

The American Association of University Women

The **TORCH**

September, 2024

Vol. 58, No. 6

AAUW. Vol. 63, No. 1

Peggy Drennan Cihl, Editor.

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGES FOR OCTOBER

Dear Members,

I'm sorry to have to announce that for personal and health reasons I need to resign as president for this year. I am not currently in Florida and don't know whether I will be able to join you this year. Our branch deserves a president who is fully engaged in energizing our members and providing them with a positive experience. Fortunately, we have that person in Lisa Crotty who, as our President Elect, will now be stepping into the role of President. Lisa will introduce herself and her vision below. Before I sign off, I want to thank EVERYONE for their support during this difficult personal time. Your concern and support are greatly appreciated. Let's put all that energy behind Lisa and have a great year!

Cecile Brennan

Greetings to our Membership,

Hello all. First, I want to say thank you to Cecile for all her hard work and dedication, and I know we all wish her the best on her healing journey. Welcome back to all our members. We look forward to seeing you at

our in-person meeting at The Landings on October 19.

At this meeting, will have details of our December gala and a practice round of bingo (with prizes!), we'll be handing out the new directory, and we have a great speaker scheduled. Please make plans now to join us.

Note that Bonnie Ryan and Janet George have taken over reservations this year, and you will RSVP to aauwleecounty@gmail.com. Review the menu options in the Torch and note that selection in your RSVP. Carolyn Nance is taking a well-deserved retirement from managing our reservations, and we thank her for all her service.

We have several volunteer positions open and a wonderfully talented membership, so if you would like to dedicate some of your time and talents to our chapter, please reach out to me or Jemetta Hunt.

Thank you for your support and I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming meeting.

Lisa Crotty, President



Our club's mission is to ***PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS TO DESERVING WOMEN*** so they can further their education. We have three major methods of funding our scholarships.

1. Contribute to a particular scholarship
2. Sponsor a scholarship
3. Support our Bingo Gala fundraiser in December. Ways you can do this are described on the following pages.

Our AAUW Board approved an exciting new opportunity for our members to support our scholarships. Beginning in our 2024/2025 fiscal year, anyone is now able to sponsor and name a scholarship “*in honor of*” someone.

For example, Cheryl Tromley is funding the Fort Myers Technical College Star Bright Scholarship and is naming it “The Violet Roberts FMTC Star Bright Scholarship” in honor of her grandmother. You can do this as an individual or partner with others.

This offer would apply to the following scholarships:

- AAUW Star Bright Scholarship (Cape Coral Technical College): \$1,000 per year.
- AAUW Lee County High School Scholarships: 2 @ \$1,500 per year.
- AAUW Thomas Edison and Kiwanis Regional Science & Engineering Fair Award: \$300 per year.
- AAUW Thomas Edison and Kiwanis Regional Science & Engineering Fair Emerging Research Scholar Award: \$300 per year.

This opportunity does not change any of our normal donation processes. All opportunities for donating will remain the same, and this is just an ***additional way*** to contribute to our scholarships and an ***additional way*** to honor someone. The normal channels will still be available.

In addition, if anyone wants to donate “*in honor of...*” but does not want to commit to a sponsorship, as has always been the case, they may elect to target that donation to a specific scholarship or the scholarship fund. If the latter, the Scholarship Committee and/or Chairs will allocate it where the need is greatest.

If anyone is interested in exploring this opportunity, please contact Cheryl Tromley, Scholarship Committee Co-Chair at 203-530-9147 or email cltromley@gmail.com.

SUPPORTING OUR

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Co-Chairs: Cheryl Tromley and Devera Graf

We want to **THANK YOU** for your incredible generosity. Because of that generosity, we can increase our support for several of our established scholarships and fund some exciting additions to our STEM awards.

AAUW FGCU and FSW Endowed Scholarships: These scholarships were established in 2000. They award scholarships to female students who reside in the five-county (Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Glades, Hendry) area, with financial need, pursuing undergraduate degrees at FGCU and FSW respectively. The amount awarded is a percentage of the endowments and is approximately \$2,000.

AAUW Star Bright Scholarships: Originally established in 2005, by Book Club 3, to provide branch members with the opportunity to make donations honoring friends and commemorating special events. There are now *two* Star Bright Scholarships, and they are a budgeted item that awards scholarships to female students attending the second semester at Cape Coral Technical College and Fort Myers Technical College.

We were able to increase the funding of these life-changing scholarships to \$2,000 each.

AAUW Lee County High School Scholarships: Established in 2011 in memory of Jane Wagner, a three-term branch president. Two scholarships are awarded to graduating

female students (from two different schools) with financial need. The scholars are chosen by the schools' counselors and the scholarships are paid to the colleges of the recipients' choice. We were able to raise these awards to \$2,000 each.

AAUW STEM Awards (High-School): Established in 2001 to encourage high school girls in STEM fields, it awards two entrants in the Thomas Alva Edison & Kiwanis Regional Science and Engineering Fair. Recipients must present a unique, quality topic, and conduct their own research. Judging is done by members of the Scholarship Committee. The *AAUW Thomas Edison and Kiwanis Regional Science & Engineering Fair Award* and *Emerging Research Scholar Award* will now each provide a \$500 prize.

AAUW STEM Awards (Middle-School): Many of you know that girls often lose interest in STEM in middle-school, so this is an important time to support that interest. As you know we contribute annually to ***Girls in Engineering, Math, and Science (GEMS)*** program. Past *Torch* articles have highlighted this hands-on program dedicated to science education for regional middle-school students. The day-long programs, in a girls-only environment, are presented by enthusiastic professionals with undergraduates participating as facilitators and role models. This year we can increase the amount of our contribution to \$1,500. In addition, for this year, we are going to be able to support young women's interest in STEM by providing awards to middle-school girls participating in the *Junior Division of Thomas Edison Festival of Light Regional Inventors Fair*. There will be three *Regional Inventors Fair*. There will be three \$200 awards—one each in grades six, seven and eight.

We appreciate your support and donations!



Save the date and reserve your table now! Our annual Bingo Fundraiser will be on Tuesday, December 10 at the Landings. All are invited!

The evening will celebrate women throughout history, and include bingo, a silent auction, raffle, and live auction. Each table will celebrate a woman in history - reserve your table to choose a woman to honor! The full list of historic women is available on our website.

Tickets are \$75 per person and includes a buffet dinner and 5 rounds of bingo! You can reserve your table (8 seats or 10 seats) today, by emailing Astoria Aviles, Bingo Chair, astoria.aviles@gmail.com. Pricing is available on our website.

To reserve your table, or purchase your tickets, visit our website.

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

See you there!

AAUW

BINGO FUNDRAISER

Supporting Scholarships for Women

Tuesday, December 10th

Doors Open at 4:30 PM

Reserve your table today!

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





Join us for
Our Luncheon and Program
The Landings Yacht, Golf & Tennis Club,
5200 South Landings Drive

OUR MEETING DATE:
Saturday, October 19, 2024
Gathering: 11:30 A.M.
Location: The Helm Club



Rolls, Coffee, Tea

*Choice 1: COB SALAD with Romain Hearts,
Baby Heirloom Tomatoes, Hard Boiled Egg,
Applewood Smoked Bacon, Avocado,
Gorgonzola Cheese and Red Wine*

*Choice 2: PENNE PASTA with Creamy Pesto
Sauce and 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.*

**Luncheon Reservations and Payment
must be made by Monday, October 14.**

Cost for the luncheon is \$32.00.

RESERVATION
EVERY reservation MUST be made by
email at
aauwleecounty@gmail.com

In the email indicate your luncheon
choice; #1 or #2 or #3.

PAYMENT
There are two choices for payment.

1. By check payable to AAUW and
mailed to:
AAUW Fort Myers/Lee County
P.O. Box 2115
Fort Myers, FL 33902-2115

OR

2. Use PayPal on the AAUW website.



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

(See page 7 for more information about
PayPal.)

Cancellations must be made no later
than **Tuesday, October 15** through our
email:

aauwleecounty@gmail.com



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?

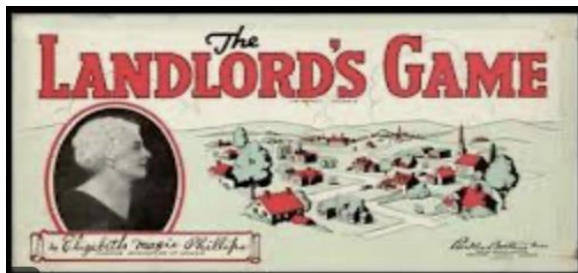
No. You have options to pay by credit card, use your own PayPal account, or by check.

How will it work?

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

WOMAN OF INTEREST

Elizabeth Magie



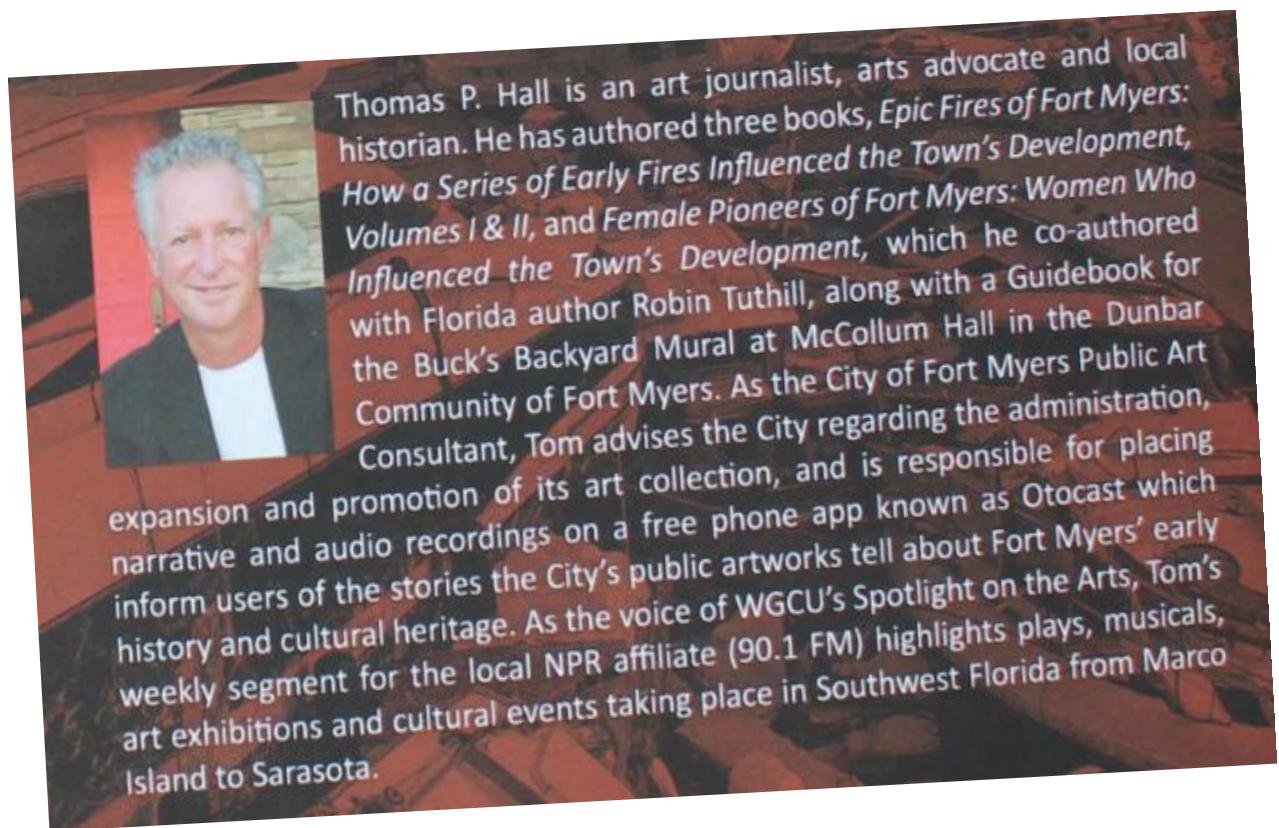
The popular board game of Monopoly was designed by Elizabeth Magie in 1904, originally called the Landlord's Game. The purpose of this game was to expose the injustices of unchecked capitalism. Her game was ripped off by Charles Darrow who sold it to Parker Brother's 30 years later. However, Parker Brothers later paid Elizabeth \$500 for her game. Gee Thanks!

Long before Ian, Helene, and Milton, three historic hurricanes in the 1800's shaped where and how Fort Myers developed.

Hurricanes are continuing to shape our present-day Fort Myers.

Our Guest Speaker for October is Thomas P. Hall, author of

HISTORIC HURRICANES OF FORT MYERS



Come and hear this dynamic speaker describe where and why Fort Myers and the surrounding areas are vulnerable to storm surge, wind damage and inland flooding during tropical storms and hurricanes.

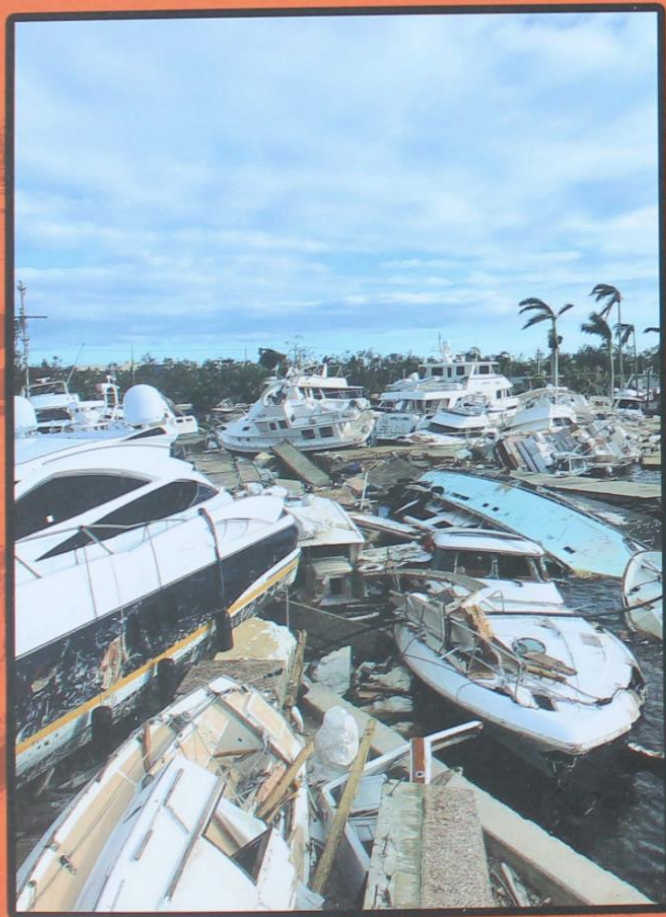
Learn about three 19th century hurricanes.

Thomas P. Hall gives specific guidance to preparing for, surviving during and evacuating from tropical systems.

Thomas P. Hall's book will be available for purchase after the luncheon.

HISTORIC HURRICANES OF FORT MYERS

*How Three 19th Century Hurricanes
Influenced the Town's Development*



THOMAS P. HALL

AAUW



*We have two book clubs.
Each welcomes new members*

The Cover Girls Book Club is meeting in members' homes. Zoom will be available for those who are out of town or unable to otherwise attend. The meeting time is generally the second Wednesday of each month from 1 pm to 3 pm. The club has not been meeting during the summer. The selection for October is Killers of the Flower Moon-The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI by David Grann. The meeting will be held at Carol Fuechsel's home on October 9. For more information contact Carol Fuechsel at cbfuechsel@gmail.com New members are welcome.

Page Turners' Book Club

We welcome new members. If interested, contact Lois Benedetto, benedettol@georgetown.edu

AAUW



Do You Play Bridge?

Bridge players love the mental challenge. Each game played offers a unique challenge of problems and solutions. Every single deal is different; every deal poses a new problem, and the challenge of finding the solution is a great source of enjoyment - even more so if you find the answer!

Our Bridge Club plays rubber bridge and meets once a month. We would love to increase our membership.

Do You Play Bridge?

Please join our AAUW bridge group. It's lots of fun. We play the second Monday of each month at 1pm. We take turns hosting the games. If you would like to join us, please email to:

lois.mcdougall@yahoo.com.

Note: Add these dates to your calendar.

2024-2025 MEETING DATES and TORCH PRODUCTION SCHEDULE

SEND ARTICLES TO peggycihi@comcast.net

Meeting Date	Deadline for Articles	Mail Torch Date
September 21, 2024 October 19, 2024 November 16, 2024	August 21, 2024 September 25, 2024 October 21, 2024	September 9, 2024 October 9, 2024 November 5, 2024
*Bingo Dinner December 10	November 18, 2024	November 26, 2024
January 18, 2025 February 15, 2025 March 15, 2025 *April 12, 2025 May 17, 2025	December 13, 2024 January 22, 2025 February 19, 2025 March 19, 2025 April 23, 2025	January 8, 2025 February 5, 2025 March 5, 2025 April 2, 2025 May 7, 2025

**Unusual Date*



AAUW Fort Myers/Lee County

P.O. Box 2115

Fort Myers, FL 33902-2115

<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>



Great Decisions 2024

The final discussion of 2024 is Friday, November 1. Kath Haibach will lead a discussion on Pandemic Preparedness. Thank you to Lois Benedetto, Mary Lou Chamberlain, Lisa Crotty, Pat Crowe, Kath Haibach, Nancy Paterson, Cheryl Tromley, and Colleen Wheeler for another thought-provoking series of discussions.

Great Decisions 2025

The anticipated date of our first 2025 Great Decisions discussion is Friday, February 7. Topics to be discussed in 2025 include American Foreign Policy at a Crossroads; U.S. Changing Leadership of the World Economy; U.S.-China Relations; International Cooperation on Climate Change; The Future of NATO and European Security; India: Between China, the West, and the Global South; After Gaza: American Policy in the Middle East.

Master class lectures are presented by Jeffrey S. Morton, the Pierrepont Comfort Chair in Political Science at Florida Atlantic University and a Fellow at the Foreign Policy Association. He holds a Ph.D. in International Relations from the University of South Carolina and an M.A. from Rutgers University. Dr. Morton has delivered the Great Decisions program to live audiences since 1999.

Suzan Harden, Great Decisions Coordinator, will order books for all Great Decisions participants in order that everyone gets the 20 percent discount. Books cost \$35 minus 20 percent = \$28 + \$2 for shipping/handling = \$30. Let Suzan know by THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24 if you plan to order a book and to arrange payment. Great Decisions is open to all, and we would love to have you participate!

skh062653@gmail.com

Tools for Advocacy

As you complete your membership form for the 24-25 program year, you will see Tools for Advocacy listed as an interest group. The purpose of this group is to help interested members develop techniques for advocating with legislators. Contact Suzan Harden if you would like more information. Everyone is welcome!

skh062653@gmail.com

PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW Florida’s Public Policy Education Forums were such a success last year, another year of discussions has been developed for 24/25. Here is the list of discussions:

Date	Topic	Presenter
Thurs., Nov. 14	Addiction, Public Health, and Criminal Justice	Patricia Roos, Professor Rutgers University
Thurs., Jan. 9	Black Girls in Florida Schools	Bayliss Fiddiman National Women’s Law Center
Thurs., Feb. 13	Florida Legislative Preview	Dr. Pat DeWitt, AAUW FL Co-Public Policy Director
Thurs., Mar. 6	Pay Gap, Caregiving, and Economic Security	Dr. Mary Gatta, AAUW FL Co-Public Policy Director Director, Research and Public Policy, National Association of Colleges and Employers
Thurs., Apr. 3	Gender and Race Equity in STEM	Amanda Koontz, Professor University of Central Florida

All sessions meet at 6 p.m. via Zoom. There is no cost. For more information about each topic, go to <https://aauw-fl.aauw.net/public-policy-issue-forums/>. You will see there is a reservation link for each topic, and you will need to make a reservation for each topic. Then you will receive a Zoom link for the session.

If you have any questions about these sessions, contact Suzan Harden. skh062653@gmail.com

AAUW FORT MYERS/LEE COUNTY

Submitted by Suzan Harden

skh062653@gmail.com

Upcoming Elections

Tuesday, November 5 – General Election

Deadline to Register – October 7

Deadline to Request that Ballot be Mailed – October 24

- If you have updated your request that your **Vote-by-Mail Ballots** be mailed to you since Dec. 31, 2022, your request is valid until the end of this year. You do not need to do it again.
- **Vote-by-Mail Ballots** will not be forwarded by the U.S. Postal Service. If you need your ballot forwarded to a different address than that on your voter registration record, you must contact the Supervisor of Elections.
- If your signature has changed considerably (illness, accident), contact the Supervisor of Elections to get your new signature on record.
- To assure timely delivery, the Supervisor of Elections recommends you mail your Vote-by-Mail ballot 10 days prior to the election. The mail ballot must reach the elections office by 7 p.m. November 5.
- For any other questions, go to www.lee.vote.

PUBLIC POLICY

PUBLIC POLICY **Submitted by Suzan Harden**

Summary of AAUW FL September Public Policy Forum

The first Public Policy Forum of the new program year was held Thursday, September 5. The topics were Amendment 1 and a brief summary of 2024 FL legislation regarding education. AAUW FL's Public Policy Co-Director Mary Gatta and LWVFL's Rosemary Nilles and Nancy Chism were the presenters.

Amendment 1 – Partisan vs Nonpartisan School Board Elections

Florida's school board elections have been nonpartisan since 1998. If approved by at least 60 percent of voters, school board elections would become part of Florida's closed primary system as of the November 2026 General Election. Primaries leading to this election may be partisan.

In the current system, school board candidates do not declare a party. Candidates are arranged on the ballot by district, alphabetically. Lee County has seven districts: 5 districts are area-specific; 2 districts are county-wide or open seats. All registered voters can vote for school board seats. The winning candidate must receive 50 percent of the vote plus one. If no candidate wins 50 percent, the top two candidates appear in a run-off.

How would this amendment change school board elections?

1. In a closed primary, only voters registered to a particular party can vote for that party's candidates.
2. Approximately 30 percent of Florida voters are registered as No Party Affiliates (NPAs), roughly 4 million voters. NPAs cannot vote in a closed primary; therefore, all those voters would now be excluded from voting in school board primaries. In Lee County, 128,848 voters, or 26.8 percent, are registered as NPAs and would be excluded in future primaries.
3. If only one party has candidates, the primary is open to all voters. Such a primary is called a Universal Primary Contest (UPC).
4. But Florida has a write-in loophole to close a UPC. The write-in candidate runs only in the general election and does not specify a party affiliation. Often, the candidate does not even campaign. However, the write-in candidate closes the primary. As a result of this loophole, over 8 million Florida voters were excluded from voting in Florida primaries from 1998-2022.

Reasons to Vote No on Amendment 1

All registered voters will participate in primary elections
Nonpartisan boards may have more incentive for collaboration and compromise
Nonpartisan elections maintain local control
Nonpartisanship promotes a school community with diverse perspectives and experiences

Reasons to Vote Yes on Amendment 1

Partisan school boards may contribute to transparency
Partisan school boards are a logical outgrowth of the politicization of education
Partisan school boards will align with other partisan races such as commissioners and sheriffs.

(Continued on the next page.)

(Continued)

AAUW FL encourages us to vote No on Amendment 1.

The League of Women Voters created a tri-fold providing more details on this amendment. Use this link to download the tri-fold: [Amendment-1-Trifold-2024.pdf \(lwvfl.org\)](https://www.lwvfl.org/Amendment-1-Trifold-2024.pdf)

Did you know? A new law passed in 2023 permits candidates from outside our county to run for our local school board. Only after being elected would they have to move to our county.

Brief Summary of Education Bills Passed During 2024 Legislative Session

Governor DeSantis signed into law 28 bills passed in the 2024 Legislative Session dealing with Education. Some had many topics. These are just highlights.

CS/HB 1317 – Patriotic Organizations. Allows Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America; Boy Scouts of America; Boys & Girls Clubs of America; Civil Air Patrol; Future Farmers of America; Girl Scouts of the United States of America; Naval Sea Cadets; Little League Incorporated; and Marine League Corp to speak with and distribute informational materials in classes to encourage participation and inform students of benefits to the student and the community. May have tables and recruit in schools.

CS/HB 1291 – Teacher preparation programs. Program may not distort significant historical events, teach identify politics, violate Florida law regarding discrimination, or base coursework or instruction on specified theories regarding social, political, and economic inequities. Covers incentives and easing of standards to encourage entry.

CS/CS/HB 1285 – Classical school teacher certification. The State Board of Ed can set standards. General, content or professional knowledge not required. Good only at a classical school. A classical school implements a classical education school model that emphasizes the development of students in the principles of moral character and civic virtue through a well-rounded education in the liberal arts and sciences that is based on the classical trivium states of grammar, logic, and rhetoric. Florida has 18 classical charter schools across 9 school districts. For more about classical school curriculum, go to <https://www.the-classical-academy.com/classical-education-101-what-exactly-is-it/>

CS/CS/HB 49 – Employment of Minors. You heard a lot about this bill last spring because AAUW FL opposed its passage. This bill 1) permits minors 16 and 17 years old to work for more than 8 hours in any one day when school is not scheduled the following day and the day of work is a holiday or a Sunday; 2) waives the cap of 30 hours per week when school is in session for minors 16 and 17 years old if approved by minor's parent or custodian or by the school superintendent or designee; 3) allows minors 16 and 17 years old to work more than 6 consecutive days in any one week.

CS/CS/HB 1285 – Limit on book challenges. A resident in the county who is not the parent or guardian of a student with access to school district materials may object to no more than one material per month.

HB 931 – School Chaplains. Allows school districts and charter school governing boards to authorize volunteer school chaplains to provide supports, services, and programs, (i.e., mental health services) to children. Volunteer chaplains must meet background screening requirements just as any other school district employee or contractual entity must do. Districts must post on the school district website the names of the approved chaplains and their religious affiliations, identify the services the chaplains will be able to provide, and parents must give written permission for their children to receive services. Most school districts in the state, including Lee, have not embraced this policy.

Other Amendments of Interest

Amendment 2 – Right to Fish and Hunt

Right to Fish and Hunt - Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to preserve forever fishing and hunting, including by the use of traditional methods, as a public right and preferred means of responsibly managing and controlling fish and wildlife. Specifies that the amendment does not limit the authority granted to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission under Section 9 of Article IV of the State Constitution.

Amendment 3 – Adult Personal Use of Marijuana

Adult Personal Use of Marijuana - Allows adults 21 years or older to possess, purchase, or use marijuana products and marijuana accessories for non-medical personal consumption by smoking, ingestion, or otherwise; allows Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers, and other state licensed entities, to acquire, cultivate, process, manufacture, sell, and distribute such products and accessories. Applies to Florida law; does not change, or immunize violations of, federal law. Establishes possession limits for personal use. Allows consistent legislation. Defines terms. Provides effective date.

Amendment 4 – Abortion Access

Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion: No law shall prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict abortion before viability or when necessary to protect the patient's health, as determined by the patient's healthcare provider. This amendment does not change the Legislature's constitutional authority to require notification to a parent or guardian before a minor has an abortion.

Amendment 5 – Homestead Annual Inflation Adjustment

Annual adjustment to Homestead Exemption Value: Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to require an annual adjustment for inflation to the value of current or future homestead exemptions that apply solely to levies other than school district levies and for which every person who has legal or equitable title to real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence of the owner, or another person legally or naturally dependent upon the owner is eligible. This amendment takes effect January 1, 2025.

Amendment 6 – Repeal of Public Campaign Financing Requirement

Repeal of Public Campaign Financing Requirement: Proposing the repeal of the provision in the State Constitution which requires public financing for campaigns of candidates for elective statewide office who agree to campaign spending limits.

Next Forum

The next AAUW FL Public Policy Forum is on Tuesday, October 8. The topic is LGBTQ+ Families and Florida's Don't Say Gay Laws. Abbie Goldberg, professor at Clark University, will present. No charge, discussion begins at 6 p.m., one hour, registration required. Click here to register: <https://aauw-fl.aauw.net/public-policy-issue-forums/>

INTEREST GROUPS/COORDINATORS

BOOK GROUPS

Carol Fuechsel, Coordinator
cbfuechsel@gmail.com

Book Club Meets
Cover Girls 2nd Wednesday, 1 PM
Page Turners 4th Thursday, 12:45 PM

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

BRIDGE

Lois McDougall, Coordinator
lois.mcdougall@yahoo.com

HAND & FOOT

Carolyn Nance, Coordinator
Meets –1st Monday each month
cnance5240@gmail.com

MAHJONGG

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: Jemetta Hunt
jemetta@aol.com

AAUW Fort Myers/Lee County Branch, Inc. 2024-2025 Officers

Elected – Executive Board

President – Lisa Crotty
Past President – Bonnie Ryan
President Elect –
Open

Vice President of Programs –
Jill Jennings

Vice President of Membership –
Jemetta Hunt, Kathleen Haibach

Secretary –Patricia Crowe
Treasurer – Mary Kellner and
Nancy Schoenstein

Appointed Officers – Board Members

Public Policy – Suzan Harden
Co-Chairs of Scholarship –

Cheryl Tromley and Devera Graf
Communications (Torch/Website/Facebook)

Peggy Drennan Cihl, Astoria Aviles
Ways and Means –Open

Standing Committees

Records Retention – Executive Board

Science Fair - Cathy Tucker

Diversity Officer - Lisa Crotty

Strategic Planning—

Kathleen Haibach and Tamara Pigott

Ancillary Positions

Reservations – Janet George and
Bonnie Ryan

Sunshine – Margot Flinn

Greeters – Board Members

Torch Proofreaders: Jill Jennings,
Lisa Crotty and Carolyn Nance

Torch Circulation –

Jemetta Hunt (US Mail)

Lisa Crotty (E-mail)



AAUW 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**

33902

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.

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE OR www.800helpfla.com. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.” CH39730



**Membership and Interest Form
AAUW Fort Myers/Lee County
Branch, Inc.
July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025**

Last Name: _____ **First Name:** _____

Florida Address (Is this a new or edited prior address in Florida? Circle: Y or N)

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Dates usually in Lee County: Full Time or Seasonal, from: _____ to: _____

Out of Season Address (Is this a new or edited out of season address? Circle: Y or N)

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Contact Information--Will be included in the directory and used to send branch communications such as the Torch.

Email: _____

Phone-Home: _____ Phone-Cell: _____

Birthdate: Month/Day: _____/_____

Education—As you would prefer to be included in the directory. Education: Degree(s)/Year/College/University(s):

Degree _____ Year _____ Colege/University _____

Degree _____ Year _____ College/University _____

Level of Membership

- \$63.00 New Member (Reduced cost for first year membership! Welcome!)
- \$99.00 Renewing Branch Member
- \$27.00 Dual Member—Primary membership with another branch Primary branch: _____
- \$27.00 Paid Life Member
- \$0.00 Honorary Life Member

Payment: Mail the Membership Form with your check, payable to **AAUW Fort Myers/Lee County Branch Inc.**

AAUW Fort Myers/Lee Co Branch, Inc.

P.O. Box 2115

Fort Myers, FL 33902-2115

All questions regarding membership may be sent by email to Jemetta Hunt, Membership VP, jemetta@aol.com

My interests would be in the following Committees and Interest Groups

Check	Committees	Check	Interest Groups
	Membership/Directory		Book Group
	Public Policy		Bridge
	Scholarships		Hand and Foot
	Communications		Mahjonn
	Ways and Means/Fundraising		Nature Walks
	Torch Newsletter Production Editing		Tools for Advocacy
	Strategic Planning		Great Decisions
			Field Trips
			Other:



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Fort Myers, FL 33902
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