

AAUW Bradenton

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Branching Out

Branching Out is published monthly by the Bradenton Branch of the [American Association of University Women](#), P.O.Box 14099, Bradenton, FL 34280-4099



President's Message

Dear members,

I am writing this just minutes after our October branch meeting ended because this was such a great meeting that so many of you missed! We were joined by four of our 11 current scholarship recipients ranging in age from 18 to 40+ and from freshmen to graduate students. Having so many joining us is one of limited benefits of the pandemic forcing us to meet differently. As you may recall, we have invited recipients to our first branch meeting of the year, but for the last several years, it has been nearly impossible for them to

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ZOOM Meetings

We will continue to meet via ZOOM through the end of 2020. To join the meeting, click on this link between 6:45 and 7:00 on November 17:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6030763851>

Zoom is free and easy to use. You just need a computer, tablet, or smart phone with WiFi access. Click on this link to sign-up for a free Zoom account at <https://zoom.us/signin>. You can also download the *.exe file and install ZOOM Client.

If you are unfamiliar with using ZOOM, there is an excellent tutorial at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOUwumKCW7M>.

Test your microphone and speaker when prompted. To mute or unmute your voice, hover over the red microphone icon to . During a busy meeting, it's best to be muted until you need to be heard. Make sure your camera video is enabled. You can also call or text Meg Newsome for additional individual assistance, at **941-704-2707**.



November Guest

Speakers:

Sue Firestone

Staying Healthy and Happy through the Holidays in the Time of COVID.

Social Time at 6:45.

Guest speakers at 7:00.

Meeting to follow.

[Click here for more information!](#)

President's Message (cont.)

attend due to their busy schedules or distance of their colleges from Bradenton. The Zoom delivery offered them the flexibility they needed to connect with us.

I know many of you who have supported the Scholarship Foundation in the past will be satisfied to know that your contribution is paying significant dividends to these individuals as well as our community. Many are involved in community service as well as pursuing their education. Their stories are varied but their visions are clear. Recipient Karen Arango shared her blog featuring one of her highly rated assignments. It is a poignantly written and photographed story of a local family's struggle. You can read it on our branch Facebook page or here <https://karenarango.wordpress.com/2019/12/09/the-taste-of-freedom/>

Our branch did a commendable job in selecting and supporting these students. The Foundation board recently met and committed to follow up with all the recipients. We will send holiday greetings using the cards illustrated by winners of the annual AAUW artists competition each spring. Supporting education has always been a keystone of our branch's mission. The pandemic has created obstacles for us in other areas such as supporting middle school girls through Tech Trek and Tech Savvy and providing strategies for achieving equity in the workplace through our Start Smart and Work Smart programs. Nevertheless, the branch will continue meeting virtually. Please join us! You don't have to leave the comfort of your home, you can drink wine (as long as you provide it!), and you will be able to recognize other members since masks aren't needed!

Our November meeting topic explores the pandemic challenges the holidays pose. Surely it will interest friends and neighbors of yours who aren't members. They are welcome to click on the Zoom link and join us. The meeting will open with the program, so they needn't be involved in the business meeting unless they choose. No reservation is necessary.

I hope to see you on November 17!

Marcia Hill, President

AAUW Bradenton Monthly Meeting

Date: November 17, 2020

Location: ZOOM

Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6030763851>

Time: 6:45

Program: [Sue Firestone](#)

Staying Healthy and Happy through the Holidays in the Time of COVID.

Coming Soon to your email...

Expect a message from **Survey Monkey** regarding preferences for December Options!

Next Monthly Meeting:

Date: December 17, 2020

Location: ZOOM

Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6030763851>

Time: 6:45

Program: Holiday Celebration

SAVE THE DATE

January 19th - Jane Plitt, Women's Suffrage

February 16th - TBA

March 16th - Amy Wich, Pace Center for Girls

Trivia Night - TBA

Postponed: There will not be 2020 Women of Achievement

Our November Program: Staying Healthy and Happy through the Holidays in the Time of COVID.

The Bradenton Branch of AAUW is excited to welcome Sue Firestone as our guest this month! Sue will present to us a short program about how we can face the upcoming holiday season safely. She will discuss the physical, mental, and emotional stresses relating to this time of year, especially in regard to COVID-19.

Come prepared with your questions! There will be a Q & A.

You won't want to miss this!



A Community for All Ages

Sue Firestone
Aging System Policy Coordinator
Sarasota County Government
sfirestone@scgov.net



Sue Firestone serves as the Aging System Policy Coordinator for Sarasota County Government. Her professional background includes more than 35 years working with older adults, most recently at the Friendship Centers where she spent 20 years working in program areas across multiple counties. In her new role with Sarasota County, Sue will continue the work of the Age-Friendly Sarasota: A Community for All Ages Initiative.

Sue previously worked with The Patterson Foundation on the Legacy of Valor and Age Mastery Program and has presented at the Florida Conference on Aging regarding the Older American's Act Senior Nutrition Program and Senior Center Wellness programming. She was on the founding board of the Sarasota Senior Advocacy Council.

Sue is an active member of the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, the VFW Auxiliary, Florida Council on Aging and President of the BSP Charitable Foundation.

Sue has lived in Sarasota for more than 30 years and is the proud mother of Ryan, an Iraq and Afghanistan Veteran and grandmother to 2-year-old Mason.

Join Sue on Twitter: @SusanFirestone1

Special Interest Groups

Most Special Interest Groups are not yet meeting regularly.

November Birthdays

Patty Davis NJ



Book Group

The Book Group **will meet** Thursday, November 5, at 1:30 pm. Maggie Carlson will lead the discussion of *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes. The location is still to be determined. For information call Ruth Qualich at 941-792-0367.



**mark
your
calendar!**

2020-2021 Monthly Meetings Dates, Times, and Locations

December 15th, 2020 – Answer the email Survey, please!

January 19th, 2021 – ZOOM 6:45 p.m.

February 16th, 2021 – TBA (scheduled as 11:30 a.m. at Peridia Golf & Country Club)

March 16th, 2021 -- TBA (scheduled as 5:30 p.m. at IMG Academy Golf Club)

May 18th, 2021 -- TBA (scheduled as 5:30 p.m. at IMG Academy Golf Club)

April 2022 -- Women of Achievement Luncheon – Postponed from 2021

IN FOCUS

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Stay Tuned for New Inclusion & Equity Resources

AAUW's Inclusion & Equity committee has been hard at work putting together a new toolkit of resources and tips that highlight how critical diversity, equity and inclusion are to AAUW's long-term prospects. The toolkit, which will be available to members in November, will include dozens of resources to help you lead branch workshops, broaden your membership and further your own learning. In the meantime, check out [Dr. Lisette Garcia's webinar](#) on how to cultivate a more inclusive perspective.

Applications for 2021–22 Fellowships and Grants Now Open

Do you know any women pursuing postgraduate studies, furthering their career: working on a program to benefit women and girls? Point them to our [fellowships and grants applications](#). Deadlines run from November to December.

Apply for Election to AAUW's National Board

AAUW is accepting applications for election to the national Board of Directors through October 30. Board members share a passion for advancing equity for women and play a vital role in leading AAUW. [Learn more and apply today.](#)

LEADERSHIP

Continuing RBG's Legacy of Fairness

Justice Ginsburg was a principled defender of justice who led by example. She showed us that the Supreme Court belongs to no political party, but rather to the American people. And the people must retain the power to decide on the leaders who select our court. Here's how to [take action to ensure a full and fair vetting for her replacement](#).

Latinas and the Pay Gap

October 29 is [Latina Equal Pay Day](#). Because of the gender pay gap, Latinas were compensated 55% of what non-Hispanic white men were paid in 2019. That means it takes Latina workers almost an entire extra year of full-time, year-round work to be paid the average annual earnings of white men.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Include Equity in Your Estate Plans

Did you know that Oct. 19-25 is National Estate Planning Awareness Week? It's a great time to [learn more about your options](#) for seeding a legacy of equity through AAUW. There are a variety of simple ways to include AAUW in your plans that cost nothing during your lifetime. Your planned gift will help empower women and girls now and for generations to come. To learn more, please contact Heather Miller, Director of Advancement, at millerh@aauw.org, or 202-785-7766.

NEWS AND NOTES

A Wealth of Webinars

After offering weekly webinars for many months, we've now built up an impressive library of content for members to explore at any time. You can peruse the archive of [Equity Network webinars](#), which are focused on professional development and how to build equitable and inclusive workplaces. Or take a look at our [2020 member webinars](#), which range from interviews with notable Fellows to updates on your membership to tips on how to enhance your activism.

Scholarship News

At our October ZOOM meeting, we were privileged to hear from four of our amazing Scholarship recipients (see [President's Message](#)). Each of these gave an inspirational report about their studies. If you wish to stay in touch...

Robyn Davis - Redavis2016@gmail.com

Karen Arango - Karenarango.r@gmail.com

Ninel Leonado - Ninelmimi@gmail.com

Xavier Rasado-Mendez –
Xavierrosadocollege@gmail.com

One of these inspiring young persons was Karen Arango. After telling about her pursuit of a future career as a documentary filmmaker, she shared a project she worked on documenting the lives of farm workers and the immigrant experience:

"A story about a couple who did farm work for more than 20 years. This work was created as my final project for my multimedia reporting class at USFSP."

"Wow! What an important and heartbreaking story Karen has shared. It is such a valuable lesson to be mindful and thankful for the clean and fresh food that we have in abundance. We purchase it and consume it with barely a thought of the sacrifices that are made to make it available. Please take a look at it and send it on to others." ~Judy Griffin

<https://karenarango.wordpress.com/2019/12/09/the-taste-of-freedom/>

The Taste of Freedom



From the left: A co-worker and Jose Luis Alejo picking oranges. They got paid \$5 per box that they filled.



BRADENTON BRANCH AAUW MEMBERSHIP

July 1, 2020 -June 30, 2021

NEW BRANCH MEMBER

Note: Information you provide is printed in the Brach Membership Directory unless otherwise indicated.

Member Type and Dues

Membership Type _____ Annual _____ Life _____ Dual (name primary branch) _____

_____ Dues for Annual Members: \$83 (\$59 National + \$12 State + \$12 Bradenton Branch)

(\$46 of 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 the branch newsletter delivered by mail. I am adding \$10 for postage.

CONTACT INFORMTION

Last Name: _____ First Name _____ Nickname _____

Florida Address: _____

_____ Zip _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell (_____) _____

Business Phone (_____) _____ Fax (_____) _____

Email Address _____

The branch sends invitations for monthly meeting reservations by e-mail. 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 (_____) _____

Please provide the following information for the branch directory:

Undergraduate Degree ___ BA ___ BS

College: _____ Year: _____ Major _____

Graduate Degree _____

College: _____ Year: _____ Major _____

Graduate Degree _____

College: _____ Year: _____ Major _____

Current Profession or Retired: _____

BRANCH INTEREST -- Check any of the following that you might enjoy.

___ 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/Social Media Updates

___ Women of Achievement Luncheon

___ Trivia Night Event

___ Tech Savvy Event

___ Work Smart/Start Smart Event

MAKE CHECK OUT TO "BRADENTON BRANCH AAUW"

MAIL TO: Mickie McElroy, 10437 48th Court E., Parrish FL 34219

512-917-6768, mickiemc@utexas.edu

AAUW Florida has a long tradition of strong state leaders. The AAUW-FL Nominating Committee is looking for talented and enthusiastic members interested in running for the following state officer positions to be elected in April 2021.

**PRESIDENT-ELECT
DIRECTOR FOR PROGRAM
DIRECTOR FOR FINANCE
DIRECTOR FOR PUBLIC POLICY**

Position descriptions and the Candidate Vita Form 2020 can be downloaded from the AAUW-FL Website: <http://aauw-fl.aauw.net>.

To access the Vita Form and the position descriptions:

1. Click on [Branch Resources-Forms](#).
2. Click on **Forms**.
3. Under **Nominating Committee Forms and Documents**, click on Vita-form-2020.
4. Go to **Officers elected in odd-numbered years** and click on desired positions ***Descriptions and Duties***.

Please consider offering your knowledge and experience to the State Board of AAUW-FL. The [Vita Form](#) must be received by the committee chair no later than **NOVEMBER 15, 2020**.

If you have questions, please contact our branch member and Chair of the Nominating Committee Jacqueline D'Alessio (jqline@verizon.net).

[National AAUW](http://www.aauw.org/) <http://www.aauw.org/>
[Florida AAUW](http://aauw-fl.aauw.net/) <http://aauw-fl.aauw.net/>

[Bradenton Branch](#)

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

Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUW-Bradenton-Branch-103388217778483>

President Marcia Hill: mshanerhill@gmail.com

President-Past: Judy Griffin:

jdthgriffin@gmail.com

Scholarship Info:

aauwbbscholarship@gmail.com

Membership:

Bridge Group: Lois at lwblevins@msn.com

Book Club: Ruth (temp.) at (941) 792-0367

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.

