

Dear Fellow Clubwomen,

Although I am watching the snow gently fall outside my window as I write this message, hopefully there will be hints of spring outside your window as you are reading it. Spring of the second year of an administration is always busy. At our district meetings and annual convention elections will be conducted, awards will be presented, and new leaders will be installed. We need to use this excitement to infuse enthusiasm to continue to spread the mission of GFWC.

The GFWC- WI 113th annual convention will be held April 22-24 at the Holiday Inn and Convention Center in Stevens Point, WI. These three days will be packed with elections, awards, and the installation of the 2010-2012 GFWC-WI officers on Federation Day! Our keynote speaker is Mary Ellen Laister, the GFWC First Vice President from Arizona. She will be with us for the entire weekend; this is our opportunity to get to know one of our GFWC leaders. There will be the fun of the silent auction Make it, Bake it, Bow it, fund raiser for the 2008-2010 Administration. The members of the Rivers and Lakes District will be our hosts for the weekend. They are asking us to bring money to be donated to the food pantries through their district. What else do we need? YOU! Mark your calendars and we look forward to seeing you in Stevens Point!

GFWC-WI members are also needed to help with our booth at the GFWC International convention which will be held in Omaha, Nebraska, June 11-15. If you have always wanted to attend a convention, I hope you will consider joining us in Omaha. We also will be giving the invitation to the 2011 convention in Milwaukee. Our clubwomen will be needed to distribute packets to those in attendance. The best part is while you are helping our state federation, you will be able to learn about the upcoming administration, its projects, programs, and contests which will benefit your club. Information will be available on the GFWC website.

As many of you know, Susanne Way, GFWC-WI Director of Junior Clubs, Diane Cychosz, GFWC-WI Treasurer and I have been working on inputting information onto the GFWC database. Those in attendance at the Winter Workshop learned that even though our state is on the leading edge of using the system there are a few glitches as with any new system. I hope you realize that the GFWC staff is learning as we are. Please be patient. This system will make managing the information easier and changes can be made more quickly.

As we get closer to our spring meetings, I hope you say, "YES!" if you are asked to serve in a leadership position. If you refuse, have you ever thought of the opportunity you may be missing? When I think of the women I've met and the opportunities I've had just because I wanted to be a leader in the state organization. Better yet, if you want to be a leader, why not ask those on the nominating committee if they need any volunteers. If all the positions are filled, why not volunteer to be a chairman. Think about the amazing opportunities that are available to you.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in Stevens Point in April and Omaha in June,

In Federation friendship,

Marianne Potter

GFWC-WI President