



# the Montana Woman

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

## Spring 2012 Volume 52 Issue 4

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**Nancy:** What are you looking at, President Vurnie Kaye?

**Vurnie:** It's written here that the Spring 2012 Convention will be informative and lots of fun and that women from all over the state will love coming to it!

### ***ELECTIONS ARE COMING***

At the 2012 Spring Convention we will be electing officers for the 2012-2014 administration. In this issue you will find the biographies of the candidates for the various GFWC of Montana offices. These ladies were all nominated at their various District Conventions and their nominations are in the hands of Shirley Weisgerber, GFWC of Montana Elections Chairman. Be sure to check the current Bylaws regarding Nominations and Elections in this issue.



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**PRESIDENT'S  
MESSAGE**

It is indeed hard to believe the year 2011 has raced past. 2011 was a memorable year, and I know 2012 will be an equally memorable year. For those of you who missed the Fall Board Meeting in Missoula it was jam packed with a lot of wonderful events that created terrific memories for all of those who did attend.

A highlight at the meeting was Lisa Dunster, Camp Director for the Montana Cancer Family Network, who gave a very moving speech and presentation about the 2011 camp. Lisa presented a very moving DVD tribute to those who attend the camp. Terry Kockler also prepared a DVD showcasing the visit we were able to make to the camp. Holly Clark, Terry Kockler, Sandi Conrady and Joyce DeCunzo presented three workshops which gave informative tips and raised money for the Montana Special Project. We are looking forward to being able present more of these fun and informative workshops during the Spring Convention.

Also at the Fall Board meeting, Terry Kockler, GFWC of Montana Special Project Chairman, Montana Cancer Family Network, presented the idea for GFWC of Montana clubs providing materials for a welcome bag for all of the folks who attend the annual summer camp.

It is my sincere hope you will all make the trip to Helena for the 2012 Spring Convention and installation of officers. Marian St. Clair, GFWC International Treasurer, will be joining us for this meeting. The Great Northern Hotel will be our headquarters for this meeting and anyone who has had the opportunity to stay at the hotel will greatly appreciate this facility and their wonderful staff.

As we begin 2012 is it is wish that all of you have good health, happy times and great club events.

In Federation,  
*Vurnie Kaye Barnett*

***In Federation!***

Are all your members aware of what it means to be a member of GFWC? Here, and on pages 4 & 7, are some suggestions on how to educate your membership about the federation.

\*Give a "Back to GFWC" quiz at the club's first meeting after the summer to gauge what the members know about GFWC and help club officers determine what information they need to provide about the Federation. You might use true and false questions, fill in the blanks, and maybe an essay question, such as "Describe what makes GFWC important to you." Include a few local club facts that you would like members to know and remember.

**OFFICIAL CALL**  
**GFWC of Montana Spring Convention**  
**May 18 - 19, 2012**

The GFWC of Montana Spring Convention will be held in Helena, Montana, May 18 - 19, 2012. **ALL** club members are invited and encouraged to attend. We will hear from the Community Service Program Chairmen about the club accomplishments during the 2010 - 2012 administration and the 2012 -2014 officers will be installed to begin serving GFWC of Montana.

The headquarters for this celebration will be:

**Best Western Helena Great Northern Hotel, Helena, Montana 59601**

**Phone: (406) 457-5500, Fax: (406) 457-5770**

**Toll Free: (800) 829-4047**

**On-line at [www.bestwestern.com/helenagreatnorthernhotel](http://www.bestwestern.com/helenagreatnorthernhotel)**

**REFERENCE: General Federation of Women's Clubs**

Costs: 1-2 guests: \$113.00 + lodging tax + City Assessment fee  
3 -4 guests: \$123.00 + lodging tax + City Assessment fee

**ARTICLE XII – CONVENTIONS**

**Section 12.2 Representation.** The voting body shall be accredited delegates or alternates from clubs in active membership.

A. One delegate from each club of 10 members or fewer; one additional delegate for each additional 10 members, or major fraction thereof, based on per capita dues paid by March 20.

B. In addition, the Board of Directors, as defined in Article 6, Section 6.2, shall be entitled to vote by virtue of their office.

**Section 12.3 Voting Members.** All delegates, including the Executive Committee, shall pay registration fees for the entire convention to be entitled to vote. Though entitled to vote in several capacities, a voting member shall have but one vote. There shall be no absentee or proxy voting allowed.

**Section 12.4 Non-voting Members.** Any member in active membership in GFWC may attend the biennial convention as a visitor. These members shall be required to pay the registration fee although they have no vote.

**Section 12.5 Registration.** The Executive Committee shall determine the biennial convention registration fees which shall be used to finance the convention. All in attendance shall pay registration fee. All election credentials shall be claimed by 6:00 PM on the day preceding the election.

# Spring, 2012 Convention, Helena, Montana

## Marian St. Clair Convention Special Guest



GFWC Treasurer 2010-2012 Marian St. Clair has been a valued GFWC member since 1989. Since her 2002-2004 term as GFWC South Carolina state president, Marian has served GFWC on the Bylaws Committee (2004-2008) and as Beautification Chairman (2006-2008). She currently serves on the Leadership Committee. Since 2005, she has taught

the LEADS workshop "How to Write a Great Speech." Marian is the GFWC South Carolina parliamentary advisor and served as 2009 Southern Region Conference chairman.

Marian is both a Master Gardener and a Master Naturalist. A popular public speaker and educator, she has been a guest of Martha Stewart Radio and local media, and is a frequent presenter at symposia. By profession she is a freelance garden writer, contributing regular columns to *The National Gardening Association* and *The Greenville News*. In 2008, she earned a Gold Award from the Garden Writers Association.

A dedicated volunteer who seeks and relishes hands-on opportunities, Marian has been honored by the Rape Crisis Network, the South Carolina Wildlife Federation, and many others. In 1997, she was distinguished as a GFWC Woman of Achievement.

Born in Virginia to a military family, Marian was a "Navy brat" before her father's death in Vietnam. Prior to moving to South Carolina, she majored in liberal arts at Virginia Tech. Married to Tim St. Clair, an attorney and volunteer national head coach of JDRF Ride to Cure Diabetes, the couple has two adult sons.

### More Federation Ideas

\*Hold an ice cream social and ask the question, "If GFWC was an ice cream flavor, what would it be and why?" Serve toppings such as: membership M&Ms, cinnamon hearts (membership is the heart of GFWC), and/or gummy bears (stuck on membership). The best answer to the question receives a prize.

\*Encourage members to subscribe to *News & Notes*, GFWC's weekly electronic newsletter.

\*Form teams or study groups and then sponsor a "GFWC Members Match Wits" meeting. Award the winning team with GFWC t-shirts.

\*Find volunteers who can research GFWC history and fun facts and then have the fact finders present at club meetings.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR GFWC OF MONTANA 2012 SPRING CONVENTION

### Friday, May 18, 2012

- 8:30 – 11:00 AM Executive Committee Meeting
- 9:30 – 11:00 AM Registration
- 1:00 PM Official Opening
  - Reports of Program Chairmen
  - Fundraising Basket Raffles
  - Fun workshop
- 4:00PM District Meetings
- 5:00 – 6:00 PM Registration
- 6:30 – 9:00 PM Dinner
  - Camp out for Cancer Family Network
  - Presentation of gift to Cancer Family Network
- 9:00 PM District Social Gatherings

### Saturday, May 19, 2012

- 7:30 AM Memorial Breakfast
- 8:30 – 9:30AM Registration
- 9:30AM General Session
  - Continuation of Reports of Program Chairmen
  - Fundraising Basket Raffles
  - Fun Workshop
- 12:00 – 1:30PM Lunch
  - Club Anniversary Celebration
  - Guest speaker Marian St. Clair, GFWC International Treasurer
- 2:00 – 4:00PM General Session
  - Conclusion of Reports of Program Chairmen
  - Fundraising Basket Raffle final bidding
  - Fun workshop
- 6:30PM Installation processional formation
- 7:00 – 9:00PM Installation Dinner
  - Installation of 2012-2014 State and District Officers by Marian St. Clair, GFWC International Treasurer
- 9:00PM Installation Reception hosted by GFWC Fort Benton Woman's Club in honor of the, GFWC of Montana 2012-2014 Executive Committee.

### Sunday, May 20, 2012

- 8:00AM Executive Committee Post Convention Meeting
- 9:30AM Meeting of 2012-2014 Executive Committee

# *Introducing the next GFWC Montana President . . . .*



**Nancy Hanford** has been a member of GFWC Fort Benton Woman's Club and GFWC of Montana since 1999. She is a past president of the GFWC Fort Benton Woman's Club and is currently serving on her club's Audit Committee. Nancy served GFWC of Montana as the state fund raising chairman during the 2004-2006 term, served as the state treasurer in 2006-2008, was the 1st Vice-president in 2008-2010, and is currently the GFWC of Montana President-elect.

Born and raised in western Washington, she earned her B.A. in English and Elementary Education from Whitman College in Walla Walla, WA. She has lived in Montana since 1971, moving to Fort Benton to farm with her husband, Howard, a fifth-generation Montanan. While living on the farm, she did the accounting for their farm corporation; since moving to town over ten years ago, she has kept the accounting books for two extended family partnerships.

Nancy and Howard just celebrated 42 years of marriage, and they are the proud parents of one daughter and one son. Her enjoyment in life comes from her family, which includes being Nana to four active grandchildren, following swim meets, recitals, soccer games, and their other activities as much as possible; she enjoys reading and working in her yard and garden in Fort Benton; and she and Howard enjoy their annual getaway each winter to San Diego. She has an adopted club while she is in California, she loves visiting with GFWC women everywhere, whether at

meetings or via phone or e-mail, and is honored to serve the GFWC of Montana members. GFWC women everywhere share the same goal of volunteerism to help improve their communities, and Nancy looks forward to helping to make a difference during her upcoming administration.

## *And the Executive Board Nominees*

**Joyce Rogers** has been a member of GFWC Ronan Woman's Club since 1996. She currently serves as GFWC Montana First Vice President. Joyce served as State Treasurer and Western District President from 2008-2010. She has served as Club President, held several other club offices, and currently works on various committees within the Ronan Club. She was assistant editor of the Montana Woman from 2004-2006. Although living in Columbia Falls, she attends club meetings in Ronan and works on as many club projects as time permits.

Born in Eugene, Oregon, Joyce has spent most of her 60 plus years in Western Montana. She and her family started and operated three retail building supply stores from 1975 thru 2000. She sold her businesses to her current employer, Western Building Center and works for that company in Kalispell as an IT inventory specialist.

Joyce has three children: Will, Anne, and John; four granddaughters and one grandson. Traveling to see them and traveling with them on trips has been the great joy of the last few years.

For Joyce, meeting and befriending so many special ladies over the past few years has been inspiring. Knowing that she can make a difference in her community, state, and at the International level has been the very special reward of belonging to GFWC.

2012 beckons us to a Montana convention in Helena, an International Convention in North Carolina, and a Western Region meeting in Alaska. Says Joyce, "Just more opportunities to meet old friends and make new ones. Hope to see you there."

## *For President Elect*



## *for First Vice President*

**Joyce Hooper** has been an active member of GFWC since 2000 and currently is a member of the Bitterroot Woman's Club. She has served as Club President, Vice President, District Vice President, District President Elect, and GFWC of Montana Treasurer.

Throughout the years, Joyce has held various chairmanships such as Fund Raising, Scholarship, Christmas Party Chairperson, WHALE Project Liaison with the Community, State Beautification Chairperson. In 2008, Joyce represented Montana as the LEADS Candidate at the International Convention in Chicago. Joyce also represented Montana at the 2010 Western States Region Conference in Boise where she gave a presentation on Membership, "Change is Not an Easy Process".

Joyce and her husband Nick have two children and seven grandchildren. Three grandchildren live locally in Montana and four in California. They have lived in the Bitterroot for over seven years and enjoy the Montana lifestyle very much.

Joyce has a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration. She retired after 22 years with a large oil company. Joyce enjoys quilting, camping, fly fishing, golfing and volunteering with her dogs visiting homes, hospitals and schools. Joyce enjoys volunteering and is proud to be a part of GFWC of Montana.



## *for Treasurer*

**Joyce DeCunzo** became a member of the GFWC Helena Woman's Club in 2008, just a few months after her retirement. Shortly after joining, she was appointed by Susan Macartney as co-chair of the President's Special Project, the Chapel Challenge. She has held two state program chairmanships over the last 4 years and is currently the president of GFWC Central District. In addition, Joyce was the state LEADS candidate in 2011. It's been a busy and exciting 5 years in this organization.

Joyce worked for 42 years in human services programs. Her last position in Montana State government was as administrator of the Addictive and Mental Disorders Division in the Department of Public Health and Human Services. She was responsible for a budget in excess of \$100 million, overseeing six state institutions and all community-based chemical dependency and mental health services in the state. Joyce thoroughly enjoyed her career because the programs she worked with provided wonderful services to people in need.

Joyce was born in Texas, and raised in Texas and other southern states. She graduated from Texas Woman's University in 1966 with a degree in Sociology. In 1967 she married Ralph and they made their home in Dallas, Texas. She and her husband wanted a better environment to raise their son, so they moved to Montana in 1975, and have never looked back. Their son Jason attended University of Montana. He married a Montana girl, and they have two children, who are the pride and joy of Joyce and Ralph.

Joyce always looked forward to doing volunteer work when she retired, and that's why she joined GFWC within a couple months of her retirement. As an organization, it has given her great satisfaction and allowed her to meet so many talented and hard-working women. She looks forward to continuing to work hard to benefit her community.

## *for Secretary*

**Mary Lou Hermes** Woman's Club member since 1996, has found her niche as secretary and would like to serve GFWC Montana as secretary for another term. She hopes you believe that she has served you ably as secretary in the 2010-2012 term and as newly selected editor (under President Vurnie Kaye, of course) of the Montana Woman.

Mary Lou is also secretary of her home town club and has served in that capacity off and on for 8 years. Her past also includes a three year term as club President and two terms as District President.

A retired school teacher and Principal, Mary Lou is Mom to three children to whom she gave birth and several others who have slipped into the family and stayed there. She has five grandchildren.

Mary Lou's philosophy is that staying busy doing for others keeps a person young and vital; therefore, having reached in age the number of trombones in the big parade, she is going for the cornets, while she serves her club, the federation and her community with her gift of words.



## ***GFWC Montana Loses Some***

Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2011  
12:42 PM  
Subject: Scobey GFWC

Vurnie Kaye;

We regretfully want to inform you that Scobey GFWC will no longer be a Federated club. We have been struggling for the past few years and have not been able to get new members. Our club is aging and because I am gone for three winter months we have not sent in reports for the last years. We have been down to about four meetings a year and also having trouble getting officers, in fact, it looks like I would be President the rest of the time and our treasurer wants to resign so we would have to go to a combined secretary/treasurer. This has been a hard decision as we have been federated for 65 years.

I believe there is such a thing as member at large which I and maybe another member would be interested in doing. What do we do to do this?

*Bonnie Germundson*

### **Vurnie's (partial) answer:**

Please let your members know that I truly appreciate their many years of service to GFWC of Montana. Hopefully there will come a time when your club can once again be a viable entity. As far as being a member-at-large is concerned, you can pay your \$22.00 dues to Joyce Hooper, our Treasurer, and we will keep your name on our list of members. If you would like to join a near-by club, you could also do that to maintain your membership. In the past we have had members who live in one place and are members of a club in an entirely different town.

### ***Federation***

\*End the year with a GFWC final exam to see how much information about GFWC the members have learned. Award the most knowledgeable member by paying her registration for the district or state convention.

## ***And Gains Some***



GFWC Billings Junior Woman's Club held the second annual Bunko Night to "Rake in New Members" this October. The theme was autumn and falling leaves and spooks and goblins. Pumpkin cake vied with popcorn cake for the yummiest treat. Prizes were Christmas gifts, decorations and wrappings donated by Border's Books. Laughter competed with sounds of dice rolling and we ended with four new members! Looks like it's becoming a tradition!

*Submitted by Judy Senteney*

### ***How to Lose Them as Soon as You Gain Them!***

Those who attended either the Western Region Conference in Denver or the Fall Boards in Missoula were amused and energized by the following skit by Debbie Thomas and Cathy Gifford, portraying the world's worst GFWC meeting. Of course, we would not see this scenario at any of our clubs, but this is an example of what could happen when new members are recruited and thrown into the business of the meeting with no follow-up and no orientation.

Clubs have a responsibility to provide an in-depth, informational orientation that is exciting and engaging but teaches new members about their club and GFWC. You may have a formal orientation, and/or you may pair a new member with a seasoned member for at least her first year. Here's the skit: enjoy!

**President:** I'm "Take Charge" Cathy the president and I am calling the meeting to order. Welcome to the GFWC D-U-H Club. Mark your calendar, girls. We meet the first Thursday of every month, and I'll notify you by e-mail - if I have time. But surely you can remember that we meet the first Thursday of each month.

**Vice President:** Hi, I'm Carolyn, "busy britches," and I'm vice-president. I want to let you know up front - don't call me at work because I am too busy. I'm going to pass around a piece of paper that lists the six community service committees. You can pick out which one you want to work on and you can also tell me what you don't like to do. The president and I will assign you to a committee and we will take into consideration your preferences. But, really we will put where we need you. Next meeting I will give you your marching orders.

*Continued on page 15*



## ***GFWC Knows How to Celebrate Christmas!***

### ***GFWC Billings Juniors Decorate Trees***



GFWC Billings Junior Woman's Club started celebrating Christmas in November, when they shopped for personal items for a youth service tree and sweats, gloves, underwear, and socks for area schools. They also completed shopping for books and materials for the Festival of Trees Christmas tree.

At the November meeting items were prepared for trees at the Festival of Trees and Youth Service Center, placing wires on tree items for Festival of Trees and tying ribbons on the hygiene items for Youth Services tree.

On November 30th members decorated the Festival of Trees Christmas tree for auction. The tree featured books by Eric Carle. All of the proceeds for this event were donated to The Family Tree Center. The Family Tree Center was formed in 1985 when a group of community volunteers saw a need for child abuse prevention programs. It started with public awareness activities, parenting classes, etc. The Family Tree Center has added programs based on the needs of the struggling families in our community. They are committed to the prevention of child abuse and neglect in Yellowstone County and the surrounding area.

On Saturday, December 3rd, members met for breakfast at Perkins and then went to Youth Services at 10:30 a.m. The tree was decorated with toiletry items. Cookies, muffins, candies, cider, and hot chocolate were enjoyed while members visited with the kids. Finally, on December 22nd members and husbands met Youth Service

counselors at Target in the Heights to let the children buy gifts.

### ***GFWC Bitterroot Gifts the Community***

December brings special opportunities for our club to serve the community, celebrate Christmas and share the warmth of the season with our members. Following Thanksgiving, we decorate Main Street Corvallis with pine boughs, ribbons, garlands, and a special yellow ribbon for our military service men and women. This year the yellow ribbon was huge and tied to the big tree by the post office. It is our hope with troops coming home, it is the last year we need to put one up there! Following the decorating, all participants go to the local café for hot chocolate, soup and goodies. The Christmas bazaar in the

high school gyms offers an opportunity for holiday shopping on a local level, and some of us make it a tradition to wander through and spend money.

Another tradition is our wreath-making fundraiser for a scholarship in Hamilton. We meet at a member's home and entwine boughs, holly, trinkets and ribbons to sell to community members and business. Pre-sales were up this year, so we will be able to give \$500 to a graduating senior at HHS. One very special event is our Christmas dinner held at Joyce Hooper's home. She and Nick go overboard with decora-

tions, ambiance and all the perfect host/hostess actions. Everyone in attendance contributes to the meal, local strings students play background music, and our community gift is given in the form of food donations to the Bitterroot Humane Society Shelter.

We used to have a gift exchange among ourselves, but several years ago, Bobbi Atkins, a past club president and now honorary member, suggested that we give in this manner instead of to each other. This year's donations added up to 145 lbs. of pet chow!

### ***Some Just Know How to Have Fun!***

Plains Woman's club had a Christmas dinner party, catered by members Debbi Kirschbaum and Teresa Garrison. As part of the festivities they tested their hands-free agility by passing a Christmas stocking down the line using only chins and chests. The line at right got kinks in their necks and lost the race, but had a good time anyway. Tickets for the event required a donation of food for the local food pantry.



## *Christmas at Madison Valley*

**Madison Valley President Lynn Foreman and Historian & Honorary Member Mary Ann Alger enjoy the festivities while Montana President Vurnie Kaye Barnett feels the glow.**



The Madison Valley Woman's Club met on December 1, 2011 for its annual Christmas Party gathering. It was a great turn out with 59 attendees! Lunch was a wonderful turkey & ham dinner. Thank you Executive Board. A Christmas themed costume party was held and you can see the results in these photos. Because of the number of gifts we decided a "white elephant" exchange might take at least 24 hours, so settled for lots of laughs and fun stuff. Officers until June 2012 are Lynn Foreman, President; Toni Scully, President-Elect; Cindy Adams, Vice President; Lynn Leeming, Secretary; Diane Bales, Corresponding Secretary; Kim Montag, Treasurer. Of course, we are proud to have our own Vurnie Kaye Barnett representing us as President of all of the GFWC of Montana 2010-2012.



The Madison Valley Woman's Club raises funds through its "The Nearly New Shoppe" started in 1971. This September 2011 the shop's revenue exceeded \$100,000.00 for the first time. We are thrilled we are able to provide local students with scholarships and local organizations with significant donations. Our members and volunteers make us all proud!

**The Madison Valley Woman's Club 2011 Christmas Party Costume Contest:**  
**(l to r) Sylvia Carpenter, best wrapped present (bling); Dottie Fossel, best musical and dancing hat; Darci Sgrignoli, best elf.**

## *Party at Helena Wreath Making at Thompson Falls And another Gift Tree at Billings*



Helena Woman's Club Christmas party. Each year we meet at a member's home to do a gift exchange (the kind where you get to steal from others!) and snack on dishes the members bring. It's a fun evening for all of us.



***On the following pages, you will find copies of GFWC bylaws and standing rules, with proposed changes is presented for member perusal, prior to a vote on the changes which will be conducted at the Spring, 2012 Convention. Proposed changes are underlined, and in bold italics.***

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## **GFWC Montana Bylaws**

### ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Montana also known as GFWC of Montana (hereinafter referred to as GFWC MT)

### ARTICLE II – OBJECT AND PURPOSE

**OBJECT**-The object of GFWC MT shall be to promote the GFWC mission while uniting women's clubs throughout Montana for the purpose of mutual benefit, and for the promotion of their common interest in volunteer service.

**PURPOSE**-This Corporation is a public benefit, charitable corporation established to promote and support the charitable works of the General Federation of Women's Clubs in the State of Montana, and any other related activities. The GFWC MT is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. Said organization is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes.

### ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 3.1 Eligibility. Montana women's clubs whose work is germane to the mission of GFWC are eligible for Membership in GFWC MT. Each application for membership shall show that the organization requires no partisan political test for membership, that it is not a secret society and that it does not tolerate, either by practice or teaching, any violation of state or national laws.

Section 3.2 Types of members. Active membership shall be the only type of membership. Active members shall be categorized as follows:

1. Women's Clubs: local clubs that have met the requirements for membership shall hold active membership and shall participate in the regular program of GFWC.
2. Junior Women's Clubs: local clubs whose membership is composed of young women, shall hold active membership and participate in the regular program of GFWC.
3. Juniorette Clubs: are sponsored by Women's Clubs or Junior Women's Clubs and whose membership is composed entirely of middle school/junior high and high school age students.

All clubs within GFWC MT shall automatically become members of GFWC International and of the District Federation in which the club is located, with the exception of statewide clubs.

Section 3.3 Application for membership. Application for active membership by Women's Clubs, Junior Women's Clubs and Juniorette Clubs shall be accompanied by a written application, a copy of the bylaws of the club, a list of officers and members and payment of GFWC, GFWC MT and District per capita dues and sent

to GFWC MT President. GFWC shall precede the name of all clubs applying for active membership.

Section 3.4 Termination of Membership. Any club desiring to withdraw from GFWC MT must:

1. Receive a 2/3 affirmative vote from that club's members to terminate membership.
2. Announce and publish to club members, GFWC MT President and GFWC MT Membership Chairman that a vote will take place at a designated club meeting. This must occur 30 days prior to meeting.
3. Vote by ballot with each member signing her ballot. A vote by mail shall be allowed for those members physically unable to attend the meeting at which the vote will take place.
4. Shall submit a written resignation to GFWC MT President accompanied by the minutes of the meeting at which the vote to withdraw took place showing that 2/3 vote was taken and include the numbers listed in the minutes both for and against. If 5 or more members choose to remain a federated club, and they are willing to be the basic responsible officers of the club, they shall retain all the rights and privileges to the name and property of the club including funds.
5. Upon acceptance of resignation, all rights and privileges of membership cease.

### ARTICLE IV – DUES AND FINANCE

Section 4.1 Fiscal Year. The fiscal year shall be July 1 through June 30. The accounts of GFWC MT shall be reviewed at the close of each fiscal year by a Certified Public Accountant or another with similar credentials. The current review report shall be available to the membership upon request.

Section 4.2 Dues. Dues shall be paid annually to the GFWC MT Treasurer in the specified amounts on or before **December 31st** - **July 1st**.

**Rationale: Having the membership list earlier will provide GFWC MT an accurate membership list for mailing of MT Woman, proper club officers listed in directory.**

A. Women's Clubs, Junior Women's Clubs and Juniorette Clubs shall pay per capita dues annually in an amount established to be sufficient to meet GFWC, GFWC MT and District dues and The Montana Woman subscription costs. The annual dues shall be established by vote at a Board of Directors Meeting or the GFWC MT Convention.

Section 4.3 Investments. All monies held by GFWC MT shall be placed in accredited financial institutions selected by the Executive Committee. The Board of Directors shall be apprised of the selection. The Board of Directors shall be charged with the responsibility of directing the Treasurer **and/or President** on investing funds in accordance with GFWC MT objectives. The financial institutions will report directly to the Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee and the Treasurer.

Section 4.4 Disbursements. Disbursement of funds of GFWC MT shall be made by order of vouchers signed by the President and Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee. Checks shall be signed by the Treasurer. **The President and Budget & Finance Chairman shall also be signers on accounts in substitution for treasurer if needed.**

Section 4.5 Expenditures. Bids shall be secured on all purchases in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100) and said bids shall be approved by the President, Chairman of Budget and Finance Committee and the Chairman to whom the work is germane.

Section 4.6 Dissolution. If GFWC MT should dissolve, its net assets shall be distributed to another organization(s) qualified under the Internal Revenue Code to be charitable.

#### ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

Section 5.1 Titles. The elected officers of GFWC MT shall be President, President-elect, First Vice-President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer. The Corresponding Secretary shall be appointed by the President. No person may hold more than one office. No officer shall receive any salary or other compensation for services rendered to the Federation.

Section 5.2 Eligibility. Eligibility for all offices shall include membership in a club which is in active membership in GFWC MT. Eligibility for the office of President shall include service on the Executive Committee for a minimum of four (4) years. Eligibility for the office of President-elect or First Vice-President shall include service on the Executive Committee for a minimum of two (2) years. Eligibility for the office of Treasurer or Recording Secretary shall include service on the Board of Directors for a minimum of two (2) years.

Section 5.3 Term. The term of office shall be two years or until such a time as a successor assumes office. Officers shall serve from the beginning of the fiscal year July 1, following the adjournment of the Convention at which the officers are elected to the close of the following fiscal year, June 30

Section 5.4 Vacancies in Office. A vacancy in office shall be filled as provided in this section.

A. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the President-elect shall become President and serve the remainder of the term. If the President-elect is unable to serve then the First Vice President may assume the office of President.

B. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President-elect, First Vice-President, Recording Secretary or Treasurer the Executive Committee shall be empowered to appoint a person meeting the eligibility requirements of Section 5.2 to fill the office. Any such appointment shall be approved by the Board of Directors at their next meeting.

C. If an officer is incapacitated or unable to perform her duties for a period of three months, the office is declared vacant.

#### Section 5.5 Duties of Officers.

Each officer shall send to her successor all property in her custody, unless otherwise ordered by the Executive Committee within 30 days after expiration of her term of office.

#### PRESIDENT

1. The President shall be the official representative of GFWC MT.
2. She shall supervise the work of GFWC MT.
3. She shall preside at all meetings of GFWC MT, the Board of Directors and Executive Committee.
4. She shall serve as the Dean of District Presidents.
5. She shall be an ex-officio member of all departments and committees except the Elections Committees.
6. She shall sign all contracts and vouchers upon the treasury for the payment of all bills as authorized by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee.
7. She shall authorize expenditures within the budget allocations.
8. She shall appoint a Corresponding Secretary, a Budget and Finance Chairman, a Bylaws Committee, and members of special committees.
9. She shall present to the Executive Committee names of persons for appointment as Parliamentary Advisor, Chairmen of Committees and Department Programs and fill vacancies of appointees.
10. She shall serve on the Board of Directors of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and attend all GFWC meetings and report for her administration.
11. She shall prepare and issue, with the Corresponding Secretary, the Call to the convention and to all regular and special meetings of the GFWC MT Board of Directors and Executive Committee.
12. She shall supervise the publication of "The Montana Woman".

#### PRESIDENT-ELECT

1. In the absence of the President she shall perform the duties of the President.
2. She shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to her by the Board of Directors.
3. She shall serve as Chairman of the Membership Committee.
4. She shall serve as coordinator of activities of the District Presidents and the District Conventions.
5. She shall be responsible for compiling the GFWC MT Procedure Manual.
6. She shall plan and prepare for the program of work for her administration.

#### FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

1. She shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to her by the Board of Directors.
2. She shall serve as Dean of Departments.
3. She shall distribute the GFWC MT Procedure Manuals and Supplements to GFWC MT Executive Committee, Club Presidents, District Presidents, **Department Community Service** Program Chairmen and Special Projects Chairmen.

#### RECORDING SECRETARY

1. She shall keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings of GFWC MT, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.
2. Within six weeks, she shall send the minutes of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors to the Executive Committee.
3. She shall compile and keep up to date a catalog of all resolutions adopted.
5. She shall send a complete set of minutes of the administration to the President within 30 days after expiration of her term of office.

#### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

1. She shall assist with the correspondence of GFWC MT as directed by the President.

2. She shall send out all notices of meetings and issue with the President the Call to the Convention.
3. She shall maintain an official list of GFWC MT clubs.
4. She shall serve as Chairman for the Committees on Credentials, Nominations and Elections.

#### TREASURER

1. She shall receive all dues from clubs.
2. She shall remit per capita dues to the General Federation of Women's Clubs by February 15.
3. She shall remit per capita dues to each District in the state by February 15.
4. She shall allocate the designated amount per member to the "Montana Woman" publication fund.
5. She shall maintain an official list of GFWC MT clubs.
6. She shall disburse funds only upon voucher signed by the President and the Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee.
7. She shall furnish bond in such a sum as approved by the Board of Directors, the cost to be borne by GFWC MT.
8. She shall keep in a permanent ledger, a separate record of income and expenses for each fund.
9. She shall prepare and submit a financial report at each meeting of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors and Convention.
10. She shall serve on the Committees on Budget and Finance and Credentials.
11. She shall prepare all records at the close of each fiscal year for review by a certified public accountant or another with similar credentials.

#### ARTICLE VI – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 6.1 Eligibility. Only members of clubs in active membership shall be eligible to serve on the Board of Directors, either by election or appointment.

Section 6.2 Composition. The Board of Directors shall consist of:  
 A. Elected Personnel: GFWC MT Officers, District Presidents, Club Presidents, Past State Presidents, Past State Directors of Junior Clubs and Honorary Vice-Presidents.

B. Appointed Personnel: Chairmen of Department Community Service Programs, Chairmen and committee members of Special Projects, Special Assignments and Standing Committees, Parliamentary Advisor, Corresponding Secretary, Chairman of Budget & Finance Committee, and *The Montana Woman* staff.

Section 6.3 Vacancies. Vacancies among appointed members of the board shall be filled by appointment by the President. When a vacancy occurs among elected members of the board, the person selected by the appropriate district or club shall become by virtue of her office, the person to fill the vacancy on the Board of Directors. When a vacancy occurs in the office of GFWC MT then Article 5.4 of the GFWC MT Bylaws will be in effect.

Section 6.4 Duties. The Board of Directors shall:  
 A. Transact business of GFWC MT between biennial conventions.  
 B. Delegate to the Executive Committee such power as it deems necessary, provided that such power does not entail expenditure of more than what is within the limits of the budget and policy of GFWC MT.  
 C. Adopt the budget and decide upon investments of funds recommended by the Budget and Finance Committee.

- D. Adopt standing rules. Such rules may be adopted by a majority vote at any meeting without previous notice, may be suspended by a majority vote, amended or rescinded by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.
- E. Authorize contracts when necessary for the business of GFWC MT

Section 6.5 Meetings, The Board of Directors shall:

- A. Meet in the fall of each year.
  - B. Other meetings shall be held at the call of the President or upon written request of three members of the Executive Committee.
  - C. All Board of Directors and club members shall pay a registration fee.
- Section 6.6 Quorum. Twenty members shall constitute a quorum.

#### ARTICLE VII – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 7.1 Composition. The Executive Committee shall consist of:

- A. Elected Personnel - President, President-elect, First Vice-President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer.
- B. Appointed Personnel: Corresponding Secretary, Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee, and Parliamentary Advisor.

Section 7.2 Duties. The Executive Committee shall:

- A. Transact business of GFWC MT between meetings of the Board of Directors.
- B. Approve all appointments for Chairman of Department Community Service Programs and Standing Committees, Parliamentary Advisor and Budget & Finance Chairman made by the President except Convention Program Chairman, and Corresponding Secretary.
- C. Authorize contracts when necessary for the business of GFWC MT.
- D. Approve the sites and dates for the Board of Directors meetings and the biennial convention.
- E. Select financial institution(s) in whose custody securities shall be placed.
- F. Report to each meeting of the Board of Directors.
- G. Approve a certified public accountant or other with similar credentials and adopt the annual review.
- H. Review and approve the budget recommended by the Budget and Finance Committee; to present said budget to the Board of Directors for final action.
- I. Approve the registration fees for the convention.
- J. Create and dissolve special committees.
- K. Prepare and submit standing rules to the Board of Directors for final approval.
- L. Review proposed amendments to the bylaws and resolutions.
- M. Approve the program of the current administration.

Section 7.3 Meetings The Executive Committee shall meet prior to the Board of Directors meetings and Convention. Other meetings shall be held at the call of the President or upon written request of any three members of the Executive Committee. Emergency business may be conducted by mail, telephone, fax or e-mail.

Section 7.4 Quorum Five members shall constitute a quorum.

#### ARTICLE VIII – DEPARTMENTS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

Section 8.1 Definition. The departments service programs shall correspond to those of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

Section 8.2 Size and term. Departments may vary in size. Each

program ~~within the departments~~ shall be administered by a chairman. The service program chairmen shall be appointed for a term of two years.

Section 8.3 Duties. The ~~department~~ community service program chairmen shall:

- A. Be responsible for the implementation of the designated programs within the department, consulting with the President or President-elect to plan, outline and promote programs of work and study.
- B. Work with their corresponding General Federation of Women's Clubs Chairmen.
- C. Submit reports as required.
- D. Keep a complete record of work done and turn it over to their successors at the close of the administration.

#### ARTICLE IX – COMMITTEES

Section 9.1 Standing Committees. The members of the standing committees shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee for a term of two years.

A. Budget and Finance This committee shall be composed of five members: The Chairman, the President and Treasurer as ex-officio members and two appointed members who shall not be members of the Executive Committee. The remaining members of the Executive Committee shall be invited to attend meetings without vote. It shall be the duty of this committee to: (a) prepare a budget and submit it with recommendations to the Executive Committee for presentation to the Board of Directors and to report thereafter as requested as to the status of the budget; (b) review the financial affairs of GFWC MT, making recommendations regarding dues and investments as necessary; (c) consider and make recommendations for expenditures not provided for in the budget and (d) employ the services of a Certified Public Accountant or another with similar credentials to make a compilation of the books of the Treasurer.

B. Constitution and Bylaws This committee shall number not more than seven members with at least one member representing each district in the state. The Parliamentary Advisor shall serve as an advisor to the committee. This committee shall submit proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws as provided in Article XIII (amendments). It shall submit proposed bylaw amendments to the Executive Committee for review. The committee shall submit standing rules to the Executive Committee for consideration.

C. Convention and Meetings It shall be the duty of the chairman to coordinate the work of the various committees necessary for the proper conduct of the biennial convention.

D. Credentials It shall be the duty of the committee to certify the eligibility of delegates and nonvoting members and to furnish to the Elections Committee a list of accredited delegates entitled to vote.

E. Dean of Departments The First Vice President shall be **Dean of ~~Departments~~ Community Service Programs**. Her duties shall be to notify local clubs of the GFWC MT reporting guidelines and the importance of submitting reports. Once reports have been submitted to her, she shall distribute reports to corresponding GFWC MT Department Program Chairmen, and GFWC MT President for their compilation and submission to GFWC.

F. Elections This committee shall be composed of one member

from each district and the Corresponding Secretary who will serve as Chairman. It shall be the duty of this committee to notify local clubs of the procedures to be followed in submitting an endorsement of a candidate for GFWC MT office. The chairman shall receive nominations of candidates for office and notify the President of receipt of the endorsements and submit the names of the candidates to The Montana Woman, to be published prior to the GFWC MT Convention. The names of all candidates who meet the requirements for eligibility shall be placed on the ballot. The committee shall conduct the election.

G. Legislation / Public Policy There shall be a Chairman of Legislation/Public Policy working directly under the President. Her duties shall be to implement the legislative program of GFWC, keep the members informed of the status of pending legislation, develop and promote an educational program concerning legislation and serve as a member of the Resolutions Committee.

H. Membership The President-elect shall be Chairman of Membership. Her duties are to promote membership.

I. Resolutions This committee shall be composed of three members, one of whom shall be the chairman of Legislation/Public Policy. It shall be the duty of this committee to receive and consider resolutions pertinent to the work and objectives of GFWC MT and to determine when the purpose of the resolution has been accomplished. Resolutions suggested by clubs or districts shall be submitted to the Resolutions Committee Chairman on or before February 1 of even numbered years. Proposed resolutions shall be submitted to the Executive Committee for review and presented to the convention for action. Standing rules governing resolutions shall be adopted by the Board of Directors.

J. Women's History and Resource Center (WHRC) It shall be the duty of this committee to promote the preservation and compilation of the history of women. The mission and focus of the WHRC shall be governed by its mission statement and collections policy, which shall be reviewed annually by the Executive Committee.

Section 9.2 Special Committees. Other committees shall be created as deemed necessary by the President, Executive Committee, or the Board of Directors. Appointments to these committees shall be made by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee.

#### ARTICLE X – NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

Section 10.1 Nominations. Nominations for the office of President-elect, First Vice-President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer shall be made by endorsements and must be for a specific office.

Section 10.2 Endorsements. Endorsements shall be obtained from three clubs in separate cities of the District or from the Board of Directors of the District in which the candidate resides. Documentation of such endorsement shall include the page(s) of minutes of the meeting endorsing the candidate or when polling by mail, email or phone a statement regarding the outcome of such poll. Endorsements shall be verified by signatures of the presidents and secretaries of the three clubs or the District and be sent to the GFWC MT Elections Chairman, by January 10 of the even numbered years.

Section 10.3 Nominations from the floor. Nominations may be

made from the floor following the report of the Elections Committee. Candidates so nominated shall have consented to be nominees; shall have provided 25 signatures of delegates at the convention and shall meet the bylaws requirements of eligibility, as provided in Section 5.2.

Section 10.4 Elections. Candidates' names and the offices they seek shall be announced in The Montana Woman in the even numbered years. A plurality vote shall elect. The President-elect shall automatically accede to her respective office without standing for election.

#### ARTICLE XI – CONSTITUENT DIVISIONS

Section 4.1 Names. The constituent divisions of GFWC MT should include General Federation of Women's Clubs or GFWC in their name to show their relationship to the international organization.

Section 4.2 Purpose. The purpose of constituent divisions shall be to promote a better understanding of the structure, program and challenge of GFWC.

Section 4.3 Clubs. Women's Clubs in Montana may join together to form the State Federation. In order to be recognized by GFWC MT, clubs shall elect a president and secretary and such additional officers or directors as the club may provide in its bylaws; and hold at least one meeting per two year administration.

Section 4.4 Districts. Women's Clubs shall be grouped into Districts by geographical divisions, determined by the Board of Directors and listed herein. In order to be recognized by GFWC MT, districts shall elect a president and secretary and such additional officers or directors as the district may provide in its bylaws. Each District shall hold at least one convention during an administration; the dates to be determined by the GFWC MT Executive Committee, in consultation with the GFWC President and the District President.

##### Western District

Lincoln, Flathead, Sanders, Lake, Mineral, Missoula, Powell, Granite, Ravalli, Deer Lodge, and Beaverhead Counties.

##### Central District

Glacier, Toole, Liberty, Hill, Blaine, Pondera, Teton, Chouteau, Lewis and Clark, Cascade, Judith Basin, Fergus, Silver Bow, Jefferson, Broadwater, Meagher, Wheatland, Madison and Galatin Counties

##### Eastern District

Philips, Valley, Daniels, Sheridan, Roosevelt, Petroleum, Garfield, McCone, Richland, Dawson, Prairie, Wibaux, Golden Valley, Musselshell, Rosebud, Custer, Fallon, Park, Sweet Grass, Stillwater, Yellowstone, Carbon, Big Horn, Treasure, Powder River and Carter Counties.

#### ARTICLE XII – CONVENTIONS

Section 12.1 Biennial Convention. GFWC MT shall hold a biennial convention in the even numbered years. That place and date shall be determined by the President with approval of the Executive Committee. The call to Convention shall be issued at least six weeks prior to the convention to all active members.

Section 12.2 Representation. The voting body shall be accredited

delegates or alternates from clubs in active membership.

A. One delegate from each club of 10 members or fewer; one additional delegate for each additional 10 members, or major fraction thereof, based on per capita dues paid by March 20.

B. In addition, the Board of Directors, as defined in Article 6, Section 6.2, shall be entitled to vote by virtue of their office.

Section 12.3 Voting Members. All delegates, including the Executive Committee, shall pay registration fees for the entire convention to be entitled to vote. Though entitled to vote in several capacities, a voting member shall have but one vote. There shall be no absentee or proxy voting allowed.

Section 12.4 Non-voting Members. Any member in active membership in GFWC may attend the biennial convention as a visitor. These members shall be required to pay the registration fee although they have no vote.

Section 12.5 Registration. The Executive Committee shall determine the biennial convention registration fees which shall be used to finance the convention. All in attendance shall pay registration fee. All election credentials shall be claimed by 6:00 PM on the day preceding the election.

Section 12.6 Quorum. The quorum for a convention shall be 30 delegates representing at least 1/3rd of active clubs.

#### ARTICLE XIII – AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended at any board of directors meeting or biennial convention by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, provided the proposed amendment has been published 30 days prior to meeting. Amendments of an emergency nature may be considered at these same meetings by unanimous vote of those present and voting.

#### ARTICLE XIV – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern GFWC MT in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order that GFWC MT may adopt.

## **GFWC of Montana Standing Rules**

1. Members shall not use their position to endorse enterprises, and shall not receive pay for the use of their names and federation titles, nor shall they exploit GFWC MT in furthering partisan politics or circularize the membership of GFWC MT or of the clubs for anything other than GFWC MT projects.

2. Dues for Women's Clubs and Junior Women's Clubs will be twenty-two dollars (\$22) per capita and dues for Juniorette Clubs will be seventeen dollars (\$17) per capita until such a time when there is a rate change.

**IF PDQ's and TOPP's, which are Women's Clubs, pay dues differently this needs to be noted OR they pay the dues as listed.**

3. Visible identification signifying VISITOR or DELEGATE shall be worn at all official meetings.

4. The first Board of Directors meeting of each administration may be held in Helena in October. The second Board of Directors meeting is to be held at a site selected by the President and the Board of

Directors.

5. To comply with GFWC International and Western States Region (WSR) rules and regulations, nominations and elections for GFWC and WSR offices may be held at the GFWC MT Board of Directors meetings or at the biennial conventions.

6. Any GFWC MT member whose local club is no longer federated may retain her membership in GFWC MT by paying dues to the Treasurer. She will then be known as a Member-at-large with all membership privileges. **Dues amount needs to be listed. District?**

7. GFWC MT shall reimburse the Hostess Club, upon presentation of proper documentation, up to \$500 for GFWC MT Biennial Convention expenses.

8. Members of the Board of Directors may be reimbursed traveling expenses for attending GFWC MT Board of Directors meetings. Her claim for transportation shall be based on actual rate of 25 cents per mile one way. If she gives transportation to other members of the Board of Directors, also eligible for traveling expenses, her bill for transportation shall be construed as covering the traveling expenses of all her passengers.

9. Any member of the Board of Directors with approved expenses must submit a request for expenses to the president for payment within 60 days of incurring expense.

10. All members of the Executive Committee may be reimbursed for official meal functions, housing and mileage - based on actual rate of 25 cents per mile one way - when attending GFWC MT Executive Committee meetings, Board of Directors meetings, and Biennial Convention. All requests for expenses must be presented to the president for payment within 60 days of the approved expenses.

11. The GFWC MT President may be reimbursed for attending the General Federation of Women's Clubs Conventions, Board of Directors meetings and Western States Region Conferences during her term of office: registration, housing, official meal functions, and travel expenses not provided for by GFWC International. She may also be reimbursed for attending GFWC MT District meetings outside of her district during her term of office: registration, housing, official meal functions and travel expenses. All requests for expenses must be presented for payment within 60 days of the approved

expenses.

12. The GFWC MT President-elect may be reimbursed for attending the General Federation of Women's clubs GFWC Incoming Leaders Training Seminar (ILTS) and Orientation meeting for in-coming state presidents. She may also be reimbursed for the General Federation of Women's Clubs Convention in the second year of her term; registration, housing expenses of the Convention Hotel room charge, official meal functions and travel expenses not provided for by GFWC International. **(note: The underline section of this bylaw was approved at the 2011 Fall Board meeting.)**

13. GFWC MT shall be responsible for meals, housing expenses and local transportation of the invited GFWC International officer to any GFWC MT meeting.

14. GFWC MT shall publish in the Fall issue of The Montana Woman at the beginning of each administration: GFWC MT Bylaws, GFWC MT and GFWC International officers, GFWC MT Department Program Chairmen, Special and Standing Committees, District Officers and a listing of active clubs and their presidents.

15. No portion of The Montana Woman's mailing list shall be given or sold to be used for commercial purposes.

16. No GFWC MT meeting shall be used as an advertising medium for commercial purposes, except for articles advertised in The Montana Woman, without approval of the Executive Committee.

17. No selling shall take place in the meeting room and/or registration area at GFWC MT meetings unless such sales have prior approval of the GFWC MT Executive Committee.

18. Each candidate for office will be presented to the convention body prior to the day of voting.

19. At least one opportunity to meet the candidates will be provided prior to the day of the election, with specific time and location to be announced.

20. There shall be no campaigning of any kind at GFWC MT meetings except at time(s) designated.

GFWC of Montana Standing Rules Amended April 19, 2008

*Skit continued from page 7*

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Welcome, I'm secretary/treasurer, "penny pinching" Debbie. Sorry, I don't have a copy of the minutes from our last meeting, but it's not really important to you, as we are starting a new year. Oh yeah, you agreed to pay your dues tonight. . .you know those GFWC girls want their money. Make your check out to me and I'll get them deposited. Also, I am handing out tickets for our main fund raiser, Big Bucks BBQ. You need to sell two \$100 tickets by the next meeting. By the way - I do have a club survey for you to complete tonight.

**President:** OK, you should understand how we operate now. We meet the first Thursday of each month, see the VP and sign-up for a committee, pay your dues to the treasurer and don't forget to pick up your fund-raising tickets. Don't leave without completing the club survey! You can find more information on the GFWC website. If there is no other old business, we'll adjourn to the porch for Bloody Marys! Any questions?

**Vice President:** Madame President, you forgot the Club Collect and the Pledge.

**President:** Oh, no big deal, we will do it next meeting.

**New Member** (*looks to the audience and says her thoughts out loud*):

I've sat through the entire meeting and didn't understand a thing. What is GFWC? What is GFWC D U H? How much are the dues, and on what is that money spent? What is a Community Service Program and why if I make a choice are they just going to assign me? What is Big Bucks BBQ and why do they need to raise that kind of money. . . I thought this was a community service club? I am not sure I like this group and I may not come back the first Thursday of next month.

***Next Issue of MT Woman***  
**Send stories and pictures of your club activities by June 1 and your club can be featured in the next issue!**

# Dates to Remember

**February 28** Story and poetry contest entries due to

Mary Lou Hermes, P.O. Box 133, Paradise, Montana

**April 16** Entries in GFWC Photography contest due to

Fern Johnson, 38 Henry Creek Road, Plains MT 59859

**April 24** Federation Day

**May 18-19** GFWC Montana Convention,

Best Western Great Northern Hotel, Helena

**June 13-17** GFWC International Convention, Charlotte, North Carolina

*the GFWC*

*Montana Woman*

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## **The GFWC Montana Woman**

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