



Winter, 2021-22
Volume 45, Number 4
<https://bradenton-fl.aauw.net>



Bradenton Branch

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

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



February President's Message

Hello, members! I hope you are ready for interesting and active months with Bradenton AAUW.

We were happy to have ended 2021 supporting the young women at **Just For Girls** with a holiday celebration. What a success that was on so many levels! This issue includes pictures from the meeting and the event it supported. Working together makes all the difference.

Our branch and the Manatee County branch are continuing to work together on **Tech Trek**. Six girls from our county have applications for this summer's week-long event which will, once again, be virtual. We are supporting Manatee's grant application through the **Bishop Parker Foundation** in hopes of securing matching funds to aid with the financial commitment. Later this month AAUW-FL will let us know which girls are continuing the application process. Our branch will support girls using the funds remaining from our **Tech Savvy** grant. **Barb Coolihan** and **Linda Guilfoyle** are spearheading our Tech Trek efforts. Please thank them for their work.

Also, later this month, February 22, member of the boards of each branch will take part in a Zoom meeting together. We are about to build the agenda so please let me know if you have a specific item to suggest.

AAUW-FL recently announced that this year's **Florida Convention and Annual Meeting** will be virtual rather than in-person as they previously announced. While we will miss the opportunity to share each other's company, we can all attend in the comfort of our bathrobes or with our

favorite wines! For now, all you need to do is mark your calendar for April 1-3, Friday through Sunday. (If you are like me, you should buy a new robe!)

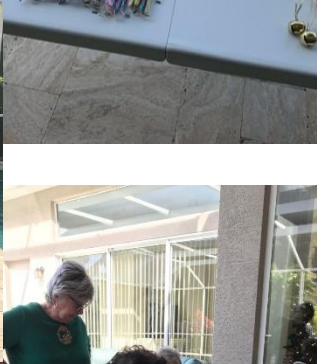
As spring approaches, we think of rebirth and renewal. Our branch leadership will have opportunities for members to support of mission in a variety of ways. We need membership and program directors or members who are willing to share a position. Our secretary's term ends also. Throughout our lives we have been women who made things happen. Why would we stop now? The branch and the community are stronger when you are active. Make us an offer. On that note, I will remind you that Valentine's Day is approaching, and smiles are easy to share with each other. I hope to see you next week, friends!

Marcia Hill, President (Below is how I will spend Valentine's Day. Join me?)



**December 7, 2021 @ Barb Coolihan's home -
*Hi Ho, Hi Ho, It's Off to Work We Go . . .***





December 17, 2021@ Just For Girls Middle School

... To Cheer the Girls With A Special Ho, Ho, Ho From Each of Us!



Dee Ralph, Principal (and member), sent these pictures of the girls receiving their gift bags donated by the members of **AAUW Bradenton Branch**. “They LOVED all the gifts and were so very appreciative,” she said. “Extend my thanks for helping to make a difference in the lives of the girls of Manatee County.”

Thank you also to **Barb** for offering her lovely outdoor setting for an in-person meeting for the branch and for her role in its success. We worked, laughed, ate, shared ideas, exchanged books, and enjoyed being active branch members again!



SAVE THE DATE

February 15 – Next Bradenton Branch Meeting

February 22 – Join Board Zoom Meeting (Boards of Bradenton and Manatee Branches)

Saturday, March 5 – Manatee Branch Scholarship Luncheon (Palm Aire Country Club – More information will follow in an email.)

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

March 15 – Bradenton Branch Meeting (TBA: Plans are to continue meeting in person.)



NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

In Person (or Zoom)

Manatee Community Foundation

2820 Manatee Ave W, Bradenton, Florida 34205

Social Time: 11:30 am

12:00-1:00 Presentation from Sandra Stone

Business Meeting to Follow

Exciting Details Below!



Program for Feb. 15, 2022 – **INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!**

USF Battles Human Trafficking

The USF Trafficking in Persons Risk to Resilience Research Lab was established in 2020 to address the problems of sex and labor trafficking in Florida. After conducting a community needs assessments, two major focus areas emerged: a need for accurate, centralized data to help get a better understanding of the scope and dynamics of the problem, and a need for an integrated digital platform to expedite connecting victims/survivors with appropriate programs and services.

The presentation will provide more information on both these initiatives, including progress on a related human trafficking bill (HB 1439) currently moving through the FL Legislature.

Sandra S. Stone, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Criminology

Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies

University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee Campus



Scholarship Foundation News

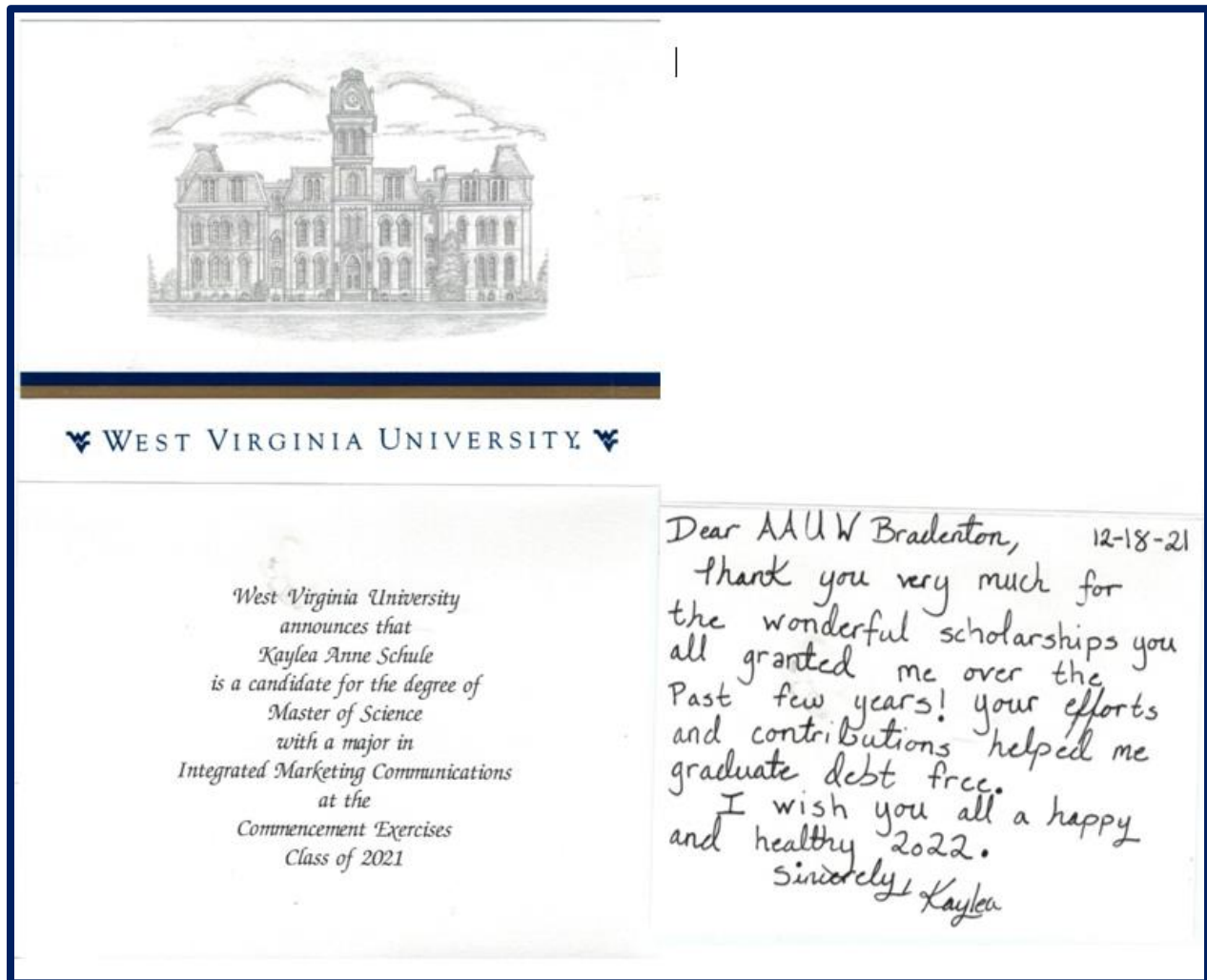
Our current Scholarship Foundation recipients benefit from the boost we provide when the Manatee Community Foundation sends the checks to their individual schools. The second semester is a good time to be reminded of the important support we provide.

Meet one of our recipients:

December/January Spotlight: Scholarship Foundation Recipient

Kaylee Light is attending the University of Central Florida studying elementary education. She graduated from Palmetto High School and was a Florida Academic Bright Futures Scholar. During her high school years she was a member of the Christian Athletes Club and worked at a daycare with young children. She continued her daycare work while attending State College of Florida. When she applied for our scholarship, she had finished at State College of Florida and was ready to begin at the University of Central Florida. Kailee plans to teach elementary education in the Manatee County Schools when she finishes her degree.

A graduation note from another one of our recipients:



Please support our scholars by donating to our **Scholarship Foundation** which is a **501 c3**. Make your check, a check from your IRA (RMD), or other payment to:

Make Checks Payable To : BBAAUW Scholarship Foundation

Mail To :

Bradenton Branch American Association of University Women Scholarship Foundation
(BBAAUW Scholarship Foundation)

P0 Box 14099

Bradenton, FL 34280

Elaine Graham, Scholarship Foundation



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

Have you read about AAUW's new financial literacy program?



The Money Smart is a series of three one-hour, facilitator-led virtual training sessions. Although each workshop can stand on its own as a learning resource, the sessions build on one another to provide a comprehensive guide to personal money management. The sessions focus on a smart foundation, smart finances, and a smart future.

The sessions include budgeting and personal values, managing and building credit while paying off debt, and investments and retirement planning.

Learn more about the program at <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/money-smart/>



NEWS from AAUW

AAUW-FL's LEGISLATIVE AGENDA NEEDS YOUR ACTIVE SUPPORT

Please help to augment our influence and make a difference for Florida's women by contacting your state legislators on issues including:


- Fighting for fair pay for all, to provide paycheck and workplace protections currently not ensured in Florida.
- Supporting efforts to combat human trafficking in Florida.

- Establishing a state Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, to ensure diversity in State government programs and activities.

By contacting your Florida state legislators, you'll give AAUW-FL a strong display of support and help to advance a policy agenda that makes a difference in the lives of women and their families on issues such as, economic security, education, and fundamental rights.

Our February branch meeting next week will highlight work being done locally to address human trafficking. Sandra Stone will share the project she and USF are spearheading and the legislation relating to it.


Join us in [making your voice heard now!](#)



FLORIDA February 2022


DIVERSITY

Multiple identities represented in an organization




EQUITY

Constantly and consistently recognizing and redistributing power



INCLUSION

Thoughts, ideas and perspectives of all individuals matter



ARROWHEAD CONSULTING

DEI Dialogue #5: Florida's History of Racism
Saturday, February 12, 2022
10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Zoom

The session on February 12th falls under "difficult conversations". Andrew Sorbo will talk about "Florida's History of Racism". Andrew is a retired History Teacher and Principal. He is an Art Collector and has Artifacts dating back 1500 BC. He is a facilitator of Social and Racial Justice workshops, including the 1619 Project, and African Civilizations.

Sponsored by AAUW FL Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee

AAUW Florida invites you to participate in a series of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) discussions sponsored by the AAUW FL DEI Committee at 10 a.m. the second Saturday of every month October 2021 through March 2022.

Plan to attend the next dialogue in the series:
on **March 12 The Influence of Culture on Perception of Self in Girls and Young Women** with Jacqueline E. Jacobs

Dialogues are open to all members and guests.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87338261758?pwd=amxIUmVZRUpyZTFqWlpxcXYwcVBWQT09>

Meeting ID: 873 3826 1758
Passcode: 231392



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!

December Birthday

Mary Schmidt OH

January Birthdays

Jacqueline D'Alessio NJ

February Birthdays

Barb Coolahan PA

Carol Checovich IN

Janice Sanburn MO

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.



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 stone101654@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: deenisnice@gmail.com