



Atlanta Woman's Club

Member, Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs
October 2009 Issue



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our September meeting this year was devoted to immersing ourselves in our purpose for being. Our founders in 1895 stated that the purpose of the Atlanta Woman's Club is "threefold: literary, social, and humanitarian." That is, our areas of emphasis and our top priorities have always been on cultural endeavors ("literary"), relationships ("social"), and volunteer, philanthropic work ("humanitarian"). To these ends, we were honored to have as our speaker **Emily Ellison** (see photo on page 2), President and Executive Director of Literacy Action, and who is, further, an accomplished and published author. We, also, had as our guest, **Julie Marateck**, (see photo on page 2) representing the Woodruff Arts Center, who gave us a brief update on events at the High Museum and who gifted one of our members with tickets to the Museum.

At this meeting and further related to our mission, we had a "Meet the Departments and TFS Committee," as these are the heart and soul of our Club in that they provide focus to our volunteer service and financial donations. The Departments and TFS Committee will have this year a variety of projects and ways to give

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THE ROLE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

As you all know, the Board of Trustees (BOT) consists of four elected members: the President of the Club, the First Vice President, the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer and the Parliamentarian. At our June meeting, as one of the Trustees, I was elected as the Chairman of the Board. I speak for all of us when I say how much we appreciate the confidence you have all placed in us. I am fortunate to be working with a very intelligent and committed group of women who have the very best interest of the Club and the Wimbish House in their hearts.

As a member of the Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs, the Atlanta Woman's Club is very unique in that we have our beautiful Club House which provides us with the rental income to fund the many programs that we support. We also have the lease income from Opera which also provides us with the funds to do Federation work as well as the funds to maintain our property.

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"I wanted...to review with you the job of the Board of Trustees so everyone has a clear understanding of what we do"

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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members volunteer opportunities on a weekly, monthly, quarterly basis—whatever your time and desires for volunteer service allow. For example, Tallulah Falls School has a newly initiated **“Adopt-a-Student” program** in which clubs and individual members can choose to be assigned a student to remember during the year (birthday, exams, etc.) with a card or “care package.” AWC hopes to adopt a student from the 5th District.

The Atlanta Woman’s Club is a member of the Georgia Federation of Women’s Clubs (GaFWC) and the General Federation of Women’s Clubs (GFWC), which gives all members membership in these organizations linking us to Federation members throughout the world. In October, we have District (Oct. 15) and Regional (Oct. 23-25) meetings to which all members are invited and welcome.



Above(l-r): Emily Ellison, Dede Yow



Above: Julie Marateck

As the non-sectarian, non-partisan, non-profit organization that we are, it becomes increasingly important to continue to diversify ourselves and to make necessary changes to keep up with the times in order to be able to sustain ourselves and our work in the future, while, simultaneously, honoring our AWC legacy and our heritage in the international Federation of women’s clubs. As a founding member of the GaFWC in 1896, as well as of Tallulah Falls School in 1909, the Atlanta Woman’s Club is truly a jewel, remarkable among women’s clubs, and we are ever so fortunate and so very grateful to have as our Club home this beautiful, historic Wimbish House built in 1906.

It, therefore, gives me great pleasure to announce here, as I did at the

September meeting, that the Boards voted earlier that morning to approve the writing of our 114-year history by professional writer, **Anne Jones** who graciously and generously offered to write our history, to be completed in the next 9 months to a year, without charge to AWC except for her expenses. How lucky and honored are we to be recipients of such an extraordinary gift?! Thank you, Anne!

Also, we are currently developing a new orientation for new members, a new “bio” or resume format for all of our membership, as well as expanding our engagement in social media, public relations, and marketing strategies to tell the world who we are in 2009-2010 and what we do, all designed to attract good women of all ages—“Girl Power” if you will, a term used at our GFWC National Convention in Cleveland in June. We seek women desirous of working together in joy and harmony to make our community and our world a more peaceful, beautiful, compassionate, and loving place.



Above: Anne Jones

I read recently a quote attributed to one of the saints, a quote I find applicable to us at the Atlanta Woman’s Club as we begin our year: “Labor without stopping. Do all the good works you can while you still have the time.” We, as members of the AWC, have joined together to do good works and, just as importantly, I feel, to enjoy ourselves and have as much fun together as we can in the process.

To those like-minded women already members, as well as to our guests and potential new members who will be joining us this year, thank you for your presence, interest, and support of AWC. How very fortunate we are in so many ways, as we come together in our mission of bettering the lives of people in our community and in our world.

*Karen M. Thomson, Ph.D.
President, Atlanta Woman’s Club, 2008-2010
(Photographs courtesy of Ellen Milholland)*

ROLE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES - *continued from page 1*

The duties of the BOT include supervising and maintaining the grounds and the building of Wimbish House. With the approval of the Executive Board, we make all major and extensive improvements. We make sure the building is properly cleaned and maintained. It is also our duty to make sure that all necessary approvals from the city and the Urban Design Commission are obtained before the start of any work at the Wimbish House or Opera. Because Wimbish House is a designated historic landmark, our Club is obligated to preserve this status by securing approvals for any and all construction from the government entities that regulate this designation.

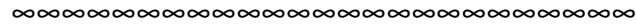
The BOT negotiates contracts and directs all agreements made on behalf of or in the name of the Club where money and expenses are involved. This includes all contracts for the rental of the facility and all communication with our tenant Opera and future construction communication with Tivoli. We are in touch with the accountants, insurance agents and attorneys on any matters necessary to keep things running properly.

The BOT supervises and directs the finances in regard to the operation of the facility. We negotiate all contracts and always get several proposals before we make any final decisions. All funds in regard to the upkeep and maintenance of the grounds begin with the BOT for approval before presentation to the Executive Board.

And finally, we hire and manage all employees of the Club. We make sure there is an adequate staff for the proper functioning of the Club. The facility staff works under the direction of the BOT chairman.

I wanted to take this time to review with you the job of the Board of Trustees so that everyone has a clear understanding of what we do. We always meet prior to the Executive Board meeting and we usually have a pretty tight agenda but we will always make time for any questions or concerns that you may have. If there is anything you would like to bring to the attention of the BOT, please do not hesitate to call (770 643 0390) or email me (karenclydesdale@bellsouth.net).

Karen Clydesdale,
Chairman,
AWC Board of Trustees,
2009-2011



TALLULAH FALLS SCHOOL COMMITTEE UPDATE

By Lucy Willard
Chairman

I will be collecting Campbell's soup can labels for TFS. Members can still make a donation of \$1000 to the Tallulah Falls School President's Circle, which will be applied to the new building. Contributors to the President's Circle will receive a plaque from TFS.

HOME LIFE DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Judine Heard
Chairman

October is **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**. The American Cancer Society recommends early screening. The goal of screening for early breast cancer is to find cancers before they start to cause symptoms.

Three keys to early detection are perform monthly breast self-exams; have clinical breast exam; and have an annual mammogram. For more detailed information and questions, visit the following sites:

- American Cancer Society – cancer.org
- National Cancer Institute - cancer.gov/cancertopics/types/breast
- American Breast Cancer Foundation – abcf.org
- Susan G. Komen – komen.org

2009 Making Strides Against Breast Cancer: Saturday, October 24, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. Atlantic Station. This is not a race rather a fun walk to honor breast cancer survivors, remember people who we have lost and raise funds and awareness to help end this disease. There is no registration fee and all are welcome to participate. If you would like to donate or walk, visit www.cancer.org.

Home Life Department Meeting: A planning meeting will follow the general meeting on October 12.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT UPDATE

By Ruth Yurchuck
Chairman

"Embark on the journey of a lifetime, travel to exotic places, mythical lands and experience adventure beyond imagination. Or escape to another era altogether, all without baggage, tickets, a passport or leaving home. All you need is an open mind and an open book." This quote is from the National Book Foundation, sponsor of **National Book Month**, which is celebrated in October. You, too, can experience all these things by reading. By recording your choices on the **ESO form**, you can be recognized for doing so.

A new resource to celebrate National Book Month is sponsored by **Jumpstart**, a leading nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring that every child in American enters school prepared to succeed. **Jumpstart** wants people to pledge to read. By pledging to read, you commit to reading to at least one child in your life on October 8. If you are willing to participate please let me know by email (ry@abraxis.com). I'll register all members who commit to this pledge and our club can receive credit for this. Let me know how many children you read to on October 8 and I'll submit this information after the event.

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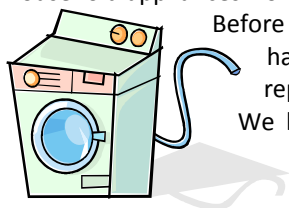
OCTOBER CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER NOTES

By Ellen Milholland,
Chairman, Conservation Department



October has been **Energy Awareness Month** since a presidential proclamation in 1991. For more than 15 years, government organizations — in partnership with businesses, associations, and concerned citizens — have observed this month with activities and programs to promote public understanding of our energy needs and to reduce energy consumption in our everyday lives. See http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=energy_awareness.bus_energy_awareness

At the Energy Star website you can calculate your carbon footprint or find information on eliminating drafts. But my favorite page of the Energy Star website is researching Energy Star products. http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find_a_product. At this page you can research the most energy efficient household appliances from battery chargers to light bulbs.

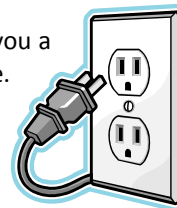


Before I start looking for an “energy using” household product, I always start at this page. Our household has substantially reduced energy consumption (and we have seen our electrical bill go way down) by replacing our air conditioning units, refrigerator and washing machine with the most efficient models.

We have learned that top-mounted freezers are more efficient than side-by-side freezer; that when replacing air conditioning units look for the SEER number(Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio) and terminology to look for if replacing your TV.

You may not be ready to replace any of these items but this site can still teach you a few energy saving tricks. You can reduce your energy bill by disconnecting some appliances not in use.

Electrical appliances that use **standby power** when plugged in but turned off are known as **“energy vampires.”** For instance, battery chargers use energy if they remain plugged in while **NOT** charging batteries!



You should try and keep these appliances unplugged when not in use. Items that typically use **standby power** are appliances with clocks such as coffeemakers, paper shredders, computers and computer printers. A good list of items using **standby power** can be found at <http://standby.lbl.gov/summary-table.html>

OUT AND ABOUT IN ATLANTA THIS OCTOBER:

Capture the Spirit of Oakland - 2009 Halloween Tours

October 23, 24 and 25, 2009 - Tickets On Sale Now

Historic Oakland Cemetery receives many visitors each day, but only at Halloween do its gates stay open after dark. Witness the magnificent final resting place of Atlanta's sons and daughters during "Capturing the Spirit of Oakland" 2009 Halloween Tours. Hear first-hand accounts about Atlanta city's past, narrated by a host of Oakland's eternal "residents." You'll also see gorgeous candlelit mausoleums in this one-of-a-kind annual tradition. Bring a flashlight and wear comfortable walking shoes. Enjoy refreshments for sale and browse Oakland's Museum Shop for unique finds. Tours begin at 5: 30 pm and

last about an hour. Tickets must be purchased in advance--\$15 Adults, \$5 Children 12 and under. See <http://www.oaklandcemetery.com/capturingHalloween.html> for more information.



Atlanta Botanical Garden Scarecrows in the Garden

Oct. 1 – 31, Tuesday - Sunday, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

An annual fall tradition during October, *Scarecrows in the Garden* showcases dozens of scarecrows stuffed throughout the Garden, created by local organizations, businesses and individuals. Scarecrows displayed throughout the Garden along with beautiful seasonal decorations promise to make this year's display the best ever. See <http://www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org/site/involvement/scarecrows> for more information.

Green Tip for October

I am not going to suggest giving eco-friendly treats such as apples (which are packaged by Mother Nature) because you do not have to be all-green every day. So hand out the M & M's and Snickers candy bars to the heart's content of eager Trick or Treaters. But do try and make Halloween a bit greener by:

- Buying your pumpkin at a Farmer's Market.
- Composting that pumpkin, and
- Using unscented soy or beeswax candles in your pumpkin.



EDUCATION DEPARTMENT NEWS - continued from page 3

An estimated four to six percent of all public school students are classified as having learning disabilities. October is **Learning Disabilities Month**, a time where people pay attention to children and adults with these problems. **LD Online** (www.ldonline.org) is a wonderful resource that provides a variety of information on learning disabilities, success stories, and how to help learning disabled children and adults. Take time to educate yourself about learning disabilities and to find out what to do if an adult or child you know has one.

We need your help in working with projects at Hope Elementary, Inman Middle, and Grady High Schools. If you would like join me in visiting these schools and discussing potential projects, please email (ry@abraxiis.com) or call me (770 934 1536). If you have other suggestions for education-related projects, please pass them on.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Lisa Banes,
Chairman

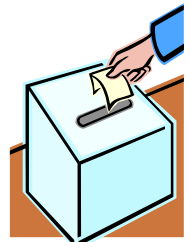
National Fire Prevention Week



October 4-10 is *National Fire Prevention Week 2009*, so it's the perfect time to test and change the batteries in your smoke detectors. Smoke alarms play a vital role in reducing deaths and injuries from fire and have contributed to the almost 50% decrease in fire deaths since the late 1970s. Yet 63% of reported home fire deaths happened in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms! When smoke alarms fail it is most often because of missing, disconnected or dead batteries. **Fire Prevention Week 2009** focuses on burn awareness and prevention, as well as keeping houses safe from the leading causes of home fires. For more details and safety tips, go check out <http://www.nfpa.org>.

Election 2009 is almost here

2009 is a *Municipal election year*, and there are quite a few important elections in our area on November 3. October is prime time to educate yourself about candidates' records, positions and campaigns. For sample ballots, voting locations, lists of candidates and other election information, see <http://www.fultoncountygga.gov/county/elections/>.



General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) Southern Region Conference:

Thurs., October 23 - Sunday, October 25

Pat Swan, President of GFWC Southern Region, invites ALL members to this Conference at the Hyatt Regency Greenville, 220 North Main Street, Greenville, SC 29601. Hyatt Regency reservations: 864 235 1234 or go to www.greenville.hyatt.com/groupbooking/gsprgfe/dr2009

Best day: Saturday workshops on leadership, membership, bylaws updates, parliamentary tips
*Conference registration fee is \$5 per day or \$10 for all 3 days (check payable to GFWC-SC). Meals & tours available. Mail your payment and completed reg. form before **OCTOBER 9**. The registration form is available at: www.gfwc-southernregion.org/registrationform*

Oct. 9: Registration Deadline for 5th District Luncheon Meeting, Thursday, Oct. 15th at Bones Restaurant in Buckhead (3130 Piedmont Road, Atlanta)

Send your check for \$25 (payable to 5th District) to: *Ruth Yurchuck, 986 Arlington Drive, Tucker, GA 30084*

ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME – AWC presence at that meeting would be wonderful for our Club. Here's the schedule for that day:

10 am - Registration

10:30 am - Business meeting

12:00 noon – Lunch

Bring female hair supplies "For Her Glory"— a contribution to the GaFWC President's Special Project. Questions? Call Ruth, 770 934 1536.

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

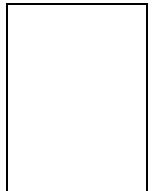
Department Chairs

Dean of Departments – Betty Daniels
Arts - Jill Muir
Conservation and Gardens - Ellen Milholland
Education - Ruth Yurchuck
Home Life - Judine Heard
International Affairs - Pat Walsh
Public Affairs - Lisa Banes

Committee Chairs

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

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED