

Mississippi



Clubwoman

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Fall 2017



2017 GFWC International Convention Awards Inside!

Mississippi Clubwoman

Volume LXIX, No. 3, Fall Issue

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Please send **ALL DELETIONS AND CHANGES** to your Club Roster directly to the **Circulation Editor**, Lisa A. Harris.

Requests for additional magazines (if available) should be addressed to the **Editor**, Deana Pittman.

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IMPORTANT DATES

October 26 – 29	Southern Region Conference Atlanta, GA
November 1	Dues Deadline for Honor Club
January 1, 2017	Dues Deadline for reports to be eligible for judging
February 1	Deadline to postmark reports for judging Deadline to postmark Hebron Memorial Scholarship Applications Deadline to postmark Writing Contest entries Deadline to postmark Challenge Grant Applications
February 9	Finance / Executive Committee Meeting, Jackson, MS area
February 10	Deadline to postmark MS LEADS Appli- cations Deadline to postmark Clubwoman of the Year and Juniorette of the Year Nomina- tions Executive Board Meeting and Judging Day, Jackson, MS area
February 15	Scrapbooks and Yearbooks due to District Books Chairman
March 1	Deadline to postmark Sarah Peugh But- terfly Scholarship Applications

GFWC Mission Statement

*“The General Federation of Women’s Clubs is an inter-
national organization dedicated to community im-
provement through volunteer service and to providing
opportunities that strengthen the role of women.”*

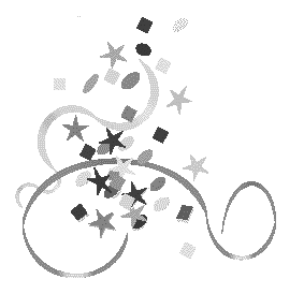
MFMC Mission Statement

*“The Mississippi Federation of Women’s Clubs, Inc. is
an organization of women whose goal is personal
enrichment leading to volunteer
service that benefits the community,
state, nation, and world.”*



2016 GFWC Awards

*Received at GFWC Convention in
Palm Desert, California*



Junior's Special Program: Advocates for Children - Frances Brown, Chair St Jude Children's Research Hospital

GFWC-Mississippi, Category 4 Winner
Outstanding Achievement – Club Creativity Award
Fine Arts Club of Bruce
Bruce 20th Century Club

Arts – Meri Newell, Chair

Outstanding Achievement – Category 4
GFWC-Mississippi

Education – Pennie Barr, Chair

HOBY Partnership Award
HOBY Outstanding Club Award
Florentine Evening Club

Home Life – June Vaughn, Chair

Outstanding Achievement – Category 4
Canine Companions for Independence – Leader of the Pack supporter

International Outreach – Melba Watkins, Chair

Outstanding Achievement – Club Creativity Award
Civic Woman's Club of Picayune

Membership – Becky C. Wright, Chair

Outstanding Achievement
GFWC-Mississippi

Legislation/Public Policy – Dorothy Thomas, Chair

Outstanding Achievement – Category 4
GFWC-Mississippi
Club Creativity Award - Honorable Mention
Star Woman's Club

Website Contest – Lisa Harris, Administrator

Outstanding Achievement – Category 4
GFWC-Mississippi

Photography – Carolyn Long, Chair

World in Pictures – Living Things
1st Place – Celia Fisher

Message from GFWC-MFWC President, Tinker Forrester



Hello, Dear Friends!

As I pen these words, it's hard to believe that by the time this is in your hands it will only be about 8 months until we have the Pin and Gavel ceremony at the 2018 State Convention hosted by District 1. As the old saying goes 'Time flies when you're having fun'... so in that case, someone must be sitting on the fast forward button!

Since we were last together in April, I have attended club meetings or functions of the Eupora Twentieth Century Club, LeBonte' Club of Clinton, Lannier Club of Okolona and Florentine Club of Florence and of course my own club meetings as well as our big fundraiser in June. In addition to these, I, along with 9 other MFWC members attended the GFWC International Convention in Palm Springs, California. A listing of the Awards received by MFWC that Becky, Sherri, Meri and I were so proud to accept can be found elsewhere in this edition. I also had the opportunity to finish a painting with Dustin at EXPRESS Yourself! Art in May. Also, I have finalized my plans to represent MFWC at the GFWC Board of Directors meeting in Boston later on this month.

In addition to all of my travelings to and fro, I attended and/or presided at the Finance & Executive Committee meetings on July 14th as well as presided at the MFWC Board meeting on July 15th with all of these occurring at our Headquarters at 2407 North State Street in Jackson. In the afternoon after the Board meeting, President-elect Becky Wright and Vice President Sherri Reid provided fantastic information regarding Membership and Reporting. If you weren't able to attend, I am sure these ladies would be happy to share the information they presented with you.

Plans are underway for the 2018 State Convention where our GFWC guest will be the International President, Sheila Shea. In addition to the usual activities at convention, we will also be installing the newly elected officers of the new Northern, Central and Southern Districts of MFWC.

Plans are also already being formulated for the 2018 Southern Region Conference, which MFWC will be hosting in Ridgeland, MS. We will be issuing the invitation to that event at the 2017 Southern Region Conference in Atlanta, Georgia October 26th - 29th, where our own, Jo Anne Reid, will be presiding as SR President. There will be preliminary information elsewhere in this magazine

Message from GFWC-MFWC President, Tinker Forrester (continued)

with the call being given at a later date. I hope many of you already have this on your calendar and are planning to attend. It is a drivable distance so come on and join us as we celebrate with our Southern Sisters!

I am so pleased to be able to share that the first installment of \$12,500. for the EXPRESS Yourself! Art Endowment has been sent to Mississippi State University! We are already working diligently on the other half of the \$25,000 commitment. I KNOW y'all are going to astonish and amaze me with all of the Creative ways that you will be Inspired to help fund this endeavor! Susan, Amy, Abby and I are cogitating on some new and various means to raise funds as well! So, as Susan says, 'Show me whatcha got!'

I have had the time of my life serving as your President. I am humbled and overwhelmed by your love and support of me during this exciting time and I look forward to continuing to represent each of you as we complete this administration. Please do not ever hesitate to call on me if I can ever be of assistance to you and your clubs!

With much love Informing Minds and Inspiring Hearts!

Tinker



*Message from
GFWC-MFWC President-elect, Becky C. Wright*



The best things in life are the people we love, the places we've been, and the memories we've made along the way; consequently, this past year as your MFWC President-elect has been the best of times surrounded by the best of the best! Time flies, but thankfully, memories last forever.

I am honored to be surrounded by so many women who are making so many improvements in the lives of so many, not realizing until later they too have risen by lifting others. Membership is empowering! Seeing the passion, compassion, strength and intelligence of my federated sisters as I have traveled around the state and beyond reaffirms that we are a team, nonetheless a force to be reckoned with: Empowered Women Empowering Women.

Membership is the heart of our Federation, and my heart swells with pride as I reflect on the work of MFWC. What an honor it was to receive the GFWC award for Membership in Palm Desert, California with President Forrester! Mississippi clubwomen are THE REAL DEAL! You are collectively changing lives!

My time as your President-elect is ending sooner than I would like to think, as much work still lies ahead. As the advisor to our District Presidents, I will be working closely with them to oversee the restructuring that will include uniting members of nominating committees in their future districts, assisting with the planning of their conventions, and the transition of members into their new districts.

As Membership Chairman, I will be working with our Membership Committee to inform minds and inspire club participation for our Membership Recruitment Contest. Please don't hesitate to contact us for inspiration and ideas as you work to recruit, retain, and refresh your membership. Plans are also underway to form an MFWC Legacy Club that I hope will bring some excitement! Do you have a daughter or granddaughter that might be interested? If so, drop me an email so that I make sure you are getting the latest information about this new opportunity. As you can see, I still have a few card tricks up my sleeve!

To be inspired, one must stay informed, so like MFWC on Facebook, visit the GFWC and MFWC websites often, read your Mississippi Clubwoman, ask me for a copy of Know Your Organization, check your emails, and just ask! I may not have the answers; however, I will do my absolute best to find them as I continue to serve you—the heart of our Federation.

*Message from
GFWC-MFWC Vice President, Sherri Reid*



Greetings, Federation Friends!

What a great year we have had! Thank you to all club ladies who attended Summer Institute! We had a very good day discussing reporting.

Ladies, this is just August! Even if you haven't kept any records at all for 2017, there is still LOTS of time to get that information together for reporting! AND, there are still 4 months to accumulate and report hours for this year. I hope when you get to my article you will STOP and write down your reporting hours for January thru August.

If you were unable to attend Summer Institute, this is your lucky day! We have reporting hints published later in this issue of the magazine! Look over these notes, if there are any questions feel free to call text or email me.

Hopefully these notes will help each club and member with reporting. If anyone would like help with reporting before January please call and schedule a time with me to come and visit. I want more clubs to report this year. Thank you for all you do for our Federation.

Sherri E. Reid
542 Leeville Road
Petal, MS 39465
601-270-4464 cell/text
reidshe@comcast.net

*GFWC-MFWC Treasurer,
Diane Rouse*



A new administration and club year has begun and it is once again time to submit club dues and rosters. The **2017-2018 MFWC DUES FORM** is included in this issue of your *Mississippi Clubwoman*. Your club **must** use this form and not previous years' forms when mailing in dues and contributions.

Dues forms must be postmarked no later than **November 1** in order for your club to be recognized as an Honor Club. Clubs whose dues are not postmarked by January 1, **WILL NOT** be eligible to have reports judged or receive awards at State Convention.

As your club adds members during the year, please send their names, addresses or a revised club roster and dues of \$30 for general members/\$25 for juniorettes to my attention. See the dues form in this issue for mailing address for new members. **Please make sure that members' email addresses are correct and up-to-date since this is one of the means of receiving MS Clubwoman magazine.**

Personal and club donations are always appreciated and may be mailed to me at any time during the year to honor or memorialize someone. A letter will be mailed to the honoree or her family as an acknowledgment of these gifts. **IMPORTANT: If your district, club, or an individual wishes to designate donations to a specific organization, i.e. Operation Smile, UNICEF, St. Jude, American Cancer Society, etc., you may do so, but ALL checks sent to the MFWC Treasurer MUST BE MADE PAYABLE TO MFWC, not the organization. I can neither deposit or disburse funds made payable to another organization.**



*GFWC-MFWC
Recording Secretary,
Theresa Buntyn*

Many of you may ask , "Why do I have to provide a written report to the Recording Secretary when I speak at the conventions. Here is WHY or what our MFWC bylaws state:

Theresa Buntyn (continued)

The duties of the Recording Secretary shall be: a. To compile a permanent record of the administration (including the minutes of the Finance Committee, Executive Committee, Executive Board, and State Convention—such minutes to be typed and placed in chronological order). This record shall be kept at State Headquarters and a copy shall be presented to the State President after the conclusion of the administration. b. To keep a record of the actions of the Executive Committee, those recommendations requiring action to be reported to the Executive Board at its first meeting thereafter.

We need to provide a permanent record for each administration of activities that GFWC Mississippi participates for those two years. You want your minutes to be readable, but you must be precise in the information you give. Your minutes provide the record of the action taken at the meeting, so they need to clearly memorialize the facts.



*GFWC-MFWC Parliamentarian,
Judy Martin*

As we prepare for another exciting club year, now is a good time to remind everyone of the importance of your club's bylaws. It is very important that we **follow our club bylaws.**

If the club bylaws are outdated, revise them. In order to be effective, our bylaws need to be concise, current, consistent and complete. If your procedures don't match your practices, then something has to change. Either change your rules to conform to your current practices, or change the way you do things to follow your rules.

Provide opportunities for members to learn the Bylaws. As you prepare for a new club year, plan opportunities to present the bylaws to the members. Every member should be provided a copy of the bylaws. Every meeting is a new opportunity to present a tip or tidbit from the bylaws to the members. Everyone is more comfortable when they know what the rules are and what is expected of them.

As always, if you are ever in need of help or have questions, please feel free to call on me. I am happy to assist you or your club. Best wishes for an outstanding club year!!

News from our District Presidents around the state:

Jana Jarrell, District I President

Hello, my fellow District I Clubwomen! I hope everyone is having a great summer and managing to stay comfortably cool. Our MFWC State Convention in Pearl this past April was most enjoyable. Congratulations to all of our clubs for the numerous awards received! Great Job, Ladies! The BIG news for District I to come from our state convention is that, as of the close of our 2018 state convention, District I will cease to exist...we will then be known as the "Southern District". Has a nice ring to it, doesn't it? Before that happens though, we have our last District I Convention to look forward to on Saturday, March 3, 2018 in Picayune.



I'm sure all of you are working diligently to keep up with all the wonderful work you are doing in your communities and making plans to prepare your reports and send them to Sherri Reid by February 1, 2018. That time will be here before we know it.

A quick reminder of upcoming important dates:

- **October 26-29, 2017** - Southern Region Conference at the Atlanta Marriott Century Center in Atlanta, Georgia.
- **November 1, 2017** - GFWC State Dues must be postmarked in order to receive Honor Club Status. Your District I Dues are also due on this date.
- **January 1, 2018** - GFWC State Dues must be postmarked by this date in order for your club's annual reports to be judged and eligible for awards.
- **February 1, 2018** - MFWC Club Reports must be postmarked by this date for them to be judged; MFWC Challenge Grant applications deadline; GFWC Hebron Memorial Scholarship applications deadline; GFWC Writing Contest entries deadline.
- **February 10, 2018** - Winter Board/Judging Day; MFWC MS Leads applications deadline; MFWC Clubwoman of the Year applications deadline; Juniorette of the Year applications deadline.
- **March 3, 2018** - District I Convention in Picayune.
- **April 26-28, 2018** - GFWC-MFWC State Convention on the MS Gulf Coast.

Frances Brown, District III President



Congratulations to Janae Winter, District III AND State Clubwoman of the Year!!! Thank you to District V for an awesome state convention.

As you know restructuring will take place next April. We are delighted to be merging with amazing clubs and strong leaders from District II and District IV. I am looking forward to all the wonderful things the new "Northern District" will achieve together. With our motto as a guide, "First the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear" Mark 4:28, we can achieve the GFWC-MFWC purpose to bring the women of the state together for mutual helpfulness and for united action in promoting the general welfare of the state.

Our membership may be down; but our members are going strong and working hard to inform minds and inspire hearts with so many programs and projects. May we continue to put into action our better impulses leading to volunteer service that benefits the community, state, nation and world.

Thank you District III for your support and encouragement during this administration. I am always available and willing to help if I can assist in any way.

News from our District Presidents around the state (continued):

Deana Pittman, District IV President



Greetings Fellow Clubwomen,

It is such an honor to be serving as District IV President. I cannot believe that this administration will be coming to an end in just a few short months! Nevertheless, I look forward to the rest of this journey! I will begin the fall with a club meeting with my own club in August and a visit to the Cleveland Woman's Club in September. I look forward to spending time with these very special ladies! I welcome the opportunity to visit with other clubs in District IV, as we wrap up this administration and move toward the district merging for the next!

Serving as the editor for the *Mississippi Clubwoman* magazine, I have submitted for publication 3 issues and have one more to go for this administration! These two years have flown! Again, I cannot express how humbled I am by the trust that has been endowed to me to be able to serve in this capacity!

I am thrilled to be a part of the 2016-2018 MFWC Board and to continue to support our President's Special Project: EXPRESS Yourself! Art at the T.K. Martin Center. I know that MFWC will finish strong in this endeavor to support not only this fund, but our GFWC-MFWC President Tinker Forrester as well!

Finally, I am here to serve you! Please call, text, or email and let me know how I can help you! Call me at 662-560-3847 (or text) or email me at dpittman@hotmail.com. I will be glad to meet with you or help you find the resources that you need to grow your clubs!

Lisa Harris, District V President

A loud shout out to the Twentieth Century Club of Prentiss for a job well done in hosting our 2017 District V Convention in February. Everyone had a wonderful time meeting with old friends, making new friends, enjoyed an outstanding meal and enlightening conversation. THANK YOU, PRENTISS.

As District V President, I would like to thank each club of District V for hosting a wonderful 2017 State Convention in Pearl, MS. Sincere appreciation is extended to all clubwomen who so willingly accepted responsibilities for hosting our state convention. Ladies, you went beyond all my expectations with your dedication and willingness to help in any way possible. I could not have done this without your help. THANK YOU, DISTRICT V CLUBWOMEN.



I have been in contact with Pat B. Lee of the GFWC-MFWC Purvis Woman's Club and we are now working on our 2018 District V Convention which will be held on March 24, 2018. I am looking forward to visiting with all clubwomen of District V in Purvis.

Just a few housekeeping items: be sure to pay your State Dues to Diane Rouse and your District Dues to Phyllis Whittington by November 1, 2017, if you wish to be an honor club or January 1, 2018, if you wish to have your reports judged. Don't forget to nominate a clubwoman from your club for District V Clubwoman of the Year. All applications must be postmarked by February 10th and mailed to GFWC-MFWC President Tinker Forrester.

Contests! Contests! Contests!

Youth Art

Chair: Libby Everett



It is my great pleasure to serve as your MFWC Youth Art Chairman for 2016-2018. This competition parallels our MFWC President's mission, "**Inform Minds and Inspire Hearts.**" Learning to create and appreciate visual art may be more important than ever to the development of the next generation of children as they grow up. Even toddlers know how to operate a smartphone or tablet, which means that even before they can read, kids are taking in visual information.

Thanks to all of the clubs who presented artwork to be judged in the Youth Art Challenge category. It was so inspiring to see the artists who would not have such an opportunity for self-expression. Please continue to be aware of these youngsters and make every effort to include them in forays into art and encourage them, even if you do not submit their work for judging.

Please check the website and handbook for guidelines for Youth Art and Youth Art Challenge submissions and follow them before submitting artwork to your district convention. Youth Art is a state competition only. Winners are not sent to GFWC for judging so there is no need for a GFWC consent form signed by the parents. The club may choose to send a letter to the parent notifying them that their child's artwork has been chosen to be submitted, particularly in the case of Youth Art Challenge students.

The selection process to determine submissions is decided by your club. First place district winners in each class and division are sent from the district conventions to the state chairman. Districts provide cash prizes if that is in their bylaws.

All district submissions are displayed at the state convention. MFWC provides a cash prize (\$10.00) to first place state winners. Second and third place receive a ribbon. Districts/clubs are responsible for picking up their artwork at the conclusion of state convention.

When submitting artwork, please be respectful of the artist's work-no matter how young. Take care to treat delicate artwork with care and cover with a transparent material or fixative – NO GLASS. Please do not submit art work on copy paper unless it is on backer board, poster board, card stock, or something to keep it tidy-NO FRAMES. I receive many pieces of youth art each year and I take special care that they are returned to the clubs in much the same way they were given to me.

At district conventions, a receptacle should be provided for the artwork to be transported by the state president or her designee to the state chairman. Two pieces of poster board taped together on three sides makes an excellent container. A winners list from district convention is **required**. Please be sure this list is included with the artwork.

I look forward to working with all clubs. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Libby Everett
Libby_everett@hotmail.com
601-466-9418



Books Contest

Chairman: Lisa McGee

YEARBOOKS:

It is pretty basic for Yearbooks. Remember to include the necessary information as stated on the MFWC guidelines for yearbooks. Attractive to the eye is important, but please remember to refer to the guidelines for information regarding GFWC officers, MFWC officers and your respective district officers. With Yearbooks, this is a tool for your membership to be able to function as highly as possible as a Federation member on the local, district, state and international levels. Including opportunities to serve, important dates, a calendar of deadlines and events on the local, district, state and international level, and membership information are key to creating a useful tool for your membership. A yearbook is an utilitarian item, but can be attractive and useful.

SCRAPBOOKS:

Scrapbooks are a monthly pictorial history of what your club is doing. Pretty is good. Neat is good. Please do not forget to refer to the MFWC guidelines. Also, please do not forget to include a group picture or labeled, individual pictures of your membership. Scrapbooks can be used as a recruiting tool to show a prospective member what your club is about and what your club does from the local level all the way to the international level. This is an opportunity to show activities and show off how much and what your club does for the community and Federation.

Ladies, I am looking forward to seeing the winners from each district!

GFWC Photography Contest

Chairman: Carolyn Long

Congratulations to Celia Fisher- Lanier Club District III. She received first place in GFWC World of Pictures Living Things category – “The Weaver”.

I am happy to report that all the district winners had the required information on the back of the photo. Thanks, Lisa, for putting the form on website.

Waivers – A waiver is required for each first place photo. For those entering multiple photos just have one waiver for each category you enter, because only first place will advance. If your photo wins first place, you can fill out and sign waiver at district convention. If you are not attending the district convention, send a signed waiver for each category you enter. It can be filled out after winners are chosen.

Please get your district FIRST place winners to President Forrester before she leaves your convention.

Thanks for your cooperation.

GFWC Media Campaign Contest

Information provided by Sharon Hudson, Communication and Public Relation Chair

Do you know what’s behind every successful MFWC fundraiser, program or project besides a group of dedicated clubwomen? The answer is your public relations campaign. So when it comes to reporting for 2017, please don’t forget to include narratives in your Communications & Public Relations report.

Think about how you used social media, your local paper, radio, TV, and flyers to enhance those events and tell us about it. Did you try something new or unusual? What about “word of mouth” or YouTube? Be sure to check out the GFWC Website or App for the Ten Top Projects to get an idea of how to write your narrative. You might even find a new fundraising or project idea!

I would be remiss if I didn’t thank all the MFWC Clubs that have sent me photos and captions for the GFWC App. **Keep them coming!** I want to break 1000 points before Christmas!

Sharon Hudson

GFWC -MFWC Writing Contests

Chairman: Misty Wright

Member Contests:

GFWC encourages members to “express yourself creatively” through multiple writing contests. All GFWC members are eligible to participate in writing contests, as long as their earnings from writing do not exceed \$500 annually. There are writing contests for short stories and for poetry! Please see the GFWC or the MFWC websites for complete guidelines on submitting your original writing!

Youth Contests:

Young people from kindergarten through 12th grade are encouraged to submit their original writing as well! There are short story and poetry categories as well for students. Entries may not have been published prior to the competition and must be original works by the author. Please see the GFWC or the MFWC websites for complete guidelines on submitting youth writing entries.

All entries for the Writing Contests must be postmarked by **FEBRUARY 1**

**Questions? Need more information?
Contact Writing Chairman:**

Misty Wright
329 Winners Circle
Oxford, MS 38655
662-291-5034
Email: Misty_Merie@yahoo.com

***GFWC Juniors' Special Program:
Advocates for Children
Chairman, Frances Brown***

GFWC clubwomen will celebrate Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children Week from Sunday, October 23 to Saturday, October 29, but members continue to help children all year long! One of the things that makes me proud to be a clubwoman is the passion our organization has for children. If you are looking for projects to make a difference in your community, consider one of the following:



- Invite a local firefighter to bring turnout gear to speak about fire safety. Help coordinate presentations for the public or in elementary schools!
- Help authorities find victims of child trafficking. Traffickers post pictures of their victims in hotel rooms as a way to advertise their business. Visit traffickcam.com to upload pictures of hotel rooms to help authorities find sex trafficking victims. TraffickCam uses these to identify the background in pictures of trafficking victims allowing authorities to identify where the victim might be. (Unsure how to download and upload? Ask a Junior or Juniorette to help!)
- Help those who are about to age out of foster care. Children in foster care age out when they are not permanently placed in a home or reconciled with their families before they turn 18. Identify these children and set up classes or workshops to teach them life lessons, such as managing money or cooking to prepare them for life as an independent adult.



- Support St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Because of you, St. Jude is leading the way the world understands, treats and defeats childhood cancer and other life-threatening diseases. There are so many ways to support St. Jude: volunteer locally, become a monthly donor, blog for St. Jude, order St. Jude address labels, participate in a run/walk to raise money and bring awareness to St. Jude, or volunteer at the hospital...whatever you do, find a way to GIVE to this worthy organization!

- Fall - Prematurity Awareness Help to "LIGHT THE WORLD PURPLE", World Prematurity Day; November 17. Show your Purple Passion for Babies! Turn your Club House purple for preemies on November 17. Premature birth is birth that happens too soon, before 37 weeks of pregnancy. Babies born this early are more likely to die before their first birthday; those who survive are more likely to be readmitted to the hospital or to suffer lifelong health problems. Each year in the United States, about 1 in 10 babies is born prematurely. Each club can "Go Purple" with these four easy steps during November to raise awareness of the crisis of preterm birth during March of Dimes Prematurity Awareness Month:
 1. Mention March of Dimes Prematurity Awareness Month at a club meeting.
 2. Visit www.marchofdimes.org/prematurity for current information.
 3. Wear purple at meeting or activity. Make it fun!
 4. Invite club member to share her March of Dimes mission story or contact your local March of Dimes office to request a visit from an Ambassador Family.
- Give a brief presentation on prematurity to raise awareness. Contact gcarmon@marchofdimes.org for your March of Dimes Prematurity Awareness Month® and World Prematurity Day-Mission Engagement Guide/ Partner Opportunity

The opportunities for YOUR CLUB to make a difference in YOUR COMMUNITY are endless!



GFWC Advancement Area: WHRC
Glenda Tarver, Chairman

GFWC-MFWC Ladies:

Please don't fail to utilize the resources available to you through the WOMEN'S HISTORY AND RESOURCE CENTER.

The GFWC Women's History and Resource Center manages the archives of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, all special collections and the research Library. These Archives document the history of the General Federation of Women's Clubs from 1890 to the present. Included is the role played by Women's clubs in areas of education, art and literature, public affairs and community life.

Special Collections include State Federation and club histories, photographs and artifacts. These are housed at the National Women's Club Headquarters in Washington D. C.

The Research Library contains nearly 5,000 publications concerning the History of GFWC members. This information can be found at www.GFWC.org/Membership

Below are just some of the ways in which the WHRC can assist the members of our clubs.

- Develop programs using the GFWC history to promote interest in membership
- The WHRC can act as a liaison for clubs wanting to work with a state or local historical agency to preserve historical records and buildings. WHRC manages the preservation of the National Headquarters Building.
- GFWC publishes the WHRC News for friends of the WHRC to promote and assist clubs that do projects related to GFWC history or historic preservation,
- Most importantly, with all the resources contained in the WHRC files, there is no end to the information available for club members to access. This means an unending source of ideas for programs and projects for our clubs. The information contained in these files offer endless opportunities for broadening our horizons by looking at what other clubs have done over a hundred-year period.

Again go to www.GFWC.org/WHRC and plan new and exciting programs for the upcoming year and report the many wonderful activities in which your clubs have participated.

GFWC Community Improvement Program

Chair: Jeanette Thrash

Currently, your club should be busy finalizing and documenting your Community Improvement Award activities !

Introduced in 1949, Community Improvement is GFWC's longest standing project. It benefits clubs by increasing membership opportunities, developing leadership skills, and creating public awareness of club activities.

All information and forms needed to submit an application for this award may be downloaded from <http://www.gfwc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/2016-18-ACG-CIPA.pdf>

Here you will find the application form, application essentials, awards and judging criteria, as well as financial awards.

Club entries must be sent to me via mail and postmarked no later than March 1, 2018. Club entries will be judged at the state level. A list of first, second, and third place winners will be sent to MF WC and the first place winner will be forwarded to GF WC.

I look forward with great anticipation to the receiving your entries! Good luck as you finalize this rewarding endeavor!

Jeanette B. Thrash

P.O. Box 906

Decatur, MS 39327



Legislation and Public Policy
Chairperson Dorothy L. Thomas

HERE IS A PROJECT FOR YOU!! Club members get to practice advocacy without breaking the General Federation of Women's Clubs and GF WC- Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc. rules against lobbying. Yep! It is about political elections. What kind of election project can we put together that achieves advocacy and avoids lobbying?

ORGANIZE A VOTER REGISTRATION PROJECT. We keep hearing that we need to increase the number of young people who are registered to vote and who vote. Targeting persons, for registration, who are 18 years old or will be 18 by Election Day could help increase the number of young citizens who exercise their Constitutional right to vote.

Who is going to be on the November 2018 ballot? Congressional candidates are some of them. U. S. Representatives are elected for two-year terms. U.S. Senators are elected to six-year terms. Mississippi will elect four U.S. Representatives and one U.S. Senator in 2018. Each State has two Senators. However, generally they are not elected or reelected in the same year.

How do you hold a voter registration project? First a Club should formally adopt the project and include that decision in its meeting minutes, decide when and how many days and hours of days your registration will use, who will work during registration, etc.

Put together a one or two page information brief that says who you are, that you will not represent any candidates or political parties and that the only issues you will discuss will be registering to vote and actually voting. You might want to hold the registration in or on the grounds of area high schools to target 18 year olds. Be sure to get the approval of all persons in charge. The office of the Secretary of State can provide you with its voter registration form which you can copy. Be sure that you contact your county's Circuit Clerk and brief her or him on who you are what you are planning. Ask for suggestions.

Cooperation and support of school Principals is essential. They can allow or refuse you the use school property for the project and the right to use posters and space on school bulletin boards to publicize it. Their history teacher(s) might be willing to use some of their time to talk to classes about the voter registration drive and the importance of voting.

If your Club chooses to do this project, please keep a count of the people you talk with including those who take the voter registration form away to fill it out. Include this information in the year report you file with MF WC in January.

!!WHEE!!! For the third consecutive year MF WC has won GF WC recognition for our work in Legislation and Public Policy.

Arts Community Service Program

This chairperson is so proud to announce that MFWC won the Arts CSP award for category 4 at GFWC International Convention! She was so excited to hear our name called and see it up on the big screen at Convention. Your projects and activities were so outstanding this year. You really poured on the creativity and made things happen for Express Yourself! Art, and served your communities in so many inspiring and helpful ways.

We still have so much to do in our communities to support the arts in the coming year. This has been a very tough budget year on the state level, which means budget cuts to our school arts programs that were already having great challenges in serving our students to the best of their abilities. Use your Arts CSP guidelines (found in GFWC resources at <http://www.GFWC.org>) to find ways that you can help these programs meet this challenge. Whether it is supplying marching bands with bottled water for football games, raising funds to buy a needed piece of equipment for a performing arts group, working a shift in the concession stand, or volunteering to help sew on buttons and fix hems in band uniforms and show choir costumes, there are many ways that we can be of assistance. The best way that all of us can help is to attend performances. A message is sent to school administrations and legislators when events are well attended and publicized.

Keep up your support of Youth Art and Youth Writing contests. It was so encouraging to see all of the amazing art that your students created this year. Check the Youth Art Challenge guidelines to see how you can be even more inclusive with all students in your schools. Remember to contact your lead Language Arts/English teachers about Youth Writing Contest guidelines early in the school year so that you can collect entries by December. The guidelines are also found under GFWC Resources, and under contests on MFWC's website.

Please support your local arts events and festivals! The funding for these events has also been severely reduced this year, and ticket sales are paramount in keeping these events alive. Find ways that you can volunteer to reduce costs for hiring workers, etc. If you have grant-writing expertise, offer to assist with grant-writing opportunities. Share arts events on social media and encourage people to attend them. This clubwoman knows that she is "preaching to the choir", and that many of you provide a monthly calendar of events and share your community's arts events on social media, but we must help our local artists and artisans.

Finally, please feel free to contact me at any time regarding Arts CSP questions. My email address is newellmf57@gmail.com.

~Meri Ford Newell, Arts CSP Chair



Education Community Service Program

Although I was unable to attend the June GFWC International Convention in California, I was extremely pleased to be informed that the 2017 Category IV HOBY Partnership Award was presented to Mississippi GFWC in recognition of service and contributions to HOBY and our student ambassadors, and for exemplifying HOBY's core values of volunteerism, integrity, excellence, diversity, and community partnership. Congratulations, ladies!

I would like to remind everyone to document all of your efforts in the area of education in these last few months of the 2017 club year. This will assist so much when the time comes for writing the narrative report for submission in January. Remember that the GFWC website has great suggestions and reminders for areas that may be included. Sherri Reid, MF WC Vice-President, has created a helpful handout on reporting.

Understandably, there has been some confusion in the past as to whether hours for reading should be reported in the Education CSP report or the below mentioned ESO. It is suggested that hours spent reading be included in the area of literacy in your Education CSP narrative. The ESO report actually consists of completing the required brief book report and how your club promotes ESO among members. Does your club participate in Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO)? Did you know that this is an honorary educational society open to all dues-paying GFWC members? ESO provides clubwomen with a structured reading program that is educational and stimulates a desire for self-improvement. ESO materials are available online at www.gwc.org/what-we-do/community-service-programs/epsilon-sigma-omicron. Mississippi has an established ESO charter that you may join free of charge by completing a form and filling out brief reports on books that you read from the ESO book list. Our state is in the process of creating our own list with the leadership of Jackie Sergi, our MF WC ESO chairperson. Jackie may be contacted via email at jssergi46@gmail.com. Members can participate in ESO as part of a reading group or on their own. The program provides membership, awards, and certificates, pins, reading lists, and a framework in which to pursue self-improvement through reading. I encourage you to consider combining club programming with ESO related activities, such as book promotion and reading awareness.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have concerning Education Community Service projects or reporting in this area, or our Education CSP partner, Hugh O'Brien Youth leadership program.

Penny Barr, Education CSP Chairman

Home Life Community Service Program

Hats off to all of you MFWC Clubwomen for your outstanding work in the Home Life area that garnered MFWC the 2016 GFWC Outstanding Achievement in Home Life Award. MFWC was also announced as a Canine Companions for Independence “Leader of the Pack Supporter” at the GFWC Convention in June 2017. Thanks for changing the lives of so many through your volunteer efforts!

Please “rev up” your support for our Home Life Partner Canine Companions for Independence. Clubs are encouraged to join the new GFWC fundraising campaign with a GFWC goal of \$50,000 benefiting CCI and help “Give a Dog a Job” by funding the development of an assistance dog. Form a team and register at www.cci.org/GFWCFundraise.

Our Home Life Partner Easterseals needs club and personal involvement to help people with disabilities address life’s challenges and achieve personal goals. Please visit www.easterseals.com for ways you can help these individuals and their families live better lives. One way to help is to follow this link <http://www.easterseals.com/ways-to-give/go-green-recycle-for-easter.html> to recycle for Easterseals and generate funds to donate. The recycler accepts cell phones, laptops, iPods, iPads/tablets/readers, and laser and inkjet cartridges. Several MFWC clubs participate in this project annually.

Begin now to plan projects related to Autism Awareness during the month of April 2017. Plan to participate in Easterseals’ Make the First Five Count Initiative throughout the club year.

Continue those Home Life programs and projects that fit best for your club and accomplish the most for your community. However, make it a goal to bring something innovative and exciting to the table as well. Refer to the GFWC Home Life Program Guide in the 2016-2018 Club Manual for some great suggestions.

Just a Reminder...Note that work with all animal shelters, dog lovers’ leagues, and sanctuaries should be reported under Conservation CSP rather than Home Life CSP or CCI Partnership.

Feel free to contact me if I can assist in any way (or be a cheerleader for your team and its volunteer efforts).

~June Vaughn, Home Life CSP Chairman

International Outreach Community Service Program

Scarcely nine months remaining in my chairmanship of International Outreach CSP and Partnership, wow! Time has surely marched to a fast drummer. Through the time thus far I have learned much about the plight of our fellow human beings who live in countries far, far away. I am just a small town Mississippi girl who has never traveled out of this country but through this chairmanship I have left my comfort zone even if only through reading, watching and listening to others share their experiences. I am thankful for the knowledge that I have gained and I am truly grateful to the young people of today who are willing to do for their fellow man, to take chances and to give their time and talents to helping others.



My sweet, red-haired granddaughter, KaLeigh, far more adventurous than I, spent her last spring break of high school in Nicaragua on a mission trip. Her group of young people from Star Baptist Church taught Bible School, played with children teaching them rudimentary English even though, in most instances, it was through song; they purchased first aid and medical supplies; they transported those in need of medical attention to local clinics, and built latrines for several families. Their small group of young people made a true difference in the lives of those who they assisted, but more importantly, our group of young people was given the opportunity to see what poverty is and what we can do about it.

Young people are making a difference today in the world of volunteerism. Another such individual who is sharing and doing something about a major need of citizens in third world countries is our new Miss Mississippi Ann Elizabeth Byes. Her platform for changing lives is providing water and water wells to communities on the continent of Africa. Her and her family's work is making a real difference.

We continue our work with UNICEF, Shot@Life, Heifer International and Operation Smile to hopefully make lives better for those lacking even basic medical care. I encourage all our membership to participate in the Red Nose Campaign in April 2018. Every \$1 will get you a funny red nose and will provide basic necessities to so many children in need. Get your new nose at Walgreens in April. Volunteerism and Humanitarianism are at the forefront of our organization. **KEEP THE GOOD WORK GOING!**

Also, let me do a little plugging for the GFWC Creativity Award earned by the Civic Woman's Club of Picayune. Their creating, packaging and shipping of the "Sani-packs" impressed the GFWC judging panel as much as it did this chairman. Congratulations to the ladies of Picayune. I think this project should become a state-wide project.

~Melba Watkins, International Outreach CSP Chairman

MEMBERSHIP- "IT'S THE REAL DEAL"

By Becky Wright, MFWC President-elect

Join in the fun and earn money for your club! GFWC Mississippi will be giving monetary prizes to the four clubs who recruit the greatest increase in new members, percentage wise, during 2017-2018. Quarterly themes and dates that information is due to MFWC are listed below:

JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST "GO FISH FOR MEMBERS"

*Report due to MFWC by August 26

SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, AND NOVEMBER "BRIDGE THE GAP"

*Report due to MFWC by November 25

DECEMBER, JANUARY, AND FEBRUARY "GAME OF HEARTS"

*Report due to MFWC by February 24

MARCH AND APRIL "52 PICK UP-A MEMBERSHIP TOOL"

*Report due to MFWC by April 17

FIRST PLACE - \$75
SECOND PLACE - \$50
THIRD PLACE - \$40
FOURTH PLACE - \$35

Please send the name and contact information of your new members for that quarter, by the deadlines listed above, to Becky C. Wright, MFWC President-elect, 81 CR 281, Banner, MS 38913 or beckywright1964@gmail.com. The names of those clubs that report at least 3 new members during the period listed will be forwarded to GFWC for inclusion in the GFWC Club-woman magazine. However, clubs should report ALL new members, even if they do not have three for a given quarter, as the MFWC contest count is cumulative and monetary prize will be based on total numbers of new member growth (percentage wise) during the year. And for added fun, all clubs submitting new members in any given quarter, will have their club entered in a quarterly give-away for even more membership incentives!

The heart of a volunteer is not measured in size but by the depth of their commitment to be a game changer and make a difference in the lives of others. Are you ready to change the game for other women? Empowered Women Empower Women.

Helpful Hints for Reporting

By Sherri Reid, MFWC Vice President

- Activities listed in GFWC programs/projects should be reported in the appropriate program/project area.
- Activities not listed in GFWC program materials should be reported in the program/project area which most closely relates to the activity.
- Use the required MFWC 2016 - 2017 Report Cover Sheet located at gfwc-mfwc.org.
- **Complete** the top of each page of the Report Cover for **EACH** Report.
- Annual reporting period is January 1 through December 31.
- Money donated or given in cash or check are to be counted as donated money.
- Items donated, cakes baked, shirts sold, ingredients bought for items cooked - will be itemized and considered In-Kind donations.
- The President's Special Project (PSP) "EXPRESS Yourself! Art" and the two MFWC Special Emphasis, State Institutions and Mississippi Public Broadcasting, have their own report forms; however, clubs will still need to complete one Report Cover Sheet for each of these when submitting reports.
- Narrative descriptions should support statistical information provided on Statistical form and describe the program/project.
- Report hours spent by each member in approved club programs/projects ONLY.
- Narratives are optional but greatly increase chances of recognition.
- Narratives may not exceed 2 pages typewritten and supporting information of 3 pages.
- Reports must be postmarked on or before February 1 in order to be eligible for judging.
- Mail one copy of each report to:
 - Sherri E. Reid, MFWC VP, 542 Leeville Road, Petal, MS 39465 (MFWC Report Cover Sheets, up to 2 pages of narratives and up to 3 pages of supporting material)
 - Tinker Forrester, MFWC President, 5257 MS Highway 15, Ackerman, MS 39735 (MFWC Report Cover Sheets & Narratives only. Do not send supporting materials)

Why Do We Report?

- Reports are a "diary" of the club's activities during the year, giving members a picture of the achievements of the group and the accomplishments of individual members.
- Reports are the heart and soul of a club's history, reflecting the concerns and interests of club members at a particular point in time.
- Reports are the basis of a publicity campaign, illustrating what the group is doing at the moment.
- Reports help future club member's plan activities, knowing what was or was not successful in the past (Keep your reports and have them available to members for the years to come.)
- Reports are useful for membership recruitment efforts, allowing potential members to gain a realistic picture of the club's purpose.
- Reports are necessary to compete for recognition and awards on the district, state, and international levels of GFWC.
- Reports provide critical statistical information to help GFWC represent the membership to national policy makers.
- Reports assist clubs when writing grants as they provide the history of the club's activities that is needed.
- MISSISSIPPI reports to keep our Headquarters, our legacy for future members!!! Member's volunteer hours are reported to the state of Mississippi as in-kind payment for the lease of the property.



Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.

-Elizabeth Andrew



Thank you, Mississippi, for making the time and having the heart!





**GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's
Clubs, Inc.
2017-2018 Dues Form**



CLUB INFORMATION:

Club Name: _____ District: _____
 Club President: _____ Ph. No.: _____
 Address: _____ Email: _____
 Club Treasurer: _____ Ph. No.: _____
 Address: _____ Email: _____

CLUB DUES: \$30 x number of general members _____ listed on roster \$ _____
 \$25 x number of juniorettes _____ listed on roster \$ _____

(No District dues, please. District dues should be sent to the District Treasurer)

Magazine subscription for Associate or Honorary Members _____ @ **\$5.00** each \$ _____

CONTRIBUTIONS:

MFWC President's Special Project: EXPRESS Yourself! Art! Located at the T. K. Martin Center for Technology and Disability on the campus of Mississippi State University \$ _____
 1935 Society (MFWC State Headquarters upkeep) **\$5 per member suggested..** \$ _____
 Hebron Memorial Scholarship Fund (\$1,000 annual scholarship) \$ _____
 Sarah Peugh Butterfly Scholarship Fund (\$1,000 annual Jrette Scholarship)..... \$ _____
 Challenge Grant (for a Special Education teacher)..... \$ _____
 State Institutions:
 Dear School \$ _____ Blind School \$ _____ State Hospital \$ _____ \$ _____
 Mississippi Public Broadcasting..... \$ _____
 Youth Art: **\$10 per club suggested minimum** \$ _____
 HOBY: \$175 per student or other donation (\$20 minimum)..... \$ _____
Name of school sponsored by club: _____
 Malone-Sisk (MS LEADS) Program..... \$ _____
 Other contributions not listed: _____ \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____

(Additional pages may be attached, if necessary)

TOTAL OF ALL ABOVE: \$ _____

Please mail this form along with your club's check payable to MFWC and one copy of club roster with names, mailing addresses, email addresses & phone nos. postmarked by November 1 to:

Diane Rouse, MFWC Treasurer
 2323 Tiffany Circle
 Florence MS 39073
 601-845-3059 (leave message)
 Email: crouse99@yahoo.com

ALL checks sent to MFWC Treasurer MUST be made payable to MFWC
Dues must be POSTMARKED by January 1 in order for a club to be eligible to have reports judged or receive awards
For members added during the club year, please send name, address, email address & dues to MFWC Treasurer
Please send deletions to Lisa Harris, Mississippi Clubwoman Circulation Editor at lisaharris@outlook.com or 822 SCR 115 South, Raleigh, MS 39153

GFWC-MFWC BUDGET INFORMATION, 2017-2018

RECEIPTS:

GFWC Dues

879 General members @ \$15	13,185.00
201 Juniette members @ \$10	2,010.00
TOTAL GFWC Dues	\$15,195.00

MFWC Dues

\$15 per member distributed as follows:

State Federation Fund	\$7.53	8,100.00
Headquarters Fund	\$5.75	6,210.00
MS Clubwoman Magazine	\$1.72	1,890.00
		\$16,200.00

Other:

Occupant reimbursement for HQ utilities expenses	12 @x \$500	\$6,000.00
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TOTAL RECEIPTS: \$37,395.00

DISBURSEMENTS:

GFWC Dues:

879 General members @ \$15	13,185.00
201 Juniette members @ \$10	2,010.00
TOTAL GFWC Dues	\$15,195.00

State Federation Fund:

Officer Expenses:

President	GFWC Conv. Travel	\$2,000.00
	GFWC SR Convention	500.00
	GFWC Board Travel	500.00
	Instate Travel	500.00
	Desk Allowance	250.00
President-elect	GFWC Intl. Conv. Travel	1,800.00
	GFWC SR Convention	500.00
	Instate Travel	250.00
	Desk Allowance	100.00
Vice President	Desk Allowance	50.00
Treasurer	Desk Allowance	50.00
Recording Sec.	Desk Allowance	50.00

General Operating Expenses:

Southern Region Dues	30.00
Southern Region Fundraising Item	100.00
Binding of Histories & Magazines	100.00
Office Supplies	0.00
State President's Pin	50.00
Income Tax Preparation	125.00
Website Service	480.00
Juniette Retreat	100.00
GFWC Gift	100.00

State Federation Fund

Disbursements \$8,135.00

Headquarters Fund:

Phone/Alarm monitoring	1,300.00
Atmos Energy (Gas)	2,000.00
Entergy (Electricity)	2,500.00
City of Jackson (Water/Sewer)	250.00
HQ Insurance	6,100.00
Filters, pest control, lawn maintenance, building repairs	60.00

HQ Fund Disbursements \$12,210.00

Mississippi Clubwoman Magazine:

(1 issue mailed/1 issue emailed)	
Printing & Postage	1,755.00
Editor Desk Allowance	100.00

MS Clubwoman Disbursements

(1141 members @ \$1.84) **\$1,855.00**

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: \$ 37,395.00



Nominating Committee Notes

The MFWC Nominating Committee has been tasked with presenting a slate of officers for 2018-2020 at next year's state convention. One of the positions to be filled is that of MFWC Recording Secretary. If you are interested in serving as an elected state officer, please contact one of the members of the nominating committee to be considered for nomination.

Members of the 2016-2018 Nominating Committee:

*Libby Everett, Chairman
Sharon Hudson
Jo Anne Reid
Melba Watkins
Abby A. May*

ROAD TRIP!



Pack your bags and join us!

Southern Region Conference

October 26-29, 2017

Atlanta, GA

Visit www.gfwc-southernregion.org

for more information!

**GFWC-Mississippi Federation
of Women's Clubs, Inc.**
2407 North State Street
Jackson, MS 39216

NON-PROFIT ORG.
POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #73
39759



2016-2018 Jennie Award Nominees Helen Ann Beeman, Frances Brown, Frances Hyde, and Suzanne Poynor,
with Jennie Award Chairman, Darlene Adams