

# MAY 2013

# ATLANTA BRANCH

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN | VOL. 63 No. 8



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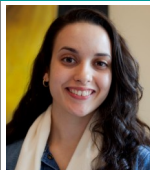
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## Intern Article: May Branch Meeting



Hello. I hope this newsletter finds you well. Our final meeting of the 2012-2013 AAUW year will be May 18th at the Ansley Golf Club. We have invited Dr. Risa Palm, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at Georgia State University to bring greetings from GSU, which is celebrating its 100th year of service to Atlanta and Georgia. We will also be electing our new officers, so be sure to attend! The cost of brunch will be \$25.00 and includes fresh fruit, scrambled eggs, grits, hash brown potatoes, sausage, bacon, biscuits and muffins, orange juice, iced tea, coffee, and decaf. Please make checks out to AAUW Atlanta Branch and give them to Huiping Du.

### May Branch Meeting Details:

**Date:** Saturday May 18th

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Place:** Ansley Golf Club, 196 Montgomery Ferry Drive, Atlanta, Ga 30309, 404-875-1687. Please use valet parking. See page 5 of this newsletter for detailed directions.

*If you have not responded to the invite, please notify the Hospitality Committee at [hospitality@aauwatlanta.org](mailto:hospitality@aauwatlanta.org).*

## 2013 AAUW National Election

By: Sharon Bevis-Hoover



Now is the time for every AAUW member to vote in National's biennial election. The election is your opportunity to choose a President, a Vice President, and ten Directors; to vote on proposed by-laws changes, and to vote on proposed public policy program changes. For details, see the [voter guide](#) posted online and included in your Spring/Summer *Outlook* magazine.

With Georgia's own Carolyn Garfein retiring from the role of National President, two excellent candidates are running to succeed

her, each of whom currently serves as an AAUW National Vice President. All candidates for office present a statement in the Voter Guide.

You also have the opportunity to vote on a number of proposed updates to our Public Policy Program. One proposal introduces a new principle related to immigration: "We support the civil and human rights of all immigrants, including a fair and just path to legal status." Another proposal specifically opposes efforts to privatize or defund Medicare and Medicaid, and emphasizes the importance of health care accessibility.

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# 2013 AAUW Georgia Convention

By: Kay Collins



Back row: Billie Collier, Sharon Bevis-Hoover, Diana Witt, Jessica Hinves, Ruth Yurchuck, and Pat Bevis

Front row: Alta Birdsong, Betty Slater, Myra Carmon, Mary Lynn Merkle, and Kay Collins

The 2013 AAUW Georgia Convention was held April 26 and 27, 2013 at the Country Inn and Suites Windy Hill in northwest Atlanta. Ten members of the Atlanta branch attended.

## The Invisible War

A highlight of the Convention was the viewing of the Academy Award nominated documentary film *The Invisible War*, which tells the story of the sexual abuse endured by many members of the military services. It explores the challenges that soldiers face pursuing not only justice but also treatment for the physical and psychological impacts of the abuse. Abuse involves more than the bodies and minds of service personnel—the military justice system adds another layer of abuse by often dismissing the reports of those abused. When abuse is brought to the attention of superiors, they often only go through the motions of investigating, trying and disciplining the perpetrator. Instead of providing support to those abused, abuse is virtually condoned. The film was shocking and eye-opening, providing a window into the disrespect that personnel who are doing their jobs well are experiencing. The short and long term consequences of these situations are poignant and also arouse anger at the injustice to the victims. The film points out that military sexual abuse exists in all branches of service, and that most victims of abuse do not report it because of the personal and professional consequences of the disclosure.

Jessica Hinves, who appears in *The Invisible War*, was our guest for the Convention. Hinves is a Legal Advocacy Fund-supported plaintiff in *Cioca v. Rumsfeld*. She updated us on her case and the cases of other service members. She also discussed the inefficacy of the measures that the military has put in place to prevent and address cases of abuse.

Hinves encouraged us to urge our US Representatives to support H.R. 1593, The Sexual Assault Training Oversight and Prevention (STOP) Act. The STOP Act, introduced on April 17, directs the Department of Defense to set up a separate department to handle sexual abuse cases. You can read the entire bill, and see a list of co-sponsors, at [govtrack.us](http://govtrack.us).

*The Invisible War* is available on DVD, Digital, and On Demand.

## AAUW National Update

We were also fortunate to welcome AAUW National Vice President Patricia Fae Ho as our guest. Ho reminded us that AAUW is an organization of over 160,000 members and supporters, and she noted that AAUW was recognized again in 2012 for outstanding financial management and excellent use of charitable funds. She highlighted our new logo, which tested very well with our target audience, and the new [aauw.org](http://aauw.org), which continues to improve. Ho highlighted the importance of having our voices heard, and the ease of tools such as the AAUW Action Network and the Two-Minute Activist. She also noted the recent launch of CQ State Track to help track key issues in the states. Finally, she announced AAUW's newest research report, *Women in Community College: Access to Success*, which will be released prior to the National Convention.

**Commemorative US Flags Celebrate 130<sup>th</sup> Year**  
Co-President Laurie Shaw announced that on January 14, 2013 one hundred flags were flown at the US Capitol to commemorate AAUW's 130<sup>th</sup> year. One flag was sent to each AAUW state organization, and the flag sent to Georgia was displayed at the Convention. In addition, one flag was sent to the oldest branch in each state. As the first branch in Georgia, Atlanta received that flag.

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## 2013-2014 AAUW Fellowships and Grants Announced

By: Sharon Bevis-Hoover

AAUW National just announced the 2013-2014 fellowships and grants awarded to individuals pursuing graduate studies and community projects that benefit women and girls in the United States and globally. Georgians received one American Fellowship, three Career Development Grants, one International Fellowship, one Selected Professions Fellowship, and a two year Community Action Grant. We hope to meet and hear from these impressive women in the future!

These fellowships and grants are funded by AAUW Funds, which AAUW Atlanta supports with monies earned at our annual Bookfair. 2013 marks the 125th anniversary of AAUW's Fellowships and Grants programs. More information on these Georgians and the rest of the awardees is available at [aauw.org](http://aauw.org).

## Nominees Slate

AAUW Atlanta Branch Nominating Committee presents the following slate of nominees:

2013-2014 Nominating Committee: Betty Arden, Pat Bevis, Alta Birdsong, Phyllis Miller, and Ruth Yurchuck

President-elect: Myra Carmon for a three year commitment (2013-2016)

Board Secretary: Marcy Nader for a two year commitment (2013-2015)

Branch Secretary: Jo Marie Dogali for a two year commitment (2013-2015)

The Committee appreciates these members being willing to serve and meet the needs of the Branch.

Nominating Committee:  
Phyllis Miller, Chair  
Betty Arden  
Pat Bevis  
Ruth Yurchuck

## Atlanta Branch is Cool Girls' Volunteer of the Month!

Taken from *Cool Girls, Inc.* April Newsletter, "Volunteer Spotlight"

For the past year and a half, Cool Girls has had the privilege of working with the American Association of University Women- Atlanta Chapter. AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Volunteers from AAUW have dedicated countless hours to ensuring that our Cool Scholars (high school program) have set clear goals and feel confident about reaching their post-secondary college and career aspirations. Not only have we received a generous grant from AAUW (Atlanta Branch) but they have also taken our Cool Scholars on college visits, hosted SAT classes, and prepared the girls for successful interviews. Overall, we are so thankful to count on their support and we know that their kindness will

long-term positive impact in the lives of our girls.

**Cool Girls:** What do you like best about being involved with Cool Girls?

**Pam Antinori:** It has been a pleasure to work with high school girls who are so focused on making their future a priority. We also have developed a deep respect for the parents, mentors and other committed volunteers who participate in the program and we enjoy getting to know them all.

**Cool Girls:** What advice would you share with our Cool Girls?

**Pam Antinori:** We would tell them to follow through on activities, internships and other opportunities offered by Cool Girls. This is a pathway success for you.



# Atlanta Branch Local Scholarships

By: Mary Hanson and Beatrice Meyer, Local Scholarship Co-Chairs

Our local scholarships will be awarded to non-traditional students studying at local AAUW partner schools. These partner schools are those who have themselves supported the AAUW Organization.

We have seven partner schools this year: Agnes Scott College, Atlanta Metropolitan State College, Clark Atlanta University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, Oglethorpe University and Savannah College of Art and Design.

All applicants are considered, but preference is given to women who are at least 30 years of age, residents of Georgia, those who are returning to school to complete a bachelor's degree as a junior or senior, and are in good academic standing. Other considerations include academic merit, financial need and community involvement.

Student applicants complete an application and must have a reference letter and academic transcript sent to the Committee. The number of scholarships awarded is determined by the applications received.

Money awarded typically ranges from \$750 to \$1,260 per student and may be used for fees, books, transportation, childcare, etc.

Funding of this project is from our annual book sale.

## Save the Dates!

# Bookfair 2013

**September 22 — September 29**

Set-up: Sunday evening, 9/22

Opening night: **Monday**, 9/23

Sale continues: Tues 9/24-Sun 9/29

Tear-down: Sunday evening, 9/29

**new this year: Sale opens Monday night!**

## Tami Anderson Memorial Service



The celebration of life service for Tami Anderson will be held Saturday, May 11, 2013 at 11:00 AM. The location is the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 731 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta, GA 30308, 404.874.8664. The church is on the corner of Peachtree and 4th St. in midtown. Parking is available behind the church with access from 4th St. The handicap parking is there. Also, across from the church on 4th St. between Juniper (southbound only) and Peachtree St. is overflow parking. Note that 4th St. is west bound only (from Juniper to Peachtree St.). Tami's brother, Barry, will be attending.

The service will be followed by an informal gathering at which light refreshments will be served.

Should you have questions, you may contact Kay Collins.

## AAUW Georgia Convention...Continued

### State Dues Decrease

At the business meeting, delegates voted to reduce state dues from \$20 to \$10 effective July 1, 2013, the beginning of the next fiscal year. This means that annual dues for most Atlanta Branch members are now \$77 (\$49 national, \$10 state and \$18 branch).

**Bylaws Change - One Member, One Vote** Delegates voted to update the Georgia bylaws to provide every member of AAUW Georgia with a vote. This replaces the current system of branch delegates and is consistent with the change that National made several years ago moving to "one member, one vote."

### New Officers Elected

Bea Piddock from Cobb County was elected Georgia Co-President, and Atlanta's own Mary Lynn Merkle was elected Treasurer, both for two-year terms. Remaining in office for their second year are Co-Presidents Diana Witt and Communications Chair Betty Slater, both from Atlanta.

### Upcoming Events

The next [AAUW Georgia Board Meeting will be held on Saturday, August 17, 2013](#). The 2014 AAUW Georgia Convention will be held on either March 28 and 29, 2014 or April 25 and 26, 2014.

## 2013 AAUW National Election...Continued

In the area of public education, a proposal articulates the link between education, prosperity, and equality, and specifically expresses support for programs and services to students with disabilities. Another proposal adds a greater sense of urgency to our advocacy for campaign finance reform. Please review these and the other proposals thoughtfully and cast your vote! Voting ends June 10, 2013 at 9 p.m. CDT.

To Vote Online: Go to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) and click the VOTE button. Enter your member ID and then click SEARCH. Enter your voter PIN, review the ballot, and cast your vote. For questions about the voting process, e-mail [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org) or call 800.326.2289.

## Directions to Ansley Golf Club

### I 85 South from Northeast Atlanta

Take I-85 South to Exit 86 ( Peachtree Street Exit). This is an access road. Go approximately 1 mile. Take the Monroe Drive Exit to the right. At the light at the end of exit ramp, turn left onto Armour Circle. Take an immediate right onto Monroe Drive (Red Cross will be on your left). At the first light, turn right onto Montgomery Ferry Drive. Cross the bridge, the clubhouse will be on the right.

### 400 South from North Atlanta

Take 400 South to the Sidney Marcus exit (second to last exit before 85 South). At the end of the ramp, turn right onto Sidney Marcus. At the dead end, turn left onto Piedmont Road. Go approximately two miles, and you will see Rock Springs Church on the right. As soon as you pass the church, make a right turn onto Montgomery Ferry Drive. Follow Montgomery Ferry Drive through one light (Monroe Dr.). Cross the bridge and you will see the clubhouse on the right.

### I 75/85 North

Follow signs to I 85 North in the left hand lanes. Take the first exit 86 to Buford Highway. This is an access road. Take the first exit off the access road, marked "Monroe Drive to Piedmont South". At the light at the end of the exit ramp, turn right onto Monroe Drive. At the second light, turn right onto Montgomery Ferry Drive. Cross the bridge, and the club house will be on the right.

### I-75 South

Take I-75 past the Northside Drive exit. From the left hand lane, take the exit for I 85 North. Take the first exit, Exit 86 to Buford Highway. This is an access road. Take first exit off the access road marked "Monroe Drive to Piedmont South". At the light at the end of the ramp, turn right onto Monroe Drive. At the second light, turn right onto Montgomery Ferry Drive. Cross the bridge, and the clubhouse will be on the right.

# Travel Group Update

By: Betty Arden

The AAUW Travel Group will meet at 9:30 a.m. on May 9<sup>th</sup> at the Ansley Mall Kroger store to carpool to the Westview Cemetery, 1680 Westview Dr, S.W. Atlanta.

Westview Cemetery is the second oldest major cemetery in the city. Such prominent Atlantans as Asa Candler, Joel Chandler Harris, Robert W. Woodruff and Henry Grady are buried there. Notable are the Confederate section and Westview Mausoleum, which is the largest structure of its kind ever built under one roof.

Lunch will follow.

Questions? Contact Betty Arden.

## Contemporary Lit Group

By: Kay Collins

The May 6th meeting of the Contemporary Literature Group will discuss *Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles. It is scheduled for the home of Lou Mitchell. We start gathering about 4:00 PM for refreshments and begin the discussion about 4:30 PM lasting until around 6:00 PM.

If you want to attend for the first time and do not receive the email reminder, please contact Kay Collins for directions and to RSVP.

### Attention !

Membership dues will be collected at our final branch meeting, May 18th. The amount due is \$77 (\$46 of national dues is tax deductible). Please remember to bring your checkbooks to this meeting so you can renew your membership. Thanks!

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## Calendar

Contemporary Literature Group Meeting – May 6  
 Planned Parenthood's Living Legends Celebration, Honoring Atlanta Branch Member Kathy Ashe – May 9  
 Tami Anderson Memorial Service – May 11  
 Travel Group Excursion – May 9  
 May Branch Meeting – May 18  
 Contemporary Literature Group Meeting – June 3  
 AAUW National Convention – June 9 - 12  
 AAUW Georgia Board Meeting – August 17  
 2013 Bookfair – September 22-29