

Invitation to the GFWC Middle Atlantic Region Conference-Mary Pat Marcello

As Region Vice President, I am happy to provide the information you will need to register to attend the GFWC Middle Atlantic Region (MAR) Conference. GFWC is comprised of eight regions, with the states of Delaware, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania comprising Middle Atlantic Region. Generally, the members of the 4 states meet twice a year; once at the GFWC Annual Convention, and then in the fall for a 2-3 day conference which rotates among the 4 states. This year, the Conference was scheduled to be hosted by GFWC Pennsylvania in Harrisburg PA.

However, like most club and state meetings, the 2020 MAR Conference will be a virtual meeting. MAR President has prepared a video invitation that may be viewed via YouTube through this link.

https://youtu.be/DkOL9_A6yhM

What can you expect will take place at the MAR Conference? Think of this as a mini-GFWC Convention. The GFWC International President, Marian St.Clair will speak, as well as GFWC President Elect Deb Strahanoski, who will each share their vision for GFWC. There will be presentations by several GFWC Community Service Chairmen to announce initiatives for the 2020-2022 administration. Of course, there will be Region business conducted (adoption of the budget and proposed amendments to the Region Standing Rules), as well as other speakers as yet to be confirmed.

Because this will be a virtual meeting, it would be wonderful if every clubmember attended. No need to travel, pack a suitcase, pay for room and meals! Please mark your calendar for Saturday, October 3 from 4pm – 8pm. Every attendee must register to attend through the GFWC website. The registration fee is \$35; \$25 will be returned to GFWC to fund the virtual platform and the balance will be returned to the Region.

So, how does one register on the website? It's very similar to shopping online! Following is a step by step process:

- Go to www.gfwc.org. At the top right hand side of the homepage is a red rectangle that says "Member login". No worries if you have not set up a login yet.
- The next screen will ask you to sign in, or set up an account.
- Once you have set up your account (login and password), the next page you will see has several options that run across the top: Home; Community; Events; Marketplace; Donations; and Helpful Links. Select "Events", and then "browse events".
- If you are new to the GFWC website, there may only be one event to be seen: Sept. 9 – Nov 17 2020 Region Conferences. Select this option.
- On the next page, select Middle Atlantic Region Conference; then at the bottom of the page, click NEXT.
- You will then be offered "Add-ons" which is the opportunity to take raffle chances for a beautiful hand-made quilt with a "Canadian" motif (representing the location of the 2021 GFWC Annual Convention, which will take place in June 2021 in Toronto Canada. If you wish to participate, select your option, click the "add" box, then again, click NEXT.

- On the next page, you will see the fee for every Region Conference (\$25); select “select”, then NEXT.
- The next page will have 2 “Registration Questions”. Your State Federation (New Jersey State Federation of Women’s Clubs of GFWC) and your club (you know that answer!). Then select NEXT.
- Following will be your selections: the options you have selected (Region Conference \$25, Middle Atlantic Region fee \$10; and then any “add on” you may have selected. Select the button “Add to Cart”.
- The “cart” is the following page, and shows your total to be charged. Select “checkout”
- The last page is where you will input your credit card to pay for your registration of \$35, along with any raffle chances you may have chosen.

AND THAT’S IT! (I know it sounds arduous, but it really isn’t any more difficult than ordering for the first time from Amazon!) You will receive two confirmation emails; the first showing what you have been charged, and the second announcing that you have successfully registered.

If you have any questions, or need help with registering, please do not hesitate to contact GFWC, 202-347-3168.