

# The **TORCH** April 2014

Vol. 52 No. 7

## **AAUW** Fort Myers/Lee Co. Branch Inc.

### **April Meeting**

Date: Sat April 12, 2014  
Gathering: 11:30 AM  
Lunch: 12:00 PM  
Board Meeting: 10:00 AM  
The Landings Yacht,  
Golf & Tennis Club

### **Luncheon Menu**

#### **Cold Choice**

##### **Pear Delight Salad**

Grilled chicken, caramelized pear slices, feta cheese and almonds atop mixed greens. Dressed with a raspberry vinaigrette.

#### **Hot Choice**

##### **Lemon Chicken Tortellini**

Chicken breast in a white wine and lemon sauce tossed with mushrooms, artichoke hearts, spinach, tomato, and tortellini pasta.

#### **Dessert**

##### **Chef's Choice**

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

### **Reservations**

Tina Hoegler will be taking reservations. Please contact her at 941-505-8483 or [c\\_hoegler@msn.com](mailto:c_hoegler@msn.com) no later than Mon, April 7, Cancellations must be made no later than Tues, April 8, otherwise payment is expected. Price of the luncheon is \$18.00

### **Luncheon Selections**

If you have specific dietary needs and our menu for the month does not meet them, don't let that stop you from attending. When you call Tina with your reservation let her know what you need. We have been assured that the chef will make appropriate changes for your entrée and dessert.

## **AAUW Garage Sale** **Huge Success**



Proceeds exceeded \$4,000 thanks to the energy of co-chairs Mary Bonnette and Carolyn Nance and the generosity of Judy and Norton Sims in allowing us to monopolize their home and the efforts of all members, workers, buyers and contributors.

### **ECHO - April Program**

**Approximately 925 million people  
in the world are hungry**

Melodie Turish and Russ Luther are here representing ECHO, a four-star charity honoring God through sustainable hunger solutions. Their mission is to equip people with agricultural resources and skills to reduce hunger and improve lives worldwide. ECHO empowers small-scale farmers to increase their harvests, and the nutritional diversity of their crops.

Melodie, Vice President of Development is from Texas and a graduate of Baylor University's Hankamer School of Business. Prior to arriving at ECHO in 2013 she served as a board volunteer, non-profit founder, fundraising executive and church planting missionary. She has 25 years of administrative, communications and fundraising management experience in the for-profit and independent sectors.

Russ, Faith Relations coordinator grew up in southeastern Massachusetts. He attended Nyack College and Alliance Theological Seminary in Nyack, NY. He and his wife, Laurie, had their first pastorate near Pittsburgh. In 1986, after a year of French language study in Paris, Russ and Laurie worked in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso for six years. Then they returned to Pittsburgh, ministering in two different churches for 15 years.

### **President's Message**

April 8 is Equal Pay Day. In 2013, women still earned just 77 cents, on average, for every dollar earned by their male counterparts. That number hasn't budged in the last decade, and it's about time our nation's leaders did something about it. Lilly Ledbetter refuses to accept "that's just the way it is" as a reaction/response to the gender pay gap. What about you? How will you observe Equal Pay Day? What about becoming a two-minute AAUW Activist?

It's easy and quick. Access the National AAUW website, [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) then type "two-minute activist" in the search box. Hit "search" then click on the first link listed. This brings up a page with the latest information on issues in Congress related to education, civil rights, economic security and Title IX. Each issue has suggested messages that need to be sent to our representatives. Take one more minute to personalize and e-mail a message to your member in Congress.

At this time, passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act, is most important. We need to have Senator Nelson back this bill. By just entering your zip code, you will be taken to a page that shows your representatives and provides you with an appropriate message. Type in your name and address and submit. Now how easy was that?

*Marie Glasgow*

President  
Fort Myers/Lee County Branch

### **Financial Statement**

AAUW Fort Myers/Lee Co.		
Cash in Wells Fargo Bank (3/11/14)		\$16,830
Memorial Fund -Star Bright	\$ 655	
Awards and Scholarships	\$ 8,890	
Harry Chapin	\$ 609	
Available Cash		\$ 6,676

## March is Women's History Month

### 2014 UN Commission on the Status of Women

The UN CSW is dedicated to gender equality and advancement of women. During the first week of the 58<sup>th</sup> Session, Member States negotiated new policy recommendations with the goal of accelerating implementation of existing commitments. Representatives met to discuss reasons for the lack of progress and the need to nurture women's actions and talents. Poverty, child/forced marriage and lack of education are indicators of world instability.

*Continued on Page 4*

### Annual Meeting

On April 12 our meeting of the Branch will have special significance. We will vote on the acceptance of changes to our Bylaws and will elect new officers.

Attached to this April Torch is a draft of our Bylaws with changes as directed by AAUW and changes that reflect the way our Branch will conduct business. Of note is the addition of the President Elect position and the coordination of all our communications (Torch, website, publicity, etc) under one Communications Officer. Please review and be ready to cast your vote.

This meeting will also be our last gathering with many of our members who summer outside of Florida. But with all our means to communicate, it really isn't good-bye. There will still be a May and summer edition Torch; do check our website, [www.fmlc-fl.aauw.net](http://www.fmlc-fl.aauw.net). It is a good window to our membership.

### 2014-16 Slate of Officers

President Elect	Suzan Harden
Treasurer	Jayne Schwarz
VP Membership	Nancy Kuyoth
VP Programs	vacant

Our membership is truly appreciative of the tireless efforts of Jemetta Hunt and Marilyn Edwards, Nominating Committee 2014. Together they contacted about 40 members, calling some of them more than once or twice.

Suzan Harden and Nancy Kuyoth are currently serving the 1st year of their two year term as Program co-VPs. Their nomination and subsequent election to other positions would leave a vacancy. At our Annual Meeting we will accept nominations from the floor. If at the conclusion of our elections, we have an officer vacancy, every effort will be made to fill the vacancy by appointment and approval of the Board.

### Women's History in Review

On March 1 the AAUW and the LWV combined to welcome Sonia Pressman Fuentes to speak in celebration of Women's History Month. Her talk reviewed the history of the women's movement from the 60's through the present day. She was the first female attorney for the EEOC, the Equal Employment Opportunity Council and also a co-founder of NOW, the National Organization for Women.



### Co-operative Fundraising Event

"Derby Day at the Glen" is an opportunity to have fun, get caught up in the excitement of horse racing, taste Bourgeois Stew and Bourbon Chocolate Bread Pudding, wear an outrageous "Derby Hat" and raise money for AAUW scholarships and ALS-FL.



This exciting event is a cooperative effort between AAUW and Herons Glen residents. Net proceeds from the event will be shared by AAUW and ALS-FL. There will also be a display table with information about AAUW and ALS-FL with the opportunity for attendees to make donations to both organizations.

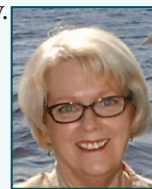
The face of ALS in Herons Glen is a courageous woman who has organized drives annually to support ALS research and nationwide advocacy for the empowerment of people with Lou Gehrig's Disease so that they may live fuller lives. Hilde Heard is living a full life. Although bed ridden, Hilde is part of the planning committee and will join the festivities via Skype.

Derby Day will take place May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 2 to 7pm in the Herons Glen Ballroom, N. Ft. Myers. Tickets are \$25 and provide you with \$25 of "Fun Money" for betting on seven cinema horse races. Your winnings can be used to win prizes in the Chinese Auction or to win Herons Glen dining certificates. Tickets can be purchased from Marie Glasgow.

Many of the Herons Glen residents have already volunteered to work the event, but if you would like to staff the AAUW donation table, that would be great. Also GREAT would be help in soliciting gift certificates from area businesses. Contact Marie for more information.

### New Members

Linda Madl was born in Kansas where she earned her B.S. in English and Journalism at Baker University. During the twenty years she and her husband lived in St. Louis, Missouri, she was active in AAUW and worked as a writer in marketing and trade journals. Over the years, she has also written grants, engineering project profiles and ghost stories.



Linda loves reading and supports libraries through book sales and leading book discussion groups. Now she writes and reads for fun with special interest in the study of journal keeping. She also enjoys history and has served as a docent in historic homes. Linda lives with her husband Ron, a retired scientist, in Fort Myers. They enjoy the company of their daughter and son-in-law who teach in Lee County schools.

Patricia Bucci is a retired educator from New Jersey. Pat finished her career as a high school principal after serving as a teacher at the elementary, middle and high school levels.



Since moving to Cape Coral with her husband of 33 years, Pat has launched *Path 2 Success Coaching* for teens, parents and young adults. In her work as a coach, Pat helps teens develop strategies for life-long success, works with parents to provide communication tips for improving relationships with their teens and assists young adults in identifying their own unique paths in life. In addition she is very excited about her new venture with a biotechnology company.

Pat enjoys traveling, spending time with friends and family, writing for her local community magazine and engaging in personal development activities.

### Best Wishes to Our April Birthdays

Marilyn Workman	Marilyn Edwards
Alice Mellen	Dottie Houck
Joan Pankavich	Bev Londono
Shannon Wright	Gail Visgilio
Pat Bucci	

### Branch Notes

**Postal Address:** P.O. Box 2115  
Fort Myers, FL 33902-2115

**Email:** [aauwleecounty@gmail.com](mailto:aauwleecounty@gmail.com)

**Website:** [fmlc-fl.aauw.net](http://fmlc-fl.aauw.net)



# This & That

## Mark Your Calendars

April 5, 2013

### League of Women Voters

The Landings-Helm Dining Room

9:00 AM Breakfast - \$15.00

9:30 Guest Speaker, Nancy Graham,  
Superintendent Lee County Schools

Email reservations by

Tuesday April 1, 2014

lwvlee@yahoo.com or call 239-278-1032

## Annual Meeting April 12

We will vote on the changes to our Bylaws and to fill three elected officer positions.

## FL AAUW Convention

On April 4 and 5, the 2014 AAUW, FL convention will take place at the Tampa Sheraton East. The theme is "*Headed for the Future.*"

The convention will begin Friday afternoon (registration will open 11 am) and will end Saturday mid-afternoon. Friday's activities include workshops and a business meeting followed by a social hour and banquet. Three Women of Distinction will be honored at the banquet: Carolyn Garfein, immediate AAUW Past President; Vickie Bryan Burke, founder of the PACE Center for Girls; and Sandy Oestreich, Founder & President of the National Equal Rights Alliance, Inc and ERA Education, Inc. On Saturday all attendees will participate in a Leadership Development Workshop that will include: Tackling Burnout, Designing Engaging Meetings and Marketing Your Branch. Detailed information and schedule can be found in FloriVision coming to your mailbox soon.

This convention is open to all members. If you would like to join the group attending from our branch, contact Marie Glasgow.

## Membership Dues Info

From National office: AAUW national membership dues are \$49. Of that, \$46 is tax deductible as a charitable contribution, \$3 is not because it supports the AAUW Action Fund's section 501(c)(4) Lobby Corps and get-out-the-vote activities.

Branch/state portions of dues are not tax deductible unless the branch/state is classified under the section 501(c)(3). AAUW - Fort Myers/Lee Co branch (\$9 dues) is classified under section 501(c)(3), while Florida state is not.

The AAUW membership year is July 1 through June 30.

## Lunch Bunch

Thursday, April 3 at 11:30

The Colonial Country Club Clubhouse  
Take Colonial Blvd east towards LeHigh Acres. After passing under I-75, go about 1/2 mile and turn into the gate on the right. Contact Carolyn Kokalis 239-791-8068 for reservations. May 1 we'll meet at the Elephant Bar in the Edison Mall.

## Bridge

Bridge groups meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon of each month. Join us for an afternoon of fun and friendship; snowbirds are welcome.

Contact: Marilyn Myli 239-482-0272 or email marilynmy7@hotmail.com

## Book Groups

Contact Muriel Freedman 239-481-0391 for meeting information.

## Mahjongg

Contact Jean Schoenthaler 239-277-5174.

## Veritas

Continuing *The Righteous Mind*: Why good People are Divided by Politics and Religion. Please call Judy Sims for details.

## Ways & Means Meeting

Tuesday, March 25, 2014 at 1:30 at Phyllis Wayco's home. Plans will begin for the 2015 fashion show and other fundraising events. We'd love to have our talented new members become involved. If you'd like to attend please contact Phyllis for directions phylwayco@aol.com.

## April Election Fundraiser

Our AAUW branch has worked the last 10 Fort Myers elections and has raised \$17,625 for our scholarship funds. There will be the Special Primary Election for the Congressional District 19 on April 22, 2014 and the Special General Election for the Congressional District 19 and Fire District on June 24, 2014. Being a poll worker requires two 2-3 hour training sessions prior to the election. The election day will require a 14-15 hour commitment. You must also be a registered voter in Lee County. We especially need someone who is fluent in Spanish. It's a long day, but we're all fun to work with. If you think this is a fundraiser you would like to be a part of, please contact Carolyn Nance soon at 785-9995.

## Film Fare

*Dallas Buyers Club* is again in local theaters since Matthew McConaughey (Best Actor) and Jared Leto (Best Supporting Actor) won Oscars. If you missed it you have another chance. This is a role of a life-time and gives McConaughey an opportunity to demonstrate real acting ability. Jared Leto is just incredible in his role as a cross dressing gay man. McConaughey's machismo contrasts with the deep humanity/femininity of Leto's character.

Based upon a true story there are many layers, messages in this intriguing, even shocking film. The reluctance of the FDA to accept medical research from other countries is one layer and how that affects the lives and deaths of many. Then there is the profitability of medical research to some, the callousness of bureaucrats toward those marginalized by society, how one homophobic man can change and how a society can change. We can change. Perhaps the ultimate message is that we must become responsible for our own health, our own attitudes, our own lives. Not to do so is to fail our own humanity.

*Judy Sims*

## Directory Additions/Corrections

### Carolyn Nance

6021 Silver King Blvd, Unit 104  
Cape Coral, FL 33914  
239-785-9993

### Georgianna Sorensen

1119 Periwinkle Way #375, Sanibel, FL  
863-676-6775 863-632-4934  
stevesor77@aol.com

### Marilyn Marr

14790 Eagle Ridge Dr. #203  
Fort Myers, FL 33912  
239-225-9072

raymondmarr@centurylink.net

### Gail Visgilio

7171 Golden Eagle Ct. #1111  
Fort Myers, FL 33912  
239-204-9935 401-649-0173

### Linda Madl

lsmadl145@gmail.com

### Marilynn Edwards

239-225-4070

### Sandra Lignell

Summer phone 708-349-2747

### Leona Fliss

379 Chaussee de Roodebeek  
1200 Brussels Belgium

### Margaret McGreevey

9150 Shadow Glen Way

## March Meeting in Review



### AAUW Members Say Goodbye

Leona Fliss AAUW Life Member is moving to Belgium to be with her daughter Tiffany. Members gathered to say goodbye and wish Leona well in her new adventure. (Leona pictured 3rd from left in front row)

Women historians back in 1978 took on the task of integrating women's accomplishments into the study of history by promoting the celebration of a history week for women. Congress established National Women's History Week several years later. At the request of the National Women's Day project in 1987, the week was extended to a month by Congress. The resolution declaring March as Women's History Month has been issued every year since.

Speaking of resolutions, Juliana Nord inspired us to consider a simple principle. It is called "Just Show Up." The results are amazing when women just show up. Our branch has a 53 year history which proves this principle.

Chris Pendleton, President & CEO, with assistance from Lisa Sbuttoni, the Director of "Everything," shared the past, present and future of the Edison Ford Estates.

Members applauded the work of Mary Lynn Bonnette and Carolyn Nance, co-chairs of our successful Gypsy Garage Sale. We hope that Judith Sims will join us in April so that we can show our appreciation for taking over her home for two months. Pictured with Mary and Carolyn is Sharron Thompson, new Chair of the Ways & Means Committee.

I hope you'll consider attending the FL AAUW Convention April 4-5; submit photos of Ft. Myers for our website masthead contest; renew your membership for 2014-15. Plans were announced for a May 3 Derby Day fundraiser, and for a new activity—Hand and Foot, Indiana rules.



Continued from page 2

Some changes are taking place. In Brazil, companies (e.g. Chevron) are making large investments in women's projects. In Rwanda, women are joining men in business and politics; poverty is decreasing. Some areas of Afghanistan and India have strong educational programs, but many continue to flounder. For more information about "Womensphere" contact Bobbie Balmer.

**Bobbie will contribute a full feature story about the Convention in the May Torch.**



Garage Sale Shoppers in Training

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