



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

Before I begin my President's message, I must mention that GFWC GA Institute was wonderful and so are our AWC members! Institute was held in Athens, GA. August 19 -21st and 22 of our members represented The Atlanta Woman's Club well. For those of you who are new to our organization, Institute is an annual continuing education conference hosted by our State organization, GFWC Georgia. At Institute, GFWC Georgia CSP programs, special committee and advancement areas are highlighted and presented by our State Chairpersons who educate and address CSPs topics, ideas, and share our organizations successes and undertakings where GFWC clubs can help. The theme for this year's Institute was "Do Great Things" and I believe that we are doing just that. AWC had 22 ladies who attended Institute and 6 ladies who attended the LEADS seminar. A few of our AWC members not only attended Institute but also assisted with the Hands on Social Media workshop and LEADS.

We are especially proud of a few ladies who are multi-tasking in the Federation and representing our Club extremely well. When you have a moment, please thank and congratulate Judine Heard, Karen Clydesdale, Lucy Willard, Myra Carmon and Dinah Peevy who have been appointed by Ida Dorvee, State President to serve at the State Level - it takes an incredible amount of time especially during reporting months, and we sincerely appreciate the fact that you not only hold positions within AWC, but also represent AWC at the District and State levels. Thank you to Ruth Yurchuck who stood in for Myra Carmon at the 1734 Society workshop. Thank you ladies for your dedication and service!

I am also thrilled to report that our Club was recognized at the National convention and I was honored to accept those awards at the State Dinner. Being recognized at this level is absolutely extraordinary! Our Past President, Judine Heard's attended the GFWC Convention and wrote an article summarizing the convention, please refer to Judine's article for more details. I am so proud to be a part of this club!

With that said, most of you know how much I love our club and thoroughly enjoy being a busy worker bee so you can imagine that I have many goals, to do lists and missions for this term and you will hear about them soon over the next few months. But my main mission right now as I begin my presidency is to be grounded and centered in my work at the Club. And that's the mission I have for all of you – I want all of you to be grounded and centered in your work here or anywhere else you spend time. So how do we achieve that? What keeps me and hopefully will keep you grounded in our work is asking and answering the following two questions...

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT'D

What am I doing here? And why am I doing this? How many have you asked that question? I'm sure we have all asked those questions at one point and another.

I can guarantee you that when we ask those two simple questions – we come up with an answer that centers us and puts us right back to the very beginning. We ask those questions when things get tough - I'm sure some of our past presidents have asked these questions many times. But I also answer that question when things are great – by saying “and this is the reason I joined this club!”

So “What are we doing here?” Our answer is our mission statement which you will hear me recite at each of our meetings – “Our mission is to encourage our members to become interested, involved citizens of the community by engaging in charitable activities that benefit the community as a whole.” Our mission statement answers the three basic but incredibly important questions that make our work more meaningful: 1. "What are we doing here? Why are we doing it? Who we are doing it for? When we move forward on anything whether it's supporting a charity, making an important decision, or voting in a new member – we should always keep our mission in mind. Our mission statement will always re-center us.

Next: Why are we doing it? In that question is where we find our inspiration – our Club and our members are here to give back and make our community a better place. When I presented my bio for presidency, I began with “Why I wanted to become president and that then centered me and gave me a path to continue with my biography. My answer to that question is: I have a personal passion to try to make the world and the community I live in a better place, even if I'm just one person. “Why am I doing this?” Because it gives me a sincere sense of purpose in my life to know that I am contributing to an organization that does so much for so many.

Your answer to “Why?” gives you the inspiration and motivation to get you through the tough times and I am hopeful that these two questions will continually center and ground all of us in our work so we can continue to impact the community we live in. I'm sure many of you have different reasons for the Why Question – and if you're brave enough, I'd love to hear them. If are brave enough, please send them to me – I'd like to create a journal over the next two years and would love to put your answers into this journal and maybe in our next video at our business meeting in May.

During my tenure as President, I plan to present you with a few thought-provoking questions or inspirational quotes that you will hopefully contemplate. I challenge you to start keeping a journal of your own, it's a great way to learn more about who you are and what you're doing here in this club and in your life.

To review possible journal topics, in June's President's message I provided a quote: “It is not happy people who are thankful; it is thankful people who are happy.” Anonymous. Ask yourself - What are you thankful for? And have you shared your gratitude with others?

This month, I challenge you to pick a situation/scenario in AWC and ask yourself the questions “What am I doing here? and Why am I doing it? I look forward to hearing your responses!

See you soon!

Cimi Douglass

President 2016-2018
GFWC Atlanta Woman's Club



LEADS

Leadership.....Education, Equipment, Engagement

The Leadership Education and Development Seminar (LEADS) took place on Friday August 19 in Athens Georgia. More than 40 GFWC Georgia members attended including five from the Atlanta Woman's Club, Judy Reece, Connie Morris, LaTonya Jordan, Rita Mc Gregor and Karen Johnson. During the full day seminar participants received in depth training and information on a wide variety of topics including, organizational governance, how to communicate between different generations, public speaking, strategic analysis conflict resolution, and leadership styles. Invited speakers included, Marian St. Clair, GFWC 1st Vice President, Ida Dorvee, GFWC GA President, Kim Sekulow, GFWC GA 3rd Vice President and Membership Chair and Stacie Janeckie who represented Georgia at the 2016 national LEADS program in Baltimore Maryland.

Each year club Presidents identify potential leaders at the grassroots level who are proven volunteers committed to the GFWC mission of enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. These volunteers are provided training, support and encouragement to assume greater responsibilities at the club, district, state and national levels of the Federation.

It was my pleasure to conduct this seminar this year with two wonderful co-chairs, Mary Beth Jacobson from Augusta WC and Tiffany Cooper from the Monroe Junior WC. The seminar was an interactive day filled with leadership, laughter and learning. The committee developed a state logo for LEADS and a web site devoted to leadership (www.gfwcgaleads.weebly.com).

If you are interested in attending LEADS in the future then this is the time to start planning by demonstrating your commitment to your club, your support of club activities and your enthusiasm for all things AWC!

Karen Clydesdale, GFWC Leadership Chair



A SEEDED EVENT

Over the summer, The Atlanta Woman's Club met with both the Giving Kitchen and the Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power and Potential to discuss partnering together for a future fundraising event, one to be held in the winter of 2016 and one to be held in the spring of 2017, respectively. 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. This year, The Atlanta Woman's Club's holiday party will be a "party with a purpose," coinciding with a fundraising event to raise money for the Giving Kitchen. Additionally, in the spring of 2017, The Atlanta Woman's Club will partner with the Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power and Potential for a fundraising event to benefit the organization. The Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power and Potential, whose founder is Jane Fonda, focuses on decreasing teen pregnancy, increasing and improving physical activity and nutrition in teen children, and learning healthy relationship patterns for teens. In addition to these events, 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. And, in August 2017, The Atlanta Woman's Club will host a fundraising event benefitting Operation Peace, an organization that provides students with an afterschool and summer program, which promotes academic achievement for more than 150 youth in the Old Fourth Ward. Information to obtain tickets to these events will be forthcoming.

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

INTERNATIONAL



On July 9, 2016, International Affairs organized a volunteer event at Medshare, a nonprofit organization that collects surplus medical supplies from hospitals and physician offices in the United States and ships these supplies to developing countries where the supplies will ultimately be used. The Atlanta Woman's Club had a great turnout for the event that included 12 volunteers, who sorted and packed medical supplies to prepare these items for shipment around the world. A special thanks goes out to all those who were able to participate in this wonderful community service project.

Pat Walsh, International CSP Chair
pwalsh1@bellsouth.net

PUBLIC ISSUES

At Institute on August 20, the State Community Service Program co-chairs discussed emergency preparedness, personal safety, crime prevention and historic preservation will continue to be covered under the Public Issues section of the new yearbook. They identified the USO and a non-profit, called “Sew Much Comfort,” as community partners. “Sew Much Comfort” is the only non-profit that provides free, adaptive clothing to veterans. To find out more about them, check out the You Tube video about this non-profit: <https://youtu.be/j6G1P46Bf5w>



GFWC Georgia now has a Facebook page for Public Issues! Do a search and press “Like” on the the GFWC Georgia Facebook page for Public Issues. Their profile picture is featured on left.

On July 23, the Georgia Justice Project held their Back to School event for families of their clients. Many thanks go to the following members who helped with recruiting volunteers, setting up, taking down and running several activity tents at the Dunbar Community Center: Lisa Banes, Cimi Douglass, Jodee Gonzales, Billie Harris, Janecia Heard, Judine Heard, Latonya Jordan, Connie Morris, Judy Reece, and Tonya Watson.



For the room set up and decorations for the June meeting that Public Issues sponsored, thanks to Cimi Douglass, Judy Reece, Latonya Jordan and Jodee Gonzales; special thanks to Cimi for the splendid video tribute to our members’ loved ones in the military.

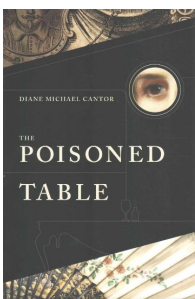
Beth Jetha, Public Issues CSP Chair
beth.jetha@gmail.com

ESO BOOK CLUB

Hello Late Summer Readers!

I hope you are continuing to enjoy the wonderful season of summer and have found at least one good book that has moved you and just makes life worth living. I love summer beach reading and have found many favorites.

Monday September 19th will be our first meeting for the new season. Our special book club is beginning year 5 of supporting local authors. Thank you to all who have supported our unique book club in many ways. Let us continue our AWC tradition of supporting books and authors.



For our **September 19th** meeting we are reading *The Poisoned Table* by Diane Cantor. **Please purchase your book through Amazon or Barnes and Noble.** Diane will join us from Savannah. Let us give her our usual warm welcome! The book will give us a wonderful evening of discussion and learning as we read historical fiction. The story is well researched historical fiction set in 19th century coastal Georgia with some real life characters. Diane has touched issues of women, children, and other issues we are still coming to terms with.

ESO BOOK CLUB CONT'D

We are meeting **September 19th** at the home of Karen Johnson at **6:30 pm**. Her address is: **1405 Gatestone Way, Atlanta 30339**. In case you need to call on the way, Karen's phone numbers are: Home: 770-984-2804. Cell: 818-468-6962

Please RSVP to me by September 15: mrogers1717@gmail.com

Happy Reading! And here is a link to books for you to read based upon your zodiac sign!

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

TALLULAH FALLS SCHOOL

On September 21, 2016 Tallulah Falls School will host a grand opening celebration of the student activity center. The grand opening will include a brief program, ribbon cutting and tours of the facility. Light refreshments will be served. For more information please visit <https://www.tallulahfalls.org>.

Lucy Willard, Tallulah Falls School Chair

CONSERVATION

Hope everyone is having a great summer. The Conservation CSP volunteered for the Chattahoochee Nature Center's Annual Butterfly Festival and is "snipping blooms" weekly in the World Peace Rose Garden at the MLK Jr. Historic National Park as well as planning for 2016-17 activities.

Janecia and Jade Heard, Azam Zadeh, Laytona Jordan, Page Henry and Penny Blackford spent a delightful day at the Chattahoochee Nature Center on Sunday, June 1, 2016. In addition to the traditional face painting activities, we helped for the first time, to construct a village for the fairies. The children and their parents were most imaginative creating a variety of houses with doors, windows, paths, swimming pools, B-B-Qs, swings, gardens, benches, beds, couches all out of native materials such as rocks, leaves, wood, pine cones, flowers and ferns. It was reminiscent of those carefree days of playing in the woods before electronic entertainment.

"Snippetts", Judine Heard, Judith Behrens, Anita Jansen, Azam Zadeh, Lisa Banes, Karen Bacheller, Page Henry, Elvina Berry, Karen Johnson and Penny Blackford, have been taking turns attending the rose garden. Ryan Tilley was engaged to spray the roses and garden to keep down spider mites and weeds. The irrigation system was adjusted to provide more moisture during this heat wave.

We are also looking into working with the park service to beautify the MLK Jr., birth home's back garden and the landscaping around the row houses across the street.

Additional volunteer opportunities are the ABG annual scarecrow contest, the MLK annual award ceremony in May, an Environmental Youth Leadership Conference, working with Lifeline to make Atlanta a no kill animal shelter city and a beautification project at Oakland City Cemetery to provide landscaping and markers for the slave graves.

Please contact Karen Johnson, Conservation Chair at goodmoviesent@aol.com or 770-984-2804.

Karen Johnson, Conservation CSP Chair
goodmoviesent@aol.com

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE'S 100TH BIRTHDAY



On August 25th, 2016, The National Park Service turned 100 and the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Site was a big part of this effort! A few of our "Snippetts" who tend the MLK Rose Peace Garden along with elected officers, attended the celebration held on Aug. 24th. Michael L. Connor, Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior was one of the featured speakers. Celebrate today by joining the national park community and get access to park guides, travel tips, news, and more! Together we can celebrate our national parks and begin looking forward to the next 100 years of the National Park Service. <http://www.nationalparks.org/our-work/celebrating-100-years-service>

Penny Blackford

GFWC ANNUAL CONVENTION 2016

2016 GFWC Annual Convention

Judine Heard, 2014-16 President

2016-18 President's Advisor



I attended this year's convention in Baltimore, Maryland from June 25-29. This convention had nearly 1,000 GFWC clubwomen in attendance. As you may already know, Convention is a time to connect with each other from across the county, and learn more about our GFWC partners and new initiatives. Many of GFWC's partners exhibited and offered workshops throughout the week. In addition, it is during convention that GFWC State organizations are recognized for their hard work. You will be pleased to know that GFWC Georgia received awards in several categories that were announced at GFWC Ga.'s Institute in August.

I am very proud to inform you that The Atlanta Woman's Club was included and recognized at the National Convention as part of GFWC Georgia's awards recognition. Below is a list of the acknowledgements/certificates that AWC received at Convention.

- During a lunch presentation, The Nature Generation, a Conservation CSP partner, discussed its Green Earth Book campaign, and mentioned The Atlanta Woman's Club as a club that has committed and donated funds to this campaign.
- Shot@Life presented and recognized The Atlanta Woman's Club with a certificate at its booth for participating in its 2015 campaign.
- In the category of Communications and Public Relations, The Atlanta Woman's Club won the "Club Creativity Award."
- Included in the 2016 GFWC Annual Convention program was an insert entitled "The Campaign for the Future." The insert was The Federation saluting Lucy Willard of GFWC Georgia and The Atlanta Woman's Club for her leadership in establishing the Lucy Willard Endowment Fund.

Thank you for all that you do for our club, our State and our community!



ARTS

On August 25th, GFWC AWC attended an exhibit at SCAD FASH. Thirteen ladies visited the Carolina Herrera fashion exhibit, as well as the fashion photography exhibit on display in honor of the late Bill Cunningham. Afterwards we enjoyed dinner at Tavernpointe, a nearby eatery.

The Art CSP will jump start our year with drawchange, a local non-profit organization dedicated to using art therapy for children in shelters, to help them cope with their daily lives. We will volunteer with drawchange as an ongoing project every 4th Monday of the month from 4:15pm-5:30pm, starting **September 26th**. Our volunteers will sit and work one-on-one with the children as they complete their art projects. 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.

If there are any members who are interested in becoming part of the Arts CSP please let me know at our Sept. 12th meeting. There will be a sign up sheet for drawchange 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

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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