

GENERAL FEDERATION of WOMEN'S CLUBS



GFWC International President's Report

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

It is indeed a privilege to serve as GFWC International President 2008-2010. Thank you for your support and for this opportunity!

GFWC Meetings attended by this officer have included:

- All GFWC Executive Committee and Board of Directors Meetings; at the close of the September 2008 GFWC Board of Directors Meeting, this officer placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery along with GFWC Director of Junior Clubs Missi McCoy and GFWC Executive Director Natasha Kalteis. What a privilege and honor that was.
- GFWC state federation conferences and conventions in Mississippi, Virginia, Tennessee, West Virginia, Kansas, Florida, Michigan, Texas, Minnesota, Connecticut, Nebraska, and Illinois
- All GFWC Region Conferences in 2008

Additional GFWC events attended have included:

- The 95th Anniversary High Tea of the GFWC Woman's Club of Chevy Chase, Maryland
- The GFWC Hawaiian Adventure Tour in February and visit with members of the GFWC Hawaiian History Club.
- The National Trust of Historic Preservation Volunteer Vacation work week in New Orleans, May 17–21 along with twelve hard-working GFWC volunteers representing eight states. Mid-week lunch was provided by GFWC Baton Rouge club members, and greatly appreciated!

Represented GFWC at the following events:

- Vital Links Award Ceremony in New York, where GFWC was honored in September 2008
- Women Impacting Public Policy and American Express Gala Dinner, as the guest of Joan Wages, president of the National Women's History Museum
- Service Club Leaders Conference in Philadelphia in November 2008
- Pre-Inaugural Ball sponsored by the National Council of Women in January 2009
- UNICEF/Rug Mark Reception in February 2009, as guest of Kate Webber, UNICEF director.
- Awards Gala dinner and reception of the International Center for Research on Women where the special guest was Cherie Blair, wife of former British Prime Minister Tony Blair
- Memorial and funeral service for Maxine Scarbro, GFWC International Past President 1998-2000, in Charleston, West Virginia. Maxine was a Mentor and is sadly missed!

Hosted many events at our GFWC Headquarters:

- November tour and meeting of the GFWC Chevy Chase Junior Woman's Club at which 15 new members were installed
- Meeting with Grand President and Executive Director of the Daughters of Penelope in November
- Family gathering of 12 during the week of Thanksgiving

- December 9 GFWC Holiday Reception attended by approximately 300 GFWC members and guests
- Several staff luncheons and the staff holiday luncheon
- Inaugural Open House in January.
- WHRC 25th Anniversary and Women's History Month Observance and Reception in March, attended by 80 GFWC members and guests.
- June 6 and 7 Walking Tour with The Dupont-Kalorama Museum Consortium, of which GFWC is a member; GFWC Officers and GFWC Juniores members assisted and were overnight guests

Future GFWC events planned for this officer:

- 75th Anniversary of the GFWC Women's Club of Aruba in September 2009
- 50th Anniversary of the GFWC FAWA (Federation of Asia-Pacific Women's Associations) in December 2009 in Taipei, Taiwan; this club's convention committee has extended a round-trip ticket and hotel accommodations for my attendance

This officer is very proud of the GFWC Board of Directors and the GFWC members! It has been a joy to work with each and every one of you! It is also a joy to work with Natasha Kalteis, GFWC Executive Director, and all GFWC staff in planning GFWC meetings and conducting GFWC business.

With the focus of this administration on membership recruitment and retention, there is a future for GFWC! There are Visions of Possibilities! Together, We Can Do It! Thank you!

ROSE M. DITTO, PH.D.

GFWC International President