



**Newsblast
October 2022**



**GFWC members
Since 1904**

**Preserve our Past – Protect our Future
Trish Peoples – GFWC Wyoming President**

Membership Chairman Karen Kent, West District Liaison Marcia Volner, Treasurer Katherine Van Dell, and I traveled to Riverton to meet with some enthusiastic women from Fremont County who want to start a new club. We are working on the bylaws, and I can't wait to welcome the GFWC Fremont County Ladies to GFWC Wyoming.

I recently planted trees with Rooted in Cheyenne, which was a experience. I highly recommend partnering with them or a similar organization in your community. As a wise woman said,



great
once

“Stop building a spaceship to Mars and just plant some trees!”

I'm looking forward to our board meeting on October 7th in the Sunflower Room of the Laramie County Library in Cheyenne from 4:00 to 6:00. The Fall Workshop is in the same place on October 8th from 10:00 to 3:00. Our International Guest is GFWC First Vice President Wendy Carriker. We can always squeeze in some last-minute attendees, so contact me today!

Advocates for Children's Week is October 23-29, which is always an important event on the GFWC calendar. I hope your clubs can support those kids who need our help.

Reminder: Please send me your newsletters so I can post them on our website.

Karen Bard – President Elect

Membership is a funny thing. It ebbs and flows as each of our lives are either blessed with abundance or not, as we have time to share or not. Some of us are long time members of our clubs with much history and knowledge. Others of us are brand new

and trying to find our way; see how we fit in with our personal interests and skills. Many clubs struggle with the natural cycle of members being involved in their clubs; new members, involvement in projects to chairing or co-chairing projects, then on to Department chairs and then Club officers etc. Fostering leadership is a challenge. It is also unique to the chapter and its culture.

The first step is for everyone to recognize that everyone is, most likely, at a different point in their journey along this cycle. We need to recognize that those starting their journey in GFWC are full of energy and ideas and want to find a place to put that energy and those ideas. At the other end we have people that have served many years in many different capacities that are looking to step back. Every member needs to listen as we socialize to pick up on new people that want to step up and for others that need a helping hand to step back. Co-Chairing a position is a wonderful idea. This allows for the experienced members to pass on critical historical knowledge to the newer members. It also allows for the newer members to develop confidence in their developing roles.

Everyone should be open and take lessons from the geese.



There is structure (a formation) there is a leader (the one on point) and those that follow close to the front or in the back. But they all take turns. And sometimes it takes a little while to get them all into formation.



Karen Kent – Vice President/Membership Chairman

It has been an exciting month for membership. Many clubs are exploring ways to entice new members to their clubs. On the state level we are in the process of federating a bright new club in Fremont County. (l to r) Lea DeLay, Trish Peoples, Katherine Van Dell, Devon Kellerhall

and Karen Kent, Marcia Volner (not pictured) met to discuss the formation of the GFWC Fremont County Ladies. The process is underway. Great things are coming to Fremont County. Nancy Kaufman is in the process of formalizing the Past Presidents' Club as an official GFWC club.

GFWC is offering funding to help underwrite membership recruiting efforts. If you would like to apply (\$50 grant), please let me know and I will send you the application form.

I am still looking for potential members in the Lander/Riverton/Shoshoni area, Casper, and at the University of Wyoming. Please send me contact information.

(One final note regarding our state convention last April – We have received \$400 from Toni from the PJ/jewelry party.)

Lucy Russell - Spiritual Values Chairman

I wanted to share a story that I heard when I was in Alaska in August. I went on a tour around Anchorage, and we stopped at Earthquake Park in the city of Anchorage. The driver reported to us that at one time this location was a neighborhood. In 1964 which was the 2nd largest earthquake in the world. The whole neighborhood of houses was pushed into the ocean along with many of the folks who lived there. The people who lived in the area went to the ocean and they formed a human chain and they rescued the people. There were only 4 people who died in that location. I found this story very uplifting as I watch our world and some of the terrible things that are going on. It warms my heart to think of folks reaching out and helping others. Sometimes you might be risking your life but at other times it may just be giving up some of your time to help another. I hope this year of club membership we can all reach our hands out to others and give support to our fellow club sisters. I look forward to a great year and hope to see many of you at the different state activities this year.

Pam Crochet – GFWC WHRC – Women's History and Resource Center

The emphasis of the WHRC for 2022-2024 is to encourage member participation in diverse club and community projects developed to preserve the past, promote the present and inspire the future.

Regardless of the focus of a community service project, it may benefit from an historical perspective. The WHRC strives to educate and inspire GFWC members and potential members, the research community and the public to explore the rich, historical role of women volunteers through GFWC's expansive collections.

State President Trish's first challenge to us is to Preserve our Past. In 2004, for the 100th Anniversary of GFWC Wyoming, President Patty Benskin had the clubs write their histories, and she sent those precious documents to the Women's Resource & History Center (WHRC) at GFWC International Headquarters. As we approach the 120th Anniversary in 2024, we are again requesting our clubs write their histories for the past 20 years (2004-2024). Wyoming clubs do so much good in our communities and our world. Let's not let that information disappear.

Please let me know I can work with your clubs to make that happen. The GFWC Women's History and Resource Center Advancement Guide encourages every club to investigate and document its own history by learning about GFWC's past. Use the guide to explore and share GFWC's amazing history while documenting your own! The information will be sent both to WHRC and be placed on our award-winning GFWC Wyoming website.

**Bev Campbell - Junior Special Program
October is the Advocates for Children month.**

The emphasis for GFWC Children Week is:

- Collect personal hygiene items, clothing, and blankets to local organizations for children removed from homes due to unsafe conditions.

Other Ideas,

- As a club, work with a local shelter, youth center, social service office, or other emergency location to add a little "sparkle" to one or many of their rooms.
- Club members can come together to clean, paint, and add new items to the room to bring warmth and caring into the surroundings. Invite potential members to join and work with local merchants on donating supplies for the refresh. Get the word out to your community on what you are doing and maybe one room can turn into many rooms that will assist with making the situation more manageable for the child.

Hope the clubs can come up with ideas to share with other clubs throughout this club year. I'd love to hear ideas and suggestions I can share with the other Clubs.



Leslie Jo Gatti – Arts and Culture

The Cheyenne Little Theater Players are currently putting on a production of "Little House of Horrors". This will play at the historic Atlas Theater in Cheyenne through October 9.

The Community Fine Arts Center in Rock Springs is currently showing the 50th anniversary exhibition of Maurice Sendak's "Where the Wild Things Are. Left is a picture of me with a wild thing. This exhibit will be in place through October 8.

Carolyn Turbiville - Education and Libraries

I have been asked to substitute as Chairman for a year as the Adrienne Polis is with her daughter.

I will be sharing ideas with you and I would like for you to share with the state what you are doing for Education and Libraries in your club. I know there are some great things going on.



School Supplies

X-JWC recently completed a drive to get school supplies for Laramie School District # 1, which was very successful.



Backpacks

Julie Gliem – Legislation and Public Policy

Another election year is upon us. It is extremely important that you exercise your right to vote. The general election is November 8.

More than 129,000,000 voted in the last Presidential Election. Why is it so important that you vote? Because of the Electoral College, a vote in one state may have more power than a vote in a different state. In Wyoming we only have three electoral college votes. Generally, they don't have much weight, however, if the vote were extremely close nationwide, it is possible that Wyoming could swing these votes to the other party. That is what happened in 2000 when Governor George W. Bush of Texas beat Vice President Al Gore. The difference in that election was that Bush had 537 "dangling Chads" over Gore. Ultimately this election was decided by the US Supreme Court.

In 1884 Governor Grover Cleveland of New York survived a contested Presidential election to Senator James Blaine of Maine. This election was decided by 1,047 votes. The irony of this election is the electors from Governor Cleveland's home state voted for Senator Blaine.

In 2017 Democrat Shelly Simonds won by one vote to the Virginia House of Delegates. After a recount she ultimately conceded her seat to her Republican opponent.

In 1994 in Wyoming, Republican Randall Luthi tied Independent Larry Call. They each received 1,941 votes each. In true Wyoming fashion, Governor Mike Sullivan decided the tie by putting two ping pong balls in his cowboy hat and drew the winner.

Representative Luthi represented Jackson Hole for 13 years and eventually became the Speaker of the Wyoming House of Representatives.

As you are making the decision about who you are going to vote for, please remember how Governor Sullivan decided the election in 1994. We don't want another election decided by a ping pong ball.

Marianne Gatti - Civic Engagement and Outreach

Happy Fall, Y'all! Fall is my favorite season. In addition to football (and tailgating), sweater weather, mulled wine, and holiday preparations, it also means nearly all the clubs are back to working hard for their communities. There are so many opportunities for us to reach out and fill needs as we find them this season. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month - have you reached out to your local shelter to ask how you can help? On a national scale, Sheila Shea's Leading Ladies are collecting flashlights to be donated to each member's local shelter, just one example of how something small to us personally can be part of a larger effort to make a difference.

More ideas: Is there a Halloween candy or costume drive for underprivileged children at the local school district? Is there a need for snacks or breakfast for students in the local school district? Can you partner with a local organization for a coat drive as we know temperatures are going to be dropping soon?

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at Fall Workshop next week. Let me know what projects your clubs are working on.

Phyllis Salzburg – Environment Community Service Program

GFWC Community Connections Initiatives. The GFWC 2022-2024 administration has developed initiatives in the Community Service Program areas to make a visual, physical or emotional impact at the grassroots level. The Environment CSP initiative is ***Sparkling Seeds, Brilliant Butterflies, Glamorous Garden Gloves promoting community gardens.*** Clubs are encouraged to plan, develop, and grow a community garden. Existing community gardens may have a waiting list for garden plots so get started early, looking for, deciding on a spot for next spring. Maybe a club member would share her back yard for a club community garden!

The ***Wyoming Hunger Initiative*** offers grants to be used for projects and equipment which might be a source for help with funding a community garden. The next grant cycle will be in 2023. Visit their website for great information on how to help with solving the problem of food insecurity in Wyoming including the **Grow a Little Extra**

campaign. If you have an over-abundance of garden vegetables this year, check with your County Extension office for donation locations.

<https://www.nohungerwyo.org/about-the-initiative>.

America Recycles Day is November 15. Start planning a special event! Visit Keep America Beautiful website <https://kab.org/> for ideas.



Deb McCann - ESO

The Motto of Epsilon Sigma Omicron is “Enlighten Your Own Pathway.” ESO are the initials for the Greek phrase, “Epsilon ten sautou hoden” which translates literally into “Enlighten the pathway of yourself.” The purpose of ESO is to provide clubwomen with a structural reading program, which is educational and stimulates a desire for self-improvement.

The ESO Handbook, Pledge Application, and Suggested Reading Lists may be found on the GFWC website, Member portal. If you have not signed up for the Member Portal, contact GFWC for assistance. You may also request the State ESO Chair to send an application to you.

Check out the GFWC ESO Book Club on Facebook. It is a private group and you must ask to join. You will find lots of fun stuff and information on upcoming events, such as a review of *The Wedding Veil* by Kristi Woodson Harvey. It will be co-hosted by Sandy Hauenstein, GFWC Education & Libraries Chairman and Judi Stankowich, GFWC Pennsylvania ESO Chairman via Zoom on October 19 at 7 p.m. EST. Another exciting event is GFWC’s **first** - Engage Beyond the Page: Meet the Author/Book Review with Robin Yocum, author of *The Essay*. It will be held via Zoom on November 16 at 7 p.m. EST.

(2022 ESO Handbook & GFWC ESO Book Club/FB)

Happy Reading....

Denise Lathrop- President WCLC

Our first meeting of the year was September 14th at the Cheyenne Country Club. We had several audit reports to give as part of our meeting. Our program was presented by all of our committee chairmen giving an overview of their past successes and future

plans. They explained what their committee does and how they spend their monies to help others. We then had members of each committee circulate through the room with a clipboard to gather names for new members to their committee. We would like to thank Claudia Wilen for putting this program together. We also had an update on the Christmas House plans and upcoming events. Following the meeting we had our 50/50 drawing and the raffle items drawings

Bev Yeik, President – Yoder Women's Club

The Yoder Woman's Club met the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7P.M. at the Yoder Community Center. Discussion was held regarding our club's upcoming events. Our December meeting will be held on Monday December 19th at 6P.M. at the Community Center. We will be having an Hors d'oeuvres carry-in at our Christmas party with a \$1.00 gift exchange and a White Elephant gift exchange.

November 5th and 6th will be our annual Pheasant Hunters Meals.

Karen Bard, President – Laramie Women's Club

Janice Pelton, our Department Chair for Education and Libraries, did an amazing job coordinating Casey Rislov, a children's book author out of Casper Wyoming, to come and read one of her books *Rowdy Randy* to the children of Harmony and Centennial schools. The LWC funded Casey's fee and bought a *Rowdy Randy* book for each of the children in that age group. Casey did an amazing job reading to book to the children and getting them involved. Along the way she gave them insights into what it took not only to be an author but an illustrator as well. She also gave them hints and tips that they could use in their school writing projects. Janice picked out *The Fascinating Animal Book for Kids - 500 Wild Facts!* by Ginjer L. Clarke to give to the older children in grades 3-5 and all the children had the opportunity to buy more books of Casey's if they wished. All of the *Rowdy Randy* books were signed by Casey, and she stayed on to allow each child to come up and have her write their names into them.

Janice and I had a great time and I bought two books for my grandchildren in Australia. They will get them for Christmas, and I hope they will enjoy them and pass them on to their children.

Our November meeting will be special and open to the public. We have Sergeant Shane Vincent from Casper coming to speak with us about what it takes to be an honor guard for the Tomb of the Unknowns. He should know as he is the only Wyomingite to earn the honor to do so. Our meeting is the second Thursday of the month, November

10th. Good timing with Veterans Day on the 11th. Chief Warrant Officer 2, Marty Martinez will also be talking. Marty is the Director of The Marna M Kuehne Foundation Veterans Services Center and Veterans Programming at the University of Wyoming. Tickets are \$15 each, the price of a wreath in honor of Wreaths Across America Day on December 17th. Lunch will be soup, salad, and dessert at noon with programs starting ~1pm. RSVP is required so that we can cater appropriately, contact me at kcbard@charter.net

Lucy Russell President - X-JWC

X-JWC held their first general membership meeting on September 6th, at 11:30 at the Red Lion. We had a great attendance. We had a guest speaker who spoke about Primrose retirement center here in Cheyenne. I shared that we are collecting money for tree's this year. We are hoping to be able to plant 4 somewhere in Cheyenne. We will be having a fun activity in December riding the Trolley and to see the Christmas lights. Our club will hold their annual fundraiser in November, to support our Community Improvement Project. Tickets for lunch at the Texas Roadhouse will be \$16 and can be purchased from any X-JWC member. This year we are supporting K-9's for Mobility. We will also be supporting Family Food Bags and Rooted in Cheyenne as projects that members can take part in, and our club can receive credit for participation. We collected school supplies at our September meeting and Carolyn Turbiville reported that she estimated about \$400.00 in in kind donation for this project. We are off to a good year, and I am looking forward to many wonderful things happening in our club this year.

Debra McGarvey – President, Rock Springs Women's C
The ladies of the Rock Springs Women's Club would like to invite all Wyoming GFWC members to our 100th anniversary celebration on October 22, from 1-4 pm.



Woman's Club of Rock Springs - GFWCWyoming

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Thanks to everyone who helped with exit 107 trash pickup. Michelle, Marcia, Lynn, Annette and Craig.



We had 2 new women join the club and looks like couple more next month

Follow us on Facebook: GFWC of Wyoming
GFWC-Wyoming website: www.gfwcwyoming.org

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