

the Montana Woman



Soar with Eagles
2016 - 2018



'Sno kidding, Spring will come, and with it District Conventions! Be there or Be Square!

Spring, 2017

Volume 57

Issue 3

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On the cover ~

Your GFWC Montana Executive Officers,
all out standing in the snow

In this Issue ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Dates to Remember.....	3
From the President.....	4
Project Reports.....	5
Leads & Jenny Award.....	6
LEADS application.....	7
District Meetings.....	8
International Convention.....	10
Ronan turns 100!.....	11
GFWC Christmas.....	12-14
Club News.....	15-16

Artists and Crafters Needed

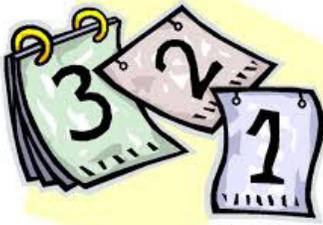
The fundraising committee for WSR needs items for the “Country Store,” which will be open during the Western Region Conference this September.

We would like to have small, easily packable items that are home made. Please price them for us, and bring them to your district meetings. You can also bring those last minute items to Helena in September!

Let's show how talented Montana women are!



The Montana Woman



*Let's Make it a
Date!*

January 1 to February 28 ~

Writing Contest entries due to
GFWC of Montana Writing Contest
Chairman Jan Beekman

March 3 ~

LEADS applications due to GFWC
of Montana President Joyce Hooper

March 15 ~

Website, Media Campaign and
Newsletter Contests – entries due
(see GFWC Club Manual)

April District Conventions - 2017

Central - April 8, 2017
Eastern - April 22, 2017
Western - April 29, 2017

GFWC International Convention -

Palm Springs, California
June 24-26, 2017

Western States Region Conference and Montana State Fall Meeting

Radisson - Helena, MT September
8-10, 2017

GFWC Montana Biennial Convention

Great Northern - Helena, MT April
20-22, 2018

GFWC International Convention -

St. Louis, MO
June 23-26, 2018

Our website address: check it out!
www.gfwcmontana.org

The Montana Woman is published quarterly, in August, November, February and May. The deadline for news is the first of the month preceding the publication date. We encourage GFWC of Montana clubs to share their news in the Montana Woman.

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Note! Two Address Changes!

*Toni Scully - Central District President - ascully406@gmail.com

*Lena Dresbach, President, GFWC Forsyth - firephoto@yahoo.com

Meeting a Membership Goal!



Sandi Conrady, Club President, welcomes newest member Marsha Baumeister into GFWC Helena. Marsha is new member #5, and with her membership the club has met its growth goal!

From the President



Hi Ladies

Winter is here and we are brr..... so cold and soooo much snow.

It is beautiful though and the sun glistening on the snow lets us know we are in God's country. Nick and I were not able to leave our house on Christ-

mas Day because of the snow. Our four wheel vehicle was in for repairs and my all wheel vehicle would not make it out. We had a wonderful Christmas when the family arrived from Big Arm and Stevensville. Family is the best and we are also the best with our GFWC Montana Family.

During the holiday season your clubs have enjoyed being together and celebrating holiday parties. Let's continue celebrating in 2017 and keep that volunteer spirit going. Continue to attend your local club meetings and help your club to reach 20% increase in membership.

2017 will be bringing us exciting moments to be together. I am looking forward to visiting with all of you at the District Conventions, April 8, 22 and 29th. The International Convention is in Palm Springs this year on June 23, 24, 25, 26. I know some of you have family in California. This could be an extended family visit.



Our website: check it out! www.gfwcmontana.org

Let's make this a Montana happening.

Western States Region Convention will be in MONTANA on September 8, 9, and 10th. We will not have to drive or fly far for this one is in Helena. We are so lucky. I want to thank those who have already started working on this convention. We still have quite a few things to do and will need everyone's help. Thanks for all you do. We are planning to have a GFWC Montana Fall Meeting on Sunday, September 10th after the WSR. It will be a short meeting, so please plan to attend.

I want to thank each and every one of you for the past six months. You have made my time as your President enjoyable. When I have asked, you have helped and I appreciate that so much. So I will ask again - Don't forget to send me Leads Candidates from each of your clubs and continue working on the Montana Hope Project.

Until we meet in April, I wish you a warmer enjoyable winter, beautiful spring and safe journeys.

Your federation sister,
Joyce Hooper, President
GFWC Montana
www.gfwcmontana.org

An amazing tidbit about the Eagle's eyesight:

The Eagle can probably identify a rabbit moving almost a mile away. That means that an Eagle flying at an altitude of 1000 feet over open country could spot prey over an area of almost three square miles from a fixed position.

No wonder God wants us to spread our wings and soar with Eagles.



Montana Hope Project Update:

Winter 2017

Sandi Lane

Presidents Special Project Chairperson

How many of us are longing for the warmer weather that spring promises to bring? Yes, indeed this has been a long winter for many of us. Decorations have long been tucked away for another holiday season that will come all too soon again. But, one of the many things that I've learned that is never tucked away is the generosity of the GFWC ladies across our fine state.

The 2016-2018 Presidents Special Project: Montana Hope Project is just one of the ways we give through our time and financial contributions. Currently, the

project has brought in over \$4,100.00 on our way to raising \$10,000.00 or more. A special thanks to clubs that have gone above and beyond selling raffle tickets. In no particular order a BIG thank you to Forsyth Woman's Club, Fort Benton Woman's Club, Deer Lodge Woman's Club, Bitterroot Woman's Club and many individual donations from GFWC women across Montana. It's not too late if your club would like to have a fund-raiser to help with the Montana Hope Project. Some idea might include having a chilli supper like the ladies did in Deer Lodge. Don't forget, some clubs still have raffle tickets for the quilt drawing as a way to help raise funds.

Remember ladies, the raffle for the choice of two quilts is coming up this spring. Next year's drawing for the raffle will be a fun filled float trip down the Bitterroot River. So, whether you are mild and trying for a chance at the quilt or a bit more wild and an outdoor adventure is more your style, the raffle drawings cover it all.

Again, thank you for your continued support with this amazing project, helping critically ill children be granted a wish from the Montana Hope Project, through our 2016-2018 GFWC Presidents Special Project.



Be A Grower!

Joyce DeCunzo, Membership Chair

Grower – a person who grows something (Webster). Seems like a simple definition, doesn't it?

We all know growing can be hard work. Sometimes we don't have the energy to work that hard. Sometimes we don't have the enthusiasm it takes to grow things. Sometimes we don't know why we need to be a grower. Sometimes there are factors outside our control that seem impossible to overcome.

Just think, if farmers let all those things get in their way, we would have no food to eat. Companies would never grow new ideas. Our children would not learn new

things. So, what to do about all that?

*Be a leader – create enthusiasm among your members to help the club grow its membership.

*Spread the work – if every member recruits one new member, you will have a healthy club.

*Remember why your club exists and know the more members you have, the more effective you will be in meeting your club's goals.

*Encourage creative thinking.

*For every obstacle you see to growing your membership, work on a solution.

I hope you are all working toward your growth goals. Every new member brings new energy, new ideas and new solutions. Be a grower!

Nominate a Promising Leader for LEADS Training!

by Barbara Hogg, 2016 Leads graduate

What do you know about speech writing? Conflict resolution? GFWC Legislative Action Center? What you as a GFWC member can do as a Legislative advocate? The wide reach of GFWC world-wide? Not much, you say..... All this and much more is packed into the one day, pre-convention LEADS workshop.

The Leads workshop is an intense one day of learning and laughing filled with information and education focused on helping the participant become a professional leader, yes, we are professional leaders. Do you have an “Elevator Speech?” This is a quick advertisement for Membership, given to someone who doesn’t know about GFWC.

At the 2016 International Convention in Baltimore there were 46 LEADS participants. In her welcome letter President Babs Condon said, “I applaud you for stepping up and maybe even stepping out of your comfort zone a little bit. I happen to believe that some leaders are born – but most leaders are made. What is essential for successful leadership is that leaders never stop learning.” Benjamin Franklin is quoted as saying, “The doors of wisdom are never shut.”

This is your time to shine, to learn and to lead.

Montana women need to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity.

Apply to be the 2017 Leads Candidate from Montana!

Leads application form may be found on the next page!

Honor One of Your Members with a Jenny Award Nomination!

by Joyce Rogers

Has your club selected a Jennie Award nominee? Are you checking old newspaper articles and your club scrapbooks? There is still time to get your information together and send to me before the June 1, 2017 deadline. Every club has at least one and usually several members who have demonstrated the qualities needed to receive this honor.

As stated on the gfwc.org website: “The GFWC Jennie Award honors one clubwoman from each region for outstanding commitment to club, community, and family. They are chosen by their clubs to compete at state, region, and national levels for their outstanding personal commitment to club, community and family.

The GFWC Jennie Award is named in honor of GFWC’s founder, Jane Cunningham Croly, who wrote for national newspapers under the pseudonym “Jennie June.” The award highlights those extraordinary clubwomen who epitomize her spirit of independence, courage, and persistence in purpose through their roles as volunteers within their clubs, elsewhere in the community, and as members of a family or extended family. Although GFWC has many awards for states and clubs, the GFWC Jennie Award is the only national honor that recognizes individual members for personal excellence.

In fact, it is the highest honor bestowed by GFWC.”

Club Presidents received the forms and details on how to submit your Jennie Award nomination last fall. If you need another copy, call and I will mail to you. Information can also be found and printed from gfwc.org website. From the home page, click on Membership Services; 2015-2018 Club Manual; Awards, Contests, and Grants; and Jennie Award.

Region winners will be acknowledged at the 2018 GFWC International Convention in St. Louis, Missouri. I hope the Western Region winner will be from Montana.

** Questions: Cell phone: 406.253.3355

email: joycerogers@montanasky.net

Joyce Rogers, Jennie Award Chairman
Box 2778, Columbia Falls, MT 59912

Our website: check it out!
www.gfwcmontana.org

GFWC Leadership, Education, and Development Seminar (LEADS) Application Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Club _____ District _____

Above information should be concealed during judging process

List all local club officers and/or chairmanships held* _____

List all district officers and/or chairmanships held* _____

List GFWC club/district programs/projects in which involved* _____

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

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 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 two letters of support from active GFWC club members by March 1, 2017 to:

GFWC of MONTANA STATE PRESIDENT
Joyce Hooper
772 Paige Lane, Corvallis, MT 59828

***Spring is Coming
and Spring Means Getting Together
with Your GFWC Friends From Other Places!***

News from the GFWC MT Central District!

SAVE THE DATE for Saturday April 8, 2017

SPRING BREAK is the theme, as the Madison Valley Womens Club is hosting the Central District 2017 Spring Conference in ENNIS at the Ennis Senior Center.

If you plan to come a day or two early, the MVWC has a few activities planned: a private shopping event at the Nearly New Shoppe followed by dinner provided by our club!

The Conference begins with coffee, breakfast items and registration at 930am. The meeting will be from 10:30 to 3:00pm.

More details to follow next month!

Toni Scully, District President, Central District

**Celebrate History
with the Western District!**

GFWC Western District would like to invite you to our April 29th 2017 District meeting in Polson. We will meet at the First United Methodist Church from 10:30 to 3:00.

Our theme is CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY. Many of our clubs are over 90 years old. Please dress up and bring your club scrap books to display.

Host clubs are GFWC Polson Woman's Club and GFWC Ronan Woman's Club. Registration will be \$15. Our program will cover our favorite past projects.

Just for fun we will have fundraising and door prizes. Come join us for a wonderful luncheon with fellow club members in beautiful Polson.

Debbie Heckman, Western District President.

The GFWC MT Eastern District Meeting will be held in Billings on April 22, 2017.

The Eastern District includes the following GFWC Clubs: Culbertson Woman's Club, Woman's Club of Bridger, Laurel Federated Woman's Club, Billings Junior Woman's Club, Big Timber Woman's Club, Billings Woman's Club, Forsyth Woman's Club, and Miles City Woman's Club.

The meeting will be at the Western Security Bank on the corner of Wicks and Main in Billings Heights. Registration will be at 9:30. COME HUNGRY....A continental breakfast will be available!

The business meeting will start at 10:00. Lunch will be served and there will be plenty of time to visit with fellow club members to share ideas and information.

There will also be "lively and exciting" workshops, so please plan to attend and bring carloads of members with you!

Registration forms will be sent in March with further details.

You can contact President Marsha Price at askmap@gmail.com or call 406-698-6946

Marsha Price, Eastern District President

Our website address: check it out! www.gfwcmontana.org

HELP WANTED!

for the

Western States Region Conference

September 7-10, 2017

at the

**Radisson Colonial Hotel
in Helena**

Once, every 10 years, GFWC Montana has the honor of hosting the Western States Region Conference. It's our opportunity to put the Treasure State on display for GFWC clubs from all over the Western Region that includes Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming and Montana.

Don't miss out on this chance to show your pride in who we are.

You'll learn more about how you can help at your district meetings in April.

It will take all of the GFWC clubs in Montana to make this happen so make plans now to get involved.



Invitation to Convene!

Palm Springs

June, 2017

Palm Springs Here I Come!

by Karen Gustavsen

I am so-o-o-o looking forward to the GFWC Convention June 23-26, 2017! It will only be a hop, skip, and a jump away, in Palm Springs, California. Have you been to a GF Convention? They are packed with interesting speakers during the business sessions, worthwhile workshops, displays staffed by the partner organizations (Canine Companions for Independence, Shot@Life, March of Dimes, etc.) with lots of free informational material, and some of the most amazing sister volunteers from across the country.

There is time to celebrate each other's accomplishments, get to meet women from our Western States Region, learn how other clubs handle sticky situations, share project successes, and enjoy the company of like-minded women. If you have the time to join any of the pre- or post-Convention tours, do it. They are well planned and run, offering a great addition to the Convention experience.



This could be you, posing at an International Convention with International Vice President Marian St.Clair!

Let Joyce Hooper know if you are thinking about attending. We can share rooms, share rides from Ontario airport, and make sure no one is left out of any gathering. I hope to see lots of Montana members in Palm Springs!



- ✓ *Endless sunshine*
- ✓ *Beautiful landscape*
- ✓ *Activities for all*

You can see all these at once from your window at the JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort and Spa in Palm Desert, California. GFWC California hosts the 2017 Annual Convention from June 23-26, 2017 in the greater Palm Springs area. A location and property not to be missed, the JW Marriott holds a luxury spa, world-class golfing and tennis, and dozens of on-site shops and eateries just minutes from your room. You never have to leave the grounds...but if you do, Palm Springs has fabulous shopping, celebrity home tours, and hiking trails.

Our website address: check it out! www.gfwcmontana.org

Would you believe these women are 100?



Front row: Fawn Hitchcock, Fayth Loveless, Nicole Foster, Michelle Hovorka
Back Row: Kathy Symington, Connie Romero, Adina Fox, Alice Gleason, Joyce Rogers, Ruth Galbraith, Marge Coursen, Patti Mocabee
Anne Loveless was behind the camera.

GFWC Ronan Woman's Club is 100 years old this year and we plan to celebrate. Founded in 1917 and Federated in 1918, GFWC Ronan Woman's Club has been the community group that has volunteered where and when ever there was a need for help.

RWC is an energetic and fun loving club with dedicated members. For 30 years we have held a spring Flea Market/Craft Show as our major fundraiser.

Our January meeting is always a planning meeting for the March fundraiser. We sell tables to our vendors, hold a Silent Auction, and provide soups, Indian Tacos, and desserts as fundraisers. The above picture is of members planning the 31st spring craft fair.

In addition to the craft sale, past fund raising efforts include bake, rummage and raffle sales, pancake and spaghetti suppers, home talent plays, and held Tea's for the Library. With these funds the women have accomplished many things.

Members started the Ronan City Library 1923. The club held fundraisers for the establishment of St. Luke Community Hospital in the 1950's and continue to support projects for the Nursing Home and Hospital including free polio immunization clinics, furnishing hospital rooms and providing gifts for newborns. The Mission Valley Heritage Association was started by members of the Woman's club, which built our local Garden of the Rockies museum. Over the years members worked with the youth and with the elderly, donating funds and time to everything from town cleanup programs, a rose garden in the city park, Christmas decorations on main street, supporting the local food bank to high school Girls State, HOBY, and scholarships in the area.

The club celebrated its Golden Anniversary on October 24, 1967. At the January 2017 meeting, the club discussed a 100 year celebration. Plans are in progress.

Our website address: check it out!

www.gfwcmontana.org

GFWC Christmas - a Season of Gaiety -- and Giving

Even in spite of the cold wintry weather, eighteen ladies of the **GFWC Bitterroot Woman's Club** gathered for our annual end of the year celebration. During our Christmas potluck dinner a few Corvallis High School music students entertained us by playing Christmas music. Several years ago we decided to forgo gift giving among ourselves and instead donate the money to a community project. This year a donation of approximately \$200.00 went toward buying gifts for 6 needy children in our Hamilton school. It brought such joy to us, knowing these children had some holiday cheer.



Starting at left Carole Steigerwalt, Jody Magdos, Karen Hoyt, Linda NieGodzki, Bonnie Dye-Demott, Roberta Burruss, Barbara Plakke, Joyce Hooper, Linda Stephanie, (behind her) Nettie Beebe, Cathy McCormick, Judy Berg, Becky Grimm, Margaret Sharp, Donna Steffensen, Pat Tibbs, Janice Bailey

Plains Woman's Club devoted their annual Christmas party to all fun, no business except feasting and foolishness. Gourmet cook Debbi Kirschbaum provided dinner and other members dreamed up silly games like the one pictured below. Teams had to blow all the pingpong balls into cups before they could start the race to dress their snow person first. Holding the pingpong balls is Lores Porter; her snowman persona is at right. Bottom right, Debbi Kirschbaum celebrates her team's victory in completing their snow person first. At Christmas time there was no snow in the Plains/Paradise area. Could these women have brought on all that subsequent white stuff?



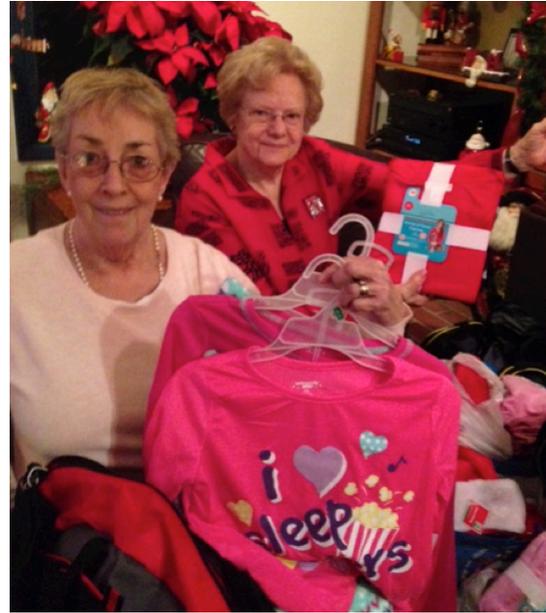
Our website address:
check it out!: www.gfwc-montana.org

GFWC Big Timber Gives Gifts to Shodair

Christmas is a time for giving! After touring Shodair Children's Hospital in October, and learning about their needs and concerns, Big Timber members, Linda Carlson and Bonnie Conner agreed that our club could do more for them at Christmas than just sending a monetary contribution.

Shodair is an 82 bed facility that services children, ages 3 to 18 that have mental and psychological problems. Alana Listoe, Director of Community Relations, stated that she feels bad every time a child leaves the facility to go home when they have to pack their belongings in a black garbage sack. We decided right then to start collecting backpacks and duffle bags for their use. Alana also stated that many children come to the facility in emergency situations, and pajamas and socks were desperately needed. She said the kids enjoy fun socks and colorful pajama bottoms as they wear these around every day. She also gave us a list of other items for gift ideas.

Linda relayed this information to our club at the November meeting and announced that we should have a work meeting to create tie-dyed or fabric painted shirts and donate pajama bottoms and socks that the children would like. She asked for \$300 to buy 35 long-sleeved white t-shirts, painting supplies and duffle bags. Of course this was approved, and she put in the order at our local clothing store. She then contacted Alana to tell her what we were planning, and Alana thought it was a wonderful idea, but after talking to their activities



director, she said, "Send the supplies and let the kids create their own designs; they would love it!"

On December 5th we had our annual Christmas meeting and members brought an abundance of gifts to donate to Shodair. Linda was overwhelmed and wasn't sure they would all fit in her car to take them to Helena. After much packing and repacking, she delivered them, along with 8 other duffle bags donated by a local church group. She and her husband drove the 150 miles on Wednesday, December 7, with a snow storm right behind them. The staff at Shodair was very appreciative at the amount of gifts received, and we got a very nice thank you note from the CEO.

Bonnie Connor

"Ugly Socks" Bring Christmas Delights to Billings Youth



The Youth Services Center in Billings provides a temporary home for youth 12-17 years old who are in a crisis situation and have no place to live. It also has a separate locked unit for youths who are suspected of a crime or are a danger to the community or themselves.

The month of December has several activities that focus on the youth. The club has an annual Christmas Dinner. During the dinner, a fund raiser is held for the Youth Services Center. This year members were asked to bring "Ugly socks" filled with Christmas delights. A silent auction of the socks raised \$370. Three hundred went to a Special Events Fund at the center and the other \$70 went to the library project.

By Karin Green and Rena Bucher

A Tree For the Billings Youth Center

The Advocates committee sponsors a tree at the YSC. Every year in December members bring items to the center to put on the tree. Youths have an opportunity to choose an item every day from the tree. Members



also bring cookies, hot cocoa and other goodies to share with the youths as they visit with them.

A few years ago, several new members (who just happened to be librarians) walked over to the YSC library to check out the books. They noticed the deplorable condition of the books, the outdated materials and books that were not suitable for the age level of the youths. After securing some money from Advocates

the members set out to rescue the library. First they had to discard all the unusable material (18 boxes of discards!) then replace them with age appropriate reading books and classroom materials. Donations of books for the YSC are also received from club members and the Billings community. To date, over 500 books have been added to the YSC library. The staff and students are very appreciative of the support to maintain the library for them.

Every few months the library is re-stocked with new fiction and non-fiction books to appeal to various reading interests and levels. Girls seem to like chick-lit and vampire books, while boys tend to like the sports, military and more action books. Both enjoy current popular books, especially series books and books that have been made into movies.

Future plans are to continue maintaining the main library and to start cleaning up the shelves in the lock-up unit. Most of the books are in deplorable shape and need to be replaced with newer, updated, and more suitable reading materials. Since the youths in lock-up are confined, they are heavy library users as they have few recreational options. Reading has made a tremendous impact on many of them, turning non-readers into readers.

Submitted by Gayle Carter

Angela's Piazza Christmas Gift Bags

For the third year, our Club has added a special touch at the Christmas Party for all the clients at Angela's Piazza. Our members purchased and donated special "treat" items, such as scarves, hats, gloves, jewelry, candy and mugs, and stuffed them in festive bags after our November meeting. The bags were delivered to Sister Mary November 26 for the party, which was held shortly before Christmas.

Angela's Piazza is very grateful for all we do throughout the year for the women finding support through this facility.

By Judy Senteney



On a business trip to the East Glacier School, First V.P. Florence Diede found and had her picture taken with kindergarten teacher Michelle Peterson, who is also President of GFWC East Glacier.

Our website address: check it out! www.gfwcmontana.org

Club News

Books for Babies and Bears with Blankets in Billings



Read to Your Bunny is a compelling program stressing the value of reading aloud to children of all

ages, but especially in their early formative years beginning at birth.

A PowerPoint Program about the importance of reading aloud to babies and toddlers is presented to parents by Mary Huffmaster and Sylvia Jensen. Each parent attending receives a book for reference and a book for their baby. They have presented this program at many non-profit agencies that work with parents of young children.

Mary and Sylvia, also known as the Book Ladies, read and sing twice a month to children from birth to three at Young Families. Young Families is an Early Head Start program that serves primarily teen and low-income families with children birth to three years of age, pregnant women, and infants and toddlers with special needs.



Many volunteer hours are spent encouraging parents to read to their children and sharing research that tells us that 25% of a baby's brain is functioning at birth, 75% is our responsibility.

Sylvia Jensen and her grandchildren ranging in age from 3rd grade to 7th made small fleece blankets for younger children that are victims of domestic violence. They call the project "Bears "n" Blankets".

In February, they will give the blankets with stuffed bears after their Gateway House PowerPoint presentation. The parents attending the presentation receive the blankets and bears for the younger children and for the older children quilts made by Carole Rodeback.

Submitted by Gayle Carter

Christmas at YWCA Gateway House, Billings

Club members Robin Pittsley, Barb Barrett and Judy Senteny brought a bit of Christmas cheer to the little ones at Gateway on December 21. Armed with craft projects, cookies, popcorn and hot cocoa, the seven grade-school aged boys immediately crowded around the table and dove in! Even the 18 month-old girl in her highchair started putting stickers on her tree ornament.

Robin read Christmas stories with holiday music playing in the background. The biggest highlight was passing out quilts made by Carole Rodeback, who was

too ill to attend. The kids loved them and immediately wrapped themselves up in them! Carole even sent 2 crib-sized quilts for the two littlest, who also received stuffed animals. There were many thank you's and "please come back" as we were leaving.

by Judy Senteny

Our website address: check it out!

www.gfwcmontana.org

Celebrating the Empty Space!

This is a picture taken today (February 6, 2017) at the GFWC MVWC's Nearly New Shoppe in Ennis.

This is just a part of the Monday Crew, celebrating in the Treasure Room. Proudly showing the bare floor after several hours of marking and pricing to clear the area of the sorted baskets!

Left to right: Cathie Jean, Shannon Heckler, Cathey Hardin, Kitty Eneboe and Nina Heaton.

We invite ALL GFWC MT club members to stop by our Thrift Store when passing through Ennis!

Toni Scully



GFWC Billings Junior Woman's Club Awarded Best Parade Entry



In the Autumn 2016 Montana Woman, Volume 56, an article appeared about GFWC Billings Junior Woman's Club float. This is a short narrative about what happened next. Members decorated that float for the Holiday Parade with posters of different Dr. Seuss books, trees, and a pickup with the Grinch on top stealing a Christmas tree. The theme for this year's parade was "Parade of

Trees" and the float had a parade of truffula trees from the Dr. Seuss book, *The Lorax*. All of the books were put in bags on the float for the members and guests to distribute.

Members, a City Council member, and a local 4-H club, all wearing Dr. Seuss hats and costumes, walked with the float, passing out about 5,000 books. The parade was on a local TV station and posted on social media. Eighty-two floats were judged by a panel of judges who were placed in several locations along the parade route. They meet after the parade, choosing seven winners and then posting the winners on social media.

GFWC Billings Junior Woman's Club was awarded the Best Entry Overall!

Gayle Carter

Our website address: check it out! www.gfwcmontana.org