**Mississippi Valley Region**

**50h Annual Conference**

**September 14-17, 2023**

**Branson, Missouri**

Dear GFWC Mississippi Valley Region Members:

First of all, I want to thank MVR clubwomen for the beautiful cards and wonderful messages I have received since the death of my husband on June 6th. You are a support system and I have truly felt your love and concern. I am doing fine with wonderful children and grandchildren, my church family, my co-workers and my bridge groups.

GFWC Missouri is hosting the GFWC Mississippi Valley Region Conference at the Stone Castle Convention Center in Branson. I invite you to attend and benefit from the many informative workshops, good fellowship with other clubwomen, and great fun and entertainment. You will also have the opportunity to meet and hear presentations by the GFWC International President, Deb Strahanoski and GFWC President Elect Suellen Brazil.

Our service project will be bringing donations for the Homeless in Branson. Please note items needed on the Call to Conference or Registration Form.

A group reservation has been made for the Haygoods show on Thursday evening. I have seen this family perform at least 15 times and they are very talented and have a fast-paced show. Please note that 15 reservations are needed to get the group price. You will be on your own for an evening meal prior to the show.

A number of opportunities are available for Friday that you can tour on your own, go shopping and have noon lunch at any of the restaurants in the area.

Most of Saturday will involve the business meeting as well as many presentations from MVR members who serve on International Committees.

Saturday night we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of MVR region. I am inviting any past MVR Presidents to share some highlights about their term in office. If I could receive a half page report of what the theme was, what was the president’s project, where the conferences were held, possible number of clubs in the region at the time and maybe how many attended conferences. This is only a short list of what can be included so be creative. If you are in attendance, you will also have an opportunity to share the information in person.

My president’s project is Coins for a Cause. Report any donations (coins or cash) you make to local or state needs or International affiliates. Some state presidents as well as club presidents have already reported the number of coins they collected last fall and will have more to share this coming year which could be taken from the annual reports sent in January 2024 for the 2023 year.

For those of you who plan ahead, these are upcoming dates:

GFWC International Convention, Chicago, Ill, June 28-July 2, 2024

MVR Conference in Iowa September 19-22, 2024 and MVR Conference in Nebraska September 18-21, 2025.

We look forward to welcoming you all to the conference.

Thank you all for Being Stars for GFWC!

Pat Stevermer, MVR President

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