



# General Federation of Women's Clubs



W Y O M I N G

**Preserve our Past – Protect our Future  
Trish Peoples – GFWC Wyoming President**

**Newsblast  
July 2023**



**GFWC members  
Since 1904**



I'm happy to report that the areas Wyoming focused on this past year were recognized at the GFWC International Convention. The "Preserve Our Past" focus earned us a Women's History Resource Center Award. "Protect our Future" focus garnered us an Environment Award. Wyoming was also recognized for our increase in membership, and our website won for the third consecutive year. Speaking of the website, **please send me photos of your recent events**. We would like to update our online gallery.

Wyoming plays such an integral part in GFWC International. During this year's convention, Patty Benskin was on the Resolutions Committee, while Nancy Kaufman was on the Communications Committee and helped with the on-site workshop. While

Phyllis Salzburg was not on a committee, she jumped in to add important information to Resolution 160-030, Conservation of Natural Resources. Her addition of the term “rangelands” ensured that 85% of Wyoming’s land is part of GFWC’s conservation effort, not to mention educating the assembly on our western landscape. Karen Bard attended the Incoming Leaders meeting and Kristin Riley represented Wyoming at LEADS training. Pam Crochet gave her report as Western States Region’s Secretary during the WSR luncheon, and I was honored to give a memorial for Past International President Ernie Shriner. We may be small in population, but we are mighty.

**Reminder:** Fall Board Meeting and Workshop, September 29 and 30, in Riverton. Rooms at Hampton Inn & Suites, 307-856-3500. The cut-off is August 15.

<https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/general-federation-of-women-s-clubs-of-wyoming-sept-2023/>

**Reminder:** September 30 is GFWC International’s first Day of Service, and the focus is food insecurity. I encourage all clubs to sign up and create a plan to tackle food insecurity in your community. The National Day of Service checklist is attached.

### **Karen Kent – Vice President/Membership Chairman**

I was very excited to have had the opportunity to attend the GFWC International Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Besides partaking of much bourbon, I had the pleasure of meeting new friends and enjoying the company of old friends. My father always told his children “Never pass up an opportunity to learn new things.” I encourage all Wyoming club members to attend state, region, and international conventions. Clubwomen from different parts of the world are ready and willing to share a wealth of information in all areas of our clubs’ work. I hope to be able to share what I learned with you all in the coming year.

I was excited and humbled that Wyoming was recognized in front of over 600 delegates for our efforts in increasing our state membership. I say humbled because I was congratulated by the Wyoming ladies for my hard work. I feel like everything we do, we do as a team. I want to congratulate everyone in the Wyoming Federation for your efforts in growing our state. During the early to mid-1900’s Wyoming knew over 2,000 members. I saw a Facebook page where someone was complaining that Yellowstone was not the same place it was 50 years ago. Of course it’s not! I could not resist the impulse to respond that there were no wolves 50 years ago and the terrible Yellowstone fire left the park more beautiful than it was 50 years ago. Wyoming may not have 2,000 members now, but what we do have is still a powerful force. We will never be what we once were, but we can continue to build and redefine ourselves. We can still provide and advocate for what our world needs now.

Please take a minute or two to look at some of (calendar not big enough for all) the things that are happening around the State. Get out and enjoy those things, and while you are out enjoying those things, meet new friends. Introduce them to GFWC Wyoming. Invite them to become a member of our part of the greater good. Some of the most beautiful gems lie buried in the ugliest of rock.

### **Lucy Russell – Spiritual Advisor**

I am so happy that we are finally having sunshine and a little less rain. I want to recognize our celebration of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and our independence from England. Because of this holiday we have fireworks, BBQ's and a lot of songs that have been written to commemorate our patriotism. I have a few favorites such as My Country Tis of Thee, America the Beautiful, The Battle Hymn of the Republic. These songs always bring tears to my eyes when I sing them.

I would like to share some facts about our flag and then share "I Am Old Glory" by John R. Manning. The flag can be flown day and night weather permitted but should have a spotlight on it if flown at night. The flag should be hoisted quickly and lowered ceremoniously. The flag should never be displayed with the union down save as a signal of dire distress. The flag, when it is in such a condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.

I AM OLD GLORY-For almost 200 years I have been the banner for hope and freedom for generation after generation of Americans. Born amid the first flames of America's fight for freedom, I am a symbol of a country that has grown from a little group of thirteen colonies to a united nation of 50 sovereign states. Planted firmly on a high pinnacle of American faith, my gently fluttering folds have proved an inspiration to untold millions. Men have followed me into battle with unwavering courage. They have looked upon me as a symbol of national unity. They have prayed that they and their fellow citizens might continue to enjoy the life, liberty and pursuit of happiness which have been granted to every American as the heritage of free men. So long as men love liberty more than life itself, so long as they treasure the priceless privileges bought with the blood of our forefathers, so long as the principles of truth, justice and charity for all remain deeply rooted in human hearts, I shall continue to be the enduring banner of the United States of America.

Wishing everyone a happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Keep freedom close and please continue to respect our flag and our country.

### **Marcia Volner – West District Liaison**

I wanted to share with you some things that have happened recently that were very encouraging to me. It starts with basket donations made to Wyoming Writers Inc. who had their annual convention in Cheyenne in June. XJWC was kind enough to donate a very nice basket. When the president of Wyoming Writers Inc. saw the basket and who it was from, he was very touched as his mother was a member of XJWC and he knew exactly who they were. His name is Alan O'Hashi. The second event was when my local club, Women's Club of Sweetwater County, who donated two baskets received a very inspiring message from the lady who won one basket at the conference:



Karen Call wrote: I grew up many years ago in Sheridan and Big Horn supported at every major event by the Women's Club in the community where I went to school, Big Horn. When I won this prize at the Wyoming Writers' Conference it was like a bit of Déjà vu all over again. Here was a Wyoming Women's Club supporting activity and another organization in the state. My "thank you" to you and all of your members for your work. Women's Clubs, their members, their work and their community support, keep our Wyoming communities strong. Thank you for your continued support and donation of this gift.



**Deb McCann – ESO Chairman**

**Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Everyone!**

**Read All About It: New ESO Participants**

**Flo Beville, GFWC Meadowlarks**

**Laurie Pessetto, GFWC Meadowlarks**

**These two members committed to and/or joined ESO during the GFWC-W State Convention in Torrington, and have submitted their Pledge Forms.**

**Welcome, Flo & Laurie! Happy Reading!**

**If there are other members who have recently signed on, please email the name of the member and the club for inclusion in the Newsblast!**

**If you too would like to participate in the ESO reading program just for GFWC members, please email [debmcann841@gmail.com](mailto:debmcann841@gmail.com) for further details.**



**June 2023 Book Releases as listed in the GFWC 2022-2024  
Education & Libraries Newsletter**



***The Paris Daughter* by Kristin Harmel**

***Lady Tan's Circle of Women* by Lisa See**

***The Wind Knows My Name* by Isabel Allende**

***All the Sinners Bleed* by S.A. Cosby**

***The Five-Star Weekend* by Elin Hilderbrand**

***The First Ladies* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray**

**<https://www.booklistqueen.com/june-2023-book-releases/>**



**I fully intend to read all the books I've purchased and  
am on schedule to do it by my 59<sup>th</sup> birthday.**

**(GFWC ESO Book Club, FB)**

**Phyllis Salzburg -Environment Community Service Program Chairman**

**SUMMER IN WYOMING**

**Have a youngster in your life looking for things to do this summer?**



From the Wyoming Game and Fish website: The **Inspire a Kid** initiative aims to introduce youth to the outdoors by providing resources for families to teach their children how to enjoy outside activities, whether it be fishing, hunting, wildlife photography, hiking or other adventures.

Check out their list of 100 Outdoor Activities everyone should do in the Cowboy State!

Fun Critter Facts provides interesting facts on what they might see in the great Wyoming outdoors.

**Wild Times Kids Magazine** is also accessible at the website

<https://wgfd.wyo.gov/Get-Involved/Inspire-a-Kid/>

### **Marianne Gatti—Civic Engagement and Outreach Chairman**



**Dogs Left in Cars**  
Even **68°** is too Hot!

Temperature		
Outside	vs In Car After	
	10 min.	60 min.
68°F	81°F	115°F
75	88	122
82	95	129
90	102	136
97	109	144

From American Meteorological Society

[www.petsbest.com](http://www.petsbest.com)

As temperatures warm up and summer breaks are in full swing, I hope everyone is finding ways to keep cool while still engaging in your communities. Sweetwater County ladies will be represented at International Day next week, as well as participating in the Alzheimer's walk in August. I would love to hear how our other clubs are reaching out during these summer months. Perhaps some of you help educate people on the dangers of heat on our pets? Below is a quick reference chart for when it is too hot to have Fido hanging out in the car. I know my little girl loves to run errands with me (there might be pup cup involved).

### **Lucy Russell -X-JWC President**

Our club had its last meeting for the club year on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. We installed our new officers who are the following: Lucy Russell-President, Kathleen Petersen-President Elect, Tony Greene-Vice President, Phyllis Salzburg-Treasurer, Fran Fooks-Secretary and Cindy Hardesty-Director of Membership. We look forward to another great year. Even though we are not meeting as a club during the summer, we are still doing some activities. BUNKO is still meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month this summer from 12:30 to 3:00 pm. The one in June was well attended and everyone had a great time. We will also be meeting on August 8<sup>th</sup> at Mylar Park for our annual picnic at 11:30 am. All are welcome if you want to check us out and get to know some of our wonderful ladies. We have had a little sadness as we lost one of our long-time members this month, Phyllis Black. Many of our members will attend her memorial service in Yoder on the 28<sup>th</sup>. I hope that everyone will enjoy the warm weather and that you might find time to investigate some of what Wyoming has to offer.

### **Marcia Volner -Women's Club of Sweetwater County**

It continues to be a busy summer for WCSC. We had a garage sale in June that went well. We will have a booth at international Day July 8<sup>th</sup> and will have representation at Farmers Markets in Green River and Rock Springs as we raise money for a bench at the veteran's columbarium in the Rock Springs Cemetery. We have finally had a day without rain in June, but now we will be wishing for it soon. Wishing everyone a great summer. Here is a picture of member Karla Roich, the head of our local Foodbank, new member Michele Long and Marcia Volner presenting a donation at the Foodbank.



### **Deanna Frey-Casper Active Service Club President**

The Casper Club planned a meeting to enjoy the weather on June 16. Unfortunately, Mother Earth didn't get the invitation. Given that we didn't all have our "floaties" and the flash floods that happened the day before were nasty we met at the regular meeting place where we stayed dry and had a great day. Our Treasurer, Karen, brought a copy of Life magazine from 1944. We all were amazed at how women were portrayed and by how many ads featured doctors endorsing their favorite cigarettes. Needless to say, there was a very lively discussion that followed.

In addition, we discussed our upcoming project to support the new home for the Unaccompanied Students Initiative in Casper by helping them host their Open House for the community. We hope to provide refreshments and decorations by baking cookies ourselves and with the students who will be living in the new home. Stay tuned for photos.

### **Karen Bard – Laramie Woman's Club**

The Laramie Woman's Club had their Garden Party serving cupcakes from Sugar Mouse and fruit kabobs. They were awesome. It was great social affair with lovely weather. More importantly we got to celebrate our Bart's Ladies that had been postponed from earlier in the year. We also celebrated Polly Wade as our nominee for the Jenny award, which has successfully gone up to Western States for judging. We are very hopeful of her success. It is amazing all that this woman has accomplished. Her son and daughter were able to attend the event. We are very hopeful that she will be successful and be the Western Region's candidate. She has worked tirelessly for the LWC even before she became a member. She raised 10's of thousands for the ice rink and supported hockey from the day they arrived. Then there are her countless hours with numerous other organizations here in Laramie as well. I was glad I was not the one that had to boil all that she has done down to 500 words.

### **Bev Yeik – Yoder Woman's Club President**



The Yoder woman's club held our membership drive the same weekend that the town of Yoder held their town clean up. The Yoder Woman's Club had rolls and coffee for the early shoppers (the town had 7 families holding garage sale). At noon we switched to hamburgers and hot dogs, with chips and brownies and drink. We had several people inquire about the Yoder Woman's Club, we picked up maybe 3 prospects, we'll call them in September and ask them to our first kick off meeting. Usually we have a carry in at 6:00.

Follow us on Facebook: GFWC of Wyoming  
GFWC-Wyoming website: [www.gfbcwyoming.org](http://www.gfbcwyoming.org)

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