



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

The AWC has had a busy May with some very fun and interesting meetings. One event was our book club hosted by Melodie and Britton Rogers at their recently renovated home on Edgewood Avenue. The home is beautiful and Melodie and Britton are wonderful hostesses. Tayari Jones, the author of our book "An American Marriage", attended and presented some thoughts on characters and discussed the origin of the book. She was a delight. Book club is a good way to meet and get to know members in an informal setting. I encourage you to attend book club meetings. Melodie Rogers coordinates book club and recommends great books to read and always invites the authors to attend; since we read Georgia authors this is sometimes feasible.

Many of us have children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews with May being graduation time. It is exciting to see our family graduating from high school and preparing for college and college graduates preparing for life after college. Over the past two days I have attended two graduations as I am sure many of you have participated in these exciting events which may be long with 500 and 600 students in high school ceremonies. Best wishes to your graduates.

One thing we have discussed before is the members that are in assisted living and unable to attend meetings. Two of these members are Daisy Aukerman and Betty Daniels. Pat Walsh recently visited Daisy and Daisy said she did not have many visitors. Pat is taking Sarah Helen Killgore and Ruth Yurchuck to visit Daisy after the June meeting. I will have a sign-up sheet in hopes that some members will visit at least every 3-4 weeks. Daisy is at Lenbrook Square on Peachtree. We have not gotten any details for visiting Betty Daniels who is at 1800 Clairmont Lake assisted living facility. Well, summer is here with extreme

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temperatures and with the need for sun screen while you enjoy outdoor activities. Look for the best sunscreens recently researched. Best wishes for your summer vacations with families and friends. Be safe.

Myra Carmon, AWC President 2018-2020



MEMBERSHIP

Welcome New Members!!

At the last Meeting in May, we had 4 new members join the AWC....Christine Craig, Meher Stevie, Afshan Ishtiaq and Janea Cook. You can find their bios and photos below. Please introduce yourself to them and help them to feel welcome and excited to be a part of this great organization! The Spring Membership Mixer that we held on May 15th as an “after hours” event was very well attended and there were quite a few prospective new members there as well. We will not have any meetings in July or August, but keep an eye out for news on a daytime Membership activity that all will be invited to. If you have any thoughts or ideas, please let me know. I would love to hear them!

Have a wonderful summer and stay cool. Seems it will be a HOT one!



My name is **Meher Stevie**. I am a naturalized American. I was born in Pakistan, went to school in London and lived most of my professional life in Dubai. I'm proud of my heritage but love my new home in America.

I went to the Convent of Jesus & Mary, Kinnaird College, Imperial University, and London Metropolitan University. I have an MBA in Finance and I was on Dean honors list and a Master's in Human Resource Management on a full scholarship. I have 16 plus years of work experience in Human Resources (HR) companies such as Parsons, Bank Alfalah, Warid Telecom, Gold Team Recruitment Agency, and Mashreq Bank. I was employed for 10 years at Multinational General Electric which I believe is the best school of HR I have ever known. I have participated in various roles in HR such as Recruitment & Selection, University Relations, Compensation and Benefits, Organization & Development, HR Generalist,

Human Resource Manager and Human Resource Business Partner (HRBP). I have worked for various businesses such as Banking, Telecommunication, Health Care, Aviation, Transportation, Power, Energy, Industrial Solutions, Oil & Gas, and Digital Technology. Aside from the US, I have lived and worked globally in regions located in Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, and the UK. I have a thorough understanding of HR markets in Australia, China, and India.

I'm also the (pending) published author of the book “**House of HR**” about culture, adversity and the corporate journey of HR; this book serves as both a source of inspiration and guide to how the world of Human Resources works and evolves. The odds of my success were so miraculous, that I felt compelled to reach out to other inspiring business-minded men and women to make their journey more consistent. It is like having a road map, a compass, and a GPS. The script is a mixture of my personal story and my professional experience in the corporate world of Human Resources. I share some of the formal comprehensive overviews of Human Resource Principles and Practices that I gained primarily from corporate work experiences and some self-help lessons I learned as I trekked the combined path of corporate life and community living.

In addition to that, I am a licensed Certified Professional Coach and enjoy supporting individuals and corporations seeking advice. This occupation has supported me greatly in my community service. Being originally from Pakistan, I greatly understand the need for community service and have always been a part of it, wherever I have lived or worked. My experience varies from educational institutions, children with disability, old homes, hospitals, and woman welfare and

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empowerment. This has definitely added to my personal and professional growth. As for hobbies, I love Art and Culture. Few of my talents are around singing, dancing, debates, dramatics, sports, volunteer work, event planning, and media. I love to exercise, and I watch sports from time to time.

In the midst of all this, I met my husband, Ben, from Cincinnati, OH in 2009 in New York City, at General Electric Training center. We were married in 2010 and have a beautiful 4-year-old daughter, Bella, she's the center of our universe and we love spending as much time with her as possible. We love to travel and have been to over 55 countries together, enjoying the experience of meeting new people and new cultures.

I feel that my diverse background and talents in community work, art, and management, a rare combination that would help me contribute to social and community service at the Atlanta women club. At the same time, I would enrich myself from the sea of experiences, and mindsets of women. I strongly believe the relationship I will forge during this platform will stay with me for the rest of my life. This network, however, needs from my side an investment of time, effort, ideas, and activities. I hope I can be a part of this great organization.



I am **Janea Cook**, and I'm from Oakland, California. I have been in Georgia since 1998. I currently live in Douglasville, Paulding County, and have lived at my current residence for the past 5 years. I am a mother of 2, Irvin and Victoria, as well as a licensed Master Barber (since 2010). I recently opened a barbershop (Studio 77 Barbershop) in Douglasville. I love cutting hair, as it gives me the freedom to be me. I'm very creative and enjoy organizing. I also have a fascination with tools and working with my hands, which comes in handy with the home improvement projects that I do often.



My Name is **Afshan Ishtiaq**, I moved to Atlanta from Pakistan in 2000, currently I live in Lilburn with my husband Ishtiaq Karimi. We have a son Raheel (Program Manager at NCR) and a daughter (Director Health Care at Navigant Consulting).

I am a Senior Business & Technology leader with a unique mix of corporate and startup experience, leading successful portfolio & program delivery initiatives. I have been working in Digital TV and data storage industry. My passion for the development sector led me to serve for the organizations such as Women in Technology (WIT) and

Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplant (SIUT). These organizations focus on providing medical care and education initiatives.

MEMBERSHIP CONT'D



Christine Craig is the mother of two wonderful children, Chloe and Mac. She is an Army veteran, having served and supported combat and domestic operations for over 20 years. Her education consists of a Master's Certificate in Business Administration and a Master's Degree in Human Behavior, Capella University (Cum Laude) and a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice, Jacksonville State University graduating with special honors. Activities include spending time with her children, working full time and still finding time to volunteer. Christine has worked with her church, Turning Point Church, McDonough GA in community outreach, and the Atlanta Dream Center (Out of Darkness) whose mission is to combat human trafficking in Atlanta, GA and surrounding areas. Christine has also worked as a Court Appointed Special Advocate representing abused and neglected children. She testified in court on behalf of the child, visited the foster home, spent time with the child and interacted

with school officials. Being a part of the Atlanta Women's Club will bring another level of serving and satisfaction while providing outreach and assistance to the community.

Jo Dee Gonzalez, 1st Vice President, Membership Chair

A SEEDED EVENT

The Atlanta Woman's Club Seeded Event is Committee is in partnership with Women Veterans Interactive, an organization dedicated to improving the lives of women veterans during their transition back to civilian life. The "Jocks and Pearls" Atlanta Gala will take place on June 13th, 2019 at 7:00 pm at The Wimbish House. Emory University President Dr. Claire E. Sterk will deliver the keynote speech. The event is designed to utilize the influence of professional sports and professional athletes as vehicles to raise awareness and funds to support women veterans.

Our current fundraising chair, Karen Clydesdale, spoke on this special partnership: "When I first met Ginger Miller, our committee knew we had found the organization we were looking for. Ginger's passion, her devotion, and dedication to the cause are an inspiration to us all. The "Jocks and Pearls" event will be the highlight of our program this year."

Karen Clydesdale, A Seeded Event Chair

WOMEN'S HISTORY

The AWC History group will gather for a tour of the historically significant Clark Atlanta University Art Museum on Friday June 28th at 11 am. This tour has been specially designed for the AWC History group and will focus on the contributions of women who helped build the collection. Tour group size is limited so please RSVP to Leigh Reynolds (404-431-3726) no later than Friday June 21st.

Leigh Reynolds, Women's History Chair

INTERNATIONAL

International will be doing a toy collection for Operation Smile, we will also have dessert for sale to benefit Operation Smile. Operation Smile is endowed by GFWC-GA and is part of the International CSP's area of work.

Toys need to be suitable for small children who have had surgery. NO LIQUIDS, NO MILITARY TOYS, GUNS, FAKE KNIVES, or OTHER TOYS SUCH AS SOLDIERS.

PLEASE remember that the children have had mouth surgery so the idea is to keep their hands away from their mouths. You may go to the Operation Smile website for suggestions. Small stuffed animals, games, squeeze toys or balls, crayons and coloring books all will work. Thank you for your continued support of International.

Members who are interested in serving on the International Committee please let me know, my e-mail is pwalsh1@bellsouth.net.

Thank you,

Pat Walsh, International CSP Chair

PUBLIC ISSUES

Changing the street grid to make Midtown safer and more efficient

Midtown Alliance has announced that three one-way streets in Midtown are set to be converted to two-way traffic, and two new traffic signals will be installed, as part of a plan recently approved by the City of Atlanta and funded by the Midtown Improvement District. The goal is to create a "more intuitive street network" for drivers, especially visitors; improve pedestrian, bicycle and street-crossing safety; increase access to destinations; and reduce vehicle speeds.

The existing one-way street segments that will be converted to two-way are:

- **3rd Street**, from Spring Street to West Peachtree Street and Peachtree Street to Juniper Street

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- **4th Street**, from Spring Street to Myrtle Street
- **13th Street**, from Juniper Street to Piedmont Avenue. Traffic signals will be installed on 3rd and 4th at Peachtree Street.

The project is now out for bid, and construction, which will include milling and resurfacing, striping, signal installation and, in some cases, hardscaping and curb work, could begin by early summer.

Let's Talk Midtown

Stay in the know about our community by attending Let's Talk Midtown, a long-running series and networking hour designed to keep people who live, work, or have an interest in Midtown Atlanta up to date with new projects and programs. Get more details at midtownatl.com.

Thursday, June 20th

5:30-7:30 pm

Georgian Terrace Hotel, 659 Peachtree Street NE

Support Survivors, Support Prevention

GFWC is asking all members to help urge Congress to pass the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2019 (H.R. 1585), bipartisan legislation that will not only reauthorize VAWA grants but also make modest, yet vital, changes to existing law, including:

- investing in prevention
- ending impunity for non-Native perpetrators of sexual assault, child abuse co-occurring with domestic violence, stalking, sex trafficking, and assaults on tribal law enforcement officers on tribal lands
- improving enforcement of court orders that require adjudicated domestic abusers to relinquish their firearms
- improving access to housing for victims and survivors
- protecting victims of dating violence from firearm homicide
- helping survivors gain and maintain economic independence
- updating the federal definition of domestic violence for the purposes of VAWA grants to acknowledge the full range of abuse victims suffer (does not impact the criminal definition of domestic violence)
- maintaining existing protections for all survivors
- improving the healthcare system's response to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking

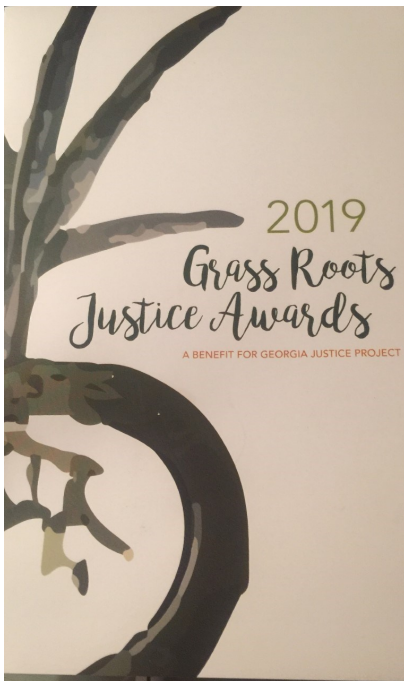
Write or call your Congressperson today, or submit your opinion through GFWC's Legislative Action Center at <http://cqrcengage.com/gfwc/app/write-a-letter?3&engagementId=497633>

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Atlanta Streets Alive: Cross-City

Walk or cycle from through 21 neighborhoods, from Underwood Hills to Decatur, on almost 10 miles of open streets all across town, as Streets Alive connects East and West into one safe, cohesive, car-free party! The official street opening starts at the junction of Marietta Street and Howell Mill Road, followed by the route parade (parade lineup is at 1:30 pm). Free bicycle decorations are available while supplies last, and you can enter or exit the parade at any cross street. FREE and FUN for all ages. For details, see atlantastreetsalive.com/cross-city.

Saturday, June 9th 2-8 pm



Members of the Atlanta Woman's Club attended the Georgia Justice Project 2019 Grass Roots Justice Awards dinner on May 9th at the Delta Museum. The GJP strengthens our community by demonstrating a better way to represent and support individuals in the criminal justice system and reduce barriers to reentry. The AWC has supported GJP with financial donations and volunteering at their Back to School Project and their Holiday Party.



Lisa Banes, Public Issues CSP Chair

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT

LINDSEY GARLAND

Development Associate

Georgia Budget & Policy Institute

June 10th guest speaker, presented by Public Issues CSP Lisa Banes

As development associate, Lindsey Garland is primarily responsible for executing the Georgia Budget & Policy Institute's annual fundraising strategy and operations.

Prior to joining GBPI last year, Lindsey worked as a Fellow for the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation, where she supported grant work related to health, education, economic opportunity, arts and culture. She was a Fulbright Scholar to Athens, Greece in 2015.

Originally from Little Rock, Arkansas, Lindsey is a graduate of Agnes Scott College with degrees in political science and history. She is currently pursuing a master's in Educational Policy Studies at Georgia State University.

About GBPI

"The Georgia Budget and Policy Institute is working to build a more inclusive economy. We believe Georgia can be a state where everyone has a chance at a decent job so they can raise a family, can go to a doctor when they get sick and attend great public schools."

"We examine the state's budget, taxes and public policies to provide thoughtful analysis and responsible solutions. We educate the public about complex issues confronting Georgia. Our aim is to inspire informed debate and decision-making, advancing our vision of a state in which economic opportunity and well-being are widely shared among all Georgians."

An independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization founded in 2004, GBPI conducts timely analysis of the state's annual budget and the legislative process that shapes it. Each January it produces and publicizes an analysis of Georgia's proposed budget, then details its evolution through the Legislature, offering specific constructive recommendations along the way. Once the governor signs the budget, GPBI takes stock of the final document to summarize both the good and the bad.

Year-round, GBPI looks outside Georgia for successful policies and ideas that can help Georgia become a better place. GPBI also engages with communities throughout the state by participating in panel discussions, media events and conversations in public forums, outreach that shares its latest research with a wide variety of audiences. State elected officials and other policymakers rely on GPBI's research and recommendations to help them make decisions critical to Georgia's future.

For more details on GPBI and its important work, see www.gbpi.org.

ARTS

On **Saturday, June 8th from 1:30p - 3:30pm**, the Arts CSP will visit ZuCot Gallery (100 Centennial Olympic Park Dr. SW, Atlanta, GA 30313) for an “**Art Tasting**”. The Art Tasting is a free signature event that goes in depth with educating the community on the intricacies of art appreciation to include (but not limited to), the creation of a piece, materials and mediums used, and the art of collecting art. It is an informal, interactive way to explore art, with an open forum discussion led by gallery owner, Onaje Henderson and local renowned artist, Aaron Henderson.



This will also be the **final opportunity** to view their current exhibit **HER.**, featuring the art of African American Women who are staying true to their styles and perspectives as the art world gradually learns that *HER* voice matters. This exhibit is **Her Story. Her Passion. Her Voice. Her Heart. Her Art.** Please RSVP via email to Billie Harris at hawcinc@live.com to attend.

Arts CSP will continue our ongoing volunteer project with drawchange on **Monday, June 17th from 3:15pm-4:30pm**, which will repeat on every 3rd Monday each month. We will assist 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 at hawcinc@live.com to volunteer.

Billie Harris, Arts CSP Chair

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