



Atlanta Branch News

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President’s Message

By: Velma Tilley, President

Last September, I worked one shift at the first ever Westside Market Sidewalk Sale (at least the first involving AAUW). It was such fun! It was a beautiful day, shoppers were out, and there was a live guitarist playing nearby. A very nice sum of money was made over the weekend and lessons were learned about how much help is needed. The best part, for me, was chatting with the shoppers, trying to help them find books that would interest them or someone for whom they were shopping. This will be even more fun at the upcoming Sidewalk Sale, December 10 and 11 at the Toco Hills Shopping Center, which is going to feature books and gift items themed for the holidays coming up.

I am not a regular bookroom volunteer, unfortunately. While I still have even this part time work schedule, I can’t seem to fit it in. But I can do this. I can show up for at least one shift, preferably more, on December 10 or 11. A sign up notice has already been sent out. If you prefer not to interact with the public, the Bookroom/Westside Team needs help setting up, taking down, and keeping the tables stocked. There is something for everyone to do.

I hope you’ll join me at the Sidewalk Sale that weekend. We can fill our AAUW Philanthropy coffers, and also provide some nice books and gifts for our shopping clients. What a great way to start the post-Thanksgiving holidays.

Westside Market Update

By: Wendy Venet

AAUW continues to attract enthusiastic book buyers at Westside Market. In September, we held a sidewalk sale on a beautiful fall Saturday and again the next afternoon, and we netted profits of \$1576. We sold books in a variety of categories including fiction, science fiction, mystery, history, and biography. We also sold sets of books, vintage titles, and decorative bindings. Thanks to all who helped with the sale! Our next sidewalk sale will be December 10 and 11, where we hope to attract buyers interested in purchasing gifts for the holidays. Please help spread the word about the sale and please

Leadership continued

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volunteer to help. The Westside booth also attracts interest from book dealers. One such dealer now visits our bookroom every few months and buys directly from us. On her most recent visit, she purchased more than \$700 of books.



*Left: President Velma
Tilley at Westside Market*



Left: Westside Market

Report from AAUW of Georgia

By: Mary Lynn Merkle, President

We have a definite date and time for AAUW of GA's annual meeting. We will meet on April 22nd at Central Congregational United Church of Christ. Our Atlanta branch will be serving as hosts, so please circle and save the date.

The program part of the gathering will focus on immigration. Please share your ideas for programming or keynote speakers with the planning committee. Members are: Brenda Depreis, Betty Slater, Rose Cannon, Marge Anderson, and Mary Lynn Merkle. Gillian Horsley has graciously offered to host a gathering at her home for out-of-town attendees.

Membership Memo

By: Carol Brantley

Members should have received their 2022--2023 Handbooks. If yours has not arrived, please contact Membership Chair Carol Brantley at membership@aauwatlanta.org

Gift from the Estate of Ruth Gogel

By: Wendy Venet

Rebecca Crockford, niece of longtime Atlanta Branch member Ruth Gogel, honored her aunt's memory by donating \$1,000 in her name to our scholarship fund. Ruth, who spent her career with CDC as an expert on mosquito control, retired in 1988 and dedicated her time to a variety of volunteer efforts. She died in March of this year at the age of ninety-four. Although a variety of health issues kept her from participating in AAUW in recent years, according to Crockford,



Ruth once served as a Board member for AAUW and as newsletter editor. An accomplished amateur photographer, Ruth also priced art books for AAUW. In deciding to donate specifically to AAUW, Ruth's family cited our dedication to helping promising and financially challenged women students to attain their educational goals.

Diversity Article

By: Mary Lynn Merkle

If you've been watching any political news lately, you've undoubtedly been subjected to some name-calling. We learned in school that "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me." But then we learned in psychology and child development classes that, indeed, words do hurt, and those words may be even more difficult to heal than the damages from "sticks and stones."

Recently, the word "woke" has been thrown around in a rather disparaging way. Often when it is used, I feel like it's directed straight at me. So, what exactly does it mean to be "woke?" Being curious, I looked it up. According to Merriam-Webster, "woke" is defined as "aware of and actively attentive to important societal facts and issues (especially issues of racial and social justice)."

OK! I confess, I'm "woke!" Honestly, which of us would not want to be identified with that definition? We AAUW members are not of one mind. We have different thoughts about how to solve justice and equity issues, and as thoughtful women we continue to listen and learn about alternatives and opportunities for change.

If there was a card-carrying organization for "woke" people, I'd be applying for membership. And I'm guessing that a lot of my fellow AAUW members would be doing the same. When we are called "woke" because we're working toward equity, the name-calling just might be a badge of honor.

Membership: Updated Contact Information

By: Phyllis Miller and Marge Anderson

We welcome four new members.

Linda Logsdon
Elizabeth Munson
Barbara West
Jean Zweifel

Please refer to the online Membership Directory located under the Members tab on the website for their contact information.

There are several member contact information edits to the online 2022-23 Membership Handbook. Should you need assistance gaining access to password-protected online content, contact the webmaster at webmaster@aauwatlanta.org