



Mississippi Clubwoman

Volume LXXI, Number 4

Spring 2022



Plant ♣ Recycle ♻ Pick It Up 

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Dates to Remember

April 21-23
MFWC State Convention

April 24-30
GFWC Volunteers in Action Week

April 24
GFWC Federation Day

June 25-28
GFWC Annual Convention
New Orleans, LA

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.”*

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A Message From MFWC President Sherri E. Reid

Thank you all for the projects, activities, and volunteering your clubs did for our Mississippi communities and beyond our state borders. We have not stopped, and it is wonderful to see the creativity and love shared by MFWC members. I looked back at past president's last articles for the magazine; I will not copy their articles, but man where did the time go? I am just getting the hang of this position! I might also add that it was a little different than my predecessors. This will be my first in person MFWC State Convention, so it has been a little different planning this one than the Zoom meeting. For our 2022 State Convention, I literally must think ... where do things go? How much time between afternoon session and the gala so we can be back downstairs for photos? and well, you see my conundrum. Thank you to all the powers that be for the much-needed advice in answering these questions.

While I am thanking someone, I must mention Carolyn Tedford and Lisa Harris for getting all the reporting sheets out and getting them back in and filled out for our chairman. Chairmen, thank you and your assistants who judged reports and then were able to get them back to Carolyn Tedford. Godspeed on getting reports sent to GFWC!! Whew, what a process but every year we get better and better. It takes a village, and our village is awesome. I am so thankful to be among all of you because it takes all of us.

I hope you are excited about attending our State Convention in Raymond, MS. There could not be a better setting for it. The Hinds Community College golf course is the landscape for the Convention Center. My husband, an avid golfer, and I have spent many vacations on golf courses. This one is beautiful and smack dab in the middle of our state. The staff could not be any more helpful. They truly are excited that we will be there. Years ago, we had our conventions in this venue every other year. So glad to be back, and we will become spoiled with the prices we are paying. I ask you to share with your club members and encourage them to attend.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart and down to my toes for the support that you have given me and my President's Special Project the past year and a half. It has been awesome and one of my greatest pleasures in life has been being your President.

Much love to each of you and our federation,

Sherri Reid



MFWC President-elect and Membership Chairman Theresa Buntyn



Greetings, club ladies. First of all,, I would like to express my gratitude to our volunteers across the state that have continued to serve your community and for your resiliency. MFWC Club ladies are the **Best**, and I congratulate our clubs that have increased their membership and found innovative ways to meet despite our two years of a pandemic. I know we all wish that we are turning a new page this year and that the pandemic would end. I pray and hope this will happen. We miss our connectivity, socialization and time with our Federated Friends.

Do we, as club members, find that we want to volunteer throughout this pandemic but do not know how without jeopardizing our health and others?

Here are some ideas from our club members of MFWC and GFWC.

- Partner with other organizations in our local communities to “Make a Difference.”
- Help with local food pantries. Provide non-perishable food items, sort food items, pack boxes, or deliver food items to homebound individuals who cannot leave their homes.
- Be a health screener by performing touchless temperature checks or asking screening questions before individuals enter a building.
- Host a diaper, food or personal hygiene drive to help people in need.

Thank you for being such dedicated club members. Several of our clubs have grown in numbers and become innovative in projects and programs that show pride and commitment to our organization.

Membership, of course, is the key to MFWC growth and financial stability as well as providing support for our state.

Our current membership as of July 12, 2020, was as follows:

830 General Members

172 Juniorette Members

1 Member at Large

For a total of 1003 Members

Our current membership as of February 2022, was as follows:

662 General Members

125 Juniorette Members

Total of 787 Members

Unfortunately, this is a 21 % loss of membership for our Federation.

By growing our membership, we make MFWC stronger.

Can we do this? Can we be successful? **Of course, we can!**

Remember on our GFWC-MFWC web page; Mississippi Clubwomen founded the following purpose.



In 1898, Mississippi women launched out into broader fields by the organization of the GFWC-MFWC. They joined hands with other women to bring about a deeper appreciation of authenticity and beauty in life by service to humanity.

*Remember, Ladies, that is how **WE Make A Difference!***

I look forward to reading your Membership Reports and presenting awards Clubs when we are together at our 124th Annual convention in April.

Looking Forward to Our Continued Growth,

Theresa Buntyn

GFWC-MFWC President-elect





Carolyn Tedford
Vice President and Dean of Chairman

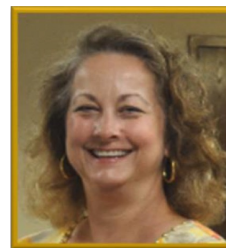
Reports have been submitted. The judging has been done. We are preparing to Spring into celebration at District Conventions, State Convention and GFWC Convention. I am looking forward to celebrating with you all your hard work and commitment at these events. Even though we have had a year of challenges the ladies of MFWC have triumphed by continuing to make a difference in the lives of others in their communities and throughout the state. Each of you are my heroes. Reading your reports reflect the resilience that you have maintained through all the challenges of this past year. It takes all of us working together and supporting each other to accomplish the activities and projects that we do. I encourage you to reach out to each other and the MFWC Board members for information and support. January started the New Year regarding reporting. A couple of tidbits to assist you and your club to start preparing now for reporting are listed below:

- Most of us keep our schedule on some type of calendar. When you participate in an event notate on your calendar the time spent preparing for and participating in the event. Notate money spent and in-kind donations, and any other information you will need to turn into the club for reporting purposes.
- If you are a club chairman for an event or activity, go ahead and write up a report including time, donations, and supporting documents immediately after the event.

**"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy.
You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer,
you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in."**



MFWC Treasurer Belinda Peacher



I hope y'all are doing well and thank you for all your Dues Forms! Speaking of Dues Forms, I would like to take time to touch on some points concerning dues. As your MFWC Treasurer, I send our membership dues in to GFWC in mid February each year; therefore, we collect our club dues in the preceding months. For your club to obtain Honor Club Status, your dues must be postmarked by **November 1**. To qualify to have your club reports judged or to receive rewards, your dues must be postmarked by **January 1**. Now, having said this, you can certainly send in dues later, but please be as prompt as possible, because your MFWC Treasurer must get her report in to GFWC by **February 1**.

You do not have to wait until every potential member has paid their dues to send them in to me. If it's getting close to these deadlines, and a few haven't paid, go ahead and send in what you have and the rest when you get them. Just be sure your roster only includes the ones who have paid. Then add the others when you send in their dues.

As to new members joining in the spring, your club can prorate their portion of dues, but they still need to pay the \$30 for General Membership (\$15 for MFWC & \$15 for GFWC) and \$25 for Juniorette Members (\$15 for MFWC & \$10 for GFWC). These can be sent in at any time with an updated club roster. I will send in an updated Membership Report to GFWC at the end of the fiscal year in May and pay any new membership dues then.

I hope this is clearer than mud! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me!

It's never too late or the wrong time to send in donations, so keep them coming! Cheerfully sent from your "Blooming" Treasurer!

Belinda Peacher

2020- 2022 MFWC Treasurer

601-291-6937

bbpeacher@gmail.com



MFWC Historian Suzanne Byrd Poyner



What a unique time we are living in! How will our 2021 GFWC-MFWC History be remembered? What picture will be painted? Your Club History will help paint this picture. Clubs found new ways to continue to volunteer, to meet, to organize projects, and to raise funds.

I have received Club Histories that share these ways. Many are emailing the Club History to me. A few years ago, to email that Club History was unheard of!

At MFWC State Convention, I will present certificates to those Clubs that sent in a Club History by March 1.

Thank you, and I hope to see you in April! How would your Club's History look in a painting?



Meet our Slate of Officers for the 2022-2024 Administration

Theresa H. Buntyn
GFWC-MFVC President



The GFWC-MFVC Decatur Woman's Progressive Club is pleased to endorse Theresa H. Buntyn for GFWC-MFVC President for the 2022-2024 Administration. Theresa Buntyn has been an active member of the GFWC-MFVC Decatur Woman Progressive Club since 1989. She has served her club as Reporter, Parliamentarian, Secretary, Vice President, Co-President, and President. She has served on the MFVC Board since 2012. In addition, she served as Chairman of the International Outreach Committee and the Home Life Committee.

Theresa served as the 2014-2016 District President. Before being District President, she held positions on the district level including Vice President, Parliamentarian, and Secretary.

Theresa has served as Recording Secretary, Vice President, Dean of Chairman, and currently serves as MFC-President-elect. During her tenure as MFVC Dean of Chairman, 2018-2020 years, she implanted a scorecard system for judging reports. She traveled across the state to educate members on using the new judging model with descriptions of roles involved. Theresa has fought hard to keep numbers steady throughout the pandemic from 2020-to 2021. Her favorite club project is supporting the library. When she was Club President, she hosted an "Authors Tea" at the public library.

Her enthusiasm and willingness to undertake any assigned task and follow it through to completion are immeasurable assets to her club and other organizations. In addition, her prior experience and administrative roles in Home Health and MFVC have prepared her to guide members during the next administration.

Nominated by her club as a 2012 GFWC-MFVC LEADS participant, she was selected as the 2012 MFVC LEADS delegate to represent MFVC at GFVC Convention. Chosen by her club in 2013, she was selected as 2013 Club Woman of the Year and was later named GFWC-MFVC Clubwoman of the Year.

Theresa's current role for AccentCare is Manager of Operations –East states, where she leads the Learning and Development Team for the East Region. She holds a BSN in nursing from the University Medical Center, where she graduated with honors. She currently leads the Mississippi Workforce Development Program with East Central Community College. She has received multiple awards throughout her career, including the Joyce P. Carracci Award for Excellence and the Teamwork Award for Excellence in Dallas in December of 2019. Theresa's definition of excellence is to move from good to excellent so success can be taken to another level!

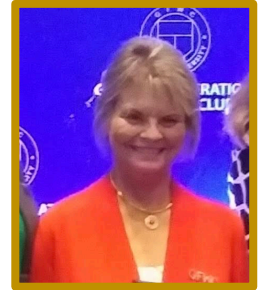
Married for 40 years, she and her husband Mark have two sons, Eric and Wesley, daughter-in-law Christina and two grandsons, Reagan and Grady. Theresa is active in her community, serves on the Chamber of Commerce Board, and leads and lines up the Annual Christmas Parade. Chamber members voted Theresa "Citizen of the Year" In 2013.

Theresa is a member of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church and loves the opportunity to serve in mission work. Her love for missions has allowed her to travel to Haiti, Nashville, Waveland, and Georgia. She provided ministries such as education, nursing skills, and compassionate service for children, youth, and adults.

Theresa loves to travel with a recent stay in Minnesota for a new acquisition. She loves working alongside local and state club members as she values their insight, wisdom, and innovative initiatives to respond to challenges. Serving with others allows her to accomplish her motto, "Bloom Where You Are Planted" Her goal is, no matter where God may lead us on our journey, to serve and do our best and always strive to "Make A Difference"!



Dr. Carolyn Tedford GFWC-MFWC President-elect



The GFWC-MFWC Poplarville Woman's Club with great pleasure and honor recommends Dr. Carolyn S. Tedford for the Office of GFWC-MFWC President-elect. She is an exemplary candidate.

Carolyn was chosen as her club's first LEADS Candidate in 2018. She represented MFWC as its LEADS Delegate to the 2018 GFWC International Convention. Since becoming an GFWC MFWC member GFWC has served in numerous leadership capacities, most notably as Poplarville Woman's Club President. Additionally, she has served as Southern District Recording Secretary, District I Arts Chairman and on the MFWC Board as Home Life Community Service Program Assistant Chairman, Fundraiser Assistant Chairman, a member of the Challenge Grant Scholarship Committee, Leadership Chairman and is currently serving as Vice President and Dean of Chairman.

Her willingness to serve and her commitment to the Federation is evident in the fact that she serves currently as Treasurer for the Poplarville Woman's Club and numerous other chairmanships. Dedicated to serving her community, Carolyn has worked tirelessly to provide opportunities for children and adults, building a foundation of excellence through a love of book, most importantly providing an environment for learning with Poplarville Reads and Excel by 5.

Currently serving as the Assistant District Governor of the Rotary District 6840 provides additional opportunities to hone her leadership skills as well as impact her community through numerous service projects. She has been recognized for her service through receiving Volunteer of the Year, Citizen of the Year and Paul Harris Fellow Award. Carolyn and her husband Richard have one daughter, one son, one granddaughter and a grandson. She is a retired School Administrator and teacher. She enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, reading, and volunteering to make a difference. Determined, dependable, compassionate, and persistent, Carolyn is obviously a woman who gives her all in anything and everything she does. Her commitment to the Poplarville community, the Poplarville Woman's Club, education, and her federation is not exception. We are all better because of the hard work, dedication and inspiration Carolyn consistently provides.

GFWC-MFWC Poplarville Woman's Club proudly supports Dr. Carolyn Tedford for the office of President-elect.

**Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.
-Arthur Ashe**



Meri Newell
GFWC-MFVC Vice President



The GFWC-MFVC Cosmopolitan Club of Petal takes great pride in supporting the nomination of Meri Newell for the office of Vice-President for the Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs for the 2022-2024 administration.

Meri has been an enthusiastic member of Cosmopolitan Club of Petal for 11 years. She loves sharing information about the club and the MFVC-GFVC organizations with all who will listen or read Facebook. From the beginning of her membership, she has shown her leadership abilities in many aspects of the local club organization including Club President, Vice President and Dean of Chairs, and Secretary. She has also served as Homelife Chair, Arts Chair, Civic Engagement and Outreach Chair, and Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse Awareness and Prevention Chair. In each position, Meri has proven to be competent and meticulous as she has completed every responsibility required of her office and always goes above and beyond to promote new and better ways to get the job done.

At District level, she has served as President-elect and currently serves as Southern District President. She was named District Clubwoman of the Year in 2017.

She has served on four Executive Boards at state level: as State Arts Chair from 2014-2018 and as Education and Libraries Chair from 2018-2022. She was also the 2017 LEADS delegate from Mississippi. Meri Newell is an excellent candidate for the position of MFVC Vice-president. She is capable and committed to serving in this leadership role in the years to come.

Meri has been a music educator for over 42 years and still serves as a clinician and private music teacher. She has a passion for serving the community that she has called home for nineteen years and does so through her church, Petal United Methodist Church, the Petal Arts Council, and the Petal Task Force which provides food and other necessities for needy families in the community. She is married to Willie Newell, with sons Scott (Cierra) and Frank. They have two grandsons, Silas and Sawyer.

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others. -Mahatma Gandhi



Susan Shurden
GFWC-MFWC Secretary



The GFWC Twentieth Century Club of Ackerman is honored to endorse the nomination of Susan Shurden for GFWC-MFWC Secretary. She has been an active member of the Twentieth Club of Ackerman since 1994. She has served her club as Secretary, Vice President, President, and chairman of various CSP programs, club projects and committees. She has served as District II Vice President and President and currently serves as Parliamentarian. She has served on the MFWC board as Juniorette Director, PSP Chairman, President's Special Assistant and has been a member of the Membership Committee, as well as the Long-range Planning Committee. She has also served as GFWC Southern Region PSP Chairman. She was selected the Mississippi Leads Delegate in 2009 and is a charter member of MS Leading Ladies.

Susan works as Development Director for French Camp Academy overseeing an annual multi-million-dollar fundraising goal. At FCA she also serves as a life coach for a graduating senior.

She is an active member of Blythe Creek Baptist Church where she teaches Children's Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, sings in the choir, and serves on the Children's Committee. She is co-chair of the annual Fall Festival for the Women's Bible Study.

Susan is married to Tim and together they are the proud parents of Lee (Hannah), and extremely proud grandparents of two grandchildren. They also claim their "bonus" child, Adam (Barbie) who has provided them with the two more grandchildren.

Her hobbies include spending time with her family, reading, and various crafts. With her proven history of dedication to her community and to the Federation, GFWC Twentieth Century club of Ackerman proudly supports Susan Shurden for the office of secretary.

The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention. -Oscar Wilde



Becky Watkins
GFMC-MFMC Treasurer



On behalf of the membership of the Quitman Woman's Club, it is my pleasure to offer our endorsement of Becky Watkins as GFMC-MFMC Treasurer for 2022-2024. Since becoming a GFMC-MFMC member in 2007, Becky has served in numerous leadership capacities, most notably as Quitman Woman's Club President for two terms, currently serving as MFMC Central District Secretary. She is in her second term serving on the MFMC Board as our MFMC State Books Chairman. Most recently, Becky was selected as our MFMC delegate to GFMC LEADS for 2021. Determined, dedicated, dependable and persistent, Becky has proven organizational financial and leadership skills in her family in our club in our community and in our Federation

Becky and her husband Steve have eight children, three of whom were adopted from the foster care system. She has been advocating for children in the child welfare system since 1986, serving as a foster parent for 30 years. Awarded the Mississippi Child Advocate of the Year in 2000 and the Congressional Angel of Adoption award in 2010, she has garnered numerous appointments to legislative committees and advisory councils impacting legislative change for children with disabilities and permanent issues. Additionally, she was elected to the Quitman School District Board of Trustees as the first female, serving from 2012 to 2017. Becky presently serves on the Board of Directors of the Clark County Chamber of Commerce, and as a past member of the Mississippi Industrial Development Council. Her background in writing and administration of federal state grant demonstrates her financial management and budgeting capabilities.

Becky and her family are active members of Quitman First United Methodist Church, where she currently serves on the Council of Ministries. She takes pride in being a wife, mother, and grandmother to 10 beautiful grandchildren. As ambassador for her community and promoter of volunteer service her greatest supporter is her husband, Steve, who recently who was recently elected to serve as mayor for the city of Quitman.

With these qualities in mind, Becky is an exemplary candidate that we proudly endorse and recommend as our GFMC-MFMC Treasurer for 2022-2024.

We rise by lifting others. -Robert Ingersoll



A Word From Our District Presidents

Southern District
Meri Newell

Greetings from Petal, Mississippi! As we prepare for Southern District Convention, and to host our 2022 State Convention, this District President is so proud of how the clubwomen of the Southern District have risen to the occasion throughout the past year to do so much to make their communities better places to live, work, and play. She is looking forward to seeing familiar and new faces at the 127th District Convention at Bude First Baptist Church on March 5th. There will be much celebrating of accomplishments, as well as remembering our members who have left us this year. If you have not registered for District Convention, please go to the link on the GFWC-MFWC Homepage. Be looking for some great raffle items as well to support our State Convention funding.

We are so excited to be hosting the 2022 State Convention at the newly renovated and beautiful Eagle Ridge Conference Center in Raymond, MS from April 21st-23rd. The rooms are brand new, fresh, and pretty, and the staff is working hard to make sure that our convention will be great. We will look forward to hearing about everything that clubwomen from across the state have been doing and catching up with friends that we haven't seen in far too long. Be watching for the Call to State Convention, which will be coming soon.

Finally, as this President moves on from this office, she thanks everyone who has worked so hard to continue to volunteer and serve in their respective communities, and to do what some people see as impossible. You are all remarkable women.



Central District
Ava McGrevey

I am loving the sunshine and warmer temps. As I write this note, I am anticipating the arrival of spring and getting together with you ladies again! It's amazing what has been accomplished over this last year through our individual clubs. You are making a difference in your community.

The reports have been sent in, judged and the data compiled for the district and state conventions next month. Congratulations on all you have accomplished! Talking with each of our club presidents has shown me the creativity and dedication demonstrated, even if reports were not submitted. No one has been idle. As a matter of fact, you've all been Busy as Bees.

Central District Convention is being hosted by the lovely and hard-working ladies of both Crystal Springs Floral Club and GFWC-MFWC Star Woman's Club. The Crystal Springs United Methodist Church Family Center is going to be a great venue with enough room for us to Buzz about in ease.

In honor of State President Sherri Reid's theme, "Plant, Recycle, Pick It Up", we will collect donations to purchase Trees and Bees through Heifer Project International. Perhaps you can wear a "Bee on Thee" to show your support. I know I will have one.

Take care, keep up the good work, and hope to see each of you soon.

Northern District
Lisa McGee



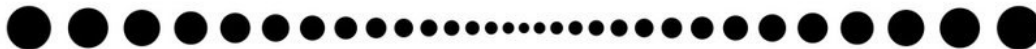
Without volunteers, we'd be a nation without a soul.....Rosalynn Carter

Doesn't this quote say a great deal. And as clubwomen, we persevere in the best and worst of circumstances. We are still doing things to improve our communities daily. That is obvious by the reports I have seen thus far. And that is impressive and makes me proud of the MFWC. I would like to give a reminder to take care of ourselves. Self-care is very important in the situation we are still experiencing. Not just physically, but mentally and emotionally also. I know we are all hoping things improve soon.

Some things that are going on in the Northern District:

District Convention will be another Zoom convention, unfortunately. Numbers in our area were on the rise when the decision was made. Mark your calendars for March 26th. Looking forward to seeing you on the screen then.

Also, giving everyone a reminder regarding the Northern District Scholarship. Applications were emailed to club presidents. Applications must be postmarked by March 10th. If anyone needs an application, I will be happy to email one.



WHRC/Headquarters
Miranda Vaughan



It has been quiet at Headquarters for the last few months. Aside from a few maintenance issues, there hasn't been a lot to report. We appreciate all of the donations of time and money over the last year. It's always a joy to read reports from clubs who made WHRC and our federation headquarters a priority. We would like to especially thank President Sherri Reid's daughter-in-law, Kimberly, for volunteering her time to clean and wash linens at Headquarters back in December. It's a big job for one person, so we appreciate her help.

We finished up the last of the inventory at Headquarters in the fall and are in the process of typing it all up and posting pictures to Google Drive for club members to access. We are continuing to work with the Long Range Planning Committee and Executive Board to figure out a solution to housing our archives. We hope to have more updates on that in the next newsletter. In the meantime, don't forget that you can access some of our digitized records on the Mississippi Digital Library's website: www.msdiglib.org.



Arts and Culture

Chairmen Abby May and Amy Jacobs



We are having a hard time wrapping our two heads around it being judging time again,
and this term coming to an end.

You all have demonstrated that even staying confined,
Nothing can deter your volunteer spirit getting in a bind.

What outstanding things you have painted, photographed, and created,
And let us not forget to mention all that was donated.

We heard and we saw the beauty on paper, in text messages and on Facebook,
Not much went unheard or unseen.

Remember, there are not one but double of everything.

We are so bummed that the title of GFWC-MFWC Arts and Culture Chairs
will be handed over to another.

But now that we have enjoyed learning with you as our teachers and guides
and some of you as our "mother."

We close this last article as we ponder
the first, second, third and possibly fourth place winners,
So much to consider as we finish our Valentine's dinner.

One thing is for sure,

We are not poetry writers,

But being a volunteer member of GFWC-MFWC with you sure makes life brighter.

Peace out our sisters, another year of great works,

Keep it up so you can fill the President's book.

Thanks for hanging with us, we know some of you were on pins,

Cause you never know what you may get with the TWINS!



Painting Party...Fine Arts Club of Bruce





Environment

Pamela R. Maxwell

7% are Screaming “Plant A Garden”

The consumer price index climbed 7% in 2021 and this increase is affecting households. One big concern that this increase brings to our tables, literally, is being able to continue bringing food to our tables or not. One suggestion to lighten the load at the grocery store and to possibly bring families closer together is for households to plant a garden. Now, I don't know about you, but I haven't played around with a garden since my younger years at my grandparent's farm where I would place the seed in the ground as my grandmother hoed and I shucked corn and picked and shelled butter beans and peas. So, if you are feeling a bit rusty on your gardening techniques like me or if you've never been around a garden before and are thinking of planting one, here are 10 great tips on how to get started:

10 Tips to Gardening

- Get to know your garden
- Plan your garden
- Learn how to plant
- Feed and water plants regularly
- Start small
- Keep an eye on pests
- Make use of compost
- Don't be afraid to prune
- Be kind to wildlife
- Enjoy your garden



Go to the link below to learn more about each of these 10 tips.

www.gardenersworld.com

Plant 🛠️ *Recycle* ♻️ *Pick It Up* 🗑️



Education & Libraries

Chairman Meri Newell



I am so proud of the continued work that all of you have done to support education and educators throughout the state regardless of what Covid has done to rearrange our everyday lives. As in 2020, you have found many ways to continue to think outside “the way we have always done it.” The teachers, parents, and children in your community appreciate your efforts immensely.

After reading club reports, I have been impressed with what Junioresettes have done through the year. Junioresettes have been stocking Little Free Libraries and laundromat libraries, hosting local authors, purchasing books for their libraries, and organizing programs to inform their peers of scholarship opportunities in their communities. We can see that our future is bright with the work of these young women! It is this chair’s hope in 2022 that more Junioresette clubs will report on the great things their membership is doing!

General clubs and our new Cyber Junior Club have done an amazing job of supporting their schools and libraries by hosting book fairs, serving as readers and tutors, and asking teachers and administrators how that they can best help out. In addition to supplying thousands of dollars in scholarships for deserving young people in their communities across the state, clubs have stepped up to provide additional school supplies for their teachers, as well as supplying the other necessities that make learning possible.

It was exciting to see clubs take on the challenge of partnering with schools to provide STEM projects that help our children’s minds grow in so many ways! Please keep looking into ways to partner with your schools and bring more of these projects to children who are learning virtually as well as in the classroom.

Our libraries continue to face some tough budget times in spite of their obvious value in providing services that are central to literacy and connection in your communities. Continue to let your legislators know how important your libraries are in your towns. Volunteer this summer as a club to help when monies are tight at the end of the fiscal year.

Your ESO participation grows yearly. Don’t forget to do those book reports when you complete a book!

Thank you so much for continuing to participate in “Read for the Record,” Dr. Seuss Day, and Read Across America Day. The little ones that we reach through books expand their view of the world and can dream and imagine far beyond the school walls.

Thank you for your creation and ongoing support of Little Free Libraries, book exchanges, and libraries in our laundromats. Keep doing the book drives and supplying materials to promote reading throughout the community.

I have been honored to be your Education and Libraries Chair. You are all such amazing and inspiring women. Keep up the excellent work that you are doing, and we will continue to see a stronger and more literate future for Mississippi.





Health & Wellness

Bethany Flint, MS, RD

You ladies did such a great job on your Health and Wellness reports! Thank you for all of your hard work! I love to see women of all ages and races celebrate their health and take care of their minds and bodies all year long, especially in fun and creative ways! Speaking of nutrition fun... March is a great time for your club to do a nutrition project as it is **National Nutrition Month!**

This theme for 2022 is "**Celebrate a World of Flavors**".

These themes will help you to celebrate all month long!

Week 1: Eat a Variety of Nutritious Foods.

Include healthful foods from all food groups.

Learn how to read Nutrition Facts labels.

Incorporate your favorite cultural foods and traditions.

Week 2: See a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN)

Ask your doctor for a referral to an RDN.

Find an RDN who specializes in your unique needs.

Receive personalized nutrition information to meet your health goals.

Week 3: Plan Your Meals and Snacks

Choose healthful recipes to make during the week.

Use a grocery list to shop for nutritious foods.

Make healthful food and drink choices when away from home.

Week 4: Create Tasty Foods at Home.

Learn cooking and meal preparation skills.

Try new flavors and foods from around the world.

Enjoy your meals with friends or family, when possible.

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics has a fantastic toolkit available at

<https://www.eatright.org/food/resources/national-nutrition-month/toolkit> . Here you can find graphics to share on social media, nutrition information in printable pdf form, and fun activity ideas! Printable handouts range from tips to eating more fruits and vegetables, reducing food waste, to eating on a budget or tips to use less salt and/or sugar. A personal favorite is the 20 Health Tips for 2022! I highly recommend your club check this out and share with friends and family members! Other ideas would be to host a healthy cooking demonstration or a healthy food drive and provide these nutrition information sheets at your event!

May is **National Physical Fitness and Sports Month**.

- Adopt a classroom and donate physical exercise “take a break” items such as jump ropes, activity dice, hula hoops, Koosh balls, and other recreation equipment.
- Partner with a local assisted living home to provide senior exercise equipment such as leg pedaling machines, resistance bands, and yoga mats, or to support their exercise program in other ways.

May is **High Blood Pressure Education Month** and **Stroke Awareness Month**.

The Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention (DHSDSP) put together a Hypertension Communications Kit to help us to better educate the public about the risks of hypertension and it includes social media messages, graphics, and so many great printable resources! Visit https://www.cdc.gov/bloodpressure/communications_kit.htm to access these resources!

May is also **Mental Health Month**, which aims to raise awareness for mental health by fighting stigma, providing support, educating the public, and advocating for equal care. According to the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI), 1 in 5 adults live with a mental health condition. If everyone is more open and honest about mental health, we can prevent pain and suffering, and those in need will get the help they deserve. NAMI provides support and education all your long.

Information can be found at <https://www.nami.org/Support-Education/Mental-Health-Education> .

You can also participate in a NAMI Walks Your Way community walk to help raise awareness (and bonus, walking has been shown to be great for mental and physical health!). Visit their website to find a NAMI event near you or if there is not one in your area, this would be a wonderful thing for your club to start!

Wishing you "health and wellness" all year long!

Bethany Flint, MS, RD



Civic Engagement and Outreach

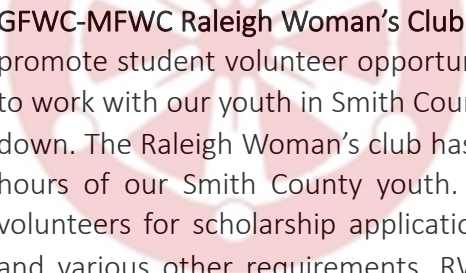
Theresa Berryhill



I would like to share the Top 10 Civic Engagement and Outreach Projects of 2020.

(The 2021 Top 10 Projects will be shared in our next article.)

Citizenship



GFWC-MFWC Raleigh Woman's Club (MS) continued with their "Youth Booster Club Program" in 2020 to promote student volunteer opportunities for the community because there are no other groups willing to work with our youth in Smith County. Most of our community volunteer groups have aged out or shut down. The Raleigh Woman's club has taken upon themselves to track and certify the community service hours of our Smith County youth. This certification documents students' proof of hours served as volunteers for scholarship applications, school requirements, Boy and Girl Scout badge requirements and various other requirements. RWC members supported community youth programs as volunteer chaperons, providing transportation. water and snacks, coaching baseball teams, operating concession stand, donating canned goods for youth food drive, sponsorship for youth band, tennis, softball & cheerleaders, and monetary funds for various other programs. Recorded here are RWC hours to supervise and fund this this program. *Volunteer Hours 175 In-kind \$2000*

Florentine Evening Club (MS) members provided a grant for the City Parks Department of Florence to purchase a new scoreboard for Hemphill Park for the sports field. *Volunteer Hours 5 In-kind \$3600*

Crime Prevention, Safety, Disaster Preparedness

"Hydrate the Firemen" is a project created by **GFWC-MFWC Women's Club of Gulfport** (MS) several years ago. Gulfport Fire Department has a specially equipped firetruck that responds to all fires in the City of Gulfport. The truck is equipped to meet the medical needs of firefighters while fighting a blaze. The city does not, however, provide hydration and nourishment, this is the responsibility of each firefighter. WCG partners with Gulfport Fire Department to stock this Special Response Truck with bottled water, Gator Aid, and nutritional bars to help with hydration and energy while protecting life and property. All proceeds from our Bunco game nights are dedicated to serving our firefighters. Three years ago. With success of Bunco game nights. We had surplus funds in our firefighters' funds. WCG members voted to use the surplus funds to provide food for seven fire stations in Gulfport at Thanksgiving. Members shopped and delivered turkeys, ingredients for cornbread dressing, vegetables, rolls and ready-made pies and cakes to each fire station the week prior for them to cook Thanksgiving Day. *Volunteer Hours 40 In-kind \$1056*

Crime Prevention, Safety, Disaster Preparedness

On May 15th, in honor of Police Appreciation Week, members of GFWC-MFWC **Batesville Woman's Club** (MS) showed gratitude to Batesville Police Department officers with breakfast bars, energy bars, chips and dips, cupcakes, cookies, various sodas and other treats for their break room. The officers generously gave their time to meet with us and were very appreciative of the treats that they could "grab and go". The club prepared a sign on green poster board to match the green serving dishes we brought for treats; the sign stated that other towns are "green with envy" that they do not have the wonderful officers and staff we have in Batesville Police Department. *Volunteer Hours 10 In-kind \$150*

The **GFWC-MFWC Decatur Woman's Progressive Club** (MS) donated yellow box money to Decatur Police Department for upgrading their service equipment. The executive staff organized and fed full meals to DPD, NCSD, and DFD. Numerous baked goods, sandwiches, and drinks were donated often. Law enforcement signs were purchased and placed in member's yard. Paper goods and volunteer work was also supplied to the Sheriff Department. *Volunteer Hours 92 In-kind \$1495*

Needy, Hungry, and Homeless

The **GFWC-MFWC Decatur Woman's Progressive Club** (MS), Mission Contribution/ Work Team helped within the community by purchasing and filling buckets of hope, flood buckets, and cleaning buckets for tornado victims. The Team helped move an elderly lady's things into a storage shed, made donations to Focus on the Family and to the Marlee Savell St. Jude Fund. Members purchased Christmas gifts for local school children, gave to the Baptist Children's Home and the Methodist Children's Home. Assisted in many ways with a local family who lost a daughter to domestic violence. Helped paint and repair floors for elderly neighbor. They were present wherever a need arose in their community. *Volunteer Hours 103 In-kind \$10345*

GFWC-MFWC Pontotoc Woman's Club (MS) packed Operation Christmas Child boxes with hygiene, educational items, clothes, and toys. The club donated 22 t-shirts for additional church boxes. Members donated \$1054 for OCC purchasing and shipping cost and volunteered 57 hours shopping, counting, packing, and working during OCC national and world-wide collection week. *Volunteer Hours 57 In-kind \$1054*

GFWC-MFWC Civic Woman's Club of Picayune (MS) project Hunger and Food Insecurity donated food items to Christian Care Ministers and Manna Ministers food ban: contributed to the Rotary Club canned food drive: donated to the Salvation Army Thanksgiving Dinner. Packaged bags of snacks to distribute to homeless. Purchased supplies and assembled red beans/rice/Vienna sausage meals for church pantry. *Volunteer Hours 42 In-kind \$1667*



Our Military Personnel and Veterans

GFWC-MFWC Lanier Club (MS) along with the City of Okolona and Carnegie Library promoted “Wreaths Across America.” 285 wreaths were sold in honor or in memory of a veteran. Club members, their spouses, family, and friends, along with City officials and employees, Carnegie Library employees laid wreaths on all 255 veterans’ graves designated in Okolona’s Oddfellow Cemetery. Thereafter, a ceremony was held on the third Saturday of December at 11:00 a.m. sharp in conjunction with “Wreaths Across America” ceremonies across the nation, including at Arlington National Cemetery. The ceremony recognizes all veterans representing all branches of the U.S. military including those in attendance. One local military personnel presented wreaths in honor each military branch and one in honor of Prisoners of War and Missing in Action. Patriotic music including the military Medley “River Dreams” was played. Preceding the ceremony, the names of the veteran who a wreath was purchased in honor or in memory was printed in the Okolona Messenger for 11 weeks. Additionally, in preparation of this event, in addition to selling wreaths, all graves were physically marked with flags to indicate a veteran. The ceremony was advertised. All time and expense in preparation of the ceremony were donated. Approximately six weeks after the laying of wreaths, the wreaths are taken up by club members and volunteers and disposed of by the City of Okolona. (Total money raised and In-Kind donations reported elsewhere). *Volunteer Hours 190*

GFWC-MFWC Raleigh Woman’s Club (MS) Supported the Quilts of Valor Foundation by donating fabric, quilt squares, completed quilts, and making monetary contributions as a sponsor. *Volunteer Hours 250 In-kind \$500*



Mississippi 2020 Creativity Award

“Ole Glory”

GFWC-MFWC Cosmopolitan Club of Petal (MS) inspired by the upcoming “Miles of Flags on Main Street” Civic Engagement and Outreach project, a member rallied her subdivision and the adjoining subdivision to sponsor an “Ole Glory” campaign for Independence Day. She collected \$20 from each resident and bought American flags. Her group then installed brackets on all utility poles and put up 200 flags. The future of the club is to add additional flags each year to the “Ole Glory” project. *One club member can make all of the difference!*

This year 2021, the club is expanding their reach by working with the Petal Area Chamber of Commerce. Many local community members have stepped up to donate to the flag fund and to offer other assistance. This Project was selected as one of the 2021 President’s Picks. Congratulations to GFWC-MFWC Cosmopolitan Club.

As Chairman, I am proud to report that GFWC-MFWC Lanier Club (MS) “Wreaths Across America.” Project was selected as one of the Top Ten GFWC Civic Engagement and Outreach Projects.

GFWC Signature Program



Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Deana Pittman

It has been such a privilege to serve as the chairman for the GFWC Signature Program for the past four years. I cannot believe we are at the end of this administration's time already. The clubwomen of MFWC have been instrumental in distributing 100,000 items in 2021 for **I Support the Girls**. Since we joined forces with **ISTG**, our MFWC clubwomen have helped collect and deliver over 250,000 items to shelters, services, and schools across the state! Because of the miles traveled, the boxes packed, the bras collected, the pads bought, and the tampons donated, so many women and girls have been affected. Across the state, our clubs have donated to domestic violence shelters, collected pajamas for survivors, painted their towns purple, and so much more! In our general clubs, there were 419 members that participated in 96 projects. They logged 5,162 volunteer hours and donated \$5,192. There were more than \$9,000 in in-kind donations collected. We also had 3 Juniette clubs that had 65 members participate in 17 projects, logging 209 hours!

As many of you know, April is Child Abuse Awareness Month, but did you know that April is also Sexual Assault Awareness month? Get your club members together and plan an event for that month! Put a collection bin at a local business and publicize that you are collecting donations for shelters in MS. Host a booth at a community event to spread awareness! Make hygiene packs for a local school. Contact foster services in your area and see what their needs are, and then help fill them!

I Support the Girls-Mississippi would love to partner with clubs to help serve shelters, schools, and services that are in need! Please contact me if I can be of any help at all.

Deana Pittman

662-560-3847

dtpittman@hotmail.com





Mississippi Public Broadcasting

Libby Everett

As I write this, it is 32 degrees at 11:00 a.m. Not exactly South Mississippi weather! Hopefully, you have completed your reports and submitted them for judging. I look forward to reading about all of your successes in 2021. “Mississippi Public Broadcasting (MPB) is a longtime friend of the GFWC-MFWC. The GFWC-MFWC was instrumental to the establishment of Educational Television in Mississippi. This administration’s goal is to renew and strengthen ties with this very valuable organization by placing a special emphasis on supporting MPB” – GFWC/MFWC Handbook. In order to be effective in promoting MPB, each MFWC club should provide Projects and Programs during the club year to emphasize the importance of MPB in their communities.

- Be sure to include a generous contribution from your club to MPB on your MFWC Dues Form and/or join MPB as a club
- Promote a membership drive within your community
- Publicize special MPB programs in local media
- Promote the video lessons shown on the MPB Education Facebook page to teachers and parents
- Discover early childhood learning experiences on MPB’s webpage mpbonline.org
- Download the MPB App. You can watch your favorite MPB and PBS programs, read the latest MPB news, browse an archive of MPB podcasts, and listen live to MPB Think Radio and Music Radio.
- MPB Think Radio broadcasts a daily call-in show called Southern Remedy to provide free, vital medical and health advice.
- Ed Said, an Emmy-winning puppet who advocates healthy eating and proper exercise, visits schools and attends community events to interact with children, teachers, and parents. Contact Ed Said at edsaid.org
- PBS Kids is a 24/7 channel solely broadcasting children’s programs around the clock. Check with your local cable provider.
- @Issue is an MPB television production focusing on informing the public on local legislative issues
- Fit to Eat on MPB focuses on cooking healthy meals with Mississippi-grown ingredients.
- Check out the MPB Foundation which advances MPB’s mission through private donor and member support. Document individual member’s contributions.

Thank you for participating in JumpStart’s Read for the Record in October 2021! It is an outstanding campaign designed to get quality books in the hands of young readers. Mississippi Public Broadcasting is so generous in providing the books for us.

Mississippi Roads, Antiques Roadshow, Masterpiece, Mississippi Outdoors, Sesame Street, Nova, This Old House, Great British Baking Show, American Masters, Austin City Limits, and so much more! Your continuing support makes MPB possible. For more information on MPB visit, www.mpbonline.org.

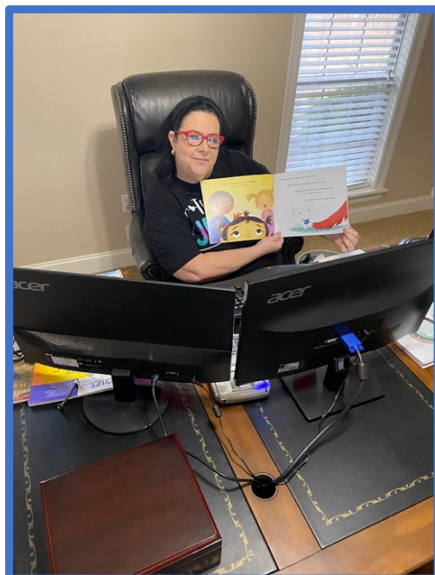
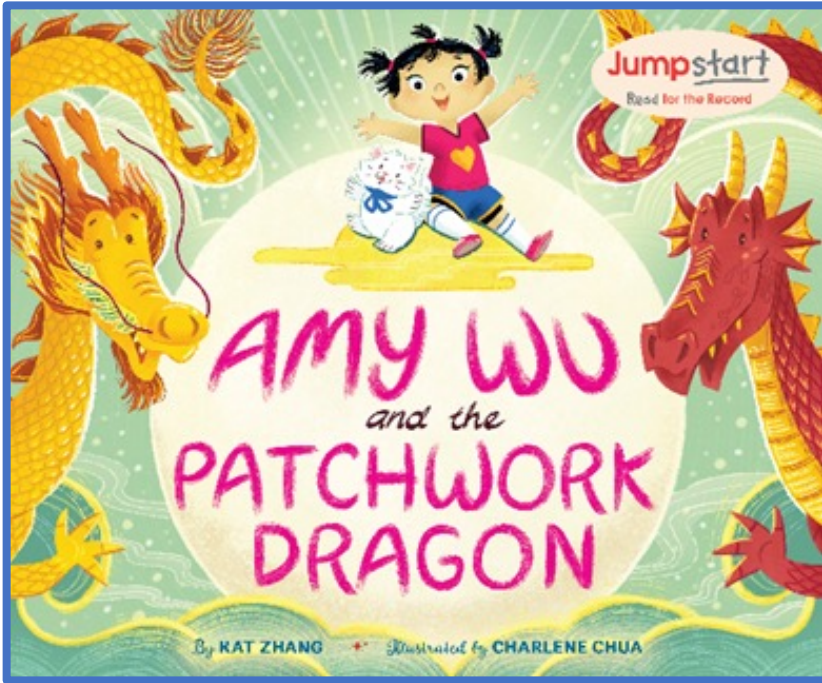
If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Libby Everett, MFWC MPB Chairman
libby_everett@hotmail.com



Mississippi Public Broadcasting

Jumpstart: Read for the Record





Mississippi Library Commission

Becky Wright, MLC Board Chairman

Ten Ways on How to be a Library Activist!

1. Be informed. Get information on the issues. Be sure to read Mississippi Library Commission's [On the Same Page](#) e-newsletter to stay informed about things going on.
2. Learn the names of the Mississippi Senator and Representative who serve your district and our United States Senators and Representatives.
3. Put elected officials on your mailing lists and ask to be put on theirs. Mutual awareness of what each other cares about is essential to building a solid relationship.
4. Share your success stories. Ask elected officials to distribute materials about your club programs and activities at their office. Most elected officials will have a place in their offices for information about the districts they represent. Allow these people to be active in helping to promote your library.
5. Email a photograph to your elected officials if they attend one of your club programs held at your local library. Visual reminders help reinforce their awareness of your support for libraries – especially if the picture is of them at one of your events.
6. Say thank you – a lot! If you don't have time to write, make a call. Never let the elected official forget you are out there.
7. Create visibility for your elected officials. Explore creative options to get positive exposure in their district through your library. Provide them with opportunities at your public events. Invite them to talk to your club about the importance of your library to the community. This will force their staff to research our organization and get to know MFWC better.
8. Act regularly and promptly. Don't wait for someone else to take care of the issues. Commit to doing what you can do, no matter how small it may seem. Start believing that a single voice can make a difference.
9. Activate advocacy. Find others to join you in delivering your message.
10. Don't be afraid to ask them for their support! They work for YOU!

Adapted from Library Advocacy Resources: American Library Association



Community Impact Award



Penny Barr
Chairman

Happy Spring everyone! It is time to start brainstorming with your fellow club members and researching community needs to connect those needs with club projects. Please keep in mind that the time parameter for community improvement projects spans two years, January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2023.

You do not have to come up with brand new projects. It may be a continuation, extension, or modification of projects your club has started and is committed to. One example would be “Plant, Recycle, Pick it Up” or other environmental projects that were begun in support of Sherri Reid’s President’s Special Project.

Projects are judged on development, planning, collaboration, execution and results. So my advice is to select one to three project(s) that impacts your community most comprehensively, devise a plan, involve club members and people in other organizations, and follow through. This award has evolved and changed a bit over the years. However, the goal of this award remains the same- to encourage and recognize the positive impact that a club can have on a specific need in the community. So, get those wheels a turning and press on with your good works!

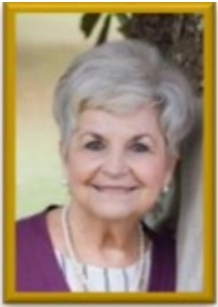


Advancement Areas



Communication & Public Relations Sharon Hudson

GFWC Mississippi, you do a phenomenal job promoting the great work in your communities. This is your friendly reminder-**GFWC Federation Day is April 24th**. What will your club do to increase awareness of MFWC and GFWC? Will you receive a proclamation from your mayor, or hit the airwaves and make appearances on your local television and radio stations? Maybe you will highlight accomplishments of past members on social media or consider distributing your “stats” to business supporters, former members and the news media. Have a special project or program for that day. What unique ideas will your clubwomen use this April? Well, whatever you do, **share** with me. I can post it on our Facebook page, post it on the GFWC Southern Region Facebook page or to the GFWC Volunteer Network. The strength of this organization comes from the support received from our members. Send me photos and a caption, tweet about Federation Day, upload a video to YouTube. **Just do it!**



Leadership/LEADS Melba Watkins

Clubwomen remind me of the post office motto: You know... it ends with **“nothing can keep them from their appointed rounds”** or something close to that. GFWC-MFWC ladies will meet all challenges to honor their responsibilities. To do that takes planning, organization, dedication and sometimes sacrifice. In short, leadership. Mississippi is blessed with the best and I know because I have worked closely with many of them for almost two years. Two real learning years for me. There is a deep desire in our membership to learn and to move forward in leadership roles. Thankfully, we had three women last year and three women this year who applied for the LEADS training. Thanks again to Alabama for inviting our 2021 nominees and myself to join their training. How grateful we were for being a part of “SPARK”. Training for 2022 nominees will be scheduled soon.

Congratulations to all the clubs who sent in the wonderful reports this year. I was so impressed with the efforts made even as we continued battling illness, mandates and of course much inclement weather. We didn't let that hold us back.

I hope that clubs have taken advantage of Shannon Armstrong Bailey's website and the leadership kit that has wonderful and valuable information regarding leadership.

HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE SOON!

Fundraising and Development

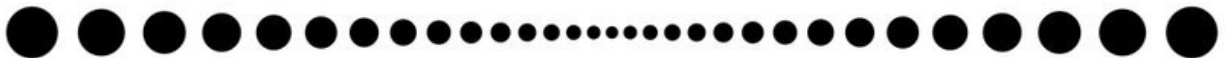
Diane Rouse



Fundraising is essential and beneficial to your club and your community because you are raising capital for scholarships, local projects, GFWC program area projects, affiliate organizations, etc. BUT it is also an excellent opportunity to make your local club **KNOWN** in your community by seeing how much **FUN** you are having when you are **FUNdraising**. Don't be afraid to try something new or do things in a new way and always, **ALWAYS** be creative. Below are some fundraising ideas:

- If members are still Covid wary, perhaps a “passive” fundraising strategy could work for your club – a raffle or on-line auction of items
- “Egg My Yard”: At Easter, club members can decorate family’s yards (with their permission) with colorful, filled plastic eggs and bunny footprints for children to find Easter morning. Charge a fee per dozen filled eggs and advertise in local businesses and social media. Our club did this last year and will again this year and it was a great success.
- Rummage/New to You Sale: have a spring-cleaning event and sell the extra items taking up space around your house. Items that sell best are furniture and household items and children’s toys and clothes. Items that do not sell can be donated to a local thrift store so nothing goes to waste.
- Clubs that sponsor a Juniette club might consider a dual fundraising effort – a Daddy/daughter dance or Masquerade Ball.

Each of our communities are different and unique-you live among them so find what brings **YOUR** community together for a good cause and a good time.



Eupora New Century Club hosted the 3rd Annual **Fancy Nancy Tea Party**. Fifty-five girls attended and enjoyed dressing up, photo booths, story time, crafts, and of course, "tea". The club raised **\$1200** and was able to purchase a new children's section at Eupora Public Library.

Club News From Across the State

Women's Club of Gulfport

Say "Congratulations" to **SANDRA PELAS**, Women's Club of Gulfport "Club Woman of the Year." Sandra has done so many things as President Elect for the club this year. She has devoted herself to the renovation of a new clubhouse. Sandra spent many hours helping find a contractor, assisting with a floor plan, decorating, researching, running errands, and shopping. In addition, she helped the President with the budget, banking, insurance, utility bills, and treasurer duties. She sent a monthly newsletter with pictures to each club member. She attends every quarterly Bunco club fundraiser, participates in all club projects, and has served as the Christmas Tea Chair, the club's major fundraiser.

Sandra is full of energy and always has a smile on her face. She has many duties at her church - singing in choir, serving as treasurer, cooking for events, and assisting the elderly.

Sandra is the mother of three successful children: Heather King, M.D, Holly Pelas, Diplomat and Raymond Pelas, chef/restaurant owner; and three furbabies: Bentley, Jag, and Charlie.

Sandra will be the Women's Club of Gulfport President, 2022-2023. We are so proud of Sandra. CONGRATULATIONS!



The Women's Club of Gulfport has been collecting egg cartons for one of their members, Sherry Galloway, to deliver to individuals that need them. Sherry has expanded this program into other communities, and she has a Facebook group "Egg Carton Central." This year, Sherry collected 161 cartons. Recently she found a need for egg cartons in Petal. The Petal Children's Task Force uses egg cartons to give out eggs to needy families in the community. Meri Newell from the Cosmopolitan Club of Petal was able to pick up 269 cartons from Sherry and deliver them to the Task Force. **What a great recycling project!**



Crystal Springs Floral Club



Biggs Library branch manager speaks to Floral Club

Derrion Arrington, of Flowood, was guest speaker for the January meeting of the Crystal Springs Floral Club. Arrington is the branch manager of J. T. Biggs Jr. Memorial Library, a member of the Copiah-Jefferson Regional Library System. A history major in college, he is originally from Laurel. He thanked the Floral Club for inviting him to present a program on services the library offers the public. He thanked club members for their support of the library, particularly for the Summer Reading Program. He said students are registering online for the 2022 program and requested the club's continued support. Several club members belong to the Friends of the Library support group. Arrington said he is a supporter of all community activities and would gladly accept requests for cooperation and support from library services.

Floral Club Corresponding Secretary Mary Lou Barlow read a thank you letter from the volunteer service director of Mississippi State Hospital for the club's generous donation to Santa Day, Dec. 22. Each hospital patient and each resident of Jaquith Nursing Home received a Christmas gift bag.

Club members brought to the January meeting collections of aluminum cans for recycling, non-perishables for Service Over Self (SOS), Crystal Springs Food Pantry, Inc., and volunteer service hours reports.

A new community service project for the club in 2022 is monetary support for Mississippi Public Broadcasting. The educational television program passed the Mississippi Legislature in 1969 and was funded in 1970.

Miriam Simmons, of Columbia, president of General Federation/Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs at the time, with support from Mississippi Legislator G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery, was instrumental in the passage of the Mississippi Educational Television bill. She sent letters to all presidents of GFWC/MFWC Clubs requesting them to ask their state legislators to support the bill. The legislature was inundated with messages of support. Crystal Springs Floral Club Secretary Sue Simmons Freeman and her family established a memorial scholarship at Mississippi University for Women in Columbus in honor of their mother.

Pontotoc Juniorettes



The Pontotoc Juniorettes Club hosted the 12th Annual Rudolph Run 5K and 10K on December 11, 2021. Money was raised for the club's scholarship program and \$250 was donated to S.A.F.E., a shelter for victims of domestic abuse in Northeast Mississippi.



Eupora New Century Club



The club wore red to the February meeting in honor of Heart Healthy Month.



The Eupora New Century Club hosted their 3rd Annual Charity Ball on Saturday, February 5th. All money will be used for scholarships and ongoing service projects this year.

Fine Arts Club of Bruce



Oh, what fun it is to ride and work on a float and the town Christmas lights before the annual Bruce Christmas Parade.

Club members assisted with decorating, serving, and making desserts for the First Responders Meal.

EPHFIC Club of Cleveland

Members of the club donated items to Pearman Elementary for their first Winter Item Clothing Drive.

As part of their Civic Outreach and Engagement, the EPHFIC Club packed boxes for Operation Christmas Child.



Cosmopolitan Club of Petal



Civic Engagement and Outreach fed the Petal Police Department Thanksgiving dinner



Cosmopolitan Club had a booth at Spring Market to inform visitors about Cosmopolitan Club and to invite women to consider membership.

Our Little Free Library dedication complete with Jodie's beautiful paintings at Petal Children's Task Force

Cosmopolitan Club members participated in a city-wide clean-up called "Pick Up Petal inspired by our own Sherri Reid.



OFFICIAL CALL
GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc.
124th State Convention
Eagle Ridge Convention Center & Resort
1500 Raymond Lake Road
Raymond, Mississippi 39154
April 21-23, 2022

Sherri E. Reid, GFWC-MFVC President 2020-2022

***“Do something today that your future self will thank you for – Plant, Recycle,
Pick It Up!”***

The One Hundred Twenty-Fourth Annual Convention of the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., will be held in Raymond, Mississippi, Thursday - Saturday, April 21 – 23, 2022.

REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION

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

Registration Schedule:	Thursday, 4/21	3:00 – 6:30 p.m.
	Friday, 4/22	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
	Saturday, 4/23	8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Registration Table will be located in the Lobby of Eagle Ridge Convention Center (ERCC)

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

DEADLINES:

- **The deadline for meal reservations to be received is April 1, 2022.**
Meal reservations may not be guaranteed if received after this date.
- **The absolute deadline for hotel reservations is March 30, 2022.**
The group-block room rate is **\$85.00** per night (*not including tax and fees*). You may make your own room reservations by calling **(601) 857-3654** and speaking with **Sheila Lyons** and request rate for the “**MS Federation of Women's Clubs**” room block. Check-in is **3:00 p.m.**; Checkout is **12:00 p.m.**

EXHIBITS

The **Exhibit Room** will close at 5:00 p.m., Friday, April 22nd. **ALL** Youth Art, Photography, Scrapbook, and Yearbook entries **MUST be picked up** between 5:00 and 5:30 p.m. 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, Special Committees and Community Service Programs; District Officers and Chairmen, corresponding with those of the State; and regularly accredited Club delegates. Voting delegates shall wear a 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 of the GFWC-MFVC Bylaws. *An emergency resolution is one arising from a sudden condition calling for immediate action, which because of its nature could not have been submitted at the designated time.*

Registration and Meal Reservation Form

Belinda Peacher
 2339 Tiffany Circle
 Florence, MS 39073
 bbpeacher@gmail.com

Club member:
 District Club:
 Phone:
 Email:

Event	Member	Booster
Registration (1 day only)	\$15.00	
Registration (more than 1 day)	\$20.00	
Executive Board Dinner, Thursday, 4/21	\$26.00	
Gavel Club Breakfast, Friday, 4/22 (Gavel Club Members Only)	\$12.00	
Luncheon, Friday, 4/22	\$25.00	
Banquet, Friday, 4/23	\$39.00	
Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, 4/24	\$25.00	
Executive Board 22-24 Luncheon, Saturday, 4/23	\$16.00	
<small>(By invitation only)</small>		
*Registration Late Fee	\$10.00	
TOTALS:		

PLEASE indicate any dietary restrictions:

***Per GFWC-MFWC Standing Rule #8, a late fee of \$10.00 will be assessed for registrations received after the deadline.**

CREDENTIALS CARD GFWC-MFWC 124th Annual Convention

Name: _____ Club: _____ District: _____

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, Special Committee, or CSP.

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

A regularly accredited club delegate.

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

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

_____, Club President

Please mail this completed form, along with a check payable to:

GFWC-MFWC 2022 State Convention,

to Belinda Peacher at the address above.

The registration form is also available for download from www.gfwc-mfwc.org.

ALL REGISTRATION FORMS AND FEES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY April 2, 2022.



Tentative Schedule of Events

124th MFWC State Convention

“Plant, Recycle, Pick it Up!”



Thursday, April 21:

- 3:00 - 6:30 p.m.** **Registration** – ERCC Lobby
- 4:30 p.m.** **Audit Committee Meeting** – President’s Suite
- 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.** **GFWC-MFWC Executive Board Dinner and Meeting** – ERCC Dining Room, basement
All GFWC-MFWC members are invited. However, only Board members are allowed to vote.

Friday, April 22:

- 7:30 a.m.** **Gavel Club Breakfast** – Executive Board Room
- 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.** **Registration** – ERCC Lobby
- 9:00 a.m.** **Convention Convenes** – ERCC Auditorium
Business Session
Reports
- Noon – 2:15 p.m.** **Luncheon with featured speaker**
Awards: *GFWC Signature Program - Domestic Violence Prevention & Awareness, Fundraising & Development, Conservation, International Outreach, Public Issues, State Institutions, MPB, Photography, and Books*
- 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.** **Business Session**
Awards: *Education, ESO, Youth Art, Art, WHRC, GFWC Juniors’ Special Program: Advocates for Children; Communications & Public Relations, Leadership, Legislation & Public Policy and Membership*
- 5:00 – 5:30 p.m.** **Pick up All Exhibits** - Youth Art, Photography, Books
- 6:30-7:30 p.m.** **Social Hour in honor of Southern Region President, Cynthia Geis**
- 6:30 – 7:15 p.m.** **Photo Opportunities** will be available –Location TBD
- 7:15 p.m.** **Processional Assembles**
(MS LEADS Participants, District Presidents, District Clubwomen of the Year, Presidents of District Clubs of the Year, Past State Presidents, GFWC-MFWC Elected Officers, & GFWC Guest)
- 7:30 – 9:15 p.m.** **Banquet – Featuring Cynthia Geis – GFWC-Southern Region President**
MFWC Installation by Cynthia Geis
Awards: *LEADS, Challenge Grant, Hebron Memorial Scholarship, Sarah Peugh Butterfly Scholarship and Home Life*
- 9:30 p.m.** **Reception— honoring Theresa Buntyn GFWC-MFWC 2022-2024 President**—Lobby

Saturday, April 23:

- 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.** **Registration**
- 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.** **Prayer Breakfast featured speaker and Memorial Service** – ERCC Dining Room
- 9:45 – 11:45 a.m.** **Business Session – ERCC Dining Room**
Juniorette Awards Awards: *Juniorette of the Year, Juniorette Club of the Year, PSP, Clubwoman of the Year and Club of the Year*

*If a report is moved to another day/time slot, the chairman will be notified.
Chairmen are requested to always have their report with them at all meetings. If possible, we will continue with reports as time permits to expediate the program.*

**Dress for day functions: Casual Business attire
Dress for evening functions: Thursday – cocktail, semi formal.
Dress for Friday evening: Formal, Semi-formal or Sunday attire.*

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



Plant 🛠️ *Recycle* ♻️ *Pick It Up* 