

# August 2020 Newsletter

To give aid and encouragement in promoting the education and welfare of children in the state of Georgia.

Here are my wishes, gentle requests and hopes for the Circle membership ...

- 1. Please take the time to read through the information in the Presidents Package sent to you via mail this past week ... THEN ...
- 2. Complete the annual membership form to renew your membership it's so important as it jumpstarts our year ... AND ...
- 3. Mark the events in your calendar! It has been surreal crossing out event after event, meeting after meeting, trip after trip in our calendars for much of this year. We hope that many of you will be able to participate in the scheduled activities, and to those unable or not quite ready to, we totally understand. We'll do our best to keep a realistic momentum going, and every individual can jump back in when truly ready.
- 4. Feel comfort in knowing that the staff at Devereux are dedicated to taking care of the youth in their care on a beautiful, protected campus.
- 5. No matter what, stay optimistic! Our organization's name features a CIRCLE showcasing unity, connectivity and continuity.

On a different note, we have expanded our media sponsorship family as 680 The Fan Radio Station has joined our team this year – it's a natural fit with our theme of "Make Giving a Sport"! More exciting details to come regarding this relationship, but we are thrilled to have them onboard.

Lastly, there's a special "Poster" project in the works. I'll be sharing more at the August General Meeting and the next newsletter – stay tuned!

Mwah, Elaine, Co-President

#### Dear Circle Members,

Is it really already August?? This summer is flying by, but I guess that happens when you are busy planning and plotting for the new Circle year. First up on our agenda was getting your Circle application in the mail to you. I hope that you received yours and maybe even filled it out already!

Please don't delay in sending in your application, do it now!! And as I mentioned in my letter with the application (what, you didn't read it??) please consider adding a little extra to the donation line items. I'm afraid this year will prove to be a bit challenging in the fund-raising arena, so if you can, please help us out. Every dollar counts.

Also, in this newsletter, please find the results for the survey we sent out last month. We know these are difficult times and everyone's situation is different. My

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Executive Board Meeting Wednesday, August 19

Summer General Meeting Wednesday, August 26

GOGA Goat Yoga Atlantis Dream Farm, Milton Tuesday, September 22

Executive Board Meeting Wednesday, September 23

Fall General Meeting Wednesday, October 7 goal is to try to make any get-together we have feel safe to the most cautious of us, so more will feel at ease joining in. If you are not still not ready to join us in person, no worries. We will find a way to make you feel plugged in.

Now send in that application!!

Circle love, Danielle, Co-President New Member Orientation Sunday, October 18

Golf Tournament
Country Club of Roswell
Monday, October 26

Devereux Harvest Festival Friday, October 30 1:00 - 4:00 pm



Be aware that we have a rain date of August 27th, 6:30 PM

## **Summer General Meeting**

The first General Meeting of the new Circle year is scheduled for August 26th, 6:30 PM, at the home of Co-President Elaine LaMontagne. A box meal and wine will be served.

It has been challenging to plan our first meeting due to the pandemic. The survey results (see below) were overwhelmingly in favor of a meeting in a backyard with social distancing. We are fortunate that Elaine has a backyard big enough to accommodate setting our chairs 6 feet apart. So dress for the warm weather and be prepared to give your Circle friends "air hugs"

Please save the date and watch your inbox for the invitation with more details soon.

Denise Pont and Nancy Van Gorp Co-Chairs General Meetings

We will once again be collecting items for the students at Devereux at our general meetings. These collections are much appreciated by both the staff and students.

First up will be composition notebooks (no spirals) and word search books (no staples). The composition books come in many different colors, black & white, green & white, red & white, purple & white and other various colorful combinations. Please bring your donations to the Summer general meeting on August 26th.

Please contact BJ Wooldridge with any questions: Cell/Text 678-571-1459 or bjwooldridge@bellsouth.net

### **Annual Fundraising Event**

#### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We would love for you to join the Annual Fundraising Team. If you would like to be a part of the event committee please email Heather Rees.

If you would like to be a part of the Auction Committee please email <u>Kristin Harbison</u>. We have the heavy lifting done already so it's just the fun stuff now. We value everyone's ideas and input. This event will be a grand slam event - with your help!

#### **PATRON PARTY**

We have also planned an exciting Patron Party for our sponsors and will have more details in the September newsletter!



We are delighted to announce that 680 The Fan radio station will serve as our exclusive radio sponsor for the upcoming year! It's a perfectly natural fit for our theme of "Make Giving a Sport".



More details to come on this relationship – but we're excited they have joined our media sponsorship team, along with long-term magazine sponsor of Modern Luxury/The Atlantan.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**



## GOGA Session (Goat Yoga)

Join us on **September 22, 2020** for our first social outing of the new year! Whether you are a first timer or have been practicing yoga for years, you will walk away from your GOGA session feeling relaxed, refreshed and happy.

The yoga instructors at **Atlantis Dream Farm** (in Milton, GA) will take you through a zen-ful yoga session at **10:45 am**. (Rain Date Friday September 25)



### **Golf Tournament**

Save the Date for the Circle for Children's annual Golf Tournament! The event will be held at the Country Club of Roswell on Monday, October 26, 2020.

#### **Learn More and Reserve Your Spot!**

Look for an email coming soon with all the precautions being taken to make the golf tournament a safe experience for all. Please note we will need commitments from all golfers by **August 31!** 



Ladies Lunch and Shopping Day November 4, 2020 America's Mart, Atlanta More Details Coming Soon!



Virtual Reality Experience -Jr. Social Outing November, 11, 2020 The Void at Battery Atlanta More Details Coming Soon!

Visit Our Website for More Information About Upcoming Events

#### **DEVEREUX UPDATE**

#### **Looking for Creative Circle Volunteers!**

Thanks to the generous donation the Circle made to Devereux in the spring, they are able to redecorate their parent center on campus. They are using a portion of the funds we donated to complete this long overdue project.



They are asking if a group of Circle members would help brainstorm ideas on a furnishings layout, color scheme and decorating plan.

The first meeting will take place onsite at Devereux, **Thursday**, **August 6 at 1:00 p.m**. with Gwen Skinner (Devereux Operational VP) and Rita Furness.

Please call or text Rita Furness at 770-355-3696 or email her at <a href="mailto:ritafrobb@aol.com">ritafrobb@aol.com</a> by August 1. This will be a great way to enhance the Devereux experience for its youth, and connect with fellow Circle members!

Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health is located at 1291 Stanley Road NW, Kennesaw

To The Circle members a big **Thank You** for your generous donations of stationery, greeting cards and playing card games that you dropped off at Heather Rees' home to help the needs of the youth at Devereux. A special thanks for Heather offering her house to be the drop off location, since our May 6 General Meeting had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus. The amount of the items collected above and given to Devereux Total \$525.40.



#### SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

The Scholarship Committee is gearing up for our new year and will soon be contacting our scholarship recipients and encouraging them as they enter this new "crazy" school year! We hope and pray school "opens" and "stays open" as students have struggled with online learning.

We are happy to report that all of our previous students

qualified to receive the scholarship again for this coming year and will be returning to their same school! We also have two in-coming freshmen that we are very excited about. I received a very special thank you note from our new freshmen recipient from CCYA. I hope you will enjoy reading the attached note. If anyone would like to join our committee and be a mentor to one of these students we would love to have you join us!

Doris Van Wagenen Belinda Vogel Scholarship Committee co-chair



#### MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Hello everyone,

The Membership Committee would like to encourage all members to fill out their 2020-21 application and send to:

Lynn Thompson 541 Rivercliff Trace Marietta, Ga 30067



We would like to encourage all members to bring in at least 1 new member this year. We will have New Member Packets available soon. Please reach out to us for your new member. Looking forward to serving The Circle for Children this coming year.

Membership Committee Lynn Thompson Pat laffaldano

## Survey Results

Thank you so much to everyone who took part in the survey we sent out concerning how comfortable you were with different scenarios for meeting as a group.

We had a good response, with 61 Circle members letting us know their thoughts. We really appreciate all who participated and helped us plan how to move forward with our first general meeting planned for August 26<sup>th</sup>.

- 57.6% of the respondents were not comfortable at this time with a traditional meeting held in a restaurant.
- 43.1% of you were comfortable meeting on either a screened in porch or outside patio,
   16.7% would only consider an outside patio, while 6.7% only felt comfortable on a screened in porch, and 33.3% of you were not comfortable with either.
- On the hot issue of masks: 43% preferred wearing masks inside and outside, 31 % no masks at all and 25% said inside only.
- And finally a whopping 67% of you preferred a general meeting in a backyard with social distancing and a boxed meal.

As we move forward during these trying times, please know that your health, safety and comfort are our top priority.





Do you like your photo in the directory? No? Well take a new one! Everyone looks great in the summer with sun kissed cheeks!

Send your photo anytime to Circle4children@gmail.com

August 2 Donna Aycock August 17 Kim Sherk

August 22 Lucy Bartlett Dorris August 25 Kristin Harbison

If your birthday (month and day) is not in the new Circle directory, please email that information. We would love to acknowledge that special day.

tricialeuallen@atlantafinehomes.com

#### **SAVE YOUR PURSES**

Several of our members have asked if we are ever going to have a purse fundraiser again. WELL, we are going to try to have one in the 2021-2022 Circle year.

SO please save your purses and ask all your friends and relatives to save theirs as well. That gives us over a year to collect and we know you have had PLENTY of time to clean out your closets. Thanks for your generosity.



Cindy Andrew Formica

#### Circle Celebration Fund

Can't think of a gift for a friend? Consider donating to the Circle Celebration Fund in their name. A lovely acknowledgment will be sent to the honoree informing them of the donation you made in their name. Please contact Tricia Leuallen if you would like to donate tricialeuallen@atlantafinehomes.com

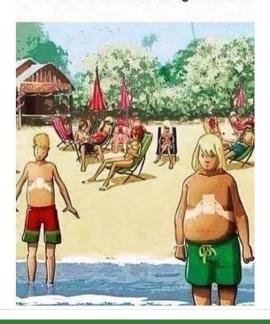
#### Circle Correspondence

Please send any Circle Correspondence to the Corresponding Secretary, tricialeuallen@atlantafinehomes.com for announcements of births, loss of loved ones, outstanding events or illnesses. Please include the individual's address so Tricia can send the appropriate correspondence. Also, indicate if the information should be posted in the newsletter.



Circle member Jan Giles keeps us all laughing on her social media ... we can all use more humor in our lives, so thank you Jan for sharing!

#### The tan-lines of the next generation...



leaving the house in 2019: keys, phone, purse, water

leaving the house in 2020: keys, phone,purse,water,face mask, hand sanitiser, latex gloves, holy water, wooden stake, full medieval body armour



Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support the Circle for Children every time you shop at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com you'll find the exact same low prices and vast selection as amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to the Circle. <a href="mailto:smile.amazon.com">smile.amazon.com</a> uses your current Amazon account.

#### How Do I Get Started?

Click the button below to get started or on your first visit to <a href="mailto:smile.amazon.com">smile.amazon.com</a> you will be asked to select a charity. Type in The Circle for Children. Click the "select" box next to it. Click "agree" to confirm you have been informed that you must go to smile.amazon.com every time you make a purchase in order for the Circle to receive the charitable donation from Amazon.

#### Click Here to Sign Up for Amazon Smile



Kroger Community Rewards will donate a portion of your grocery purchase total to The Circle for Children.

Please sign up for a Kroger Card the next time you're grocery shopping and link it to The Circle for Children.

To link your Kroger card go to <a href="www.kroger.com">www.kroger.com</a> and enter The Circle for Children number, 33533. You can also call Kroger at 1-800-562-4438 and they will sign you up over the phone.

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