

AAUW Warner Robins, Georgia Branch

President's Message

Welcome back to all of you to the 2009-10 program year for AAUW of Warner Robins. I hope everyone had a wonderful and safe summer. A new year is underway for another successful year. Great programs are planned and our usual projects are in the works. Coming up in October is the Fall Board, and November is the Book Fair. Plans are being made for the GRITS, RIF, and Eleanor Granum Award. Thanks to all who helped with the Summer Leadership meeting and the ongoing book sorting. Two of our members attended the National Convention in June. Information will be forthcoming on the bylaw changes. A Georgia member, Carolyn Garfein, is the elected President of AAUW and Marcia Capriotti was appointed to the AAUW Board.



Time To Renew

Membership renewals were due July 1 for this year. The dues remain at \$77 with \$46 of the national dues now being tax deductible. You need to pay your dues by October 1 to be included in the Yearbook, the printed membership directory. A check made out to AAUW can be mailed to Lib Barnhardt, Treasurer.



Evelyn Merk, the Yearbook Editor, will take corrections to telephone and email addresses until October 11. If you want your cell phone number included this year, please call or email her.

Bylaw Changes Needed

Now that AAUW has revised the bylaws, mandatory changes to branch bylaws must be made. These mandatory changes do not require a vote of the membership because they are required to bring the branch bylaws in conformance with AAUW Bylaws. Some of the changes include using AAUW in place of Association and Foundation, changing the mission so it matches the mission in the revised bylaws, deleting regional director references as they no longer exist, and removing references to delegates to AAUW convention as there will no longer be a delegate system for the national meetings.

States and branches now have the flexibility to determine governance structures that best suit their needs. AAUW will be preparing model bylaws for the states and branches to review.

The new bylaws and the memo detailing the mandatory changes are available at the AAUW website. There is a link on the home page.

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Upcoming Branch Events

Monthly Program Meetings
6:30 p.m. Social,
7:00 p.m. Program

September 8

Bill Milby
Visiting Angels
Centerville Lions
Clubhouse

September 29

Board Meeting

Book Sorting

7 - 9 p.m. (every Thursday until the book sale)
9- 11 a.m. (every Saturday until the book sale)
Houston Mall (next to probation office)

October 13

Heather Gilbert
Community Manager
American Cancer Society

October 27

Board Meeting

November 10

Sgt. Ronnie Harding,
HOCO Sheriff's Office

November 12 - 14

Annual Book Sale
(help needed for set-up, sales and clean-up)

Community Events

October 25

Political Fact from Fiction



As you watch or listen to the health care reform debate, how do you sort out what is true or untrue with the various proposals and rhetoric from pundits. The [St. Petersburg Times Politifact](#) website offers help. The website won the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for national reporting on the 2008 elections. They examine the claims and find the facts.

Another fact checking website is [Factcheck.org](#), a project of the Annenberg Public Policy Center at the University of Pennsylvania. FactCheck.org's 2008 election coverage was selected by the Association for Women in Communications for one of its [Clarion Awards](#).

Member Updates

Tiena Fletcher was elected chairman of the reorganized [Georgia Board of the Department of Human Services](#) at their August meeting. She has been serving on the board since 2003.

Jane Winston will be interviewed for an issue of the [Georgia Family](#) magazine for her work with GRITS.

Ann MacKay received the Georgia AAUW Women of Achievement award at the AAUW State Leadership Meeting. The award was announced in April at the convention.

Marlene Humphry was appointed to the Byron Historical Society.

If you have news that would be of interest to members, please email the [editor](#).

2009 - 2010 Budget



Lib Barnhardt presented a draft operating budget for the new year at the August Board meeting. The budget is based upon the same \$18 dues as last year. Adjustments were made to reflect current practice. The budget will be voted on at the October meeting. Download the draft budget here at the link below.

[AAUW Warner Robins Budget](#)

GRITS

Shirley Hills Elementary School will be the location for this year's GRITS program. *Pictures of Hollis Woods* will be the book for the fifth grade Girls Reading It Together in School. Jane Winston will continue to serve as the chairman and will be the discussion leader. Watch for announcements of dates when snacks and help is needed for the event.

Book Sale Approaches



The pricing and sorting continues on Thursday evening and Saturday morning. Carrie Smith, co-chair reports that over

October 28
Community Concert
Association
Brass Roots Trio
1st United Methodist
Church 3 p.m.

November 7
Alzheimer's Memory Walk

Access Member Database

The AAUW Membership Services Database allows you to update your member information and access the branch roster. Here is a link to a PDF document with step-by-step instructions on how to access it.

[Access AAUW Member Database](#)

AAUW Links

Branch Website – <http://aauwwrga.org>
State Website – <http://aauwgeorgia.org>
National Website – <http://aauw.org>
Member Showcase -
https://svc.aauw.org/calendar/index_view.cfm
AAUW Bookstore -
<http://www.bn.com/aauw>
AAUW Blog - <http://blog-aauw.org/>
Branch Message Group
http://groups.google.com/group/aauw_wr?hl=en
GA STEM Google Group
<http://groups.google.com/group/aauwga-stem?pli=1>



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Branch Officers

President
[Marty Scarborough](#)

Program Vice President
[Marlene Humphry](#)

Membership Vice President
[Carrie Smith](#)

Treasurer
[Lib Barnhart](#)

Recording Secretary
[Sharon Dawson](#)

Corresponding Secretary
Newsletter/Website
[Ann MacKay](#)

When reports came over, 200 boxes have been priced and sorted. More books are needed, so take a hard look at your bookshelves and do some decluttering. Carrie said, "Gardening books are in demand and we are short in that area."

Margaret Matthew and
Carrie Smith, Book Fair
Co-chairs

As a reminder, working for at least 5 hours for the book fair meets one of the Mary Deal 5-Star member criteria. The dates are November 12 - 14 at the Houston Mall.

Members Attend National

The historic AAUW convention resulted in the passage of bylaws merging AAUW and the Educational Foundation along with other



Evelyn Merk and Ann
MacKay

provisions that will make AAUW more flexible for these times. The open membership did not pass but the one member one vote provision did pass.

Evelyn Merk has attended several conventions starting with her first in 1981. It was the first convention for MacKay. The speakers, especially Lilly Ledbetter, the face of pay equity, were outstanding. Georgia candidates came away winners with Carolyn Garfein from Atlanta being elected President and Marcia Capriotti being appointed to the Board of Directors.

MacKay also gave two tech presentations on websites and social media. The handouts are available at [BBVXwiki](#)

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