



Atlanta Woman's Club



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

1150 Peachtree Street, N.E., Atlanta, GA 30309 Telephone 404-870-8833
Website: www.atlwc.org
Editor: Billie Harris

December 2023 Issue

At this time of the year, we go from one holiday to the next holiday! How do you keep the joy when others are cold, homeless, hungry, job loss, or getting a diagnosis they never dreamed possible.

One way is to help others with gift giving, hands on volunteering, or just being present. I love that The Atlanta Woman's Club gives us the opportunities to be there for someone that we may help bring joy to. Arts and Culture added joy to our December meeting by having the Executive Director of Puppetry Arts as our speaker. The added bonus was the puppeteer that entertained us. This was a great meeting to bring a friend that could be interested in finding their spot for volunteering and being with some of the greatest ladies!

Remember not all can find joy during this time of year. Help is a three digit number away. **988** is a call number for Help for those having Suicidal thoughts.

Enjoy this time of parties with friends and families! I look forward to the New Year!

"It is not joy that makes us grateful. It is gratitude that makes us joyful."
-Anonymous

Connie Morris, AWC President 2022-2024



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Membership.....	2-3
Arts & Culture.....	4
LEADS.....	4
Civic Engagement.....	5
Education.....	5-6

MEMBERSHIP

We were very pleased to welcome two new members into our club at the November meeting. These ladies are excited to join us and ready to get involved. Their contact information is below along with a short bio. All members should make an effort to make them feel welcome and include them in your CSP and committee activities.



KOURTNEY ZENOVIA

Phone: 470-594-9142

Email: KourtneyZenovia@gmail.com

Birthday: May 21

CSP Interests: All CSPs

Committee Interests: Special Committees-Fundraising

Sponsored by: Peggy Pruett

Endorsed by: Connie Morris & Jo Dee Gonzalez

Kourtney Zenovia is an Atlanta native with a heart of service. As a graduate of the University of West Georgia with a Bachelor's in Psychology she has a passion for connecting with others. In the past she has worked diligently to impact several communities. Such as the mental health community with her collaborative outreach program through GA NAMI and The Carroll County Mental Health Advocates, low income families through the Housing Authority Abstinence Education Program and Georgia State Upward Bound, The Homeless community through

Fairfield Baptist Church, young women through collegiate mentorship, as well as animal wildlife through self initiated rescue and recovery.

In addition to volunteering, she enjoys traveling, shopping, embroidery, puzzles, DIY, theatre, live music, boating, ballets, reading, crocheting, knitting, sewing, making floral arrangements, playing piano, mediating, working out, holistic health, art museums, fine dining, weekly spa days and hanging out with friends. She has always been doing philanthropic work on a larger scale. She recently made a step towards actualizing that dream by successfully hosting her first charity drive at the Intown Golf Club to donate candy for Halloween to the students at the Ansley School which provides education to children experiencing homelessness.



RAYNA WOODEN

Phone: 205-965-9291

Email: rayna.jnj@gmail.com

Birthday: May 27

CSP Interests: Arts & Culture

Committee Interests: Special Committees & Fundraising

Sponsored by: Ursula Reynolds

Endorsed by: Peggy Pruett & Lisa Baner

Rayna Wooden is a seasoned executive deeply committed to community welfare, currently serving as the Chief of Staff for the Southeast Region at the American Cancer Society. With a strong focus on strategic revenue generation and operational excellence, she oversees the multifaceted operations of seven states. Rayna's educational journey began at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass

MEMBERSHIP CONT'D

Communications. In her current role with the American Cancer Society, Rayna leads a department dedicated to the vital mission of securing \$65 million dollars in funding. This funding supports critical research, transportation, and temporary housing services for cancer patients. Prior to joining the American Cancer Society, Rayna devoted six years of her career to the Partnership Against Domestic Violence, where she served as the VP of Operations.

Beyond her professional achievements, Rayna's profound passion lies in advocating for the welfare of women and children in her Atlanta community, where she actively volunteers with numerous local organizations. During her cherished moments away from work and volunteer commitments, Rayna enjoys quality time with her family and indulges in her love for photography. She resides in Lawrenceville with her husband, James, and their three sons: Kameron, Miles, and Preston.

TIME FOR DUES FOR 2024

Dues for 2024 may now be paid by following the directions below. All members, including those who joined at any time in 2023, must pay dues prior to February 15 and submit a Conflict of Interest Form for 2024. According to our Bylaws, failure to meet this deadline will mean that you will have to start the membership process over again.

The dues event can be found on the main page of the website (www.atlwc.org) on the right hand side. To pay your \$65 dues go there. Or, you can pay at the December meeting.

To complete your Conflict of Interest Form (everyone). Please complete and email this form https://mcusercontent.com/90f272ec1547coe8bbbd1f932/files/7d05be18-d4fa-30c8-4ad5-10a3ffa6fd0c/Membership_Conflict_of_Interest_Form_1.pdf to Peggy Pruett at peggy.pruett@mindspring.com or mail to Peggy Pruett, 406 Abbey Springs Way, McDonough GA 30253.

Dues must be paid by February 15th. They may be paid as noted above or they can be paid at an upcoming meeting. Everyone must file a Conflict of Interest Form.

Peggy Pruett, 1st Vice President, Membership Chair

ARTS & CULTURE

Arts & Culture presented a \$1,000.00 donation check to Paint Love, a 501 (c)(3) that believes art strengthens communities with programs that help students and organizations bring more art to youth facing poverty and trauma.

We dropped off several boxes of Art Supplies to Hope Hill Elementary. They were very appreciative and we are always accepting more supplies.

Arts & Culture hosted December's General Meeting. Our speaker and guest were Beth Schiavo and Reay Kaplan Maxwell from the Center for Puppetry Arts. Below you will find their bios.

BETH SCHIAVO, Executive Director, originally joined the Center for Puppetry Arts as a consultant in August 2019, having spent more than 25 years in corporate positions, while actively involved in the Atlanta arts, education, and philanthropic community. When Vince Anthony, the Center's Founder, announced his retirement, the Board asked Schiavo to serve as Interim Managing Director as it conducted a national search for new executive leadership. In the months that followed, Schiavo led the Center through the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, and by June 2020 the Board had selected her as their permanent candidate. Since then, the Center has flourished, maintaining financial stability throughout the pandemic, and the organization's success led the *Atlanta Business Chronicle* to recognize Schiavo as one of their "Women of Influence" for 2021.

REAY KAPLAN MAXWELL is an Atlanta based actress and puppeteer, as well as the Education Initiatives Manager at the Center for Puppetry Arts. Reay holds a B.S. in Acting from Syracuse University and a M.A. in Puppetry from the University of Connecticut. Her work has been seen at the Center For Puppetry Arts, the Alliance Theatre, 7 Stages, Synchronicity Theatre, Dad's Garage and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, to name a few. Reay's work extends to audio book narration, and her voice can be heard in 30+ titles, available through Audible.com

Jennifer Quinn, Chair

Jo Dee Gonzalez, Co-Chair

LEADS

Atlanta Woman's Club's LEADS team hosted its annual AWC 101 workshop virtually on Thursday, December 7th. The workshop reviewed AWC's bylaws, and elected and appointed positions within our club. There was also an overview on becoming involved at GFWC's district, state and above levels. This was the perfect workshop for both new members and members considering running for an office (elected or appointed). For more info on LEADS, contact Myra Carmon

Submitted by Judine Heard

Myra Carmon, LEADS

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH

Hope Thru Soap

Hope Thru Soap is a local non-profit that supports the unhoused in our community by providing mobile showers among other things.

The organization is currently seeking:

- small bottles of laundry detergent (many of the young people have few clothes, especially if they are homeless, and launder frequently)
- gift cards to Walmart or Target in small denominations (\$20-\$25).

The gift cards would be used as Christmas presents for the young adults. We are asking members to donate gift cards and detergent for Hope Thru Soap. Jo Ellen Friedman is the contact: (713) 851-8419 and joellenfriedman@gmail.com.

Lost N Found Youth, Inc

Lost N Found Youth, Inc. is a non-profit that supports LGBTQ+ youth in local community. This month, the Atlanta Woman's Club participated in Lost N Found's lunch and learn holiday celebration on Dec 7th. To find out more about this organization and how to support you can contact Jennifer Spivey @ (404)272-3255 or Jen.Spivey@gmail.com, or you can contact Lost N Found Youth, Inc. directly @ Melanea Alvarez, Executive Director Mobile: (614) 402.7933

Yolanda Johnson, Chair

Janecia Heard, Co-Chair

EDUCATION & LIBRARIES

Education & Libraries CSP started November with eight volunteers meeting at Children Read on a Saturday morning. We cleaned and repaired used books and packed them into gift bags along with new books to be distributed to preschoolers in local Title I schools. **Don't forget to bring preschool level books for our book drive to the January meeting.**

The CSP also assisted the *Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled* in providing a talent show for the patrons of their services. AWC provided nine volunteers who guided the blind performers and guests through the Central Library to the auditorium to their seats. Several also checked in guests on arrival. Penny assisted the performers on and off the stage. All assisted the blind guests in navigating the building, elevators and the auditorium. We also helped serve food at the reception and found them seats at tables to eat. The talent show had great variety with memorable highlights. The blind MC had us all laughing. Some of his funniest remarks and the performers' reactions to them were hysterical. The guests had a great sense of humor and a love of music. There were several attendees who frequently danced in the aisles. All the AWC volunteers who participated agreed it was a great experience. We all left with a good feeling. *Please see photos

EDUCATION & LIBRARIES CONT'D



Sara June McDavid, Chair

Maria Krane Co-Chair

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

Officers

Connie Morris, President
Peggy Pruett, 1st Vice President (Membership Chair)
Darlene Kimes, 2nd Vice President (Dean of CSPs)
Gretchen Butler, Treasurer
Judy Reece, Assistant Treasurer
Pat Walsh, Recording Secretary
Sandie Clendon, Corresponding Secretary
Melissa Bernadel, Parliamentarian

Board of Trustees

Karen Clydesdale, Chair (2023-2025)
Yolanda Johnson, Co-Chair (2023-2025)
Connie Morris, AWC President (2022-2024)
Peggy Pruett, 1st Vice President (2022-2024)
Gretchen Butler, Treasurer (2022-2024)
Judy Reece, Asst. Treasurer (2023-2024)
Jo Dee Gonzalez, BOT Trustee (2022-2024)
Judine Heard, BOT Trustee (2022-2024)
Page Henry, BOT Trustee (2023-2025)
Lisa Banes, Former BOT Chair
Karen Bacheller, Former BOT Chair
Karen McDonald, Former BOT Chair
Myra Carmon, Former BOT Chair

Community Service Program Chairs

Darlene Kimes, 2nd Vice President & Dean of Community Service Programs
Jennifer Quinn, Chair/Jo Dee Gonzalez Co-Chair, Arts & Culture
Sara June McDavid, Chair/Maria Krane Co-Chair, Education and Libraries
Yolanda Johnson, Chair/Janecia Heard, Co-Chair, Civic Engagement and Outreach
Isabel Urrutia, Chair/Sandy Day Co-Chair, Health and Wellness
Meher Stevie, Chair/Judine Heard, Co-Chair, Environment

Committee Chairs

Sara June McDavid, Women's History
Barbara Washburn, Domestic Violence
Lucy Willard, Tallulah Falls School
Jo Dee Gonzalez, 1734 Society
Lisa Banes, A Seeded Event/Fundraising
Myra Carmon, LEADS
Penny Blackford, ESO Book Club
TBD, Peachtree Women's Writers Alliance
Cimi Douglass and Judy Reece, Website
Judy Reece, Communications/Weekly Bulletin
Sandra Langford, Member Events / Sunday Setup
Billie Harris, Newsletter Editor
Ursula Reynolds, Social Media