

The TORCH

January, 2021

Vol. 58, No. 5

AAUW

Peggy Drennan Cihl, Editor.

GREAT DECISIONS

Happy New Year! The cost for Great Decisions books for those who pre-ordered will be \$28, including shipping and handling. If you have pre-ordered a book, you can pay me by cash, check, or through Zelle. I do not have a delivery date yet, and I will let Great Decisions group members know as soon as I do. You do not have to pay me until I can deliver the book. I have ordered two extra books at the discounted rate; these are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

The first Friday of the month at 12:30 p.m. seemed to work well for us, so I am proposing the following meeting dates: February 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, September 3, October 1, and November 5. The February, March, and April meetings will be via Zoom per Board decision regarding in-person meetings.

The Great Decisions group is not closed. If you would like to know more about it, please go to the Foreign Policy Association website, www.fpa.org. Follow the links to Great Decisions for information regarding 2021 topics. If you want more information, please contact Suzan Harden at

skh062653@gmail.com

Torch Information for Submission of Articles		
Meeting Date	Deadline for Articles	Mail TORCH Date
February 20, 2021	February 1, 2021	February 10, 2021
March 20, 2021	March 1, 2021	March 10, 2021
April 17, 2021	March 26, 2021	April 7, 2021
May 15, 2021	April 26, 2021	May 5, 2021

INTEREST GROUPS & COORDINATORS

BOOK GROUPS

Marilyn Myli, Coordinator
Marilynmy7@hotmail.com

Cover Girls
Meets 2nd Wednesday, 1 PM

Classy Ladies & Literature
Meets 3rd Wednesday, 2 PM

Eat, Share, Read
Meets 3rd Thursday, 11:30 AM

BRIDGE

Marilyn Myli, Coordinator
marilynmy7@hotmail.com

HAND & FOOT Carolyn Nance, Coordinator
cnance5240@gmail.com

MAHJONGG

Jean Schoenthaler, Coordinator
jeanschoenthaler8102@comcast.net

Meets – 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 1 PM

GREAT DECISIONS Suzan Harden
skh062653@gmail.com

PHOTO WALKS Jemetta Hunt, Coordinator
Jemetta@aol.com

DAY TRIPS

Robin Tuthill, Coordinator
rtuthill12@aol.com

WRITING / POETRY

Jill Jennings and Judith Sims,
Magistra_jennings@yahoo.com
judithsims@gmail.com

New Interest Groups are always welcome.

Jemetta Hunt, Facilitator
Jemetta@aol.com

AAUW Fort Myers/Lee County Branch, Inc.

2020-2021 Officers

Elected – Executive Board

President – Jemetta Hunt

Vice-President Elect – Kathleen Haibach
Past President – Tina Hoegler

Co-Vice-Presidents of Programs –
Jill Jennings and Phyllis Wayco

Vice-President Membership – Lisa Crotty
Co-Secretary – Liz Foster and Pat Crowe
Co-Treasurer – Mary Kellner and Judith Sims

Appointed Officers – Board Members

Public Policy – Suzan Harden

Co-Chairs of Scholarship –
Cheryl Tromley, Marcia Howard and Devera Graf

Communications – Open

Ways and Means – Peggy Cihl

Standing Committees

Website – Lisa Crotty
Torch Editor – Peggy Cihl
Historian – Judith Sims
Photographer – Jemetta Hunt
Records Retention – Executive Board
K.T.E.R Science/Engineering Fair –
Cathy Tucker

Adopt-A-Precinct – Faye O'Briant

AAUW Name Tags – Lisa Crotty and Carolyn Nance

Greeters – Board Members

Reservations – Faye O'Briant

Sunshine – Ann Compton

Torch Circulation – Faye O'Briant (US Mail) Kathy Jones (e-mail)

Mary L. Lewis



“2020-Enough Said. On to 2021”

Our January speaker joins us as the first presenter of the year who is with us in person! Well, sort of. She will lead us via Zoom Saturday, January 16th in a presentation we all really need right now: how to deal with the fall-out on us physically, emotionally, and socially after a near-year in isolation. The Covid 19 vaccine is here, true, but what else must we, as senior citizens do to get back to if not normal, then near-normal?

Mary L. Lewis is certainly qualified to answer those questions and concerns. She is an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner, holding EdD, MSN, MBA, and BSN degrees, specializing in caring for the older population. She has recently embarked on a new position after spending over 5 years employed by Cypress Cove Retirement Community. Mary’s many years as an instructor teaching nursing to young hopefuls in our area assure us of an excellent presentation.



Using Zoom:

If you are not familiar with Zoom, it is a video conferencing app that will allow us to

meet together.

Each video conference meeting has a unique 9, 10, or 11-digit number called a meeting ID that will be required to join a Zoom meeting.

Getting Started

For questions about Zoom and your particular computer set-up, check out the Zoom site (it's impossible to know every combination of computer, hardware, software everyone is running). There are free resources available: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/categories/200101697>

To learn about joining a meeting and to download the Zoom app:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-Meeting>

If you want to practice with Zoom and verify that your system works: <https://zoom.us/test>
Prefer to Call In?

If you don't have a computer with video conference capabilities or you prefer to call in, you can use

one of the following numbers. Dial by your location

1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) 1 301 715 8592 US

1 346 248 7799 US (Houston Meeting ID: 850 7704 4359 Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/keG0bLvlDB>

Woman of Interest Mae C Jemison

Dr. Mae C Jemison was born in 1956 in Decatur, Alabama. She received a Bachelor in Chemical Engineering (and completed the requirements for a Bachelor in African and Afro-American studies) at Stanford University in 1977, and also received a Doctorate degree in medicine from Cornell University.



After medical school she did post-graduate medical training and worked as an area Peace Corps medical officer for Sierra Leone and Liberia, managing the health care delivery system for US Peace Corps and US Embassy personnel. Jemison's background includes work in the areas of nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy, and reproductive biology. She also developed and participated in research projects on the



AAUW WEB SITES

AAUW Fort Myers/Lee County

<https://fmlc-fl.aauw.net>

Our local e-mail address:

aauwleecounty@gmail.com

Our National Organization <https://www.aauw.org>

In The Spotlight

This month's In The Spotlight member is CAROLYN NANCE. Carolyn has worked the Adopt-A-Precinct elections nineteen times! Her husband Steve helped out for 14 of those elections. All this is while she held one position after another with our branch. Here is a partial list:

President two years; Vice President for Membership two years; Co-treasurer six years; Ways and Means Chair two years; Co-editor of the Directory, three years, and Fashion Show Reservations for nine years.

All in all, Carolyn has been an active member since 2002. Thank you, Carolyn, for always being ready to step up and lead where leadership is needed.

The following is a statement from

AAUW CEO Kimberly Churches

“The nation’s voters have spoken, and a historic election is over. Despite the challenges of a global pandemic, Americans cast their ballots in record numbers and elected Joe Biden and Kamala Harris to lead our nation forward.

All of us at AAUW are honored to have witnessed — and participated in — the power of our democracy, with impressive numbers of women, people of color and young Americans joining in with their voices and their votes.

AAUW is particularly heartened and inspired by the election of so many women to positions of power. Most notably, we celebrate the fact that Vice President-Elect Kamala Harris has shattered barriers, becoming the first Black American, Indian and South Asian American to assume the second highest office in the land. The daughter of immigrants and a graduate of Howard University, she gives us hope for a future where women can reach the highest heights.

We are also encouraged by President-Elect Biden’s promise to unite our sorely divided country and to find common ground and common good. Yet we are mindful of the challenges and the work that lie ahead. In 2021, AAUW will turn 140 years old, and as we have in every year prior, we will work tirelessly on behalf of women and girls to advance laws, policies and practices that ensure equity in education, employment and economic security — and equal justice for all.”

Submitted by Jill Jennings

President’s Message

2021 has finally arrived. We welcome her whole heartedly as we leave 2020 behind. What a year we have all endured! It is incomprehensible the loss of life that this COVID pandemic has claimed. Let us continue to keep the families who have lost loved ones in our thoughts and prayers. The cost to our health care system is enormous and undoubtedly will continue to impact our economy for years to come. There is so much work to be done.

There is one very bright light of hope for the future, thanks to the ongoing research and hard work of our scientists. A number of COVID -19 vaccines have been developed, trial tested and approved in record time. Information regarding vaccines availability and inoculation schedules for Lee County can be found on the leegov.com website. Please continue to practice social distancing, personal hygiene and wear a mask to protect yourself and your fellow citizens. Boost your immune system by eating a healthy diet, exercising, reducing stressors and getting enough quality sleep. A healthy body and mind is still the best defense we have against all diseases.

Our AAUW chapter has been meeting via Zoom since August 2020 and will continue to do so through April 2021. The Restaurant and Beverage Manager at the Landings recently informed us of their current “no guest policy” through the end of March. Our virtual Board Meeting will begin promptly at 11 AM. The General Membership Meeting and Program will begin at 12:30 PM. The Zoom link will be sent out prior to the meeting, along with the minutes, the finance report and the agenda. The monthly meetings are scheduled for the third Saturday of each month. Mark your calendar and plan to join us. We had a wonderful time socializing at our Holiday meet and greet in December.

The program for January 16th will be a live zoom presentation by Mary Lewis, ARNP. Learn more about this presentation by reading the article written by Jill Jennings, VP Programs in this Torch. We look forward to meeting Mary and learning more about her profession and practice here in Lee County. We are so pleased that she has agreed to spend this time with us. There will be time for Q & A after her talk. You won’t want to miss this presentation.

Our AAUW Fundraising Committee met in December. Members included Jemetta Hunt, Kathleen Haibach, Tina Hoegler, Mary Kellner, Cheryl Tromley, Devera Graf, Marcia Howard, Peggy Cihl, Janet George and Bonnie Ryan. Thankfully, a great percentage of our FY 2020-2021 fiscal responsibilities have been met due to the monies raised by Adopt-A-Precinct and the generous donations by our members. Ideas being considered for future fundraising are pledge cards, an online auction in place of our annual fashion show, and corporate solicitations. The next fundraising committee meeting is scheduled for January 6. We welcome your ideas and feedback.

Our branch Directories were mailed to all members the first week of December. If you did not receive your Directory, contact me ASAP. (203)249-6545

Stay informed and connected by attending our monthly meetings. Visit our AAUW branch website, fmlc-fl.aauw.net; the AAUW Florida website, aauf-laauw.net; and the AAUW National website, aauw.org.

Wishing you the very best of everything for the New Year.

Thank you for your membership and continued support.

Jemetta Hunt, President AAUW Fort Myers/Lee County, Inc.

jemetta@aol.com

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING WHILE SHELTERING AT HOME?
Sewing, knitting, baking, crafting, art projects or other creative activities?

If so, we all could work on something to raise funds for our scholarships.

We have three ways you can use your time to help out.

1. Creative crafts can be part of the silent auction at a future fashion show. If we are still unable to get together in large groups, we may have an online auction. Stores are giving wild discounts to attract customers. Pick up something to save for the auction.
2. Donations can be made in honor of or in memory of someone special. Sizable donations will be commemorated in the TORCH with a note written by the donor of up to 25 words; or a photo can be included with a caption of up to 10 words. Be thinking of who you would like to honor.
3. We have been spending time at home and cooking more. AAUW (our chapter) is planning to compile a cookbook. Choose some of your favorite tested recipes and send them to peggycihi@comcast.net. **Include your name, title and category of the recipe, ingredients and instructions.** Here is a recipe submitted for the cookbook:

Potato Salad

Ingredients

- 8 small potatoes
- 4 -5 hard boiled eggs
- ½-1 cup mayonnaise (or enough to make ingredients nicely moist)
- 1 tsp sugar
- 1 tsp vinegar
- Sprinkle of celery seed (generous)
- Sprinkle of minced onion (fresh or from spice rack)
- Sprinkle of paprika

Instructions

1. Place the whole, unpeeled potatoes in a large pot of water. Bring the water to a boil, then lower the heat and simmer for 15 – 20 minutes, until the potatoes are fork tender.
2. Hard boil the eggs.
3. Drain the water from the pots and then spray cold water on potatoes and eggs to cool. Place drained potatoes and eggs in the refrigerator to cool completely.
4. Peel potatoes, if desired, (I don't peel them because so many vitamins are in the skin) and cut them into bite-size pieces. Peel the eggs.
5. Mix the sliced potatoes with the mayonnaise, vinegar, sugar, onion and celery seed.
6. Slice the eggs. Add all, except one of the sliced eggs. Save the last egg for garnish on top.
7. Fold the eggs into the potato mixture.
8. Add last sliced egg on top and sprinkle with paprika.
9. Cover and refrigerate to allow the flavors to blend.

In the Spotlight

If you know of one of our members who has distinguished herself in community service or a personal accomplishment, nominate her for this column. This is a way to recognize our members as they live out AAUW's mission of service to women and girls. Identify the person and give a brief description of her contribution. Include a photo, if possible.

Send the information to V.P. Programs Jill Jennings via e-mail at

magistra_jennings@yahoo.com



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