

GFWC-W January 2017 News Blast

Bloom Where You Are Planted



From the President—Leslie Jo Gatti

Dear Wyoming Club Women,

Hopefully, all of you have recovered from your Holidays. Now we all need a break from shoveling snow and bundling up from frigid temperatures.

Reporting season has begun. By now all Club Presidents should have copies of your reporting forms. If not, contact me. Your deadline for having copies to Dean of Chairmen Mary Lee Dixon and to me is February 1. If you have questions, feel free to ask any State Officer or one of your Club's former presidents. I am looking forward to reading all of the reports, especially those in my three areas of concern: Veterans, Literacy, and Spay and Neuter programs.

There will be a GFWCWyoming Board Meeting on Saturday, January 28 in Rock Springs in the Grace Gasson Room of the White Mountain Library, 2935 Sweetwater Drive (corner of Sweetwater & Dewar). There will be an Executive Board Meeting of elected officers plus the District Liaisons and Parliamentarian at 9 a.m. The Board meeting will begin at 10 a.m. Everyone is welcome, but only Board members may vote. No-host lunch will be from Jimmy Johns or something similar. There is a small fridge & microwave in the room. I will be bringing a large coffee maker & donuts for morning snacks. There is no soft drink machine, but you may bring your own. Wi-Fi is available. It would be great if all Club Presidents could attend because all Clubs should have someone there. There will be a 50/50 raffle, plus information about the State Convention and WSR fundraisers. There will also be information about L.E.A.D.S. I'd like members who have attended L.E.A.D.S. to give a brief presentation of your experience. If you cannot attend, please, send a report with someone from your Club, or e-mail me or Leadership Chairman, Carolyn Turbiville.

I want to congratulate all of the GFWCWyoming Clubs for their membership increases. I recently sent in the Membership Statistics for Dues to GFWC Headquarters. State membership has increased almost 10%! Way to go, Ladies! I am sure Membership Chairman, Wendy Owen, is doing a Happy Dance.

If you are interested in learning more about GFWC Legacy Women's Club, let me know. It is a national Club for GFWC members who are 2nd or 3rd (or more) generation Clubwomen or members who are related to other Clubwomen. Dues are \$30 for two years.

If reporting is overwhelming you, take a moment to watch a silly cat video or to ask me about my little dogs playing in the snow. You'll feel much better.

Yours in Federation,

Leslie Jo Gatti

GFWC Wyoming President

International Outreach- Trish Peoples



End Human Trafficking!

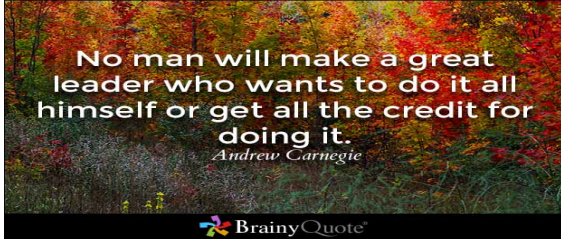
GFWC is taking on Human Trafficking. Did you know that thousands of children are trafficked right here in the US in every state? That includes Wyoming. These kids not criminals, they are victims. Recently an Uber driver saved a 16-year-old victim of human trafficking by calling the police. If he can, why not all of us?

Signs a child is being trafficked:

- Knows little about his or her whereabouts
- Works excessively long hours
- Exhibits fear or anxious behavior
- Was hired with false promises
- Has inconsistencies with his or her story

If you suspect someone is a victim of trafficking, call the **National Human Trafficking Hotline** 1-888-373-7888.

Leadership Chairman—Carolyn Turbeville



This could also read "No **Woman** will make a great leader who wants to do it all **herself** or get all the credit for doing it."

Time to think about Someone attending LEADS Program

If you would like to be a candidate or recommend someone to attend, contact **Carolyn Turbeville** or **Leslie Jo Gatti** for information.

GFWC Leadership Education and Development Seminar (LEADS)

The GFWC Leadership Education and Development Seminar (LEADS) program is intended to identify GFWC members at the grassroots level who have the potential and the desire to assume leadership positions in GFWC beyond their club. Participation in LEADS can help these members gain the capabilities, confidence, and commitment necessary to pursue and achieve higher office and serve with distinction. The LEADS program is held annually the day before the official opening of the GFWC Annual Convention. It is a full day of activities, and includes breakfast and lunch.

It is highly recommended that each State Federation LEADS candidate meet the following criteria:

- Demonstrates leadership capabilities at the club level as an active club president, club officer, or club project or committee chairman
- Exhibits a commitment to the Federation
- Exhibits an understanding of the GFWC mission of community service, illustrated by programs and projects in which she is or has been involved
- Demonstrates leadership skills, including, but not limited to, organization, responsibility, trustworthiness, enthusiasm, and flexibility
- Exhibits an interest in and willingness to pursue higher leadership positions in GFWC
- Agrees to share information gained from participation in LEADS with others in the state federation
- Understands and accepts potential expenses involved in participation
- Has not held elected positions at or beyond the state level (this criterion is recommended in order to encourage potential leaders at the club level to apply)
- Has not attended a previous LEADS program. Members are eligible to attend only once

GFWC will cover a portion of the attendee's expenses including:

- - Stipend of \$250 for travel and \$168 for lodging. Checks will be distributed to candidates upon attendance and completion of the seminar.
- One-half of room charge for two nights at official Convention hotel
- Breakfast and lunch during the LEADS program
- \$10 Gift Certificate (on purchase of \$15 or more) for the GFWC Annual Convention Marketplace

State federation may consider underwriting a portion of attendee's expenses. LEADS attendees are expected to be responsible for a portion of their expenses as an affirmation of their personal commitment. LEADS participants are responsible for making their own travel and lodging arrangements.

State Writing Contest Chairman- Marcia Volner

Looking forward to receiving those writing entries! The due date for the writing is **February 1, 2017**, so that I can get them out to our judges. My address is:

3421 Monterey Dr.
Rock Springs, WY 82901

Any questions please call 307-389-8388
My email is mvwycoff@gmail.com
Please feel free to send them either way

Junior Special Projects- Marcia Volner



Remember March of dimes month is this month. More information at:
www.MarchofDimes.com

February is of course the Celebration of Chocolate Month!

Here are some other celebrations in February that you might think of something to do for that would involve our young people. It is Random Acts of Kindness week from February 12-18th, Bake for Family Fun, International Friendship Month (something with UNICEF maybe) and National Children's Dental Health Month (Talk your dentist into giving a presentation at a school) It is Children's Authors and Illustrators week the first week in February might be a good time to donate books by your favorite author's to your school libraries and even offer to read a few to a class. It is also take your child to the library on February 4th so you can go with your child or grandchild and see what the library has to offer on February 4th. Take your family to school week is February 13-17th and would be a good time to join kids or grandkids in the school cafeteria for lunch.

The easiest one of all to celebrate is February 3rd – Give Kids a Smile Day!

Here's smiling at you. Have a great time planning some events.

Community Improvement Program- Karen Kent

We are all by now “full swing” into another club year. Our clubs all have new officers as does our state, regional and international organizations. If you haven't already, it is time to begin working on your clubs' CIP (Community Improvement Program) project. The CIP encourages all GFWC clubs to develop and implement projects that help their respective communities meet their varied and ever-changing needs. These projects do not have to be extravagant, costly or tediously difficult. They should be centered around anything that makes your community a better place to live.

Things to think about with regards to your project:

- 1) *Identify a specific need*
- 2) *Can you “Partner” with another organization (GFWC, non GFWC, professional, government or other non-profit organizations*
- 3) *Can your project continue as long as there is a need*
- 4) *How can you involve the community*

Your CIP Award entry/report will not be due until March of 2018, but you will need time to develop and implement your project. These projects do not have to take 2 years to complete, you are given 2 years in which to do said project.

With so much need in our small corners of the world we all need to do whatever it takes to minimize that need. We have had many unique and impactful look forward to more of the same in the future.

If you have any questions please, please, please don't hesitate to contact me at :
wyokents@msn.com

Photography Chair- Bev Campbell



Our C-JWC member, Iris Trosper, is nearly 97 years old. She lives in Senior Independent Housing, Pointe Frontier, and takes it upon herself to assure the floor she lives on is decorated for each and every holiday. This year she stuffed a pair of men's underwear and made the Santa sitting in a chair with all his friends. Many of the residents at Pointe Frontier visit her floor just to see the decorations she has put together for the various holidays. This photograph represents the determination and motivation she always expresses and will leave us many good memories one day.

Remembering to take pictures frequently will provide you with wonderful memories for many years to come.

What are clubs up to.... - Lynda Hidalgo, President of Laramie Women's Club

At the December luncheon of the Laramie Woman's Club we had, as our entertainment, the Laramie Jr. High School String Orchestra. They led us in Christmas carols and, at our request, learned and played "Let There Be Peace on Earth". There were several teary eyes because the message of this song is so meaningful especially with all the turmoil that is going on at home and abroad.

By this time all Wyoming Club Presidents should have received a copy of the CD -- a personal gift from me -- with a request that they also incorporate this song in their meetings. I plan on having my club sing this plea for peace at the end of every meeting so that, at Convention '17, we can truly raise the roof with this beautiful message.

Laramie Woman's Club ESO Reading Program & Book Club- Jo-Carol Ropp-ESO Chairman

The Laramie Women's Club has begun a literacy program directed towards Head Start children from low-income families. Five readers prepare a story for the children on a weekly basis and read to them. Including book selection, travel time, and reading time. Each volunteer spends approximately two hours per month with the children. Readers emphasize pre-reading literacy activities such as vocabulary building (words such as author, illustrator, etc.) pre-phonics (such as families of sound-alike words) and literacy expansion activities (such as acting out familiar stories, finger plays, etc.). There are 70 children in the program and each reader visits a single classroom.

Another ESO activity is the initiation of a book club. Members meet in each other's homes to discuss a common book that has been selected by the club's membership.

LARAMIE WOMAN'S CLUB ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION-Lynda Hidalgo, President

"At our November meeting, the Laramie Woman's Club held their annual Silent Auction and netted \$710.00 towards the administration of the club. Since we only get to keep \$12.00 out of our \$35.00 yearly dues (the balance going to State and International), and with the cost of just about everything going up, this goes a long way towards our mission of giving back to the community. All items were donated by members and there were 100's of them....we had very low minimum bids allowing members to take home someone else's "trash" as their "treasure".

HOME LIFE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM- Phyllis Salzburg

HELP PAYING WINTER UTILITY BILLS

For many in our communities, paying a utility bill can be difficult, a matter of life and death if power is shut off and there is no heat in the home.

LIEAP (Low Income Energy Assistance Program) is a state and federally-funded program that helps people pay home heating bills **November through May**. The program is open to homeowners and renters. It helps cover the costs of electricity, natural gas, propane, wood, diesel heating oil, coal and pellets when these are used for heating a home. Share this information with your club members and those in your community who may not be aware of this program. Information on the application process is available at

<https://sites.google.com/a/wyo.gov/dfsweb/economic-assistance/lieap>

or call 1-800-246-4221 for information.

EASTER SEALS HELPS CAREGIVERS

One of our long standing GFWC partners is Easter Seals. While many may have the impression that Easter Seals is dedicated only to children, that is not the case. For more than 90 years, Easter Seals has been serving people with physical and cognitive disabilities and their families. From therapy and early intervention services, to camps and employment placement, they help children and adults with disabilities, veterans and seniors be at their best as they live, learn, work and play. Many do not know they also serve older adults and those who care for them.

The number of older adults with cognitive disabilities is expected to double in the next 30 years, which will have a significant impact on their health and well-being. They also are associated with increased health care use and higher costs. With this comes a growing need for caregivers, who provide the home and community based care which allow older adults to age in their communities of choice. Easter Seals provides caregivers with a place to go for help and for answers on services and support.

Visit this link for great information and resources for caregivers: <http://www.easterseals.com/explore-resources/for-caregivers/understanding-aging-and-caregiving.html>

Membership-Wendy Owen, GFWC-W Membership Chairman

Membership:

Greetings ladies, I wish all GFWC Wyoming Clubwomen a very Happy New Year. I hope your club years are going as well as your new membership recruitment. I have received information from X-JWC with new member info, but that is the only club I have heard from. Please take the time to let me know how your membership recruitment is going.... Also let me know if I can help with any ideas or any type of support. Membership recruitment will not happen without everyone's commitment.

If you did not send in a membership list with your dues at the end of November,

please do that as soon as possible. You need to send that information to **Elsie Gray** in Yoder. We will also need someone from each club to send a list of deceased members for 2016. You can send that info to our state President **Leslie Gatti** and she can get it to the spiritual values chairman.

Only a few months before our state convention. I am so looking forward to seeing everyone in Laramie this year.

Convention Sneak Peek-Lynda Hidalgo, Laramie Woman's Club President

As host of what I am calling "Convention '17" (May 5th & 6th) the Friday night session theme is Western Fiesta since it falls on Cinco de Mayo so all you frustrated cowgirls out there can pull out your cowboy clothes and come comfortable.

On Saturday night the 6th (that I call the "Smoky Eye night because you all seem to want to dress up) --that is actually the day of the Kentucky Derby. We are having a contest for the best "Kentucky Derby Day" hat at the Saturday night banquet.. I had some girlfriends over this past Kentucky Derby Day and the entrance fee was to wear a hat they created...so fun...some were crazy and some were lovely...we even had Mint Juleps. I plan on having some extra hats and trim available on Friday the 5th for those of you who didn't have time to "create" a hat so that you can take stuff back to your rooms and play with. If you don't have any old hats, go to Goodwill -- they have plenty! Please plan on joining us in this fun project...remember-- there is a prize for the best creation!!" Submitted by Lynda Hidalgo, President, Laramie Woman's Club

Yoder Woman's Club

The Yoder Woman's Club would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year. We had a very successful fundraiser in November with our Pheasant Hunters Dinners. Thank you to all the other GFWC Clubs and members that supported us with their time, salads, pies, and being there.

In December several of the Yoder members ventured to Cheyenne to visit The Christmas House. (We can't wait until next year.) The Yoder Woman's Club will be 95 years old this year.

Quote of the Day: **" The more you praise and celebrate your life, the more there is in life to celebrate"** Oprah Winfrey

ESO Challenge

"The moment where you doubt whether you can fly, you cease forever being able to do it" *J.M. Barrie, Peter Pan*

Just For Fun

Let's see who *really* reads the News Blast or even forwards it on to their club members. Each month I will place a trivia question in the News Blast. Send your answers to me via e-mail and I will keep track of Club responses. By the time the Wyoming Convention rolls around I will have figured out prizes for the winners. Thank you to those of you who responded last month!

What color are the berries on a mistletoe branch?

December Question: First I threw away the outside and cooked the inside. Then I ate the outside and threw away the inside. What did I eat? Answer: Corn on the cob!

Have fun – Nancy Kaufman- npkauf@comcast.net