President’s Message

Our year is coming to a close. May 18th will be our last luncheon. Come and share it with all of us.

We will be swearing in a few new officers who will take up their new duties starting July 1st.

I have enjoyed serving as your president this year. I hope you have enjoyed our speakers, I know I learned a great deal from each presenter we have had.

I wish you all good health and a happy summer. I will be spending some of my time up in North Haven, Maine with my brother and his son’s families. Can’t get enough of those lobster rolls. Then I get to dogs-sit my son’s Pomeranian over on the east coast for two weeks while he vacations aboard.

Tina Hoegler will be our new president, and I know she will do a wonderful job.

Kathy Jones, President

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Luncheon Menu:

**Choice 1:** Caprese Salad with a Balsamic Glaze
This Italian salad is sliced fresh mozzarella, tomatoes, and sweet basil, seasoned with salt and olive oil

**Choice 2:** Grilled Chicken Caesar Wrap with a side of fruit
Choice has grilled chicken, Caesar dressing, crunchy croutons, and Parmesan cheese, plus a few tomatoes are mixed together and served in a lettuce leaf

**Dessert:** Chef’s Choice or Fruit Cup
Beverages are available. Wait staff will accept charge cards.

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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, May 13. Cancellations must be made no later than Tuesday, May 14, 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. Meetings end in May and begin again in September.)
**Speaker for May**

**60 YEARS OF SPACE EXPLORATION**

A Talk by Chuck Fuechsel

The talk begins with early flight experiments by Dr. Robert Goddard in the early 20th century, and reviews several events up to the launch of the first artificial Earth satellite, Sputnik, by the Soviet Union. Soon after, (NASA), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration was created and a golden era of space exploration and technology development began.

This has bought a much deeper understanding to mankind of the vastness of the universe and our place within it, and a host of applications including weather forecasting, telecommunications, and satellite navigation (GPS) that the citizens of the world now depend upon.

**Biographical Information: Charles F. Fuechsel**

(Mr. Fuechsel has served as an engineer, project manager and senior executive with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. He graduated from the University of Virginia Engineering School in 1961 and earned a Master of Science degree at the George Washington University in Washington, DC. He served as the project manager responsible for developing the Hubble Space Telescope flight operations systems and facilities. He was later appointed Director of the Communications and Data Systems Division at NASA Headquarters with responsibility for NASA’s worldwide telecommunications networks and the operations control facilities for many of NASA’s scientific satellites.

(Since retiring from NASA, he has served as a consultant advising ongoing NASA Project Managers. He and his wife, Carol reside in Fort Myers, Florida. Mr. Fuechsel serves as a Director of the Scientists’ Society of Southwest Florida and enjoys serving as a judge for local school science fairs and meeting young students and encouraging them to pursue careers in the sciences. The level of motivation and achievement of many of these students is inspiring, and it is a privilege to have the opportunity to meet and interact with them.)

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**AAUW Officers for our next year.**

**Elected Officers – Executive Branch**

President – Tina Hoegler
Vice-President Elect – Jemetta Hunt
Vice-President Programs – Jill Jennings
Vice-President Membership – Lynn Felice
Co-Secretary – Liz Foster and Pat Crowe
Co-Treasurer – Carolyn Nance and Judith Sims

**Appointed Officers – Board Members**

Public Policy --Marilynn Edwards
Co-Chair Scholarship--Janet George, Bonnie Ryan
Communications--Carol Fuechsel
Ways and Means--Peggy CihI

We also have two new clubs and are encouraging members to sign up at the May meeting.

Movie Club Chairperson:
Paula Miller   1-502-544-0022.

Writing Club Chairperson:
Judy Sims   239-634-5220

**Standing Committees**

Website--TBA
Torch Editor--Peggy CihI; Circulation---Marilyn Workman (mail), Kathy Jones (email)
Historian--Suzan Harden
Records Retention--Executive Board
Science Fair--Catherine Tucker
Fashion Show Committee
Adopt A Precinct--Carolyn Nance, Judith Sims

**Ancillary Positions**

AAUW Name Tags--Reservations--Patricia Crowe
Greetings--Marilyn Myli, Jean Kohart, Betty Bechtel
Sunshine --Ann Compton

**Come and join us and help us plan…….**

We are having a planning committee meeting, potluck luncheon, at Judy Sim’s home on May 22, 2019 at 12:30 p.m. All members are welcome.

Contact Judy Sims   239-634-5220 for directions and if you have questions
**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.

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**StarBright Memorial Scholarship Fund**

The StarBright Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 2005 by Book Club II to honor someone or celebrate a special occasion. A $1,000 scholarship is awarded to a woman attending either Cape Coral or Fort Myers Technical College. In 2019 donations have been made by:

- Judith Sims and Carolyn Nance in memory of our good friend Alice Mellen who passed away January 13, 2019
- Judith Sims and Carolyn Nance in memory of Bill Jackman who passed away 3/18/2019. Bill was the husband of our long time fashion show dynamo Melanie
- Judith & Norton Sims in memory of their friend Mary Frances Houghton
- Janet George to celebrate her sister Carol Ann Hall on her 85th birthday
- Donna Uhlenhop to honor her daughter Linda Simmons on her retirement from State Farm Bloomington, IL
- Judith Sims to honor her sister Mary Frances Billings on her birthday

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**Cathy Tucker Honored!**

Cathy Tucker (former Fashion Show chair) is one of three teachers in Lee County chosen to attend the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. Over sixty countries will be represented at the event held in Phoenix, AZ May 14-18th. Two of her students, Dahlia Day (bound for MIT in the fall) and Cynthia Sheng (Vanderbilt) will be attending with their award winning projects. Cathy has taught science in Lee County Schools for 38 years and laughs saying that she has taught in all of the STEM areas except engineering. She has been active with the science and inventors’ fairs since their inception as science fair director and as inventor coach.

Cathy joined AAUW in July 2010. She stepped up to chair a successful Fashion Show in 2017, and has been active for years as our connection to the science fair and helping to form our award goals for STEM. She has served as Scholarship Chair and Website coordinator. Most recently Cathy has given generously of her time to work with Ron Glasgow, Janet George and Bonnie Ryan on the Marie Glasgow and AAUW Friends STEM Fund and was instrumental in placing the Fund with The Foundation for Lee County Public Schools. Cathy is smart, fun, has done so much for AAUW We are proud of... and happy for her! Thank you, Cathy, for everything you do! You go girl!

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We welcome new members. (Left to right) Bet Hunsperger, Mary Lou Chamberlain, Paula Miller, Joy Gleissner, Liz Blundo, Arlene Kerpcsar, Jean Breininger, Barb Tidmore
Marie Glasgow and AAUW Friends FUND

In January Ron Glasgow began the new Marie Glasgow and AAUW Friends Fund with two purposes in mind. He wanted to memorialize his wife Marie Glasgow (pictured at left), our president from 2013-2015. Marie believed passionately in the importance of education and worked tirelessly for decades to improve the opportunities for women and girls. Ron also wanted to honor AAUW Fort Myers/Lee County for their more than fifty years of efforts to improve the educational opportunities for women in Lee County while providing a stimulating community for women of like minds.

After several months researching possibilities, Ron and our Scholarship Chairs, Janet George and Bonnie Ryan have determined that The Foundation for Lee County Public Schools will manage the FUND. Each year the FUND will award $500 to a Middle School student in the Lee County System.

On even years, the award will be made based upon a student’s project at the Thomas Alva Edison-Kiwanis Regional Science Fair. The project should reflect a basic understanding of the principles of science, technology, engineering or mathematics and demonstrate the potential for further study. On odd years, the award will be made for a student’s project at the Thomas Edison Festival of Light Regional Inventor’s Fair. The project should reflect a basic understanding of what to do with an idea: what steps to take to develop it, protect it, pay for it, and eventually share and profit from it. The award will either go for a STEM related educational activity or will be held for the student until she is accepted into college.

Our Branch is so pleased to be part of this new STEM award for young women. Marie often reminded us of AAUW’s history of activism and charitable giving and our need to continue our good work in this community. We can honor her memory best by embracing her goals!

AAUW High School Scholars

MaryJo Morgan Ellis is graduating from Ida May Baker High School in May and has registered at Florida Gulf Coast University in Elementary Education. For the past seven years MaryJo has volunteered every school day for an hour and a half as a Gulf Elementary classroom volunteer and has decided, “I want to make a difference. I want to teach.” In addition she is a varsity tennis player, a tennis instructor and has been a member of the National Honor Society for the past three years. With such clear goals and a GPA of 3.9 MaryJo is ready to succeed.

Arielle Perez is graduating from South Fort Myers High School in May and will be attending Florida Southwestern State College. Arielle will be graduating with a certificate as a Nursing Assistant, CNA, and plans on using those skills while working in the hospital, where both her parents work, while attending FSW full time to become a Nurse. With a GPA of 4.1 Arielle describes herself this way, “I have a caring and compassionate heart, which leads me to lend a helping hand just as I have seen what my parents have done for others.”

Woman Of Interest

Katherine G. Johnson

A physicist and mathematician, Katherine G. Johnson worked with NASA in calculating trajectories, launch windows and the return paths for many famous space flights. Her background includes such projects as Project Mercury (the first man to fly into space), 1969's Apollo 11 (first flight to the Moon) and the Space Shuttle program.

At the time of her work, African-Americans and women were not respected in the workplace. In 1953, she was hired by NASA and struggled to receive equal recognition for her work. During her time at NASA, she worked under segregated conditions as a "computer."

Still alive at age 98, Johnson lives in Virginia, where the movie, *Hidden Figures*, takes place. She saw the movie and enjoyed it. "It was well done," she said, according