

*American Association of University Women*

**AAUW**

*the* **TORCH** *November 2017*

**Vol. 55, No.11**

**NOVEMBER MEETING**

**Date: Saturday, Nov. 18**

**Gathering: 11:30 A.M.**

**Location: The Landings Yacht, Golf & Tennis Club, 5200 S Landings Dr.**

*Luncheon Menu:*

**Choice 1: Turkey Cranberry on Focaccia**

**Choice 2: Pineapple Boat**

**Desert: Chef's Choice or Fruit Cup**

Beverages from the bar are available.

Wait staff will accept charge cards.

For reservations, contact Tina Hoegler

(941) 505-8483 or [c\\_hoegler@msn.com](mailto:c_hoegler@msn.com)

Please contact her no later than Monday, November 13. Cancellations must be made no later than Tuesday, November 14; otherwise payment is expected. Price of the luncheon is \$20.00, checks are preferred.

*November Speaker:*

Our speaker November 18 is Roberta (Bobbie) Balmer of Ft Myers/Lee County AAUW. Bobbie attended the United Nations Commission on Status of Women meetings in New York City, March 2017. The CSW is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. Bobbie is a summer resident of Ottawa and part of the 20-person

delegation of the Canadian Federation of University Women.

CFUW is a non-partisan, voluntary, self-funded organization with over 100 CFUW clubs, located in every province across Canada. Since it's founding in 1918, CFUW has been working to improve the status of women, and promote human rights, public education, social justice, and peace.

The priority theme was women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work. The body reviewed the challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls, agreeing with the conclusions of the 58th session. An emerging issue is the empowerment of indigenous women.

We are looking forward to her presentation and learning more about these important issues.

***Wine, Shows and Elvis, Oh My!***  
**Give To Achieve 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Fashion Event**

**This year's fashion event has a little bit of everything for everyone.**

**Our models are some of our new members and some seasoned members. Peggy Thomas, a Mary Kay specialist, and Ursula Sahakian, a hair design specialist, will be available in the dressing room to add glamor to the models to suit their chosen Chico's,**

Soma's and White House Black Market's designer styles.

Many thanks and deep appreciation to all those who provided items for our raffles and auctions, we truly could not have done this without your generous donations! Some of the fabulous items you won't want to miss are:

A yearly favorite:



There are wonderful plays from which to choose! Bid on the tickets and see a show! Check out their website; [www.floridarep.org](http://www.floridarep.org)



**Mad Fresh Bistro--**  
**\$100 Gift Card**

[12995 S Cleveland Ave Ste 112, Fort Myers, FL 33907](http://12995 S Cleveland Ave Ste 112, Fort Myers, FL 33907)  
(239) 362-2363

Located behind Outback across from the Bell Tower Mall, Mad Fresh is a bit of Paris where small bistros serve fresh and elegant meals for the discriminating diner. Eric, the manager and owner will take good care of you. If you speak French, do so and see the twinkle in his eye. Takeout is available. [www.madfreshbistro.com](http://www.madfreshbistro.com)

**fitbit flex 2**

... For the active woman who prefers water exercise. The Fitbit Flex 2 synchs with your smart phone, computer or I-pad to give you steps taken, distance and calories as well as active minutes. It also tracks your sleep time and has a vibrating alarm. The Flex 2 will also notify you when you have a cell phone call or text. Celebrate milestones!

**Hand Painted Child's Theme Rocker and Children's Story**



Ron does it again! This amazing painted rocker is the work of Ron Glasgow! It is based upon the beloved children's story Giraffes Can't Dance. Any child would love to have this

for their very own space. YOU could be the lucky Grandma, Nanna, Mee-maw or Auntie who gives them this special hand painted one-of-a-kind rocker and see their eyes light up with delight!

- A basket has been donated by Shear Art Hair Salon valued at \$450.
- Laser Lounge at the Veranda is donating goods and services.
- Gift cards are from Barnes and Nobel
- You will find movie passes, jewelry and more!

Enjoy your favorite wine ...

And do we have Wine....

Members donated wines from around the globe for our "Wine Pull." Buy a Cork for \$5.00 and match your number to the wine.

(We are still accepting donations of wine from our members!)



**The King Is Back!**

We also have for auction two framed images of the King himself, Elvis Presley. The image on the left is framed in black, another (not shown) is framed in silver has four

images of Elvis through time. There is also a comeback poster of Elvis, unframed.



**Two buffet tickets to see My Fair Lady.**



**This beautiful faux pearl necklace could be yours.**

**We still need your donations-**

**Not using your gift cards? We can!**

**There is still time to buy tickets \$45 till Nov 15<sup>th</sup> and then the price goes to \$50.00. so hurry and contact Carolyn Nance [cnance5240@gmail.com](mailto:cnance5240@gmail.com)**

**Save the date Saturday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017. Doors will open at 11:00 A.M. at The Forest Country Club, Fort Myers, Florida.**



**Whitaker Center**

for STEM Education

SCIENCE • TECHNOLOGY • ENGINEERING • MATHEMATICS

**Girls in Engineering, Math & Science**

Here is a brief report about GEMS, a free program provided four times a year, to middle school girls at the FGCU Whitaker Center under the direction of Dr. Laura Frost. You may recall that we have supported this program through annual donations for the past three years as well as

supporting Dr. Frost in obtaining a \$6984 AAUW National grant for the program last year.

From last November to the end of September this year 331 middle school girls attended. Over 50% of the girls came from Title 1 schools and the Pace Center. The girls participate in hands-on activities with FGCU STEM students and professionals in actual classroom laboratories thus providing exposure to real people in science in a university setting. Such programs included building and racing SOLAR powered go-karts and discovering ancestry through DNA and molecular diversity. Each girl completed a survey at the end of each event and 98% said they would attend another! Also active in these events were 105 FGCU STEM majors as teaching assistants (TAs) and 21 different teachers. In addition counseling sessions were offered to the TAs and planning sessions conducted with faculty and STEM majors to develop new activities, teacher guides, slides and videos.

As you can see it is rewarding to see Dr. Frost and the GEMS program impacting so many girls and women in STEM education and you as a member have played a part by your support.

The next GEMS events are scheduled for November 4<sup>th</sup>, February 10<sup>th</sup> and April 21<sup>st</sup>. Dr. Frost has invited all of us to attend and observe. If you are interested please let me know and I will contact her in advance.

Janet George and Bonnie Ryan  
AAUW Scholarship Co-chairs





### **Scholarship Committee Meeting**

Time: November 15<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm

Place: 15029 Sea Crest Blvd

Hosting: Janet George and Bonnie Ryan

**All interested members invited**

RSVP: bfjegeorge@comcast.net

### **President's Message ...from Marilyn Myli**

*At our October meeting we had a charming and intelligent speaker to start our year. Our speaker was Angel C. Duncan and the topic was Alzheimer's disease. Ms. Duncan addressed a wealth of information concerning the disease and the life-style to create a "better brain". There is continuing research and hope for the future.*

*Our branch continues to work as a team to have a successful Fashion Show. We are all thankful for all the members who are participating.*

*It's the time of the year when we think of the things, big and small that we are grateful for. I hope all our members will take a moment to notice the good in our world. I wish all of you a HAPPY*

**THANKSGIVING.**

**Marilyn R. Myli**

### **Name Tags**

Are you interested in a name tag? Please contact Marlene Palmer. Cost: \$9.25 Make check payable to Marlene Palmer, 9149 Shadow Glen Way, Fort Myers, FL 33913 (239-768-9824) Be sure to include your complete name as you want it to appear. (Please print in capital letters.)

### **Woman of Interest**



**MAYA LIN**

In 1981, at age 21 and while still an undergraduate at Yale public design, Lin won a competition for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, beating 1,441 other competition submissions

**House bill HO 161 has been referred to the Pre K-12 Quality Subcommittee Committee. It removes the requirement for mandatory retention of third grade students based on his/her performance on the ELA assessment.**

Political action is most effective when done by in-person visits. It is also necessary to build a relationship with your legislators and their assistants; let them know how the issue will impact you.

Research has shown:

1. Direct constituent interactions have more influence on lawmakers' decisions than other advocacy strategies.
2. Congress places a high value on groups and citizens who have built relationships with the legislator and staff.
3. Citizen advocates are more influential and contribute to better public policy when they provide personalized and local information to Congress.

**Remember our branch email:  
aauwleecounty@gmail.com**

**Our branch postal address:**

**PO Box 2115**

**Fort Myers, FL 33902-2115**