
Press ***CNTRL***, then ***click*** your mouse on any underlined phrase to move to that article.

- [From the President](#)
- [Monthly Meeting](#)
- [AAUW FL Research](#)
- [2020-2021 Calendar](#)
- [Membership Drive](#)
- [Renewal Membership Form](#)
- [Virtual Birthdays](#)
- [Scholarship Information](#)
- [Tech Trek](#)
- [Suffragettes](#)
- [Book Club](#)
- [Friendly Friday Bridge](#)

Program:

Stay Safe ~

Stay Healthy!



Member News:

Birthday Information

(Press CTRL, click on above for the facts)

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

Marcia –

And then the world began to spin in a different direction and the year's remaining plans lost traction:

- March, April, and May Bradenton Branch meetings were canceled.
- AAUW FL canceled June's Tech Trek (see article included) and our branch Tech Savvy Conference plans have been postponed
- Our planning with the Women's Resource Center for a Work Start session will begin shortly, eyeing a date for the coming fiscal year
- Our plan for the August Women's Equity Luncheon 100th Anniversary of the Passage of Women's Right to Vote is being revised. The event is being rescheduled to March 2021. Our planning committee continues meeting via conference calls with Kelly Sciba, Executive Director, Florida Commission on the Status of Women
- Our participation and support of the Just For Girls graduation is canceled. Principal (and branch member) Dee Ralph continues to work at the school while girls work at home. Dee and the school staff continue trying to meet the girls' nonacademic needs while following social distancing. A wish list is available on Amazon.com if you able to help. Click below:
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/IR3UH2335LPX?ref=wl_share&fbclid=IwAR1ZXJbL761fmaopq4GaUxEIR7G82_PgZwKpHJilLefFKYCvVZFi8aYwf5Y
Dee has also offered to help any member who could use assistance in picking up medications or shopping. Call or text her at 941.713.7136.

You, branch members, have been dedicated to our AAUW mission and busy fulfilling the goals of the branch strategic plan even when you are practicing social distancing. You each should be taking pride in our accomplishments! I know that I am proud to serve on your board. We are continuing to fill our 2020-21 board positions and will contact you later this month about how we will accept the new slate and vote when we are not together. If there is a project or task you would like to help with in the coming AAUW year, please let me know or any board member.

~~Continued at Prez

AAUW BRADENTON

Monthly Meeting

Date: May 19, 2020

Location: Canceled

Next Monthly Meeting

Date: September 15, 2020

**Enjoy
Summer!!!**

Save the Date

**Women's Equity Luncheon,
100th Anniversary of
Passage of Women's Right
to Vote -- Rescheduled to
March 2021**

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

Achievement Certificate

This Acknowledges That

AAUW Bradenton Branch

is recognized for

Increasing Membership

Awarded this 6th day of April, 2020

Patricia A. Ross

Patricia A. Ross, AAUW Florida President

Karen Zalkin

Karen Zalkin, AAUW Florida Director for Membership

American Association of University Women-
Florida

Prez (Continuation of President's Message)

If you just want to offer support, but don't know where your talents are most helpful, let us know that, too. You can always text me at 941-704-5381 or email me. I appreciate each member's contribution. Speaking of appreciation, we have just received an Achievement Certificate from AAUW Florida for increasing membership this year. Barb Coolahan, our out-going Director for Membership, was instrumental to our success.

We will recognize both the out-going and in-coming board members at our September meeting. (fingers crossed!) I am looking forward to being in the same room you! Please stay safe. You are important to more people than you realize!

Thank you, Marcia



Here is a list of all our members who have birthdays in May and our possibly still quarantined summer.

May	<i>Fay Murphy</i>	July	<i>Trish Bissell</i>	August	<i>Claire Marsh</i>
June	<i>Lois Blevins</i>		<i>Judy Griffin</i>		<i>Phyllis Omilak</i>
	<i>Elaine Graham</i>		<i>Linda Guilfoyle</i>		<i>Nan Rankin</i>
	<i>Mickie McElroy</i>		<i>Sue Hauck</i>		
	<i>Meg Newsome</i>		<i>Marcia Hill</i>		
	<i>Eilene Oldwine</i>		<i>Diane Honeman</i>		
	<i>Ruth Qualich</i>				

Since we can't see them in person, let's send emails, cards, phone calls, social media posts, or whatever to wish them well and have a "virtual" party for each of them.



Scholarship information is in flux at the moment, but there is definitely interest and people are applying. There is still a month before the application window closes, but a snapshot of how things stand at the moment is possible. The AAUW Foundation has seven new applicants and three returning students. This sets a record for applications. The Foundation has \$6,486 available to award. The McCracken Scholarship has four applicants with at least one more expected. It has \$9,100 to award.

This all adds up to us having a better than average year to help deserving students.

COVID-19 concerns cancel Tech Trek camps

By Sue Slone, Tech Trek Florida Coordinator

The safety of our campers and our volunteers is always foremost in our minds, but especially right now. And because the coronavirus situation is ever evolving, we will follow the recommendation of AAUW National to cancel Tech Trek camps for Summer 2020.

This may be disappointing news, but this is just too risky of a situation for all involved to go ahead this year. However, our hope in Florida is to be able to invite this year's girls to attend camp in 2021, as well as to serve next year's eighth graders.

The decision to cancel camps this year is based on many factors. Even when the stay-at-home orders are lifted, the risk of contracting the disease will be with us for a while. That means we should expect continued social distancing measures, even if shelter-in-place is lifted.

It will not be a toggle switch where we just return to normal immediately. Experts expect it will be a slow return to normal operations for us all.

With the close proximity of campers to each other and the volunteers and the overnight stay required for camps, social distancing will be impossible to effectively implement.

We are remaining optimistic that the country will get a handle on this disease, that things will move back towards normal by Summer 2021, and that we can hold the camps then.

We will advise the girls who were to have attended camp this summer and their schools of our plan. We will also provide information for branches to send to schools in the fall so they can begin the process of identifying girls who would benefit from camp in 2021.

Our plans depend on you, however. Our goal of having four weeks of camp next year means your continued fundraising efforts will be vital.

Though you may have canceled fundraisers due to COVID-19 restrictions, continue to plan future events. Donations through our AAUW FL Supporting Foundation are always welcome. It is only through your support that we can continue to provide this unbelievable opportunity to the young women of Florida. ■



Just a reminder to **please renew** your AAUW membership!

You can use the national email link that was sent to your personal email address- it takes 5 minutes!! If you have misplaced that link, email Barb Coolahan at bjcoolahan@gmail.com so she can resend it.

Using this link makes renewal a piece of cake (so to speak), so easy and quick.

Otherwise, you may complete the renewal form and send it to Barb Coolahan at 8832 17th Ave Circle NW, Badenton, Florida 34209 by May 15th. A second email reminder will be issued in May. We currently have 54 members and have been recognized for our increase in membership this year. Thank you and please consider your continued support and recruitment of new members.

Note: Changes under membership must happen **before May 15th**.



*2020-2021 Monthly Meetings
Dates, Times, and Locations*

September 15th, 2020 -- 5:30 p.m. at IMG Academy Golf Club

October 20th, 2020 -- 5:30 p.m. at IMG Academy Golf Club

November 17th, 2020 -- 11:30 a.m. at Peridia Golf & Country Club

December 15th, 2020 – 11:30 a.m. at IMG Academy Golf Club

January 19th, 2021 -- 11:30 a.m. at Peridia Golf & Country Club

February 16th, 2021 -- 11:30 a.m. at Peridia Golf & Country Club

March 16th, 2021 – 5:30 p.m. at IMG Academy Golf Club

April 2021 – Women of Achievement Luncheon – Details TBD

May 18th, 2021 -- 5:30 p.m. at IMG Academy Golf Club



AAUW-FL RELEASES NEW RESEARCH ON ECONOMIC SECURITY FOR WORKING BLACK WOMEN IN FLORIDA

Dr. Mary Gatta, Associate Professor of Sociology at the City University of New York and a part-time Florida resident, has released her latest report commissioned by AAUW of Florida. The title is ***Working Black Women in Florida and Economic Insecurity: A Story of Gender and Racial Inequality.***

Dr. Gatta was to have introduced this report to us at the state convention, but in lieu of that, she has recorded a brief interview that is available on the [AAUW Florida Facebook](#) page. In observation of Black Women's Equal Pay Day, she will record a longer presentation to be sent out on August 15. This could provide a good topic for a branch meeting in the new year.

The Flagler, Jacksonville, St. Augustine, Sarasota, and Tampa Branches supported this research through AAUW-Florida state grants, and the Weston branch supported it through member contributions.

Here are the websites where you can find executive summaries and the complete report:

AAUW Florida

<https://aauw-fl.aauw.net/advocacy/economic-security/>

AAUW St. Augustine

<https://staugustine-fl.aauw.net/womens-economic-security/>



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





Feminist Icons Who
Don't Get the Credit
They Deserve
Include:

Victoria Woodhull – established first female stock brokerage fund worked by female stockbrokers. First woman ever to petition Congress in person arguing for women's right to vote. First female candidate for presidency.

Dorothy Lawrence – posed as British soldier to get to the battlefields in World War I to write her investigative stories.

Amelia Bloomer – first women to own, operate, and manage a newspaper, founded in 1849; popularized a new form of dress for women, a loose pair of trousers gathered around the ankles and worn under a skirt, known even today as "bloomers."

Sojourner Truth – Best known for her "Ain't I a Woman" speech and numerous other speeches and activities supporting rights for women. She worked even into her old age as one of the earliest advocates for women.

Edith Garrud – Taught women how to use jiu-jitsu for personal defense, even when imprisoned, and became the official trainer of the Women's Social & Political Union bodyguards.

Wonder Woman (and creator William Moulton Marston) – The only female superhero frequently shown breaking free of chains, chains being a common symbol of the restrictions on women, she continuously outsmarts and overpowers men. Her books include a series featuring historical women heroes called "Wonder Women of History" including such as Florence Nightingale and Joan of Arc.

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.

May – Canceled

June – TBD

For more information, contact Mickie McElroy at 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

President-Past: Judy Griffin: jdthgriffin@gmail.com

Scholarship Info: aauwbbscholarship@gmail.com

Meeting Reservations:

AAUWBradentonbranch@gmail.com

Membership: Barb at bjcoolahan@gmail.com

Condolence/Congratulations Cards to Members:
pbissell@gmail.com

Bridge Group: Lois at lwblevins@msn.com

Book Club: Mickie at mickiemc@utexas.edu

Just for Girls: 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.

