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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.



February President's Message

Dear Bradenton Branch Members,



February is a great month to reassess the **heartbeat** of our Branch!

First, thank you to those who were able to attend the January meeting. Your input and ideas are much appreciated! More about the results of the survey at the February meeting.

Second, welcome to the Bradenton Branch (or should I say, welcome back!) our newest *dual* members Pat Eggleston and Judy Bodner. We are happy to have you!

Third, we NEED BOARD MEMBERS for 2023-2024!!! If a member on the Nominating Committee calls you, please consider saying yes. The more women willing to do even a small "job," the less work each one of us will need to do. Sharing the burden means more get to share the tremendous reward of making a real difference in the lives of women and girls in our area!

Meg Newsome, President

SAVE THE DATE



Feb. 11 - Diversity Dialogues, 10:00 a.m.
Understanding Intersectionality

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83922369551?pwd=cS9NcnVjRjArYlRRcDcrY3d5N0ZKOT09>

SPEAKER: Melissa LaDuke, AAUW National Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee Chair

Feb. 11 - International Day of Women and Girls in Science

Feb. 21 - Bradenton Branch Meeting (Luncheon)
Braden River Branch Library (details below)
Program: Women's Resource Center

March 2 - A Pre-Lobby Day

Legislative Agenda/Public Policy Discussion and training session will be conducted at **7:00 p.m.** prior to the trip to Tallahassee.

READ MARCIA'S PUBLIC POLICY REPORT on pages 8-9 below!

March 4 - Manatee Branch

March 5 - 7 Florida Legislative Session 2023

March 13 - 15: Plan to Advocate!

AAUW Florida Lobby Days 2023 Advance gender equity for women and girls

March 21 - Bradenton Branch Meeting (Luncheon)

April 18 - Bradenton Branch Meeting (Dinner)

April 22 (Saturday) - Math Superstars Event!

Manatee County Technical College. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

May 16 - Bradenton Branch Meeting (Dinner)



OUR NEXT MEETING

**Tuesday, February 21, 2023
12:00 NOON**

Program:
Women's Resource Center of Manatee
<https://www.mywrc.org/>

Presenter: Ashley Brown
President and CEO

Braden River Public Library
4915 53rd Ave. E.
Bradenton, FL 34203

**Please respond to the Evite with lunch choices for an accurate count,
or contact Meg Newsome directly.**

Please join us for lunch, news, and discussion for the future. Do you have friends who might want to join us in pursuit of our mission. Guests are always welcome. Just be sure to indicate the lunch choice!

Cost of lunch will be \$25.

Water and Iced Tea will be provided, and a cookie!

CHOICES:

1. Oriental Crispy Chicken Salad (Can be ordered without chicken)
2. Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad (Can be ordered without chicken)





United Nations

International Day of Women and Girls in Science, 11 February

“We can all do our part to unleash our world’s enormous untapped talent – starting with filling classrooms, laboratories, and boardrooms with women scientists.”

UN Secretary-General António Guterres

Women and girls play a critical role in science and technology communities and their participation should be strengthened.

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/women-and-girls-in-science-day>

If you missed the December meeting to support a **Tech Trek** girl now is another great time make a donation of any size!



Here is the latest news from our Tech Trek Representative. At this time, we do not have a list of potential candidates for the 2024 Summer Camp, although we are aware of 10 or more girls nominated. Hopefully, we will be able to schedule interviews soon.

National AAUW has changed their COVID vaccination policy from requiring vaccination to encouraging vaccination. Due to this change we are giving the girls who did not apply for camp another opportunity to do so.

They will have until **February 13** to submit their application if they did not apply due to the COVID requirement. We are not expecting a large number of additional applications, but feel it is only fair to offer this opportunity.

We are still waiting to hear from the Bradenton Rotary Club regarding our recent grant application.

Barb Coolahan

February Scholarship Foundation Report

Report from the Bradenton Branch Scholarship Foundation Meeting

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Discussion: Why have a Scholarship Foundation checking account?

- 501 c3 status is tax deductible (branch is not);
- allows members to donate to Scholarship Foundation and get those deductions; and
- if the accounts is closed, we would not have 501 c3 status.

In 2022 our Manatee Community Foundation accounts generated \$9,852,00 for scholarships. Our Scholarship Foundation board voted to add 3,148,.00 additional dollars for student scholarships.

We do not have Manatee Community Foundation dollar figures for this year. That will come later. Discussion led to the following motion:

MOTION: That the Scholarship Foundation authorize no more than \$2,000 additional dollars from the Scholarship Foundation checking account for scholarships 2023-2024. The motion passed unanimously.

Fundraising: we have not done a fundraising event for Scholarships this year.

After discussion the following plan developed.

The Scholarship Foundation Board proposes a Trivia Night Event in early 2024

for scholarship fundraising . We would try to get Peridia for the event.

We propose approaching the Manatee Branch and suggest this as a joint fundraising event for both Scholarship Foundations.

MOTION:

- **Proposal for Bylaws wording change.** It will open up the Scholarship Foundation for donations for Tech Trek .
- **Current wording:** The purpose of this Foundation is to:
“Provide scholarships, student aid and grants for those students who demonstrate financial need and scholarship achievement,”

Motion to modify as follows: The purpose of this Foundation is to:

“Provide scholarships, student aid and grants for those students who meet the criteria designated by the scholarship program.”
The motion passed unanimously.

Elaine Graham, President, Scholarship Foundation

BBAAUW Scholarship Foundation
P.O. 14099, Bradenton, Fl. 34280

Scholarship Foundation

We will be selecting scholars for our support in a few weeks.
If needed, donations will be used to support this year’s applicants.

Please donate to the BBAAUW Scholarship Foundation

Make check payable to:
BBAAUW Scholarship Foundation
P. O. Box 14009
Bradenton, FL 34280-4099.

Elaine Graham, President, Scholarship Foundation

BBAAUW Scholarship Foundation
P.O. 14099, Bradenton, Fl. 34280

MATH SUPERSTARS CRANT PROPOSAL APPROVED!

Thank you for your input and commitment to making this year's Math Superstars 2023 project a success! I have asked Diana Sells, AAUW-FL Project Grant Director, to send the \$1500 check to our MCREA treasurer, Vicki Waters. Vicki will administer the Grant funds and gather all the receipts necessary for our final report to the AAUW-Florida Project Grant Committee of "Actual Amount Spent". It is important that we submit all receipts to Vicki Waters at vwaters@earthlink.net.

The culminating Math Superstars event will occur on April 22, 2023, at the Manatee County Technical College, [6305 State Road 70, East Bradenton, FL 34203](#), from 9:30 to 11:30 am. We work with the School District of Manatee County. Our contact is Heather Mitchell, Elementary Mathematics Coordinator, Curriculum/Professional Learning Director. She will handle the preparation, delivery, scoring, and academic portion of the Math Superstars event. If you have any questions for her, please ask me first. I may have already asked, but if not, we may all need to know the answer to your concern.

The AAUW Manatee County Branch is proud and pleased to work with the AAUW Bradenton Branch in this project. Members of both branches will be involved. We have included in the budget allowances for printing of flyers, trifolds, and bookmarks for both branches.

For your information, here's a short, not at all inclusive, review of the background and proposed budget for this project. Barbara Andrews was the Project Director for the most recent 3 years that AAUW-MCB was involved. Barbara did a marvelous job and built a firmer foundation for us to build upon. Merrie Lynn Parker is invaluable for her input, as is Linda Guilfoyle. These women have worked tirelessly and have given their resources for many years since the Math Superstar's founding by Marge Kinnan when our "foremother" Marge, was a member of the Manatee School Board. Our purpose continues to be "to motivate young girl's interest in Mathematics."

You are our 2023 MSS committee:

- Our Presidents Meg Newsome and Sallie Wagner are ex-officio members and have "the usual executive powers of supervision and management" of this committee
- Vicki Waters and Linda Guilfoyle especially guide the financial details of the event
- Pamela Ross encourages membership activities
- Merrie Lynn Parker is special advisor
- Phyllis Omilak serves as coordinator and director of the project.
- Together we all need to have input. Emails and phones will probably be our best devices for communication. If we need to physically meet we will work out the details as needed.

Again, thank you for what you have done and what you are about to do to motivate young girl's interest in Math! Attached please find a copy of the AAUW-FL Project Grant Application Form including the proposed Grant Budget.

Phyllis Omilak

AAUW MCB Community Outreach Chair
Director Math Superstars Committee 2023

omilakp@gmail.com

941-345-6809

Lobby Days March 13-14, 2023

Advance gender equity for women and girls

Florida AAUW will meet legislators face to face again after two years of virtual lobbying due to the pandemic. The AAUW Florida Public Policy Committee invites each of us to participate. The Committee is working now to establish the 2022-2023 legislative agenda and planning a Lobby Day experience that will focus on public policy priorities: economic security, education, and civil rights.

Strength in numbers.

- Meeting legislators in person is an effective and exciting way to make sure they understand AAUW positions on our priority issues. And there's strength in numbers. If every branch sent representatives to lobby, our case would be more powerful. Now is the time to assemble a group from the Bradenton Branch.
- AAUW Florida will offer a small stipend to help offset travel costs. Stipend: graduated scale (\$50-\$80) depending on your driving distance plus \$50 to help with lodging. This is to help with expenses, not cover all of them. Dinner together Tuesday evening location TBA.
- Dinner together Tuesday evening location TBA.

Schedule: The 2023 legislative session runs from March 7 to May 5.

AAUW advocates should plan to arrive in Tallahassee on Monday night, March 13, for information on how to advance gender equity through advocacy.

- A Pre-Lobby Day Legislative Agenda/Public Policy Discussion and training session will be conducted, 2 March 2023 @ 7:00 p.m. prior to departure for Tallahassee, addressing the "who, what, when, where, why and how of Lobby Days."
- **AAUW Florida invites us all to a Zoom meeting even those who are unable to go to the Capitol.**

When: Mar 2, 2023 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Please register for this Zoom event even if you will not be attending lobby days for information on how to advance gender equity through advocacy.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0sce6grjkhH9KFRB-DYykjVIYME40k5zg8>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email about joining the meeting.

- A Lobby Day action alert distributed while we are in Tallahassee. In order to receive the alert, you must be signed up as a [Two Minute Activist](#).

Marcia Hill, Public Policy

Special Interest Groups

We have no active interest groups currently meeting. If you'd like to get one going, just let Meg know!

Birthdays

The list needs updating;
Volunteer needed!



AAUW Leadership & Contacts

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: 2022-2023

President: Meg Newsome meggnewsome@outlook.com

Treasurer: Linda Lewis lindalewis6745@gmail.com

Secretary: Judy Griffin jdthgriffin@gmail.com

Director for Public Policy - Marcia Hill mshanerhill@gmail.com

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

Scholarship Information: aauwbbscholarship@gmail.com

USF Campus Branch AAUW: Sandra Stone sstone101654@gmail.com

Just for Girls: Dee Ralph deenisnice@gmail.com

Tech Trek Barb Coolahan: bjcoolahan@gmail.com

