
AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, life-long education, and positive societal change.

Lobbying for Issues Concerning Children and Families

Janice Barrocas

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

7:00 p.m.

Central Library

266 Roswell Street, Marietta

Janice Barrocas is a contract lobbyist representing non-profit clients before the Georgia General Assembly. She is a graduate of Emory University School of Law and a member of the bar in both Tennessee and Georgia.

Her current clients include Women's Policy Group, the Juvenile Justice Fund, and the Georgia Job/Family Collaborative. Previously she served as compliance director for the Georgia Indigent Defense Council and Coordinator of the Senior Citizens Advocacy Project.

Janice has influenced a variety of issues including:

- State funded services for child victims of prostitution
- Protecting immigrant access to public health services
- Creation of consumer protections against predatory mortgage lending practices
- Increasing state share of funding for the statewide Senior Legal Hotline and
- Securing \$1.1 million increase in the state subsidy for local indigent defense programs.

Encouraging advocacy skills and training grassroots groups is one of Janice's passions. In 2007 she was honored to receive the Community Partner Award from Health Students Taking Action Together, a statewide organization of medical, nursing and public health graduate students for her work to stop proposed legislation that would erode group health coverage and protect working families' access to the state children's health insurance program.

Janice contributes legislative news to the Georgia WIN List e-newsletter, volunteers as the PTA Advocacy & Legislative Chair for the Oak Grove Elementary PTA, and serves on the advocacy committee of the National Council of Jewish Women's Atlanta section.

2007 Bookfair Yields Record Sales

The 2007 bookfair and presales total exceeded the previous high by nearly \$15,000. To celebrate, you are invited to brunch on November 17, 2007, at the home of Sylvia Goodyear, 5380 Willow Point Parkway, Marietta, from 10-12. Please let Sylvia know if you are attending (770-594-9901). The branch share of the profits will be announced at the November branch meeting.

President's Corner

Carol Stephens

“Most of our assumptions have outlived their usefulness.” Marshall McLuhan

Did you know that 70% of Association AAUW members are over 60 years old and that 3% of Association AAUW members are under 40 years old?

At our State Executive Board meeting in October we voted to approve the disbanding of 5 Georgia Branches (Brunswick, Morgan County, Thomas City Mary Grubbs, Tifton, and Waycross). Many of these had only one or a few active members due to the aging of its members. Even if Cobb maintains our membership level, if we do not lower the age level of those joining, we could potentially be joining those 5 Georgia Branches in the next 10 to 15 years!

Do you know what **GRITS** is? No, its not a side dish served with eggs. No, not Girls Raised In The South. It stands for **Girls Read It Together In School**. This is an innovative project in the Warner Robbins Branch. They form a Book Group (after school) of 5th grade girls who read one book over a 4 week period of time and hold a weekly discussion group that covers that section of the book assigned. Parents provide the transportation home. They are given tee shirts with the logo and AAUW on it. Each group averages about 12 girls. What are the benefits to this?

- 1) Girls are introduced to the concept of a book group and discussing ideas with other girls.
- 2) Girls are exposed to fiction that they might not otherwise read that can be geared to heightening their awareness of the potential of young women.
- 3) AAUW is a name that these girls become familiar with for future membership.
- 4) AAUW is a name that is now before parents who might not otherwise know that we exist and might become interested in joining.
- 5) Some of these girls and/or their mothers might become potential scholarship winners or contributors to our book fair.

There are probably other benefits that I have not thought of. This can be a once a year, or twice a year, at one school or several schools, or even more often venture. If anyone is interested in pursuing this or something like it as a project for our branch, please let me know! I think it has great potential and know many of you have the extra special talents that would make this extremely successful and you would serve as mentors to these girls doing something you love! If you have connections at a school that you think we could serve, please let me know!

“The future belongs to those who see possibilities before they become obvious.” John Scully

Please add the following new member to your directory:

Doris Carroll 770-384-1394
1894 Alexander St. SE dorisec70@yahoo.com,
Smyrna 30080

Retired RN, with degrees BSN, MA, MEd from Teacher's College, Columbia University
interests include cooking, reading, knitting, caring for grandchildren, and Cobb Democratic Women.

Branch Events for November

Book Group

The Book Group will meet on Monday, November 19, 2007 to discuss *Water for Elephants* by Sarah Gruen.

The EVENING meeting will be held at 7:30PM at the home of Shirley Mills, 4282 Presswyck Ct, Marietta, GA 30062. Please call Shirley at 770-973-4498 or email wemills@bellsouth.net if you plan to attend.

The MORNING meeting will be held at 10AM at the home of Bonnie Williams, 380 Woodstone Dr, Marietta, GA 30068. Please call Bonnie at 770-971-6130 or email Bonnieb41@juno.net if you plan to attend.

For information regarding the group, please contact Joanne Gareau gareau109@comcast.net

Roving Gourmet

Debbie Karvey will host the Roving Gourmet dinner on Friday, November 2nd @ 6:45 PM.

Cuisine: ***French***
Restaurant: **La Petite Maison**
Address: **6510 Roswell Road**
Sandy Springs 30328
Tel: **404 - 303-6600**

Please RSVP with Debbie (770-591-7956 / Debbiedah@msn.com) by Wednesday, October 31st, so I can confirm everyone's reservation. The restaurant will accommodate separate checks.
FYI: The restaurant is in the old Johnny Rocket location, located on Roswell Road, between Abernathy and Sandy Springs Circle, across the road from Sandy Springs Toyota.

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. A college or university degree is a requirement for full membership.

Member Notes

Our condolences to the family of Vera Zalkow. Vera lost her battle with cancer on September 30.

We wish Barbara Blue a speedy recovery.

Key Messages from the Association Board of Directors Meeting

The AAUW Board of Directors held a meeting in Washington, D.C., October 19–21, 2007. At the meeting, the board

- Had a spirited discussion about AAUW’s promise to its members, supporters, and society, including (1) consideration of what it takes to deliver our promise and (2) direction for ongoing work of committees and task forces.
- Enthusiastically looked forward to the months ahead and continuing to engage members in this conversation about AAUW’s future.
- Continued discussions and reviewed status updates from Joint Boards Retreat Six-Month Strategic Action Priorities (July–December 2007).
- Identified Association board goals for January to June 2008.
- Agreed to take on the Membership Committee challenge of each board member recruiting at least five new members.
- Agreed to resume facilities negotiations to attempt holding a 2009 convention. Discussions are ongoing regarding a high-impact event.

AAUW's Branch Assessment Survey E-mailing to Branch Presidents

To help national staff and leadership better understand our branch activities, services, and volunteer leadership concerns, branch presidents will be receiving an online Branch Assessment Survey via e-mail by October 31. The deadline for branch presidents to submit the survey is November 21. [Note: The Branch Assessment Survey is not to be confused with the biennial Every Member Poll, which will be sent with the *AAUW Outlook* magazine later this fall.]

2007-2008 Branch officers

Carol Stephens	President	770-427-8403
Arden Stone/Pam Flournoy	VP Program	770-499-9171 / 770-427-1724
Carolyn Freeman/Rita Neal	VP Membership	770-499-9614 / 770-428-8427
Karen Peters	Secretary	770-971-4087
Shirley Mills	Treasurer	770-973-4498