

Cherokee Rose Newsletter



July 2016

Summertime in Georgia



The AAUW of Georgia Fall Board Meeting will be held at the Comfort Suites in Macon on Saturday, August 27th. Under the guidance of Co-Presidents Yetta McMillan and Myra Carmon, state and branch leaders will visit strategies to engage members, strengthen branches and combine efforts across the state to promote AAUW's mission and unique sisterhood.

Whether you are a continuing branch leader or new to your position on the leadership team, we encourage you to attend and experience the dynamics of planning together for a remarkable AAUW year. Leadership is about mentorship, support and growth. This is an historic presidential election year that has already proven to be one of firsts and full of controversy ... come and share your thoughts as election time draws near and let us know of any voter registration efforts or "Get out the vote" campaigns you may be working on.

Comfort Suites
120 Plantation Inn Drive
Macon, GA 31210
478-314-5130

Meeting registration check-in 8:00 – 9:00 AM on August 27th
Meeting: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

AAUW of Georgia 2016 State Convention Highlights

Less than three months ago we celebrated our 93rd annual state convention in Warner Robins, Georgia. It was a time of celebration, comradery, and goal setting.

There were two dynamic speakers at this year's state convention, with AAUW mission-focused presentations. Both speakers provided inspiring messages that made all attendees want to do more to achieve the AAUW mission. Dr. Juanita Johnson-Bailey spoke of being encouraged by her Mother and other female relatives who made her the inspirational mentor, leader, and Eleanor Roosevelt recipient she is today.



Dr. Juanita Johnson-Bailey was our guest from the University of Georgia's Women's Institute.

Janet Bunger was our guest from the national office. She is a Vice Chair of Finance on the board.



During the meeting we spoke of ways to get closer to our membership goals. One strategic initiative discussed was Membership Payment Program (MPP). The MPP system is a secure way for all members to process their dues online instead of using the print version. Branch leaders attending the state convention were given a deadline to implement MPP by October 30, 2016. The pros and cons of MPP were discussed via a PowerPoint presentation at the convention.

On the lighter side, we played trivia games in relationship to Equal Pay because the convention was a few days after Equal Pay Day. There were giveaways by various state officers throughout the event. A wonderful catered lunch was enjoyed by all. Hats off to the Houston-Peach branch for a beautiful well put together 2016 AAUW State Convention. Special thanks to Marlene Humphry and Laurie Shaw for their extra efforts to make this year's state convention an overwhelming success! I look forward to seeing all branch leaders in Macon at our fall board meeting.

Title IX Challenge initiated at state convention:



Branch and state officers Carrie Smith (Houston Peach), Myra Carmon (Atlanta), Debbie Karvey (Cobb), Diane Sakmar (Cartersville-Bartow), Anna Marie Hoffman (North Fulton), and Beatriz Potter (Valdosta) hold copies of the Title IX Resource Guide following a presentation at the

convention April 16 in Warner Robins. Members have been asked to pledge to deliver the guides, prepared by the Office of Civil Rights, to Title IX Coordinators in their local school districts and colleges. Although Title IX has been in effect for 44 years, there is still much work to be done to make all stakeholders, including students, staff, and parents, aware of the protections provided by the law, which extend far beyond equity in athletics. Equal opportunity in the academic arena and safety from sexual harassment and assault are two of the most important yet most frequently overlooked protections.



AROUND GEORGIA:

Here are summer updates from some of the Georgia branches to highlight activities, community involvement and AAUW mission-based programs. At state convention there will also be an opportunity for branches to share news about programs and community activities.

ATLANTA and CARTERSVILLE



Cartersville members Barbara Cousins, Diane Sakmar, Susan Brossoie, and Janet Martin watch as Cartersville Mayor Matt Santini and Bartow County Commissioner Steve Taylor sign a joint proclamation for Equal Pay Day, which occurred on April 12 this year.



Betty Slater (Atlanta College/University Relations Liaison) and Kay Collins (Atlanta Membership VP) prepare a table of AAUW materials at the Judson Women's Leadership Conference at the World Congress Center on June 21. The fourth annual conference, created to "help young women achieve greatness in their lives," presented a world class lineup of speakers, including Carey Lorenz, the first female U.S. Navy F-14 Tomcat fighter pilot and author of the Wall Street Journal best-selling book Fearless Leadership: High Performance Lessons from the Flight Deck. Another keynote speaker was Carla Harris, Vice Chairman at Morgan Stanley and recently named to Fortune Magazine's "50 Most Powerful Black Executives in Corporate America." Other speakers and panel members represented Coca Cola, Lockheed Martin Aeronautics, Cox Media, CNN, and the Atlanta Hawks. AAUW was among twenty exhibitors.

AAUW student members from Georgia Highlands College's Cartersville and Douglasville campuses pose before



beginning a day of inspiring speakers, informative breakout sessions, and networking at the Judson Women's Leadership Conference. Attendees chose options from among six breakout sessions, including one on negotiation skills which closely paralleled AAUW's Start Smart and Work Smart workshops. In addition, Expert/Skill Tables provided one-on-one help with resume writing and interviewing

skills. Participating companies were also recruiting and offering internship opportunities. The consensus of our students: **AWESOME!**

COBB COUNTY

The branch ended the year with two special events.



EIGHTH GRADE GIRLS ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS CELEBRATED! It was a great pleasure to meet our Eighth Grade Girls Essay Contest winners at the reception for them on April 12. Sakshi Joshi from Campbell Middle School won first place, Mia Karega from Tapp Middle School won second place, and Joyita Davis from Lindley Middle School came in third. They were given Certificates of Achievement were presented with \$100, \$75, and \$50 respectively.



In May, at the Indian Hills Country Club, hosted by Nancy Coakley, the branch celebrated together outstanding programs and community outreach of the past year under the leadership of Arden Stone (whom we dearly miss, as she has moved to California to be near family.)

We honored Woman of the Year, Shameka Wilson, Director of the Women's Resource Center at KSU.

KSU Guests included Dr. Gail Scott, AAUW Chapter advisor, Catherine Ellis and Sydney Saylor, AAUW student chapter officers and scholarship recipients, Simoine Kenya, graduating senior and past president of the chapter.

Also present was Greta Samuels, a 2012 scholarship recipient, who updated us on her achievements and now has a degree in early childhood development.



Catherine Ellis (L) and Sydney Saylor (R): Scholarship recipients



HOUSTON-PEACH

FIRST writing contest winner and our Eleanor Granum Award winner for 2016.



Our new officers for 2016-17



Members look forward to all the branches sharing recent highlights and activities as we gather at the AAUW of Georgia Fall Board Meeting in Macon.



AAUW of Georgia Public Policy Updates

AAUW as a member of the GA Job and Family Collaborative works year round to strategize for successful passage of the Family Care Act and to protect the rights of working families.

This year, Atlanta area branches with League of Women Voters will take advantage of a mini-grant from Georgia 9to5. These chapters will focus on an in-district meeting with Georgia State Senator Hunter Hill, District 006, focusing on garnering his support for SB 242 (FCA). Additional advocacy may include op-eds, community voter education/registration outreach and a forum. With the election cycle, advocacy often focuses on key districts across the state.

As issues sensitive to AAUW become known, we will focus on those as well – especially as the 2017 legislative session begins in January.

Your activism through SALSA/AAUW Activist really made a difference with the campus carry bill and the religious freedom bill this spring. We will continue to employ those tools to be able to include member voices from across the state.

2016-2017 AAUW OF GEORGIA OFFICERS

- Co-President:** Yetta McMillan (Cobb)
- Co-President:** Myra Carmon (Atlanta)
- Treasurer:** Mary Lynn Merkle (Atlanta)
- Communications VP:** Faye McCord (Cartersville)



AAUW Georgia Fall Board Meeting
Saturday August 27th
Macon, Georgia
 Check in for the meeting starting at 8:00 am
 Meeting starts at 9:00 am

Location: Comfort Suites
120 Plantation Road
Macon, Georgia 31210

The rooms are all suites with a discounted rate for Friday & Saturday night at
\$89.00 per night plus tax.

Please contact the hotel no later than August 1st if a room is needed.

****Please call Yetta if you are using the room rate @ 678-596-5721**

Fall Board Meeting Registration Fee is \$20.00 per person which includes lunch
 prepared by Honey Baked Ham.

Please send your meeting registration check made out to Georgia AAUW no later
 than August 20th.

Mail form below to:
Yetta McMillan, 5998 Tate Drive, Austell, GA 30106

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AAUW GA Fall Board Meeting Registration Form:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

BRANCH _____

POSITION _____

EMAIL _____

CONTACT NUMBER _____

MAP: Comfort Suites, Macon, GA

Exit 9, Interstate 475

