

 **The Communicator** 
November 2019

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**Diane Waronka,
President**



Thanks so much to Mary Ann Worthington for being curious, doing her research, and enlightening us with the story of how Japanese women came to have equal rights in their constitution post WWII. It was fascinating to me regarding how long Beate Sirota Gordon was forced to keep secret all that she had done to empower these women. This was the main topic at our first meeting of the year in October.

Above, Mary Ann Worthington and Diane, holding the book *The Only Woman In The Room* about the life of Beate Sirota Gordon.

The unusual thing about the October meeting was having very few members (only about 20) but having 11 guests and potential members in attendance. Two of the guests were HCC faculty members who shared with us how special one of their students was who happened to be our scholarship recipient. This was really a feel-good moment!

Many of you already have your tickets to our November fundraiser. I want you to know that the deadline for purchasing tickets from Lois Toeppe (813-633-6484) is November 8. We have had good publicity for this event but as of now still only have about 90 seats sold. We would like to sell more! Recently flyers and articles have been emailed to many of the military groups in town, so I am hoping there will be more phone calls soon. On page two of this newsletter, you will find both the flyer and the article that was in the *Observer*. Feel free to send either of these to people you know.

As you may know, the event is a one-act play by Maureen Patrick, depicting a World War II American Red Cross worker serving in Britain before D-Day. The date is November 16, 2019 at the SCC Community Hall. Tickets are \$30 (\$15 of which goes to Banquet Masters for the lunch). There will be some great baskets and a \$100 VISA gift card for raffles.

Speaking of Lois Toeppe, she told me last spring that she is ready to retire as our AAUW Historian; she has done it now for many years. So, this is me retroactively and somewhat desperately looking for someone to take her place immediately. It is not a hard job... maybe an hour per month or so. And it can be done at your leisure in your home. Please consider helping out.

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In terms of our cruise fundraiser, I am pleased to report that this February 16 cruise has almost the necessary minimum amount of people for us to benefit. We need at least a few more cabins filled since there are always a few last-minute emergencies where people have to cancel. If anyone has been thinking about going but needs a roommate, Marsha Fader needs a roommate and would like to go. Maybe give her a call?

At the last board meeting, there was a very active discussion... I could almost say a heated discussion... concerning whether to continue printing a directory when all member information is now on our website. For now, you have been emailed specific instructions on how to print out your own directory from the website. The benefit of this is that all information can easily be kept up-to-date.

**Finally please help me welcome our three new members:
Sharon Ehrenfeld, Joyce Schuetz, and Donna Maso.**

And since it is Halloween, let me say that We Love New Blood! See you all on November 16!

CELEBRATE VETERANS

OF

WW II



Under-paid, Under-loved, and Over There

A one act play by Maureen Patrick depicting a WW II American Red Cross worker serving in Britain before D Day

British Brigadier General Colin Howgill will also be speaking

Saturday, November 16, 2019

Sun City Center Community Hall

Doors open at 11:30 a.m.

Tickets \$30 Includes lunch by Banquet Masters

Tickets available by calling Lois Toeppel at 813-633-6484

Presented by AAUW Sun City Center/SouthShore.
Net proceeds go to educational programs for local women and girls.

From The *OBSERVER* Article

Are you someone still fascinated with the massive preparations for WWII D-Day? Have you ever experienced gender bias...especially in the military? Would you like a new and different way to celebrate Veterans Day?

If the answer is yes to any of these then we invite you to a Fundraiser Theatre Portrayal sponsored by the local Sun City Center/SouthShore Branch of AAUW (American Association of University Women). Maureen Patrick will present a Living History Presentation about the life of an American Red Cross Field Director in WWII Britain. In authentic uniform this Tampa actor will take you back to a little-known aspect of D-Day: the deployment of hundreds of American Red Cross workers to Great Britain to prepare for the invasion. She is a real 1940's woman who had to cope with shortages, gender bias, unpredictable living arrangements, civilian resentment of the Yank 'occupation' as well as the daily horrors of a country already under siege. She makes it so real you will almost hear the air raid sirens wailing!

About Our Program Presenter..

Maureen Patrick is a Florida native and holds an M.L.A. from the University of South Florida. She is the former Curator/Education Curator of the Ybor City Museum, the Past President (15 years) of Tampa Historical Society, Inc., and a 21-year staffer at the Henry B. Plant Museum (Tampa) where she created and was Lead in a popular museum theater program. An accomplished writer, Maureen was Editor of *The Sunland Tribune* (an academic journal of local history) for 10 years and has published numerous articles in cultural history for both scholarly and popular publications. Maureen is also a seasoned veteran of the stage, with 17 years as a dancer/actor at Walt Disney World (Orlando), two Department of Defense tours with her own performance ensemble, and bookings in the U.S., Canada, and Europe. Now 'semi-retired', Maureen brings her unique blend of drama, humor, and scholarship to lectures, walking tours, and historical reenactment.

Tech Trek 2020 Accepting Nominations

Submitted by Kathy Vore

In pursuit of our stated mission to support girls' education and STEM initiatives in South Shore, we are working again this year with Beth Shields Middle School to identify 7th grade girls who demonstrate an aptitude for math and science. Each school may nominate up to five girls for Florida Tech Trek 2020, planned for next June on the campuses of FAU-Jupiter and Stetson-Deland. Each camp will again host 48 STEM-oriented campers.

The deadline for teacher nominations – entered directly online – is December 1. Florida Tech Trek will then send an application directly to each girl. Girls will have until January 15 to enter their applications directly online. Our STEM Committee will then interview each local candidate in February.

These excellent STEM camps are free to campers. The cost of \$1,100 per girl for the 7-day residential camp is supported by donations from generous individuals and corporations across Florida.

Your donation of any amount is gratefully appreciated and may be sent to **Tech Trek Florida, P.O. Box 2938, Jupiter, FL 33468**. Checks should be made out to **AAUW FL Supporting Foundation, Inc.** with "Tech Trek" on the memo line.

Do not send Tech Trek donations to AAUW National.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this worthwhile initiative!



A Trivia Question for You



QUESTION: Who was the first female candidate to run for the US presidency?

ANSWER: Victoria Woodhull.

She was a woman 100 years ahead of her time, running for President of the United States in 1872. Woodhull was nominated for President by the newly formed Equal Rights Party on May 10, 1872 in New York City.

Although laws prohibited women from voting, there was nothing stopping women from running for office. Frederick Douglass, the famed civil rights activist, was nominated to be her Vice President, though he never acknowledged or accepted the nomination publicly.

Submitted by Kathy Vore

Check Out Our New Website!

<https://sccsouthshore-fl.aauw.net/>,

It provides the ability to:

- Find our members' contact info
- Check on Special Events, i.e., November Fundraiser
- See info on General Meetings
- Review Special Interest Events (Bridge, Mah Jongg, Tea & Books, etc.)
- Learn What's New, i.e., February Fundraiser Cruise info
- See the monthly Communicator Newsletter edited by Angie Maze

Check it out! Our Special Thanks to Mary Ellen Skinkle for working with AAUW National to create this lively, colorful website populated with pertinent information. And she updates the website periodically, so data is fresh and timely.

Thank You, Mary Ellen!

Please join us on an
AAUW FUNDRAISER
 ON HOLLAND AMERICA'S newest ship:
NIEUW STATENDAM
 FEBRUARY 16-23, 2020

7 NIGHT CRUISE from Ft Lauderdale to Half Moon Cay, Grand Turk (Turks and Caicos), Amber Cove (D.R.) and Key West

INSIDE CABIN - Category E	FROM \$664.00 PP
OCEANVIEW CABIN - Category E	FROM \$812.00 PP
BALCONY CABIN - Category VD	FROM \$1090.00 PP

Per person rates, INCLUDING all government fees/port taxes!
 Includes: Cocktail party for our group
 Note: please inquire about lowest rates at time of booking - rates noted on this flyer in effect 9/13/19

\$250.00 PER PERSON DEPOSIT REQUIRED
 Final payment due: November 13, 2019

Note that travel insurance is highly recommended!
 Transportation is available from Sun City Center to the ship - details/price in follow.

For more details: Call TRAVEL WORLD - 813-634-3318

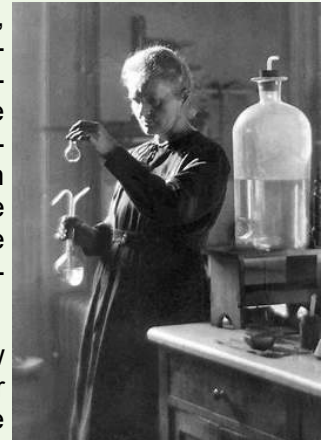


Our group will have a cocktail party onboard, and the travel agency can offer transportation from Sun City Center. However, the cost/mode will depend on how many join the group.
 Call Jane Kirse for pricing:

Jayne Kirse, CTC
 Manager
 Sun City Center Travelworld
 906 N. Pebble Beach Blvd.
 Sun City Center, FL 33573
 Phone: 813.634.3318
 Email: Jayne@travelworld1.com

A FEW THINGS ABOUT CURIE

On April 20, 1902, scientist Marie Curie isolated the element radium while researching pitchblende, and it won her a Nobel Prize for her work in the new area of radioactivity.



Here are a few things you never knew about Marie Curie...

It was a struggle for Curie to complete her education. Marie Curie, born Maria Salomea Sklodowska, grew up in Poland and wanted to attend the University of Warsaw along with Bronia, her sister. However, the university did not allow women to enroll, so they both attended the Flying University, which did allow females. Because it was illegal at that time for women to attend higher institutions of learning, the school changed locations often to avoid being discovered by authorities.

Most of Curie's work was performed in a shed that was behind a school where her husband, Pierre, worked.

She won Nobel Prizes in two different sciences. Curie won a Nobel Prize for physics in 1903, along with her French physicist husband, Pierre, and physicist Henri Becquerel for the advances they had made in the subject of radioactivity.

In 1911, Curie won a second Nobel Prize in the category of chemistry for her discovery of the elements polonium and radium.

Madam Curie is the only person to have ever received Nobel Prizes in two different sciences.

She tried to donate her two Nobel Prize medals to melt down for the war effort. The offer was refused, so she donated the money instead.