tlanta 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

#### You are a Wonder Woman!

I presented this President's message as the inspiration to the GFWC Institute and thought I would share it with all of you. Since our federation sisters in Texas, Florida and parts of Georgia have been dealing with the aftermath of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, I thought it was appropriate to remind our members that we, as clubwomen, are Wonder Women, and we can handle anything that comes our way.

As most of you know the "Wonder Woman" movie set a new milestone becoming the highest-grossing live-action film to be directed by a woman and staring a lead female hero. It took over the box office not only with great reviews, but with a wonderful message of hope and goodness.

As I watched the movie I began seeing so many comparisons between wonder woman and clubwomen. This movie is about all of you – strong, compassionate women trying to make the world a more peaceful place. Sisterhood and a woman's equal role in society, are consistent themes within this movie. Sound familiar?

In one of the beginning scenes when Steve arrives on the Island – he said "*What is this place? Who are you people?*" Sound familiar? Diana responded: "*We are a bridge to a greater understanding.*" She's absolutely right - GFWC women are a bridge to understanding, we educate and rally our members on important legislative issues, we raise awareness of on a variety of community issues, and we are unstoppable in our fight to make this world a better place to live. We are indeed a strong bridge created with the firm foundation of women from all over the country who are determined to help those in need.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT'D

As they cut to another scene with Steve preparing to go back to fight the war, Diana wants to leave her home and fight the war with him, but her mother wants her to stay home and remain safe. She tells Diana– "*If you choose to leave Diana, you may never return.*" I love Diana's response as she gives her mother a puzzled look– "*but who will I be if I stay?*" She goes on to say "*It is our sacred duty to defend the world and that is what I am going to do.*" I know all of us feel the same way – who are we if we just safely stand on the sidelines and do nothing. Who are we, if we don't even attempt to fight and battle against the homelessness, domestic abuse and violence, suffering of women and children who need our help or better yet, to provide just a ray of sunshine and encouragement to those in need even for just one moment during a season of pain. It's what we do, it's in our GFWC DNA makeup. All of us are very different, but at the same time we are all the same - we will never stand on the sidelines when we see a need or hear a cry for help, we jump in and figure out a way to make it better.

In another scene before Diana storms onto the battlefield, Steve tells her that there's nothing to be done, that she can't help every person affected by the war. So in female fashion, she doesn't listen to Steve, she storms out into the battlefield - do you know why? Because she didn't grow up in a world that told her she couldn't do things because she was a woman. She simple does what she thinks is right. Sound familiar?

Diana climbs up into the middle of a battlefield and charges, despite an onslaught of bullets. The metaphor is striking — a woman standing alone in a field while a battalion of men tries to push her back. <u>But she refuses to give up.</u> Sound familiar?

Ladies, our battleground is everywhere. It is where schools are not adequate, where communities need improvement, where government needs support and legislation demands action. We are needed where children live and grow who develop into responsible adults. Our place is everywhere, as long as we have eyes to see and appreciate, ears to hear and understand, and a GFWC spirit and soul that knows when something is not right – we step in and make it right.

I'm not spoiling the ending, but you all know Wonder Woman saves the day, but at the end of the movie I appreciated her closing thoughts... *"I've touched the darkness that lives in between the light. Seen the worst of this world, and the best. I've seen the terrible things men do to each other in the name of hatred, and the lengths they'll go to for love. Now I know. Only love can save this world. So I stay. I fight, and I give... for the world I know it can be. This is my mission, now, Forever."* 

Ladies, I know this to be true of all of you, GFWC women are not afraid of work that never ends. We accept that challenge and we know that hard work, love, and kindness can indeed make this world a better place to live in. So we stay. We fight, and we give... to the world we know can be.

Recently our club jumped in to donate to GFWC Texas and Florida, we sent out messages of love on our social media channel, and we created a special bulletin consisting of nonprofits assisting with the recovery efforts requesting our members and friends to pick a charity and donate. As AWC members, we rally, we support and we always fight for those in need.

I hope that you all remember that if you ever a project, personal issue or think the devastation of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma are too overwhelming, please be reminded that we are fierce and unstoppable in our fight to make this world a better place to live and there's nothing we can't do - because we are all Wonder Women!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT'D

I hope to see all of you at the October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting as our International Committee hosts and welcomes a representative from *Dining for Women* which is a global giving circle that funds grassroots projects working in developing countries to fight gender inequality.

Spread the love! Cimi Douglass Atlanta Woman's Club President 2016-2018



## **October is Convention Season for All!**

**Our North West District meeting is scheduled for October 21**<sup>st</sup>. Some of you might ask: What is the North West District and what is its purpose? As many of you know, as a local club we report to the State, GFWC Georgia. GFWC Georgia has over 100 local women's clubs and is divided into six districts. Our Club is located in the North West District. The District meetings are a wonderful way to hear about the impact our local clubs are making within their district communities in addition to sharing ideas or learning about new charities that other clubs have been working with. Meeting other clubwomen within your area is always fun, and most importantly being a part of the District makes this large organization a little bit smaller.

Local clubs such as AWC meet each month and set their own time and place to meet. Local clubs within each district are invited to attend their District's meeting, which takes place twice a year during the spring and fall months. (March and October). In addition to District meetings, GFWC Georgia will host two State meetings each year during the months of April (Convention) and August (Institute).

Please review the call embedded in the newsletter email for the theme and special guests. There is always a small fundraiser and donation request. This month they are asking for items for Tallulah's Closet - all accessories, donations for boy's needs, gently used gowns to be used by students who are unable to purchase those items for Homecoming and Prom. As a fundraiser for the District, they will host a small silent auction and *every attendee will be asked to SEW SEEDS for International Convention 2020 which Georgia will host in Atlanta!* Based on your telephone numbers, come prepared to donate 1 cent for sum of each number of your home, cell, and work telephone numbers.

Minimum donation requested is \$1 per member.

Example:

Ales Campbell – Cell # 423-400-1643 = 4+2+3+4+0+0+1+6+4+3 = 27

Work # 706-375-2050 = 7+0+6+3+7+5+2+0+5+0 = 35

Home# 706-738-4328 = 7+0+6+6+3+8+4+3+2+8 = 47

### Ales owes - \$1.09, so will donate \$2+

Please let our President know if you plan to attend the District meeting. Cimi needs to appoint five delegates to represent The Atlanta Woman's Club. As a member driven organization, members have the opportunity to vote on motions presented and nominate/ elect their representatives within the District. At this Fall District meeting a "nominating committee" will be formed to assist in selection the next District administration. Our very own Karen

## MEETINGS AND CONVENTION CONT'D

Clydesdale is the President-Elect for the N.W. District so she will lead the District during the 2018-2020 term. If anyone is interested in running for this nominating committee, please let Cimi know. It would be great to have an AWC representative on this committee. Please email Cimi today at <u>president@atlwc.org</u> or <u>cimi.douglass@gmail.com</u> and she will register you. The deadline is October 10th.

Next: <u>The GFWC Southern Region Conference which is scheduled for October 27-29<sup>th</sup>.</u> The Official Call was sent to all members individually by the State. If you have not received the call, please log onto <u>www.gfwcgeorgia.org</u> and click the pink button entitled "Register Today for Southern Region Conference."

What is Southern Region and its purpose you ask? All local clubs report to our State, GFWC Georgia. Each State reports to The General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC). The General Federation of Women's Clubs is an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. Collectively, we are "Living the Volunteer Spirit." There are nearly 100,000 members actively engaged in volunteer community service in approximately 3,200 clubs across the globe.

GFWC is divided into "Regions" and we are in the Southern Region. Each region holds an annual conference in the fall, separate from the GFWC Annual Convention. The purpose is to connect our GFWC members within that region to meet and network as well as for all to hear from our executive board members, community partners and CSP chairs. Please let our President know if you are planning to attend at <u>president@atlwc.org</u> or <u>cimi.douglass@gmail.com</u>.

The Atlanta Woman's Club was asked to assist and of course we agreed. Cimi Douglass is the Southern Region's Credentials/Registration Chair. She needs a few volunteers to assist her with registration – simply attend and sit a registration table, greet everyone with a smile and give them their nametags and welcoming gift. It's simple. Please let Cimi know if you are willing to help.

Karen Clydesdale is the Tour Chair - A great tour to the College Football Hall of Fame and the Chick Fil-A Fan Experience is planned for **Friday October 27**. About 50 ladies are anticipated to go. Karen Clydesdale is looking for some volunteers to help with the tour. If anyone is planning on attending the tour and would like to assist with giving out the tour totes as the ladies board the buses, assist with crowd management while at the venue, help with organizing the boxed lunches or just wants to be part of a fun day with our southern sisters, <u>please contact Karen Clydesdale</u>. Her contact info is <u>karenclydesdale@bellsouth.net</u> or 404-791-0952. Buses will leave the Atlanta Marriott Century Center on Friday morning at 9:30. The fee of \$50 includes shuttle bus to and from the venue, snack tote, All Access Admission ticket and lunch.

The Hall of Famer's All Access Pass provides your unique experience. You can have fun with more than 40 state of the art interactive experiences and exhibits. From the Chick Fil-A Peach Bowl Skill Zone----the 45 yard replica field, you can enjoy game calling in the Call of the Play booth. Or you may enjoy fight song karaoke and digital face painting, or perhaps broadcasting with the ESPN College Game Day crew is more your thing. You can relive all the best football moments with this visit. With the All-Access pass, you can digitally relive your experience from anywhere or more info, see <u>cfbhall.com</u>

## LEADERSHIP AND LEADS

### Karen Clydesdale, GFWC AWC and GFWC GA LEADS Chair



The Leadership Education and Development Seminar (LEADS) took place in Athens Georgia August 18. Forty GFWC members, representing all 6 Districts attended. Presenters included Marian St Clair, GFWC 1<sup>st</sup> VP who shared her expertise on how to write an effective speech. President Ida Dorvee, welcomed the ladies, gave a brief history of our organization and conducted a Parliamentary break out session on Procedure. Other breakout sessions included Protocol conducted by Kim Sekulow, GFWC

GA, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP, Legislative Advocacy by Beth English GFWC GA Legislative Chair and Reporting. The daylong seminar included lunch, many interactive activities and all members left with a better understanding of their individual leadership style and Leadership Survival Kits!

### Leadership Workshop

The Leadership workshop at Institute was conducted by Tammy Garland, Southern Region Leadership Chair. Tammy's presentation was so informative and entertaining. Tammy combines humor with a vast knowledge of leadership styles, techniques and conflict management skills. She shared her personal experiences about leadership that we all could relate to. Learning about leadership from Tammy was fun, informative and an hour very well spent!





On June 23rd, Karen Clydesdale (GFWC AWC and GFWC GA LEADS Chair) represented the state of Georgia at LEADS held in Palm Desert California. Thirty Seven states were represented and GFWC leadership from all over the country gave presentations. President Shea had a welcome reception for all LEADS candidates in her suite the night before the seminar

began. Each year GFWC Georgia sends a candidate.. Members who are interested are encouraged to apply to represent our organization.

# A SEEDED EVENT



On Friday September 22nd, Connie Morris, the Seeded Event lead for our most recent fundraiser, presented a check for more than \$32,000 to Operation Peace and Mental Fitness 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The event was a fun and profitable evening featuring a live and silent auction, a heads and tails fundraiser, entertainment and refreshments.. Many thanks to all of you that volunteered to assist with this event. We could not do it without you! Our next event is "One Big Night for LuRae" which will be held on Thursday October 19. The proceeds from this will benefit the Side by Side Brain Injury Clubhouse. Side by Side is the only program in Georgia- and one of only three in the region

that offers brain injured adults a pathway to self-sufficiency through a proven partnership approach. Lu Rae Ahrendt has worked tirelessly for many years to make this program the success it is today. Tickets to the event are \$100. Members can purchase tickets at atlwc.org and click on the One Big night button. If you are interested in volunteering at these events please contact me.

Karen Clydesdale, A Seeded Event Chair karenclvdesdale@bellsouth.net

# HOME LIFE

Nov. 5 Canine Companions Walk 'N Roll will be held at Old Fourth Ward. Please watch for more details to participate in walk or to volunteer with event.

AWC will be volunteering at the HEAT 2017 Annual Meeting on November 8th. HEAT has helped low-income Georgians meet their energy needs for 34 years.

Home Life donated 15 pounds of toiletry and food items to The Atlanta Food Banks's special appeal for Hurricane Irma's victims.



Home Life is supporting Texas Diaper Bank in an effort to help **Texas Diaper Bank** those affected by Hurricane Harvey. Herb plants were sold at the book club night and funds will be added to a donation to this organization. The Texas Diaper Bank works to meet the basic needs of babies, vulnerable children with disabilities, and seniors. It provides a continuation of basic needs services combined with

education to strengthen a family's self-reliance. You may contribute by giving to AWC indicating Texas Diaper Bank.

**Connie Morris** 

Home Life CSP Chair

# CONSERVATION

The city's Department of City Planning released a book Sept. 6 that will guide future development in Atlanta, and it calls for increasing development in areas that can support it while limiting development and protecting the tree canopy in the rest of the city.

The project, an almost 400-page book, is meant to guide Atlanta through projected population growth in the coming decades. It can be read in full at <u>atlcitydesign.com</u>.

Conservation is once again entering a scarecrow in the Atlanta Botanical Garden's Scarecrows in the Garden. The annual event opens at ABG from October 4-29 and visitors can enjoy more than 100 kooky, creative scarecrows that will compete for prizes. We need a group of volunteers to help us build our "Emoji Halloween" scarecrow on September 23 from 9-1 pm at the Waterford Green Clubhouse located at 1440 Waterford Green Dr., Marietta 30068. Please rsvp to Karen Johnson if you can attend at goodmoviesent@aol.com.

Conservation CSP has rescheduled the Eco Addendum tour of Cascade Springs Nature Preserve to Saturday October 7, 2017 from 9:00-11:30. Those interested in attending should contact Penny Blackford at <u>404 308 0775</u> or <u>blackforp@bellsouth.net</u>.

Conservation CSP will be making a donation of much-needed funds to the nonprofit organization For the Love of Cats on Marco Island Florida. The island suffered lots of storm damage but the organization leaders are back and helping many people and pets on the island. They are very lucky to have power and water back on now. They lost most of their feral cat traps and gave away almost all of their pet carriers to people in need before the hurricane hit. They also gave away almost all of their canned food. The storm shelters are closing and people are coming back to destroyed homes with their pets and they will be trying to help a lot of people with finding places to go or paying for boarding. They will be helping people with traps to try and find their lost pets in the weeks to come. AWC's help is greatly appreciated. You can donate on their website by clicking this link <u>http://fortheloveofcatsfl.com/donatenow/</u> or sending checks in the mail to: For the Love of Cats, Inc., P.O. Box 1777, Marco Island, FL 34146.

## TALLULAH FALLS SCHOOL

On Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2 members of The Atlanta Woman's Club, Donna Foland and Karen Thomson, attended the Board of Trustees meeting at Tallulah Falls School. Also, this year's enrollment of 509 students at Tallulah Falls School is the school's largest enrollment to date, exceeding last year's enrollment of 467 students.

Lucy Willard, Chair Tallulah Falls School

# ESO BOOK CLUB

### Hello Readers,

Last Monday the Atlanta Woman's Club Book Club enjoyed a lovely end of summer evening of creative food and conversation on Karen Bacheller's patio with author Wendy Wax. Wendy Wax was fun and open in discussing her work and writing. A big thank you to Karen Bacheller for hosting and providing a wonderful dinner, including umbrella cupcakes and creative details from Ten Beach Road by Penny. And here is a note I received from Wendy:

### Melodie,

I was so crazed getting out of town for a writing retreat on Tuesday that I don't think sent my thanks for the lovely evening with your book club.

Thank you so much for the invitation and the hospitality. What a great group!

Wendy

Coming up.....



Please make a special effort to join us Monday, November 27th at the Wrecking Bar Brewpub as we host author Thomas Mullen, and his book, Darktown. Darktown is a researched crime/mystery story set in the Pre-Civil Rights era in Atlanta. More details to come soon about this special meeting. I will be selling paperback copies of Darktown at our October 9th meeting.

Happy Fall, Happy Reading

Melodie Rogers, ESO Book Club

## INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

International CSP is looking forward to the October meeting. We will have a wonderful speaker who will bring us information on our Atlanta refugees as well as a special program called Dining for Women. October is also our collection for UNICEF and food for World Food Day. International would also like to make a supplemental donation to the Houston Community Food Bank.

If you are able, would you please consider a donation made payable to the Houston Community Food Bank. We will distribute the UNICEF boxes and you may bring them to our November meeting.

International appreciates your support, thank you.

Pat Walsh, International Chair

## **PUBLIC ISSUES**



**October, Crime Prevention Month**: Please take steps to ensure that you and your family do not become victims of credit card fraud. After last month's Equifax security breach, social security numbers, driver's license numbers and credit card information from millions of Americans were compromised. Resist any free offers to protect your credit information. Put a freeze on your credit information with the credit bureaus. Go to Clark Howard's website for more

detailed instructions: clark.com.

**Disaster Relief:** The Public Issues Community Service Program committee will donate to the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund, which will provide relief services. This fund was established by Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner and County Judge Ed Emmett and will be housed at the Greater Houston Community Foundation, a 501 C3 organization. We will also consider the South Florida Wildlife Center to donate funds. The task of rebuilding after Hurricanes Harvey and Irma will take a long time, especially in the hard hit communities in South Florida, in Puerto Rico, Port Arthur and Beaumont in Texas. Mexico City was hit with earthquakes last month; check out New York based Project Paz (projectpaz.com), which has teamed up with the El Paso Community Foundation. Remember to avoid scams and check out the organization at Guidestar (guidestar.org) or Charity Navigator (www.charitynavigator.org) before you make your donation. Please give generously and notify your CSP chairs, so we can include it in our year-end reports.

Beth Jetha

Public Issues CSP Chair

## WOMEN'S HISTORY

On Saturday, October 28th at 11 a.m. join fellow Atlanta Woman's Club members on APC's guided walking tour of Historic Downtown.

See Atlanta's first skyscrapers and learn how this early business district developed through efforts of the businessmen, architects and prominent families of the 19th and 20th centuries. Tour the interiors and exteriors of several of Atlanta's Landmark structures and their environs. Atlanta's downtown architecture includes styles from the Victorian period to Art Deco to contemporary.

RSVP to Leigh Reynolds at <u>404-431-3726</u> or <u>phlox13@gmail.com</u> by Friday, October 6th as tour capacity is limited.

\$13 for Adults

\$7 for Students and for Seniors (60+)

Free admission for current APC Members

Leigh Reynolds, Chair Women's History

# ARTS

Please join the Arts CSP on **Saturday**, **October 14th from 8a-12:30p** at Hillside Conant School (690 Courtenay Dr. NE, Atlanta, GA) for "Every Kid Healthy Day of Service". Our Arts CSP will be assisting other volunteers and staff in beautifying the campus by painting new murals to brighten up spaces. Please dress comfortably in clothing suitable for painting. Light breakfast and boxed lunches will be provided. Parking is available for volunteers on site. If you'd like to be a part of this amazing project, please contact Billie Harris via email by **Wednesday**, **Oct. 11th (Hillside's deadline to register)**. There will be a sign up sheet at October's meeting.

Arts CSP will continue our ongoing volunteer project with drawchange. Beginning on **Monday**, **October 16th from 3-4pm**, which will repeat on every 3rd Monday of the month, we will be assisting the 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 also be a sign up sheet at our general meeting.

It's time again for some trick or treat volunteering fun at Callanwolde Fine Arts Center. Callanwolde will be hosting their 3rd annual Halloween Night on Callanwolde Mountain on **Friday, Oct. 27th at 6pm**. Volunteers are needed for the various stations that will be set up in and around the center, to include trick or treating, games, and art activities. Volunteers are asked to wear family friendly costumes and arrive at 5pm to check in and receive their designated areas. Parking will be available for volunteers on site who arrive by 5pm, any arrival times after may result in parking off site. There will be a sign up sheet for all who are interested in volunteering at the October meeting.



In preparation for Hillside Conant School's "Radical Kindness" event on **Sunday, Nov. 5th from 2-4pm** at Buckhead Theatre (3110 Roswell Rd NE), the Art CSP is asking for volunteers to assist with our contribution to the event of a "GFWC Atlanta Woman's Club Kapture Kindness Photo Booth". We need volunteers to assist with making props, creating

the backdrop, and facilitating the booth during the event. A friend and Atlanta based photographer, Larell Freeman of Mosaic Studio, will be donating her time and photography skill for our booth at the event. For more information and to volunteer, please contact me via email or by phone at 678-617-8511. There will also be a sign up sheet for this event at the October meeting. All members who sign up for this project, please look for an email after our October meeting with more details about meeting times to construct the items needed for the booth.

Billie Harris, Art CSP Chair hawcinc@live.com

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

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