



# Atlanta Woman's Club

Member, Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs

January 2010 Issue



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Lisa Banes

### HAPPY NEW YEAR to all our AWC members!

We ended our year, literally, "with a bang" by experiencing—for the first time for many—drumming, drummers, and dancers dressed and trained in the West African tradition. The performances were LOUD, exuberant, joyful, and performed by highly skilled musicians (**Sehwe Village Percussion** at our **AWC Holiday Party, Dec. 10**) and, also, performed by high school students who had only recently been introduced to the art and magic of drumming (**Therapeutic Drumming Class from Youth Villages, Inner Harbour Campus** at our **AWC General Meeting, Dec. 14**). We welcomed the drummers and dancers in the time-honored spirit of the Atlanta Woman's Club which, from its beginning in 1895, created opportunities to educate its members with cutting edge programs, recitals, and speakers. The photographs taken both at our Holiday Party and our General Meeting reveal the surprise, awe, wonder, bombardment of the senses, and, for many, ultimately, the thrill and jubilation of experiencing African drumming and dancing. Our

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The speaker for January's meeting will be Mazie Lynn Causey, JD, MPA, staff attorney with the **Georgia Justice Project**. Ms. Causey will share details on the mission of this "unlikely mix of lawyers, social workers and a landscape company" and the many ways its staff and volunteers are helping to break the cycle of crime and poverty. The Georgia Justice Project is one of the organizations the Club supported in 2009, both financially and by participating in its Back-2-School Project. For more details on GJP and its programs, see [www.gjp.org](http://www.gjp.org).



**Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service** – "a day on, not a day off" – is Monday, January 18, 2010, when people of all ages and backgrounds come together to improve lives, bridge social barriers, and move our nation closer to the "Beloved Community" that Dr. King envisioned. Each year, Hands On Atlanta hosts the Freedom Rally as well as more than 2,750 volunteer opportunities at various schools and nonprofit partner sites. Participation is free and open to the public; however, some events do require preregistration:

- **The 17th annual Hands On Atlanta Martin Luther King, Jr. Service Summit Freedom Rally** will be held at the Morehouse School of Medicine from 8:30 -10:30 a.m., hosted by WSB-TV2's Jovita Moore and featuring a Legacy Conversation with Congressman John Lewis and Douglas

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thanks, again, to master drummers and teachers **Chuck Cogliandro of Kumandi Drumming and Healing, Tom Harris from Youth Villages(see photo below), and AWC member Jennie Raymond and husband, Carl, of Sehwe Village Percussion, all of whom performed at AWC in**



**December.** Our thanks, also, to **Laura Markson Director of The Orion School** for ADHD elementary school children, a school which offers classes taught by Chuck to “little ones” who are learning to drum. Jennie introduced Sehwe Village Percussion at our Holiday Party, and Laura, Chuck, and Tom, plus a couple of the high school drummers, spoke at our December meeting about their experiences with drumming and the benefits of drumming, which enlightened us all.

Our **January General Meeting** on the 11<sup>th</sup> is a significant one on several counts. Renowned “Chef Jeff” from our illustrious tenant, **Opera**, will prepare lunch for us to be served in our ballroom. The program that day is sponsored by the Public Affairs Department, chaired by Lisa Banes, who has arranged for us to meet two representatives from the Georgia Justice Project: Mazie Lynn Causey, who will speak, and Melissa Devereax, who will assist. At the end of our meeting, we’ll announce the **January winner of our Membership Competition**. The January meeting is still part of the competition in which the member who has brought in the most members, Sept. through January, signified by payment of their dues, wins the competition. We’ll begin again in February with a new competition which will end with the May meeting.

Also significant at our January meeting will be the **charging of the Nominating Committee** as they elect a chair and begin the process of selecting those who will run for office at AWC for the term June 2010-June 2012. Those who will be nominated to be officers of the Club for the next 2 years must have been a member with regular attendance for at least a year. **Elections will be held in March, new officers installed in May, and the first meeting of new officers held in June** As it is, the new President’s responsibility to select and appoint the Parliamentarian, Corresponding Secretary, Department and Committee Chairs—essentially and at least half of the Executive Board—those who currently serve in these aforementioned positions also have terms which officially

end in June, along with the current elected officers of the Club. For answers to questions you may have with regard to elections, responsibilities of officers, etc., please **review the AWC Bylaws, revised and dated November 20, 2009.**

Also, and importantly in 2010, we anticipate the completion and publication of our book, ***A Light on Peachtree: the History of the Atlanta Woman’s Club***. Both its professional author and photographer who have more than generously donated their time and expertise to this project, Anne B. Jones and Aryc Mosher, respectively, continue their diligent and generous endeavors on our behalf. Our continued gratitude to them both!

Finally, as I finish my Presidency of the Atlanta Woman’s Club dating from June 2008 to June 2010, I look forward to our remaining work together as a team, because that is precisely what we are. **No one or two people can do the work which is ours as a Club to do, for it takes the hands, hearts, and minds of many working in harmony and with respect for each other to accomplish our mission of bettering the lives in our community and in our world.** With our truly terrific Executive Board and Board of Trustees, I look forward to continuing to learn and grow and work with you all, resolving conflicts that inevitably arise, and making needed changes, recommendations, and decisions regarding our philanthropic work in these next 6 months, as we, also, seek to ensure a smooth transition for the next team who will lead the Club to 2012.

**I will be so happy to see you all at our next AWC meetings on Monday, January 11: Board of Trustees 8:30-10:00 am, Executive Board 10:00-11:00 am, and General Meeting 11:00 am-1:00 pm.** Again, my **best of wishes for a Happy New Year!**

*Karen M. Thomson, Ph.D.*

*President, Atlanta Woman’s Club, 2008-2010*

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## **TALLULAH FALLS SCHOOL NEWS**

*By Lucy Willard*

Tallulah Falls School currently has 180 students. Enrollment is expected to increase later this year.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> of December 2009, following the Candle Light Dinner and Play, the Georgia Federation of Women’s Clubs presented gifts to the students. Each student received a folding chair and a journal. In addition, each student received a bag of goodies from the school.

I hope to share some news pertaining to the TFS President’s Circle at the January meeting. Please bring any Campbell Soup labels that you have to the Jan. meeting.

## EDUCATION DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Ruth Yurchuck

### Update on Hill-Hope Elementary School

As a community partner with Hill-Hope Elementary School, The Atlanta Woman's Club was invited to the first Hill-Hope Merry Meet and Mingle on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Karen Thomson, Donna Foland, and I represented our Club. A Hill-Hope student welcomed those present and read a poem she had written. Christine Clark, of the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce (one of the partners), suggested that the various partners meet on a regular basis to compare notes about what each was doing for the school and how we could work together more effectively on projects that would benefit the school by pooling resources and efforts. We then saw a video of activities at the school to which various partners contributed, followed by lunch. It was very helpful to meet other partners in person, and we look forward to attending future meetings.

The Club will be providing books for the Hill-Hope media center early next year, after the school "wish list" is finalized.

### The Orion School

In collaboration with the Arts Department, the Education Department has purchased needed school supplies and teaching aids for the Orion School, a school dedicated to working with children who have AHAD. Myra Carmon graciously agreed to purchase the items on their wish list as the stores were close to her home, and she and I delivered the materials early in December. The school director, Laura Markson, showed us around the facility and the children performed a selection for us on the drums which the Arts Department purchased for them. We were also given a framed picture of the students at the school. Laura was also our guest at the December Club meeting, and explained how valuable these contributions have been to the operation of the school.

### ESO Reports

Eight Club members submitted ESO Individual Reading Reports for 2009: **Karen Bacheller, Lisa Banes, Cimi Douglass, Sandra McNeil, Ellen Milholland, Renee Merback, Karen Thomson, and Ruth Yurchuck.** These women read a total of 173 books. Congratulations to Ellen Milholland, who read a total of 79 books!

Please consider starting your 2010 reading list and be recognized as an ESO participant. Forms are available at every meeting for your convenience.

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- Shipman, executive director of the Center for Civil & Human Rights Partnership. The Rally will be followed by a **morning of service** throughout the greater metro Atlanta area. For details on volunteer projects or to register, go to [www.HandsOnAtlanta.Org](http://www.HandsOnAtlanta.Org).

- **The Martin Luther King, Jr. Annual Commemorative Service** will be held at 10 a.m. at Ebenezer Baptist Church Horizon Sanctuary, 407 Auburn Ave. NE, Atlanta. The spiritual hallmark of the King Holiday Observance, the Commemorative Service is open to the public; however, seating is limited.

The **Georgia Innocence Project**, another organization that received financial support from the Atlanta Woman's Club in 2009, was successful in having 43-year-old man released in mid-December after he had served more than two years in prison for a crime DNA tests proved he did not commit. The group also worked with attorneys for Carlton Gary, whose execution was halted in December when the Georgia Supreme Court ordered a hearing into whether DNA tests should be conducted to determine his guilt or innocence. For more news and updates, see [www.ga-innocenceproject.org](http://www.ga-innocenceproject.org).

*To participate in the Public Affairs Department, please email [lisabanes@nolossforwards.com](mailto:lisabanes@nolossforwards.com).*

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## HOME LIFE NEWS

By Judine Heard

February Project: "Genesis A New Life"--This is an organization that provides shelter for homeless newborns and their families. Typically, when an infant and mother are discharged from area hospitals they come directly to Genesis. The infant grows and develops in a nurturing and healthy environment allowing the family to remain together. During the family's stay, services are provided which enables the parent to be self-sufficient when leaving the facility.

Let's help Genesis in its mission. Please bring disposable diapers to the February meeting. The diapers will be delivered following the meeting. The greatest need (last month) was Pull-Ups.

**2010 Census to Begin Soon** – see insert on page 5.

## CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER NOTES

By Ellen Milholland

### Green Tip

A Happy, Healthy, Green 2010 to all!

In each newsletter during 2010, the Conservation & Gardens Department will provide a “Green Tip” to help you and your family and friends.

After the holidays your carpeting and rugs may look a bit sad and be ready for a clean. Sierra Club Green Home has some great information and tips on the green way to having cleaner carpets. <http://www.sierraclubgreenhome.com/home-health/green-carpet-cleaning/>

Remember, maintaining your carpets will reduce respiratory problems such as allergies and asthma – and save you green (dollars) by extending the life of your carpeting.

Here are some easy tips that you may have heard in the past; and many of these tips reduce the amount of cleaning you will have to do:

1. Keep the dirt outside by using doormats *outside* and *inside* the door. Be sure to regularly clean and vacuum the doormats.
2. If you remove your shoes at the door and use “indoor shoes” or slippers, you will reduce the amount of dirt brought in the house. “Reduce” is the operative word. I don’t make my guests remove their shoes – but I do ask them to use the doormat.
3. Vacuum, vacuum, vacuum frequently. The need for deep cleaning of carpets will be reduced if dirt is not allowed to work its way into the carpet fibers. Vacuum high traffic areas more often.

4. Use area rugs in high traffic areas.

5. Clean up spills right away.

6. Use baking soda (sprinkle a bit over the carpet and let it sit for ½ an hour, then vacuum) to reduce odors.

Periodically, your carpets will still need a deep-clean. Contact the carpet’s manufacturer, if possible, for cleaning suggestions. Deep-steaming cleaning is one of the most popular cleaning methods.

The Carpet and Rug Institute <http://www.carpet-rug.org/residential-customers/cleaning-and-maintenance/index.cfm> has suggestions in what to look for if you decide to buy your own steam cleaner.

Avoid buying cleaning products with acid rinses such as hydroxyacetic acid and solvents such as glycol ethers. Also avoid tributyltin, formaldehyde, and other chemicals designed to kill microorganisms because these chemicals are toxic to humans too.

Before you buy a carpet shampoo or powder, you can look it up in the [Household Products Database](http://hpd.nlm.nih.gov/index.htm), <http://hpd.nlm.nih.gov/index.htm>. This is a service of the National Institutes of Health. It includes information about the chemical ingredients in over 7,000 consumer brands. You can also find some ingredient information on the product label and the MSDS (material safety data sheet), but unfortunately there’s no law requiring makers of [household cleaners](#) to reveal everything that’s in their products.

If you chose to use a professional cleaner, choose a company that talks about its commitment to the environment. But don’t take the company’s word for it--question its staff about cleaning methods and ask for the MSDS (material safety data sheet) for any cleaning products they’ll use in your home.

### Gardens and Gardening

Don’t neglect your garden during the winter. If January brings some bright, warm weather get out and rake the last remaining leaves off the grass. If you have storm sewers on your property, keep them clean and free of debris. **Do not push leaves or pour anything down them.** These storm drains carry rain and water run-off directly to our streams that supply our drinking water.

Now is a good time to tidy your edges and flower borders and take a critical look at shrubs and trees that may need pruning. Late January and early February is the time to prune your crape myrtle and roses. Walter Reeves has an excellent article on the correct way to prune a crape myrtle (including some lovely photos) at

<http://www.walterreeves.com/landscaping/article.phtml?cat=13&id=349>. If you do not have access to the Internet, please contact the Conservation Department and we will get you a copy. If January proves to be cold and dreary, consider a visit to the Desert House of the Atlanta Botanical Garden. It is warm inside and there are many blooming plants on exhibit, including many beautiful orchids. And mark your calendar for the Southeastern Flower Show at the Cobb Galleria February 4-6<sup>th</sup>.

<http://www.sehort.org/>

## 2010 CENSUS TO BEGIN SOON

*Contributed by Alice Lamont*

THIS IS PRETTY BASIC ADVICE; BUT, IN TODAY'S TIMES, ONE CAN SEE IT COULD LEAVE AN OPEN DOOR FOR PASSING OUT YOUR PRIVATE INFORMATION.

WARNING: 2010 Census Cautions from the Better Business Bureau

### Be Cautious About Giving Info to Census Workers

*By Susan Johnson*

With the U.S. Census process beginning, the Better Business Bureau (BBB) advises people to be cooperative, but cautious, so as not to become a victim of fraud or identity theft. The first phase of the 2010 U.S. Census is under way as workers have begun verifying the addresses of households across the country. Eventually, more than 140,000 U.S. Census workers will count every person in the United States and will gather information about every person living at each address including name, age, gender, race, and other relevant data.

The big question is: how do you tell the difference between a U.S. Census worker and a con artist? BBB offers the following advice?

If a U.S. Census worker knocks on your door, they will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag, and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering their questions. You should never invite anyone you don't know into your home.

Census workers are currently only knocking on doors to verify address information. Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if they claim they need it for the U.S. Census.

REMEMBER: NO MATTER WHAT THEY ASK, YOU REALLY ONLY NEED TO TELL THEM HOW MANY PEOPLE LIVE AT YOUR ADDRESS.

While the Census Bureau might ask for basic financial information, such as a salary range, **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO YOUR FINANCIAL SITUATION.** The Census Bureau *will not* ask for Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers, nor will employees solicit donations. Any one asking for that information is NOT with the Census Bureau.

AND REMEMBER, THE CENSUS BUREAU HAS DECIDED NOT TO WORK WITH "ACORN" ON GATHERING THIS INFORMATION. No Acorn worker should approach you saying he/she is with the Census Bureau.

Eventually, Census workers may contact you by telephone, mail, or in person at home. However, the Census Bureau will not contact you by E-mail, so be on the lookout for Email scams impersonating the Census.

Never click on a link or open any attachments in an E-mail that are supposedly from the U.S. Census Bureau.

For more advice on avoiding identity theft and fraud, visit [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org)

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## DECEMBER PHOTOS

*Courtesy of Ellen Milholland*



Daisy Aukerman & Karen Thomson at the Piano for the Holiday Party



Above, the students of Youth Villages at Inner Harbour play for members at Dec. meeting



Tom Harris, speaker at the Dec. meeting, is flanked by students of Youth Villages at Inner Harbour

## **ATLANTA WOMAN'S CLUB ROSTER OF OFFICERS**

### ***Officers***

President: Karen Thomson (2008 - 2010)  
First Vice-President & Membership Chairman: Karen Bacheller (2009 - 2010)  
Second Vice-President, Dean of Departments: Betty Daniels (2008-2010)  
Recording Secretary: Pat Walsh (2008 - 2010)  
Corresponding Secretary: Lisa Banes (2009 – 2010)  
Treasurer: Beth Jetha (2009 - 2010)  
Assistant Treasurer: Sandra McNeil (2009 - 2010)  
Parliamentarian: Myra Carmon (2009-2010)

### ***Board of Trustees***

Karen Clydesdale - Chairman (2009 - 2011)  
Karen Bacheller - Co-Chairman (2009 - 2010)  
Karen Thomson - AWC President  
Judine Heard - Secretary  
Beth Jetha - AWC Treasurer  
Sandra McNeil - AWC Assistant Treasurer  
Bonnie Kent - Trustee  
Bobbie Kraus - Trustee  
Myra Carmon - Parliamentarian

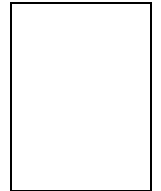
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### ***Department Chairmen***

Arts - Jill Muir  
Conservation and Gardens - Ellen Milholland  
Education - Ruth Yurchuck  
Home Life - Judine Heard  
International Affairs - Pat Walsh  
Public Affairs - Lisa Banes

### ***Committee Chairmen***

Daisy Luckey Aukerman – Advisory committee  
Judine Heard [Interim] - Bridge  
Beth Jetha - Budget committee, Newsletter  
Carrieann Banacki-Gillert – Decorating committee, Social committee  
Sarah Helen Killgore - Historian/Women's History and Resource Center  
Lisa Banes and Karen Clydesdale - Marketing (Website, Logo, Press Kit, Brochures)  
Lisa Banes [Interim] and Ruth Yurchuck [Interim] - Special Issues  
Lucy Willard - Tallulah Falls School  
Judine Heard and Bobbie Kraus - Telephone committee



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED