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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.

President's Message October 2021

Happy autumn, members! It was good to see those of you who joined us for September's meeting with five of our scholarship recipients. One scholar was able to join us for a few minutes *while* she was attending her online class! We learned about their backgrounds (Marvict is from Venezuela), interests (Kelly likes rare-breed chickens), studies (Megan is studying nursing at John Hopkins in Baltimore), things they do for fun (Kaylea writes a food blog) and plans (Kailee aims to be an elementary teacher while Marvict wants to work with public policy in education).

One thing they all shared was a gratitude for the help from our **Foundation** and the **Manatee Community Foundation** (MCF) in supporting scholars who don't fit the mold of just graduated seniors going off to college. The women raved about the support they received from **Joan McCaw**, the MCF grants and scholarship manager. The scholars said that Joan helped them every step of the way to our scholarship. I wanted to recognize Joan's support of the **BBAUW Foundation's** work with an acknowledgement from you, the branch members. I left her a gift bag with an AAUW mug and other treats along with a card detailing remarks from the scholars. She responded saying, "I hope you know it is my joy and privilege to work with all of you and all of our students. I strive to be empathetic and authentic to each and every one. My heart guides me all the time."



Joan McCaw

Our branch is lucky to have such a valuable partner!

Our October meeting will focus on cybersecurity. Please encourage friends, neighbors, relatives, and any other contacts of yours to join us. This is an ever-changing field with

new information on avoiding fraud, identity theft, and the ever-persist Nigerian Princes with a deal for you!

As the holiday season approaches, the board is considering a face-to-face gathering, possibly outdoors such as we did in May. Please let us know what you think about this including ideas for gathering and activities we might include. We will conduct a brief survey at the October meeting.

Marcia Hill



Equal Pay Day Calendar

Latina's Equal Pay Day is October 21. Latinas are paid 55 cents for every dollar paid to white men. [AAUW's Latina Initiative](#) and AAUW Florida's report, "[Florida's Hispanic Women: Striving But Not Economically Thriving](#)" provide interesting information and policy recommendations to share with legislators or your community.



SAVE THE DATE

October 1 - Latina Equal Pay Day (see link above)

Thursday, October 7, 4:00 pm – Leadership Meeting (Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6030763851>)

Tuesday, October 19, 6:45 pm – October Meeting (TBA)
Program: “Phishing Without a Pole: How to Protect Yourself Online from Phishers, Scammers, and Hackers”

November: DEADLINE for DUES (so you aren't removed from AAUW's national roster!)

January 18 and 19, 2022 – Lobby Days

April 1, 2, and 3, 2022 – AAUW Florida Convention in Orlando <https://aauw-fl.aauw.net/2021/07/10/2022-aauw-florida-convention-annual-meeting/>



This spring the membership voted at the state conference to amend our by-laws to include electronic meetings as needed. Below is the amendment that will be included in our branch by-laws.

Proposed Amendment to the By-Laws

Add: ARTICLE XIV. MEETINGS Section 5. Electronic Meetings

Any meeting of the membership, Board committees, task forces or other AAUW Bradenton Branch groups may be conducted in whole or in part by electronic means if all persons participating whether in person or electronically, may hear each other and communicate in real time. Participation in an electronic meeting constitutes attendance and any official actions shall be recorded in the minutes.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, October 19

Social Time 6:45 | Program 7:00

(Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6030763851>)

PROGRAM:

**“Phishing Without a Pole: How to Protect Yourself
Online from Phishers, Scammers, and Hackers”**

Have you noticed an uptick in suspicious-looking emails and robo-calls? How can you tell what’s legitimate and what isn’t? Learn some tips and techniques for keeping yourself safe from the bad guys out there. Please invite friends for this program, too. You won’t want to miss this one!



Scholarship Foundation News

What a wonderful program in September, as we heard from some of our Scholarship Recipients! We want to support our scholars with an occasional touch base from someone in our branch.

Would you be willing to send an occasional check-in email and birthday or holiday card to one of our recipients? If you can help keep this connection, email Elaine, and she'll send the information you need to stay in touch. She needs 6 members to volunteer, so please let her know!

The Bradenton Branch AAUW has given scholarships to deserving women for years. Our scholarships are awarded to women who began their education and life intervened causing a pause in that part of their life. Our applicants are now ready to revive their educational journey. They realize that education is a vital component of upward mobility for their family.

We are so proud of the support we provide to help women and families. Every year, through our funds housed at the Manatee Community Foundation, we award multiple scholarships to move dreams forward.

This happens with donations and fundraising from members who value education. We have been challenged replenishing the account due to COVID. We will get back to projects but in the meantime, please donate what you can.

Make Checks Payable : BBAAUW Scholarship Foundation
Mail To: American Association of University Women
BBAAUW Scholarship Foundation
PO Box 14099 Bradenton, FL 34280

Elaine Graham



Shared from the Manatee League of Women Voters

Dear AAUW members,
On October 19, at 9AM the County Commission will be working on redistricting for Manatee County Commission districts. County redistricting can only be done on odd years, so this process will be complete before the end of 2021.

It will be helpful for you to know the rules and the forces at play. It would be VERY helpful if you or someone you know can work on some sample solutions so that, well before the October 19 meeting we can be prepared to either offer solutions or point out flaws with suggested scenarios at the Oct 19 meeting. If you like puzzles, this is for you!

The Rules:

FL Fair Districts Criteria (Art. III, Sec. 20 and 21 of the FL Constitution, approved in 2010 by 63% of the FL electorate)

- Equal size
- Population equality
- Compact
- Political and geographic boundaries
- Partisan fairness
- Minority fairness

In practice this means:

- Equally divide the population
- Be drawn with partisan fairness
- Be drawn to provide fair representation to minorities
- Be compact and contiguous

Current MC District populations:

District 1/Satcher: 103,826

District 2/Bellamy: 77,715

District 3/VanOstenbridge: 79,148

District 4/Servia: 80,763

District 5/Baugh: 108,763

2020 Census numbers for MC are 399,710, so 79,942 is the target # per district; no current commissioner may be removed from his/her district in the process.

Have a knack for technical? Want to assist in developing redistricting maps or just understanding it better:

Try Your Hand at Redistricting

[Click here to redistrict in the county](#)

Follow the below instructions to create county redistricting maps.

1. Create an account
2. Pick a state
3. Click on the link for Maps at the near the top of the right-hand side
4. A new screen will pop up, click the link for New Map at the top right
5. Follow the prompts to create your own map(s) for Manatee County. For district count, choose 5 (it's set for 10). Choose 2020 data and 2020 President for election to apply the correct Census data.
6. Press Apply to create the map. The system will generate the target number per district and assign a different color for each district.
7. When the map generates, look on the left-hand side of the screen
 - a. In the Colors Tab, click on "partisan lean" for Precincts
 - b. In the Overlays tab click "District lines" and "Precinct Lines".
 - c. Click on "Background map" in the Overlays tab to show the current Republican/Democrat mix in the county.
8. Click on the ? at the top right side of the screen and click on Paint Districts to learn how to create potential districts. Now Explore!

Once you create and name a map it saves it in your account. You can create as many as you like.

Please share your suggestions with the commissioners and/or with info@lwvmanatee.org

N. Alice Newlon

941-779-4165

You have to stand up for some things in this world.

- Marjory Stoneman Douglas



Learn more about AAUW (A new feature from our president!)

What is DEI?

DEI stands for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Diversity comprises the differences each of us brings to AAUW and its mission. We bring a variety of experiences, styles, perspectives, values, and education as assets. By learning about ourselves and our differences, we can create a more inclusive environment in our branches where all our members feel valued and can contribute fully to AAUW's mission.

AAUW Florida invites us to participate in a series of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) discussions sponsored by the AAUW FL DEI Committee.

The first discussion in October dealt with implicit bias. We all have biases. When we are aware of these attitudes and stereotypes, we call them *explicit*. But we also have *implicit* attitudes and stereotypes that may influence our thinking in ways we're not even aware of and can't totally control. I joined this Zoom dialogue with 25 other Florida members. We focused on identifying our implicit biases and ways of addressing them.

Dialogues are scheduled for the second Saturday morning for the next six months. You will receive an email inviting you to the November 13 session. DEI discussions are open to all members and guests.

I encourage you to participate in the next one. Many branches are scheduling programs and book groups exploring the myriad of topics included in DEI. Both

AAUW Florida and AAUW National have developed resources our branch can use to expand our knowledge; identify best practices to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion; and find ways to act. You can find more information at <https://aauw-fl.aauw.net/diversity-and-inclusion/>



NEWS from AAUW Florida



Advocacy and voter education

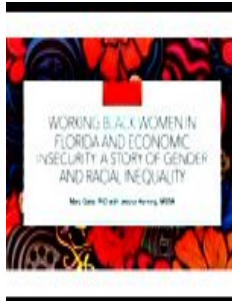
We're passionate about advancing equity and equal opportunities for women and girls, and actively work to achieve results. [Read more...](#)



Diversity and inclusion

We're non-partisan, but not values-neutral. We're inclusive and diverse and stand against racism. [Read more....](#)

Economic security research



For many Florida women, it's economic insecurity, as the research we sponsored shows, especially for Latina and Black women. [Read more...](#)



Special Interest Groups

Special Interest Groups are not meeting regularly yet.

Would you like to start a new one?
Here are some ideas...
Museums/Galleries/Lunch Out?
Bridge? Financial Literacy?
Any idea could work!

Contact Marcia Hill if you want to start something fun!

October Birthdays

Marianne Harrison PA

Sandra Stone IL



The Book Group started again in September and is reading *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See. We invite new members to join us.

This has been an 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

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>

Bradenton Branch Board

2021-2022

President: Marcia Hill mshanerhill@gmail.com

Secretary: Fay Murphy faymurph@aol.com

Treasurer: Sandra Stone sstone101654@gmail.com

President Elect: Meg Newsome meggnewsome@outlook.com

Director for Program: Judy Griffin jdthgriffin@gmail.com

Director for Communications: Meg Newsome meggnewsome@outlook.com

Scholarship Foundation Board President – Elaine Graham: ebebeg@aol.com

Scholarship Information: aauwbbscholarship@gmail.com

Book Club: Carolyn Reynolds: 941-720-6575

Just for Girls: deeisnice@gmail.com

