



Synthesis



Sarasota Branch Meeting:
We welcome Erin DeFazio,
Sarasota Alliance for Historic Preservation
Wednesday, April 20
2 p.m. via Zoom

Erin DeFazio, President of the Board of the **Sarasota Alliance for Historic Preservation**, will join us (2 pm) for the April 20th AAUW Monthly Meeting via Zoom. She explains her leadership goal in the following words: “to help preserve the unique character of historic Sarasota from the Old Florida cottages to the Sarasota School of Architecture and beyond.”



The Alliance sponsors Heritage Awards to raise the level of public support for efforts to preserve our common past so future generations may learn from it. Erin’s past career in Connecticut as a Historic Restoration Contractor is valuable in her current Realtor role counseling those who are “old-house aficionados.”

Let her tell us about the 1985 efforts to save the John Ringling Towers, the McClellan Park School, and the endeavors to work with the community on what is important to conserve.

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

American Association of University Women

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



President's Message – April 2022

Spring is a time of new beginnings. A time of possibility. This month, we'll approve the 2022-23 budget and philanthropy plan (see pages 8 and 9 of this Synthesis) and we'll elect a president, vice-president, director of membership, and director of public policy. Moving forward, they, along with the rest of the board, will have the opportunity to lead us as we continue and perhaps expand our existing philanthropy efforts. They will also lead us in the development of new initiatives. It's an exciting time to be a member of AAUW Sarasota.

Lois Fisch, President

Requesting Your Help!



We're anxious to begin in person meetings starting this fall and we've been notified that the Community Foundation is undergoing construction and won't be available for our meetings. We need your help – if you can think of, know of, wish for some place that we could meet each month, please send any information – name, contact info, etc. to

Sarasota.AAUW@gmail.com

We'd also like your opinion on

- 1) Restaurant where we could meet, eat and enjoy a program. Cost constraints?
- 2) Day and time of program – would you be willing to attend a meeting at 5:00 or later? How about a meeting on a Saturday morning (maybe a brunch meeting)?
- 3) Would you be comfortable having different meeting times/locations based on availability of a venue?
- 4) How a meeting location on either end of our county – how far would you drive to join us?

We appreciate your giving us your opinion – we're gonna have to make changes – and we want our membership to be a part of the change.

P.S. We want to continue to offer Zoom meetings of our in person meeting for those who cannot attend in person.

Submitted by Sue Casey, Vice-President

SPRING LUNCHEON/EVENT

Friday, May 6



Marcy & Michael Klein Plaza
Photo: Ryan Gamma

Are we ready to share an end of season luncheon and event in a most unique environment? Let's all say a resounding "YES" and continue to read what we expect will surely be a fabulous experience.

On Friday, May 6, 2022 we will be holding our spring luncheon at the Sarasota Art Museum, 1001 South Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34236. Luncheon will be served in the Museum Bistro opposite the Museum entrance.

Following luncheon, expert docents will lead groups into the museum for an informative tour highlighting the artists and art works that will be on exhibit. As Sarasota's only museum solely focused on contemporary artists and their work, we will be viewing many thought-provoking exhibitions. Of course, the museum accommodates all visitor needs and an elevator allows for easy access to each floor.

Please know that the Sarasota Art Museum charges an entry fee independent of our luncheon price. However, this entire event will offer us all, not only a lovely luncheon to be shared with our friends and sister Sarasota AAUW Branch members, but also a very unique and special Arts experience.

Let's agree to come together on May 6th to enjoy a "finale" to what has been a most successful 2021-2022 season.

You will find the reservation form on the last page of this *Synthesis*.

Submitted by: Carol Bernasconi, Program Co-Chair

MEMBERSHIP

Directory

Please correct Brenda Gimán's email address to brendanamig@gmail.com, and Apt. #243 is the correct apartment number.

Please correct Joan Fox's address to include Apt. #221.

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



It was a beautiful sunny day – the perfect day to get acquainted and make new friends. On Saturday, February 19, five of your Board of Directors met with four new members - Joan Fox, Martha Lindberg, Patty Kitching, Brenda Gimán, and guest Joan Meinke. With the park and water as a backdrop, we sat in the pavilion and delighted in sharing lunch from the Jiggy Landing menu while introducing ourselves. We all enjoyed the day and decided that we would do more “Meet and Greets” in the future. I’d like to have some of our members join us – in the future we’ll send invitations to not just new members and hope if you get an invite that you’ll put the day on your calendar. Thank you to our new members for coming out and letting us get to know you.

Submitted by Sue Casey, Vice President

PUBLIC POLICY

The Florida legislative session is over for this year. Sadly, none of the bills supported by AAUW-FL went anywhere, but then neither did the two we opposed. You can still exercise your right to have your opinions heard by your state representatives, either by phone or email (or paper letter!). Contact information can be found online by entering the name of your local representative or by going to myfloridahouse.gov if you need to find out what district you are in.

For District 72, which covers most of Sarasota, the Florida House representative is Fiona McFarland and you can find all her information here:

<https://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Representatives/contactmember.aspx?MemberId=4780&SessionId=93>.

Our local state senator is Joe Gruters, and his information is here:

<https://www.flsenate.gov/senators/s23>.

Anyone who would like to join the Public Policy Committee (we actually visit our representatives in person in their local office), please contact me.

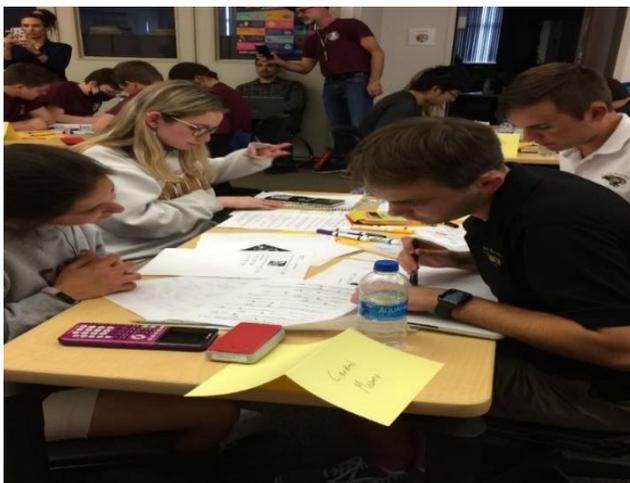
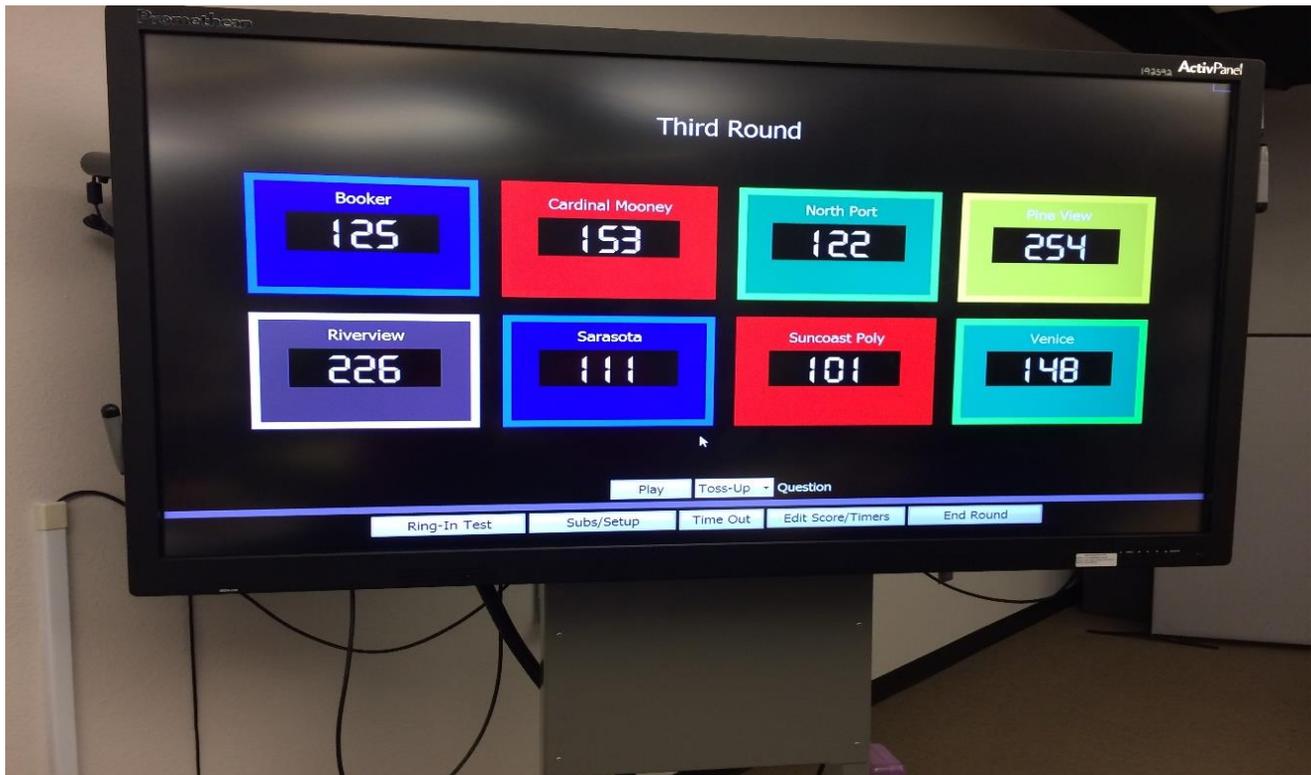
Diana Sells, Public Policy Director

Academic Olympics

The 2022 Academic Olympic season ended on February 15 with the Finals. All eight teams competed against each other at every match. This was done in case we had to go virtual once the season started. It worked out well, and plans are to continue this way next season.

The scores for that final match can be seen in the photo (Pine View was the winner with 254 points). The next two photos show teams working together during the last team question. Our Sarasota AAUW branch has been involved in Academic Olympics since the very beginning, almost 40 years ago.

Submitted by Eloise Malinsky





Walking Group: Attention Walkers!

The April walk will be on **Monday, March 21st at 10:30AM at Robinson Preserve**. **Note change of date**. Please RSVP to Bev Prechtel at bevprechtel@verizon.net if you plan on attending.

As always, wear comfortable shoes, bring water, a hat, and perhaps a snack. Directions will be sent to those responding to Bev.



Write-Read-Write!!!

By the time you are reading this, those of you who volunteered to buy a book for a third grader should have received your letter. We were so fortunate in having so many of our members step up and offer that we are in the enviable position of having more volunteers than students. But don't let that stop anyone from buying a book. In fact, we can start a small library of books for their classroom. And we will share the requests and their thank you notes with as many as possible. You make such a positive difference in young lives by instilling the love of books and of reading.

Everyone who volunteered will receive an email from Bev and Sue shortly with details on how we will collect the books to get them to the classroom by early April. Thank you again for all you do to make this an important part of our mission.

If you have any questions, contact Bev Prechtel at bevprechtel@verizon.net or Sue McGowan at suemcg4802@gmail.com.



Ballet Enthusiasts

A group attended the ballet on Saturday, March 5th, and then enjoyed a lovely dinner at Seasons 52. Our next ballet outing is April 30 at 2 p.m. at the Sarasota Opera House. The program is Serendipitous Movement with ballets by Balanchine, Morris and MacMillan. An early dinner will follow at Duval's. Contact Sue McGowan at suemcg4802@gmail.com if you want to be included in the dinner after.

Play Reading Group



Play Readers will be spending some time with the BARD on April 10 at the Asolo. We are attending a performance of Shakespeare's play *Twelfth Night* at the Cook Theatre, with an early dinner to follow. If interested, contact Nancy Brennan at nbrennan617@gmail.com.



Tech Trek 2022 – Florida Virtual STEM Summer Camp for rising 8th graders

After having been nominated by their teacher, six young ladies from local schools applied to attend the state-wide Florida AAUW Tech Trek virtual summer camp. Four members of our branch (Nancy Brennan, Sue Casey, Sue McGowan, and Virginia Waring) interviewed these students and spoke with their parents virtually in February. Letters of acceptance will be mailed on March 19th.

Here's what Tech Trek camp is all about:

The girls may select their core classes (such as Qualcomm Wearable Tech, an electrical engineering class, Marine Mysteries, Neuroscience and Computer Science Discovery) and daily workshops (such as DNA, Flip Grid, Hurricane Heroes, Rube Goldberg Galore, Bullet Journal, Chemistry Lab at Home, My Place in Space, Brain and Learning, Exercise, Science and Group Fitness, and Astrophysics). Other STEM activities will be scheduled. All classes will require a computer with internet access; those without a computer may borrow one from the camp for the week. The girls will receive boxes of the special materials needed for each of their choices, three camp t-shirts to wear during class, a flash drive for saving their files and bag to keep these materials together. Each day there are moderated panel discussions led by women in a particular aspect of science: Women in Science, Women in Technology, Women in Engineering, and Women in Math. Virtual field trips are also planned as well as a wrap-up session about the camp activities that will include their families.

If you would like to see the 2021 presentation, go to: <https://flipgrid.com/+7cje8mwq>.

Contact: Leiland Theriot at Leiland.theriot@gmail.com

AAUW Sarasota 2021-2022: Budget vs. Actual PLUS 2022-2023 Proposed As of 3/4/22

	2021-2022 Budget	2021-2022 Actual	2022-2023 Proposed
EXPENSES			
Administrative (Officers)			
Community Outreach	\$100		\$100
Conventions/State meeting	\$700	\$0	\$700
Copying	\$25		\$25
Insurance	\$534	\$200	\$534
PO Box	\$106		\$106
Postage	\$25		\$25
Quicken or similar software	\$125	\$36	\$40
Remembrance	\$100	\$25	\$100
Yearbook	\$175	\$167	\$175
Zoom	\$65	\$150	\$150
Total Administrative	\$1,955	\$578	\$1,955
Communications			
Synthesis	\$50		\$50
Web design & maintenance	\$0		\$0
Total Communications	\$50	\$0	\$50
Education	\$250	\$0	\$250
Membership			
Recruitment			\$0
Brochures	\$225	\$284	\$0
New member packets	\$50		\$50
Member longevity/new member recognition	\$100	\$43	\$100
Total Membership	\$375	\$327	\$150
Programs			
Hospitality	\$75		\$75
Speaker gifts	\$50		\$350
Total Programs	\$125	\$0	\$425

Public Policy	\$50		\$50
Scholarships	\$0	\$3,750	\$3,750
Research, Education & Advocacy	\$0	\$0	\$6,465
Total Expenses	\$2,805	\$4,655	\$13,095
INCOME			
Dues	\$980	\$1,260	\$1,260
Fundraising	\$1,695	\$10,000	\$0
Luncheons	\$125	\$100	\$125
Name badges	\$5	\$0	\$5
Donations	\$0	\$0	\$0
Carry Forward (previous year)	\$0	\$5,000	\$11,705
Total Income	\$2,805	\$16,360	\$13,095
Net/Carry Forward		\$11,705	\$0

2022-23 AAUW Sarasota Endowment Funds Philanthropy Plan

Proposed March 4, 2022

Spendable Balance*	\$15,000
College scholarships 2@ \$2,500 each	\$5,000
Technical/Vocational Scholarship	\$1,250
NCCWSL	\$3,000
Tech Trek	\$3,000
AAUW Greatest Needs Fund	\$2,500
Community Foundation	\$250
Balance	\$0

*Spendable Balance assumes carryover of unspent funds from 2021-22.

APRIL 2022

To place items in the Calendar, contact Lois Fisch by the 10th of April for the May 2022 newsletter:

lfisch@utica.edu



Date	Time	Event	Location / Contact	Notes
Tuesday, April 5	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, April 10	2:00 p.m.	Play Reading Group	Contact: Nancy Brennan for details at nbrennan617@gmail.com or (941)924-595	Shakespeare's 12th Night at the Asolo Theatre
Tuesday, April 19	11:00 a.m.	North County Book Group Book: <i>The Four Winds</i> Author: Kristin Hannah 	Meet at our usual time of 11:00 a.m. at the Betty J. Johnson North Sarasota Library, 2801 Newtown Boulevard, Meeting room II Contact: Lois Fisch lfisch@utica.edu	Discussion Leader: <i>Joan Nasser</i> All members welcome. Lunch after optional. Contact Lois Fisch if you want to be on the mailing list: lfisch@utica.edu
Wednesday, April 20	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: <i>Erin DeFazio, Sarasota Alliance for Historic Preservation</i>
Monday, April 25 	10:30 a.m.	Walking Group Place: To be Determined	Contact: Bev Prechtel at bevprechtel@verizon.net	All members welcome. Nothing strenuous!
Tuesday, April 26 	11:30 a.m.	Gulf Gate Read and Discuss Book Group Meet at Gulf Gate Library, 2 nd floor Conference Room. Book: <i>The Silent Patient</i> Author: Alex Michaelides	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: <i>Carol Bernasconi</i> 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.
Saturday, April 30	2:00 p.m.	Sarasota Ballet, Sarasota Opera House	Contact Sue McGowan, suemcg@gmail.com for details.	

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 <i>Synthesis</i> Editor	(Vacant) 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



Synthesis is published monthly September through May by the American Association of University Women
Sarasota Branch
P.O. Box 3554, Sarasota, FL 34230

Deadline

April 10th is the deadline for the May 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



AAUW SARASOTA SPRING LUNCHEON - FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2022

Sarasota Art Museum, 1001 South Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34236 (941) 309-4300
The Museum provides ample parking for visitors. Entrance is off Route 41.

11:30 RECEPTION and WELCOME, MUSEUM "BISTRO" (Opposite the Museum entrance)

12:00 LUNCHEON served

1:00 DOCENT LED TOURS of Museum (approximately 45 minutes)

MENU CHOICES

Exact meal may differ from photos below.



•Open faced Salmon Tartine served with dill creme, capers, heirloom tomatoes and pickles and chips



•Grilled Chicken Club served on Sourdough with house-made bacon, avocado smash, sprouts and pickles and chips



•Spring Chopped Salad: Gem lettuces, asparagus, English peas, Garlic breadcrumbs, feta cheese and Green Goddess Dressing

•Dessert: House- Made Chocolate Brownies

•Beverage Choice: ice tea, lemonade, sparkling water, hot coffee or tea (No cash bar available)

✂-----**DETACH & MAIL BELOW**-----✂

NAME _____ PHONE _____

	Salmon Tartine	Please note any food allergy or dietary restriction:
	Grilled Chicken Club	
	Spring Chopped salad	
Please circle beverage choice:		
Ice tea	Lemonade	Sparkling water Hot coffee Hot tea

_____ \$35 Per Person--Luncheon only **Art Museum member? Yes / No If yes, tour is free.**

_____ \$50 per person--Luncheon & Tour

Enclosed: \$ _____

Check Made Payable to: **Sarasota Branch AAUW**

PLEASE SEND PAYMENT WITH RESERVATION. DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27,2022

Mail to: Carol Bernasconi, 5645 Cape Leyte Drive, Sarasota, FL 34242

Questions? Call Carol at (941) 346-9915