



Classifieds

Share Your Stories!
View all stories

Share Your Photos!
View all photos

Share Your Events!
View all events

Local Charities

Choose your Neighbor

Welcome **Guest** [Log In](#) [Register](#)

Today's stories . . .

4/18/12

SHARE

Woman's club publishes retrospective

By Gloria Love
glove@neighbornewspapers.com



Decatur girls' track and field looking for another championship

Last season was golden for the Decatur girls' track and field team. [more](#)

More stories . . .

- [Ridgeview French teacher ...](#)
- [Men's garden club sows ...](#)
- [Little Nancy Creek Park ...](#)
- [World War II lecture series ...](#)



Staff / Nathan Self

Atlanta Woman's Club members, from left, Karen Thomson, of Buckhead, president elect Karen Clydesdale, of Sandy Springs, President Karen Bacheller, of Morningside, and Anne Jones, of Jackson, show pride in their heritage and Atlanta with a new book based on the history of the club's contributions.



The records of the Atlanta Woman's Club's 117-year history have twice been damaged by fire at the group's historic Midtown home, the Wimbish House, but today's members weren't willing to let their story go untold.

By searching the club's remaining records, old newspaper files, resources at the Atlanta History Center in Buckhead and sundry scrapbooks, member Anne B. Jones has crafted a comprehensive retrospective titled "A Light on Peachtree: A History of the Atlanta Woman's Club," unveiled Sunday at the group's annual membership tea.

"[Past president] Karen Thomson and some of the members and even outside volunteers were very helpful," said Jones, a Jackson resident. "We were astounded by the amount of material out there and its distribution."

Thomson, a Buckhead resident, said she conscripted Jones for the book because even within the organization's membership, the founder's legacy appeared to be fading.

"It seemed apparent not many of us knew that much about our early years," Thomson said.

According information provided by the philanthropic organization, since its 1895 founding, the group was instrumental in establishing many Atlanta institutions, including the landing field that became Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport and the outdoor produce market that evolved into the Sweet Auburn Curb Market. Despite lacking the ability to vote, its early members worked to advance progressive movements like compulsory public education, child-labor laws and a separate juvenile justice court system.

"They were inspired, visionary and very intelligent," Thomson said. "They had their homes, their churches, their families and here — a place to give back to the Atlanta community."

Jones, who is up for a Georgia Author of the Year award in June for her previous book, "Tides of Fear," said she felt compelled to write about the club's history to show readers "what they can do when they work together as a force of good in the world."

The now 61-member club still holds to its original mission to "foster mutual counsel and helpfulness, and to unite the influence and service of women," and offers service opportunities in the arts, education, public affairs, conservation, home life and international affairs.

Information: www.atlwc.org or www.amazon.com

Become a contributor . . .

Connect with your neighbors, friends and community. Share your news, events and photos!

[Sign up to get started!](#)

Search the archives



Advertisement

THE Lyric
Atlanta Lyric Theatre

MAKES A GREAT GIFT!
SEASON TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

SUBSCRIBE AND GET THE FOUR PACK!
See the Lyric's 4 remaining shows for as low as \$80!
404.377.9948 ★ ATLANTALYRICTHEATRE.COM

STORIES PHOTOS
[ADVANCED SEARCH](#)

E-mail this Print this +1 Like [Confirm](#)