

GENERAL FEDERATION of WOMEN'S CLUBS



GFWC First Vice President's Report

GFWC 118th Annual International Convention | Cleveland, Ohio | Sunday, June 14, 2009

This officer has had the privilege of serving the members of the General Federation of Women's Club and participating as a member of the GFWC Executive Committee for the term 2008-2010. This is an awesome job and one this officer takes very seriously.

This officer attended the GFWC Executive Committee Meeting on July 2, 2008, for the 2008-2010 administration. This officer then conducted the first meeting of the GFWC state presidents group. These state presidents were enthusiastic and announced their goal for their respective states, with the goal from each and all being to increase state membership. Additional activities include:

- Sent a 4th of July card to all the State Presidents
- Maintained the travel schedule of each of the GFWC officers
- Communicated to the GFWC State Presidents (Rose's Rosebuds) with leafy notes via e-mail
- Contacted the GFWC State Presidents, set-up a pre-theatre dinner at the Aria's Café on Saturday, September 6, 2008, and then arranged for the GFWC State Presidents to sit as a group at the performance of "Capitol Steps."
- Prepared the GFWC Group Meeting for the GFWC Board of Directors Meeting.
- Attended the GFWC Retreat Meeting on September 2 and 3, 2008, in Arlington, Virginia. Also, attended the GFWC Executive Committee Meeting on September 4, 2008, in Arlington, Virginia.
- Conducted the GFWC Group Meeting and the GFWC State Presidents emphasized their commitment to increasing their state membership. It was also evident that the camaraderie is building with friendships and respect for each other.
- Sent confirmations to the GFWC State Presidents on the invitations to attend their respective states for the state conventions in 2009-2010.
- Sent a Friendship card and Labor Day card to all the GFWC State Presidents.
- Communicated on a very regular basis with the GFWC Executive Director either by phone or e-mail.
- Attended the GFWC South Central Region meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas, from October 2-5, 2008. This was a great meeting. We visited the Clinton Library, the Heifer International Headquarters, lunch at the Governor's Mansion and a tour of the Governor's mansion grounds.
- Participated in the GFWC Membership Workshop on October 3, 2009, with the GFWC South Central Region State Presidents and state membership chairmen.
- Sent autumn and Thanksgiving cards via e-mail to the GFWC State Presidents. Communicated to the GFWC State Presidents – Rose's Rosebuds. State Presidents had received 10 leafy notes in addition to the monthly cards since the beginning of this administration.
- Continued to maintain the travel agendas of the GFWC Officers attending the Fall meetings and state conventions for 2009-2010.
- Attended the GFWC Executive Committee Meeting on December 4-9, 2008, in Washington, DC. Attended and participated in the GFWC Long Range Planning Meeting on December 7-9, 2008, in Washington, D C.
- Sent a New Year's card to the GFWC State Presidents. This officer continued to communicate with the State Presidents and the GFWC Executive Director via phone or e-mail.
- Attended the GFWC Executive Committee on January 16-19, 2009 in Washington, DC. Participated with the GFWC Executive Committee Meeting in conjunction with the GFWC Constitution and Bylaws Committee in Washington, DC.

- Had the pleasure of attending the National Council of Women's Organizations Inaugural Ball on Saturday, January 18, 2009, at the James Monroe Home in Washington, DC. Attended the GFWC Inaugural Reception on Monday, January 19, 2009 at GFWC Headquarters in Washington, DC.
- Continued to maintain the GFWC Officers travel agendas to 2009 state conventions. Also, had sent to the GFWC State Presidents (Rose's Rosebuds) a total of 15 leafy e-mail notes by this time.
- Sent Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, and Easter e-mail cards to the GFWC State Presidents.
- Had the pleasure of going to GFWC Minnesota for Membership Services on March 19-20, 2009.
- Attended a 100th Anniversary Gala of the Village Improvement Association on April 3, 2009 in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware.
- Was humbled to be invited to attend GFWC Wyoming State Convention in Laramie, Wyoming, on April 16-19, 2009. This was my first visit to the beautiful state of Wyoming. Laramie is a truly original western town.
- Attended the GFWC New Mexico State Convention in Silver City, New Mexico, on April 23-26th, 2009. This state convention was held high in the mountains and celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the GFWC Silver City Woman's Club. The clubhouse is an adobe club house and so charming for the event.
- Visited GFWC Colorado in the town of Pueblo, Colorado. The theme for the evening was a casual beach theme on May 1st- 2nd, 2009. Jeri Lyn Cancel, immediate past GFWC Junior Director, is now the State President of GFWC Colorado.
- This officer then attended the GFWC Massachusetts State Convention in Cape Cod, Massachusetts from May 2- 5, 2009.

This officer has had a very exciting experience of being able to go to the state conventions across the country, meet the clubwomen of every size club, community and walk of life. This is truly a priceless experience for this officer and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Again thank you.

MARY ELLEN LAISTER

GFWC First Vice-President