

AAUW Bradenton

Dec. 2, 2020 | Vol. 44, No. 4
<https://bradenton-fl.aauw.net/>



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,

The holiday season is upon us! I hope you will wrap yourself in the spirit of this special season and enjoy the message of love and cheer it celebrates despite the extra challenges we all are confronting from the pandemic. If you are feeling down, please know that you can call me (941-704-5381) to chitchat. In AAUW we support women in ways that may not appear on a strategic plan. We can check in with each to offer a sympathetic ear, a "can you believe this?" story, or just a pleasant "how are you?" Let's take care of each other.

[\(to continue, click here\)](#)

QUICK LINKS

Press CNTRL, then Click

[From the President](#)

[Monthly Meetings](#)

[2020-2021 Calendar](#)

[Renewal Membership Form](#)

[Birthdays](#)

[Holiday Party Information!](#)

[Presentation from November Meeting](#)

[Book Club](#)

[Special Interest Groups](#)

[Take Stock in Children](#)

[November Meeting Minutes](#)

[Just for Girls Holiday Gift](#)

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 December 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. Please call or text Meg Newsome (941-704-2707) or Judy Griffin (941-323-4639) for additional individual assistance.



December Program:

**HOLIDAY
PARTY!**

Social Time at 6:45.
Guest speaker at 7:00.
Meeting to follow.

[Click here for more information –
There's lots more!](#)

President's Message (cont.)

Speaking of the strategic plan . . . Our branch continues to focus on important topics as we meet virtually via Zoom, but we decided that this month "girls just wanna have fun," as Madonna sang decades ago! Please plan to join the branch on **December 15th** for a virtual holiday party. Our Director for Programs, **Judy Griffin**, has been in touch with Santa's elves to make this a holly jolly affair. It doesn't matter where you are. As long as you have an internet connection, you'll have an AAUW connection. Be as festive as you like with your appearance and environment. Be your own hostess by providing yourself with wine and cheese or whatever delights you prefer. More information is included in the newsletter.

With assistance from **Dee Ralph**, we are adapting our support of **Just For Girls Middle School** because the school is closed to visitors, so we won't be able to host our annual Holiday Brunch for the girls. The specifics of the holiday project are detailed in this newsletter.

During previous Decembers, you would be reading about Trivia Night. In past Januarys we raised funds for scholarships and branch initiatives through a fun night of trivia competition. The board canceled the **Trivia Night** event for January, but we are hopeful that we may revisit it as a spring activity of 2021.

I am wishing each of you a happy, healthy, and peaceful holiday season! May you find joy and blessings with family and friends and satisfaction when you reflect on a year well lived. Virtual celebrations allow us to relish the beauty in the smiles of our family and friends, delight at the sound of their voices, and cherish the love on their faces.

I hope to see you on December 15!

Marcia Hill, President

TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN NEEDS MENTORS!

Dear Friends,
Take Stock in Children Manatee is in need of a few mentors for students entering in December and January. New students will begin mentoring in the days of COVID. It's different! If you can give about 30 minutes to a student who is really looking forward to being in the program. They have gone through the rigorous steps of getting this far- now they need you.

You will be guided and supported in taking the first steps. It is important work- it matters. It's giving Manatee students the last part of the process- they will know mentors are ready to take the journey with them join the team.

AAUW Bradenton Monthly Meetings

Date: December 15, 2020

Location: ZOOM

Link:

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

Time: 6:45

Program: Holiday Party

Next Monthly Meeting:

Date: January 19, 2020

Location: ZOOM

Link:

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

Time: 6:45

Program: Jane Plitt-
Celebrating 100 Years of
Women's Right to Vote.

[Click here for interview in Sarasota Magazine.](#) – You will not want to miss this program!

SAVE THE DATE

February 16th - TBA

March 16th - Amy Wich,
Pace Center for Girls

Trivia Night - TBA

Postponed: There will not be 2020 Women of Achievement

Scholarships, Mentors and Hope

Elaine Graham
Ebebeg@aol.com

Ann Heller
Takestockmanatee.org



Virtual Holiday Party



How to Join in the Fun...

1.

Wear something fun! A glitzy sweater, reindeer antlers, light-up earrings... Your choice!

2.

Prepare your own refreshments, including a glass for a festive holiday toast.

3.

Attached to this email, find a Bingo Game to print out.
You may also print the Agenda if you wish.

4.

Have paper and pen or pencil handy for Bingo Trivia questions and a couple of surprise games.

5.

Have a Book or Movie recommendation to share – just a sentence or two.
It could be holiday-related, or not!

6.

Sign into the Zoom group at 6:45.
Use the “Join Video Chat” on your Evite
Or use this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6030763851>



If You Missed Our November Program...

Susan Firestone, Aging System Policy Coordinator for Sarasota County Health and Human Services gave a timely presentation at our November Zoom Meeting. You can view her presentation by opening the attachment called AAUW Presentation, Nov. 17. You can also view it on our website at <https://bradenton-fl.aauw.net/files/2020/12/AAUW-Presentation-November-17-2020.pdf>.

The end of the presentation included a number of resources, which are also listed here.

Florida Department of Health in Manatee County : <http://manatee.floridahealth.gov/>
2015-2020 Community Health Improvement Plan:

http://manatee.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/wellness-programs/community-health-planning/_documents/chip-final.pdf

Age-Friendly Sarasota: <https://www.agefriendlysarasota.org/>

Age-Friendly Public Health: <https://www.tfah.org/initiatives/age-friendly-public-health/>

Florida Safe Survey CV19 CheckUp: <https://floridasafesurvey.com/>

Manatee County COVID 19 Dashboard:

<https://manateegis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/6d62b35e04d44d26b73c6d29b92efb72>

Senior Social Media Guide: <https://bradenton-fl.aauw.net/files/2020/12/Senior-Social-Media-Guide.pdf>

AAUW BRADENTON BRANCH MINUTES NOVEMBER 17, 2020

Attendance: (16) Marcia Hill, Judy Griffin, Mickie McElroy, Elaine Graham, Ora Jean Henry, Ruth Qualich, Phyllis Omilak, Meg Newsome, Fay Murphy, Carolyn Reynolds, Doreen Colket, Beverly, Margaret Mills, Linda Guilfoyle, Nan Rankin and Sue Firestone.

Judy Griffin introduced the speaker Sue Firestone at 7:05 p.m. Sue is The Aging System Policies Coordinator with Age Friendly Communities. Information for reaching her is 941-861-2558 and sfirestone@scgov.net. Sue talked about A Global Movement, Population Growth-Manatee Projections (2019 there were more deaths than births in Manatee County), Age-Friendly Program cycle, Domains of liability, Age Friendly Public Health, Public Health, Department of Health Survey, FL Safe Survey, Connecting via Social Media. Sue reminded us that during these COVID-19 times unsafe activities are large gathering, crowds, potlucks and contact with anyone sick. Meg will provide links in the branch newsletter.

At 7:55 p.m. President Marcia Hill called the Business Meeting to order. Mickie reported that the Budget is stable. People are encouraged to donate to Scholarships. Holiday pitches may help and sending cards to our scholarship recipients would be a nice gesture. FL State Board is working on virtual Tech Trek.

Interest Groups: The Book Club has been meeting outdoors and distanced. The December Just for Girls Brunch was discussed. The December 15th meeting will be a Holiday Scavenger Hunt on zoom.

Announcements: The Board will meet ...

A Warm Holiday at Just For Girls Middle School

During past holiday seasons the Bradenton Branch has supported the students at Just For Girls Middle School with a holiday brunch, goody bags, games, and fellowship. This year the Scrooge Pandemic necessitates a new way to spread some warmth—and we will do this not just figuratively but also literally!

The school's leader and Principal **Dee Ralph** (also a branch member) will gift each girl with a small throw blanket as a present from us. A few years ago, Dee said, the girls received this type of gift and really were thrilled with them.

The Board voted to use the money in our budget allocated for Just For Girls for this project. We will send the school a \$200 check, although that is more than the \$75 we budgeted. We are asking you to consider contributing since we are generating no income now. Each gift is approximately \$5 so if you can send a check to our treasurer to purchase a blanket or more than one, that will help our budget. Send any amount to **Mickie McElroy at 10437 48th Court E., Parrish, FL 34219. Make checks out to "Bradenton Branch AAUW."**

Dee promises to share some pictures of gift giving with us. Who doesn't love seeing a photo of a happy girl?

Thanks,
Marcia Hill

... December 2 at 2:00 p.m. on zoom. Next general meeting will be December 15 on zoom.

Adjournment: 8:10 p.m.

Fay Murphy, Secretary

Special Interest Groups

Most Special Interest Groups are not yet meeting regularly.

December Birthdays

Mary Schmidt OH



Book Group

The Book Group will meet Thursday, January 7, at 1:30 pm at Blackstone Park in Palmetto (weather permitting).

Jane Snyder will lead the discussion of *At Weddings and Wakes* by Alice McDermott. For information call Carolyn Reynolds at 941-720-6575. Come join us.



mark your calendar!

2020-2021 Monthly Meetings Dates, Times, and Locations

December 15th, 2020 – VIRTUAL Holiday Party!

January 19th, 2021 – ZOOM 6:45 p.m. Jane Plitt-Celebrating 100 Years of Women's Right to Vote. [Click here for interview in Sarasota Magazine.](#)

February 16th, 2021 – ZOOM 6:45 p.m

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 until 2022



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

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.



National AAUW

<http://www.aauw.org/>

Florida AAUW

<http://aauwfl.aauw.net/>

Bradenton Branch

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

Facebook Page:

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

Branch Leadership 2020-2021

President - Marcia Hill: mshanerhill@gmail.com

Past President - Judy Griffin:

jdthgriffin@gmail.com

Director of Finance (acting) – Mickie McElroy:

mickiemc@utexas.edu

Secretary – Fay Murphy: faymurph@aol.com

Director for Programs – Judy Griffin:

jdthgriffin@gmail.com

Director for Communications – Meg Newsome:

meggnewsome@outlook.com

Director for Public Policy – Mary Schmidt:

mcsrealtor@aol.com

Scholarship Foundation President – Elaine

Graham: ebebeg@aol.com

Scholarship Information:

aauwbbscholarship@gmail.com

Bylaws Chair/ Parliamentarian – Ruth Qualich:

qualir@yahoo.com

Bridge Group: Lois at lwblevins@msn.com

Book Club: Carolyn Reynolds: 941-720-6575

Just for Girls: deeisnice@gmail.com