

Mississippi



Clubwoman

Volume LXVI, Number 2

Spring 2011

Team MFWC - One Strong



Volunteer Hours 2009

235,302.95

Voice For Volunteerism

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IMPORTANT DATES

March 12	District V Convention Wesleyanna Methodist Church Star, MS
March 19	District I Convention Petal Harvey Baptist Church Petal, MS
March 26	District II Convention East Central Community College Decatur, MS
April 14 – 16	GFWC-MFWC Convention Eagle Ridge Conference Center Raymond, MS
June 18 – 20	GFWC International Convention Milwaukee, WI
June 24	Executive/Finance Committee Meeting Headquarters Building, Jackson, MS
June 25	Summer Board Meeting Headquarters Building, Jackson, MS

GFWC Mission Statement

"The General Federation of Women's Clubs is an international organization dedicated to community improvement through volunteer service and to providing opportunities that strengthen the role of women."

MFWC 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."

- ❖ Please send **ALL ADDITIONS (with DUES)** to your Club Roster directly to the **State Treasurer**, Shirley Hilburn, 1100 South Fifth Avenue, Cleveland, MS 38732. She will, in turn, forward to the **Circulation Editor**, Lisa A. Harris.
- ❖ 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**, June Vaughn.

Mississippi Clubwoman

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**Message from 2010-2012
GFWC International President
Carlene Garner**

My Fellow GFWC Members:

What a delight it is to bring greetings to each of you in Mississippi. I am certain you are getting excited about attending your 2011 State Convention. I know you will have a great time meeting other club members, attending workshops, and conducting the business of GFWC Mississippi.

Kudos to your State President Tammie McCoy for the terrific job she is doing on your behalf. She has done admirably in not only leading your State Federation, but also in representing you on the GFWC Board of Directors. GFWC Mississippi has had many outstanding accomplishments this past year. Thank you for all you have given to your communities and to our world. I know you are all very proud of these achievements and so you should be. You and your fellow members have set an enviable example of GFWC at its best. I am so looking forward to the opportunity greeting each of you during your Convention. Attending your State meeting is a true honor and joy. Thank you in advance for sharing these couple of days.

Enjoy your upcoming Convention and again, thank you for all that you do to make life better for your neighbors near and far.

In Federation Service,
Carlene Garner
GFWC International President

**Message from 2010-2012
GFWC-MFWC President
Tammie McCoy**

Ladies,

I cannot believe that it is almost time for our 2011 MFWC convention. I have certainly been on the road and "in the air", from Omaha, NE to Washington, DC to Huntsville, AL and to many wonderful towns in Mississippi since my installation last April. I have loved renewing friendships and making new friends. I have also enjoyed the wonderful hospitality given to me everywhere that I have been.

Our July Summer Institute was so informative and Mississippi ladies enjoyed seeing the Museum on the grounds of the Mississippi School for the Deaf and Blind. In November, we converged on our MFWC Headquarters for a reporting workshop lead by our own Judy Martin. Today, as

I finalize this article, we have just completed a wonderful MFWC Board meeting and judging day at Headquarters. Approximately 70 clubwomen from across Mississippi enjoyed the beautiful sunny weather on Saturday (despite almost six inches of snow on Thursday) and enjoyed learning about all of the wonderful volunteer efforts that are accomplished by fellow clubwomen to help others. (Suzanne and I even wore matching I Love MFWC shirts.) My heartfelt thanks go out to each of you for your hard work. I am especially grateful for all of those wonderful volunteer efforts in supporting my special project: Feeding Fellow Mississippians. I am always humbled by your generosity to others.

Suzanne and I are looking forward to seeing each of you at your District Convention. Your District Presidents have worked hard to make your day very special. We will wait patiently to learn who WON the awards and we will **CELEBRATE** your club's accomplishments.

In this issue you will find the Call to Convention. The 2011 MFWC Convention will be held April 14-16 at the Eagle Ridge Conference Center in Raymond. We heard your request to combine and condense the program and we have attempted to do just that. We will begin with the MFWC Board meeting on Friday morning. We will follow that with a brunch. Everyone is invited to enjoy the brunch with the Board members and to hear motivational/leadership speaker Deborah Tierce. An autograph party will immediately follow the brunch. The actual convention will start at 1:00 p.m. on the 15th and will conclude by noon on the 16th. I do hope that each of you will plan to attend.

Carlene Garner, GFWC International President, will be our MFWC Convention guest and will be our keynote speaker at our Friday evening banquet. Bring your GFWC questions and she will be glad to answer them for you. If you will remember, Carlene is not a stranger to MFWC. She attended our convention in Natchez and we enjoyed visiting with her.

A few special items of interest for this year's convention:

1. Our MS LEADS Seminar will be held on Friday morning. Deborah Tierce will also be the LEADS Seminar speaker. This seminar is sponsored by the Malone-Sisk Education/Leadership Endowment Fund, and the Endowment Fund will also provide a scholarship for the Mississippi winner to attend the GFWC LEADS workshop.
2. We have needed to update our MFWC bylaws for some time. This is the year that we have decided to "tackle" that project. Please review the proposed bylaws changes and note that we will

vote on each of them on Friday afternoon during the business session.

3. We will have pictures made by districts with our GFWC International President prior to Friday's banquet. We will provide a schedule and an opportunity for clubs within districts to "bond" together and enjoy a convention memento.

4. In lieu of a pre-banquet reception for Carlene, we will have a post-banquet pajama party. Attendees are asked to bring items that we will donate to our state institutions. You will find a list of appropriate items within this magazine. Please come and enjoy the fun. Mississippi clubwomen thoroughly enjoyed the SRC PJ party and want you to be a part of the fun.

5. We are pleased to report that Barbie Bassett will be our prayer breakfast speaker. Many of you know Barbie as the HOBY representative that we have enjoyed talking with for many years. Many of you also know her as the Weather Lady, but she is also an accomplished author. We will look forward to hearing her, and we will have an opportunity to purchase her book.

6. We will present awards very similar to last year except as each club's name is called we will ask club members to come forth for a photo opportunity with Suzanne, Mandy, your District President, and me. We will recognize each Mississippi club, and we will recognize **YOU**. Please be sure to attend that Saturday morning session.

7. We will have a silent auction to benefit my PSP on Friday. Please bring items and enjoy the fun of a silent auction.

Thank you for being an important part of Team MFWC. Please note that I am always available if you have questions or concerns. I will look forward to seeing you SOON.

Love in Volunteer Service,
Tammie

GFWC-MFWC President-elect Suzanne Poynor

MFWC Clubwomen are the best!!! Thank you for being such dedicated VOLUNTEERS. Our members' involvement in our MFWC projects and programs shows pride and commitment in our organization.

Membership is the key to meeting our MFWC goals. "Three New Members is a GREAT Reason to Recruit This Season" is the slogan for our MEMBERSHIP Campaign. The Winter slogan was "Flurry of Members". We certainly had more flurries in Mississippi this year than we usually do. I hope our clubs had "Flurries of Members" as well. I am anxious to hear.

To the delight of us all, Spring is right around the corner! This Spring, the slogan is "Grow Members". Membership must be a priority. Women join a club for

many reasons, such as, to make new friends, have fun, feel needed, accomplish something worthwhile, and contribute to the greater good. The list goes on and on. Let's keep our present members engaged using their skills and creativity as they enjoy a friendly and respectful atmosphere. Then, what better way to find new members than those who are attending a meeting, fundraiser, or community event. Seeing members' enthusiasm and enjoyment as they make a difference in their community will surely "Grow New Members!"

Our Convention in April will be a wonderful time to celebrate the successful projects and programs of our MFWC CLUB MEMBERS! I hope to see you there.

GFWC-MFWC Vice President Libby Everett

As I write this message to you, preparations are being made for Judging Day on February 12th. The anticipation is mounting; we can hardly wait to see what wonderful programs and projects you will report. This has been a "learning" year for all of us. The changes that were made seemed bewildering at first, but we adapted to them. The work in your communities did not stop and that is the main idea; the reason for our existence – to improve the lives of others through volunteer service.

As you review your reports, take note of techniques your club uses to record information/hours. If you feel you have a good model to follow, please share it with me so it can be shared with other clubs. It does make our state look exceptional when many clubs report on a variety of programs and projects, and it also helps our headquarters with the hours you report.

For those of you who are not aware, the historic headquarters building in Jackson is leased from the State of Mississippi. The current lease, renewed in 2000, requires a rental sum of \$500 per month. The federation is allowed to pay this amount with in-kind volunteer hours. These hours come directly from the hours you report each year. The time you spend in service to your community is important on so many levels.

A big thank you to all club members for the work you do. Awards for district winners will be given at each district meeting, and state winners will be announced at the state convention. All the chairmen will be looking forward to presenting these awards and revealing the heart of volunteerism.

During 2011, use your GFWC Club Manual for program ideas, keep up with the hours spent on each, and don't fail to brag (report) when the time comes next year. If I can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Winter Board Meeting Report GFWC-MFWC Recording Secretary Sue Addy

The Winter meeting of the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., Executive Board met on February 12, 2011, in conjunction with Judging Day at the Headquarters Building in Jackson. The building was beautifully decorated by State Headquarters Chairman Teenie Boone and her committee in a

Valentine theme. Justin Boykin, the new headquarters' occupant who is also Diane Rouse's son, assisted with the setup for the meeting.

The Twentieth Century Club of Ackerman submitted a letter of endorsement for Jo Anne Reid as a candidate for the office of GFWC Southern Region Secretary. The Executive Board voted unanimously that the nomination be brought before the 2011 GFWC-MFWC Convention for approval.

Elizabeth Powers, MPB Committee Chairman, urged members to attend MFWC Legislation Day at the Capitol, March 8, 2011, and the sack lunch that will follow at MFWC Headquarters. Members were urged to bring pajamas for Domestic Violence Shelters to district and state conventions.

Cassie Bryant, President's Special Project Committee member, thanked everyone for the tremendous support of the Feeding Fellow Mississippians Project. Lisa Harris, MFWC Website Chairman, informed members that a Newsletter is posted online quarterly with club events and photos included. Tammie's Tidbits and Suz's Snippets are posted monthly with news and encouragement from our President and President-elect.

GFWC-MFWC Parliamentarian Judy Martin

Your Constitution and Bylaws Committee has been hard at work on a much-needed review of the organization's controlling documents. This is evident from the proposed amendments to the GFWC-MFWC Bylaws and Standing Rules that have been appended to the Call to Convention in this magazine.

As you can see, it will be very important for you to be at State Convention to cast your vote on these updates and suggested revisions. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about this process or about eligibility of voting delegates.

In addition, the following amendments to the GFWC-MFWC Standing Rules were made at the February 12, 2011, Winter Board meeting:

1. Standing Rule 12 was amended as follows: "By unanimous consent, the reading of the minutes shall be dispensed with and the President shall appoint a Committee, composed of the Recording Secretary and two other State Officers to approve the minutes. Upon approval, the minutes shall be made available to the members of the Executive Board."

2. Standing Rule 14.B (M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund) was amended as follows: "A detailed accounting of all items of income and disbursements shall be made by the Treasurer to the Executive Board whenever called upon. ~~An annual report shall be made at each Convention.~~"

3. Standing Rule 17.G (on the Sarah Peugh Butterfly Scholarship) was deleted: "~~The amount of the scholarship will increase in multiples of (\$50) if interested individuals or clubs wish to donate funds.~~"

4. A new Standing Rule 17 was adopted and the remaining Standing Rules will be renumbered accordingly. The new Standing Rule 17 provides: "The Malone-Sisk Scholarship is established to encourage leadership education and development by recognizing

the MS LEADS delegate who attends the GFWC LEADS Seminar. This scholarship shall be funded from the interest on the Malone-Sisk Education/Leadership Endowment Fund and/or any other contributions that are specifically designated for this purpose. The scholarship shall be used to defray the cost of attending the GFWC LEADS Seminar at the GFWC International Convention, provided that such funds are available. If funds are available and the Mississippi delegate to the GFWC LEADS Seminar attends only the Seminar, then she shall receive a minimum of \$200 reimbursement. If funds are available and the Mississippi delegate to the GFWC LEADS Seminar attends the entire GFWC International Convention, then she shall receive a minimum of \$500 reimbursement."

5. The current Standing Rule 22 was deleted as follows: "~~All members of any Board, Committee, etc. must be notified in writing of every meeting, such notice to be received at least one month in advance of the meeting date, and shall be sent a written report of all business transacted within two weeks after the meeting.~~" The remainder of the Standing Rules will be renumbered accordingly.

6. Standing Rule 23 was amended as follows: "A permanent, uniquely designed, State President's pin shall be worn by the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs President. This pin shall remain the property of the Mississippi Federation. If the State President should desire a State President's pin of the style designated by the GFWC, it shall be purchased by the Mississippi Federation and presented to her during the Convention of ~~at~~ the installation of her successor by the incoming president."

Please update your Standing Rules accordingly. I look forward to seeing you at State Convention. As always, please feel free to call me, if I can assist you in any way.

GFWC-MFWC Junioresettes Mandy Laiche, Director

Hi MFWC ladies and especially Junioresettes! I hope that you are all having a great 2011 so far. At the time of writing this, I don't have the total hours reported by Junioresettes in 2010, but I did check with Libby Everett and I know we had FOUR Junioresette clubs that turned in reports (twice the number of reporting clubs last year!) I can't wait to get to judging day and see the reports and all they accomplished.

True to one of my goals as Junioresette Director, I have tried to keep in touch with all the Junioresette advisors as much as possible. They usually receive updates once a month or so with important information. However, I seldom hear back from anyone, so I'm not sure if my communication is useful or not. If you are a Junioresette advisor, are you receiving my emails? Are they helpful or just annoying? If you do not receive them, please let me know ASAP, and I will check your email address or either be happy to call you on the phone if you prefer that method. My latest email contained information about reporting, scrapbooks, and the Sarah Peugh Butterfly Scholarship which is due March 1st.

The next upcoming events will be District and State conventions. Please encourage your Junioresettes to

attend! Conventions are an excellent opportunity for them to get a real MFWC experience and see they are part of something bigger than just their own small clubs.

Juniorette Advisors, please let me know if you have questions, and I will be glad to help with whatever I can! I look forward to an amazing 2011!

District Presidents' Reports

District I – Sandra Wright

What a crowd at Winter Board Meeting/Judging Day on February 12. It was a gorgeous weather day for this meeting – no snow as last year! It was good to see my District I members present who are on the state board and/or who participated in judging. Thanks to Jane McArthur from Laurel who rode with me and kept me company.

You should receive this *Mississippi Clubwoman* the week before District I Convention. I hope many of you are planning to join us at Petal Harvey Baptist Church in Petal on Saturday, March 19, for our 96th district convention. Our State President, Tammie McCoy, and State President-elect, Suzanne Poynor, will attend and address the convention. I want to say I greatly appreciate the Cosmopolitan Woman's Club of Petal for agreeing to hostess the district convention. To Sherri Reid, president of this club, I say a big "THANK YOU" to you and your club members for agreeing to have our district convention in Petal with only six weeks notice!

As a reminder, our state convention is April 14-16 in Raymond, MS. Registration deadline is March 31, 2011. Let's all go and support our state organization.

I have visited several clubs this year. I want to encourage you to contact me if you would like me to come to your club meeting this year or next. My email for contact is: Sandra.wright@bellsouth.net. Hope to hear from you soon. And, hope to see you at district convention and state convention.

District II – Lynda Essary

I would like to say hello to District II and I hope everyone made it through the bad weather alright. Spring is soon to arrive!

We have had the District II Convention, and I certainly hope everyone had a good time. I would like to say thank you to the three host clubs, Quitman Woman's Club, Enterprise Woman's Club, and Decatur Woman's Progressive Club, for working so hard to have such a wonderful convention. Special thanks to Carolyn Huey for hosting a lovely dinner on Friday night before the convention for State President Tammie McCoy, State President-elect Suzanne Poynor, and others who attended. Also, thank you Carolyn for allowing us to stay in your home. I want to express appreciation to all of the clubs who reported their hard work. Congratulations to the Club of the Year and District II Clubwoman of the Year! My hat is off to the hard work that District II does for your communities, state, and nation as well as internationally.

I know there has been some adjustment necessary thus far in this administration with the GFWC changes. Through it all, you ladies remain the best. I look forward to seeing many of you at State Convention.

District III – Jo Uptain

Greetings from the cold and snowy south! I never thought I would have an opportunity to write that sentence, but having below freezing temperatures and white stuff falling is getting to be a habit here in Aberdeen. I have no doubt that if we are having climate changes, that MFWC members will meet the issue head on just as we have many other changes such as campaigning for votes for women, founding libraries, and feeding the hungry in Mississippi, just to mention a few of the things we federated club women have done in the past.

What a record we have, but it is the future we are working toward, building it one block at a time, and *Team Tammie* is well underway. Each can of beans, every pound of flour or corn meal, box of pasta, or can of tuna helps someone in need. As we turn that can over, we are already looking for the next sack of groceries for our neighbors down the way, and without even thinking of getting a thank you.

So, even though we have been cold and inconvenienced by the snow and ice, we continue with our club work as usual. I am handing out a thank you to District III clubmembers who have collected those cans, cartons, and boxes of food and for all the volunteer service hours you have given. I cannot ask for a more dedicated group of women than the ones in District III who are more than worthy of a big thank you.

District IV – Misty Wright

Happy New Year from District IV! The beginning of a new year means lots of excitement about convention. I am very proud that we will have seven honor clubs from our district for this year. I know that will mean tons of wonderful reports to be judged on judging day. I have had several emails and calls coming in to me asking about where to send things, so I look forward to all of the awards that my wonderful ladies will be getting.

The ladies in Greenwood are busy as little bees getting ready to host our district convention on February 26th. I honestly have to say that I look forward to our district convention each year like a kid looking forward to Christmas. We have some hard working ladies, and it is always fun to see who gets Clubwoman of the Year and Club of the Year. Will it be a repeat for Batesville Woman's Club, or will there be another club taking home the trophy???? Who knows!!!!

Also, we are all working extremely hard in District IV to get ready to host the state convention in April. I hope that as many of you as possible attend state convention. We will be having some wonderful items with our ways and means coming to your conventions for you to have an opportunity to buy chances on that will be given away at the state convention, so have your money ready!!!! I hope that each district has a wonderful and successful convention.

District V – Mary Edmond

I really missed being at Headquarters for the Winter Board Meeting/Judging Day. From all accounts, it was a very busy time. Now we are all looking forward to our district and state conventions. District V Convention will be in Star and will be hosted by the GFWC-MFWC Star Woman's Club at the Wesleyanna United Methodist Church. We are looking forward to a great day together!

Hopefully, all clubs are participating in our MFWC President Tammie McCoy's Special Project: Feeding Fellow Mississippians. Also, I hope you are giving your support to the Domestic Abuse Shelters in your area. These are trying times for many.

Have a wonderful Spring as you serve your community, your state, and your nation.

GFWC-MFWC Special Appointments

***MFWC President's Special Project:
Feeding Fellow Mississippians
Phyllis Whittington, Chair
Eleanor Bayless, Cassie Bryant,
Shannon Cliburn***

What a great time of the year this is! We have made it through the holidays and are now ready for my favorite time of the year – Spring! So many have helped to keep our Fellow Mississippians fed this winter. It has been a very cold winter, and knowing that we can help in some small way brings comfort to those less fortunate.

The ladies of the State of Mississippi have donated a lot of their time and energy to help with this project. Our statistics show:

- 39 clubs reporting
- 201 programs/projects
- 910 members participating
- 4,946 hours donated
- \$41,017 donated
- \$22,241 in-kind donations
- 30,350 pounds of food.

I know you will rejoice with me that we have done so much for this wonderful project. The year is young and we have a lot to do. Let's see how much we can donate this year in time and money to feed those in need.

***Mississippi Public Broadcasting
Elizabeth Powers, Chair
Jennifer Griffin, Vice Chair***

"Same song, second verse..." Or in this instance, seventh verse. Since 2004 you have been asked to lend your voices, write letters and emails, and make calls in support of Mississippi Public Broadcasting. We know that MFWC made a commitment as early as 1969 to support educational television in Mississippi. We made the members of the Mississippi House and Senate aware that MFWC believed ETV was an opportunity not to be ignored. Mississippi needed educational television. It

was only after a large delegation of clubwomen left a State convention in Starkville and hand delivered hundreds of hand written letters to legislators at the State Capitol that an appropriation was passed that allowed ETV to begin broadcasting. WE had done it. WE must again let our voices be heard. We must again make a strong commitment to Mississippi Public Broadcasting. There are those in the Legislature that would take MPB out of the state budget. Three bills were introduced this year that would have resulted in the demise of MPB. Fortunately, these bills did not make it out of committee. Just think what a tragedy it would be if this should ever happen. MPB has brought many honors and awards to our State. It has provided endless hours of instructional television to students at all levels. It has provided unbiased news programs, weather alerts, and information. It is the only statewide television and radio linkage. This was especially beneficial during hurricane Katrina and Gustav. And just think of the outstanding programs that entertain us daily.

Your influence can mean so much to keep this agency on the air. When asked to make legislative contact, please do. We know it makes a huge difference, and remember Mississippi Public Broadcasting makes a huge difference in the lives of so many Mississippians.

Don't forget our commitment to early childhood education by promoting the use of the award winning literacy program "Between the Lions." Work with Rotary Clubs in their Northern and Central districts and with your local libraries.

Celebrate the 40th anniversary of MPB by making a \$40 donation for every four clubwomen in your local club. These funds are used to help produce local programming focusing on Mississippi and to provide educational materials to teachers, schools, and childcare centers throughout our state.

Let us never forget that our heritage is one of service, our goal, "...personal enrichment leading to volunteer service that benefits the community, state, nation, and world." Supporting MPB is one way to achieve this goal.

GFWC-MFWC Headquarters Teenie Boone, Chair

By the time you get this magazine, we have had Judging Day on February 12 at the Headquarters. THANKS to all of the clubs that reported and for those that sent me your VOLUNTEER HOURS to go toward our lease on the Headquarters Building. For the year 2009, we had a total of 235,302.95 volunteer hours reported from 47 clubs! GREAT NUMBER!!!! Hope we have even more for 2010! We would have to pay \$500 a month lease on our building, but we are allowed a minimum wage for our hours to be applied toward that lease of Mississippi property. If you sent in reports, I can get your hours from the reports, but if you don't report, just send me your hours. It is very easy to just fill in your hours on one of the Report Cover Sheets.

Diane Rouse's son, Justin Boykin, is our new occupant in the Headquarters apartment. He just moved in the first of February. Thanks to Sondra Gould for staying there for four years.

Hope you can have a club meeting at the Headquarters this year. Just call and let me know when you would like to come. I think your members will be very impressed with our beautiful Headquarters. Don't forget to continue to support the 1935 SOCIETY with funds to help maintain the upkeep and help with expenses. HAVE A GREAT YEAR!

Community Service Programs

ARTS

Partnership Dorothy Thomas, Chair

MFWC is supporting the two arts program partnerships arranged by the General Federation of Women's Clubs. One is the *American Mural Project (AMP)*, and the other is *VSA Arts*.

The GFWC current project in support of the AMP is the collection of old, non working watches and donating them plus a dollar for each watch. The money is to acquire the resin to be used in incorporating the watches into the mural. GFWC is also encouraging clubwomen to join the AMP project with a donation of \$6, separate from the \$1 to accompany each watch. Federations, clubs, and individuals are asked to "spread the word" about AMP, promote membership in it, and to encourage schools and civic groups to collaborate on an AMP workshop or fundraiser. The watches and dollars collected should be mailed with a hard copy of the GFWC Watch Collection information spreadsheet to Carol White, Arts Community Service Program Partnership Chairman. Her mailing address, telephone numbers, and email address are available in the 2010-2012 GFWC Club Manual. GFWC has also asked for an electronic version of the spreadsheet to be completed and sent to Ms. White.

AMP is a nonprofit group working toward establishing the largest collaborative piece of indoor artwork in the world. The mural is to be a three dimensional painting celebrating American ingenuity, productivity, and commitment to work. When completed, the work is intended to be 120 feet long and five stories high. We are advised that a special building is being created for it. The building is to be made of a wide variety of materials, including honeycomb aluminum panels, fiberglass, ceramic tiles, fabric, marble, and blown glass. Visit AMP's website at www.AmericanMuralProject.org for additional details and contact information.

VSA Arts is a project which has been supported by GFWC for many years. It is an educational affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the performing Arts. *VSA Arts* is an international organization with the goal of providing quality art programs for children and adults with disabilities to participate in mainstream society. GFWC asks clubs and federations to contact and work with state *VSA* agencies.

VSA Mississippi is a private and nonprofit organization with an objective of providing disabled students with arts opportunities. Ms. V. A. Patterson, Executive Director, has expressed great interest in working with the Federation, affiliated clubs and local schools. The contact information is *VSA Mississippi*, P. O. Box 2364, Jackson, MS 39225-2364. The email address is jacvsa@bellsouth.net and its website is www.vsartsms.org. The telephone number is (601) 965-4866.

***"Those who can, do.
Those who can do more, volunteer."
-Author Unknown***

CONSERVATION

Collaboration Melba Watkins, Chair

As I shared with all of you at Summer Institute in the words of Kermit the Frog, "it ain't easy being green." However, conservation is truly becoming a lot easier. It seems that in the last few months more and more major manufacturers, businesses, organizations, and just plain folks have decided that we all need to become better stewards of our earth and its resources.

Even major television networks have jumped on the band wagon. Public service announcements starring the networks' major stars are being shown daily. Law and Order SVU star Christopher Meloni reminds us about conserving water and how much we waste leaving the water running when brushing our teeth. NBC has deemed itself the "green network." Their parent company General Electric has developed new plans and products for conserving energy and resources called Ecomagination. To bring our attention to this information they utilize a creative and wonderfully cute dancing pachyderm. Whatever it takes to get our attention, right?

Even children's programming has joined the efforts. The Disney Channel has begun highlighting kids who are doing conservation in their communities. The program is called Friends for Change. You might want to introduce your children or grandchildren to this program. Seeing other kids doing conservation work will be a good motivational tool.

The Lipton Company has started putting a frog on their tea boxes and other products. This is to let us know that they are working to reduce waste and that they are concerned about deforestation.

There are many, many products on the market now that tout their concerns about the environment and what they are doing to preserve what we have. We have energy efficient appliances, televisions, and of course, automobiles. If you purchase new products like these, look for the energy saving star.

Finally, I think that conservation is becoming a real concern to all of us. I hope that all of our MFWC members are doing their part to be conservative of our natural resources. If you haven't made a start, recycling is a wonderful place to begin. If you are planning to make home purchases, check the internet for companies that are making real strides toward making better and more efficient products.

Again, I ask you to let me know of interesting things that your clubs are doing toward conservation.

EDUCATION

Collaboration Ella D. Cronin, Chair

In preparation of this article for education, I thought about our work in the context of a busy year for our Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, especially the month of January when annual reports were due. To compound the haste of January, we had a Board meeting the second Saturday morning in February and judging local club entries for 2010 in the afternoon. In education reports, we saw contributions to libraries and Friends of the Library, literacy, scholarships, special needs in local communities, and state organizations.

Libraries have held a special place in our state and local organizations. The MFWC and local clubs remain committed to services of the Mississippi Library Commission and local libraries. With support we join hands with the Friends of the Library, Inc., and local chapters throughout the state's library

system. National Library Week is April 10 through 16, and National Friends of the Library week is October 16 through 22.

Club participation in Friends of the Library is particularly important during these difficult economic times in our state and nation. As state allocations are reduced, clubwomen have important roles to volunteer and support fundraising efforts. An example is a Gala Event in the Bolivar County Library System to raise funds by asking organizations and businesses to be sponsors, citizens to purchase tickets, and participants to bid for items in lotteries. These funds help maintain services through this difficult time.

Literacy continues to be a major educational problem among our school students and adults. Clubwomen may want to reassess their levels of effort in this critical area not only from a learning perspective, but also for employment by those requiring career changes and new entry skills for job opportunities. Many programs in schools, community-based organizations, and libraries may need our help now more than any other period during the last two decades. Examples are reading programs, parental support, parties for special needs children, discovery centers in libraries, books, and technology.

I was excited about successful education programs submitted in the annual reports. I know all were worthy of first place!

HOME LIFE

Partnership *Theresa Buntyn, Chair*

Bristling weather including snow, rain, sleet, and ice have kept club ladies busy with family and community needs throughout this winter. As warmer weather approaches we can spring forward with our home life community partners to provide services for our community. Special days and months observed this spring are April 7 as World Health Day, May as American Stroke Month, Mental Health Month, National Arthritis Month and Older Americans Month, and July as National Retirement Planning Month. Throughout the spring and summer, there are many community events and programs we can volunteer with to help contribute to our communities. Step up and walk three miles for "March for Babies" throughout the state in April and May. The March of Dimes "March for Babies" website provides information about walks located throughout the state if club members would like to participate. The Alzheimer's Association also invites club ladies to join in one of the two Memory Walks, "A Walk to End Alzheimer's," this spring: Oxford Walk or May 7 North MS Walk. For more information, visit their website at www.msaz.org or (601) 987-0020.

Visit the National Heart and Lung institute related NHLBI Educational Tutorials websites to find out all types of information on Heart and Vascular diseases including: The Heart Truth for Women, Postmenopausal Hormone Therapy, The Women's Health Initiative (WHI), Latino Cardiovascular Health Resources, and The Antihypertensive and Lipid-Lowering Treatment to Prevent Heart Attack Trial (ALLHAT). Other tutorials include how to lower blood pressure or cholesterol, improve physical activity, and help fight obesity. Explore the Osteoporosis Foundation, and become a free member to join in the fight to prevent osteoporosis with promotions of healthy diets. Learn about the special program Canine for Companions serving the elderly with protection, the paraplegic with assistance, and the blind by guiding them with the assistance of man's best friend. Many veterans are being assisted through this program. What a wonderful way to show our appreciation to our veterans by contributing to this special organization.

Of course spring brings Easter and the opportunity to participate with Easter Seals. The lily, a symbol of spring, was officially incorporated as Easter Seals' logo in 1952 for its association with resurrection and new life and has appeared on each seal since. Easter Seals offers help, hope, and answers to more than a million children and adults living with autism and other disabilities or special needs and their families each year. Clubs can support this organization to assist individuals with disabilities and their "right to live a normal life."

Club members who enjoy outdoors and want to feel a sense of accomplishment can join with a local Habitat for Humanity affiliate and an individual in building their own home. There are 40 Habitat affiliates throughout Mississippi providing individuals a chance to live with dignity and safety. Donations are always welcome to build affordable housing. Visit the website at www.Habitat.org.

Club ladies, take a few moments to take care of yourself and visit the Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement website at www.WiserWomen.org and learn five things women need to do for retirement.

Yes, spring is here and with it comes many opportunities to partner with these organizations to improve the lives of those in need.

Collaboration *Frances Brown, Chair* *Lisa Barefield, Assistant*

Greetings everyone! I hope 2011 is off to a great start. I would like to challenge each of you to choose at least one healthy lifestyle practice to adopt in 2011. It could be as simple as committing to walking three to five times per week or as lifesaving as scheduling a routine appointment you have been postponing! My friend and I agreed to schedule a colonoscopy we had postponed eight years. She had two suspicious polyps removed. This may have saved her life. If you are putting off a procedure because it may be unpleasant, consider the outcome if potential problems are not found early. Remember there is a lot of truth in the old adage "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!"

Our President's Special Project falls under collaboration. Many of you are working in food pantries as well as keeping them stocked with your donations. I am so proud of you. Keep up the good work!

I encourage you to plan programs or projects around upcoming dates of commemoration in the GFWC Home Life Community Service Program area. March is American Red Cross Month. Tuberculosis is still around, and March 24 is World TB Day. April is Cancer Control Month, and April 7th is World Health Day. Many of you are already involved in Relay for Life. If not, you may consider this opportunity to serve and to learn. For more information visit www.relayforlife.org or call 1-800-227-2345. May is Mental Health and Older Americans Month. You may collaborate with the nursing home or mental health facility to plan activities to enhance the lives of the elderly and disabled. August is National Immunization Month. With Whooping Cough making a comeback, be sure that your immunizations are up to date.

Once again, if you have not scheduled your annual physical, may this be a reminder to do so. As always, don't forget to report! Please call 662-414-1048 or email frannabrown@hotmail.com if I can help.

"How wonderful it is that nobody wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."
-Anne Frank

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

Partnership Sherri Reid, Chair

INMED

Our Newest International Outreach Partner Reaping Results: Establishing Community Gardens to Reduce Hunger

For too many children around the world, their hope for the future is not matched by opportunity. Facing poor health and malnutrition, a generation of children is at risk. **INMED Partnerships for Children** is an international humanitarian organization committed to rescuing children from the immediate and irreversible harm of disease, hunger, abuse, neglect, or violence and preparing them to shape a brighter future for themselves and the next generation.

Healthy Futures South Africa is INMED's school- and community-based gardening program that aims to reduce hunger by teaching children, their teachers, and the members of their community how to establish and maintain vegetable gardens, ultimately improving their health and nutritional status.

Thandiwe struggled to stay awake in class. Most days she went to school on an empty stomach and looked forward only to a lunch of corn porridge—provided, that is, that it did not rain and put out the cooking fires in the school yard. Some days she simply did not have the energy to go to school at all. Thandiwe was much too small for her age, her growth stunted by poor nutrition, and she was performing below grade level academically.

Things soon began to change for Thandiwe when she and her classmates learned how to start and maintain a vegetable garden. INMED field staff trained the children, the teachers, and the food preparers on what to plant, how to fertilize using recycled materials, how to harvest the crops, and how to prepare the food for maximum nutritional value. Today, school attendance is on the rise because children look forward to their filling, nutritious lunches; community members have begun to establish their own household gardens, resulting in fresh produce for their own families; and participating schools are generating additional income from the sale of surplus produce.

This story ends on a happy note. However, Thandiwe and all the children like her don't stand a chance without the right nutrition. INMED is seeing to it that children in the United States, Brazil, South Africa, Peru, and the Caribbean have access to opportunities that would otherwise be unavailable.

This is your opportunity to partner with INMED and make a difference in the lives of children who need food, medicine and protection. Call us at 703-729-4951 ext. 227, email us at mbolado@inmed.org or visit us at www.inmed.org to help a child today.

PUBLIC ISSUES

Partnership Darlene Adams, Chair

Congratulation MFWC clubs! In 2010, a total of 95.5 hours, \$171 dollars and \$135 "in-kind donations" were spent partnering with GFWC designated Public Issues – Partnership. Both district and state winners will be announced at their respective conventions. However, if you reported in this area, you are ALL WINNERS in my book!

Now, here is the problem ladies. Many clubs do not

understand Partnership projects/programs as yet. Just because you may do a project or program that seems to go with the Partnership organization does not mean you can write a report under this section. You **MUST CONTACT** the organization to partner with them. Partnering takes two or more sides coming together to achieve the goals of the organization. You can call, email, or write the organization. Get information for your members via newsletters or brochures; find out their needs. Then, figure out a project/program your club can do to help. It's that easy.

If your club inadvertently filed under Public Issues – Partnership, but your programs/project did not belong there, don't worry. They were moved to Public Issues – Collaborations. So all your hard work did not go unnoticed and was credited.

If you haven't had the opportunity to partner with any of these organizations, you still have time in this administration. Let's take a look at three of the six Partners in detail:

- **Coalition against Bigger Trucks, LLC** - www.CABT.org
A grass root organization with the mission of preventing increases in truck size and weight due to safety and environmental concerns. Have your members go to their website and view maps and current weight/size restriction for each state.
- **Safe Kids USA - National Safe Kids Campaign**
www.SafeKids.org
A nationwide network of organizations working to prevent unintentional childhood injury, the leading cause of death and disability for children ages one to 14. Hold a program to educate parents and grandparents on how to keep children safer.
- **National Disaster Search Dog Foundation**
www.SearchDogFoundation.org
Recruits rescued dogs and partners them with firefighters and other first responders to find people buried alive in the wreckage of disasters. They offer these animals trained and ongoing training at no cost to fire departments. Contact this organization to see what your club can do to help.

Don't forget, if you send any monetary donations to any of the six Partners, send it through our MFWC State Treasurer, Shirley Hilburn, who will forward to the organization. Write your check to MFWC and send a note to Shirley which organization it needs to go to.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me. Keep up the great work!

Collaboration Annajeral Knight, Chair

Some things, events, or days you might build into your programs on Public Issues in the coming months:

- April is Alcohol Awareness Month. Talk to your high schools and see if you can help with an anti-alcohol campaign before the prom season begins.
- April is also National Trauma Awareness Month. Have a spokesperson from FEMA or MEMA come and speak to your club members.
- May 21st is Armed Forces Day. Send a thank you note or a goodie box to a soldier (if you need a name or an address, call me and I can give you one).
- July 4th is Independence Day. Celebrate our freedom by flying the flag...hold a children's parade with bikes, tricycles, go carts, or even ponies. Be creative.

Politicians are getting geared up for the primary elections. It is very important to know how your politician stands on important legislation. Be sure you know more than a name.

I enjoyed reading your reports on Judging Day and getting to know all the good things Mississippi clubwomen have been doing for Public Issues.

Thank you for all your hard work. Keep it up! If I can help in any way, please give me a call.

GFWC ADVANCEMENT

Fundraising ***Jennifer Griffin, Chair***

First let's start with – **YAY, YOU!** What servant hearts you have. How do we know? The questions you have posed about fundraising, whether to support local projects or GFWC Partnerships, keep coming in and that's great! Let's try to answer a few of your questions below.

If we as a club or as an individual clubwoman want to make a contribution to one/all of the GFWC Partners, do we send our checks directly to the partner or do they go to MFWC?

Either way is fine, but there is a "preferred" procedure. Consider sending your GFWC Partner contributions to MFWC State Treasurer Shirley Hilburn. Shirley will then forward on your support to the appropriate GFWC Partner. This allows you and your local club some 'reporting assurance' and allows MFWC Officers an opportunity to see just how large your hearts are in embracing national and international GFWC projects.

To those that have been sending contributions directly to GFWC or the GFWC Partner, State President Tammie McCoy says, "It all works out great no matter how you send your contributions. Mississippi Clubwomen are very generous and whether you send your contribution checks to the MFWC State Treasurer, GFWC, or directly to the GFWC Partner, the fact that you sent a contribution speaks volumes to the selfless acts of kindness you do every day. Just remember, no matter how you get your contribution to them, to report your giving!"

What should our club report under Fundraising?

Say your club raised \$20,000 last year for projects through several fundraisers. Of the total, your club gave varying amounts to the GFWC Community Service Programs and Special Projects - \$2,000 to support local art projects (Art), \$5,000 to March of Dimes (Home Life), \$6,000 to your local domestic violence shelter (Signature Project), and \$2,000 to your club treasury to support our club's operating expenses.

You report the entire \$20,000 raised by your club in the "Dollars Donated" column under the "GFWC Advancement" section in the Fundraising row. You will then report the varying funds donated to the different Community Service Programs and Special Projects in their specific row.

Isn't this "cross" or "double" reporting?

No. GFWC considers "Dollars Donated" by GFWC members to various Community Service Programs and Special Projects separately from dollars raised through GFWC members' fundraising efforts. Clubs are reporting the funds that they raise through their fundraising efforts in "Dollars Donated," although the Reporting Form should say "Dollars Raised" under the GFWC Advancement areas. In the future, the GFWC will shade the "Dollars Donated/Raised" section in the Advancement Area and re-title the column to "Dollars Raised" to clarify this.

Please note that no other amounts from "Dollars Donated" should be allocated to other Advancement Areas, other than Fundraising. If your club used \$1,000 of the \$2,000 from "Dollars Donated/Raised," which was part of the club's treasury to support operating expenses, to fund a membership development drive, that \$1,000 **is not reported** under Membership in the Advancement Area.

Legislation and Public Policy ***Sandra Pope, Chair*** ***Elizabeth Massey, Assistant***

We have just returned from Winter Board and Judging Day and were amazed at all the wonderful entries in Legislation and Public Policy. Thank you for all the hard work and for your dedication to MFWC. We enjoyed reading all you have done to promote Legislation and Public Policy in your club and your community this club year. It is clubwomen like you that make the great difference in our communities!

If you have not already done so, please appoint an interested and informed member to serve as your club's Public Policy Chairman. Continue to educate your clubs by becoming familiar with the public policies of GFWC by reviewing the current GFWC Resolutions. Invite an elected official to discuss the importance of constituent involvement. Develop a comprehensive club strategy by actively advocating GFWC priority issues and by developing programs on civic participation for your local clubs. We also encourage you to subscribe to LegNet – GFWC's electronic newsletter that advances and supports GFWC's impact on important policy issues. Check your club manual for other resources and websites.

Looking forward to seeing you at State Convention!

GFWC Contests ***Jennie Award*** ***Carolyn C. Huey, Chair***

Just a reminder that

Every club in Mississippi

Needs to have their club's

Nomination

In to our state President, Tammie McCoy,

Efficiently by June 15, 2011

The Jennie Award contest narrative and the nomination form are contained in the Awards Contests, and Grants section of the *2010-2012 GFWC Club Manual*. You can access this online at www.GFWC.org/ClubManual. Click on "GFWC Awards, Contests and Grants," and then "Jennie Award Nomination Form." The forms can also be found in the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., Handbook, Section 4, pp. 19-21, or by visiting our website at www.gfwc-mfwc.org.

*We make a living
by what we do,
but we make a life
by what we give.*

– Winston Churchill

OFFICIAL CALL
GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc.
113th STATE CONVENTION
Eagle Ridge Conference Center
Raymond, Mississippi
April 14 – 16, 2011
Tammie McCoy, RN, PhD
GFWC-MFWC President 2010-2012

The one hundred thirteenth annual convention of the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., will convene in Raymond, Mississippi, Thursday – Saturday, April 14 – 16, 2011.

REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION

The Convention is open to all members of GFWC-MFWC.

Registration will be at the Eagle Ridge Conference Center on Thursday, April 14th from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.; Friday, April 15th from 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., and on Saturday, April 16th from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. (**MS LEADS Registration** will be handled separately. MS LEADS participants will be provided with complete details.) **MS LEADS is sponsored by the Malone-Sisk Education/Leadership Endowment Fund.*

The deadline for hotel reservations is March 24, 2011. The block of hotel rooms will be released after this date. Convention registration for meals must be received by March 31, 2011. Meal reservations will not be guaranteed after this date.

All members attending must be registered. Advance registration is necessary for all meal tickets. Prices and the meal reservations form, along with the Credentials Card, can be found on the following pages.

You may make your own **room reservations** by calling (601) 857-7100. Please identify yourself as a member of the group – MFWC Annual State Convention. The room rate is \$72.00 per night (not including tax and fees) for single occupancy and \$82.00 per night for double occupancy. There will be an additional charge of \$10.00 for each additional occupant per room. Check-in is 3:00 p.m., and check-out is 11:00 a.m. ***Room Reservation deadline is March 24, 2011.*** Any guaranteed reservation not cancelled 24 hours prior to arrival will be billed to your credit card.

EXHIBITS

The Exhibit Room will close at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 15th, and all Youth Art, Photography, Scrapbook, and Yearbook entries **MUST** be picked up on Friday evening between 6:00 and 6:30. **Clubs are completely responsible for retrieving entries from the Exhibit Room.**

REPRESENTATION

The Voting Body shall consist of the General Officers, Appointed Officers, Past State Presidents, State Chairmen of Standing Committees and Department Programs, District Officers and Chairmen, corresponding with those of the State, and regularly accredited Club delegates. Voting delegates shall wear special designation on their name badges. Each Federation Club of fifteen (15) members or less shall be entitled to representation by the President or her appointee and one elected delegate. For each additional membership of fifteen (15) or major fraction thereof, a club shall be allowed another delegate.

RESOLUTIONS

Emergency resolutions may be presented to the Resolutions Committee. All other resolutions must be submitted in advance, pursuant to Article IX, Section 9 B-C of the GFWC-MFWC Bylaws. *An emergency resolution is one arising from a sudden condition calling for immediate actions, which because of its nature could not have been submitted at the designated time.*

113th STATE CONVENTION
GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc.
Tammie McCoy, RN, PhD
GFWC-MFMC President 2010-2012
Schedule of Events

THURSDAY, APRIL 14:

2:00 p.m. Audit Committee Meeting, Eagle Ridge Conference Center, Room 2223
 3:00 p.m. Finance and Executive Committee Meetings, ERCC, Room 2223
 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Registration, ERCC Lobby

FRIDAY, APRIL 15:

8:00 a.m. – 6:00p.m. Registration, ERCC Lobby
 8:00 a.m. – 6:00p.m. **Silent Auction, ERCC Gallery**
 8:30 a.m. – 6:00p.m. Shop Vendors, ERCC Gallery
 View Art, Photography, and Books, ERCC Eagle Room
 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. LEADS Seminar, ERCC Room 2223
 Deborah Tierce, Speaker
 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Executive Board Meeting, ERCC Auditorium
 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Brunch, ERCC, Dining Room (1st floor)
 "The Spirit of Teamwork"
 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Opening Ceremonies and Business Session, ERCC Auditorium
 (Business Attire)

- State Officer Reports
- District Officer Reports
- Community Service Program Reports
- Advancement Area Reports
- Bylaws Vote

6:00 p.m. **Pick Up All Exhibits**
 6:30 p.m. District Pictures with GFWC International President, ERCC Foyer
 6:45 p.m. Processional Assembles
 7:00 p.m. Banquet (Formal Attire), "A Team Celebration", Dining Room

- Featuring Carlene Garner, GFWC International President
- Recognition of District Clubwomen of the Year
- Recognition of District Clubs of the Year
- Recognition of District Presidents
- Recognition of LEADS Participants
- Challenge Grant
- Hebron Memorial Scholarship
- Sarah Peugh Butterfly Scholarship

Gavel Club Meeting, Immediately Following Banquet
 Location To Be Announced

9:00 p.m. until Pajama party reception honoring Carlene Garner, GFWC President
 *Bring items for the state institutions (toiletries, socks, etc.)

SATURDAY, APRIL 16:

7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Registration
 7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Prayer Breakfast and Memorial Service, Dining Room
 "A Team Inspiration" featuring Barbie Bassett
 9:00 a.m. – Noon Business Session, ERCC Auditorium

- Club Awards
- Guest Speakers
- Club Of the Year Awards
- Club Recognitions

Noon Adjournment

113th STATE CONVENTION
GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc.
Tammie McCoy, RN, PhD
GFWC-MFWC President 2010-2012
Registration and Meal Reservation Form

Club Member: _____
Club Name: _____ **District:** _____
Phone #: _____ **Email Address:** _____

Registration Fees and Meal Reservations:

		Member	Booster
Registration (1 day only)	\$15.00	\$ _____	\$ _____
Registration (2 days)	\$20.00	\$ _____	\$ _____
Board Brunch, 4/15	\$15.00	\$ _____	\$ _____
Banquet, 4/15	\$30.00	\$ _____	\$ _____
Prayer Breakfast, 4/16	\$15.00	\$ _____	\$ _____
 *Late Fee	 \$10.00	 \$ _____	 \$ _____
	Total Cost:	\$ _____	\$ _____

** Per GFWC-MFWC Standing Rule Number 8, a late fee of \$10.00 will be assessed for attendees whose registration is not received by Diane Rouse by **March 31, 2011**.*

CREDENTIAL CARD

GFWC-MFWC 113th Annual Convention

Club Member: _____
Club Name: _____ **District:** _____
Phone #: _____ **Email Address:** _____

_____ I am a Non-Voting Delegate

I am a Voting Delegate because I am: *(Please mark only the highest position you hold.)*

_____ An elected or appointed State Officer of GFWC-MFWC.

_____ A Past State President of GFWC-MFWC.

_____ A State Chairman of a Standing Committee or Department of GFWC-MFWC.

_____ A District Officer or Chairman corresponding with those of the State.

_____ A regularly accredited delegate for my club.

(Note: Each club of 15 members or less shall be entitled to representation by the President or her appointee and one (1) elected delegate. For each additional 15 members, or major fraction thereof, a club shall be allowed another delegate.)

Voting delegate, please have Club President sign and mail this along with your meal reservations.

Club President

Mail this form along with a check made payable to: GFWC-MFWC 2011 State Convention
 by **March 31, 2011** to: Diane Rouse, MFWC Meetings Coordinator
 2323 Tiffany Circle
 Florence, MS 39073
 crouse99@yahoo.com

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE GFWC-MFWC CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

By direction of the Executive Board, the Constitution and Bylaws Committee recommends the following amendments to the Bylaws. These proposed amendments will be presented for a vote at the 2011 State Convention:

1. **Amend the Bylaws to delete any reference to "Department" or "Departments" and insert the phrase "Community Service Program" or "Community Service Programs" as appropriate throughout the document.**
RATIONALE: To conform to GFWC Bylaws and current terminology.
2. **Amend the last sentence of Article I, Section 1.B to change the title of Juniorette Chairman to Juniorette Director.**
IF ADOPTED, the last sentence of Article I, Section 1.B would read: "A State Juniorette ~~Chairman~~ Director shall be appointed by the President to have general supervision of, and to promote the work of, all Juniorette Clubs."
RATIONALE: To conform with current practice.
3. **Amend Article I, Section 2.A to streamline language on the submission of applications for membership presented by new clubs. (There is no substantive change to the actual application procedure.)**
IF ADOPTED, Article I, Section 2.A would read: "General Clubs and Juniorette Clubs may submit to the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Membership Chairman an application for GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs membership, together with a copy of the Constitution and Bylaws of the club and proper dues. ~~Such applications shall be sent to the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Membership Chairman.~~ Upon approval by the Membership Committee, the application shall be forwarded to the State President who shall issue a club Charter. No political, partisan or sectarian test shall be required, and no secret organization shall be eligible for membership."
RATIONALE: To clarify and streamline language.
4. **Amend Article III, Section 3.E to: 1) grant the Executive Board the authority to declare an office vacant when an officer is incapacitated or otherwise fails to perform, and 2) eliminate a 3-month waiting period to declare a vacancy.**
IF ADOPTED, Article III, Section 3.E would read: "If any officer is incapacitated or ~~unable~~ fails to perform her duties, the Executive Board may declare the office vacant ~~for a period of three months, the office is declared vacant.~~"
RATIONALE: To protect the organization in the event that an officer is unable or unwilling to perform her duties and to ensure proper functioning of the organization by eliminating the requirement of a three-month waiting period for a vacancy to be official.
5. **Amend Article III, Section A.2.e to add to the duties of the President the appointment of a Circulation Editor to the *Mississippi Clubwoman* Editorial Staff.**
IF ADOPTED, Article III, Section A.2.e (duties of the President) would read: "To appoint the Editor, Assistant Editor, and Circulation Editor of the *Mississippi Clubwoman* and serve as an ex-officio member of the Editorial Staff."
RATIONALE: To 1) conform to current practice, and 2) formalize the much-needed position of a person to maintain the magazine's circulation list.
6. **Amend Article III, Section A.2.p and Article III, Section D.1.a to transfer the duty to compile a permanent record of each administration from the President to the Recording Secretary and to clarify the minimum records to be maintained.**
IF ADOPTED, Article III, Section A.2.p would be deleted from the duties of the President: "~~To compile a permanent record of her administration to be kept at State Headquarters.~~"
IF ADOPTED, Article III, Section D.1.a (duties of the Recording Secretary) would read: "To compile ~~keep in a permanent form record of the administration (including the minutes of the Finance Committee, Executive Committee, Executive Board, and State Convention and of the Executive Board, -~~ 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."

RATIONALE: To 1) streamline compilation of documents, since Recording Secretary is obligated to keep them all, anyway, 2) clarify the minimum documents to be maintained, and 3) conform to current practice.

7. **Amend Article III, Section D.1.b to clarify that the Recording Secretary may transmit certain items electronically.**

IF ADOPTED, Article III, Section D.1.b (duties of the Recording Secretary) would read: "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. She shall send ~~mail~~ copies of these actions to all members of the Executive Committee within two weeks."

RATIONALE: To allow flexibility and savings on postage by allowing use of electronic technology.

8. **Amend Article III, Section E.1.d to clarify the duties of the Treasurer regarding preparation and distribution of financial records.**

IF ADOPTED, Section E.1.d (duties of the Treasurer) would read: "To keep an accurate account of all receipts and expenditures and send ~~be ready when called upon by the President or Executive Board to Finance and Executive Committee members~~ render a statement, at least quarterly, showing the amounts credited to the various accounts, the disbursements, and the balance on hand. She shall also prepare and present a Treasurer's Report of this information at the request of the President or the Executive Board."

RATIONALE: To 1) clarify the duties of the Treasurer, and 2) conform to current practice.

9. **Amend Article III, Section F.3.a.ii to have the Convention programs bound along with the club histories and to delete Section F.3.a.iii which currently requires the Historian to keep a copy of the Convention programs in her files.**

IF ADOPTED, Section F.3.a.ii (duties of the Historian) would read: "To have club histories and a copy of the Programs of the Convention bound annually and placed at State Headquarters."

IF ADOPTED, Section F.3.a.iii (duties of the Historian) would be deleted: "~~To keep in her files a copy of the Programs of the Convention.~~"

RATIONALE: To permanently preserve Convention programs as part of the organization's history.

10. **Amend Article V, Section 5 and Section 5.A to: 1) eliminate the requirement for a locked box at officer elections; 2) allow the State President to determine the time and place of elections (and not the Convention Chairman); 3) to give the Credentials Committee flexibility in the manner in which it verifies voting delegate status.**

IF ADOPTED, Article V Section 5 and Section 5.A would read as follows: "The election of officers shall be in even-numbered years. At the first business session of the Convention in even-numbered years the President shall appoint as Tellers one representative from each District to conduct the election. ~~They shall have a locked or sealed box to receive the ballots.~~ The balloting, which shall be done at the time and place designated by the State President ~~Convention Chairman~~, shall be conducted as follows:

A. Each voting delegate as designated ~~voter shall present a voting delegate card which was issued by the Credentials Committee shall be allowed to cast a ballot at the time of registration and her name shall be checked on the Tellers list of voters before a ballot is issued.~~

RATIONALE: To 1) streamline the election process, and 2) conform to current practice.

11. **Amend Article VII, Section 5 to streamline procedures for verifying voting delegates and to require that voting delegates be visibly identified.**

IF ADOPTED, Article VII, Section 5 would read: "Voting D~~e~~legates shall be verified by the ~~present their credentials promptly to the Credentials Committee and designated in some manner that will be visible to the Tellers~~ so that the Committee may prepare a correct list of those attending the Convention, this list to be arranged alphabetically by towns with clubs of each town in alphabetical order. A copy of that part of the Committee's report showing the number of delegates registered shall be given to the Chairman of Tellers."

RATIONALE: To 1) allow flexibility to the Credentials Committee in the method to be used to verify voting delegates, and 2) conform to current practice.

12. **Amend Article IX by deleting the current Section 3.C to delete the requirement of the Finance Committee Minute Book (given the previous recommendation that these minutes be kept by the Recording Secretary and placed in her records) and to renumber/revise the current Section 3.D to clarify which members shall be given a copy of Certificates of Deposit.**
IF ADOPTED, Article IX, Section 3.C would be deleted: "~~A Finance Committee Minute Book shall be kept at the State Headquarters. All proceedings of the Finance Committee of each administration shall be kept in this book. The budget of each administration shall be filed in this book.~~"
IF ADOPTED, the current Article IX, Section 3.D would be renumbered as 3.C and would read: "A copy of all Certificates of Deposit shall be placed in the Finance Committee Minutes. A copy shall also be in the possession of the Treasurer, Finance Committee Chairman, and the President."
RATIONALE: To 1) be consistent with the prior recommendation that the Finance Committee Minutes be kept by the Recording Secretary and placed in her records, and 2) to conform to current practice.
13. **Delete Article IX, Section 5.C to eliminate the requirement that the Long-Range Planning Committee meet twice a year.**
IF ADOPTED, Article IX, Section 5.C (Long-Range Planning Committee) would be deleted: "~~This Committee shall meet at least two (2) times a year.~~"
RATIONALE: To conform to current practice of meeting when Committee has issues to discuss of its own initiative or at the request of the Executive Board or Executive Committee and to delete the requirement of meeting in cases where there is no business to be discussed.
14. **Amend Article IX, Section 7.A to alter the composition of the Membership Committee by deleting the required appointment of a Juniorette Club member and inserting the required appointment of the Juniorette Director.**
IF ADOPTED, Article IX, Section 7.A would read: "The Membership Committee shall be composed of a Chairman, the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs President-elect, one member from each GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs District, and the Juniorette Director."
RATIONALE: To 1) alleviate the difficulty of finding an experienced Juniorette member who can make a two-year commitment (given the inevitable graduation of experienced members), and 2) to ensure that Junioresses are given representation on the Membership Committee, nonetheless.
15. **Amend Article IX, Section 7.B by adding subsection 4 to the duties of the Membership Committee to be consistent with Article 1.**
IF ADOPTED, Article IX, Section 7.B.4 would be added (under duties of the Membership Committee): "To consider and act upon applications for membership as stated in Article 1."
RATIONALE: To maintain consistency within the document.
16. **Amend Article XI, Section 6 to clarify the duties of the Circulation Editor of the *Mississippi Clubwoman* magazine (given the prior recommendation establishing the Circulation Editor as a position on the Editorial Staff).**
IF ADOPTED, Article XI, Section 6 would read: "The Circulation Editor shall maintain an up-to-date mailing list for the *Mississippi Clubwoman*, making necessary additions, deletions, and corrections upon notification of such changes. She shall also be responsible for distributing the *Mississippi Clubwoman* to GFWC leaders, as directed by the State President."
RATIONALE: To 1) eliminate the requirement that the Editor also maintain the mailing list; 2) conform to current practice; and, 3) provide consistency with the prior recommendation regarding establishment of the Circulation Editor as a member of the Editorial Staff.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE GFWC-MFWC STANDING RULES

By direction of the Executive Board, the Constitution and Bylaws Committee recommends the following amendment to the Standing Rules. This proposed amendment will be presented for a vote at the 2011 State Convention:

1. **Amend the Standing Rules to delete any reference to "Department" or "Departments" and insert the phrase "Community Service Program" or "Community Service Programs" as appropriate throughout the document.**
RATIONALE: To conform to GFWC Bylaws and current terminology.

GFWC-MFWC Ways & Means

Diane Rouse, Central Chair

Tracey Waits, South Chair; Amy Jacobs, North Chair

These items will be available at District Conventions and State Convention:

GFWC-MFWC Apron
(available in white or green)
\$20.00

GFWC-MFWC Umbrella
\$15.00

"Team Tammie" Yellow T-shirt
\$15.00

MFWC Sweatshirts
\$20.00

(only sizes Medium and Large are left)

MFWC White Polo Shirt
\$20.00
(must be ordered-
call or e-mail Diane Rouse)
(sizes Small to 3X available)

GFWC-MFWC Embossed Note cards
\$6.00 (per pack of 10)

GFWC Note cards
\$6.00 (per pack of 10)

GFWC-MFWC Membership Pins
\$5.00

For more information, please contact
Diane Rouse at crouse99@yahoo.com
or 601-454-5350.

***A Silent Auction will be held Friday,
April 15, 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. at
State Convention with all proceeds
going to the President's Special Project:
Feeding Fellow Mississippians.
Please bring your items for the auction
to the Eagle Ridge Conference Center
Gallery by 8:00 a.m. on Friday.***

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

GFWC-MFWC State Convention Program Ads

The 2011 State Convention will be held April 14-16, 2011, at Eagle Ridge Conference Center in Raymond, Mississippi. In selling or buying an ad in the Convention Program, please complete the following information for each ad submitted. The program pages will be 8½ x 11 inches.

Ad Size (check one)	Cost
<input type="checkbox"/> Full page	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> ½ page	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> ¼ page	\$30
<input type="checkbox"/> ⅛ page	\$20
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$10

Name of Company/Person purchasing the ad: _____

Email: _____

Amount Paid: _____

Name of Clubwoman selling the ad: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Club and City: _____

Ordering Instructions:

- All ad information should be submitted with this form.
- Ads should be camera ready if at all possible.
- Ads can be a camera ready copy of another ad or a business card.
- Any GRAPHICS or PICTURES **must** be CAMERA READY. Photographs are allowed, but not encouraged as they do not print well.
- Make checks payable to: GFWC-MFWC 2011 State Convention
- Mail check, ad and completed form to:
Lisa A. Harris, 822 SCR 115 S, Raleigh,
MS 39153

Order Deadline: March 25, 2011

**You are invited to a
Pajama Party Reception**

honoring

**Carlene Garner
GFWC International President**

**at the
GFWC-MFWC
113th State Convention**

**Friday, April 15, 2011
9:00 P.M.**

**PLEASE BRING
ITEMS AND
DONATIONS FOR
STATE INSTITUTIONS**

Mississippi State Hospital

**Toiletries
Socks**

Mississippi School for the Deaf

Monetary Donations for Uniforms

Mississippi School for the Blind

**Monetary donations for
purchasing Braille books through
RIF (Reading is Fundamental)
program. These will be books the
students can keep.**

**GFWC
International Convention
June 18 – 20, 2011
Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

***Living the Vision: Today,
Tomorrow, and Beyond***

Convention attendees will

- ❖ *Receive unparalleled educational and networking opportunities*
- ❖ *learn about best practices*
- ❖ *discuss common needs and goals*
- ❖ *foster friendships*

*All meeting participants are responsible for making their own travel reservations to and from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as well as securing their own hotel reservations at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center. Reservations must be made by **May 13, 2011**, in order to secure the group rate of \$169 night (single/double occupancy, plus applicable taxes).*

**Make your reservations at:
Hilton Milwaukee City Center
509 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203**

**Reservations Number:
1-800-HILTONS (1-800-445-8667)
Reference: GFWC**

**Visit www.GFWC.org/Convention
for additional travel, hotel, and
preliminary agenda information.**

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

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*General Federation of Women's Clubs
Southern Region Conference Huntsville, AL - October 2010*

Mississippi Delegation to 2010 Southern Region Conference with GFWC Officers

Pictured are (front row) Mary Ellen Laister, 2010-2012 GFWC International President-elect; Suellen Brazil, 2010-2012 Southern Region President; Carlene Garner, 2010-2012 GFWC International President; and Tammie McCoy, 2010-2012 GFWC-MFWC President; (second row), Theresa Buntyn, Carolyn Huey, Lisa Harris, Ivous Sisk, Rowena Drinkwater, Lynda Essary, Sherri Reid, and Suzanne Poynor; (third row), Jeanith Burdine, Libby Everett, Sue Addy, Jo Anne Reid, Opal Melvin, Cathy Higgins, and Jackie Richardson; (back row) Judy Martin and Mary Edmond.