

Wyoming News Blast

March 2020



Proud GFWC members

Since 1904

GFWC Wyoming President's Message - Mary Lee Dixon



Be Silly—Be Honest—Be Kind

March 2020

Can you believe we are in our third month of the year!? Time is marching on. We are all looking forward to spring with longer days, warmer sunshine and just an attitude of renewal. This is a time for new beginnings. Pick a new project for your club, reenergize your team for an ongoing project or take time to renew a friendship.

Nancy Kaufman has been sending me the compiled reports from our clubs around the state. She and her team of chairman are working diligently to rank and award state club's hard work and honoring those who have reached milestone years in a GFWC club.

All those things will be celebrated at our state convention next month in Cheyenne. The Call to Convention has gone out to the club presidents and board of directors. Please make sure you've received the Call and make plans to attend. We'll have discussions, information, special guests, skits and elections of officers for 2020-2022. You must register to vote for any changes we entertain and the election.

I hope to see you next month in Cheyenne!

In Federation,
Mary Lee Dixon
GFWC- W President

March (Women's History Month)

- Monday, Mar 2 – Hedgehog Day (Cuties!)
- Wednesday, Mar 4 – Sweater Day (Needed one that day!)
- Thursday, Mar 5 - Nutella Day (what's not to love!)
- Saturday, Mar 7 – Send a card to a Friend Day (surprise some one)



Saturday, Mar 14 – International Book Giving Day (share your favorite)
Friday, Mar 20 – World Human Spirit Day (we're all humans – share that spirit)
-wonder at our achievements -gaze at the universe
Friday, Mar 27 – Strawberry Day (with or without chocolate)

Fund Raising ideas for the March of Dimes

Weigh Your Purse - Have a small scale at the meeting and have women weigh their purse and pay \$.50 a pound towards your Mile of Dimes effort

Club News

GFWC Woman's Club of Rock Springs President Marcia Volner

We have lost one of our very active members, Charlette Stewart. She will be greatly missed! We are in the process of giving money to community organizations from what we have earned over the past year. We are giving funds to the Junior High project, which will be an event at the end of April where they will be giving out books, some purchased with our money, to the students. We will also have a table at the event and pass out the books and information on our club. We will be talking to students about interest in a Junior Club. We are looking forward to a fun evening. Some of us are getting our rooms so that we can attend the State Convention. Sounds like a fun time! Hope to see many of our friends from across the state.



GFWC Meadowlarks President Flo Beville

Wow, I can't believe it is March already. Spring is right around the corner, I hope. And speaking of spring, I was glad to see the Call to Convention come out. I am looking forward to the Convention. I have encouraged Meadowlarks to attend and take part in the process, and I look forward to seeing you all there. The Larks are happy to be associated with the GFWC brand. And we are, of course, proud to have nominated Karen Kent for GFWC-WY Secretary. Cheers!

GFWC X-JWC President Trish Peoples



Please join us for Bunco on Saturday March 28, at the Moose Lodge, 1019 S Greeley Hwy in Cheyenne. Lunch will start at 11:00 and bunco will follow. Prizes will be offered for most buncos, high score and low score. There will be door prizes, raffles and 50/50. Cost is \$15 for lunch and bunco. Proceeds will go to the Cheyenne Animal Shelter and the Unaccompanied Students Initiative. Contact Carolyn Turbiville 632-8244 or 640-1457. The deadline is drawing near, so call Carolyn today!

News from our Chairmen

Dean of Chairmen Nancy Kaufman

I hope you all are adjusting to the time change! I am happy to report that 9 of the 10 Clubs in Wyoming sent in their 2019 Statistical reports and Narratives--what a year we had! All pertinent information was disseminated to committee chairmen in February--sometimes more than once as I negotiated this electronic age. Please make sure you can open what was sent.

Be sure to either mail or e-mail your completed State Award Entry Cover Sheet and the Club Creativity Award Entry Form with the appropriate documentation by March 15th! Entries not postmarked/e-mailed by that date will not be considered for awards at the International level. State Placement Awards can be sent to me when you get them finished.

Thank you all for your efforts. Please remember to also send a copy of your final reports to Mary Lee and me. Let me know if you have any questions.

Arts Chairman Ina Buckner

Please gather your Youth Art submissions for our State Convention in April. I do plan on attending and am looking forward to my new position within the state of Wyoming. Contact me at buckner_ina@yahoo.com if you have questions.

Leadership Chairman Pam Hendricks

Future Leadership

“Before you are a leader, success is all about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others.”

– Jack Welch

What can you do to build Leadership?

- Encourage new members to join in activities. Let their fresh ideas help with planning.
- Incorporate reports on Federation activities at club meetings to connect with other GFWC clubs.
- Take advantage of our diversity. Each individual member brings unique skills to the club.
- Mentor new leaders. Support them with suggestions. Encourage participation in all GFWC activities. Travel with them and help with expenses. Give them GFWC resource materials.
- Share the work. It is easier if members join in planning meetings, participating in projects, or writing reports.
- Be generous in showing your appreciation.

Where to find potential leaders? Club Member, Former Club Officer, Current Club Officer, New Member

As the leader it is essential you equip your officers and committee chairmen to function effectively. Together you will help your club make a real difference in your community. To do that, regular training will be very helpful to ensure they handle their duties and are growing in their leadership capacity. Basic procedures for officers and their responsibilities are provided here as a guide. Reviewing and discussing the guidelines for the various officers, and brainstorming ways your leadership team can grow beyond expectations, will help to build strong leadership.

Community Improvement Chairman Karen Brannon

I have received quite a few Community Improvement Project reports from Clubs in the state, so come to the Conference in Cheyenne to find out what the Clubs have been doing!

Membership Chairman Katherine Van Dell



The Magic of the Dance

Member Recognition

With the club year coming to a close, members should be looking forward and considering what is next for them. However, first it is imperative that we finish out this administration year and that we look strong. Plan on recognizing your members with years of service beginning with 10 years and moving up. This can be accomplished at the club's final meeting of the year, which is also when new incoming club officers are installed. Another idea is to conduct an event where new members are recognized along with their recruiter, such as a Spring Fling. Remember that recognition shows all members, old and new, that GFWC appreciates everything they do for their club and community.

“If you invite people into your home, you're very gracious and accommodating but too many times at meetings that goes away. New members don't feel welcomed, valued, or interested. Lead by example.” Valerie Barnes, GFWC Membership Committee, at the GFWC WSR Conference in Las Vegas, September 14-16, 2018.

Activities for acquainting members with GFWC

1. Pair an experienced member with a potential or new member, making sure they do not know each other.
2. Distribute paper and writing implements to each participant.
3. Ask each participant to write ten personally descriptive words or phrases. Include information on family, interests, hobbies, employment, etc. Allow five minutes.
4. Direct one of each pair to tell her partner about herself, in a conversational style using the list as an aid. Allow five minutes.

This group exercise is a unique way to get people talking and introduced to the club. (2018-2020 GFWC Club Manual-Membership)

Please mark your calendar with these important membership reporting dates:

Winter Mentoring

Dec, Jan, Feb; report due March 1

(I hope that each club submitted this form to GFWC Recruitment Campaign and if so, please send me a copy. Even if you have not sent it in yet, please do so now. Thank you!)

Spring Recognition

Mar, Apr, May; report due June 1

Send reports to GFWC Recruitment Campaign, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036-2990 and also to me, Katherine Van Dell, GFWC-W Membership Chair, 1732 Oxford Dr., Cheyenne, 82001-1663.

Fundraising Chairmen Flo Beville and Karen Kent

We have some fun things planned to raise funds. Don't forget about the cabinet, we are always looking for members to help us sell tickets for it. Thanks to those who have already done so.



Contact Flo at robi53@msn.com or Karen Kent at wyokents@msn.com for tickets for this cozy cabinet!

\$5 or SIX for \$20

Proceeds go to GFWC-Wyoming

The fundraisers also ask you to consider donating a bottle of wine for the Western States Region Conference in September. You can bring them in April to our State Convention!

Communications and Public Relations Chairman Pat Stenback

Excerpts from GFWC Communications and Public Relations

Share the Love of GFWC

Did you know you can create an “event” on Facebook on your club page? Create an event for whatever your club is planning that you want others to know about and perhaps even help. The event gives the date, time, and location; also include a photo to draw attention. Once you create the event you can invite your friends, often including those who live in the area. Everyone that has liked your page can see it.

There are interest groups on Facebook. Search the groups in your area, they consist of people that have interest in small communities, helping others in the community, or maybe being a certain age. You can see what they are posting, and you are also able to post in the group. Now when an event is created for my club, we share the event with each of these groups. When you share the event add a little comment about how great your club is. Also let them know how much fun you have, what you like about your club, and invite the ladies to come learn more about the club or just come to help with a project/fundraiser. Let them know about GFWC and your love of GFWC. We have been able to increase our likes and it took a while, but we are now getting new members because of the postings on Facebook.

Home Life Chairman Phyllis Salzburg

March is Disabilities Awareness Month

The Wyoming Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities advocates for the independence and inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in Wyoming. The purpose of the Council is to assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in and have access to needed community services, individualized supports and other forms of assistance that promote independence, productivity, integration and inclusion in all facets of community life. The Wyoming Disabilities Awareness walk will be held in Cheyenne on March 28 at Frontier Mall. A list of resources available to people with disabilities and their families in the state of Wyoming can be found at: <https://wgdd.wyo.gov/resource-1/State-Resource-Page>.

Myths about disabilities

MYTH: People with disabilities are special and should be treated differently.

FACT: The label of "special" in reference to a person with a disability does not convey equality. Expectations for success should not be underestimated to accommodate the "special" label that is associated with people with disabilities.

MYTH: A person's disability defines who they are as an individual.

FACT: People often label a person with a disability according to their condition or limitations. It is common in our daily lives to hear references such as "the disabled" or "the epileptic." Individuals with disabilities are people first. Remember the slogan "Label jars, not people."

March is Women's History Month

Why is it important? Visit <https://www.gfwc.org/womens-history-month-matters/>.



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