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Branching Out is published monthly by the Bradenton Branch of the [American Association of University Women](#), P. O. Box 14009, Bradenton, FL 34280-4099.

June President's Message

The end is near! Our 2020-2021 year asked a lot from us. As Gila Radner said, "Life is about not knowing, having to change, taking the moment and making the best of it, without knowing what's going to happen next." I think that sums up the branch board's approach. I hope you found some value in your membership as we tried a new venue—Zoom. I know everyone wasn't a fan, but it was our best option. We

were thrilled to end on the happy note of an in-person at G.T. Bray Park in May. Part of the group is included in the photo. We tried to answer the questions, “What do you want the next year to look like?” and “What would make you enthusiastic for next year?”



[May meeting at G. T. Bray Park]

This is a great time to try new venues, projects, interest groups, and formats for leadership, as well beginning to explore a future merger with the Manatee Branch. I continue to look forward to hearing your ideas or questions and accepting your offer to help. Please text me at 941-704-5381 or email me if you have input to share or just want to explore an idea.

Each of us can commit to help growing our membership. Since the national vote kept the membership requirements the same, AAUW membership is open to anyone who holds an associate or equivalent degree or higher from an accredited educational institution.

I appreciate each member's contribution. Speaking of appreciation, **Mickie McElroy** served the branch well as our Treasurer this year. I am grateful for her support of the branch and her helpfulness to me. It is always a pleasure to have a smiling face beside you. **Thanks, Mickie!** **Mary Schmidt's** term as Director for Public Policy ends this month. She, too, volunteered when we needed her. Oh, how I value people you will say, "I can do that." **Thanks, Mary!**

I hope to be with each of you in the fall as we reconvene. In the meantime, I wish you each a sweet summer of returning to life as you knew it or as you want it to become. If you're bored or want conversation or even companionship, I can talk or listen or meet for breakfast, lunch, dinner (a girl's gotta eat!) so let's be here for each other. I am lucky to be part of such a smart, active, fun group of advocates for women and girls.

NEWS

Nominations for Office for 2021-2022

The leadership team presents the following members for consideration:

President: Marcia Hill

Treasurer: Sandra Stone

President Elect: Meg Newsome

Director for Communications: Meg Newsome (yes, she will take both jobs)

Director for Program: Judy Griffin

Secretary: Fay Murphy

Director for Membership and Director for Public Policy are open positions.

If you would like to nominate someone else for any of these positions (you must have the nominee's agreement, or you can nominate yourself) please reply to this email.

If there are no further nominations and no objections (questions are welcome) by **Monday, June 28 at 5pm**, these nominees will be declared elected by acclamation.

Marcia Hill

SAVE THE DATE

Membership Renewal - It's not too late! **In fact, there is a slight increase in dues beginning July 1. So you can save by renewing before June 30!** (See details below.)

July 20, 4:00-6:00 pm - Leadership Team meeting at Fay's home

No Book Group until September (See below)

Membership Renewal - It's Time!

Each member got a personalized email in April with an individualized link. Renewing is as simple as clicking on that link, checking your data to be sure it is accurate, then submitting payment. If anyone prefers to pay by check, you can send it to Mickie - the address is in the email - with any changes to your address, etc. since last year, and she'll do the renewal for you. If you didn't get the email, please check your spam/junk folder. Anyone who wants a repeat message, can email Mickie (mickiemc@gmail.com) to have the email resent to you. If you are comfortable with email, please help those who are not, or have them contact Mickie by mail with their checks. That will be helpful.

NEXT MEETING

TBA

This might interest you!

Have you ever wished you had written a memoir or a family history?

Often AAUW members are interested in this, so Jan L. Fishler (an author, writing coach, and speaker who has worked with branches around the country) set up a live Zoom course, **Your Memoir: Just Write It!** on **Thursdays during the month of August, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Pacific Time.**

You know your life an amazing life. Make sure future generations read about it or your legendary stories and experiences. Your Memoir: Just Write It! is for you.

In four 2-hour sessions, she plans to show you how to tap into your subconscious and make memoir-writing easy and fun. You'll also:

§ Discover the parts of your story that need to be told.

§ Collect and organize content.

§ Bring your characters to life.

§ Write scenes and dialogue like a pro — in the comfort of your home or office.

The course is divided in to four session each focusing on a topic. At the end of the month, you will know what to include in your memoir, how to write realistic dialogue, how to craft compelling scenes and much more—all in the company of other university women.

She will provide examples and worksheets as well as time for questions and answers. Sharing is encouraged but optional. You will have access to recorded Zoom calls for a full week following each class. After the course, you'll be invited to join a private Facebook group where you will receive answers to your questions and get feedback on your writing. There will also be a weekly Live Zoom call the following month to talk about your memoir and to provide encouragement and support to help you get it done!

Your Memoir: Just Write It! 10+ hour course typically costs \$199 but
AAUW members pay the discounted price of \$99.

If family and friends have been encouraging you to write about your life or
if you've been thinking about recording your family's history, now is time to
start.

Register Now!

If you need to know more, schedule a free call. Schedule a Free Call

Jan L. Fishler, Author~Speaker~Writing Coach

530-264-5105 www.JanFishler.net www.DontStopNow.us (about the
book) [Don't Stop Now: Making the Most of the Rest of Your Life](#) (on
Amazon)

Some of you may be interested...



Meet the League of Women Voters of Florida President and Executive Director

Thursday, July 15, 5:30pm

We are very excited to announce that the new President of the the League of Women Voters for Florida, Cecile Scoon, and the Executive Director, Leah Nash, will be joining us via Zoom. Hear what the challenges are, the triumphs and what the Florida League has to offer the local leagues and their committees.

This meeting is part of the Taste of the League program, a bi-monthly general meeting that is an opportunity for all to learn more and be inspired. Potential members can get a taste of the League and existing members can connect, share, have a bit of fun and discover even more. Spread the word and share this with friends and neighbors. Of course, we will have our toast and other fun events, so please join us.

Click this link to register: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZakdeuqrzkiHtanIVXtGPMctQnwWQzaqoF5>

SAD NEWS TO SHARE

The spouse of long-time member Rosalie Shaffer, Gary Shaffer, passed away June 14. Rosalie was President of LWVMC for 9 years and worked tirelessly in support of the League for many years. Gary always loved and supported her in all her efforts and interests, be it their travels or the League. Monday Gary tripped and broke his leg. In the surgery his heart stopped.

Rosalie's address is

11264 28thSt Cir E

Parrish, FL 34219

Email is shaffer_us@yahoo.com

Please pass the word on to people who are not members but know Rosalie.

Special Interest Groups

Special Interest Groups are not meeting regularly yet.

June Birthdays

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| <u>Eilene Oldwine</u> | D.C. |
| Mickie McElroy | TX |
| Elaine Graham | OH |
| <u>Ruth Qualich</u> | PA |
| Lois Blevins | DC |
| Meg Newsome | IN |



The Book Group will be starting again in September and reading *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See. We invite new members to join us then. This has been a enjoyable year for our members as we read many interesting books and enjoyed meeting outside to discuss them.

For information, call Carolyn Reynolds at 941-0720-6575.



Bradenton Branch Leadership

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@gmail.com

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: aauwbscholarship@gmail.com
Bylaws Chair/ Parliamentarian – Ruth Qualich:
qualir@yahoo.com
Bridge Group: Lois Blevins at lwblevins@msn.com
Book Club: Carolyn Reynolds: 941-720-6575
Just for Girls: deeisnice@gmail.com

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.



Important to Know

National AAUW

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

Florida AAUW

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



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Our mailing address is:
meggnewsome@outlook.com

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