

Wyoming News Blast
January 2019



Proud GFWC members
Since 1904

GFWC Wyoming President's Message - Mary Lee Dixon



Be Silly—Be Honest—Be Kind

Happy New Year! Here's hoping you found time to rest and enjoy family and friends over the holidays – now it's time to get back to work! Oh my, it's time for annual reports, to start gathering data for the club rating guide, and to think about who to submit for LEADS. The winter board meeting is coming up and the annual state conference is on the horizon!! Whew! It was tiring just writing that!

Winter Board Meeting Reminder: We'll meet on January 19, 2019 at 10 a.m. at the Jeffrey Memorial Community Center, 315 W. Pine Street in Rawlins. Please RSVP to me if you haven't already.

Updated GFWC-W directory is on the website. Pages 5, 6 and 7 contain all the corrections and updates so you only need to print those 3 pages.

I will have opportunity tickets for the Western States Region Convention at winter board. 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. If interested but not attending in Rawlins, send your money with an attendee and we'll get you your tickets.

Please note the article from our interim Leadership Chairman, Carolyn Turbiville. She maps out the call for LEADS candidates. I would love a nominee from every club!

Ideas are wanted for our new state website. We will be building a new one in March with the help of Wyoming Networks so we would love some feedback, ideas or list of things you DO NOT want to see on the website. Send your thoughts to me.

Consider special collections for March of Dimes or Raising Readers in the coming months. Send collection to our state treasurer, Marcia Volner, tell her what it is for and courtesy copy me so I can add it to our tally sheet. Thank you for considering doing this.

Again, wishing you health and happiness in the New Year!

Silly Calendar Day for January (Get Organized Month)

Tuesday, Jan 1 – Use Your Common Sense Day (hopefully you did!)

Friday, Jan 4 – Extra Mile Day (again, hopefully you did!)

Friday, Jan 11 – Milk Day (help out our farmers!)

Sunday, Jan 13 – World Kindness Day (everyone needs more of this)

Sunday, Jan 20 – Pickle Day (pick your favorite: Sweet or Dill and have some!)

Wednesday, Jan 23 – I Love to Write Day (send it in for the writing contest)

Friday, Jan 25 – International Day of Tolerance (reflect on your tolerance level)

Wednesday, Jan 30 – Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day (sigh...what is more fun!)

Quirky Fundraiser for the month:

Measure your Foot

Have a ruler or yardstick and have folks measure their stocking foot; pay a dollar an inch towards your Raising Readers fundraiser.

Have fun! Be Silly! Enjoy your club members.

In Federation,
Mary Lee Dixon
GFWC Wyoming President

Picture 1 shows where the dimes are going.
Picture 2 shows where they are **not** going.



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 Western Wyoming ladies have all survived the Holidays and resolved (once again) to keep records of volunteer hours throughout the year, instead of frantically trying to remember on New Year's Eve.

The Woman's Club of Rock Springs is working with the Sweetwater County Library District on Wyoming Reads. They are also collecting afghans and books for the VA Hospital in Salt Lake City and gathering Dr. Seuss books for the Winter Board meeting.

The formation of a Club in Bridger Valley is progressing. The group has seven ladies currently working on Club By-Laws. Unfortunately, they will probably not be ready for presentation to the State Board by the Winter Board Meeting. They are excited and have already completed a coat drive for their schools last fall.

The idea for a Juniorette Club in Sweetwater County has been revived in Green River. It is still too early to have made any progress beyond the "Let's talk about it stage."

Stay warm and be careful on the ice.

Rock Springs Woman's Club President Marcia Volner

The Woman's Club of Rock Springs has had a very successful year of fundraising. Our holiday house was a success, and the members will soon be selecting which organizations to donate to. We have two applicants for our spring grants to Western Wyoming Community College in Rock Springs. Our general meeting in December was our Christmas party. It was a very fun time for all. We have sent our scarves and hats off to the special Olympics for use in the winter special Olympics in Jackson coming up in February. This month we will be reading to first graders for the Wyoming Reads book selection. We continue to collect shoes and Dr. Seuss books. Here's to a bright new year with more opportunities to help our communities and world.

GFWC X-JWC President Trish Peoples

GFWC International offers a “Focus on Literacy” Club Grant. They give a club up to \$200 to use for a project focusing on literacy. Throughout 2018, GFWC X-JWC has had 12 volunteers working in 5 schools in Laramie County School District #1. They’ve helped the teachers in many tasks, including improving the students’ reading skills. It made sense then that we’d apply for and receive this GFWC grant to put more books in the hands of the teachers and students. Our club also agreed to match the funds from GFWC International if we were fortunate to receive the grant. So that means we’re putting \$400 worth of books in our volunteers’ classrooms.

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

Save the Date!

Laramie Woman’s Club Annual Bunco Party

Don’t forget about the Laramie Woman’s Club Annual Bunco Party 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...) 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.)

Notes from the Board

Dean of Chairman Nancy Kaufman

Happy New Year! Now is the time when we get busy – as if we weren’t before!

To all Club Presidents: reports are due to me by the end of the month. Electronic submission is ok. I will then take them apart in order to send each relevant section to the appropriate chairwoman. The statistical report is your guideline, but a list of all projects should accompany that. Any further detail or narrative is encouraged because 10 projects from around the state will be reported to GFWC International, and I know you are all doing amazing things for your communities. Let’s toot our horn a little! Things to keep in mind when expounding upon a project are 1) how many people were involved, 2) how many hours were spent, 3) how it impacted your community, and 4) were any people or organizations outside your own club involved. It doesn’t have to be long, but we would really like to hear what you are doing!

To all Committee Chairwomen: I will be sending you the separated reports by February 11th. I plan to send them electronically and in hard copy. Your task will be to select up to 10 projects from your area to report to GFWC International on. Don’t feel daunted because the entire report is limited to 2 pages. If you have questions, call the club president for more detail. I have seen the types of projects that receive awards at the International level and I can assure

you that we are making as much of an impact in Wyoming – they just don't know about us! PLEASE contact me if you have questions.

In the next few weeks I will be trying to personally call each of you. I am available by phone (307) 630-3003 or e-mail: npkauf@comcast.net in the meantime. A sincere thank you to each of you for taking on this challenge and agreeing to serve GFWC Wyoming and your communities!

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**



Photography Contest Chairman Robin Broumley

I am forwarding the information the GFWC Photography Chairman sent out this fall. It covers everything! Be sure to look at the attachments from her as well as the up-to-date entry form from me. I hope a lot of your members will participate! My phone number and email address are on the entry form.

From GFWC International Photography Contest Chairman Tammy McCoy: It is my pleasure to serve as the photography contests chairman for this administration. I encourage you to assist me in getting the word out to the club level. I would love to hear that each club entered photographs for each contest category. I know that we have many talented photographers within GFWC and we want to showcase their work while helping promote GFWC.

Just as a reminder, there will continue to be three photography contests.

1. The World in Pictures with a) living things, b) scenes, and c) still-life categories
2. GFWC Volunteers in Action
3. A Year in Pictures

Now, did you ever wonder how clubwomen win the photography contest awards?

Here are the top 10 reasons.

1. The photo was taken between January 1 and December 31 of the contest year.
2. The photo submitted was an 8X10 print. (Digital submission alone will not be considered. However, a high-resolution digital copy of the photo is encouraged.)
3. The photo was mounted on a rigid 8X10 board with an overall thickness of 3/8 inch or less.
4. The photo did not have mattes, frames or hangers!
5. The photo had a label affixed to the back with detailed information.
6. The photos contained creativity in display of the subject and was of high quality.
7. The photo entries for The World in Pictures and GFWC Volunteers in Action were submitted by the clubs according to the designated state guidelines. The state chairman then submitted one entry for each category to the GFWC World in Pictures Contest and the GFWC Volunteers in Action Photography Contest. The address is GFWC _____ Contest, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036-2990.
8. The photo entries for The Year in Pictures Contest were submitted directly by active GFWC clubs (one entry per club) to GFWC A Year in Pictures Contest (at the same address noted just above).
9. Each photo submitted to GFWC was accompanied by a completed GFWC Creative Arts Waiver. The Creative Arts Waiver form is located on the GFWC website at the end of the awards, contest, and grants section of the *Club Manual*.
10. Each photo was submitted by the deadline of May 15th.

Community Improvement Program Chairman Karen Brannon

All clubs should have received the entry form/cover sheet for 2018-2020 and the information on the Awards, Contests and Grants, if you haven't, please contact me. Projects could help out youth, handicapped, homeless, the elderly, towns, parks and many other activities.

Writing Contest Information

Did you write something in 2018 that meets the GFWC International criteria, such as a short story or poetry? Do you want to submit it to our writing contest? Please do! Send your work to Trish Peoples, tlapples@yahoo.com, by 1 February. You can snail mail to 7534 Robin Drive, Cheyenne, WY 82009 (postmarked by 1 February 2019). See the attachment for more details.

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

The GFWC LEADS program is intended to identify GFWC members at the grass-roots 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)

GFWC will cover a portion of the attendees' expenses, including:

- Stipend of \$250 for travel
- Lodging allowance of half of the double room rate for two nights at the Convention hotel
- Breakfast and lunch during the LEADS program
- Checks will be distributed to candidates upon attendance and completion of the seminar.

GFWC Wyoming underwrites a portion of the attendee's expenses. However, 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. If your club wants to submit a LEADS candidate, please fill out the form (attached to the News Blast email) and return to Carolyn Turbiville by March 1, 2019.

Newsletter Contest Information

Did you know there's a GFWC Newsletter Contest?

Only one newsletter issue per club or State Federation may be submitted.

The newsletter must have been printed and clearly dated during the contest year (January 1-December 31).

The front page of the newsletter must prominently display the official GFWC emblem and mention membership in GFWC.

Newsletter entries must include the contact information of at least one member, defined as an email address, telephone number, and/or mailing address.

If your club has a Newsletter that you would like to submit, please send to Trish Peoples, tlapples@yahoo.com by 1 February. You can snail mail to 7534 Robin Drive, Cheyenne, WY 82009 (postmarked by 1 February 2019). See the attachment for more details.

GFWC History by Karen Bard

The issue of the NFL and kneeling during the National Anthem was a hot topic in our house over Christmas. My father is a retired Marine, and my sister and her husband are ex-Air Force. Father banned football in his house, but my sister and brother-in-law came down on the side that this is a freedom that we have served and fought for. That same day I read an article on the flag and came across the following that the Federation of Women's Clubs had a role in.

In 1042, the Board of Education instituted a policy ordering the salute to the flag while saying the pledge of allegiance. It was noted that it was too similar to the salute to Hitler, and the Parent and Teachers Association, the Boy and Girl Scouts, the Red Cross, and **The Federation of Women's Clubs** raised their voices to object to this practice. The Flag Code was soon after written instructing people to put their hand over heart instead of saluting in order to distance ourselves from the country's avowed enemies of that time period.

I thought this was very interesting that the GFWC was a part of this group to bring about change. The Supreme Court Case during this time period was focused on the Jehovah's Witnesses who felt saluting the flag was against their religious beliefs. Not only were their children expelled for insubordination, but the parents were liable to prosecution for child delinquency because their children could not return to school until they complied. The penalty was a fine not to exceed \$50 and a jail term not to exceed 30 days.

The ruling came down on the side of the 1st amendment as did the court case dealing with the burning of the flag. It was noted that freedom is the hardest to preserve when it pulls at our heart strings and involves such things as our own flag. The Flag Code requests, not requires, individuals to put their hands over their hearts for both the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem.

Home Life Chairman Phyllis Salzburg

PLEASE HELP your Home Life chairman!! I'm sure club presidents are working hard on their annual reports, and award entries are due before you know it to our GFWC-W Dean of Chairmen Nancy Kaufman and President Mary Lee Dixon. As you probably know, after you submit your information to them, it is then sent to the appropriate state chairmen (Arts, Conservation, Home Life, etc.) for them to read and write their own reports. The state chairmen then send their reports to their GFWC International chairmen.

I am looking forward to reading about all the Home Life projects our clubs have done during 2018. Please include specific information on at least some of your projects (who, what, when, where, and why, to start), if not all the projects that you have done. It really can be a fun and rewarding experience when you actually write down and see all your club has accomplished in a year, which in Wyoming is amazing!! Thank you for your help!

In other news... January is **National Blood Donor Month** – From NationalDayToday.com. According to the American Red Cross, winter is “one of the most difficult times of year to collect enough blood products to meet patient needs.” That’s because of, among other things, busy holiday schedules and bad weather, often resulting in canceled blood drives. Furthermore, seasonal illnesses such as the flu force potential donors to forgo their blood donations. According to the World Health Organization, “blood is the most precious gift that anyone can give to another person – the gift of life.”

Facts About Blood Donations – Get information out to your club – start a project!

- 1. Not enough blood for all of us--**According to the American Red Cross, about 38 percent of the U.S. population can donate blood – but only 10 percent actually do.
- 2. Fill 'er up with regular – donations--**Brookhaven National Laboratory says that people who begin donating blood at age 17 and donate every eight weeks will have donated 48 gallons of blood by age 76.
- 3. Donate blood and get medical info--**When we donate blood, labs examine the donation for multiple infectious diseases, such as HIV and West Nile virus.
- 4. Dogs can donate, too!** Your dog can donate blood, too. Check with your veterinarian and the Humane Society to make sure you know the local rules and regulations for this type of donation.
- 5. The multiplier effect is hug--**Every time we donate one pint of blood, the potential is there to save three lives.

Something you can do: Know your blood type. “O positive donors are needed more often than other blood types. O negative donors are considered "universal donors." AB positive donors are "universal recipients.”

Communications and Public Relations Chairman Pat Stenback is looking for your club histories!

Membership Chairman, Katherine Van Dell



My belief is that there are many women in our communities who would truly appreciate being asked to join a GFWCW club or would consider organizing a club in their community. Looking for ideas to use in recruiting new members? Hopefully, the following are suggestions that a club can use to grow their club.

1. Have a special guest day
2. Invite the media to cover well known speakers
3. Have members give talks at other organizations
4. Look for members in ethnic groups not represented in your club
5. Share your club experience with others
6. Write letters to the newspaper about the campaigns your club is working on
7. Send newsletter to guests/potential members
8. Repeatedly invite prospective members
9. Make direct contact with women's business associations
10. Don't take age into consideration
11. Use word of mouth
12. Participate in community events
13. Create more fun/Make it fun

Please mark your calendar with these important reporting dates:

Winter Mentoring

Dec, Jan, Feb; report due March 1

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 are handed out at the April state convention.

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.

GFWCW Club Membership Chairs: Please email me the name and contact information for your club membership chair, so contact can be made directly with them.

Rating Guide Chairman Bev Campbell

The 2018 year has ended, and you are all busy working on your club reports. I hope you will consider keeping your Rating Guide form beside you as you work on your reports. That will be of benefit to you so you can add information as you go, and you don't have to backtrack for information needed for the Rating Guide. The time period for the guide is March 1, 2018 to February 28, 2019. It is due to me by March 1, 2019. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to give me a call or email me. I look forward to viewing your rating guide and to see what all the clubs accomplished this year.

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 - 2
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) - 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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