

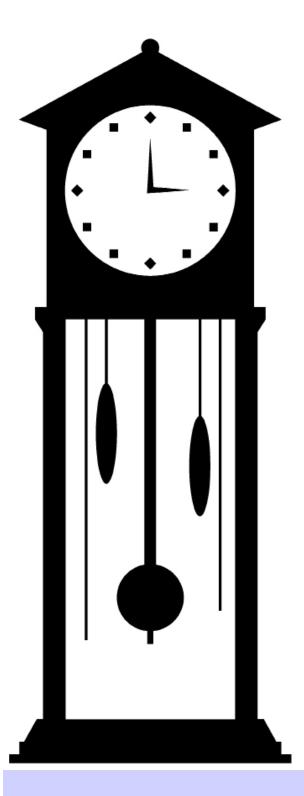
a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

Spring 2013 Volume 53 Issue 3

Inside this Issue

Message from the President	2
District Conventions	3
Jennie Award	4
2012 Writing contest winners	5
Club News	6 - 7
President's Special Project	8
Website	9
International Convention	10
News from California	11
Dates to Remember	12





Take Time To... Remember Reflect and Renew

GFWC of Montana Executive Committee

President Nancy Hanford P. O. Box 1293, Fort Benton, MT 59442 4849nan@mtintouch.net 406-662-5313 (H & fax) 406-788-2984 (cell)

President-Elect

Joyce Rogers P. O. Box 2778, Columbia Falls, MT 59912 joycerogers@montanasky.net 406-253-3355

1st Vice President

Joyce Hooper 772 Paige Lane, Corvallis, MT 59828 joyhoop@q.com 406-961-3930

Recording Secretary

Mary Lou Hermes P. O. Box 133, Paradise, MT 59856 pln3392@blackfoot.net 406-826-3392

Treasurer

Joyce DeCunzo 5420 Peaks View Drive, Helena MT jrdecunzo@gmail.com 406-933-5962 (home) 406 439-0076 (cell)

Budget & Finance Chairman

Adina Fox 42942 Sky Lane, Ronan, MT 59864 adinaf@ronan.net 406-675-3580 (home), 406-253-1774 (cell)

Corresponding Secretary

Florence Diede 535 Johnson Lane, Billings, MT 59101 fdiede@bresnan.net 406-245-4998 (home) 406-861-1681 (cell)

Parliamentary Advisor

Vurnie Kaye Barnett P. O. Box 186, Ennis, MT 59729 vurniek@gmail.com 406-682-4313 (H & fax) 406-579-9485 (cell) 2 406-682-6862 Ext 2271 (work)



Dear friends,

I am writing this from my temporary digs in San Diego. I have been to some GFWC meetings down here, and am going to one of California's state board meetings next weekend. No matter where I am, here or at home in Montana, I am constantly impressed by the energetic and wonderful women who are a part of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. We are

giving, friendly, ambitious, and always ready to jump into our latest project with passion! Take *time* to give yourselves a pat on the back... you deserve it!

In this issue, look for the update on the President's Special Project, the Montana Talking Book Library – hopefully you are all selling your club's allotment of quilt raffle tickets and collecting money for the project in your club donation cans. Be sure to contact Adina Fox if you would like her to visit your club with a presentation. Do you have a club member who is totally inspiring, deserves some GFWC recognition, and you want to honor? Check out the Jennie Award form and information – although GFWC has many awards for states and clubs, the GFWC Jennie Award, named after GFWC's founder, Jane Cunningham Croly, is the only national honor that recognizes individual members for personal excellence. Penny Cope also gives us a great update on our GFWC of Montana website.

Also please look for the information about your District conferences to be held this spring. Take *time* to attend if you can – there is always so much information presented, it is a great *time* to renew friendships and make some new ones, and there are a lot of fun things being planned by the District Presidents for your enjoyment. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at these conferences...please ask a member who has never attended one before to join you...maybe we can double our attendance figures!

Thank you for all the *time* you spent this year on reporting your projects. We enjoy hearing about all of your volunteerism activities and want to share with others around the state and country. We do make a difference in our communities and our world...again, thank you! In our journey through *time*, we have remembered our past accomplishments; it is now *time* to reflect on what we are currently achieving.

Don't forget to look for the hand-stamped clock in every issue to win a free state meeting registration. See you at District conferences.

Nancy



Conventions



Eastern District

GFWC of Montana Eastern District convention will be held in Laurel, April 6, 2013 at the Masonic Hall from 9:30A.M. to 3:00 P.M. A fun-filled day is being planned with the theme, *"Reflections* of the Past." Members and guests are encouraged to wear vintage clothing or hats.

Our talented members are bringing handmade articles to be sold in a boutique as a fundraising event. An art and photography contest will also be held with winners chosen by popular vote.

Club presidents will brag about their club's mighty achievements over the last two years, and we will be honored to hear from our GFWC of Montana State

President, Nancy Hanford, who will promote her special project, The Montana Talking Book Library.

A style show, featuring vintage clothing, will take place during the noon luncheon. We invite all GFWC members in the Eastern District to come, participate and enjoy visiting with your fellow clubwomen.

> Bonnie Conner, Eastern District President

Central District

The GFWC of Montana Central District Convention will be held in Ennis, MT on Saturday May 4, 2013 at the El Western Conference Center. The Madison Valley Woman's Club will be hosting a private shopping experience at our Nearly New Shoppe and a tour of the Vintage Attic for those who are interested on Friday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. Come earlier and check out other shops in Ennis, including Stitches that Bind for you quilters. Information on lodging

at the El Western will be included in the Convention packet I will be sending out in March.

It should be an enjoyable gathering, and an interesting program. Reserve the dates, and I hope that we will have good representation from Central District Clubs. Encourage members of your clubs to attend so that they are able to learn more about the GFWC of Montana President's Special Project, as well as learn first-hand what other clubs are doing. A reminder that each club is expected to report on their activities at the meeting. We also will be voting



on changes to the Central District By-Laws which will be included in the official call packet.

Lynn Foreman President, GFWC Central District

Western District



Blossom!

April 20th, 10 am until 3 pm Site; Kootenai Creek Village Club House Located; just past the Stevensville junction on Hwy 93 (24 miles south of Missoula) Inspiration; Fun, Fellowship & Charity Charity fundraiser; Raffle: Baskets of Blooming Plants (each Club please bring one) Style inspiration; Provided by the GFWC Deer Lodge Woman's Club Hosting; GFWC Bitterroot Women's Club Registration; District President, Joyce Hooper Ph; 961-3930 or e-mail; joyhoop@q.com We intend to have a Blooming good time!





Jane Cunningham Croly

also known as

Jennie June

Jane Croly was a woman before her time, a woman who managed to juggle career, marriage and motherhood and write about it in several books and a newspaper column under the pseudonym Jennie June.

After having been denied membership in the all male organization of Journalists, as well as entry to a lecture to that group by Charles Dickens, she spearheaded an all female organization called *Sorosis*. Later, she invited other women's clubs which were springing up all across the United States to join together in a federation of women's clubs. Thus was formed the General Federation of Women's Clubs, our GFWC, which claims Ms. Croly as its founder. Since that coming together of women's clubs in federation, women have carried on in effors to provide

education, improved working conditions, health care, scholarship and other reforms.

History may not have produced another Jennie June, but many women have served in large and small ways in service to others. Each biennium, GFWC International is proud to honor women who have walked in Jane Croly's virtual footsteps in ways that deserve recognition. One woman from each of the GFWC regions is honored at the summer convention with the Jennie Award. Those women are chosen from among nominees from state federations, who have been chosen from among outstanding women nominated from their local clubs. That means that every club has the opportunity to honor a member who has served their community well.

Now is the time to nominate your Outstanding Woman!

The Jennie Award honors one clubwoman from each GFWC region. Any GFWC member who has been in a GFWC club at least five years can be nominated. The information is in the 2012-2014 Club Manual about the contest. Fill out the Jennie Award Nomination Form and write a narrative about your candidate. Submit nomination material to Chairman Jean Carroll Thompson, P.O. Box 463, Laurel, MT 59044 by June 1,

2013. Each Montana club should have a nomination that can be recognized at the 2013 Fall Board meeting in Bozeman. One club woman will be chosen to represent Montana. Do not let your club be



the only club without a **Who will it be?** candidate. For information, (406) 248-8557. Thank you for your consideration.

Sncerely, Jean Carroll Thompson

Remembering Montana Club Women

GFWC of Montana has lost several women in the past few months who have been outstanding leaders in the organization.

In October, *Marcella Tart*, one of GFWC Madison Valley Woman's Clubs long time members passed away. Marcella was a past club President and past District IV President. She was the Treasurer for District IV for many years. Marcella traveled with Bobbie Bjork to many events, including several International Conventions.

That same month, *Nancy Ross* of Bozeman passed away. Nancy was the last President of the GFWC Bozeman Woman's Club before it disbanded. She also served as a District President.

And in January, the Thompson Falls club lost *Janis Wiswell*, a long time member, a past president of the club who seldom missed a GFWC of Montana Fall Board meeting or Spring Convention. She served as state Scholarship Chairman for several terms.

Montana Rules in Writing!

Last summer at the GFWC National Convention, Montana Representatives were delighted to be called repeatedly to the front to receive not one, but three prizes for creative writing! Montana brought home prizes for the short story, Miss Milton's Mercy, by club member Amorette Allison, Miles City Woman's Club, then for Category 1 short story by by Tiana Salom Crist of Ronan, and finally for a poetry entry, which, unfortunately is a little confusing, because it was awarded to Plains Woman's Club for a Category 1 entry. However, the state entry for that category was from Fort Benton. The Plains poem entered in the national contest was in Cagetory 2. The story and both poems are printed below - could you choose?



Oh, Old Scarecrow

Oh, old scarecrow Hanging in the alfalfa field Pesky mice Irritating gnats Annoying flies Squawking crows How do you do it? Smile on your face Arms pushing against the wind Scaring fluttering moths away That must really make your day! Lost at Sea

Confused and helpless Lost in the dark Atlantic Lost for many months In need of serious helpl Trapped in water I'm surrounded by despair Flooded by waters Tired of my life at sea Struggling to stand Yet I pull Imyself back up Trying for the top. A metaphor about life

Abby Clark, Fort Benton

Jessica Thompson, Plains

Splash!

Once upon a time there was a dolphin named Splash. He was a blue dolphin with a green tummy and fins. He loved to eat little sardines and fish. All the dolphins did not like him because whenever he jumped into the water, instead of diving gracefully, he made a huge splash.

Whenever he tried to play with the other dolphins they would say, "go away!"

One day the king of the dolphins said, "Splash, I have decided that you must go to a different ocean because all the dolphins come to me and complain that you make too big a splash.

All the other dolphins yelled, "YES! Take him away!"

So poor little Splash said, "May I have one more day in dolphin land? Please, I want to have one more day with my family."

"Oh very well, you may," said the king. So Splash dove into the water and swam to his house.

All the dolphins were minding their own business when they heard feet walking toward them. They sounded like human feet. "HIDE!" said the king. So all the dolphins dove into the sea. But splash did not dive into the sea. He swam around in the cool clear water. "Hide!" said the king to Splash, "the people are coming to get a dolphin to take to the zoo!" But Splash did not move, so the king dove into the water and let Splash be.

Finally when the men came, Splash swam close to them. "Let's catch this one," said one man. They got the nets. When they came too close, Splash would dive away.

A little way off he saw the king come up from the water. "Hey, let's catch that one instead," said the men. They ran toward the king.

"NO! You can't take the king!" said Splash. He dove into the water. He made the biggest splash and got the men all wet.

"I'm all wet," said one." I'm soaking," said the other, "let's go home."

When they had left, all the dolphins came out and said, "We LOVE you Splash."

Then the king came out and said, "Splash, thank you for saving my life. I'm sorry I was so mean to you."

"That's ok," said Splash. "God made everybody different. Just because I make a huge splash every time I dive into the water, He does not want you to treat me different. I forgive you for being mean to me."

So the king let Splash stay in dolphin land forever.

Local Clubs in Action

The GFWC Billings Junior Woman's Club's

Domestic Violence Awareness Committee adopted and refurbished a room for a family at the Women's and Children's Center!

Members provided almost all the furnishings for a room at the Women's and Children's Center. With help from Sherwin-Williams and "The Used Furniture Store" on 24th Street West the room was completed. Robin Pittsley and Darla Soto did an incredible job, with help from their husbands and several club members. Club members scrubbed and painted walls, made curtain ruffles, offered decorating hints, and made quilts. Many members stopped by with sheets, rugs, books, an alarm clock, a frog shower curtain with matching rug and waste basket, wall hangings and pictures, desk supplies, toys, and much more, including moral support!

Members of GFWC Woman's Club of Missoula

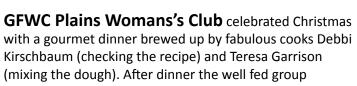
prepared plates and boxes of Christmas cookies and candy at the December meeting. These were delivered to Watson Children's Shelter, Ronald McDonald House, St. Patrick House, Poverello, Valor House, John 3:16 and CareNet.



This has been an annual project for many years and is a favorite club activity.



What has your club been doing lately?



told stories, exchanged gifts and vied with one another to buy special Christmas cookies, funds donated to the Talking Book project.



GFWC Madison Valley Woman's Club was in a Parade.



GFWC Plains Woman's Club

conducted a successful recycling project at last fall's county fair. They placed dedicated garbage cans next to

the regular garbage cans to collect plastic bottles for recycling. Several members monitored the cans, removing filled bags and relining the cans. Later they sorted the bags, removed lids, dumped leftover liquids and





delivered a dozen bags of plastic bottles to the local recycle depot.

"The Top Six Things That Prove You Are A Member of GFWC".

How You Know You're A Member of GFWC".

Number 6 :	You carry a grace or an inspirational or a thought for the day with you just in case needed.	
Number 5:	All of your clothing has tiny holes on the left side from where the pins have been.	
Number 4:	You have at least one red, white and blue outfit.	
Number 3:	You have at least one purple outfit for Domestic Violence	
Number 2:	You can take a picture at a Conference or Convention with eleven different cameras and remember who gave you which camera.	
And the top way you know		
that you are a member of GFWC is:		
You find unlucky leftover raffle tickets in every		

You find unlucky, leftover raffle tickets in every pocketbook.

Mary Ellen Brock GFWC Second Vice President

Dues News

by Joyce DeCunzo, GFWC of MT Treasurer

I want to thank all clubs for submitting dues for the GFWC of Montana dues year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013. There was confusion this year about when dues were to be submitted, because of a change in the bylaws last year. The new deadline was July 1, 2012, the deadline was extended to November 1, to give clubs time to inform members and collect the dues, and there were still clubs not sure when to send in their payment. By February 3, we had all clubs reporting and sending in payments. The important thing to know is that, from now on, dues payments will always be expected no later than July 1 each year. This change in timing of payment was confusing for some club members. But, we are now done with the conversion and hopefully everyone is more comfortable with the new timetable.

I know it feels like we just finished paying dues – but it's time to get ready to collect again for this coming July 1 deadline. Club Presidents and Treasurers, please begin working with your club members now to collect dues for this coming July 1 deadline. Why is it important to pay dues on time? Your dues support the work of GFWC of Montana activities, such as the Fall Board of Directors meetings and Convention. Your dues support the payment of bills for organizational activities such as the yearly audit of our books, travel by the President, publication of the Montana Woman. Your dues support your District activities. And, your dues on time assure you will receive every edition of the Montana Woman.

We report membership and pay dues to Headquarters by February 15 each year. Payment on time is necessary so our members attending the International Convention, usually held in June, have a vote. Our current state membership is 608. This is down from last year's membership of 680. Please do what YOU can do as a clubwoman to get our membership numbers up.

If you have questions about dues, please contact me at 406-933-5962 or by e-mail, jrdecunzo@gmail.com.

HERE'S TALKING TO YOU



Joan Rivers has been famous for starting her stand-up routine with "Can we TALK?"

Well can we? Can we TALK about the President's Special Project: The TALKING Book Library. With the District Conventions coming up, we need everyone to be TALKING about The TALKING Book Library.

Our GFWC of Montana state president, Nancy Hanford is so passionate about this program that she has already been TALKING to others about it from Montana to California.

Now it's time for you to do the TALKING.

As you know, during this administration we're TALKING about raising \$10,000 to purchase Montana books by Montana authors for this digital recording program. The program allows eligible Montana residents who are unable to use standard printed materials due to visual, physical and/or reading disabilities, to apply to the Montana TALKING Book Library to receive free loaned digital library audio books and magazines. The materials are delivered two ways: 1) free mail loan of recorded books and playback equipment and/or 2) the same playback equipment with downloadable books and magazines for patrons who have high speed internet. Eligibility is determined based on National Library Service Standards.

So that everyone is TALKING about the project, at the upcoming three district meeting across the state, you'll have the opportunity to see and to buy raffle tickets for the beautiful quilt, handmade by Donna Albers of the GFWC Fort Benton Woman's Club. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20.

Each club should bring the quilt tickets you received at the Great Falls Board of Directors meeting in September. The district meetings will give you an opportunity to sell more tickets while TALKING up the project. A reminder too, for the host clubs to bring their money canister from Fall Boards so that you'll have a place to deposit any change that takes us closer to the \$10,000 goal.

Now is the time to speak up, to become a blabber-mouth, to gossip, to jabber, to chatter, to rattle on, to converse, to be loquacious, in short, to be TALKING about the Montana TALKING Book Library. For more information about the Montana TALKING Book Library go to http://msl.mt.gov/ talking_book_library/



Hey! It's something worth TALKING about.

Adína Fox



YOU'RE INVITED!

Sometimes the best words on the page aren't on the page. Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL) is hosting an Open House in honor of Talking Book Library Month Wednesday, March 20, 2013 from 2-4pm State Library - 1515 East 6th Avenue, Helena.

Meet Montana authors, tour the library and recording studio, and celebrate the launch of the Digital Recording Program, featuring the first born-digital audio book *Hand Raised: The Barns of Montana* in partnership with the Montana Historical Society. Please RSVP by calling 800.332.3400 by March 12.



There is so much information available, right at your fingertips. Get to know the GFWC Montana website.

by Penny Cope, GFWC Montana webmaster

When and where is the GFWC of Montana Board of Director's Meeting in 2013? How do I find the GFWC Montana Membership Chairman's email address? Where can I find the latest copy of the Montana Woman Magazine? How do I find the phone number for the GFWC Billings Junior Woman's Club President?

If you have ever had a question like this, there is a place you can find the answers you need. It is the GFWC Montana website. The address is <u>www.gfwcmontana.org</u>

The new and improved website has been under construction for most of 2012 and is nearing completion. You can now find information about:

- upcoming events
- names and contact information for state and club officers
- chairmen for Community Service Programs, Standing Committees, Special Assignments, Special Projects and Advancement Areas
- links to issues of Montana Woman
- information about the history of GFWC in Montana
- forms that you need for GFWC Montana or Federation business
- information about the LEADS Program
- scholarships offered

There is still some work to be done. The next phase will allow you to find all award information easily. This should make it easier to submit nominations and to see results of each contest. Soon you will be able to view photos from each of the state and district meetings and conferences. You also will find a list of links to popular information on the Federation website. This should be complete by mid-March.

There are so many clubs and clubwomen in Montana and we all need a place where we can find the information that we need to continue the wonderful work that we do and also to share our accomplishments with each other. This website is that place.

We are excited about our GFWC Montana website and plan to submit it for an award at the Federation level. Keep your fingers crossed.

Please get to know our website. Feel free at any time to submit suggestions to make it even better. You can also share information about your club's accomplishments to include on the website.

Submit any suggestions or new information to Penny Cope at pjcope@bresnan.net

Florida is Calling!

Sun, Fun, and Friendship on Tap for the 2013 GFWC Annual Convention

2013 GFWC Annual Convention | June 30 - July 2, 2013

The Westin Diplomat Resort & Spa 3555 South Ocean Drive | Hollywood, FL 33019 Phone: 954-602-6000 | Toll-Free: 1-888-627-9057 www.DiplomatResort.com | GFWC Room Block Page

Registration is open now!

Registering online is the quickest and securest way to register. Meals and special events are available on a first-come firstserved basis for an additional fee and may sell out. Register early to guarantee a spot. If you need assistance with your registration or are unable to register online, contact GFWC Headquarters at 1-800-443-GFWC (4392) or Convention@ GFWC.org. Register by May 15, 2013, to receive discounted registration fees. Online registration closes on June 7, 2013.

Registration to attend the 2013 GFWC Annual Convention includes:

Admission to GFWC business sessions, including speakers and entertainment Admission to the Exhibitor Showcase, open Sunday, June 30 – Tuesday, July 2 Admission to workshop sessions of your choice on Sunday, June 30 and Tuesday, July 2 Admission to the 2013 GFWC Annual Convention Welcome Reception on Sunday, June 30 Convention Welcome Bag, Convention Program, Convention Name Badge, and additional welcome materials

The Westin Diplomat Resort & Spa will be our home for the 2013 GFWC Annual Convention. Conveniently nestled



between Fort Lauderdale and Miami along Florida's Gold Coast, Hollywood is famous for its palm tree-lined streets, yesteryear charm, and Broadwalk – a one-of-a-kind oceanfront promenade stretching two and a half miles along the Atlantic Ocean. Characterized by quaint sidewalk cafés, brick-lined walks, and six blocks of unique boutiques, shops, art galleries, and dozens of excellent restaurants, its downtown district is on the National Register of Historic Places and is the backdrop of year-round festivals, street markets, and entertainment. The convenient and affordable Hollywood Trolley offers a nostalgic way to get to and from the beach and downtown. Find your perfect outing and learn more about everything Hollywood has to offer here.

Book your GFWC group-discounted room by visiting the GFWC room

block page or calling 888-627-9057. GFWC's group rate is applicable for Superior, Deluxe, or Grand Deluxe rooms at \$139/night for single and double occupancy, and \$159/night for triple or quad occupancy (plus applicable taxes) from June 27-July 5, and expires on June 4. When calling, mention the 2013 GFWC Annual Convention to receive the group-discounted rate and amenities. GFWC Convention attendees receive complimentary in-room Wi-Fi, a 20% discount on golf and spa services, and complimentary access to the WestinWORKOUT® fitness center. If you are experiencing difficulties with your reservation, contact The Westin Diplomat's in-house reservation team, available Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Eastern Time, at 954-602-8700. For further assistance, contact GFWC Convention and Meetings Manager Mary Louks at 202-347-3168 ext. 117. GFWC's room block is not accessible through outside agents. Call the hotel directly, or visit GFWC's room block page.

Here and There

20 minutes from Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport
30 minutes from Miami International Airport
5 minutes to the Hollywood Beach Broadwalk
10 minutes to dining, casino, and nightlife at The Villages at Gulfstream Park
20 minutes to shopping and dining on Las Olas Boulevard and Fort Lauderdale Riverwalk

President Nancy Visits GFWC of California Winter Board Meeting

GFWC of Montana President Nancy Hanford (Pictured with GFWC California President Valerie Barnes) was a guest for one of GFWC California Winter Board meeting days in February..."I heard enthusiastic reports, attended a mini LEADS workshop and listened to their eight LEADS candidates, and enjoyed visiting with many friends and meeting new ones. I give them heartfelt thanks for the many courtesies extended to me during my stay."

Some interesting facts:

California is known as the Golden State. Montana is Big Sky Country, formerly The Treasure State. California is third largest state in square miles – 163,695.57 Montana is fourth largest at 147.042.40

California is state #1 in population with 308,745,538 as of 2012 census - Montana was 44th with 989,415

California has 12,969 clubwomen – Montana has 608 GFWC clubwomen

Both the GFWC California President, Valerie Barnes, and the GFWC of Montana President, Nancy Hanford, have Communications as a special emphasis during their administration. Both also like to stress humor to make meetings fun!

Even with all of these differences, California and Montana clubwomen are the same no matter what state we call home. We all belong to GFWC because we have a passion for making our communities a better place through volunteerism. Everyone should consider visiting a club other than your own, either in our state or when you are travelling...you never know when you will find out about a new project, hear about a remarkable club, or make a new lifelong friend!



The Gift of Membership

How often do we give ourselves a gift? It may seem that we never do, but have you considered your membership to GFWC as a gift you give yourself?

According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, a gift is a "notable capacity, talent or endowment and something voluntarily transferred by one person to another without compensation." Both of these definitions seem to describe our involvement in the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

We receive gifts of friendship and support from other GFWC members in our clubs, districts, states, regions and even around the globe. We know that we can count on friends made in Federation to be more than willing to assist us when necessary, to provide much needed moral support during times of crises, to share laughter and to share the joy of achievement. These relationships grow and flourish with our membership.

The gift of health is very precious and reports show that volunteers have greater longevity, higher functional ability, lower rates of depression and less incidence of heart disease.

Another benefit of belonging is the gift we receive in the form of opportunities to expand our horizons. Leadership and life skills accompany many of the projects and programs that we undertake. Because we said "yes" to the responsibilities of being a member, we find ourselves meeting important people, traveling to interesting places, doing something we never thought we would or even could and making wonderful memories. From a famous movie, we hear that "winter must be cold for those with no warm memories." GFWC provides us with possibilities and warm memories that are endless gifts.

Our communities participate in this gift to ourselves because they allow us to do what we can to fulfill the mission of GFWC. We are given opportunities for volunteer action. The gift is in the giving to enhance the lives of those in our community. Our continued membership in GFWC is a gift that perpetually improves the quality of our lives. Maintain your membership status and stay involved. And while we're about it, we shouldn't be selfish by keeping this wonderful Federation to ourselves! Share the gift by encouraging others to reap the benefits of belonging to an outstanding international organization.

Remember, a gift is "a notable capacity, talent or endowment" and "something voluntarily transferred by one person to another without compensation." Our neighbors, friends and family have gifts to share with our communities and we know that belonging to a GFWC club is the perfect way for them to do so. Strengthen your membership, your club and your community. Share the gift that keeps on giving – GFWC!

Vicki Holden's article in the California Clubwoman Winter 2012 Issue , reprinted from North Carolina Clubwoman Π

Dates to Remember

April 1 April 21-24	The World in Pictures and GFWC Voluteers in Action photos due to GFWC of MT Photography Chair Jamie Fuchs Volunteers in Action Week
April 24	Federation Day
May 15	A Year in Pictures (Calendar Photo) due to GFWC Headquarters
June 1	Spring "Pump Up Your Members" membership report due to GFWC Headquarters and to Joyce Rogers
June 1	Jennie Award nominations due to Jean Carroll Thompson
June 30 - July 2 July 1:	120th GFWC Annual International Convention, Hollywood, Florida Dues are due to GFWC of Montana

the GFWC Montana Woman	The GFWC Montana Woman is published by the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Montana and is an Official Publication of GFWC of Montana. The subscription price is included in the annual dues. Periodical postage is paid at Plains, MT.
The GFWC Montana Woman Executive Editor Nancy Hanford GFWC of Montana President Box 1293 Fort Benton, MT 59442 4849nan@mtintouch.net	Return Service to: The GFWC Montana Woman c/o Membership Chairman/Circulation Manager Joyce Rogers Box 2778 Columbia Falls, MT 59912
Editor Mary Lou Hermes pln3392@blackfoot.net	

Publisher The Printery, Plains, MT