

The American Association of University Women

The TORCH

October, 2023

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*AAUW. Vol. 62, No. 2
Peggy Drennan Cihi, Editor.*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greeting Members,

Welcome to October and to the first in-person luncheon of the fall. As we plan to gather and reconnect as a local branch of AAUW, it is a good time to consider how we can grow our connections to our state and national organizations. There are many ways for you to expand your AAUW involvement beyond our local chapter. On the national level you can peruse some of the trainings and opportunities described on the national website. I have chosen to highlight the various ways AAUW encourages action. Use the link to connect with various ideas for letting your voice be heard:

<https://www.aauw.org/act/national/>

On the state level, plan to attend one or more of the public policy forums being offered: <https://aauw-fl.aauw.net/public-policy-issue-forums/>

And, if you are interested in becoming more involved at the national or state level, please let me know. Throughout the year there are service opportunities that become available, and our branch is invited to nominate someone to serve.

As we move towards the new year, I would like you all to be thinking about how to increase our membership. Our vitality and economically viability would be greatly enhanced by more members. If you live in a community and would be able to host an event for prospective new members, reach out to me directly at cecilebrennan@gmail.com and I will assist you in setting up an informational meeting.

Take care—I hope to see you soon!

Cecile Brennan
Fort Myers/Lee County Branch, Inc.

GREAT DECISIONS

The 2024 Great Decisions discussion year will begin in February, 2024. For more information about the Great Decisions special interest group, please see the related article in this edition of the Torch.

Our Luncheon Speaker: Dr. Russell Sabella, Expert in Cyber-Bullying and School Counseling October 21 Meeting

The title of his presentation is **Five Approaches To Enhancing Cyber Safety**. Dr. Sabella explains *cyberbullying* involves using information and communication technologies to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior by an individual or group intending to harm others. The technology used includes e-mail, message boards, blogs, instant messaging, cell phone, text messaging, defamatory personal websites and/or online personal polling sites. This presentation outlines a comprehensive approach to help you understand the nature of cyberbullying while at the same time providing helpful tips for risk reduction and intervention among bullies, victims, and bystanders. For example, parents can set up a Google-Alert, put their child's name, email address, screen names, etc., and when any negative content shows up the parents will get an email.

Dr. Russell A. Sabella is currently a Professor in the College of Education, Florida Gulf Coast University. He is co-author of these four books: *School Counselor Side Hustle* (Sabella & Associates); *Stress Management* (Faulkner Press, 2017); *Confronting Sexual Harassment: Learning Activities for Teens* (Educational Media; 1995); and *Counseling in the 21st Century: Using Technology to Improve Practice* (American Counseling Association; 2004).

He also authored *Solution-Focused School Counseling: The Missing Manual* (2020); *School Counselor.com: A Friendly and Practical Guide to the World Wide Web* (2nd edition; 2003); *GuardingKids.com: A Practical Guide to Keeping Kids Out of High-Tech Trouble* (2008.)

He is well-known for his Technology Boot Camp for Counselor workshops conducted throughout the country. Dr. Sabella is past President of the American School Counselor Association (2003-2004), and the Florida School Counselor Association (2013-2014). He has trained and consulted with tens of thousands of school counselors, educators, parents, and organizational leaders throughout the country.



Russell A. Sabella

Dr. Sabella is a graduate of Cape Coral High School and University of Florida where he earned his PhD. He is President of Sabella and Associates. Dr. Sabella lives in Fort Myers with his wife Betty.





**Join us for
Our Luncheon and Program**

**The Landings Yacht, Golf & Tennis
Club, 5200 South Landings Drive**

OUR MEETING DATE:

**Saturday, October 21, 2023
Gathering: 11:30 A.M.
Location: The Helm Club**

Luncheon Menu:

Rolls, Coffee, Tea

Choice 1: CHICKEN COBB SALAD-
Grilled Chicken with Romaine Hearts,
Heirloom Tomatoes, Hard-Boiled Egg,
Applewood Smoked Bacon, Avocado and
Gorgonzola Cheese. Red Wine Vignette
Dressing.

Choice 2: PENNE SHRIMP
Pesto Sauce with Grilled Shrimp

Choice 3: Vegan Meal. Chef's choice

Dessert: Chef's Choice or Fruit Cup

***Beverages are available. Wait staff will accept
charge cards for beverages.***

Reservations are required.
***Please indicate choice of menu. Cost
for the luncheon is \$30.00.***



**For luncheon reservations,
Payment Is Expected
to insure your reservation.
Contact Carolyn Nance with your
choice of menu by e-mail, phone or
when you send in your check for
\$30.00. You can also pay with PayPal.**

**Carolyn Nance's contact is:
cnance5240@gmail.com**

or at

**(239) 785-9993
11674 Lady Anne Circle
Cape Coral, FL 33991**

**Please title your e-mail
AAUW Reservations
and contact Carolyn Nance for
reservations no later than
Monday, October 16
**Cancellations must be made no later
than *Tuesday, October 17.*****

**(Meetings begin the third Saturday in
September and end in May.)**



is available on our Branch website.

What is it?

PayPal is a payment platform with a website and a phone app that enables payments between parties through online money transfers.

Why does the Fort Myers/ Lee County Branch, Inc. have an account?

The Branch can manage payment for Donations, Membership, Luncheon and Events.

Will I have to set up a PayPal account?

No. You have options to pay by credit card, use your own PayPal account, or by check.

How will it work?

We have PayPal set up on our web page: <https://fmlc-fl.aauw.net>

AAUW



We have two book clubs. Each welcomes new members.

Cover Girls Book Club

The Cover Girls Book Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 1 pm to 3 pm. The Cover Girls Book Club will be meeting on October 11 at 1 pm at the home of Judi Dixon. Zoom is available for those unable to attend in person or out of town. Coleen Wheeler will be presenting via zoom "The Book of Form and Emptiness" by Ruth Ozeki. In November, Ginny Parson will be presenting "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Ann Pelt. The group will be meeting at Ginny's home. If you are interested in joining the club or need further information, please email Carol Fuechsel:

cbfuechsel@gmail.com

Page Turner Book Club

The next meeting of the Page Turners Book Club will be on Thursday, October 26th at 12:45 at the Lakes Park Library. The book to be discussed is "Mad Honey" by Jodi Picoult.

If you are interested in participating in this book group, contact Lois Benedetto:

benedetl@georgetown.edu

2023-2024 MEETING DATES and Torch Production Schedule

SEND ARTICLES TO peggycihi@comcast.net

Meeting Date

Sept. 16, 2023 via ZOOM
October 21, 2023
November 18, 2023
***Bingo Dinner Thurs., Dec. 14**
*January 13, 2024
February 17, 2024
March 16, 2024
April 20, 2024
May 18, 2024

**unusual date*

Deadline for Articles

August 24, 2023
September 27, 2023
October 21, 2023
November 14, 2023
December 18, 2023
January 24, 2024
February 20, 2024
March 27, 2024
April 24, 2024

Mail Torch Date

September 6, 2023
October 11, 2022
November 8, 2023
November 23, 2023
December 28, 2023
February 7, 2024
March 6, 2024
April 10, 2024
May 8, 2024

Woman of Interest

Dorothy Casterline as a young researcher at Gallaudet University (which is the university for the deaf) in the early 1960s helped write the first comprehensive dictionary of American Sign Language, a book that revolutionized the study of deaf culture.

As an undergraduate English major at Gallaudet, in Washington, in the late 1950s, Mrs. Casterline, who had lost her hearing at 13, caught the attention of a Professor William Stokoe. In addition to teaching literature, Dr. Stokoe was investigating the grammar and syntax of sign language, which at the time was considered nothing more than a gestural derivative of spoken English.

Dr. Stokoe believed that there was much more to it. His goal, which he realized in 1965 with Mrs. Casterline and Professor Carl Croneberg, as co-authors, was to compile the first systematic dictionary of what they came to call American Sign Language.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/16/us/dorothy-casterline-dead.html>

Dorothy Casterline



Mrs. Casterline in 1958, the year she graduated from Gallaudet University.

YOUR HOLIDAY GIFT BASKET COULD BE GOING TO THE. . .



BINGO GALA

At the Helm Club at The Landings

**Admission of \$75 includes:
Bingo Cards & Cash Prizes**

**This is our annual fundraiser for
SCHOLARSHIPS.**

**We will have a fantastic buffet dinner and
10 Bingo Games with cash prizes!
The activities will begin at 5:00 p.m.
(Doors open at 4:30 p.m. to peruse the fabulous
silent auction prizes and make bids.)**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR THURSDAY DEC. 14.

*Payment Is Expected to insure your
reservation.*

*Payment is made in advance by mail with
a check made out to AAUW.*

*To make your payment,
contact Carolyn Nance by e-mail, phone,
or when you send in your check.*

*Carolyn's contact is:
cnance5240@gmail.com
or at (239) 785-9993*

*Send your check to
Carolyn Nance
11674 Lady Anne Circle
Cape Coral, FL 33991*

**Our Silent Auction items will consist of a
variety of baskets on which to bid. Each
will be worth more than \$100. Themes
for the baskets are such categories as
pictured below.**



Not the actual baskets that will be offered

**WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD to raising funds for our
SCHOLARSHIPS.**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR
Thursday, December 14, 2023**



**Buffet Dinner and Bingo Games
Bingo Cards, Daubers and
Cash Prizes
Admission cost: \$75.00**

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Gather your friends, neighbors and relatives to make up a table to attend the Bingo Gala
- Volunteer to help set up the room on Bingo night.
- Put together a raffle basket. Contact Peggy Cihi, 239-980-4794, peggycihi@comcast.net to let us know if you choose to do this.
- We are collecting themed baskets worth a minimum of \$100 for the raffle.
Samples of themes:

Chocolate
Wine
Dining gift cards
Jewelry
Art supplies
Card players
Yoga
Gardening
Correspondence
Handbags
Golf
Cat Lovers
Dog Lovers
Holiday Cookies
Mysteries & Puzzles

Board games
Candles
Holiday
Travel
Bath
Beach
Greeting Cards
Tennis
Hurricane Prep
Taste of Italy
First Aid
Pamper the Chef
"As seen on TV."
Flower Arranging
Crafts

Guided Nature Adventures 2023-2024

Fall in love with Southwest Florida all over again! Explore the surrounding nature that your winter home has to offer. Join AAUW's Master Naturalist, Cathy Tucker, Nature Photographer, Jemetta Hunt, along with guest experts from Southwest Florida. On the fourth Wednesday of the month, be prepared to have an exclusive experience, that is Florida.

Please contact:

Cathy Tucker 239- 634-7414 or
Jemetta Hunt 203-249-6545

to reserve your spot or to answer any questions you may have. Below is a list of adventures we have planned for this year. Most are free, but some fees may be incurred. Lunch will be after each adventure at a unique location.

October 25, 2023	Coastal Discoveries – Mud Flats and Sea Grass- Englewood, Florida
December 27, 2023	The Past and Future of Lee County- Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve
January 24, 2024	Expanding Your Horizons- Charlotte Educational Centerer
February 28, 2024	Future of Sea Cows -Manatee Park
March 27, 2024	The Original Snowbirds- Location TBA
April 24, 2024	Ten Thousand Islands- Everglades National Park
May 22, 2024	Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary or Guided Kayak Tour

The **October 25 Adventure** begins with exploring Florida's coast to discover life beneath the tides. You will see how the seagrasses play an important role in protecting our coastlands and our marine life. In this first stop, you will be wading out to sea grass beds to collect and observe the life that depends on these grasses. We will be joined by Kate Rose who is the

Charlotte County's Sea Grant Agent. Equipment will be provided, but please wear clothes that can get wet along with water shoes to protect your feet. Sunscreen and a hat are recommended along with water and a snack. This excursion is open to spouses and friends, but space is limited.

Call now to reserve your spot.



Mail-In Ballots DID YOU KNOW?

All mail-in ballot requests expired at the end of 2022. This has nothing to do with your voter registration. If you were registered to vote in FL/Lee County prior to 12/31/22, you are still registered to vote. However, you must reapply for mail-in ballots.

This is easy to do at <https://www.lee.vote> (If you do not live in Lee County, go to the appropriate website.) Scroll down the home page to find the link to accomplish this. If your address has changed, you must correct that with the election's office. Mail-in ballots cannot be forwarded.

The new requests will expire at the end of 2024.



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>

Facebook, linked from the website and the direct link:

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUW-Fort-Myers-Lee-County-Branch-107794550957375>

Your Vote is Your Voice



Contact the LEE COUNTY Supervisor of Elections

239-LEE-VOTE (533-8683) www.lee.vote

Register to Vote Update your Voter Registration

Update your Vote-by-Mail Request

All Vote-by-Mail requests expired at the end of 2022



Returning Citizens. Information and help for persons with felonies and completed sentences to regain their right to vote.

League of Women Voters of Florida (LWVFL):

Call: 407-710-5496 email: CanIVote@LWVFL.org

web: <https://lwvfl.org/returning-citizens/>



Florida Rights Restoration Coalition (FRRRC)

help to pay fines and fees if criteria are met

Call FRRRC at 1-877-MYVOTE-0 www.FLORIDARRC.com



LWV Lee County www.lwvlee.org

email: lwvlee@lwvlee.org

phone: 239-278-1032



The League of Women Voters of Lee County, Inc. (LWVLee) is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

*The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose candidates and/or political parties.
LWVLee is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice.*

9/23

GREAT DECISIONS

Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves reading the Great Decisions *Briefing Book*, watching the documentary film series and meeting in a Discussion Group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. The 2024 Great Decisions discussion year will begin in February, 2024. Great Decisions meets virtually on the first Friday of every month (usually with a couple of alterations due to holidays) from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. There are eight topics each year; our branch meets February through June and September through November. Participants purchase a booklet published by the Foreign Policy Association (FPA) to prepare for the discussions and watch a "Master Class" video on the topic. FPA suggests additional readings for each topic, but that reading is at the discretion of the individual participant. Group members take turns facilitating the discussions. Costs for the booklet and shipping/handling have not yet been announced. However, in previous years the cost of the booklet has been \$35, with a 20 percent discount if ordered by late October. Go to fpa.org for more information about Great Decisions. Suzan Harden is our local Great Decisions coordinator (skh062653@gmail.com).

Here is a summary of the 2024 topics:

Mideast Realignment U.S. involvement in Middle East affairs is at a much lower level than at the height of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Should this be the continued policy, or should the U.S. recommit to more of a leading role in the region?

Climate Technology and Competition How can the world's major powers cooperate on global climate initiatives and encourage developing economies to work with them?

Science Across Borders All the world benefits when global powers share scientific advances. But what about when an advancement, such as AI, has the potential to threaten national security?

U.S.-China Trade Rivalry After decades of U.S. business activity in China, accompanied by frequent claims of China's predatory policies, should China be denied access to our research and technology, or would that approach be counterproductive?

NATO's Future Russia's invasion of Ukraine brought extensive debate about NATO's possible role in helping to resolve the conflict. Should NATO provide expedited membership to countries such as Ukraine and Norway? If so, how can NATO proceed without provoking Russia?

Understanding Indonesia Indonesia is one of the world's largest democracies and the world's largest Muslim-majority nation. Why do most Americans know so little about it?

High Seas Treaty In September 2023 the U.S. signed on to the High Seas Treaty, also known as the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction Treaty. Its purpose is to develop protective measures for the high seas. What is it, why is it necessary, and how can nations be convinced to sign on and honor its provisions?

Pandemic Preparedness What did we learn from the COVID-19 pandemic? How can we handle future global health challenges more effectively?

AAUW Fort Myers STARTING ANOTHER WONDERFUL YEAR

**Scholarship Co-Chairs:
Cheryl Tromley and Devera Graf**

We are, very happily, in good financial shape and will be able to offer all our scholarships with a minimum of begging for funds. This will enable us to offer two Lee County High School Scholarships this year. For those of you who attended our scholarship celebration luncheon last spring, you will remember how inspiring these young women were and how incredibly grateful they were for your support.

This month we are highlighting one of our STEM scholarships. GEMS (Girls in Engineering, Math, and Science) is a hands-on science education program for regional middle school girls. One of its unique features is that, while it is led by professionals, undergraduates serve as facilitators and role-models in a girls-only environment. For additional information, see the GEMS flyer at the end of this column, and if any of you would like to attend a session, please let us know.



Our Scholarships

AAUW Star Bright Scholarship

The AAUW Star Bright Memorial Scholarship was established in 2005 by Book Club 3. It provides branch members with the opportunity to make donations honoring friends and commemorating special events. As funds accrue, a \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to a female student attending the second semester at Fort Myers or Cape Coral Technical College.

AAUW Lee County High School Scholarship:

Established in 2011 in memory of Jane Wagner, a three-term branch president. It awards one \$1,000 scholarship per year to a graduating female student with financial need chosen by the school counselor. The award is paid to the college of the recipient's choice.

AAUW STEM Awards: Established in 2001 to encourage middle and high school girls in STEM fields. It awards two \$300 prizes based on those projects submitted to the Thomas Alva Edison & Kiwanis Regional Science and Engineering Fair: The AAUW Thomas Edison and Kiwanis Regional Science & Engineering Fair Award goes to a top female entrant; The AAUW Thomas Edison and Kiwanis Regional Science & Engineering Fair Emerging Research Scholar Award goes to a female entrant whose skills are laudable, but still developing.

Marie Glasgow and AAUW STEM Award Fund: Established in 2019 in honor of Marie Glasgow, president of AAUW Fort Myers/Lee Co Branch for two years. It is awarded each year with the goal of improving educational opportunities by rewarding young Middle School girl(s) who are winners at the Junior Division of Edison-Kiwanis Science Fair or Thomas Edison Festival of Light Regional Inventors Fair.

Girls in Engineering, Math and Science (GEMS): This hands-on program is dedicated to science education for regional middle school girls by enthusiastic professionals and

undergraduates as facilitators and role models in a girls-only environment.

AAUW FGCU Endowed Scholarship: Established in 2000, with member and matching funds from the state, it awards one scholarship to a female student who resides in the five-county (Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Glades, Hendry) area with financial need pursuing an undergraduate degree at FGCU. Priority is given to the current awardee.

AAUW Sue Gottcent Memorial Endowed Scholarship: Established in 2006 with a bequest from the estate of member Sue Gottcent who was an avid supporter of AAUW's mission. It awards one \$2,000 scholarship to a Lee County female student aged 25 or older with demonstrated financial need who attends an institute of higher education that is part of the Florida State University system. Priority is given to the current awardee.

AAUW FSW State College Endowed Scholarship: Established in 2000, with member and matching funds from the state, it awards one \$1,000 scholarship to a female Lee County student with financial need attending the Fort Myers Campus of FSW. Priority is given to the current awardee.



SAVE THE DATE FOR GEMS!

SAT. SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

SAT. DECEMBER 2, 2023

SAT. FEBRUARY 24, 2024

SAT. APRIL 20, 2024

**GIRLS IN ENGINEERING,
MATH, & SCIENCE**

A HALF-DAY EVENT FOR ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS, REGARDLESS OF GENDER, TO ENGAGE IN HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES RELATED TO ENGINEERING, MATH, & SCIENCE.

DOES THE PROGRAM COST ANYTHING?

This program is FREE to all participants. Group registration is required.

DO PARENTS/GUARDIANS NEED TO BE THERE?

No. All activities are supervised by university personnel.

WHERE IS IT HELD?

FGCU's campus in Fort Myers.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN THE DAY OF THE PROGRAM?

Participants will engage in hands-on STEM activities with FGCU professors and students in actual university classroom laboratories.

WHAT TO WEAR?

Comfortable clothes that you would wear to school with close-toed shoes.

DETAILS REGARDING UPCOMING EVENTS TO FOLLOW

For more information:

<https://www.fgcu.edu/cas/centers/whitaker/k-12#girlsgems>

 @FGCUGEMS | Email: GEMS@FGCU.EDU

YOUR SCHOOL IS NEITHER ENDORSING NOR SPONSORING THIS EVENT NOR ENDORSING THE VIEWS OF FGCU.

PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW FORT MYERS/LEE COUNTY

Submitted by Suzan Harden

skh062653@gmail.com

AAUW FL Public Policy Committee is beginning the review of legislation proposed for Florida's 2024 Legislative Session, which begins in January. The committee will be looking at legislation that will affect our adopted legislative priorities, including financial security/equal pay, health care, and education. If you would like to see what has already been proposed, go to www.myfloridahouse.gov. Click on "Bills" in the bar at the top. You will get a list of the bills currently submitted. This will change drastically and rapidly over the next few weeks as our legislators begin their committee meetings. To see more detail about Florida's Public Policy priorities, go to [AAUW Public Policy Overview | Florida](#)

Information about AAUW FL Lobby Days, January 15-17 in Tallahassee, will be provided at the October meeting.

The Public Policy Chair for the branch is Suzan Harden. If you would like to be a member of the Public Policy Committee, please contact her (skh062653@gmail.com).

Special Interest Group

TOOLS FOR ADVOCACY

Suzan Harden is looking for four or five members to serve with the Tools for Advocacy special interest group. Our mission will include the following:

1. Staying informed about the legislative priorities of AAUW and AAUW FL
2. Monitoring proposed legislation
3. Developing an action plan for legislation related to our priorities (pro and con)
4. Reviewing and choosing appropriate tools to accomplish our plan.

The legislators who serve Lee County: U.S. Senate: Rubio, Scott; U.S. House: Donalds, Steube; FL Senate: Albritton, Martin, Passidomo; FL House: Botana, Esposito, Giallombardo, Persons-Mulicka, Roach.

Members will share responsibilities for monitoring legislation that relates to our priorities, reporting to the members, and suggesting a course of action our branch may wish to pursue. Because the legislative session begins in January, our work will begin early in the fall. The AAUW FL Public Policy Committee is working hard to develop resources we can use.

Submitted by Suzan Harden

skh062653@gmail.com

Feedback welcome!



FLORIDA

The AAUW Florida Public Policy Issue Forums

Wouldn't you like more in-depth information on the important issues facing Florida from a nonpartisan but equity-focused viewpoint? Would you like to be able to ask your own questions of experts regarding these issues? Then be sure to attend as many AAUW Florida Issue Forums this year as you can. All sessions will start at 6:00 PM and last for an hour. The series is open to AAUW members and guests.

TITLE	DATE	SPEAKERS	RSVP
Reproductive Rights	Sept. 14, 2023	Moné Holder, Florida Rising	Click here to register for this session
Title IX and Dress Codes in Schools	Oct. 5, 2023	Nancy Tray, Change the Dress Code Movement, St Johns County	Click here to register for this session
Gender Studies and DEI Initiatives at Colleges	Nov. 2 2023	Dr. Elizabeth Brown, Past President of the United Faculty of Florida, University of North Florida	Click here to register for this session
Florida 2024 Legislative Preview	Nov.16, 2023	Dr. Pat DeWitt, AAUW Co-Public Policy Director and Public Policy Committee Members	Click here to register for this session
Public Education and Book Bans	Jan. 11, 2024	Dr. Marvin Dunn, Professor Emeritus at Florida International University and Miami Center for Racial Justice	Click here to register for this session
Gender Pay Gap and Economic Security	March 7, 2024	Dr. Mary Gatta, AAUW FL Co- Public Policy Director and Director of Research and Public Policy, National Association of Colleges and Employers	Click here to register for this session
Voting Rights	April 18, 2024	Debbie Chandler, Co-President, League of Women's Voters. Florida	Click here to register for this session

You will need to RSVP for each session individually. Once you RSVP you will receive a Zoom link for the session. If you have any questions, contact Mary Gatta, Co-Public Policy Director, AAUW Florida at gatta.mary@gmail.com

Please note: You will need to go to the AAUW FLORIDA website to register for these sessions.
<https://aauw-fl.aauw.net>

INTEREST GROUPS/COORDINATORS

BOOK GROUPS

Carol Fuechsel, Coordinator

cbfuechsel@gmail.com

Book Club **Meets**

Cover Girls **2nd Wednesday, 1 PM**

Page Turners **4th Thursday, 12:30 PM**

(The book clubs accept new members. If interested, please contact Carol Fuechsel.)

BRIDGE

Patricia Crowe, Coordinator

pwc@world.std.com

HAND & FOOT

Carolyn Nance, Coordinator

Meets –1st Monday each month

cnance5240@gmail.com

MAHJONG

Carolyn Nance, Coordinator

Meets –3rd Thursday each month

cnance5240@gmail.com

GREAT DECISIONS

Suzan Harden, Coordinator

Meets 1st Friday each month.

skh062653@gmail.com

GUIDED NATURE EXCURSIONS

Jemetta Hunt, Coordinator

jemetta@aol.com

Cathy Tucker, Master Naturalist

cptucker@embarqmail.com

TOOLS FOR ADVOCACY

Suzan Harden Coordinator

Skh062653@gmail.com

New Interest Groups Are Welcome

Contact: Jametta Hunt

jemetta@aol.com

AAUW Fort Myers/Lee County Branch, Inc. 2023-2024 Officers

Elected – Executive Board

President – Cecile Brennan

*Past Presidents – Bonnie Ryan
and Janet George*

Vice President, Elect –

Nancy Schoenstein

Vice President of Programs –

Jill Jennings

Vice President Membership –

Jemetta Hunt

Secretary –Patricia Crowe

Treasurer – Mary Kellner

Appointed Officers – Board Members

Public Policy – Suzan Harden

Co-Chairs of Scholarship –

Cheryl Tromley and Devera Graf

Communications/Website/Facebook –

Astoria Aviles and Perry Doubt

Ways and Means – Peggy Cih

Strategic Planning—

Kathleen Haibach

Standing Committees

Torch Editor – Peggy Cih

Records Retention – Executive Board

Science Fair - Cathy Tucker

Diversity Officer - Lisa Crotty

Strategic Plan –(open)

Ancillary Positions

Reservations – Carolyn Nance assisted by

Lynn Felice

Sunshine – Mary Jane McDowell

Greeters – Board Members

*Torch Proofreaders: Jill Jennings
and Carolyn Nance*

Torch Circulation –

Jemetta Hunt (US Mail)

Kathy Jones (E-mail)



American Association of University Women

Fort Myers / Lee County (FL) Branch Inc.

PO Box 2115
Fort Myers, FL 33902-2115

Donate Today to help the Fort Myers Branch Advance Equity for Women

Use my Gift for: ____ Operating Expenses ____ Unrestricted ____ Scholarships* ____

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State & Zip _____

Phone: (Mobile) _____ (Home) _____

Email: _____

Donation Amount ____ \$25 ____ \$50 ____ \$100 or Other Amount \$ _____

Is the gift in honor or memory of someone? If so please complete the following:

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Contact information for person honored or family of person remembered:

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Note: Should you want to specify a specific Branch scholarship or award please name below:

(See list under: <https://fmlc-fl.aauw.net> under tab Philanthropy; Scholarships,

Awards

Scholarship/ Award: _____

**Please make checks payable to AAUW Fort Myers / Lee County, Inc. and mail to:
AAUW – ATTN: Treasurer, PO Box 2115, Fort Myers, FL 33901- 2115**

AAUW Fort Myers/Lee Co FL is a 501 (c) 3 not for profit organization and gifts may be tax deductible to the extent allowed by the law.

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