

The Communicator Revival – February 2025

By The Membership Committee on February 10, 2025



Welcome Message

Welcome to the Sun City Center Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), serving the vibrant South Shore area of Hillsborough County. Our organization continues to flourish as we engage with our community. We are excited for an inspiring February, where we will host a distinguished monthly speaker and commemorate Black History Month with meaningful reflections.

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Missions of AAUW Sun City

At the AAUW, we are committed to advancing equity for women and girls in education and professional realms. Our initiatives include:

- **Promoting Education and Opportunities:** We strive to create pathways for women and girls to realize their full potential through workshops, mentorship programs, and educational resources.
 - **Providing Fellowships and Grants:** We offer funding opportunities to support women pursuing higher education and professional development.
 - **Collaboration with Like-Minded Organizations:** We partner with other organizations that share our commitment to gender equity, enhancing our impact within the community.
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Current AAUW Elected Board Members

- **President:** Gezil Andrews (309-660-1091)
 - **Vice President of Membership:** Patsie Ginley (954-258-5714) ● **Recording Secretary:** Beverly Moody (813-773-7790)
 - **Corresponding Secretary:** Marjorie Castiglia (813-633-8253)
 - **Director of Finance:** Patty Barbaro (518-833-4339)
 - **Past President:** Angela Maze (813-605-8998) **Appointed Directors:**
 - **Tech Trek:** Diane Waronka (813-641-2722)
 - **Website Manager:** Marjorie Fontalvo (727-519-3630)
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President's Message

February Event Recap

On Saturday, February 8th, we had the privilege of hosting **FBI Agent Mrs. Betsy Conley**, who delivered an enlightening presentation on prevalent scams targeting seniors, including financial and cyber scams. Betsy's engaging discussion highlighted essential strategies for recognizing vulnerabilities, reinforcing the importance of vigilance, and advocating for reporting crimes to authorities



Attendees left with valuable resources, including links to the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office and the Internet Crime Complaint Center ([ic3.gov](https://www.ic3.gov)), to report any suspicious activities.

Upcoming Events in March

Mark your calendars for these exciting events:



AI (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE) WHY SHOULD I CARE?

7TH MARCH | 1PM



**WOMEN EMPOWER WOMEN
THROUGH TECHNOLOGY
FRIENDS MAKE SURE FRIENDS
KNOW ABOUT AI.**

RSVP CONTACT PATSIE @ 945 258-
5714 OR EMAIL HER @
[PATSIEPATSIEGINLEY@AOL.COM](mailto:patsiepatsieginley@aol.com) BY
MARCH 1ST TO SECURE SEAT

- **March 7th:** "Why Should You Care about AI?" Join us for an informative AI training session at APPLE CLUB on Pebble Beach Blvd. Limited seating is available, so be sure to **contact Patsie Ginley at 945-258-5714 or email patsiepatsieginley@aol.com**



by March 1st to secure your seat. Please bring your laptop (optional but highly recommended) for a hands-on experience.



- **March 15th:** Join us for the Woman of Distinction Award, honoring an exceptional woman in our community, in the Florida Room located in the Atrium on Pebble Beach Blvd.
 - **March 28th:** Attend the SCC AAUW monthly board meeting in the Palm Room in the Atrium on Pebble Beach Blvd. All members are encouraged to participate in shaping our initiatives.
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Black History Month Reflection



By Dr. Grace Ibanez Friedman

As we honor the legacy and contributions of African Americans during Black History Month, Dr. Grace Ibanez Friedman shares reflections on the enduring significance of Mary McLeod Bethune. Celebrated for her transformative work in education and civil rights, Bethune's influence continues to inspire future generations. As the founder of the Daytona Educational and Industrial School for Negro Girls in 1904, with only \$1.50 to her name, she exemplifies resilience and determination. Who is the iconic African American woman who inspires you?



Membership Business

Standing Strong: In a challenging educational landscape, AAUW is unwavering in our commitment to defend equity and access to education. We remain vigilant against legislation that undermines educational opportunities for women and girls, striving to empower each individual to achieve economic independence and success.

Florida Policy Forum: Stay informed about the latest developments in Florida and national politics that impact our mission.



AAUW FL Public Policy Issue Forum
Thursday, February 13th – 6:00 pm held via Zoom
Florida Legislative Preview

Come learn about AAUW Florida's work in Tallahassee this year. Dr. Pat DeWitt, AAUW Co- Public Policy Director will share the upcoming AAUW Florida legislative agenda.

Registration required – Registration – [Zoom Link](#)

Name Tags: For members interested in ordering a new name badge featuring the AAUW logo, please reach out to **Sue Selbin at our next meeting or contact her via email at sue053@yahoo.com**. This is a wonderful opportunity to represent our organization proudly at events.



Opportunities to Contribute to the Newsletter: We welcome contributions from members. If you have ideas or articles to share, please contact us.

Leadership Positions Available: We have several key positions open, including Vice President of the Program, Public Policy Director, and Fundraising Chair. Training and support will be provided. If you are interested in taking on a leadership role, please contact us.

We look forward to engaging with you throughout February and beyond as we work together to uplift and empower women and girls in our community. Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm!



AAUW SouthShore/Suncity Florida Branch
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Newsletter of the Sun City Center/SouthShore Branch Chartered in 1984

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