

Wyoming News Blast
December 2018



Proud GFWC members
Since 1904

GFWC Wyoming President's Message - Mary Lee Dixon



Be Silly—Be Honest—Be Kind

Happy Holidays to everyone! Here's wishing you find time to rest and enjoy family and friends this month. Looking back on your club year, I hope you do so with a sense of satisfaction and accomplishment. No matter how small a project was, it made a difference to someone. We are an amazing group of women who impact each other and our communities through tireless efforts and events!

Please note – the scam using our website for e-mails and unusual requests is ongoing. Many of you have contacted me regarding my “requests” for iTunes cards and money to be sent. Please **DO NOT** respond to those messages. It looks like a legitimate e-mail from me but when you respond it goes to an odd return address.

Needed:

Writing Chairman. The position entails putting reminders in the News Blast, judging entries and picking winners and runners up prior to the April conference.

Face Book Manager. The position entails keeping the state Face Book page fresh and posting items submitted from clubs around the state.

Please consider taking one of these positions to keep our membership up-to-date on things happening within our club world!

In thinking about next year, I have opportunity tickets for the Western States Region Convention. If your name is drawn, you get \$200 credit towards your registration, meals and/or tours when attending. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20 and will be available at the winter board meeting and the spring conference.

Club presidents are thinking about compiling yearly reports for turn in by Feb 1. Get some of your members involved to help gather information, write paragraphs and format your submittal. It sometimes is a “greater than one person” job.

Gentle reminder – as we enter the New Year, remember to set up fundraisers for the March of Dimes dime collection, donating to Raising Readers and being kind to fellow club members. Again, wishing you health and happiness in the New Year!

Silly Calendar Day for December (Feel Good Month)

Saturday, Dec 1 – Eat a red apple day (one a day keeps the doctor away!)

Monday, Dec 3 – Disability Day (be sensitive to others)

Friday, Dec 7 – Cotton Candy Day (not just for the fair!)

Saturday, Dec 8 – Lost and Found Day (how many items fall in this category)

Monday, Dec 10 – Worldwide Candle Lighting Day (take a moment and reflect)

Saturday Dec 15 – Ugly Christmas Sweater Day (we all have one...or two)

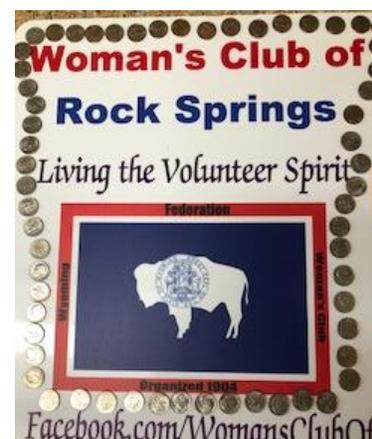
Sunday, Dec 16 – Chocolate Covered Anything Day (enough said–just enjoy!)

Monday, Dec 17 – Maple Syrup Day (find new uses for the wonderful stuff)

Monday, Dec 31 – Make up your mind day (be decisive)

Have fun! Be Silly! Enjoy your club members.

In Federation,
Mary Lee Dixon
GFWC Wyoming President



Picture 1: Bee-ing creative on a snowy afternoon!

Picture 2: Wouldn't it be great to have enough dimes to cover the real arch in St. Louis?

Picture 3: Woman's Club of Rock Springs: helping kids and recruiting members!

What's Happening Next?

Winter Board Meeting

Chairmen Reminder: Mark your calendars for the winter board meeting in Rawlins. We'll meet on January 19, 2019 at 10 a.m. at the Jeffrey Memorial Community Center, 315 W Pine Street, in Rawlins. More information will follow with RSVPs for lunch and reporting requirements. This is contingent on weather, and we'll be flexible.

Calling All Artists!

As many of you know, GFWC Wyoming is hosting GFWC Western Conference in Cheyenne in 2020. As part of this effort, we would like to sell "Wyoming Cards." These cards would be created by Wyoming artists, depicting Wyoming scenes. We would like YOU to draw, paint, and photograph these scenes. Ideas include (but certainly not limited to) lupine, Indian Paintbrush, aspen, Grand Tetons, split rail fences, and jackalopes. Your art should fit on a card, 4.25" by 5.5" and must be received by April 1st, 2019. Send your art to Mary Lee Dixon.

Club and District News

West District Liaison Leslie Jo Gatti

The two GFWC Clubs in the West are busy with Holiday projects. The Farson-Eden Progress Club is hosting its annual Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 15, in the Farson Community Center. As is normal with their projects, it's a community event. The Woman's Club of Rock Springs has just finished its annual Holiday House, their largest, annual fundraiser. They are receiving more community involvement each year in the form of donations.

There are four women in the Bridger Valley committed to starting a GFWC Club in that area. Work will begin in earnest after the Holidays. A collaboration with the Boys & Girls Club in Rock Springs has not worked out. So a Juniorette Club in the West District is not in the works for now. There has been an inquiry from Lander about a Club there. But no serious work has been done at this point.

Western Wyoming Clubwomen have been digging out from the snow and trying to stay warm. Every one of them wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

GFWC X-JWC President Trish Peoples



One of our volunteers in the school system created 17 pillowcases for her class, complete with the children's names!

GFWC X-JWC members greet customers during the Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser in November.



GFWC Laramie Woman's Club President Annie Nelson and Fundraising Chairman Lynda Hidalgo

Save the Date!

Laramie Woman's Club Annual Bunco Party

Planning is underway for LWC in the hosting of Laramie's famous Bunco Party! This annual event will be on February 10, 2019, at the Eppson Center for Seniors. Doors will open at 12:30 p.m. with play beginning at 1:30 p.m. (gives you time for a little wine, appetizers gabbing and settling down to put your game face on...)

Last year we sold 126 tickets and 96 played. We are hoping to sell at least 150 tickets by contacting everyone who purchased and/or played last year (they had to put their personal info on back of ticket because we drew them for door prizes – now we have a “customer list” to contact this year – good idea, huh?)

Crystal Griffis, Event Coordinator for the Laramie Plains Museum and LWC member, organized wonderful appetizers, and wine was available with donations graciously accepted. Lynda Hidalgo and Margaret Arth are our resident bartenders and will gladly pour again. Quality door prizes will be handed out and all you have to do is come prepared to have a raucous good time.

Net proceeds from this event will go to “School Success” which is a very gentle and kind title for the 43 homeless children of junior/senior high school age who are not living with their parents. They are either living with a relative, couch-surfing, or in a motel because they may have run away from home or been thrown out by parents. It hurts my heart to think they won't have a stable childhood with just the worries inherent in being a teenager and, instead have to worry about the next meal or staying warm and on and on. We hope you will join us in supporting this worthwhile club project.

I will be sending reminders to the News Blast in January and hope we get to see more than a few Cheyenne faces play Bunco with us because I know some of you are Bunco aficionados! You may purchase as many tickets as you want by calling Lynda Hidalgo @ 307-760-7260 and, after we receive your check, we can either mail them to you or hold at “Will Call” on the day of the event.

(If there is a road closure – February is dicey – we will cheerfully refund your money.)

Alice Hardie Stevens Center Decorating



The LWC decorated the Alice Hardie Stevens Center for Christmas. The Center was remodeled and expanded this year and for the first time it has been included in the Christmas decorating with the Iverson Mansion. It is quite a large room to decorate but we had help from two life-size Santa Clauses. These Santas came to the Laramie Plains Museum by way of the Van's Wholesale of Laramie. They used to rent these out to businesses for the holiday season. Since many of you attended the Fall Workshop that was held in the Center, we thought you would like to see how it was decked out for the Holidays. Wishing everyone a very Happy Holiday Season and be safe in all of your travels.



Notes from the Board

Community Improvement Project Chairman Karen Brann

As you work on your Community Improvement Project, remember to keep items such as meeting minutes and newspaper articles to help build your package. The 2018 winning package is a file too big to email. If you'd like a copy to get an idea of what to include, please contact Trish Peoples, and she will send a flash drive.

Fundraising Chairman Karen Kent

**State wide raffle.
Bargello quilt!**

**Approximately 100
inches square**

**Tickets are \$20
apiece. Only 300
tickets sold!**

**Drawing will April
2019 at the State
conference in
Saratoga.**

**Contact Karen at
wyokents@msn.com**



Membership Chairman Katherine Van Dell

“The Magic of the Dance”



Whether dancing by yourself, with that special person, or with a group, you always feel invigorated and exultant. I believe that membership and involvement with a group of women working towards the improvement of their community is like dancing to a great tune. The accomplishments achieved bring happiness to our very being. Ask the women in your family, friends, neighbors who are not already a member to join our dance. We will all enjoy and benefit in the group “dance.”

GFWC Seasonal Recruitment Campaigns “United by Our Diversity”

“GFWC is rich in history and at the very core of our history is our Motto: Unity in Diversity. GFWC benefits from the fact that we each bring something different to the organization which makes us “United by Our Diversity.” Your 2018-2020 Membership Committee has chosen to return to our roots to secure our future. We have plans to increase our membership 20% by 2020 and to have something for both our seasoned members as well as our new members.”
Clubwoman Magazine, Fall 2018, Volume 96, Issue 5, pg 21

Membership Recruitment Ideas/Suggestions

Soon Christmas and New Year’s Eve and Day will be, hopefully, a pleasant memory and it is time to begin thinking of the winter and spring activities and of our clubs. I truly believe that there are women in our communities who would enjoy membership in a club that believes in

doing activities to benefit their community. GFWC-W Clubs are the clubs that believe in giving back to their community and citizens.

Clubs are always looking for ways to grow and recruit new members. There are many things club members can do in order to attract new members. Following are a few ideas in to recruit more members.

- Repeatedly invite prospective members to events
- Give the membership chair one minute at every club meeting
- Bring your co-workers to a club meeting
- Print business cards with meeting dates, website, and Facebook information
- Pass out M&M candy to remind members that “Membership Matters” and we need “More Members)
- Participate in community events
- Ask someone from your work, church, school
- Bring a guest to a club meeting
- Place customized bookmarks in library books
- Have a booth at malls, fairs, outdoors
- Place pamphlets in doctor’s offices, libraries
- Make prospective members feel important
- Have a reward program for those who bring in new members
- Use word of mouth

Please mark your calendar with these important reporting dates:



Winter Mentoring

Dec, Jan, Feb; report due March 1



Spring Recognition

Mar, Apr, May; report due June 1

Send reports to GFWC Recruitment Campaign, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036-2990 and to me, Katherine Van Dell, GFWC-W Membership Chair, 1732 Oxford Dr., Cheyenne, 82001-1663.

Clubs will receive a monetary reward during the state convention in April, if they have recruited at least two new members. It is imperative that I receive your club’s beginning membership numbers in September through each of the reporting dates, so it can be determined which clubs will receive recognition.

Photography Contest Chairman Robin Broumley

Dear GFWC Members

Hopefully, you are currently considering which of your photos from the past year you will enter in next spring's Photography competitions! There are three divisions:

1. **A Year in Pictures** - This is the competition to select photographs for the calendar to be put out by National GFWC. Each club is able to submit **one** photograph directly to National.
2. **The World in Pictures** – This division includes three categories: **Scenes, Living Things** and **Still Life**.
3. **Volunteers in Action** - This division covers club activities.

The rules for each division and category for 2019-2021 may be found at GFWC.org. The application and waiver will be available on the Wyoming site - GFWCW.org - in January.

Entries must be received by April 1, 2019.

All of the sets of rules are the same for each category, except for **A Year in Pictures**, which is sent by each club directly to National (as I mentioned above) and not to the State Chairman. These submissions, plus all other submissions to National, must be accompanied by a Waiver form.

Looking forward to working with many of you!

Robin Broumley – robinLbroumley@gmail.com – 307-259-4174

Public Relations Chairman Pat Stenback

GFWC Communications and Public Relations Committee Newsletter November 2018

NEWEST COMMUNICATIONS TOOL IS TEAM APP



Team App is a **FREE** communication tool which GFWC Texas has found very helpful. This app brought our membership together with a private chat room, newsroom, events' information with a single touch, and a photo gallery. Our members download the app, apply for membership by filling out the application on the app and being approved by the administrator. Once you are accepted, you are ready to proceed. Members of your club or state will only be able to access this app. This app is not associated with GFWC and is an independent app company.

The Webmaster of your club, district or state will most likely be your administrator for the Team App. Complete instructions on setting up your App are on the first page of the Team App. I have listed a few of the instructions in this newsletter.

Download the Team App from your app store, whether you have an iPhone, Android, or home computer. You customize your page to be specific to your club, district, or state. Next you will select functionality with the optional buttons you can turn 'on' or 'off', with different functions available. You can also link to Facebook and other great features to choose from. Team App allows to you access groups to target push notifications and once again it is a private app. We set up a group chat for those attending the International GFWC Convention, the Regional Conferences and our State Convention in order to notify those members about what they need to be attending. We also plan to use this app to stay in touch with our members working during the International Convention in Austin 2019.

Team App is the hub for all your club's information and communication needs, sending instant push notifications to the smart phone or tablet. Manage membership, send news, create events, upload photos and videos, chat with fellow sisters, publish newsletters and much more. Easily link the app to existing club website or social media channels. Categorize your members into groups to improve communication with your executive committee members, district club presidents, committee members, etc. Your content goes securely and privately to the relevant members, and once again, **IT IS FREE**. Your Team App can be viewed on any iPhone or Android device, and a website version that updates dynamically with your app is automatically created! Be creative and have fun!!

Seven Grand Initiatives' Tally

1. Number of trees planted by clubs/members on Arbor Day - 0
2. Number of projects done for Women in the Military - 1
3. Pairs of Shoes donated for Soles 4 Souls - 213
4. Dr Seuss books donated to city programs or GFWC HQs – 56
5. Number of projects done on MLK day – 0
6. Legislative Action Center sign ups – 13
7. Million Dollar Club (Capital Campaign – DC)

GFWC Wyoming Initiatives' Tally

March of Dimes (90,000 needed for a mile)

We received 1,490 from a local organization, so we only need 87,509 more!

We haven't put what was collected at the fall workshop in the bank yet!



Follow us on Facebook: GFWC of Wyoming
GFWC-Wyoming website: www.gfwcwyoming.org

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