

# the Montana Woman

*Soar with Eagles*  
2016 - 2018



**Autumn, 2017**

Volume 55

Issue 6

## *GFWC of Montana Executive Committee*

President

Joyce Hooper

772 Paige Lane, Corvallis, Montana 59828

joyhoop@q.com

406-961-3930 (home), 406-381-1201 (cell)

President Elect, Membership Chairman

Joyce DeCunzo

5420 Peaks View Drive, Helena, MT 59602

jrdecunzo@gmail.com 406-933-5962 (home),

406-439-0076 (cell)

1st Vice-President, Dean of Departments

Florence Diede

535 Johnson Lane, Billings, MT 59101

fdiede@bresnan.net

406-245-4998 (home), 406-861-1681 (cell)

Recording Secretary

Marsha Price

2623 Terrace Drive, Billings 59102

askmap@gmail.com

259 9750 (home), 698 6946 (cell)

Treasurer

Karen Gustavsen

Box 876, Thompson Falls 59873

609 471 0476 (cell)

karengus@verizon.net

Budget & Finance Chairman

Adina Fox

42942 Sky Lane, Ronan, Montana 59864

adinaf@ronan.net

406-253-1774 (cell)

Corresponding Secretary

Cathy McCormick

1133 Meridian Road, Victor 59875

961 8492 (home), 381 7568 (cell)

cathym@montanamadeonline.com

Parliamentary Advisor

Vurnie Kaye Barnett

Box 186, Ennis, Montana 59729

vurniek@gmail.com

406-579-9485 (cell)

406-682-6862 Ext 2271 (work)

## *On the cover ~*

The Montana delegation at the Western States Conference in Helena - so many of us that some are in the dark in the cover picture.

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## ***NEXT WSR CONFERENCE - LAS VEGAS - SEPTEMBER 13 - 16, 2018***

**Raffle opportunity** for a \$200  
Credit to be used for Registration,  
Meals, Tours

---\$10 for one ticket or

\$20 for three tickets -

Hosted by GFWC Nevada Federation

The lucky winner gets \$200.

***Let's have a Montana winner!***

If you would like to purchase, please  
contact Joyce Hooper, [joyhoop@q.com](mailto:joyhoop@q.com)

## *The Montana Woman*



*Let's Make it a  
Date!*

### *Important Dates for 2018*

#### **January 1 to February 28 ~**

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

#### **February 5 ~**

Reports are due to Florence Diede,  
Dean of Departments & to GFWC of  
Montana President Joyce Hooper

#### **March 3 ~**

LEADS applications due to GFWC  
of Montana President Joyce Hooper

#### **March 15 ~**

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

#### **April 20-22,**

**GFWC Montana Biennial  
Convention**

Great Northern - Helena, MT

#### **June 23-26**

GFWC International Convention -  
St. Louis, MO

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

Mail or e-mail news and photographs to:

Mary Lou Hermes, Editor

Box 133, Paradise, MT 59856

pln3392@blackfoot.net

406-826-3392

Mail or e-mail change of address to:

GFWC of Montana Membership Chairman

Joyce DeCunzo

5420 Peaks View Drive, Helena, MT 59602

jrdecunzo@gmail.com

406-933-5962 (home) 406-439-0076 (cell)



A bevy of GFWC Western States Presidents pose on the sweeping staircase at the Helena Raddison Hotel, where the Western States Convention was held this fall. This issue is packed with pictures from that very fine event.

Our website address: check it out!  
[www.gfwcmontana.org](http://www.gfwcmontana.org)



Dear GFWC Sisters,

## From the President

Fall is here, the trees are glowing with yellows and reds. The leaves are starting to drop. What a beautiful time; it's time for Pumpkin bread, hot apple pie with ice cream. Fall is a special time and so are you! Over 60 Montana ladies helped to make

growth. We need to continue to solicit members and reach our goal of a 20% increase in membership. Remember to submit an application for that special volunteer person in your club for "LEADS." Attend club meetings and continue the volunteer spirit.

Thank you to those who have given to the Montana Hope Project. Please continue working on this project. Let's bring smiles to kids and reach our goal for 2018.

Don't forget to remember those who have had so many disasters throughout the country these past few months. We wish that in 2018 their troubles are few.

Keep the volunteer spirit going, "Soar with eagles and fly to your highest."

In closing I wish you a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas. May the New Year bring you prosperity and happiness.

Yours in Federation,  
*Joyce*

the WSR conference a success. We had so many living the volunteer spirit. There were also a lot of women behind the scenes who were not able to attend the conference. I have received numerous thanks for such a wonderful WSR Conference. To you GFWC Montana ladies I say thank you - without you we could not have made this happen. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

As we start the end of 2017 and begin 2018 please remember to get ready for what is ahead; let's not forget to write a report when the project is completed. Membership plays an important role in our clubs



What a privilege and a pleasure it is to be part of a plan to make impossible wishes come true for children who might not have much hope for living! Your club, GFWC of Montana, is on the last lap of a race to provide as many children as possible a chance to get beyond their daily struggles and experience something they've always thought impossible.

Raffle tickets are still available for two great prizes: first, an adventurous float trip down the Bitterroot River for two people, a prize which includes two nights lodging at the Town House Inn in Hamilton. Second, there's a beautiful hand made quilt waiting for a lucky winner. Drawing for these prizes will happen at our spring convention. It's not too late to get those tickets! Or, as a matter of fact, to do any other creative fundraising your club can come up with!

Our website: check it out! [www.gfwcmontana.org](http://www.gfwcmontana.org)

## **Reports, Reports, Reports!**

It is a pleasure to share with GFWC members that at the GFWC MT Fall meeting in September your representatives learned that most club members had enough information to write a report regarding a club event held since January 2017. Reporting is really quite exciting, as we know each club does many things to improve their community. Reporting is our way to share these great contributions so that other clubs may replicate events to help their communities. Reporting is how we help our members feel valued. Sharing these reports with the local paper and at club meetings helps grow membership.

Early in January Club Presidents are asked to send reports to GFWC MT. Each president is asked to submit reports and narratives and complete a club statistical page.

### ***BUT what do we have to know to report?***

*What projects has your club completed this year?*

Try this: At the November club meeting have members brainstorm events your club has had since January and make a list of all of the events. Remember: guest speakers, activities, workdays and major events.

\*Determine which GFWC Department the event best fits. (Arts, Conservation, Education, Home Life, International Affairs, Public Issues) or Special Projects (Advocates for Children, Fundraising, Communication/PR, Domestic Violence Awareness, Leadership, Membership and History and Resource)

*Continued on page 6*

## **Membership Matters!**

For the last few days I have struggled to think of something to say about membership that hasn't been said many times before. We have shared strategies, given encouragement, voiced how much we need to grow our memberships. There are volumes of information about this subject on the Internet for everyone to view. We all talk a lot about recruitment and retention of volunteers. What more can I add to this bank of knowledge?

I attend a health club several times a week. There is a sign in the lobby that always displays some saying to encourage people to work hard and keep at it if they want to be healthy. Today, I really needed some advice and I found it. The message read: If you think you can, you are halfway there.

Such a straightforward and simple message. To me, it goes hand-in-hand with Nike's "Just do It" slogan. The formula for getting and keeping volunteers looks like this: first, believe you can do it and second, just go do it already!

It's not enough to know the strategies and it's not enough to continue to talk about it. Action is the only sure way to get and keep volunteers. I'm going to try living this saying and invite you join me. Remember, there's still time to reach that 20% goal!

*Joyce DeCunzo  
Membership Chairman*

## **Hone your Leadership Skills!**

Are you a club member who has enjoyed serving on numerous club projects, has chaired a few of them, and are getting hints that you could move into more responsibility in your club, or possibly in the District or State. Are you feeling a little hesitant, thinking you don't have the skill to be a club or state leader? If you are, do consider applying for the outstanding training opportunity that comes each year at the International Convention in June. There you will hobnob with the best of the best while you learn new leadership skills and become even more enthusiastic about our great GFWC. Each state gets to send one person to this training. Why not you?

There's an application on page 15. Think about filling it out!



*Our website address: check it out!  
[www.gfwcmontana.org](http://www.gfwcmontana.org)*

## **Reporting**, continued from page 5

\*Determine which committee chairwoman or member knows enough about the event to write 100+ words to report on the event. Ask a committee chairwoman or member to write the report including the following items.

Who in your community was affected by the event?

Include the dollars spent and/or received

Include the amount of time given to prepare, execute and conclude the event. (Volunteer Hours)

Write the 100+ word report and deliver the report to your club president at the beginning of January.

As club members, we can help our sweet presidents with reporting by willingly preparing reports no matter how small or elaborate the event!

Here is a straight-forward sample narrative involving Advocates and March of Dimes Blanket new project:

*The \_\_\_\_\_ Club of (City)\_\_\_\_\_, MT donated \_\_\_\_\_ (total number donated) hand-made baby blankets to military families through March of Dimes Mission: Healthy Baby program. Baby blankets are provided to military families through Baby Showers thrown by March of Dimes to show support for these families. Club members spent \$\_\_\_\_\_ on supplies used for the baby blankets and reported volunteering \_\_\_\_\_ hours for this project. (65 words)*

From all the club event reports, Club Presidents will choose up to 10 projects in each area to include in their state report. (GFWC Department (Arts, Conservation, Education, Home Life, International Affairs, Public Issues) or Special Projects (Advocates for Children, Fundraising, Communication/PR, Domestic Violence Awareness, Leadership, Membership and History and Resource)

From the submitted club event reports, Club Presidents will select one project in each area to feature and submit a one-page narrative using the information from the member report. This is the place to elaborate and even add pictures. If you have events in all GFWC areas, you will have 12+ separate reports. Each area report will have up to 10 listed projects with 1 attached

narrative.

The Club Presidents will compile and send the reports including the narratives from each area to GFWC MT First-Vice President, Florence Diede. She will distribute the club reports to GFWC MT Department or Special Projects Committee Chairmen to prepare for GFWC International.

Thank you each for helping to be sure that YOUR CLUB reports are received by GFWC MT First Vice President.

DEFINITIONS (taken from GFWC 2016-2018 manual)

**Community Service Projects** are the programs and projects members initiate and participate in to serve their communities, including projects with GFWC Partners.

**Number of Projects** is the numerical account of the programs and projects initiated and participated in by the clubs in your State.

**Volunteer Hours** is the amount of time that members worked on club-approved programs and projects.

**Dollars Donated** is the monetary amount given to programs and projects.

**In-Kind Donations** reflect the monetary value for goods provided to programs and projects.

Please refer to the GFWC In-Kind Donation Guide for an estimated value of commonly donated items at [www.GFWC.org](http://www.GFWC.org).

**Dollars Spent** are costs incurred by members, clubs, ...

**Dollars Raised** reflects the dollars earned from fundraising and development programs and projects.

*Submitted by GFWC MT First Vice President  
Florence Diede*

## THE CHALLENGE

### GFWC INTERNATIONAL PROJECT RUNWAY

*Submitted by Lynn Foreman, GFWC Madison Valley Woman's Club,  
GFWC State of Montana Community Service Program Chairman - Arts*

I issued a challenge at the GFWC State of Montana Board of Directors Meetings for our Clubs to participate in the Project Runway contest sponsored by GFWC International. Several clubs in attendance accepted the challenge. I would like to encourage the clubs that were not represented to join in the fun. Project Runway is a Conservation Project (and as GFWC State of Montana Community Services Program Arts Chairman – I think it is also an Arts project). The contest is to create an outfit out of recyclable bags. See examples below. Each State is encouraged to enter the contest. **Only 1 (ONE) entry per State.** . **PLEASE DO NOT SEND IN AN OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM TO GF WC INTERNATIONAL.** The winner will be announced at the GFWC International Convention June 23 – 26 in St Louis, Missouri. The State of Montana Entry will be selected at the GFWC of Montana Biennial Convention, April 20 – 22, 2018 in Helena; and the GFWC International State entry form will be submitted by Joyce Hooper, GFWC Montana President.



Here are the rules:

- The entire outfit must be made of recyclable bags.
- There is flexibility in how the outfit is put together (sewn, duck-tape, glue)
- A photograph of the outfit on your club member model(s)

Notify Lynn Foreman [Foreman.LNJ@gmail.com](mailto:Foreman.LNJ@gmail.com) by April 10<sup>th</sup> of your intent to enter, or mail to P.O. Box 647 Ennis, MT 59729. Include:

- Name of Club
- Write a brief description – story of your entry
- Bring the outfit and photo on your model; and if possible your model to the GFWC of Montana Biennial Convention (if your club is unable to attend, but would still be interested in participating – send the photo on your model to Lynn Foreman at the above address by the April 10<sup>th</sup> deadline).

Get those creative juices going and participate.



Our website: check it out! [www.gfwcmontana.org](http://www.gfwcmontana.org)

# Everybody's Talking about The 2017 WSR Conference



For those who worked so hard to make it happen

*Thank You!*

for making

**GFWC MONTANA  
PROUD!**



# GFWC of Montana Fall Board Meeting

## September 23-24

GFWC of Montana did itself proud as hosts - (hostesses?) of the September Western States Conference in Helena. There were so many of us that we almost filled the magnificent curving staircase at the Radisson, where the convention was held. In the cover picture some of us appear to be in the dark - believe me, nobody was in the dark! Everybody in the know, and working to support the Country Store, as well as seeing that the banquet and meeting rooms were both hospitable and decorative for every group program.

We were proud to be able to elect our candidate for Western States Treasurer, Sandi Conrady, who won the election by a landslide.



Marsha Price, Shirley Weisgerber, and Dixie Hertel confer in a corner of the successful Country Store.

9/14/17

Dear Joyce,

My thanks & Congratulations to you and all the Montana Clubwomen who made the 2017 WSR such a successful Conference! I have had many compliments - all thanks to your hardworking ladies. Everyone enjoyed the tours, the meals, the tote bags, the entertainment, and the hospitality. Special thanks to Wayne & Nick for the Boosters activities;

to Nancy & Florence for all their help, to Cathy Keagy for the unforgettable start to the conference & the beautiful blanket, to everyone for State Night, and of course to Adina & Cathy for all the hard work and planning. You are an amazing group of women! You have my deep appreciation.

In federation  
friendship,  
Cathi Boer, WSR President  
2016-2018



In an impressive Native American ceremony, Cathy Henry presented International President Sheila Shea with a blanket.



Cathi Poer, Western States President, poses with our own Dixie Hertel



Talented young Irish dancers entertained at a banquet



Time to line up for the grand processional into the dining room! Adina Fox, Florence Diede, and Carlene Garner, past International President 2010-2012, smile at the camera. In the background: Joyce Hooper.



We could always find our guide, Terry Kockler, on the pre-convention tours, thanks to her headdress!



Every State Delegation posed for pictures on the Radisson's elegant curved staircase. For the most part it was a smooth process; sometimes there were as many photographers at the bottom of the steps as there were women posing. Not so the Montana delegation!



A group of Madison Valley members present President Joyce with a fabulous carved eagle.



President Joyce is flanked by Adina Fox and Cathy McCormick, who display certificates for planning the Western States Conference for the past two years.



Past Presidents Joyce Rogers and Nancy Hanford smile for the camera prior to the gala Saturday night banquet



The country store was buzzing with customers as soon as it opened, proving to be a successful fund raiser



Every table at the Saturday night gala banquet was set with hand painted tiles, each one unique, and each with an eagle somewhere in the picture. This table of ladies clearly appreciated their pieces of art.

Tina Bair, WA; Barabara Lerma, CA; Martha Curwen, WA, Mary Accettura, Kathie Jorgensen, WA, Betty MacMaster, WA, Jeanette Jester, WA

Newly elected Western States Treasurer, Sandi Conrady beams for the camera



Nancy Hanford and Barbara Hogg check on a table of Montana folk.

# The Madison Valley Womans Club had a GREAT TIME at WSR!

The Madison Valley Womans Club had a GREAT TIME at the WSR in Helena!! Of the members pictured, six were First Timers to a Western States Region conference. Comments from this group:

WOW  
Amazing  
Fun  
Very Educational  
THANK YOU

Thoroughly enjoyed every day  
Can't wait to attend another WSR  
Everyone was SO FRIENDLY  
Made all of us feel welcomed!  
Great to meet GFWC sisters from the 9 other Western States  
Very interesting programs  
Kim Montag was asked to introduce the procession on Friday night, a real honor!

Volunteering in the Gift Shop allowed Kim and Toni to meet many attendees from the Western States. MVWC wants to thank GFWC MT President Joyce Hooper, Adina Fox, Cathy McCormick and all the committees for the beautiful job they did, hosting such a large gathering in fine fashion. And to the Billings Club: we LOVE our unique fabric bags, what a treat!  
THANK YOU ALL!!



First row: Lynn Foreman, Terry Engel and Toni Scully  
Second row: Vurnie Kaye Barnett, Connie Ellerman, Kim Montag and MVWC President Sandra Perez



It's a Wrap! President Joyce promised that the official Montana State meeting would take only an hour on Sunday morning following Western States. She did it! Above is the closing circle, singing Let there Be Peace on Earth.



# Club News

## *Helena and Townsend Enjoy Annual Joint Meeting*

The picture at right is from the Fall joint meeting of the Helena and Townsend clubs. We join together twice a year, and it's always fun to see each other again. This year, we met at the Big Bull restaurant in Winston, MT. There were 8 members of GFWC Canton Valley and 4 members from GFWC Helena Woman's Club.

Pictured is Janet Riddle and her mother Lorraine Woodring. Janet was the guest speaker for the luncheon. Janet and her husband currently live in the Dominican Republic where her husband is employed. However, they are long time residents of Townsend and are renovating a house there that will be their retirement home. Janet gave us all a vivid picture of life in the Dominican Republic. Her stories about the people showed how different their lifestyles are from what we know here. It was an excellent program.

*Joyce DeCunzo*



Pictured left to right: Lorraine Woodring, guest and mother of the guest speaker; Canton Valley members Mary Lou Shields, Bonnie Berglund and Eileen Perry, a new member.

Attending from Helena were Sandi Conrady, Beth Campbell, Bobbie Conrady and Joyce DeCunzo.



## *Juniorette Club Forming in Billings!*

Bev Silkwood and Becky McGill met with four of six high school girls at the Billings Public Library in early September to discuss the forming of a Juniorettes Club. The Club is in its formative stages at this point. The girls had several suggestions as to activities and places to meet. It was decided to meet again on Saturday, October 7th, to complete about fifty comfort pillows, and to make kits for sewing of comfort pillows to be distributed to three middle schools. Five of our Juniorettes were present, along with several adults to help with sewing and stuffing of the pillows, and the assembly of the kits. Bev and Becky provided treats for the two meetings. We estimate we assembled three hundred kits, and have material left over for making more kits in the future. It was a very productive session, with lots of conversation and laughter. Our next meeting will be the first part of December, project to be determined.

*Becky McGill*

*Our website address: check it out!*  
[www.gfwcmontana.org](http://www.gfwcmontana.org)



## *Deerlodge Celebrates 127 years of service*



The Deerlodge club was organized in 1890 by Alma Margaret Higgins, and the clubhouse was built in 1910. It is the first clubhouse in the nation still used and operating as a clubhouse! The club's favorite project, since 1996, has been the "New To You" store in the center of town. Volunteers give over \$9,000 a year to benefit community service non-profit organizations. The shop also fills the need for a place to purchase fine used clothing.

### *Conference Addendum!*



Bitterroot members, Margaret Sharp and Pat Tipps enjoying Saturday night Banquet.



Janet Cole, Barbara Hogg, Sheila Shea, Joyce Hooper, Mary Ellen Brock and Linda Altwine.

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Above information should be concealed during judging process

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

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

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

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

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Are you willing to:

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

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

\*If more space is needed, please complete answers on reverse side of this form. Return copy of this form and two letters of support from active GFWC club members by March 1, 2018 to:

GFWC of MONTANA STATE PRESIDENT

Joyce Hooper

772 Paige Lane, Corvallis, MT 59828