

GFWC Wyoming

Newsblast

May 2022

## **“Be The Light”**

### **Final Words from our 2020-2022 State President – Nancy Kaufman**

Happy Spring! Happy news from Convention 2022 in Thermopolis! Congratulations to the incoming 2022-2024 GFWC Wyoming officers who were sworn in there: Trish Peoples, President; Karen Bard, President-elect; Karen Kent, Vice President; Elsie Gray, Secretary; and Katherine Van Dell, Treasurer. Marcia Volner was also selected to be West District Liaison and Kathleen Petersen will be East District Liaison.

Congratulations to our Photography Contest winners whose work is being sent on to International for further judging – Phyllis Salzburg, Karen Bard, and Marianne Gatti. Thank you, Phyllis Salzburg, for chairing that again. Thanks go out to Candy and CeeCee from Grace for 2 Brothers for their QPR Training and to the Leading Ladies for their leadership workshops. A very special thank you to Lea Delay for the gorgeous quilts and touching presentation of Quilts of Valor to our GFWCW veterans Trish Peoples, Pam Crochet, Leslie Jo Gatti, and Flo Beville – I don't think there was a dry eye in the house. Convention 2022 was incredible event and we had it all - business, education, and fun (can you say pajama party?). Sincere thanks to Karen Kent, Flo Beville, Katherine Van Dell, and Deb McCann for their organizational talents.

As I write this last Newsblast, I would like to thank the GFWC Wyoming women who served on the Board from the bottom of my heart. Each one went above and beyond any expectations I may have had, and I have loved working with them. A huge thank you to them as well for the beautiful gifts, especially the amazing quilt. Great appreciation and humble thanks also need to go to the remarkable clubwomen in Wyoming because you are the heart and soul of GFWCW. We asked for donations to support snacks for Thermopolis schoolchildren and collected more than 150 pounds! We asked for dimes to support March of Dimes and collected over \$500 during this administration. We asked for quilt blocks made in yellow and blue for Ukrainian children (they will be sent to Berlin where they will be made into quilts) and I received 200+! But more incredibly, we asked for donations to UNICEF for Ukraine to help the refugees there and GFWCW women donated more than \$3100! We rock!

Thank you again for allowing me to serve as your GFWC President – it has been a privilege I will never forget. Next year I will serve on the Communications committee at GFWC International, and I look forward to continuing to represent Wyoming Clubwomen well.

Remember random acts of kindness, both given and received, can make a profound impact. Remember that mental health also refers to a positive state of mind and May is Mental Health Awareness month.

Remember pray for Ukraine. Remember to lift your sisters by celebrating their accomplishments. Remember to take care of yourselves and those around you. Remember to Be the Light.

Yours in Federation – Nancy

“We are more alike my friends than we are unlike” – Maya Anjelou

### **PICNIC in the PARK**

Yoder is having a Picnic - (gotta love those ladies)! 6pm May 18<sup>th</sup> in Yoder. They will have food (naturally) and install their new officers. RSVP to Elsie Gray 532-3524 or Bev Yeik 532-5382 I'm sure it will be a blast!

### **Dean of Chairmen – Trish Peoples**

Esther Alert! After our lively discussion at convention about the Esther Hobart Morris statue at the Wyoming Capitol, more research was done. The Wyoming State Museum has funded the work that is needed to refurbish both Esther's statue and Chief Washakie's statue. The conservation work is already underway and should be completed later this year. Hooray!

Trees Alert! We had another discussion at convention about trees. I will save my complete tree plea for the next Newsblast, where I will send out a challenge to all Wyoming clubs and clubwomen to plant trees. If you want to get started now instead of waiting for the fall, let me share with you the connection Mary Lee Dixon has made. Nick Neylon is the Deputy State Parks Director and can guide you through selecting the best trees for planting in each area of the state and how to donate money to our State Parks for planting trees.

Nick Neylon

Deputy State Parks Director

(c) 307-431-4866

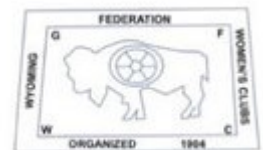
(c) 318-450-8687

[nick.neylon@wyo.gov](mailto:nick.neylon@wyo.gov)

As Dean of Chairmen, I want to share with you how proud I am of the reports we sent to GFWC International. I would like to thank everyone for doing her part for GFWC Wyoming, whether it was writing a report or working on a project in your club. I've attached a list of the Creativity Award winners, along with our Community Impact Award Winners and our Jennie Award winner. If something piques your interest, contact that club to learn more. Together, we do great things!



### **GFWC Wyoming 2021 Awards**



#### **Jennie Award**

Pam Crochet from GFWC Women's Civic League of Cheyenne

#### **Community Impact Program**

GFWC Women's Civic League of Cheyenne – Assisting People with Disabilities

GFWC Meadowlarks – Feeding the Hungry

**Signature Program: Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention**

GFWC Laramie Woman's Club – Comfort Bags

**Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children**

GFWC Laramie Woman's Club – WIC Quilts and Pillows

**Arts and Culture Community Service Program**

GFWC Yoder Woman's Club – Dollar Bill Exploration

**Civic Engagement and Outreach Community Service Program**

GFWC Laramie Woman's Club – Adopt an Elder

**Education and Libraries Community Service Program**

GFWC Yoder Woman's Club – Walking Book Project

**Environment Community Service Program**

GFWC Laramie Woman's Club – Bra Collection

**Health and Wellness Community Service Program**

GFWC Laramie Woman's Club – Sewing & Such

**Communications and Public Relations Advancement Plan**

GFWC Leading Ladies – Club Charter

**Fundraising and Development Advancement Plan**

GFWC Yoder Woman's Club – Pheasant Hunters' Dinner

**Leadership Advancement Plan**

GFWC XJWC of Cheyenne – CIP Selection Process

**Legislation and Public Policy Advancement Plan**

GFWC Yoder Woman's Club – Pandemic Discussion

**Membership Advancement Plan**

GFWC Woman's Club of Rock Springs – Advertising for Members

**Women's History and Resource Center**

GFWC Yoder Woman's Club – 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

## **Treasurer - Katherine Van Dell**

The State Convention turned out to be an informative, fun time in Thermopolis. Dollars raised that April weekend and since for the UNICEF for Ukraine was \$839.32, this amount combined with the \$1,026.68 that the members voted to send to UNICEF is \$1,866. GFWC Wyoming has donated a total of \$3,136. Outstanding GFWC Wyoming clubs and members.

President Kaufman's president project was the March of Dimes. \$150 was raised and turned in at the state convention. Thank you for all those dimes.

Donations with letters from GFWC Wyoming have been mailed to these two organizations.

Thank you for electing me to an additional two-year term, as state treasurer. I look forward to serving you.

## **Civic Outreach and Engagement Chairman - Flo Beville**

I would like to thank Nancy for asking me to chair this committee. It was a positive learning experience and I enjoyed my research for articles. It accentuated how important we are for our communities in the great work we do.

I would also like to thank Nancy for asking me to Chair the Nomination Committee. It necessitated me coming more familiar with the Bylaws, and "dig in" thus another positive learning experience.

I look forward to my next "assignment" under Trish's administration.

Thank You All and Take Care

## **Women's History and Resource Center Chairman – Robin Broumley**

My last suggestion for Women's History in Wyoming is a book I just finished this morning: 'I Live in a Beautiful World' by Julie Bruns. She homesteaded near Glenrock and lived an amazing life! The book was her journal over the decades she lived there and was like a long letter from a friend. I hated to finish it! It is available online. Enjoy!

## **Fundraising, Spiritual Values, Convention Chairman – Karen Kent**

I would like to thank everyone who attended the GFWC Wyoming State convention in Thermopolis. We had 34 club women from 8 clubs represented. In addition, we had 3 guests. It was a fun time. I would like to thank Flo Beville, Deb McCann, and Katherine VanDell for months of hard work. We all tried to make it fun and memorable. My sons and their roommates certainly enjoyed all the left-over snack mixes.

Our fundraising efforts went very well, and I thank all of you for your generosity. We raised \$150 on the 50/50 card drawn, \$610 on the jewelry raffle and box sale. Unfortunately I have not received the final proceeds from the Jewelry Bomb/pajama party. After 4 years as your fundraising chair, I gladly step down.

I thank Nancy Kaufman for asking me to be Spiritual Values Chair. I initially declined the position but with her insistence that I was capable, I accepted. Thank you all for your encouragement and kind words. I hope at one time or another you found something that touched a chord in yourselves and that it can be passed on to others.

Now I am on to new projects. As your state vice president, it will be my job to keep you informed of what's happening around your state through the Newsblast. **Please read the letter to Trish on page 8 of this Newsblast.** New and exciting things are coming your way! Trish has also asked me to take on the role as your state Membership Chair. I am excited to be in this position as we try to grow our membership around the state. I have attached a grant application that I hope all our clubs will take advantage of in trying to increase the membership in our existing clubs and add new clubs to our state roster.



Membership  
Grant[2549].pdf

## **Membership Co-Chairs - Lynn McLaughlin & Deb McCann**

*May 2022*



### **May is Sunflower Month**

Sunflowers brighten up your garden with their vibrant colors. They are easy to grow and care for. Sunflowers offer a healthy source of pollen and nectar to bees resulting in improved pollination for growing vegetables and fruit.

(Pride Landscape & Design, Internet)

### **Volunteer**

Do you enjoy bringing people together for a common good cause? Do you feel more relaxed after helping someone in need? If so, your middle name is “volunteer” and you should start a new GFWC club!’ You can open countless doors to personal growth for others in your community by creating fun and exciting volunteer opportunities.

(Becky Wright, GFWC Membership Committee Chairman, FB post)

### **GFWC Fun Facts**

The General Federation of Women’s Clubs is united in its dedication to volunteer community service. GFWC works locally and nationally to bring about positive change with an unwavering dedication to community improvement through volunteer service. Simply put, we impact lives, through acts large and small.

GFWC is distinguished from other service organizations by the breadth of our outreach. Our community service programs span all areas of the lives of our members, their families, and communities: arts, conservation, education, home life, public issues, and international outreach. (gfwc.org)

(We are **proud** of the **members** of **Wyoming's GFWC clubs** for their **hard work and commitment**. A huge **thank you for what you do** for your **communities, state, and beyond** via your **community projects and volunteer spirit**. Your **accomplishments benefit many and are impressive**.

*May Your June, July, and August be like the Beauty of Sunflowers –  
Bright and Cheery, and as Warm as the Sweet Summer Sun (Internet)*

### **Legislation and Policy Committee Chairman - Kathleen Petersen**

I want to thank everyone for supporting me in my role as GFWC-W Legislation and Policy Committee Chairman for the past 2 years. I can see why they have you serve for two years because by the time you get everything figured out, your term is done! Nancy Kaufman has been an amazing leader and President and I was proud to serve under her term. If any one of you learned anything or got involved as a result of my posts, I'll be happy. I'm not going away though; I have been selected to serve as the East District Liaison. So those of you in this area, I'll be out to see you!

### **Environment Service Program Community Chairman - Phyllis Salzburg**

Gardening this summer?? If you're taking on the challenge of vegetable gardening this summer, consider the **WYOMING HUNGER INITIATIVE'S Grow a Little Extra** to donate to individuals, food pantries, and social service agencies within our communities. Seeds are available free at local UW Extension offices or donate your own favorite crop.

### **Scholarship Chairman – Karen Bard**

Welcome and thank you to Flo Beville (Meadow Larks), Marianne Gatti (Rock Springs) and Karen Kent (Leading Ladies) to our committee. It makes me very happy to have 6 of clubs represented on the committee.

We had 38 students apply for the three scholarships we are offering this year. The committee members are all, hopefully, busy evaluating those applications.

I am so happy to announce that Flo has accepted the role of Scholarship Custodian as I move on to take on the role of President Elect. I promise I will make sure she has everything she needs to move this committee forward and make the transition as easy as possible.

### **Laramie Woman's Club –Karen Bard, President**

We are very excited about how well the PieceForPeace project is going. Our members have done ~180 quilt blocks with 80 of them already shipped over. We had a discussion with Nancy Kaufman, and she spread the word in the rest of the state, and not counting our club, have already done close to 300 blocks. Then, at the State Convention, Mary Beth Williams from Colorado Springs asked about the project, and she is spreading the word in Colorado.

In addition, we have sent \$800 to Claudia Pfeil who is championing this project in Germany to help with the costs of putting the quilts together.

In June we will be planting a tree at the Wyoming Woman's History House to honor Mary Mountain and all of her work at the Laramie Plains Museum and to wish her the best in her new role with the WWHH. She has been such a friend to our club.

I am also looking for a place to plant my dwarf, Alberta Spruce. Its new needles are coming in nicely. Hope this is a sign that the tree likes me and my location, and that my new role will go smoothly as the symbolisms of nurturing the clubs (branches) and members (needles) was expressed at State Convention.

We are also having a booth at the Art on the Lawn event on July 10<sup>th</sup>. We traditionally participate in this event and this is our main event for attracting new membership. This year we are hoping to partner with the Friends of the Library and have used children's books to read and hand out to children. Unfortunately, due to supply chain issues, we were unable to purchase books for kids for the Touch a Truck event, although we are still helping to sponsor the event.

### **Leading Ladies President - Starla Sexton**

The Leading Ladies held a mini-LEADS session at the GFWC Wyoming Convention this past month. Eight of our amazing ladies spoke on various topics with great success. We covered subjects such as discovering your personality type and how to use within your clubs, resolutions, delegating, time management, constructive feedback, vision for your club and best practices, followership, and a GFWC Shield activity where we discovered what we enjoy doing and our greatest accomplishments. Thank you to our speakers and those that helped make this a huge success!

We would like to be a resource to your clubs wherever you feel the need. Any of our Leading Ladies members are available to speak to your clubs via zoom or in person as possible. Our members are from all over the State of Wyoming and you may actually have one in your club right now. We are also taking suggestions of topics to speak on, what would you like to learn more about in the Leadership arena?

Are you curious how to join us and become a member? You need to be a past president or a LEADS graduate – that's it! You can contact myself via email [starlasexton@gmail.com](mailto:starlasexton@gmail.com) or phone/text 307-214-3340; if you have questions about having us speak or want to join!

Hi Trish,

Thank you so much for offering to help us tell our friends from Women's Civic League, XWC, and Meadowlarks about the Habitat for Humanity of Laramie County's need for ReStore donations. ReStore is a retail outlet that sells deeply discounted home improvement materials, furniture, appliances, and home necessities. Donated items come from the community and business and retail partners. ReStores are a great place to find deals on home essentials and unique treasures. The ReStore also serves a community need by making the cost of home repair and maintenance more affordable for households of all income levels. Revenue from sales supports the mission of each affiliate by covering much of the organization's overhead expenses.

Restore stock is low, and we are appealing to our community to donate home goods and furniture to support Habitat. We will schedule a time to come to your home and pick up donations, or there is a donation drive coming up on Saturday, June 11, from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. The ReStore truck will be parked in the Blue Federal Credit Union Parking Lot on 6523 North Yellowstone. To schedule a donation pickup, please call (307) 637-8067. ReStore accepts furniture, appliances, home decor, construction and remodeling materials, tools, and gardening supplies. Please no clothing, mattresses, pillows, or bedding. I have attached a flyer for Habitat in the Neighborhood Donation Drive.

Thank you, Trish, you rock!

Amy  
Amy Gorbey

Habitat for Humanity of Laramie County

Development Director

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