



the **TORCH**

May 20 Vol. 56, No. 5

May Meeting in the Garden Room

Date: Saturday May 20
Gathering: 11:30 AM
Lunch: 12:00 PM
Place: The Landings Yacht, Golf & Tennis Club

Luncheon Menu:

Choice 1: Southern Fried Chicken Salad

Choice 2: Tuna Salad Croissant

With: Warm Rolls & Butter

Dessert: Fresh Fruit or Chef's Choice

Beverages from the bar are available.

Wait staff will accept charge cards.

Reservations:

Tina Hoegler will be taking reservations for either choice. Please contact her at 941-505-8483 or c_hoegler@msn.com no later than **Mon. May 15th. Cancellations must be made no later than **Tues., May 16**, otherwise payment is expected. Members are reminded that they are responsible for payment of unattended reservation for either them and/or their guests. Price of the luncheon is \$20.00. CHECKS are preferred for payment.**

... And The Winner of the free lunch next season is ... (to be announced!)

We have received many Membership Renewals and NEW Membership dues and forms. Thank you so very much for being prompt. This is a HUGE help to the Board in their end of the year work, filing with AAUW and FL-AAUW and preparing the 2017- 18 Directory.

For those whose membership forms are received by May 30, we will draw one name for a free luncheon on the first luncheon meeting you attend in the fall.

Membership Forms are available on our website and to make it even easier, the form is included with your Torch mailing. We do want to include your contact information in the New 2017-18 Membership Directory. In order for us to do this you must submit your membership form and dues no later than July 1. Please mail both to AAUW-Membership, P.O. Box 2115, Fort Myers, FL 33902.

Thank you for your prompt response and an even greater thank you to the members who filled in all the information asked for on the form.

We are so happy to share the names of our members who joined us this year.

Nanette Bales

Sandra Brennan

Nadine Coudret

Gloria Curie

Diane Harked

Elizabeth (Bet) Hunsperger

Jacqueline Kloess

Antoinette Kruse

Geri McArdle

Nancy McDole

Jan Mc Peak

Ann Spielmaker,

Annette Trossbach

Wendy Wasman

President Message:

It is hard to believe that another year of AAUW meetings and activities have come to an end. May will be our final meeting for this season and we will get together again in September at the Landings.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your president for the 2016-2017 year. I feel very fortunate to have worked with an exceptional board in order to fulfill our obligations and requirements from both national as well as our Florida AAUW affiliate.

We would like to give a big thank you to all members who have contributed in so many ways. Your hard work and commitment to the vision and mission of AAUW is commendable.

And to all who have left or are leaving, safe journey. I believe the saying is "fair winds and following seas". Looking forward to seeing you in the fall.

To our local gals, have a productive and restful summer. Don't be surprised if you get a phone call or e-mail from one of our newly elected board members.

Shelley Siviano

Eleanor Roosevelt Awardees



*Each year we honor members who have contributed to the growth and success of our Branch. Sung and in the spotlight, or unsung, working quietly to make things work
They are:*

"Our AAUW Branch Heroes"

*Suzan Harden,
Our immediate past president*

*Mary Jane McDowell
Lifetime since 1995, Volunteer Extraordinaire*

*Kathy Jones and Peggy Drennan-Cihi,
Twice Fashion Show Chair,
Current Membership*

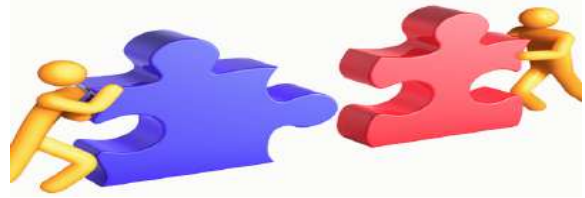
*Tina Hoegler
Reservations Chair for 4 years*

*Jean Kohart
Often Fashion Show Model, Greeter 11 years*

Congratulations!



Recipients of the Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Outstanding service to our branch of AAUW



Continuing our Community Connection

The connection...Fort Myers AAUW Branch and FGCU Whitaker Center

GEMS (Girls in Engineering, Math and Science) is a free program provided to Middle School Girls at FGCU Whitaker Center. The Saturday programs reach out to middle school girls in Lee and Collier County. In past years our branch has made an annual donation of \$1000 that has supported this effort helping with purchase of supplies for their STEM activities.

This past year we were able to assist in an additional way by providing our support to Dr. Frost, Director of the Whitaker Center for STEM Education, as she applied for a \$6,984 AAUW Community Action Grant. The grant detailed our branch's support of STEM through Science fair awards, our sending girls to TECH TREK summer camp and GEMS. Dr. Frost recently received the news that she has received the grant. Part of the grant will be used to host a STEM panel discussion and networking session for FGCU female STEM majors through interaction with a diverse group of women, like us, as they plan their careers. Funds will also be used to assist middle school girls in attending GEMS events by providing transportation to those that don't have access. This will allow reserving 50% registrations for some of our Title 1 schools, PACE center, and Grace Place.

We are Empowering Women!

MEMBERS CAN HAVE AN ADVERTISEMENT IN THE AAUW DIRECTORY, FULL PAGE \$75.00, 1/2 PAGE \$50.00, BUSINESS CARD \$25.00, ALSO MEMBERS CAN BE PATRONS WITH A DONATION.



AAUW
Fort Myers/Lee Co Branch
PO Box 2115 Fort Myers, FL

Science Award

The membership had the opportunity to meet our \$100 dollar award winner from the February annual science fair. Cathy Tucker introduced her and presented her with a certificate and monetary award. Alexandria Williams is a student at the Royal Palm Academy in Lee County. Her project was the result of her hard work on scientific research along with support from her teachers and other students. She explored the physics of displacement using various common materials. Congratulations to Alexandria and we were pleased that she could join us to celebrate her accomplishment.



New Board Members

Congratulations to our newly installed board members for the 2017-2018 year. A big thank you to past president Suzan Harden for making the installation meaningful.

President: Marilyn Myli
President Elect: Kathy Jones
V.P. of Programs: Phyllis Wayco
V.P. of Membership: Jacqueline Kloess
Co-Secretary: Cathy Chapman and Elizabeth Foster
Continuing Treasurer: Mary Kellner

In addition, the following members have been appointed to the board or are also continuing their support:

Public Policy: Marilyn Edwards
Co-Scholarship: Janet George and Bonnie Ryan
Communications: Carol Fuechsel
Ways and Means: Carolyn Nance