

July 26, 2008

Greetings everyone!

The first part of this administration is underway and those of you that attended the Summer Workshop you already have an idea of what lies ahead. Briefly, I want to recap the department meeting, as some of you were unable to attend. This way we will all be on the same page, pardon my pun.

As I mentioned at the dept. meeting, there are reimbursements available for making copies. You need to contact me for prior approval. When you need reimbursement, you must have a receipt. The treasurer will not give reimbursement without one. There is also a small amount available to dept. chairmen as an allowance for supplies, etc. Last year it came to approx. \$15.00 per person. The treasurer will handle that with you.

You all should have received your GF manuals. There were a couple of you that did not receive the GF packets. If you don't receive them soon, please let me know and I will track one down for you. Please read the materials regarding your department and get to know it well. There are many resources listed for your area. Send for any free materials that you can. Use those as handouts and ideas for things to do. As department chairmen you are the resource for your counterparts at the district and club levels. Don't hesitate to contact districts with any information that you feel needs to be made available to club members.

You will be responsible for articles in the Clubwoman regarding your department. I have included a listing of a few annual recognition days and months. I am still waiting for the list of dept. updates from GF. As soon as I receive them, I will pass that information along to all of you. Perhaps your articles could be geared towards those time frames. Don't forget the deadlines for the Clubwoman articles are Aug. 1st, Nov. 1st, Feb. 1st, and May 1st. Some of you have already said you would have articles for Aug. 1st: Membership, Domestic Violence and Education in the Community. If you know when you would be writing an article, let me know and I will be sure the Clubwoman knows when it is coming.

Be sure and get your information to Deb & Richard Brossard regarding your department/special project. As you need to update or change things, be sure to let them know also. Their email address is: dkbrossard@charter.net.

Soon the Fall District meetings will be starting. Please try to attend your district's meeting. It is a great opportunity to get the word out about your department, and to gather information from other clubs. Perhaps you could contact your district president and ask to speak for a few minutes about your program to share tips and ideas. You could also set out your handouts or brochures for the clubs to take with them. Networking is so important for getting your message to others.

In the spring or at the Winter Workshop, you will receive the reports pertaining to your department. Between now and then, read your department information thoroughly. Many programs have awards or contests with deadlines. Know what they are and be sure to forward the information with your reports to the GF chairman on time. It would be a good idea to put reminder notices for certain deadlines in the Clubwoman ahead of time. Help our clubs and state get the recognition they deserve!

Later I will be sending you the guidelines for reporting. The general deadline for Wisconsin is January 25, 2009 and your deadline for department reports to go to GF will be March 15, 2009. If you want to get a head start, all the forms and information are on the GF website and can be downloaded. If you do not have a computer, call me and I can get it for you. The forms are also in the white GF manual.

There was discussion regarding the Project Fair and whether or not we should have it again. Comments were made and noted. Michele Klages, Junior Director-Elect, and I will be getting together and will make the final decision regarding the awards. We will let you know as soon as we can. If you have further input regarding this matter, don't hesitate to call, write or email me.

The crispness of autumn is coming and I look forward to attending district meetings. It will be a challenging time for all of us. I am thrilled to be working with all of you. I am always available. Call my home 262-728-3630 or cell 262-215-5285, write 2789 Theatre Rd., Williams Bay, WI 53191 or email me at weberhaus@charter.net. Let's work together and show everyone the many facets of GFWC-WI at work!

Talk to you soon,

Ellen Weber
GFWC-WI Second Vice President