

**Wyoming News Blast**

**November 2018**



**Proud GFWC members**

**Since 1904**

### **GFWC Wyoming President's Message - Mary Lee Dixon**



**Be Silly—Be Honest—Be Kind**

Happy Thanksgiving to all Clubwomen! A busy month ahead as always with holiday projects and fundraisers for our clubs as well as taking time for ourselves and celebrating with family and friends. I'd like to give you a few updates on things around the state and emphasis areas.

First up is Raising Readers. As you know it is one of my pet projects and BIG NEWS – the program will be awarded the First Lady's Leaders in Literacy Award from Mrs. Mead on Nov 14. Please check out the November fundraiser for your clubs this month. It is set up for you to collect money specifically for Raising Readers at your club meetings.

Another fantastic accomplishment for the March of Dimes initiative! One gal from GFWC Women's Civic League of Cheyenne club offered to take up a collection at her work. She did so and added 1,490 dimes to the on- going March towards a mile of dimes from the state! A HUGE thank you goes out to Kim Brokaw and company!

The "Bee" rocks given to almost all the clubs. (Farson-Eden, yours is coming, I promise!!) One club president contacted me for MORE rocks as members of her club have embraced the "be kind to our own" initiative and are doing wonderful, kind things not only for the president but for other members in remembering everyone is doing the best they can on any given day. They are to "move" around the club but one didn't seem to be enough for all the things going on!

A note to everyone – scammers have been busy within organizations and we have been "bothered" by them on a recurring basis. Our contact information for the state and various clubs are posted on websites. Scammers use the information to contact the treasurer and state the President wants you to pay a certain bill and send it to a specific address. Please check with your club officers prior to sending any money anywhere!!

I remind club presidents to send in club events such as fundraisers, etc to the News Blast as you never know who is traveling throughout the state at any time and may be able to drop in.



I sent the Wyoming “state tree” to GF the end of October for the hall of trees for Christmas. I am enclosing a photo of what was created. We did a Wyoming themed tree with minerals (mica, coal and a geode), cowboy hats, barbed wire, cowboy boots and bandana fabric was tied on. I hope you approve!

Continue your club work on committees and remember to note how many helped, what was accomplished and where the efforts were targeted.

Don’t forget to take time for yourselves!!

### **Silly Calendar Days for November (Native American Heritage Month)**

Thursday, Nov 2 – Use Less Stuff Day (shouldn’t we all!)

Sunday, Nov 5 – Zero Tasking Day (more of these please!)

Tuesday, Nov 7 – Bittersweet Chocolate with Almonds Day (love it!)

Tuesday, Nov 14 – Loosen up/Lighten up Day (just chill)

Wednesday, Nov 15 – Philanthropy Day (do some)

Thursday, Nov 16 – Fast Food Day (hmm...should we indulge?)

Wednesday, Nov 22 – Go for a Ride Day (get out of town!)

Sunday, Nov 26 – Cake Day (share one!)

Tuesday, Nov 27 – Giving Tuesday (do what you can)

### **Simple fundraiser for Raising Readers**

How about a collection jar at luncheons or meetings and donate the proceeds (please tell our state treasurer, Marcia Volner, how much was donated) to your local Raising Readers chapter?

As you collect dimes, I encourage you to send in pictures to the news blast editor – Trish Peoples at [tlapples@yahoo.com](mailto:tlapples@yahoo.com) and feature your dimes outlining something fun, quirky, cute, etc. Some photos are included to give you an idea of what we mean.

Have fun! Be Silly! Enjoy your club members.

In Federation,  
Mary Lee Dixon  
GFWC Wyoming President



Picture 1: We ran out of dime holders!  
 Picture 2: Don't forget to "pool" your resources.  
 Picture 3: Oh my, money and flowers!

### What's Happened Lately?

Four ladies from Cheyenne drove to Yoder on Nov 3, to help the GFWC-Yoder Women's Club with their annual fundraiser – the Pheasant Hunters Feed. They had a great turnout for lunch and these amazing women (the Yoder ladies) turned around and did it again on Sunday! Keep in mind Yoder is a population of 151 and the women's club has 12 members to make this happen. We may be small, but we are mighty!! (...and probably tired, come Monday!) Pictured are Phyllis Salzberg and Pam Crochet from GFWC Women's Civic League of Cheyenne and Bev Yeik from GFWC Yoder Woman's Club.



### What's Happening Next?

Fall Recruitment Report Due on December 1 (for September, October and November)

Send reports to GFWC Recruitment Campaign, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036-2990 and Katherine Van Dell, GFWC Wyoming Membership Chairman, 1732 Oxford Drive, Cheyenne, 82001-1663.

## Calling All Artists!

As many of you know, GFWC Wyoming is hosting GFWC Western Conference in Cheyenne in 2020. As part of this effort, we would like to sell “Wyoming Cards.” These cards would be created by Wyoming artists, depicting Wyoming scenes. We would like YOU to draw, paint, and photograph these scenes. Ideas include (but certainly not limited to) lupine, Indian Paintbrush, aspen, Grand Tetons, split rail fences, and jackalopes. Your art should fit on a card, 4.25” by 5.5” and must be received by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. Please send your art to Mary Lee Dixon.

## Club and District News

### GFWC Woman’s Club of Rock Springs President Marcia Volner

The recent fires in the Hoback area near Pinedale, WY devastated homes and roads in that area. The Lion’s Club of Pinedale is accepting donations to help people in the area. The victims of the fire can apply for the funds. The GFWC Woman’s Club of Rock Springs was able to donate a\$1000.00 to the Lion’s Club of Pinedale, Wyoming for this cause. We worked very hard over the summer with two yard sales and a booth at a farmers market and were glad we were able to help out.

On Halloween we helped our local library by bagging popcorn in gloves for their Halloween festivities and then manning some stations on their Halloween stroll. We greeted over 400 children and parents.

We are concentrating on getting ready for our holiday house fundraiser next. We are delighted to have a volunteer professional photographer from our community doing family pictures at the house this year which we will email to those participating. If you happen to be in Rock Springs the evening of December 7<sup>th</sup> 4-7 pm or during the day on December 8<sup>th</sup> 10 am -2 pm stop by 903 Stillwater in Rock Springs and join our fun.

### GFWC X-JWC President Trish Peoples



One of our members was in a nursing home for rehabilitation. While at the facility she noticed that many elderly people were picking at their clothes, in the air, their bed or anything close by. She and the Activity Director had an idea that might benefit those individuals living at the nursing home. Their thought was to make fleece lap blankets with buttons scattered and sewed on the blankets so the residents could have something bright, warm and provide something for their hands to do (only when supervised).



When they delivered the 13 blankets, they placed them on the laps of the residents. One gentleman with Alzheimer's began messing with the buttons right away instead of his clothes. He wanted to take his to the restroom with him, was told no, and as soon as he returned he wanted the blanket back! They left that day knowing that a small project can be just as rewarding as a big project.

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 31, 2018

## GFWC Laramie Woman's Club President Annie Nelson

GFWC Laramie Woman's Club celebrated its 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in September. The chapter recently received acknowledgement of this achievement from National. In addition, it received a letter from Senator Enzi in recognition of its long service to its community.

Annie Nelson, President  
Laramie Woman's Club  
1215 South 5th Street  
Laramie, WY 82070-4518

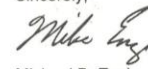
Dear Annie:

Congratulations! I was very pleased to hear that this year marks the 120th anniversary of the day the Laramie Woman's Club was established. This is a great milestone in the history of this organization and the City of Laramie.

What a treat it must have been to celebrate this special event. As you reflect on the past, members who have come and gone, and the changes that have been made, there is much to be thankful for. For 120 years, you have helped to serve the needs of your community through various activities and projects. You can be proud of the role your Club has played in Laramie and the surrounding areas.

Diana joins me in sending our congratulations to you and all the members of the Club as you mark this important anniversary. We are all very proud of you. Good luck and God bless.

Sincerely,



Michael B. Enzi  
United States Senator

## Notes from the Board

### Children's Advocacy Chairman Karen C. Bard



GFWC Laramie Woman's Club wearing purple for premature birth awareness. Everyone was given a purple ribbon to wear and encouraged to wear it for the month. Two members have personal experiences of having grandchildren born prematurely.

November 17<sup>th</sup> is the official Premature Birth Awareness Day. The national average of premature births is 9.93%. That is almost 1 in every 10. How does Wyoming do? Wyoming got an overall grade of a B and had a decrease in premature births from 9.5% in 2016 to 8.9% in 2017. If you want to see how your county stands with regards to this issue, follow the link.

<https://www.marchofdimes.org/peristats/tools/reportcard.aspx?frmodrc=1&reg=56>

### **Fundraising Chairman Karen Kent**

**State wide raffle.  
Bargello quilt!**

**Approximately 100  
inches square**

**Tickets are \$20  
apiece. Only 300  
tickets sold!**

**Drawing will April  
2019 at the State  
conference in  
Saratoga.**

**Contact Karen at  
[wyokents@msn.com](mailto:wyokents@msn.com)**



### **Home Life Chairman Phyllis Salzburg**

In an attempt to carry through with one of GFWC-W President Mary Lee Dixon’s “themes”, this is my time to be silly. December is National Tie Month!! Who knew??? I found this on-line so you know it must be true!

#### **National Tie Month**

In December, we honor the most required, yet maligned strip of cloth that’s an essential part of business attire – behold, the tie. Neckties give a man the chance to add a little spice to his classy, professional look. Let’s be honest ladies, a good lookin’ necktie speaks volumes about a man’s sense of style and even gives us a little look at his personality. So this month, give a little extra respect to the men who are professional, classy, and trendy in their favorite ties.

#### **Tie Trivia**

1. Neckties originated when Croatian soldiers wore silk scarves; at the time, they were called cravats.
2. \$220,000. Believe it or not, that’s the price of the most expensive tie ever made. It was created by Satya Paul Design studio and contained 271 diamonds and 150 grams of gold. Talk about a class act. \*insert wide eyes and jaw-dropped face here\*
3. There was a time in history when touching a man’s necktie was cause for a duel.

4. Ties aren't at their height of popularity anymore, but the year that they were, American's spent over 1 billion on 100 million ties. (*I know my husband helped contribute to that figure.*)
5. You can buy a special tie that will block a 9-millimeter bullet from piercing your skin. (Hopefully, though, you don't have to.)

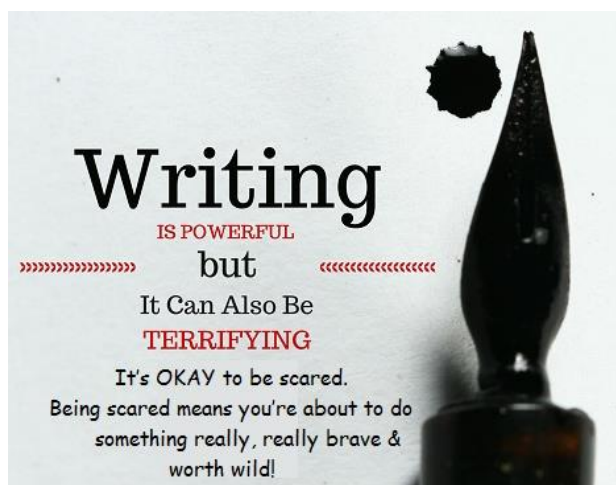
If you'd like to read more, visit <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-tie-month-december/>

Not in the article found on-line but my contribution -- In recent years neckties salvaged from husbands', sons', or significant others' closets or donations boxes have been used to make a variety of very creative craft items (purses, women's vests, etc.) So this article, my attempt at silliness, can very well be used as an inspiration for a creative Home Life project!

## Writing Contest Chairman Mary Huff

### But *why* be a part of the contest?

Well, for one ... the thrill of hearing your name called from the podium? Of receiving the certificate or award? Of having your photo taken? Of being able to say, "I'm an award-winning author." (Publishers and readers notice things like that, you know...) For another, there is a discipline in following the instructions of a contest, the same type of discipline necessary for working with agents and editors. Entering contests such as the GFWC Members Writing Contest is also an opportunity for writers to release their words to someone else. To say, "Yes, I wrote this" and to trust that it will be all right. Entering is a chance to shine, whether you win or not.



Information is at  
[www.gfwcwyoming.org/forms.asp](http://www.gfwcwyoming.org/forms.asp)  
under Writing Contest  
Registration Form and Contest  
Rules

## **Public Relations Chairman Pat Stenback**

### **History of The Twenty-First Century Club**

I wish that we had the space for all of you to read the history the ladies of Newcastle have furnished me. If they have not put it into a book, they should. It is a wonderful history of life in Wyoming. I can send to you if you are interested.

The club was established as “The Owls” in 1894 when Newcastle was just 5 years old. They put a notice in the paper that every woman in Newcastle was eligible to join. They were surprised when the saloon girls also showed up, but everyone was treated nicely. However, The Owls decided their study group would require much homework and preparation, which would indeed limit the working girls. Sixteen women ended up in the club, and they studied as hard and as seriously as if they had been enrolled in college. They studied American and English literature and spent a great deal of time on Shakespeare.

A president of the Woman’s Club of Cheyenne, Mrs. William Guiterman, became interested in organizing a state federation. She contacted women’s clubs in all parts of the state in the fall of 1903 and issued the call to all clubwomen to convene in Cheyenne in January 1904 to form a state federation. On January 19, 1904, delegates from 15 clubs met in the auditorium of the Carnegie Library in Cheyenne to form a Wyoming Federation. At this time The Owls decided that their name did not carry the dignity that it should and changed to the Twentieth Century Club. In 1999 the members celebrated the turn of another century by adopting the name, “The Twenty-First Century Club.”

Through the years the club in Newcastle donated to the Children’s Home and worked on persuading people to plant trees and flowers in their barren new town. They helped with the Red Cross, Girl Scouts, baby week, mental health and many other needs. (If I have room another time, I will print their Progressive dinner which they were asked to host the fifth annual meeting for the state. It is quite a tale!)

The Twenty-First Century Club has continued to participate in the State Federation Scholarship Fund, while working extremely hard to create the Weston County Carnegie Library in 1910 and continuing to support the library for 106 years. As a club of long-standing, they worked to support the war efforts during both WWI and WWII.

The preamble to their club constitution that those women struggled with in 1894 has served the women of Newcastle well. What more could anyone ask than for “good friends who help you improve your mind and appreciate the finer things of life while helping the community and having fun, too?” The preamble reads, “For our mutual improvement, to form a bond of good fellowship that will bind us with a cord into which is woven congeniality, helpfulness and appreciation, and for the cultivation of the amenities of social life, the undersigned agree to form themselves into a literary club.” Those were powerful words then and remain so even in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Please send me your history of your club. This shows that even though we are a small populated state, our women have accomplished as much as other clubs with hundreds of members.



### **Seven Grand Initiatives' Tally**

1. Number of trees planted by clubs/members on Arbor Day - 0
2. Number of projects done for Women in the Military - 1
3. Pairs of Shoes donated for Soles 4 Souls - 213
4. Dr Seuss books donated to city programs or GFWC HQs – 3
5. Number of projects done on MLK day – 0
6. Legislative Action Center sign ups – 13
7. Million Dollar Club (Capital Campaign – DC)

### **GFWC Wyoming Initiative's Tally**

March of Dimes (90,000 needed for a mile)

We received 1,490 from a local organization, so we only need 87,509 more!

We haven't put what was collected at the fall workshop in the bank yet!



Follow us on Facebook: **GFWC of Wyoming**  
GFWC-Wyoming website: [www.gfwcwyoming.org](http://www.gfwcwyoming.org)

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