



Atlanta Woman's Club



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

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September 2022 Issue

A front arrived and today was a cooler day for August. Schools are back in session, meetings are being held, and the relaxing time of summer is ending. I am excited about the plans that are already being made for our Atlanta Woman's Club. All the CSP's are making plans to help impact our community.

In speaking of communities, my husband and I made a road trip to Canada. We had a great trip visiting family and friends along the way. It was so good to get away after our few years of the Pandemic. The cities we visited were all under construction which gave us great hope!

I have hope that we as members of AWC will make someone's life brighter. We have the history of doing this, and outstanding members to continue the tradition.

The Education and Libraries CSP donated to the HOBY seminar. This has been on hold for the past few years but rising high school juniors were able to attend this year. The young ladies learn how they can use their talents to be effective in their communities. We received thank you notes from some of the girls. "Thank you for your support. This has been an unforgettable experience." "I honestly feel that it shaped me into a better leader, friend, and person." "HOBY has changed by life and showed me how to be a leader." "I had an OUTSTANDING time! You are Outstanding!" Hopefully, these young ladies will join a GFWC club one day.

Members volunteered at Children Read in August. Preschool books were cleaned and prepared for distribution to low-income preschool children.

The International Peace Rose Garden at MLK has been twice monthly attended to by the snippets. This is true dedication by our member,

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT'D

Penny Blackford, in keeping us scheduled there. The words of the people passing by are always encouraging and a wonderful time to for us to give a plug for AWC.

We had book club in June with a great turnout and discussion. Michael McDavid gave a presentation on the removal of the arts from the Louvre during WWII for their safe keeping. Thanks to Education and Library Chair, Sara June McDavid and Co-chair Maria Krane for planning and hosting.

The Seeded Event committee has been meeting faithfully on Fridays in preparation for the Gala for Refugee Women's Network which will be held on September 8 at The Wimbish House.

Civic Engagement and Outreach will host the September meeting. Youth Spark will present the program. It will be worth your time to hear what their organization provides.

Leads and Institute are being held in Athens in August. We have several newer members attending for the first time. I hope you are one of them! I look forward to seeing ladies from all over Georgia.

Let's get enthusiastic about Fall and our future of being the best members of GFWC GA The Atlanta Woman's Club!

Connie Morris, AWC President 2022-2024



MEMBERSHIP

We are excited to be meeting again after our summer break. Below you will see the information of our two newest members. Please make them welcome and include them in your activities.

We have several visitors planning to attend the September meeting along with two potential new members. I encourage you to invite your friends and coworkers who would be interested in joining us in our efforts of benevolent works.

Speaking of visitors, we will be continuing to have our table hostesses at each table. These are seasoned members who will make visitors and new members feel welcome and answer any questions that may arise. Thank you for saying yes when asked just before the meeting.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the meeting. Come early to mingle and visit with new and old friends. The meeting will start promptly at 11:15.



My name is Leslie Hooks and I am grateful for the opportunity to introduce myself to AWC. I am an Army brat, Virginia native and graduate of James Madison University having studied Finance and Hospitality Tourism Management. I went on to earn an MBA in Finance and Information Systems. Today, it is my honor to serve as Finance Chief for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) within the US Department of Homeland Security. In addition to my professional career, I am most proud of my community engagement service specifically with the Marietta-Roswell Alumnae chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and American Red Cross. Additionally, I am the current President of the Marietta Middle School PTSA within Marietta City Schools. I live in Marietta with my husband Jimmie and our 4 children Zavier, Nathaniel, Olivia and Victoria. I enjoy traveling, reading and learning new skills most recently taking up a class in American Sign Language.



Marmar Stewart was born in the province of Lorestan, Iran. She was fortunate to have been the daughter of a highly educated and forward-thinking man who believed deeply in equal opportunities for women. After the Iranian revolution and her father's passing, they moved to Hamburg, Germany. Marmar now lives in Atlanta with her husband, and her two children. She found that her passion is working for human rights and women's rights. Marmar's professional career has been in radio and television. Upon moving to Atlanta, she worked on CNN's *Talk-Back Live Show*. Since then, she has undertaken a variety of independent projects including charity work for the local Kurdish community, especially women refugees. Her current position is with Refugee Women's Network, Inc., where she is working to empower refugee and immigrant women in Georgia through their Entrepreneurship Program. In addition to her humanitarian work, she is determined to help improve the diagnosis and treatment of autism. Her children's book *We Are Special*, of which three publication runs have sold out, deals with the issues of siblings of children with autism and with speech therapy in particular.

Peggy Pruett, 1st Vice President, Membership

EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES

The Education and Libraries CSP visited Children Read on August 20th and plan to go again in September.



Sara June McDavid, Chair

Maria Krane, Co-Chair

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH



The Community Service Program for Civic Engagement and Outreach is excited to announce that Jennifer Swain will be speaking at the September General Meeting.

Jennifer serves as the Executive Director of one of AWC's long-time community non-profit partners, youthSpark, Inc. (formerly the Juvenile Justice Fund) where she oversees the strategic development and implementation of the organization's mission. Joining the team in 2008, Jennifer has served in several capacities where her influential vision aided in the development of youthSpark's early intervention model for youth experiencing exploitation and abuse. youthSpark also runs a Youth Services Center based inside the Fulton County Juvenile Court, which is the largest juvenile court in the Southeast.

Currently, Ms. Swain leads the agency's efforts to serve as a community-based safety net by providing cutting edge services and advocacy to vulnerable and runaway youth. Jennifer is a nationally recognized speaker on the issue of youth sexual exploitation, and as a presenter at local and national conferences on victim identification and early intervention. She is a founding member of the Georgia Statewide Human Trafficking Task Force and provides expert witness testimony for local Superior Court trafficking cases.

Ms. Swain is a Center for Juvenile Justice Reform Fellow at Georgetown University where she is leading a collaborative effort to enhance the well-being of system-involved LGBTQ+ youth in Fulton County.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH CONT'D

With fourteen years of experience and specialized trafficking training from federal and local agencies, Ms. Swain continues to unapologetically use her voice to stand in the gap for those who need us most. You will not want to miss her talk on the work of protecting the most vulnerable in our community: our children. Join us Monday, September 12th, 2022 at the general meeting to hear from Jennifer directly.

Yolanda Johnson, Chair

Janecia Heard, Co-Chair

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