



Atlanta Woman's Club



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

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March 2019 Issue

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring is on the way which is difficult to comprehend with all the rain we have had. Although driving around town and seeing the cherry trees blooming and daffodils shooting up, I know we are ready. To begin March, we have Women's History to celebrate.

March is designated as History Month by Presidential proclamation. This month is set aside to honor women's contribution to history. Women's History began in Santa Rosa, California as a local celebration.

An Education Task Force in Sonoma County (California) planned and executed "Women's History Week" in 1978. The organizers selected the week of March 8th to correspond with International Women's Day. The movement spread across the country. In 1980, women's groups and historians, led by the National Women's History Alliance, successfully lobbied for national recognition. In February 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8th as National Women's History Week. Presidents continued to recognize the week of March 8th as Women's History Week until 1987 when Congress passed Public Law 100-9, designating March as "Women's History Month."

Since 1995, each president has issued the proclamation designating March as Women's History Month. There is a theme each year for National Women's Month selected by the National Women's History Alliance. The theme for 2019 is "Visionary Women: Champions of Peace and Nonviolence." This theme honors "women who have led efforts to end war, violence, and injustice and pioneered the use of nonviolence

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT'D

to change society.”

Women's History and women's rights have come a long way but we continue to have work to do to get ERA passed in Georgia. The National GFWC Office as well as the National Women's History Alliance have events planned for the month in Washington, DC.

Information from <http://www.womenshistory.org>

Remember District Meeting on March 23rd in Cartersville. The call is announced so please register.

Myra Carmon, AWC President 2018-2020



PUBLIC ISSUES

Only One More State Is Needed: Let's Make Georgia Great as #38

It's not a new idea, but it's still a good one. It's the Equal Rights Amendment.

It was first introduced in 1923. By 1970, four sitting presidents – Republicans Dwight D. Eisenhower and Richard Nixon, and Democrats John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson – had endorsed the Equal Rights Amendment. [Source: <http://theconversation.com/in-2019-womens-rights-are-still-not-explicitly-recognized-in-us-constitution-108150>] In 1972, it passed both houses of Congress. Thirty states ratified the amendment quickly, soon followed by five more.

At its 1979 deadline, the ERA remained just three votes shy of the requirement for three-quarters of the states' legislatures (38) to vote in favor. Nevada has now ratified in (in 2017), as has Illinois (in 2018). That means only one more state needs to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment – and GFWC believes Georgia should be the state that captures this honorable place in history.

That's why GFWC Georgia is partnering with Equal Rights Amendment Georgia, Corp., a non-partisan, non-profit 501(c)4 organization, to seek the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment in Georgia. Other partners supporting this amendment include the League of Women Voters of Georgia and the American Association of University Women of Georgia.

According to Georgia's equalmeansequal.org, "On January 14, 2019, State Rep. Billy Mitchell (D-Stone Mountain) introduced HR 16 ratifying the ERA. The bill was read a first time on January 15, 2019 and a second time a day later on January 16, 2019. HR 16 is currently in the House Judiciary Committee. In the Senate, the bill is SR 66, introduced by Sen. Nan Orrock (D), Sen. Renee Unterman (R), and a bipartisan group of others.

NOW is the time to lobby your senators and representatives by email or phone calls to demand they support the ERA. You can find your legislators' names and contact information at <https://openstates.org/ga/legislators/>.

For information about the ERA in Georgia, see <http://www.ratifyerageorgia.com/> and <http://equalmeansequal.org/states/georgia/>.

Text from The General Federation of Women's Clubs 2018-2019 Resolutions, fully revised and updated June 2018:

WHEREAS, The United States Constitution does not guarantee equality of status for women, except with regard to the right to vote, and will guarantee equality of other rights only when an amendment for the purpose is included therein; and

WHEREAS, Lack of ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) continuously jeopardizes women's parity with men in the areas of health care, violence, education and employment; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs reaffirms its support and urges the immediate ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) which would provide that equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of gender.

PUBLIC ISSUES CONT'D

Want to know what the proposed Medicaid expansion and waivers mean to Georgia?

The Georgia Budget & Policy Institute produces objective, nonpartisan fact sheets on a range of Georgia policy areas. Learn about “two possible paths to extending health coverage” at <https://gbpi.org/2019/medicaid-expansion-and-waiver>.

March Events to Consider:

A Conversation About The Obstacles Veterans Face in the Civilian Workplace

Seats are limited so register now to hear experts explore Georgia’s role in dealing with the unconscious bias veterans confront in the civilian workplace. Hosted by The New York Times and Emory University President Claire Sterk, the event panel includes:

John Ismay, At War staffer for The New York Times;

Vivian Greentree, Ph.D., Navy veteran, military spouse and current SVP of global corporate citizenship at First Data;

Jason Dozier, Army veteran and director of program operations and evaluation at Hire Heroes USA;

Ginger Miller, disabled veteran, veteran’s spouse, business owner, and CEO and founder of Women Veterans Interactive, one of the organizations currently working with AWC’s A Seeded Event. A Seeded Event will be hosting Women Veterans Interactive at Jocks and Pearls Gala and Silent Auction, a fundraising event at The Wimbish House in June.

Tuesday, March 19, reception, 5:30-6:30 pm; panel, 6:30-7:30 pm.

Emory University Schwartz Center for Performing Arts, 1700 N. Decatur Road.

Park free at Fishburne Parking Deck, 1672 N. Decatur Road.

Reservations at <https://timesevents.nytimes.com/emory/TIHD>.

Women in Sports Leadership: a screening of “Breaking Barriers: Sports for Change,” created in partnership with ESPN, followed by a community dialogue.

Thursday, March 21, 7-8:30 pm

Center for Civil and Human Rights, 100 Ivan Allen Jr. Boulevard, Atlanta 30313, www.civilandhumanrights.org

Lisa Banes, Public Issues CSP Chair

HOME LIFE

Home Life Committee is asking all Clubwomen to bring in items to the March meeting so we can assemble HOPE Bags for HOPE Atlanta to distribute to the homeless in their community outreach program. For those who were not assigned items at the February meeting, a list of needed items is as follows:



Catherine Smith, Home Life CSP Chair

PHOENIX FLIES

Phoenix Flies volunteer opportunities are available for both days of event (Friday, March 22 at 10 am and 2 pm) and other behind-the-scenes pre-event planning roles. Please contact Leigh Reynolds at 404-431-3726 to volunteer.

Leigh Reynolds, Women's History Chair

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Board of Trustees Election will be held at the March 11 general meeting to fill 2 positions on the Board of Trustees for the 2019-21 term (June to June). As you select two Trustees, please take time to consider the Board's important responsibilities as outlined by AWC's by-laws listed below. It is important to elect Trustees with the experience, interest, availability, expertise, and collaboration skills necessary to serve effectively. According to the bylaws, Article VII, BOT members shall serve for a term of two (2) years. Therefore, in even and odd numbered years the Board of Trustees will have positions that will expire and will continually need to be filled. This year because we are in an odd numbered year, two positions will expire and should be filled. Please know that BOT members are eligible to serve again on the Board Trustees should they agree to run again. According to our Standing Rules, Articles VI, Section 1, Subsection C6 "The report of the Committee (the slate) should be prepared by the Nominating Chair and posted at the Club at least ten days prior to the March election date. The slate should also be sent to the newsletter editor for inclusion in the edition that immediately precedes the election. The names of Committee members should be included on the posted slate and in the newsletter." The report from the Nominating Committee is as follows: The Nominating Committee has received the following nominations (listed in alphabetical order) for the two positions on the Atlanta Woman's Club Board of Trustees for the 2019-21 term. Each nominee has signed the Consent-to-Serve form and supplied a bio as included here:

The following segment from the By Laws, outlines in more detail the qualifications and responsibilities of the Members that comprise the Board of Trustees:

ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Section 1 – Composition: The Board of Trustees (BOT) shall consist of four (4) elected trustees, the Club president, first vice president, treasurer and assistant treasurer, past BOT chairs in good standing, and the parliamentarian or parliamentary advisor, who serves but has no right to vote. Two (2) trustees shall be elected on odd numbered years and two (2) trustees shall be elected on even-numbered years. The elected members serve for a term of two (2) years.

Section 2 - Qualifications and Restrictions: A candidate for trustee shall have been a member of the Club for at least two years with regular attendance and active participation. An elected trustee may not serve on the Nominating Committee.

Section 3 – Officers: The BOT shall elect from its members a chair, a co-chair and a secretary. These officers shall serve for a term of two (2) years. The co-chair shall fulfill the duties of chair in her absence or inability to serve and shall automatically succeed to the office of chair in case of a vacancy.

Section 4 – Vacancies: If a vacancy occurs on the BOT, it shall be addressed by the Nominating Committee with an election occurring at the following regular meeting.

Section 5 – Duties: The duties of the BOT shall be to: 1. Supervise and direct property and finances of the Club and its facilities. The Club holds title to the property of The Atlanta Woman's Club, also known as The Wimbish House (clubhouse), at 1150 Peachtree Street NE and 1150-B Peachtree Street NE. 2. Direct all agreements and contracts made on behalf of or in the name of the Club for management, use and upkeep of the facility. 3. Maintain clubhouse property and grounds. All major improvements or major repairs must be approved by the Executive Board. 4.

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Negotiate loans subject to approval by the Executive Board and Club members. 5. Develop and maintain job descriptions for persons employed by the BOT. These job descriptions must be kept on file in the clubhouse and should include necessary skills, salary range and duties for each position. 6. Chair and co-chair of BOT serve on the Budget Committee. 7. Chair of BOT signs checks in accordance with Article XII, Section 5.

Section 6 – Meetings: The BOT shall meet prior to each monthly general meeting, second Monday of each month, September through June, except in April. The chair of the BOT may call BOT meetings as needed. Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum. A trustee may be removed from the Board if she is absent from three (3) regularly scheduled Board meetings in one fiscal year.

Section 7 – Electronic Voting: The BOT chair can call for electronic votes when necessary for a timely decision. The subject, the motion and second, and the results of electronic votes are documented at the next general BOT session. Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 8 – Staff: The BOT shall employ or contract adequate staff for proper functioning of the Club including upkeep, maintenance and financial services. The facility staff shall work under the supervision of the BOT chair. The financial staff shall work under the supervision of the treasurer and/or assistant treasurer. A professional auditor shall be employed on a retainer basis. Legal advice shall be obtained as needed. Section 9 - Employment No member of the Club or her immediate family shall be permanently employed by the Club. The BOT shall be the final authority for employment matters.

Biographical Summaries:

Gretchen Butler

Office sought: Trustee

Club member since: 2016

List positions held in GFWC AWC: Seeded Event Committee Member, Chair Education CSP

List District and State positions held in GFWC GA: Corresponding Secretary, NW District

Why are you seeking this position?

In the 2 1/2 years I have been a member of Atlanta Woman's Club I have grown to have a deep appreciation for the fellowship and commitment to volunteerism within our membership. Rarely have I had the opportunity to interact with people who are so giving and supportive. I am seeking a position on the Board of Trustees so that I can use my particular talents to give back to AWC and its membership by contributing to the best decisions for its governance and upkeep.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

What do you feel you can bring to this position?

I have a skill set uniquely suited to a position on the Board of Trustees. I have spent the last 20 years working in nonprofit arts administration, and one of my key duties is to coordinate with the Boards of the organizations I work for. That has given me the opportunity to learn from many incredible board members. I have taken that knowledge and put it to work as a Trustee of my church, and have been the Chair of those Trustees since January of 2018. I am thoughtful, level-headed, and have decades of nonprofit experience that will be a valuable resource to the AWC board.

Donna G. Foland

Office sought: Trustee (Board of Trustees)

Club member since: 2008

List positions held in GFWC AWC:

Current: BOT Midtown Community Liaison (non-voting special appointment)

Previous: Parliamentarian; Trustee; Education CSP chair (focus on Hope-Hill and Thomasville Heights elementary schools); Publicity committee chair; BOT representative to Midtown Alliance; BOT liaison to City of Atlanta and City Council on commercial issues including property assessment, property tax negotiations, water/sanitation, and business licensing

List District and State positions held in GFWC GA: Tallulah Falls School Board of Trustees, 2014-2020

Why are you seeking this position?

My current role is an appointed, non-voting position on the BOT. With election to a full seat on the Board, I will be able to continue and build upon my successful work on behalf of the Atlanta Woman's Club and The Wimbish House. Because AWC's property will face considerable physical, operational and financial pressures as a result of surrounding development and construction, including issues around parking, encroachment, renovation, and property use, my professional insights and contacts will continue to be a valuable resource.

What do you feel you can bring to this position?

As founder and principal of DGF Properties, Inc., a commercial real estate management and consulting services company headquartered in Midtown since 1993, I bring valuable expertise as an entrepreneur, asset manager, real estate pro, and community stakeholder (one of only two fe-

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male commercial property owners in Midtown) – as well as collaborative contacts with Midtown property owners, developers, and city tax, planning and regulatory agencies – to help inform important decisions. For example, my participation was instrumental in reducing AWC’s property tax rate by more than half; working with City Hall to favorably resolve an ongoing and potentially expensive water dispute; and negotiating contracts and agreements with large developers, including parking allotments, boundary agreements, and construction schedules. I hope to also mentor our tenant, the new owners of Opera, as they rebrand and redevelop their business.

Over my 25+ year career, I have built a reputation and earned awards for bringing parties together to collaborate successfully on large projects. I believe those skills will be very beneficial to the BOT.

Billie F. Harris

Office Sought: Board of Trustees

Current Positions Held: Arts CSP Chair, Newsletter Editor, North West District Community Involvement Chair

Atlanta Woman’s Club Member since May 2013

I’ve been a very active member since joining The Atlanta Woman’s Club, and have had the pleasure of volunteering with all 6 of the Community Service Projects as well as the Special Projects. It has always been important to me to learn more about the Atlanta Woman’s Club, as well as the General Federation of Woman’s Clubs. I accomplish this by regularly attending the General Monthly Meetings, District Meetings, Institute, State Convention, Regional Convention, LEADS, and Leadership Workshops. I’ve proudly served my community through the appointed position of Arts Community Service Project Chair for 3 consecutive terms, currently serving in the 3rd term. In addition, I’ve also had the privilege of serving our members as the Atlanta Woman’s Club Newsletter Editor for the past 5 years.

I am extremely honored to have been nominated for the position of Board of Trustees. This nomination has further confirmed my display of leadership in our club, and success in establishing positive and impactful relationships with our members and our community. I am confident that if elected to the Board of Trustees, I will serve with an open mind, an understanding of the needs of our club, a knowledge of the duties and responsibilities of being on the Board of Trustees, and a continued dedication to representing the Atlanta Woman’s Club with pride and dignity.

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Page Henry

Graduated from Bauder College, Atlanta, GA with a degree in Fashion Merchandising and Textiles. BA in Marketing at Guilford College in Greensboro, NC.

I started my career working as an assistant buyer for Davidson's (Macy's) in Atlanta, GA, followed by working as a sales rep for a clothing company covering the five boroughs in NYC. I moved back to Atlanta and worked as a seminar facilitator for the Franklin Cover Company. I have raised two wonderful daughters and I have 6 beautiful grandbabies age 5 and younger. I have reinvented myself and partnered with my husband 16 years ago and started a Real Estate business/career as a Realtor with Harry Norman Realtors. I'm honored to consistently place among the top 3% of sales company-wide for the past fifteen years. I was asked to serve on Harry Norman's Advisory Board for the past twelve years and as chairman of this Board for two years. I was very humbled in receiving the Harry Norman Realtor's Company-Wide President's Award which recognizes and honors the sales associate who has distinguished themselves in the industry, in the community and in their professional and civic organizations. The President's award represents the sharing of resources for the betterment of the metropolitan Atlanta community. My oldest daughter, Trisha, is a cancer survivor and I have run many marathons and half marathons for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (TNT) fundraising for cancer research in passing it forward.

I fell in love with the country of Estonia, the orphans there and the street children of Estonia and have led Mission Teams to Estonia since 2001. I'm serving on the Board of Trustees for the Friends of Estonia, a global group working together to create, renew and sustain relationships between both continents.

I have been a member of the Atlanta Woman's Club since 2010, served on the Board of Trustees as Assistant Treasure two consecutive terms, 2012-2016. I served as the Domestic Violence chairperson for four years, 2014-2018 and was tapped by Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence to serve on the Women Business Leaders Group in Atlanta championing legislation and systems policy that improve the lives of survivors. In the 5th District (now the NW district), I served as Arts chairperson in 2014. I'm presently serving as AWC Conservation chairperson 2018-2020.

My knowledge about the AWC and previous experience serving on the Board of Trustees and Executive Board will be a huge asset.

The heart of a club or the catalyst for success is based upon the proper mindset being ever present, and as such, leading to extra efforts and a CONTAGIOUS SPIRIT for EVERYONE. THIS IS MY MINDSET!

Thanks for the opportunity,

Page Henry

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Jamila Negesti Porter

Office Sought: Board of Trustee

Club Member since: 2015

Position held in GFWC AWC: Elected 2017 into Nominating Committee

Why are you seeking this position?

In my heart I hold dear the principles instilled by the Atlanta Woman's Club, which include selfless volunteerism, promotion of charity, and economic and social advancement of the community. My strong belief in these principles have influenced me to become more involved in a capacity which embodies that of a leader. Having said this, I have a strong desire to devote my time and professional skills into a position which will support the clubhouse, the governing structure of the club, and the advancement of our mission, which gives life to the moral principles in that which we acquire and live by.

What do you feel you can bring to this position?

Throughout my life I have attained a deep understanding of philanthropy, support of charity, aiding the poor in need, and assisting those that require justice. I have embarked upon many professional experiences and community service projects that have prepared me with the accomplishments necessary to play a successful role as a Trustee. I bring these character-building experiences to this position.

In 2002, I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Business as principal oboist at Howard University. Immediately, upon graduation I became an Officer Manager and Trainer for a nonprofit corporation in Westbury, NY. My community involvement flourished, as I was employed to aid in organizing community events, train and supervise youth employees, and manage a community summer lunch program for needy families, among other office duties.

I have served in major roles as an Educator and Education Program Coordinator for a total of fourteen years. I studied Biology Education on the graduate level in New York, while facilitating the 504 Program, a law aiding special needs students in the Uniondale Public Schools System. Mentoring youth, advising and navigating parents through the many facets of the 504 Program were some of the responsibilities I took on. In addition to this, I exercised mediation responsibilities and managed confidential records, while working closely with administrators and healthcare staff to deliver appropriately services required by law.

Another role which has prepared me with accomplishments include community event organizer with the nonprofit organization, the Historical Westside Cultural Arts Council, for the Annual Festival of Lights and the Black History Program (2015-2016), under the leadership of Mamie Moor. These community events allowed me to reach out to the underprivileged, offering various services and recreational activities to help educate and assist with the social, moral, and cultural upliftment of Atlanta's historical community.

Skills I have developed, which I will bring to the Board of Trustee position include program management, community events organization, client management, training and develop-

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ment, conversion of ideas into logical strategies, and implementation of systems that optimize productivity.

To date, I am currently an educator in the City Schools of Decatur, and a Patient Care Technician in the Atlanta Metro Area. I am a former member of the Peachtree Woman's Writers Alliance (2015-2017). I am an aspiring author, and the themes in my work concentrate on the issues and historical devices that surround women and their positions in society, both internationally and culturally. My strongest desires are to give back to the community and to breathe life into the Atlanta Woman's Club with my peers, lending from my diverse background and experiences.

Jamila Porter

". . . For the land of the free and the home of the brave."

Nominating Committee

Judine Heard, Nominating Committee Chair

Billie Harris

Beth Jetha

Leigh Reynolds

Sarah June McDavid, Parliamentarian

Alternates: Lexa King and Pat Walsh

ARTS

Arts CSP will continue our ongoing volunteer project with drawchange on **Monday, March 18th, 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. There will be a sign up sheet at the general meeting.

Billie Harris, Arts CSP Chair

hawcinc@live.com

678-617-8511

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

Officers

Myra Carmon, President
Jo Dee Gonzalez, 1st Vice President
Connie Morris, 2nd Vice President
Judy Reece, Recording Secretary
LaTonya Jordan, Treasurer
Penny Blackford, Assistant Treasurer
Ruth Yurchuck, Corresponding Secretary
Sara June McDavid, Parliamentarian

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Sara June McDavid, Secretary (2018-2020)
LaTonya Jordan, Treasurer (2018-2020)
Penny Blackford, Asst. Treasurer (2018-2020)
Myra Carmon, AWC President (2018-2020)
Jo Dee Gonzalez, AWC 1st Vice President (2018-2020)
Karen Clydesdale (2018-2020)
Cimi Douglass (2018-2020)
Donna Foland, Community Liaison (2018-2020)
Karen Bacheller, Past BOT Chair

Community Service Program Chairs

Connie Morris, Dean of Community Service Programs
Billie Harris, Arts
Page Henry, Conservation
Gretchen Butler, Education
Catherine Smith, Home Life
Pat Walsh, International Outreach
Lisa Banes, Public Issues

Committee Chairs

Cimi Douglass, President's Advisor/GFWC Liaison
Sarah Helen Kilgore, Historian
Leigh Reynolds, Women's History
Lucy Willard, Tallulah Falls School
Karen Bacheller, 1734 Society
Karen Clydesdale, A Seeded Event/Fundraising
Judine Heard/LEADS/GFWC GA Home Life
Melodie Rogers, ESO Book Club
Karen Johnson, Peachtree Women's Writers Alliance
Carol Boaz and Billie Harris, Girl Scouts (GFWC & GFWC GA Special Project)
Cimi Douglass and Judy Reece, Website
Lisa Banes, Marketing/Public Relations
Judy Reece, Member Events/Communications/Weekly Bulletin/Bridge
Britton Rogers, Social Media
Billie Harris, Newsletter Editor