



Top 5 Reasons to Go to Springfield

1. Attend GFWC IL Convention

Coverage begins on page 10

State Capitol



2. "State of the State" Legislative Session

3. Group Service Project on Friday

4. Exercise Your Right to Vote

Candidate profiles begin on page 24



5. Extend Your Stay & Tour the Sights



Lincoln Home National
Historic Site



Abraham Lincoln Presidential
Library & Museum



Old State Capitol



*Lincoln's nose,
rubbed shiny by
those seeking
good luck*

Lincoln Tomb & War Memorials



Dana-Thomas House



SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT TO FAMILIES OF:

Jo Koenig, District 5, on the sudden death of her brother-in-law, Paul Koenig.

Mary Truitt, District 23, on the death of her brother, John.

Gerri Eck, District 6, on the passing of her father, Eugene Leo Eck.

Trisha Schafer, District 17/16, on the passing of her father, Jim Topham.

Janice "Annie" Housden, past Vice President Southern Region, on the passing of her father in law, Virgil A. Housden.

Megan Mitchell, Homer Glen Junior Woman's Club President, District 11, on the passing of her 17 year old son, Jack.

Belvidere Women's Club, District 4, members had much to grieve as they lost these ladies in 2015: **Pearl Greve, Alice M. Johnson, Betty J Ferrell, Ruth M Knott-Ross, Evelyn M. Rudolph, and Geraldine Sanders**. Combined, these six ladies gave 94 years of service to their club and community.

CAROL'S COMMENTS

I've got to tell you my favorite part of attending GFWC Illinois Conventions. It's sitting at the meal functions, the "open houses" when districts open their rooms to fellow clubwomen, and enjoying a beverage with other clubwomen in the, gasp, hotel bar. Why? It's the exchange of ideas that I love to bring back to my home club and district. I've said it many times, "If I bring back one good new idea, then all the time and money I've spent is worth it."

Will I see you at Convention? I hope so! Let's get together and exchange ideas so that we can make our clubs and communities even better.

GFWC ILLINOIS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Diane Addante

Director of Junior Clubs: Karyn McCarthy Charvat

President Elect: Phyllis Skubic

Vice President Northern Region: Elena Lipinski

Vice President Central Region: Judy Sochor

Vice President Southern Region: Alice Betlach

Secretary: Betty Peters

Treasurer: Janice Perkins

Parliamentarian: Jacquelyn Pierce, RP

GFWC ILLINOIS JUNIOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Director of Junior Clubs: Karyn McCarthy Charvat

Director Elect of Junior Clubs: Jeanette T. Wells

Dean of Chairmen: Cherie Sieger

Secretary: Joanne Meyer

Treasurer: Loretta Revesz

Did you know that you can find Convention updates
on the web at gfwcillinois.org?

Go to the Members Area icon then fill in:

id: member

password: illinois

Lots of good information to be found there.



THE KEY TO YOUR MAGAZINE

Editor in Chief: Diane Addante

Managing Editor: Carol Jablonski

Please send your articles, photos, and suggestions to:

carolajablonski@att.net

or, 818 Tamarack Drive, Darien, IL 60561

... volunteers are the key

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Diane Addante, GFWC IL President

As I write this, we still have plenty of winter days ahead, but by the time you read it, we will have almost made it through another winter. I look forward to spring, not only for the improved weather, but because it is again time for District Annual Meetings and our State Convention. It's a pleasure to visit our districts, and your Convention Committee has been hard at work to make the 121st Annual Convention a special event for us all. Hope to see you there!

In this edition of the *GFWC Illinois Clubwoman Magazine* is everything you need to know about Convention in Springfield. Please keep this issue and bring it with you to Convention as it contains the detailed agenda for the event and the proposed Bylaws amendments and Resolution revisions on which we will be voting. With contested races for office this year, I encourage you to come to Convention and take part in determining the future leadership of our organization.

I have thoroughly enjoyed serving as your President this administration. Thank you for the privilege! My respect for all of you is immense and my pride in the work you do for your communities would be hard to measure. This experience will always hold a special place in my heart.

If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact me. Email is best, dinaper@cs.com.

"If It Needs To Be, Volunteers Are the Key" and you are key to GFWC Illinois. Thanks for all you do!!



Diane Addante



ONE VOICE

Karyn M. McCarthy Charvat, GFWC IL Director of Junior Clubs

As we prepare to celebrate the accomplishments of this past year, I find it so hard to believe we are also preparing to transition into another administration! The old adage is true: time flies when you're having fun! And what fun it has been! From being installed in Arizona to today, it has been a whirlwind of excitement, fun and accomplishments. I have been proud to serve as your Director of Junior Clubs these past two years. It has been my honor and privilege to represent you at the state and national levels of GFWC. The power of what you ladies do in your local clubs each and every day continually amazes me!

Our focus on membership has been incredible and was forever recorded in GFWC history when the GFWC IL Juniors were recognized at the 2015 GFWC International Convention in Memphis with the first ever Membership Increase Award! To be honored in front of the entire International delegation for being the state federation to see the largest increase in Junior membership is a moment in time I will never forget. GFWC IL Juniors welcomed 128 new members in 2014 and I'm eager to see all the Membership reports from 2015. *To me, increasing and retaining our club membership is our most crucial task. For with more members, we can do even more in our communities. And with HAPPY members comes MORE members, so please remember to thank your club members for their time and make them feel valued.*

Another highlight was the work we do in the area of Advocacy. In 2015, GFWC IL Juniors were instrumental in helping Stephanie's Law gain visibility. I am happy to report that the proposed legislation has once again been assigned a bill number and is one step closer to a vote. If

enacted, Stephanie's Law would amend the Sex Offender Registration Act and will protect many Illinois children from sexual predators in our schools, park districts, and other recreational and educational facilities. To have played a part in helping this bill possibly become legislation has been truly inspiring.

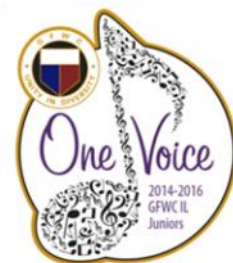
We will be celebrating these and many more accomplishments at this year's 121st GFWC IL Convention, so I hope you and your club members are planning to attend! Come join us in Springfield May 12 - 14 where we shall party like rock stars and learn from networking with each other! Come down to honor and celebrate our 2015 Junior of the Year, our 2015 Spark Plug and our 2015 Outstanding Junior Service winners! Join us as we welcome and install our new administration, led by Phyllis Skubic and our very own Jeanette T. Wells as they assume the roles of GFWC IL President and GFWC IL Director of Junior Clubs! What a special time it will be; don't miss out!

I would most certainly be remiss if I did not thank our GFWC IL President Diane Addante, who has not only been a phenomenal leader, but also a wonderful friend. Her leadership style is one for all to learn from and to emulate; it is one of grace and class. My time spent as her Director will be treasured always and I am grateful for these years spent together. I'd also like to thank the 2014-2016 Junior Board of Directors and the EC - you all are such shining examples of what it means to be a GFWC IL Junior. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for carrying me through and for leading your districts and your clubs so effortlessly.

See you all in Springfield, ladies!



Karyn M. McCarthy Charvat





Phyllis Skubic

SET SAIL FOR 2016-2018

Phyllis Skubic, GFWC IL President Elect

My Federation journey started 38 years ago when I was asked by a friend to attend a meeting of the Coal City Junior Woman's Club. Little did I know how that one simple decision would impact and change my life. Getting involved in my community, making a difference is the lives of others, and giving back, truly are life-changing decisions.

After serving as Club President, I explored the Junior District level and served as a Junior Chairman before moving up to the Executive Committee where I served as Secretary, Vice Director and Junior Director '88-'90. For the Illinois Junior Organization, I served as Conservation Chair, Northern Region Junior Director, Assistant Junior Director and Secretary. In 2000 I started my GFWC Illinois Board tenure by serving as District President, Budget & Finance Committee, Convention Secretary, Communications & Identity Chair, Northern Region Vice President / Leadership Chair and currently serve as GFWC Illinois President Elect.

Outside of GFWC, I have been a passionate volunteer and supporter of the Illinois Leader-

ship Seminar (ILS) since 1989, served as Chairman of two successful multi-million dollar school and library referendums, served for many years on Grundy County Economic Development Committee, helped organize and volunteered at Breaking Away, our county's first domestic violence shelter, and currently serve on the Board of Directors for Easter Seals – Joliet Region.

My professional career as Human Resource Manager for a multi-state collision repair company is the direct result of the leadership training I received as a member of GFWC Illinois.

"Set Sail . . . Explore the Possibilities" will be the theme for this administration. To me, a sailboat represents the freedom and courage to explore new experiences. I am honored and humbled to be serving this wonderful organization as your next President. We can't control the winds . . . but we can adjust our SAILS and EXPLORE every POSSIBILITY that the future holds for us; individually and collectively as members of GFWC Illinois!

It's time to SET SAIL and start EXPLORING!



Jeanette T Wells

HELPING DESIGN BETTER LIVES

Jeanette T Wells, GFWC IL Director Elect of Junior Clubs

As a young girl, volunteering through scouts and church taught me how blessed I was and how important it is to help others. Coming back home after my divorce, I found the Glendale Heights Junior Women's Club, and boy, did it fit the bill - a group of awesome ladies that had one thing in mind – to better the lives of others!

That was 21 years ago and, after serving in almost every position in my club, I served as the 5th District Assistant Junior Director and then the 5th District Director of Junior Clubs. By serving on the state board I discovered the bigger picture of GFWC and my heart told me to continue on this fantastic leadership journey. I've held many chairmanships on the Junior Board, along with fundraising positions on the GFWC IL and Great Lakes Boards. The best part about GFWC is the opportunity to meet people that you probably would never have met.

During the 2016-2018 Administration, I will serve as GFWC IL Director of Junior Clubs, and honestly, a position I never thought I would hold, and am humbled and honored to be serving. During this administration, it is my hope that we can work together to better the lives of others in Illinois and around the world. We will look for the needs of others and find a way to meet that need – making a plan and delivering! We will be: GFWC IL Juniors—Helping Design Better Lives.

. . . volunteers are the key

YOUR 2014-2016 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



From left to right

Jackie Pierce, Parliamentarian; Janice Perkins, Treasurer; Betty Peters, Secretary; Alice Betlach, Vice President Southern Region; Judy Sochor, Vice President Central Region; Elena Lipinski, Vice President Northern Region; Phyllis Skubic, President Elect; Karyn McCarthy Charvat, Director of Junior Clubs; Diane Addante, President.

100th Anniversary

Wood River Woman's Club, District 22

Co-Presidents Cheryl Maguire and Helen Crause



Elena Lipinski

GFWC ILLINOIS LEADS

Elena Lipinski, GFWC IL Northern Region Vice President

The GFWC Illinois LEADS (Leadership Education And Development Seminar) will be on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at the President Lincoln Doubletree in Springfield, IL. Registration will begin at 10:30 am, and LEADS will commence promptly at 11 am. There will be a lunch break starting just before noon and the LEADS will resume right around 1 pm. We should be finished by 3 pm.

Those interested in attending the GFWC IL LEADS should complete and send the Registration Form on page 6, along with a \$30.00 check payable to GFWC Illinois. The registration deadline, April 15, 2016, is the same as for Convention. Presenters should send their \$30.00 meal check directly to GFWC Illinois Headquarters

25 & 50 YEAR MEMBERS SOUGHT



Club presidents, please send the names of your members who celebrated their 25th or 50th anniversary with your club during 2015.

Please send this information to Alice Betlach,
mom21girl3@yahoo.com,
or 1229 Kropp Road, Millstadt, IL 62260,
by April 15, 2016.



IN MEMORIAM



Club presidents, please submit the names of your members who passed (April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016). They will be honored at a memorial service during Convention.

Please send this information to GFWC IL Headquarters, gfwc-illinois@sbcglobal.net,
or mail to 5 E. Van Buren St., Suites 206-208, Joliet, IL 60432.

Send photos of members who passed from April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016 to Shelli Fehr at 85 Kennelworth Cir., Hampton 61256 or email to shellifehr@hotmail.com.

Please include member's name and club.



GFWC Illinois **LEADS**

Registration Form

Wednesday, May 11, 2016

President Abraham Lincoln Springfield, A DoubleTree Hotel

Registration Fee: \$30.00

Registration Deadline: April 15, 2016

Please Print

Club Name _____ District _____

Member's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____

Home or Work Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

List club activities including all club offices and/or chairmanships held:

Have you attended: District Meetings _____ State Meetings _____ GFWC Meetings _____

Applicant's Signature

Club or District President's Signature

Mail to: GFWC Illinois Leadership Chairman

Elena Lipinski • 698 Canyon Lane • Elgin, IL 60123

Make checks payable to: GFWC Illinois



BLUE RIBBON LUNCHEON & FASHION SHOW

SATURDAY APRIL 2, 2016



Becky Weber

Blue Ribbon

*Luncheon & Fashion Show
Chairman*

***Every club that makes
10 reservations or more
will be entered into a
drawing for a cash prize
of \$100.00 for your club!
You can use this cash to
stock up on items needed
to carry out club
business or to subsidize
a club project.***

Plans are underway for another wonderful **GFWC Illinois Blue Ribbon Fashion Show!** How can your club help? Make reservations for yourself, fellow club members and guests! By helping us with reservations for the fashion show YOU can help your club to win **\$100!** See the feature box on the left for a special incentive for you.

The cost remains a great value at **\$40.00!** This year's show will be held at the beautiful **BOLINGBROOK GOLF CLUB, 2001 Rodéo Drive, Bolingbrook, Illinois.** The Bolingbrook Golf Club is conveniently located just minutes from I-55 (Stevenson Expressway – exit Weber Road). It will be a perfect setting for our amazing fashion show! Remember, the Blue Ribbon Fashion Show will be held on **Saturday April 2, 2016!**

RAFFLE BASKETS

We are once again requesting that each club donate a themed basket worth a minimum of \$50.00. It can be worth more, but it needs to be at least \$50.00 in value. If your club cannot support this request, we would like to ask the clubs to please make a monetary donation (made payable to GFWC ILLINOIS) and the committee will use toward building baskets.

DEADLINES

Please bring your completed raffle basket to someone who will be attending the Spring Board of Directors Meeting, March 4 & 5 in Springfield, such as your District President or GFWC Illinois State Board Member.

Club members, District Presidents and Board Members, it is **imperative** that you all follow these directions so that the committee receives the baskets in time to prepare them for the show. Please let me know as soon as possible if you need to make other arrangements, and we will work through any challenges. If you do not plan to or cannot attend the Spring Meeting, please deliver your club's basket to your District President prior to the dates noted above, or ship to raffle chairman Gerri Eck no later than **March 10, 2016:**

Gerri Eck, 1608 Campbell St., Unit C, Joliet, IL 60435

gerriECK@gmail.com

AUCTION ITEMS

Lastly, if you can assist the committee in obtaining unique items (trips, jewelry, and tickets for concerts/events, restaurants, etc...) that can be used in our Silent Auction, please let us know ASAP. We will need a wide variety of items for our Silent Auction so our attendees will bid and bid often!

PCA ILLINOIS really depends on our support each year through our Blue Ribbon Fashion Show, and we want to help as much as we possibly can to aid them in their commitment to the prevention of child abuse.

Thank you for all of your efforts and the efforts of your club members! Without you, this event would not be a success.



GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs

Cordially invites you to attend the

19th Annual Blue Ribbon Luncheon & Fashion Show

to benefit Prevent Child Abuse Illinois

(a non-profit 501c3 organization)

Saturday April 2, 2016

Bolingbrook Golf Club

2001 Rodeo Drive, Bolingbrook, Illinois

(off I-55 at exit Weber Road – 25 miles south of Oak Brook)

11am Social

12pm Luncheon, Fashion Show, Raffles

\$40 per person

\$16.75 for children (10 years or younger)

Come early to take advantage of the SPECIAL Raffle, Basket Raffles, Split the Pot and Silent Auction!!

Blue Ribbon Luncheon & Fashion Show

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Club Name: _____ District: _____

REPLY BY MARCH 10, 2016

Please Reserve _____ tickets at \$40 per person

Please Reserve _____ table(s) at \$400 per table

____ Please find my check enclosed (payable to GFWC Illinois)

Kindly accept my donation in the amount of \$ _____

Please seat the following people together: _____

Send Reservations to:

Michelle Schultz, 828 W. Reynolds Street, Pontiac, IL 61764

Questions on Reservations contact:

Becky Weber, Blue Ribbon Luncheon & Fashion Show Chairman— mweber@mtco.com or 309-369-1133

Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.





GFWC IL 121st Annual Convention



GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs

OFFICIAL CALL

One Hundred Twenty First Annual Convention

May 12—14, 2016

"If It Needs To Be, Volunteers Are The Key"

President Abraham Lincoln Springfield, a DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
701 E Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701
217-544-8800

The One Hundred Twenty First Annual Convention of GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs is hereby called for May 12, 13 and 14, 2016 at the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield Hotel. Session I, Business, will be called to order at 9:00 am Thursday, May 12, 2016 by Diane E. Addante, President, GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs.

REPRESENTATION

ARTICLE VII

CONVENTIONS

Section 2. REPRESENTATION

- A. The voting body of GFWC Illinois shall consist of:
 1. Club Delegates
Any member in good standing may attend Convention as a delegate
 2. Members of the Junior Board of Directors
 3. Convention Committee Officers
 4. Members of the GFWC Illinois Board of Directors
 5. GFWC Illinois Past Presidents
 6. GFWC Illinois Past Directors of Junior Clubs
- B. Delegates shall pay registration fees for the entire convention to be entitled to vote.
- C. A delegate shall represent only one club and shall have only one vote at the annual convention.
- D. Any Club whose member dues are not paid by April 1st shall be notified and shall not be entitled to representation at the annual convention or to receive awards, except those clubs admitted at Pre-Convention Board Meeting.
- E. Members paying daily registration shall have no voting privileges.

Section 3. NON-VOTING MEMBERS/VISITORS

- A. GFWC Illinois club members who attend in addition to the voting delegates shall be considered non-voting members and attend all sessions.
- B. Non-members attending Convention as a guest of a member, a personal guest of the President, or persons invited to be participants in the convention program shall be referred to as visitors.
- C. Visitors badges shall be issued at registration.

BRING TO CONVENTION

Delegates are requested to bring The Convention Issue of the *GFWC Illinois Clubwoman Magazine*. Limited copies will be available at Convention.

CREDENTIALS/MEAL RESERVATIONS

The GFWC Illinois Convention Registration Forms can be found on pages 33 & 34 of this magazine. The Credential and Meal Reservation Forms have been combined.

Please fill out both sides and mail, with check payable to GFWC Illinois, to:

Patti Kuchar, Convention Treasurer
180 S. DeWitt Place
Coal City, IL 60416

Forms must be postmarked by April 15, 2016.

Registration for delegates and non-voting members is \$25.00. Late registration (postmarked 4/16 or later) is \$40. Non-voting members may register for one or more days at \$15.00 per day. All delegates must pick up their credentials by 7:00 pm on Friday, May 13, 2016.

Registration fees for the GFWC Illinois Past Presidents and Past Directors of Junior Clubs shall be waived.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

All sessions of the One Hundred Twenty First Annual Convention of GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs will be held at the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield, a DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 701 E Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701.

The hotel reservation form can be found on page 35. Reservations may also be made by calling 217-544-8800. Please use code FWC when making reservations.

Per night rates are \$99.00 plus applicable taxes and fees for all rooms. Hotel offers valet parking at \$13 per night with in/out privileges. There is a city garage located next door which is 75 cents per hour, or \$8.00 per every 24 hours with NO in/out privileges.

Deadline for hotel reservations is April 20, 2016.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

The Pre-Convention Meeting for the 2014-2016 Board of Directors will be held in the Ottawa Room (2nd floor) on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 from 3:30-5:00 pm.

PRE-CONVENTION DINNER

The theme for this evening is "Land of Lincoln".

Hostess: Convention Officers, Terri Soehrmann, Chairman.

BUSINESS SESSIONS

The One Hundred Twenty First Annual Convention will officially open with **Session I – Business**, on Thursday, May 12, 2016, beginning at 9:00 am in Salons A & B.

Session IV – Business, will begin at 9:15 am on Friday, May 13, 2016 in Salons A & B.

Session VI – Junior Business, will convene at 3:15 pm on Friday, May 13, 2016 in Ottawa (2nd floor).

Session VII – Business, on Saturday, May 14, 2016, begins at 9:00 am in Salons A & B.

Admittance for Business Sessions will be by Credential Badge only.



GFWC IL 121st Annual Convention



FOOD FUNCTION SESSIONS

Food Function Sessions are open to all Delegates and Non-Voting Members who purchase a meal ticket for that event and have a credential badge.

Opening Luncheon – Session II

“Treasured Friendships”, hosted by Lombard Junior Women’s Club and Past Presidents Club of DuPage County, District 5, Margie Nilson and Jackie Haddad, Presidents, will begin at Noon on Thursday, May 12, 2016 in Salons C & D. Keynote Speaker will be GFWC 1st Vice President, Mary Ellen Brock.

Federation Banquet – Session III

“Our Promise...A Safe Place for Every Child” will begin at 7:00 pm on Thursday, May 12, 2016 in Salons C & D. The evening will be hosted by District 18, Nancy Gray, President. We celebrate our partnership with Prevent Child Abuse-Illinois. Please join us afterwards for a reception for our GFWC Officers, location to be announced.

Unity Luncheon – Session V

“Star Spangled Salute” will be hosted by District 17, Michelle Schultz, President, and Districts 17/16, Donna Cross, Director. The session will begin at Noon on Friday, May 13, 2016 in Salons C & D.

Fun Night – “Outta Sight Fun Night — 60’s Style”

Friday evening, May 13, 2016, we will start with Social Hour at 6 pm, Dinner at 7:00 pm with great music and dancing to follow. This event is scheduled for Presidential Ballroom. GFWC IL Executive Committee will be hostesses for the evening.

Recognition Luncheon & Installation Ceremony – Session VIII

“Designing New Possibilities...For Others, For Ourselves, and for GFWC IL” will be hosted by Districts 12 and 5, Chris Perry (12) and Sue Bielenda (5), Presidents; & Co-Directors Melissa Alstott and Brenda Ewenson (12) and LeeAnn Conlon (5). We will begin at Noon on Saturday, May 14, 2016 in Salons C & D.

Wardrobe Suggestions

Pre-Convention – Business casual. Purple, violet to honor state flower. Bonus points for outfits including violets.

Opening Luncheon – Business casual. Red.

Federation Banquet – Cocktail attire. Blue.

Unity Luncheon – Business casual. Red, white & blue.

Fun Night – Casual. Your best hippy regalia.

Recognition Luncheon & Installation Ceremony – Festive; defined by a bit of sparkle.

Past State Board Members

Breakfast Meeting

Friday, May 13, 2016

7:15 am to 8:45 am

Governor Bond, 2nd Floor

This club meets only once a year and only at the annual State Convention. Everyone who has served or is currently serving on the GFWC Illinois Board is invited to attend. Join us, and meet up with old friends and make some new ones too!

Dues remain a very friendly \$3.00, and can be paid Saturday morning. Contact Linda Bowlby, 217-763-6485, with any questions you may have.

Deb’s Diamond Divas

Breakfast Meeting

Saturday, May 14, 2016

7 :30 am to 8:30 am

Lincoln

Please join us for our annual meeting. There will be a continental breakfast and a short meeting where new officers will be installed, plus an update on fundraising activities. Annual dues of \$30 will be collected at the meeting.

Not a member yet? Please consider joining this club in support of Deb Strahanoski's journey to becoming the 54th GFWC International President in 2022-2024. She is currently GFWC International Secretary.

Please stop by Deb's Diamond Divas table to check out Deb's Diamond Wall fundraiser. Donations have been received from generous clubs and members throughout the year. Additional donations may be made at Convention. Those making donations towards the wall are eligible for a getaway: 3 day/2 night stay at Longhollow Point Inn in Galena, compliments of Teresa Sanford-Shiplett. The drawing will take place at Convention.

Questions? Email Bonnie Heydorn, DDD President at bonheydorn@gmail.com.



GFWC IL 121st Annual Convention



GENERAL CONVENTION INFORMATION

Please note: Room locations subject to change

REGISTRATION/CREDENTIALS—Registration Booth, Salon Area

Thursday, May 12 from 8:00 am-6:00 pm
Friday, May 13 from 8:00 am-7:00 pm
Saturday, May 14 from 8:00 am-10:00 am

CONVENTION OFFICE—Horner Suite, 2nd Floor

Thursday, May 12 from 8:00 am-5:00 pm
Friday, May 13 from 8:00 am-5:00 pm

ARTS & CRAFTS ROOM—Mary Todd

Thursday, May 12
7:00 am-9:00 am Receiving Artwork
1:00 pm -3:30pm Closed for Judging
3:30 pm-5:00 pm Open for Viewing
Friday, May 13 from 8:00 am-5:00 pm Open for Viewing
5:30 pm-7:00 pm Pick Up Artwork

EXHIBITORS—Lincoln

Wednesday, May 11 – Set up
Thursday, May 12 from 8:00 am-6:00 pm
Friday, May 13 from 8:00 am-6:00 pm

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2016

PRE-CONVENTION SCHEDULE

11:00 am-3:00 pm.....LEADS
Governor Yates, 2nd Floor
Group Photo Immediately Following
Noon-3:00 pm.....Executive Committee
Governor's Cabinet Room, 2nd Floor
3:30 pm-5:00 pm.....Board of Directors Meeting
Ottawa, 2nd Floor

GROUP PHOTO SCHEDULE

Immediately following Board Meeting
Convention Committee
2014-2016 Executive Committee
2014-2016 Board of Directors
President Elect with Chairmen
District Presidents
Region VPs with District Presidents

6:00 pm-6:30 pm.....Social
6:30 pm.....Pre-Convention Dinner
Ottawa, 2nd Floor

Dinner Grace.....Phyllis Nightlinger, Convention Secretary

“Land of Lincoln”

Hosted by Convention Officers

Terri Soehrmann, Chairman

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016

CONVENTION SESSIONS

(Program Agenda is subject to change)

CONVENTION OPENING

9:00 am – 11:00 am.....Salons A & B

SESSION I – BUSINESS

Presiding.....Diane E. Addante
GFWC Illinois President
Invocation.....Lou Brown
GFWC Illinois President 1984-1986

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

American Legion Post 32, Charlie Eagan Commander
National Anthem, “The Star Spangled Banner”
Led by Nancy Willis, GFWC Illinois President 2010-2012
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
Led by Karen Meyer, Public Issues Chairman

CALL TO ORDER:

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE GFWC ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF WOMEN’S CLUBS

Welcome.....Diane E. Addante
Karyn M. McCarthy Charvat
GFWC Illinois Director of Junior Clubs
Credentials Report.....Terry Lahue
Credentials Chairman

(Doors Close)



GFWC IL 121st Annual Convention



Convention Rules.....Terri Soehrmann
 Convention Chairman
 Convention Programs.....Jackie Haddad
 Convention Program Chairman
 Minutes of the 120th Annual Convention, 2015.....
 Betty Peters, Secretary
 Appointment of Committee to Approve Minutes of the 121st
 Annual Convention
 Greetings.....Mary Ellen Brock, GFWC 1st Vice President
 Tric Heepe, GFWC Great Lakes Region President

(Doors Open)

Reports of the 2014-2016 GFWC Illinois Executive Committee
 Bylaws Amendments.....Helen Crause
 Bylaws Chairman
 Resolutions Revisions.....Becky Weber
 Legislation/Public Policy Chairman
 Program Introduction.....Jackie Haddad
 TBA
 Presentation of Awards/Funds.....Phyllis Skubic
 President Elect/Dean of Chairmen
 International Outreach.....Barb Potter, Chairman
 Kim Kalafut, Junior Chairman
Helping Babies Breathe
Operation Smile
 Legislation/Public Policy.....Becky Weber, Chairman
 Fundraising.....Deb Hazlett, Chairman
 Brenda Hatch, Vice Chairman
 Sandy Christofanelli, Junior Chairman

Recognition of First Time Attendees

Announcements.....Terri Soehrmann
 Closing Thought.....Carol Rich
 GFWC Illinois President 1990-1992

RECESS

11:45 am Musical Prelude.....Rosemary Hauser
 President, The Woman's Club of Aurora, District 11
 11:45 am Processional Assembles.....Outside Salons C & D
 Noon-3:00 pm.....Salons C & D

SESSION II - OPENING LUNCHEON

"GFWC Treasured Friends"

*Hosted by Lombard Junior Women's Club, District 5 and
 Past Presidents Club of DuPage County, District 5
 Margie Nilson & Jackie Haddad, Presidents*

Processional Introductions.....Terri Soehrmann
 Presiding.....Diane E. Addante
 Opening Thought.....Jackie Pierce, Parliamentarian
 GFWC Illinois President 1992-1994
 GFWC President 2006-2008
 Luncheon Grace.....Margie Nilson, President
 Lombard Junior Women's Club, District 5

LUNCHEON

(Doors Close)

Memorial Service.....Marge Nelson
 GFWC Illinois President 2002-2004
 Keynote Speaker.....Mary Ellen Brock
 GFWC 1st Vice President

(Doors Open)

Presentation of Awards/Funds.....Phyllis Skubic
 Community Improvement Program Award &
 Make a Difference Day.....Evelyn Dill, Chairman
 Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO).....Sharon Gill, Chairman
 Home Life.....Marsha Vaughn, Chairman
 Cyndi Fulco, Junior Chairman

Brain Research Foundation

Easter Seals

Winning Wheels

Canine Companions for Independence

Public Issues.....Karen Meyer, Chairman
 Debbie Monteith, Junior Chairman

Native American Scholarships

American Indian Center

USO of Illinois

Fire Safety Alliance Camp "I am Me"



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NOMINATION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2016-2018 PRESENTATION OF NOMINEES' GOALS

(Doors Open)

Presentation of Awards

WHRC & 1734 Society.....Trisha Schafer, Chairman

Recognition of First Time Attendees

Announcements.....Terri Soehrmann
Convention Chairman

Closing Thought.....Agnes Simms
GFWC Illinois President 1982-1984

RECESS

11:45 am Musical Prelude.....Rosemary Hauser

11:45 am Processional Assembles.....Outside Salons C & D

Noon-3:00 pm.....Salons C & D

SESSION V – UNITY LUNCHEON

“Star Spangled Salute”

Hosted by

District 17, Michelle Schultz, President

District 17/16, Donna Cross, Director

Processional Introductions.....Terri Soehrmann

Presiding.....Diane E Addante

Opening Thought.....Nancy Willis

GFWC Illinois President 2010-2012

Special Presentation....GFWC Illinois Directors of Junior Clubs

Remarks.....Karyn M. Charvat

GFWC Illinois Director of Junior Clubs

Greetings from GFWC.....Mary Ellen Brock

GFWC 1st Vice President

Tric Heepe

GFWC Great Lakes Region President

Luncheon Grace.....Ruth Sloat

President, Lincoln Woman's Club, District 17

LUNCHEON

Presentation of Awards/Funds...Phyllis Skubic, President Elect

Cherie Sieger, Junior Dean of Chairmen

Junior Special Projects-Advocates for Children

Maria Uribe, Chairman

Children's Research Foundation

Accepting: Pat Broggi, Liaison

Membership.....Alice Betlach, Vice President

Terri Tatroe, Junior Chairman

Education.....Jo Koenig, Chairman

Sara Gilbert, Junior Chairman

Unity Award.....Karyn M. Charvat and Diane Addante

Junior Leadership Awards.....Patti McNaught, Chairman

Junior of the Year

Outstanding Junior Service

Spark Plug Award

Door Prizes.....Bonnie Heydorn

Convention Vice Chairman

Announcements.....Terri Soehrmann

Closing Thought.....Donna Cross

Director of Junior Clubs, Districts 17/16

RECESS

3:15 pm-5:15 pm.....Ottawa 2nd Floor

SESSION VI – JUNIOR BUSINESS

RECESS

3:30 pm-4:45 pm.....Service Project

TBA

MEET THE CANDIDATES RECEPTION

5:00 pm to 6:00 pmOutside Salons C & D

GROUP PHOTO SCHEDULE - Location TBA

Please report 10 minutes early

6:10 District 6

6:30 District 21

6:15 District 10

6:35 Past Directors

6:20 District 13

6:40 Junior Board

6:25 District 19

7:00 pm to 10:00 pm.....Presidential Ballroom

FUN NIGHT

“Outta Sight Fun Night—60's Style”

Hosted by 2014-2016 GFWC Illinois

Executive Committee

7:15 pm.....Dinner

Dinner Grace.....Judy Sochor, Vice President Central Region



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SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2016

6:00 am—9:00 am.....Election Polls Open
Mary Todd
7:30 am-8:30 am.....Deb's Diamond Divas Breakfast/Meeting
Lincoln
9:00 am-11:00 am.....Salons A & B

SESSION VII - BUSINESS

Presiding.....Diane E. Addante
GFWC Illinois President
Credentials Report.....Terry Lahue
Credentials Chairman
Greetings.....Patricia L. Heitman
GFWC Illinois President 2012-2014
Membership Recognitions.....Alice Betlach, Vice President
25 & 50 Year Members
Star Pins for Recruitment
Presentation of Awards/Funds...Phyllis Skubic, President Elect
Dean of Chairmen
Arts.....Betty Koran, Chairman
Kathy Koran, Vice Chairman
Pennies for Art, Very Special Arts
"Piggies on Parade"
GFWC Signature Project.....Mary Jo Murphy, Chairman
GFWC Survivor Scholarships
Scholarships.....Nancy Willis, Chairman
Door Prizes.....Bonnie Heydorn
Announcements.....Terri Soehrmann

RECESS

11:45 am Musical Prelude.....Rosemary Hauser
11:45 am Processional Assembles.....Outside Salons C & D

Noon-3:00 pm.....Salons C & D

SESSION VIII – RECOGNITION LUNCHEON & INSTALLATION CEREMONY

***“Designing New Possibilities...For Others,
For Ourselves and for GFWC Illinois”***

Hosted by Districts 12 and 5

Chris Perry & Sue Bielenda, Presidents

Melissa Alstott & Brenda Ewenson, Co-Directors of Junior Clubs, District 12

LeeAnn Conlon, Director of Junior Clubs, District 5

Processional Introductions.....Deb Strahanoski
Protocol Chairman/Platform Hostess
Presiding.....Diane E. Addante
Greetings.....Chris Perry
President, District 12
Thought for the Day.....LeeAnn Conlon
Director of Junior Clubs, District 5
Luncheon Grace.....Patti Kuchar, Convention Treasurer

LUNCHEON

Recognition of 100th Anniversary Clubs Recognition of New Clubs

Address of 2014-2016 Director.....Karyn M. Charvat
Address of 2014-2016 President.....Diane E. Addante
INSTALLATION OF 2016-2018 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS
Becky Weber, Junior Installing Officer
Debbie Strahanoski, General Installing Officer
Exchange of Pins.....Presidents & Directors
Address of 2016-2018 Director.....Jeanette T. Wells
Address of 2016-2018 President.....Phyllis J. Skubic
Door Prizes.....Bonnie Heydorn
Final Announcements.....Terri Soehrmann
Closing Thought.....Sue Bielenda, President, District 5
“Let There Be Peace On Earth”.....In Unison
Adjournment – Sine Die.....Diane E. Addante

2016-2018 Installation Reception

“All Aboard”

Governor Bond Suite, 2nd Floor - Hosted by Districts 12 & 5

Following Reception.....2016-2018 GFWC IL Executive Committee
Governor's Cabinet Room, 2nd Floor



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BYLAWS

The GFWC Illinois Bylaws Committee recommends the following amendments for adoption.

ARTICLE VI – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. VOTING MEMBERSHIP

GFWC Illinois Yearbook 2015 – 2016 Page 38

Insert after Special Committees and before period (.) *“and the Convention Committee Officers”*

To Read: The voting members of the Board of Directors shall consist of the Elected Officers, District Presidents, Chairmen of Community Service Programs, Standing and Special Committees, and the Convention Committee Officers. The number of voting and non-voting members of the Board of Directors shall not exceed the number of sixty as designated in the amended Articles of Incorporation.

Rationale: The Convention Committee Officers (Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer) have tremendous responsibilities and should be voting members of the Board of Directors. This will also allow additional members to meet the requirements needed to be nominated for a state office.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS Section 2. CANDIDACY

A. Eligibility 2 b.

GFWC Illinois Yearbook 2015 – 2016 Page 33

Insert after Directors. *“or as an officer of the GFWC Illinois Junior Organization.”*

To Read: Have served an additional two years as a voting member on the Board of Directors or as an officer of the GFWC Illinois Junior Organization.

Rationale: This will allow additional members to meet the eligibility requirements as a candidate for a state office.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS Section 2. Candidacy

B. Endorsement #6.

GFWC Illinois Yearbook 2015 – 2016 Page 33

Insert after On Election Day, *“when the Election Polls are open,”*

And Strike “on Election Day” in the second sentence and insert *“during voting hours when polls are open.”*

To Read: On Election Day, when the Election Polls are open, members may not display or wear anything that identifies their candidate, except the official delegate badge. There shall be no campaigning before the opening of the Convention, in the Convention Hall, or during voting hours when polls are open.

Rationale: In the event GFWC Illinois candidate endorsements, goals speeches, reception and voting all take place on the same day during the annual Convention, this will allow members to campaign for their candidate up to the time the polls open for voting. Election Day may not always be a separate day from these other candidate activities.

ARTICLE VII - CONVENTIONS

Section 4. REGISTRATION

A.

GFWC Illinois Yearbook 2015-2016 Page 43

Strike (except GFWC Illinois Past Presidents)

To read: A registration fee shall be required of every delegate and nonvoting member attending convention. Registration fees shall be waived for visitors.

Rationale: The registration fee exemption for GFWC Illinois Past Presidents is noted in Standing Rule 7, Annual Convention, A. Convention Fees, #4. (State Yearbook page 58)

GFWC IL Bylaws Committee 2014-2016:

Helen Crause, Chairman

Sue Bielenda, Elaine Bush, Phyllis Skubic, Karyn Charvat, Jackie Pierce, Diane Addante, Committee Members



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RESOLUTIONS

The GFWC Illinois Resolution Committee reviewed 7 resolutions: 4 proposed to be amended; 3 proposed to rescind; 3 proposed new amendments. ALL CAPS IN BODY + **GREEN** (except WHEREAS & RESOLVED) = to be omitted. **Bold** + *italics* + **red** = proposed new language.

PROPOSED TO BE AMENDED

EDUCATION COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

ENGLISH, OFFICIAL U.S. LANGUAGE

Adopted 1989 – Revised 1995

WHEREAS, The United States has been enriched by the cultural contributions of immigrants from many traditions, and blessed with one common language (English) which has united a diverse nation and fostered harmony among its people; and

WHEREAS, English is a world language which we share with many other nations and is the most widely used medium of international communications; and

WHEREAS, The public schools of the nation have a special obligation to transmit the common culture and civic values of the United States, and to accelerate the assimilation of immigrant students to American society; and

WHEREAS, English is our national language by custom only, enjoying no official protection, and is subject to erosion with increased use of other languages and slang which could be a divisive force within our nation; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs promote the passage of a bill at both the state and national levels making U.S. English the official language of the United States; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs supports the enforcement of the English language requirement for naturalization; and further

RESOLVED, **THAT THE BILINGUAL EDUCATION BE LIMITED TO A TRANSITIONAL ROLE FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING PEOPLE, AND FURTHER** That language(s) other than English **IS (are)** taught in our school systems only secondary to the study of English.

Rationale: To clarify

PROPOSED TO BE AMENDED

HOME LIFE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

FAMILY CAREGIVERS

Adopted 2009

WHEREAS, Meeting the demands of multiple family responsibilities, as well as the added pressures of employment and outside commitments, creates great stress for family caregivers; **THEREFORE (and)**

WHEREAS, There is a possible financial advantage and opportunity for more individualized care options in community-based programs; therefore

RESOLVED, THE GFWC ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES ITS MEMBER CLUBS TO WORK WITH THEIR STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATORS TO FORMULATE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR HOME HEALTH CARE WORKERS THAT WOULD INCLUDE BACKGROUND CHECKS AND MINIMUM STANDARDS OF TRAINING; AND FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs urges its members to support legislation providing for flexible employment policies and programs to aid family caregivers, and legislation to provide minimum licensing and training requirements for home health care workers(**; and further**)

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs urges its members to work with appropriate agencies in their communities to support the development and maintenance of creative community-based support services for those with a terminal or debilitating illness, elderly, people with disabilities, and family caregivers, such as adult day care centers, respite care, transportation services, nutrition services, home health and homemaker services, congregational or alternative housing arrangements and support groups for family caregivers.

RATIONALE: To update and expand

PUBLIC ISSUES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

PROPOSED TO BE RESCINDED

ABOLISHMENT OF PORNOGRAPHY

ADOPTED 1994 – REVISED 2002

WHEREAS, THE AMERICAN MORAL SYSTEM IS BEING BESIEGED BY THE SPREAD OF OBSCENE MATERIAL IN VARIOUS FORMS OF MEDIA; AND

WHEREAS, PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIALS ARE READILY AVAILABLE; AND

WHEREAS, TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE AVAILABLE WHICH WHEN CALLED GIVE EXPLICITLY PORNOGRAPHIC RESPONSES; THEREFORE

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS STRONGLY URGES ITS MEMBER CLUBS TO USE EVERY AVAILABLE MEANS TO COMBAT OBSCENITY AND PORNOGRAPHY THROUGH PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS OF CO-OPERATIVE COMMUNITY ACTION BASED ON:



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EDUCATING ITS MEMBERS AND THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE PROBLEM OF PORNOGRAPHY AND ITS EFFECTS ON SOCIETY;
PARTICIPATING IN THE UNITED STATES POSTMASTER GENERAL'S ACTION PROGRAM BY PROMPTLY RETURNING ANY OBJECTIONABLE OR PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIAL RECEIVED THROUGH THE MAIL INCLUDING THE COVERING ENVELOPE TO THE LOCAL POSTMASTER;
ENCOURAGING COOPERATION AMONG AND BETWEEN LAW ENFORCERS AND INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS TO COMBAT THE DISTRIBUTION AND POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY;
SUPPORTING THE STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF EXISTING LAWS AND THE CREATION OF NEW LAWS WHERE NEEDED;
STRONGLY SUPPORTING AND COOPERATING IN THE PROSECUTION OF THOSE WHO VIOLATE PORNOGRAPHY LAWS, ESPECIALLY THOSE DEALING WITH CHILDREN.

PROPOSED NEW RESOLUTION to replace ABOLISHMENT OF PORNOGRAPHY

ABOLISHMENT OF PORNOGRAPHY

Convention 2016

WHEREAS, Pornography is known to be addictive and progressive and has been associated with damaged marriages, violence against women, and the exploitation of children; and

WHEREAS, Pornographic materials are so readily available, especially on the Internet; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs urges its members to use every available legal means to combat pornography by:

Educating its members, teenagers, parents, and the public about the current pornography laws and the problems of easy access to pornographic materials in all forms of media and communication and its destructive effects on society;

Encouraging cooperation of law enforcers and communication technology providers to combat the electronic distribution and possession of child pornography;

Supporting the strict enforcement of existing laws, especially those dealing with children, and the creation of new laws where needed.

Rationale: To expand and update

PROPOSED TO BE RESCINDED

ABUSED PERSONS

ADOPTED 2004- REVISED 2008

WHEREAS, PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL AND SEXUAL ABUSE CONTINUES TO INCREASE WITHIN OUR SOCIETY CUTTING ACROSS AGE, ETHNIC, RACIAL, EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIOECONOMIC LINES AND CAN CAUSE EMOTIONAL DISTRESS, PHYSICAL INJURY AND DEATH TO CHILDREN AND ADULTS; AND

WHEREAS, PERSONS WHO WITNESS VIOLENCE, OR ARE DIRECTLY VICTIMIZED BY IT, ENDURE VARIOUS EMOTIONAL RAMIFICATIONS, AND ARE AT AN INCREASED RISK OF PERPETUATING VIOLENCE IN THEIR OWN RELATIONSHIPS; AND

WHEREAS, MANY STATE HAVE EFFECTIVE LAWS ON ONLY CERTAIN SPECIFIC AREAS OF ABUSED PERSONS; AND

WHEREAS, MANY STATE LAWS AND LEGAL REMEDIES DESIGNED TO PROTECT VICTIMS OF ABUSE ARE APPLIED INCONSISTENTLY; AND

WHEREAS, THERE CONTINUES TO BE A NEED FOR EMERGENCY SHELTERS AND COUNSELING SERVICES FOR ALL VICTIMS OF ABUSE; THEREFORE

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUPPORTS LEGISLATION AND ACTIVELY PROMOTES PROGRAMS THAT:

IDENTIFY AT-RISK FAMILIES AND SUSPECTED CASES OF CHILD, SPOUSAL AND ELDER ABUSE,

PROVIDE EMERGENCY AID AND SHELTER FOR THOSE WHO ARE FORCED TO LEAVE VIOLENT FAMILY SETTINGS,

PROVIDE TREATMENT, SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY FOR VICTIMS AND REHABILITATION FOR PERPETRATORS OF ABUSE,

PROVIDE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS CONCERNING PREVENTION OF ABUSE, AND FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGES CONGRESS TO FULLY FUND LEGISLATION THAT SUPPORTS VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT; AND FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS URGE ITS MEMBER CLUBS TO ENLIST THE HELP OF HOSPITALS, DOCTORS, EDUCATORS, LAWYERS, POLICE, CHURCHES, COUNSELING SERVICES, SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTERS AND PROGRAMS, AND CLINICS IN A UNITED EFFORT FOR PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF ABUSED PERSONS.



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PROPOSED NEW RESOLUTION to replace ABUSED PERSONS

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

Convention 2016

WHEREAS, Domestic violence, which includes, but is not limited to physical, emotional, mental, and sexual abuse, continues to increase within our society cutting across race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, age educational, and socioeconomic lines and can cause emotional distress, physical injury, and death to children and adults; and

WHEREAS, Many victims are forced to remain in dangerous situations because they are deliberately placed into financial dependence by their abuser; and

WHEREAS, Lack of dating experience subjects teens to situations where they are less likely to recognize signs and/or symptoms of abuse; and

WHEREAS, Young people who witness violence, or are directly victimized by it, endure various emotional ramifications, and are at an increased risk of perpetuating violence in their own relationships; and

WHEREAS, Many state laws and legal remedies only deal with certain areas of abuse and may be applied inconsistently, and there continues to be a need for emergency shelters and counseling services for victims of abuse; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs urges its members to support legislation and actively promote programs that:

- Identify at-risk families and suspected cases of child, spousal, partner and elder abuse;*
- Increase awareness of the risks of financial dependence and provide necessary resources to become financially self-sufficient;*
- Provide emergency aid and shelter for those who are forced to leave violent family settings;*
- Provide treatment, support, legal aid, and advocacy for victims and rehabilitation for perpetrators of abuse;*
- Provide public awareness and education programs concerning prevention of abuse; and further*

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs urges its members to advocate for dating violence prevention programs in middle/junior high and high schools to increase awareness and promote healthy relationships; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs urges Congress to fully fund legislation that supports all victims of domestic violence without discrimination; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs urges its members to enlist the help of hospitals, doctors, clinics, educators, schools, lawyers, law enforcement, churches, counseling services, social service agencies, domestic violence shelters and programs, and clinics in a united effort for prevention of abuse and treatment of abused persons.

Rationale: To expand, update and to be in accordance with GFWC.

PROPOSED TO BE RESCINDED

ILLINOIS CRIMINAL CODE ON SEX CRIME

ADOPTED 1978 – REVISED 1996

WHEREAS, THERE IS AN ALARMING INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF SEX OFFENDERS AND MANY COMMUNITIES LACK ADEQUATE LAWS, PERSONNEL AND FACILITIES TO COPE WITH THIS MENACING SITUATION; THEREFORE

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS ADVOCATES THE ENACTMENT OF ADEQUATE STATE STATUTES PROVIDING LONGER SENTENCES FOR SEX OFFENDERS WITHOUT EARLY RELEASE AND STRENGTHENED MEDICAL PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT FOR BOTH ADULT AND YOUTHFUL OFFENDERS UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THEY MIGHT SAFELY BE RETURNED TO SOCIETY; AND FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT THE GFWC ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS IS AN ADVOCATE FOR BRINGING THE CONSEQUENCES OF SEX CRIMES TO THE VICTIMS, TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COURT, BEFORE PLEA BARGAINS ARE ACCEPTED, SENTENCES ARE IMPOSED, OR AT IN-DEPTH REVIEWS AND CONSIDERATIONS PRIOR TO GRANTING PAROLE TO SEX OFFENDERS, AND FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT EMPLOYERS BE URGED TO CONTACT THE APPROPRIATE REGISTRATIONS OF CONVICTED SEX OFFENDERS BEFORE HIRING APPLICANTS WHO WILL BE WORKING WITH CHILDREN; AND FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT SEX OFFENDERS FOUND INCURABLE OR A DANGER TO SOCIETY BE PERMANENTLY INCARCERATED.

PROPOSED NEW RESOLUTION to replace ILLINOIS CRIMINAL CODE ON SEX CRIME

SEX OFFENDERS

Convention 2016

WHEREAS, There are an alarming number of sex offenses and many communities/counties lack adequate laws, personnel, and facilities to cope with this menacing situation; and

WHEREAS, Technology provides opportunities for sexual predators to target victims; and

WHEREAS, The crime's impact upon the victim is not always taken into consideration by the criminal justice system; and



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WHEREAS, A loophole exists in the current Sex Offender Registration Act, which allows a person charged with sexually motivated battery, a misdemeanor, to avoid registration as a sex offender and prevents this crime from showing up on background checks for those who work with children; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs urges its members to promote educational campaigns about sexual crimes, sex offenders, and their impact on the victims and their families; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs urges:

The enactment of statutes providing for minimum mandatory incarceration;

That the severity of the crime and its impact to the victim and the family be brought to the attention of the court before plea bargains are accepted and sentences are imposed;

Strengthening requirements for medical and psychiatric treatment for both adult and youthful offenders;

An in-depth review of the crime be considered prior to granting parole to sex offenders;

That the victims and/or families be notified prior to a parole hearing and before release of sex offenders;

Public access to sex offenders release and registration information, including the nature and date of the offense; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs supports enactment of legislation that defendants convicted of a sexual offense against children, be prohibited for life, from participating in any occupation or volunteer activity involving children; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs supports legislation which imposes penalties for crimes of a sexual nature committed using technology to create or distribute child pornography or solicit; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs urges its members to support measures to provide for registration under the Sex Offender Registration Act of a person convicted of battery when the court: 1) finds that the battery was sexually motivated, as defined in the Sex Offender Management Board Act and 2) in its discretion, requires the person to register under the Act.

Rationale: To update and strengthen

PROPOSED TO BE AMENDED

INTERNET SAFETY FOR (EXPLOITATION OF) CHILDREN

Adopted 2003

WHEREAS, The GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs has worked tirelessly for the prevention of child abuse; and

WHEREAS, Internet safety has been increasingly eroded by sexual predators with the intent **TO MEET AND SEXUALLY ABUSE (exploit, solicit, and bully)** children and youth, often by posing as someone else; and

WHEREAS, In many cases, children are not capable of protecting themselves from exploitation and can suffer lifelong sexual, physical, and emotional damage; and

WHEREAS, Education is vital to preventing exploitation of children by empowering them with ways to protect themselves and avoid high risk situations; therefore

WHEREAS, POLICE DEPARTMENTS ARE INVOLVED IN TRYING TO PREVENT THESE HORRIBLE CRIMES WHICH PREY ON OUR CHILDREN; THEREFORE

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs urges **OUR (its)** members and the public at large to regulate more closely the use of computers in our schools, homes, and other places **SO THAT THE ARRANGING OF CLANDESTINE MEETINGS BY SEXUAL PREDATORS WITH OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH VIA INTERNET WILL BECOME MUCH MORE DIFFICULT AND HOPEFULLY IMPOSSIBLE;** and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs shall encourage and support educational and awareness programs designed for children to increase their understanding of exploitation and encourage communication of any problem with a responsible adult; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs urges that stronger action be taken in our state and communities to assure that those sexual predators preying on our children and youth via the internet be apprehended and punished to the fullest extent of the law; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs and its members urge our legislators to strengthen the statutes governing internet safety for children, and the penalties for violating those statutes.

Rationale: To broaden and strengthen



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PROPOSED TO BE AMENDED

MOVE TO PUBLIC ISSUES

MISSING CHILDREN'S ACT

Adopted 2001

WHEREAS, Millions of children are missing from their homes; and

WHEREAS, **THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN ARE (Far too many children continue to be)** abducted each year by strangers as well as parents or other individuals known to the child and are placed in grave danger; and

WHEREAS, Neither parents nor local law enforcement agencies have the resources to mount large **(-scale, extended)** search efforts; and

WHEREAS, The misuse of modern technology, including internet access, contributes to the abduction of children; **THEREFORE (and)**

WHEREAS, The American Missing Broadcast Emergency Response (AMBER Alert) is highly effective for locating missing children; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs supports legislation to increase federal support for local efforts to find missing children; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member **(s) CLUBS** to work within their communities to:

- Mount an FBI-approved campaign to fingerprint children;
- Create immediate community awareness of those children who are reported as missing by having in place current technology such as digital photo fingerprinting cards;
- Work with public and private agencies to educate parents and children about safety measures to safeguard against abduction;
- Establish designated neighborhood safe houses;
- Encourage parents and/or guardians to monitor their children's activities **(; and further)**

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs supports funding for and utilization of AMBER Alerts.

Rationale: To broaden and strengthen

PROPOSED NEW RESOLUTION

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Proposed Convention 2016

WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Department of State and UNICEF, human trafficking is a modern form of slavery, involving victims who are typically forced, defrauded or coerced into sexual and labor exploitations; and

WHEREAS, Human trafficking is the world's fastest growing global crime and second largest source of illegal income worldwide exceeded only by drug trafficking. Annually:

1.2 million children are trafficked worldwide;

800,000 men, women, and children are trafficked across international borders;

At least 20.9 million people are victims of forced labor worldwide; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs urges its members to:

Educate members and the public about the seriousness of human trafficking;

Advocate for the support and protection of victims and the prosecution of exploiters;

Support law enforcement coordination within the United States and among countries;

Encourage mandatory enforcement of existing laws in the United States.

PROPOSED BY THE GFWC ILLINOIS RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

GFWC IL Resolutions Committee, 2014-2016:

Becky Weber, Chairman

Members: Sue Koch, Gerri Eck, Trisha Schafer, Phyllis Skubic, Karyn Charvat and Diane Addante

Flowers & Bouquets

Arrangements have been made with

True Colors Floral Artistry

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during Convention

Phone: 217-787-7910



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PROPOSED CONVENTION RULES

1. The Convention shall be one meeting, recessing from session to session within the meeting
2. A credential badge, signifying Delegate or Non-Voting status is required to be worn by all persons at all business sessions, programs, and Federation sponsored activities.
3. Delegates shall be seated in the section reserved for their Districts on the Convention floor. Non-Voting Members with badges shall be seated in the sections reserved for them, seating to be based on pre-registration numbers.
4. Delegates with badges, who are members of the Junior Clubs, shall be seated in the section reserved for them during the Junior Business Meeting.
5. There shall be a reserved section for State Board Members on the Convention floor.
6. Delegates shall be in their seats at the opening of the Convention, be seated at all sessions and stay for the full Convention until the close.
7. Those who are appearing on the program shall report to the Platform Hostess one-half hour before their time to appear on the program, unless otherwise noted.
8. All motions made from the floor shall be presented to the presiding officer in writing
9. A Delegate shall speak only once to a question. Debate shall be limited to two minutes per person. Debate shall be limited to ten minutes for each amendment/motion.
10. A motion shall be carried by an affirmative vote of the Delegates present and voting.
11. Printed copies of resolutions recommended by the Resolutions Committee, not included in the Call to Convention, must be in the hands of the Delegates at least six (6) hours before they are voted upon by the Convention body.
12. No materials shall be placed on the chairs at any time except those approved by the Executive Committee prior to Convention opening.
13. Hats are not to be worn on the Convention floor except for medical reasons/procedures or at the discretion of the presiding officer.
14. No food or drink, other than that provided by the Convention, will be permitted on the Convention floor.
15. Cellular phones are not to be used on the Convention floor, in programs or during food functions. Audible ringers on cellular phones and beepers are to be turned off.
16. Doors will be closed at the direction of the presiding officer during business meetings. When doors are opened periodically, be seated as promptly as possible in your designated area.
17. No recording devices, including cell phone cameras, may be used on the Convention floor or in programs without the approval of the President and Executive Committee.
18. A credentials badge and meal ticket are required for admittance into the room to all food functions. Meal tickets will be collected at the tables.
19. There will be reserved banquet seating for all ticket holders. Table numbers will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis.
20. Written messages may be left with the Convention Chairman.
21. All official Assistants as well as the Convention Chairman and Vice Chairman will be permitted to enter and exit all Sessions as needed.



GFWC IL 121st Annual Convention



CANDIDATES FOR GFWC ILLINOIS OFFICE

SHELLI FEHR

CANDIDATE FOR GFWC ILLINOIS PRESIDENT ELECT

The 14/15th District proudly endorses Shelli Fehr for **GFWC IL President Elect**. Shelli's volunteerism in GFWC began at her very first East Moline Junior Woman's Club meeting! She's been giving 110% ever since, first holding every office in that club and then, as the first President and current Vice President in the GFWC Hampton Rapids Junior Woman's Club, a club she chartered in 2006.

District offices held were 14/15th Junior District Treasurer, Assistant Director, and Director of Junior Clubs, 14th District Corresponding Secretary and current 14/15th District Co-President.

Shelli has also been active at the State junior and general levels, serving on the junior level as Education Chairman, Secretary, Director Elect of Junior Clubs, and Director of Junior Clubs, and on the general level as Clubwoman Editor and Central Region Vice President.

Finally, Shelli was fortunate to have served on the GFWC International Board of Directors, first on the GFWC Leadership Committee and then on the GFWC Communication and Identity Committee.

As Shelli advanced in GFWC Illinois, the 14/15th District saw her grow in leadership and communication skills. We know she passionately supports GFWC and its mission, and are thrilled to endorse Shelli Fehr as **GFWC IL President Elect!**



LEONA "ELENA" LIPINSKI

CANDIDATE FOR GFWC ILLINOIS PRESIDENT ELECT

Eleventh District proudly nominates Elena Lipinski as candidate for GFWC Illinois President Elect. Elena has served the Elgin Junior Woman's Club 25 years as Publications, Health and Welfare, Ways and Means, Programs and Social Director, Secretary, President Elect and President.

Federation Experience: District 11 Recording and Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Director of Junior Clubs, President Elect and President. GFWC Illinois Board of Directors: Publicity Chairman, International Affairs Chairman, and Arts Chairman. Currently the Northern Region Vice President and Leadership Chairman, Elena is organizing her second GFWC IL LEADS after coordinating the 2015 Northern Region Summer Meeting, securing the location, food, speakers and decorations.

Community Involvement: 2 year mentor for 5 new teachers in School District U-46, South Elgin High School's School Improvement Plan Committee member for 10 years, helping secure accreditation for this school, leader of 12 student trips to France, 2 to Spain and 1 to Costa Rica, French club sponsor for 15 years. Church small group leader for 5 years and volunteer weeklong Global Leadership Summit host for over 20 Hispanic attendees for 10 years.

Elena and her husband Steve celebrate 40 years of marriage in May with three children and four grandchildren.





GFWC IL 121st Annual Convention



KAREN MEYER

CANDIDATE FOR GFWC ILLINOIS PRESIDENT ELECT

GFWC IL District 3 proudly endorses Karen Meyer for the office of GFWC Illinois President Elect. Karen joined GFWC 26 years as member of the GFWC IL Morgan Park Junior Woman's Club and served in multiple board positions including President twice. Karen has also been a member and held leadership positions in numerous other Clubs including GFWC IL Junior Cyber Stars, GFWC Past District Northern Lights, and Past GFWC IL Junior State Board Members Organization.



In District 3 she has served as President twice, President Elect, 2nd Vice President – Membership, 1st Vice President – Leadership, Director of Junior Clubs Pro Tem, chair of the Nominations Committee and various Community Service Programs. Karen has served on the GFWC IL Board of Directors as Education Chair, Northern Region Vice President (Membership), Treasurer, Budget and Finance Committee, and currently serves as Public Issues Chair. Karen also served as Great Lakes Conference Co-Chair.

Professionally, Karen has worked for IBM 42 years providing software support, as a programmer, trainer, and course developer for mainframe computers, and currently Worldwide Skills Manager responsible for training for clients, business partners and employee sales and technical sales teams for the IBM Storage Systems division.

TERESA SANFORD-SHIPPLETT

CANDIDATE FOR GFWC ILLINOIS VICE PRESIDENT CENTRAL REGION

It is with great pride that 14/15 District nominates Teresa Sanford-Shippelt for the office of Vice President Central Region for the 2016-2018 administration. She has been a member of GFWC since 1973. Teresa has been active in many areas of club work on the local level serving as secretary, treasurer, vice president, and currently as president of Abingdon Junior Woman's Club. She has been on numerous committees and projects throughout her local career.



On the district level she has been active as a Junior member ,as well as on the General level serving as District Junior Director, Vice President of the District and currently is Co-President of 14/15 District. Teresa has also served as chairman of many community service programs.

At the State level, she has served as Director of Junior Clubs, and chairman of Education, Prevent Child Abuse, Junior Home Life, Junior Special Projects, and Junior Special Emphasis (Operation Smile).

Internationally, Teresa has served as Education Chairman and is currently serving as Conservation Chairman. In the 2016-2018 administration she will be serving on the GFWC Signature Project Committee for Domestic Violence Prevention.

Teresa is a dedicated and willing candidate for the Central Region Vice Presidency position. She has proven her leadership abilities and continues to grow in GFWC.



GFWC IL 121st Annual Convention



CAROL JABLONSKI

CANDIDATE FOR GFWC ILLINOIS VICE PRESIDENT NORTHERN REGION

GFWC IL District 5 proudly endorses **Carol Jablonski** as candidate for the position of GFWC Illinois Vice President Northern Region for the 2016-2018 administration. Here's some background on Carol.

- **Darien Woman's Club** (23 years): Many chairmanships, Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President-Membership, President Elect and President.
- **Past President's Club of DuPage County**: Secretary.
- **GFWC Past District Northern Lights, The Organization of Past State Board Members of the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs, and Deb's Diamond Divas**. Member.
- **GFWC IL 5th District**: Several chairmanships, Secretary, Vice President - Leadership & Membership, President.
- **GFWC IL**: Currently editor of *The GFWC IL Clubwoman Magazine*. Developed *Key Notes*, an e-newsletter. Was selected as Illinois representative at 2014 GFWC LEADS.
- **Community Volunteer**: West Suburban Community Pantry; Darien Rotary Club Weekend Backpack Program.
- **Schools**: Chaired fundraisers for elementary school and high school booster club. Secretary.
- **Personal**: Graduated from DePaul University, and worked for 7 years in Human Resources before changing careers to that of mom. Her two sons kept her busy between their schools and being their sports fan.



Carol will be an asset to GFWC Illinois as Vice President Northern Region, for the 2016-2018 administration.

CANDIDATE FOR GFWC ILLINOIS VICE PRESIDENT SOUTHERN REGION

Since a candidate for Vice President Southern Region was not verified by the December 1, 2015, deadline, nominations will be needed from the floor of the Convention. Potential candidates, please contact Diana Taylor, Elections Chairman, orinfarm@mchsi.com, or 815-689-2496, for required documentation needed to be nominated from the floor.

Potential candidates for ALL offices and their District Presidents are invited to attend a special candidates meeting at the Spring State Board meeting.





GFWC IL 121st Annual Convention



LEEANN CONLON

CANDIDATE FOR GFWC ILLINOIS SECRETARY

With great pride, 5th District endorses LeeAnn Conlon for GFWC Illinois Secretary. LeeAnn is a 20 year member of GFWC Illinois. She was the first GFWC Illinois LEADS representative. Since 2002, she has continued her GFWC leadership journey, supporting the 5th District and state organizations. LeeAnn will be a dedicated member of the 2016-2018 Executive Board. A few of her accomplishments include:

- Lemont Junior Woman's Club: Secretary, 1st Vice President, President, Public Relations and Communications committees, Juniorette Sponsor, and is currently the silent auction chairman for fundraising.
- 5th District: Secretary, Dean of Chairman, Leadership Chairman, Director of Junior Clubs – 2014-2016. President 2010 – 2012.
- Junior State Board: Leadership Chairman – author and director of the Iron Chef Leadership Challenge
- GFWC Illinois: Strategic Planning Committee – 2008 – 2012; 2014-2016, Legislation Chairman, Blue Ribbon Fashion Show – raffle prizes and silent auction.

LeeAnn retired from Bank of America after 20 years, and is married to her husband Pat for 36 years. She supports the Hope and Friendship organization in Lemont through monetary donations, and with the help of family and friends, bakes enough cookies to fill 65 shirt sized boxes for delivery on Christmas Day.



CANDIDATE FOR GFWC ILLINOIS TREASURER

Since a candidate for Treasurer was not verified by the December 1, 2015, deadline, nominations will be needed from the floor of the Convention. Potential candidates, please contact Diana Taylor, Elections Chairman, orinfarm@mchsi.com, or 815-689-2496, for required documentation needed to be nominated from the floor.

Potential candidates for ALL offices and their District Presidents are invited to attend a special candidates meeting at the Spring State Board meeting.





GF WC IL 121st Annual Convention



CANDIDATES FOR GF WC ILLINOIS JUNIOR ORGANIZATION OFFICE

CHERIE E. SIEGER

CANDIDATE FOR GF WC ILLINOIS DIRECTOR ELECT OF JUNIOR CLUBS

Cherie E. Sieger, endorsed for GF WC IL Director Elect of Junior Clubs.

Since 2002, Cherie has served as Club Treasurer, Secretary and President, held offices in 12th District as Secretary, Junior Secretary, also Fundraising and Arts Chairman.

On State level, held the offices of 12th District Director of Junior Clubs (2 terms), Junior Treasurer, Junior Special Projects Chairman and Junior Dean of Chairmen, and a LEADS graduate in 2011.

As a member of GF WC IL Coal City JWC and of GF WC IL Somonauk JWC. Cherie is very passionate about club while encouraging members to develop their own ideas and leadership potential.

In 2014 Cherie started her own non-profit organization. The success of her Backpack Program is solely because of her journey with GF WC and the skill-sets learned from Federation.

As Illinois Director Elect of Junior Clubs, her goal is to keep the lines of communication open and to help the District Directors with Junior Clubs. She would work with Junior clubs to see them succeed and bring excitement to clubs, which will resonate to members with the end result being increased membership as well as more Juniors stepping up to leadership roles with GF WC. Cherie Sieger appreciates the support as she continues on her journey with GF WC IL.



LORETTA REVESZ

CANDIDATE FOR GF WC ILLINOIS JUNIOR DEAN OF CHAIRMEN

Loretta has been an active and passionate member of Elgin Junior Woman's Club since 2007. She started her GF WC Leadership journey by becoming Elgin Junior's secretary from 2008-2010. In 2010, Loretta became President Elect and then served as President for 2012-2014. She is currently the 2014-2016 Elgin Junior's Membership Director and the GF WC District 11 Communications & Identity Chairman.

At the State level, Loretta was ESO and Arts Chairman on the Junior State board from 2010-2012. She then moved to Junior State Treasurer in 2012 and is currently serving her second term in that position for 2014-2016. Loretta is honored to be considered as Dean of Chairmen for 2016-2018 and is extremely blessed to be working with Jeanette T. Wells and the Junior Board to showcase all the wonderful achievements of Illinois Juniors. Loretta's goals as Dean of Chairmen include simplifying the reporting process and ensuring all Junior clubs understand reporting and are provided information in a timely and professional manner.

Loretta has been happily married for 35 years and has two wonderful sons. She is employed as Procurement Manager for Siemens Industry, Inc. in Buffalo Grove.





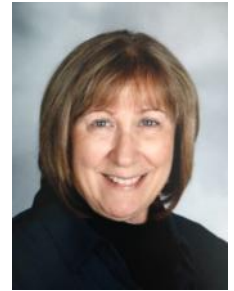
GFWC IL 121st Annual Convention



JOANNE MEYER

CANDIDATE FOR GFWC ILLINOIS JUNIOR SECRETARY

GFWC Illinois District 11 proudly endorses Joanne Meyer for GFWC Illinois Junior Secretary. As a 30 year member of the Elgin Junior Woman's Club, Joanne has served as Health and Welfare chairman, Ways and Means chairman, Membership chairman, President Elect and President. She has also served as chairman of all community service programs during her membership.



On the district level, Joanne has served as District 11 Director of Junior Clubs, as well as holding several chairmanships. Joanne has served on the Junior State Board for many years holding numerous chairmanships including Education, Health, Public Issues, Fundraising, and most recently as Junior Secretary.

Joanne holds a MA in Elementary Education and teaches 5th grade. Joanne and Greg have been married for 36 years, with three children and three grandchildren.

The Junior Organization's records will be in good hands with Joanne as their Secretary for the 2016-2018 administration.

ERIKA DOBROTKA

CANDIDATE FOR GFWC ILLINOIS JUNIOR TREASURER

Endorsed by District 5, Erika has been a clubwoman for 15 years as a member of the Elmhurst Junior Women's Club. She has held the position of Treasurer for multiple terms and was an integral part of their major fundraisers on the Ways & Means and Elmhurst Kitchen Expedition Committees. Yes, she goes where the money is.

She has also been active in our district and state organizations. She held the position of Treasurer for 2 terms for 5th District and the positions of Junior Treasurer and Special Projects co-chairman (with her sister LeeAnn Conlon) on the State Junior Board.

Erika is a CPA and currently working from home for a digital advertising company, where of course it is her job to keep the books in order. She is in the process of implementing an employee volunteer program, which she is very excited about and looks forward to helping the company make a difference in our communities.

Erika has been married for over 26 years to her honey, Ed, and has an almost 18 year old son. Soon they will be empty nesters, so what a perfect time to again get involved in our State Junior Board.





GFWC IL 121st Annual Convention



CANDIDATES FOR GFWC OFFICE

Debra "Deb" Strahanoski **Candidate for GFWC Second Vice-President** **2016-2018**

GFWC Illinois presents Debra Strahanoski as candidate for GFWC Second Vice-President. Deb has been a dedicated GFWC Illinois clubwoman for 28 years and is highly regarded as a mentor to many.

Deb's boundless energy has been apparent during her federation journey; she has served her clubs and GFWC Illinois District 11 in various roles. She served GFWC Illinois Board of Directors as State Project Chairman, "Our Promise...A Safe Place for Every Child", Director of Junior Clubs 2000-2002, President Elect/Dean of Chairmen 2006-2008, GFWC Illinois President 2008-2010, and currently GFWC Illinois Protocol Chairman.

Her GFWC leadership positions have included Home Life Chairman, Membership Chairman, Community Improvement Program Award Chairman, Treasurer, and currently Secretary, and helped ignite ***The Campaign for the Future*** as chairman of the capital campaign committee.

Deb is highly a respected volunteer and leader with GFWC

and in her community. She has served Easter Seals and Prevent Child Abuse Illinois on both regional and state levels. She is currently serving as First Vice-President of Agencies United of Will County and has been honored with the coveted Friends of Children Award by PCA Illinois.



Since 2005, Deb has been employed with Easter Seals as Development Manager, managing annual fundraising activities and events for the Joliet Region. She credits much of her professional success to all she has garnered through Federation.

Deb assists her husband Bill in his public accounting office, which they have owned since 1984. They have two children and one grandchild.

Her visionary leadership, extensive experience and infectious enthusiasm have inspired new and veteran members alike. For these reasons, GFWC Illinois proudly endorses Debra Strahanoski as candidate for GFWC Second Vice-President.

Trisha Schafer **Candidate for GFWC Director Elect 2016-2018**

GFWC Illinois presents Trisha Schafer as candidate for GFWC Director Elect of Junior Clubs. Trisha has been a valued and respected member of GFWC Illinois for 24 years. Before that, she was a member of GFWC Nebraska for three years. She is a dedicated clubwoman and an asset to GFWC.

Trisha is knowledgeable in all aspects of club work. She is organized, enthusiastic and dependable. She has an excellent record of leadership within her home club. She has also served her Junior District/District with distinction.

Trisha has served in various positions for the GFWC Illinois Junior Organization including Director of Junior Clubs in 2012-14. She is currently WHRC /Historian/1734 Society Chairman for GFWC Illinois. In this capacity, she challenged members to attain the Alice Ames Winter donation level of \$1,734 in 2014-15 and they did! She presently serves on the GFWC Leadership Committee and had the privilege of presenting at two GFWC LEADS Seminars.

Within her community, Trisha served other organizations,

including the McGruff Safe House Program, Red Cross Instructor and a founding member of the County States Attorney Advisory Board.

Trisha is employed with Freedom House as their Volunteer Services Coordinator which is the local domestic/sexual abuse shelter that serves 5 counties. She champions that her qualifications as VSC derived from her experiences gained through GFWC.

Trisha and Darren, her husband of 30 years, have 2 sons & one grandson.

With her dedication, proven leadership abilities, enthusiasm and commitment to GFWC, Trisha will serve with great pride and skill. It is GFWC Illinois' privilege and pleasure to endorse Trisha Schafer as a candidate for GFWC Director Elect of Junior Clubs.





GF WC IL 121st Annual Convention



SPECIAL GUESTS

MARY ELLEN BROCK GF WC President Elect

*Session II, Opening Luncheon,
Thursday Afternoon*



A clubwoman for 40 years, Mary Ellen Brock currently serves as GF WC First Vice-President, GF WC New Jersey Legislation/Resolutions Committee member, GF WC New Jersey Past State President's Club President, and North Jersey Women's Club Treasurer. She has previously served as GF WC Second Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Women's Health Program Chairman, Leadership Committee member, Membership Committee member, and Constitution and Bylaws Committee member. She was the Charter President of GF WC Shelby's Stars. She served the GF WC Middle Atlantic Region as Parliamentarian, Finance Chairman, and Conference Chairman.

A founding member of the North Jersey Women's Club, she has held every office and was President for eight terms. She served seven years on the GF WC New Jersey Junior State Board and 19 years on the GF WC New Jersey State Board as President's Special Project Chairman, Parliamentarian to Clubs, Elections Chairman, Resolutions Chairman, Financial Secretary, Recording Secretary, Third Vice-President, Second Vice-President, First Vice-President, and State President.

A member of the National Association of Parliamentarians, she served eight years as a church youth leader and a Girl Scout leader for 16 years. Mary Ellen's troop was honored by the Governor, when all 14 Scouts received the Gold Award.

Mary Ellen was appointed by three governors to the Governor's Emergency Medical Services for Children Advisory Council, the Governor's Interpersonal Youth Violence Prevention Committee, and the Governor's Drug/Alcohol Prevention Council. The New Jersey Legislature recognized her as a "New Jersey Woman of Achievement."

Mary Ellen is a marketing research analyst. She and her husband Barry have four children.

TRIC HEEPE GF WC Great Lakes Region President

*Session V, Unity Luncheon,
Friday Afternoon*



Tric (paTRICia) Heepe is the current Great Lakes Region President, representing Indiana. She was State President from 1998-2000 and has served as GF WC Chairman in several programs. She joined a club in 1981 just to get out of the house one night a month. A member of that club approached her when there was a temporary opening at the local Social Security Administration office. She laughs that she has gotten out of the house more than one night a month and will celebrate 35 years with SSA in June 2016. Using her GF WC training, she is serving her second year as President of the Board of Directors of the YWCA Genesis, the local domestic violence shelter.

Tric is married to Franz and they live in the country with two large dogs, pet koi and a lot of wildlife. Her daughter and son both live in Richmond and have blessed her with two grandchildren each and wonderful spouses. She is very proud that all four grandkids are avid volunteers for the local animal shelter and domestic violence shelter.

IF IT NEEDS TO BE,



VOLUNTEERS ARE THE KEY



GFWC ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
121st ANNUAL CONVENTION
MAY 12-14, 2016
2016 DOOR PRIZE REQUEST



To: GFWC Illinois Clubs (General, Juniors, Junioresettes)
From: Bonnie Heydorn, Convention Vice Chairman
630-531-1400 (cell) or bonheydorn@gmail.com

The 121st Annual GFWC Illinois Convention will be held May 12-14, 2016 at the President Lincoln Doubletree, Springfield, Illinois.

A welcomed tradition of GFWC Illinois is the door prizes given away during meal functions throughout convention. Your support of this tradition, by the donation of a door prize would be appreciated. Door prizes are to be a minimum of \$25. This can be a cash donation or a gift (such as a gift basket) valued at \$25 or more. To assure that proper recognition is given for your gift/donation, please complete the form below and return as indicated.

Your kind donation will be accepted at any time, but to be included in the Convention Program, please fill out the form below and send it to me by **April 1, 2016**. You can also bring your door prize donation to the Spring Board of Directors Meeting, March 4-5, 2016, at the President Lincoln Doubletree. If you do not plan to attend the Spring Meeting, please deliver your door prize donation to your District President or a GFWC Illinois Board member from your district, prior to the dates noted above.

Thank you in advance for your generosity. I look forward to receiving your donation.

FOR CASH DONATIONS PLEASE RETURN FORM TO:

Deana Justak, GFWC Illinois, 5 East Van Buren St., Suites 206-208, Joliet, IL 60432

FOR GIFT DONATIONS PLEASE RETURN FORM TO:

Bonnie Heydorn, P.O. Box 486, Winfield, IL 60190 or email bonheydorn@gmail.com

Door Prize Donation by (check one): Individual _____
 Club _____
 District _____

DONOR: _____

TITLE or CLUB: _____

DESCRIPTION OF GIFT/DONATION: _____

****Make checks payable to: GFWC Illinois**
****Gift/gift basket may be brought to Convention.**

****For recognition in the convention program return by: April 1, 2016**

If It Needs To Be, Volunteers Are The Key!





GF WC ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION

MAY 12, 13 AND 14, 2016 – ABRAHAM LINCOLN HOTEL, SPRINGFIELD

GF WC ILLINOIS ANNUAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Registration materials must be postmarked no later than **April 15, 2016** to avoid a late fee. Please register early, as meal functions are available on a first-come first-served basis.

YOUR FULL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES:

Official Convention Badge | Convention Welcome Bag | Convention Program | Admission to Convention Business Meetings | Admission to the GFWC IL Exhibitor Area | Programs | All Speakers and Entertainment featured at Convention Business Sessions.

MAIL – checks payable to GFWC ILLINOIS

Mail your Registration Form by **APRIL 15, 2016** with your payment to:

PATTI KUCHAR, GFWC ILLINOIS CONVENTION TREASURER

180 S DeWITT PLACE

COAL CITY, ILLINOIS 60416

MEMBER INFORMATION

First Name		Last Name	
Badge Name		Email Address	
2014-2016 General or Juniorette Club Name	District	2014-2016 Junior Club Name	District

REGISTRATION/CREDENTIALS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- **Registration/Credentials Fee is \$25** for the entire Convention. Late fee for Registration/Credentials **postmarked after April 15, 2016 is \$40**. Delegates (Voting) must be registered for the entire Convention. Registrants must pick up their own credentials.
- Registration must be postmarked on or before **April 15, 2016**.
- Non-voting members may register for one or more days at **\$15 per day**.

Registration fee for the GFWC Illinois Past Presidents and Past Directors will be waived.

Select your registration type (please select only one)

- ☐ Voting General Member-\$25 registration/\$40 late registration
- ☐ Voting Junior Member-\$25 registration/\$40 late registration
- ☐ Voting Juniorette Member-\$25 registration/\$40 late registration

VOTING MEMBER: PLEASE INDICATE THE CAPACITY IN WHICH YOU ARE VOTING. PLEASE SELECT ONLY ONE.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General, Junior or Juniorette Delegate | Club Name _____ District _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Past GFWC Illinois President | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Past GFWC Illinois Director of Junior Clubs | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GFWC Illinois Executive Committee | Office _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2014-2016 GFWC IL Board of Directors | District President/Chairmanship _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GFWC Illinois Junior Executive Committee | Office _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2014-2016 GFWC IL Junior Board of Directors | Chairmanship _____ |

NON-VOTING MEMBER: PLEASE SPECIFY DAY(S) ATTENDING:

- ☐ 1st Day, May 12th ☐ 2nd Day, May 13th ☐ 3rd Day, May 14th ☐ Attending all three days

(Non-voting members **\$15 per day**.)

NAME _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

ATTENDING CONVENTION WITH _____

NOTE: MEAL FUNCTIONS ARE OPEN TO ALL DELEGATES AND NON-VOTING MEMBERS WHO HAVE PURCHASED A MEAL TICKET FOR THE EVENT AND WHO HAVE A CREDENTIAL BADGE.

EACH MEMBER ORDERING MEAL TICKETS MUST COMPLETE THIS MEAL RESERVATION FORM.

NO RESERVATIONS OR REFUNDS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER MAY 1, 2016.

MEAL RESERVATIONS / MEAL PRICES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2016

☐ 6:30PM – 10:00PM PRE-CONVENTION \$23

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016

☐ 12:00PM – 3:00PM OPENING LUNCHEON \$23

☐ 7:00PM – 10:00PM FEDERATION BANQUET \$31

FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2016

☐ 12:00PM – 3:00PM UNITY LUNCHEON \$21

☐ 7:00PM – 10:00PM FUN NIGHT \$37

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2016

☐ 12:00PM – 3:00PM RECOGNITION LUNCHEON \$26

DIETARY RESTRICTIONS

Please inform us of any medical or food allergies restrictions

- ☐ No restriction
- ☐ Vegetarian
- ☐ Chicken for pork
- ☐ Chicken for shrimp
- ☐ Chicken for red meat
- ☐ No dairy
- ☐ Gluten free
- ☐ Diabetic
- ☐ List Food Allergies/Medical _____

**IF YOU DO NOT CHECK A RESTRICTION,
THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NO FOOD SUBSTITUTIONS DURING CONVENTION.**

***Friday Service Project to be announced at Convention
and at www.gfwcillinois.org***

FINAL CHECKLIST

Registration/Credential Fee \$ _____

Total Meal Reservations \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$ _____

*CHECKS PAYABLE TO **GFWC ILLINOIS***

*MEAL TICKETS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT
THE REGISTRATION TABLE*

*REGISTRATION FEE & MEAL RESERVA-
TIONS NEED TO BE POSTMARKED BY
APRIL 15, 2016*

Parking at Convention: Valet Parking = \$13/night with in/out privileges

Public Parking (next door) = \$8/24 hour period, or \$.75/hour with no in/out privileges

GFWC ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION

May 12, 13 & 14, 2016



701 East Adams St.

Springfield, IL

HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

RATE: \$99.00 plus tax for King or a Double. Rooms are either King Bed or Double/Double Bed.

Reservations may be made by calling the hotel toll free at 1-855-610-TREE or local number 1-217-544-8800 or online.

To reserve online :

http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/S/SPIASDT-FWC-20160511/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

This is a special page set up just for GFWC Illinois 2016 Convention. Just follow the directions.

Group Code: FWC if needed

RESERVATION DEADLINE: APRIL 20, 2016 on or before 12 Midnight local time

All reservations need to be guaranteed to a pre-approved master account or credit card. Reservations are subject to 24 hour cancellation policy and early departure fee. Hotel Check-in time is 3:00 p.m. and Check-out time is 12:00 Noon. Guests arriving before 4:00 p.m. will be accommodated as rooms are available. Please be aware that although an adequate block of rooms has been reserved, the availability of reservation at the group rate cannot be guaranteed if the block has been filled or the cutoff date has passed.

PARKING: Hotel offers valet parking at \$13 per night with in/out privileges. There is a city garage located next door which is 75 cents per hour, or \$8.00 per every 24 hours with NO in/out privileges.



GFWC Illinois
5 East Van Buren St.
Suites 206-208
Joliet, IL 60432

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
CAROL STREAM, IL
PERMIT 1

Dates to Remember

GFWC Convention

June 26-29, 2016
Baltimore, Maryland

GFWC Illinois Summer Seminars

Southern Region - Thursday, July 14th
Thelma Keller Convention Center, Effingham

Central Region - Friday, July 15th
Holiday Inn, Bloomington

Northern Region - Saturday, July 16th
Hilton Lisle-Naperville, Lisle

GFWC Great Lakes Region Conference

October 28-30, 2016
Grand Geneva Resort, Wisconsin

Does GFWC Illinois have your current mailing and email address? Email updates can be sent to: gfwc-illinois@sbcglobal.net, or send us a note at the return address listed above.

As information becomes available, it will be posted on GFWC IL website, www.gfwcillinois.org

