



# Atlanta Woman's Club



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

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## November 2020 Issue

Hello Ladies,

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to all of us!!! Woo-Hoo!!

November is such a big month for our membership to be celebrating for several reasons. Not only do we all enjoy the festivities and traditions of Thanksgiving and the beginning of the "holiday season", but this crazy year of 2020 marks the 125th anniversary of the founding of The Atlanta Woman's Club.



In 1895 after Mrs. Rebecca Douglas Lowe attended the Cotton States Exposition which was held in Piedmont Park, Mrs. Lowe gathered a group of interested ladies for another meeting in her home. That was the beginning of The Atlanta Woman's Club. Fifteen years later the group purchased its first home which was the colonial style Christian Science Building located on West Baker Street. The club remained there for another ten years and then in 1919 purchased the stately structure at 1150 Peachtree Street, home of the Wimbish family and in February 1920, the first meeting of the Atlanta Woman's Club was held at the Wimbish House and we proudly still meet there.

Unfortunately because of the coronavirus that has plagued the country, we have not been able to meet face to face, but at least through Zoom and computers, we can still see each other and communicate through the screen, and continue our work for the benefit of the communities around us.

I would like to thank Billie Harris and Chloe Feyock for the wonderful program they provided for last month's meeting with Tracy Nicole, and many thanks to all of the CSP and committee chairs for their continuing dedication to their current projects as well as their planning and researching of potential non-profit organizations for future projects and activities and partnerships.

I would like to mention again that if you think that you are interested

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Recognizing Mem.....3
- Leadership/LEADS.....4
- Membership.....4-5
- Arts & Culture.....5
- GFWC GA Special Proj..6

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT'D

in a certain category within the CSP programs, please check out the Weekly Update for the dates of their meetings and plan to attend. Everyone is welcome and you are free to check out as many as you like. I firmly believe that what you get out of an organization is directly related to what you actually "put into" an organization. And you have the luxury of selecting your own time table to do what you can, whenever you can! Yet there is no requirement when you join either, as we appreciate every single one of our members simply for choosing to be a part of this wonderful club.

Thanksgiving will be Thursday, November 26 this year, and although it is suggested to keep the gathering to a minimum I wish nothing but the best to everyone and that you stay safe while enjoying the bounties of the season.

I hope that you will all join us on November 9 at the next virtual AWC meeting, as the GFWC Georgia President Shelby Holland will be attending as our special guest and speaker. The theme for Shelby's administration is "Smile, Motivate, Inspire, Lead, and Excel" (SMILE) She is encouraging each of us to use our leadership as we work with the communities and SMILE to each new member as we go forward. In addition to carrying your SMILE with you throughout each day, she is reminded that each of us is a "gem" and we work "well under pressure", therefore she has chosen the "Diamond" as the symbol of the administration as it best describes every clubwoman. "Shine bright like a diamond and remember that it is not that diamonds are a girl's best friend but it's your friends who are our diamonds".

She will also be explaining her state project, F.A.R.E., which is an organization that brings hope to those millions of people who are suffering from food allergies. We are truly honored to have Shelby join us on November 9th and I hope that you will all be there to meet and greet our State President!

Wishing you all a very happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday and a very Happy and Special Birthday to The Atlanta Woman's Club.... 125 years....what an amazing accomplishment! Here's to the next 125!

**Jo Dee Gonzalez, AWC President 2020-2022**



## RECOGNIZING OUR MEMBERS

### **Sandra B. McNeil**



Sandra Bennett McNeil was born in 1925 in Gainesville, Georgia, and the sixth child of Asa and Lela Bennett. She excelled in academics, attending Airline High School, Georgia Evening College, Toccoa Falls Business & Bible School, and taking additional courses at Emory University and Georgia State University. She began her accounting career at Avon, where she served for seven years as collections manager for four southeastern states. In 1971, she joined Kraft, Inc. as the Seal test division's payroll manager for Atlanta, Birmingham, Savannah and New Orleans. In 1982, she accepted an accounts payable position in the company's Regional Accounting Center. She retired from Kraft on her 65<sup>th</sup> birthday.

In addition to her 26th year membership with the Atlanta Woman's Club, which she will receive her 25 year pin, she has served often as treasurer. Sandra holds long-term membership in many civic organizations, including: the American Business Woman's Association, Dogwood Chapter, where

she served as president (three terms), vice president, and treasurer and was twice named Woman of the Year; Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR); Northside Women's Club; and Metro Atlanta Better Films Council. She was also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, serving as Worthy Matron, and the Order of The Amaranth, as Royal Matron and as a state officer. For many years, Sandra was active at Morningside Baptist Church as a member, treasurer and deacon. She is currently a member of Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church.

Sandra has recently moved to Renaissance on Peachtree, 3775 Peachtree Road NE Room 215, Atlanta GA 30319. She can be reached at 404.975.3782.

**Written by Connie Morris**

## LEADERSHIP/LEADS

How are members appointed to the Executive Board? Are CSP chairmen appointed or elected? Have you ever considered running for an AWC office but didn't know what was required? Many of our members are happy to volunteer their time and talents to the various organizations we have relationships. However, for a few, they would like to take more of a leadership role within our club.

The Leadership/LEADS Committee is offering a virtual meeting, Saturday, December 12th, 2020 from 10:00 until noon. From president to parliamentarian advisor, this meeting will discuss elected and appointed positions in our club. Such things as how long you must have been a member to run for an office and who appoints CSP chairmen will be discussed. This workshop is open to all members but we ask that you register for the event. You will find the registration link in the body of this newsletter's email.

### **Judine Heard, GFWC GA Leadership/LEADS Chair**

## MEMBERSHIP

It's GFWC Atlanta Woman's Club Dues Renewal Time for 2021

Ladies, I hope each of you will continue your membership with our AWC. We will meet, again, one day in person. I personally will be glad to see you all! The membership renewal is now in place on our Atlanta Woman's Club member's area page.

- \* Go to events and find the calendar
- \* On the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, there is a place to access to pay online

You may, also, send a check to my home address: 886 Plymouth RD NE, Atlanta, GA 30306

**The dues are \$65 and will be in effect January 1<sup>st</sup>. No further renewal after February 15<sup>th</sup>.**

When you renew your dues, I will need a new Conflict of Interest form from you. You can find these in the member's area under community resources. Please complete and send to me at [membership@atlwc.org](mailto:membership@atlwc.org). If you have any questions contact me at [membership@atlwc.org](mailto:membership@atlwc.org).

### **New Members**



#### **Barbara Pettoni**

I was born in Minneapolis, MN and lived there until I was 12 when we moved to Yardley, Pennsylvania. I went to college in Ohio, married and had two children (a son and a daughter). I lived in New Jersey until 2005 and from there moved to Maryland and worked in Washington DC until my retirement in 2015. After retiring, I moved to Atlanta to be near my son and daughter and 4 grandchildren: 3 girls (10, 7, and 4) and 1 boy (5).

## MEMBERSHIP CONT'D

I was a Certified Public Accountant and worked for the Federal government at the IRS until 2005. During that time, I attended law school while working and graduated Magna Cum Laude in 2005. In late 2005, I moved to Maryland and worked in Washington, DC as an attorney at the Office of Chief Counsel at the IRS until my retirement in 2015.

Although I am no longer licensed to practice as a CPA or an attorney, I would bring both financial and legal skills to the Atlanta Woman's Club. In addition, I am hardworking, dedicated and eager to participate in the many programs and activities offered by the AWC.



### **Sue Rohan**

Sue Rohan is transitioning to full time residence in Atlanta from the Washington, DC area to be close to her daughters and their newborns. This year she retired after a long career in the federal government and private sector where she was responsible for health care policies related to Medicare, Medicaid, and the Affordable Care Act.

Originally from Wisconsin, Sue served as special assistant to the University of Wisconsin president, responsible for quality management leadership. She also served as a state legislator and local elected official for ten years after her first career as a special education teacher.

Sue enjoys the outdoors, especially walking, hiking, cycling, kayaking, camping, and gardening. Hobbies include traveling, reading, cooking, knitting, arts and crafts, and learning to play the ukulele. She would be happy to use her professional and recreational skills to assist with activities in the Atlanta Woman's Club.

**Connie Morris, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Membership**

## ARTS & CULTURE

We will continue to volunteer with drawchange from 1:30-3:30pm on Saturdays in Grant Park until its too cold to be outside. If you are interested and are already cleared to volunteer with them, please sign up at [drawchange.org/volunteerportal](http://drawchange.org/volunteerportal). Members who have not completed a volunteer application and would like to become a drawchange volunteer, please contact Billie Harris via email for more details.

Members who are interested in joining the Arts and Culture CSP, please email your name and mobile number to [hawcinc@live.com](mailto:hawcinc@live.com). Make sure to also download the GroupMe app on your mobile device to stay up to date with projects and volunteer opportunities. You will be added to the AWC Arts & Culture GroupMe via your mobile number.

**Billie Harris, Chair**  
**Chloe Feyock, Co-Chair**  
**Arts and Culture CSP**



### **FARE *Pumpkin Project Facts***

1. Food allergies are a life-altering and potentially life-threatening disease, and a growing public health issue. In the U.S., one in 13 children has a food allergy – that is roughly two in every classroom. For these children, even a tiny amount of their allergen has the potential to cause a severe reaction
2. Virtually any food can cause a reaction. Many popular Halloween candies contain nuts, milk, egg, soy, or wheat, which are some of the most common allergens in children and adults.
3. Non-food treats provide a safe, fun alternative for children with food allergies and other conditions for whom candy may present a problem.

### **FARE *Pumpkin Project Food***



1. Make your home the perfect stop for all trick-or-treaters including kids with food allergies, diabetes, or other dietary restrictions. Festive celebrations nearly always include candy and treats, and it can be heartbreaking to tell a child with a food allergy or dietary restrictions that he or she cannot participate in the merriment of trick-or-treating on Halloween night.

2. Families can paint their teal pumpkin or purchase one from a local craft store. Placing it on their doorstep signifies that they will offer allergy-friendly treats in a separate bowl during trick-or-treating – or perhaps only offer the alternative treats.

3. There are many exciting, inexpensive items trick-or-treaters enjoy just as much – if not more – than candy. Some teal pumpkin treat ideas are: Bouncy balls, Bubbles, Halloween erasers or pencil toppers, Mini notebooks, Pencils, crayons or markers, Spider rings, Stencils, Stickers, Vampire fangs, Whistles, kazoos, or noisemakers.



### **FARE *Pumpkin Project Fun for Families***

1. Ask your friends and neighbors to learn more about the Teal Pumpkin Project and participate. Print out FARE's flyers and hand them out.
2. Host an event like a teal pumpkin painting party and ask your friends and neighbors to participate.
3. If you have a neighborhood email listserv, / newsletter send out an email about the initiative, including a link to FARE's website ([www.foodallergy.org](http://www.foodallergy.org)).
4. Reach out to your local library, dentist/doctor offices, schools, or community buildings to see if they would be willing to help you post signs or get the word out.
5. Share information on social media and post a picture of your teal pumpkins when you have them near your door! Do not forget to use **#tealpumpkinproject** when you post!

**Karen Clydesdale, GFWC GA President's Special Project Chair**

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

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Gretchen Butler, Treasurer  
Barbara Washburn, Assistant Treasurer  
Sandie Clendon, Corresponding Secretary  
Beth Jetha, Parliamentarian

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Kelly Feyock- Chair/Maria Krane- Co-Chair, Health and Wellness

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Myra Carmon, 1734 Society  
Karen Clydesdale, GFWC GA Special Project/AWC President's Special Project  
Connie Morris, Membership  
Karen Clydesdale, A Seeded Event/Fundraising  
Judine Heard, GFWC GA LEADS/GFWC GA Environment Co-Chair  
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Karen Johnson, Peachtree Women's Writers Alliance  
Cimi Douglass and Judy Reece, Website  
Lisa Banes, Marketing/Public Relations  
Judy Reece, Member Events/Communications/Weekly Bulletin/Bridge  
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