



# GFWC MISSOURI CLUBWOMAN NEWSLETTER

MEMBER GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

AUGUST 2023

Volume 80, Number 16

## COMING EVENTS

MVR: September 14-17  
Branson, MO

5<sup>th</sup> District September 23  
California

6<sup>th</sup> District September 30  
Crosslines Council of Churches  
Springfield

7<sup>th</sup> District September 29  
Hanger Café-Miller

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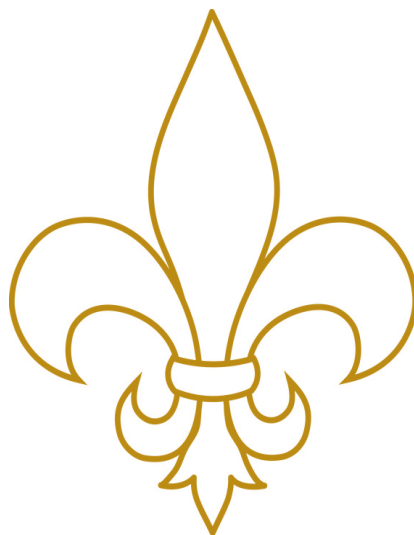
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**Greetings from your GFWC Missouri President:**

Summer is quickly coming to an end. I know many of you have spent many hours with your friends and family. Now, it is time to turn our thoughts to starting our new GFWC year.

GFWC clubs across Missouri are preparing for their upcoming year with programs, speakers, and projects. Our clubs support a wide variety of projects that help their local communities. Isn't it great that we belong to such a wonderful organization that focuses on helping others through our activities? As you do projects or have programs, please be sure to post on our Facebook page so others can see what your club is doing. Many times a project can be tweaked to fit the needs of another club. Let's keep getting those new members. Remember, think outside the box.

Club Presidents be on the lookout in the coming weeks for several documents the Strategic Planning team has prepared for you. These are tentative ideas, and we want your feedback.

MVR Conference in Branson is quickly approaching. I hope many of you can join us in Branson. We have lots of information to share. Branson has a host of activities that will fit all interests. Our district meetings start the following weekend.

I look forward to seeing you soon. Enjoy your last few weeks of the summer.



*Amy Boone*  
*GFWC MO State President*

A poster for National Day of Service. The top section is dark blue with the GFWC logo (a shield with a red and white design) and the text "National Day of Service" in white. Below the logo is the text "SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023" and "Living the Volunteer Spirit | www.GFWC.org | #GFWC23NDS". The middle section is yellow with the heading "DO YOU KNOW?" and the text "Research shows that food insecurity is linked with costly chronic diseases and unfavorable outcomes. According to the Root Cause Coalition, the annual costs of hunger to the U.S. health care system are \$130.5 billion." Below this is the source: "Source: Food Research &amp; Action Center (FRAC)". The bottom section is dark blue with the text "Help Us to End Hunger in the United States By Volunteering, Donating, or Organizing a Community Service Project". The bottom edge of the poster features a photograph of fresh produce including a grapefruit, a green apple, broccoli, and a bowl of orange soup.

Hello my fellow amazing GFWC sisters. In last month's article, I talked a little about my LEADS experience, and I was asked to discuss it more this month.

Representing Missouri as the 2023 LEADS candidate in Louisville, KY at the International Convention was truly an honor. I wanted to do LEADS because I wanted to get more resources to help me be the best President for Missouri that I can be in 2024. The expectations I had were high and I was not disappointed.

LEADS (Leadership Education and Development Seminar) was started in 2002 and was meant for our GFWC members to learn, grow, and become great leaders in their clubs, districts, and State Federations. This seminar was all day, and many topics were covered to make all those in attendance a better leader. We covered "WHY", and why we do what we do for GFWC. We went over Resolutions, time management, building influences, resources to use, how to listen, body language, conflict resolutions, parliamentary procedures, and public speaking/presentation skills. All these topics every leader needs to know and there were forty-two future leaders in this very informative seminar.

I know I highlighted this before in my last article, but the friendships that were made in one day will forever be my friends. After talking to past LEADS candidates, they state the same thing, that these friendships are everlasting. We were all there for one purpose and that was to be better leaders and together we will lift each other up and continue strengthening and supporting each other as GFWC sisters for the rest of our lives. You see a bigger part of GFWC through LEADS and the excitement that each woman had made me more excited to be a LEADS graduate.

I hope next year that we have a lot of you apply to be the LEADS candidate even though only one can be chosen. If you do not get selected, keep trying because this is an experience you will never forget, and you will truly learn so much from the amazing leaders that led this Seminar.

LEADS will inspire you to have faith in yourself to lead, to do more for your club and state, and to be more at different levels of leadership, it will inspire you to be a part of the bigger picture of GFWC and bond you to women across the country.

I can't wait to see who from Missouri will go next year and be inspired and join the LEADS sisterhood and become a LEADS graduate like me.

*Sandie Neal*  
*GFWC President Elect*



## GFWC MO PRESIDENT'S PROJECT SUPPORTING ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

GFWC MO Wagon of Hope Campaign is moving forward rapidly. We have raised our goal to \$10,000. At the present time, we have had donations in the amount of **\$7,812.00**. I want to thank clubs or members who have donated. Our donations help families through this difficult time. To reach this page, follow the directions below. If you prefer to pay by check, make checks PAYABLE to St. Jude and mail to Amy Boone, Box 85, Braggadocio, MO 63826. If you have questions, please contact me.

### LITTLE RED WAGONS OF HOPE

1. Load: <http://events.stjude.org/WagonsofHope>
2. Select: Donation Amount
3. Select: Form of Payment: Choices will be credit card or PayPal.
4. Fill-in Appropriate Information
5. Select: Donation

\*\*\*\*\*



Please meet the traveling Adelphian filled with all sorts of goodies..... a lover; playing cards with pen and variety of snacks to enjoy while plates with matching napkins to candle for when you just want to wagon arrived at our May meeting home throughout this GFWC year

State convention in Springfield. We raffled off this little cutie to one lucky lady and she has the pleasure of enjoying all its treasures. However, the wagon is to travel back to our next meeting where it once again will be raffled off traveling home with another lady. Oh yes, if it goes home with you then you must refill it with things of your choosing. It will be a guest at each of our club meetings this year with the sole purpose of adding a little entertainment for our ladies and raising funds for the Little Red Wagon Sparkle of Hope Campaign for St. Jude. Its final stop will be the State GFWC Convention in Springfield. It will be fully stocked and ready for one last lucky lady. All proceeds from all the raffles will go to St. Jude. Hope to see you in Springfield in the spring.

“Little Red Wagon of Hope”. It is James Patterson book for the book score pad for the gamers; a wide reading or playing games; paper keep the food in check; an aromatic kick back and relax. This little cute and will be traveling from home to making its final destination the

For the Love of Children.

*Pam Carr  
Advocate for Children Chairman*



Logan Tollison is a student at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, MO. She is pursuing a bachelor's degree in social work and hopes to continue her education after graduation by attending grad school to work towards a master's degree and becoming a licensed clinical social worker. Logan also speaks Spanish and plans on a dual major in Spanish language. She hopes to use her future career to have a positive impact on people's lives and do what she can to ultimately make the world around her a better place. Before attending SEMO, Logan transferred from Three Rivers College, where she received an associate degree in general studies. Logan is involved in many extracurricular activities and is passionate about community service. During the 2022-2023 academic year, Logan served as the community service chairwoman for her university's chapter of Gamma Phi Beta, in which she organized various service projects in which members could participate, some including volunteering at a local animal shelter and donating feminine hygiene products to a nearby women's shelter. In high school, she volunteered by tutoring elementary school students through the A+ program and participated in other service projects through National Honor Society. Her favorite project she participated in was volunteering at a local Special Olympics event. Logan is a first-generation college student. In her free time, Logan enjoys reading, traveling, listening to music, spending time with her family and friends, watching TV, and rooting for the Kansas City Chiefs. Some of her favorite artists include Harry Styles and Greta Van Fleet. Logan hopes to travel to as many places as she can and see the world. Her favorite places she has been to include Washington D.C. and New Orleans so far.

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My name is Lyndsey Ernat and I'm from Hamilton, Missouri. I'm a senior at the University of Missouri-Columbia majoring in Natural Resource Science and Management with an emphasis in Forest Resources. With my degree, I hope to go into forest management so I can help improve the health and functions of Missouri forests.





We're excited to welcome you back to Missouri Girls Town for our annual Fall festival on Saturday, October 14 from 11am-2pm. Please use this link to RSVP and order your tee shirt! <https://missouri-girls-town-foundation-inc.square.site/> This year there will be a \$15 suggested donation to help us cover the cost of the meal. You are welcome to make that contribution at the event or beforehand at the link listed above while you RSVP.



Fall Festival will replace Open House as our annual opportunity for supporters to visit our campus and see the lifesaving work that happens at the McClain campus, every day. If you are unable to make it to campus this year, we invite and challenge you to send your regrets by sharing Missouri Girls Town with the next two new people you meet. Missouri Girls Town has been helping girls for over 60 years. Thank you for your ongoing support of our mission:

***Supporting youth and families by providing therapeutic services and education to empower them to reach their full potential.***

Warm Regards

*Deanna Barger  
MPA Director of Development  
Missouri Girls Town Foundation Inc.*

## 2023 AWARDS

### ESO AWARDS

#### CENTURY AWARDS

##### 1<sup>ST</sup> Century:

Linda Wansing

Rosemary Douglas

Cathy Judy

##### 2<sup>ND</sup> Century:

Susan Gettys

Bethel DeSpain

##### 3<sup>RD</sup> Century:

Debbie Barber

Zona Burk

Carolyn Dye

##### 4<sup>TH</sup> Century:

Amy Boone

Pam Carr

##### 5<sup>TH</sup> Century:

Mary Ridge

##### 19<sup>TH</sup> Century:

Carol Duke

##### 22<sup>ND</sup> Century:

Donna Calvin

### HONOR ROLL

#### District 2-

GFWC Kansas City Athenaeum

GFWC Beverly Shelton Girls Town Club

GFWC South KC Area Girls Town Club

Hickman Mills GFWC Club

GFWC Grandview Study Club

GFWC Woman's Club of Lexington

GFWC Achieving by Reading Club

GFWC Nu-Era Study Club

GFWC Northland Women's Club

GFWC Platte City Study Club

#### District 4-

GFWC Studere

GFWC Mexico Women's Club

GFWC Chautauqua

GFWC Heir Study Club

GFWC Tuesday Club of Columbia

GFWC Woman's Club of Shelbyville

GFWC Montgomery Study Club

#### District 5-

GFWC Dianas Club

GFWC Achievers

GFWC of California

GFWC Golden Study Club

GFWC Lorna Kemper Club

#### District 6-

GFWC Sorosis Club of Springfield

GFWC The Women's Library Club

GFWC Alton Culture Club

#### District 7-

GFWC Generation III

GFWC Silver Leaf Benefit Club

#### District 8-

GFWC Uandi Literacy Club

#### District 9-

GFWC Woman's Club of Ste Genevieve

GFWC Fredericktown Friday Club

GFWC Queen Anne Civic Club of Van Buren

GFWC Monday Club of Farmington

GFWC Mina Sauk Club

GFWC WCommunity Club of Gideon

GFWC Kennett Adelpian Civic Club



## CLUB NEWSLETTER

A club newsletter is an excellent way to communicate. It can have a simple format or an elaborate one. It can have a single purpose or goal or multiple ones.

When planning a newsletter, there are a number of things to consider--your purpose/goal, the audience, branding, format, distribution mode, and frequency. A newsletter can inform, motivate, remind of upcoming dates and events, preserve club history, recognize and celebrate club and individual efforts and achievements, and connect club members to each other or to other entities in the community. The audience can be club members, perspective members, and/or the general citizenry.

The format of the newsletter could be a one- or two-page document, typed in WORD, using headings to introduce new topics, with a few pictures or clip art included to break up the text. Or it could be a slightly more complicated style in WORD using columns and text boxes. There are other programs like Publisher that allow for a more professional look. Whatever format you choose, the content is more important than the format.

You will want to include the GFWC logo on the first page of your newsletter as well as the GFWC in your club name. For more on branding, refer to that section on page 3 of the Communications and Public Relations (CPR) section of the Club Manual. You can find that at [gfwc.org](http://gfwc.org) in the CPR section under Advancement Areas which is under Programs.

Consider how to best reach your audience. You may wish to print the newsletter and distribute it at club meetings and events or at other community locations. Or you may want to distribute it by email or through a link on your club website. Another option is to mail it which is the most expensive method. Chances are you will combine these delivery systems in order to reach all your audience. One very important thing to remember before you distribute the newsletter, the editor and at least one other person should carefully proofread the finished newsletter.

There is a GFWC International and a GFWC Missouri Newsletter Contest that your club may enter. The contests include a few requirements; other than that, the content and format of the newsletter is up to you. The most important requirement is that the newsletter must be printed and dated in the contest year. Additionally, GFWC requires that the newsletter include the contact information of at least one member (email address, telephone number and/or mailing address), and the front page must have the GFWC emblem and mention membership in GFWC. When you enter the contests in January, you will also need to write an essay on how you use the newsletter and its impact on your club.

If your club does not have a newsletter, consider giving it a try. If you already have one, brainstorm with your members on how to make it even better.

*Marilyn Stone & Barb Phillips*  
*GFWC of Missouri Communication & Public Relations Co-Chairmen*

It is helpful for each club member to have a folder or binder with information of various types that are not appropriate for the Yearbook or that need to be updated regularly. Our club calls ours the “This & That” folder. In our case it contains:

- An emergency phone tree
- Club guidelines (standing rules)
- Description of responsibilities of committees and assignments
- Our club’s local affiliates with addresses
- GFWC International Information (e.g., affiliates, Legislative Action Center, member portal, organizational structure)
- Letter of introduction with that year’s program schedule (members are encouraged to make additional copies to hand out to friends/acquaintances for potential membership).

The more information your members have, the more engaged and informed they will be.

*Marilyn Stone & Barb Phillips*  
*GFWC of Missouri Communication & Public Relations Co-Chairmen*

GFWC Beverly Shelton Girls Club annual card party to support Missouri Girls Town.



# REMEMBER THE DATE

**GFWC MISSISSIPPI VALLEY REGION  
FALL CONFERENCE  
SEPTEMBER 14-17, 2023  
STONE CASTLE INN  
BRANSON, MO  
Room Rate: \$97 Plus Taxes  
(417) 335-4700 Toll-free: 800-677-6906  
BOOKING ID: 861450**

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## **Friday Activities – On Your Own:**

### **#1 – Big Cedar Top of the Rock (25 minutes from hotel)**

- Lost Canyon Cave & Nature Trail (golf cart ride through rock formations, waterfalls, and a cave with its own Bat Bar)
- Lunch at Arnie’s Barn Restaurant
- Ancient Ozarks Natural History Museum
- View of Cathedral of Nature, Chapel of the Ozarks & Table Rock Lake

### **#2 – Dogwood Canyon Nature Park (40 minutes from hotel)**

- Mill & Restaurant
- Wildlife Tram Tours through waterfalls, streams, towering bluffs, and nature preserve

### **#3 – Tour College of the Ozarks (15 minutes from hotel)**

- Ralph Foster Museum – History of the Ozarks Region
- Keeter Center – Doby’s Dining Hall
- Stained Glass & Candle Shop, Mill & General Store, Fruitcake & Jelly Kitchen, Tractor Museum, Patriot’s Park War Memorials, Williams Memorial Chapel

## **Other possibilities for Friday or any extended stays:**

- Historic Downtown Branson & Dick’s 5 & 10
- Branson Landing – shops & restaurants
- Showboat Branson Belle
- Titanic Museum
- Butterfly Palace

Entertaining Shows:

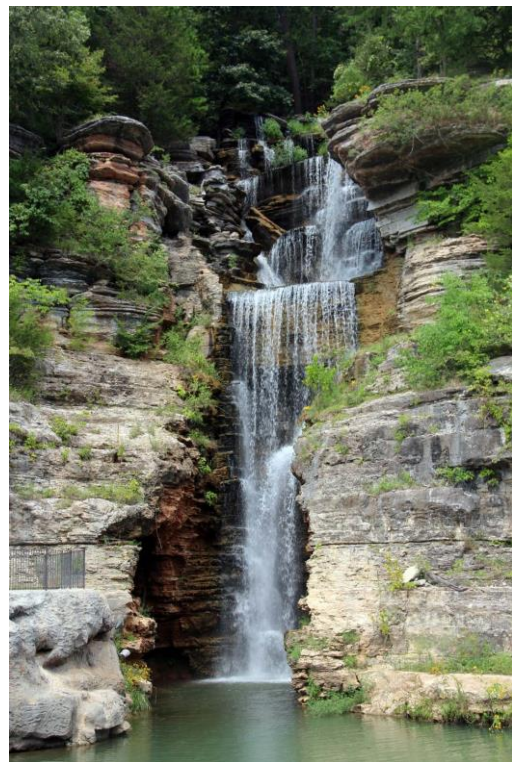
- Grand Country Music Hall – Grand Jubilee, Ozark Gospel & Ozark Country (Sunday only)
- Clay Cooper Theater
- Sight & Sound Theater – Queen Esther
- Duttons
- Hughes Brothers
- Legends in Concert
- Six

Ozark:

- Finley Farms – Old Historic Mill & Restaurant; The Garrison (speak easy- night only)

Springfield:

- Wonders of Wildlife Aquarium & Wildlife Galleries
- Original Bass Pro Shop
- Fantastic Caverns





**MISSISSIPPI VALLEY REGION  
50<sup>H</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup>. 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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

[stevermer@sleepyeyetel.net](mailto:stevermer@sleepyeyetel.net)

507-920-6513

**Official Call to the Mississippi Valley Region  
50<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
September 14-17, 2023**

**Location:** Stone Castle Convention Center, 3050 Green Mountain Drive (Hwy 165 South) Branson, MO

**Reservations:** Call **417-335-4700 Toll Free: 800-677-6906** to reserve a room for the Mississippi Valley Region Conference (MVR) before **August 14, 2023**. You have a choice of a King bed or two Queens in a room. Rate per night is \$109 including taxes. **Booking ID is 861450.**

**Conference/Registration Chairman:**

Donna Calvin, 5318 W 141<sup>st</sup> Terrace, Leawood KS 66224  
913-766-5223 [DonnaCalvin20@aol.com](mailto:DonnaCalvin20@aol.com)

**What to bring: Conference Service Project:**

**Elevate** - Helping the Homeless in Branson

**Items to bring:** Men and Women's Deodorant, Men and Women's Socks, Insect Repellent Spray or Wipes, Inexpensive Sleeping Bags, Cash Donations

**Country Store:** Please bring an item(s) for the table to help balance the MVR budget. Crafts, homemade items, jewelry, books, seasonal decorations, knickknacks, home canned and baked foods, home décor are all appreciated.

**State Baskets:** One State Basket by each State Federation for an opportunity drawing.

**Sales Tables:** State Federations may sell three (3) items of their choice. The hostess state may sell any number of items and is allowed to have a 50/50 opportunity drawing. State Presidents should notify MVR President Pat Stevermer by September 1<sup>st</sup> to request table space and pay \$20 to MVR Secretary-Treasurer Cheryl Strickler.

**Your MVR Pin:** if you forget your pin, you may buy a new one or pay a fine.

**What to wear:** Thursday night – casual (dinner on your own); Haygood's show

Missouri State Night – dressy - Wear Your Fascinator

Business meeting – business/casual

MVR 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet – dressy

Sunday morning – casual for traveling

**Special show** on Thursday evening – Haygood's – need 15 for group price



**50<sup>th</sup> Annual GFWC Mississippi Valley Region Conference**

**September 14-17, 2023**

**Stone Castle Convention Center, Branson, MO**

**3050 Green Mountain Drive (Highway 165 South)**

**Registration Form**

**(Please fill out a separate Registration Form for each attendee)**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Highest Current Office** \_\_\_\_\_ **1<sup>st</sup> Time Attendee** \_\_\_\_\_

**Booster** \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fee**..... **\$25.00**

**Thursday, September 14**

4-5:30 pm Registration Open

5 pm Dinner on your own (list of restaurants available at registration)

7 pm Haygood's Show..... **\$30.00**

(Clay Cooper Theatre, 3216 State Hwy 76)

**Friday, September 15**

7:00-9:30 am Continental breakfast.....**Free**

8:30-9:45 am Registration Open

9:00 am Service Project – Elevate -helping the homeless in Branson

Items to bring: men and women's deodorant, men and women's socks, insect repellent spray or wipes, inexpensive sleeping bags, cash donations

**Friday Tours (on your own)**

Big Cedar Top of the Rock; Dogwood Canyon Nature Park; College of the Ozarks, daytime show; Original Bass Pro Shop in Springfield, Fantastic Caverns in Springfield, Wonders of Wildlife Aquarium & Wildlife Galleries in Springfield

2:00-5:00 pm Registration Open

4:30 pm MVR Board meeting

6:00 pm Missouri State Night Banquet (Pulled Pork)..... **\$31.00**

**Mardi Gras Theme – Wear Your Fascinator**

**Saturday, September 16**

7:00-9:30 am Continental Breakfast.....**Free**  
 8:00 am Registration Opens  
 9:00 am Meeting called to order  
 12:00 noon Luncheon (Salad and Potato Bar)..... **\$23.00**  
 1:30 pm Afternoon session  
 6:00 pm MVR 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet (Italian Buffet)..... **\$39.00**

**Sunday, September 17**

7:00-9:30 am Continental Breakfast..... **Free**  
 10:30 am Adjourn

Dietary restrictions \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_ Gluten Free \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Total**     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send reservation with checks made out to GFWC/MVR by **August 25, 2023** to

GFWC/MVR Registration Chairman:

Donna Calvin  
 5318 W 141<sup>st</sup> Terrace  
 Leawood, KS 66224  
 913-766-5223  
 donnacalvin20@aol.com

**Flying into Branson MO or Springfield MO Airport?** Contact Amy Boone with your time of arrival and her brother will be providing shuttle service to the convention site. Amy's phone number is 573-359-4205. You can also text her or email the flight information to her.