



Atlanta Woman's Club



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

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March 2020 Issue

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings from another rainy day in Atlanta. I know all of us are ready for sunshine. It appears to be sunshiny on Friday February 21st, Arbor Day, to plant trees. March is Women's History month, Dr. Seuss Day on March 2nd, election of officers for the Atlanta Woman's Club and Arbor Day in Georgia. Arbor Day was founded in Nebraska in the 1870's by Julius Sterling Morton who moved to the state and purchased land that was a desolate plain. He advocated for the ecological importance of planting trees and Arbor Day was started.

GFWC is planning an event to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Women winning the Right to Vote. The celebration of the suffrage movement includes writing to members of Congress asking them to support the Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act. GFWC strongly supports the passage of H.R. 1923 and S.2427, The Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program. This Act would create a new series of commemorative circulating coins which highlight women suffragists and other GFWC members that were on the forefront of women's suffrage with the delegation marching in the 1913 Suffrage Parade on Pennsylvania Ave. Many of the leaders of the suffrage movement were GFWC members including Carrie Chapman Catt, Jane Adams, and Lizzie Crozier French, Ellen Henrotin and Sarah Decker Platt; the last two were GFWC presidents. A formal endorsement came in 1924 with a resolution supporting "political equality of men and women." GFWC is planning a Women's History Event at the national office on March 5th called *Amending America: How Women Won the Vote featuring Kate Campbell Stevenson*.

On March 2nd, Dr. Seuss Day is celebrated. All clubs are working toward the goal of donating 5000 more books by June 2020. GFWC has participated in these birthday parties over the years with some of the approaches including: raising awareness about bullying, sponsoring an event at a public library, distributing books across school districts, engaging public officials in the events. There are websites that give ideas

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on how to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday such as Seusville.com. The AWC and the NW District have participated in donating Dr. Seuss books.

The election of officers will take place at our March meeting. Thanks to all members submitting their names for office. This is a commitment of leadership for a 2-year period. These officers will lead and represent the AWC in many ways. They have prepared information about their abilities to perform the duties of the office they have agreed to take. The officers to elect are: President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and two Board of Trustee members.


Phoenix Flies is on March 27th. Help is still needed with this event. There are many other CSP events that you can see and participate in that are shown in the Weekly. Thanks to Judy for her keeping everyone informed with all of her communication.

AWC March meeting is March 9th and the NW District meeting is March 21st.

Myra Carmon, AWC President 2018-2020





GFWC INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



GEORGIA
HOLLYWOOD OF THE SOUTH

GFWC Convention at the Sheraton Atlanta
located at 165 Courtland Street in
Downtown Atlanta
June 24-30, 2020





<p>Business Meetings Door Pages</p> <p>You will greet everyone with a warm smile and Hello and ensure that all entering the meeting have a name badge.</p>	<p>Table Hostess</p> <p>You will be the Georgia representative at the table. You will help keep the conversation going and making everyone feel welcome to Georgia. If the only time you can attend is to serve as a State Night Table Hostess, you do not have to pay the convention registration</p>	<p>Georgia Welcome Table</p> <p>You will Welcome ladies and offer them snacks and drinks and help keep this table replenished with items donated.</p>
<p>Meal Event Door Pages</p> <p>You will greet everyone with a warm smile and Hello and take meal tickets at the doors.</p>	<p>Tour Hostess and Bus Captains</p> <p>You will help ensure everyone taking the tour is on the bus. You will help distribute the drink/snack totes.</p>	<p>Sign Up</p> <p>There is a sign up link on our website. www.gfwcgeorgia.org Or email us at Ida Dorvee, 2020 GFWC GA Chairman idadorvee@gmail.com Julie Walters, 2020 GFWC GA Co-Chairman lude128@aol.com</p>

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PUBLIC SAFETY REMINDER: The Wimbish House is a weapons-free facility.

As a privately-owned property, The Wimbish House is allowed to opt out of Georgia’s Safe Carry Protection Act and clear notices to that effect are posted on site and included in our event contracts. Anyone – member, visitor or guest – in possession of a weapon of any kind will be asked to leave the premises, subject to arrest for criminal trespass. The only exception is paid security staff while on duty.

Ladies, please do not ever bring weapons of any kind to The Wimbish House premises. If you usually carry a weapon, it should be left at home or secured in your vehicle before you enter the property. The police will be called any time this policy is violated, and this policy will be equally enforced.

Thank you for your cooperation and compliance.

MEMBERSHIP

Hello ladies! At the February meeting we had one new member join, however she was unable to attend. Hopefully in March I will be able to introduce her to everyone and I know she is ready to get busy and get involved in the AWC! Her name is Saira Shakir and her photo and bio are below. Please welcome her at the March meeting and make her feel “at home!”



Saira G. Shakir is an Associate with Vernis & Bowling’s General Liability Defense Litigation Group in the Atlanta, Georgia office. Ms. Shakir applies her background in complex litigation matters – including from the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. – to zealously advocate on behalf on her clients and provide solutions to a variety of issues.

Ms. Shakir received her J.D. from Emory University School of Law in Atlanta, Georgia. While at Emory Law, she served as the Director of Emory Law’s National Moot Court Competition– The Civil Rights and Liberties Competition. Ms. Shakir served on the Emory Moot Court Society’s Seigenthaler-Sutherland Team. She received the Order of the Barrister upon graduation for her active membership in Moot Court Society. Ms. Shakir received her B.A. from the Rutgers University-New Brunswick, graduating summa cum laude, and a member of Phi Beta Kappa along with Douglass Residential College (formerly known as Douglass College, the New Jersey College for Women).

Raised in Knoxville, Tennessee, Ms. Shakir is a lifelong supporter of the Tennessee Vols. Though she truly loves Atlanta, Ms. Shakir enjoys spending her free time with her family, cheering for the Saints. Ms. Shakir resides in Buckhead, and enjoys going to the lake in her hometown of Far-ragut, Tennessee whenever she can.

DUES!

Many thanks to all of you who have paid your dues before the cut-off date. If you have not paid by the end of the March meeting your name will be removed from the 2020 Roster and the new directory which is printed over the summer. If you have had any issues while trying to pay online please let me know.

The Annual Membership Tea

The Annual Membership Tea is fast approaching (early April) so keep an eye out for your invitation arriving sometime in the next few weeks. Also there will be notices about it in the Weekly Update which is sent to your email every Monday morning. Guests of members are always welcome so start thinking about your “guest list”. And of course...dust off your favorite hat! Although not required, they are always fun!

Don’t forget to check the Update and Newsletter for information from the CSPs and be aware of the volunteer opportunities that are offered to all of us. And remember the mission of the AWC.....“To encourage our members to become interested, involved citizens of the community by engaging in charitable activities that benefit the community as a whole.”

Looking forward to seeing you all in March. Happy Spring! Stay warm! Seems that the weather can’t quite make up its mind!!

Jo Dee Gonzalez, 1st Vice President, Membership

PUBLIC ISSUES

GA Leaders Face Choice Between Tax Cuts for High Income Earners and Funding Key State Priorities

Amid ongoing budget cuts, three major proposals being considered by Georgia lawmakers could have significant implications for taxpayers and state revenues, according to the latest report from the Georgia Budget & Policy Institute:

House Bill 918 would lower the state's top income tax rate again, a move that would cost the state about \$615 million per year and send the majority of the savings to the state's highest earners at the expense of low- and middle-income families.

House Bill 432 would create a flat tax that raises taxes for an estimated 647,000 low- and middle-income households across Georgia. It would also direct 84% of the total savings to corporations and the top 5% of households in the state.

House Bill 588 would create a state-level Earned Income Tax Credit that offers a modest, non-refundable tax cut to low- and moderate-income families earning up to \$56,000 per year.

Shouldn't Georgia seek tax reform that allows the state to increase revenue collections while simultaneously reducing the amount of taxes owed by many low- to middle-income taxpayers?

Want to become better informed about the state of Georgia's priorities? For more specific information, detailed graphs and a downloadable pdf, go to <https://gbpi.org/2020/georgia-leaders-face-choice-between-tax-cuts-for-high-income-earners-and-funding-key-state-priorities/>. Then make sure your legislators know your views.

ATTORNEYS: Register for Georgia Justice Project's March Madness CLE, ADDRESSING LEGAL RE-ENTRY NEEDS THROUGH PRO BONO

Returning citizens released from prison face significant legal barriers to successful reentry, including a lack of access to legal services. This program examines the unique role of Reentry Lawyering by providing background on Georgia's criminal justice system, the civil and criminal legal barriers facing citizens returning to society, and legal remedies to address these barriers, such as include resolving active detainers, reinstating suspended driver's licenses, modifying child support arrears, and expunging criminal records. GJP and the Atlanta Bar Association will detail opportunities to engage in meaningful pro bono reentry lawyering in Atlanta. 2 CLE Hours, 1 Professionalism Credit

Tuesday, March 10, 9-11:15 am

Schedule:

8:30-9	Registration & Check In
9-10	Our Criminal Justice System and Access to Justice
10-10:15	Break
10:15-11:15	Legal Barriers to Successful Reentry and Professionalism's Response

PUBLIC ISSUES CONT'D

Presenters:

Hsindy Chen, GJP Staff Attorney

Rachel Holmes, GJP Senior Staff Attorney

Ross Brockway, GJP Staff Attorney

Register at <https://www.atlantabar.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1293923&group=>. For more information, contact Molly Scott at Molly@GJP.org.

Lisa Banes, Public Issues CSP Chair

AWC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP TEA

GFWC AWC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP TEA – April 5, 2020

Spring is fast approaching and that means that flowers will be blooming and soon it will be Tea Time at the Wimbish House.



Mark your calendars. Our annual membership tea will be Sunday April 5th from two to four o'clock in the afternoon. As is tradition, we will be mailing invitations to AWC members and guests; we will also do an online invite.

If you would like to invite a guest or a potential member, please send their postal address or email contact information to Judy Reece at events@atlwc.org so that we can extend your guests a special invitation.

Watch for more upcoming information about the tea, RSVP's and needed volunteers.

Judy Reece, Member Events

CONSERVATION



The Conservation CSP will host the March 9, 2020 General Meeting. We are honored to have Sylvia Villalobos and TJ David, co-creators of International World Peace Rose Gardens (IWPRG) and Marty Smith, Lead Ranger at the Martin Luther King (MLK), Jr National Historical Park, as our guest speakers.

International World Peace Rose Gardens is a catalyst for peace in diverse communities around the world. The nonprofit organization incorporated in 1988 for the purpose of creating beautiful rose gardens for peace on public, accessible sites. The gardens become magnetic centers where

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people gather, enjoy beauty and are inspired to be better persons and world citizens. Ten World Peace Rose Gardens and sister gardens have been planted on some of the most cultural, historic and sacred grounds of the world. The projects, including IWPRG youth programs, have impacted millions around the world. Atlanta's MLK, Jr National Historical Park is one of those sacred grounds and the "I Have a Dream" Rose Garden was established in 1992. The Rose is the national flower of the United States and the state flower of Georgia.

AWC became involved with this garden in 2015 when Karen Johnson, Conservation CSP Chair visited the MLK Jr. National Historical Park with friends and became concerned about the condition of the Rose Garden. Karen's concern led her to inquire of park staff who was responsible for the garden. She learned it was the International World Peace Rose Gardens co-founders, Sylvia Villalobos & TJ David. Karen contacted them and asked if there was anything the Atlanta Woman's Club could do to assist. The rest is history. For the past six years AWC's Conservation CSP has provided much needed funds to maintain the spraying and fertilization of the garden and AWC Conservation CSP members volunteer their time and expertise to snip the spent blooms from May to November. These members are affectionately called "MLK Angels" by TJ and nicknamed, "Snippets" by the club and help to maintain the lovely blooms and enhance the visitors' experiences. AWC has also provided volunteers to work the annual anniversary celebration to honor students for their poems commemorating peace. Their engraved plaques line the rose garden and AWC donated funds for the winners' prize medallions as well as refreshments for the participants and their families.

Sylvia Villalobos is Co-Creator and President of International World Peace Rose Gardens. Her major contribution has been to conceptualize, develop and coordinate IWPRG's youth programs, including: the "World Peace Begins with Me" Art Program, the Inspirational Messages of Peace Contest, the Flower Pots of Friendship Project, Qualities of Peace initiative and the International Friendship Project. The youth programs are in conjunction with events at the different World Peace Rose Gardens around the world and have involved more than 38,880 youth, including international students. Other roles include planning and coordinating rose garden and community events, such as the International Day of Peace and Dedication and Anniversary Ceremonies; also, building and maintaining liaisons with community, public officials and businesses; and coordinating fundraising strategies, to name a few. Her efforts have been honored throughout the years by organizations and public entities, such as, the "Unsung Hero" Award by California State Senator Richard Pan, Special Recognition for 25 Years of Service by the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park, and the Sacramento Woman Community Leader of Peace recognition by the Sacramento City Council. She credits her upbringing in a loving Latino family, plus early inspiration by various peacemakers, for instilling in her the practice of working for peace in a nonviolent, loving way.

Thomas James David, better known as "TJ the Rose Man," is Co-Creator and Rose Garden Designer/Rose Grower of International World Peace Rose Gardens. He also serves as the Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operations Officer. His deep passion for roses has led him to discover unique rose-growing techniques that have maximized the health, beauty and vigor of roses in all IWPRG's public rose gardens and five test gardens. He has been featured in the All-America

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Rose Selections' video, "Love at First Sight, America's Affair with the Rose;" talk shows; was honored as "Volunteer of the Year" by the Washington Unified School District in West Sacramento; received an "Unsung Hero" Award by California State Senator Richard Pan, Special Recognition for 25 Years of Service by the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park and was highly responsible for the State Capitol World Peace Rose Garden being named as one of America's Top 10 Best Public Rose Gardens in 2010. TJ's engaging personality and love of roses have truly been useful in promoting "the Rose," the official flower of the United States, as a silent ambassador of peace throughout the world.

His love of country, and the world, stems from a loving, hard-working family and his military service in the U.S. Army. His humanitarian work and establishment of World Peace Rose Gardens throughout the world impact millions of yearly visitors to the various garden sites, including the 1.7 million who visit the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park each year. TJ says of himself, "I am committed to excellence because mediocrity does not appeal to me!"

Marty Smith is a Lead Ranger at the MLK Jr Historic National Park and has been serving at the site since 1991. He has many administrative duties which includes overseeing the Volunteer Program for the Park. As a ranger, he also serves as a tour guide and compass to visitors and helps them absorb the importance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's legacy and the Historical Park.

ARTS

Every 3rd Friday of the month from 9:15a-11:00a, the Arts CSP will volunteer with drawchange at a local school specifically started for homeless children. We will assist kindergarten children with their art therapy projects by encouraging them to be creative, being a listening ear, re-iterating the importance of "Please" and "Thank You", as well as other positive behavior. *No art experience required. Please join us!



The Arts CSP will be collecting the following items for the **Arts Egg-Stravaganza** at Hillside Conant School on Saturday, April 12th: Starburst, Skittles, Hershey's Kisses (no nuts), Plain Chocolate M&M's, Laffy Taffy, Various Gummy candies, and Fruit Snacks. **All candy must be in individually wrapped packaging.** You can bring the items to the March 9th General Meeting or bring them by the Wimbish House at your convenience between now and April 9th. There will also be a sign up sheet for volunteers at the General Meeting. *No art experience required.

***If you have any questions about any of the upcoming volunteer opportunities and events, would like more info, or would like to sign up, please contact Billie Harris via email at hawcinc@live.com or via phone at 678-617-8511.**

Billie Harris, Arts CSP Chair

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Election for all officers of the Atlanta Woman's Club and two positions on the Board of Trustees will be held at the March 9, 2020 general meeting for the 2020-2022 term (June to June). Please take time to consider the important responsibilities as outlined by AWC's by-laws. It is important to elect members with experience, interest, availability, expertise, and collaboration skills necessary to serve effectively.

Based on the bylaws, "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 for the term 2020-2020. Each nominee has signed the Consent-to-Serve form and supplied a bio. You may find the link for their bio's in the weekly, as well as in the body of the March Newsletter email. The official slate of candidates is as follows:

GFWC Atlanta Woman's Club Slate for Term 2020-2022 Election March 9th, 2020

President:	Jo Dee Gonzalez
First Vice President:	Connie Morris Ursula B. Reynolds
Second Vice President:	Penny Blackford
Treasurer:	Gretchen Butler
Assistant Treasurer:	Barbara Washburn
Secretary:	Peggy Pruitt
BOT:	Sara June McDavid
BOT:	Judine B. Heard

Nominating Committee

Judine B. Heard, Chair

Sara June McDavid, Parliamentarian

Beth Jetha

Billie Harris

Leigh Reynolds

Lexa King, Alternate

Pat Walsh, Alternate

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

Board of Trustees

Lisa Banes, Chair (2019-2021)
Donna Foland, Co-Chair (2019-2020)
Sara June McDavid, Parliamentarian (2019-2021)
Gretchen Butler, Treasurer (2019-2020)
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)
Karen Bacheller, Past BOT Chair
Karen Moore McDonald, 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
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
Myra Carmon, 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
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