Cynthia Kay Geis 2020-2022 GFWC Southern Region President *Putting Vision into Action* www.gfwc-southernregion.org



August 21, 2021

Dear GFWC Southern Region Members,

I am so very excited to issue this official Call for our in-person 2021 GFWC Southern Region Annual Meeting to be held October 21-24 in Orlando, Florida. Please share this call with your members and encourage them to attend!

Our very special guests will be our 2020-2022 GFWC International President, Marian St.Clair, and GFWC President-elect, Deb Strahanoski. These two dynamic leaders will share their visions for GFWC and apprise us on happenings in our wonderful organization. We'll also have greetings from the GFWC Officers within our Region.

The conference agenda is filled with presentations by our GFWC chairmen and Committee members. We'll also have platform workshops on Leadership, Membership, and Communications, with special recognition of our 2020 and 2021 LEADS graduates. Additionally, President St.Clair will update us on the CSP Challenge Projects.

In our business session on Saturday, we'll conduct essential Region business and hear reports from our Region Officers and Nominating Committee, followed by the election of officers for 2022-2024. The nominees for office are:

President – Joyce Johnston, Florida Secretary – Tammie McCoy, Mississippi Vice President – Laurie O'Kelly, South Carolina Treasurer – Sharon (Shari) Carter, Georgia

The Board of Directors will meet and dine together on Thursday evening. On Friday, attendees will have a choice for one of two tours – a shopping trip to Disney Springs or a visit to a winery. The Official Opening will be held on Friday evening at the Florida State Night Dinner at Medieval Times.

Throughout the weekend, we'll hear reports from our State Federation Presidents, State Junior Directors, and our International Affiliate Club Presidents. There will also be opportunities to learn and share with your sisters from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Aruba, and Belize, shop with conference vendors, take lots of photos, and share how your club is "Putting Vision into Action" in your community.

Our Saturday luncheon will feature presentations by GFWC President-elect Debra Strahanoski and Nicole Forysth, President and CEO of Red Rover, the organization that partners with Purina's Purple Leash Project to change the landscape of domestic violence services for survivors with pets. The Saturday banquet will feature our GFWC International President Marian St.Clair as speaker and recognition of our five State Federation Jennie Award winners.

Our meeting will conclude on Sunday morning as we finish our business and receive the invitation to the 2022 Southern Region Annual Meeting in Georgia.

Attendees are encouraged to bring new shoes and/or socks to support "Kicks for Kids," GFWC Florida Junior Director Candice Postel's Special Project. The purpose is to get a good quality, well-fitting pair of shoes to school-aged children in need. Having the right shoes gives children confidence, a boost in self-esteem, and the opportunity to focus in school on the lesson instead of thinking about their hurting feet. Change a child's life with a pair of shoes!

You don't want to miss time with your GFWC Southern Sisters. Make your plans now to attend!

Yours in Federation friendship and service,

Cynthia