

125th State Convention



Tupelo, Mississippi

The mission of the GFWC-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.

Founded on May 25, 1898 and a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs Since 1904.

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IMPORTANT DATES 2023

April

9th	Easter
TBA	MFWC Finance Committee and Executive Committee Meeting by Zoom
20th - 22nd	125th Annual GFWC-MFWC State Convention, Tupelo, Mississippi
24th	GFWC Federation Day
23rd - 29th	GFWC Volunteers In Action Week

June

10th - 12th	GFWC 2023 Annual International Convention, Louisville Marriott Downtown, Louisville, Kentucky
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Summer

Juniorette Retreat
Summer Board Meeting
Summer Institute

October

26th - 29th	GFWC 2023 Southern Region Conference, Biloxi, Mississippi
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November

1st	MFWC State Dues must be postmarked by this date each year to receive Honor Club status
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December

6th	GFWC Holiday Reception
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Mississippi Clubwoman

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Fall 2023	August 12, 2023
Spring 2024	February 12, 2024

- ◆ Please send **ALL ADDITIONS (with DUES)** of your club roster directly to State Treasurer Becky W. Watkins, P. O. Box 749, Quitman, MS 39355. She will, in turn, forward to Circulation Editor, Lisa A. Harris.
- ◆ Please send **ALL DELETIONS AND CHANGES** of your club roster directly to Circulation Editor, Lisa A. Harris.

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.”

Messages from the Executive Board

GFWC-MFWC President Theresa Buntyn

Thank you 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.



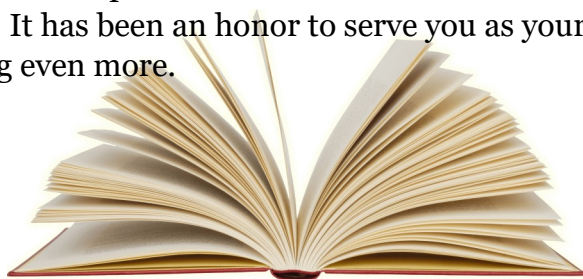
Sincere thanks to all members of our Executive Committee who have worked hard this year in learning their new roles. Since all of our Executive members are GFWC Mississippi LEADS Graduates, it truly reflects the power of our GFWC LEADS program. Thank you to all our MFWC Club Presidents, Dean of Chairman, Juniorette Advisors, MFWC state chairman, and committee members for your willingness to write and/or judge reports.

I appreciate your adherence to the GFWC timeline so Meri Newell could submit the top ten and creativity awards to GFWC. A special thanks to Meri Newell and Lisa Harris for getting all the reporting forms to our chairman that contained easier compilation for totaling projects, monies, and hours. This was impressive. 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 Tupelo, MS, on April 20-April 22. Here is a teaser of how much fun we will be having.

- Thursday, April 20th • Elvis' Birthplace. This includes a tour of Elvis's birthplace, museum, church, and theater. The theater shows a 30-minute movie about Elvis's life. The shuttle will leave the hotel at 1:45 p.m. The shuttle bus seats twenty-eight people. The cost of the tour is \$15.00 payable with your registration. Visit <https://elvispresleybirthplace.com/> for more information.
- Friday, April 21st • Queen Reward is Mississippi's First Meadery. The tour is free; however, you will have the option to participate in the tasting. The cost for the tasting is \$12.00, payable at the Meadery. The shuttle bus will leave the hotel at 2:30 p.m. Please mark that you will attend this tour on your registration form, as we need to turn in a number of attendees to Queen Reward. Visit <https://queensreward.com/> for more information.
- Friday, April 21st • Spring Story Time at the Lee County Library located at 219 North Madison Street, Tupelo, MS. between the hours of 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. Designated club ladies will dress in costumes and read stories to children. Volunteers will interact with the children.
- Friday night, April 21st • We will learn who is our LEADS representative for MFWC Mississippi and other awards. We will have two speakers, one from MLC who will speak about Legislation and our own Miranda Vaughn, who will share how we can support Big House books. This will be a fun night as we dress in black and white to symbolize the pages of a book.

Thank you for all the gifts, cards, and words of support given to me this first year. I am so grateful and blessed that our MFWC volunteers poured out their hearts and worked so diligently to support my President's Special Project. It has been an honor to serve you as your State President and I look forward to my second-year blooming even more.



GFWC-MFWC President-elect and State Membership Chairman

Dr. Carolyn S. Tedford

Greetings Federated Sisters,
Oh, what a wonderful and amazing adventure I have had reading each of the club's membership reports. The volunteer hours, donations, activities and projects the clubs' reported truly reflected the goals and intentions of the GFWC "Sparkle and Shine" retention, recruitment, mentoring and recognition campaign which encompasses Strengthening Relationships, Sharing your Passions, Harmonious Connections and Shining Bright. Clubs fostered "Unity in Diversity", made communication connections by utilizing GroupMe, Facebook, Membership Portal, and text messages to encourage attendance and involvement in activities and projects. Clubs provided flexibility and a wide ray of opportunities through membership categories based on the needs of the members for their clubs and promoted recruitment of members throughout the year through various membership recruitment events.

Membership Numbers

- * Nine of thirteen General Clubs with a total 179 members from Northern District reported 51 projects, 160 volunteer hours, and \$496 dollars spent in Membership.
- * Seven of twelve General Clubs with a total 117 members from Central District reported 42 projects, 1,201 volunteer hours, and \$4,383 dollars spent in Membership.
- * Six of nine General Clubs with a total of 187 members from Southern District reported 51 projects, 2,631 volunteer hours, and \$13,120 dollars spent in Membership.
- * Pontotoc Juniette with a total of 32 members reported 3 projects, 3 volunteer hours and \$60 in Membership.
- * Dixie Daisy Juniettes with a total of 16 members reported 5 projects, 5 volunteer hours and \$479 in Membership
- * Juniette Diamonds with a total of 22 members reported 15 projects, 163 volunteer hours and \$2,382 in Membership.
- * GFWC-Mississippi had 22 General Clubs and 483 members that reported 147 projects, 3,995 volunteer hours, and \$17,999 dollars spent in Membership to GFWC.
- * Pontotoc Juniettes, Dixie Daisy Juniettes and Juniette Diamonds with a total of 70 members reported 23 projects, 171 volunteer hours and

\$2,921 dollars spent in
Membership to GFWC.

Membership as of February
2022 was:
662 General Club Members
125 Juniette Members
Total of 787 Members



Our Current Membership as of February 2023 was as follows:

683 General Club Members
186 Juniette Members
Total of 869 Members

It is exciting to see how membership has increased. However, we must continue to strive to recruit new members and retain current members. Membership is the backbone of our organization and strengthens our volunteer efforts. So don't forget to check out the Membership Toolkit in the GFWC Member Portal under "M" there are ideas and "tools" to help you with your Membership needs! There are GFWC Membership grants available for clubs and states, recognition pins for members with various years of experience, surveys, and information regarding the GFWC "Sparkle and Shine" Recruitment campaign. Please call me regarding any questions or any other information you need regarding Membership. I love to travel and visit so call me to come speak or attend a meeting with your club.

In the next edition of the Mississippi Clubwomen, we will be recognizing and highlighting years of service by members and clubs. I will be sharing detailed information in the upcoming weeks so clubs can send me information for recognition of so many deserving members.

Oh, what a blessing each of you are to me and so many others. You are truly making a difference in the lives of others through your actions every day!! Thank you for your commitment and resilience to living the Volunteer Spirit.



GFWC-MFWC Vice President Meri F. Newell

MFWC Greetings from your Vice President and Dean of Chairs!

First off, this officer wishes to thank all of you who have been involved in the reporting process. Our focus has shifted after our exit from Headquarters, but when all is said and done, our reports are the true story of who we are and what we have done during our club year to brighten the lives of people in our own community and throughout our state, country and beyond. You have all contributed greatly this year to the story of what our Mississippi Federation has done throughout our state to live the volunteer spirit and make a difference.



To our Club Presidents and to club chairmen writing many of your reports; thank you so much for stepping out on faith and learning new technology to send in reports electronically. In every district, you stepped up and began to make this happen. For this Dean of Chairs, it has been a learning curve to determine how to best send these reports to chairmen, but that is part of growing. For those who are still a bit unsure about electronic reporting, let's meet up after the dust has cleared from conventions and we can talk about how it works. This officer would love to visit with you anyway and get to know you and your members.

To the State Chairmen, this officer cannot thank you enough for your time, your diligence, and your patience with the barrage of emails from someone learning on the job what works and what does not. We will have the bugs worked out by next year to cut down on emails. Please keep your Judging 101 and Info about State Award Entries (Chairman Reports) documents; they will be updated a bit before 2024, but most pertinent information will be the same. Thank you also for writing your state reports, working with your co-judge to determine Top Ten Projects and Creativity Awards, and asking good questions to provide meaningful narrative. You all are the best, and you are appreciated beyond measure.

Finally, in looking to this 2023 reporting year, remember to take pictures and document your projects and events when you complete them. This step makes reporting so much easier than trying to remember in January 2024 what you did in February 2023. Have your chairmen do this as well, Club Presidents, and the end of the year will be less stressful. You are all amazing and inspiring; your reports have been a joy to read, and this officer looks forward to the District Conventions where you will be rewarded for your hard work.

Messages from District Presidents

GFWC-MFWC Northern District President Lisa McGee

Ladies,

Hope everyone is doing well. Don't know about you, but recently my biggest struggle is to figure out how to dress for the weather we have been having!



On a more serious note, Northern District has been getting ready for State Convention. Tupelo is the city and Holiday Inn is the hotel and much fun is on the agenda! Frances Brown of Twentieth Century Club of Bruce and Gail Worley of Women's Club of Booneville are our City Co-Chairs. They have some fun things planned for us! Looking forward to seeing you there!

GFWC-MFWC Central District President Theresa T. Berryhill

In the words of Dr. Seuss:

You can see yellow.

You can see blue.

You can see other colors, too.



I cannot help but think about the seeds our MFWC ladies have planted this year. The blooms of assorted colors of all the projects planted to achieve our President's theme of "*Bloom Where You Are Planted*." Thank you to each club in the Central District that reported the club seeds of their community garden in your annual reports. We appreciate all the donations of time and money over the last year in the name of GFWC-MFWC.

We are looking forward to our District Convention on March 25th in Decatur, MS. The 2023 District Convention theme is Dr. Seuss and Reading. In the theme of Dr. Seuss, we are asking that each attendee wear a Dr. Seuss costume or T-shirt or wear a Summer Reading Program T-shirt from your local library. We will be collecting books for the children at Children's of Mississippi at University of Mississippi Medical Center (formally Batson Children Hospital).

Thank you for your support in our Central District. Again, I cannot wait to visit with each one of you at our upcoming District Convention on March 25th.



GFWC-MFWC Southern District President Laura Ann Trigg

Greetings from the Southern District! 2023 is off to a roaring start. A HUGE shout out and thanks to everyone for your hard work during judging of state reports. Our Southern District Convention was held on March 11, 2023 in Waynesboro and was hosted by the Fine Arts Club. It was a wonderful meeting and great to see and visit with everyone. According to our art and photography judges we believe there was a record turn out in entries this year! There were quite a number of youth art entries. Ladies continue to encourage this in your club. This is GFWC-MFWC's future.



Congratulations to the Cosmopolitan Club for being selected as Southern District Club of the Year. Mandy Wilson, of the Homochitto Heritage Club, was selected as Southern District Clubwoman of Year. Congratulations to all of our Southern District Clubs on your many awards. Hard work does pay off.

Just a few dates for us to remember: 1) 2023 GFWC-MFWC State Convention will be held April 20-23, 2023 in Tupelo, MS. Everyone remember to purchase an ad in the Convention Program. Deadline for your ad is April 10, 2023. Lisa Harris will assist you if you need help in doing this. 2) GFWC 2023 Annual Convention will be June 10-12, 2023 in Louisville, Kentucky. 3) Southern Region 2023 Conference is being hosted by Mississippi this year and will be the beautiful Mississippi Gulf Coast in October. More information on this Convention will be provided at a later date.

Ladies, I encourage you to continue to work hard and continue to live that volunteer spirit. Thank you all for your hard work.



*You are cordially
invited to attend the*



*Cosmopolitan Club
90th Anniversary
Reception*

Sunday, April 2nd, 2023

from 2pm to 3pm

in the

Petal Harvey Baptist

Church Commons

600 South Main Street

Petal, Mississippi

Messages from Appointed Officers and Chairmen

Parliamentarian News From Suzanne Byrd Poynor

At the Winter Board Meeting on Saturday, February 18, 2023 at the Senior Center in Richland, Mississippi, these proposed Standing Rule changes were presented to the Executive Board with the recommendation of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee with the approval of the Executive Committee.



The following changes were approved by the Executive Board. These approved changes will take effect immediately.

- 1. Amend Standing Rule 4** to clarify that no member may offer material or monetary awards for state-sponsored contests (except Youth Art and GFWC approved projects and programs) without the consent of the Executive Committee or Executive Board.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: No member ~~Officers, Community Service Program, Committee, and Special Appointments Chairmen~~ shall ~~not~~ offer material or monetary awards for State sponsored contests, except Youth Art and GFWC approved programs and projects, without the consent of the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Executive Committee or the Executive Board.

RATIONALE: To clarify.

- 2. Amend Standing Rule 4** to clarify that no member may solicit contributions from members or individual clubs unless they are approved by GFWC, the state federation, or the state Executive Committee or Executive Board.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: ~~No member Officers, Community Service Program, Committee, and Special Appointments Chairmen~~ shall ~~not~~ call upon individuals or individual clubs for contributions unless they are approved by the GFWC, the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Executive Committee or the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Executive Board.

RATIONALE: To clarify.

- 3. Amend Standing Rule 12** to delete the references to the M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund and the Headquarters Fund.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *The per capita dues for local club members shall be the amount proposed by GFWC and by GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs for the fiscal year, June 1 - May 31. Dues collected shall be divided within the discretion of the Finance Committee among the following: GFWC dues, State Federation Fund, ~~M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund, Headquarters Fund~~ and the Mississippi Clubwoman.*

RATIONALE: To conform to Headquarters exit.

- 4. Delete Standing Rule 15.**

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:

~~15.—M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund~~

~~A.—The elected officers shall constitute a Board of Trustees, which shall have control over the funds as empowered by the Executive Board to act. The Board may grant to the Trustees the power to sell,~~

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~~assign or transfer any of the investments or securities belonging to the M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund when in the interest of the proper administration and conservation of its assets.~~

~~B. A detailed accounting of all items of income and disbursements shall be made by the Trustees to the Executive Board whenever called upon.~~

~~C. All interest from the M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund accruing during the year shall be transferred to the State Headquarters Fund at the close of the fiscal year.~~

~~D. Funds derived from the M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund shall be kept on the Treasurer's books as a separate account.~~

RATIONALE: To conform to the Headquarters exit.

PROVISO: This amendment to the Standing Rules will only take effect if the M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund is removed from the Bylaws by a vote of the membership at the 2023 State Convention.

5. **To amend Standing Rule 16.B.4** to delete an old reference to Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning (which usually means the eight public Mississippi universities and does not include private schools) and clarify a prior amendment that allows the Hebron Memorial Scholarship to be awarded to any student at a public or private Mississippi college or university that offers a 4- year degree or a graduate degree.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *This scholarship shall not be limited to any particular year in college or graduate school, but is limited to a Mississippi Institution of Higher Learning. A Mississippi Institution of Higher Learning is defined as a public or private Mississippi university or college with an undergraduate program of four-years and/or a graduate program The scholarship must be sent directly to the school institution the grantee plans to attend. The Scholarship Grantee should attend the State Convention or State Board Meeting to receive recognition.*

RATIONALE: To clarify.

6. **Amend Standing Rule 19.C** to clarify the makeup of the Sarah Peugh Butterfly Scholarship Committee, given that GFWC no longer has more than one area under the Education Community Service Program.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *The GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Sarah Peugh Scholarship recipient will be selected by a panel to include the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs President and two representatives of the Education Community Service Program committee of three appointed by the State President. The recipient will be notified at least one week prior to the State Convention.*

RATIONALE: To conform to current practice.

7. Delete Standing Rules 26 and 27.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:

~~26. The GFWC Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs 1935 Society is established to encourage donations for the restoration, renovation, and maintenance of the GFWC Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Headquarters Building. Membership in the GFWC Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs 1935 Society will be available to donors of any amount, whether GFWC Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs clubs, club members, and/or other interested persons~~

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~~or organizations or businesses. The Executive Committee, in consultation with the Chairman of the Headquarters Committee, is authorized to expend these funds for the aforementioned purposes.~~

~~A. Charter members shall be the first 100 contributors.~~

~~B. Donors shall be designated as follows:~~

~~1. Grand Patron for donations \$1,000 or more, and~~

~~2. Patron for donations of \$500 to \$999.99.~~

~~Funds derived from contributions to the 1935 Society shall be kept on the Treasurer's books as a separate account and shall be solely dedicated to the restoration, renovation, and maintenance of the GFWC Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Headquarters Building.~~

~~27. The Executive Committee, in consultation with the Chairman of the Headquarters Committee, is authorized to conduct all business related to the occupancy of the Headquarters apartment. This shall include, but not be limited to: removing unsuitable Occupant(s); searching for suitable Occupant(s); and authorizing the proper elected officers to execute agreements with selected Occupant(s).~~

RATIONALE: To conform to the Headquarters exit.



MFWC Special Emphasis Programs - Mississippi Public Broadcasting Chairman Sue S. Freeman

Thank you to all the clubwomen and the clubs that participated in MPB's partnership with the Jumpstart organization for the **Read for the Record** event that was held in late October 2022.

Also thank you to the individual clubwomen and to the clubs that provided monetary support for MPB in 2022. Please continue to be generous in your financial giving to MPB during 2023. **Your continuing support makes it possible for MPB to provide quality television programming, educational videos, and radio programming.**

MPB remains committed to its original mission of providing "educational and instructional professional growth and public service programs for the students and citizens of the state of Mississippi.

If your club would like to host a speaker for one of its monthly meetings, you may contact Felicia Davis, MPB Early Childhood Education Division Manager, at:

Felicia.davis@mpbonline.org or by phone at 601-432-6918. For more information on MPB, visit the website, www.mpbonline.org.



If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact me via email at:

suefreeman5254@gmail.com or by calling or text at 601-946-9297.



GFWC Community Impact Program Chairman Pollyanna Robelon

You know that moment when you spot the first leaves sprouting in your garden? Or the thrill of picking the first spring veggies as they appear? That's the kind of pride I feel when I overhear a community member talking about the blessing that a Women's Club project has been in their lives. The MFWC have been busy caring for our communities. You've had an immense impact through your CSPs and our president's special project. Now we'd like to recognize and honor your hard work with the Community Impact Award (CIP).



This program provides a financial award that can further help your projects. Time parameter spans for the whole administration, January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023. Projects will be judged on development, planning, collaboration, execution and end results.

If you're brainstorming ideas, consider the GFWC Community Connection Initiatives:

- Signature Program: Raise Awareness to Hope and Help
- Juniors' Special Program: Refresh and Revive
- Arts and Culture: Community Historical Gems
- Civic Engagement and Outreach: A Little Thanks Goes a Long Way
- Education and Libraries: Bring the Sparkle to Public Libraries
- Environment: Sparkling Seeds, Brilliant Butterflies, Glamorous Garden Gloves
- Health and Wellness: Physical Fitness Opportunities for All Ages

New or continuing projects qualify for this award meaning it can be an ongoing club project. Choose one to three projects that meaningfully impact your community or address one of the above Initiatives, plan it out, involve club members and community members in accomplishing your goal. Then submit your application. Instructions and fillable form for submission are available on the MFWC members only group and also in the GFWC Handbook.

Our Mississippi clubs are hard at work impacting their communities. Isn't it time to spread news of all our hard work so other can bear similar fruit?

GFWC Community Service Program Health and Wellness Chairman Patricia "Pat" Lee

As we state on our Club's state website, one of our needs we want to address is to recognize women's achievements and encourage good health practices.

Our ladies covered the state of Mississippi by volunteering and sharing over 20,897 hours through 259 projects in their communities the goal of being healthier both mentally and physically. So many ideas were used to make it not only healthy but also fun!

As we continue to grow in these areas, we want to remember to balance our health by hydrating,

getting plenty of rest, exercise and good nutrition. Mental anxiety, depression and stress all have effects on the heart, cancer cells, headaches and migraines, weight and other body systems. As we look to balance our physical and mental health, sometimes it takes a professional to be diagnosed. Be proactive and take care of yourself as you share information through educational and fun events to your community.



GFWC-MFWC Juniorette Director Michelle Sutton

From the social media posts that I have seen and the reports that have been submitted, our MFWC Juniorette clubs across the state of Mississippi were busy doing wonderful things within our hometown communities in 2022. I love seeing all you do, especially those books and library projects. I am completely overjoyed at how you are helping make the world a better place!



One of my goals as Juniorette Director was to connect with all of our advisors. If you did not receive my email in the fall, please let me know. I was excited to hear from a couple of you. Remember to let me know about club meetings and events. I am an English III teacher by day, but I would love to be a part of these, if at all possible. I am making plans to attend a couple of the district conventions and look forward to meeting as many of you as possible. I hope you'll encourage your juniorettes to attend district and/or state conventions. Conventions are an excellent opportunity for them to see that they are part of something bigger than just their local clubs.

Keep posting on social media and follow our MFWC Junioresses Facebook and Instagram pages.

I look forward to an amazing 2023! (Look for summer retreat info in the near future.) I hope to meet you soon.

GFWC-MFWC Education and Libraries Chairman Lisa McGee

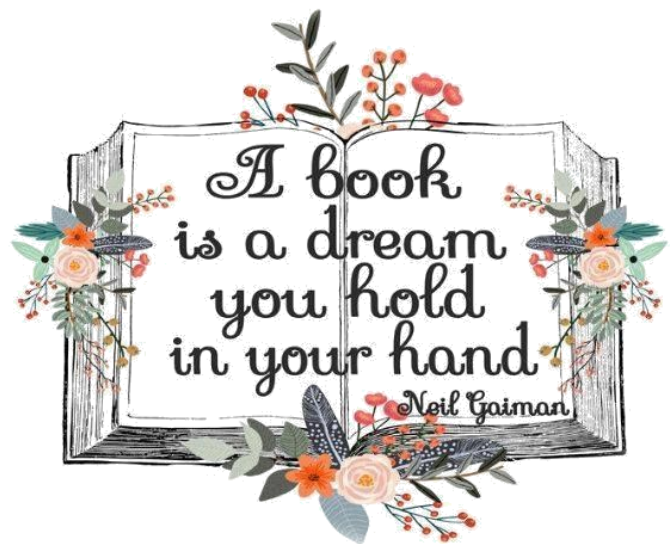
Greeting from the Northern District! I enjoyed reading your reports and about the awesome projects! I was amazed at how creative club women are.



From providing basis needs relating to hunger and learning, to Big House Books-providing books to incarcerated individuals, to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, to Rinse and Read libraries in laundromats with books in different languages, to blessing boxes at libraries, to participating in Read Across America, providing scholarships, tutoring, and mentoring students and the list goes on.

It takes a village to raise a child and club women are a large part of that village, helping education and encourage our next generation.

Everyone of you should be proud of the contributions being made in our communities. Thank you seems inadequate for all you do!



**2023 GFWC
ANNUAL CONVENTION
LOUISVILLE**

CELEBRATE. COLLABORATE. COMMUNICATE.

**June 10-12,
2023**

MFWC Historian Libby D. Everett, Chairman

History is the knowledge of and study of the past. It is the story of the past and a form of collective memory. History is the story of who we are, where we come from, and can potentially reveal where we are headed. I hope all of you will consider completing a Club History Report Form next year. I have received only fourteen club histories this year and I wish I had received so many more. Our club, Cosmopolitan Club in Petal, is celebrating its 90th

Anniversary in April. We have been looking back through the yearbooks and scrapbooks as well as club histories from the last 90 years and have enjoyed seeing the pictures and mementos saved by our predecessors. It is so important to maintain an historic record of your club. It not only helps to meet a minimum requirement of MFWC reporting but it is a clear picture to look back on of how the various functions worked in the past so you understand how

it came to work the way it is now. Years from now, your club's members will have a keepsake of your time and effort and can learn how your club evolved and developed over time.

Thank you to the clubs who submitted a report. I enjoyed reading all of them and learning more about your clubs.



GFHC-MFWC Civic Engagement and Outreach Chairman Shirley

WOW! What a week of judging reports for Central and Northern District and special thanks to Dr. Tammy McCoy for judging Southern District. We have 32 clubs in the state. 25 clubs submitted reports! 11 from Northern, 7 in Central and 7 in Southern. And 5 Juniette Club submitted reports!

All I can say is I feel sorry for the parts of the state that does NOT have a Federated Woman's Club in their area. Our clubs do so much to provide leadership and improve their communities. And I have just seen what was reported in CE &O. I am looking forward to sharing more details at District and State Convention. Northern District will be in Cleveland March 4, Central in Decatur on March 25 and Southern in Waynesboro on March 11 then State Convention in Tupelo April 20-22.

The GFHC Civic Engagement and Outreach emphasis is Essential Workers, Citizenship, Crime Prevention, Safety and Disaster Preparedness, Needy, Hungry and Homeless, Military Personnel, Veterans and Women Veterans. It is awesome to read about all these programs and projects clubs conducted last year. This year will even be better. March 15 is Essential Workers Day. What is your club planning? Don't forget to plan Civic Engagement and Outreach emphasis with Affiliates—Canine Companion, Heifer International, March of Dimes, Operation Smile, St. Jude, Shot @ Life, and UNICEF USA.



GFHC-MFWC Fundraising and Development Chairman Belinda Vowell

It has been a great year of reporting and fundraising. I want to thank all the clubs that participated and members for all the awesome work they put into their projects. Some of the projects were: Hollywood Charity Ball, Egg my yard, Christmas wreaths, Autumn wreaths and wreaths around America. They were so many wonderful projects that it was so hard to pick just ten. We have some talented women in all our clubs

that love helping their community.

I can hardly wait to see what fundraising projects we have next year to report on. Keep volunteering to help our town, community, and state.



The Power of Public Relations: Educate, Inspire, and Recruit.

*GFWC-MFWC Communications and Public Relations Advancement Area Chairman
Becky C. Wright*

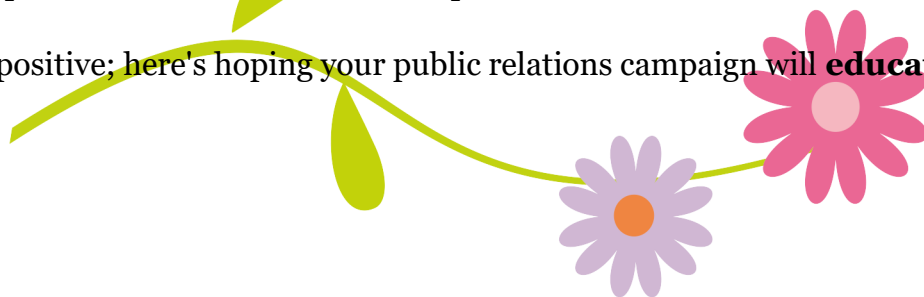


Public Relations is essential for our clubs to build and maintain a positive reputation, attract new members, and raise awareness for our mission and impact. How can good public relations transform your club? Good public relations can build a positive reputation by creating and disseminating positive messages about our mission, goals, and impact — the first step in attracting new volunteers to our clubs with the opportunity to recruit as members. Effective public relations can help build partnerships with other organizations, businesses, and individuals who share our goals and objectives, enabling us to achieve more with less.

Consider the following ways to increase public awareness for our Federation and your club:

- **Utilize** social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc., to spread the word about your club and its mission, upcoming events, and volunteer opportunities. Use hashtags — #IamGFWC and #LivingTheVolunteerSpirit
- **Create** a regular newsletter that keeps your volunteers and supporters informed about the latest news and events. Consider entering the GFWC Newsletter Contest!
- **Start** a blog to share stories, photos, and videos of your club's volunteer work and how it is making a positive impact in your community and world.
- **Draft** press releases to share important news and updates with local media outlets and journalists. Are you familiar with the GFWC Boilerplate? It is a great statement to include with press releases.
- **Build** relationships with local journalists and media outlets to help raise awareness about your club and its mission. Invite them to a club meeting to share a program on photography or writing.
- **Recognize** and celebrate your members' contributions through events, awards, and social media posts. April is Volunteer Month.
- **Participate** as a club in community events and festivals to engage with the local community and recruit new members.
- **Provide** training and orientation for new members to ensure confidence in the skills and knowledge they need to be effective in their roles.
- **Collaborate** with local businesses, other organizations, and community groups to help support your mission and increase your visibility. Be sure to include our GFWC and MFWC emblems.
- **Organize** a Friendsgiving to thank your supporters and recognize your members to show how much their hard work is appreciated. Friendsgiving is an excellent time to honor and thank the press! Visit the GFWC member portal for more information on Friendsgiving.

Remember to stay positive; here's hoping your public relations campaign will **educate, inspire, and recruit!**



MLC and MFWC —A Proud Past and a Promising Future

Becky C. Wright, MLC Board of Commissioner

President Theresa Buntyn' passion for "Getting Back to our GFWC Roots" is contagious! Our members are discovering innovative ways to collaborate with local libraries to reconnect and strengthen services, promote advocacy, and support leadership. The GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs was integral in establishing public libraries and the Mississippi Library Commission.

Here's some [historical context](#) to consider.

Development of Public Libraries in Mississippi

In 1926, 83 percent of the state was still without free library service. By 1970, all 82 counties in Mississippi were supporting, to some degree, free county-wide library service. The following are two significant steps in the development of public libraries in Mississippi:

- **Carnegie Libraries** (1908 -1916) Mississippi, like many other states, benefited from the philanthropy of Andrew Carnegie. The Carnegie Foundation gave more than \$185,500 to establish libraries in Mississippi. Eleven public library buildings were erected in ten communities across the state in eight years. Libraries were built in Houston, Mound Bayou (which never functioned as a library), Meridian (a main branch and a Negro branch were created), Greenwood, Clarksdale, Jackson, West Point, Okolona, Vicksburg, and Gulfport. Today only Clarksdale, Houston, and Okolona utilize the Carnegie buildings as libraries.
- **Federation of Women's Clubs** (1925 -1975) Without the support and steadfast resolve of the women in the various women's clubs in Mississippi, public libraries would have taken a back-row seat to many other community projects. However, in 1925, the state federation of women's clubs determined to ask for library service in every county in the state. In 1926 the Mississippi Library Commission was established and adopted the same goal as the women's clubs. It would take more than 50 years to accomplish this goal.

We are champions, but we still have work to do. Building on a solid history and a renewed commitment, we have an opportunity to encourage legislative and public support for the Mississippi Library Commission.

Did you know that the **Mississippi Library Commission** (MLC) offers a wide variety of direct and indirect services to libraries, government agencies, and the citizens of Mississippi? Some of the services provided include:

- Online Resources-MAGNOLIA, Talking Book Services (TBS), LearningExpress Library, and Hoopla
- Book Club in a Box Kits — ten copies of the same book along with discussion questions
- Board Games
- STEM Kits
- BookMatch

(Continued from page 15 - MLC and MF WC —A Proud Past and a Promising Future)

So how can our members actively get back to our GFWC roots to ensure that MLC can continue to offer these services? With our **Mississippi Library Commission Scavenger Hunt!** Start learning about MLC and other library services! Be ready to play during National Library Week!

- Share your love of the library — help someone get a card!
- Get Social — like, follow, and share!
- Sign up for hoopla!
- Become an advocate — write, call, and visit your legislators.
- Educate others on the importance of libraries.
- Take advantage of the services offered by MLC.

Stay tuned for weekly updates on library services and member opportunities on ways that you can get back to your GFWC roots!



Save The Date

2023 GFWC Southern Region Conference

10.26-29.23

Mississippi Gulf Coast

Library Facts: Philanthropist Andrew Carnegie was a one-man library-funding machine. The wealthy industrialist donated \$55 million—or about \$1.6 billion in today's dollars—between 1886 and 1919 to open an astonishing 2509 libraries worldwide, including 1679 in the United States.



Club Resources

2022-2024 Directory

Contact Lisa A. Harris at lisaharris@outlook.com for an electronic copy of our directory. For verification purposes you will need to provide your name and your club name in the requesting email. We are doing this to protect against identity theft of your contact information and photograph. Please do not share the information in this directory with anyone outside our organization.

2022-2024 Manual & Governance

Visit our website at https://www.gfwc-mfwc.org/GFWC_MFWC_Club_Resources.html to download a copy of our 2022-2024 manual and/or governance.



2022-2024 Logos

GFWC Logos - GFWC Emblem, Logo Files and 2022-2024 Administration Logo have been moved to the GFWC Member Portal. After logging in to the Portal, click on "My Digital Library" under the profile icon in the upper right corner and select the GFWC Resources folder.

MFWC Logos and MFWC President's Logos - for a high quality image file, contact Lisa A. Harris at lisaharris@outlook.com.



SIMINI BLOCKER • UPPERCASE

"The **ONLY** thing
that you
ABSOLUTELY
have to know
is the **LOCATION**
of the
LIBRARY."

albert
einstein



125th State Convention

April 20 – 22, 2023



Tupelo, Mississippi

OFFICIAL CALL

GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc.

125th State Convention

Holiday Inn & Suites Tupelo North

923 North Gloster Street

Tupelo, MS 38804

April 20-22, 2023

Theresa Buntyn, GFWC-MFWC President 2022-2024

Bloom Where You Are Planted, "Getting Back To Our GFWC Roots" by promoting public libraries, education, and literacy.

The One Hundred Twenty-fifth Annual Convention of the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., will be held in Tupelo, Mississippi, Thursday - Saturday, April 20 - 22, 2023.

REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION

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

Registration Schedule:	Thursday, 4/20	3:00 – 6:30 p.m.
	Friday, 4/21	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
	Saturday, 4/22	8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Registration Table will be in the Lobby of Holiday Inn & Suite Tupelo North (Gloster Street).

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, 2023.**

Meal reservations may not be guaranteed if received after this date.

- **The absolute deadline for hotel reservations is March 20, 2023.**

The group-block room rate is **\$129.00** per night (*not including tax and fees*). You may make your own room reservations by calling **(662) 269-0096** and **referencing the name of the block as "MS Federation of Women's Clubs"**. 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 21st. **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-MFWC 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.*

TOURS

Thursday, April 20th

Elvis' Birthplace. This includes a tour of Elvis's birthplace, museum, church, and theater. The theater shows a 30-minute movie about Elvis's life. The shuttle will leave the hotel at 1:45 p.m. The shuttle bus seats 28 people. The cost of the tour is \$15.00 payable with your registration. Visit <https://elvispresleybirthplace.com/> for more information.

Friday, April 21st

Queen Reward is Mississippi's First Meadery. The tour is free; however, you will have the option to participate in the tasting. The cost for the tasting is \$12.00, payable at the Meadery. The shuttle bus will leave the hotel at 2:30 p.m. Please mark that you will attend this tour on your registration form, as we need to turn in a number of attendees to Queen Reward. Visit <https://queensreward.com/> for more information.

President's Special Project Service Project

Story Time at the Lee County Library located at 219 North Madison Street, Tupelo, MS. between the hours of 2:30 and 4:00 p.m. Designated club ladies will dress in costumes and read stories to children. We need five volunteers to attend and pass out happies to the children.

Dress Code

Tours – Casual

Thursday Evening – Business Casual

Business Session – Business Casual

Banquet - In the theme of the PSP, we are asking that each attendee wear black and/or white business casual clothing in honor of a book's printed page. This dress code is not mandatory, just a suggestion.



REGISTRATION AND MEAL RESERVATION FORM

Mail to:

Diane Rouse
2323 Tiffany Circle
Florence, MS 39073

Club member:**District** _____**Club:** _____**Phone:** _____**Email:** _____**Event**

Registration (1 day only)

Registration (more than 1 day)

Tour: Elvis Birthplace (See Tour Section for more info 2:00 – 4:00 pm)

Executive Board Dinner, Thursday, 4/20

Gavel Club Breakfast, Friday, 4/21 (*Gavel Club Members Only*)

Luncheon, Friday, 4/21

Tour: Queen's Reward Meadery (See Tour Section for more info)

Service Project (See Service Project section for more info)

Banquet, Friday, 4/21

Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, 4/22

Member**Booster**

\$15.00

\$20.00

\$15.00

\$45.00

\$20.00

\$25.00

☐ Yes ☐ No

Attending

☐ Yes ☐ No

\$58.00

\$25.00

*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 125th 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 2023 State Convention,

to Diane Rouse 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 1, 2023.

Why Purchased a State Ad?

Why purchase an ad in our Convention Program Book, well let's count the ways ...

1. At the District Level

- To recognize your District President or District Board
- To recognize your District Club and Clubwoman of the Year
- Recognize the clubs in your district

2. At the Club Level

- To recognize a clubwoman who has 25+ year of service to your club, the MFWC or the GFWC
- To recognize your clubwoman of the year
- To share with everyone else your club's anniversary or federation date. Several of our clubs are celebrating the 85+ year mark.
- To honor you club president or your club's board
- An upcoming club event or accomplishment that you want to bring attention to
- To recognize a club member or members who serves on the District, State, Region or GFWC Board
- If you are the District Club of the Year or if the District Clubwoman of the Year is a member of your club, you may wish to share this accomplishment with everyone.
- Honor or Recognize your clubs LEADS participant

3. At the personal level

- To honor a fellow clubwoman for her outstanding accomplishments

4. Another reason to purchase an ad:

- All ads help to offset the printing cost of our convention program book and other convention expenses.

Now that we have decided to purchase an ad ... who can purchase the ad:

- Clubwoman
- Club
- Friends & Family
- A business who wishes to show their support for your club and the MFWC.
- The town in which your club is located may wish to show support for your club or recognize your club's volunteer effects or they may just wish to thank you for a job well done.
- Etc.

When selling or buying an ad in the Convention Program, please provide the following information for each ad:

- Name of Company/Person/Club purchasing the ad
- Contact information on person selling ad, i.e., name, email address & phone number.
- Ad size and Amount Paid

Important Instructions and Comments:

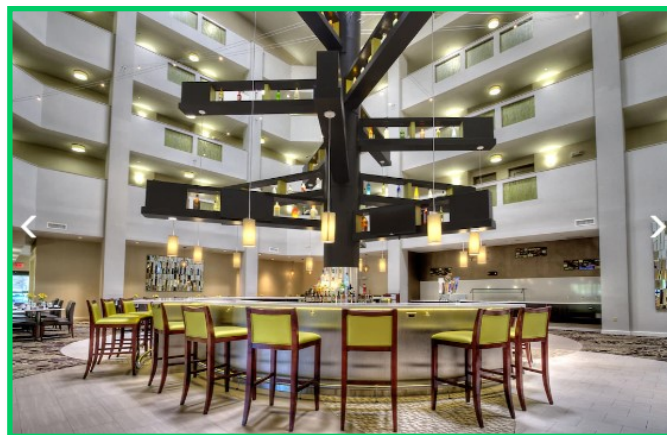
- One ad per ad form.
- All ad information and payment should be submitted with State Convention Ad Form, which can be found on our website at: https://www.gfwc-mfwc.org/GFWC_MFWC_Official_Calls.html.
- Make check(s) payable to GFWC-MFWC 2023 State Convention and note on the check that it is for a convention ad.
- Mail check(s) and completed form to Lisa A. Harris, 822 SCR 115 S, Raleigh, MS 39153. You may email your ad to lisaharris@outlook.com or mail to Lisa at the above address.

Deadline - (postmarked) April 10, 2023.

Forms can be found on our website at

https://www.gfwc-mfwc.org/GFWC_MFWC_Official_Calls.html

Holiday Inn & Suites Tupelo North
923 North Gloster Street
Tupelo, Mississippi 38804



ABOUT THE HOTEL

 Call us for secret deals: 855-516-1090

About Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG
Hotel Hotel

Hotel Location & Nearby Attractions

When you stay at Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel in Tupelo, you'll be near the airport, within a 5-minute drive of Tupelo Hardware Company and Tupelo Automobile Museum. This hotel is 1.9 mi (3 km) from North Mississippi Medical Center and 2.2 mi (3.6 km) from Tupelo National Battlefield.

Popular Hotel Amenities and Features

Enjoy recreational amenities such as a fitness center and a seasonal outdoor pool. This hotel also features complimentary wireless Internet access, tour/ticket assistance, and a banquet hall. Guests can catch a ride to nearby destinations on the complimentary area shuttle.

Business, Other Amenities

Featured amenities include complimentary wired Internet access, a business center, and express check-out. Event facilities at this hotel consist of conference space and a meeting room. A roundtrip airport shuttle is complimentary (available on request).

Restaurants, Bars, Lounge & Dining options

Satisfy your appetite for lunch or dinner at the hotel's restaurant, Grata, or stay in and take advantage of the room service. Quench your thirst with your favorite drink at the bar/lounge. Full breakfasts are available daily from 6:30 AM to 10 AM for a fee.

Hotel Accommodations and Guest Rooms

Make yourself at home in one of the 121 air-conditioned rooms featuring refrigerators and microwaves. Wired and wireless Internet access is complimentary, and flat-screen televisions with cable programming provide entertainment. Private bathrooms have complimentary toiletries and hair dryers. Conveniences include phones, as well as safes and desks.

Pet Policy for Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel

If you are thinking of bringing your pet and want to know if pets are allowed at Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel, please read the hotel pet policy. Sometimes the hotel may charge pet fees or have weight limit on pets. The pet policies of Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel are listed below.

Pets not allowed

Additional Hotel Details

Property follows a brand or regulatory agency's sanitization guidelines Clean Promise (IHG)

Professional property host/manager

Shield between guests and staff in main contact areas

Contactless check-out is available

LGBTQ friendly

Property confirms they are implementing guest safety measures

Social distancing measures are in place

Individually-wrapped food options are available

Staff temperature checks are conducted regularly

Property is cleaned with disinfectant

Guests are provided with free hand sanitizer

Property confirms they are implementing enhanced cleaning measures

Staff wears personal protective equipment

Masks are available to guests

Individually-wrapped food options are available for breakfast

Bed sheets and towels are washed at a temperature of at least 60°C/140°F

Reservation might be required for some facilities onsite

Food service has been amended for enhanced safety

Protective clothing is available to guests

Gloves are available to guests

Masks are compulsory at the property

No cribs (infant beds) available

Commonly-touched surfaces are cleaned with disinfectant

FEATURED AMENITIES



Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel Hotel Amenities

Accessibility

- In room accessibility
- Wheelchair Accessible bathroom

Breakfast Services

- Breakfast available - Extra Charge

Business, Conference & Meetings

- Banquet hall on site
- Meeting Room Facilities
- Business center on site
- Conference Facilities
- Conference space size : feet -

Fitness Services

- GYM - Fitness facilities

General Amenities

- Assistive listening devices available
- Wheelchair accessible parking

General Amenities

- Wheelchair accessible path of travel

General Amenities

- Dry cleaning & laundry service
- Laundry Room
- Elevator & lift on property

Internet

- Wired Internet access - Free
- Free internet

Lobby Level Services

- Free news papers in lobby
- Tours - ticket assistance
- Luggage storage facilities
- Express check out
- 24/7 front desk

Lobby Level Services

- Safe deposit box at front desk

Parking Services

- Self parking - Extra Charge

Pool Facilities

- Outdoor Swimming Pool

Property Features

- Assigned smoking areas
- Roll in shower

Restaurants & Bars

- Number of bars & lounges -
- Hotel Restaurant

Transportation Services

- Area shuttle - Free
- Airport shuttle - Free

HELPFUL INFO & FAQs

Call only deals: 855-516-1090

Does this property have a swimming pool?

Yes, Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel has a hotel pool.

What is the check-in policy?

The checking times for Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel are between 3:00 PM and anytime. The minimum age to check-in is 21.

What is the check-out time?

This Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel's check-out time is 11:00 AM.

What brand is Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel?

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel is a part of Holiday Inn By IHG.

What is the street address for Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel?

The address for Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel is 923 North Gloster, Tupelo, Mississippi 38804

What is the price for tonight?

Based on recent averages, the price for tonight can start at 135.

What is the nightly room rate for this weekend?

Based on recent averages, the room rate for this weekend can be as low as 135 per night.

How many guest rooms are at Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel?

The Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel has a total of 121 guest rooms.

How many floors does the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel have?

This Tupelo hotel has 5 floors.

What is the hotel theme?

Travelers find this hotel Good for Business Travelers.

Recommended landmarks, attractions or things to do around HOLIDAY INN HOTEL & SUITES TUPELO NORTH, AN IHG HOTEL?

HOLIDAY INN HOTEL & SUITES TUPELO NORTH, AN IHG HOTEL is within minutes from Tupelo Hardware Company - 2.6 km / 1.6 mi , BancorpSouth Arena - 3 km / 1.8 mi and Tupelo Automobile Museum - 3 km / 1.9 mi

HOTEL LOCATION

Call for unpublished prices: 855-516-1090

Nearest airport and around Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel - Tupelo, Mississippi Hotel

Distances are displayed to the nearest 0.1 mile and kilometer.

Tupelo Hardware Company - 2.6 km / 1.6 mi
 BancorpSouth Arena - 3 km / 1.8 mi
 Tupelo Automobile Museum - 3 km / 1.9 mi
 North Mississippi Medical Center - 3.4 km / 2.1 mi
 Tupelo National Battlefield - 3.6 km / 2.2 mi
 Elvis Presley Center - 4.9 km / 3 mi
 Ballard Park - 5.1 km / 3.2 mi
 Elvis Presley Lake and Campground - 6.8 km / 4.2 mi
 Oren Dunn City Museum - 7.7 km / 4.8 mi
 Tupelo Buffalo Park - 7.9 km / 4.9 mi
 Verona Medical Clinic - 9 km / 5.6 mi
 Tombigbee State Park - 13 km / 8.1 mi
 Trace State Park - 21.3 km / 13.2 mi
 Brices Cross Roads National Battlefield Site - 30.6 km / 19 mi
 Fulton City Park - 36.8 km / 22.9 mi
 The preferred airport for Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Tupelo North, an IHG Hotel is
 Tupelo, MS (TUP-Tupelo Regional) - 5.7 km / 3.5 mi



Jours

Thursday, April 20th

Elvis' Birthplace. This includes a tour of Elvis's birthplace, museum, church, and theater. The theater shows a 30-minute movie about Elvis's life. The shuttle will leave the hotel at 1:45 p.m. The shuttle bus seats 28 people. The cost of the tour is \$15.00 payable with your registration. Visit <https://elvispresleybirthplace.com/> for more information.

WELCOME TO THE BIRTHPLACE



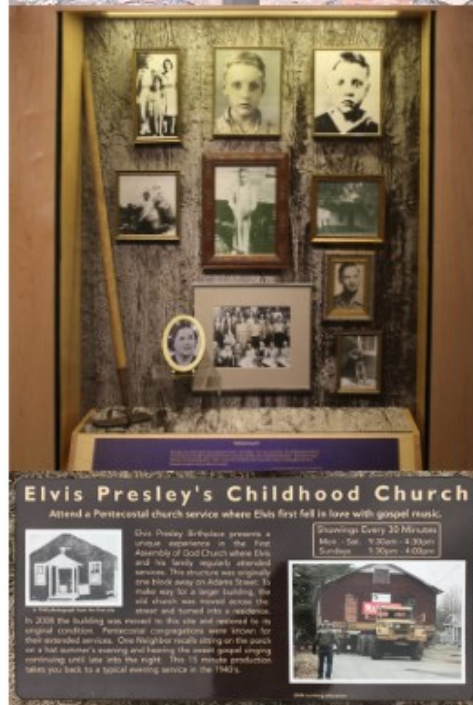
Elvis Aaron Presley was born in Tupelo, Mississippi, on January 8, 1935, to Vernon and Gladys Presley. Born in a two-room house built by his father, grandfather and uncle, Elvis was one of twin brothers born to the Presleys. His brother, Jessie Garon, was stillborn. Elvis grew up in Tupelo surrounded by his extended family including his grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins.

THE LITTLE SHOTGUN HOUSE

In 1934, Vernon Presley borrowed \$180 for materials to build a small frame house in East Tupelo. Vernon's father Jessie and Vester, his brother, helped with building the little shotgun house. It was in this humble two-room home lit by a single light bulb in each room that Elvis Aron Presley was born on January 8, 1935. Elvis was one of twin brothers born to the Presleys. His brother, Jessie Garon, was stillborn.

The family lived in the house about three years until the home was repossessed when Vernon could not repay the \$180 loan. Vernon and Gladys worked various jobs while in Tupelo and moved several different times during the thirteen years they resided in Mississippi. The Presley family lived in other locations in Tupelo until Elvis was thirteen years old when they moved to Memphis.

"I love the way that each book — any book — is its own journey. You open it, and off you go..." — Sharon Creech



From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elvis_Presley_Birthplace)

The **Elvis Presley Birthplace** is a historic museum site in Tupelo, Mississippi dedicated to the preservation of the birthplace of American musician Elvis Presley. It is listed on the Mississippi Blues Trail.^{[1][2]}

The museum site includes the birthplace home of Elvis Presley, a museum, a chapel, and the Assembly of God Church building where the Presley family worshipped. Financially, times were hard on Vernon and Gladys, and they had to move out of the shotgun house when Elvis was only a few years old for lack of payment. Vernon and Gladys worked various jobs while in Tupelo and moved several different times during the thirteen years they resided in Mississippi.^[3]

An F5 tornado struck eight miles (13 km) outside the city on April 5, 1936. The catastrophic tornado killed hundreds but spared the Presley's house and the family was unharmed.^{[4][5]}

Friday, April 21st

Queen Reward is Mississippi's First Meadery. The tour is free; however, you will have the option to participate in the tasting. The cost for the tasting is \$12.00, payable at the Meadery. The shuttle bus will leave the hotel at 2:30 p.m. Please mark that you will attend this tour on your registration form, as we need to turn in a number of attendees to Queen Reward. Visit <https://queensreward.com/> for more information.

QUEEN'S REWARD
























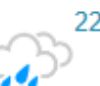





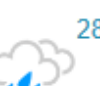


MEAD HAS AN EPIC HISTORY.

WE ARE MAKING OUR OWN.

We began experimenting with making mead several years ago at home after previously making homemade wines as a hobby. To gauge how our flavors held up against more established mead makers we entered two of our meads in a national competition and with both winning awards and that got our minds turning. We knew we were on the right track and simply thought we should do something that had not been done before...bring the full experience of mead to Mississippi. We are proud to not only call it home but also be able to produce meads using honey directly from our state. Queens Reward is a labor of love. We hope you enjoy every bottle, glass, and sip as much as we enjoy making them.

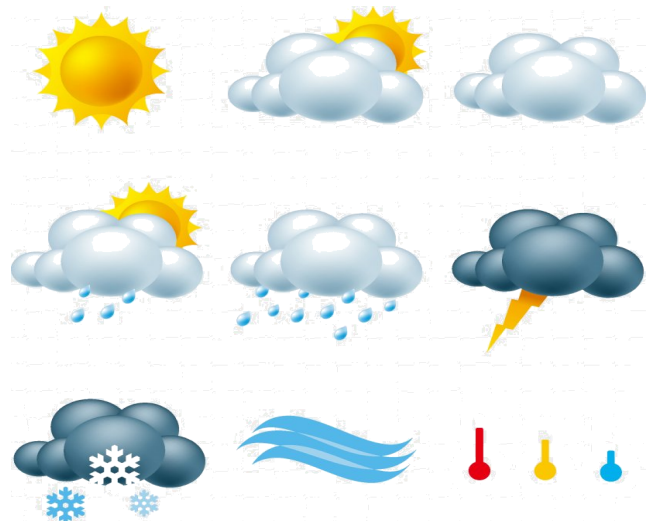


Weather (maybe)

< Mar		April 2023 ▾					May >
Sn	M	T	W	Th	F	S	
						 1 68%	
 2 62%	 3 36%	 4 32%	 5 42%	 6 74%	 7 67%	 8 30%	
 9 24%	 10 08%	 11 29%	 12 41%	 13 51%	 14 47%	 15 41%	
 16 51%	 17 68%	 18 29%	 19 40%	 20 47%	 21 40%	 22 62%	
 23 81%	 24 41%	 25 76%	 26 51%	 27 51%	 28 50%	 29 63%	
 30 64%							

Temperature Forecast:

- Thursday, April 20, 2023
 - High Temperature Forecast 72 to 82°F
 - Low Temperature Forecast 46 to 56°F
- Friday, April 21, 2023
 - High Temperature Forecast 73 to 83°F
 - Low Temperature Forecast 46 to 56°F
- Saturday, April 22, 2023
 - High Temperature Forecast 73 to 83°F
 - Low Temperature Forecast 50 to 60°F





General Federation of Women's Club

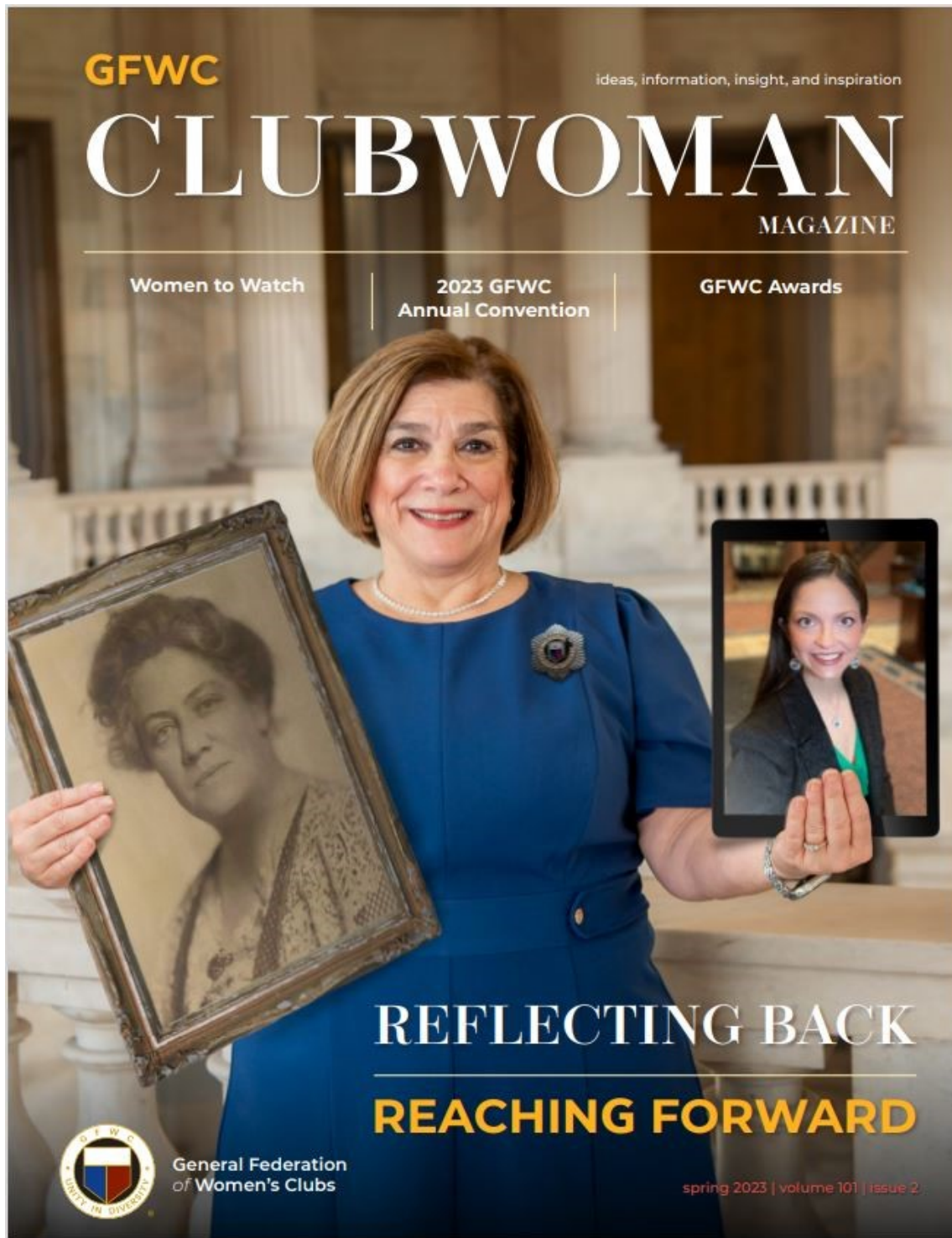


1734 N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036-2990

Phone:
202-347-3168

For membership information:
800-443-GFWC
www.gfwc.org

2023 Spring Clubwoman Magazine



In [this issue](#), GFWC commemorates Women's History Month with special feature articles "Reflecting Back, Reaching Forward" and "The Future of Women's History: Women to Watch." Members also can read about the following:

- 2023 GFWC Annual Convention, June 10-12, in Louisville, Kentucky
- Awards and Contests; and
- GFWC Learning Gateway Webinar Series

Thank you to all who contributed!

Register for the Gateway Webinar Series



THE GFWC LEARNING GATEWAY SERIES

FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN: GFWC MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GFWC LEARNING GATEWAY WEBINAR SERIES TO LEARN DIRECTLY FROM THE 2022-2024 GFWC HONORARY CHAIRMEN.

MARCH 22 @ 7 P.M. – Advocacy Challenges: Overcoming Roadblocks and Building Coalition Support by Stephanie Foster, Founding Partner of Sesash Strategies, Honorary Chairman for GFWC Juniors' Special Program

APRIL 18 @ 7 P.M. – The Power of Personal Behaviors in Health and Wellness by Nagi Kumar, Ph.D., Cancer Chemoprevention and Initiatives Moffitt Cancer Center, Honorary Chairman for Health & Wellness Community Service Program

APRIL 25 @ 7 P.M. – Drawing Connections: Prevention Demands Equity by Monika Johnson Hostler, President of the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, Honorary Chairman for GFWC Signature Program

 GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

March 22 at 7:00p.m. – [Advocacy Challenges: Overcoming Roadblocks and Building Coalition Support](#)

April 18 at 7:00p.m. – [The Power of Personal Behaviors in Health and Wellness](#)

April 25 at 7:00p.m. – [Drawing Connections: Prevention Demands Equity](#)



GFWC MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Membership Matters, formerly known as *Membership Quarterly*, is a newsletter exclusively for GFWC Club Presidents. Each issue focuses on membership topics that matter to your club members—and ways that you can offer them more benefits and resources through Headquarters.

Are you a club President and not receiving Membership Matters? Contact GFWC@GFWC.org.

Registration Open for the 2023 GFWC Annual Convention, June 10-12, in Louisville, Kentucky

Early bird registration officially open! Click on the [register for the 2023 GFWC Annual Convention](#) to receive discounted rate.

(To help you register, GFWC created a “[Registration: How To Guide](#),” which provides step-by-step instructions.)

For complete information on the 2023 GFWC Annual Convention, see the “[Call to Convention](#).” GFWC is currently accepting ads for the “Convention Program.” If you would like to place an ad, please complete the [form](#) and send it back to Nishu Raina at NRaina@GFWC.org. Also, the GFWC Fundraising Committee is collecting donations for the “**Race to the Finish**” fundraiser. Please sign up to [donate](#). The deadline for submission is Monday, May 1.

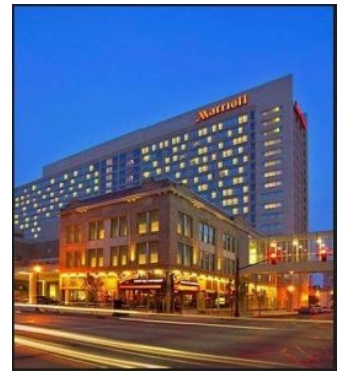
Official hotel and airline partners accepting reservations!

The official event hotel is the [Louisville Marriott Downtown](#). You can book your room [here](#). To make your reservations via phone, call 800-266-9432 or 502-627-5045 (local).

Make flight reservation with United Airlines



To make flight reservations with **United Airlines**, the official GFWC air travel partner, click on discount code [ZMWZ353876](#). MileagePlus members earn miles for their travel when using the Meetings discount code.



Louisville Marriott
Downtown

Or, call the United Meetings Reservation Desk, Monday through Friday, at 800-426-1122 for booking assistance. Booking fees are waived for 2023 GFWC Annual Convention reservations. International customers may contact their local United Reservation Desk.

LOUISVILLE

2023 GFWC Annual Convention

Date : June 10-12

Louisville Marriot Downtown - \$201.00 (plus taxes and fees)

Southern Region President's Project: Youth Leadership

by: **Joyce Johnston, GFWC Southern Region President**

Our Southern Sisters (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Aruba, Belize, and the Bahamas) have joined together to support our Southern Region project of youth leadership. Our tagline is "GFWC, a beacon of light for our future," and for a logo we are using lighthouses. Just like lighthouse beacons help to guide those on a journey, we, as GFWC volunteers, can shine our light to help our youth develop leadership skills and a commitment to volunteerism.

Some ways clubs can show their support of youth leadership include organizing teen dating violence prevention seminars, working with Girl Scouts, providing scholarships, and working with Junioresettes. The states and international affiliates in our region have been challenged to federate at least one new Junioresette club during this administration. Junioresettes are not just our future, they are also our present.

At the 2022 Southern Region Conference, we were excited to have the Florida State Director of Junioresette Clubs as a guest speaker. She shared her experiences as a Junioresette and promoted her special project of supporting the homeless. We also had a representative from HOBY speak about their leadership seminars and what activities our high school attendees would be participating in. Clubs are encouraged to send a Junioresette representative to HOBY whenever possible.

Our Region Special Project Chairman gave tips on how to form a Junioresette club and gave an example of a possible Junioresette project. She spoke about Girls Love Mail, a program that delivers handwritten letters of encouragement to women newly diagnosed with breast cancer.

A highlight of the conference was Junior Fun Night, where we dressed up as mermaids and played games to raise money to donate hygiene kits, mermaid party supplies, and shark/mermaid blankets to the Safe Harbor Children's Center in Brunswick, Georgia.

Our Conference Committee is busy working on plans for our 2023 Southern Region Conference, which will be October 26-29 in Biloxi, Mississippi. So come join us on the Gulf!

