

Cherokee Rose Newsletter



Spring 2020

Although the current healthcare crisis resulted in the need to convert from our traditional AAUW GA Spring Convention gathering in Valdosta, we can still look forward to a special 100th anniversary program celebrating woman's right to vote during our Fall Board Meeting. Date and location will be announced as soon as details are confirmed. Annual reports will be presented at this time.



At the 2019 Fall Board meeting in Valdosta last August, excitement was generated for this centennial celebration and we are greatly appreciative of the planning and hard work that has already gone into preparations for the spring convention ... there is much to celebrate and applaud.



Required business normally addressed during the spring convention will be conducted online and details will be provided to members on how they will be able to participate.

Everyone stay safe and healthy. We show our humanity and caring for each other during difficult times such as these.

The online business will be conducted in a series of e-mail. As a preliminary to state business needs, all the exciting news that branches wanted to share have been sent out as a separate document/attachment to the membership. Branches have been busy with fundraising, scholarships and national donations as well as community outreach and amazing programs.

ONLINE AAUW GA SCHEDULE and VOTING

- Cherokee Rose Newsletter will be published and e-mailed to the membership.
 - Nominee Bios will be included in the newsletter for review.
 - 2020 AAUW Georgia bylaws changes are also included for review
- In 30 days, an e-mail with a link to the online voting platform will be sent to the members.
Detailed instructions will be provided so members will know how the voting works.
- Members will have 15 days to vote for nominees and bylaws.
Votes will be tallied by June 1st.
The membership will receive notification of the results.

We thank out-going Co-President Beatriz Potter for her commitment, dedication and leadership to AAUW of Georgia during her tenure as Co-President 2018-2020. We are grateful for her guidance, energy and enthusiasm for continued vitality to state leadership.



Appreciation also goes to Debbie Karvey for her efforts as Communications VP during the past two terms, 2016-2020. The Cherokee Rose Newsletter and collaboration with the executive board have been her primary areas of focus and commitment.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: NOMINEE BIOS

WILHEMENIA SIBLEY: Continues her service as CO-PRESIDENT 2019-2021



Wilhemenia Sibley (Houston-Peach) will continue to serve as Co-President of AAUW Georgia 2019-2021. Wilhemenia has been an AAUW member for over 40 years and served in multiple leadership positions in AAUW and with the Houston-Peach Branch. She is an instructor at Fort Valley State University and has recently been installed in a leadership position for the Links, Inc. Community Service Organization. We appreciate the level of leadership, experience and dedication Wilhemenia provides AAUW GA. **The nominating committee continues to seek candidates to partner with Wilhemenia in the open term, 2020-2022. Please consider serving AAUW of Georgia and say yes to this learning and growing leadership experience when a committee member calls.**

Daisy Bourassa: COMMUNICATIONS VP 2020-2022



Daisy Bourassa (Atlanta) received her Bachelors in Biochemistry from Simmons College in Boston and a PhD in Chemistry from Georgia Tech in Atlanta. She currently serves as the Assistant Director of Residential Education in the Office of Residence Life at Agnes Scott College, an all-women's college in Decatur, Georgia. In this position, Daisy oversees the Living Learning Communities, Resident Assistant professional development and programming in the residence halls, as well as facilitating campus wide programming promoting healthy campus initiatives. In addition to her responsibilities in Residence Life, Daisy teaches both Organic Chemistry and Medical Biochemistry at Agnes Scott. Daisy has coached the Agnes Scott College Scottie cheerleading squad for 9 years.

Daisy is an active member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and the Chair for the Atlanta chapter of Young Women in Bio (YWIB). As YWIB Chair, Daisy organizes STEM outreach opportunities for her undergraduate students at Agnes

AAUW of Georgia members will be able to vote online for election of officers. You will receive an e-mail with a link to Survey Monkey to vote for officers and to vote on updates to the AAUW of Georgia bylaws. The bylaws will be provided under separate cover for review.

CO-PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

Dear Fellow AAUW Georgia Members,

We hope that this message finds you and your families in good health and that you are staying safe through this Coronavirus Pandemic. No doubt these are challenging times. Now more than ever we need to stay together supporting each other. Collectively we can make a difference as we move through this crisis. What better way to do that than by continuing our mission, work and outreach to women and girls. They need us more than ever.

Earlier this month, the first Cherokee Rose Newsletter with branch news was sent with wonderful news and updates from the branches. We are so proud of all the work! A big round of applause and congratulations go out to each branch. We encourage all members to continue staying connected. As we need to use emails, webpages, social media we also want to encourage making a phone call and reaching out this way. We have members who may not use these tools. Most of us need to hear a friendly voice. We certainly enjoy them. Please call when you can!

This second edition of the spring Cherokee Rose Newsletter focuses on information related to the state business that should be addressed including voting for new officers, proposed changes to our state bylaws, reports and fall board meeting. Since we will not have the regular convention meeting this year, stay tuned for additional communications and emails as we complete them online.

The nominating committee is still looking for members to volunteer for the upcoming elections. We are very happy to see the nominee's bios and hope we will get a co-president nominee for 2020-2022. These are key leadership positions that help our state continue to be strong and relevant. We need you. Thank you to, Evelyn Merk, GA Bylaws Officer, for working on the proposed changes to the bylaws to be voted, and to Debbie Karvey, GA VP of Communication, for all her work with the newsletters, communications and providing guidelines as we move with end of year voting.

With our membership component, we'd like to try and increase our numbers by 25-50% statewide by 2021-2022. Our slogan will be "Each One Reach One" We can get this done by reaching out to friends and co-workers. Let's all work together on this important effort.

As we continue being engaged during this time, we also need to explore new tools and ways to meet and stay connected at the state level. We are exploring an online meeting before the 2019-2020 year concludes. We also hope you have been following the updates from AAUW national and visited the new website.

Thank you to each one of you for all your dedication and work to promote our mission and vision. You are the key to our success, stay home and healthy and please observe the social distance recommendations and wear a mask and any other recommendation for your well-being and the community.

Beatriz Potter and Wilhemenia Sibley
GA -AAUW - Co-Presidents

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY WOMEN OF GEORGIA
TO BE VOTED ON AT THE 2020 STATE CONVENTION**

Proposed Change 1.

ARTICLE VIII. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Current reading: **Section 5.** Members joining a branch after January 1 shall pay one-half state dues for the fiscal year. Dues for new members may be accepted at any time.

Proposed Change: Delete the first sentence: “Members joining a branch after January 1 shall pay one-half dues for the fiscal year.”

Rational: AAUW has done away with the half-year dues at the national level. Proposed by the treasurer and co-presidents.

New reading: Section 5. Dues for new members may be accepted at any time.

Proposed Change 2.

ARTICLE VIII. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Current reading: **Section 6.** The annual budget and financial report for the state shall be prepared by the Treasurer and Finance Committee and approved by the Board of Directors no later than October 1.

Proposed Change: Delete “and Finance Committee” and insert “in collaboration with the co-presidents.”

Rational: Given declining membership and how challenging it is to get volunteers to serve on committees, do away with the finance committee. Proposed by the treasurer.

New reading: Section 6. The annual budget and financial report for the state shall be prepared by the Treasurer in collaboration with the co-presidents and approved by the Board of Directors no later than October 1.

Proposed Change 3.

ARTICLE IX. OFFICERS

Current reading: **Section 3.** The appointed officers of this organization shall be chairs of Public Policy, AAUW Funds, an historian, a membership chair, a program chair, a parliamentarian, and such other officers as shall be deemed desirable to carry on the work of this organization. These officers shall be appointed by the co-presidents and approved by the executive committee.

Proposed Change: Delete “an historian,” and “a program chair.”

Rational: It has been more than ten years since either of these positions was filled. It is obvious that the positions are not needed. Proposed by the Bylaws Committee.

New reading: Section 3. The appointed officers of this organization shall be chairs of Public Policy, AAUW Funds, a membership chair, a parliamentarian, and such other officers as shall be deemed desirable to carry on the work of this organization. These officers shall be appointed by the co-presidents and approved by the executive committee.

Proposed Change 4.

ARTICLE XIII. TERM OF OFFICE

Current reading: **Section 3.** The officers of the state shall take office July 1, except that the incoming co-president may call a meeting of the executive committee-elect for the purpose of approving appointments and making plans for the coming year. Officers shall serve for a term of two years, or until their successors have been elected or appointed and have assumed office. No member shall hold the same office for more than two (2) consecutive terms with the exception of the historian.

Proposed change: Delete “with the exception of the historian.”

Rational: We don’t have a historian. Proposed by the Bylaws Committee.

New reading: Section 3. The officers of the state shall take office July 1, except that the incoming co-president may call a meeting of the executive committee-elect for the purpose of approving appointments and making plans for the coming year. Officers shall serve for a term of two years, or until their successors have been elected or appointed and have assumed office. No member shall hold the same office for more than two (2) consecutive terms.

Proposed Change 5.

ARTICLE XIII. TERM OF OFFICE

Current reading: **Section 4.** A vacancy in any office, except that of the president, occurring in the interim between the annual state conventions, shall be filled by appointment by the executive committee for the unexpired term.

Proposed change: Change “the president” to “a co-president.”

Rational: Normally we would change “the president” to “the co-presidents,” but that isn’t appropriate in the situation. Proposed by the Bylaws Committee.

New reading: Section 4. A vacancy in any office, except that of a co-president, occurring in the interim between the annual state conventions, shall be filled by appointment by the executive committee for the unexpired term.

Proposed Change 6.

ARTICLE XIV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Current Reading: **Section 3.** The board shall recommend to AAUW action to be taken in regard to new branches, admittance of, or discontinuance of present branches. a. Upon recommendation of the state president, the state board of directors shall have the right to approve in writing the application of any group of graduates qualified to form a branch within the state, under AAUW Bylaws.

Proposed change: Replace “president” with “co-presidents.”

Rational: This is an editorial change. But an alternative would be to change “the state president” to “a state co-president.” That would require a vote.

New reading: Section 3. The board shall recommend to AAUW action to be taken in regard to new branches, admittance of, or discontinuance of present branches. a. Upon recommendation of the state co-presidents, the state board of directors shall have the right to approve in writing the application of any group of graduates qualified to form a branch within the state, under AAUW Bylaws.

Proposed Change 7.

ARTICLE XIV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Current reading: **Section 5.** Special meetings may be called by the president and shall be called upon written request of five (5) members of the board, provided that at least five days' notice of such meeting and its agenda shall have been given to members of the board.

Proposed change: Change "the president" to "a co-president."

Rational: If a call meeting is necessary and one of the co-presidents isn't available, this would make it possible for the other co-president to call a meeting. Proposed by the Bylaws Committee.

New reading: Section 5. Special meetings may be called by a co-president and shall be called upon written request of five (5) members of the board, provided that at least five days' notice of such meeting and its agenda shall have been given to members of the board.

Proposed Change 8.

ARTICLE XIV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Current reading: **Section 7.** Between meetings of the state board, a written vote may be taken at the request of the president on any question submitted in writing. Voting shall close fifteen days after the question has been submitted. If a majority shall vote on a question sent to the members of the board, the vote shall be counted and shall have the same effect as if cast at a meeting of the board.

Proposed change: Change "the president" to "a co-president."

Rational: If a written vote is necessary and one of the co-presidents isn't available, this would make it possible for the other co-president to call for a written vote. Proposed by the Bylaws Committee.

New reading: Section 7. Between meetings of the state board, a written vote may be taken at the request of a co-president on any question submitted in writing. Voting shall close fifteen days after the question has been submitted. If a majority shall vote on a question sent to the members of the board, the vote shall be counted and shall have the same effect as if cast at a meeting of the board.

Proposed Change 9.

ARTICLE XV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Current Reading: **Section 3.** The executive committee shall meet at the call of the president or at the written request of one-half of its members.

Proposed change: Change “the president” to “a co-president.”

Rational: If a call meeting is necessary and one of the co-presidents isn’t available, this would make it possible for the other co-president to call a meeting. Proposed by the Bylaws Committee.

New Reading: Section 3. The executive committee shall meet at the call of a co-president or at the written request of one-half of its members.

Proposed Change 10.

ARTICLE XV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Current Reading: **Section 6.** Between meetings of the executive committee, a written vote may be taken at the request of the president on any question in writing. Voting shall close ten days after the question has been submitted. If a majority shall vote on a question sent to the members of the executive committee, the vote shall be counted and shall have the same effect as if cast at a meeting of the executive committee.

Proposed change: Change “the president” to “a co-president.”

Rational: If a written vote is necessary and one of the co-presidents isn’t available, this would make it possible for the other co-president to call for a written vote. Proposed by the Bylaws Committee.

New Reading: Section 6. Between meetings of the executive committee, a written vote may be taken at the request of a co-president on any question in writing. Voting shall close ten days after the question has been submitted. If a majority shall vote on a question sent to the members of the executive committee, the vote shall be counted and shall have the same effect as if cast at a meeting of the executive committee.

Proposed Change 11.

ARTICLE XVI. COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

Current reading: **Section 1.** Standing committees shall be program development, membership, public policy, finance, AAUW funds, college/university relations, bylaws, and communications.

Proposed change: Delete “program development” and “finance.”

Rational: We have not had a program development committee for a long time. It’s not needed. Proposed by the Bylaws Committee. The finance committee is not necessary because the treasurer and co-presidents can accomplish the task. Proposed by the Treasurer.

New reading: Section 1. Standing committees shall be membership, public policy, AAUW funds, college/university relations, bylaws, and communications.

Proposed Change 12.

ARTICLE XVI. COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

Current reading: **Section 4.** Special committees may be appointed by the president with the consent of the board of directors.

Proposed change: Change “president” to “co-presidents.”

Rational: This is an editorial change and doesn’t require a vote.

New reading: Section 4. Special committees may be appointed by the co-presidents with the consent of the board of directors.

Proposed Change 13.

ARTICLE XVII. MEETINGS OF THE STATE

Current reading: **Section 3.** Special meetings may be called by the president. Or shall be called by the president on the written request of one-third of the members of the board of directors.

Proposed change: “Special meetings may be called by the president” becomes “Special meetings may be called by the co-presidents.” “Or shall be called by the president” becomes “shall be called by a co-president.”

Rational: A call meeting of the state should be a decision of both co-presidents unless it has been requested by one-third of the members of the board, in which case either co-president can call the meeting. Proposed by the Bylaws Committee.

New reading: Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the co-presidents, or shall be called by a co-president on the written request of one-third of the members of the board of directors.

AAUW GA Board greatly appreciates the expertise and detailed examination of the state bylaws by Evelyn Merk (Houston-Peach.) Please take time to review these changes prior to online voting.