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General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC)

## October 2016 Issue

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"We are at our best when we are doing what we do best"

Every day is an opportunity to give our best, to move out of our comfort zone, and to be all that we can be. We need to see each day as a gift. To waste it would be very sad. So how can we achieve this goal? *Ask yourself "what are my unique talents and skills, and where do I fit in?"* The answer to the question will provide you with the knowledge necessary to help you determine which area(s) of the club you would like to explore.

As a nonprofit charitable organization, we not only want to help the community around us, but we also want to help each and every one of you live your life with purpose. We feel that once you find that purpose, it will turn into "passion," and that is when you will be at your best.

As a leader of this club, I want to inspire our members to remain fully engaged in our mission and strategy, and in your personal life mission and strategy. In order to accomplish this we try to present you with questions similar to the one above. We ask members to provide our "Inspiration" at the general meetings, and we offer Leadership positions that will push you out of your comfort zone (just a bit!).

This then opens the door for you to become the best in whatever areas that you choose. You may even surprise yourself! Public Issues? Home Life? Conservation,....who knew?? The choices seem endless. There are six Community Service Program committees, six Advancement areas, and various special committees, all of which would greatly benefit from your ideas, knowledge, commitment and participation. The more involved you become, the more connected you will feel, both with

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT'D

AWC's mission and with the many wonderful women that make up our membership. As you consider all of these committees, feel free to ask questions and "test the waters". We need you!

Remember the questions brought up last month..."What am I doing here" and "Why am I doing it?" Hopefully your answers re-centered you and you remembered why you wanted to join the club....to give back and to pay it forward somehow. When you join a committee and work on projects with us, you will find your purpose not only in our club, but also within your own personal life.

Remember that once you find your purpose, it will quickly ignite your passion, and that's where you will be at your best, doing what you do best!

Please reach out today and join one of our committees – they need your help and together we can continue to spread love, kindness and overall assistance to the community around us!

See you soon at the October 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting!

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



"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other."

-John Fitzgerald Kennedy

## Five qualities of a Good Leader

**Honesty-** We know that our leaders are not perfect but we expect them to be honest. Today, because of the many scandals people assume that everyone is a little dishonest, including their leaders. In order to be seen as an honest individual you really have to go out of your way to be honest. One of the best ways a leader can exhibit their honesty is by admitting their mistakes and accepting responsibility for them.

**Forward Looking-** Leaders need a vision and they need to be able to communicate that vision if they plan to move forward. Some leaders do not share their vision for fear that it will never come to pass and some leaders make promises they cannot keep. This goes back to honesty. Take the time to plan, organize and delegate responsibilities so that you can focus on the future.

**Competent-**Demonstrating competency does not mean that you are an expert in everything. It is a delicate balance in demonstrating competency and drawing attention to yourself and not appearing to be arrogant. The safest way to "toot your own horn" is to recognize and acknowledge team achievements.

**Inspiring-** There are many inspiring people but that does not make them good leaders. To inspire generally means communicating your mission with passion. Inspiring people many times communicate their message through stories, stories that talk about changing the world. Connect with your audience on an emotional level and you will inspire.

**Intelligent-** Intelligence is a trait that takes effort. You need to commit considerable time to learning both formally and informally. Taking classes and devoting time to reading is essential to developing intelligence. Helping others learn and asking questions will enhance your credibility. A truly intelligent person is humbled by how much they don't know.

**Tip #1** Have a sense of humor-mistakes are going to be made!

Tip #2 Give credit to your volunteers for a job well done. It is not "I did" but "we did."

**Tip #3** Cultivate good working relationships with your advisors: keep lines of communication open.

Karen Clydesdale GFWC Leadership Chair

#### A SEEDED EVENT

#### A Seeded Event

The Atlanta Woman's Club will host its annual holiday "party with a purpose" benefitting the Giving Kitchen on December 7, 2016. The Giving Kitchen, a 501(c)(3) organization, is a resource at times of unanticipated crisis for anyone employed in the Atlanta restaurant community. More specifically, the Giving Kitchen provides emergency assistance grants to cover basic living expenses, care-related travel expenses, and funeral expenses for those who meet defined criteria. Additionally, in January 2017, The Atlanta Woman's Club will host its second annual fundraising event benefitting YouthSpark, a 501(c)(3) organization that aims to transform the lives of youth, who are at risk for exploitation and abuse. Information to obtain tickets to these events will be forthcoming. The Seeded Event Committee is always open for members to nominate a deserving nonprofit organization for a potential fundraising event. If you would like to nominate a nonprofit organization or would like to volunteer for a fundraising event, please contact Karen Clydesdale at karenclydesdale@bellsouth.net

Tonya S. Watson Communications Coordinator for A Seeded Event Program tonyaswatson@gmail.com

# GFWC/GFWC GA SPECIAL PROJECT: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



Domestic Violence Awareness Month-throughout the month of October, help to raise awareness about domestic violence and join in our efforts to end violence by having members of AWC volunteer at the GCADV fundraiser called "Jazzin" for GCADV. The event is October 22, 7PM-10PM at the Solarium in Decatur. They need volunteers from the AWC to volunteer from 6:30PM to 8:30PM to handle the registration/greeting guests and giving directions for the event. There is free street parking and the dress attire for the evening is party attire. Please email Page Henry at page.henry@harrynorman.com to RSVP.

We will have Stop Domestic Violence ribbons for the October meeting/luncheon and have a Domestic Violence poster in the Wimbish House for the month of October.

Page Henry

Domestic Violence, Advanced Area Committee

#### PUBLIC ISSUES

Beth Jetha Public Issues CSP Chairman

#### Candler Park Tour of Homes

On Oct.2<sup>nd</sup>, Sunday, as part of the Fall Festival, the Tour of Homes benefitting historic Candler Park will be held in the afternoon from noon to 6 pm. There are 2 volunteer shifts open to members: one that starts 11.45 a.m., another starts 2.45 pm. As a volunteer, you will receive a t-shirt and a ticket to tour for the tour which you can use before or after your shift. Contact Lexa King to volunteer: <a href="mailto:lexaking@gmail.com">lexaking@gmail.com</a>. If you cannot volunteer, please support by buying tour tickets.



## Blues for Justice 2016

On Oct. 6, Thursday, the Breeze Kings will perform at Eddie's Attic to benefit the Georgia Justice Project. Doors open 7 pm. Admission includes one beverage. \$25 tickets available in advance, ONLY at the Georgia Justice Project:

Georgia Justice Project 438 Edgewood Ave Atlanta, GA 30312 (404) 827-0027 ext. 215

(404) 827-0027 ext. 215 www.GJP.org

#### TALLULAH FALLS SCHOOL

The board, by unanimous vote Sept. 21, approved the recommendation to name the Upper School Building and Upper School Academic complex in its present configuration and any future expanded configuration as the "Larry A. Peevy Upper School Academic Complex."

Congratulations to President Peevy!

We look forward to talking to Mr. Peevy at our February meeting.

Lucy Willard

Tallulah Falls School Chair

#### ATLANTA STREETS ALIVE

Ladies,

I wanted to extend an invitation to our membership to join in volunteering for this years Atlanta Streets Alive on October 23, 2016. Atlanta Streets Alive opens the streets for people by temporarily closing the city streets to cars to create a healthy, vibrant, and sustainable street experience. In doing so, Peachtree Street, which is in front of The Wimbish House, will be closed to welcome those riding bikes and taking a walking tour down Peachtree Street and throughout the city on this day. The Atlanta Woman's Club will be offering cookies, lemonade, and tours of the house to all that are interested. The event is from noon until 6:00 on October 23, 2016, and we would love to see you join us at the Wimbish House. The event will be fun and is open to all, so feel free to bring your family for this event.

If you are available to join us on this day, or part of this day, and please rsvp with me. I think this will be a really fun experience for all that are able to participate. I hope to see you all there! To learn more about this annual event, feel free to visit the following link: http://www.atlantastreetsalive.com/

Tonya Watson First Vice President GFWC Atlanta Woman's Club

#### GFWC SOUTHERN REGION CONFERENCE

Register Now for GFWC Southern Region Conference - All Members are Invited! By Myra Carmon, AWC's GFWC Liaison



The Official Call to the GFWC Southern Region Annual Meeting has been published. It will be held on October 20-23, 2016, "**Down by The Riverwalk**" at the Hyatt Regency Riverwalk Hotel in Jacksonville, Florida. All of our *Southern Sisters* are invited. The registration materials are located on the front page of the GFWC Georgia website at gafwc.org. If you are interested in attending, please let me know and we will try to carpool and convoy to Florida!

The purpose of the GFWC Southern Region is to promote a better understanding of the structure, program and challenge of our General Federation of Women's Clubs. It is also to foster a more thorough acquaintance and cooperation among the GFWC clubs of the Southern Region. This conference is extended to all members within the five states of the GFWC Southern Region. GFWC State Federations of Women's Clubs: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and South Carolina.

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#### **ARTS**

On Monday, Sept. 26th, the Arts CSP volunteered with drawchange, a local non-profit organization dedicated to using art therapy for children in shelters, at a local children's shelter. These sessions provide hope, and help the children cope with their everyday live. Billie Harris, Anita Jansen, and Elizabeth Thornsteinson assisted the children as they created their art projects during the session which is provided and facilitated by drawchange. The children were extremely creative and the experience was rewarding for everyone. On **Monday, October 24th from 4p-5:30pm** AW C Arts CSP will return with drawchange, to the shelter. This in an ongoing project every 4th Monday of the month from 4:00pm-5:30pm. It's all about the journey through their art projects, not the outcome. An art background is not required to volunteer. The only requirements are care and encouragement. If this project is of interest to you, please contact me via email to schedule the month you'd like to volunteer. Only 3 volunteer spaces are available for AWC per month. Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions about this project.

The Arts CSP will also be volunteering for the Callanwolde's Fine Arts Center "Halloween Night on Callanwolde Mountain" on **Friday, October 28**th **from 6p-9p**. Volunteers are required to wear family friendly costumes. This is a fun event for all ages with trick or treating stations, costume contests, entertainment by J&M Sound Design DJ and the Callanwolde Concert Band feat. Matthew Kaminski, organist for the Atlanta Braves. There will also be spooky storytelling. Our volunteers will be at one of the many stations around the estate. This exciting event will be a joy to all ages!

If there are any members who are interested in becoming part of the Arts CSP please let me know at our Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. There will be a sign up sheet for drawchange, Callenwolde, and for members who are interested in joining the Arts CSP on the back table. I'd love to have you join me in making a difference in the lives of others through the amazing world of Art!

Billie Harris, Art CSP Chair

hawcinc@live.com



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

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Melodie Rogers, ESO Book Club
Karen Johnson, Peachtree Women's Writers Alliance

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