

*American Association of University Women*

**AAUW**

*the* **TORCH** *April, 2018*

**Vol. 55, No.15**

**April MEETING**

**Date: Saturday, April 21, 2018**

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

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

***Luncheon Menu:***

**Choice 1: Turkey Pot Pie**

Tender Turkey, Potatoes, Carrots, Peas and Mushrooms in a Butter Crust

**Choice 2: Open Faced Chicken Cordon Bleu**

Grilled Chicken Served Open Faced and Topped with Honey Ham, Lorraine Swiss, Lettuce, Tomato and Onion. Served with Honey Mustard Dressing and House Made Chips

**Dessert: 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, April 9. Cancellations must be made no later than Tuesday, April 10; otherwise payment is expected. Price of the luncheon is \$20.00; checks are preferred.

***April Speaker***

The author Denege Patterson, who has written A Tour of the Islands of Pine Island Sound, will present our Program on Saturday, April 21. She is a scholarly writer and historian that specializes in Calusa history and is a guide at the Calusa Heritage Center in Pineland. Denege works

for the Randell Research Center (RRC), a non-profit organization as part of the Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida. Her talk focuses on the highlights of the book, the most amazing geological findings that date back 6,000 years. Aerial photographs, taken by a professional photographer who suspended himself from a helicopter over the islands, illustrate the book. Denege will bring her assistant, Betsy Buch, and will have books to sell and autograph. Cash or checks are acceptable for the books. (100% of proceeds go to the Endowment Fund).

***President's Message***

*At the March meeting, members and guests were met with a sea of green, shamrocks, gold coins and gifts, which were left by the leprechaun, and followed by a very enjoyable lunch.*

*An enlightening talk by Sharon Aldrich, director of Jordan Ministries, explained the services in her presentation, "Into the Jordan Ministries". Melinda Starrett, counselor at the ministry, shared her personal experience and is a survivor of human trafficking. Their program is counseling and providing a healthy lifestyle for trafficked and exploited women in Southwest Florida.*

*After the presentation and discussion, Lee County AAUW decided to help the program by providing some of the needs of the ministry. These are some of the items suggested: gas cards-\$10.00 each, bus passes, hygiene items, snacks, canned*

*food, paper supplies, bottled water, cleaning supplies, paper products, K-cups. (For additional suggestions, see attachment.) If you wish to donate any items, please bring them to the April 21, 2018 meeting.*

**DO NOT FORGET TO VOTE**

*The AAUW National Board of Directors has voted to put three proposals for bylaws amendments before the membership. Information concerning the amendments is listed in the TORCH.*

*Please send in your AAUW renewal form (attached) by the May meeting. By sending in your form by the deadline, you will be eligible for the drawing of a free membership lunch.*

*Marilyn Myli*



**AAUW Florida Convention**  
**STEPPING FORWARD TOGETHER!**

**Sunday, April 22 - Tuesday, April 24**

**Hyatt Regency Sarasota on Sarasota Bay**

**1000 Blvd of the Arts, Sarasota**

**Convention Registration (\$190)**

**Registration form: <https://aauw-fl.aauw.net/2018-state-convention/>**

**Registration due by April 8th.**

**Includes Sunday dinner, Monday lunch and banquet and Tuesday breakfast.**

**Keynote Speaker: Kimberly Churches, AAUW CEO**

**"Beyond Aspiration: AAUW's Future"**

**Be a part of setting the path for the future of AAUW**

**Honoring our 50 Year Members**

**Dr. Mary Gatta, Professor, CUNY**

**Women and Economic (In) Security**

**Legal Advocacy Fund Luncheon**

**Speaker: Paul Thein, whose case settled in May**

**Panel Discussion: Women on the Run**

**Featuring those who have or are running for office**

**NCCWSL Dinner**

Entertainment: **Women of Steel**

**Compelling and Informative Workshops  
And Leader Training**



The AAUW National Board of Directors has voted to put three proposals for bylaws amendments before the membership for a vote this spring. The board strongly supports the proposed amendments that we believe will help keep AAUW vital as an organization and enable us to increase our impact in advancing equity for women and girls.

The proposed amendments address creating three-year staggered board terms, opening board service to those outside of the AAUW membership, and eliminating the degree requirement for membership. While rationale and details for each proposed amendment can be found on the [AAUW website](#), the overarching motivation for these changes at this time is to uphold and advance AAUW's mission and ensure optimal execution at the national board level.

The first two proposals would bring AAUW's board governance structure more in line with nationally accepted nonprofit best practices and the needs of the organization.

The third proposal — to eliminate the degree requirement for membership — has come before the membership for vote a number of times. The board feels strongly that while the degree requirement made perfect sense at AAUW's inception, this requirement is now perceived by many as counter to our mission and limits our ability to build the capacity needed to increase our impact as an organization.

The board recognizes that we have not traditionally put proposals up for vote outside our AAUW National Election, but these proposed changes have been under consideration for several years by both the Governance Committee and the board, and we believe it is important to move forward without delay to position the organization for greater growth.

Members can comment on the proposed amendments and submit their own proposals from February 22, 2018, through March 22, 2018, at 11:59 p.m. ET. Voting

will open on April 25, 2018, and close June 9, 2018, at 9 p.m. ET.

We encourage you all to engage in respectful debate that has always been a hallmark of the AAUW community, exercise your vote, and encourage fellow members to do the same.

You can direct any questions or concerns to [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org).

Respectfully,

Your AAUW National Board of Directors

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**AAUW**  
1310 L St. NW, Suite 1000  
Washington, DC 20005  
[connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org)

### Voting on the three National Bylaws Proposals

Begins April 25 and closes June 9

--Should the national board of directors include those who are not members of AAUW?

--Should three-year staggered terms be created for service on the national board of directors?

Both of these proposals are seen as best practices bringing AAUW in line with other nonprofits and are recommended by national.

The third proposal has come up for a vote before and did not pass.

The proposal is "Should AAUW membership be open to those who don't have a degree but support the organization's mission?" The National Board believes the requirement is no longer needed and would encourage membership. Members who disagree say it dilutes the message that a college degree is important.

Be sure to let your voices be heard!

Public Policy Chair Marilyn Edwards

### Membership Dues Update

The AAUW Board of Directors voted in June 2017 to enact the first dues change in almost a decade. Effective March 16, 2018, national dues increased from \$49 to \$59.

Annual dues currently account for 13 percent of AAUW's annual budget. They help to sustain and grow AAUW's programs and work that advances equity for women and girls. A combination of dues, donations, and corporate and foundation funding is critical to supporting AAUW's [salary negotiation workshops](#), ground-breaking [research](#), [advocacy](#) efforts, [campus leadership programs](#), and so much more.

We believe we can do great things together and thank you for your continued support.

### Oh No, Dues Increase

It's true! The National Board has voted to raise dues by \$10. The good news is that State will not raise dues. Our Branch dues will remain \$9.00 a

year and have not been increased since 1995. Renewal will be \$80. We will also have the drawing for a "free lunch" from the names of those who have paid their dues by the May meeting. You do not have to attend to win.

More good news, National will continue the "Shape The Future," an incentive program for new members by which any new member or member who hasn't been a member of National for two years will have reduced National and State Dues. Those dues are \$45. For each 2 Shape The Future members, our Branch is given a credit for a member's National dues. So this is an incentive for the new members and an incentive for the Branch to recruit. AAUW has been shaping the future for women since 1882 and has supported every women's rights issue with legislation, philanthropy and research. Fifteen or so years ago, they financed the research showing that young girls were as interested in and as good at math and science as boys until middle school. AAUW began the push for STEM programs. Now their focus is getting more women to run for office and equal pay for women in the work force.

Let's Shape The Future of our Branch and ask our friends to visit and join us.

**INCLUDED ON THE LAST PAGE IS A  
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM.**



### What is G E M S?????

#### *Girls in Engineering, Math and Science*

The Whitaker Center at FGCU offers four half-day events a year for middle school girls to engage in hands-on activities related to engineering, math and science. Our member, Dr. Laura Frost, is the Director of the Center and invites us (AAUW members) to attend an event as an observer. This is an opportunity to see for yourself how young girls get excited about these areas of learning. Remember that it is our own AAUW National research that identified that in the seventh and eighth grades of middle school, girls lose interest in science, technology, math and engineering. This program aims to address that and also reaches out to middle school girls who have not had much exposure both in school and in life to such topic areas.

The next scheduled event is **April 21**.

Please call or email Bonnie Ryan, [bonniemarieryan@aol.com](mailto:bonniemarieryan@aol.com) or (716) 860-7361, for additional information.

## ***AAUW Activities for You***

### ***Bridge Groups***

Donna Randolph, Coordinator

(239) 693-2556

A. Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 10:30 a.m.

B. Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 12:30 p.m.

### ***Book Groups***

Janice McPeak, Coordinator (630) 584-3431

I. Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 1:00 p.m.

II. Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 1:00 p.m.

III. Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 1:30 p.m.

IV. *New Book Group Book,*

*The new Thursday book club which meets the third Thursday at 12-1:30 pm would welcome a few new members. The venue has changed to Seven Lakes clubhouse for the next several months.*

*Contact Lois Benedetto at 249-466-2094 or [benedetl@georgetown.edu](mailto:benedetl@georgetown.edu)*

### ***Hand and Foot Group***

Nancy Kuyoth, Coordinator

(239) 471-7806

### ***Mahjongg***

Jean Schoenthaler, Coordinator

(239) 277-5174

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays, 1:00 p.m.

## ***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**

### **Jane Goodall Primatologist**

Dame Jane Morris Goodall DBE, formerly Baroness Jane van Lawick-Goodall, is a British primatologist and anthropologist. Considered to be the world's foremost expert on chimpanzees, Goodall is best known for her over 55-year study of social and family interactions of wild chimpanzees since she first went to Gombe Stream National Park Tanzania in 1960. She is the founder of the Jane Goodall Institute and the Roots & Shoots program, and she has worked extensively on conservation and animal welfare issues. She has served on the board of the Nonhuman Rights Project since its founding in 1996. In April 2002, she was named a UN Messenger of Peace.

Remember our branch email:  
[aauwleecounty@gmail.com](mailto:aauwleecounty@gmail.com)

Our branch postal address:

PO Box 2115

Fort Myers, FL 33902-2115

**Peggy Cih, Editor**  
[peggycihi@comcast.net](mailto:peggycihi@comcast.net)



## AAUW Fort Myers/Lee County Branch

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Florida Address

Circle if this is a new address

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Dates usually in Lee County-- ☐ Full Time ☐ Or from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Out-of-Season Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Out-of-Season Phone if different from above \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Send my TORCH newsletter by-- ☐ E- mail ☐ U.S. Mail

Directory – (list of members) ☐ Pick up at first meeting ☐ U.S. Mail

#### LEVELS OF MEMBERSHIP (check appropriate category below):

	DUES	PAID
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Branch Member (Local \$9, State \$12, National \$59)	\$ 80.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Dual Member( Belong to another branch. Pay Local \$9.00 & State Dues \$12.00)	\$ 21.00	_____
Location of other branch: _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Member (National) (Pay Local \$9.00 and State Dues \$12.00)	\$ 21.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Honorary Life (50 Years Member) NO DUES	\$ 0.00	_____

**Please make your check payable to:** AAUW Fort Myers/ Lee Co Branch, Inc.

**Mail check to:** AAUW Fort Myers/Lee Co Branch, Inc.

P.O. Box 2115 Fort Myers, FL 33902-2115

2018-2019 I would like to participate in the following programs or committees:

<input type="checkbox"/> Serve on Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopt a Precinct	<input type="checkbox"/> Mahjongg	<input type="checkbox"/> Communications
<input type="checkbox"/> Fashion Show	<input type="checkbox"/> Torch Production	<input type="checkbox"/> Book Group	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hand & Foot	<input type="checkbox"/> Bridge	<input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship	
<input type="checkbox"/> Accounting/Finance	<input type="checkbox"/> Web Design	<input type="checkbox"/> Writing/Editing	<input type="checkbox"/> Art <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe)



## ***Into the Jordan Ministry***

2701 Cleveland Ave. #160  
Fort Myers, FL 33901

239-308-0434

### **Some of the needs of the Ministry.**

Our ministry always needs 'Prayer' everyday for our ladies

- Gas Cards with only \$10 on each card
  - 12 trip bus passes
  - Hygiene Items such as:  
Deodorant, diapers size 6, toilet paper, body wash or soap, shampoo, conditioner, toilet paper, tampons, pads, hair products, tooth paste
  - Snacks such as granola bars or chips
  - Juice boxes for children
  - Water (jugs or bottles)
  - Canned foods or any shelf stable food items
  - Paper Towels---Trash bags---Cleaning Supplies---Dish detergent
  - Paper plates and coffee cups, paper plates and plastic forks and spoons, napkins
  - K-Cup coffee pods
  - Laundry Detergent
  - Gently used clothes
  - Household items and furniture
- Any of these items would be appreciated

**AAUW  
Fort Myers/Lee Co Branch**

Marilyn Workman, Torch Distributor  
2760 Steam Boat Loop  
N. Fort Myers, FL 33917

