



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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy 122nd Birthday/Anniversary to The Atlanta Woman's Club!

Every great idea and/or nonprofit begins with one individual with a genuine personal concern or a passion to make her community a better place. Rebecca Douglas Lowe, founder of AWC was that one individual. The personal concern of one brave woman became the personal concern of many brave women. Under Mrs. Lowe's leadership and legacy, The Atlanta Woman's Club and GFWC Georgia have greatly impacted our local community, state, and nation since its creation on November 11, 1895.

After reading Mrs. Lowe's appeal to the women of Atlanta in 1895 to form a woman's club, I was in awe of her vision for women and our society, in addition to her intelligence, integrity, directness, drive, and ambition. She was ahead of her time on many issues, particularly the issue of women's rights, and believed that "the intelligent women of Atlanta cannot afford to remain in ignorance" which is why at the turn of the 20th century, she was a powerful advocate for the admission of women into state-supported colleges and universities, and she also worked for free kindergartens and for prison reform during her tenure.

Mrs. Lowe stated that she wanted to "take up the trouble of the working women and see what we can do to lighten her labor and increase her pay," as well as "to study the school teacher's problem and find out why she is not paid as much as the men who do exactly

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the same work." Rebecca Lowe realized the importance of uniting the masses to influence the status quo at that time. She knew exactly what she wanted for women's clubs to be, and she led with strength and grace. She was clear women's clubs would not be devoted entirely to the women's suffrage movement and that women's clubs would not be just for socializing. She was definitely clear that she did not want frivolously minded leaders. Further, she was inclusive, as she wanted "every woman interested in the advancement of her sex to join the club, from those 'in society' to those who earn their living in Atlanta factories." Her far-reaching mission was "to advance the education and general welfare of women along the broadest and most beneficial lines."

This month, we celebrate Mrs. Lowe's longstanding contribution and positive impact she had on our State. Rebecca had the vision to inspire women of the future, she was a leader ahead of her time, and that leadership has survived and will survive the test of time. From the formation of The Atlanta Woman's Club to organizing and leading women's clubs all over Georgia as she was instrumental in forming Georgia's state organization, becoming its first President. She quickly advanced to the national level and moved from Atlanta to Washington, D.C. when she became President of the national General Federation of Women's Clubs and beautifully continued to reflect honor and dignity on her native state. Without Rebecca, our great State would not have had women's clubs in almost every large city back then, and still today boasts over 100 women's clubs engaged in their communities every single day.

In 2016, over 100 women's clubs collectively within Georgia donated over 2.2 million dollars in direct donations from GFWC Georgia local clubs by fundraising, and over \$970,000 in donations from our individual club members. Club members from all over the State of Georgia have logged in over 300,000 volunteer hours just in 2016. Without Rebecca Lowe none of that would have happened. Because of Rebecca and The Atlanta Woman's Club some of Atlanta's historical markers such as The Wimbish House and the Sweet Auburn Market would not be here, or The Mayor's Memory Grove which is a tradition that was started by the Atlanta Women's Club in 1925 honoring all 59 of Atlanta's Mayors. The list continues if we were to expand on the projects that women's clubs throughout the entire State of Georgia accomplished since the inception of GFWC Georgia.

We've come a very long way since 1895 but still I know that every club woman within our State federation hear Rebecca whispering to us to speak out bravely against injustice and inequality and always to help those in need. Her leadership and her legacy continue to be felt today with deep appreciation and gratitude.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT'D

I am so very proud and honored to be a part of Rebecca Douglas Lowe's legacy and I hope you are as well. It's always a great day to be a GFWC Atlanta Woman's Club member!

I look forward to seeing you on Monday, November 13th as we celebrate our birthday/ anniversary and hear from our State President, Ida Dorvee as she discusses club life and her signature project, Domestic Violence Awareness.

Cimi Douglass
GFWC AWC 2016-2018 President



LEADERSHIP AND LEADS

“

Leadership is not magnetic personality — that can just as well be a glib tongue. It is not ‘making friends and influencing people’ — that is flattery. Leadership is lifting a person’s vision to high sights, the raising of a person’s performance to a higher standard, the building of a personality beyond its normal limitations.

peter drucker

When I first joined this club it was very difficult to get people to run for office. Today we are blessed with more members who are willing to serve. Successful clubs depend on leadership from effective officers, trustees and chairs. Our bylaws require that we elect our officers in even number years. March of 2018 is rapidly approaching. In preparation for anyone interested in serving as an officer, trustee or a chair, who is appointed as opposed to elected, I will be conducting a workshop titled:

Leadership Learning Lunch: Prepare to Serve Your Club Effectively.

This workshop is for anyone interested in taking a leadership role within the Atlanta Woman’s Club. It is not a mandatory workshop but it will help you to better understand how our club works and operates. Current officers, trustees and Chairs will give a brief overview of their jobs. You will learn about Standing Committees and Special Committees. We will have some interactive activities related to your knowledge of club

processes, procedures, bylaws and history.. We will discuss different leadership styles and their effectiveness. It will provide you with the knowledge and confidence to become a leader within AWC. The workshop will take place on Saturday January 6 from 9:30-12:30, at the Wimbish House pending approval. Lunch will be provide at the conclusion of the workshop and will be a good time for questions and answers as well general discussions. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. You can sign up by emailing me. There will also be a sign-up sheet at the November and December meetings.

karenclydesdale@bellsouth.net

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic Violence is hosting the November luncheon/meeting. Our state president, Ida Dorvee will be speaking on domestic violence, her signature project. Christy Denton, a Domestic Violence victim/survivor from the Stand Event, Our Stories: The Ripple Effect, will share her story of resilience, strength & hope.

AWC is one of the sponsors for Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence Annual Stand Event Our Stories: The Ripple Effect Saturday, November 4th at Switchyards Downtown Club / 151 Ted Turner Dr. at 6PM.

A SEEDED EVENT

A Seeded Event..... helping nonprofits grow



On Thursday October 19 the Seeded Event Committee hosted a fundraiser for Side by Side, the only program in Georgia that offers a pathway to self-sufficiency for brain injured individuals. The Wimbish House was all decked out in blue and sparkling gold. Approximately 175 guests enjoyed a silent auction, wine pull and the opportunity to buy tickets to win a fire pit with boxes of wood, all the fixings for s'mores and even a comfy rocking chair! Guests enjoyed the delicious southern menu catered by Zest and an assortment of tempting cupcakes and brownies for dessert. The program featured a toast and roast to Lu Rae Ahrendt, a longtime supporter of Side by

Side. Our financial team is busy calculating the proceeds for the evening and we will look forward to presenting a check to them in 4-6 weeks. A special thank you to our member, Gretchen Butler who was the lead on this fun, busy and very successful project. And additional thank you to all those other very special members who volunteered their time and talent.



Our next event will be our "Holiday Party with a Purpose" on Tuesday December 5 to benefit The Giving Kitchen. Their mission is to be the beyond expectation resource at times of unanticipated crisis for anyone employed in the restaurant business. Tickets to this event are \$100. A special discount is being given to AWC members and one guest of \$50.00 per ticket. Please visit our website www.atlwc.org and click on The Giving Kitchen button to register. Remember to enter AWCMEMBER in the promo code to get your discount. Please send any information about nominating an organization for a Seeded Event to me or any committee member and please consider

volunteering at one of our events

karenclydesdale@bellsouth.net

ESO BOOK CLUB

ESO Book Club will meet on Nov. 27th at Wrecking Bar Brew Pub (292 Moreland Ave NE) at 6:30pm. We are reading *Darktown* by author Thomas Mullen. The author will be joining us for discussion and will begin speaking at or around 7pm. *Darktown* is about brave individuals who pushed the color line. Its story continues to be relevant today as we as a society continue to address inequality and bias in police departments and criminal justice systems. For more info and to RSVP please contact Melodie Rogers at 678-974-5854 or mrogers1717@gmail.com.

ARTS

How can I get involved?.....Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities:

On **Thursday, Nov. 16th 11:30a-1:30p**, the GFWC AWC Arts CSP will host an “Art of Healing” Patient Party at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta Hugh’s Spalding (35 Jesse Hill Jr. Dr. SE). Volunteers are needed to set up and facilitate the various art stations and assist patients with creating the art project(s) of their choice. There will be a sign up sheet for this awesome volunteer opportunity at our general meeting.



The members of the Atlanta Artists Center (AAC) has invited the GFWC Atlanta Woman’s Club to the reception of their new art show “Reality or Abstraction”, a GFWC AWC Arts CSP sponsored show. The reception will be on **Sunday, Nov. 19th 4-6pm** at the Atlanta Artists Center (2979 Grandview Ave NE). A donation of \$1000 was made to AAC in 2017. \$505.00 was used for artist awards for their “Power Lines” show in May 2017, and \$495.00 will be used for artist awards for their final credentialed show of 2017, “Reality or Abstraction”. The GFWC Atlanta Woman’s Club Arts CSP is a designated sponsor of the show, and is encouraging all members to attend the reception and/or the show which will run from Nov. 14 thru Jan. 5th. Please contact Billie Harris at hawcinc@live.com if you plan to attend.

“We are so grateful for your support of AAC and arts in the community by your organization and look forward to a continued relationship.” Linda LeTard, AAC Exhibits Co-Chair

Arts CSP will continue our ongoing volunteer project with drawchange on **Monday, November 20th from 3-4pm**, which will repeat on every 3rd Monday of the 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 to schedule the month you’d like to volunteer. Only 3 volunteer spaces are available for AWC per month. There will be a sign up sheet at our general meeting.



It’s the most wonderful time of the year.....that’s right ladies, it’s time again for the Callanwolde Fine Arts Center’s “Christmas at Callanwolde” which begins **Friday, Nov. 24th until Tuesday, Dec. 12th from 12p-8p**. Volunteers are needed to help with tours and guide guests around the center. Shifts are available in 4 hour increments (12p-4p and 4p-8p). Volunteers will receive 2 tickets to Christmas at Callanwolde’s fundraising event. Parking will be available for volunteers on site. There will be a sign up sheet for all interested volunteers at our general meeting.

ARTS CONT'D

“Art” we proud.....What We’ve Been Up To:



The Arts CSP volunteered at the “Radical Kindness” event on Nov. 5th at the Buckhead Theatre. Volunteers assisted with our contribution to the event of the “GFWC Atlanta Woman’s Club Kapture Kindness Photo Booth”. Volunteers assisted with set up and facilitating the booth during the event. Atlanta based photographer, Larell Morrison of Mosaic Studio, donated her time and photography skill for our booth at the event. The afternoon was filled with kindness, and founder Michael Chase



gave a phenomenal speech on the importance of kindness and how spreading it can change the world...1 random act at a time. A special thank you to all who volunteered....Melodie Rogers, Laura Rogers, Billie Harris (Flavius Harris, Micaylah Harris, Kevin Clark, Dillon Harris, and Abram Harris)

Let’s all make kindness contagious!



With all the devastation and displacement of families resulting from the hurricanes, the Arts CSP hosted a “Painting With A Purpose” fundraiser on Oct. 24th, held at the Wimbish House. 20 members and their guests attended the event and painted the great state of Texas in honor of all citizens affected by Hurricane Harvey. All proceeds (totaling \$300.00) were donated to Circle of Health International’s (COHI) Women and Children Hurricane Harvey Response. COHI is a Texas based, woman founded and woman driven

501(c) (3) non-profit, that works with other local organizations to meet the needs of women and children in various communities. Dip n Dab guided the class step by step to help each attendee complete their masterpiece. Light refreshments were donated by the local Kroger and Walmart. Thanks to all who attended the fundraiser and made donations!



On Oct. 14th GFWC AWC Arts CSP assisted Hillside Conant School with their “Every Kid Healthy Day of Service”. The day was dedicated to beautifying Hillside’s campus. Billie Harris attended the day of service along with volunteers from other organizations and painted murals on the hammock posts in Hillside’s relaxation gardens. The children now have encouraging words, positive messages, and uplifting images to enjoy as they relax and swing on the hammocks.

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