

GFWC-W March 2017 News Blast

Bloom Where You Are Planted



From the President—Leslie Jo Gatti

Dear Wyoming Club Women,

March has certainly come roaring in like a lion! More snow and road closures are becoming much too common. Though temperatures in the 20's are 40 to 60 degrees warmer than the last couple months.

The Board Chairmen should be finishing their reports. They need to be postmarked no later than March 15 to your National Chairmen. The national website, www.GFWC.org, has a wealth of information. Your State Board and past Presidents of your local club have all done reports. All of them are willing to help. It only takes a phone call or e-mail to ask. There are no trivial questions. Phone numbers and e-mail addresses are available on the State website, www.GFWCWyoming.org.

I was hoping to join X-JWC for their March luncheon. Again I-80 had different plans. Marcia Volner and I actually left Rock Springs for Cheyenne. But my South Texas roots rebelled against the "slick in spots" (according to the highway signs) which covered most of the roadway! Two more Club visits are planned this month.

March is Women's History Month. There are times each of us has felt slighted simply because of our gender. The Wage Gap is real. But think about our mothers and grandmothers and how far we have come. If you have a female relative who was (or is) a pioneer in any area, write an article about her. Send it to Nancy Kaufman, editor of the News Blast. Submit it to your local newspaper, talk about her on social media. We are who we are because of the women who went before us.

The Call to Convention will be out this month. The forms are already online at www.GFWCWyoming.org for the contests. The Convention is in Laramie the first weekend in May. Club president Lynda Hidalgo has been working overtime the last several months getting ready. The keynote speaker will be Deb Strahanoski, second vice-president, GFWC. Hope to see you there.

The International GFWC Convention will be in (warm) Palm Desert, CA. Doesn't that sound wonderful after our very long winter! Wyoming will have several attendees, including Wyoming's L.E.A.D.S. candidate. Be sure to read Carolyn Turbiville's Leadership article in this News Blast where she reveals the name!

Warmer weather is on the way, or so I've been told! Let's hope so!

Yours in Federation,

Leslie Jo Gatti

GFWC Wyoming President

International Outreach- Trish Peoples



Do you know one of the best ways to stop human trafficking?

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

That answer leads back to me, as a mascot for Heifer International. Buy an animal for a family and help that family become self-sustaining.

Domestic Violence- Bess Stevenson

Domestic Violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and or other abusive behavior as part of a systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another. It includes physical violence, sexual violence, psychological violence, and emotional abuse. I read about this most of the time, you see I am a domestic survive many years ago, only 20 I was that, now 78 There are so much help today, when I was no one talk about it. I met some lady later and she needed help, I know now my faith was strong and still is. Later on down about a year she and children became special friends. As time goes buy I will write some of me.

Art Chairman-Mary Ann Kamla

April 15 is creeping up..... Hopefully you are well on your way with your individual projects for submissions to the Membership Art Contest. I am really excited to see what each Club will be bringing to the Convention! It would be so fun to see projects submitted in each of the categories: Painting, Hobby Crafts and Sewing, Jewelry, Pottery, Floral, Design and Fiber Arts. If there is a category you are not sure qualifies, give me a call. Are you having a local contest before the Convention? Always available for questions and concerns.

mabandit@aol.com, cell – 630-7246 – phone – 634-5295.

State Writing Contest Chairman- Marcia Volner

Time to start brainstorming ideas for next year's contest! Make a list of possible topics for short stories and poems. Here are some ideas to get you started.

1. My favorite memory of Women's Club
2. The moment I decided on my career and what motivated me
3. What goes through my mind while sitting in my favorite scenic spot?
4. Stories about pets
5. I can't believe I did that- funny stories from our lives

Junior Special Projects- Marcia Volner



I know you are all busy with your March projects. I would like you to consider doing something for Autism Awareness month in April as it is near and dear to my heart. I worked with deaf and hard of hearing most of my working life but in the last 7 years worked mainly with Autistic. I became an Autism Specialist and did consulting and trainings. This group has been diagnosed more in recent years going from 1 in 10,000 when I started teaching in the '70s to 1 in 68 children (1 in 42 boys and 1 in 189 girls) currently. April 2nd is World Autism Awareness Day. This will be Sunday April 2nd. On This day people and organizations around the world light their buildings and homes with blue lights. The hope is that it will encourage people to learn more and promote greater understanding and acceptance. The

entire month of April is set aside as Autism Awareness month. Ideas to participate might include making the autism awareness ribbons and passing them out to give you an opportunity to discuss the disability with others and let those already affected to know you understand and support them. Donations can be made to organizations that do autism research and support those with autism. There are many organizations which you can explore online. According to Consumer Reports article Charity Watch is a good place to check for high and low rated charities. One organization is Autism Speaks which funds global biomedical research into the causes, prevention, treatments and possible cure for autism. It also raises public awareness about autism and its effects on individuals, families and society. You might also consider raising funds to donate to your local child developmental centers or school districts that would be used by their autism programs. Have a speaker talk to your group about Autism. Thanks for letting me get on my soapbox this month!

Community Improvement Program- Karen Kent

We are all by now “full swing” into another club year. Our clubs all have new officers as does our state, regional and international organizations. If you haven't already, it is time to begin working on your clubs' CIP (Community Improvement Program) project. The CIP encourages all GFWC clubs to develop and implement projects that help their respective communities meet their varied and ever-changing needs. These projects do not have to be extravagant, costly or tediously difficult. They should be centered around anything that makes your community a better place to live.

Things to think about with regards to your project:

1) *Identify a specific need*

2) *Can you “Partner” with another organization (GFWC, non GFWC, professional, government or other non-profit organizations*

3) *Can your project continue as long as there is a need*

4) *How can you involve the community*

Your CIP Award entry/report will not be due until March of 2018, but you will need time to develop and implement your project. These projects do not have to take 2 years to complete, you are given 2 years in which to do said project.

With so much need in our small corners of the world we all need to do whatever it takes to minimize that need. We have had many unique and impactful look forward to more of the same in the future.

If you have any questions please, please, please don't hesitate to contact me at :

wyokents@msn.com

LEADS- Carolyn Turbiville ,State Leadership Chairman



It is with pleasure that I announce that Marcia Volner will represent Wyoming GFWC at the International Convention this summer for the LEADS training. Marcia is a member of GFWC Woman's Club of Rock Springs. She is very active in her own club and at the state level, she served on the State nominating committee last year, and serves as State chairman of Juniors Special Project and Writing Contest Chairman.

LEADERSHIP- Carolyn Turbiville ,State Leadership Chairman



Read Across America- Shirley Black

March is national reading month. "READ ACROSS AMERICA is an annual reading and motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on March 2, the birthday of beloved children's author Dr. Seuss" Read to your child, grandchild even the neighbors child, celebrate literacy and support jumpstart in the effort to promote early childhood education.

EDUCATION- Shirley Black

Scotia Auld, granddaughter of GFWC State Secretary Betty Lou Auld, has a poem published "Animal Kingdom" in the 2016 Young American Poetry Digest. This book features young poets from 5 year of age to 14 years of age. There were seven categories, Reflections, Seasons, Animal, Memorial, Nature, For Fun and Friends and Family. The Young American Poetry Digest is a national school project designed to share our youths talents with others and to provide a national publishing opportunity for young poets. The Young American Poetry Digest represents the imaginative efforts of students of all ages from nearly every state in the nation. We want kids excited about writing. For more information on this project visit www.youngpoet.org

The 2016 ESO booklist is now available with suggestions for your reading pleasure in all categories, fiction and nonfiction.

Thank you to Yoder Woman's Club for their donation to Raising Readers in Wyoming. This increases their footprint in Education.

GFWC-W Membership – Wendy Owen

Winter greetings all GFWC Wyoming Clubwomen. I will be reporting to GFWC International about new members again at the end of March. Please email if you haven't already for any new members received in Jan.-March 2017. If you haven't reported names and info. to me since the beginning of the club year, I would love that info. as well.

ESO Challenge

Happiness can be found even in the darkest of times if only one remembers to turn on the light-

J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter & Philosophers Stone

The above is a quote from a story I love. Each month I plan to put inspirational messages from well-known Children's books. I encourage each of you to read these books and add them to your ESO lists. Let's see how many books we all will read!

Just For Fun

I am a king who measures things quite well. What am I?

February Answer: A man was looking at a picture. While staring at the picture he said, brothers and sisters I have none but this man's father is my father's son. Who is in the picture? Himself

Have fun – Nancy Kaufman- npkauf@comcast.net