



ATLANTA NEWS

Atlanta Branch, American Association of University Women

www.aauwatlanta.org

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The American Association of University Women, founded in 1881, is open to all graduates who hold the baccalaureate or a higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university. In principle and practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability. The American Association of University Women promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education and positive societal change

AAUW Atlanta Branch Meeting

March 17, 2007

NONYA

7294 Roswell Road, Atlanta
770-394-3071

9:30 AM Board meeting
10:30 AM General membership meeting
11:15 AM Speaker
12:00 PM Lunch

Lunch will consist of a soup, entrée, and a drink, which can be chose from the Asian menu. Spicy hot items are indicated on the menu.
Cost is \$12.00

Reservations: Due Monday, March 12th, to Frances Smith
Email: francesjsmith1921@yahoo.com
Tel. 404-231-0482

Directions: NONYA is in the North Springs Shopping Center on the corner of Roswell Rd. and Dalrymple Rd. It is about 3 miles north I-285 and a little over 1 mile north of Abernathy Rd. From 400, take the Sandy Springs exit onto Abernathy. Go west on Abernathy turn right on Roswell Rd.

The shopping center is the left side of Roswell.

By mid March we should all be ready for new growth—
spring flowers, blossoming trees, and even ourselves.

Dr. Caroline Dott, the presenter for our March meeting may just meet that quest for fresh beginnings with her program, "Women's Health: Using Our Energies to Achieve Our Goals."

Dr. Dott is a psycho-therapist who teams with her husband Dr. Andrew Dott, an OB-GYN physician, in their practice. Her particular interest (and a major part of her doctoral dissertation at The Fielding Institute, Santa Barbara, California) is the relationships between physiological and psychological health and the part that endocrinology plays in the feelings of well-being in mid-life women. She is a Certified Group Psychotherapist, and she leads an ongoing Midlife Women's Group. She has over 35 years of experience as a psychotherapist and has presented many seminars for women in the Atlanta area. We will all gain from the ideas for keeping mentally and physically fit which Dr. Dott will be sharing with us.

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REFLECTIONS—Mary Lynn Merkle

What a lively discussion we had at our February 10th meeting as we considered the topic "Hate Speech, Free Speech-and the Law." Our program presenter, Debbie Seagraves, is the executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Georgia. She explained that in our country today there are major clashes between people who are using what some would say is hate speech and the people to whom that speech is directed (and their supporters). The ACLU's mission is to take the emotion out of the situation and to guard those freedoms contained in the U.S. Constitution.

Food for thought:

In the schools, when dealing with name-calling, the answer is not to silence the children but for the school to take responsibility for teaching children a different way to look at things such as ethnic, religious, gender, etc. differences. (This is not the same as a "hostile environment" where one child (or adult) is "picked on" by many. The antidote for hate speech is more speech. Keep the conversation going. Who gets to decide what speech is allowable? Only unpopular speech needs protection! Fred Phelps and his entourage demonstrate/picket at the funerals of soldiers who were killed in Iraq—saying that they have died because the U.S. has allowed freedoms to gays and Lesbians. People were so upset about this that many states have passed laws restricting demonstrations within a certain distance from a funeral. However, there is a church just across from our Georgia Capitol, where funerals are held regularly. What does that mean for people who want to show support or disapproval for our State government? Protection of free speech is not easy! But vigilance over all our Constitutional rights and privileges is of utmost importance—in the past, in the future and now!

EF/LAF News, by Phyllis Miller

The AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women. Atlanta Branch contributions to the Educational Foundation for 2006 were \$16,795.00. The Atlanta Branch's budgeted contributions were \$15,550.00. Individual contributions were \$1,245.00, which included the Silent Auction receipts of \$755.00. Of the total amount, \$12,340.00 went to EF and \$4,455.00 went to LAF. Carolyn Garfein, GA State LAF Chair, reminds us that two years ago the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund became part of the Educational Foundation for corporate and administrative purposes. But program activities and fundraising needs remain unchanged.

The LAF is the nation's largest legal fund focused on sex discrimination in higher education. We can be proud of their track record in supporting cases challenging discriminatory practices involving sexual harassment, denial of tenure or promotion, pay inequity and Title IX violations. 2006 marked the 25th anniversary of this fund. LAF has assisted more than 100 plaintiffs and provided \$1.3 million in support of cases affecting equity in education for women and girls. We need to continue our support for this unique fund.

BOOKFAIR UPDATE

Betty Arden, Anne Habersetzer, Connie Eshenour, Mary Womack, Diana Luykx, are new names that have signed up to work in the Bookroom on Tuesday, or Thursday, or Saturday. It was terrific to see more members coming into the bookroom to help with our fundraiser. The dates have been set for our 2007 Bookfair. We will be at **Perimeter Mall from September 23 through September 30**. Simon Company who owns Lenox Square has a policy of not allowing tables. They are also still remodeling the Mall. In going through some of the history, I learned that it took three years to get the Bookfair off its feet. The idea started in 1957-58, surveying the possibility of a used book sale in Atlanta. Mrs. Teddy Titon and Helen Gamble visited community leaders to get reactions to the idea. One said, "People in Atlanta don't read." Another twitted us as to what it was that prodded "do-gooders" to work for causes - that inner push sent us on our way to organize this project. The first Bookfair was held on September 15 -17, 1960. In 2007, the 47th sale begins again with all of those do-gooders working together.

COMMUNITY FUND BUDGET – Alta Birdsong

The 2006-2007 Budget was approved February 10. Atlanta Branch meeting.

Fundraising Reserve:	\$ 1,000
Community & Fund Mgt. Reserve	\$ 200
Community Action	\$ 6,000
Sister Tech Savvy	\$ 1,000
Special Community Program	\$ 5,000
Education Foundation	\$12,000
Legal Advocacy Fund	\$ 3,060
Local Scholarships	\$ 7,000
E. Davis Memorial Scholarship	\$ 3,565
Donations	\$ 0
Contribution to General Fund	\$3,000
Unallocated Community Funds	\$5,520.21
Total Community Fund Budget	
(Approved by branch)	\$47,345.21

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President's Corner

By Mary Hanson, Co-President

Our Atlanta Branch has a truly wonderful year of programs. They have been enjoyable and meaningful, and I hope that most of you will continue to come to the monthly meetings to glean the knowledge offered so generously to you.

We are just finishing Black History Month and March will bring us Women's History Month. Most of us probably

know only a minimal amount of women's history. It was not a course most of us were in college (unless you were young enough to have a Women's Studies Department at your place of study and opted to take part.) I have a little challenge below. Here are just a few questions to see how much you really know about women's history.

Answers should be found elsewhere in the newsletter.

1. Who was the first woman to run for President of the United States (1872)?
2. Who was the first woman Poet Laureate of the United States?
3. Who was the first Black woman elected to the Congress?
4. Who wrote the first version of the Equal Rights Amendment in 1923?
5. What woman was invited to teach nuclear physics at Princeton University even though no female students were allowed to study there?
6. When did officials of Little League Baseball announce they would "defer to the changing social climate" and let girls on their teams?

I hope that you got at least one of the questions correct. We just don't know enough about "our" past. Resolve to seek some of women's history during the month of March to honor those women whose shoulders we stand on. Our history is rich. Seek the knowledge. Remember that, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." (George Santayana)

GEORGIA AAUW STATE CONVENTION

April 20-22, 2007, Columbus, GA

Our state convention is coming up soon! The theme this year is "Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security." We hope to have a good turnout from our branch to support state president Lynn Fountain, who is one of our members. This year, we are fortunate in having 17 students from Georgia colleges who will attend our convention. It is a great opportunity to interact with the younger generation, who we hope will be our future. Let's all go to Columbus!

TASTE THE WORLD FESTIVAL

More than 45,000 have arrived in Georgia in the past 10 years and hundreds of them have benefited from the support provided by Refugee Family Services (RFS). As a special celebration of our 10 years of service, and to generate needed funds to continue and grow our programs, we are excited to hold the third RFS' *Taste the World* cultural festival on Sunday, March 25, 2007 from 2pm-6pm at the Callanwolde Fine Arts Center. Along with delicious samples of ethnic cuisine from numerous local restaurants, the afternoon event will feature music, dance, cultural exhibits and youth activities representing areas from Africa and Southeast Asia to the Middle East and Eastern Europe. Callanwolde Fine Arts Center, 980 Briarcliff Road. (Parking at the center and across the street at Atlanta Metropolitan Church). Adult tickets-\$25, Children 7-15-\$10, Children 6 and under-free. Tickets can be purchased online at www.refugeefamilyservices.org or by calling 404-388-6130. Contact Tricia at 404-388-6130 at RFS,

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Scholarship Committee brought a proposal to the Board of Directors for their discussion and to be voted upon at the February 10th Board meeting. It was stated as follows: "Eligibility will be extended to award scholarships to students pursuing a two year associate degree. Associate degree candidates must have completed at least one year of their study program, in order for the committee to assess their academic standing and commitment towards completing their educational program." The board defeated the motion because of some concerns about criteria. Because the motion was defeated, no changes to our eligibility criteria or application forms, other than making the dates current, were made. Information and application forms have been submitted for posting on our website and emailed to 14 Metro Atlanta 4-year colleges and universities. This is the first year that changes in the application and guidelines had to be reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors, since Standing Rule # 10 became effective last year. After the Scholarship Committee collects and reviews the applications received, the Committee will recommend recipients to the Board and the Branch for approval. The deadline to submit an application is April 30, 2007.

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Atlanta Branch News. New phone number for Diana Luykx: 404-915-9595

We have a new member: Wilma Williams, 310 Lakeland Drive, Atlanta, GA 30607
706-549-0691. Welcome Wilma!

The Travel Club will meet on Mar. 8 at 10 AM to tour the new Women's Health Center at DeKalb Medical Center in Decatur. Lunch following. Call Betty Arden at 770-955-6381 for details

Board meeting will be held March 17th at Nonyo's, followed by the general business meeting before the program. Newsletter deadline: **March 20th, 2007**

Answers to Mary's Quiz!

1. Victoria Woodhull (1838-1927)
2. Rita Dove (b. 1952)
3. Shirley Chisholm (1924-2005)
4. Alice Paul (1885-1977)
5. Chien-Shiung Wu (1912-1997)
6. 1974



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