Synthesis

Speaker for the February Branch Meeting is **PAUL GROVE**, President & CEO of WEDU-TV, Florida's Public Broadcasting affiliate in Tampa, serving our area with programs such as SESAME STREET, ANTIQUES ROADSHOW, DOWNTON ABBEY and many more.

A graduate of the University of Florida School of Broadcast Journalism and Telecommunications, Paul spent more than twenty years in Chattanooga, Tennessee as President/CEO of the PBS station. Quoted as saying, "I love technology," Paul will discuss the growth of public television, its value to the community, and how the Pandemic increased their educational programming.

We welcome Paul Grove's thoughts on the future of PBS and his predictions for the future programs on our screens.

Branch Meeting: Wednesday, February 16 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom.

AAUW Sarasota Branch **"Bridging the Gap"**
First Annual Fundraiser Luncheon Event

Saturday, February 5, 2022, 11:30 a.m. Lunch: 12:30 p.m.
Marina Jack Restaurant's Bay Front Room

Reservation Deadline: January 28, 2022

Masks are required.

JOIN US!
Program Speaker: *Tiera Charles,*
Former AAUW Scholarship Recipient

Theme Baskets:
WOW!! Simply amazing!

Silent Auction Treasures

Celebrate AAUW's purpose, history, accomplishments and future proposals that focus on educational projects and opportunities.

So far 80 plus members, their spouses, their friends, and community leaders have signed up. Have you???

If not, it's easy to do. **Online**: https://sarasota-fl.aauw.net/special-events/

Mail: Check, payable to AAUW Sarasota. Send to Kathy Schersten, 4693 Glebe Farm Rd., Sarasota, FL 34235

Choose your level: $45 per person, or if you wish to Sponsor, call Kathy for details. 941-302-7848

Select your meal: Piccata Chicken, Crab Cakes, Vegetarian Plate

Unable to attend? Donations gratefully accepted and appreciated.

Submitted by Carol Bernasconi and Kathy Schersten, Program Co-directors

President's Message - February 2022

Our April Branch elections are approaching. The slate of officers must be presented to the Branch at the March meeting. It's time to contact Diana Sells to volunteer for an open Board position. Opportunities are available in the areas of Communication, Public Policy, Membership, and Education.

We can all plan to attend the virtual 2022 AAUW Florida Convention and Annual Meeting, April 1 - April 3. Diana Sells, AAUW Florida Program Director, has planned interesting and informative sessions for us. Visit the AAUW Florida website for details.

Check out Money Smart, AAUW's newest online workshop. "*The Money Smart series includes three one-hour, facilitator-led virtual training sessions. Although each workshop can stand on its own as a learning resource, the sessions build on one another to provide a comprehensive guide to personal money management.*" This new program is right in line with our Branch Goal #4: Economic Security!

And don't forget to send a Valentine to someone who could use a smile and a hug this month!

Hearts and Hugs,

Lois Fisch, President

Our Thanks to AAUW Sarasota member **Caroline Zucker,** former Sarasota County School Board Member, for her explanation on the School District Millage Election to be held on **MARCH 8, 2022**. At last month's monthly meeting she reminded us that renewing this referendum will NOT increase taxes, but will enable the district to continue its high performance goals.

New Member

Please welcome our newest member, Patricia Kitching. Patricia lives at

3565 Lake Bayshore Dr., Apt. 207J
Bradenton, FL 34205
1-727-698-3187
kitchingp6@gmail.com

Don't forget to add her information to your directory so yours is up to date. A new directory will soon be available for those members who had not already received one. Our apologies for the delay!

For those who have access to online outlets for local news, such as ***Patch*** in Sarasota, please let me know. I will be happy to send along more information about our Sarasota Branch.

Sue McGowan, *Membership Chair;* Nancy Brennan, Estephanie Herrera, Bev Prechtel, Anne Salamone

Write-Read-Write!!!

Write Read Write is on for the spring! We have a commitment from the Alta Vista Elementary School and soon will be meeting with the lead third grade teacher to get our list of children and their letters. Bev and I will write a general message that we can copy for each student; but if you would like to write your own personal message, that would be great, too. Just put it in the mail to either Bev or me before the end of January.

Here are the names we have; I'm sure I'm missing some, so please let me (Sue McGowan) know who you are. Kathy O, Eloise M., Sylvia R., Kathy S., Lois F, Virginia W., Sue McG., Bev P., Diana S., Ellen R., Susan S., Joan N., Sue C., Jackie Z., Nancy B.

If you have any questions, or want to be sure that you are on our regular emailing list, contact Bev Prechtel at bevprechtel@verizon.net or Sue McGowan at suemcg4802@gmail.com.

It's only February but....

Summer is not far off!

The FST has announced their **Summer Cabaret** series. If there is anyone else who would like to buy the series ($69) for a Saturday or Sunday matinee, please let me know. Some of us are year-rounders, and there isn't as much activity in the local arts scene. Here is an idea of what to expect:
Three of the four shows are under consideration--final list will be in late March. All four sound like a great afternoon of music familiar to most of us.

- ✓ The Uptown Boys--Billy Joel songbook
- ✓ Dancing Dream--a musical tribute to ABBA.
- ✓ Sisters of Soul--celebrating the music of Aretha Franklin, Etta James, Gladys Knight, and many more powerful women with phenomenal voices.
- ✓ Jersey Tenors Part Due--singers/comedians tribute to the top 10 list of cinema "tough guys".
- ✓ Music from The Godfather, Rocky, Saturday Night Fever, and much more.

Let me know if you'd like to join me! ~Sue McGowan, suemcg4802@gmail.com

February Highlights in US Women's History

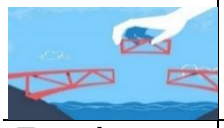
- **February 1, 1978** – First postage stamp to honor a black woman, Harriet Tubman, is issued in Washington, DC
- **February 4, 1987** – First "National Women in Sports Day" is celebrated by Presidential Proclamation
- **February 11, 1989** – Rev. Barbara Harris became the first woman bishop in the American Episcopal Church and in the Anglican Communion worldwide.
- **February 15, 1921** – The Suffrage Monument, depicting Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucretia Mott, sculpted by Adelaide Johnson, is dedicated at the U.S. Capitol
- **February 15, 1953** – Tenley Albright became the first American woman to win the World Figure Skating championship
- **February 24, 1912** – Henrietta Szold founds Hadassah, the largest Jewish organization in American history, focusing on healthcare and education in Israel and the U.S.
- **February 24, 1967** – Jocelyn Bell Burnell makes the first discovery of a pulsar, a rapidly rotating neutron star
- **February 27, 1922** – U.S. Supreme Court upholds the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, which guarantees women the right to vote

American Association of University Women

The mission of AAUW is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

FEBRUARY 2022

To place items in the Calendar, contact Lois Fisch by the 10th of February for the March 2022 newsletter: lfisch@utica.edu

Date	Time	Event	Location / Contact	Notes
Saturday, February 5 	11:30 a.m. Lunch at 12:30	**AAUW Sarasota FUNDRAISER Luncheon** **"Bridging the Gap"**	**Contact:** Kathy Schersten at kathyschersten@gmail.com	Marina Jack's Restaurant Bayfront Room Speaker, Baskets, Gift Cards, FUN!!
Tuesday, February 8	11:00 a.m.	**AAUW Sarasota BOARD MEETING** via **ZOOM**	Sign in on your computer or phone via Zoom. An invitation will be sent a day or two before the meeting. **Contact:** Lois Fisch lfisch@utica.edu	All members welcome.
Wednesday, February 9	2:00 p.m.	**Play Reading Group**	Contact: Nancy Brennan for details at nbrennan617@gmail.com or (941)924-595	Release your inner thespian!
Tuesday, February 15	11:00 a.m.	**North County Book Group** **Book:** *A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of the American Spy Who Helped Win World War II* **Author**: Sonia Purnell	Meet at our usual time of 11:00 a.m. at the Betty J. Johnson North Sarasota Library, 2801 Newtown Boulevard, Edward James III meeting room **Contact:** Lois Fisch lfisch@utica.edu	Discussion Leaders: Bev Prechtel and Rona Gahr If you are not currently a member of this group and would like to attend or be put on the mailing list, please contact Lois Fisch lfisch@utica.edu *All members welcome. Lunch after optional.*
Wednesday, February 16	2:00 p.m.	**Sarasota Branch Meeting** via **Zoom**	Sign in on your computer or phone via Zoom. An invitation will be sent a day or two before the meeting. **Contact:** Lois Fisch lfisch@utica.edu	Speaker: **Paul Grove, WEDU**
Tuesday, February 22	11:30 a.m.	**Gulf Gate Read and Discuss Book Group** Meet at Gulf Gate Library, 2nd floor Conference Room. **Book:** *The Indomitable Florence Finch* **Author:** R.J. Mrazek	**Contact:** Sylvia Rosenfeld sylros10@yahoo.com (941)924-8603 or Jocelyn Baskey at Jocelyn_baskey@yahoo.com, co.uk or (941) 559-6919	Discussion Leader: *Maureen Meenan* All AAUW members welcome to join the group regardless of whether or not they live in the Gulf Gate area. Optional lunch together at a nearby restaurant.

AAUW Sarasota Branch
Elected Officers and Directors 2021-2023

Officers

President (2020-2022)	Lois Fisch
Vice President (2020-2022)	Susan Casey
Secretary (2021-2022)	Estephanie Herrera
Treasurer (2021-2023)	Ellen Roche

Directors

Program (2021-2023)	Carol Bernasconi Kathy Schersten
Membership (2020-2022)	Sue McGowan
Public Policy (2020-2022)	Diana Sells
Communications (2020-2022)	Sue Casey
Education Programs (2021-2023)	Jackie Zukley
Nominations (2021-2023)	Diana Sells
Past President, (ex-officio, non-voting)	Diana Sells
Parliamentarian	(Vacant)
Synthesis Editor	Virginia Waring

Visit us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/AAUWSarasota
Or on the web at:

https://sarasota-fl.aauw.net/

https://www.aauw.org/

(National organization)

https://aauw-fl.aauw.net/

(Florida branch)

or

email us at: Sarasota.AAUW@gmail.com

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Sarasota Branch
P.O. Box 3554, Sarasota, FL 34230

Deadline
February 10th is the deadline for the March issue of the *Synthesis*. Please submit either an email or attached Word document to me, Virginia Waring. Photos are appreciated. I cannot edit a PDF file. Thank you.
Virginia Waring, *virginia.waring@gmail.com*