

HISTORY - ATLANTA YWCA  
JANUARY 1957 - DECEMBER 1957

The Board took a look at "The Volunteer - Staff Relationship" at its January meeting. Mrs. Mary Kate Duskin, Executive, gave a keynote speech. The emphasis in Volunteer Leadership changed during this program year from recruiting to the training and development of the volunteers already working in the YWCA.

In December, the executive director represented the Central YWCA from Atlanta at the National Conference on Volunteer Leadership in Washington, D. C. Her report to the Volunteer Leadership Committee sparked a session for chairmen and co-chairmen on February 3 from 10:30 to 12 noon. The discussion was on "What should the basic training of a Y volunteer include?" The meeting was well attended and well received.

The annual financial reports for 1956 as reported at the January meeting were:

<u>Central</u>		
Income - \$209,881.95	Expenditures - \$208,403.97	Excess - \$1,387.98

<u>Phyllis Wheatley</u>		
Income - \$62,548.61	Expenditures - \$62,454.65	Excess - \$93.96

The YWCA pledge to National which was made in 1956 was agreed upon again. The amount was: through budget - \$3,000; through World Fellowship - \$1,000; through World Service Gifts - \$1,500; and Membership Fees - \$2,500; with the total of \$8,000.

The Endowment Fund which was begun in April 1952 reached \$1,684.44.

The Board and YWCA membership gave thoughtful consideration to raising the membership dues. The Membership Committee introduced a recommended change in dues to as many groups as possible so that it could get their evaluation and suggestions concerning membership dues. The committee also sent out 1,130 letters to adults who had been YWCA members for more than one year, explaining the suggested change and asking for their support.

In response, 408 replies were received. Of these, 343 members favored the change in membership dues and 65 members were not in favor. In September the Board passed an amended motion on membership dues which was: "That the membership dues in the Central YWCA be \$3.00 for adults; that persons participating in the package program plan only pay \$1.50 for the second term and thus become a member; \$1.00 for members 12 through 17 years and 50¢ membership activity fee for those under 12 years of age. Men and boys participating in the YWCA should become associates paying the equivalent dues. The change to go into effect April 1958."

Phyllis Wheatley Branch had begun a Membership Campaign which had become successful. Central discussed the value of a similar campaign which would serve to interpret the new fee plan and give special emphasis to recruiting members in the YWCA. A Membership Campaign was planned to begin in April 1958.

The Board and staff worked together to develop a formal plan for evaluation of the staff in which the volunteers and staff are involved. This indicated one more step toward good personnel practices.

Those attending the World Fellowship Service in Washington, D. C., included: 22 Y-Teens from Central and 16 from Phyllis Wheatley Branch.

The Regional YWCA Conferences were represented by Atlanta. Those attending the Blue Ridge Regional Conference included three Board members, two members of the Committee on Administration, seven staff members, and two Business Girls League members. The B.G.L. girls attended the Travel Conference. Fifteen Y-Teens and two staff members attended the Y-Teen Conference.

A citation for Community Services was awarded to the Central YWCA "In Recognition of Outstanding Achievement in Serving the Human Needs of Our Community." It was signed by the campaign chairmen of the Metropolitan Atlanta Community Services, Inc.

The Chairman of the Public Relations Committee reported at the June Board meeting that over the preceding nine-month period the Journal and Constitution newspapers had given 246 column inches for feature articles about the YWCA activities, and 204 column inches for pictures. It was also reported that local radio and TV studios had given generously in their publicity of the YWCA. Window displays had been placed in Davison's, the Library, and Regensteins.

A study and planning institute for the Board and staff was held in April with Miss Florence Harris of the Regional YWCA staff serving as a consultant.

The Electors' Assembly meeting on April 25 was concerned with membership fees, membership campaign and emphases for the YWCA program for 1957-58.

New acquisitions to be used in program and services included: a station wagon for Central's Decentralized Program, a film projector and a mimeograph machine for Phyllis Wheatley, stainless steel flat silver for the Central cafeteria, a dictaphone and typewriter for Central, furniture recovered in East Lounge at Phyllis Wheatley, and a Spinet piano for Phyllis Wheatley.

Camp Highland had a good season. Four-hundred and twenty-four girls attended the four camp sessions; 46 attended more than one session; 43 communities were represented; and 46 camperships were given. Fifty-one girls from the Formwalt section attended five days and other groups used the facilities eighteen weekends or period making a total of 1,257 served from April through October. Physical improvements at camp included the riding ring, cots and mattresses, fire extinguishers, tractor and large mixer for the kitchen.

A Pioneer Camp was held on the camp site purchased in 1949 for Phyllis Wheatley Branch camping. The site includes 118 acres in Coweta County. Fourteen girls from the Grady Homes Girls' Club and 22 from the YWCA attended the Pioneer Camp in 1957. Reports were excellent for this first-time experiment.

Highlights from the program for the year include: Phyllis Wheatley Branch  
(10-14)  
had 500 girls/to attend a Confidential Forum, the Fourth Annual Skating  
Extravaganza was held in the gymnasium on April 4, the Y was hostess for  
the USO on Army Day, over 500 attended the dance recital in which 116  
participated, day camps were held in seven centers, 200 persons attended  
a Membership Appreciation Tea on June 9, and the Annual Harvest Tea on  
November 24.

The Central Y-Teens sponsored a fashion show which netted \$258.50,  
31 Y-Teen Club presidents attended the President's Workshop, the Christian  
Emphasis Committee planned a Worship Workshop for January 1958, and a State  
Public Affairs Workshop, called by Mrs. Paul Pfentze, State Chairman of  
Public Affairs, was held February 15.