



Atlanta Woman's Club



Member, Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs (GaFWC)

General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC)

December 2011 Issue

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President's Message

December 2011

Here we are in the month of December - the very last month of the year! Where did the time go?

December offers us a chance to reflect on the past year, re-connect with family and friends, prepare and eat traditional Holiday recipes, and give the world a dose of peace and charity.

As members of the Atlanta Woman's Club, we have the opportunity to give to various community projects throughout the year. It is a privilege to work with fellow club members and give back to the community. These are difficult times for charitable organizations, but it is comforting to know that we make a difference in our community by giving of our time and resources. We will have another chance to give during the month of December by participating in the upcoming silent auction at the AWC Holiday Party December 7.

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HOLIDAY PARTY – December 7 at 7:00 p.m.

By Judine Heard, Home Life Chair

Our Holiday Party is scheduled for Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wimbish House. This year's auction items will be Christmas stockings. Proceeds from the auction will go to *Genesis: a New Life*. I look forward to seeing everyone!

Attention Members - It's Time to Renew Your Membership Dues

The new year is approaching and that means it's time to renew your Atlanta Woman's Club membership. Please know that all of you are a very special part of our Club and I sincerely hope you choose to renew your membership with us. Your membership and support has enabled us to accomplish so much this past year. I can't wait to see what we do in 2012!! We are very grateful to have members like you who have given your time, money and talent to help AWC achieve its overall mission to improve our local community, socially, physically, culturally and educationally. We're proud of what we've been able to do and we could not have done it without YOU!

I look forward to your continued membership as well as another fun and productive year in 2012. If you'd like to be more involved in the Club in 2012, please let me know. I promise if you get involved, you'll feel the sense of hope and accomplishment that comes from knowing you are making a difference! "Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile." Albert Einstein. Attached please find a Renewal Invoice. Please return the completed form along with your payment to Cimi Douglass at our next meeting Dec. 12th or by U.S. Mail.

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The proceeds of the Silent Auction will be given to *Genesis: a New Life*. Our holiday party also gives us a chance to kick off the holiday season, enjoy the beautiful Christmas decorations of the Wimbish House and to visit with fellow club members.

Also, during this hectic period, please make time to take some deep breaths and enjoy the Holidays.

Look forward to seeing all of you at our party on Wednesday, December 7, and at our next meeting on Monday, December 12.

Peace,

Karen Bacheller, President
Atlanta Woman's Club 2010-2012

Conservation Community Service Program News

By Connie Routh, Chair

Penny Blackford guided members of the Atlanta Woman's Club, along with Corky Claire, Steve Montgomery, and Bill Mitchell on a walking tour of Adams Park. The park is located in the West End section of Atlanta, surrounded by and filled with beautiful established hardwoods. We circled the lake, visited the rock ravine, and viewed the reclaimed area sponsored by donations from AWC's Conservation Committee. After the tour, Penny and her Mum hosted a beautiful 'Afternoon Tea' for all of us in their home. We were served English tea, pastries, homemade scones, clotted cream, and lemon curd at a beautifully set table. We are looking forward to the next invite!

*(Photos courtesy of Judine Heard.
See last page for more photos)*



Mass Recycle (www.massrecycle.org) has created the following list of gift giving ideas on their website along with many energy-saving and environmental tips:

- Buy Greener Gifts. Consider buying gifts with less packaging or gifts made locally or by small businesses (e.g. organic food and drink, shade grown coffee and fair-trade cocoa products) rather than large corporations.
- Make Crafty gifts. What if you made some of the gifts yourself? Potential projects include making greeting cards for friends and family, "publishing" a collection of favorite recipes or framing a picture you took yourself. Make a calendar marking special family events. Consider an ambitious idea of committing to sending a handwritten letter or card to a long-distance friend or relative once a month for a year.
- Take a friend off of junk mail. Generate automatic forms with your recipient's name and address at The New American Dream to reduce unwanted mail by 50%. Present the forms in stamped, addressed envelopes ready to sign and mail.
- Wrapping alternatives. Wrap your gifts in your kids' artwork, maps and travel brochures, colorful magazine and newspaper pages, old Sunday comics sections, pieces of fabric. Gifts for the kitchen can be folded in cloth napkins or collected in a picnic basket and wrapped in a tablecloth.
- Re-gift. Host a "re-gift swap" by gathering like-minded friends and exchanging gift-quality items you own but don't actually use. Give the latest great book you bought and enjoyed to someone who may share your taste.
- Multimedia gifts. Make a mix CD with music selected for someone special, perhaps even with personalized liner notes. Record interviews of parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles on audio or video tape. Ask them to discuss their memories of the person you plan to give the tape to, or your family's history, especially funny or meaningful anecdotes.
- For small kids. Consider making a book about the child, written and illustrated by you or presenting the child with the makings for an arts or crafts project you can do together. Give a box of dress-up clothes salvaged from the attic or a thrift store.

- Buy renewable energy for a friend. Help a friend help the planet. Purchase renewable energy certificates (RECs) to offset travel or household energy use and promote the development of cleaner sources of energy.
- Make a donation in someone's name. Want to leave it up to the recipient? The nonprofit Charity Checks allows recipients to choose which organization(s) receive the funds. Give a donation to a local cause such as a soup kitchen, a shelter for battered women, a local environment group, etc. Call local churches, synagogues, and charitable organizations for ideas.
- Give a friend a membership to a non-profit organization.

The Conservation CSP will be emailing a form to each AWC member to be used for reporting your annual recycling, donations, and hours soon. Please complete the form and email it back to us. We plan to send forms via the US Mail to the members that do not use email.

Remember to please bring your recycled medicine and vitamin bottles to the next monthly meeting. Penny will deliver them to the Atlanta Humane Society. Connie will also collect your used books for the AAUW Book Fair, a Non-Profit organization. AAUW volunteers turn gently used books into opportunities for women and girls. Go to www.aauwatlanta.org and www.bookfairaauw.org for more information.

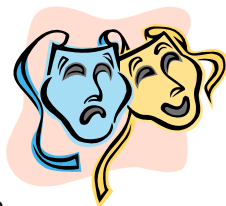
As always, please contact Penny or Connie with any ideas for volunteer projects or tips to include in our monthly newsletters.

Arts Community Service Program News

By Beth Jetha, Chair

Support Theater in Atlanta.

In addition to the wonderful productions in our neighborhood at the 14th Street Playhouse, the Alliance Theatre and the Hertz Stage, please remember our other theater companies which depend on local donations as well as ticket sales for their continued existence. Consider purchasing gift



certificates or season tickets to these fine venues for your holiday shopping.

Actor's Express Theater Company, at 887 W. Marietta St. Suite J-107, presents "Libby's at the Express" from Dec. 16 through Dec. 23. Tickets online are \$40 plus tax; by phone or at the box office will cost you an additional \$2 per ticket. Box Office: 404.607.SHOW(7469).

The Horizon Theatre Company presents their family show, "Madeline's Christmas," from Dec. 10 – Jan. 1st. "The Santaland Diaries," a comedy by satirical writer David Sedaris, is also showing until Jan. 1st. The Horizon Theatre is located at Euclid & Austin Avenues in Little Five Points. Box Office: 404.584.7450.

The "1940s Radio Hour" is back at Theater in the Square in downtown Marietta until Jan. 1st. They are also showing the "Sanders Family Christmas" until Jan. 1st. The Earl Strand Theatre, also located in Marietta Square, is home to the Atlanta Lyric Theatre, which is presenting, until Dec. 18th, "The Sound of Music."

Georgia Shakespeare is bringing "Cocoa & Carols," a holiday cabaret, to the Conant Theater at Oglethorpe University on Dec. 16 & 17 at 7 pm. Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$15 for children. Doors open at 6 pm—plan to arrive early for free cocoa and additional kids' activities. This is a fundraiser for the Georgia Shakespeare, but they will also have collection boxes for Toys for Tots and the Atlanta Community Food Bank. Their next fundraising goal is \$500,000 by Dec. 31, 2011; they are currently at \$405,000 and continue to seek support funding from the business and community for this second fundraising hurdle. Pass the word around and ask your friends to donate. Please go to: www.gashakespeare.org to follow their progress.

Many thanks to all of you who support the arts in Atlanta. Have a blessed and bountiful holiday season!

GFWC Member Art Competition: The deadline is the end of January 2012 (judging is on Feb. 1, 2012 for most entries). Please pull out your poetry, your writing, collection of photos, and craftwork you have done this year. Consider submitting these as a member of the Atlanta Woman's Club. I can help if the thought of completing entry forms



overwhelms you. Call or email me. There are 14 categories of artwork entries that each member may submit. Visit our Club website, under the Member section for more information or consult your Club Handbook for full details and complete contest rules and entry forms (starting page 83). If you are unable to access the internet, call me and I'd be happy to mail these to you.



Brief Historical Facts Regarding the Atlanta Woman's Club By Lisa Banes, Public Affairs CSP and History Book Committee Member

This is the fourth installment of historical detail to appear in all subsequent AWC Newsletters this year, in preparation for the 2012 publication of A Light on Peachtree: A History of the Atlanta Woman's Club, by Anne B. Jones, Ph.D., with photographs by Aryc Mosher

"The Atlanta Woman's Club on the Eve of the Great War," adapted from A Light on Peachtree: A History of the Atlanta's Woman's Club, the soon-to-be-published history of the Atlanta Woman's Club.

...with the rise of European imperialism, concerned Americans formed societies devoted to peace and diplomatic conflict resolution at home and abroad. Because they were excluded from most male peace organizations, clubwomen established peace departments to provide educational programs, and peace chairmen were appointed in more than half of GFWC's state federations.

On May 18, 1914, The Atlanta Woman's Club was the first club in the south to observe Peace Day, a date selected to commemorate the First Hague Peace Conference of 1899, which had established the Hague Tribunal. Clubs and patriotic organizations throughout Atlanta were invited to participate. Bishop Cleland Kinloch Nelson, the third bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Georgia, presented a program entitled *The Progress of the Peace Movement*, in which he urged the women to ally themselves with the great movements of the world.

Suddenly, the world seemed to explode. Conflict erupted first in the Balkans in summer 1914 when a Serbian nationalist assassinated Archduke Francis Ferdinand, the heir to Austria's throne. Austria declared war on Serbia; Russia, allied with Serbia, declared war on Austria; alliances formed on both sides; and war spread like wildfire throughout Europe.

Following the lead of President Woodrow Wilson, the Atlanta Woman's Club maintained absolute neutrality on the European conflict. When the club invited patriotic organizations, the Georgia Peace Society, the Atlanta Peace Society, and interested friends to attend a 1915 program featuring a dramatic reading of the "Problems of Peace and War," the meeting offered the opportunity for questions and discussion; however, attendees were forewarned not to promote partisanship: "The great point under discussion is what part the people of today can play in the making of a future that shall relegate war to the past, and shall work for the establishment of international harmony." It was not to be. When the British passenger ship Lusitania was sunk by a German submarine, Wilson's neutrality ended and the US entered the war in 1917. Clubwomen changed their focus from peace to war relief. In place of a planned peace program, the Atlanta Woman's Club held a Patriotic Day, sold and purchased Liberty Bonds, and worked with the General Federation to raise and donate money to the War Victory Commission to build overseas libraries, recreation centers and medical dispensaries. Clubwomen prepared medical kits and collected supplies, clothing, books and paper for American soldiers abroad. Throughout Georgia, women's clubs sponsored and adopted orphaned French children, as well as provided for soldiers stationed at home in army camps. Many contributed every tenth jar of summer preserves, jellies and canned goods to base hospitals.

The Atlanta Woman's Club also sponsored a series of concerts and stocked the reading room at Fort McPherson; planned entertainment and provided magazines for soldiers at Camp Gordon; gathered and distributed Christmas gifts for soldiers; and organized a Red Cross Auxiliary. Dressed in Red Cross uniforms, they sold Red Cross Christmas Seals and peddled Georgia State Automobile Association touring books at the new Lakewood Speedway.

The General Federation established war service and editorial offices in Washington, D.C.; organized Red Cross units across the country; and in collaboration with the YMCA, created the Overseas Service Unit, a group of 100 women were sent to Europe to assist wounded soldiers in the war's aftermath. Clubwomen's efforts on behalf of soldiers did not go unnoticed. GFWC President Ione V. H. Cowles and former GFWC President Eva Perry Moore were appointed to Woman's Committee of The Council of National Defense, a newly established advisory committee to coordinate women's war efforts.

Public Issues Community Service Program

By Lisa Banes, Chair



Because 2011 marks the 25th anniversary of the Georgia Justice Project, the Public Issues community resource program has donated \$2,500 in support of the organization's innovative and important work, especially its advocacy on behalf of indigent criminally accused people.

Thank you to all who volunteered to help make GJP's Annual Holiday Party a fun and festive success! Held on Saturday, December 3rd at First Presbyterian Church, the party provided a fabulous meal, beautifully wrapped gifts, and photos with Santa for approximately 50 client families. This was the second year that AWC members have participated.

Public Issues could use more volunteers in 2012! If you're interested in working on Public Issues projects (quite a few are planned) in the upcoming year, please drop an email to lisa@nolossforwords.com.

Tallulah Falls School News

By Lucy Willard, Tallulah Falls School Committee Chair



The students at TFS are preparing for the holidays and getting into the holiday spirit. The Tallulah Falls middle and upper schools officially entered the Christmas season with their annual "Hanging of the Green" day held on Nov. 18 just before the Thanksgiving break. Students and staff spent several hours decorating the classroom buildings, administration building and offices as well as the student center, dining hall and

dormitories creating a wonderful holiday atmosphere on campus. The Hanging of the Green is observed at Christian churches throughout the world recognizing the first Sunday of the Advent season. They also hosted an Art contest, a popular Tallulah Falls School Christmas tradition. The winners of the contest will have their work featured on the annual TFS Christmas card. The winners were announced just before Thanksgiving break. *(Courtesy of TFS website).*

Send in Your Reading Lists

By Cimi Douglass



Please remember to send in your reading lists to me. I know each and every one of us has read something this year, let's get that book on our reports. Remember, my goal for this year was 500 books for our Club. We're a long way away from that since I've only received lists from 5 people. I know I have some avid readers with reading lists of 50 books a year – please bring send them to me – you know who you are.

List of December Observances:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Dec. 7th | Nat'l Pearl Harbor Day |
| Dec. 21st | Hanukkah Begins |
| | First Day of Winter |
| Dec. 24 th | Christmas Eve |
| Dec. 25 th | Christmas Day |
| Dec. 26 th | Kwanzaa Begins |
| Dec. 31 st | New Years Eve |

*Happy Holidays!
Remember to be a Shining Light
Wherever You Go!*



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