**Minutes from the AAUW Valdosta Branch Meeting held April 14, 2012, at the Lowndes County Historical Museum**

Members attending: Deb Van Petten, Anita Ondrusek, Martha Leake, Christine James, Denise Bogart and daughter, Betty Derrick, Bettye McClendon, Patricia Marks, Annie Fisher and a few others.

Our **meeting began at 10:50 am** with a **welcome from Mr. Donald Davis**, the Director of the Lowndes County Historical Museum. He noted that newsletters were available, the latest commemorating Valdosta’s connections to the Titanic tragedy 100 years ago. On the tables in the basement were several AAUW scrapbooks and news clippings featuring our members and activities back to the 70s. Members watched a presentation of Valdosta history, celebrating our Sesquicentennial, 1860 to 2010.

President Deb Van Petten conducted our business meeting. AAUW has selected **Savannah Spivey to receive our AAUW award** at the May 3 (Thursday, 6:00 pm) Honors Day dinner in the Cypress Room at the University Center. A volunteer is needed to attend the dinner and present our award to Ms. Spivey.

The next business was clarifying the **Nominating Committee**’s task of providing nominees for officers next year. Officers rotating off were first listed as VP Membership (Bettye McClendon), VP Programs (Diane Holliman), and Treasurer (Patti Barrett), but according to the handbook, VP Membership, Recording Secretary and Correspondence Secretary were elected in an even year and thus are being replaced in 2012. Some of the confusion stems from the selection of Martha Leake to fill out Deb Van Petten’s term as Recording Secretary, when she was elected in 2011 as President. It was **moved by Anita Ondrusek and seconded by Bettye McClendon** that we refer to the 2010-2012 handbook, Page 2, and stick to this officer replacement schedule. In discussion, it was requested that we open nominations tor officers finishing out their terms. After this discussion **the motion was passed unanimously**. In further discussion, Deb argued that we follow the Bylaws, Section 9, Article 1. We should have selected the Nominating Committee three months prior to the May meeting. The Nominating Committee was set up to include Anita Ondrusek, Denise Bogart, and one other. The slate of officers should be available by the May 12 meeting.

There were no immediate reports.

The **May meeting**, besides selecting and inducting new officers, should have a wrap up of the Sister to Sister event. [If you have photographs, send them to Deb or upload them to the website.]

The **AAUW website** was discussed. The old site does not at present have an active, accurate link to our new website, as pointed out by Patricia Marks. Logins for the old Tripod sight are lost. Deb has deleted the Wiki site. Anita was asked to call Sheila Hall to delete the old site or add a link to it to the present site (“We’ve moved, go here…”). It would be helpful to have accurate links to the Georgia AAUW web site and to the National site. Deb said that with the State Conference coming up, she could update the link. Anita said that according to the Bylaws, the Correspondence Secretary was responsible for the web site, and would talk to Sheila. Deb should be able to add material. Patricia Marks said she will help as web mistress. Betty said that this issue is important enough to merit appointing an Executive Secretary, who would keep track of submissions and remind officers to submit their material in a timely fashion, and to put a good “public face” on our material, censoring it if necessary and updating it.

**Discussion continued**. There should be provisions in the election cycle for those with emergencies and clear instructions for those filling out terms for others. Anita noted that our club has 32 members on the books, 5 new members, and some members who wish to return, so it should be possible to recruit officers to serve 2 year terms.

**The meeting was adjourned at 12:06 p.m**. Various members met for lunch afterwards.

**Note added from emails received from President Deb Van Petten on April 21. 2012.**

Anita Ondrusek, and Denise Bogart have volunteered to be on our nominating committee. We would like one more person. Please contact Anita or Denise if you wish to serve on this committee.

It seems we need to revise our bylaws to match the current offices that are up for re/election.

Based on page 2 of the handbook, the following offices are up for re/election.

    Vice president of Programs - Diane has served 2 years

    Vice president of Membership - Bettye and Anita have each served in this office for a year.

    Treasurer - Patti has served 2 years+

    Recording Secretary - Martha is finishing up my term.

If you wish to continue another term (2 years) or to run for an office, please contact either Anita or Denise. Thank you.

**Submitted by Martha Leake, April 30, 2012**.