



*Welcome to Spring. Whew, we made it through winter so far. Brace for those Spring storms in the Rockies though.*

*Cookies – 50 dozen cookies were decorated at Karen Kent's house on Feb 10 and delivered on Feb 12. In addition, VFW 11453 to which Trish and Mary Lee belong*



*donated \$100 for the ingredients.*

*Tarot Reading/Shopping – Please let me know if you are interested in this social event so that I can set a date and time. \$40 per person for a half hour reading.*



*Birthdays this month are Pat Moore on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and Flo on the 28<sup>th</sup>.*

*Happy Anniversary to GFWC Wyoming – Many of us including myself don't know the whole story of our origin. The Larks are part of a much bigger picture. Trish Peoples wrote this short history for the Newsletter.*

*Jane Cunningham Croly, a journalist, author, editor, and woman's club leader, was born in England, and moved to the United States in 1841. In 1854, at age 25, Jane arrived in New York City in search of work. The New York Tribune accepted her first article. She then began working as a journalist for the New York Sunday Times and Noah's Weekly Messenger, where she started using the pen name Jennie June and wrote a women's column called "Parlor and Side-walk Gossip." Jane's column was popular, and by 1857, she became one of the first women syndicated columnists, appearing in newspapers in New Orleans, Richmond, Baltimore, and Louisville.*

*Aware of her dual roles as mother and journalist, as well as the changing status of women—middle-class women, especially—Jane spent much of her life organizing venues for women to meet, learn, and discuss issues surrounding their roles in*

## ***Lark Newsletter, Page 2, March 2024***

*society. She started her first organization, the Women's Parliament, in 1856. Then, in 1869, she and other female journalists were denied tickets to hear Charles Dickens speak in New York City. This spurred her to form the famous women's club, Sorosis—a "centre of unity" that had neither a charitable nor socio-economic purpose, but sought "collective elevation and advancement."*

*Croly became very involved in improving working conditions for women, supporting professional female journalists, and advising and assisting educated girls looking for employment. Through her dedication to women's clubs, she committed to helping other women obtain the education that the society of men had failed to support. Jennie June was looking ahead, not behind.*

*Jane Croly invited women's clubs throughout the United States to pursue the cause of federation by attending a convention in New York City. On April 24, 1890, 63 clubs officially formed the General Federation of Women's Clubs by ratifying the GFWC constitution.*

*To put it into context, less than three months after GFWC was formed, Wyoming joined the United States "with our women," the only state allowing women to vote at that time. It makes sense that we would see the need to join our GFWC sisters.*

*The Woman's Club of Cheyenne joined the General Federation of Women's Clubs in 1896, under Anna Guiterman. But she obviously wasn't satisfied with that and pushed to have the entire state of Wyoming under GFWC.*

*On January 19, 1904, 35 delegates from 15 clubs met in the auditorium of the Carnegie Library, Cheyenne, to form a Wyoming Federation. The next day the Constitution and Bylaws were adopted and Harriet Sheik, from Wheatland, Wyoming, was elected as the first State President. She was joined by VP Mary Brooks, Treasurer Kate Holmes, Federation Secretary Anna Guiterman, Recording Secretary Rose Perkins and Corresponding Secretary Winifred Woods. This new federation applied at once for membership in the General Federation. The parent organization responded favorably, and the Wyoming federation was officially added to the membership of General Federation March 24, 1904. This month is GFWC Wyoming's 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary!*

*Note from Flo: Women, together, are powerful, and together we can get it done!*

*Larks Newsletter, Page 3, March 2024*

*Did You Know? QUOTE: Finally, March has arrived and another, long, cold Wyoming winter is starting to soften into spring.....*

*More than anything, this is feather weather – the season that gets bird watchers and photographers excited for what they enjoy the most. In early March, some of the earlier bird migrants head our way and are decked out in their finest plumage. Look for brightly colored song birds, as they frequent backyard feeders.*

*Return of the songbirds. Of some species who come home to Wyoming are the Mountain Bluebirds. They are the one true-blue North American bluebird. Others to look for are: White Crowned Sparrows, native to Wyoming. White throated Sparrow, and when it arrives, displays its breeding plumage. Harris's Sparrow. The Bullock Oriole usually arrives later and features bright colors. Norm and I have these beauties visit our yard. The Western Tanager is also very colorful, yellow with black wings and a bright orange/red head. Another Beville yard staple. Norm gets just as excited as I do with our array of colorful birds. The beautiful Lazuli Bunting, a finch-like bird shows off its bright blue head and wings. And last but not least the American Goldfinch with its brightest yellow body and black wings.*

*So how do you get them to visit? Simple - food, water and cover. Trees and shrubs are cover. Water is provided with a bird bath. Food is easy to offer. For the majority, black oil sunflower seeds are a favorite. Be careful of mixed seeds, as it may it contains grains (millet) as fillers. And don't forget the suet blocks. You will see birds such as woodpeckers, finches, orioles and tanagers to name a few who don't eat other seeds really enjoy the suet. Another interesting tip. Basic grape jelly and orange halves will keep the colorful birds coming back. So happy bird watching!!! Source: Wyoming Wildlife Magazine, March 2024*

*“See you” next month. Stay Safe and Happy St. Patrick's Day*

