

The American Association of University Women

# The TORCH

March 2020

AAUW

Vol.57, No.6

Editor, Peggy Cihl

## AAUW MEETING:

**Saturday, March 21, 11:30 a.m.**

### Location:

**The Landings Yacht, Golf & Tennis Club,**

## INVITE A FRIEND TO JOIN YOU...

### Luncheon Menu:

#### Choice 1:

**Burrata Caprese:** Creamy Burrata Cheese with Marinated Heirloom Tomato, Fresh Basil, Cracked Blacked Pepper, Balsamic Syrup, and Olive Oil Paired with Mixed Greens and Grilled Crostini

#### Choice 2:

**Half Smoked Turkey & Avocado Wrap with Butternut Bisque:** Smoked Turkey Breast, Smoked Gouda, Avocado, Vine Ripened Tomato, Apple Smoked Bacon, and Pesto Aioli Wrapped in a Wheat Tortilla with a side of Butternut Bisque Soup

### Chef's Choice or Fruit Cup

Beverages are available. Wait staff accepts charge cards for drinks other than water, coffee or tea.

### For reservations contact:

Faye O'Briant at [nanagrams6@gmail.com](mailto:nanagrams6@gmail.com), or at (239)994-9864 **no later than Friday, March 13**, referencing **AAUW Reservations**

Price of the luncheon is \$23.00, checks are preferred; cash is accepted.

Cancellations must be made no later than Tuesday, March 16, using the same contact method.

Let us know if you have allergies to any of the foods.

**(Mark your calendar for our meetings the third Saturday of each month, except during the month of the Fashion Show which will be February, 2021. Meetings begin in September and end in May.)**



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

PLEASE PRINT THE FORMS and bring them to the next meeting; or mail them to our vice-president of membership:

Lynn Felice  
15530 Catalpa Cove Drive  
Fort Myers, FL 33908

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.

**On the Topic of Everglades Restoration,  
Our Speaker for March will be Dr. William Mitsch**

**Dr. William Mitsch's topic will be "Everglades Restoration, Florida Waterways and our Environment --What needs to be done right now."**

**Dr. Mitsch is currently Eminent Scholar and Director, Everglades Wetland Research Park, at Florida Gulf Coast University, Naples, Florida. His research and teaching has focused on wetland biogeochemistry, wetland creation and restoration, ecological engineering, and ecosystem modeling. The U.S. Congress formally authorized the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) in 2000 as a multi-decadal, multi-billion-dollar project focused on restoring, preserving and protecting the south Florida ecosystem while providing for other water-related needs of the region.**

**One of the primary goals has always been to "send the water south" in an attempt to restore the original hydrology of the region by diverting less water from the upper watershed east and west to the sea and allowing it to flow south to and through the Everglades. "These created or restored wetlands have been effective in significantly reducing phosphorus concentrations before the water is discharged to the Everglades," according to Dr. Mitsch.**



***AAUW Activities for You***

***Bridge Groups***

Donna Randolph, Coordinator  
(239) 693-2556

- A. Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 12:00 noon
- B. Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 12:30 p.m.

***Book Groups***

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

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

***Hand-and-Foot Group***

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

***Mahjongg***

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

***Great Decisions Discussion Group***

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

## President's Message

Here it is March 2020, and our momentum is stronger than ever. Our scholarships are well funded thanks to a successful fashion show and your generosity. Interest groups are well attended. Membership is increasing.



Jemetta Hunt introduced two new interest groups at our February meeting, Hunt4Wellness and Photography Walk, both of which she is leading. There were many members who showed an interest and who signed up. If you are interested, please contact Jemetta Hunt, [jemetta@aol.com](mailto:jemetta@aol.com).

Our group "Great Decisions" is providing stimulating discussions and has added five new members. The momentum continues.

As you know our fashion show is scheduled for February 20, 2021 at The Landings. One or two members are needed to chair this committee. All of us are needed to solicit gifts and donations for the Chinese auction. It may seem early, but let's get a head start.

What can you do to help increase our membership? A very effective method of soliciting members is through your community newsletter. Contact Carol Fuechsel, [cbfuechsel@gmail.com](mailto:cbfuechsel@gmail.com), and she will provide you with a completely written article to submit to the editor. Please utilize this simple, easy way to help us increase our membership. New members bring new ideas and new ideas are the spices of life.

If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors, please contact Jemetta Hunt, [jemetta@gmail.com](mailto:jemetta@gmail.com). The voting positions on the Board (President-Elect, Treasurer, and Vice-President of Membership) need to be filled, as well as several other volunteer positions. Nominees will be presented at the March meeting and will be installed at the April meeting. This is your chance to give back and make a difference. This is a chance to add your unique spice to keep the momentum going.

New ideas are being solicited for speakers at next year's luncheons. Jill Jennings has done an outstanding job this year and will continue as VP of Programs. However, she depends on new ideas and sources to effectively do her job. Contact Jill [magistra.jennings@gmail.com](mailto:magistra.jennings@gmail.com) or Phyllis Wayco [phylwayco@aol.com](mailto:phylwayco@aol.com) with contact information of persons you've heard speak or want to hear speak you think our membership would enjoy.

On Tuesday, March 31 at 5:30 p.m. at the Collier County Education Association offices, 6710 Lone Oak Blvd., Naples, Florida, the AAUW Greater Naples Branch is hosting an event titled "Equal Pay Day". Attorney Kelly Davis, Esq. will speak on all areas of labor and employment law and Dr. Pavelka, a professor at FGCU and Director of the Institute for Youth and Justice Studies will also be a speaker. "Hors d'oeuvres, wine, education and camaraderie" are yours for a donation of \$40, payable by March 27. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/why-does-the-gender-pay-gap-persist-tickets-91264686133> At the March luncheon we will talk about getting a group together to attend and support this event.

Looking forward to seeing you at our March luncheon meeting.

Tina Hoegler

### DID YOU KNOW?



The **Star Bright Memorial Scholarship** was established in 2000 by AAUW to acknowledge a special occasion or significant life situation. The \$1000 Star Bright scholarship is offered each year in the second semester to a young woman at either the Fort Myers or Cape Coral Technical College.

Donations can be made to the AAUW treasurer or sent to AAUW Fort Myers /Lee County Branch, P.O. Box 2115, Fort Myers, FL 33901. Checks should be made out to AAUW. Please note on the check the occasion of the donation and if and what you wish to be published.





## **BOOK NOOK**

### **Books that are being read and discussed:**

#### **MARCH**

Covergirls- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday- 1:00 PM

*Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley

Classy Ladies & Literature- 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday- 2:00

*Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng

Eat, Share, Read -3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday- 11:30 AM

*The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women*

*Change the World* by Melinda Gates

#### **APRIL**

Covergirls –*Maisie Dobbs*

by Jaqueline Winspear

Classy Ladies & Literature

*A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles

Eat, Share, Read-- *Spectator Bird*

by Wallace Stegner

#### **MAY**

Covergirls –*Nineteen Minutes* By Jodi Picoult

Classy Ladies & Literature

*The Underground Railroad*

by Colson Whitehead

Eat, Share, Read- TBA



### **Woman of Interest**

Barbara Walters was the first woman to co-host NBC's "Today." She became the first woman to co-anchor the evening news, and she later launched her namesake primetime specials with world leaders and celebrities, including Elizabeth Taylor and Katharine Hepburn. While still hosting weekly newsmag

"20/20," she debuted "The View" in 1997 with a blend of politics, entertainment and opinion. She retired in 2014. Source: *Variety*

## **AAUW Officers and Board Members**

### **Elected Officers – 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--Carol Fuechsel

Ways and Means--Peggy Cihl

### **Standing Committees**

Website—Lisa Crotty

Torch Editor--Peggy Cihl; 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

Greeters—Board Members

Sunshine --Ann Compton

Group Facilitator—Jemetta Hunt

### **Needed Immediately:**

#### **AAUW Communications Director**

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](mailto:cbfuechsel@gmail.com) or Tina Hoegler (239) 989-8483 [c\\_hoegler@msn.com](mailto:c_hoegler@msn.com).



# AAUW Fort Myers Scholars 2019-2020 & STEM Awards

We hosted our Scholars and their guests at our February luncheon. Four of six scholarship recipients were able to attend. These young ladies pictured below were introduced and each spoke of their studies and aspirations while thanking all members for their meaningful financial support.



Left to right; [MaryJo Ellis](#), a recipient of our high school scholarship attends FGCU and is seeking a degree in Elementary Education.

[Natalia Oliveira](#) is our Star Bright Scholar at Cape Coral Technical College, graduating in May as a Medical Assistant with plans to become an RN.

[Arielle Perez](#) is a recipient of our high school scholarship and attends FSW where she seeks a degree in Nursing.

[Alissa Avalos](#) is our FSW Endowed Scholarship recipient and is pursuing a degree in Psychology.

We received notes from the two scholars who could not attend. [Larissa Browne](#), our Sue Gottcent Scholar, graduated in December with a Masters of Social Work and a Certificate of Gerontology and Aging from Florida State College. [Carli Bounds](#), our FGCU Endowed Scholar, is a proud mother and

passionate paramedic working full time and enrolled full time seeking Bachelors Degree in Legal Studies and continuing on to law school.

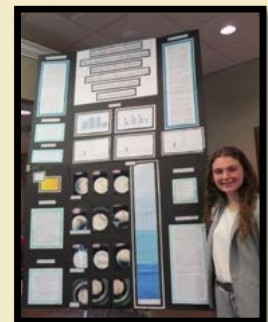
## STEM Awards

AAUW STEM Awards were given to young ladies for their winning projects at the Edison Kiwanis Senior and Middle School Regional Science Fair.



[Emily D'Angelo](#) (right) from Canterbury School won our \$500 prize for her amazing project where she explored how to "Increase the permeability of the blood brain barrier for more effective drug delivery."

[Natalie Price](#) (left) from Lee High High School won our AAUW Stem \$100 "First Time" award for her project on "Oil Spills."



## Marie Glasgow and AAUW Friends STEM Scholarship

[Isabel Liu](#), in seventh grade at Cypress Lake Middle School, won first place in Environmental Engineering and 1<sup>st</sup> Runner Up in Best of Show for her project titled "Kitchen Supplies ...to Bioplastics."

The Marie Glasgow and AAUW Friends STEM scholarship of \$500 was awarded by donor Ron Glasgow.

*"Your support makes this possible!*

*Thank you members!"*





**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

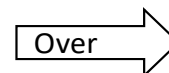
Directory – (list of members)  Pick up at first meeting or  U.S Mail

**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	____
<i>Location of other branch</i> _____		
<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: AAUW Fort Myers/Lee Co Branch, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2115  
Fort Myers, FL 33902-2115



**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 Myllii  
 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 18<sup>th</sup> Court

Cape Coral, FL 33904