



GFWC X-JWC
Member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs



HOTLINE

March 2025

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FROM PRESIDENT PATTY BENSKIN

I would like to thank everyone for their support and patience with me over the last month. I have been caring for my daughter at her house and it has been challenging for the last several weeks. All is well now and slowly returning to normal.

The next few weeks will be busy for the club. We will be reviewing and voting on proposed bylaw and standing rule changes. We will be electing a new slate of officers.

Please mark your calendars for April 12. We will host our annual Bunco fundraiser. I think it is one of the most fun activities. A good time will be had by all, and we will raise money for our club projects.

The state annual meeting will be held April 26-27 in Rock Springs. The Sweetwater County ladies having been working hard to prepare for a good time. I hope some of you will be able to attend.

Don't forget the Children's Museum on March 31. More information will be available on the event. Thank you for all you do for our club and our community.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, March 4, 2025, 11:30 Red Lion Inn. Lunch \$15.00 **SPEAKER** will be Margaret Welsh from Youth Alternatives.

DONATIONS IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP

BIG BUNCO PARTY - committee is requesting door prize donations. Gift cards or other items are suggested. No white elephants please.

VETERANS ROCK – Items related to reading for Thankful Thursday basket.

DUES ARE DUE

\$38 are payable at the March, April, or May meeting for the next club year. Bring your check payable to X-JWC to membership meeting or send to Treasurer Phyllis Salzburg, 5021 King Arthur Way, Cheyenne 82009.

CHEYENNE CHILDRENS' MUSEUM, Trish Peoples

Trish will be conducting a tour for members on March 31 at 10:30.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE, Trish Peoples

Proposed bylaws and standing rules beginning on page 5 of the Hotline will be presented at the March meeting. Vote will be taken at the April meeting.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE, Katherine Van Dell

The slate of officers below will be presented for the 2025 – 2026 club year. Election will be held in April and installation in May.

President – Patty Benskin

Vice President – Pam Nelson

Secretary – Nancy Krois

Treasurer – Phyllis Salzburg

ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM, Jenny Mullin and Phyllis Salzburg, Chairmen

Bring your **used batteries** for proper disposal at Transfer Station Hazardous Materials center. Please separate them by type of battery.

Earth Day Project -- Clean out your sock drawer, your husband's, family member's, and bring old socks to March and April meetings. We'll send them off to Smart Wool in April who will recycle them. Don't buy new socks for this project!

Remember to fill out **Recycling forms** that are on luncheon tables.

Rooted in Cheyenne is now taking applications for spring planting trees. Applications and information at <https://rootedincheyenne.com/>



COMMUNITY IMPACT PROJECTS, Bev Campbell, Chairman

The Cheyenne Animal Shelter and Safehouse Services are the beneficiaries this year of our hard work raising funds at Meadowlarks Market, Texas Roadhouse, and April Big Bunco Party. They will each receive a check at our May general membership meeting.

X-JWC BIG BUNCO PARTY, Karen Schroeder, Chris Ryan, Susan Reagan

April 12, 2025, 1:00 – 3:00, \$15.00, MOOSE LODGE, 1019 S. Greeley Highway. No reservations required. Bring a guest or two or just encourage friends to come. Signup sheet will be at the meeting for those who can bring a dessert and another sheet for those attending. Door prize donations would be appreciated for drawings at the Party.



Jane Davidson March 10
Judy Kallal March 25

MARCH BIRTHDAYS!

Donna Newland March 12
Katherine Van Dell March 25



Jenny Mullin March 28

COURTESY REPORT, Pam Nelson and Carolyn Turbiville

Carolyn Turbiville has missed the past 2 meetings due to recent health issues. One of which involves use of her hands and fingers. Please keep her in thoughts and prayers on Tuesday, March 4, when she has neck surgery for this.

In Memorium

Linda Herman, who joined the club last fall, sadly passed away on February 6. A memorial service to honor her life will be held March 8, 2025 at Schrader, Jacoby and Aragon Funeral Home starting at 1:00 p.m. A donation will be made by the club to the X-JWC scholarship fund in her memory.

JUST FOR FUN BUNCO – March 11 (2nd Tuesday each month), Moose Lodge, 1019 S. Greeley Highway. Bring your lunch and visit with other members before Bunco starts at 12:30.

GFWC Wyoming

State conference will be April 26 and 27, 2025 in Rock Springs, WY. Call to Convention will be available soon with all the details including registration information.



MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Some Firsts for Wyoming Women



First State or Territory to Grant Universal Suffrage – Wyoming Territorial Assembly passed the Women's Suffrage Act, December 10, 1869

First General Election in which Wyoming Women Voted – September 6, 1870

First Female Bailiff in the U.S. – Martha Symons Boles Atkinson appointed to see to the needs of the first female jurors, 1870 in Laramie.

First Women to Serve on a Jury in the U.S. – Laramie Grand Jury sworn in on March 7, 1870.

First Women Newspaper Owners in Wyoming – Laura and Gertrude Huntington purchased the *Platte Valley Lyre* in Saratoga, 1890.

First Presidential Election in Which Women Voted – 1892. Wyoming was the only state with women's suffrage during that election.

First Woman Elected to a State-wide Office in Wyoming – Estelle Reel elected Superintendent of Public Instruction in 1894, the second in the nation.

First Female Legislator in Wyoming – Mary Godat Bellamy, 1910.

First Female Mayor in Wyoming -- Susan Wissler, Dayton, elected 1912.

First Town Governed by Women – Jackson elected 3 councilwomen, a female town marshal and a female mayor in 1920.

First Female Governor in the U.S. – Nellie Tayloe Ross elected November 5, 1924. She later served as Director of the U.S. Mint, appointed by President Franklin Roosevelt, serving for more than 20 years as Director.

First Woman Elected to the Eastern Shoshone Tribal Business Council – Irene Kinnear Meade, 1930.

First Woman Elected to the Northern Arapaho Tribal Business Council – Nellie Scott, 1937.

First Female Wyoming Secretary of State – Thyra Thomson, 1963. **AND X-JWC member!**

GFWC X-JWC Proposed Bylaws
March 2025

Article I. Name. This organization shall be called GFWC X-JWC. The club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) and the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Wyoming (GFWCW).

Article II. Objective. The objective shall be to bring together women for the charitable purpose of the improvement and general welfare of those in our community, state and internationally. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the purposes of this corporation are exclusively to exempt purposes with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Club must not be operated for the benefit of any private individual.

Article III. Meetings

Section 1: General membership meetings. GFWC X-JWC shall hold its meetings the first Tuesday of each month, September through May. A quorum shall be fifty percent plus one of the club members. Meetings may be suspended by the Board of Directors due to inclement weather or a national/state emergency. Meetings may be held virtually at the direction of the Board of Directors.

Section 2: Board of Directors meetings. The Board of Directors shall meet once a month, August through April, at such time and place as the President shall determine. A quorum shall be fifty percent plus one of the board members. Meetings may be suspended by the President due to inclement weather or a national/state emergency. Meetings may be held virtually at the direction of the President.

Section 3: The fiscal year shall be July 1 to June 30.

Article IV. Membership

Section 1: Membership shall be unlimited. Any woman supportive of the object of the club and interested in participating in club activities is eligible for membership. A candidate becomes a member upon payment of her dues.

Section 2: Each member who has been a member for at least one full club year and who is in good standing may sponsor candidates for membership. Sponsorship shall be by personal signature on the membership application.

Section 3: A member in good standing is defined as one who is current in her membership dues.

Section 4: Annual dues shall be payable in March, April, and May and delinquent after June 1. Membership dues are stipulated in Standing Rules.

Article V. Officers and Board of Directors

Section 1. Officers: Officers shall be President, President-elect, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. President, President-elect, and Vice President shall be elected annually. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected to a 2-year term. To be eligible

for an elected office, a member must be in good standing and have been a member for at least two club years.

Section 2: Board of Directors. The elected officers, the GFWC Community Impact Program Chairman, and the GFWC X-JWC Standing Committees Chairmen (Scholarship, Fundraising, Membership, Communications), shall constitute the Board of Directors. The President may also include Community Service Program (CSP) Chairmen, a Signature Program Chairman: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention, and a Juniors' Special Program Chairman: Advocates for Children. Non-board members are encouraged to attend board meetings.

Article VI. Duties and Powers of Officers.

Section 1. President. She shall preside over the club meetings, call special meetings, have charge of the files pertaining to her office and sign, with the Secretary, all documentary/official papers/contracts in the name of the club. She shall represent the club at all federated meetings to which delegates are sent.

- a. She shall appoint the Parliamentary Advisor, GFWC Community Impact Program Chairman, Standing Committee Chairmen and Special Committee Chairmen.
- b. She may appoint CSP Chairmen, a Signature Program Chairman, and a Juniors' Special Program Chairman.
- c. She shall ensure the annual membership handbook is prepared for approval at the board meeting prior to the first meeting of the club year.
- d. She shall give notice of the time and place of Board of Directors meetings.
- e. She shall organize the nominating committee.
- f. She shall prepare and submit the annual report to the appropriate state officers according to the established schedule.
- g. She shall have general supervision over the club affairs and perform other duties as usually pertain to her office and not expressly provided for. At the end of her term, she shall serve as advisor to the Board of Directors for the following term.
- h. She shall write a summary of club year highlights at the end of each club year and ensure the summary is added to the club history on the GFWC X-JWC website.

Section 2. President-elect. The President-elect shall, in the absence of the President, perform the duties of that office. She shall succeed to the office of President.

- a. She shall familiarize herself with every club project and activity.
- b. She shall, in consultation with the President, be responsible for planning programs for the general meeting.
- c. She shall, prior to her installation as President, select her installing officer for the May meeting.

Section 3. Vice President. The Vice President shall, in the absence of the President and President-elect, perform the duties of the President.

- a. She shall arrange meeting places, sign necessary contracts, and report the menu for monthly general membership meetings and provide a copy to the President.
- b. She shall serve as Chairman of the Telephone Committee. She will provide meeting information and actions of the Board of Directors' meetings to the Telephone Committee.

Section 4. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep a record of the minutes of each Board of Directors and General Membership meetings.

- a. She shall have custody of the papers of the club.
- b. She shall keep a current copy of the bylaws in her files.
- c. She shall prepare and send correspondence as required by the President/ Board of Directors.

Section 5. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of the club's funds and papers pertaining to her office.

- a. She shall receive dues, render receipts, and receive other money from members, donations, and fundraising activities.
- b. She shall pay the duly incurred obligations of the club. She shall submit dues and GFWCW budgeted obligations to appropriate officer by established deadlines.
- c. She shall prepare/file required forms and reports with the Internal Revenue Service and the Wyoming Secretary of State. She shall submit required reports to GFWCW by stated deadline which are necessary to maintain the club's 501(c)(3) status under the GFWC umbrella.
- d. She shall render a monthly report to the President, Board of Directors and the club, submit required reports to the GFWCW Treasurer and designated GFWCW Officers.
- e. She shall announce in March that dues are payable and delinquent after 1 June. She shall notify members who have not paid and provide the President with an updated membership report.

Section 6. Parliamentary Advisor. She shall advise the President on parliamentary procedure, attend the board meetings and chair the Bylaws Committee. The advisor shall use the latest bylaws of the club and Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, for her reference.

Section 7. Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall meet at a designated time before each general membership meeting to act upon club expenditures and other business. The Board of Directors shall transact the business which arises between meetings provided that at the next general membership meeting, the club shall be informed of any action which should properly come before it.

Article VII. Vacancies, Absences and Unexpired Terms

Section 1. Vacancies in office. All vacancies in elected offices shall be filled by the Board of Directors except for the President-elect. In this case, the President shall be chairman of the Nominating Committee and appoint committee members to determine nominee for the office of President-elect. Nominations and elections may be held at the same meeting. The club membership shall vote upon the nomination by written ballot unless there is only a single nominee, which can be voted on by a voice vote.

Section 2. Absences. Any elected officer who finds she is unable to fulfill the duties of her office for three consecutive months or more shall tender her resignation to the Board of Directors. At that time, the vacancy will be filled using the procedure outlined in Article VII, Section 1.

Section 3. Unexpired Terms. If the President-elect is called upon to fill an unexpired term of 6 months or less as President, she may be elected to serve a full year as President for the following term of office.

Article VII. Committees

Section 1. GFWC Community Impact Program. The President shall appoint a GFWC Community Impact Program (CIP) Chairman. The CIP should be aligned with one of GFWC's Community Service Programs (CSP): Arts and Culture, Education and Libraries, Environment, Health and Wellness, Civic Engagement and Outreach, or the GFWC Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention, or the Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children. She may form a committee to assist.

- a. She shall research needs of the community and recommend projects to the Board of Directors and General Membership in odd-numbered years. The projects shall be voted on at the April general membership meeting. The recipient/s becomes the club's CIP for the next two years. The club's philanthropic efforts will be focused on the CIP.
- b. She shall work throughout the year to provide opportunities to support the CIP. This may include asking members to bring items (food, clothing, blankets, etc.) to our monthly meetings that are needed by our CIP recipient.

Section 2. The President may appoint Chairmen for the following: Arts and Culture CSP, Education and Libraries CSP, Environment CSP, Health and Wellness CSP, Civic Engagement and Outreach CSP, Junior's Special Project: Advocates for Children and the GFWC Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention.

Section 3. Standing Committees. The President shall appoint a chairman for each of the Standing Committees except the Telephone Committee. Chairmen may form committees to assist.

- a. Scholarship Committee. The Chairman and committee shall work to select scholarship recipients, shall work with high schools and the community college, and provide applications and information to prospective applicants.
- b. Communications. The Chairman and committee shall prepare the monthly Hotline. The committee will update the GFWC X-JWC website and maintain the board and general membership email groups.
- c. Fundraising. The Chairman and committee shall investigate and suggest fundraising projects to the club to support club operations and CIP. Fundraising projects must be approved by the general membership. A minimum of 10 percent of the net proceeds of all fundraising projects will be used to support club operations. A request of more than 10 percent must be recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by the General Membership.
- d. Membership. Chairman shall accept application for membership, provide new members with membership handbook and provide information on club responsibilities. She shall provide new member contact information to Hotline editor and email list coordinator. She shall maintain a file on current and former members. She shall plan and implement, with executive board, annual membership recruiting events. She may have a committee to assist with events which may be held in conjunction with fundraising or other public activities.

Section 4. Special Committees. Unless otherwise stated, the President shall appoint these and other special chairmen as needed. Committees may be formed as indicated or at the discretion of the chairman.

- a. Finance Committee. Shall consist of the immediate Past President, President, President-elect, Treasurer and the Fundraising Chairman with the retiring Treasurer acting as chairman. The committee shall prepare and submit a proposed budget for the ensuing club year to the Board of Directors in August and the general membership for approval at the September general membership meeting.
- b. Bylaws Committee. The Parliamentary Advisor shall chair this committee with two additional members. The committee shall meet in odd-numbered years, and the recommendations will be brought to the Board of Directors and then the general membership.
- c. Auditing Committee. The committee shall be composed of three members. The committee shall review the financial records of the club for the preceding year and present its findings at the September general meeting.
- d. Literary/Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO). The chairman shall inform and direct clubwomen in GFWC's planned reading reports and submit the club's ESO report to the State Chairman.
- e. Courtesy Committee. The Chairman shall provide recognition of events and needs of the club members.
- f. The Telephone Committee shall provide needed Board of Directors' information to members and take reservations prior to the monthly meeting. Telephone committee will report those members attending the monthly meeting to the Vice President.
- g. Legislation/Public Policy. The chairman shall inform clubwomen about legislative advocacy opportunities from GFWC and GFWC Wyoming.
- h. Leadership. The chairman shall implement a Leadership program from the GFWC Club Manual.
- i. Women's History and Resource Center (WHRC). The Chairman shall act as the club historian and ensure the following documents are preserved for the club history: minutes, membership handbook, President's report, monthly Hotline. She shall place these documents in the GFWC X-JWC permanent files at the Wyoming State Archives.

Section 5. Reports. Committee Chairmen shall submit yearly written reports to the President no later than the General Membership Meeting in January for the annual President's Report. The President may request committee reports be made during the year at Board meetings and/or General Membership meetings.

Article IX. Election Procedures.

Section 1. Nominations. The President shall appoint the Nominating Committee Chairman from the Board of Directors. An additional member will be elected from the Board and three members will be elected from the General Membership. The committee shall be organized in January. The committee shall provide a slate of officers to the General Membership by the March meeting, at which time the nominees' names shall be read.

Section 2. Voting. In April, a vote shall be made by written ballot except where there is only one nominee, when election shall be by a voice vote. Nominations may be made from the floor at the April meeting, providing the nominee meets stated qualifications for office, has been notified in advance and agrees to serve if elected.

Section 3. Installation. New officers shall be installed at the May General Membership Meeting.

Article X. Groups

Section 1. Organization. Groups may be organized depending on the special interests of club members.

Section 2. Activities. Groups will inform the President of their activities, choose necessary leaders and arrange programs. If available at the time of printing, lists of group programs and activities may be included in the Membership Handbook. Groups may present program ideas for consideration to the President-elect.

Article XI. Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the proceedings of the GFWCW in all cases not provided for in the Bylaw and Standing Rules.

Article XII. Amendments. These bylaws may be amended, suspended or repealed at any regular meeting of GFWC X-JWC by a two-thirds majority of the members present where a quorum has been established, provided that the proposed amendment, repeal or suspension shall have been acted upon by the Bylaws Committee and provided the notice of proposed change has been given at the preceding board meeting and general membership meeting.

Article XIII. Dissolution. If the organization should be dissolved, the assets shall be distributed to another organization or organizations qualified under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The organizations to benefit from this distribution will be selected by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. No assets shall be distributed to individual members.

GFWC X-JWC Standing Rules

1. Dues are \$38 and payable at the March, April, or May meetings for the next club year. Any member whose dues have not been paid by June 1st will have name omitted from the membership handbook.
2. New members joining in January or February shall pay \$19 for the remainder of the current year. Those joining after March 1st shall pay \$38 for the next club year.
3. Club reporting year for GFWC Wyoming and GFWC is January 1 to December 31.
4. All members are encouraged to work on and/or contribute to fundraising projects.
5. General membership monthly meeting: Each member shall be notified of the General Membership meeting held the first Tuesday of the month (September through May).

Members who have not received notification by noon of the previous Friday should call the Vice President for all information.

6. All luncheon reservations are considered binding unless cancelled by noon on the previous Friday. Members are responsible for notifying the Vice President of any cancellation. Failure to do so will result in billing by the Treasurer to recover the cost.

7. Minutes from previous board and general membership meetings should be sent to members at least one week prior to the next meeting.

8. a. The Courtesy Committee will give birthday cards to members monthly at the regular meeting. If the member is absent, the card will be sent to their home. The committee will also send get well, anniversary (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th), thinking of you and sympathy cards. Sympathy cards are for death of a spouse, parent, child, sibling or pet.

b. Recognition of members' special achievements will be announced in the Hotline, as well as information about new members.

c. The Courtesy Committee, when possible, will visit members who are unable to attend regular meetings.

9. Scholarships: Currently X-JWC is responsible for the GFWC X-JWC Endowed Scholarship at Laramie County Community College.

a. A Scholarship Committee is assigned the task of reviewing applications from students and determining if they fit the criteria set for the scholarships.

b. X-JWC budgets \$600 each year to fund scholarships. In addition, funds allocated by LCCC (interest on our endowment) will be added to our budget amount for a total amount of scholarship funds for the designated year. The total amount of funds will be evenly distributed to each scholarship. At least two scholarships a year will be awarded.

c. Scholarship money may be used for student expenses related to the educational program, such as tuition, books, supplies, materials, lab fees, etc.

10. State Scholarships. When funds are available, X-JWC budgets and contributes to GFWC Wyoming Mary N. Brooks Educational Fund, Paulena Hays Scholarship, and the Ruth Clare Yonkee District Scholarship.

11. Officers and Chairmen who can not attend a meeting should notify the President of their absence and find a replacement for that meeting, if necessary to complete their business.