



the **TORCH**

November 2016 Vol. 54, No.11 November Meeting

Date: Saturday November 19, 2016
Gathering: 11:30 AM
Lunch: 12:00 PM
Place: The Landings Yacht, Golf & Tennis Club

Luncheon Menu:

Choice 1:

Seafood Croissant-Shrimp, Bay Scallops and Sweet Peppers in Creamy Seafood Sauce. Served with Lettuce & Tomato & Accompanied by Fresh Fruit

Chicken Salad, Tuna Salad & Egg Salad, Accompanied by Fresh Fruit

With: Warm Rolls & Butter

Dessert: *Chef's Choice*

Beverages from the bar are available.
Wait staff will accept charge cards.

Reservations:

**Tina Hoegler will be taking reservations.
Please contact her at 941-505-8483 or
c_hoegler@msn.com no later than Mon., Nov. 14, Cancellations must be made no later than Tues., Nov. 15. Otherwise payment is expected.
Price of the luncheon is \$20.**

Our Speaker:

Annette Trossbach

Artistic Director of the Laboratory Theater

She has spent her career teaching theater, directing productions, trying to bring into focus social issues that concern our community. Born and raised in Germany, Annette was classically trained in London where she

received a dual degree in acting and directing. She moved to the United States in 1997 and to Florida in 2003. She founded the Laboratory Theater of Florida in 2008. Boasting almost 19,000 volunteer hours every season, the theater started out as a community theater and is now transitioning into a professional company. The theater not only does entertaining shows, but also thought-provoking and educational shows, and has a strong Eldridge element in the southwest Florida Community. This season Outreach efforts include connections with Lee County School District, Our Mother's Home, Lee Health System, Human Trafficking Awareness Partnerships, the LGBT community, and Holocaust remembrance. Annette feels strongly that theater can hold up a magnifying glass to a society and can effect social change by encouraging conversations about a variety of topics.

Annette is the recipient of Gulf Shore Business' 40 under 40 award, as well as numerous grants and awards for her theater. The theater is currently seeking a home of its own as it is renting its current facility and has grown beyond its confines.

Public Policy ... Marilyn Edwards

Remember to vote November 8, 2016.

The Florida Senate will convene on Tuesday, November 22, 2016, for the organizational Session.

President's Message...

Welcome to our third Torch of the year and the November meeting. As it is getting cooler "up North", glad to see more of our membership returning. Time is passing quickly and the much anticipated Fashion Show will soon be here.

I'm sure that all are anxiously awaiting the upcoming general election and it would be remiss on my part not to acknowledge our Adopt a Precinct team. Ms. Carolyn Nance has steered her amazing volunteers for numerous elections, amassing many hours, and each election continues to support our vision and mission for young women in our community. If you have not already recognized her hard work and dedication, please take a moment to say "thanks"!!!

Likewise, have you considered your opportunity to contribute to the annual fashion show raffle and silent auction...every donation makes a difference and all leave with knowing that this event is fun, worthwhile and a delightful afternoon to gather with friends. I'm sure you are looking forward to the upcoming holidays and I am looking ahead to seeing you at our next meeting.

Here comes November 19, 2016. See you at the Landings!

...President Shelley Siriano

***Growing in Style
Scholarship
Tech Trek
Youth
Leadership
Education***



***AAUW: Supporting the
Advancement of Women***

Ticket prices are \$45.

We have sold over 60 tickets, so order yours while they are still available.

Order Information: Tickets can be reserved with Peggy Drennan-Cihi (jpdrennan@embarqmail.com).

Growing in Style...Our 23rd annual Fashion Show is on Saturday, December 3, 2016, at the Grandezza Country Club in Estero, FL.

We are busy with our final preparations for our fashion show. We have selected our models. They will choose their own outfits at Chico's at Bell Tower Shops and will be ready to share them with you. We have raffle and silent auction items. We have a delicious menu and a beautiful setting. The big day is almost here!

Make your final arrangements by setting aside the date, planning to arrive by 11:00 a.m. to look over the incredible raffle and silent auction items and anticipating meeting your friends for a wonderful afternoon of socialization, good food and seeing beautiful outfits from one of our local retailer "Chico's."

You will be doing your part to make our major fundraiser of the year a great success. Whether you are a dedicated member, board member, committee chair, or committee member, you are part of the giving spirit of the season! You help make a difference in the lives of the women of our community, and we thank you for your efforts and are grateful for all you do. We thank the entire group of women for all the help. Each one of us is a part of this wonderful day. THANK YOU!

Plan to arrive early so you will have enough time to look over all the displays. Bring cash or your checkbook so you won't miss out on any of the wonderful items available. Some of these delectable items are:



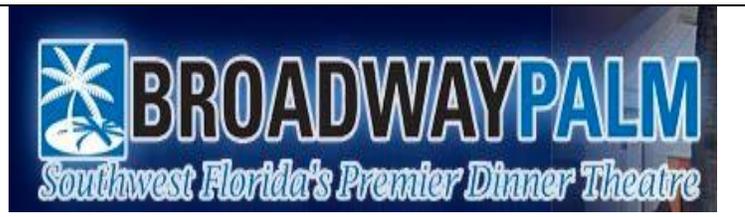
Crystal " LAURUS " Vase 11" - Made in Italy

Oversized vase, perfect for an entire bouquet, with a cut crystal leaf design. It works well with any décor. The flared top opening gives your flowers a great look, \$50.00 value.

One Family Beach Portrait Session
at Lovers Key State Park and 9x15 canvas portrait. Retail value \$650.00.
(Two other offers are available as well.)



- Original art
- Theater coupons
- Jewelry
- Restaurant coupons



The site for our Dec. 3 Fashion Show and Fund Raiser is the Club at Grandezza. The lovely Grandezza is a gated country club community located just west of Highway-75 off Ben Hill-Griffin Parkway in Estero, Florida. Join us for a grand time!



Scholarship Information for November Torch

Brooke Turner from Varsity Lakes Middle School and Sarah Laboda from Cypress Lakes Middle School, two of the four girls our Branch sent to the Tech Trek Camp this summer, attended our October meeting with their mothers. The girls gave wonderful presentations highlighting camp activities they enjoyed most. Brooke described coding and its application and value in all technical fields especially for women. She also demonstrated the extraction of DNA from strawberries using a video she produced herself. Sarah described robotic classes and animation classes using both a power point presentation and video she made and described verbally how software and coding were required to make and operate a robot and create live animation like a video game. Both girls also described what they enjoyed about being on a campus and experiencing college life especially in the dorms and that they had made new friends. Both strongly recommend that girls their age attend such a STEM camp and that their experience renewed their interest in a career in the sciences.

Loss of a very dear friend ...

Our wonderful AAUW friend Mimi Manpel passed away August 26, 2016. Her best friend of 64 years Muriel Freeman reminds us of her endearing qualities. We remember her as feisty, with a quick wit, and a great sense of humor. She was always recognizable with her bright red hair and for several years she was our symbol of support for the Harry Chapin Food Bank. She was deeply concerned about hunger in our community and would work our meetings selling tickets for the 50/50 drawings which sent money to the food bank. Many of us AAUW members enjoyed Mimi's friendship through our interest groups. She was a member of Book Club 2, an honorary member of Book Club 1, and a member of the Mahjonn group. Mimi was a warm and caring person and will be greatly missed by her many friends.

AAUW
Fort Myers/Lee Co Branch
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Financial Report

<i>Cash on hand Oct. 26, 2016</i>	\$11,184
<i>Restricted donations: Starbright</i>	(711)
<i>Payables</i>	(5,340)
<i>Available cash</i>	\$5,133

AAUW Membership still growing ...



Meet the newest member of our AAUW Chapter, Antoinette Kruse, seated next to our co-membership chairperson, Kathy Jones. Antoinette is a recent graduate of the University of Michigan's Master of Social Work program. She is a National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) scholarship winner. She has also founded a non-profit organization www.providencefamilylifecenter.com and is hoping to work with the colleges to develop a mentoring program for women university and college students of color. We are fortunate to have another enthusiastic proponent of education for women join us.