

Wyoming News Blast
February 2019



Proud GFWC members
Since 1904

GFWC Wyoming President's Message - Mary Lee Dixon



Be Silly—Be Honest—Be Kind

Welcome to February! It is the month of purification, as per the Roman Gods, a time of new life and driving away the chill of winter as the sun is rising higher and days are longer. With this brings more sunlight and a more positive attitude. We've put the darker, colder days of winter behind us and look forward to spring. In saying all of this I hope you'll relook at how the winter treated you. Hopefully, a time to cuddle up and do warm things getting ready to blossom with spring projects and energy. Here in Wyoming we know we can look forward to some more snow, but blue-sky days and warmer weather usually follow.

We had planned a winter board meeting last month but cancelled due to weather. The agenda consisted of considering some things going on at state level and finding some new chairmen. We also discussed suspending the adult art portion at the spring conference. The board of directors agreed to do this. There isn't a comparable competition at international GF level like the photography contest has. It has been enjoyable to see the creative arts of our members but ribbons, etc. cost money on which we are tight. It's not gone, just suspended until we are in a better place financially. Most everyone wanted to keep our Facebook page, and Marcia Volner graciously volunteered to staff it/run it/oversee it (not sure what you do). If anyone else is interested, please let us know.

Reports have been flowing into the Dean of Chairman with all the wonderful projects and successes our clubs have been in involved in the past year. Thank you to the respective chairman for taking time to rate and compile club reports for the state entry and club creativity awards. For cover sheets for those awards please go to GFWC.org and find both the State Awards Entry Cover Sheet and Club Creativity Award Entry Cover Sheet. Information and deadlines can be found there.

Coming up in March, please watch for the news blast. We will publish by-law revisions to be considered at the April conference and the Call to Conference will be published. The

nominating committee needs to be formed for the next administration, so please consider being a part of that. Most, if not all, of those meetings will be held via e-mail.

I received a very heavy, little bit bigger than a shoebox, package from Karen Brannon, our CIP Chairman in Casper. It contained 74 issues of the Wyoming Clubwoman from 1972 until 1995! What a treasure trove of information! I've been perusing a few issues and found some fascinating facts, stories and lots of ads. We've changed the way we do business, for sure, but the history contained in these issues is nothing short of phenomenal! I will add tidbits of articles I find as I go along in my presidency. All these issues will be placed in the state archives for safe keeping. Thank you, Karen!!

Along those lines, most of you know we've had an international GFWC President from Wyoming. In fact, I think we've had two! Anyway, in the February-March edition of the Wyoming Clubwoman I found the nomination for Mrs. Robert Shriner for third vice president for the state. Ernie was just getting started in her move up to International President! Interesting enough they never mentioned her first name! She was always addressed as "Mrs. Robert" never her own name. Hmmmm...we've come a long way, haven't we?

Silly Calendar Day for February (Library Lovers Month)

Sunday, Feb 3 – Festival of Sleep Day (Hopefully you did!)

Tuesday, Feb 5 – Whipped Cream Day (hmmm...puddings, pies and all sorts of delights!)

Sunday, Feb 10 – Houseplant Appreciation Day (sometimes they are under appreciated!)

Friday, Feb 15 – Make Your Dream Come True Today (dream big!)

Sunday, Feb 17 – Visit the Library Day (find yours and see what it is all about!)

Tuesday, Feb 19 – Be Kind to your Neighbor Day (a simple smile may be the thing)

Thursday, Feb 21 – Sweatpants Day (ok, we all have them-wear them!)

Monday, Feb 25 – Opposite Day (re-think your position on something and change it-at least for one day)

Quirky Fundraiser for the month:

Outrageous/Ugly hat contest – fashion show

Have participants pay an entry fee of \$3 -5 to "show off" their creations at a club meeting. Have some laughs, make some money for the March of Dimes and pick a winner!

Have fun! Be Silly! Enjoy your club members.

In Federation,
Mary Lee Dixon
GFWC Wyoming President



Valentine, won't you "Be Dime?"

What's Happening Next?

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

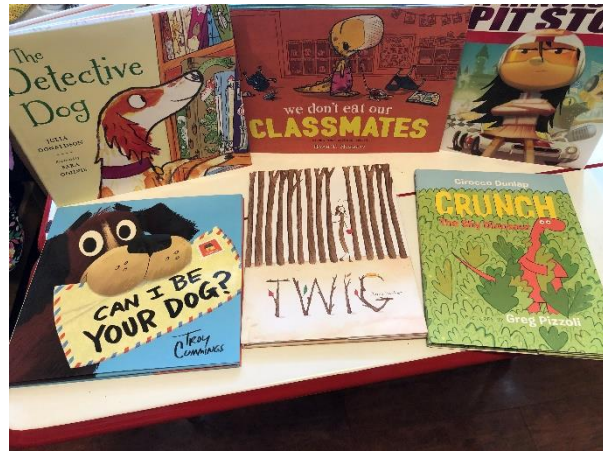
West District Liaison Leslie Jo Gatti

The number of Clubs in the West District will soon increase to three. The ladies in Bridger Valley are working hard to have everything ready to present to the state board at the Wyoming State Conference in Saratoga in April. I am hoping one or two will also be able to attend the Conference. The prospective Juniorette Club in Green River is progressing more slowly. As with high school students everywhere, the girls (and their parents) are busy. Their interest is a start. The Woman's Club of Rock Springs has had to cancel a couple meetings because of bad weather. They are getting ready to participate in their Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service by hosting a Blood Drive. Two of their members gave a presentation to the local Kiwanis Club. All the women in Western Wyoming are wishing for warmer weather (soon) and are hard at work on upcoming projects.

Rock Springs Woman's Club President Marcia Volner

Five of our members spent time getting familiar with the Wyoming Reads books for first graders. The members then read the books to the first graders from 3 different schools. After hearing the stories, the students voted on their favorite and will get to own that book when

delivered to the schools through the Wyoming Reads program. So much fun to read to the youngsters!



GFWC X-JWC President Trish Peoples

X-JWC only has 2 1/2 months left before the drawing is held for the quilt being raffled this year. The tickets are \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20. The money from the quilt raffle will go toward our Ways and Means to support our Community Improvement Programs which are the Unaccompanied Students Initiative (USI) and our Cheyenne Animal Shelter. To purchase tickets, contact Bev Campbell at 307-634-4483 or email bevrogercampbell@gmail.com.

Notes from the Board

GFWC History by Karen Bard, "The Spirit of the Western Woman"

Keep an eye on this space as a new project is soon to be launched to coincide with the suffragette celebrations this year and next. We will be asking for everyone's participation to submit stories, poems, literature works etc, by you or someone else that reflects and/or inspires the hearts and souls of women in Wyoming.

Photography Contest Chairman Robin Broumley

Hopefully, you have been using the recent miserably cold and windy days to peruse your photographs from 2018! Then, to tell me you are entering, fill out the attached application to submit to me by April 1 for the State Contest in Saratoga, April 26-27. You will bring (or send with someone else) the actual photographs to Saratoga! **If you aren't going to be there to pick up your entries at the end, you *must* have someone else pick them up!**

Attached is the entry that is to be sent to me **by April 1**. Please allow plenty of time for it to reach me by the 1st. The rules are in a separate attachment; please read them very carefully and you can reach me at the number on the application form if you have any questions.

I'm looking forward to your entries and meeting you in Saratoga!

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**



Community Improvement Program Chairman Karen Brannon

Here's an example of what one Wyoming club did for a CIP Project. The Glenrock Woman's club found a need for CPR equipment and training. They raised the money for the Resusci-Annies and then arranged for instructors to train people on them. And they won \$400 in the then GFWC Sears CIP contest! This was almost 40 years ago.

GFWC Leadership Education and Development Seminar (LEADS) Chairman Carolyn Turbiville

I hope your club is sponsoring a LEADS candidate. Applications are due March 1, 2019. I have one application submitted. If you have questions, contact Mary Lee or me.

Membership Chairman, Katherine Van Dell

Key State Information: Membership Statistical Report

The Membership Statistical Report is to be submitted to the State Membership Chair, Katherine Van Dell, postmarked no later than February 1 (send as quickly as possible). Number of members as of January 1, 2019, give net change.

Key State Information: Membership Increase

Increase of club membership of two or more members for the 2018 reporting years to be sent to Membership Chair Katherine Van Dell for the purpose of State Monetary Awards. Postmarked no later than March 15. Awards to be presented at the April state convention.

Key State Information: Membership Report

Please mark your calendar with these important reporting dates:



Winter Mentoring - Dec, Jan, Feb; report due March 1

GFWCW Club Membership Chairs, send reports to GFWC Recruitment Campaign, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036-2990 AND TO Katherine Van Dell, GFWCW Membership Chair, 1732 Oxford Dr., Cheyenne, 82001-1663. Questions, please call 307-630-5058.

Scholarships Chairman Wendy Owen

GFWC has a rich tradition of providing scholarships to young people, not only at the club level but at the state level as well. GFWC-W has two scholarships available to high school seniors or returning college students, and one for a non-traditional female student over the age of 18 years of age returning to an accredited Wyoming University, college or trade school. All three scholarships are \$1,000.00 and scholarships forms are available at www.gfwcwyoming.org, or by calling GFWC-W Custodian of Scholarship Funds, Wendy Owen at 307 635-7400 or 307 631-5547.

The Mary N. Brooks scholarship started out as a loan fund in 1909. The State President at the time was Mr. Brooks, wife of then governor, Bryan B. Brooks. It is now a scholarship fund and provides one \$1,000 scholarship yearly to a high school senior or returning college student with special consideration being given to a daughter or granddaughter of a GFWC-W Clubwoman.

In 1978, Ruth Clare Yonkee, GFWC-Wyoming State President donated the \$1,300 allotted for her travel and Presidential expenses to establish the Ruth Clare Yonkee Scholarship Fund. This scholarship is given to a high school senior or returning student and the scholarship

rotates between the state's three districts. This year a winner will be chosen from the Southeast Region of Wyoming. In 2020 the scholarship will be available to a student from the Northwest Region of Wyoming.

The Paulina Hayes Scholarship is our newest scholarship. This scholarship provides one \$1,000 scholarship to a non-traditional female student who is returning to school at any Wyoming University, College, trade or vocational school. This scholarship was funded by the Paulina Hayes estate. Paulina gave money from her estate in the name of Ruth Clare Yonkee, a Wyoming Clubwoman whom she greatly admired.

Please encourage family and friends to apply for these scholarships. Forms (attached) will be on our website this spring, available through school counselors around the state, or by calling Wendy Owen at the number listed above.

Rating Guide Chairman Bev Campbell

Just a reminder that the club's **Rating Guide Report is due March 1st**. If you have any questions or concerns, please give me a call at 307-634-4483 or email me at bevrogercampell@gmail.com. I look forward to reviewing the work your club has done this past year.

Home Life Chairman Phyllis Salzburg

February is **National Children's Dental Health Month** promoted by the American Dental Association. This month-long national health observance brings together thousands of dedicated professionals, healthcare providers, and educators to promote the benefits of good oral health to children, their caregivers, teachers and many others.

This year's NCDHM campaign slogan is **"Brush and clean in between to build a healthy smile."** Visit the American Dental Association's website for lots of information on the month-long event. Also included in the website is information on Give Kids a Smile.



<https://www.ada.org/en/public-programs/national-childrens-dental-health-month>

Consider having a drive to collect toothbrushes and toothpaste for your local domestic violence or homeless shelter and plan for more involvement and a bigger campaign in 2020!

GFWC Legislation and Public Policy Committee Member Phyllis Salzburg

The following are excerpts from GFWC International President Mary Ellen Brock's Letter to GFWC members found in the GFWC Club Manual at GFWC.org:

"This administration will draw upon the past work of GFWC to direct its two major emphasis areas for the future. The first is embracing "Diversity" in its members and programs. We will seek diversity in who we are and what we do..... Embrace Diversity!"

Legislation is the second emphasis area. GFWC's passion for positive change in communities through legislation is part of our history. In 1906, thousands of members of GFWC, who without a vote, only a persistent voice, passed the Pure Food and Drug Act. We will go back to our roots, raise our voices, and reclaim our role as the unified organization that can make things happen. "

In September at our GFWC Western States Region Conference in Las Vegas, attendees discussed 5 bills that were at different stages of the legislative process in the U.S. House of Representatives or U.S. Senate. The bills relate to areas of concern to GFWC members as defined in our Resolutions.

Following a lively discussion, members voted on the two bills they would like to advocate for as GFWC members. Each GFWC Region conference held this activity and results were tallied after the last Region conference. The first bill selected by GFWC members is **Miranda's Law – H.R. 6518** which seeks to prevent dangerous drivers from obtaining employment as a school bus driver and to keep unsafe school bus drivers off the road. The second bill is **3D Printed Gun Safety Act – H.R. 6649; S3304** which would prohibit the publication of 3D printer plans for the printing of firearms.

GFWC members are asked to sign up for Legislative Action Center alerts through GFWC, and to contact their elect officials in the U.S. House and/or Senate to move these pieces of legislation through the process, getting them passed into law. For more information on making an impact as a GFWC member in the legislative process, see the Winter 2019 **GFWC Clubwoman** magazine or contact me.

Communications and Public Relations Chairman Pat Stenback

Ladies thank you for answering my pleas for history.

History of the Yoder Woman's Club

The Yoder women decided that they needed a club in 1921. They became affiliated with GFWC in 1924. At that time Yoder was a busy community with two churches, two banks and three hotels. They also had a lumber yard and two grocery stores, a clothing store and a large hardware store which sold everything that was needed in those days.

Unfortunately, as time passed so did small communities. People moved to Torrington for work because farming was not as profitable. Yoder was left with a post office, fire department and a community building. Around the 1950's, the owner of one of the grocery stores sold its store to the Woman's Club for \$1.00. It has since been replaced.

At one time the Yoder Woman's Club had over 50 members. However, the few members left are able to do lots of good work. One of their main fundraisers is the Pheasant Hunters' Dinner on Saturday and Sunday in November, the first weekend of pheasant hunting season.

One member will celebrate her 70th year, another her 55th year, the Club Treasurer her 48th year, and the Secretary her 30th year. This group of women truly have the Wyoming spirit and prove that any group of women can accomplish great things.

GFWC Communications and Public Relations January 2019 Newsletter

GFWC Communications and Public Relations Newsletter

January 2019

Email

Take a few minutes to consider how to make the most of your emails. Making a few simple changes may make your use of email more effective for you and those you serve.



GENERAL FEDERATION
of WOMEN'S CLUBS

Making the most of your email

Let's review parts of a typical email.

From: Reconsider your email address name.

- PuppyHugger@email.com may bring a smile to your family and friends, but may be viewed differently by someone who knows very little about your club and GFWC. Make sure to use a professional address when working with other organizations and elected officials.
- To protect yourself from identity theft, don't use any part of your birth date or any date/year of importance to you in your email address.
- Consider how confusing it may be to someone if your email address includes someone else's name. While this is fine when emailing friends and family, use an email that is clearly connected to you when emailing others about club business.

Consider creating an email exclusively for GFWC.

- Search for "free email account" to find many options available. Do your research before signing up for an account.
- Consider something simple to remember but professional. "GFWCYourName" or "YourName1734" would serve to identify yourself with GFWC.

To:, CC: and BCC:

- To: This should include anyone who is expected to take action.
- CC: (Carbon Copy or Courtesy Copy) Consider who else should be included in this conversation. If you are on a committee, always include the chairman. If you are conducting club business, you may want to CC: your club President. (All recipients can see who is cc'd)
- BCC: (Blind Carbon Copy) Consider this option if you are emailing a group of people, especially people who may not have access to the email addresses of others in the group. Put your email in the To: line and your group emails in the BCC: line. (BCC is private. Recipients cannot see who has been bcc'd.)

“Reply”, “Reply All” and “Forward”

- Hitting “Reply” responds only to the sender. Consider if anyone else should be receiving your reply. You may choose to reply to some or all recipients depending on the circumstances.
- Think very carefully before hitting “Reply All”. Would you stand up in the middle of a meeting to announce this information to everyone in the room? If not, you may not need to “Reply All”. If you are trying to make a group decision, “Reply All” is needed to keep everyone informed.
- Be mindful to not lessen the effectiveness of your emails. Use “Reply All” sparingly.
- Write emails as if you expect it to be “Forwarded” to others. Notify the sender if you are forwarding an email because you notice someone was left off a group list.

Subject: Short, searchable, and straightforward

- Avoid being too wordy. When it comes to Subject Lines, “Short, Sweet, and to the Point” should be your motto.
- Consider how easy it will be for your recipient to find your email later. If you are working on an ongoing project, how easy will it be for your group to reference an email sent at the beginning of that project? Develop a few key words (e.g. “GFWC Playground Project”) when writing about an ongoing event.
- A subject line should announce why the recipient is receiving this email. Increase the likelihood of your email being opened and read by being clear as to why it is being sent. Also, make sure your recipient understands this email is meant for them.

Body of your text:

- Explain why you are sending this email. Don’t leave your recipient wondering what they are supposed to do with this information. If you need your recipient to take action, explain what you need them to do.
- Be courteous and professional. Remember, you are representing GFWC, your state and your club.
- Read your email out loud before sending. Spellcheck and check your grammar. You don’t want your message to be lost because of a careless error.
- If you are upset, consider allowing someone else to read the email before sending. Emails are like postcards; realize they can be shared with others.

Signature:

- Take the time to develop a signature. Include any office you currently hold. Keep this signature up to date editing your information as needed. Consider including the website addresses for GFWC, your club, etc. so that your recipients can learn more about your organization.
- Look for the “GFWC Stylebook” on gfwc.org under “GFWC Resources” to see how to format an email signature and what information to include.



Seven Grand Initiatives' Tally

1. Number of trees planted by clubs/members on Arbor Day – 6 pending
2. Number of projects done for Women in the Military - 2
3. Pairs of Shoes donated for Soles 4 Souls - 213
4. Dr. Seuss books donated to city programs or GFWC HQs – 72
5. Number of projects done on MLK day – 2 (3 clubs participating)
6. Legislative Action Center sign ups – 13
7. Million Dollar Club (Capital Campaign – DC) - 0

GFWC Wyoming Initiatives' Tally

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

We received 2,600 from fall workshop, private donation and January collections--WCLC (500) and X-JWC (500)--only need 84,909 more!



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

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