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-Bradenton-Branch-

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Best Viewed on Full Screen.

President's Post

April 1, 2024

Building Bridges

Dear Members,

It was great seeing everyone at our March Scholarship Fundraiser at the Palm Aire Country Club. Together our branches raised approximately \$4000. We will be splitting the proceeds

between the two branches' Scholarship Foundations. I appreciated our members' willingness to volunteer, donate and attend. It was a fun and meaningful event for all!!!

Christi Haley, Development Director for Pace Center for Girls has created our AAUW team for the Lucky Duck Race. All the donations will go directly to supporting the young women at the Pace Center. Please consider a donation to this worthy cause. You can adopt a duck for \$5 or more by:

1. Entering duckrace.com
2. Clicking on Teams
3. Clicking on AAUW-Bradenton Branch Logo
4. Clicking on Adopt a Duck Now
5. Enter your donation amount and information!

I have set a goal of 100 ducks for our branch. Here are the basics:

- Ducks will be racing May 11th on the Manatee River at Caddy's Bradenton!
- Pace Center for Girls will be racing 30,000+ adorable rubber ducks down the Manatee River for prizes, including a 2 year lease on a Jeep sponsored by Firkins Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram (or \$5,000 cash!), Weekly Dinner for TWO at Anna Maria Oyster Bar for a FULL YEAR (some restrictions apply), an Outfit a Month for a full year from the Teal Turtle Boutique - and more!
- YOU can adopt one of those ducklings for only \$5! A family of 5 is only \$20, or an entire FLOCK of 30 is only \$100!
- Back for 2024: The VID! Want in on the fun? For \$350, you'll receive a Corporate Duck with your logo in the VID Race, plus 100 ducks in the Lucky Ducky Race for PACE! Keep those 100 entries for yourself or give them away to customers and friends - your choice.
- Not planning to be in Florida in May? Don't worry, you can still win! Check this site as winners will be posted within 24 hours.

In looking at the next 2 months, I encourage you to:

- Invite a friend to our April meeting
- Contact me if you are willing to review our Bylaws and then participate in a two-hour finalization meeting in April of 2024
- Add to our 2024-25 Program possibilities. I already have suggestions for LWV presentation in October as well as possible speakers for Book Banning in Florida, Gun Violence, and Supporting Public Education.

All the Best!!!

Barb Coolahan
Bradenton Branch President of AAUW

**Next Meeting:
JOINT FUNDRAISER with MANATEE BRANCH!**

**Tuesday, April 16 16
5:30 PM
Anna Maria Oyster Bar, Landside
6906 14th St W, Bradenton, FL 34207**

**PROGRAM:
League of Women Voters
Deb Mazzaferro
Floridians for National Popular Vote**

Be sure to RSVP!

CALENDAR 2023-2024

Dates:	Time:	Topics:	Location:
April 4, 2024	10:00 AM	Southwest Regional Conference	Venice Art Center
April 16, 2024	5:30 PM	LWV Deb Mazzaferro /Floridians for National Popular Vote Election of Officers for 2024-2025	AMOB
April 18, 2024	6:00 PM	FL Public Policy Forum: Voting And Voting Rights (see below)	Zoom
April 27, 2024	9:00 AM	MATH Superstars (Manatee Branch)	MTC
May 11, 20214	11:00 AM	Lucky Duck Race Pace Center for Girls - Come cheer for our AAUW-BB Team!	Caddy's on Manatee River
May 11, 2024	10:00 AM	Manatee Branch mtg. honoring Tech Trek girls	AMOB
May 18, 2024	6:00-7:30 PM	Annual Meeting, Florida	Zoom
May 21, 2024	5:30 PM	Installation/planning for 2024-25	AMOB

**OUR BRADENTON BRANCH HAS A TEAM OF DUCKS!
COME HELP US HELP GIRLS!**



Who is "Quacky" and what is the Lucky Ducky Race for Pace?

The 15th Annual Lucky Ducky Race for Pace, is exactly what the name implies... a rubber duck derby benefiting Pace Center for Girls! Quacky is our adorable mascot who can be seen all over Manatee County, encouraging everyone she meets to adopt her adorable ducklings.

Here are the basics:

- **Plans are under way! Ducks will be racing May 11th on the Manatee River at Caddy's Bradenton!**
- **Pace Center for Girls will be racing 30,000+ adorable rubber ducks down the Manatee River for prizes, including a 2 year lease on a Jeep sponsored by Firkir Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram (or \$5,000 cash!), Weekly Dinner for TWO at Anna Maria Oyster Bar for FULL YEAR (some restrictions apply), an Outfit a Month for a full year from the Teal Turtle Boutique - and more!**
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- **Not planning to be in Florida in May? Don't worry, you can still win! Check this site as winners will be posted within 24 hours.**



What a DUCK can do:



ADOPT A DUCK. HELP A GIRL! 

No purchase necessary. See website for complete rules.

www.LuckyDuckyRaceforPace.com

Pace Center for Girls, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, with tax ID number 95-2411452. Pace Center for Girls, Inc. is registered with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to solicit contributions (reg. no. CH-600). 100% of this contribution is retained by Pace Center for Girls, Inc. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the division of consumer services by calling 800-488-7000 with the state or by visiting www.flsos.org. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recognition by the state.

Public Policy Updates

Public Policy Forum: Voting And Voting Rights

April 18, 6 pm

STATE UPDATE

Florida AAUW's Public Policy Forums offer you more in-depth information on the important Florida issues from a nonpartisan but equity-focused viewpoint. You may ask your own questions of experts regarding these issues.

April's Forum features **Debra "Debbie" Chandler** joining us to talk about voting and voting rights here in Florida. Debbie is the co-President of the **League of Women Voters**, Florida and will share

important information on voting in Florida.

Come learn about the latest in voter rights, restoration and what you need to know as we approach the elections in August and November.

Debbie will be speaking on Thursday April 18th at 6pm on Zoom

There is still time to register to attend this VERY important discussion!

[Click here to get to a direct link to RSVP](#)

NATIONAL UPDATE

April is **Sexual Assault Awareness Month**. AAUW is focused on policies that combat the pervasive conditions allowing assault and harassment to continue. This month, Congress is expected to reintroduce a key piece of legislation addressing many facets of harassment in the workplace. The Department of Education is also expected to announce updated Title IX rules that would strengthen protections in educational institutions.

The Bringing an End to Harassment by Enhancing Accountability and Rejecting Discrimination (**BE HEARD**) in the Workplace Act would build on existing civil rights laws to provide new protections against harassment for workers and safeguard existing discrimination laws.

What you can do today: [Reach out to your members of Congress today](#) — it is critical for Congress to hear from you now to build support for the BE HEARD Act when it is introduced.

When workers face harassment, it impacts their success in the workplace, and ultimately their economic security. This is particularly true for women and people of color who are disproportionately affected by harassment.

Urge your members of congress to sponsor the BE HEARD Act now.

Submitted by Marcia Hill, Director for Public Policy



Tech Trek Update

We are so excited that all four of the girls nominated by the Bradenton and Manatee Branches have been accepted into the Tech Trek Summer Program for this year! There were 169 girls nominated from 57 different schools across Florida. Of those nominated 101 students completed the application process. Between the two camps, Florida Atlantic University and Stetson University, 96 girls were accepted for this summer.

Our girls are from Buffalo Creek Middle, Dr. Mona Jain Middle, and King Middle Schools. The camp costs \$1200 for each girl and our Branch will be sending \$1200 to support Tech Trek at the State level. The **Manatee Branch** will recognize the four girls at their **Saturday Meeting on May 11th**. Please join them if you can. We plan to recognize the girls at our September Meeting so we can hear about their camp experiences. Thank you for all of your support for these girls and the Tech Trek Program.

Submitted by Linda Guilfoyle

Tech Trek Committee: Marianne Harrison, Marlene Yanelli, Vicki Waters, Patty Benson, Linda Guilfoyle

Economic Security

Salary history in job interviews blocks pay equity

By Patricia DeWitt, AAUW FLorida Economic Security Chair

Check the Equal Pay Day calendar on the AAUW website and you may be surprised to see two pay ratios for each category. For example, Black women working full time, year-round are paid 67 percent of comparable men's salary, while all Black women working are paid 64 percent.

AAUW used data on all workers for salary comparisons, important because the pandemic pushed many women out of the full-time work-force. One of the main obstacles to pay equity is a prospective employer's tendency to base salary offers on the candidate's previous earnings. This is not good for any job candidate, but is particularly prejudicial for women who have had gaps in their employment history due to family duties.

Two bills before the current Florida legislature –HB 663 and SB 576 – would prohibit employers or employment agencies from requesting salary history from the candidate or a previous employer during job interviews for Career Service System positions. These comprise the largest and lowest-paid category of state employees, accounting for more than 80,000 positions in 2021 with 28 agencies.

The two bills would also prohibit retaliation against a current, former, or prospective employee for not providing salary history or for filing a complaint concerning violation of the statute.

Regretfully, neither of these bills has been heard by a committee. But since 2016, several other states and localities have enacted restrictions on the use of salary history in hiring. Click [here](#) to get an overview on the AAUW web site.

AAUW - Bradenton Branch Strategic Plan 2023-2024

Mission

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Value Promise

AAUW promotes programs and research to break through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

Vision Statement

AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

Diversity Statement

AAUW seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

Goals and Strategies

Goal 1 – Membership – Increase and sustain a diverse membership in the Bradenton Branch of AAUW.

*Increase media exposure of all Branch projects and activities.

* Develop a marketing plan that includes outreach to other girls' and women's organizations, communities, schools, colleges and universities, sororities, etc.

Goal 2 – Public Policy – Engage and support the Bradenton Branch in strengthening the AAUW efforts and initiatives.

*Increase participation in the 2 Minute Advocate.

*Support Equal Pay Initiatives.

*Collaborate with the League of Women's Voters on voter registration.

Goal 3 – Branch Initiatives – Promote and increase engagement in the Bradenton Branch activities and initiatives.

*Sponsor Tech Trek STEM Camp for girls entering 8th grade.

* Provide scholarships for deserving students.

*Engage and support all Branch activities and initiatives

LEADERSHIP TEAM
Officers and Directors for Bradenton Branch*
2023-2024

President/Administrator
Barbara Coolahan

President-Elect/Director for Membership
Mary Schmidt

Treasurer/Director for Finance
Linda Lewis

Secretary/Director for Diversity
Judith Griffin

Director for Programs
Marianne Harrison

Director for Public Policy
Marcia Hill

Director for Communications/Webmaster
Margaret (Meg) Newsome

President Scholarship Foundation/College University Relations
Sandra Stone

Treasurer Scholarship Foundation/AAUW Funds
Linda Guilfoyle

Tech Trek Chair/STEM
Linda Guilfoyle

* Contact information is included only on this newsletter.
On the website, the contact information will not appear.

Website: <http://bradenton-fl.aauw.net>

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

Committee Members

Tech Trek

Linda Guilfoyle, Marianne Harrison, Patty Benson (Manatee Branch), Marlene Yarnelli (Manatee Branch)

Scholarship

Linda Guilfoyle, Sandra Stone, Sue Hauck, Marcia Hill, Doreen Colkert

Communications

FaceBook (Marcia Hill), AAUW site (Barb Coolahan), Evites and Newsletter (Meg Newsome)

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/>

About AAUW

We are tenacious and trailblazing — advocating for women and girls since 1881 and into the future!

