

# NEWSBLAST

JULY 2024



**GFWC**  
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GENERAL FEDERATION  
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS



## GFWC MEMBERS SINCE 1904



### **Empowering Women, Nurturing Children: Building a Better Tomorrow**

#### **Karen Bard – GFWC Wyoming President**

Hello from Chicago. I noticed in the latest News & Notes that only 2 of our clubs here in Wyoming are registered for the National Day of Service Community Service Project (CSP) to end food insecurity and hunger in our local areas. I know most of you have something in mind. So please register your club on the portal.

The goal for the 2024 GFWC National Day of Service (NDS), to be held September 28th, is to double our collective impact on food insecurity/hunger. Last year's stats reflect about 290,832 pounds of nonperishable food collected, 40,000 volunteer hours, and \$276,832 in monetary donations, resulting in the preparation of over 241,672 meals.

Our goal is to try and double our impact from last year. Your event does NOT have to be held on the 28th of September. You can schedule it at your club's convenience. Some of our clubs are working with Meals of Hope again this year. If you wish, you can contribute to that project financially. Meals of Hope will ensure that the meals you sponsor go to your county's food bank.

Registration for this year's event is ongoing. Visit <https://memberportal.gfwc.org/> and follow the prompts. Then, click on the Events page to sign up. Simply select 2024 GFWC National Day of Service and you're on your way.

If more than one club is partnering on a CSP, you can register up to three clubs on the site. However, you will need to email Membership Director Melanie Gisler, [mgisler@gfwc.org](mailto:mgisler@gfwc.org), the additional club names for your group.

Nancy Kaufman, our Endowment custodian, put out an appeal in last month's newsblast to have our women donate to the endowment fund on their birthday. In support of the Endowment birthday challenge, I will be writing my birthday check this month. The interest from the Endowment fund supports the states expenses and provides Directors Insurance for all our clubs. This fund is a major reason that our state's dues has not increased in some years. So please consider making a donation this year on your birthday. See the directory on our website on how to post your donation to Nancy.

#### **Karen Kent – President elect**

Do you all know the name, Malala Yousafzai? Malala is the youngest Noble Peace Prize winner in history. Malala is a human rights advocate for the education of women and children in her native homeland of Pakistan. She began writing a blog using her pseudonym of Gul Makai at the age of 11 detailing her life during the Taliban's occupation of Swat. At the age of 14, while riding a bus after

having taken an exam, Malala and 2 other girls were shot by Taliban assassins, targeting her for her activism. Malala was struck in the head and remained in critical condition for months. She recovered and was subsequently awarded the Peace prize at the age of 17. At the current age of 27, Malala continues to advocate non-violence and the education of all women and children around the world. As we all take some down-time this summer, I encourage you to reflect and consider what your passion is. Then when you return to your club work, pursue that passion.

### **Leslie Jo Gatti – ESO Chairman**

Welcome to ESO 2024-2025. ESO is GFWC's reading and educational sorority for members. Each Club makes up its own activities. If your Club does not have a "formal" ESO section, perhaps you could start one or do your own thing as a Wyoming at-large member. Some Clubs have a formal Book Club. Some meet to discuss and/or trade any books they have read. Some members simply keep track on their own numbers. I would like each member to keep track of the number of books and periodicals you read. If you want to keep track of titles, that's fine. I do NOT need titles. I only need numbers for this calendar year (2024). There are suggested categories listed in the Member Portal. If you have any book or activity suggestions, let me know. Our first activity is a scavenger hunt. I will post a reading suggestion for each month from now till March. When you have read each month's book, contact me (e-mail, text, phone). I will keep track and those who finish every activity will be recognized at the Annual Conference next April in Rock Springs. July's activity: Read a book about an animal other than a dog or cat. My suggestion is C.J.Box's newest book: Three-Inch Teeth.

Happy Reading

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### **Scholarship Custodian/Chairman**

I regret to inform you that Flo Beville has resigned as Scholarship Custodian/Chairman. I wish to thank Flo for all her hard work and passion over the past two years. Flo has done an amazing service for this committee, the scholarship program and our state in getting new ranking guidelines in place as well as getting much needed by-law changes and standing rules in place. Her leadership within this committee is to be commended and GFWCW is better off because of her efforts. She will be missed. Our thanks go out to her for all her hard work and leadership.

### **Nancy Kaufman – Endowment Chairman**

I would like to remind you of our "birthday bash" campaign to boost our Endowment Fund. Our goal is to increase the corpus of our account to \$100,000. The Endowment has received its first Birthday check in the amount of \$70. In case you missed last month's Newblast, our Birthday Bash is a suggested donation to the Endowment in the amount of your current age during the month of your birthday.

In addition, don't forget, when you clean out your closets this summer to consider donating your gently used clothing to NU2U consignment store in Laramie. NU2U will return 50% of the sale price of those items to the state for deposit to the Endowment. Please get your donations to Karen Bard in Laramie and she will get them to NU2U.

## **Marcia Volner – Women’s Club of Sweetwater County, President**



Women’s Club of Sweetwater County had their annual Garage Sale in June. It was the best one ever coming very close to \$1500. Marcia has put some items on Facebook Marketplace hoping to get the \$33 needed to get to this amount. Our next event will be July 13, at Bunning Park where we will have a booth at International Day. We do this each year and sell items as well as try to gain new members. We are redoing our by-laws this summer and writing up more of our history using the scrapbooks and records donated to the Historical Museum. The history will be put on our website so we can have a complete history available. We are very busy over this summer “break”.

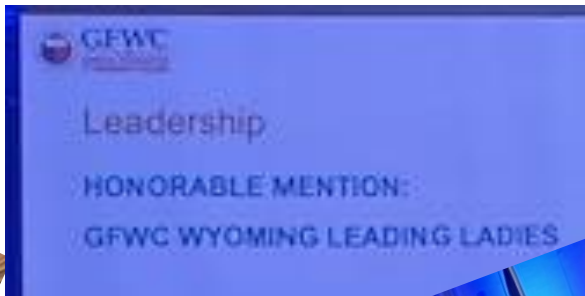
## **Lynn Prichard – Laramie Woman’s Club, President**

We held our June Garden Party with 42 women signing up to attend. It is our final, purely social, activity of the year. Attendees could have fresh fruit or cupcakes from the Sugar Mouse. Unfortunately, we had a bit of rain move in and we had to go inside. But everyone still had a great time. We were honored to have our State President, Trish Peoples, join us for the event.

## **2024 International Convention in Chicago**

Representing the great state of Wyoming at the GFWC international Convention in Chicago are Trish Peoples, Karen Bard, Karen Kent, Nancy Kaufman, Mary Lee Dixon, Pam Crochet, Patty Benskin and Wyoming’s LEADS participant, Lynn Prichard. 5 days of education, socializing, and networking. Wish you could all be here!!





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GFWC-Wyoming website: [www.gfwcwyoming.org](http://www.gfwcwyoming.org)

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