



Preliminary Agenda  
 GFWC Texas  
*129<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention*



April 29 – May 3, 2026  
 Embassy Suites San Antonio  
 Brooks Hotel & Spa San  
 Antonio, Texas

*“The Final Flight:  
 It’s Not Where You Start,  
 It’s Where You Finish.”*

**Wednesday, April 29, 2026**

3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Registration.....	Pre-function Area
	Storage .....	Jenny Room
6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	GFWC Texas Executive Committee Dinner with GFWC Guest.....	Conception Room
9:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.	Executive Committee Meeting.....	President’s Suite

*Wednesday Evening Free for Members to Enjoy San Antonio*

**Thursday, April 30, 2026**

*Breakfast Included*

Tour (Dress-GFWC Logo Apparel)

8:45 a.m.	Load buses for Tour .....	Lobby
9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Tour of San Antonio Missions & Lunch	
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	State LEADS Training.....	Conception Room
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	TFWC Historical Foundation Board of Trustees.....	Conception Room
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Scholarship Committee Meeting .....	Alamo Room
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Nominating Committee.....	President’s Suite
2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Registration .....	Pre-function Area

*Formal Opening- 129<sup>th</sup> GFWC Texas Spring Convention*  
**GFWC Texas President Barbara Harvey, Presiding**  
**San Juan/Espada Rooms**

Dress – After-five – Cocktail dress, or dressy sundresses, long dressy skirt and top, or dressy pants outfit  
 No Lower Head table

5:00 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.	Social Hour - Cash Bar – <b>Cash only</b> .....	Pre-function Area
6:15 p.m.	Doors Open for Dinner	
6:30 p.m.	Opening Call to Order & Welcome.....	Barbara Harvey GFWC Texas 63 <sup>rd</sup> President
	Posting of the Colors .....	
	National Anthem .....	Patti Poe GFWC Texas Past State President, South Central Region Secretary
	Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.....	
	“Texas Our Texas” .....	Patti Poe
	Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.....	Maria Elia Ramos
	Thought for the Day.....	Lori Peterson Perez Florence J Scott Woman’s Club President
	Welcome to San Antonio.....	Mariana Alderete Gavito, District 7 Councilwoman
	Response.....	Diana Canavan Convention Chairman
	President Presentation of Special Members and Guests.....	Novella Byrd GFWC Texas President-elect
	<i>(GFWC Officers, SCR Officers, Past State Presidents, GFWC Texas Life Members, Past GFWC Texas Jennie Award Recipients, GFWC Texas State LEADS Graduates, First Time Attendees)</i>	
	Introduction of those seated at the Head Table .....	Kathy Horak Smith, Ph.D. GFWC Texas First Vice President
	Committee to Approve Minutes.....	President Harvey
	Preliminary Registration Report.....	Linda Gerd GFWC Texas Registrar
	Credentials Report.....	Elaine Wilde GFWC Texas Credentials Chairman
	Quorum Established.....	President Harvey
	Rules and Procedures .....	Patricia Tate GFWC Texas Parliamentarian
	Presentation of the Program .....	Angela Short Pioneer District President
	Appointment of Pages, Tellers & Timekeepers .....	President Harvey

7:15 p.m. Expression of Thanks..... Tissa Peterson  
GFWC Texas Chaplain

*Enjoy your Dinner*

8:00 p.m. Special Introduction .....President Harvey  
Greetings from GFWC.....Wendy Carriker, GFWC International President-elect

8:20 p.m. **Awards Session 1**.....Kathy Horak Smith, Ph.D.  
**(Each presenter will have 3 minutes)**

Outstanding Americanism Program.....Sherry Eieshen, Chairman

Outstanding Federation Day Program..... Teresa Crow, Chairman

Outstanding Club Program..... Judy Boram, Chairman

**(Each presenter will have 10 minutes)**

GFWC LEADS Candidate 2026 ..... Lou Hitt, Chairman

Juniorette of the Year 2025 ..... Marsha Wellman, Chairman

Juniorette of the Year 2024..... Mia Barrientos

Clubwoman of the Year ..... Sue Mercer, Chairman

Announcements.....Diana Canavan, Convention Chairman

9:30 p.m. Recess until 9:15 a.m. Friday Morning



**Friday, May 1, 2026**

*Breakfast Included*

**Lower Head Table Historical Foundation Trustees**

**San Juan/Espada Rooms**

(Dress-Business Casual -Skirt, khakis or dress pants; open-collared shirt, sweater, or blouse.

No jeans, shorts or spaghetti straps.)

8:15 a.m.	Past District Presidents' Meeting .....	Alamo Room
9:15 a.m.	Reconvene.....	President Harvey
	Thought for the Day.....	Gwen Martin
	Recommendation from the Executive Committee .....	Nancy Snead
		GFWC Texas Secretary
	Presentation of the Finance Report by Committee.....	Dianne Amerine
		GFWC Texas Treasurer
	Presentation of 2026-2027 Budget.....	Dianne Amerine
	Report from the Nominating Committee.....	Sue Mercer
	Presentation Life Member Nominees .....	Patricia Tate, GFWC Texas Parliamentarian
10:00 a.m.	<b>Awards Session 2.....</b>	Kathy Horak Smith, Ph.D.
	<b>(Each presenter will have 3 minutes for awards and 3 minutes for the most creative)</b>	
	Arts and Culture.....	Bonnie Haynes, Chairman
	Civic Engagement and Outreach.....	Pam Hoke, Chairman
	Education and Libraries .....	Donna Parkinson, Chairman
	Environment.....	Wanda Godso, Chairman
	Health and Wellness.....	Julia Napper, Chairman
	GFWC Juniors Special Project	
	Advocates for Children.....	Louisa Franklin, Chairman
	GFWC Signature Program:	
	Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness & Prevention.....	Beth Hemby, Chairman
	GFWC Texas President's Special Project Human Trafficking .....	Beth Hemby
	Presentation of GFWC Texas DSVAP Award.....	Beth Hemby
10:45 a.m.	<b>Break and Shop</b>	
11:00 a.m.	Report of Officers ( <b>5 minutes each</b> )	
	GFWC Texas President.....	Barbara Harvey
	GFWC Texas President-elect.....	Novella Byrd
	GFWC Texas First Vice President.....	Kathy Horak Smith, Ph.D.
	GFWC Texas Second Vice President.....	Katherine Hajek
	GFWC Texas Secretary .....	Nancy Snead
	GFWC Texas TFWC Historical Foundation.....	Lou Hitt, Chairman
11:30 a.m.	GFWC Texas Scholarship Report & Awards .....	Terri Kennedy, Chairman
11:45 a.m.	Expression of Thanks.....	Tissa Peterson

*Enjoy your lunch*

**Conception/San Jose Rooms**

12:30 p.m. Introduction Special Guest.....Carol Habgood,  
Past GFWC Texas President, GFWC Parliamentarian  
Phyllis J. Wilson, MPA, BSN, RN, US Army Chief Warrant Officer 5 (retired), President Military  
Women's Memorial

1:00 p.m. Afternoon Session – **San Juan/Espada Rooms**  
**(Lower head table District Presidents)**

Meet the Candidates – Each District President will have 3 minutes to present their candidate, and each candidate will have 5 minutes for their speech.

1:30 p.m. **Awards Session 3**..... Kathy Horak Smith, Ph.D.  
**(Each presenter will have 3 minutes for awards and 3 minutes for most creative)**

Leadership..... Novella Byrd, Chairman  
Membership .....Katherine Hajek, Chairman

Communication and Public Relations ..... Patricia Davis, Chairman  
Fundraising & Development ..... Tracy Lamar, Chairman  
Legislation & Public Policy ..... Maridell Fryar, Chairman  
Women's History & Resource Center..... Amy McDaniel, Chairman  
Texas Heritage ..... Brenda Grimes, Chairman  
    Historical People  
    Historical Places & Things  
    Special Projects  
    Texas Woman's University Library

2:00 p.m. **Break and Shop**

2:15 p.m. **Awards Session 4**..... Kathy Horak Smith, Ph.D.  
**(Each presenter will have 3 minutes.)**

Dollars for Delegates..... Stephanie Stephens, Chairman  
UT MD Anderson..... Christi Melton, Chairman  
ESO..... Mary Nettie Rodriguez, Chairman  
Presentation of New Life Members..... Patricia Tate

2:45 p.m. **District President Reports Barbara's Beautiful Butterflies**  
**(Each Presenter will have 3 minutes.)**

Pioneer District ..... Angela Short, President of the District Presidents  
Magnolia District ..... Julia Napper, Secretary to the District Presidents  
Alamo District..... Annette Anderson  
Capitol District..... Monica Benoit-Beatty  
Caprock District ..... Tina O'Connor  
South Texas District..... Cammie Hyatt  
Trinity District ..... Donna Parkinson  
Western District ..... Melissa Farley  
Lone Star Administrative District ..... Katherine Hajek

3:30 p.m. **Break and Shop**

3:30 p.m.	<b>Award Session 5</b> .....	Kathy Horak Smith, Ph.D. <b>(Each presenter will have 3 minutes.)</b>
	Juniorette Awards .....	Marsha Wellman, Chairman
	Photography Awards.....	Tina O'Connor, Chairman
	Writing Contest.....	Linda Grant, Chairman
	Adult Short Story Youth Short Story	
	Adult Poetry Youth Poetry	
	Yearbook Contest Awards .....	Kathy Horak Smith, Ph.D.
	Yearbook – Gold Star Clubs	
	Yearbook – Cover Contest Winners	
	Announcements.....	Diana Canavan
4:30 p.m.	<b>Recess until 7:30 p.m.</b>	
4:30 p.m.	Polls Open .....	Alamo Room
5:30 p.m.	Polls Close	
6:00 p.m.	Social Hour – Cash Bar – <b>Cash Only</b> .....	Pre-function Area

**Dress - Spring Fling Evening in Bloom: Florals, Hats & Gloves**

**Conception/San Jose Rooms**  
(no lower head table)

7:00 p.m.	Processional Formation.....	Pre-function
7:15 p.m.	Processional.....	Beth Hemby
7:30 p.m.	Reconvene.....	President Harvey
	Expression of Thanks.....	Tissa Peterson
	<b><i>Enjoy your dinner</i></b>	
8:30 p.m.	Introduction of Evening Speaker.....	President Harvey
	Wendy Carriker - GFWC International President-elect	
9:00 p.m.	Announcements .....	Diana Canavan
9:30 p.m.	<b>Recess until 9:30 a.m.</b>	

***Dessert Reception Honoring***  
***GFWC International President-elect Wendy Carriker***  
***GFWC Texas President – Barbara Harvey***  
***2026 GFWC LEADS Candidate***  
***2025 GFWC Texas Clubwoman of the Year***  
***2024-2026 GFWC Texas Executive Committee***

**Saturday, May 2, 2026**

*Breakfast Included*

(Dress Business Casual -Skirt, khakis or dress pants; open-collared shirt, sweater, or blouse.  
No jeans, shorts or spaghetti straps).

San Juan/Espada Rooms  
(No Lower Head Table)

- 8:15 a.m. ESO Meeting..... Alamo
- 9:30 a.m. Reconvene .....President Harvey  
Thought for the Day ..... Fran Mask
- 9:45 a.m. **Awards Session 6** (if necessary)..... Kathy Horak Smith, Ph.D.
- 10:30 a.m. Final Registration ..... Linda Gerd  
Fundraising..... Tracy Lamar  
Invitation to the 130<sup>th</sup> GFWC Texas Spring Convention 2027..... Capitol District
- 10:45 Farewell Address and Special Recognition..... Barbara Harvey
- 11:45 a.m. Expression of Thanks..... Tissa Peterson
- Enjoy your lunch***
- 12:30 p.m. Announcements..... Diana Canavan  
Club Collect ..... in Unison  
“Let There Be Peace on Earth” ..... Patti Poe

Dinner on your own

2:30 p.m. Rehearsal Installation Ceremony .....Concepcion &San Jose  
*(GFWC President-elect, Executive Committee to be Installed, 2024-2026 State President, Past State Presidents, 2024-2026 District Presidents, 2026-2028 District Presidents, 2026-2028 Club Presidents, Installation Mistress of Ceremony, Person giving Inspiration)*

**(Formal Dress - Floor-length evening gown, dressy cocktail or separates)**

6:30 p.m. Doors open

6:45 p.m. Processional Formation

7:00 p.m. Installation of 2026-2028 GFWC Texas Executive Committee

**Adjournment of the 129<sup>th</sup> Annual GFWC Texas Spring Convention**

**Reception Follows**

**Sunday, May 3, 2026**

8:00 a.m. 2026-2028 Administration Orientation Meeting

GFWC Texas President 2026-2028 – Novella Byrd presiding