

The American Association of University Women

The TORCH

AAUW

March, 2019

Vol. 56, No.6, 2019

MEETING

Date: Saturday, March 16, 2019

Gathering: 11:30 A.M.

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

Luncheon Menu:

Choice 1:

Southern Fried Chicken Salad

A salad with chopped greens, tomato, and Southern fried chicken breast.

Choice 2:

Roast Beef Baguette with a side of fruit

Sliced roast beef on a baguette with dressing, lettuce and tomato.

Dessert: Chef's Choice or Fruit Cup

Beverages are available.

Wait staff will accept charge cards.

For reservations contact Pat Crowe; she will acknowledge your reservation by a return e-mail. If you do not receive a note from her, please contact her again. Contact Pat at pwc@world.std.com or at (239) 674-9681.

Please title your e-mail AAUW Reservations, and contact her for reservations no later than Monday, March 11. Cancellations must be made no later than Tuesday, March 12, using the same method; otherwise payment is expected. Price of the luncheon is **\$21.00**; checks are preferred; cash is accepted; no credit cards are accepted.

(Please note the increase in cost of the luncheon over that of last year.)

(Mark your calendar for our meetings the third Saturday of each month, except December, which is always the Fashion Show.)

Speaker for March

JANINA BIRTOLO is an award-winning actress and writer. A graduate of Boston College and Boston University, she has been a freelance and staff writer, first in the Boston area and on Cape Cod and, since 1990, in Naples. Her work has appeared nationally and in such local publications as *Gulfshore Life*, *Times of the Islands* and *Naples Health*. She is also an independent producer for WGCU Public TV, having worked on such shows as *Arts Edition Primetime* and *Connect!* In 2001, she was selected "Writer of the Year" by the Florida Magazine Association, and in 2014 she won her fourth Telly Award for *MAKERS: Women Who Made Southwest Florida*, which she wrote and produced.

Since 2000, Janina has been researching, writing and performing one-woman shows on historical characters. She currently has twelve different women she portrays, ranging from Amelia Earhart to Mary Todd Lincoln to Catherine the Great. In 2006, *Most Affectionate Daughter*, her original piece about Galileo's eldest child, won her a magazine's award for "Best Performing Artist," and in 2007, *Gulfshore Life* selected her as "Best Local Entertainer." She's will bring along some handouts



that list all her shows that you are welcome to take home.

Janina hopes her shows will introduce people to fascinating but sometimes overlooked women and share the lessons from their lives that are relevant to our lives today.

She will be doing a performance on Marjory Stoneman Douglas, called "A Voice For The Everglades". She has more information and photos on her website janinabirtolo.com.

Scholarship Luncheon

Members greeted and celebrated nine of our 2018-2019 AAUW Scholars at the February Luncheon. They spoke enthusiastically of their goals and expressed appreciation of the support our AAUW Scholarship dollars provide.

As each young lady was recognized we celebrated their accomplishments with applause and a certificate. Prior to the presentation of awards to the AAUW Scholars the following brief history of AAUW, written by Judith Sims, was read. It was a proud moment for all members, recipients and guests. Here is what was read.

“There was a time when very few women attended college and there were even fewer women scientists, doctors or lawyers (and they were in Europe). But in 1881 seventeen college women in the Boston area (several different colleges) shared the belief that women could learn and accomplish whatever they had the intellect and energy to accomplish. They had done it and they knew other women could too! They founded the American Association of University Women, AAUW. For 137 years AAUW has worked for our rights to vote, to work, to go to school. AAUW members have marched, demonstrated, researched and taken

positions on the issues affecting women—educational, social, economic and political. AAUW has awarded more moneys for women’s scholarships and research than any other organization in the world!”

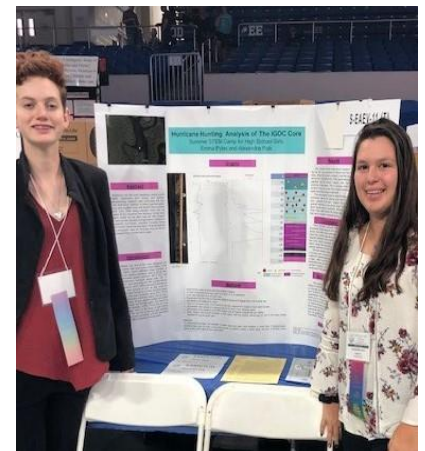
Edison – Kiwanis Science Fair prizes



were awarded to three young ladies who had their project boards on display.

Sierra Edelstein was awarded the AAUW Marie Glasgow \$500 prize. Sierra’s project was “Evaluating the Efficiency of Electric Current Generation from Water Waves Utilizing Electromagnetic Induction.” This year the prize was named the AAUW Marie Glasgow Award in honor of Marie our past President from 2013-2015. Ron Glasgow, her spouse, presented the award.

The Science Fair “First Time Winners” \$100 prize was given to Emily Pyles and Alexandra Polk for their



project, “Hurricane Analysis of the IOGC Core.” Both girls are at different high schools and met at a FGCU STEM summer camp.

AAUW Scholarships 2018-2019



Chelsea Fullilove is our Sue Gottscent Memorial Scholarship scholar. Chelsea is currently completing her Masters in Social Work at FGCU and has just been accepted at Florida Atlantic into the Ph.D. program for Counseling. Chelsea is doing work in counseling with youth and parents while also studying.

Krystal Davis is our AAUW Star Bright Scholar at Fort Myers Technical College where she is in her last semester in the Medical Administration program. Valerie Clark seated with her is a Career Specialist at the college. Krystal hopes to go on to FSW and get an associate



degree.

Michele Kratzat is our AAUW High School Scholar from Estero High School. Michele is enrolled at FSW in business and has goals of owning her own business someday. In the meantime she is enjoying college life and especially Micro Economics.



Other AAUW Scholars

Alyssa Crowbridge our AAUW FGCU Endowed Scholar for the second year and Mackenzie Lane our AAUW High School Scholar from Mariner High School were not able to be with us because they were working. Aja Owens our AAUW FSW

Endowed Scholar was busy with a family commitment.



Here are all our smiling Scholars with Ron Glasgow

New STEM FUND

Ron Glasgow has established the Marie Glasgow and AAUW Friends STEM for Girls Scholarship Fund to be managed by the Lee County Schools Foundation. Ron introduced the Fund at the luncheon meeting by first speaking about Marie.

Marie was a member of an immigrant family that fled the Ukraine in fear of persecution for their religion and their educational stature. She arrived in the U.S. at the age of five and learned to speak English by attending her grammar school classes. She was passionate about the value of education and the opportunities that education provided to an individual and earned two Masters and a Doctorate degrees while raising a family and working most of the time.

Marie felt strongly about the Mission of AAUW Fort Myers. While our president she was very involved in funding our AAUW scholarships. Ron has established a FUND in her memory to benefit the Thomas Edison – Kiwanis Regional Science Fair in the Junior division and the Inventor's Fair. Ron distributed a lovely brochure detailing the Fund to all present. AAUW is honored to add this Scholarship to our Branch and we look forward to supporting the Fund's

growth and purpose to encourage young middle school girl's interest in STEM.

AAUW, Florida Legislature

AAUW Bills of Interest--Florida 2019 Legislative Session

Draft 1/31/19: please note legislative plans still under construction. Also please note that these bills have not been vetted by National AAUW; however, several were filed last year and vetted then. New bills are so marked.

D = Democrat, R = Republican, H = House, S = Senate

Priority A

SUPPORT H 419, S 474, Discrimination in Labor and Employment (the Helen Gordon Davis Fair Pay Protection Act)

House: Dotie Joseph D-108 (North Miami)

Senate: Linda Stewart D-13 (Orlando area), Lori Berman D-31 (Palm Beach area)

Prohibits an employer from providing less favorable employment opportunities to employees based on their sex; provides exceptions; provides an affirmative defense; provides civil penalties. This bill includes prohibitions against employer retaliation against employees who discuss salary and against requiring salary history in the hiring process.

SUPPORT The Equal Rights Amendment

HCR 209 Dotie Joseph D-108, SCR 266 by Audrey Gibson D-6 (Duval County), HCR 255 by Patricia Williams D-92

Priority B

SUPPORT HB 49, SB 332, Dignity for Incarcerated Women Act NEW

Representatives Shevrin Jones D-101 and Amy Mercado D-48 (CO-SPONSORS) Cortes, J.; Eskamani; Grieco; Jenne; Killebrew; Polo
Senator Jason W. B. Pizzo, a newly-elected senator from Miami-Dade, and four other Democrats: Rodriguez, Book, Thurston, and Taddeo

Requires healthcare products, including feminine hygiene products, be made available without prescription to women in any correctional facility of the state or other political division. Restricts male employees in conducting pat-down and strip searches in these facilities, and in entering facilities where women are unclothed.

SUPPORT HB 227, S 412 Access to Clinics

House: Amy Mercado D-48

Senate: Linda Stewart (D-013)

Amy Mercado is a Democrat from Orlando. Anna Eskamani, co-sponsor, is also from Orlando and is a newly-elected representative. It aims to protect access to reproductive health services clinics by prohibiting injury, intimidation or interference with a client. Also prohibits destruction of the property of such a clinic or its clients. Penalties for violators are specified.

SUPPORT H 485, S 430, S 438 Prohibited Discrimination

House: Jennifer Nicole Webb, D 69. Margaret Good (Sarasota) is a co-sponsor.

Senate: 430 by Darryl Ervin Rouson (D-019); S 438 by Gruters R-23, co-introducers Berman, Pizzo, and Taddeo (D-40)

Relates to prohibited discrimination; adds sexual orientation and gender identity as impermissible grounds for discrimination in public lodging establishments and public food service establishments; provides an exception for constitutionally protected free exercise of religion; revises the purposes of the Florida Civil Rights Act to include sexual orientation and gender identity.

SUPPORT FL H 579, S 410 NEW

Long Acting Reversible Contraception Pilot Program

House: Tracie Davis (D-13) Jacksonville

Senate: Lori Berman D-31 Palm Beach

Requires the Department of Health to establish a long-acting reversible contraception pilot program in Duval, Hillsborough, and Palm Beach Counties.

OPPOSE HB 235, Abortion NEW no companion Senate bill as yet

Walter Bryan "Mike" Hill R-1 (CO-SPONSORS) Beltran; Sabatini, Hage

Hill is a new representative from Escambia County living in Pensacola. Prohibits termination of pregnancy when fetal heartbeat is detected, which can be at 6 weeks; provides exceptions.

OPPOSE S 558, Termination of Pregnancy (no co-sponsors or House companion bills as yet)

Joseph Ryan Gruters (R-023)

Prohibition of abortion after 20 weeks because he accepts that the fetus can feel pain. Exception in case of severe health risk to "mother". In this case the abortion has to be done "through or by the method that, using reasonable medical judgment, provides the best opportunity for the unborn child to survive", unless that method would pose a more serious health risk to the mother. Physician has to provide a comprehensive report to the state and the

state will generate an annual report. Another bill, S 560, makes this report confidential. Not only the woman but also the father of the "unborn child" aborted in violation may bring a civil action against the physician. A special revenue account is created to fund the Attorney General's expenses.

Priority C: We will study the human trafficking bills and determine which would have most impact HB 219 , Victims of Human Trafficking by Tobin Rogers Overdorf R-83

Requires a mandatory minimum term of incarceration for solicitation of prostitution offenses involving victims of [human trafficking](#).

HB 259, Human Trafficking. Sponsor Patricia Williams D-92 resides in Lauderdale Lakes

Revises required health education in public schools to include human trafficking; requires DLA to develop & operate hotline to receive reports of potential human trafficking activity & report specified reports to law enforcement for certain purposes.

FL S 540 Human Trafficking. Lauren Book (D-032) Requires the owner or operator of a public lodging establishment to train certain employees and create certain policies relating to [human trafficking](#) by a specified date.

Priority D: Education

A number of bills have been filed regarding Educational Standards for K12 Public Schools, Charter School Funding, and High School Graduation Requirements. We will keep abreast of education bills as there will be more and they will likely be recombined before end of session.

SUPPORT SB 114, H 73 High School Graduation Requirements

Senate: Travis Hutson R-7, also Simpson and Benaquisto (both R)

House: Fetterhoff (R26) and Fitzenhagen ((R78); Brannan; Gregory; Grieco; Killebrew; Roach; Sirois Dorothy Hukill submitted a similar bill last year and we supported it because of the financial literacy aspect. This bill is named for her. **It has been scheduled in the Senate Education Committee for 2/5/19**

Revises the requirements for the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards to include financial literacy; revises the required credits for a standard high school diploma to include one-half credit of instruction in personal financial literacy and money management.

President's Message

Happy March to Everyone

March is a busy month. On the 10th of March, Daylight Saving Time begins, so remember to put your clock an hour ahead. St. Patrick's Day is on the 17th. Spring begins on the 20th and National Puppy Day is on the 23rd.

Our AAUW luncheon is on Saturday, the 16th and the Treasurers will be getting an early start to AAUW Membership Renewal for those members who may be heading back north. Membership dues will remain at \$80 for July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020, the AAUW calendar year.

Last month we hosted our scholarship recipients and our Science Fair award winners. We should all be proud of the work we do to provide these young ladies with scholarships and monetary awards so that they may further their education or their interest in the fields of science and technology. They were all very grateful for having been chosen and thanked us for helping them to work toward their goals.

The Science Fair projects were outstanding this year, and the student winners were very helpful in explaining their projects. I realized that I really needed a tutoring session to fully understand their work. The girls were very knowledgeable, and I feel confident they will continue their efforts in next year's Science Fair.

Our speaker, Charles Sobczak, was amusing and most informative with his presentation on how wildlife is adapting to a world with an increasing human population and climate change. As he explained, the Canadian Geese are no longer returning to Canada but are happy to remain in the Midwest of the U.S. If we want to study large groups of crow or grackle, we can just go to any Wal-Mart parking lot where food is more readily available. It was surprising to learn how wildlife is now becoming urbanized like the Red Fox, taking up residency in major cities. As Charles stated, we no longer have to go out into the woods to see wild animals, they can be found in our neighborhoods, golf courses and backyards.

Hope you can join us for our March luncheon and remember to make your lunch reservations with Pat Crowe as soon as possible. See you on the 16th.

Kathy Jones, President

AAUW Officers

Elected Officers – Executive Branch

President --Kathy Jones

Vice President Elect--Clementina Hoegler

VP Programs--Phyllis Wayco

VP's Membership--Lynn Felice, Lois Benedetto

Co-Chair Secretary—

Elizabeth Foster, Cathy Chapman

Co-Chair Treasurer--Judith Sims, Carolyn Nance

Appointed Officers – Board Members

Public Policy --Marilynn Edwards

Co-Chair Scholarship--Janet George, Bonnie Ryan

Communications--Carol Fuechsel

Ways and Means--Peggy Cihl

Standing Committees

Website--TBA

Torch Editor--Peggy Cihl; Circulation---Marilyn

Workman (mail), Kathy Jones (email)

Historian---Suzan Harden

Records Retention--Executive Board

Science Fair--Catherine Tucker

Fashion Show Chair--TBA

Adopt A Precinct--Carolyn Nance, Judith Sims

Ancillary Positions

AAUW Name Tags--Reservations--Patricia Crowe

Greeters--Marilyn Myli, Jean Kohart, Betty Bechtel

Sunshine --Ann Compton

AAUW Activities for You

Bridge Groups

Donna Randolph, Coordinator

(239) 693-2556

A. Meets 2nd Monday, 12:00 noon

B. Meets 3rd Monday, 12:30 p.m.

Book Groups

Contact Janice McPeak, Coordinator (630) 464-4190 if interested in a book group.

I. Meets 2nd Tuesday, 1:00 p.m.

II. Meets 2nd Wednesday 1:00 p.m.

III. Meets 3rd Wednesday 2:00 p.m.

IV. Meets 3rd Thursday at 11:00 a.m.

Hand-and-Foot Group

Nancy Kuyoth, Coordinator, (239) 471-7806

1st and 4th Mondays at 1:00

Mahjongg

Jean Schoenthaler, Coordinator, (239) 277-5174

Meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 1:00 p.m.

Name Tags

Are you interested in ordering or replacing a name tag? Please contact one of the membership chairs. Cost: \$9.25. Make your check payable to Fort Myers AAUW and mail it to Carolyn Nance, 6021 Silver King Blvd. #104, Cape Coral, FL 33941 (239-257-1727). Or e-mail her at: cnance5240@gmail.com Be sure to include your complete name. Please print your name in capital letters, as you want it to appear on your name tag.

Woman Of Interest



**Marjory Stoneman Douglas
1890-1998**

**"Fashion
fades, only
style remains
the same."**

Marjory Stoneman Douglas was an American journalist, author, women's suffrage advocate, and conservationist known for her staunch defense of the Everglades against efforts to drain it and reclaim land for development.

As a young woman, Douglas was outspoken and politically conscious of the women's suffrage and civil rights movements. She was called upon to take a central role in the protection of the Everglades when she was 79 years old. For the remaining 29 years of her life she was "a relentless reporter and fearless crusader" for the natural preservation and restoration of South Florida.

Source: wikipedia.org

aauwleecounty@gmail.com

Our branch postal address:

PO Box 2115

Fort Myers, FL 33902-2115

**PLEASE USE THE ATTACHED
MEMBERSHIP FORMS TO RENEW OR JOIN.**



AAUW Fort Myers/Lee County Branch

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM
July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020

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

Table with 3 columns: Membership Category, DUES, PAID. Rows include Regular Branch Member, Dual Member, Life Member, and Honorary Life.

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

2019-2020 I would like to participate in the following programs or committees:

- List of programs and committees with checkboxes: Serve on Committee, Fashion Show, Hand & Foot, Accounting/Finance, Adopt a Precinct, Torch Production, Bridge, Web Design, Mahjongg, Book Group, Scholarship, Writing/Editing, Art, Communications, Other (describe).



AAUW Fort Myers/Lee County Branch

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AAUW

Fort Myers/Lee Co Branch

Marilyn Workman, Torch Distributor

2760 Steam Boat Loop

N. Fort Myers, FL 33917