

AAUW MEETINGS: Cancelled for April and May. We hope to meet in September.



President's Message

The events unfolding in the world have caused us to cancel all remaining meetings for this year. Every day the number of infected people is rising with no predicted downturn for this pandemic. Please follow the guidelines and keep yourselves safe from harm.

The articles in this issue on membership renewal and Adopt-a-Precinct are important. Please read them carefully and send in the membership renewal forms.

We have been unable to hold our elections for next year's board members and to vote on our by-law changes. We will provide information next month. Research is in process to resolve these issues of unfinished business.

Try to stay positive and make the most of this time. I have been tackling many household chores that had been put aside for when I had more time, and now I do. But I am also trying to be creative, physically active and to eat healthy. Keeping your mind and body sound will greatly increase your mental attitude and keep your immune system at peak efficiency.

Hopefully, next month will bring relief from these burdens, but until then, stay healthy and pray for one another. Tina



Our annual AAUW membership renewal period has arrived. Forms are found on the last two pages of the TORCH.

PLEASE PRINT THE FORMS and mail them to our treasurer:

Carolyn Nance
6021 Silver King Blvd Unit 104
Cape Coral, FL 33914

We will put all the names of the people who renew before May into a hat and draw a name. The winner will receive a free luncheon during the month of her choice (except February).

We are especially interested in knowing the areas in which you desire to participate.

Of special interest, the Fashion Show Luncheon will be held at The Landings Helm Club on February 20, 2021.

Needed Immediately:

AAUW Communications Director for Our Local Chapter

The director creates a short article or blurb each month describing the Speaker/Presentation being offered at the upcoming monthly meeting. The director uses a list of media outlets provided by the AAUW program director and/or researches Google to learn other information about the speaker. The article is distributed by email to various publications and newspapers. As requested, the article may be sent to other AAUW members who wish to use it in their local community newsletters. Special articles may also be written to feature AAUW as an organization or to announce AAUW's scholarship recipients. Persons having skills in using and/or advertising on social media would be of much assistance.

If you are interested in this position, please contact Carol Fuechsel (239) 466-5951 cbfuechsel@gmail.com or Tina Hoegler (239) 989-8483 c_hoegler@msn.com.

AAUW

Nominations and Installation of Officers for 2020-2021

Elected Officers:

Vice President Elect - Kathleen Haibach
VP Membership - Linda Allen
Treasurer - Mary Kellner

Appointed Officers:

Public Policy - Suzan Harden
Scholarship - Cheryl Tromley,
Marcia Howard, DeVera Graf
Communication- open position

AAUW Activities for You

Postponed Until Further Notice

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 Marilyn Myli, Coordinator (239) 482-0272 if interested in a book group.

- Cover Girls* meets 2nd Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.
- Classy Ladies & Literature* meets 3rd Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.
- Eat, Share, Read* meets 3rd Thursday at 11:30 a.m.

Hand-and-Foot Group

Nancy Kuyoth, Coordinator, (239) 471-7806
1st and 4th Mondays at 1:00

Mahjonn

Jean Schoenthaler, Coordinator, (239) 277-5174
Meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 1:00

Great Decisions Discussion Group

Suzan Harden, Coordinator, (239) 482-5379
Contact her at skh062653@gmail.com

Movie & Dinner* Paula Miller, Coordinator
(502)-544-0022

Photo Walks* Jemetta Hunt, Coordinator

Hunt 4 Wellness* Jemetta Hunt, Coordinator

International Topics For Women* Roberta (Bobbie) Balmer, Coordinator

Writing, Poetry Etc.* Jill Jennings & Judy Sims,

Co-Coordinators, Contact Sims 239-990-7963

Theater* Ronda Bressler, Coordinator

Day Trips* Robin Tuthill, Coordinator

*Times are subject to change. Check with your coordinators.

New Interest Groups are always welcome.
Jemetta Hunt, Coordinator

Feel free to contact coordinators for information about the group in which you are interested.

New High School Scholar



Isabella Sbarra Michelland, a senior at Cypress Lake High School, was selected for our AAUW High School scholarship for 2020-2021. Isabella is a vocal major in the school's Center of the Arts Program and has been accepted at Belmont University to study songwriting. Isabella has written upwards of 150 songs and has performed them across Sanibel and Fort Myers for four years while also performing with the schools A Capella group, TAG. This quote from her application essay entitled Aspirations and Goals is most descriptive, "I am ready to make the best of my education and earn other ways to feasibly pursue music. The human condition will always be the forefront of my mind, and emotional understanding will forever come hand in hand with music to me." The letter of recommendation from her school counselor notes that Isabella is taking rigorous AP classes and is a candidate for the nationally recognized AP Capstone.

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ Scholarships \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Star Bright Scholarship Fund has received \$535 in fond memory of member Marilynn Edwards a member of our branch since 2011 and our Public Policy Coordinator. Thank you notes and receipts have been sent to the contributors. The addition to the Fund is most welcome. Please don't forget that any donation you make to any of our scholarships funds through June can be matched. This anonymous offer is a **unique opportunity** to bolster our AAUW scholarships! Do consider adding some \$\$\$s!

AAUW HELPING WITH ELECTIONS

We had four people assist with the Precinct #90 for AAUW. Thanks to Mary Kellner, Carolyn Nance, Faye O'Briant, and Colleen Wheeler, we earned \$900 for the scholarships provided by our branch of AAUW. We were accompanied by individuals assigned by the Elections Office. We had a great day assisting people with their civic duty of voting. As we look to the future elections in August and November, please consider becoming a part of the team to train and provide service for the day of voting. For the August election, we need your commitment by June 1st for June./July training. For the November 3rd election, we need your commitment by the end of August for the Sept/Oct training. According to Carolyn Nance's records since September 2006, AAUW has earned \$36,770 for our scholarships. In 2018, the August election earned \$1,775 with 8 members working, and the November election earned \$2,275 with 10 members working.

Please look at being a part of our team of participants for either or both upcoming elections.



You would find it enjoyable to spend a day of assisting us, and you would also get to know other members of our branch.

On a personal note, I joined our branch to assist with earning funds for our scholarships because I had received scholarships when I returned to school in my 30's. It was very beneficial to my family and myself, and now I can return the favor. Joining the branch has expanded my list of friends and activities during my retirement.

The day begins at 5:30 a.m. and ends around 8:00 p.m. During the day, there are breaks and time for lunch. We relieve one another for the breaks and lunch. If you cannot spend a whole day with us, you could provide snacks, lunch, or dinner to assist in some way. There are about seven positions needed to cover the entire precinct. We usually need ten people. Please decide if this is a way you could help our branch. Hopefully we can resume our normal activities before long. If you are interested in participating, please contact: Faye O'Briant: Nanagrams6@gmail.com or phone 239-994-9864.

RENEW!!! RENEW!!! RENEW!!!

Membership renewal dues of \$80.00 may now be paid by credit card directly to National. Please call or email cnance5240@gmail.com or phone her at 239-257-1727. She will provide you with a personal link to National AAUW to accomplish this. If you charge your dues, please still fill out the renewal form that is on the final pages of the Torch. This form will enable us to update your information, summer addresses, Torch and Directory distribution, interest groups, etc. You can also write a check Payable to: AAUW/ Lee County Branch and send it to Carolyn Nance 6021 Silver King Blvd Unit 104 Cape Coral, FL 33914 Please contact Lynn Felice (lfelice@embarqmail.com) or Carolyn Nance (cnance5240@gmail.com) with any questions or concerns.

Woman of Interest

Dr. Deborah Leah Brix



(Born April 4, 1956) Dr. Brix an American physician and [diplomat](#) who serves as the response coordinator for the White House Coronavirus Task Force as of March 2020. Dr. Brix has served as Ambassador-at-Large and as United States Global AIDS Coordinator since 2014, is responsible for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) program in 65 countries .
Source: Wikipedia.

AAUW Officers and Board Members

Elected -- Executive Board

*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 --
Co-Chair Scholarship--Janet George, Bonnie Ryan
Communications—Suzan Harden
Ways and Means--Peggy Cih*

Standing Committees

*Website—Lisa Crotty
Torch Editor--Peggy Cih; Circulation---
Faye O'Briant (mail), Kathy Jones (email)
Records Retention--Executive Board
Science Fair--Catherine Tucker
Adopt-A-Precinct--Faye O'Briant, Carolyn Nance*

Ancillary Positions:

*AAUW Name Tags--Reservations—Faye O'Briant
Greeter--Board Members
Sunshine --Ann Compton
Group Facilitator--Jemetta Hunt*

“Shelter at Home” NOTES from TINA:

Many universities are offering online courses for free. For instance, if you plug in search “free courses at Yale” you get a link to not just Yale but many other sources. Perhaps this would be a good time for learning something new.

There are free online sites for books to read as well as online audio books to listen to as you go about your day.

The London Theater is offering a free play each week. Let's make the most of this time and do something special for ourselves.



AAUW Fort Myers/Lee County Branch
 Membership Renewal Form, July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021

Date _____ Birthday Month/Date ____

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 _____

Email _____

College/Degree _____

Send my TORCH Newsletter by email or U.S Mail

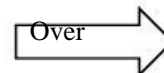
Directory – (list of members) Pick up at first meeting or U.S Mail

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 & State Dues \$12.00)	\$21.00	____
<input type="checkbox"/> Honorary Life (50 Years Membership) NO DUES	\$0.00	____

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

Mail check to: Carolyn Nance.
 6021 Silver King Blvd Unit 104
 Cape Coral, FL 33914



I would like to participate in the following committees:

- Fashion Show Adopt a Precinct Accounting/ Finance Web Updates
 Scholarship Torch Production Communications Other (Please describe)

Interest Groups and Coordinators

Check the Box by those you are interested in joining

- Book Discussions – Marilyn Mylii**
- Bridge – Donna Randolph**
- Cook Today, Chef Tomorrow - available**
- Day Trips – Robin Tuthill**
- Great Decisions – Susan Hardin**
- Hand and Foot – Nancy Kuyoth**
- Hunt 4 Wellness – Jemetta Hunt**
- International Topics for Women – Bobby Oster-Balmer**
- Mahjongg – Jean Schoenthaler**
- Movie, Dine and Discuss – Paula Miller**
- Photo Walk – Jemetta Hunt**
- Theater – Ronda Bressler**
- Writers' Group: Poetry and more – Judy Sims and Jill Jennings**



AAUW
Fort Myers/Lee Co Branch
Faye O'Briant, Torch Distributor
2816 SE 18th Court
Cape Coral, FL 33904