



# Cobb Update

Volume 27, Issue 3

December, 2010

### Special Dates of Interest

- December 3rd - Roving Gourmet
- December 14th - Meeting at Mansour Center
- December 20th - Book Group Meeting
- January 7th - Roving Gourmet



LET IT SNOW!!

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## SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Our winners will be presented at our December meeting and  
**RECEPTION**

Tuesday, December 14, 2009, 7 p.m.  
at Mansour Center, 995 Roswell Street, Marietta, 30060

Linda Stewart, chair of the Scholarship Committee, will present the women who will be receiving the scholarships that all of us worked so hard at Bookfair to produce.

The cost is \$10 per person (heavy hors d'ouvres will be served). It will be imperative that each person *rsvp* by

Saturday, December 11th, with a firm commitment to [wemills@bellsouth.net](mailto:wemills@bellsouth.net) or 770-973-4498.

Checks will need to be sent to Debbie Karvey in advance of the reception.

Send your check for \$10.00 per person to Debbie Karvey, 5112 Olde Mill Drive, Woodstock, GA 30188 to arrive no later than Saturday, Dec. 11th, as the Mansour Center must have an accurate person count.

It will also be appreciated if you can bring some donation of food, baby needs, or other supplies to replenish Mansour Center's pantry. The Center does great community service; and as we all know, there are many needy folks in these difficult times.



# Book Group

For additional Book Group information please email or call Denise Bossarte at [dci\\_bst@hotmail.com](mailto:dci_bst@hotmail.com)

The **AAUW Book Group** will meet for our annual fun Holiday Party on Monday evening, **December 20th at 6:30PM**



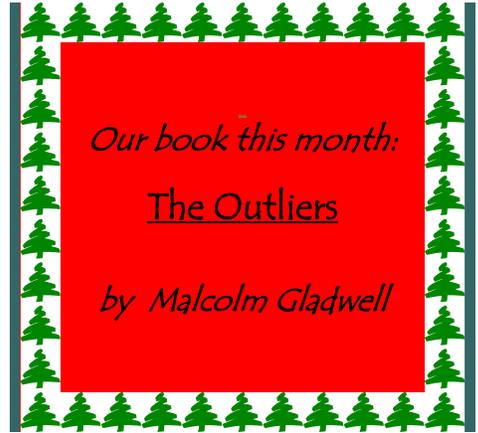
at the home of  
**Barbara Hammond**  
**2430 Weatherford Court**  
**Marietta, GA 30068**



Our discussion of the book will be facilitated by Peg.

Our fun evening begins with "you" bringing your favorite "heavy" finger food appetizer or dessert. After we have enjoyed the food, we'll discuss the book and then the fun begins!!!

Please bring a gift wrapped new or gently used book, one of which will be chosen by each person present unless the one you choose is stolen from you and then you can steal one from someone else or open a new one from under the tree. Got that!!! We have a great time and we hope you will come join us and see Barbara's beautifully decorated home.



## ROVING GOURMET



**Aldo's Restaurant**  
6690 Roswell Road  
Atlanta, GA 30328  
404-252-4832  
[www.aldosofitaly.com](http://www.aldosofitaly.com)

ALDO'S is a moderately priced Italian family type restaurant. All dinner entrees are served with house salad and garden rolls.

We have reservations with ALDO'S for our usual December gathering. However, there is a question whether we should reserve the alcove room which accommo-

dates sixteen (tightly) or their larger private room which could handle many more. **COULD YOU PLEASE HELP ME BY LETTING ME KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO BE WITH US ASAP!!!**

Best access is from Abernathy. Aldo's is at the far left, main level, on the rear side with ample parking



Please RSVP no later than Wednesday, December 1st to

**Peg Montgomery**  
at 770-565-7948 or  
[montgomery1718@bellsouth](mailto:montgomery1718@bellsouth)

Friday, December 3rd  
7:00 PM

WE LOOK FORWARD  
TO  
SEEING YOU!!



### Save the Date and NOTE -- it's a week later than posted in our Year Book:

Our January meeting is THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2010, at the COBB COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING, 100 Cherokee St., Marietta 30060 in the Commissioners' meeting room. We join with the Marietta-Cobb League of Women Voters and the Rho Zeta Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., for a legislative forum.

We will have refreshments at 6:30 -- Program at 7:00 p.m.

This is an important collaboration among our three organizations, and we encourage our membership to attend.

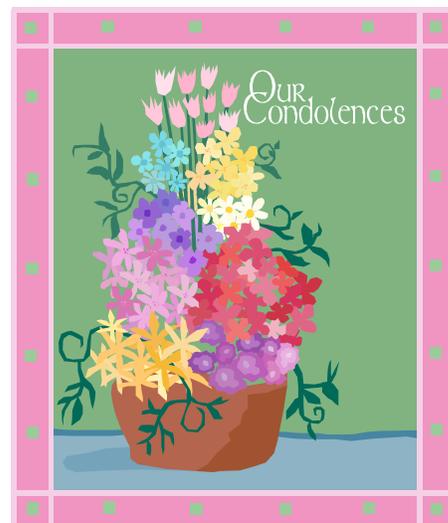
**DO plan to show up for this important meeting!**

**Cobb Branch is responsible for refreshments - please let Tiffany know if you can help.**



# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

It is with sadness we have learned  
that our President's Mother  
has died.  
Our deepest sympathy is extended to  
our loyal and dedicated Shirley.

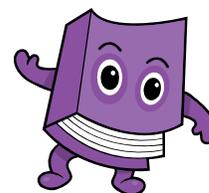


HAVE YOU MADE YOUR RESERVATIONS YET???  
THIS SATURDAY ---



**Bookfair Celebration Brunch**  
Saturday, December 4, 2010  
10:30 a.m.

At May Ruth Bradberry's home  
2115 Dunwoody Heritage Drive  
Atlanta, GA 30350



Everyone who worked on or contributed to the Bookfair in any way is invited.  
Reservations necessary: [mrbradberry@comcast.net](mailto:mrbradberry@comcast.net) or 770-399-7628  
***Thank you to all who helped make this the most successful Bookfair yet!***

“There are two ways to live: You can live as if nothing is a miracle; you can live as if everything is a miracle.”  
Albert Einstein



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*In principle and in practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability. Membership is open to anyone who holds an associate's or equivalent, bachelor's, or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.*

### 2010 Georgia Women's Assembly

On Nov. 12th AAUW participated in Georgia Women for a Change coalition's all day conference. Georgia Women for a Change is a bi-partisan coalition that has a hired lobbyist to lobby the Georgia General Assembly on issues affecting women and girls. May Ruth Bradberry, AAUW Atlanta, was one of three panelists to kick-off the morning session in "An Intergenerational Conversation" in which three generations discussed the challenges facing women in their lives today as well as the past. She continued that conversation in a follow-up Workshop. Cobb AAUW was represented by Carol Stephens and Debbie Karvey represented Georgia AAUW. There were several other AAUW members from the Metro area in attendance.

In the workshop, *Georgia Can't Spend What It Doesn't Have: The Budget and Tax Reform*, Mary Beth Gehl, Deputy Director of the Georgia Budget and Policy Institute, presented us with the cold, hard, facts. Georgia's budget is 16.6 billion dollars plus the Federal money totals 30 billion dollars. Our revenue is down 17.4 % compared to 2009. This means Georgia has 3.5 billion dollars less to spend than in 2009. Education expenses total 56% of the budget with the majority of that being teacher salaries. Health expenses total 16 % of the budget and Public Safety takes 10% of the budget. K-12 Education is taking a 13% cut, Dept. of Human Services is being cut 20%, Corrections is being cut 8.7% and Natural Resources is taking a whopping 30.4% cut. The Hospital Bed Tax will bring in some revenue. but it is being paired with significant tax cuts in 2016. However, our normal budget growth, due to an increase in population, each year is about 1 to 2 billion dollars. So what can we do? There are not too many choices and none of them are desirable. Since Education is the biggest piece of the pie, it will have to supply a large amount of the cuts. Either we have to pay our teachers less or we have to have fewer teachers which means an increase again in class size. In order to fund the cuts in Corrections we must either send fewer people to prisons or judges must shorten the sentences. Not a pretty picture! Our tax structure is based on a 1950's economy. HB 1405 creates a Council to look at the tax code and to create a pro growth tax system. There will be an up or down vote on its recommendations. One of the problems with this is that we will have 40 new legislators who don't have a history of understanding. Did you know that Georgia ranks 19th with the most regressive state and local tax system? So what are our options for reform? 1) Cut the sales tax and tax more services, 2) modernize income tax brackets, rates, and standard deductions, 3) create an earned income tax credit, 4) eliminate special tax breaks, 5) close corporate loopholes and update the corporate net worth tax ( based on 1931) 6) raise the cigarette tax (GA is the 4th lowest in the nation), and 7) raise the motor fuel tax ( 7.5 cents per gallon since 1971 which is now one of the lowest in the nation). Go to [www.GBPI.org](http://www.GBPI.org) to see how these changes would affect your ultimate tax liability.

In the workshop, *Why Non-Profits Need Policy Advocacy*, Jennifer Owens stated "If you are not at the table, you will be on the menu!" It is important for non-profits to educate their memberships, remind them to vote, and to seek appointments on non-elected bodies. In addition to writing letters to your legislators, take them to gathering places and ask for signatures and addresses, then present them in person to your legislator. In the wrap up session, Mary Margaret Oliver stated that when you contact your legislator, ask them to do something, such as sponsor the legislation or vote it out of committee, and take one hour per year to communicate on a specific issue. Communicate 3 times per year on it: once before the session begins asking them to follow it, cosponsor it, support it; once during the session, alerting them that the bill is coming up for a vote; and once again at the conclusion of the session to let them know that you have followed what they did on your issue. If each of us does the above on a regular basis, then we will be at the table and not the menu!

Carol Stephens, Cobb AAUW Public Policy Chair



**SAVE THE DATE • FEBRUARY 5, 2011**

## The Committee on Teaching About the United Nations (CTAUN)

**Presents The Fourth Annual  
Atlanta Conference**

### Educating for Action: The United Nations as a Resource

**DATE**

Saturday, February 5, 2011

**LOCATION**

Georgia State University  
College of Education  
Atlanta, Georgia

**INFORMATION**

Contact Cynthia Brown,  
Atlanta Conference  
Steering Committee Chair  
[upas3886@mypacks.net](mailto:upas3886@mypacks.net)

Find us on the web at: [ctaun.org](http://ctaun.org)