127th Annual State Convention

Friday, April 25, 2025

2024-2028 WHRC Statewide Project

"Mississippi Federation Voices: Exploring our Why and Our History"

Meri F. Newell, Chairman

In May 2024, this Chairman began her work as WHRC Chairman. As 2020-2022 State Vice President, she noticed that many clubs had difficulty reporting in this area. She decided to develop a four-year project that would give every club in the state an opportunity to be involved and on equal footing, regardless of size, median age, or club focus.

The preliminary outline of the project was presented at GFWC-Mississippi Summer Institute in July 2024.

The project will begin in March 2025.

Outline of "Mississippi Federation Voices: Exploring our Why and Our History"

1. Each club will have two interviewees; the most seasoned club member and the newest member of the club. They will interview each other, using questions developed from WHRC Oral History **Guidelines** (obtained from WHRC Librarian Joanna Church).

2. The interview questions' focus: *Each member's "why" for being a clubwoman. *The reason they chose to join a Woman's Club. *Their five most enjoyable aspects of Federation membership. *Seasoned members' observations of changes they have observed over the course of their membership.

*Newest members' observations of what they bring to the table as new members. *Finally, the two members will discuss what they can learn from each other, and how this can be beneficial to the club at large.

3. The interviews will be conducted via video or as written responses. This phase will be completed by Spring 2026.

4. Interviews will be compiled and transcribed in 2026 and 2027. Members will be given access to the completed, compiled document. It will be archived at the Mississippi Library Commission in Spring 2028.