



Atlanta Branch News

September Newsletter: Volume 70, Issue 1

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SEPTEMBER BRANCH MEETING: WORK SMART

By: Betty Slater

The fall Branch kickoff meeting will be held on Sunday, September 22nd from 2:30pm to 5:00pm. at Agnes Scott College in the Mary Brown Bullock Science Building. Branch members, local scholarship winners, and invited guests will hear about the Work Smart program. It is a national AAUW effort supported by Coca-Cola that focuses on negotiation skills for jobs, salary, and benefits through role playing. There will also be an opportunity for you to sign up for Bookfair shifts.

Daisy Bourassa, Agnes Scott’s Community Director, has invited her students to join us for this meeting. Please park in the student parking lot (see campus map on pg.4). Wear comfortable shoes. We will be doing some negotiating! Reserve your spot by contacting Betty Slater, programs@aauwatlanta.org, by September 17th or by responding to the invite.

PRESIDENT’S ARTICLE: WELCOME BACK

By: Diana Witt

I hope everyone has had a restful and enjoyable summer. The Atlanta AAUW Branch is up and ready to go, starting with our kickoff meeting at Agnes Scott. Then Bookfair, which begins on Monday, September 30th. Please make sure you sign up for as many shifts as you can. Follow the link to SignUp Genius, <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805084eadae29a13-20191> to register for shifts. Contact Phyllis Miller, membership@aauwatlanta.org, if you have questions about signing up.

Many of you were unable to attend our final meeting back in May, so I want to repeat our congratulations to Pat Bevis. In recognition of her fifty-year commitment as a member of the AAUW, Pat was awarded the status Honorary Life Member. The announcement from National said in part, “Thank you for your outstanding commitment to AAUW, a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.” Pat then received her Honorary Life certificate and pin.

Again, congratulations! The Atlanta Branch looks forward to your continued participation for years to come.

Leadership continued

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Atlanta Branch members already know we couldn't do without Pat! Pat continues to serve as our Bylaws Chair, and she is consulted often for her sage advice. Thank you, Pat, for your service to our Branch. We hope you recognize you are essential to our Branch's health and function.

I'm looking forward to meeting with all of you as we move through another productive year for our branch. One of my goals this year is to streamline our processes so that some of our regular tasks and projects can be simpler and less time consuming. Our group is smaller, and people seem to be getting busier. We need to figure out how to do more with less. I welcome any suggestions. Let's work together to make 2019-2020 a great year for the Atlanta Branch.

AAUW DUES

By: Phyllis Miller

It's time to renew AAUW membership. We hope to have everyone rejoin for another important and enjoyable year with the Atlanta Branch.

Membership dues can be paid by check or on-line. AAUW dues are \$59.00 to National, \$10.00 to State, and \$18.00 to the Atlanta Branch; totaling \$87.00. You will receive an email from Membership prompting you to pay by credit card or debit card if you choose to try this option. National AAUW would like the AAUW Branches to start using this on-line method of payment but dues can still be paid by check.

AAUW Atlanta Branch past presidents over 65 years of age have the option of not paying Branch dues of \$18.00. Those of you choosing this option pay \$69.00 and you will pay by check. Thanks!

FINDING A BOTTOM LINE THAT WORKS

By: Mary Lynn Merkle

My brother recently gifted me with Ancestry.com. It was great fun figuring out which ancestors contributed more to my DNA. I found that I am from many different places, mostly European. Some of my ancestors may have been among the first to see Lady Liberty as they sailed into the New York harbor where she had been placed in 1885. Although the plaque with the famous lines from Emma Lazarus ("Give me your tired your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free") wasn't placed until the early 1900's, these ancestors nevertheless fit the description. They were poor, they were tired, --and they were coming so they might have a better life.

So here are some questions for your consideration:

- What happened to that welcoming spirit and that freedom to make a fresh start that we Americans held with such pride?
- Why are we denying so many that same welcome?
- Why are children being placed in “holding centers” under the care of private caretakers who are sometimes charging as much as \$800 a day per child?
- Why are weary asylum seekers put on busses to travel across-the-country destinations with inadequate food and rest stops—or, even worse, sent back?
- Is that what the theme of the Lazarus poem has come to? Oh! But wait a minute! How can we, as a nation, accept responsibility for these many thousands who are seeking a new and better life when
 - we are struggling to support our growing homeless population,
 - our increasing number of children who are living below the poverty line,
 - our returning veterans who need both mental and physical rehabilitation?

While we are aghast at the photos of children who are placed in cage-like facilities and at the throngs of seekers who are turned away, why aren't we equally aghast as we read about families living in cars or as we see the piled-high grocery carts parked under our over-passes? When we volunteer at food banks and food kitchens placed around our communities, we often see people much like us except that life has given them “a bad hand.”

These are hard questions to ponder and there are no simple answers. It should lead us all to thoughtful contemplation. We already know from our study of American history that we are creative problem-solving people. We believe in freedom and justice for all. Now all we have to do, as a nation, is figure it out!

SEPTEMBER CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE MEETING

By: Kay Collins

We'll meet Monday, September 9th at 10:30 a.m. in the home of Mary Hanson. We'll discuss T. H. White's "The Once and Future King." Join us even if you haven't read or finished the book.

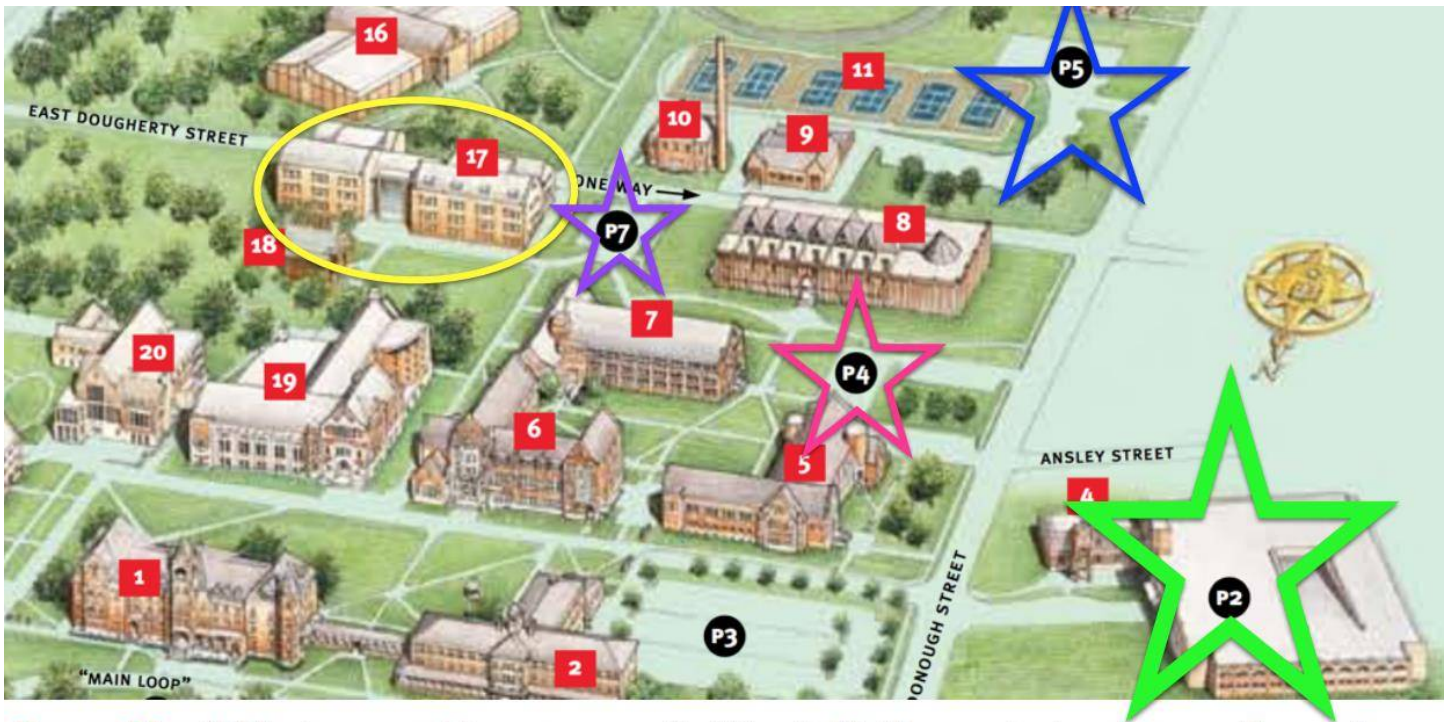
Questions? Call Kay Collins.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 9th: Contemporary Literature Meeting

September 22nd: Branch Meeting

MAP OF AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE FOR SEPTEMBER BRANCH MEETING



Green Star (P2) - large parking garage off of South McDonough street, you will see signs for SnapFitness, that facility is inside the parking garage

Pink Star (P4) - small parking lot off of South McDonough Street

Blue Star (P5) - medium parking lot near the tennis courts

Purple Star (P7) - small parking lot outside of Bullock Science Building, handicap parking

Yellow Circle (17) - Mary Brown Bullock Science Building, location of meeting

Quote of the month

“If you don’t like being a doormat, then get off the floor.”

-Al Anon

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