

the Montana Woman



Hats & Hearts 2014 - 2016



Spring, 2016

Volume 54

Issue 6

GFWC of Montana Executive Committee

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On the cover ~

Cathy Henry, Eastern District

Toni Molinario, Central District

Eileen Stone, Western District

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Montana Memory Project Update

As of February 6, 2016, The Montana Woman issues from 1921 THRU 1940 were posted on the montanamemory.org website. It is very interesting to read page after page of our history on these pages. Just today I was scrolling thru years 1938 through 1940. There are published poems, short articles about clubs, bylaws, membership recruitment articles, reports, and much more. Just when you think our world is completely different today, reading these pages tells us that at heart, people are still the same.

There is no security password needed so it is available to anyone interested in reading our extraordinary history. The internet path is:

montanamemory.org

Select tab: Newspapers and Periodicals

In Search box type: Montana Woman

Joyce
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Let's Make it a Date!

March 1, 2016

Community Improvement Contest entry is due to GFWC MT Community Improvement Program Chairman Toni Scully. This project covers the period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015.

March 15, 2016

State Chairman reports must be received by the GFWC International Chairmen.

March 15, 2016

Entries due for Website, Media Campaign, and Newsletter Contests (see GFWC Club Manual for details)

March 22, 2016

Great Northern Room reservations deadline for the Biennial Convention in Helena

March 28, 2016

Scholarship application is due to Phyllis Worrell, GFWC MT Scholarship Chairman.

April 1, 2016

The World in Pictures and GFWC Volunteers in Action Photos are due to GFWC MT Photography Chairman Terry Kockler.

April 8, 2016

Biennial Convention Registrations are due to Shirley Weisgerber, Corresponding Secretary

April 22-23, 2016

GFWC MT Biennial Convention- Best Western Premier Great Northern Hotel, Helena, MT

April 24-30, 2016

Volunteers in Action Week

April 24, 2016

Federation Day, GFWC's 126th Anniversary

May 15, 2016

A Year in Pictures (Calendar Photo) due to GFWC Headquarters June 25, 2016

June 25, 2016

LEADS seminar held at GFWC International Convention, Baltimore, MD

June 25-29, 2016

126th GFWC International Convention, Baltimore
Gfwc.org registration should be on line by March 1.



See page 17 for GFWC Annual Convention information

Did You Know This About GFWC?

Federation Facts

1921: Recognizing that Native Americans were denied citizenship rights, GFWC created an Indian Welfare Committee at their 1921 Salt Lake City, Utah, Council Meeting, a precursor of the GFWC Board Meeting.

-- Through the efforts of Chicago clubwoman Julia Lathrop, the Sheppard-Towner Act of 1921, also known as the Maternity Act, was passed.





From the President

I have been inspired, challenged, and educated during the last two years. It is gratifying to see and know how hard GFWC of Montana members work

in their communities. Your 2014 reports were awesome. Your 2015 reports are even better. Keep up the good work.

I hope to see many of you at the April 22-23 Montana Biennial Convention in Helena. The Call and Registration are in this issue. There are bio's on your 2016-2018 incoming President, Joyce Hooper and the slate of officers nominated to the Executive positions.

I am pleased to welcome Babs Condon as our special guest. Babs is gracious, honest, lots of fun, and very forthcoming with any questions asked. She will speak to us on Friday night at dinner, and conduct the Installation of 2016-2018 officers on Saturday night.

At Convention we will celebrate some momentous club anniversaries. A special biennial memorial service for

members who have passed on will be held Saturday morning. Names of any of your club members who have passed should be sent to Mary Lou Hermes or myself so Mary Lou can be prepared before.

Chairmen will share the many club accomplishments reported in the last two years. There will be ample time scheduled for District, PDQ, and TOPPS meetings and after dinner parties on Friday night.

Remember your favorite hat on Saturday for the Luncheon with Fran Albrecht, Executive Director of The Providence Montana Health Foundation. We hope to present her with a nice gift to fund Heart Monitors. The Special Project prizes will be drawn.

We have proposed bylaw changes to present at Convention. They are published in this issue. Also in this issue is a note from the GFWC "News and Notes" written by T Jablonski, Leadership Chairman. It addresses the "I hate bylaws" issue we all (me included) share. We all hate change, but life changes, priorities and practices change in our clubs and at all level of GFWC. Please read T's article, study our proposed bylaws with an open and thoughtful mind. Call with concerns and suggestions.

Most important: **Let us forget not to be kind.** See you at Convention.

Joyce



The Helping Hearts Campaign will soon come to a close, and with that in mind I want to remind everyone of the drawing for the 5 raffle prizes on April 23. If you still have any raffle tickets, stubs, or money, please mail these items to me by April 10. For those of you who are planning to attend the 2016 GFWC Montana State Convention in Helena, save the postage and bring them to me there - and sell more tickets with the extra time.

I am asking all clubs to provide an auction gift for this convention. The theme is:

A hat full of thoughts,
A wallet full of dream,
A purse full of wisdom,
With a Healthy Heart Theme.

There will be a different method for awarding the auction items this time. Everyone will have the option of purchasing tickets to place in a bag by the item(s) of choice. A winner will be drawn for each item from its corresponding bag. Tickets will be \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00. I would love to see a bigger variety of prizes for more people to win instead of fewer expensive baskets. Maybe bringing a few smaller donations would create a win/win situation for everyone to go home with a great prize without going broke.

Thank you to everyone who has helped support this amazing project to date, and remember there is still time to sell tickets, get donations, or educate others about this cause. Every dollar earned is matched by the federation (up to \$10,000), so essentially the GFWC Montana donation can help twice as many people with our smaller donation. Please keep the love pumping strong for those who need it the most.

Anne's Address: 210 Island View Drive, Polson, MT 59860
cell 406.529.2408 email: - alovelessgfwc@gmail.com



Official Call to the:
2016 GFWC OF MONTANA BIENNIAL CONVENTION
April 22-23, 2016

Best Western Premier Helena Great Northern Hotel

839 Great Northern Blvd, Helena, MT 59601

Phone 406-457-5500 OR 800-829-4047

E-mail: www.gnhotelhelena.com

Rooms: \$135.00 dbl Queen, \$145.00 King, \$155.00 King Feature (plus taxes)

Hotel Registration Rate Deadline: Tuesday, March 22, 2016

(no guarantee of room or price after this date)

ALL GFWC Montana Club Members are invited and encouraged to meet in Helena for a fun-filled special weekend April 22-23. International President Babs Condon will join us as our guest. Babs will be our keynote speaker on Friday night and install the incoming 2016-2018 officers at Saturday evening's installation. Fran Albrecht, Executive Director of the Providence Montana Health Foundation will be our guest at the Saturday luncheon where we will share more about the President's "Helping Hearts Special Project" and award some raffle prizes.

Workshops and awards are planned. This weekend is our time to hear from state chairmen as they highlight the great club activities during this administration. We will recognize special club anniversaries and honor those members who are no longer with us.

Show off your favorite hat at the Saturday luncheon. Bring your raffle tickets and stubs for the drawing. On Saturday night let's "Dress for Dinner-hats optional" and celebrate our past accomplishments and our new officers.

GFWC Montana Clubs are asked to bring auction items for the Special Project fundraiser. For more information, read the "Heartfelt Note" from Chairman Anne Loveless in this issue.

The PDQ's are planning a jewelry sale – jewelry contributions from attendees appreciated.

GFWC of Montana Bylaws:

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.



GFWC of Montana 2016 Biennial Convention Registration

April 22-23, 2016

Please send one copy for each person attending

Name _____ phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

GFWC of Montana Position (s) State _____

District _____ Club _____

Club Name _____ District: Western __ Central__ Eastern__

Please note any dietary considerations _____

Registration Fee: -----\$35.00 _____

Friday, April 22:

Dinner: Chicken Cordon Bleu----- \$34.00 _____

Breaded chicken breast w/ham & Mornay (Swiss cheese)sauce,
Rice pilaf, vegetables, salad, rolls, chocolate cake

Saturday, April 23:

Lunch: Cold Cut grinder buffet-- ----- \$21.00 _____

Turkey Club and Ham & Cheese sandwiches, soup, kettle chips

Dinner: New York Strip Steak----- \$40.00 _____

8oz Char-grilled Angus steak w/brandy peppercorn cream sauce,
Roasted red potatoes, Vegetables, salad, rolls, Tira Misu

TOTAL _____

All prices include gratuities, coffee, tea, or iced tea



Make Checks Payable to: GFWC of Montana
Mail Registration form and check to :
Shirley Weisgerber, Corresponding Secretary
Box 314, Bridger, MT 59014
406-662-3738
Email: swgfwc1979@gmail.com

Registration must be postmarked by April 8, 2016



Special Guest: GFWC International President, Babs Condon



Presidential Theme: Living the Volunteer Spirit

Babs J. Condon, GFWC President, is a third-generation clubwoman, who has been an active clubwoman in 2 different clubs in Westminster, MD for 33 years.

On the national level, Babs has held two GFWC chairmanships and has been a member of the GFWC Executive Committee now for seven administrations – starting as the GFWC Director of Junior Clubs, and working and learning all about GFWC through the various offices of Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Second Vice President, First Vice President and President-Elect. At the close of the 2014 GFWC Convention she became the 50th GFWC International President and for the past 20 months has been

Living the Volunteer Spirit as our leader.

Babs has lived in Westminster, MD for most of her life (except for 5 years of college and grad school). While a retired teacher - she still enjoys teaching and sharing her love of volunteering - as the advisor and mentor for the GFWC STARS Juniorette Club Westminster for the last 22 years.

Married to Jerry, the boy next door and her best friend, for 37 years ago - they are the proud parents of two grown sons, with three adorable grandchildren named Tyler, Natalie and Julia

Babs eats, lives and breathes GFWC – and is happy to share her love and knowledge of our amazing organization with anyone who will listen and is honored to lead our members during the 2014-2016 administration as we celebrate 125 years of outstanding volunteer service to our communities.

Special Guest Speaker: Providence Montana Health Foundation CEO



Fran Albrecht, CEO of the Providence Montana Health Foundation for the past year will be our guest and speaker at the Hearts and Hats Luncheon Saturday April 23 at the Biennial Convention in Helena.

Prior to this she served for 17 years as executive director of the Watson Children's Shelter in Missoula, MT. During that time, she led two capital campaigns to build and sustain two beautiful homes for abused and neglected children.

In 2013 Fran was appointed by Governor Bullock to serve on the 7 member Board of Regents, governing the Montana University System. She also served as an adjunct instructor teaching Nonprofit Administration at the University of Montana. She is a recognized nonprofit leader and speaker, providing advice and information to nonprofits on capital campaigns, board development, public relations, leadership, strategic planning, and effective marketing.

A Great Falls native, Fran earned a Bachelor of Arts degree with double major in Psychology and Sociology from Gonzaga University and a Masters of Education in Early childhood from MSU-Billings. She and her husband Chris reside in Missoula with their two children.

Looking to the Next Administration --

Montana State President 2016-2018



Joyce Hooper

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

District President, Montana State Treasurer, Montana First Vice President and presently Montana State President Elect.

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. She has attended various International Conventions and also Western States Region Conferences. Joyce just recently attended a leadership training seminar in Arlington, Virginia to prepare her for the 2016-2018 administration.

Joyce and her husband Nick have two children, seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Three grandchildren live locally in Montana and four in California. They have lived in the Bitterroot for over eleven 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 and golfing. Joyce enjoys volunteering and is proud to be a part of GFWC of Montana. She looks forward to serving as your Montana State President.

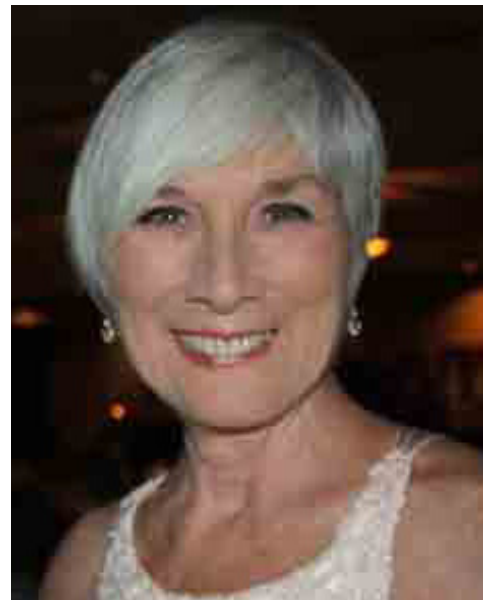
Nominated for President Elect

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 MacCartney as co-chair of the President's project, the Chapel Challenge. Since then, she has held three state program chairmanships and was President of GFWC Central District in the 2010-12 administration. In addition, Joyce was the state LEADS candidate in 2011. She is currently President of the GFWC Helena Woman's Club.

Joyce worked for 42 years in human services programs. Over the course of her career, Joyce worked with abused children and their parents, developmentally disabled individuals, people with mental illness and addictive disorders, and people with physical disabilities. She was instrumental in developing major programs funded by Medicaid. Joyce thoroughly enjoyed her career because the programs she worked with provided wonderful services to people in need.

Joyce, husband Ralph and son Jason moved to Montana in 1975, looking for a healthy lifestyle out of a big city. They have never looked back, having found what they wanted in Montana. Jason married a Montana girl, and they live in Missoula with their 2 daughters, both of whom attend UM.

Joyce has been an energetic and very involved member of her club. The work has given her great satisfaction and allowed her to meet many talented and hard-working women. She looks forward to continuing to work hard to benefit her community and GFWC of Montana.



Nominated for First Vice President

Florence Diede,



Florence Diede, a GFWC member for the last twelve years, has served in a variety of capacities.

At the State level, she is currently serving as Montana's Recording Secretary. Past state positions include Corresponding Secretary, Communication/Identity Chairman, Women's History Chairman, and Convention Chairman.

As Convention Chairman, she assisted in the planning of Board Meetings and the Bi-Annual Montana Convention. As Corresponding Secretary, she became even more aware of the vast difference in clubs throughout Montana. She continues to establish working relationships with the Executive Committee and members across Montana.

In the GFWC of MT Eastern District, Florence held offices including Treasurer and President.

As district president, she attended several club meetings that gave her an understanding of the scope of other activities and projects in her district. Coordinating the bi-annual District Convention was a highlight of serving as district president.

As a member of the GFWC Billings Junior Woman's Club, she has been club secretary, president-elect, president, and currently serves as Chairman for the Advocates for Children and Leadership Committee. The Advocates for Children Committee participates in the Festival of Trees, the Family Tree Center's annual fundraiser. Her club tree sells for nearly \$1800. This committee also has a "Pillowcase Dress" Project in which members sew dresses made from gently used and new pillowcases. About 160 dresses are delivered to local schools. Florence, as Leadership Chairman, encourages each member to participate in club committees, serve in executive roles and attend district, state, WSR and GFWC meetings.

After nearly thirty years of teaching, Florence retired to a very busy life of being a grandmother to five grandsons and one granddaughter. Volunteering at Yellowstone CASA for eleven years helped realize the dream of adoption for five children. Florence enjoys sewing with a new serger and an embroidery machine. Among her many talents is cooking, canning, and gardening. She can cook a healthy meal for twenty or one hundred and twenty. Arranging large dinners is a unique skill that she has refined. She is very organized and has an uncanny attention to detail. She is an active member of her congregation and she has been teaching the high school Sunday school class for three years. Florence

delights in meeting new people and has enjoyed working on an aging population research project conducted by John's Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health for the last five years.

Florence is willing to serve GFWC of MT as First Vice-President and in the future by being open to move forward in other offices and commitments.

Nominated for Treasurer

Karen K. Gustavsen



Karen has been a Federated Club Woman since 1975. During that time she has held membership in two Junior Clubs, three Women's Clubs, and two state level organizations. On a club level she has held the positions of Secretary, Treasury, Vice-President,

and President. At the State level, Karen has served the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs as the Treasurer (4 years), Financial Secretary, Annual Convention Chairman, and International Affairs Department Chairman. In Montana she has held the position of Conservation CSP Chairman for 2 years.

Employed by the Rimrock Lodge in Thompson Falls, human resources, accounts payable, accounts receivable, and all round go-to-gal are her current obligations. For 20 years she was the Operations Director of a 501(c)3 day care center.

Married for 45 years, John and Karen are parents of grown daughters Katie and Emily.



Nominated for Recording Secretary ***Marsha Price***

Marsha joined the GFWC Billings Junior Woman's Club in 2007. She served on several committees, as club Secretary, President Elect, and is currently the club President. Marsha is a member of the GFWC MT Budget and Finance Committee. She has served as an interim recording secretary for GFWC MT Eastern District and was elected Eastern District President for 2016-2018.



Representing Montana as GFWC MT LEADS candidate in 2009 enhanced her interest in moving forward in commitment to GFWC. Many wonderful friendships have been made over the years working with club members. She encourages all GFWC members to become active on the state, regional, and national levels. It is very rewarding. Additionally, she has enjoyed the travel brought about by attending the state, regional,

and national meetings. "What a beautiful and exciting country we live in!"

Marsha's personal life has been entwined with her professional life. Her husband was an optometrist and she worked with him as a Registered Paraoptometric Technician and Office Manager for 30 years. Owning and operated an optical store for another 15 years, allowed networking with many community leaders. During her paraoptometric career, she served as the Montana State Association Secretary and President. Serving on many national optometric committees offered many leadership opportunities. She retired in 2014.

Five grown stepchildren, six wonderful grandchildren and three super great-grandchildren make a busy life. Marsha's hobbies include gardening, traveling, and home improvement projects. Oceans fascinate her. She grew up with the beautifulregon coast in her backyard, and it has remained one of her most favorite places.

Marsha says, "It would be an honor to be elected as Recording Secretary for GFWC MT. Now that I am retired and serving my last year as President of the GFWC Billings Jr. Woman's Club, I look forward to continuing to serve GFWC on the local, District, State, Regional and National level. Thank you for considering me as your candidate for GFWC MT Recording Secretary."

Tentative Convention Agenda

Friday, April 22, 2016

9:AM - Executive Committee Meeting
9:AM to 1:00PM – Registration
1:PM – Official Opening of General Session
 *Reports, fundraising, Presentation of Candidates
 *District, TOPPS, and PDQ meetings
6:30 PM – Dinner with International President Babs Condon, keynote speaker
 * After dinner-District gatherings

Saturday - April 23, 2016

9AM to 11:45AM - General Session
 *Memorial Ceremony
 *Election of 2016-2018 Officers
 *Chairman Reports
 *Workshops

12:PM - Luncheon (remember your favorite HAT)
 *Special Project presentation to Providence Montana Health Foundation
 Fran Albrecht, Director –special guest and speaker
1:45 to 5:PM
 *Club Anniversary Presentations
 *Chairman reports
6:30 PM Dinner and Installation of 2016-2018 GFWC MT Officers
 *reception immediately following

Sunday, April 24, 2016

8:30 A.M. Executive Committee Post-Board Meeting
 **Followed by an incoming 2016-2018 Executive Committee Meeting

The Leadership, Education and Development Seminar (LEADS) A Dilemma and a Candidate

Leads - Yes You Can

How often do we hear (or say) “I can’t do that, I don’t know what to do, I’m not comfortable in front of people.” How important is Leadership in our Clubs, Districts, State, Regional, or even International offices?

The Leadership, Education and Development Seminar (LEADS) is a one day training. One candidate from each State is eligible to participate. The program is designed to help our members gain the capacity, confidence, and commitment to pursue and achieve leadership positions in GFWC. GFWC International funds a portion of each candidate’s expenses including \$250 stipend, two nights lodging, meals during the seminar, and discounted meals if they stay longer at the Convention following the seminar. GFWC Montana contributes another \$500 to candidate expenses.

Montana has sent many qualified candidates to LEADS but we have many qualified ladies who do not apply for financial reasons. A little bird gently reminded me that the LEADS program is not designed to send a representative to the International Convention. This training program was started to give a promising club women a one day seminar. It was scheduled at conventions for the convenience of the educators and the members.

Perhaps we have put too much emphasis on our LEADS candidate staying for Convention. Most costs are defrayed for a flight, the seminar, and lodging if they attend LEADS and go home. We need to encourage our members and our clubs to use this most valuable resource. Three out of five of the 2016-2018 Montana State officers are LEADS graduates.



2016 Leads Candidate

Barbara Hogg

Barbara Hogg, GFWC Billings Junior Woman’s Club member, will attend the Leadership, Education, and Development Seminar (LEADS) as the GFWC Montana Candidate on June 25th in Baltimore, Maryland.



Barbara is currently serving as the GFWC Billings Jr. President-Elect and as the membership chairman. She is an active member of the Advocates for Children, Domestic Violence and Education, and Education Committees. She serves as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer with 6 children under her watch.

Barbara, now retired, was an elementary teacher for thirty years. She has served on the Montana State Mental Health Oversight Advisor Committee and helped the Family Tree Center in Billings procure mental health grants advocating for parents of children with mental health issues. She is currently working as a bus aide for special needs children.

Sewing is a major talent. She costumes at the Billings Studio Theater and work on the club pillow-case dress project. Her friends say she is a “glass half-full” kind of lady, having survived breast cancer twice and many other hurdles in life.

Barbara has attended Western States Region, State, and District meetings and aspires to hold positions at the District, State, and Region levels. She says she “would like to continue my service to GFWC”.

Some GFWC Gee Whiz! (Federation Facts)

1891: The first GFWC council met in West Orange, New Jersey. Inventor Thomas A. Edison invited GFWC delegates to his lab for a demonstration of the kinetoscope, an early motion picture projector.

1904: New Jersey Clubwoman Alice Lakey initiated a letter writing drive to advocate for pure food legislation. GFWC promoted a nationwide awareness campaign that led to the passage of the Pure Food and Drug act of 1906.

GFWC of Montana “JJ Award”

Many of the Club members in Montana know about the GFWC Jennie Award. I thought it might be a great idea to have our very own Jennie June Award — GFWC of Montana JJ Award — that will be presented during the 2016 GFWC of Montana Convention in April.

Do you have a Club member who has an outstanding commitment to her Club, her Community & her Family? There are many women in our Montana Clubs that would deserve this award not only on the state level but national too! So now is your opportunity to nominate a Club member for the first GFWC of Montana JJ Award for all the dedicated work she has done in/for her Club, Community and Family.

The qualifications are simple:

1) *Commitment to Club* — The nominee should have an outstanding record of success and achievement, not only in terms of her club’s volunteer programs and projects, but also her role in a leadership position, her activity to build membership and promote the club to others, and her overall spirit of volunteerism. She should be kind, loyal, and positive in her relationships with other clubwomen, and her commitment should be continuous, rather than a one-time activity.

2) *Commitment to Community* — Community service must address real community needs and concerns. This service should go beyond club activities and be carried out through other community organizations (e.g. schools, hospitals, an elected/ appointed position, scouts, etc.) as well as through the workplace. Activities should reflect an innovative or unique approach to volunteerism.

3) *Commitment to Family* — Recognizing that families come in many different forms, the nominee might be a single parent, a grandparent raising her grandchildren, an adult caring for an elderly relative, or an adult without children. The definition of a family member may include persons who are older or younger than the nominee. It may include nuclear as well as extended family members. The nominee should exemplify outstanding concern for the well-being, health, and welfare of one or more persons by providing aid and comfort on an ongoing basis, separate and apart, from club and community work.

Clubs may nominate one member who has demonstrated the qualities outlined under the judging criteria for this award.

1) Nominee must be a member in good standing of a GFWC club for a minimum of five years. Her tenure of service may be with several clubs. Years of service must be consecutive not concurrent.

2) Nominations should emphasize a member’s entire lifetime of service.

3) Clubs must complete and submit the form printed below along with a maximum 500-word written narrative. Narratives should include descriptions of the nominee’s:

- Club activities
- Participation in community groups and organizations, both volunteer and professional.
- Commitment to her nuclear or extended family

4) Clubs must submit the following supportive materials along with nomination form and narrative:

- Photograph of nominee (no larger than 5x7 inches)
- Clips of two-three newspaper (or other media) stories about successful projects to which the member contributed (it is not necessary for such articles to mention the member by name).
- Letter of endorsement from club president
- Letter of endorsement from a representative of another organization

5) Clubs must submit nomination materials to Shirley Weisgerber, Jenny Award Chairman by March 30, 2016 to be eligible for the presentation at the 2016 Convention. Send entries to Box 314, Bridger, MT 59014 or email swgfwc1970@gmail.com

Let’s make this the “1st” of many “JJ Awards” to the Club members in our state!



GFWC OF MONTANA “JJ” AWARD 2016

Name _____

- Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

- Phone Number _____ Email _____

- Club _____

- Please attach sheet(s) with the following information:

A) CLUB ACTIVITIES

B) RECORD OF CLUB LEADERSHIP

C) NON-GFWC CLUB COMMUNITY SERVICE

D) FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

E) NOMINATOR Name, Address, Phone, Email, Club

Our Clubs at Work

GFWC of Helena Partners With Soroptimists Serving the Needy in Helena

The Placer Pantry opened its doors to the greater Helena community in February 2012 as a partnership between the YWCA Helena and the GFWC Helena Woman's Club. A need existed for basic personal care products and toiletry items for low-income and homeless people in the Helena community. Many organizations helped with food, clothing, and other resources, yet toiletries essential for personal hygiene were missing.

The YWCA Helena provided the space for a small "store" at its Placer Street entrance (hence the name "Placer Pantry") and GFWC Helena provided staffing, scheduling and recordkeeping. The Pantry provides basic toiletries to anyone in need, and individuals may shop monthly based on the size of their family and the products on hand. The Pantry is open each week on Tuesdays from 5 to 6 pm and Saturdays from 10 to 11

am. Items typically available include full-sized shampoo, conditioner, lotion, shaving supplies, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, feminine products, toilet paper, and homemade laundry and dish detergent. All inventory is purchased with funds from GFWC Helena and/or donations from the community. The number of families served has gradually increased. We recently provided 1,429 families with over 17,650 individual products during the year.

We are now beginning a new chapter in the life of the Pantry. In anticipation of an extensive remodeling project at the YWCA, the Pantry was moved temporarily to the Good Samaritan Ministries building in Helena during spring 2015. Because of the Pantry's fit with the mission statement of Good Samaritan Ministries, a decision was recently made to make the Pantry a permanent part of the Good Sam and discontinue the partnership with the YWCA. Our work will be the same, but we will have the added benefit of joining with the Helena Soroptimist Club in providing services to those in need. We are very excited to form this three-way partnership, as it will strengthen this project as well as our ties to the community of Helena.

Plains Throws Successful Membership Party



Dealer Debbi Kirschbaum deals the cards for her guest, Wndy Person, (who joined the club that evening), member Jo Carpenter, and another guest.



Most of the members and guests who came to Plains Woman's Club's annual October Membership party came dressed to fit the '20's Speakeasy theme. The party featured a brief introductory business meeting, followed by a light supper and some speakeasy games, including betting on a (paper) horserace.

Scrapbooks were on display, and applications for membership. The party netted several new members for the club.

Club Women Celebrate Christmas



Gfwc Bitterroot Party

Bitterroot Woman's Club enjoyed their annual Christmas party December 15, 2015. It was a success with twenty members in attendance.

Ronan Club Christmas Party

GFWC Ronan Woman's Club celebrated their annual Christmas party at the home of Alice Gleason in Ronan on December 9. Members brought food items for the Bread Basket food pantry in Ronan.

After a very short business meeting they exchanged gifts with a Chinese gift exchange and indulged in cheesecake with toppings, cream puffs and hot apple cider. A good time was had by all.



Front row, L-R Alice Gleason, Joyce Rogers, Kathy Symington, Connie Romero, Fawn Arrington, Janet Gardner.

Back row, Anne Loveless, Diane Grant, Adina Fox, Betty Duncan, Marilyn Dolezal, Patti Mocabee, Tashina Whitworth



Plains Woman's club celebrated Christmas twice this year. Yes, twice! Once (well, it was in November) to make Christmas Stockings for children who are victims of Domestic Violence, and a second time for themselves. The annual PWC Christmas party begins with a lavish dinner cooked by Debbi Kirschbaum, who has a talent for cooking for large groups, assisted by Teresa Garrison and Pat Farmer. On the menu was Burgundy beef over pasta with apple coleslaw, Parmesan croissants, glazed carrots and cupcakes for dessert decorated to look like holly berries. After dinner the group enjoyed singing a few carols, playing some (pretty silly) games, and exchanging gifts.



*Left: Shirley Nettleton and Shelly Quackenbush check out the Christmas Sox
Far left: Mary Lou Hermes accompanies some Carol singing*



Judy Stephens balances a Christmas ball on a spoon, running a silly but fun relay race. Lores Porter is next in line.



Christmas With Billings Juniors

GFWC Billings Jr. Club reported several projects at Christmas time.

On December 6, 2015, nine members breakfasted at Perkins, then went to the Youth Services Center. They decorated a beautiful Christmas tree and enjoyed snacks and hot chocolate with the children. On December 21 they took five YSC residents shopping at Target with gift cards.

The Education Committee eight members prepared trays of cookies fruit, and vegetables and delivered them to two hospitals and other groups that help them with the "Books for Babies and . . . You!" program.

Sixteen members attended the Festival of Trees Gala and Live Auction event. The ornament covered tree sold for \$2000. The tree was purchased by Exxon and donated to Washington School. To raise money for a new playground the students sold the ornaments and gave the tree back to the Billings Jr.'s to use in 2016.

A Christmas dinner meeting included chicken and a dessert assortment. Dinner included an auction fundraiser that raised \$641. The club plans to donate \$300 from the auction to the Youth Services library project.



Above: Billings Jr members pose around their tree - Linda Pickard, Florence Diede, Karin Green, Becky McGill, Marsha Hotchkiss, Bev Silkwood, Kathy Broyles, Rena Bucher, and Karen Durfey (not pictured) decorated the tree



Left: Bev Silkwood, Barbara Hogg, and Marsha Hotchkiss at the auction

"The 'ayes' have it and the motion passes."

Sounds victorious doesn't it? Then why do we sometimes feel ambushed, blindsided, and disappointed when we hear those words?

We've all attended a meeting and had that one member who likes to cram the bylaws and rules in our face. Sometimes, during the bylaws process there is a point in the meeting when we get so frustrated and mad that we stop listening and just shut down. Her method may be all wrong, but her message/knowledge will be right. Now you don't have to like her, but at the end of the day she is always going to win because she knows her bylaws. We walk away dejected, questioning what went wrong and thinking, "I hate bylaws."

It's not the bylaws. It's not her. Sure, she could be kinder, but we're talking about the ones that always seem to have the club power and wield it like a baseball bat, hitting us over the head with the bylaws.

Club work involves working with and within your bylaws. Stop whining! If your bylaws aren't working, CHANGE them! Stop complaining! Stop blaming! Do something about it! Take responsibility for your lack of knowledge and begin learning the bylaws! It's the only way anything is going to change. Your club meeting is a place of angst and complacency not because of those who misuse their power, but because of those who sit by and do nothing!

From T Jablanski, GFWC Leadership Chairman



2016 GFWC Annual Convention

June 25-29, 2016

Get ready to make your plans for the 2016 GFWC Annual Convention – Registration should be on the gfwc.org website by March.

We are heading to “Charm City” Baltimore, Maryland from June 25 – 29! At the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront, you’ll be able to experience all the “charms” of this vibrant city.

Just minutes away the Inner Harbor surrounded includes numerous shops, diverse restaurants, and attractions including the Baltimore Aquarium, the historic USS Constellation, and the American Visionary Museum. North of the Harbor, you’ll find Mount Vernon – Baltimore’s cultural hub where you can see the nation’s first monument to George Washington, the original draft of our National Anthem at the Maryland Historical Society, and masterpieces by world famous artists at the Walter’s Art Museum.

GFWC is proud to introduce Suzy Toronto as the Keynote Speaker for the Convention. This self-described “wacky” artist and author is well known for her colorful and creative designs. On Tuesday, June 28, she will be the featured speaker at the ESO Breakfast and the Gala Banquet that evening. Suzy’s whimsical words of wisdom and her own passion for volunteering are a perfect match for GFWC. We are beyond excited to team up with Suzy to bring some wackiness (and inspiration) to Convention attendees!

The most comprehensive Convention guide will be the Call to Convention in the March/April edition of Clubwoman Magazine. As Convention nears, stay tuned for updates in News&Notes, on www.GFWC.org, and via the Convention registration website. Some early date information follows:

Tuesday, March 1 – Convention Registration Opens

Tuesday, March 1 – GFWC Room Block at Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Opens

Tuesday, May 3 – Launch of Special Convention Surprise – can you guess what it is?

Wednesday, June 1 – Convention Registration Closes

Wednesday, June 1 – GFWC Room Block at Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Closes

Saturday, June 25 – Highlights: LEADS, Star-Spangled Tour, Convention Kickoff Awards Reception and Crab Feast

Sunday, June 26 – Highlights: Opening Ceremony, Awards Luncheon, GFWC of Maryland State Night

Monday, June 27 – Highlights: Partner Luncheon, Region Banquets

Tuesday, June 28 – Highlights: Awards Luncheon, Gala Banquet featuring special guest

Wednesday, June 29 – Highlights: Awards Luncheon, Installation Ceremony, Banquet, and Reception

Thursday, June 30 – Highlights: Tour Day – Star-Spangled, B&O Railroad, and Great Art Tours

PROPOSED APRIL, 2016 AS AMENDMENTS TO GFWC OF MONTANA BYLAWS

ARTICLE IV DUES AND FINANCE

****CURRENT:** Section 4.2 Dues.

Dues shall be paid annually to the GFWC MT Treasurer in the specified amounts on or before July 1st.

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.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

In sub-paragraph A. strike the words and The Montana Woman subscription costs.

RATIONALE: Montana Woman costs are included in the general budget.

IF AMENDED WOULD READ: Section 4.2 Dues.

Dues shall be paid annually to the GFWC MT Treasurer in the specified amounts on or before July 1st.

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. The annual dues shall be established by vote at a Board of Directors Meeting or the GFWC MT Convention.

****CURRENT:** 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.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

To strike: be apprised of and insert approve in the second sentence; to strike Board of Directors and insert Executive Committee in the third sentence; to strike Treasurer and insert Budget and Finance Chairman in the fourth sentence.

RATIONALE: to update to current practice

IF AMENDED WOULD READ: 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 approve the selection. The Executive Committee shall be charged with the responsibility of directing the Budget and Finance Chairman 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.

****CURRENT:** 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. All contracts during a president's administration regarding meetings and conventions during her term may be signed by the President upon approval of the Budget and Finance Chairman. All contracts prior to a president's administration regarding meetings and conventions during her term may be signed by the President Elect upon approval of the Budget and Finance Chairman.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

To strike the words one hundred dollars (\$100) and insert the words three hundred dollars (\$300) in the second sentence.

RATIONALE: Prices are always checked, but costs have risen. To be more realistic.

IF AMENDED WOULD READ: Section 4.5 Expenditures.

Bids shall be secured on all purchases in excess of three hundred dollars (\$300) and said bids shall be approved by the President, Chairman of Budget and Finance Committee and the Chairman to whom the work is germane. All contracts during a president's administration regarding meetings and conventions during her term may be signed by the President upon approval of the Budget and Finance Chairman. All contracts prior to a president's administration regarding meetings and conventions during her term may be signed by the President Elect upon approval of the Budget and Finance Chairman.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS Section 5.5 duties of Officers

****CURRENT:**

President Elect

5. She shall be responsible for compiling the GFWC MT Procedure Manual.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

To strike the words Procedure Manual and insert the words Contact and Information Booklet.

RATIONALE:

Due to high costs, we have not compiled a procedure manual for clubs for several years. The information is on the gfwc.org or gfwcmontana.org website.

IF AMENDED WOULD READ:

5. She shall be responsible for compiling the GFWC MT Contact and Information booklet.

****CURRENT:** First Vice-President

3. She shall distribute the GFWC MT Procedure Manuals and Supplements to GFWC MT Executive Committee, Club Presidents, District Presidents, Community Service Program Chairmen and Special Projects Chairmen.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

To strike the words: distribute the GFWC Manuals and Supplements and insert the words: communicate current GFWC and GFWC MT Procedures and guidelines in the first sentence.

RATIONALE:

To follow current practice. Manuals are no longer distributed.

IF AMENDED WOULD READ:

3. She shall communicate current GFWC and GFWC MT procedures and guidelines to GFWC MT Executive Committee, Club Presidents, District Presidents, Community Service Program Chairmen and Special Projects Chairmen.

****CURRENT:** Recording Secretary

2. Within six weeks, she shall send the minutes of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors to the Executive Committee.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

To strike the word and, and insert the word meetings, after the word Committee in the first sentence; to insert the words meetings, and the Biennial Convention meetings after the word Directors in the second sentence.

RATIONALE: To provide for timely updates of all records.

IF AMENDED WOULD READ:

Recording Secretary

2. Within six weeks, she shall send the minutes of the Executive Committee meetings, the Board of Directors meetings, and the Biennial Convention meetings to the Executive Committee.

****CURRENT:**

Treasurer

4. She shall allocate the designated amount per member to the “Montana Woman” publication fund.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

To strike #4 entirely and renumber the balance of treasurer duties.

RATIONALE: The “Montana Woman” fund is in the general budget.

ARTICLE VI – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

****CURRENT:** Section 6.4 duties the Board of Directors shall:

C. Adopt the budget and decide upon investments of funds recommended by the Budget and Finance Committee.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

To strike the word Adopt and insert the word Approve in the first sentence; to strike the words decide upon investments of funds and insert the words the financial institutions as in the first sentence.

RATIONALE: To follow current practice.

IF AMENDED WOULD READ:

C. Approve the budget and the financial institutions as recommended by the Budget and Finance Committee.

ARTICLE IX - COMMITTEES

**CURRENT:

Section 9.1 Standing Committees

A. Budget and finance (e) complete an internal audit at the end of each fiscal year.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

In subsection (e) to insert the words with an audit committee consisting of the Budget and Finance Committee chairman and appointed committee members after the words: fiscal year.

RATIONALE: To clarify who is responsible to do the audit

IF AMENDED WOULD READ: (e) complete an internal audit at the end of each fiscal year with an audit committee consisting of the Budget and Finance Committee chairman and appointed committee members.

ARTICLE IX – COMMITTEES

**CURRENT: Section 9.1 Standing Committees.

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.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

To strike the words Constitution and in the title of the subsection; and to strike the words Constitution and after the words amendments to the in the fourth sentence.

RATIONALE: This document is the GFWC of Montana bylaws.

IF AMENDED WOULD READ: Section 9.1 Standing Committees. B. 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 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.

ARTICLE X –NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

**CURRENT: 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.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

To strike the words January 10th of the even and insert the words December 15th of the odd in the last sentence.

RATIONALE: Update for efficiency of Corresponding Secretary and the Montana Woman.

AMENDED WOULD READ:

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 December 15th of the odd numbered years.

ARTICLE XI – CONSTITUENT DIVISIONS

****CURRENT:**

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 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. . 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

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

To strike the section numbers 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4 and insert the numbers 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, and 11.4.

RATIONALE:

Housekeeping correction. No change in the amendment. Article XI sections should be numbered 11.__. It has been published incorrectly for several years.

IF AMENDED the SECTION NUMBERS WOULD READ:

Section 11.1 Names..

Section 11.2 Purpose.

Section 11.3 Clubs.

Section 11.4 Districts.