



Atlanta Woman's Club



Member, Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC)
General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC)

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! We survived 2017!

The New Year always makes me reflect and think about what I want to do better, professionally and personally. It's an opportunity to start fresh, a time to set goals or to make significant changes. Sure, we can set goals any time of year, but this is the time of year more than any other, when we think about how we can improve our lives. One way to improve your life is by volunteering.

Volunteering is a win-win resolution. There is medical and scientific evidence that volunteering can improve our health while we do good deeds. A few of the documented health benefits include a heightened sense of well-being, lower blood pressure and increased mental function. In addition to physical well-being, volunteering can enhance personal growth through acquisition of new skills and training, increase your social networks, expand your resume, help you explore new career opportunities, help you meet new friends, allow you to try something new, and discover a new perspective or follow a passion.

My wish for the New Year is that all of our members thrive in good health and unite in our efforts to become more active in our club, our community, our district and state. There are many good things happening in our communities already because of our members. I hope that we can continue to combine our efforts and lend our talents to make our club grow in members and add to the projects that GFWC promotes.

The work of a few will always support the interests of the many. But in our case we need more of "the few" to form a pool of interested, qualified and active members who will lead the Club going forward. In March we will vote on our new administration for the 2018-2020 term.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

LEADS.....	3-4
Nom Committee.....	5-6
Membership.....	6-7
Arts.....	7-8

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT'D

As you contemplate this, please consider the key question—“Who will serve in the leadership positions we will need to sustain the Club in the fashion we all desire? Ladies, we are a diverse organization of women who possess an invaluable range of skills and knowledge. We live in different types and sizes of homes in different sections of the community. We have different perspectives on how the club should be run, what community services should be provided, and the overall appearance of the club. All this to say that we need a broad range of participation and involvement to ensure that all our interests are represented.

Will we all, collectively and together, be up for the challenge? I hope so. Please think about stepping forward as a leader, or engaging a little more in our club in 2018. We strive to have 100% engagement and I hope that everyone considers taking that step forward to be part of our mission which is to lead and encourage our members to become active within their communities. There is always an opportunity for you to be a major part of our bright future.

I am personally grateful to each one of you for your tremendous support and dedication to The Atlanta Woman's Club, and I wish everyone a rewarding, joyous new year.

I hope to see all of your smiling faces at our next general meeting on January 8th, 2018.

Gratefully yours,

Cimi Douglass
President 2016-2018
The Atlanta Woman's Club



Six reasons why you are not a leader

Life is 10% of what happens to you and 90% of how you respond to it.

At our March meeting the Atlanta Woman's Club will elect new officers for 2018-2020. The officers have a direct impact on the policies and procedures that a club will follow for those years. Our Bylaws and Standing Rules will provide the guidelines for those policies and procedures. All appointments made by the 2016-2018 President will expire when the new President takes office on June 1. This is an opportunity for those of you who have served on committees

or as Chairs of committees to take your leadership skills to the next level, if that is what you desire. Some of you may be involved in the work of AWC and have the desire and goal to move up but have never been asked. Each of us has to take responsibility for our own successes and failures. Blaming someone else for your lack of growth means that you are not accepting responsibility. There are always circumstances beyond our control but how you respond to those circumstances is what makes a good leader. Successful leaders create their own success. It didn't just happen to them.

No one knows you want a leadership position. If you do not express your desires then nobody will know it. Talk with other leaders about their jobs and how you could help them. Tell them you are interested in a new challenge and let them know you are ready to move up.

You are not currently exceeding expectations. In your current position at the AWC are you doing only what you are asked no... more but maybe less? Leaders go above and beyond what they are asked to do. They are self-starters.

You aren't providing extra value. Do you make an effort to go outside the box to help other members feel comfortable and get them involved in areas that fit their skills? Do you support other committee chairs and their programs? Do you contribute positive ideas and suggestions during meetings?

You aren't liked or trusted. People want to reward people they like. If you cannot be trusted to do your job then you cannot be trusted to lead a group. This is a key leadership trait. The average leader spends three fourths their time dealing with people and building trustworthy relationships. They need to know that if you say you are going to do it **YOU** will do it!

You have a small group within the club. If you always sit with the same people and socialize with the same people then only a few people will get to know you. You need to develop relationships with other leaders and other members. Think of the job you would like and set up some time to meet with the leaders of that position.

You don't have an attitude of a leader. If you project a negative attitude you will prove to be a poor leader. A leader's positive attitude will create a positive environment and this is a huge criteria for moving into other leadership positions. You need to know how to handle problems and stresses with a positive and effective outcome.

If any of these reasons jump out at you then reach out to any of the AWC leaders who will suggest more action to help you reach your leadership goals.

Karen Clydesdale, GFWC Leadership Chair

LEADERSHIP AND LEADS CONT'D



GFWC AWC volunteers worked at the Holiday Party with a Purpose to benefit The Giving Kitchen. Attendees participated in a wonderful silent auction, a wine pull and a jewelry pull sponsored by Kendra Scott. Delicious food from local woman owned restaurants was served along with a DJ for entertainment.

This event raised about \$10,000 to benefit the mission of The Giving Kitchen, which is to act as an intermediary between the community and those faced with an unanticipated crisis. Good

stewardship relies not only on needs criteria and defined granting processes, but also on strong, visible values. For such values help ensure that they create the peace of mind that they strive for.

Seeded Event Committee members presented a check to Side By Side Brain Injury Clubhouse. It is the only program in Georgia, and one of only three in the region, that offers adults with brain injuries a pathway to self-sufficiency through a proven partnership approach. Cindy Johnson, Executive Director of Side By Side stated, "We received such great feedback on the event, the venue, and especially how smoothly everything went for the attendees throughout the evening. You all are spectacular and have certainly found your niche of service."



This year the Seeded Event Committee raised approximately \$207,000 to support our community and maintain our 501c3 nonprofit status.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Request for Nominations for 2018-2020 GFWC AWC positions:

An election will be held at the March general meeting to fill the expiring positions of President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and two Board of Trustees members for the 2018-2020 term (June to June). As a member driven organization we are currently seeking nominations from our members. Our Club membership is graced by many talented and professional women, and the Nominating Committee appreciates the suggestions for candidates for these positions and the willingness of those who have agreed to serve our club upon election.

The Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for these above positions currently held as follows:

Officers:

Cimi Douglas, President; Tonya Watson, 1st Vice President; Jo Dee Gonzalez, 2nd Vice President; Sarah June McDavid, Recording Secretary; LaTonya Jordan, Treasurer; Penny Blackford, Assistant Treasurer

2 Trustees:

Karen Bacheller, Chair (2016-2018); Karen Clydesdale, Co-Chair (2016-2018)

AWC members are encouraged to submit nominations to any member of the Nominating Committee as soon as possible and no later than **Monday, January 29th, 2018**. (Please use **“AWC 2018-2020 Nominations”** in the subject line of your email.) The Nominating Committee will review nominees' qualifications and confirm nominees' consent to serve if elected. Refer to Article V& VII of the Bylaws for qualifications and restrictions, Article X for Nominations and Elections, and Article VI of the Standing Rules for clarification of the process for our elections.

FAQ about the process and requirements for Officer position(s):

- Who can be nominated? A candidate for Officer shall have been a member of the club for at least one year with regular attendance (Article V, Section 2). Candidates for Board of Trustees shall have been a member of the club for at least two years with regular attendance (Article VII, Section 2).
- Do I need to get permission from someone before I nominate her? Once a name has been given to the committee, a member of the committee will contact the candidate to discuss the duties of the office with her. Nominees will then complete a form confirming their willingness to serve if elected.
- What if I nominate someone and her name does not appear on the slate? If someone is nominated and her name does not appear on the slate it is either because she chose not to serve or did not meet all of the qualifications.
- Can members of the Nominating Committee be nominated? Yes, but they must remove themselves from discussion of their candidacy.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CONT'D

- Can an officer of the club run for another office? Yes, but if elected to another office that officer must resign her position before assuming the new position (Article V Section 2 “No officer may serve in two elected positions at the same time”).
- Will nominations be taken from the floor? Yes, however the Nominating Committee requests that you provide that name to the committee prior to the election so that we can verify the qualifications of the candidate. The name will remain confidential until nominated from the floor.
- Can any member of AWC nominate someone? Yes.

Nominating Committee Members:

Johanna Bunch - johanna.bunch@gmail.com

Rita McGregor, Chair - rtmcg23@gmail.com

Connie Morris - momconnie@bellsouth.net

Judy Reece – judy.reece@att.net

Donna Foland, Parliamentarian - donna@dgfprop.com

Alternates: Page Henry
Jamila Porter

MEMBERSHIP

Tonya S. Watson
1st Vice President, Membership
Email: tonyaswatson@gmail.com

Annual Dues Notice

Just a friendly reminder that membership dues are to be paid by February 1, 2018. You may pay your dues online by visiting the below website and clicking on the “Donate Now” button. Annual membership dues are \$65.00.

<http://www.atlwc.org/contactus/>

MEMBERSHIP CONT'D

Tonya S. Watson

1st Vice President, Membership

Email: tonyaswatson@gmail.com

Welcome New Members! AWC welcomed one new member in December. Please find her bio below. As always, it's very important to learn as much as you can about AWC's new members in an effort to get them involved in AWC service projects right away. "Involve, Engage & Connect!"



Hi my name Jennifer Quinn, I am a 3rd generation native Atlantan, and live in Buckhead. I attended the University of Georgia and majored in Art History. My chosen career is as a Realtor with Ansley Atlanta Real Estate. Licensed since 1999, I truly found my passion helping people buy and sell their homes. Philanthropy has always played a part in my life and I am looking for a permanent group to participate in with a wide variety of opportunities. After on the 2 luncheons I have attended, I think the Atlanta Woman's Club would fulfill that! I have 2 Papillons, love to paint and craft, cook, exercise and play golf for activities.

ARTS

How can I get involved?.....Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities:



Arts CSP will continue our ongoing volunteer project with drawchange on **Monday, January 29th from 3-4pm**, which will repeat on every 3rd Monday each month. We will assist children at a local shelter in southwest Atlanta with their art therapy projects. You don't have to be artistic to volunteer, your love and support is all they need. If this project is of interest to you, please contact Billie Harris via email to schedule the month you'd like to volunteer. Only 3 volunteer spaces are available for AWC per month. There will be a sign up sheet at our general meeting.

ARTS CONT'D

In preparation for our participation in the Lanta Gras parade on **January 27th, 2018** as the Krewe of The Atlanta Woman's Club, we will be having two work days this month for our parade float. Lanta Gras is a 501c3 non-profit organization that provides a safe, fun, and free afterschool music program benefiting middle and high school students of Atlanta. The volunteer instructors teach brass and percussion lessons.



Proceeds from the parade will help fund their program, giving our youth an opportunity to learn music.

This month's work days will be on **Sunday, Jan. 7th 4-6pm** and **Sunday, Jan. 21st 3-5pm**. Location details for the work days will be sent via email to members. If you are interested in helping create our float and/or participating in the parade, please contact Billie Harris via email at hawcinc@live.com or at 678-617-8511.

ATLANTA WOMAN'S CLUB ROSTER OF OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Officers

Cimi Douglass, President
Tonya Watson, 1st Vice President
Jo Dee Gonzalez, 2nd Vice President
Sarah June McDavid, Recording Secretary
LaTonya Jordan, Treasurer
Penny Blackford, Assistant Treasurer
Ruth Yurchuck, Corresponding Secretary
Donna Foland, Parliamentarian

Board of Trustees

Karen Bacheller, Chair (2016-2018)
Karen Clydesdale, Co-Chair (2016-2018)
Cimi Douglass, President/Budget Committee (2016-2018)
Tonya Watson, 1st VP (2016-2018)
LaTonya Jordan, Treasurer/Budget Committee (2016-2018)
Penny Blackford, Asst. Treasurer/Budget Committee (2016-2018)
Lisa Banes, Secretary (2017-2019)
Karen Thomson (2017-2019)
Donna Foland, Parliamentarian (2016-2018)

Community Service Program Chairs

Jo Dee Gonzalez, Dean of Community Service Programs
Billie Harris, Arts
Karen Johnson, Conservation
Donna Foland, Education
Connie Morris, Home Life
Pat Walsh, International Outreach
Beth Jetha, Public Issues

Committee Chairs

Judine Heard, President's Advisor
Sarah Helen Kilgore, Historian
Leigh Reynolds, Women's History
Lucy Willard, Tallulah Falls School
Myra Carmon, 1734 Society/GFWC Liaison
Jo Dee Gonzalez, Budget Committee
Karen Clydesdale, A Seeded Event/LEADS
Melodie Rogers, ESO Book Club
Karen Johnson, Peachtree Women's Writers Alliance
Page Henry, Domestic Violence (GFWC & GFWC GA Special Project)
Rita McGregor, Nominating Committee
Cimi Douglass and Judy Reece, Website
Lisa Banes, Marketing/Public Relations
Judy Reece, Member Events/Communications/Weekly Bulletin/Bridge
Britton Rogers, Social Media
Billie Harris, Newsletter Editor