



ATLANTA BRANCH NEWS

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
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2013-2014 Leadership

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November 2nd Branch Meeting



The November 2nd branch meeting will be at Maggiano's Cumberland Mall location from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Cost of the luncheon is \$25. General parking will be available. The meeting will feature a presentation from Dr. Rhonda Latif on Women's Health Issues. Be sure to bring your health-related questions. A business meeting will follow lunch. We will vote on the General Fund Budget and the Allocation of AAUW Funds. Hope you can make it!

November Branch Meeting Details:

Date: Saturday November 2nd

Time: 11:00 am – 1:00 p.m.

Place: Maggiano's, 1601 Cumberland Mall, Atlanta, GA 30339

If you have not responded to the evite, please notify the Hospitality Committee at hospitality@aauwatlanta.org.

The Gender Gap in STEM Careers

By: Sharon Bevis-Hoover



The number of girls and women studying science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) has steadily increased each year, but there is still a gender gap in higher education and in the work force. Educators and employers agree that attracting more women to the sciences is critical to competitiveness, creativity, and innovation. AAUW continues to lead the research into the reasons behind the gap and solutions to close it.

Title IX requires that girls and women have equal access to STEM classes, but social environmental influences seem to lead many girls away from those fields as they transition into colleges and universities.

Techbridge, a California non-profit that seeks to inspire girls to change the world through STEM, interviewed girls in their community and learned that girls want more opportunities to do hands on projects outside of school. The girls reported that their brothers were more likely to receive building toys, and that boys' leisure activities were more likely to involve building and tinkering. The girls also said they wanted a safe place for just girls to explore science and engineering without fear of being teased.

Researchers have also discovered that boys have more informal opportunities outside of school to explore science in extracurricular and summer activities, and even activities with their parents.

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Fall Membership Tea A Success

By: Ruth Yurchuck

The Woltz Reception area in Rebekah Hall at Agnes Scott College was the site of our annual fall membership meeting on Sunday, September 8, the official start of our Branch year. Members and guests enjoyed the opportunity to chat and take advantage of the delightful weather and to enjoy delicious refreshments.

AAUW Atlanta Branch President Sharon Bevis-Hoover welcomed everyone and reminded us to “REAP the benefits of AAUW” through our focus on Research, Education, Advocacy, and Philanthropy. Betty Slater, College/University Partner chair, then introduced college and university partner representatives in attendance from Agnes Scott College, Atlanta Metropolitan State University, Georgia Perimeter College, and Georgia State University. The Branch has offered scholarships to students at these and other partner schools to attend the National Conference of College Student Women Leaders (NCCWSL) since 2006. Lydia Dailey, a biology major from Atlanta Metropolitan State, was one of the students attending this year’s conference and gave a verbal and visual picture of her NCCWSL experience. She expressed appreciation to everyone for the wonderful opportunity.

Bea Meyer, representing the Scholarship Committee, introduced four of the women awarded Branch funded college and university scholarships this year: Monique Allen, Rachel Frank, Lucy McGee and Rebecca Meador. Sharon, filling in for Barbara Buchanan who was unable to attend, reminded all present that it was the time and effort of Branch members working in the Bookroom and at Bookfair that made these scholarship awards possible. She asked everyone to sign up to work at this year’s Bookfair.

Betty Arden described the activities of the Travel Group which meets from on the second Thursday of the month from October to May. Kay Collins talked about the Contemporary Literature group which meets on the first Monday of the month from September through June. A selection of books to be discussed this year were displayed. Diana Witt, Public Policy chair and Co-President of AAUW of Georgia highlighted upcoming events, including the Georgia Women’s Assembly, an event which we sponsor which will be held on October 18.

2013-2014 yearbooks were distributed to members present by Billie Collier, Membership Vice President. Books will be mailed to those unable to attend today’s meeting.

Betty Arden announced that our next meeting will be held on Saturday, November 2, at Maggiano’s Cumberland location from 11 am to 1 pm. The featured speaker is Dr. Rhonda Latif who will talk about Women’s Health.



AAUW 2013-2014 Scholarship Recipients



Lydia Dailey, NCCWSL Scholarship Recipient (left)

Handbook Corrections

Carol Allain eliminated her land line. Members should delete the number listed in the Handbook and add her cell.

Myra Carmon's work number and cell number are incorrect.

The following names and zip codes should be added to the zip code listing on page 50 and 51 of the handbook:

AAUW Funds Proposal

By: Phyllis Miller

The AAUW Funds Committee recommended, and the Board approved, the following allocation of 2013 Community Funds to AAUW Funds. In our November 2 Branch Meeting, we will discuss and vote on the proposal.

The Legal Advocacy Fund	Supports the protection of the legal rights of those who are facing discrimination. Supports all the following tax-deductible programs; case support, travel and education grants, campus outreach projects.	\$3,000
Public Policy Fund	Supports advocacy for public policies and laws that are fair to women. Public Policy programs include Government Relations, Civic Engagement, and Field	\$2,000
Leadership Programs Fund	Supports programs that develop women's potential to lead in their schools, communities, and country. Programs include National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), Campus Actions	\$1,000
Eleanor Roosevelt Fund	Supports AAUW research to provide analysis, data, and accurate information about issues important to women and girls, i.e. <i>Behind the Pay Gap</i> and <i>Where the Girls</i>	\$2,000
Educational Opportunities Fund	Supports educational and lifelong learning opportunities that give women a chance for a lifetime of success. Programs include Fellowships and Grants, The Fellows Alumnae Initiative, The Undergraduate Scholarship	\$4,000
	Total	\$12,000

Gender Gap & STEM Continued...

By: Sharon Bevis-Hoover

In addition, boys receive more encouragement to work through challenges that strengthen their problem solving skills in science and math.

As girls mature, role models within the community have a significant impact on whether they maintain an interest in STEM education and careers. In communities where there are many women employed in STEM fields, girls are significantly more likely to pursue STEM education in high school and to express a personal interest in STEM careers.

A number of AAUW branches have developed programs to address the need to provide girls with opportunities to explore STEM, and to introduce them to women in STEM fields. Several of these programs are being rolled out nationwide with the assistance of AAUW National. Visit aauw.org to learn more about Tech Trek, Tech Savvy, and other AAUW research and initiatives.

Change in Location of Providence Square Book drop

The East Cobb book drop previously located at Providence Square has moved to St. Peter and St. Paul Episcopal Church, located north on Johnson Ferry Road to your left. It is brick with a clock tower and is across the road from Mt. Zion Methodist Church. The exact address is 1795 Johnson Ferry Road. Please pass the word.

Free College Tuition for Georgia Residents Ages 62+

By: Denise Arnold

The University System of Georgia offers free tuition towards any non-professional degree for students who are 62 or older. The student must be admitted through the standard admitting procedures. If the student is interested in graduate school, he or she must take the GREs if the previous one taken was more than five years earlier. This benefit is not available to those seeking degrees at the state's medical, law, or veterinary schools.

For more information visit: http://www.usg.edu/users/adult_learners_age_62_and_older

New Bookroom Parking Policy

Barbara Buchanan

The Board of Directors at the Habersham has announced a new visitor parking policy for the property. Any time that you are parked in the building's lot, you must display an 8 1/2" x 11" notice on your driver's side dashboard that says:

AAUW Bookroom Visitor
Your name
Date and time
Make and model of your car
Bookroom phone number

The booting company will enforce the new policy, and they generally don't give warnings. It costs \$75 to get the boot removed.

You can make your own handwritten sign, or request a digital version. There is a supply of pre-printed signs available in the Bookroom. Please remember to use them.

Travel Group Update

By: Betty Arden

The travel group will tour the new North Atlanta High School, 4111 Northside Parkway on November 14th at 10:30am.

Carpools will leave from the Publix Shopping Center on the corner of West Paces Ferry Road and Northside Parkway at 9:30 am.

Lunch will follow.

The travel group meets the first Thursday of the month. Questions? Contact Betty Arden.

Contemporary Lit Group

By: Kay Collins

On Monday November 4th at 4pm we will discuss *The Yellow Birds* by Kevin Powers at the home of Carol Allain.

Refer to the Directory or contact Kay Collins for the full list of selections.

Questions? Contact Kay Collins.

Submit Newsletter Articles

By: Amira Saleh

The deadline to submit articles for the December newsletter is November 25th. Please email them to me. I welcome any ideas or feedback you would like to send my way. Thanks!

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Calendar

Atlanta Branch Meeting – November 2

Contemporary Literature Meeting – November 4

Travel Group Outing – November 14

Contemporary Literature Meeting – December 2

Travel Group Outing – December 12

Atlanta Branch Holiday Celebration – December 15

AAUW National Convention, San Diego – June 18-21, 2015