



Welcome to the 2010-2012 Junior Administration of GFWC Florida!

Ladies, you are a member of GFWC -- a sisterhood that was founded way back in 1890 and chartered the United States Congress in 1901.

The roots of this organization can be traced back to 1868 when a young professional woman by the name of Jane Cunningham Croley was denied admittance to an all male press club dinner honoring novelist Charles Dickens. She started what she called a "sorosis" which is Greek for "having many fruits" and this club joined with other women's clubs to become what we know as the General Federation of Women's Clubs. What began as 63 clubs in early 1890s has become an international organization of community based volunteers in thousands of clubs in all 50 states and more than a dozen countries.

This sisterhood of women didn't just sit around and have social teas – they were instrumental in bringing about the HOPES, DREAMS, and WISHES for many people and communities of the world.

Did you know that:

GFWC established the national model for the juvenile system,

GFWC is credited for turning the tide on passage of the Pure Food & Drug Act,

GFWC raised more than \$150 million during World War II,

GFWC has always been in the forefront of conservation and this resulted in the establishment of the Forest Reserve and National Park Service.

GFWC established 75% of this nation's public libraries.

GFWC members are advocates for children's safety and established the Woman's Crusade for Seatbelts which resulted in installation of over one million car seat belts in 1960.

Most recently after September 11<sup>th</sup>, GFWC raised over \$180,000 for a fully equipped ambulance for the New York Fire Department, and

In 2002, GFWC fulfilled it's commitment to America's Promise by raising and donating more than \$13.5 million in books and materials to public libraries through it's Libraries 2000 & Beyond project.

What the members of this organization can accomplish is mind-boggling. You might be thinking you're not prepared in today's economy to tackle such monumental challenges. I ask you to remember that all those HOPES, DREAMS and WISHES started small, they started with just one woman asking for one book, one dollar, one piece of safety equipment, with one hour of community service at a time.

My father was in Vietnam most of my young life – he gave to so many people, people he didn't know, people he would never see again. At least in my community service through the GFWC Florida Federation, I can see first-hand that some of the HOPES of young children are being met, DREAMS of a better tomorrow are being fulfilled, and WISHES for a better way of life are being realized.

My 13-year history with Federation has brought me to soup kitchens, highway and coastal clean-ups, it has allowed me to provide holiday meals for needy families, I have read a book to a child and seen his eyes light up when I told him that he could take the book home. I have had a child wrap his arms around my legs and tell me, "This is the best day of my life". I have sewed pillows for breast cancer survivors and clothing for wounded veterans.

The theme for my administration will be "Federation and You...the perfect fit". I think of each member like a puzzle piece -- each of us is very different. We "fit" into our clubs with that uniqueness and our own sense of personality. It is this difference that brings us together. It is our differences that help to build a better Federation, our differences help make us more than just ourselves.

When we work together, all of us interlocking our goals together...we can conquer the greatest of our communities' puzzles. As leaders, we search for the place in our clubs and districts where each individual "fits" perfectly.

I want to thank each of you for going on this journey with me together, building the Federation puzzle one piece at a time.

In the Junior Spirit,

*Jolie*

Jolie Frankfurth, 2010-2012  
GFWC Florida Director of Junior Clubs

