

# the Montana Woman

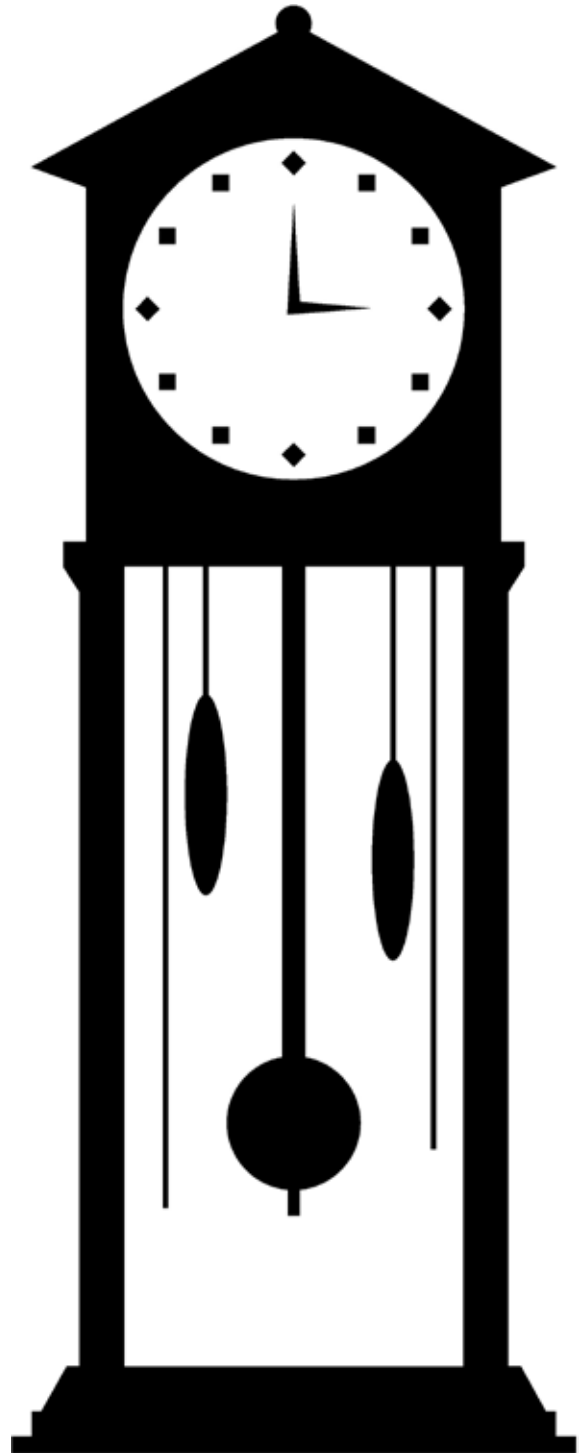


GFWC of Montana  
a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

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***Take Time To . . .***  
Remember  
Reflect  
and Renew



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I hope everyone had as good a time at the Fall Board Meeting in Great Falls as I did. I was blown away by all the informative FUN workshops, chairman presentations, speakers, intriguing and conversational table decorations – I had my own vision for the meeting, but all of my hopes and expectations were far surpassed!!! We were taught a GFWC cheer with the help of two dance team members, were entertained by an award-winning Montana author and inspired by GFWC's 2nd Vice-President,

had two speakers from the Montana Talking Book Library, "met" GFWC's founder, Jennie June, had FUN while hearing about our program areas and contests, learned about GFWC history, got to eat "cupcakes for breakfast" at the beginning of a reporting workshop, were awash in hats all weekend, all while we had lots of FUN and laughter.

Now that we are more knowledgeable about our past, we can concentrate on what we are doing in the present. One accomplishment has been the raising of over \$1000 for the President's Special Project – in two days, we raised over a tenth of our \$10,000 goal! Thank you to my good friend, Donna Albers of Fort Benton, for making the quilt which will be raffled to help further that goal. Thanks to the PDQ's for creating such great hats to help further this project and thank you to those who bought tickets to vote on and win the hats.

Since I feel that a picture is worth a thousand words, enjoy the photos throughout this magazine taken at the September meeting. I want you to be featured in this magazine, as we would be nothing without you, the clubwomen of GFWC of Montana. You do the volunteering, you are the backbone of our beloved organization, and this magazine is about you, for you, and by you. So...please send us news about your club activities that we can feature in upcoming issues...

Please check out our new website at [www.gfwcmontana.org](http://www.gfwcmontana.org). It is currently under construction, but more things are being added weekly. Eventually it will have all the current forms, publications, and info that you will need – [www.gfwc.org](http://www.gfwc.org) also has a wealth of information posted – please use these resources as you plan your FUN club year.

In this issue is an article about having your club select a LEADS candidate, read about membership and reporting, learn more about the President's Special Project for the Montana Talking Book Library, and you can get invigorated about possible new club projects and activities.

We can have FUN while being great volunteers. "If it's not fun, you're not doing it right." (Bob Basso). So go have some FUN while making a difference in your communities!

Enjoy the upcoming holiday season!

*Nancy*

# **“Membership – The Sole of the Federation”**

## **2012-2014 GFWC Membership Recruiting Campaign**

*Joyce Rogers, GFWC of Montana President Elect*

**SHOES, SHOES, SHOES.** What woman doesn't like shoes? Everyone has a favorite go-to shoe. Most of us have dozens of pairs —summer, winter, work, recreation, fancy, dress up -- some well used, some tired, some almost new. Our shoes sit in the closet waiting to be called upon.

GFWC club members are like shoes in our closets. Club members are indeed the Sole of the Federation. We need many different “shoes” to fill our club closet. Each member brings unique and special talents. What do you bring to your club, and what does your club give to you?



Every club needs to take the time during a meeting this fall/winter to ask members what they would like to do as a club. Listen to each other with open minds and hearts. Pick projects that “fill the soles” of your members. Try on new shoes (projects) and if needed, toss the old, worn out ones. Look for ideas that will engross other members of your community. Make the right moves for your club, your members, and don't forget to invite your community to participate.

Please remember to report new members to Joyce Rogers, GFWC Montana Membership Chairman and to GFWC International quarterly. Guidelines and suggestions for themes and recruitment campaigns can be found in the Membership Advancement Guide at [www.GFWC.org/GFWCMembers](http://www.GFWC.org/GFWCMembers).

The GFWC recruitment seasonal campaign dates are:  
Summer – Kick up your Heels June, July, August Report due September 1.  
Fall - Lace up your Shoes September, October, November Report due Dec. 1.  
Winter – Dig Out your Boots December, January, February Report due March 1.  
Spring – Pump up your Members March, April, May Report due June 1.

Membership Icebreaker ideas for meetings that have been shared include:  
Have members bring a shoe that depicts her personality in a brown paper bag, and then have the club Membership chairman put a sticker with her name on the sole, then put the shoes out for members to guess whose shoe belongs to whom. Kinda like

putting baby pictures with the officer.

Make posters or cardboard shoes with shoe sizes on them. At a meeting, ask members to sit in the area that is for their shoe size.

Have a shoe themed club meeting, wear the shoe that represents each member's favorite part of the day, season, color, etc.

Have a Kick it Up meeting. Kick start a new project with community help. A new Arts project in the community would be a perfect idea.

To share your club ideas and projects, please contact Joyce Rogers, Membership Chairman at Box 2778, Columbia Falls, MT 59912 or email [joycerogers@montanasky.net](mailto:joycerogers@montanasky.net). There might even be a prize for the best idea!

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### **Love it? Share it!**

*...from the October 6, 2012 News & Notes...*

Are you receiving News & Notes every week for all your important Federation updates? Even though each issue is full of information, ideas, opportunities, and tips, many GFWC members are still missing out. Make sure your club is in the loop! Tell your fellow club members to sign up for News & Notes or email [GFWC@GFWC.org](mailto:GFWC@GFWC.org).

### **GFWC Credit Card**

GFWC's latest membership benefit is the GFWC credit card! This Visa Platinum Rewards Card features more than a beautiful design—it allows you to earn points for purchases, balance transfers, and interest payments. You can redeem your points for gift cards, travel options with no blackout dates, event tickets, merchandise, and more. There is no annual fee. Even better—you'll be supporting the Federation each time you make a purchase. Go to [GFWC.org](http://GFWC.org) for more information.

# LEADS 2013

by Terry Kockler

## Do you, or do you know someone who:

- Demonstrates leadership capabilities at the club level as an active club president, club officer, or club project or committee chairman
- Exhibits a commitment to the Federation
- Exhibits an understanding of the GFWC mission of community service, illustrated by programs and projects in which she is or has been involved
- Demonstrates leadership skills, including, but not limited to, organization, responsibility, trustworthiness, enthusiasm, and flexibility
- Exhibits an interest in and willingness to pursue higher leadership positions in GFWC
- Agrees to share information gained from participation in LEADS with others in the State Federation
- Understands and accepts potential expenses involved in participation
- Has not held elected positions at or beyond the state level  
(This criterion is recommended in order to encourage potential leaders at the club level to apply.)
- Has not attended a previous LEADS session (members may attend only once).

**Then** you need to think about filling out the LEADS Application Form. We want you to have the chance to go to this great training. The next LEADS training is June 29, 2013 in Hollywood Florida. Applications need to be turned in by January 15, 2013 to GFWC of Montana President Nancy Hanford.

GFWC will cover a portion of the attendees' expenses, including:

- Round-trip travel to and from the GFWC Convention city up to \$350
- One-half of room charge for two nights at official Convention hotel
- Breakfast and lunch during the LEADS program
- \$10 Gift Certificate (on purchase of \$15 or more) for the GFWC Annual Convention Marketplace.

GFWC of Montana also helps defray some of the cost. This is their commitment to this program. They believe in it.



These women are all graduates of the LEADS program, women who have come back to be leaders in their local groups as well as playing leadership roles for GFWC of Montana.

Left to Right:

Joyce DeCunzo, 2011

Judy Senteney, 2010

Jamie Fuchs, 2007

Vurnie Kaye Barnett, 2005

Dorothy Murnin, 2002

Terry Kockler, 2012

## GFWC LEADS APPLICATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Above information should be concealed during judging process

List all local club offices and/or chairmanships held\* \_\_\_\_\_

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List all district offices and/or chairmanships held\* \_\_\_\_\_

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List GFWC club/district programs/projects in which involved\* \_\_\_\_\_

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List positions at district/state/national level in which you are interested\* \_\_\_\_\_

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Are you willing to:

Defray costs to attend GFWC LEADS not covered by GFWC or state? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Return to the state and share what you have learned at LEADS? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

\*If more space is needed, please complete answers on reverse side of this form.

Return copy of this form and 2 letters of support from an active GFWC club member to:

GFWC OF MONTANA PRESIDENT

Nancy Hanford, Box 1293, Fort Benton, MT 59442 4849nan@mtintouch.net

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION TO GFWC OF MONTANA

January 15th of each year

## ***Improve And Enrich Your Life By Reading Aloud***

*by Kathy Nelson, Education Chairperson*

I have always been a firm believer in and a proponent of reading aloud, especially to young children. But I was very interested when I found a blog on VOX Daily entitled *7 Ways Reading Aloud Improves and Enriches Your Life*, by Stephanie, Nov. 6, 2008.

Reading aloud does a number of good things. Let's take a brief look at the seven of them this article pointed out.

Reading aloud:

- **Sharpens Your Focus.** When you read aloud you are less distracted and are able to focus your mind and voice together. You probably won't even notice that you are strengthening your mental and verbal skills.
- **Increases Your Vocabulary.** Saying something aloud in context is very powerful. You are not just reading the word in your head, but you find the spoken word takes on a life of its own, becoming part of your vocabulary.
- **Results in Greater Comprehension.** Reading aloud helps one to better internalize the words and make them your own. It is most helpful for aural learners, but helps visual and tactile learners, as well.
- **Gives You an Opportunity to Play.** This helps you to stretch your imagination and explore the capabilities that may be hidden in your voice. A good way to do this is to read aloud a children's book to someone you love. It increases your creativity and will greatly impact the creativity of those children read aloud to.
- **Exercises Your Body.** Speaking involves more than just our voice, as we can express ourselves more vibrantly through body language that supports what we say.
- **Challenges Your Use of Intonation.** Reading aloud allows you to make full range of your voice. You can hardly sound dull when you take advantage of this opportunity.
- **Improves Listening and Reading Skills.** You become more aware of things that you read and hear when you read aloud. It helps you to identify proper grammar, sentence structure, etc. It also helps shape your interpretation of what is being said.

As you can see, reading aloud is so much more beneficial than just listening to someone read, or reading the words to yourself. And isn't this how we learn and become lifelong learners? So, go ahead and read aloud often.



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### ***International Outreach Community Service Program***



Hello: I am Rae Proctor, a member of GFWC Woman's Club of Missoula, and the GFWC of Montana International Outreach Community Service Program Chairman. I am chairman of the partnership as well as the community service projects.

All club presidents will find valuable information in the GFWC 2012-2014 Manual. I am going to include most of that information in this article so that all Montana club-women will know about International Outreach.

The "Partnership" portion of this program is about supporting the partnerships that GFWC has forged with organizations that promote and support international aid. These include Heifer International, Operation Smile, UNICEF and UN Foundation Shot @ Life. Many Montana

clubs have supported UNICEF and Operation Smile for several years. I urge those clubs to continue their support. I also urge all clubs to look at the other partnerships and consider fundraisers on their behalf or budgeting donations. All activities related to these programs should be reported under the PARTNERSHIP portion of your annual report.

There are several activities that clubs can do that should be reported as "Community Service projects. I know many Montana towns have foreign exchange students attending local high schools. How about a club program with the exchange student giving impressions of a US school and a brief "bio"? It would be nice to have the "host mom" join in the conversation. A woman's club could also participate in a local cultural/heritage event or have a program from one of those kinds of organizations. Whatever brings an "international flair" to your club or town is part of this program.

I would love to hear of anything you do, even before you complete your report. President Nancy reminds us that the "Montana Woman" is our magazine about us and we need to share our activities.

If you have questions you can contact the GFWC Program department at [Programs@GFWC.org](mailto:Programs@GFWC.org).

## ***Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO)***

*Dorothy Murnin, ESO Chairman*

The purpose of ESO is to provide Clubwomen with a structured reading program, to promote educational pursuits and stimulate a desire for self-improvement. Over the years many Clubwomen have profited from this program, which has been a part of the GFWC Education department for more than sixty years. Membership is open to every GFWC Clubwoman who wishes to participate.

ESO can take the form of a reading group or an individual's personal pursuit. The program provides awards, certificates, and reading lists.

There are many ways to support ESO activities and membership within your club.

A few suggestions:

- \*Select one or two books from the reading list to discuss at club meetings.
- \*Establish reading groups for study and discussion.
- \*Promote reading at all age levels. Work with local libraries in reading to children.

The primary responsibility of the ESO participant is of course, reading. Once a member has completed a category of 5 books she must send her completed report form to the ESO Chairman. The report form (two or three sentences is sufficient) expresses her opinion of each book read.



### **What are the ESO levels?**

**PLEDGE** - A pledge member has sent in enrollment application and has started to fulfill the reading requirements.

**MEMBER** - A member has completed 5 books from the ESO list or any previous list.

**STAR LEVEL** - A Star level Member has completed 5 books from 10 categories, 50 books. She will receive a star Membership certificate.

**TORCH** - A Torch member has completed 80 books. She is eligible to receive the Torch Pin and a Torch Member certificate.

**CENTURY AWARD** - A Century Award winner has completed 100 books. She can continue to the second and third century levels. She will be eligible to receive First, Second and Third Century Award certificates.

There are many of you reading in GFWC. **Let's go ! ESO!** Report, report, report! Report forms and lists are available.

Send questions and reports to

Dorothy Murnin

502 So. Merriam Ave., Miles City, MT 59301

## ***GFWC Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention***



### **WEAR YOUR PURPLE RIBBON!!!**

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. All GFWC members are encouraged to engage in projects and activities during your club year.

Check with a shelter in your area to see what specific needs they have.

Here are some ideas to consider:

- \*Hosting a clothing drive.
  - \*Having a baby shower at a shelter for an expectant mother.
  - \*Collecting toys and books for children.
  - \*Gathering toiletries, phone cards, duffel bags or soft luggage, blankets, small quilts or throws.
- Your club can support Domestic Violence Awareness by

making and wearing purple ribbons. These can be easy and inexpensive...AND effective! Use pins and acetate ribbon from a craft store or your florist. Your members could receive these at a club meeting and continue wearing them in public to spark interest and conversation. Perhaps make some for other organizations in your town.

Collectively, our impact can make a lasting impression on those in need.

Make an impact...

### **WEAR YOUR PURPLE RIBBON!!!**

Submitted by:

Toni Scully

GFWC of Montana Signature Project Chairman

Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention

## Arts Opportunities! Arts Opportunities!

### ***Want to start a writing contest in your community for the first time?***



It's not terribly complex! Here's the lowdown on how to get started:

1. First, try the principal of your local school – try to sell the idea of increasing student writing ability with the Woman's Club short story and poetry contest. If you get a principal buy-in, you'll have farther reaching results. After you get the buy-in, then talk to the teachers yourself, and explain the contest. You might tell them that this is a contest that happens every year, and if they should happen to get a particularly good story or poem in their regular writing instruction, save it for the contest.

2. If you don't get a buy-in, unless you get a "don't darken our doorsteps again," talk to teachers you know and suggest how much the kids can grow by regular writing, and you just happen to be sponsoring this contest that would be a motivator.

3. If you can't get cooperation from any teachers, contact the local home school organization. Most towns have an informal grouping of home schoolers, and some of them group together for specialized classes.

4. Get a story in the local newspaper, if you can, to publicize the contest. Sometimes parents read those stories and ask about the contest, even if the school isn't sponsoring it.

Read through the contest rules yourself, but read them with a proviso in your mind that in this state, an entry doesn't have to be perfect in order to be acceptable. It doesn't necessarily have to be put in the proper form, for instance, until you're ready to send it to the state contest. That means that you can accept 300 short stories in each category, even hand written if you're willing to wade through the handwriting; you will choose one winner in each category, and only then will you fire it back to the writer and ask for it to be typed, double spaced, with the proper headings as in the rules. (You can choose as many winners as you want to reward, but only the first place winner will have to be in the proper format for submitting to the state contest.)

If you've chosen a story because it's creative, but it contains spelling and grammar errors, you can ask for those things to be cleaned up as well. We do that at the state level; you can certainly do it at the local level.

The one rule you do need to be a stickler about is the rule about length; it has never been a problem, really, but do pay attention to it.

It's handy for us if you submit your winning stories and poems with the form giving GFWC International the perpetual right to publish the story or poem. You may download it from the first page of the 2012-2014 Club Manual online at [gfwc.org](http://gfwc.org).

Choose one poem and one short story in each category, and send them to

**Mary Lou Hermes,  
P.O. Box 133, Paradise, MT 59856**

Send them some time between the first of January and the end of February. Don't send them earlier because I might lose them. Don't send them later or they won't get into the judging. Please include your chair person's contact telephone number and email address so I can contact you if we choose one of your entries to send on and I need to ask about it.

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### ***GFWC Photography Contests***

Calling all Members! You are eligible each year to enter pictures in the annual photography contests. More entries are needed! Here are the contest categories:

**The World in Pictures  
GFWC Volunteers in Action  
A Year in Pictures**

*The world in pictures* captures the beauty of the world and people around us in three categories:

– Living Things—adults, animals, children, domestic birds, fish, flowers, insects, reptiles, wildlife

– Scenes—city, landscapes, rural, skies, sunrise, sunset, waterscapes, weather

– Still Life—abstract (any assemblage of objects either in an arranged or natural setting), buildings, monuments

*GFWC volunteers in action* provides members with the opportunity to demonstrate their volunteer activities through photography.

*A year in pictures*—also known as the GFWC Calendar Contest—features photographs depicting the twelve months of the year, providing members the opportunity to showcase their talents while supporting GFWC through sale of the fund-raiser calendar. (Calendar Contest entries are due directly to Headquarters by May 15.)

NEW! The World in Pictures contest now includes separate classes for color and black and white photographs as well as a high school student division.

#### **Rules:**

Photographs must be 8x10, and must be submitted to contest chair Jamie Fuchs by April 1.

For more specifics, contact Jamie at 406-883-0959





## Art Community Service Projects

When you hear the word ART what comes to mind?

I picture an artist with a big sun hat sitting on a picturesque cliff with her easel and paints, painting a gorgeous sunset scene. Maybe you picture a dance troupe or your favorite play.



Most people think ART is something “someone else” does. You can enjoy art but there are many ways you can participate at the club level or an individual level. Be Creative, think outside the straw hat and easel!!!

### Some ideas for projects:

- Teach a craft at a club meeting or bring someone in who can.
- Do a sewing project for a charity organization.
- Paint a mural.
- Learn a musical instrument.
- Join a choral group.

### Bring some art into your community by:

- Sponsoring drama or music programs in your school or community.
  - Scheduling guest artist speakers at your club.
  - Donating instruments to students.
  - Participate in local plays or talent shows.
- You can come up with many more ideas. Please report what you are doing so other clubs may benefit from your experience.



Art Chairman, Michele Furry

## Public Issues

The Public Issues Community Service Program is designed to actively connect club members to their communities. There are so many ways to do that. Here are some suggestions for reportable projects in Public Issues.

### Citizenship

Encourage active involvement, take up issues that affect your community and your world.

### Veteran's Affairs

Support military personnel and veterans returning home.

### Emergency Preparedness

Work with law enforcement and first responders to increase public awareness.

### Safety

Provide programs, tools, and training.

Want more information? Refer to the club manual, or contact me!

We all do so much! Please report! Take a moment to write that report and send it in.



Renee Sieben, Public Issues Chairman

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## Conservation

### Information re: Plastic Bags

by Donna Albers Conservation Chairman, pictured wearing a skirt of recycled materials

In 1966 the U.S. generated and manufactured nearly 6.3 billion pounds of plastic; it tripled to 18.9 billion pounds in the 1970's and 50 billion pounds in the 80's.

In 1977 the circulation of plastic bags began in stores. According to the Wall St. Journal, the U.S. is using 100 billion plastic bags each year, which requires 12 MILLION BARRELS of PETROLEUM to produce.

Plastic takes forever to decompose; it only breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces but will never decompose.

A survey conducted in 1998 on the North Pacific Ocean revealed 89 % of all waste was some form of plastic. This waste, being mistaken for food and causing slow and painful deaths, is affecting sea life.

A few years ago I reported on this same subject and gave out reusable bags. How many of you are using some kind of reusable bag?

Forget them?? I hung mine with my purse till it became a habit and now I store them by the back door. I will admit I carry an “emergency” one in my purse in case I did forget. It is an “Enviro Sac” which folds up into its own pouch and is great for use in department stores also.

These bags are readily available in stores for a nominal fee. “Enviro- Sac”. com will give you lots of options.

Just think how much less petroleum we would need to import, plus help save our sea life by not using plastic bags.





## ***Juniors' Special Project Advocates for Children***

The Advocates for Children Special Project is one in which every club can participate. Your current projects involving the welfare, education and care of children qualifies you to write up your project, record your activities (time and money spent as well as "in kind" money donated) for submission to GFWC International.

In just the past month I have heard comments by kids that, "In order to succeed in school, don't be hungry!" "I don't have a backpack," and "I don't like to read!"

I have heard comments from parents such as, "The tooth fairy won't come until I get a child support check," "Wow, that supply list is a long one this year," and "Is there still a breakfast program at the school?"

If you read between the lines, the kids in Montana deal with deficits in food, basic materials and parents who are desperately trying to make ends meet.

Your club can make a difference. The two partnership organizations with GFWC are INMED and EMSC. Their websites are listed below: feel free to contact me (Cathy McCormick) with any questions at [cathym@montanamadeonline.com](mailto:cathym@montanamadeonline.com).

Here is some more information for you.

**PURPOSE:** To educate, advocate and engage in projects concerning the well-being of children via health, social and safety programs

**SPECIAL WEEKS:** October 21-27, 2012; October 20-26, 2013

**IDEAS:** Assist teachers; support with financial aid; start a Juniette club; provide medical equipment for training pre-hospital emergency personnel; volunteer with local athletic, school, park associations; support drug use prevention programs; learn about and disseminate information regarding Internet safety; educate others about foster care; work with other organizations to reduce hunger in children.

**SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS:** Support bereavement camps, find/help build universally accessible playgrounds for children of all ages, support local Head Start schools.

**INMED PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN:** [www.INMED.org](http://www.INMED.org)  
TBD, 20110 Ashbrook Place, Suite 260, Ashburn, VA 20147;  
703-729-4951, ext. 238; 703-858-7253



*Cathy McCormick, chairman*

**EMSC (EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN)** [www.ChildrensNational.org/EMC](http://www.ChildrensNational.org/EMC)

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### ***A Chance To Reshape Futures***

After a successful launch in 2012, GFWC is proud to announce the opening of the 2013 Success for Survivors Scholarship. As a national leader in the fight to end domestic violence, GFWC will award \$2,500 scholarships to help intimate partner survivors obtain a post-secondary education. Last year, with the help and commitment of GFWC members, partners, and friends, six courageous individuals were awarded scholarships to help them achieve a higher education.

Promotion is a key to the success of the scholarship. Visit the Success for Survivors Scholarship page to obtain marketing materials to share with your community and local domestic violence shelters. Also, consider impacting a future by making a tax-deductible donation to the GFWC Signature Project Fund. For more information contact the GFWC Programs Department at 202-347-3168 or [Programs@GFWC.org](mailto:Programs@GFWC.org).

# Local Clubs in the Spotlight

## Ronan Celebrates

by Adina Fox

Ronan is 100 years old this year and Ronan Woman's Club is 95 years old. To celebrate this, we entered the float pictured here in the Ronan Days Parade. The giant hat is made out of chicken wire and 1500 napkins. Silk flowers and old hats covered the sides of the float, with banners that said RWC was 95 years old, "Established the City Library in 1923," "Established the Museum of the Rockies" and "Were instrumental in building St. Luke Hospital in the 1950s." Just like the float, our club is small but mighty. We paid tribute to all of our past presidents with banners containing their names and the years they were president. It was great fun for the crowd to recognize the old family names on the float.



## Plains Commemorates

Plains Woman's Club grieves the loss of Fern Johnson, president for a second term, as well as GFWC of Montana Photography Chairperson. Feeling that the 20 members gathered in an August home meeting on the bank of the Clark Fork River needed closure on this unspeakably sad event, now-president Virginia Fortner read an Emily Dickinson poem changed slightly to honor Fern:

"Ferns are the plants  
in quiet shadows  
that nourish earth and soul  
And sing the song  
without the words  
and never stops at all"



Each member plucked one petal from pink roses and placed it in a clear vase as they recalled one of Fern's characteristics that they appreciated. During the healing time that followed, Fern's positiveness; patience; kindness; friendship; nursing and hospice skills; love of family; and enthusiasm for golf, yoga, outdoor activities and Relay for Life were most often remembered.

Program chairperson Ellen Childress lit a candle in a heart-shaped holder she had made to honor Fern. After a moment of quiet reflection, the Plains Women's Club began a business meeting, which included planning a float for the upcoming Sanders County Fair Parade featuring members "dressed to the nines" (which Fern loved to do) in a field of ferns. Fern will be long missed as we carry on PWC work in Plains.

Contributed by Virginia Fortner **11**



## GFWC Billings Hits the Spotlight 10,000 Books for 10,000 Babies

GFWC Billings Junior Woman's Club's project "Books for Babies and... You!" reached "10,000 Books for 10,000 Babies" in October 2012. Our Books for Babies and... You! Program gives each baby born at the two Billings hospitals a book bag with a touch and feel board book plus public library story times and other related information for parents. Since September 2008, more than 10,000 babies born in Billings have received book bags, which have helped them start on the path of lifelong learning and literacy.

On October 17, 2012 a family from each hospital was chosen to represent our 10,000th baby and given a gift basket filled with baby and mommy items such as onesies, lotion, stuffed animals, a quilt made by a member, and of course, books. Both sets of parents recognized the importance of reading to children and were featured on the local TV station.

A celebration "10,000 Books for Babies and... You!" was held October 24th. Members were excited to visit with GFWC of Montana President Nancy Hanford who joined the party. Many local community members joined GFWC/ BJWC to celebrate this benchmark event: Superintendent of Billings Public Schools Terry Bouck, Billings Mayor Tom Hanel, Billings Clinic Foundation Director Jim Duncan, United Way CEO Carol Burton, Parmly Billings Library Director Bill Cochran, Friends of the Parmly Library, BJWC club members and many other guests.

The event was covered on KULR8 TV and an article titled "10,000 books delivered to 10,000 babies" was the lead article in the Local News section of the Billings Gazette.



**Connie Hayes, Sylvia Jensen, Lauren Graves, Linda Altwine, Nancy Hanford, Gayle Carter, Judy Senteney, Kathy Broyles, Sue Holman, Stephanie Martin, and Robin Pittsley**

Ads were placed in the Billings Gazette, and the Outpost, a weekly newspaper. Radio, TV, online, local magazines, and newspapers listed the event on their calendars.

Guests enjoyed violin music by Madison Mulvaney, refreshments, learning about GFWC/BJWC through committee posters on display sharing all of our clubs activities. Many guests commented that they had no idea that our club was involved in so many community projects. Having the information on the display boards was excellent information for new members and we did have three guests express their wishes to join our club.

Another table displayed information about our three literacy programs "Books for Babies and... You!", "Read to Your Bunny", and Pediatric Activity Bags which include a book plus other activities for children while they are in the hospital. The Parmly Billings children's librarian, Cindy Patterson, shared her Books and Babies Program with guests.

The Education Committee and all the members of GFWC Billings Junior Woman's Club worked hard and appreciated all of the community support for this project. As Linda Altwine, Education Committee Co-Chair said, "It is exciting to reach 10,000 families but we are just getting started."

### ***Don't forget to send in your yearly club reports, including narratives, by February 5, 2013!***

Send one copy to Joyce Hooper and one copy to Nancy Hanford (addresses on page 2). There will be a new form pertaining to GFWC of Montana this year – since GFWC is still making a few changes to their form, we will post our final form



online at [www.gfwcmontana.org](http://www.gfwcmontana.org) as soon as it is finalized. Complete instructions and copies of the form will also be sent to all club presidents as soon as the form is done.

## **Western States Region Conference Report to GFWC of Montana BOD 2012 Meeting**

Did you know???

\*Anchorage, Alaska has an annual Duct Tape Ball, in which all attendees must fashion their gala apparel from duct tape?

\*Wasilla, the home of Sarah Palin, spelled backwards is "allisaw" – and that there is a golf ball contest held on Lake Wasilla --- when it is frozen over with ice

\*Each dog in the Iditarod Race leaves about 8 million footprints in the snow over the course of the 1000 mile race. That is 2 million per paw! Considering 16 dogs per team start the race, that is a lot of footprints when you put all the teams together.

\*Alaska has 33,000 miles of coastline...more than the rest of the lower 48 combined.

\*The Yukon River flows 1400 miles through central Alaska and into the Bering Sea.

These are just some of the tidbits you might have gleaned during the Western States Region Conference held in Anchorage, Alaska in September. Montana members attending were Florence Diede, Judy Senteney, Sigrid Laird, Dorothy Murnin, Joyce Rogers, Cheryl Martin, Adina Fox and myself. We were treated to wonderful tours (my favorite being the visit to Martin Buser's Happy Trails Kennels, where we learned much about the Iditarod, the Alaskan Husky, and now are informed and ready to cheer on both Martin and his younger son, Rohn, when the Iditarod takes place again next spring.) The Alaskan members made us feel right at home, we had great speakers and informative workshops...it was truly a majestic experience.



Backdrop: Alaska landscape.

Above: Native singers entertaining in Anchorage

I cannot stress enough how much information, camaraderie and inspiration one receives when attending an out-of-state meeting, whether it be regional or International. Please try to attend one when possible. The next WSR meeting will be in September 2013 in Portland, Oregon. Plan to put it on your tentative agenda.

*Nancy Hanford*

*GFWC of Montana President 2012-2014*

### **Montana Woman Directory Issue Corrections**

Pages 10 & 11

Arts & Arts Partnership- Michele Furry's email should read: mtnn@montana.com

Pianist is Marion Hertel, 2596 Nelson Road, Moore, MT 59464

ESO Chairman Dorothy Murnin has an e-mail address. It is: dorothymurnin@midrivers.com

Spiritual Values Chairman Ann Kuehn's email should read: glazyk@live.com

Bylaws Committee member for Western District is: Mary Lou Hermes

Photography Contest Chairman is now Jamie Fuchs, 37048 Glory Road, Polson, MT 59860, polsonwomensclub@gmail.com, 406-883-0959 (home), 406-241-1906 (cell)

Page 13

East Glacier President Kelly Lynch's email address should read thegrinchs@gmail.com

Page 14:

Heading should be Eastern District (not Central)

Priscilla Fairlee's new email address is pfairlee@imt.net

Spiritual Values Chairman Ann Kuehn's email should read: glazyk@live.com

#### **Corrections for the Contact Information Booklet**

Page 25

2013 GFWC Annual International Convention Dates should read: June 30-July 2 in Hollywood, Florida

Page 26 –last date on page for GFWC of Montana Biennial Convention @ Best Western Great Northern Hotel in Helena, MT should be changed to April 25 & 26, 2014.

# Nobody's Bored



The meeting began with solemn moments as an Honor Guard from Malmstrom AFB presented the colors.



Fun and foolishness were encouraged in committee reports. Here Michelle Furry wakes up hidden writing talents in Debbi Kirschbaum, Ginny Fortner and Debbie Heckman



Special guest Mary Ellen Brock, GFWC International Second Vice President, was an inspirational speaker.



Author Craig Lancaster regaled the ladies by reading from his latest book, then sold autographed copies.

Sigrid Laird presented a well researched history of GFWC of Montana and a lady claiming to be Federation Founder Jane Crowly addressed the assembly. Sigrid and Jane are pictured above, middle.



The lovely quilt above, being shown by its maker, Donna Albers, is the center of major fund-raising for the President's Special Project, supporting the Montana Talking Book Library. All clubs are asked to sell raffle tickets for this masterpiece.



At President Elect Joyce Rogers' Seminar, her granddaughter, Nicole, led the assembly in cheering for membership.

At left, Dorothy Murnin, Cathy McCormick, Donna Albers, Penny Cope, Ann Kuehn and Phyllis Worrall pose for the camera.

# at Fall Board!



Adina Fox, center, introduces Talking Book librarian, Christie Briggs and reader, Myrle Tompkins.



The PDQs above modeled hats they decorated. Ladies below vied for and won them. Proceeds went to the President's Special Project.



At left Linda Carlson and Ann Kuehn  
below  
Lynn Foreman and Gertrude Weishaar



Encouraged to wear hats to lunch, many fine hats were displayed, some a variation on the theme.



Toni Scully, Kim Montag and Nancy Bagwell chose Cowboy hats for the luncheon, while Adina Fox wore a fedora and Penny Cope appeared in a sturdy helmet.



Evening banquets gave everyone a chance to dress up a bit. Pictured from left are Bev Ferguson, Judy Senteney, Joyce Martin, and Debra Benes. Stephanie Martin, above, and Renee Sieben pose for the camera.

# Dates to Remember

**December 1** Fall "Lace Up Your Shoes" membership report due to GFWC Headquarters and to Joyce Rogers

**January 15** LEADS applications due to GFWC of Montana President Nancy Hanford

**February 5** Reports are due to Joyce Hooper, Dean of Departments & GFWC of Montana President, Nancy Hanford  
(Do not sent copies to GFWC International)

**February 28** Story and poetry contest entries due to Mary Lou Hermes, P.O. Box 133, Paradise, Montana

**March 1** Winter "Dig Out Your Boots" membership report due to GFWC Headquarters and to Joyce Rogers

*the GFWC*

*Montana Woman*

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