

To change in a meaningful way we must be able to communicate well. How do we learn to do that - we practice. So practice smiling at people, practice saying nice things to people, practice being a good friend to people, practice being a good Club women, practice pitching in on projects and doing a part of projects. Practice being a chairman or an officer. Practice being positive. Practice building up & not tearing down. "And, Oh, Lord God, forget not to be kind." As the Collect says

Opening Communications



GFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs 2020-2022

12

What is "open lines of communications"?



This can mean many things like an open door policy, in the high tech world, an open electronic calendars policy, open meetings, an Open Zoom meeting, a black board with information on it, any kind of media that helps everyone know where everyone is & also remember somethings are also not to be shared.

In my office we had open coffee breaks that our whole team was invited too. Remember, it was a small group of 6 people and one leader. What do 7 people talk about who work together?

Work!

It kept us on the same page. It would work the same for club women and your committees or smaller units in your clubs. Because what would you all talk about?

Club!

Let's wrap it up

What are some good ways to communicate?

They are clear
honest
nice
approachable
friendly
Can be spoken
Can be written
Can be pictures
Can be body language
no negatives here.



Communications

It's also your Newsletter.

What have you been putting in your newsletter? Is it on-line? Or printed?

An article from your President—with general happenings.

An article from your 1st Vice Presidentwith things that can be in reports or how to write reports. an article from your 2nd Vice President on membership happenings.

Minutes from the last meeting.

Treasurers' Report

Introduce the next meeting's speaker

Meet a new member or meet a valued member

The date of the next general meeting

& where it will be

Maybe a game

An article about a project or two Something about CFWC or GFWC

A history minute

A CFWC Resolution, so our members can know more about what we stand for.

These are just some ideas



What is interesting about getting together and simply talking is that some of our women will never see the great value is getting to know each other better. They will see it as a waste of time. There is no help for those women.

Other will see it as just gossip is there value in gossip?

Absolutely!

Why?

Because you get to understand how other's minds work, what they see as important to them, what they like, what they love, what work they will do, and most importantly, how well they will do that work.

A few things about this Gossip is

Keep it positive

Keep it honest

Keep it about the subject at hand Don't let it get mean.

Mean gossip is not productive.

Make it a policy

Make it a point that everyone knows you and everyone else should be talking openly with each other.

This means as a President, you let your first Vice President and second Vice President know what you are doing. Your first job is to teach these two people to take your place if anything should happen to you and when you step down after your term is up.



This also means don't sit at the head table and wait for people to come to you to talk. Walk around the room and talk to everyone. Be approachable.

Be friendly, be nice, be kind.



Give away prizes!

For the games on the other page
& for the members
who drove the farthest,
who have the most purses or shoes,
or whatever silly thing
you can think of.
Have fun with this.
The first people who get
to the meeting gets a
funny pair of socks
from the dollar store
or a candy bar.



Fun Ways to communicate with your Club members!

Ask your President

If you can play some games.

Federation quizzes, who knows what the news Service Programs are? Who knows what is reported where? Who knows the names of the CFWC President? First Vice President? Second vice President? Where do you find the answers at?

Feed them some fun Foods, like popcorn, like holiday cookies or Halloween candies or ice creams or birthday cake for the club & eat it with everyone, be one of the group.



Here's an interesting one.

Have a quiz with something fun
about each member.

This helps everyone know
each other better.

& have fun too!

Keep it to yourself

There are things that club members and others will tell you as the President that you should not tell others. When someone tells you they want a certain style of dress for the next formal event, keep your mouth shut.

Then there are times when as the President and you are told things that you must act on. Some of it is common sense. Sometimes the law requires certain things to be acted on. I am putting this definition in here for you to read. If something happens & you think this is something you need to report. Get help first! A Doctor, a Lawyer, or a Priest. There may be a hot-line you can call.

Fiduciary Relationship = a relationship in which one party places special trust, confidence, and reliance in and is influenced by another who has a *fiduciary* duty to act for the benefit of an other even if they don't know it or understand it.



Get Connected

Okay, what does this mean? If your members are valued / older it might mean use the Telephone.



If your members are younger/ newer it might mean text only.



Or it might be a combination of both of those and emails plus Snap Chat Facebook , a website, or Pinterest.

Be open to what is new!

Electronics are what younger members use to communicate.
Use whatever tools you can.







Be Honest

What is the best way to get people to communicate with you?

Be honest.

Everyone knows a fake person when they see one.

As a President or as an Officer at any level, you are being watched by everyone!

Let's say that again!

Everyone is watching the President &

the all the Officers!

Remember that!

They know when you are faking it! & or lying.

