



IPHC Girls' Ministries
<http://girls.iphc.org>

Dear Conference GM Director:

With WM Convention and General Conference behind us, we have packed away the displays, said goodbye to a "Jewelle" of a friend and wonderful WM director, and welcomed Tamé Lambert as the new WM director.

I have worked here in Oklahoma City at Headquarters/RDC/GMC since the Fall of 1974 when I went to work for Lila Isaac (the fourth WM director). It was a part time job while I finished my college degree at Bethany Nazarene College.

There have been many changes in the church and in my personal life since that time. I have served under five bishops/general superintendents during my 35 years of employment for the IPHC. During my 25 years in World Missions, I worked for four different directors. Tamé became the 11th WM director and the 3rd one that I have worked under directly. However, once you factor in my years of volunteer work in WM and GM on the conference level, I worked with all of those directors in between in one capacity or another. I have truly been blessed by each of them.

As I prepared to write my GM report for our convention, I recounted four years of expansion, digging in, blazing new trails, and repaving some of the older roads. Change always ignites reflection of the past and since we were facing many changes as a denomination, I went back in time. With the official organization of Women's Ministries in 1945, it took less than a year for women to accept God's mandate to train the girls. By 1946,

Junior Auxiliaries were organized giving birth to what we know today—63 years later—as IPHC Girls' Ministries. I began working in the WM office in 1974 at a crucial point for Girls' Ministries. Beulah Sturkie had just been appointed as the first girls director. I worked with her on the production of *The G.A. Program Planner*. In the late '80s, GEMS was born and Linda Parnell became the director. Again, I was involved in some of the curriculum revisions for one of the clubs. Then, in 1999, Linda Riddle became the first full-time director for Girls' Ministries and Missionettes was adopted.

No 63-year-old woman looks the same as the day she was born, and the same is true for IPHC Girls' Ministries. Our goal is to have the maturity that comes with 63 years of ministry while appealing to the girls of today with the unchanging message of Jesus Christ. Our world has changed drastically from 1946 when ministry to girls began in the IPHC. Our purpose, however, is still to win girls to Jesus Christ and to teach them how to follow Him in everything they do and say.

As we focus on the future of Girls' Ministries, our promise to the girls is to do our best to stay current with their issues, needs, and technology. Our promise to the church is to teach and train girls to be ready to step into ministry and leadership positions. Our promise to God is to produce girls who love Him with all their hearts and are not ashamed to stand up for Him, even when no one else is standing!

Imprinting girls' lives for God,

Irvina

Techno Blitz

If you were able to watch Bishop Carpenter's webcast, then you are aware that the IPHC intends to make use of modern technology to get our message to the church and the world! Girls' Ministries has joined the Facebook and Twitter craze and we invite you to jump on board with us. The following addresses will direct you to the right pages:

- www.twitter.com/IPHCGM for GM tweets
- www.twitter.com/powerchicksIPHC for Power Chicks '11 tweets
- www.facebook.com (then search for IPHC Girls' Ministries and become a fan of this page)

Curriculum Updates

As many of you know, I attended the Assemblies of God training for Girls' Ministries on the heels of our own General Conference. One of the announcements they made was that they have just completed their updates on the Sponsor Guides for all the clubs. However, the only way to purchase the updated versions is on a CD. I can see the benefits and pitfalls of this new format, but I believe it is a sign of the times. It is certainly easier to carry around a CD than a large 3-ring binder, but it means you'll need a computer, printer, and a good paper supplier!

Keep in mind that this new format applies ONLY to the Sponsor Guides and not to the girls' activity books and journals. Our next step is to look at their CD and determine how we are going to customize it for the IPHC. I will keep you posted on the progress of this project. It almost feels as though we're starting over. I will have to sit down with LifeSprings and determine our plan of action for updating a CD format. Before, LSR just printed the pages with changes and replaced them in the AG book. It won't be quite that simple now.

I am working with LifeSprings on a new catalog and an updated Leader Training Guide. Obviously, we need to change the terminology, but there is also another area of concern that was discussed at the AG training. Their lawyer has told them that chapter 6 needs to come out of the book because of legal issues connected with the idea that these are guidelines that churches should follow. He maintains that lawsuits could use those printed guidelines against a church which failed to comply. He says the material can be taught, it just shouldn't be in print. I am waiting to see what they are going to do with that chapter. Once a new version is in print, it legally supercedes any previous version. However, I can't customize it for us until I get their revised version in hand. Again, I will keep you posted.

As you can see, all of these updates will keep me busy for quite a few months so I would appreciate your prayers. We have a lot of decisions to make with many hours of manual labor to follow.

Updated GM Director's Manual

My recent surgery has put me behind schedule on this project. Typing is still a bit of a challenge—with or without my sling. I had hoped that with General Conference behind us, I could concentrate fully on this project. However, it became clear that I needed to take care of my arm. My goal is to mail a separate CD containing the Director's Manual and the updated Power Point presentations by early to mid-December. I apologize for this delay.

Ideas Packet

On this CD you'll find the final pdf for the Ideas Packet. This completes the annual guide for local churches who want to have a ministry to girls, but can't staff several clubs. These monthly suggestions are also available at <http://girls.iphc.org/ideapacket.html>.

