**The Official Call to the**

**97th Annual Conference of the**

**Western States Region**

**September 18-20, 2015**

**Crowne Plaza, San Jose – Silicon Valley**

**"Pearls of Wisdom"**

Dear Western States Members,

 It is my honor to invite you to the 2015 WSR Conference in San Jose, CA, September 18-20. Our special guests will be GFWC International President Babs Condon and GFWC President-elect Sheila Shea. There will be new ideas to bring home, socialization with club members from other states and information about GFWC programs and projects. The theme will be “Pearls of Wisdom.”

 The conference will be at the Crowne Plaza San Jose - Silicon Valley, 777 Bellew Drive, Milpitas, CA 95035.

 On Thursday and Friday, tours are planned so you can enjoy the beautiful North/Central part of California and spend time with other clubwomen from our region.

 A workshop will take place on Friday afternoon prior to the WSR Board Meeting.

California clubwomen have planned a “Music, Wine and Roses” state night dinner for Friday evening.

 A full conference is planned featuring workshops and reports from some GFWC Chairmen, some WSR Chairmen and State Presidents. Keynote speakers will be GFWC International President Babs Condon (on Saturday night) and President-elect Sheila Shea (at lunch on Saturday).

 This official call includes a tentative agenda, information to sign up for the tours, registration and meal details, hotel information and Proposed Standing Rule amendments for your consideration.

 So make plans to attend today. Send in your registration, pack your pearls and join me at the Crowne Plaza San Jose in September.

Bonnie J. Walden

2014-2016 WSR President

**Western States Region**

**September 18-20, 2015**

**TENTATIVE AGENGA**

**Wednesday, September 16, 2015**

 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Registration

**Thursday, September 17, 2015**

 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration

 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tour to Monterey/Cannery Row/17 Mile

 Drive/Carmel)

**Friday, September 18, 2015**

 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration

 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tour to Winchester House/Santana Row)

 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. EC Meeting

 2:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. Win! Win! Win! Workshop

 4 p.m. WSR Board Meeting

 7 p.m. State Night Dinner

**Saturday, September 19, 2015**

 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Registration

 9 a.m. Business Meeting

 12:15 p.m. Lunch

 1:45 p.m. Business Meeting

 7 p.m. Dinner

**Sunday, September 20, 2015**

 8 a.m. Breakfast followed by business meeting

 11 a.m. Conference Adjournment

**What to wear?**

**Tours:** Wear comfortable clothing and walking shoes.

Friday State’s Night Dinner: Cocktail

All Business Sessions: Business Casual

Saturday Night Dinner: Cocktail

Sunday Morning: Casual dress for travel home. We suggest GFWC emblematic clothing.

**2015 GFWC WESTERN STATES REGION CONFERENCE**

**SEPTEMBER 17 – 20, 2015**

**CROWN PLAZA OF SAN JOSE-SILICON VALLEY**

**MILPITAS, CA**

**Conference Registration Deadline – August 24, 2015**

Please use a separate form for each attendee - $15.00 late fee after deadline

Name:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No.: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Federation Title(s) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please list your current position (GFWC, WSR, State, District, Club, Booster)**

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEE** $25.00$\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**TOUR REGISTRATION:**

Thursday, September 17, (Monterey/Cannery Row/17 Mile Dr/Carmel) $75.00 $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Friday, September 18, (Winchester House/Santana Row)  $75.00 $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**MEAL RESERVATIONS**

Indicate any special dietary needs:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Friday, September 18 State Night Banquet “California Wine & Roses”” $62.00 $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Select one of the following)

Tri-Tip\_\_\_\_\_\_\_   Chicken Marsala \_\_\_\_\_\_  Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dessert  is Strawberry Vanilla Cake

Saturday, September 19   - Lunch  (Select one of the following) $36.00 $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Morroccan Chicken Salad \_\_\_\_\_\_  Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_\_

Dessert is Fresh Apple Tart

Saturday, September 19 – Dinner (Select one of the following) $62.00 $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Pan Seared Salmon \_\_\_\_\_  Grilled Chicken \_\_\_\_\_\_  Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

Dessert is Chocolate Mousse Cake

Sunday Breakfast $26.00 $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

French Toast with all the goodies

 **TOTAL $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Make Checks payable to:  GFWC California**

**Send Check & Form to:  Joan Reed, 1190 Blue Lake Way, Concord, CA 94521-4737**

Phone:  925-672-2471; email: jreed@astound.net

NO REFUNDS AFTER SEPTEMBER 9, 2015 (Meals & Tours)

**2015 GFWC WESTERN STATES REGION CONFERENCE**

**SEPTEMBER 17 – 20, 2015**

**CROWN PLAZA OF SAN JOSE-SILICON VALLEY**

**MILPITAS, CA**

**HOTEL INFORMATION:**

Silicon Valley Crown Plaza – 777 Bellew Drive – Milpitas, CA 95035

**RESERVATIONS:**

**By PASSKEY – Your Code is:  California Federation of Women’s Clubs**

**Phone:  888-233-9527**

**Deadline for Reservations:  September 2, 2015**

**Price:  $139.00 (single/double occupancy) plus tax**

**AMENITIES:**

Free Transportation from San Jose Airport

Free Parking

Complimentary High Speed Wireless Internet

Complimentary Transportation within a 5-mile radius

**TOUR INFORMATION:**

**Thursday, September 17, 2015   8:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.**

You will visit the beautiful and historic Monterey Peninsula.  Your first stop will be shopping in the quaint European style village of Carmel.   Your next stop is at Fisherman’s Wharf in Monterey for lunch on your own and time to browse the shops.  The tour continues thru Cannery Row, known to all as the setting of John Steinbeck’s famous novel of the same name.  It then winds along Pacific Grove’s “Butterfly town USA” and coastline and on into the 17 Mile Drive with its famous coastal scenery…the beautiful and majestic estates and the seven beautiful golf courses with a stop at Pebble Beach.  We will stop at Seal and Bird Rocks and witness the magnificent stand of Monterey Cypress (thought to be the oldest in the world).  We will also stop at the most familiar landmark, The Lone Cypress Tree.   There will be plenty of time for  picture taking at different stops.

**Friday, September 18, 2015  9:00 A.M. – 1:15 P.M.**

Winchester Mystery House Tour & Santana Row

Built by eccentric multi-millionaire Sarah Winchester over the course of 38 years, the seven-story mansion has a rich paranormal back story.  After losing her infant and husband, Sarah sought solace from a local medium.  This medium attributed the untimely deaths to spirits murdered at the hands of Sarah’s ancestors.  To appease these malicious spirits and protect her own life, the widow hired a crew of carpenters to build a house in their honor and asked them to continue construction indefinitely.  The resulting estate continues to baffle visitors with its 160 rooms, each interspersed with bizarre details such as a window in the floor, a staircase that leads to nowhere and more than a few secret passageways.

Santana Row is a hub of upscale fashion boutiques, spas and restaurants.  Between stops at boutiques, be sure to enjoy a bite to eat at one of the many dining experiences.

**BOOSTERS**

Boosters are welcome to join us on any of the above tours.

Other Things they may like to do:

There is the **San Jose Museum of Art**, home to 1,400 contemporary paintings, sculptures and photographs.  **The Tech Museum of Innovation** offers a more hands-on experience with scientific exhibits designed by partners such as NASA.  **Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum** is creatures revered in ancient Egypt as household protectors.  **History Park** delves into less morbid aspects of San Jose.  There is a running trolley, rotating art and history exhibits, a 115-foot replica of San Jose’s legendary Electric Light Tower.  Though the glowing 237-foot pillar never illuminated San Jose, the replica symbolizes San Jose’s central role in technological innovation.  Of course there is **California Great America** nearby.  There is a Mission located in San Jose and is noted for its music. There are 5 golf courses:  Rancho Del Pueblo, San Jose Municipal Golf Course, Los Lagos Golf Course, Golf Club at Boulder Ridge and The Ranch Golf Club.

**HELPFUL INFORMATION:**

**Tours:** Wear comfortable clothing and walking shoes.

**Opening Session:** Business Casual Dress

**Friday Night Dinner:  “ Theme”** Cocktail Attire

**Saturday Night Dinner:  “String of Pearls”** Cocktail Attire

**Sunday Morning:** Casual Dress for travel home, we suggest GFWC emblem shirts

**Fund Raising:**

Items from GFWC and WSR will be for sale.  California will have some Purses, Scarves, Jewelry and some silent auctions for sale.

**For Further Information:** Contact Carol Lopez at 925-785-3395 or cartom3247@att.net

**General Federation of Women’s Clubs**

**WESTERN STATES REGION**

**STANDING RULES**

***The Western States Region Standing Rules Committee submits the following proposed revisions to the WSR Standing Rules. These will be considered during the 2015 WSR Annual Conference. Please share these proposed revisions with any of your fellow members,. Especially those who are planning to join you in San Jose***.

**Proposed Revisions for September 2015**

**I.  ORGANIZATION**

A.  Name. The name of the organization shall be GFWC Western States Region (WSR).

B.  Purpose. The purpose of the Western States Region shall be to promote a better understanding of the structure, programs, and objectives of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs (GFWC) among member federations.

C.  Membership. Membership shall consist of the State Federations of: Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

**II.  MEETINGS**

A.  Annual Conference ~~Meeting~~. There shall be an Annual Conference ~~meeting~~ of the WSR in the fall of each year unless otherwise determined by the Board of Directors.  The meeting shall be for the purpose of promoting the objectives of GFWC, conducting the business of WSR, and presentation of reports.

1.  The site of this meeting shall be determined by the host~~ess~~ state with approval of the WSR President and the GFWC President-elect.

2.  The official name of this conference ~~meeting~~ is “The Annual Western States Region Conference.”

3. The Official Call ~~for this meeting~~ to the Annual Conference shall be mailed or emailed no less than eight (8) weeks prior to the opening of the Annual Conference ~~meeting~~. It shall be mailed and/or emailed to all members of the Board of Directors, past Region Presidents, GFWC officers, GFWC chairmen and committee members residing in the WSR, state officers, district presidents of member states, ~~and~~ presidents of international clubs within the WSR, and Past GFWC International Presidents residing within the WSR.

~~4.  Copies of the proposed program for the meeting shall be sent no less than two (2) months in advance of the printing to the GFWC President and GFWC President-elect for approval~~.

5.  The GFWC President-elect shall be the official representative to the annual meeting, with the GFWC President attending as an honored guest.   The expenses of these officers are assumed by GFWC.

B.  Semi-Annual Meeting.  There shall be a Semi-Annual Meeting of the WSR held during the GFWC Convention.  The agenda for this meeting shall include the installation of new officers in the even-numbered years.  It shall include such other items of business as the President and the Board of Directors ~~may~~ consider appropriate.

C.  Representation.  Voting delegates for both the Annual Conference and the Semi-Annual Meeting shall be ~~all who hold~~ dues paying members~~hip~~ in a club of good standing in one of the member state~~s~~ federations of the Western States Region and have paid current registration fee, if applicable.  D.  Quorum.  The quorum for ~~all meetings~~ both the Annual Conference and the Semi-Annual Meeting shall be representatives from at least six of the member ~~Western~~ State Federations in good standing.

E.  Special Meetings. Special meetings may be called by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee.

**III.  DUES AND FINANCE**

A.  Fiscal Year.  The fiscal year shall be July 1 through June 30.

B.  Annual Dues.  State Federations of Western States Region shall pay annual dues based on their membership: 1 to 100 members – twenty-five dollars ($25); 101 to 1000 members – fifty dollars ($50); 1001 and over – seventy-five dollars ($75).

C.  Payment.  The ~~Region~~ Treasurer shall send a statement of dues to each ~~M~~member State Federation for the current fiscal year by October 1.  Dues will be delinquent after March 1.

D.  Expenses of the Officers.  WSR shall pay the following:

1.  WSR President.  Scheduled meals and travel to the ~~annual~~ WSR ~~meeting~~ Annual Conference in an amount not to exceed coach airfare or thirty-five cents ($.35) per mile when travelling by car. The host state is requested to provide a suite for the Annual Conference for the President as part of the Conference facility negotiations.  Required scheduled meals, one-half of the cost of room and one-half the cost of coach airfare for one GFWC Post-Convention Board of Directors meeting, two GFWC Conventions, two GFWC Board of Directors meetings, and convention registration fees for two GFWC Conventions.

2.  Reimbursement will be made to the Incoming WSR President for attending the GFWC Orientation meeting for meals, registration, room, and travel.

3.  WSR Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, ~~and~~ Corresponding  Secretary, and Parliamentary Advisor shall be reimbursed for airfare, room, and registration not to exceed one hundred and fifty dollars ($150) each, to attend the annual meeting of WSR and one hundred and fifty dollars ($150) each, to attend GFWC International Convention, as funds allow.

E.  Other Expenses.  GFWC Chairmen and committee members, ~~as well as other~~ members, and guests, participating in the WSR program shall pay their own expenses.  Those who are not members of the WSR are not required to pay the registration fee.  Any amenities for the incoming WSR President at her installation or ~~annual~~ other meetings shall be provided by her State Federation.

F.  Fees and Registration.  A registration fee shall be paid by each member attending the Annual ~~meeting~~ Conference.  The amount shall be determined by the Executive Committee and stated in the Official Call.  Host~~ess~~ state members shall also pay the registration fee.  The registration fee shall accrue to the WSR General Fund.

G.  Host~~ess~~ State Expenses.  The host~~ess~~ state shall be responsible for securing a meeting facility that meets the requirements for the conference and is approved by the WSR President.   The host~~ess~~ state shall be responsible for signing all contracts relating to these facilities.  In addition, the host~~ess~~ state shall be responsible for:  necessary conference supplies, registration materials, state selected speakers’ honorariums, entertainment charges, decorations and tours.   The host~~ess~~ state and WSR officers will coordinate their efforts for the achievement of realistic goals and financial commitments.

1.  Special Arrangements.  Expenses for special arrangements ~~made~~ required by GFWC or WSR with the hotel or for the rental of audio/visual equipment for the meeting are the responsibility of GFWC or WSR.

2. Western State Region will pay a budgeted amount toward the publication of the Annual Conference Program. The host~~ess~~ state must submit a bill to the WSR Executive Committee for reimbursement.  Any additional expenses incurred by the host~~ess~~ state and not authorized by the Executive Committee shall be assumed by the host~~ess~~ state.

3.  All fundraising, other than GFWC and WSR, at the Western States Regional Annual Conference and Semi-Annual Meeting must have prior approval from the WSR Executive Committee.  The host~~ess~~ state may hold one fundraising project of its choice, with prior consent of the WSR President, with all proceeds staying with the hostess state.  Profits from the proceeds of any other projects shall be divided: 60% for the host~~ess~~ state and 40% for the Western States Region.

**IV. OFFICERS AND DUTIES**

A.  Elected Officers.  The elected officers shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and   Treasurer.

B.  Appointed Officers.  The appointed officers shall be: Corresponding Secretary and Parliamentary Advisor.

C.  Duties.  Duties of the officers shall be:

1.  President.  The President shall:

 a. Be the official WSR representative

b. Preside over WSR Executive Committee meetings, Board of Directors meetings, the Annual Conference and the Semi-Annual Meeting.

c. Appoint a Corresponding Secretary and a Parliamentary Advisor, both of whom shall have served a minimum of one term on the WSR Board of Directors.

d. Appoint Standing Committee members and those Special Committee members deemed necessary to meet the objective of WSR.

e. Be responsible for implementing the purpose of the ~~GFWC Region~~ WSR as stated in the GFWC Bylaws and WSR Standing Rules, and shall report to the GFWC President-elect.

f. ~~Send~~ Provide copies of the proposed program for the Annual ~~meeting~~ Conference to the GFWC President and GFWC President-elect no less than two (2) months prior to the printing date.

g. Oversee all arrangements for each meeting and have final approval thereof.

h. Work with the host~~ess~~ state president to select a general arrangement chairman for each Annual ~~meeting~~ Conference

i. Be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

~~k. Serve as a member of the GFWC Board of Directors~~.

2.  Vice-President.  The Vice-President shall:

 a. Preside in the absence of the President

b. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, automatically fill that office for the remainder of the term.

c. Serve as a member of the Board of Directors.

d. Serve as liaison to the State Presidents of the region.   She shall keep them informed of GFWC and Region responsibilities and maintain regular communications.

e. Perform such duties as may be requested by the President or the Executive Committee.

3.  Secretary.  The Secretary shall:

a. Record ~~Keep~~ the minutes of all meetings and be custodian of all documents pertaining to the organization.

b. Provide a draft copy of meeting minutes within 30 days of the close of the meeting to the approving body.

c. Deliver to her successor within two months of the close of her term of office all ~~after expiration of her term~~ properties belonging to ~~the organization~~ WSR.

d. Serve as a member of the Board of Directors.

4.  Treasurer.  The Treasurer shall:

 a. Serve as Chairman of the Budget Committee

b. Send a dues statement by October 1 for the current fiscal year.

c. Be responsible for collection of dues and deposit all funds in a federally insured bank.  Transfer of funds at the close of the administration shall be made directly to the new bank.

d. Pay all bills by check when authorized by a voucher issued and signed by the President.  All checks shall be signed by the Treasurer or the President.

e. Deliver to her successor within two months after expiration of her term all financial records belonging to the organization.

f. Serve as a member of the Board of Directors.

5.  Corresponding Secretary.  The Corresponding Secretary shall have served a minimum of one term on the WSR Board of Directors prior to her appointment. She shall also:

a. As directed by the WSR President, send the Call to the Annual Conference, eight (8) weeks prior to each meeting.   Issue other notices as needed.

b. Conduct the general correspondence of the WSR as directed.

c. Serve as a member of the Board of Directors.

6. Parliamentary Advisor. The Parliamentary Advisor shall have served a minimum of one term on the WSR board of Directors prior to her appointment. She shall also:

a. Review the WSR Standing Rules and Conference Rules prior to the printing of the annual meeting program.

b. Be available to all members of the Region for consultation.

c. ~~Shall~~ Serve as a member of the Board of Directors. ~~and attend its meetings, as well as the WSR Executive Committee meeting and WSR Conferences.~~

**V. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

A.  Board of Directors.  The WSR Board of Directors shall consist of elected and appointed Officers, Presidents of member State Federations, Standing Committee Chairmen, Committee Members, Special Project Chairmen appointed by the President, and GFWC Officers and Chairmen residing within the Region..

B.  Meetings.  The Board of Directors shall meet prior to the Annual Conference ~~meeting~~ at a time and place to be determined by the President.

C.  Special Meetings.  Special meetings may be called by the President or any six (6) Board of Directors members.

**VI.  EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

A. Executive Committee.  The Executive Committee shall:

1.  Consist of the elected and appointed officers.

2.  Approve all fundraising projects conducted for the benefit of WSR, and other fundraising held at WSR events.

3.  Approve the minutes of the WSR Semi-Annual Meeting.

4.  Approve necessary expenditures between meetings, but not to exceed $200 per non-budgeted expenditure.

5.  Determine the registration fee for the Annual ~~meeting~~ Conference

6.  ~~Have the authority to~~ Fill vacancies of elected officers should they occur during an administration. ~~prior to the end of a term.~~

**VII. STANDING COMMITTEES**

A.    Budget Committee.  The Budget Committee shall:

1. Consist of the Treasurer, ~~(who shall serve~~ as Chairman,~~)~~ and two members appointed by the President.

2.  Present a proposed two-year budget to the Board of Directors in the even-numbered years.

3.  Following a recommendation by the Board of Directors, present the proposed budget to the Annual ~~meeting~~ Conference.

B.    Credentials/Election Committee.  The Credentials/Election Committee shall:

1.  Consist of a chairman and two members appointed by the President.

2.  Assist the host~~ess~~ state’s registration committee.

3.  Prepare ballots, ~~hold voting~~ conduct the election in a room provided for voting and count the ballots in odd numbered years if necessary.

C.    Nominating Committee.  The Nominating Committee shall:

1.  Consist of ~~five (5)~~ three (3) members, one from each of ~~five (5)~~ three (3) separate states, with ~~three (3)~~ two (2) alternates, elected at the Annual ~~meeting~~ Conference in the even-numbered year.  Nominees to the Nominating Committee must have served at least one term on the WSR Board of Directors.  The committee shall select its own chairman.

2.  Send letters to each state president in January of the odd-numbered year inviting them to endorse a candidate for WSR office.

3. Obtain a written endorsement for each candidate from her State Federation together with a written consent of the candidate. The endorsement shall be signed by the state president and the state secretary stating that the endorsement was obtained by a vote of the membership during the annual state convention in the odd-numbered year, or by an email vote if there is no state convention in the odd-numbered year. The endorsement package shall be sent by certified mail, postmarked by June 1, of the odd-numbered year, to the Chairman of the Nominating committee.

4.  ~~Present~~ Announce the names of qualified candidates for the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer at the Annual ~~meeting~~ Conference in the odd-numbered years.

~~6.  Obtain written endorsement of each candidate from her state together with the written consent of the candidate.  Endorsement shall be properly documented and sent by certified mail, postmarked by June 1st of the odd-numbered year, to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee.~~

5.  Submit the names of all candidates meeting the eligibility for their desired office to be included in the Call to the Annual ~~meeting~~ Conference in the odd-numbered years.

~~6.  Nominations may be made from the floor provided the consent of the nominee and the proper endorsement have been obtained from the state membership, as provided for in VII, C. 3., and the WSR President and Nominating Committee Chairman have been notified 10 days prior to the WSR Board of Directors Meeting.~~

D.   Financial Review Committee.  The Financial Review Committee shall:

1.  Consist of a chairman and two members appointed by the President.

2.  Review and reconcile the Treasurer’s records at the close of each fiscal year and report at the annual meeting.

E.    Standing Rules Committee.  The Standing Rules Committee shall:

1.  Consist of a chairman and two members appointed by the President.  The Parliamentary Advisor shall serve as advisor to the committee.

2.  Annually review the Standing Rules and present proposed amendments to same in the Official Call to the Annual ~~meeting~~ Conference.

F.     Special Committees.  The President shall have authority to appoint

Special Committees as needed to carry out the purpose of the WSR and

GFWC.

**VIII. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

A.   Eligibility.  Candidates for elective office shall:

1.  Be a dues paying member of a club in good standing of a State Federation ~~active membership~~ within the Region.

2.  Have served as president of her State Federation and have completed at least one term on the WSR Board of Directors.

3.  Be endorsed by the state ~~convention~~ in which she served as president at its ~~in the~~ odd-numbered year convention, or in the absence of such ~~previously identified~~ convention, by endorsement of 2/3 of the active clubs in the State Federation, the GFWC clubs having been duly notified prior to the vote.

B. Eligibility for the Office of President.  Eligibility for the office of

President shall include having served as an elected and/or appointed officer of Western States

Region.

C. Terms. No officer shall serve more than one, two-year term in the same office with the

exception of the Vice-President who has filled a vacancy of less than one-half a term in the office

of President.  In that case, she shall be eligible for a full term in that office.

D. Succession. Members from the same state shall not follow in succession.

E.   Elections.  Officers shall be elected at the Annual Conference ~~meeting~~ in the odd-numbered year for a term of two years and shall assume office at the close of the GFWC International Convention in the even-numbered year.  A plurality vote shall elect. Where there is but one candidate per office, the vote may be by voice.

F. Nominations from the Floor. Nominations may be made from the floor

provided the consent of the nominee and the proper endorsement have been obtained from the state membership, as provided for in VII, C. 3., and the WSR President and Nominating Committee Chairman have been notified 10 days prior to the WSR Board of Directors Meeting.

G.  Installation.  Installation of officers shall be held during the Semi-Annual Meeting, at the GFWC International Convention, in the even-numbered years.

H.  Vacancies of Office.  If an elected officer, other than the President, vacates her office prior to the end of her term, the Executive Committee shall appoint a successor to complete the term.

**IX. ~~ENDORSEMENTS~~   SANCTION**

A.   Members.  Members of WSR shall not use their position within the Region to ~~endorse~~ sanction any enterprises and shall not receive pay for the use of their names and/or titles, nor shall they exploit the Region in furthering partisan politics.

B.   Membership List.  The membership list of the WSR shall not be circulated for any reason other than Region business.

C.   GFWC Office.  The Western States Region shall not endorse individual candidates for GFWC Office.

**~~X.    PARLIAMENTARY ADVISOR~~**

~~Parliamentary Advisor shall:~~

~~A.  Review the WSR Standing Rules and Conference Rules prior to the printing of the annual meeting program.~~

~~B.   Be available.~~

~~C.   Shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors and attend its meetings, as well as the WSR Executive Committee meeting and WSR Conferences.~~

~~D.   She shall be reimbursed mileage (as specified in III, D., 1.), if travelling by car, or airfare, room and registration not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars ($150) for each annual meeting and GFWC International Convention, as funds allow.~~

**X.  PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY.**

The Parliamentary authority for the Western States Region shall be the GFWC Bylaws and Standing Rules and the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, unless otherwise provided by these Standing Rules.

**XI. AMENDMENTS.**

These Standing Rules may be amended at the annual meeting by a majority vote provided a copy of the amendments has been appended to the Official Call.

**XIII.  DISSOLUTION OF THE REGION.**

In the event of the dissolution of the GFWC Regions, the balance of the funds remaining in the treasury of the Western States Region, after the payment of its debts and obligations, shall pass to and become vested in the General Federation of Women's Clubs, or to another organization with purposes similar to those of the General Federation of Women's Clubs that is qualified as exempt under section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

**Rational: To bring the WSR Standing Rules into line with current practice and to update language as it is currently used by GFWC and its affiliates. The Revisions also include some reformatting to update the Standing Rules to make them grammatically correct.**