



Illinois | Indiana | Michigan | Ohio | Wisconsin

GFWC GREAT LAKES REGION COMMUNIQUE

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September 2023



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello Great Lakes Region!

It seems like just yesterday we were gathered in Louisville, Kentucky, for the GFWC Convention. I thought this year's convention was terrific. I left having learned many new ideas and challenges for how our clubs can make a difference. It was fun to have our States all gathered in one section in the convention hall – that doesn't happen very often. I loved being able to cheer you on when you received your awards – and take pictures, too!

I hope that since returning from the Convention you have been able to enjoy the summer. There is so much to do with better weather although we've had some tough storms in the Great Lakes Region. I've cleaned up more fallen limbs than ever before. I hope your homes have been safe.

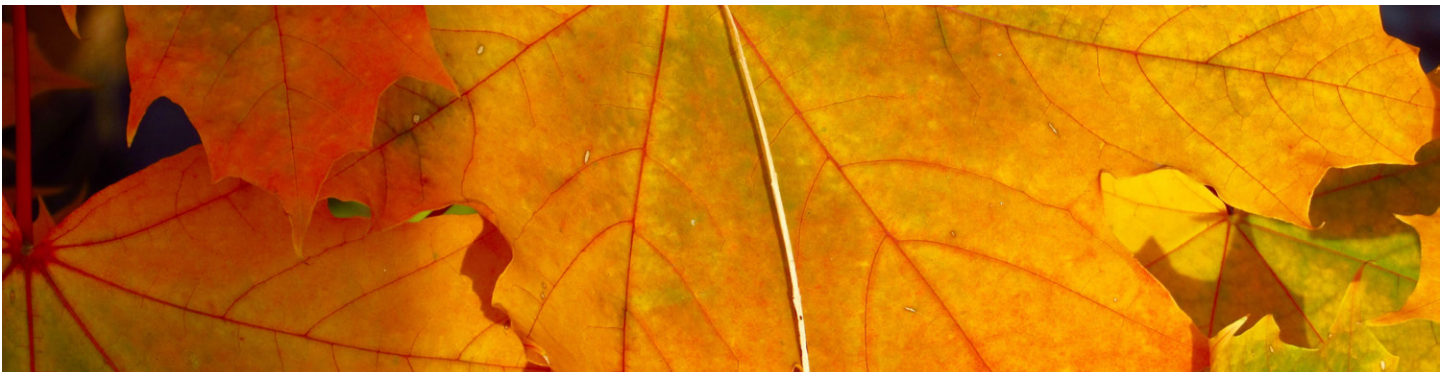
GFWC Indiana has been busy planning our Conference this summer and making sure that everyone will have a great time while visiting Noblesville, Indiana, the first weekend in October. I do hope that you are planning to attend. There is more information about it in this issue of the *Communiqué*. There's an added convenience of online registration and payment for you this year.

I know when we gather it is always fun – but I know we will leave with new ideas to share with our clubs.

If your club has not done so, please register to participate in the Inaugural National Day of Service scheduled for Saturday, September 30th. I have challenged each state, that the state within our Region with the highest percentage of clubs participating in the NDS will receive a prize from me for their state. Will your club help your state to win? I sure hope so. You don't have to have it all planned out to register. So, jump on board and join us in helping to alleviate Food Insecurity in our communities.

I hope you enjoy this issue of the *Communiqué*. Be sure to share it with all your club members and potential members as well.

In Federation, Dana



THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME!

The GFWC Illinois annual convention in April was attended by 150+ members, including our very own Dana Jones – GLR President. Illinois celebrated winning award entries, club and district anniversaries, Teri Merrell – the GFWC Illinois LEADS participant, and our Past State Presidents and Directors of Junior Clubs. We recognized three Junior members for their amazing service: Junior Spark Plug – Michelle Hansen; Junior of the Year – Jen Miller, and Outstanding Junior Service – Megan Mitchell. Illinois also recognized twenty-four 25-year members and sixteen 50-year members!

The highlight of the convention was the Witches Sneaker Ball! With the DJ in full swing and no sit-down dinner, the Illinois ladies rode their brooms, clicked their heels, and energized one another. I'm sure the specialty drinks helped with that! I never saw so many women (83 in fact) parade through a room in full character, vying for the judge's attention to win a prize. There was a distinct possibility that bribes were taking place. This "good witch" just turned her back and rolled her eyes! The room was stunning with black chair covers with pink (the good witch)

and green (the bad witch) sashes, and lots of photo opportunities with all characters from the Wizard of Oz. It was an evening to remember, and a legend made!

At the 2023 GFWC Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, Illinois invited GFWC members to attend the 2024 GFWC Convention in Chicago! Illinois is "On the Road to Chicago" and busy attending to all the details of being the "host" for the 2024 GFWC Convention – planning a memorable state night, creating themed centerpieces for all meals, organizing the myriad of volunteers needed to help with registration, tours, door pages, etc. And we are fundraising. Thank you to all who have supported our efforts to date! It's not too late to contribute – included in this *Communiqué* is an order form for items available.

LeeAnn Conlon
GFWC Illinois President 2022–2024



2023 GFWC ILLINOIS CONVENTION

GFWC IL 2024 GFWC Convention Fund Items for Sale

RUTH SLOOT

NAME:

4 Latham Place
Lincoln IL 62555

ADDRESS:

217-737-0156

CITY STATE ZIP

slootruthgfwc@gmail.com

PHONE

EMAIL

Order Form

Description	Price	Quantity	Subtotal
Small Chic Bauble	\$ 50	_____	_____
Large Chic Bauble	\$100	_____	_____
Can You Spare Me A Couple of Fins			
\$350 cash prize with opportunity drawing April 2024	\$ 10	_____	_____
Jewels of the Windy City Quilt			
Opportunity Drawing Fall 2023	\$ 5	_____	_____
Apron			
	\$ 30	_____	_____

Total _____

PAYMENT METHOD

_____ Cash _____ Check

Cash or make checks payable to
GFWC Illinois 2024 GFWC Convention Fund

_____ Check Number

THANK YOU



CHICAGO | 2024
GFWC CONVENTION

GFWC IL 2024 GFWC Convention Fund – Rhinestone T’s



PROCEEDS TO HELP DEFRAY THE COST OF THE 2024 GFWC CONVENTION IN CHICAGO.



Place your order now for these beautiful GFWC ¾ sleeve rhinestone shirts. Soft sumptuous material makes these shirts great for dressing up or down! Front imprint is rhinestones. This shirt is 100% soft pre-washed spun cotton in a ladies true-to-size fashion fit. This super-soft ladies full cut v-neck is instantly loved by all who wear it.



¾-sleeved T-shirts - Size S – XL - \$35.00 ---- Size XXL -XXXL - \$38.00 ADD \$7.00 FOR SHIPPING

Please turn in this form with payment no later than September 1, 2023. If you have product questions, contact Sandy Christofanelli at sandychristofgwc@gmail.com or call or text at (312) 342-7706. Electronic payment options available. Contact Sandy for details for Zelle, Paypal or Venmo.

Name _____ Club _____ District/State _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail address for confirmation: _____

Item	Quantity	Size	Color	Cost	Total Due
¾ Sleeve T-Shirt					
¾ Sleeve T-Shirt					
Make checks payable to: GFWC IL Deb’s Diamond Divas				TOTAL DUE:	

Mail completed form and check to: Sandy Christofanelli, 10430A White Sand Lane, Dyer, IN 46311

INDIANA

The International Convention is behind us, and we are all looking forward to another exciting club year. I was honored and excited that I was able to represent Indiana. I want to thank the Indiana clubwomen who put their faith and trust in me to do a good job for them.

Our Club year has begun and so has the planning of the District Conventions. Our President Elect, Betsey Nielsen, and I will be traveling around the Hoosier State to visit each district and bring them news from International, and from other areas in the State. These meetings usually happen in early Fall. In Indiana we have two seasons: #1 Winter and #2 Road Construction! Please say a prayer that we have clear sailing and not too many detours!!!

We were able to send Andrea Kappes to the LEADS program this year. I can't wait to hear what all the 2023 GLR LEADS graduates have to say at the GFWC GLR Conference.

Our State Convention last April was a learning experience. Our clubwomen brought in poster boards with pictures of their events, programs and projects that they held during the year. We had a report-writing seminar and we even had a bake sale! The St. Jude's House for Domestic Violence survivors was the recipient of well over \$200 in gift cards, along with other items from their wish list,

including robes, slippers, hampers, towels, and other odds and ends that they can use every day of their stay at this home.

Domestic Violence in Indiana, as it is in other states, is always in need of help. Whether it's clothing, children's books or birthday cards, we can all help. It doesn't take a lot of money or time. Just a big heart and a giving spirit.

We learned about conflict resolution and even had time to play a game of hopscotch! Our Juniors really helped a lot with this program, as did women from the newly renamed Northwest Indiana Women's Club. I want to personally thank each person who stepped up and helped us make this a great Convention.

Our club members have been so good about sending in articles for our *Indiana Club Woman* magazine that we may have to save some for the next edition. The articles are fun, exciting and full of information that each club can find beneficial.

Enjoy your summer, rest up for the Fall and I look forward to seeing all of your smiling faces in Noblesville for the 2023 GFWC Great Lakes Region Conference!

Marianne McCombs
President
Indiana Federation of Clubs



2023 GFWC CONVENTION – INDIANA

MICHIGAN

Good day all of you wonderful, hardworking GFWC volunteers! Hope you are enjoying your summer! There is smooth sailing up here in Michigan, where we “Dream, Explore, Discover”! It won’t be long and fall will be here along with our Michigan District Meetings, back-to-school events and, of course, our GFWC Great Lakes Region Conference. We can’t wait to see you in Indiana!

Not only have we had a busy summer, but we have our second MI LEADS seminar in the works for the fall. As a Joint Presidents’ Project, our Michigan leadership has committed to a six-year plan of holding LEADS seminars for current and potential leaders. Our first MI LEADS earlier this year was so well accepted that we have decided to go with a second session in November. Many of our members have commented on what they would like to see, do, and learn next. We have listened and are preparing for a fun day of learning, educating our great volunteer attendees! We have created breakout sessions for returning members, as well as new attendees. We will be sure to keep you posted!

Have you heard about Bay Cliff? We are fortunate to have a camp in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula that is a private, nonprofit, non-denominational summer therapy and wellness camp for children and adults with disabilities. Bay Cliff Health Camp is an endorsed GFWC Michigan project since

1998. GFWC Michigan clubs work toward funding the Linen and Laundry Building, also known as GFWC “Suds and Duds” where the campers’ clothing is prepared and stored for daily use. Clothing, bedding, and other “Wish List” items, as well as monetary donations, are provided by club members. Bay Cliff Day was July 19th, where we are invited annually to see the kids experiencing the camp. A great time was had by all who visited. GFWC Michigan members are also planning an exclusive 90th Birthday Bash Sleepover weekend for fun & fellowship of any club member in Michigan this October! A great time of nature, crafts, movies and shared “girl time” will be on the menu, as well as celebrating all 90 wonderful years! Something to look forward to, especially with the fall colors in full glory!

Also in the planning stages – October 2023 Legislation Day in our State Capitol (Lansing), where Domestic Violence Awareness/Prevention and Advocacy for Children will be our focus; the GFWC Michigan Convention for May 2024 in Menominee (in our beautiful Upper Peninsula); AND hosting the 2024 GFWC Great Lakes Region Conference later in the year, where installations of our new GLR Officers will be held. We can’t wait for all of the fun we are going to have! Ahoy!

Diane LaBree
GFWC Michigan Correspondent



GFWC Ohio has been busy this summer! Several members attended the GFWC Convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

On July 16, 2023, GFWC Ohio dedicated to the members of GFWC Ohio a bench in honor of the 125th Anniversary of Clementine Berry Buckwalter's founding of the Ohio Federation of Women's Clubs on October 24, 1894. The bench has been placed in the memorial garden at the home of Clementine Buchwalter honoring those who served as President and/or Director of Junior Clubs in the GFWC Ohio Federation.

On July 22, members traveled to Columbus, Ohio, for Leadership Day. Esther Gartland did a terrific job planning the day, using a Rainbow Theme. State Chairmen displayed story boards with information and handouts for the CSP's. We heard from our President Yvonne Ford and Junior Director Karen Margala, our LEADS Graduate, got Directory updates, and learned about the Bylaw

changes. The day included "The Color of Friendship," Speed Dating with the GFWC Ohio Leaders, and a Leadership Workshop presented by Leadership Chairman Debi D'Apice, "Discovering Our Leadership Style." Raffles were held and prizes were won. What a FUN and INFORMATIVE DAY.

On September 24th, members will be making the Gold Star Pilgrimage to our beautiful Memorial Shrine in the Mohican National Forest to honor all those who paid the ultimate price and sacrificed their life for our country.

Ohio is also planning our Fall Conference on October 14th, which will be held virtually, again this year. Breakout sessions are being planned for the five Districts. Members will be learning about this year's programs and projects and will have the ability to ask questions.

Marjean Sizemore
GFWC Ohio Correspondent



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Greetings from the Great State of Wisconsin!

It is hard to believe that summer is drawing to a close, but we look forward to the fall season, one of the most beautiful in the rolling hills, lakeshores, and forests of our state.

The GFWC of Wisconsin will soon kick off our busy season of meetings, fundraisers, and community service projects. All across the state, executive committees and boards have been spending precious summer days gathering at meetings, planning exciting events, and filling calendars with speakers, programs, and educational opportunities for our women. Our leaders returned from Louisville filled with new ideas and exciting things to share with members.

September will see many clubs across the state participating in the GFWC National Day of Service, collecting food for those in need and distributing it to agencies dedicated to serving others. Wisconsin women are dedicated to raising awareness of those with food insecurities in our communities. We currently have twenty-five percent of our clubs registered and hope to have many more after the first meetings begin in September following summer break.

October will kick off with Wisconsin women traveling to the GFWC GLR Conference in Noblesville, Indiana. We are looking forward to enjoying the programs and events that

GFWC Indiana has in store for our members and celebrating how GFWC GLR keeps the candle burning.

At home, October will be highlighted by our Fall Conference, hosted by the Junior Clubs of the state. Members will travel to Kenosha on the shores of Lake Michigan and gather at “The Civil War Museum: The Upper Midwest Experience.” This museum is like no other Civil War museum in the country. It focuses on the Civil War from the perspective of the people of the seven states of the upper middle west: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Over one million men from these states served in the Union army. These states also provided much of the food and raw materials necessary for the northern states to carry on the war. Within easy reach of our Great Lakes sisters, this museum should be on everyone’s bucket list. State Director of Junior Clubs, Suz Hooser, has a jam-packed agenda ready to go: exploring Domestic Abuse Prevention, leadership ideas, youth empowerment and much more. The attendees will also be completing a service project making therapeutic items for dementia patients.

GFWC-WI President, Nancy Dickman, is busy planning for an exciting Winter Workshop in Middleton, Wisconsin, and gathering ideas for our 2024 Annual Convention to be held in May in Brookfield, Wisconsin.



2023 GFWC CONVENTION – WISCONSIN

WISCONSIN – CONTINUED

Nancy's leadership has brought new and exciting ideas to GFWC-WI. Resolutions have been combined, reorganized, and strengthened. Bylaws have been revised, and members have had numerous opportunities for strengthening leadership and personal skills. We have an exciting year ahead of us.

November takes us to the third annual open house at Wisconsin's Own Library. The event will highlight poetry readings from Ripon college faculty and graduate students. The GFWC-WI has redrafted its agreement with Ripon College and is currently searching for our first full academic year poet-in-residence to provide a richer graduate level learning experience for students. GFWC-WI is proud to use the Gwendolyn M. Schultz Charitable Trust funds in its care for this purpose. In addition, GFWC-WI and Ripon College have begun plans for sponsoring a high school poetry writing workshop at the campus for Spring 2024.

Although for many, fall is a sign of the winter to come, here in Wisconsin, the GFWC women celebrate the vibrant season by jump starting our clubs with forests of projects full of the exhilarating reds, oranges, and golds of service to our communities. We will wade into the cranberry bogs of the needs of our communities and step forward onto the rustic roads with hard work and determination. This fall our clubs will go apple picking, celebrating our communities' special needs and working hard to serve to the best of our abilities. And we will not forget the joys of a good Oktoberfest as we celebrate our accomplishments.

See you in Indiana!

Nancy Niedziela
GFWC Wisconsin Correspondent



2023 GFWC CONVENTION – REGION PRESIDENTS

Region Presidents in attendance at the 2023 GFWC Convention in Louisville, Kentucky

GFWC RESOLUTIONS

By Kimberly Meyer, Indiana | 2022–2024 GFWC Resolutions Committee member

In case you were wondering...

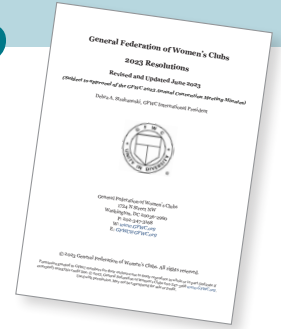
...Resolutions are the “heartbeat” of an organization. GFWC Resolutions reflect the goals of our organization and tell a story of who we are and what we stand for. When you review GFWC Resolutions (located in the Member Portal at [GFWC.org](https://www.gfwc.org)>Member Login>Digital Library>Resources>R>Resolutions Booklet 2022) you will note that they are divided into the **Special Program** or **Community Service Program** that the resolution relates to.

Resolutions are on a cycle to be reviewed every four years per the “GFWC Standing Rules: Resolutions,” which are printed at the beginning of the Resolutions Booklet. During the June 2023 International Convention, resolutions from **Civic Engagement & Outreach** and **Education & Libraries** were reviewed, updated as needed, and presented to and voted on by the GFWC membership. The updated resolutions will be published in the Member Portal soon.

The Resolutions Committee has already begun reviewing and researching resolutions under Health & Wellness for the 2024 Convention.

While individual members are not able to bring new or updated resolutions to the GFWC Resolutions Committee, they can bring their suggestions/concerns to their club who can then take it to their State Federation to act upon. (Check your State’s procedures.) Once the State Federation acts upon a resolution, they may present the new or updated GFWC Resolution to the GFWC Resolution Committee before November 1 for consideration. Last year two states presented potential resolutions for consideration. One was integrated into an existing resolution, and another (Ohio!) became its own resolution.

We encourage each GFWC member to read the GFWC Resolutions as well as their State’s Resolutions to see the big picture of what GFWC is working for.



GFWC STYLE GUIDE

By Loretta Caron | 2022–2024 GFWC Communications & PR Committee member

The **GFWC Style Guide** has been updated! This document is available in the Member Portal under “S” for members to access. The GFWC Style Guide is a great reference for all clubwomen. The Style Guide includes information about GFWC,

Brand Identity, general formatting, GFWC Trademark Use Policies, social media guidelines, and much more. Take the time to review this guide.



SHOT@LIFE TRAINING: BE A CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN

Join Shot@Life, a campaign of the United Nations Foundation, to speak up for childhood immunization. During this 45-minute training session on Tuesday, September 12, at 7 p.m. ET, you will learn about Shot@Life’s work, tools, and tips for advocating to your members of Congress and your communities about global immunization programs.

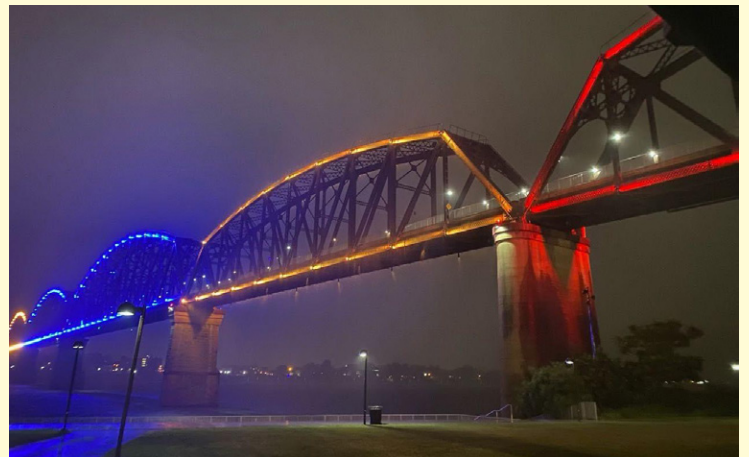
By the end of the training, you will be an official Shot@Life Champion, ready to use your voice for the cause. You will also be eligible to join other Champions for the one-day, virtual Mobilize to Immunize Fall Summit on Friday, September 29, where you can dive deeper into the issues, learn from experts, and connect with fellow Champions nationwide.

The registration link for the September 12, 7 p.m. ET webinar is: https://unfoundation.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Hw1_PMUKRkeA35ObNYdPpA



PHOTOS FROM THE 2023 GFWC CONVENTION

June 9-13, 2023 | Louisville, Kentucky



Illinois attendees at the 2023 GFWC Convention



OFFICER REPORTS

GLR PRESIDENT

Dana Jones, GFWC GLR President 2022–2024

Since the GFWC Great Lakes Region Conference in Wisconsin, this officer has continued to serve the Great Lakes Region to the best of her ability. The list of conference attendees was sent to GFWC President-elect Suellen Brazil to utilize in sending out the survey of the conference. I also provided feedback on the GFWC Strategic Plan as requested by President-elect Brazil.

In January, this officer provided an article for publication in the *GFWC News and Notes* January 26th edition working with Stacy Mayuga, GFWC's new Director of Communications.

Throughout each month, this officer read and replied as appropriate to emails and requests from President-elect Brazil, responding in a timely manner.

In April, this officer was honored to attend the GFWC Illinois State Convention with President LeeAnn Conlon and also the GFWC Michigan State Convention with President Kathy Lewis. It was so exciting to see the work that each Federation has accomplished, to see and be part of what inspires and motivates each State Federation and be part of the FUN that was to be had at each Convention. This officer is grateful for the opportunity to attend these conventions.

This officer purchased a Kindle on behalf of the Great Lakes Region to be donated to the GFWC Race to the Finish Fundraiser at the 2023 Annual Convention.

Plans for the mid-year meeting were completed and an Executive Committee meeting was held via Zoom to ensure that all officers were prepared for this meeting prior to our arrival in Louisville, Kentucky. This officer also coordinated with the Fundraising team for the Great Lakes Region for the luncheon meeting in order to be compliant with Kentucky laws for our convention.

This officer submitted and had approved the agenda for the 2023 GFWC Great Lakes Region Conference, prepared the CALL for distribution at the mid-year

meeting and has assisted with the setup of the online registration for this year's conference as well.

The mid-year meeting was held, and information shared in the abbreviated time together. This officer enjoyed seeing the Great Lakes states get recognition throughout the 2023 Convention.

There are likely more things that have been completed, but for now, I will say that it is truly an honor to represent our Great Region at GFWC.

GLR VICE PRESIDENT

Rose Logston, GFWC GLR Vice President 2022–2024

As vice president, this officer attended the Great Lakes Region Conference in Wisconsin and attended to the needs of the commercial and mini-mart vendors. The Wisconsin members were very welcoming and well prepared for our conference.

Prepared the invitations for prospective vendors and presented them to state presidents and state directors of junior clubs to help them prepare for their fundraising efforts at the annual conference in Noblesville, Indiana. Sent the information to 51 potential vendors.

This officer attended our Executive Committee meeting via Zoom in preparation for the mid-year meeting and shared information with the Great 8 regarding their presentations during the mid-year meeting and the 2023 annual conference.

Attended a pre-convention meeting with GFWC President Elect (Suellen Brazil) and region presidents as an invited guest via Zoom, attended and participated in the mid-year luncheon meeting in Louisville, Kentucky, and attended the Incoming Leaders Training Seminar at the GFWC convention.

This officer is currently working with Michigan representatives regarding the 2024 GLR annual conference.

Thank you for this opportunity and for your continued support.



OFFICER REPORTS - CONT.

GLR TREASURER

Candy Godbee, GFWC GLR Treasurer 2022–2024

As Treasurer, I have performed all the tasks assigned to the position to the best of my ability. It has been a pleasure working with the other members of the Board of Directors and Conference Committee, and especially the Executive Committee members.

As Treasurer, I have completed the following tasks:

- Attended GFWC Great Lakes Region Luncheon in Louisville, Kentucky, during the GFWC Convention.
- Prepared and presented financial reports for members during the luncheon.
- Made deposits and paid bills with verification and proper documentation, then made proper entries in the checkbook ledger and the computerized general ledger.
- Corresponded with President Jones to pay budgeted items.
- Worked with the Budget Committee (Paula Schlice and Ruth Ann Northon) in preparing a Proposed Budget for the 2023–2024 fiscal year. Questions regarding the budget were answered and suggestions taken on changes for future budgets. Budget was adopted as presented.

- Prepared all the financial reports including the year-end financial summary of the 2022–2023 fiscal year to be presented at the GFWC Great Lakes Region Conference in Noblesville, Indiana.

- Reconciled all the bank statements monthly.

It has been my honor to serve as GFWC GLR Treasurer and I look forward continuing with this administration.

GLR SECRETARY

Loretta Caron, GFWC GLR Secretary 2022–2024

This officer met with the GFWC Great Lakes Region Executive Committee via Google Meet on April 26th. She also got the minutes approved for the Great Lakes Region Fall Conference and Board Meeting. She attended the GFWC International Convention in Louisville and attended the GFWC Great Lakes Region Luncheon. Those that are to approve minutes, look for them in your email inbox soon, as this officer took some time off after the death of her husband and prepared for his Celebration of Life Memorial.

Thank you to everyone who prayed or sent cards during this difficult time.

WELCOME TO GLR '23

GFWC Indiana is so excited to encourage you to attend the 2023 GFWC Great Lakes Region Conference. As hostess, it is our responsibility to arrange for a comfortable, inviting hotel that provides rooms, conference rooms, and delicious meals, and anything else needed by the Region and International officers. The hotel is less than one year old and has all the features required along with extras. You will find a huge lobby with numerous cubbies for renewing friendships, sipping your favorite drinks, and practicing your Lip Sync routine.

The room rate is very affordable, and the chef is a master. Although the meals are a little pricy, be sure

to factor in the free breakfasts and the free afternoon Manager's Reception with snacks and drinks. There is no Sunday brunch because you have already had a free breakfast.

The Indiana Clubwomen have been working to be sure you have a wonderful time and want you to make time to visit with the Region and International officers. If you can't make it to GFWC International Convention, this is your best opportunity to learn and to grow and to have a great time with GREAT friends at the GREAT Lakes Region Conference.

All of the details are on the following pages...



GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE 2023



OFFICIAL CALL TO THE 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE GFWC GREAT LAKES REGION

October 5 – 8, 2023

DANA JONES, GFWC GLR President

“A Candle Loses None of its Light by Lighting Another”

You are invited to attend the 2023 GFWC Great Lakes Region Conference October 5 – 8, 2023, at **Embassy Suites by Hilton in Noblesville, IN**. Conference Chairmen Tric Heepe and Alice Duke and the members of GFWC Indiana have arranged a wonderful weekend for us. We will kick the weekend off with a social time on Thursday evening and have many options for fun on Friday – we’ll be joined by GFWC President (GLRs own) Deb Strahanoski and President-elect Suellen Brazil as we Dream Big, Sparkle More & Shine Bright for GFWC!

Registration:

Thursday, October 5: 3:00 - 5:30 PM (Hotel lobby)

Friday, October 6: 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM (Near Waters C)

Saturday, October 7: 8:00 AM -12:00 PM (Near Waters C)

President’s Project: We will be gathering to make thank you cards for foster families working with **Josiah White’s** which is an organization that works with children in the foster care system. We will also be collecting \$25 gift cards to national family friendly chain restaurants that will be used as encouragement for foster families and respite care providers. Supplies will be provided for the card making. Gift card examples include Cracker Barrel, Panda Express, Steak ‘n Shake, Subway, Olive Garden, Chipotle, Panera, Starbucks as well as AMC Theaters, Regal Theaters, Walmart, and Kohls.

Thursday evening- We will take a short drive to Top Golf and from 6:30 – 8:30 PM have a social time and hit a few golf balls. Hopefully, some of our Region golfers will join us and share some tips. Carpooling one exit south will get us there. If golfing is not for you, a Tour of Italy wine tasting is also an option being held at a local store during that same time. Seating is limited to the first 30 to register for the wine tasting.

Friday: GFWC Indiana will be providing lots of options for activities in the area which includes shopping, some great restaurants, a historical site and more. See the conference highlights for more information. Plan your own day.

Friday afternoon 3:00 PM The GFWC Great Lakes Region Board of Directors will meet from 3:00-4:00PM. Officers and Chairmen who are being asked to give reports at the Board Meeting and/or during the Conference are asked to bring the Secretary’s copy to this meeting.

Friday afternoon 4:00 PM We will have a service project in which we will make Thank you cards for those that offer respite care for foster children through Josiah White’s agency. Supplies will be provided – join us in making a difference for people that care for children in demanding situations.

Friday evening 5:30 PM The Embassy Suites provide a free cocktail and appetizer reception to hotel guests. So, stop there to mingle with other GLR members and then head down to enjoy State Night starting at **6:30 PM Teamwork Makes the Dreamwork Dinner and Entertainment** as GFWC Indiana members welcome us to their state. Wear your Cocktail Attire, with emphasis on the sparkle! The Lip Sync Contest is back – sign up now!

GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE 2023 – CONT.

Saturday 9:00 AM The opening ceremonies of the **2023 Great Lakes Region Conference** will begin at 9:00 AM. The Business Session will include reports from the GFWC Chairmen within the Region. Workshops, dynamic speakers and information on our Signature Project/Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention and Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children will fill the day. Remember to bring your notebook so you can jot down the many ideas you get from the presenters and your fellow Convention attendees. Please bring gift card donations at this time as we will hear from Josiah White's at lunch about their work to care for foster children and we will send the gift cards with them.

Saturday evening 5:30 PM –Saturday evening will feature Deb Strahanoski, GFWC International President, as the keynote speaker. So, let us celebrate with Keep the Candle Burning Banquet. We will also have some fun(raising) with the return of the QUARTER AUCTION.

Sunday morning 8:30 AM- Join us at this closing session where we will recognize members we have lost this last year; we'll hear the exciting reports from the GLR Great Eight and the Region Officers. We will enjoy some closing words from our GFWC Officers and the invitation to the **2024 Conference in Michigan**, before we adjourn the **2023 GFWC Great Lakes Region Conference**.

DRESS FOR THE WEEKEND

When traveling, remember to wear your GFWC logo gear.

Friday – Comfortable clothes & walking shoes –Wear your GFWC Apparel.

Friday Board of Directors Meeting and Service Project- GFWC About Town Wear

Friday Evening –Teamwork Makes the Dream Work - Cocktail Attire

Saturday – College Football Spirit wear. Last year there was a LOT of friendly banter about the college games occurring, so since each of our States has at least one team scheduled to play - let's show our team spirit! (No jeans, please).

Saturday Evening – **Keep the Candle Burning Banquet** – Cocktail Attire with some shine.

Sunday Morning- Travel Wear

OTHER HELPFUL INFORMATION

GFWC Great Lakes Region Fundraising – there will be a chance to purchase an opportunity to win a new COACH purse (which may have some extra goodies inside). Then on Saturday evening after dinner we will have a live and interactive QUARTER AUCTION. No need to bring quarters, you can just purchase chips to use for your bidding (checks and cash accepted).

On the last page of this CALL, you will see the information about some pullovers that are a Pre-Sale item that you can purchase ahead of time and pick up at the Conference to wear before we take off on our tour. Please note that the order is separate from your registration and should be sent to Ashley Wilhelm

State Presidents & Directors of Junior Clubs – Please be prepared to present a four-minute report. GLR Vice President Rose Logston will contact you with more detailed information.

Please remember to bring your state flag, pole, and stand for Saturday morning opening ceremonies. The flag bearer wears white gloves.

Deadlines – Please adhere to the GLR and Hotel deadlines as listed on the Registration Form.

Please share this Call with all the members in your state and club.

GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE 2023 – CONT.



Great Lakes Region Conference 2023 Embassy Suites and Conference Center – Noblesville, IN Conference Highlights

Thursday, October 5, 2023

Dinner on your own. The Embassy Suite “Local Kitchen and Tap” is open from 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM in the hotel. Dinner choices near the hotel include, but are not limited to, the following: Condado Tacos, Houlihan’s, Yats, Red Robin, Five Guys, Pies and Pints, The Livery, Ford’s Garage, Chuy’s, Olive Garden, Stone Creek Dining, Outlaws Steaks Burgers Brews, Raising Cane’s, Aspen Creek Grill, and more!

Top Golf Social 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

DRESS: Casual

9200 E. 116th St., Fishers, IN 46037

Join your friends to hit some golf balls while enjoying BBQ Boneless Wings, Buffalo Cauliflower, Spinach Artichoke Dip w/ Tortilla Chips, Cheese & Charcuterie, Hummus & Crudit , Injectable Donut Holes w Raspberry & Chocolate Filling, Fountain Soda, Iced Tea, Coffee and water. There will be a cash bar available. A meet and greet your friends from the Great Lakes Region. Come to play or come to watch!
\$60

Tour of Italy Wine Tasting 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Dress: Casual

13145 Levinson Lane, Noblesville, IN 46060

Not up to hitting some golf balls? Join some of the GLR Clubwomen as they enjoy a tasting of Italian wines at the Total Wine store located near the hotel in Hamilton Town Center. Spots are **limited** to the first **30 people** that register. This includes wine tasting and charcuterie to enjoy. **\$30**

Friday, October 6, 2023

Hotel Guest are welcome to the free made to order breakfast from 6:30 – 9:30 AM in the “Local Kitchen” just off the lobby in the hotel.

Explore on Your Own

DRESS: Comfortable GFWC wear and good shoes. Practice that elevator speech for when the other shoppers ask about the GFWC logo.

The conference center is located across the parking lot from Hamilton Town Center

Hang Around the Hotel

Catch up on work or social contacts with free Wi-Fi. Use the indoor swimming pool to exercise or relax. Use the accessible business center, hang out in the lobby lounge, or catch some rays on the patio terrace.

Great Lakes Region Board Meeting: 3:00 PM

Waters C

GLR Executive Committee, State Presidents, State Director of Junior Clubs, all chairmen

GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE 2023 – CONT.

Service Project: 4:00 PM

Waters C

Join us to make and write THANK YOU Cards for Josiah White's. All supplies will be provided – just bring your crafty hands and fun conversation.

Free Evening Reception 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Hotel Lobby

DRESS: Cocktail Attire, with emphasis on those diamonds! How much bling can you put on?

Dinner – 6:30 PM

Indiana State Night – Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

Waters C

DRESS: Cocktail Attire, with some sparkle and get ready to join the Lip Sync Contest

Chicken Tuscany: Baked Chicken Breast Smothered with Sun Dried Tomatoes, Hearts of Artichoke and Kalamata Olive Cream Sauce, Chef Selection of Vegetable, Embassy House Salad, Warm rolls and butter, New York Cheesecake with fruit, includes coffee, hot and iced tea **\$52.**

Saturday, October 7, 2023

If you are a hotel guest, please enjoy the made to order breakfast available in the hotel “Local Kitchen” starting at 7:00 AM

Lunch:

Deli Express Buffet:

Garden Green Salad with House Made Ranch & French Dressings. Fresh Fruit Salad, Chef's Selection of Composed Salad, Display of Assorted Deli Meats to include Roasted Breast of Turkey, Sliced Roast Beef, Shaved Ham, Assortment of Sliced Cheeses, Assorted Fresh Baked Breads, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Pickles, Mayonnaise and Mustard, Individual Bags of Potato Chips, Cookies and Brownies **\$40**

Free Evening Reception 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Hotel Lobby

Dinner 6:30 PM

Keep the Candle Burning Banquet

Waters C

DRESS: Cocktail Attire – bring some more shine and sparkle!

8 oz Filet Mignon Center Cut Filet Mignon with Merlot Enhanced Demi-Glace, Chef Selection of Vegetable, Classic Caesar Salad, Warm rolls and butter, Carrot Cake, coffee, hot & iced tea. **\$70**

Sunday, October 8, 2023

If you are a hotel guest, please enjoy the made to order breakfast available in the hotel “Local Kitchen” starting at 7:00 AM

GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE 2023 – CONT.

Service Project:

Join us to make thank you cards for foster families working with **Josiah White's**, which is an organization that works with children in the foster care system. We will also be collecting \$25 gift cards to national family friendly chain. Gift card examples include Cracker Barrel, Panda Express, Steak 'n Shake, Subway, Olive Garden, Chipotle, Panera, Starbucks as well as AMC Theaters, Regal Theaters, Walmart, and Kohls. If you cannot attend, feel free to send your donation with a fellow clubwoman. Josiah White's Region Director will join us at Saturday's luncheon to share about their work.

Fundraising:

GFWC Great Lakes Region Conference, is bringing back the popular **Quarter Auction**. Instead of packing your rolls of quarters, we will be selling chips that will count the same as quarters. Once all donated prizes are received, we will announce the amount of the "ALL IN" cost or you can buy up to your level of choice. Cash and checks payable to GFWC Great Lakes Region can be used for purchase. **If you would like to donate to the auction**, please provide a description of the item as well as the value to our Fundraising Team of Ashley Wilhelm and Deidra Devore by Saturday, October 7 at 10:00 AM so that the bids can be determined.



One other opportunity will be available. We will have tickets available for \$10 each to win a **COACH Purse** valued at \$350. Not included in this value are some extras that may be inside! You may buy tickets when you register or when you check in with the GFWC Indiana team at registration.

Club Market Place and Vendors:

We will have our State Federations and any interested clubs selling their wares in the Waters E located next door to our Meeting Room. We will also have vendors with assorted items for sale as well. Please visit them and bring home something new! There will be GFWC Items, too!



GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE 2023 – CONT.

Hotel Information:



**Embassy Suites by Hilton Noblesville Indianapolis
Conference Center
13700 Conference Center Drive South
Noblesville, Indiana, 46060**

Group Name: General Federation of Women’s Club – Indiana State Federation

Group Code: GFW

Rates valid October 5-8, 2023

\$169/night Includes free made to order breakfast and evening Manager’s reception

Hotel deadline is September 5, 2023, for this room rate.

Booking link:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=INDNBES&groupCode=CESGFW&arrivaldate=2023-10-05&departuredate=2023-10-08&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

Or Call: 317-674-1900



Or scan this QR Code to book the hotel on your mobile phone.

Prefer to register for the GFWC Great Lakes Region Conference online?

Payment can be made to GFWC Indiana through Zelle: Look up GFWC Indiana F

Visit: <https://forms.office.com/r/eM9xDuT9uu>

Or scan this QR Code to register online.



GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE 2023 – CONT.



REGISTRATION FORM
GFWC GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 5-8th, 2023
Embassy Suites by Hilton
13700 Conference Center Drive South, Noblesville, IN 46060

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ EMAIL _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ OFFICER/CHAIRMANSHIP _____

STATE AFFILIATION/CLUB/DISTRICT _____

REGISTRATION *(A late fee of \$25.00 to be added to the Registration postmarked after 9/14/2023).* \$25.00 _____

Top Golf – Thursday 6:30 – 8:30 pm \$60.00 _____
2 Hours Golf, Wings, Veggies, Sweets Cash Bar Available

A Wine Tour of Italy Class at Total Wine 6:30 – 8:30 pm \$30.00 _____
2 Hours, Wine tasting and snacks

BREAKFASTS and EVENING RECEPTIONS Free to Hotel Guests

FRIDAY – Indiana State Night \$ 52.00 _____
Chicken Tuscany

SATURDAY LUNCH – Deli Express Buffet \$ 40.00 _____
Salads, Deli Meats, Cheeses, Desserts

SATURDAY – Keep the Candle Burning Banquet \$ 70.00 _____
8 oz Filet Mignon

MINI MART SPACE \$10.00 _____
(FOR STATE AND CLUB FUNDRAISING)

COACH Purse OPPORTUNITY \$10.00 (# x \$10) _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

PLEASE INDICATE ANY DIETARY RESTRICTIONS _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: GFWC INDIANA

SEND REGISTRATION TO:
Kimberly Meyer
7884 E Hendricks County Road
Mooresville IN 46158
Phone: 317-997-3104
Kimberly46158@gmail.com

Registration must be postmarked by SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE 2023 – CONT.



ORDER FORM

SHIRTS: Sport-Tek® Ladies Sport-Wick® Stretch 1/2-Zip Pullover



COLOR: RED
IMPRINT: SILVER EMBROIDERY
PRICE: **\$40.00 ea.** XS-4XL
Size: ____ Qty: ____



COLOR: BLACK
IMPRINT: SILVER EMBROIDERY
PRICE: **\$40.00 ea.** XS-4XL
Size: ____ Qty: ____



COLOR: HEATHER BLUE
IMPRINT: SILVER EMBROIDERY
PRICE: **\$40.00 ea.** XS-4XL
Size: ____ Qty: ____

SHIRTS: Sport-Tek® Sport-Wick® Stretch 1/2-Zip Pullover



COLOR: RED
IMPRINT: SILVER EMBROIDERY
PRICE: **\$40.00 ea.** XS-4XL
Size: ____ Qty: ____



COLOR: BLACK
IMPRINT: SILVER EMBROIDERY
PRICE: **\$40.00 ea.** XS-4XL
Size: ____ Qty: ____



COLOR: HEATHER BLUE
IMPRINT: SILVER EMBROIDERY
PRICE: **\$40.00 ea.** XS-4XL
Size: ____ Qty: ____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Signature: _____

Orders due by September 11, 2023

**Please make checks payable to
GFWC Great Lakes Region**

TOTAL: \$ _____

Please mail complete order form and payments to:
Ashley Wilhelm 1644 Swallow Street, Naperville IL 60565| Cell: 630-854-9387 ashley@allegraromeoville.com



**GENERAL FEDERATION
of WOMEN'S CLUBS**

2023 Region Conference GFWC Presentations

What's in store for you while attending your region's conference? GFWC Chairmen and Committee members will provide immersive presentations in the following areas.



Signature Program: Advocating for Victims ~ Education for All

This presentation will share ways GFWC members can advocate and educate in their communities. We will highlight the GFWC Success for Survivors Scholarship application procedures and expand on effective advocacy strategies, including raising awareness, providing safe spaces for survivors to share their stories, lobbying for policy changes, and promoting education on consent and healthy relationships.



Juniors' Special Program: ABC Project Ideas with Affiliate Organizations

Utilizing the tools from GFWC Affiliate Organizations is the easiest way to advocate for children. We will give you the ABCs to project ideas and community awareness.



Get a CLUE with Done-in-a-Day Projects

Are you looking for clues to uncover the secrets to done-in-a-day projects to bring micro-volunteers and potential members to your community projects? Join Mrs. Peacock, Colonel Mustard, Ms. Scarlet, and all the CLUE characters when the investigation into easy hands-on projects begins. If you are looking for clues, this one is for you.

And there's more...

Building Leadership Capacity through Club Projects Organizations



Hear innovative ideas for club projects that will build leadership skills to increase members' confidence and encourage acceptance of new leadership roles.

Membership and Micro-Volunteers

How do GFWC clubs recruit, engage, and manage prospects with limited time? Micro-volunteering may be the solution your club is looking for! Micro-volunteering is an approach to community action that allows short-term, low-commitment opportunities to get involved with your club programs, events, and fundraisers to create value for their time and engage more prospects of future dedicated members.

Rebranding, why we need each club woman to lead the way.

Engage yourself in rebranding and understand why each club woman needs to get GFWC's identity known in local communities. Learn simple tweaks in communication efforts that make a difference.



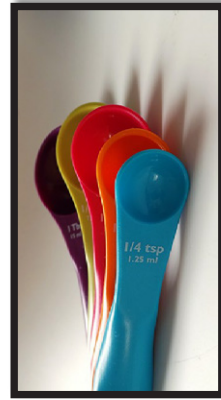
"And the Survey Says...Advocacy!"

Over 700 clubwomen were surveyed; the top answers will be revealed during this gameshow fun.



Recipe for a Successful Fundraiser

Don't think you're ready to tackle a fundraising event? This simple recipe will be a crowd-pleasing treat—an easy recipe for success.



The General Federation of Women's Clubs is a unifying force, bringing together local women's clubs with members dedicated to strengthening their communities and enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. With more than 60,000 members in affiliated clubs in every state and more than 20 countries, GFWC members are community leaders who work locally to create global change by advocating for women, children, and families on issues such as domestic violence and sexual assault, food insecurity/hunger, and promoting healthy lifestyles. GFWC also supports the arts, works to preserve natural resources, advances education, encourages civic involvement, and