
Atlanta Woman's Club

Member, Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs

April 2009

1150 Peachtree Street N E, Atlanta, GA 30309 Telephone 404 870 8833 Website: www.atlwc.com

MAR. 19, 5TH DISTRICT MEETING: ATLANTA WOMAN'S CLUB WINS AWARDS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With the coming of spring, the Atlanta Woman's Club has begun to blossom like the most beautiful of flowers. AWC is beginning, I feel, a profoundly cohesive and harmonious period in her history, despite the recent disturbing occurrences in our economy and, also, some abrupt changes in a few AWC leadership positions, a circumstance which calls for more nominations and another election. Like so many organizations today, AWC is experiencing change, rarely easy, but, nevertheless, an effective process for releasing what needs to be released so that we can make room for the new, whatever that is to be. With the change from winter to spring, we give up, put

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MESSAGE FROM 2ND VICE PRESIDENT AND DEAN OF DEPARTMENTS

When I attended the Balzer Theater on March 11th and opened the program, The Atlanta Woman's Club was acknowledge for the \$10,000 contribution made by the Arts Dept. to the Theatrical Outfitters in Dec. Our Club was one of the 8 contributors listed in the Lyricists category. This was just one of the significant contributions made in 2008 and 2009.

The Atlanta Woman's Club was also acknowledged at the GaFWC 5th District Meeting on March 19th. We received 1st Place in all the Depts. for General Clubs of 51 or over members. That was nice but not so significant because we were the only club with that many members. However, we did receive the Best General and Best Overall General/Junior awards in the Education, International Affairs and the Public Affairs Departments. When compared to all the 6 other clubs in the District, AWC was given "The Best General Club Award". We also received The Tallulah Falls School Award. Congratulations to all. We can certainly be proud of our achievements and the dedication of our Department Chairs and members.

I see these awards as a challenge for 2009. It is not enough to have great Dept. Chairs so I am asking each member to participate in one or more of the Depts. Whatever your interests

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Newsletter Editor: Beth Jetha (Telephone: 770 565 3410; email: bjetha@bellsouth.net)

away, or set aside those things which no longer serve us—like the now too heavy yet treasured winter wardrobe or the logs for the wonderful winter fires—in order to enjoy the lightness, beauty, warmth, and “newness” of spring. There is something about spring that brings smiles to our faces and lightness to our hearts as we begin to bask in the new colors, flowers, fragrances, leaves, as the earth renews herself with the regenerative aspects of the season. Similarly, these first days of spring have heralded a new, rich, and exciting time for the Atlanta Woman’s Club.

First, a rather spectacular and unprecedented thing happened to the Atlanta Woman’s Club on **March 19 at the 5th District Spring Meeting** (which we co-hosted with the East Point Woman’s Club) during which annual awards were presented to women’s clubs within the 5th District. To the delight of 9 members present, AWC was named the **Best General Club** in the 5th District, alone a coveted award, but then the awards just “kept on coming.” AWC walked away with **15 First Place Awards** and **5 Silver Awards**. In fact, AWC received nothing lower than First Place Awards, and so many at that! Specifically, **all six Departments** and the **Tallulah Falls School Committee** each won First Place Awards, and, in addition to that, the **3 Departments of Education, International Affairs, and Public Affairs** won two more Outstanding Certificates naming these departments as Best General and Best Overall in General/Junior Clubs. Additionally, AWC won more top awards by receiving the **Tallulah Falls School Award**, and our very own 2nd Vice President and Dean of Departments, **Betty Daniels**, was named the **5th District’s Short Story winner** for “Grogan’s Place,” the second story in her 2008 collection *Anecdotes from My Life*. In summary, receiving so many awards and so many First Place Awards must certainly be unparalleled in our history, for we couldn’t have done any better or gotten any

more awards than we did at this 5th District Meeting !

Those eight AWC members attending and proudly accepting the awards included Karen Clydesdale (once again creating beautiful floral centerpieces), Pat Walsh (functioning as a page to assist 5th District President Cheryl Miller), Betty Daniels, Judine Heard, Sarah Helen Killgore, Lucy Willard, Ruth Yurchuck (5th District Treasurer), and your president.

“AWC...named Best General Club...received nothing lower than First Place Awards...”

Credit for the stunning and impressive winning of these awards goes to the departments who did the work and to the Dean of Departments and Department Chairs and Co-Chairs who directed the year-long work. Giving high praise to those who wrote the annual reports and turned them in to be judged by the deadline of January 31, 2009, I want to thank Betty Daniels, Lisa Banes, Judine Heard, Jill Muir, Pat Walsh, and Ruth Yurchuck, with special gratitude to Ruth Y. and Lucy W. who helped me, as a first-time AWC president, prepare my report.

Sunday March 22, fourteen members of the Executive Board gathered at the Cathedral of St. Philip for the first afternoon of our Retreat, a **Team Building Workshop** expertly led by Dr. Candace Kaspers: Lisa Banes, Karen Bacheller, Karen Clydesdale, Betty Daniels, Judine Heard, Beth Jetha, Bonnie Kent, Sarah Helen Killgore, Sandra McNeil, Ellen Milholland, Pat Walsh, Lucy Willard, Ruth Yurchuck, and your president. Two days later on March 24, twelve AWC members traveled by van, on a trip arranged by Lucy Willard, to see the new Lodge at Tallulah Falls, attend a special program at Tallulah Falls School, and have a delicious lunch with the students in the School dining room.

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Those making the trip were Shannon Betsill Karen Clydesdale, Carrieann Gillert, Judine Heard, Alice Lamont, Bonnie Kent, Sarah Helen Killgore, Sandra McNeil, Claudia Turner, Lucy Willard, Ruth Yurchuck, and your president.

On Saturday, March 28, we'll reconvene at St. Philip's for the final phase of our Spring Executive Board Retreat. Federation members leading the morning session are Mary Ruth Kimsey and Martha McElhannon. Following lunch provided by Jason's Deli, the afternoon session will be led by facilitator Ellen McCarty, highly experienced with non-profit organizations.

Our **Annual Spring Tea** for potential members, friends, and family of AWC members is **Sunday afternoon, April 5, 2:00-4:00 p.m.** Social Chair Reba Morrison spearheads this event again this year. Once again, she and her committee will have the Wimbish Mansion beautifully decorated in a spring motif. With piano music playing in the background and delicious hors d'oeuvres made by our outstanding tenant Opera's award winning "Chef Jeff," the AWC hosts an enjoyable and festive occasion which serves to remind us of our purpose of "fostering mutual counsel and helpfulness and to support women" in bettering the lives of people in our community and in our world.



Finally, though AWC does not have meetings in April, the **Bridge Club** will meet, as usual, the 3rd Monday of the month, **April 20th from 10:00 AM - 3:00 p.m.** All, including beginners, are welcome to attend.



As we move forward as an empowered team—accepting the changes that are occurring, celebrating goals successfully accomplished and honors so recently bestowed upon us, and, most importantly, doing the volunteer work we have chosen

to do—we are especially grateful this spring for our Club, our relationships, and the many opportunities for volunteer service that are ours.

Happy Spring!

Karen M. Thomson, Ph.D.

President, Atlanta Woman's Club, 2008-2010

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Ruth Yurchuck, Chairman

Celebrate **National Library Week**, April 12-18. This year's theme is *Worlds Connect@ your library*. National Library Week is an annual celebration of our nation's libraries and librarians. All types of libraries (school, public, academic and special) participate.



ESO, the individual reading program sponsored by GFWC, is an ongoing project and part of Education in the Community. **Keep a list of all the books you read over the calendar year** and submit your report to me in December. You can record your book lists on any kind of paper, but official forms are available at any regular meeting.

If any member has ideas or special interest in projects focused on education, please let me know (telephone: 770 934 1536 or email: ry@abraxaxis.com).

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Pat Walsh, Co-Chairman

The International Affairs Committee was most pleased to have presented to the Jimmy Carter Library a check for \$10,000 for the Guinea Worm Eradication Project. When this project is completed, this will mean the elimination of this crippling disease. The money was part of the one time gift that each department was able to distribute. The Carter Library gift will be matched dollar for dollar by the Melinda and Bill Gates Foundation, making our donation a total of \$20,000!

The International Committee will be distributing the final monies between now and May. Some of the possible donor areas include: Heifer, Operation Smile, CARE, Mid-wife Programs and Doctors Without Borders.

Please be reminded that over the summer will be a good time to **start gathering items for the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child, save your loose change for UNICEF, and put aside a few canned goods for our food drive in October for International Food Day. Old eyeglasses** are needed for World Vision. The Committee thanks all members who have participated in our projects this year. The month of May will be Operation Smile!

Thank you from Patricia Walsh & Bobbie Kraus, Co-Chairmen of International Affairs Department.

and time constraints may be, please contact a Dept Chair and find out what you can do to help us fulfill Federation and Community work. We need all of you in order to continue being a success. After all we are the "Best General Club"!

Betty Daniels

Second Vice-President and Dean of Departments



HOME LIFE DEPARTMENT

By Judine Heard, Chairman

Save the Date: **Wednesday, April 22, 2009.**

Dining Out for Life will have its annual event to benefit *Open Hand*. Participation is as simple as dining at one of the participating restaurants on that date. *Open Hand* is a producer and distributor of home delivered meals to homebound people in metro Atlanta, distributing over 5,000 freshly cooked meals a day.

Join other members of The Atlanta Woman's Club that evening on Apr. 22nd at Eclipse di Luna, 764 Miami Circle, Atlanta, for an evening of dining in a relaxed setting while at the same time benefiting a worthwhile cause. To preview the menu go to

http://www.eclipsediluna.com/mc/mc_menu.php.

RSVP by April 15 to Judine B. Heard at 404-768-8376. This event is open to you and your spouse or companion. The restaurant accepts all major credit cards. If you are unable to join us, visit any of the participating restaurants at

<http://www.diningoutforoh.org/restaurants.html> that day and proceeds will go to benefit Open Hand.

Public Affairs Department News

by Lisa Banes, Chairman

The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library & Museum will undergo major renovations this spring and so will be closed to the public beginning Monday, April 27. The \$10 million renovation will highlight the multi-faceted work of The Carter Center, which is internationally recognized for bold initiatives to resolve conflicts, advance democracy and human rights, and prevent diseases in more than 70 countries. The revitalized landmark is scheduled to reopen on October 1, 2009, Carter's 85th birthday.



Atlantans Together Against Crime is holding its *3rd Reclaiming Atlanta's Neighborhoods Rally* on Monday, March 30 from 5–7 p.m. at the intersection of Englewood Avenue SE & Boulevard SE in Boulevard Heights. Signs are encouraged. The grassroots organization also posts a calendar of *Community Public Safety Events* on its web site. For upcoming events see www.atlantans.together.org/community-public-safety-events.

Congressman John Lewis has introduced a bill, tentatively called the *Teen Dating Violence Prevention Act of 2009* (HR 789), to reduce and prevent teen dating violence by:

- establishing Federal grant programs that prevent and reduce verbal, mental, emotional, physical and sexual abuse in youth dating relationships and
- improving coordination among Federal, State and local agencies and nonprofit groups that serve offenders and victims of youth dating violence.

For more details or to comment, go to www.opencongress.org/bill/111-h789/text.

Are you interested in participating in the *Public Affairs Department*? Please send your contact information to lisabanes@nolossforwords.com and we'll make a plan!

PLEASE NOTE: NO GENERAL MEETING IN APRIL.
NEXT GENERAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, MAY 11, 2009 AT 11 A.M.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY COMING UP APRIL 18 – MAY 10: Watch for volunteer requests for this year's Decorators Show House which features 3 St. Regis residences decorated by select interior designers to benefit the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. For more info, call 404 733 4935 or email dsh@woodruffcenter.org

TALLULAH FALLS SCHOOL COMMITTEE UPDATE

By Lucy Willard, Chairman



The year long celebration of Tallulah Falls School's 100th year anniversary will culminate in the **Centennial Finale** on Saturday, May 2nd, 2009. Events include Student Fun Run/Walk Races, campus bus tours, a Handbell Performance, a Cherokee Indian Ceremony, Fireworks, and the Centennial Ball and Homecoming Reception to be held from 7 to 10 p.m. For more information, call Tallulah Falls School at (706) 754 0400 or go to their website, www.tallulahfalls.org and follow the links to the 2009 Centennial Homecoming.

Slate of Candidates for May Election
by Karen Clydesdale, Chairman

The Nominating Committee is pleased to submit the following slate for the elections which will be held at the May meeting. These positions are to fill the vacancies for the 2008–2010 term of office. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

First Vice President (Select 1)

Karen Bacheller

Treasurer (Select 1)

Beth Jetha (Acting interim treasurer)

Trustee (Select 2)

Bonnie Kent

Bobbie Kraus

Respectfully submitted,
Nominating Committee
 Karen Clydesdale (Chairman)
 Lisa Banes
 Bobbie Kraus
 Reba Morrison
 Louise Vernon, Parliamentarian

Throughout the year, Atlanta Woman's Club collects Campbell soup can labels, old eyeglasses, used cell phones (with SIM cards), pop can tabs, new socks & gloves for men & women (for VA Hosp. patients). Start saving your shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child.

Atlanta Woman's Club
 1150 Peachtree Street
 Atlanta, GA 30309

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



A. W. C. MEMBERS' TEA:

Sunday, April 5th

2 – 4 p.m.

Wimbish Mansion

Call Reba: 404-633-8604

OTHER OBSERVANCES FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL:

- ♣ Apr. 7–11: National Public Health Week
- ♣ April 7: World Health Day
- ♣ Apr. 18–26: National Wildlife Week
- ♣ April 22: Earth Day, Arbor Day
- ♣ April 24: Federation Day
- ♣ Financial Literacy Month, Women's Eye Health & Safety Month

