

MESSENGER



PROGRAM



“STEMming Ahead”

Our very own member, Michelle Madden, will share with us her insights and experience in the field of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). Our society tells girls and women that they don't belong in STEM fields. It starts as early as first grade, and by seventh grade many girls are ambivalent about this field, and by the end of high school fewer girls than boys plan to pursue STEM in college. Even those who do graduate with a STEM degree find an unfriendly atmosphere too driven by gender bias and stereotypes and apt to block women's participation and progress. This status quo has significant implications for women's financial security, economic growth, and global innovation and is not something we can live with. Michelle will share the progress we have made for girls and women in this important professional area.



Michelle received her bachelor's degree from State College of New York, Albany, her Master's in early childhood education from Georgia State University, and recently completed her Education Doctorate at the University of West Georgia. Michelle came to Manatee County in 2015 with her husband and two lovely daughters who are very involved in gymnastics.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Ellen Bell, Elaine Graham , and I interviewed 15 girls for the summer program. We now need to raise some money so I am planning a Tea Party at the Harrington House. The date is Monday, May 8th from 12-2 PM. The cost will be \$35.00 per person with a limit of 24 people. I will be sending out a flyer in the near future. Pat Benson



MATH SUPERSTARS— We have received notice that the competition will take place at the MTI Auditorium, 6305 SR 70 E on April 22 from 9:00 to 11:30. All who can help serve refreshments, handout T-shirts, or monitor the competition would be appreciated. We still have 10 schools that have not been sponsored yet—\$20 per school. Make check to MCBAAUW and send/give to Barb Andrews @ 1235 Edgewater Circle, Bradenton, FL 34209.

For news and articles to be included in future newsletters, please submit to me by the 20th of month preceding publication @ floridaboop@gmail.com Betty Ens, Editor, Messenger

MEETING LOCATION
 Westminster Towers
 1533 4th St. W., Bradenton, FL

RESERVATIONS
 Call or email Vicki Waters
 753-9741 / vwaters@earthlink.net
 By March 8

CANCELLATIONS
 Same—by March 10

COST

Buffet	\$10.00
Coffee	3.00

HOSTESSES
 Barbara Amato and Maria Todd

EF PARTNERS
 Jacqueline D'Alessio and Marilyn Steele

FROM OUR PRESIDENT..



Congratulations on a successful fundraiser for scholarships! I don't know how much money we made, (the President is always the last to know), but it is fair to conclude that we had a great time! Marilyn Steele did a great job with the style show with help from narrator, Patty Benson, pianist, Carolyn Reynolds, and models, Terry Darcy-Westby, Betty Ens, Pat Hickey, Veronica Huzzard and Nancy Kurina. These models had a bit of attitude that made the audience laugh and join in the fun. Our speaker, Cathy Slusser, brought us a bit of early Manatee County history with her in-character presentation of Ms. Gates and "*Reliving Manatee's Past.*" We all learned so much history of Manatee County, and I am enjoying reading her books which give much more.

So much goes into the making of this wonderful event and I thank each and every one who helped and attended. We had 129 attendees who enjoyed being present to help young women succeed. Just think—this event started 64 years ago with women like us who believed in this project and instead of being served a delicious meal brought their own "sack lunches."

Besides those named above, I must thank Pat Moser who helped in the wrapping of the baskets, Vicki Waters who is such an able organizer and computer guru, Betty Ens who did the decorations, programs and is always so helpful! Thank you members who solicited gifts and those who donated gifts and baskets; you are the life-blood of our organization. When I thank people, I am always worried that I will be leaving someone off the list, but please know that I am proud and humbled to be president of this branch of AAUW and so proud of the work you do in our community. Be sure to attend the May 13 Award Program to see the fruits of your labors.



With respect and admiration,

Fay Murphy



MEMBERSHIP

Sunshine News - **Lois Blevins** has been recovering from a bad infection. **Jean Crabb** is recovering from a recent hospitalization. **Terry Erickson** is fighting a nasty cough. (These are all bridge players of which I am a part. If you know of others, let Ellen and me know).

March Birthdays: Terry Erickson **3/1**; Shirley Foor **3/1**; Valerie Taylor **3/5**; Ann Wolpers **3/8**; Marilyn Newsham **3/9**; Luz Corcuera **3/20**; Therese Darcy-Westby **3/21**.

Please add the following member to your directory and welcome them when you see them:

Patricia Eggleston

927 Waterside Lane, 34209

443-875-7406 (c)

Pat.eggleston@gmail.com

BS & MA Tennessee Tech. Univ.

PhD Univ. of Alabama

Retired - US Treasury

INTEREST GROUPS



Chapter One Writing Group. March 14, 6:30 p.m. in the home of Merrie Lynn Parker, 7611 9th Ave NW. Everyone is welcome. Shirley Foor facilitates the group, Call Merrie Lynn at 941-792-8314 to let her know you are coming. Please see a sample of a member's writing at the end of this newsletter.

Cultural Affairs Group. On Feb. 22, we had 25 people attend a very educational day at Mote Marine as well as enjoy a wonderful lunch at Columbia Restaurant. **April 13** is our last trip for this year—going to the Lipizzaner Training Ground at Myakka at 3:00. More information will be forthcoming. Questions? - contact: Minnie Lee Jones, 739-2250 or vatt22@aol.com

Craft Group. Our group meets the first and third Tuesdays of the month for 2 hours at the home of Vicki Waters, 2724 Florida Blvd., at 9:30 am. **March 7 and 21** we'll be learning something new. Contact .Betty Ens, 794-1885 or floridaboop@gmail.com

Early Risers Bridge. We meet in the 2nd floor lobby of The Towers and have 12 members who have agreed to be our core group. However, they are often not able to come, so a list of substitutes is essential. If you love to play and want a group that is welcoming no matter your level of competence, please give me a call. Donna Raper at 747-1156.

Lunch Bunch. We'll meet on Thursday, March 23 at 11:30 am at a new restaurant—**enRich Bistro, 5929 Manatee Ave. W** (where Ezra's used to be). This restaurant was started by Ezra's executive chef, Rich Knowles. The menu can be accessed at <http://enrichbistro.com/enrich-bistro-menu/#mix> and looks really good. They serve locally sourced food. Let Vicki Waters know if you plan to go—[vwaters @ earthlink.net](mailto:vwaters@earthlink.net) or 753-9741.

PUBLIC POLICY



Tuesday, March 14th, 2017 - 12:00pm

Sponsored By:

Senator Linda Stewart

Representative Lori Berman

House Democratic Leader Janet Cruz

FOURTH FLOOR ROTUNDA

In front of Senate Chambers

Florida House Bill 319 and Senate Bill 410 are in committee now, but here are some things to let your representatives and senators know:

In 2015 women working full time in the US typically were paid just 80% of what men were paid and that hasn't changed significantly since 2007.

Women are not expected to reach pay equity with men until 2059.

Over a lifetime of work, the total estimated loss of earnings is \$700k for a HS grad, \$1.2 m for college grad and \$2m for a professional school grad. These numbers are only exacerbated for minorities.

These bills work to:

Specify which factors employers can use to decide to pay employees differently, like education level, experience, seniority or merit.

Prohibits employers from screening job applicants based on prior wages.

Bans employers from raking retaliatory action against an employee who disclosed their wages to a coworker or inquires about another's wages.

Prohibits employers from discrimination based on sex or gender identity.

Increases civil penalties for violations of the above laws.

COMMUNICATIONS



The following has been placed in the historical file for our Branch:

2017—Winter Issue—Outlook—*“The Next Four Years.”*

January 2017—Messenger

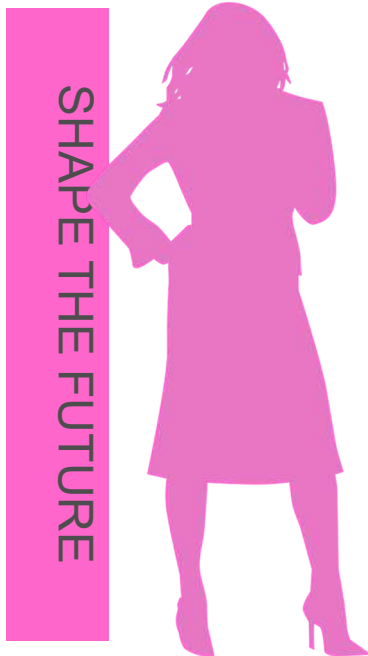
2016-17 Public Policy Program

January 20, 2017—AAUW Washington Update—(4 pages)

February 4, 2017, - Naomi Vaught Scholarship Fundraiser Program

Please continue to bring in news clippings of interest to our AAUW branch. Please contact: Minnie Lee Jones, Historian 730-2250 or vatt22@aol.com

DEVELOPMENT



WERE YOU THERE?

DID YOU WIN A BASKET?

DID YOU HAVE FUN?

We hope you did and we want to thank everyone who helped make this a great success. The amount made was about \$6800 plus the branch also has in its budget another \$1500 for this year. So another great year for this event. Now— who wants to chair this for next year?

Facilitator's note: Adele Leas also is writing stories of her life for her grandchildren. This particular story, however, is adapted for the Chapter One readers in AAUW. Her daughter, Adele, turned one of life's lemons into a vigorous life of helping men and animals heal from the lemons in their lives.

My very Nontraditional Holiday

My holiday celebration may not be traditional but it is never boring. I visit my daughter, Adele, in Destin, FL, and enjoy many activities with her and her family. One of those activities is watching her work with inmates in a minimal-security prison where she teaches the men to train dogs. This is where my story takes me: to the prison and her adaptation of an ancient healing art for the dogs.

Some years ago, Adele was ill with a respiratory problem. She tried all of the regular Western medicines, but could not get any relief. A friend introduced her to a practitioner of Jin Shin Yjutsu, an ancient Japanese healing art. Adele tried it, and she was helped. Jim Shin Yjutsu, says Adele, is a healing art "that harmonizes the life energy by balancing body, mind, and spirit."

Humans have benefited from the healing art for hundreds of years in Japan. Adele has a great love for animals, and she is on staff at Aliquot Animal Sanctuary near her home. She adopted a wonderful collie, Amity, that was ill and in danger of being put down. Adele frantically tried all of the regular remedies to help Amity and finally decided to apply the healing art to her dog. Jin Shin Yjutsu worked well with Amity.

Adele continued to study and to experiment with the healing art and the animals in her care until she figured out a complete adaptation of the art to animals. She wrote a book that described how to apply the healing art to dogs, horses, cats and various other animals. With help of artists, she designed charts to assist in explaining the application of Jin Shin Yjutsu on animals. It has been amazing to me to see the growth and acceptance this work has achieved.

Adele has been invited to teach classes throughout the United States and in Europe, Mexico, and this year will teach in South Africa. She has expanded this teaching in her work with animals in the

"Unconditional Love Program" she teaches in a minimal security prison near her home.

The inmates apply for and earn the opportunity to work with and train the dogs brought in for the men. They all learn Jin Shin Yjutsu and use that method of help with their training techniques. This program has been going on for at least five years. I have visited the prison with her and watched her work with the men as they train their dogs. It requires great discipline, love and trust for both men and dogs. The men have full responsibility for their dogs 24 hours a day.

When I visited the prison with Adele this year, the new group of dogs arrived. Sometimes, Adele says, the dogs come from "puppy mills." This day, however, the incoming dogs were a good mix: three Great Danes, four Chihuahuas, a lab mix, and a huge American bulldog. The men had anticipated the arrival and did not care which dog they got to train.

The bulldog was many pounds overweight, but, starting in December, his handler walked 10 miles a day with him and controlled the dog's caloric intake. Now the bulldog is down to a healthy weight and makes his handler proud.

Adele says that after graduation the dogs are almost always adopted into "Forever Homes." As for the men, it is evident from their posture, self-confidence and gentleness with the dogs that they have benefited, as well as the dogs. One young man became a professional dog trainer after he had served his time in prison.

Reply on or before March 14, 2017

RESERVATIONS NOW BEING TAKEN

**THE 11TH ANNUAL WOMEN OF
ACHIEVEMENT LUNCHEON**

***To Benefit AAUW Bradenton Branch Scholarship
Foundation***

**Send Check and Reservation to: AAUWBB
Scholarship Foundation**

**c/o Sandra Hiland 6060 39th Ct E. Bradenton, FL
34203**

Palm Aire Country Club

5601 Country Club Way, Sarasota, FL 34243 (941) 355-9733

***Saturday, March 18, 2017
11:30 AM to 2:00 PM***

Tickets: \$40

NAME: (For Nametags) Chicken Salad, or Veggie

EMAIL _____

(please list all other guests and meals on reverse)

2017 Honorees are:

Rosalie Shaffer

President, League of Women Voters of Manatee County

Eilene Oldwine

**Peace Corps Volunteer; Deputy Director, USAID/South
Africa; Consultant, Maternal and Child Health**

Elaine Graham

**Mentor; Board Member and Past Chair, Take Stock in
Children, Manatee; Retired Educator**

Maria Zavala

**Founder, Latinas of the Women's Resource Center; Life
Coach; Motivational Speaker**

Sue Revell

**Board Member, Realize Bradenton; Executive Director,
Manatee County Bar Association**

TABLES OF 8 ARE AVAILABLE

50/50

BOUNTIFUL BASKETS

American Association of University Women
Manatee County Branch
PO BOX 1694
Bradenton, FL 34206-1694