



Jo Anne Reid, President GFWC Southern Region

2016-2018



Together **E**ffectively **A**chieving **M**ore

Dear GFWC Southern Region Members:

It is with great pleasure that I invite each of you to attend the 2017 Annual Meeting of the GFWC Southern Region to be held at the Atlanta Marriott Century Center in Atlanta, GA on October 26-29, 2017. The Board of Directors will meet and dine together on Thursday night. I am so excited about our Friday tour – designed as a “fix” for all our football fans who will be missing the “Friday Night Lights” and their favorite team on Saturday – a Tour of the College Football Hall of Fame!!! I hope that you are looking forward to it! The Official Opening will be held Friday evening at the Georgia State Dinner and State Photos will be made during the social time this evening. At this meal, you will receive a Welcome from the host state and Official Greetings from our International GFWC Officers. A Fun Night of Bunco (great prizes I hear) will follow, benefitting my President’s Special Project “Just Too Sweet” - Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

Saturday will begin with an Official Welcome and Georgia member Mary Harmon singing and playing her original arrangement of The Collect. In the Business Session to follow, we will hear the Report of our Officers and the Nomination Committee, followed by the election of our 2018-2020 Officers. The Officers nominated are:

- President – Kay Chadwick – Georgia
- Vice President – Cynthia Geis – Alabama
- Secretary – Joyce Johnston – Florida
- Treasurer – Laurie O’Kelley – South Carolina

Special recognition will be given the LEADS participants, followed by GFWC platform workshops of interest to all. Our Luncheon will feature GFWC President-elect Mary Ellen Brock as speaker and in the afternoon session we look forward to reports from our GFWC and Region Chairmen. The afternoon will conclude with a community service project benefitting Battered Women’s Shelters in the area. Each state is asked to bring different items and we will “fill the bags” at the conclusion of the afternoon session! There will be a special collection area for them when you register. The items are:

- Alabama – individual snack crackers, fruit cups, pudding
- Florida – Wash clothes, soap, and paper napkins wrapped around a plastic fork, knife and spoon
- Georgia – combs, hairbrushes, tooth brushes and toothpaste
- Mississippi – individual packs peanut butter, saltines and socks
- South Carolina – individual packs of cereal, small cans of tuna, and crackers
- Aruba – just choose whichever of these is easiest for you to bring!

The Saturday banquet will feature our GFWC International President Sheila Shea as speaker, recognition of our five state Jennie Award winners and the Invitation by GFWC Mississippi to the 2018 Southern Region Annual Meeting.

Sunday will feature Annabelle Bunch speaking on her experiences as Mississippi’s representative in Washington D.C. for THE JDRF CHILDREN’S CONGRESS – Advocating for a World without Type 1 Diabetes, and bring you up to date on current needs, new developments and how you can help!

Interspersed throughout the meeting will be the highly anticipated reports from our State Presidents and Directors of Junior Clubs, Health Checks, and WOW moments – Words of Wisdom from our Past Region Presidents.

Suggested dress is: Thursday pm - dressy casual, Friday tour – casual -GFWC apparel/ Favorite team!, Friday night-dressy casual, Saturday daytime– business casual, Saturday evening - cocktail/after 5, Sunday - headed home/GFWC casual.

We’ve planned it ALL for you and worked hard to keep the costs low and the interest level high! Come join your SOUTHERN SISTERS October 26-29, 2017, for the 2017 GFWC Southern Region Annual Meeting!