



# General Federation of Women's Clubs



**Newsblast  
September 2022**



**GFWC members  
Since 1904**

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



A strong Wyoming contingent attended the Western States Region Conference in Anchorage, Alaska, August 26-28<sup>th</sup>. We had a great time with our western states' sisters, as well as getting some business accomplished.

Back: Karen Kent, Pam Hendricks, Patti Reese, Patty Benskin, Katherine Van Dell, Nancy Kaufman, Linda Stowers, Phyllis Salzburg, Pam Crochet. Front: Karen Bard, GFWC President Elect Suellen Brazil, Western States Region President Sandi Conrady, GFWC President Deb Strahanoski, Trish Peoples.

The drawing for the Grace for 2 Brothers' Bear and Quilt raffle took place in August. Phyllis Salzburg from Cheyenne won the bear and Mary Mountain from Laramie won the quilt. GFWC Wyoming earned more than \$600 during this raffle to give to Grace for 2 Brothers!

Reminder for Club Presidents and Newsletter Editors: please send your newsletters to me so I can put them on the GFWC Wyoming website.

Patty Benskin is leading an in-depth rewrite of the GFWC Wyoming Constitution, Bylaws, Standing Rules and Convention Rules. We've had incremental improvement in these documents for several years. However, it's time to rethink all of them in their entirety. If you have any thoughts you'd like to share with Patty, please get those to her by October 15<sup>th</sup>. The current Constitution and Bylaws are on our website.

Reminder: The board meeting will be October 7<sup>th</sup> in the Sunflower Room of the Laramie County Library in Cheyenne from 4:00 to 6:00. The Fall Workshop will be October 8<sup>th</sup>, also in the Sunflower Room from 10:00 to 3:00. Watch for the Call to the Workshop in the next few days.

### **Karen Bard – President Elect**

I have had the privilege of attending my first Western States Region Conference. Eleven States in the region and nine of them were represented. Just like the International Conference in New Orleans, Wyoming was well represented with 11 delegates.

Trish did an amazing job with her President's report. Each president had the opportunity to tell what their focus would be for their state during their term of office. Trish had us all singing Johnny Appleseed in support of her Protect the Future slogan for planting trees. At state a challenge was put out for each club to plant at least one tree. This doesn't have to be the club doing it, our members can plant trees and they all count. The Laramie Woman's Club, my club, has planted one. I have personally planted 2. But we can also get others to plant trees for us around the world. I have changed my search engine over to Ecosia. Go to [Ecosia.org](http://Ecosia.org) to learn more. They plant trees in 35 countries and have planted over 157 million trees by 200 million plus users. For every search you do, your total adds up and eventually you plant a tree. I have planted 1. So let's support our State President, Trish, and switch to Ecosia as our search engine and let's start planting trees.

At the conference we also had the pleasure of hearing from our International President Elect. She gave a talk on membership which I found to be very inspiring. What I took away from that is that every member has something to offer, big or small. And like a pebble or rock thrown into a pond they both have a ripple effect.

I will leave you this month with a picture from my travels through Alaska. A bald eagle taking flight. Like an eagle I ask you to soar high and look for opportunities for you to contribute to your club, your community, your state and to your federation. The smallest act can have a very large impact and they all add up to be something more than the initial act.



### **Karen Kent - Vice President**

As your Newsblast editor, I would like to remind you of a couple of items. Submissions for the newsletter should be sent to me no later than the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please try to limit your article to 250 words. Pictures are welcome ("a picture is worth 1000 words). If there are specific dates of activities, I will put them on the monthly calendar.

### **Karen Kent – Membership**

My goal for this administration is to help establish 3 new GFWC clubs across the state. Trish and I would like to get together with the Shoshoni ladies to see if they are still interested in

forming their own club. In addition, I will be working with Karen Bard to establish a collegiate GFWC club on the University of Wyoming campus. If your club has given scholarships, may we have their names so that we may contact them. If you know of any young ladies (sisters, daughters, granddaughters, neighbors...) attending the University, may we please have those names.

### **Leslie Jo Gatti – Arts and Culture**

On September 1, the Rock Springs Community Fine Arts Center will be hosting an Open House for the Maurice Sendak Traveling Exhibit. The exhibit will be in Rock Springs until October 8.

I have discovered there is no state-wide database or calendar for cultural events throughout Wyoming. So I am going to rely on our members to let me know what is happening. Please, send your calendar of events to me at [pc\\_ljgatti@hotmail.com](mailto:pc_ljgatti@hotmail.com) or call me at (307)350-0709.

Let me know what your Club is doing to aid the arts in your community. The Woman's Club of Rock Springs is collecting new art supplies for their local schools because budgets have been cut and classes combined. Your Club might sponsor an author's visit at your library. I will try to suggest an activity each month. Remember individuals can also have their own projects involving just a few Club members.

### **Marianne Gatti - Civic Engagement and Outreach**

This month, I would like to quote the 2022-2024 GFWC Club Manual as an overview and reminder of what Civic Engagement and Outreach means. I will explore individual topics and project ideas in future issues of News and Notes.

“The GFWC Civic Engagement and Outreach Community Service Program reminds GFWC members that each of us is a part of a larger society and is responsible for undertaking actions that will create a better quality of life and foster a sense of community—locally, regionally, nationally, and globally. GFWC will focus on addressing issues of public concern.”

Volunteering is one of the best ways to put civic duty into action and it is often the first step in building a stronger connection to community, but there are other ways to contribute, such as advocating, fundraising or donating, and problem solving. Locally, even supporting small businesses and keeping an eye on your neighbor can play a part in improving the community. The possibilities are endless. *We advocate because there is a need, we volunteer because we are needed. Our focus continues to be addressing issues of public concern.*

Civic Engagement and Outreach are highlighted and encouraged, including Citizenship; Crime Prevention, Safety, and Disaster Preparedness; the Needy, Hungry, and Homeless; and Our Military Personnel and Veterans. Beyond these suggestions, look within your own community and to the wider world for ways to make a positive impact.”

### **Phyllis Salzburg - Environment**

#### **PRESERVE RESOURCES**

**Rooted in Cheyenne** – Looking for volunteers to participate in Fall tree planting event Sept 17. Must RSVP if plan to attend. Contact [mtruslove@cheyennecity.org](mailto:mtruslove@cheyennecity.org) or 307-773-1094 for information. Rooted in Cheyenne’s mission is to re-establish a long-term tree planting program

in Cheyenne to help support a more diverse and resilient urban canopy and cultivate greener, healthier, more livable neighborhoods.

### **PROTECT WILDLIFE AND DOMESTICATED ANIMALS**

**Wild Horses in Wyoming:** Visit this site for information on the Rock Springs wild horse program. [https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/WY\\_rockspringsfacility\\_brochure.pdf](https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/WY_rockspringsfacility_brochure.pdf)  
It is the mission of the Bureau of Land Management to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

**In southeast Wyoming (Centennial valley)** – For information on the first BLM Certified Wild Horse EcoSanctuary – private land owner approved by BLM to care for wild horses. visit <https://www.deerwoodranchwildhorseecosanctuary.com/>  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g2\\_CwZ1hyew](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g2_CwZ1hyew)

**Casper, Wyoming, the Wyoming Mustang Institute** – works to ensure healthy and stable wild horse populations on public land through research, media outreach, and informational events.

### **The Wild Horse Experience**

**Fall 2022** Slide shows and discussion on the Casper College campus and field education in the Stewart Creek Herd Management Area.

#### **Schedule:**

Tuesday, September 13th, 4:00-5:30 in Leisinger Hall #183

Thursday, September 15th, 4:00-5:30 in Leisinger Hall #183

Saturday, September 17th, 8:00-5:30 field education in Stewart Creek

### **Flo Beville - Scholarship**

I have sent checks to the colleges for our recipients in August. The Scholarship Committee led by Karen Bard in the spring chose three recipients.

Hanna Needles, chosen for the Mary N Brooks for the second time. She attends the University of Wyoming. Devon Hangey was given the Ruth Clare Yonkee District Scholarship, and she attends Central Wyoming College. And Taneisha Smith was awarded the Paulina Hayes Scholarship and she attends Central Wyoming College.

I look forward to sending their second semester checks out in January. I also will be formulating a new Scholarship Committee at that time for Trish's two-year term.

### **CLUB PRESIDENTS**

#### **Betty Gervais, President - Casper Active Service Club**

We haven't planned anything yet, but hopefully after our Sept. meeting on Sept. 15 we'll have something to report. Our meetings are usually the third Thurs of each month (except for Sept!)

### **Deb McGarvey – President GFWC Rock Springs Woman’s Club**

We had our last meeting in May 2022 for initiation of new officers at a dinner. Decorations were provided by Marcia Volner and Michelle Smith. The decorations were extremely awesome. On June 2nd we met for a short time to pass books and let others know what we were still lacking.

July 9th was International Days for us. It was an extremely hot day, but Marcia Volner, Susan Arguello, April Dittman (for half an hour) and myself sat 8-8 that day. We didn't make a lot of funds that day as it was mostly politicians there. I was able to talk to a few people and was able to get a banner printed up that was donated by one of them.

We did a Rock Springs yard sale at the home of Susan Arguello and then one in Green River at the home of Lynn Mornar.

Our town is starting to grow more and hopefully so will we .

### **Karen Bard – President GFWC Laramie Woman’s Club**



An end of an era has come and gone for the Laramie Woman’s Club and especially the Bart’s Ladies. Bart’s has closed as of the end of August and our ladies had our booths cleaned out by the 15<sup>th</sup>. Our current Bart’s Ladies worked so hard to take care of all the items that had been donated to us. Some were sold, some given away. Many of our local charities were able to come and choose items. The Laramie Plains Museum got some much-needed book shelves. The library

got books to resell. The School Success program received donations as well. The list goes on. Bart’s and the flea market prior to that has been a way for us to raise money for the Laramie Plains Museum for close on 30 years. There have been many Bart’s Ladies and they all need to (and will) be celebrated. During those years, LWC donated sale proceeds of over \$200,000 to renovation of the Laramie Plains Museum. Bart's is closing due to structural damage.

Sharon Y., Irene P., Annie N., Ina B. and Janice P. are shown here taking down our sign.

### **Lucy Russell – President GFWC X-JWC**

We had our first board meeting this morning. I was hoping for a short meeting, but we had a lot of things to work on and ideas for the coming year. I have as my project this year to collect money and to purchase trees to beautify our community of Cheyenne. We may donate to Rooted in Cheyenne or donate trees to a new park in Cheyenne. We also have as our signature project for the next 2 years, K9’s 4 Mobility, our moneymakers for the next 2 years will be supporting this program. We will be arranging a trolley ride for our members at Christmas time to see the light of Cheyenne. We will be collecting school supplies in September to benefit our students in Cheyenne, we also have some of our members volunteering in the schools and at the library. We will have our annual fundraiser at the Texas Roadhouse in November. We will be working on recruitment this year in hopes to build up our membership. I feel that we started off with a bang and I look forward to all the wonderful things that our members will be doing this year.

### **Denise Lathrop – President GFWC Woman’s Civic League of Cheyenne**

WCLC will be off and running this September. As with most years our main objective is preparing for Christmas house. We will be holding craft workshops and supplying take home projects for our members. We are looking forward to more project contests from our CH chairmen.

Our first club meeting will be held at the Cheyenne Country Club. The program set up by our 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Claudia Willen, will be presentations from our committee chairs describing their objectives for the coming year and encouraging members to join a committee or two.

### **Barb Robertson – President GFWC Meadowlarks**

The Larks are working on the Veterans Stand Down as a club. We spent a great evening creating signs at Board and Brush, our group had so much fun and we are looking forward to our next outing! This summer went by very quickly, we are looking forward to Fall for opportunities.



Follow us on Facebook: GFWC of Wyoming

GFWC-Wyoming website: [www.gfwcwyoming.org](http://www.gfwcwyoming.org)

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