

Winter 2024

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT



2022-2024 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

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Baby it's cold outside!

"Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things, but just look what they can do when they stick together."

Vesta. M. Kelly

Doesn't this remind you of all our wonderful GFWC Clubs around the world? We are looking forward to receiving your Membership Award Entries to hear all your clubs have accomplished this past year.

Remember, they must be emailed to nancyGFWCames76@gmail.com or postmarked from your state no later than March 15th to be eligible.





Things to remember...

GFWC Marketplace: Customizable GFWC Member Business Cards



Business cards are a powerful tool in your GFWC toolbox. Hand out cards to prospective members, sponsors, community partners, and legislative connections. Design & order business cards on the GFWC Marketplace:

<https://gfwc.allegiaromeville.com/product/business-cards>

Are your clubs using the new GFWC Emblem for all your documents and correspondence?



Digital files of the Emblem are available on the Digital Library under “E” folder for Emblem.



The Benefits of a Mentoring Program in your Club

By: Jan Allen, GFWC Membership Committee



Do you need help getting members to step up into leadership positions? Are your members having fun? Are they learning and growing when it comes to GFWC? How about change? Do members get excited about starting new projects?

Here's how to put all these aspects of membership development into perspective. Think 70-20-10.

- 70% of your members' learning comes from actual hands-on experience. ("You give it a try." Or "How would you do this?")
- 20% of your members' learning comes from interpersonal exchanges. (Spend time with other members and get to know them and their GFWC experiences.)
- 10% of your members learn from formal training. ("Here is the manual." OR "This is how we do this.") "Mentoring is a shared opportunity for learning and growth. Mentors say that the rewards they gain are as substantial as those for their mentees." (Partnership 4 Kids | Long-term Support for Lifelong Success. <https://p4k.org/>) (Mentoring | FTG. <https://www.fiercelyctg.org/mentoring>)
- The benefits of mentoring include:
 - Having fun. Working with someone else is always more fun.
 - Growing and learning.
 - Improving Self-esteem. Feel like you are making a difference.
 - Greater appreciation of diversity (thought, word, & deed).
 - Feeling more productive.
 - Enhancing relationships.
- Are you mentor-ready?
 - It would help if you had a sincere desire to be involved in the development of a member. You will need to show mutual respect. Everyone has something to offer. Are your listening skills ready for this opportunity? Can you show empathy? You will need to share solutions and opportunities. Lastly, flexibility is critical.
- Here's how to get started:
 - Decide on a time commitment. Are we mentoring a committee chair or a member to be club president?
 - What skills are you, as the mentor, bringing to the relationship, and what skills does the mentee bring?
 - When do you start? And how do you know your objective is complete?
 - What activities do you plan to engage in – sharing roles, shadowing, feedback, etc.?

Remember, mentoring amplifies positive change, one relationship at a time.

Growing Members with Cyber Clubs



By: Catrina Sistrunk, GFWC Membership Committee

When I first heard cyber club, I thought, “Do you have to be a techie to join?” No, you don’t have to be a member of the Geek Squad to join. Cyber and virtual clubs are synonymous and are real, federated clubs! Although all clubs are different, cyber clubs tend to meet less frequently than traditional clubs and typically meet via virtual meeting platforms such as Zoom. Cyber clubs may fill the gaps of traditional brick-and-mortar clubs through a greater outreach not limited by geographical area.

.Potential cyber club members include women who:

- can’t meet at traditional meeting times such as lunchtime or in the early evening;
- have relocated temporarily or permanently;
- lack transportation;
- are military personnel or spouses;
- are past Juniorette members while in college/trade school;
- have extremely limited free time;
- live in nursing homes or assisted living facilities; and/or
- are friends but live far apart.

Cyber club members tend to micro-volunteer by participating in parts of a project and sending their labors to one chairman to collect and assemble or by completing a project at home and reporting their progress to the club.

Cyber clubs transcend all physical boundaries and unite members with similar interests and passions! If you want to start a GFWC Cyber Club, locate the Sample Bylaws template in the Member Portal: My Digital Library > Resources > “L” > Leadership Toolkit > 4. Club, District, and State Leader Resources > 2023 Sample Bylaws Cyber Final.docx

Fostering Friendships With Members Outside Your Club



By: Joann Wheeler, GFWC Membership Committee

As GFWC members, we need to reach out to our communities and seek to build relationships within them. Partnerships with other civic organizations allow us to share information and services and provide other types of support that can be critical for success! Networking together helps volunteers develop a clear vision for achieving goals. This saves time and costs and creates improved performance through shared responsibilities. By sharing resources, leadership, talents, and budgets, these partnerships can add to achievements for the community.

As GFWC volunteers, we should always be aware of the individuals in our community who participate in activities that benefit the community. Look to businesses, service or special interest organizations, government agencies, churches, school groups, and more. This does not mean that these groups and members need to think alike—rather, this can bring together members with different strengths and ideas. Here is another avenue for building friendships outside of your club by learning more about these diverse groups and how each can benefit by working together.

Funding benefits can also be gained from these collaborative partnerships. More community individuals at the table can increase your potential funding connections. Even though funding is a high priority, the true gain may be from developing friendships and collaborating with positive individuals who have a good heart and care about their community.

Thinking ahead...



Hotel Bookings for the 2024 GFWC Annual Convention are Now Open June 29 - July 1

For room booking questions, please contact the Hilton Chicago at
(312) 922-4400



Save the Date: GFWC 2024 National Day of Service

Registration will open in early spring.

Be on the lookout for more information through News & Notes

