

the Montana



Woman



Soar with Eagles
2016 - 2018



Spring, 2018
Volume 55
Issue 7

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On the cover ~

GFWC of Montana has spent 2016-2018

Soaring Like Eagles,

straight toward our goals!

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It's a Used Jewelry sale!

GFWC PDQ's are once again sponsoring their famous Used Jewelry Sale during our GFWC Convention this coming April. Your help as Montana Clubwomen is needed to make a success of this fundraiser. It is a good time to do some spring cleaning of your jewelry and get it to Helena at convention. Of course, this will also be an opportunity to replenish your just cleaned out jewelry box! This can only work with your donations. The PDQ's are looking forward to having a great time at convention. See you there!



Let's Make it a Date, 2018

- * **March 1** – Community Improvement Contest – Please send this report to Florence Diede
- * **March 5** – Leads applications due to Joyce Hooper
- * **March 15** – Entries for Website, & Newsletters Contests
- * **April 1** – World in Pictures & GFWC Volunteers in Action – Please send these to Joyce Hooper
- * **April 10** – The Challenge GFWC International Project Runway (Outfit from recyclable bags) – Notify Lynne Foreman of your intent to enter – see story at right.
- * **April 20-22** – GFWC Montana Biennial Convention
Great Northern Hotel- Helena, MT
- * **April 24** – Federation Day – 128th Anniversary
- * **May 15** – A Year in Pictures (Calendar Photo) due to GFWC Headquarters
- * **June 22** – Leads Seminar – St. Louis, Missouri
- * **June 23-26** – 126th GFWC International Convention, St. Louis, Missouri

The Montana Woman

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

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Conservation Challenge GFWC Style Project Runway Club Entry Reminder



Please join the fun by creating and submitting a Club entry. Project Runway is a Conservation Project (and as GFWC State of Montana Community Services Program Arts Chairman – Lynn Foreman thinks it is also an Arts project).

The contest is to create an outfit out of recyclable bags. See examples of bags below, right. Each State is encouraged to enter the contest. **Only 1 (ONE) entry per State.** . **PLEASE DO NOT SEND IN AN OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM TO GFWC INTERNATIONAL.**

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. Notify Lynn Foreman Foreman.LNJ@gmail.com by April 10th 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 10th deadline). . Deadline is April 10th.



From the President



To My Dear GFWC Montana Friends,

As we look at 2016-2018, it is my pleasure to close the years with so many of your accomplishments.

Everyone has worked very hard to make all their projects a success and looking at the

numbers I have received, "You have been just great!"

Oh what fun we have had and we should continue to have that fun and enjoyment throughout the next few months. At the Western States Convention this past September, Montana had 60 members in attendance. I would be very proud to close out the 2016-2018 Biennial Convention with that huge number. Mark your calendar for April 20th and 21st when we will be able to meet once again. We have so many great things planned. I know you would not want to miss out. Our International President Sheila Shea will be our guest and install our new State President, Joyce DeCunzo along with her executive board.

Our membership has grown from 556 members in 2016 to 590 at present. What an accomplishment. Thank you for making this happen.

"The Montana Hope Project" has truly been a success. Our primary goal has been reached and the more money we receive the more children we can help. Continue to buy those tickets for the river float and quilt. We are working on helping two families to get their wish. Without everyone's participation this would not happen. Yes, we will make children's wishes come true. Thanks for all your support on this project.

A leads candidate is a wonderful opportunity for an active club's member! It would be rewarding if we could have every club submit a form for a leads candidate. We have so many great volunteers and what a joy it would be for Montana to have multiple candidates apply. Every club has that special someone sitting there in their group waiting to be asked.

We have soared like eagles these past two years. Let's keep soaring these next few months and let the eagle land on a very high note.

Yours in Federation,
Joyce

Montana Hope Project Update: Winter 2018



Wow! Can you believe the 2016 - 2018 GFWC of Montana Presidents Project: Montana Hope Project is nearly wrapped up? Yes, the time does go by so quick-

ly. It's amazing to see all of you ladies step up with raising funds for this special project. Whether your clubs hold local fund-raisers and/or the selling of raffle tickets, you all have gone above and beyond once again. Thank you. As my term comes to a close this April as your Presidents Special Project Chairman, I want to say what a privilege it has been to be a part of team of ladies on a bigger level than my local club. We really can make a difference.

The final drawing for this years ticket raffle will be held at the Biennial Convention in Helena this April. If your clubs still have tickets remaining, please do continue selling them. If you unable to attend the convention please mail ticket stubs and checks to Sandi Lane, PO Box 561, Plains, MT 59859 no later than April 10, 2018. First prize is an adventure filled float trip for (2) down the Bitterroot River. Included in the grand prize package is (2) nights lodging with continental breakfast. Second prize will be a hand made quilt made by one of our very own G.F.W.C. members. Thank you again ladies for all of the help with our Presidents Special Project: Montana Hope Project.

By Sandi Lane
Presidents Special Project Chairperson

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

**OFFICIAL CALL TO THE
2018 GFWC MONTANA
BIENNIAL CONVENTION
APRIL 20-21, 2018**



Best Western Premier – Great Northern Hotel
835 Great Northern Blvd. Helena, Montana
Phone: 406 457-5500

Rooms: \$138.00 dbl. Queen (plus taxes)
King - \$148.00 (plus taxes)
King Feature - \$158 (plus taxes)

WHEN REGISTERING - PLEASE REFER TO “GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN’S CLUBS”

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST IS AVAILABLE FOR THOSE REGISTERED.

HOTEL REGISTRATION RATE DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2018
(NO GUARANTEE OF ROOM OR PRICE AFTER THAT DATE)

FUN FILLED CONVENTION –

LET’S HAVE FUN – ENJOY OUR FELLOW CLUBS and begin 2018 with excitement, fellowship, and volunteer spirit. International President, Sheila Shea will join us as our guest. Attire will be business casual and evening wear.

We are going to **“Soar with Eagles”** — fly high and enjoy being members of GFWC Montana. **GFWC Montana Clubs and Members are asked to bring a basket or special fundraiser item for auction with colors of red, white and blue. Please bring jewelry because PDQ’s are planning on a “Jewelry Boutique”.**

GFWC Montana Bylaws

Article XII – Conventions

Section 12. 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 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 p.m. on the day preceding the election.

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

Introducing International President Sheila Shea, Guest of Honor at GFWC Montana's Upcoming Spring Convention



Sheila E. Shea was installed as GFWC International President at the conclusion of the 2016 GFWC Annual Convention in Baltimore, Maryland on June 29, 2016.

An active and dedicated member of the Federation for over 43 years, Sheila has served her local GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club, GFWC of Massachusetts Junior Membership, GFWC of Massachusetts, and GFWC extremely well in her many leadership positions. During her 22 years on the GFWC Board of Directors, she also served as President-elect, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Leadership Chairman, Aide to the Director of Junior Clubs, and on the Fundraising and Leadership Committees, and represented her state as State President and Director of Junior Clubs.

Sheila's leadership positions in GFWC of Massachusetts include State President; First and Second Vice President; Treasurer; Counselor to Junior Membership; and Chairman of CIP, Finance, Headquarters Commission, Memorial Education Fund, and Long Range Planning. Her fifteen years of continuous service to GFWC of Massachusetts Junior Membership included Director; Assistant Director; Recording Secretary; Treasurer; District Representative; Parliamentary Advisor; and Chairman of Meetings, Membership, and Nominating.

Utilizing leadership skills developed through her membership in GFWC, Sheila has served her community with distinction as President of the Jaworek Home and School Association, Treasurer of the Marlborough High School All Sports Booster Club, Secretary of the Marlborough Youth Soccer Association, and member of the Marlborough Boys and Girls Club Board of Directors.

Sheila is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts/Amherst with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. She retired from her position as Grants/Finance Manager in her local school district with over twenty-six years of service. She is an avid sports fan and enjoys her summers relaxing on the beach in Kennebunk, Maine. A life-long Massachusetts resident, she and her husband, Steve, have been married for forty-five years and have two grown sons, a daughter-in-law, and newborn granddaughter. Sheila credits them for the love and unselfish support she has had over the years to be able to take advantage of the incredible opportunities that have been afforded to her through her membership in GFWC. She has also had the unwavering support of so many members from her state and is comfortable both as a leader and a follower in her long career as a GFWC volunteer.

Because of her warm, friendly, and enthusiastic personality; high standards of excellence and accountability; proven creative and compassionate leadership qualities; outstanding and business-oriented organizational skills; and passionate dedication to GFWC, its mission, and its ideals; Sheila brings a unique leadership style to her new role as the fifty-first GFWC International President.

GFWC Montana 2018 Biennial Convention Registration

April 20-21, 2018

Please send one copy for each person attending

Name: _____

Address/Phone Number _____

GFWC Montana Position(s): _____

State, District and or Club

Club Name: _____ District: Western Central Eastern

Please note any dietary considerations: _____

Convention Registration Fee \$38 _____

Friday, April 20

Dinner

Chicken Hunter – Seasoned Chicken Breast served w/mushrooms
Peppers, onions, bacon, ham and tomato in a bordelaise sauce,
Rolls, Vegetables, Wild Rice, Caesar Salad, Beverage
Dessert, Lemon Ricotta Bar

\$35 _____

Saturday, April 21

Lunch

Cold Cut Grinder Buffet – Turkey Club or Ham & Cheese,
Kettle, Garden Pasta Salad and Beverage

\$22 _____

Dinner

New York Strip Steak – NY Angus strip with brandy
Peppercorn cream sauce, Rolls, Vegetables,
Roasted Red Potatoes, Salad, Beverage, Dessert, Tiramisu

\$50 _____

All prices include gratuities

TOTAL _____

Registration Deadline: Postmarked by March 23rd 2018

NO REFUNDS will be given after March 30th, 2018

Make Checks payable to GFWC Montana

Mail Registration form and check to:

Cathy McCormick

1133 Meridian Road

Victor, MT 59875

406-961-8492

cathym@montanamadeonline.com

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

Presenting Your GFWC of Montana Officer Candidates!



*Joyce DeCunzo,
candidate for GFWC of
Montana President*

Joyce became a member of the GFWC Helena Woman's Club in 2007, just a few months before her retirement. Shortly after joining, she was

appointed by Susan Macartney as co-chair of the President's project, the Chapel Challenge. Since then, she has held several 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 has held the GFWC MT positions of Treasurer, First Vice President and President Elect.

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.

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.



*Our website address:
check it out!*

www.gfwcmontana.org

*Florence Diede,
candidate for
President Elect*



Florence Diede has been a member of GFWC/Billings Junior Woman's Club for the last thirteen years. At the club level, she has served as secretary, president-elect, club president, and chair-

man for several committees. She continues to serve as Chairman for Advocates for Children and the Leadership Committee. The Advocates for Children Committee participates in the Festival for the Family Tree Center, coordinates the sewing and distribution of over 100 dresses made from used pillowcases and supports the Youth Service Center. As Leadership Chairman, Florence presents a Leadership club activity each year, encourages each member to join a club committee, and serve in executive roles. She assists club member to attend Eastern District, GFWC Montana, WSR and GFWC meetings.

GFWC of Montana Eastern District offices have included treasurer and president. GFWC of Montana past positions have been Communication/Identity Chairman, Women's History Chairman, Convention Chairman, Corresponding Secretary and Recording Secretary. At this time she is serving as First Vice President. Florence's work in this wide variety of duties continues to prepare her to serve in other capacities on the GFWC-MT Board.

After nearly thirty years of teaching, Florence retired to a very busy life of being a grandmother to five grandsons, one granddaughter and now a great grandson. Volunteering at Yellowstone CASA for twelve years has helped realize the dreams of adoption of multiple children. Florence enjoys sewing while taking on challenging machine embroidery projects. Florence is an active member of her congregation serving in the Relief Society leadership, planning activities for women.

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



***Lynn Foreman,
Candidate for
1st Vice President***

Lynn Foreman moved with her husband Jud (whom she lost last October), to Ennis from the San Francisco Bay Area in 2005, and joined the Madison Valley Women's Club in 2007, upon retirement (first time). She was elected to Vice President in 2008, followed by President Elect in 2009, and then served as club President in 2010 & 2011. She was elected again to serve as President in 2014, followed by filling the President Elect position in 2015 when the incumbent moved. She held the State of Montana Central District President position 2012-2014; and since then has held two state program chairmanships.

Lynn is also the President of the Ennis Senior Center Board of Directors, which was formed in 2015, and opened the center six months later. She has found it

to be a rewarding experience to provide for the seniors of Ennis and the surrounding communities with a single paid employee and supported by dedicated volunteers.

Lynn was born in Wisconsin, moved to California at age 10. She worked at Stanford University Medical Center for 29 years, beginning in a weekend part-time clerical position; followed by supervisor and management positions and eventually became the Stanford University Hospital's Chief Information Officer. She served as the first Chairman of the University Hospital's Consortium CIO Council; and served on Healthcare Information Technology advisory boards, and associations. She left Stanford and became an independent healthcare consultant.

She has two sons, a seventeen year old granddaughter and fifteen year old grandson in California; and a step-daughter who is an M.D./PhD Oncologist in Seattle.

Lynn is really looking forward to serving on the Executive Board and making a contribution.

***Karen Gustavsen,
Candidate for Treasurer***

Karen has been a Federated Club Woman since 1975. During that time, she has held membership in 2 Junior Clubs, 3 Women's Clubs, and 2 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 and is completing her first term as state treasurer in addition to having served 4 years as club secretary.

Employed as office manager by Montana Dakota Services in Thompson Falls, her current obligations include human resources, accounts payable, accounts receivable, and contract management. For 20 years she was the Operations Director of a 501(c)3 day-care center.

Married for 47 years, John and Karen are parents of grown daughters Katie and Emily.



***Marsha Hotchkiss,
Candidate for
Secretary***

I was born and raised in Red Lodge, MT (except for a few years spent in Los Angeles). After graduation I went to Montana State University and earned a BS in Nursing. I then worked in hospitals in Texas, Washington, California and Montana before I decided to really travel and became a "traveling nurse" for 3 years before returning to Billings, Montana. I retired from Billings Clinic in 2013 and continue to travel as often as possible, but for fun these days!

I joined Billings Junior Woman's Club in the fall of 2013 and was the Montana LEADS candidate in 2015. I have been the ESO chair for 4 years and am currently the President-elect for our club. I was honored to be asked to be the coordinator for the "Country Store" at Western States Conference this past September. It was so nice to get to meet so many club members and I am truly grateful for everyone's contributions and help to make it such a successful fund-raising event.



Club Membership Retention

Seems like we all spend a lot of time recruiting new members. It is certainly important for us to continually get new members, who bring new ideas and a freshness to the work we do.

Equally important, though, is keeping the members we have. They lend experience and leadership to all our projects. They understand the work of the organization and are great teachers for those new members we recruit.

The GFWC Membership Quarterly lists these important practices your club can implement to enhance your retention rates:

- Engage your members – Members who are actively participating in their club activities are those who will likely continue their membership. Engaged members participate in club activities, meetings, events, projects and club leadership. They feel a strong attachment to their club because they enjoy the friendships and fellowship that come with being a member of a woman's club. Methods of engagement include making members feel appreciated, establishing a mentoring program, requesting feedback from members about the direction/activities of the club, and encouraging members to assume leadership roles in projects.
- Know why members leave – Clubs need to determine when and why members leave their club. Once clubs determine when and why members are leaving,

they need to generate strategies for keeping members. Clubs should then develop an action plan to retain membership. Discuss how to address areas of weakness and build on what the club is already doing well.

- The first year member – Identify these members and develop a plan that will involve them in a project or committee that interests them. Ask them for feedback. Assign mentors.
- Club leadership – Some clubs lose members because they fail to assign responsibilities to a variety of members or current long-time members continually take leadership roles. An effective club will delegate responsibilities to give more members the opportunity for service and recognition and provide opportunities for all members to use their talents and leadership skills.
- Club activities – Clubs with a wide variety of activities will motivate a greater number of members than the club with limited projects.

For more information on retention strategies, access the Membership Advancement Guide on the GFWC website at www.gfwc.org. Look for “GFWC Resources” on the homepage, and then click on “M” to find the Guide and a variety of membership tools.

Joyce DeCunzo



LEADS Might Be For You! ***Here's What Last Year's LEADS Candidate*** ***Has to Say About It***

Attending Leads in California was very informative for me and fun. Before attending I didn't really realize how large the Woman's Club was and how much it accomplishes. Being an international meeting, we had people from as far away as Aruba, and most of the 50 states were represented. I joined Woman's Club for the lunches and getting out to meet others, so I was amazed at how many you could meet and how far you could go. Also the Woman's Club helps so many non-profit organizations.

They pushed so much information at us in so short of a time it was overwhelming, but it was accompanied by fun activities and you learned

so much. We may not be a political affiliate but there are so many of us that we do have a way to help in the guiding of our future and the future of the world. LEADS does help you as much as you want. It is up to you to absorb what matters to you and if nothing else you come away with new friends and new ideas to help your local clubs.

Margaret Storoy

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

GFWC INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION, 2018 JUNE 22-26, 2018



ST. LOUIS UNION STATION DOUBLETREE BY HILTON ST. LOUIS, MO

Here are the dates for the 2018 GFWC Annual Convention in St. Louis, with a few added details, that should be on your calendar:

- Tours are scheduled for Thursday, June 21 and Friday, June 22
- The Presidents' Group Meeting, 2016-2018 Board of Directors Meeting, LEADS, and State Night will be on Friday, June 22
- Convention will be held Saturday to Tuesday,

June 23-26, with the Opening Ceremony, Business Sessions, Partner Awards Lunch, and the Junior Awards Banquet on Saturday; Partner and GFWC Workshops, Business Sessions, and Region Banquets on Sunday; Elections, Business Sessions, CIP Awards Lunch, and the Gala Banquet on Monday; and the ESO Brunch and final Business Session on Tuesday

- Installation is Tuesday evening, June 26

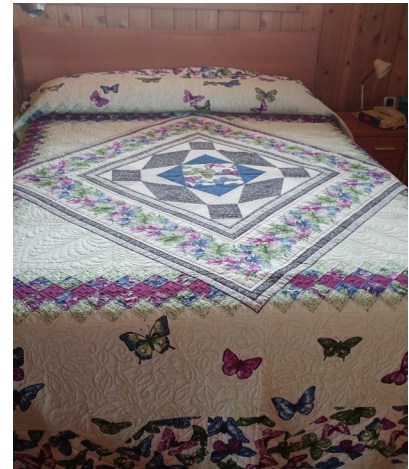
Club News

GFWC of Helena Supports Local Food Pantry

The Helena club has a partnership with Soroptimists International Helena, to support the Placer Pantry. The Pantry supplies personal care products for anyone who needs them. These clubs support the Pantry both with dollars and volunteer staff. A local restaurant, The Windbag, lets nonprofit groups run raffles at the restaurant, once a month. In addition to being able to keep all the money obtained through the raffle, The Windbag donates 20% of the nights take for food and beverages.

GFWC Helena's turn was on January 23rd. They raised \$1205 on the raffle items, but don't know yet how much the 20% will be. Items donated were: queen size quilt by Joyce Decunzo; log end table made by Terry's Kockler's, husband, Greg; jasper earrings donated by Eaton Turner, local jeweler; a coffee basket and a pasta basket donated by SI Helena.

From: Joyce DeCunzo



Quilt donated by Joyce DeCunzo



Pictured left to right, showing raffle items are Helena Woman's Club members, Terry Kockler, Anna Hoffman, Sandi Conrady, Joyce DeCunzo, and SI Helena members, Melissa Domme, Patti Amestoy and Jo Berg.

Bitterroot Helps with Domestic Violence Program

Putting together white ribbons against domestic violence are, left to right, Joyce Hooper, Linda Niezodski, Linda Sinerius and Margaret Sharp (seated) from GFWC Bitterroot

The White Ribbon program is a national anti-domestic abuse program. The ribbons are given to all organizations in Ravalli County. The organizations distribute them to churches, schools, companies, friends.

Ribbons are distributed every year in October. Next fall, Ravalli County is planning to distribute 10,000 ribbons throughout areas in Montana.



Midwinter Activities. . .

Christmas. . .



Plains Women's Club just had fun at their annual Christmas party, which featured a gourmet meal by Debbi Kirschbaum and helpers. Afterwards there were games, mainly silly, and a gift exchange.

Two of Santa's Helpers, Marsha Baumeister and Linda Peterson, had the privilege of bringing gifts to the women residents and their children at the YWCA in Helena in December. Generous funding from the members of GFWC Helena made the gifts and hand made fabric totes possible.



And Report Writing. . .



Left to right: Beth Campbell, Sandi Conrady, Terry Conrady, Anna Hoffman. Not pictured: Joyce DeCunzo.

Teamwork for report writing!

The Helena Club knows how to make report writing painless - maybe even pleasant! They spent an afternoon at Sandi's house, all with computers and papers to support the info about all their projects. They got all that work done after Sandi supplied a terrific homemade soup lunch for lunch.

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



Billings Juniors Celebrate 25,000 Books for Babies

Pictured at left:

Front row: Bev Silkwood, Marsha Hotchkiss, Judy Senteney

Back row: Bev Ferguson, Kathy Broyles, Lynn Ehresman, Barb Barrett, Sandy Mueller, Linda Pickard, Becky McGill, Linda Altwine, Mary Huffmaster

The GFWC Billings Junior Woman's Club's Books for Babies Committee hosted a celebration for giving away "25,000 Books for 25,000 Babies" on February 12, 2018 at the Billings Public Library's Community Room.

Books for Babies...and You! began in January 2007 by delivering books to Billings Clinic Hospital one day a month. A committee member would call the Birth Center to find out the number of babies at the hospital on that day. Members then delivered a touch-and-feel board book, a handmade bookmark and magnet and a Billings Public Library Children's Story Times magnet to the babies and parents. St. Vincent Healthcare's Birth Center was added a few months later.

In September 2008 with the help of the Billings Friends of the Library, Billings Public Library, and GFWC/BJWC full time daily deliveries began. In October 2012 "10,000 Books for 10,000 Babies" was celebrated.

Book bags to the babies continue to include a touch-and-feel board book, a booklet "Books for Babies and...You!" that tells who, where and how a book may be read; an updated bookmark "Ten Reasons to Read to Your Baby," Billings Public Library Children's Story Time magnet, brochure telling about their "Books & Babies Lap Sit & Songs Read," a brochure giving information about the library plus a library application, a brochure from Early Childhood Intervention (ECI), and

a card giving information about GFWC/BJWC and donors are included.

The Books for Babies Committee's mission is to support and increase literacy in our community by developing and promoting education programs for children and families. The goals are to insure that books reach a large number of families, to put books in the hands of children, to encourage families to use the public library, to get parents to read & enjoy books with their children, and increase literacy.

Many grants, businesses, individual donors, and very supportive helpful members of the Books for Babies Committee have enabled us to continue giving – so far – 25,000 Books for 25,000 Babies.



The Books for Babies Celebration included this display of books with foods matching their titles.

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





GFWC Helena's Busy Weekend

The Helena club does concessions for several events in Helena. For some events, they raise money for the club's use and for others, they give the money they raise to a non-profit organization. The club had a very busy weekend on Feb 10 and 11!

The above picture shows the group when they baked and sold desserts with all the proceeds going to an organization called Family Promise, an organization which provides services to homeless families who are trying to get on their feet. This event raised \$527. Shown above, left to right, are Anna Hoffman, Bobbie Conrady, Deb Larson, Joyce DeCunzo, and Linda Peterson.



The picture above was taken at an event to raise money for the Civic Center Board, called FebFest. In this event, The Helena club keeps the money they raise, which was over \$500. They prepared and sold lunch items such as chicken salad wraps, hot dogs, chili dogs, nachos, chips, drinks. Pictured above are Jennifer Davis and Beth Campbell, taking orders.



Billings Juniors used their Books for Babies celebration to give the public more information about what GFWC does. Below and at right are some of their display boards



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

Name_____

Address_____

Phone_____Email_____

Club_____District_____

Above information should be concealed during judging process

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

List all district officers and/or chairmanships held*_____

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

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

Are you willing to:

Defray costs to attend GFWC LEADS not covered by GFWC or State? Yes___ No___

Return to the state and share what you learned at LEADS? Yes___ No___

*If more space is needed, please complete answers on reverse side of this form. Return copy of this form and two letters of support from active GFWC club members by March 1, 2017 to:

GFWC of MONTANA STATE PRESIDENT

Joyce Hooper

772 Paige Lane, Corvallis, MT 59828