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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.



November President's Message

Dear Bradenton Branch Members,

I must say, these last couple of months have flown by! As you have probably noticed, you have not received a newsletter from me in QUITE a while. I do apologize. The holidays, my schedule, and a virus (not COVID), put me way behind. On that note, I am still looking for someone who would like to help me get the newsletter out on a more timely basis – perhaps alternating months?

I know many of you had much more stressful months than I. Our hearts and prayers are with Judy in the loss of her brother last month. We also pray for continued recovery for Linda Lewis. There are no doubt others who have faced illness, etc., since we last met. I hope we can continue to share our care and concern for one another.

As New Year's celebrations came and went, I have been impressed yet again how very fortunate I've been in my life. It is vitally important that we keep in mind those women less fortunate than ourselves. Remember the mission of AAUW: **Gender Equity & Economic Security**, as well as our values: **Intersectional. Inclusive. Intergenerational. Empowering.**

If you have not recently looked at those values on our website, let me quote. "Though we are nonpartisan, we are not values-neutral: We fight to remove the barriers and biases that stand in the way of gender equity. We train women to negotiate for pay and

benefits and to pursue leadership roles. And we advocate for federal, state and local laws and policies to ensure equity and end discrimination.”

Let us challenge ourselves anew to find ways to support the mission and values of AAUW locally, here in Bradenton and our neighboring communities.

This is not to say that many worthy goals and opportunities arise that we may also support. But we have limited time and resources among us. I know I personally need to remind myself to keep returning to our mission and values for inspiration.

To that end, I plan for us all to work through a draft of a plan for our Bradenton Branch Mission and Strategies for the next year and a half. Between now and Tuesday’s meeting, please give some thought as to the ways you might contribute to enumerating and/or achieving such a plan. Come with ideas to brainstorm!

And – of course – I wish you all a VERY HAPPY & SUCCESSFUL NEW YEAR!
And don’t forget to read our Member Spotlight on **Susan Hauck** below!

Meg Newsome, President

SAVE THE DATE



Oct. 18—Bradenton Branch Meeting

Nov. 4 – Waves of Success: Just for Girls

Nov. 9 – AAUW-FL SW Regional Workshop

Nov. 15 – Bradenton Branch Meeting, 11:30 Luncheon

Dec. 13 – Holiday Luncheon / Tech Trek Fundraiser

Jan. 17 – Bradenton Branch Meeting, see below for details

Feb. 21 – Bradenton Branch Meeting (Luncheon) – Program: WCR

Looking Ahead: Plan to Advocate!

Florida Legislative Session 2023 – March 7 – May 5, 2023

AAUW Florida Lobby Days 2023 –March 14, 15, 2023

March 21 – Bradenton Branch Meeting (Luncheon)

April 18 – Bradenton Branch Meeting (Dinner)

May 16 – Bradenton Branch Meeting (Dinner)



OUR NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, January 17, 2023
11:30 AM

Where Do We Go From Here?

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!

1. Strawberry Balsamic Grilled Chicken Salad (Can be ordered without chicken)
2. Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad (Can be ordered without chicken)



Our AAUW Holiday Celebration and Tech Trek Fundraiser yielded:
Good company
Lots of Laughs and
\$790 in donations!

Some of you have contacted me regarding future donations. Please contact me, Barbara Coolahan, directly.

At this time, we are aware of 10 Tech Trek nominations. The nominees will be contacted to complete their application for the week long camp. In January, we will begin the interview process at our Manatee County Middle Schools. Marianne Harrison has offered to assist us in this process!

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

Hopefully, more good news will be shared soon!

Happy holidays and a healthy 2023!

Barb Coolahan

November Scholarship Foundation Report

My name is Kelly Rome, and I have been your scholarship participant. I wanted to reach out and share my great news! Yesterday I took my state board test for my associate's degree in nursing, RN. Today I learned I officially have my RN license. I truly wanted to say thank you for all your support. Without the financial backing of scholarships, this would not have been possible. My journey does not stop here as I am enrolled on November 7, the start date at Capella Online University, to achieve my BSN RN on their fast track program. Please share this as I could not make the last get-together, but I appreciate all of your members.

You can watch the video on our web page by clicking on <https://bradenton-fl.aauw.net/videos/>, or you can access it on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/CqEgcv6Joy0>.

Elaine Graham, President, Scholarship Foundation

BBAUW Scholarship Foundation
P.O. 14099, Bradenton, FL 34280

Scholarship Recipients 2022-2023

First Name	Last Name	College	Amt	Email	Birthday	Major
Marvict	Benkert	University of South FL	*1500	mjrodriguez@usf.edu	27-Dec	MPA
Megan	Briggs	Johns Hopkins Univ. School of Nursing	*1500	megbriggs10@gmail.com	11-May	Nursing
Kelly	Rome	Galen College of Nursing	*1500	kellyrome941@gmail.com	4-Sep	Nursing RN
Taylor	Rowland	University of Florida	3000	trowlan9@student.scf.edu	18-Oct	Elementary Edu.
Mallory	Tyler	University of Florida	3000	mallorytyler941@gmail.com	18-Dec	Mathematics
Karla	King	State College of Florida	1000	kking20@student.scf.edu	12-Jan	Social Work
Liz	Mackey	Galen College of Nursing	500	lizmackey@hotmail.com	1-Dec	ADN Bridge
Michelle	Nunez Banos	State College of Florida	500	mnunezba@student.scf.edu	9-Apr	Dental Hygiene
Verlie Joanne	Ubarco	State College of Florida	500	verlie97@gmail.com	6-Dec	Dental Hygiene

* Renewal

AAUW Public Policy Update

Are You Ready to Take Action? Become a Two-Minute Activist!

Members of AAUW's Action Network receive urgent e-mail notices and text messages when their advocacy is needed most. With AAUW's online [Two-Minute Activist](#) tool, it takes just minutes and an internet connection to make your voice heard on issues impacting women and girls! Many of us have registered before, but you will need to register yearly to keep active.

Last year AAUW's Two-Minute Activists sent more than 200,000 messages to federal and state lawmakers. Wow!

Send emails and texts to our legislators to fight for equal pay, family leave, stopping sexual harassment, equality in education, and more. Sign up to get regular alerts to be able to take timely action. When you sign up, you may select only certain topics or all six topics.

You will receive access to a message that you may send as it, or you may personalize it. You may choose to send to both senators and your representative, or you may modify your selection.

Just click on the included link to complete the form. Remember that this is open to anyone, not just AAUW members. <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>

Let your voice be heard!

Marcia Hill, Public Policy

SUCCESS STORY!

FROM <https://www.aauw.org/about/>

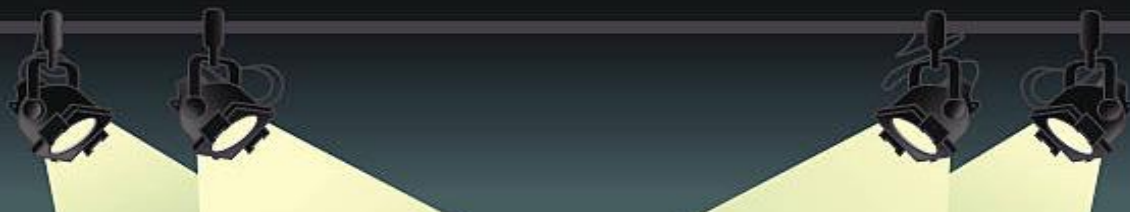
Learn — *Dig deeper into the issues that matter*

Celebrating Passage of Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

We were thrilled to end 2022 by [celebrating](#) the long-awaited passage of the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act as an amendment to the omnibus spending package, which President Biden signed into law on December 29. The law is a momentous victory for pregnant and postpartum workers and their families.

Effective June 27, 2023, employers will be required to provide basic accommodations to pregnant workers, such as carrying a water bottle or taking bathroom breaks. The legislation will enable millions of workers to provide for their families without compromising their health or pregnancies. This is the most significant protection for pregnant workers in decades! [Learn more](#) about the law from our partners at A Better Balance.

A huge thanks to the thousands of AAUW members and activists who mobilized for this critical legislation over the past decade, joined by our allies and partner organizations in tireless grassroots efforts across the country. You made this happen!



Shining a Member Spotlight on Susan Hauck

Although Susan Hauck is originally from Dunellen, NJ, she and her family spent 20 years in Bridgewater, NJ, while the children grew up. They also enjoyed a summer home in the Poconos.

Susan earned her B.S. with a Home Economics major from Albright College. Prior to graduation, she met David Hauck there. They have been married for 59 years!

Susan put her degree to work at Somerset Medical Center where she served as a dietitian. As her family grew, she became a stay-at-home mom for 12 years. Later, she worked for 10 years in Customer Service at JC Penny at DeSoto Square Mall.



Susan has been an active member of our branch throughout her 34 years of membership. She has even enlisted her husband Dave's support. For 10 years, she and Dave have been hosts of our Trivia Nights—always a highlight of the branch's yearly activities! They have composed the questions, challenged the teams with them at Peridia, and calculated the winning scores. While that role was the most fun for Susan, she has served in other vital roles for the branch such as Corresponding Secretary, Bylaws, Communication Director, and Program Director on the branch board as well as serving on the Scholarship Foundation Board.

In between all those cruising excursions, Susan enjoys family time and volunteering, too. She and Dave work at the food pantry at First Presbyterian Church in downtown Bradenton and she has worked with Dive Into Reading as well. After each of her 3 adult children graduated from college, they followed their parents to Florida. They and their families all live just 3 miles away. Their extended family includes 6 grandchildren and 1 great granddaughter.

Susan says, "We feel very blessed." Our branch is very blessed as well. Thanks, Susan!

Special Interest Groups

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

November Birthdays

The list needs updating!



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 deeisnice@gmail.com

Tech Trek Barb Coolahan: bjcoolahan@gmail.com

