



## ***Just for Junioresettes***

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Many of us have heard the statement “Junioresettes are the future of GFWC.” What does this mean? It means that we, as GFWC leaders and members, need to consider spending the time to invest in our future by supporting our youth in Junioresette clubs and the Junior and General clubs that sponsor them. Keeping the idea of “Just For Junioresettes” in mind, we have the opportunity to plant the seeds of volunteerism in young women. We can create opportunities for them to learn and practice leadership skills, build self confidence, and realize that volunteering is not just something you do; it is a way of life. How do we, as members of active GFWC clubs, do our part in investing in the future of GFWC?

### ***“Just for Junioresettes” ideas and information***

#### **Requirements and steps to forming and sponsoring a Junioresette club**

- Show a desire and commitment to help young women to develop good leadership skills and a strong sense of volunteerism.
- Form a committee of members to work together so the success of the Junioresette club doesn't depend on only one member of the sponsoring club. These dedicated individuals will be the Junioresette Club Advisors.
- Decide what age group the club wants to sponsor, either middle school or high school age. Choosing a narrower age range will help create a more closely knit group, given the significant differences in physical and emotional maturity, social skills, and service orientation between middle and high school girls. A younger group will need to have pre-planned activities and focus more on personal growth. Older girls, being more independent, will have a wider view of potential projects within their community and be more capable of self-leadership.
- Based on community and club resources, the sponsoring club needs to decide if the Junioresette club should be centered in a local school or a civic club.

#### **Financial obligations** of the SPONSOR club are optional, but may include:

- Assisting Junioresette club establish an annual budget
- Assisting Junioresette club in mechanics of establishing a club bank account
- Providing “seed money” to help Junioresette club get started on a project or program

- Covering the cost of club liability insurance for the first year or two, while the Juniorette club gets established, since Juniorette clubs are NOT automatically covered by the sponsoring club's liability insurance. To learn more how to obtain club liability insurance for active GFWC Juniorette clubs, please go to [www.GFWC.org](http://www.GFWC.org).

## **Advice for Advisors**

(Adapted from Points of Light Foundation)

- Make sure Junioresses are involved in the planning process, right from the start.
- You are a role model; Junioresses will reflect what you teach them.
- Consider opinions and feelings of Junioresses seriously; be willing to learn from them.
- Keep your promises.
- Consider the situations Junioresses have to deal with, such as transportation, school work and activities, and other issues of adolescence.
- Be upfront, fair and honest; they don't expect you to be perfect.
- Communicate; ask questions and listen to the answers.
- Clearly explain expectations.
- Do not think of the Juniorette club as a "mini" version of the sponsor club.

## ***"Just for Junioresses" Activities***

- GFWC programs are good starting points for exploring activities in which to participate.
- Junioresses focus their activities in areas that coincide with their talents, interests, abilities, and time availability.
- Junioresses use social marketing tools to promote and find members. Do not be afraid of Twitter and Facebook.
- Junioresses need things to be quick and to the point. "Done in a Day" projects are not fast enough for this group; consider "Done in Ten Minutes" projects!
- Junioresses need to have fun!

\*Content above taken from the *Junioresse Handbook: Everything You Need to Know to Start a GFWC Junioresse Club*, ca.2000, which is currently available through the GFWC Marketplace at [www.GFWC.org/Marketplace](http://www.GFWC.org/Marketplace).

## **Junioresse Ideas from GFWC State Federations**

**GFWC Mississippi** has a State Junioresse newsletter. This newsletter is full of activities and photos. It is posted on the State Federation website [www.gfwc-mfwc.org](http://www.gfwc-mfwc.org) as well as on the State Facebook page.

**GFWC Florida** holds a Junioresse Annual Summer Meeting (JASM) on a weekend in June in a central location. They have workshops, do service projects, listen to interesting speakers, hold elections of the Junioresse planning committee, have fabulous food and FUN!

**GFWC Temple Terrace Junioresettes, Florida**, has a “Bring to the Meeting” section in their newsletter. What a great way to remind your members of what to bring. Here are some of the items from their list: soda pop tops, Box Tops for Education, Campbell's soup labels, used cell phones/glasses, and Humane Society donations. They even give a gentle reminder of their \$25 dues money, applications and forms.

**GFWC Ohio Junioresettes'** state project is *Smart Teens on Patrol*. The objective is for Junioresettes to reach out to other teens to effectively make a change in their schools and communities. A new membership challenge is to “Be a Friend and Make a Friend.” Increase membership by using the domino effect. Invite one of your friends to become a “Smart Teen on Patrol” and then have that friend invite one of her friends to become a “Smart Teen on Patrol.”

**GFWC Junioresettes of Alpine, Texas** have chosen to initiate, develop, and support the TEEN Section of the Alpine Public Library as their Community Improvement Project, 2010-2012.

Please utilize the resources of GFWC including the **GFWC Membership Advancement Guide** at [www.GFWC.org/ClubManual](http://www.GFWC.org/ClubManual) and the Junioresette Handbook for more details.

The new Junioresette club will need direct guidance and support to get started and as it continues to grow but the work will be well worth the effort as the sponsoring club, the Junioresettes and the COMMUNITY reap the rewards.