

MEETING LOCATION

Westminster Towers
1533 4th Street West, Bradenton

DATE AND TIME

Saturday, April 14, 10:00 am

RESERVATIONS

by Tuesday evening, April 10th
Call or email Veronica Huzzard
720-2778 / vlhuzzard@msn.com

CANCELLATIONS

to Veronica—by Thurs Apr 12th

COST

Buffet \$10.00
Coffee \$3.00

HOSTESSES

Donna Raper and Veronica Huzzard

EF PARTNERS

Marilyn Newsham and
Rosemary Leas



April Speaker

Kristen Zaborski

Assistant Professor of Economics
State College of Florida, Venice

The Gender Wage Gap

Professor Zaborski has been teaching at the State College of Florida, Venice campus since June 2010. She teaches both Principles of Macro and Micro Economics. She also serves on various college-wide committees. Because she is so passionate about teaching students about how the economy works, she consistently receives excellent student evaluations each semester.

In addition, Kristen enjoys volunteering in the community. In the recent past, she volunteered with the Sarasota Architectural Foundation to give house tours of the Walker Guest House on the grounds of the Ringling Museum.

Kristen was nominated by the SCF President to receive the 2015 Award for Innovative Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Technology. Based on nominations by her colleagues, she received the 2015 NISOD

Excellence Award (NISOD stands for National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development). In 2016, she applied for a Fulbright Scholarship to teach Economics in Honduras for one semester and received glowing letters of recommendations from the President and VP of Academics at State College of Florida.

Kristen enjoys attending and presenting sessions at economics conferences nationwide. She is currently a member of the prestigious American Economic Association, the Southern Economic Association, and the Global Association of Economics Teachers. In the past, she has served as a reviewer of college level economics textbooks for large textbook publishers.

Before moving to Sarasota to teach full-time at SCF, she was a “road warrior” (adjunct professor) traveling throughout the state of Mississippi teaching at four different higher education institutions.

In her free time, she enjoys collecting vintage Pyrex and Tupperware, gardening, photography, traveling, and watching foreign and independent films. She cherishes time spent with friends, family, and her cat Wendy.

“A woman with a voice is by definition a strong woman. But the search to find that voice can be remarkably difficult.” Melinda Gates

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Well, another fund raiser is under our belts, and I would like to thank all of those who helped in this endeavor. I know Marilyn Steele was the leader, but it took many hands and minds to get the event accomplished. A very special thank you to Betty Ens for her invaluable creative mind and Vicki Waters for her back-up support. Someone will have to step up to the plate next year. Within this newsletter is a survey that we would like you to submit to us concerning the future of fund raisers for our scholarship funds.

All ideas are welcome

We are able to give our five branch scholarships, as we did last year, since we did raise \$5,149 vs. \$5,828 last year. So it was not as bad as we had thought.

Another question has come up concerning our frequent requests for money for our line item outreach programs. Just a reminder that we get only \$12 out of our total membership dues for our branch treasury. Therefore, we need to dig into our pockets to support our other programs. Do we want to do away with any of our programs: Math Superstars, Odyssey of the Mind, Take Stock in Children, Tech Trek, History Fair, etc? Does someone else want to do fundraisers to support these programs? We cannot take any money from our Foundation for these other programs, since it has one purpose and that purpose cannot be changed according to the original documents. It is only for scholarships!

There will be a mini FUNraiser at my house on Friday, April 13 @ 5:00 PM. My address is 1406 90th Ct. NW off 17th near Robinson Preserve. It's a chance to get to know each other socially outside our regular meetings. I will supply the wine and cheese. Please feel free to bring an appetizer if you wish. Tom Andrews will be bringing along his piano for our enjoyment. The cost will be ?

Thank you to all who supported the millage increase for our teachers.

Patty Benson

A REPORT ON OUR FUNDRAISER INCOME, COSTS AND PROFITS

NANCY KURINA, SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION TREASURER

Income: \$7,596 (reservations and donations)

Expenses: \$2,446.18 (meals, programs)

Profit for scholarships: \$5,149.82



In Brief—What you will be asked to vote on

AAUW National ballot:

- *Should AAUW membership be open to those who don't have a degree but who support the organization's mission?*
- *Should the national board of directors include those who are not members of AAUW?*
- *Should three-year staggered terms be created for service on the national board of directors?*

Voting opens **April 25** and closes **June 9 at 9 p.m. ET**. You'll get a voter PIN by email or by postal mail. Complete information on the proposals will be in the spring *AAUW Outlook* magazine.

AAUW FL ballot:

- *Voting for four Board positions—Secretary and Directors for Communications, Development, and Communications*
- *Approval of 2018-20 public policy priorities*

Anyone who is a member of AAUW Florida as of March 15, 2018, can vote online or, if you have no email, by paper ballot. **Online** voting begins **May 15** and ends **June 15 at 9 pm EDT**. **Paper ballots** must be **postmarked by 11:49 pm EDT, June 13**.

For more information on the rationale for the National ballot items, click [here](#) or go to:

<https://www.aauw.org/resource/national-election/>

AAUW National and AAUW FL Calendar

April 8 – Deadline for registering for AAUW FL 2018 Convention/Annual Meeting in Sarasota.

April 22 - 24 – 2018 Convention/Annual Meeting, Stepping Forward Together, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Sarasota.

April 25 to June 9 – Online voting, proposed changes in National AAUW bylaws

May 15 to June 15 – Online voting, AAUW-FL officers, public policy priorities.

May 30 to June 2 – AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), University of Maryland, College Park.

June 13 – Deadline for mailing paper ballots for AAUW-FL officers, public policy priorities.

June 10 - 16 – Tech Trek, Palm Beach State College and Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton.

DEVELOPMENT MARILYN STEELE, DIRECTOR**WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK AND IDEAS!**

The board would greatly appreciate your feedback about our scholarship fundraiser and ideas for the future. Please let Marilyn Steele know your thoughts on the following and also any suggestions you have for a different approach to raising funds for our scholarships and educational projects (like Tech Trek, Math Superstars, Women's History Prize, Educational Funds). Send to Marilyn at **7208 Pointe West Blvd, Bradenton 34209** or email to Patty Benson—**pattybenson43@gmail.com**. Your name: _____

- We should continue with the annual luncheon fundraiser at a local country club or other appropriate venue. YES NO

Comments: _____

If YES: Include a mini fashion show. YES NO

Include a silent auction with gift baskets. YES NO

Include a speaker. YES NO

I would be willing to help with this event. YES

- We should keep the cost of an annual fundraiser at \$40 even if it means that we don't raise as much money due to the cost of the meal. YES NO Comments: _____

- We should hold smaller events instead. YES NO I would be willing to help with an event. YES

Some ideas:

* Night at the Theatre with small auction

* Tea Party at a local hotel or country club.

* Gallery on the Go (home party) or Paint with a Twist (studio)

* Glad Rags to Glam Fashion show with fashions from Women's Resource Center's Unique Boutique

* Vendor sale of purses with split profits

Other ideas? _____

- Don't hold an event—just ask members to donate one time to support scholarships and educational projects. YES

COMMUNITY OUTREACH VICKI WATERS, DIRECTOR**Celebrating Women Presidents**

Our inaugural joint Manatee and Bradenton Branch event, **Celebration of Women Presidents**, on March 1st at the Manatee Community Foundation went very well. Over 60 women leaders from Manatee attended, and the energy in the room and many positive comments indicated that this was a great success. The women presidents, business owners and executive directors of non-profits, educational and community organizations and businesses shared cards and made connections to stay in contact and promote each other.

It took a team to make this happen and special thanks go to the members of both branches who helped out at the event and provided luscious food and wine for all to share: Pat Benson, Trish Bissell, Barbara Coolahan, Sue Dickie, Linda Guilfoyle, Minnie Jones, Fay Murphy, Phyllis Omilak, Pam Ross, Marilyn Steele, and Wanda Wellbrock. Because of the size of the document, photos will be sent in a separate email.

Nominating Committee Report:

We're still looking for two good women! Need a President and a Communications Director for 2018-19. Please call Vicki Waters if you can help out with these important branch jobs. We are pleased to announce that we did find a president-elect, Phyllis Omilak, and a Development Director, Marlene Yanelli. Thank you both for agreeing to take on these jobs. We will all be there to support you!

Vicki Waters, Fay Murphy, Merrie Lynn Parker, Rose Ranucci, and Wanda Wellbrock

MEMBERSHIP PAM ROSS, DIRECTOR

Membership renewals for 2018-19 begin now. Attached is a blank renewal form which you can use. You only need to include your name and note any information that has changed from what is in the current directory. We will use this updated information for our new directory which will be ready for the September meeting. Full dues are \$83, \$12 for dual members in Florida, and \$24 for dual members with an out-of-state main branch. Questions? Please call or email: 794-2176 pross57_97@msn.com.

Sunshine News PAT MOSHER, CHAIR**Welcome to our new member:**

Sue Shinn, 801 Waterside Lane,
Bradenton FL 34209 703-475-5062
sshinn8939@gmail.com

Happy Birthday to our members born in April!

5th—Barbara Andrews
7th—Carolyn Reynolds
8th—Marie Peterson
12th—JoAnn Webb
14th—Sylvia Price

17th—Beverly Neville
19th—Charlotte Ortiz
24th—Mary Anne Jensen
30th—Joan Mantel

INTEREST GROUPS MINNIE LEE JONES, DIRECTOR**NEW ~ BRANCH BOOK CLUB**

Dr. Pat Eggleston invites you to join an AAUW Manatee book club which will meet on the first Wednesday of each month, November to May, from 1-3 pm at the Central Library, 1301 Barcarrota Blvd West, downtown Bradenton. Anyone interested in joining can attend an **initial planning session** at the library on **Wednesday, May 2, at 1:00 p.m.** Please ask at the reception desk which conference room has been reserved for AAUW.

At the Wed. May 2 meeting, the group will draw up a list of books for discussion from November 2018 to May 2019. We will include both fiction and nonfiction books. Please contact **Pat Eggleston** at **(443) 875-7406** or pat.eggleston@gmail.com for more information. You can also contact her with suggestions for the reading list if you cannot attend the May 2nd planning session.

Pat is also a member of the Anne Arundel County (Annapolis) MD branch of AAUW. Before she and her husband became FL snowbirds, she organized the daytime book club for that branch. Pat was also the co-president of that branch from 2012-2014. In her professional career, before she retired in 2011, Pat worked for the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), a bank regulatory bureau of the Treasury Department. Pat was the OCC's Manager of Internal Communications. She has a PhD. in Diplomatic History from the University of Alabama. Pat is in the Bradenton area from October through May but would be more than happy to continue to be the organizational point person for book club meetings in the summer if members so desire.

Cultural Affairs & Travel MINNIE LEE JONES, CULTURAL AFFAIRS CHAIR

We have two more trips for the 2017-18 year:

- Thursday, April 26 Dali Museum. Last call. We have 8 people going but must have 10 for a private group tour.
- June 14-20 Washington, DC Trip-Sponsored by St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church. At this time we have 8 from our group and 25 others. Timeline extended for final payment to April 2, 2018. If you are interested, contact Minnie at **739-2250 or vatt22@aol.com**

We are always open to ways to raise funds for scholarships, and cruises are the best way. Suggestions welcomed.

Chapter One Writing Group MERRIE LYNN PARKER, CHAIR SHIRLEY FOOR, FACILITATOR

Our writing group meets the first Tuesday of each month at Rosemary Leas home at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Anyone who is interested can call Merrie Lynn to learn more about what we do. Each month one of our writing group members submits a sample of our writings to publish in the Messenger for our Branch members to enjoy.

Early Risers Bridge Meets every Wednesday morning on the 2nd floor of The Towers. We have 12 players plus substitutes. Call **DONNA RAPER—747-1156**

If you have ideas for new interest groups, please let me know! Minnie Jones 739-2250 or vatt22@aol.com

To keep up with what's happening in public policy, sign up for alerts through **Action Network and Two-Minute Activist** <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>

You'll get periodic emails with an easy link to take action. It only takes two minutes!



2018 AAUW FLORIDA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL MEETING

“STEPPING FORWARD TOGETHER” in Sarasota!

The **AAUW State Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting** will be held on **April 22-24th** at the **Sarasota Hyatt Regency** on Sarasota Bay, located at 1000 Boulevard of the Arts.

We will have registration forms at our March meeting with a deadline of March 22nd for a room reservation at a reduced rate of \$149 plus tax, if you want to stay at the hotel instead of traveling back and forth. (To book a room call: 888-421-1442)

You can register online at <https://aauwfl.aauw.net/2018-state-convention/> and pay online through Pay Pal. The registration fee of \$190 includes Sunday dinner, Monday lunch, Monday Banquet, and Tuesday breakfast.

The cost of the Sunday dinner is \$50.

The cost of the Monday Banquet is \$50.

AAUW Florida has just also extended an option of registering for Sunday only at \$75.00 which includes dinner or for Monday only for \$100.00 which includes lunch and dinner.

The exceptional programs were outlined in the recent FloriVision newsletter.

Informative Workshops

Recognizing and honoring members with 50+ years in AAUW

Panel Discussion: Women on the Run/Panel and speaker

Entertainment on Monday evening: “Women of Steel” (You will want to hear them.)

Let's have a good Manatee representation! It's an excellent opportunity to hear what other branches are doing and share our story as well. Please join us and help with this event....



If you shop on Amazon, please consider shopping through smile.amazon.com and designate “Manatee County Branch AAUW Scholarship Foundation” as your preferred recipient of the .05% of your purchase that Amazon will donate to our Scholarship Fund.

CHAPTER ONE WRITING GROUP SHIRLEY FOOR, FACILITATOR

Facilitator’s Note: Merrie Lynn Parker continues her personal-history letters for her grandchildren that will be opened after her passing, which she assures us is not imminent. Merrie Lynn has twice been President of the Manatee County Branch of the AAUW and has served in many board positions. She also is a Branch Named Honoree for our Education Foundation Funds and Research, Fellowships & Grants Programs.

A Smile and Tears after 30 Years

Dear Grandkids,

It hit home again; I have more kids than just you and your mom and dad. What an awesome feeling that is. Not to take anything away from my love for you, I am warmed to know that some of my past students have strong and positive feelings for me. One in particular—Tia Wortham—reached out to me this Christmas. Over the 30 years since she graduated from high school, we have exchanged Christmas letters off and on. I haven’t sent a letter to her the past two years, nor have I received one from her. But this year she sent a card and her picture.

I remember Tia as a petite Black girl with a modest afro, a Manatee High student who was heavily involved in our music programs. One particularly striking memory is seeing her furiously peddling her stripped-down, old-model boy’s bike east over Wares Creek just as light was turning to dusk. Her signature neck tie blowing back from her neck, white T-shirt and black jeans—her uniform, always clean and neat but always the same. I wondered at the time where she was heading. As Dean of Students, I was in charge of student attendance. Tia never missed a day of school, but did she live outside our district? We wondered. Although it was my business, I, like so many others who knew Tia, overlooked that possibility.

Later, I found out. Her mother wasn’t in the picture and her father had custody of her. They didn’t live any place in particular but stayed often at different locations all over Bradenton and Palmetto. Yet, Tia, determined and persistent, remained a student at Manatee High School. She played in the school band, she was a bassoonist in the orchestra and sang in the choir. When she arrived at the school late at night, after football band trips, one of her friends, living close to the school, snuck her into the garage to sleep on a pallet of blankets on the floor.

With a ready smile for all, Tia, although quiet and unassuming, was a favorite of the school, adults and students alike. She and I became personally connected when the band and chorus teachers ganged up on me one day, early in her senior year, to ask a favor. The band teacher had connections with the music department at Florida State University, and with his recommendation, they agreed to give Tia a scholarship. But she needed to fill out the Pell grant paperwork, and they asked if I would help her.

“Why not a guidance counselor?” I asked.

“She likes you and thinks you can help her best,” they responded. So, my friendship with Tia began.

Tracking down her father to sign the paperwork was a challenge, but he did finally arrive, somewhat disheveled, to bring information and to sign the papers. A man of few words, his discomfort was palatable. Tia was awarded the scholarship.

I was sure Tia would need more clothing than her daily “uniforms” and light hoody. I contacted one of my old high school friends to see if her sorority would be interested in a project . . . providing Tia with a college wardrobe. As it turned out, my friend took Tia to the mall and provided her with all of her clothing needs.

Off Tia went to FSU where she joined the ROTC and received the Bachelor of Music Performance. Upon graduation, she joined the Navy and became the principal bassoonist of the U.S. Navy Band of Washington, D.C. Off and on throughout her career in the military, she sent me Christmas cards from Alexandria, typically with just a signature, and I sent her our annual family Christmas letter.

Then these last few years, we lost touch completely, until she sent me this year’s Christmas card addressed to me and Chick and with a new return address in Ft. Washington, MD. She’s retired from the military now, plays with the Patagonia Winds (a professional wind quintet in Maryland and Virginia), teaches at a nearby high school, and performs as a soprano with the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic.

I wrote to tell her how glad I was to hear from her, with a brief update on my life and gave her my contact information. She called me and told me that she thinks of me often and how much my help meant to her.

“You are a treasured jewel in my life, and I want to stay closely connected,” she said. I welled up with tears to hear her endearing words. I had really done so little for this lovely woman with such incredible talent. To think that she credited me with being a part of that humbled me. Almost a decade has passed since I retired, and while I am enjoying my retired life, giving little thought to my past career, hearing from Tia, affirmed and honored by her sincerity, gave me a tremendous sense of joy.

She has texted me and we promise to stay in touch, maybe even write a book together. She says she’s “stoked” about that idea. A new project, what satisfaction this will bring.

Love, Grammy

February 13, 2018

MATH SUPERSTARS BARBARA ANDREWS, CHAIR

We are still in need of a few sponsors for schools for the annual Math Superstars competition which we sponsor along with the Manatee School District covering **40 schools**. Sponsorships are \$20, or two members can go together for \$10 each! The funds cover the costs for prizes for the top three student pairs and for t-shirts and bumper stickers for all competitors. You can pay cash or give me a check made out to AAUW Manatee County Branch at the April meeting, or by mailing it to: **Barbara Andrews, 1235 Edgewater Cir, Bradenton, FL 34209**

If you would like to see these young mathematicians in action, join me for the **April 21 competition at 9 am at Manatee Technical College Auditorium**, 6305 State Road 70 East, and enjoy the fun of handing out juice, cookies, bumper stickers, and Math Superstars t-shirts (*the most popular item*). Just let me know - **941 518-6172**.

COMMUNICATIONS

Branch History MINNIE LEE JONES, BRANCH HISTORIAN

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

- Jan. 2018 - Take Stock in Children of Manatee County, Inc – Branch letter regarding our \$300 donation.
- Jan. 13, 2018 - Manatee County Branch AAUW General & Board Minutes *by Ellen Bell*
- Feb. 2018 – *Messenger* newsletter for AAUW Manatee County Branch *by Vicki Waters*
- Feb. 27, 2018 – AAUW National By-Laws Amendment VOTE -2018 Information
- Feb. 27, 2018 – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Breakfast: “The Harlem Renaissance” Minnie Jones was on the Event Committee and several AAUW members attended.
- March 2018– *Messenger* for AAUW Manatee County Branch - *by Vicki Waters*
- Mar. 1, 2018 – Celebrating Women Presidents *by AAUW Manatee County Branch and AAUW Bradenton Branch*
- Mar. 7, 2018 – Session Update: Rep. Wengay Newton, Florida House Dist. 70; pictures include member Minnie Jones. Submitted *by Vicki Waters*
- Mar. 10, 2018 – Manatee County Branch AAUW General & Board Agendas *by Pat Benson*

Please continue to bring in: News clippings of interest to our AAUW Branch, certificates, awards and photographs with dates, names, and events. *For more information please contact:*

Minnie Lee Jones (739-2250) vatt22@aol.com

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