



The Montana Woman



Let Your Light Shine
2020-2022

GFWC of Montana 2020 Fall Meeting

We are so excited to share the highlights of our fall meeting held October 23-24. It was an honor to have GFWC International President Marion St. Clair join us from her home in South Carolina. GFWC is alive, well and reaching our members through Webinars, Zoom meetings, and Newsletters. Headquarters in Washington, DC is closed to visitors so the Christmas Open House in December will be a virtual tour. Watch for more information as it becomes available.

Dean of Departments, Vice-President, Marsha Hotchkiss gave us up-to-date information on reporting. Additional information will be available at gfwcmontana.org as we approach reporting time.

Chairman of Membership, President-Elect, Lynn Foreman, presented the 2019 awards for reporting and shared samples of winning reports. Check out the GFWC Club Manual under Civic Engagement and Outreach page find GFWC Fort Benton Woman's Club featured. GFWC Resources in Member Log under T we find the top 2019 TEN projects reported in each program area. Bitterroot is featured in Public Issues CSP for Serving Women in the Military, page 18. Arts CSP page 6 we find Monetary Donation Creates Music for Many by the Fort Benton Woman's Club.

President, Florence Diede, presented the 2019 Membership Awards. Imagine this 70-year member... Margie Rohwer of GFWC Thompson Falls. Twenty-five-year pins were awarded to Michelle McConaha of Bitterroot and Cindy Clawson of Deer Lodge.

First-time attendees were Lorri Renard of Thompson Falls, Cathy Barth of Bitterroot, Angela Muse and Cindy Thomas of Plains, and Dawn Conklin of Madison Valley. Remember the 20-20 increase in membership goal? GFWC Madison Valley Woman's Club had a 29% increase. GFWC Miles City Woman's Club has a 30% increase. GFWC East Glacier Park Woman's Club has a 109% increase in membership for 2019. Congratulations!

We, the Executive Committee, are pleased with a turnout of 55 dedicated members. Thank you for your input and support as we ventured into the unknown of Zoom meetings

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GFWC of Montana Executive Committee

President

Florence Diede
535 Johnson Lane, Billings, MT 59101
fdiede2020@gmail.com
406-245-4998 (H), 406-861-1681 (C)

President Elect, Membership Chairman

Lynn Foreman
PO Box 647, Ennis, MT 59729
foreman.lnj@gmail.com
406-682-5680 (H), 406-599-3120 (C)

1st Vice President, Dean of Departments

Marsha Hotchkiss
311 Alderson Ave., Billings, MT 59101
marshh48@gmail.com
406-259-6445 (H), 406-671-1642 (C)

Recording Secretary

Toni Scully
PO Box 986, Ennis, MT 59729
acscully406@gmail.com
406-682-5442 (H)

Corresponding Secretary/ Zoom Administrator

Marsha Price
2623 Terrace Drive, Billings, MT 59102
askmap@gmail.com
406-259-9750 (H), 406-698-6946 (C)

Treasurer

Kim Montag
PO Box 358, McAllister, MT 59740
kmontag@3rivers.net
406-682-3551 (H)

Parliamentary Advisor

Sandi Conrady
2650 Stagecoach Drive,
East Helena, MT 59635
conrady0725@msn.com
406-227-0725 (H), 406-459-4999 (C)

Budget and Finance Chairman

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

Greetings Fellow GFWC MT Club Members



Much has happened these past few months and we have very much been a part of it all. Our members have attended small group Zoom meetings and even large group meetings to be together. We are finding unique ways to be “together” and learning many new skills. We have taken our crops in for the winter. We have tried to stay safe and avoid Covid-19. We have voted and elected returning or new leaders for our state and country. We have been busy.

As the holiday season is upon us, let us take time to “Make our lights shine!” Reach out, reach out, and touch the hearts of loved ones. But, how? Make a phone call to someone you’ve meant to call for months. Give a true compliment. Laugh with a friend. Write a letter to the teachers, nurses, doctors, and others whose light may growing dim.

Everyday look for ways that your life has been blessed. Spend your time doing things that you love. Sewing, reading, baking and my list goes on and on. Share your talents.

Check out GFWCMontana.org to see the latest photos from the 2020 Fall Meeting and club photos you have submitted.

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*.

Mail or email news and photographs to:
Karen K. Gustavsen, Editor
PO Box 876, Thompson Falls, MT 59873
karengus@verizon.net
406-827-9480 (H), 609-471-0476 (C)

Mail or email change of address to:
GFWC of Montana Membership Chairman
Lynn Foreman
PO Box 647, Ennis, MT 59729
foreman.lnj@gmail.com
406-682-5680 (H), 406-599-3120 (C)

Reporting will soon be upon us. This is the time for our clubs to “Make Our Lights Shine in 2020.” May this be the brightest lights we have read about. Please do take the time to examine and then write narratives that are going to put Montana GFWC Clubs on the list of the Top 10 projects for 2020 in each area. Each clubs’ lights put into a big picture makes our state glow brightly.

We have upcoming events planned by GFWC of Montana. Hoping to be able to invite you all to a virtual Holiday Tour of GFWC Headquarters. In the spring we are planning a Zoom Leadership Training.

Let Your Federation Light Shine!
Florence Diede
GFWC Montana President

CALENDAR OF 2021 FEDERATION DEADLINES

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| FEBRUARY 5 | Club Reports Due to Marsha Hotchkiss & Florence Diede |
| FEBRUARY 28 | Youth Writing Contest Entries Due to Marsha Baumeister |
| MARCH 1 | Media Campaign & Newsletter Contest entries due to Nancy Hanford |
| MARCH 4 | LEADS Applications due to Florence Diede |
| APRIL 1 | Photography Contest Entries due to Jo Campbell |



Important 2021 Meeting Dates

APRIL 10 Central District Convention

April 17 Western District Convention

MAY 1 Eastern District Convention

JUNE 29-29 GFWC International Convention
Toronto, Canada

SEPTEMBER 9-12 WSR Conference, Colorado

OCTOBER 1-2 GFWC MT Fall Meeting, Helena, MT



Parliamentary Pointers - Minutes Sandi Conrady, Parliamentary Advisor

It is fairly well known that the expression “minutes are a record of what was done at the meeting *not* what was said by the members”. A brief listing of some of the “pointers” are as follows:

- Minutes should never reflect the secretary’s opinion favorable or not on anything said or done
- The first paragraph should contain the kind of meeting, the name of the organization, the date, time and place of the meeting, who presided, and whether the minutes of the previous meeting were approved or corrected
- The body of the minutes should have a separate paragraph for each subject matter and if it was a motion then give the name of the mover and whether the motion was debated and or amended. It should be noted if the motion passed or not.
- The exact wording of the motion and any amendments should be entered. In a large group it is advisable to require the motion be hand written on forms provided by the organization.
- The person who seconded the motion is not named but only that it was seconded
- The last paragraph should state the hour of adjournment

There are additional rules and practices relating to the content of the minutes as follows:

- When a count has been ordered or the vote is by ballot, the number of votes on each side should be entered into the minutes
- The minutes are signed by the secretary. The wording “Respectfully submitted” is no longer used
- If there is a guest speaker, only their name and title of their speech is written into the minutes

The above “pointers” were taken from Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised 9th Edition

For additional guidance for secretaries, there is a booklet that can be ordered from the National Association of Parliamentarians on their website. It is #2540 and called Pathways to Proficiency – What was done at the Meeting.



Environment Community Service Program Phyllis Worrall, Chairman

Our Natural resources are among our most precious treasures. Our environmental education, care for our land, water and air, recycling, litter clean up, partnership with community groups, school and children, tree planting and beautification - this is what the Environment Community Service Program is all about. Work to become more aware of conservation issues, enrich your community.

Here are some ideas to promote environmental appreciation:

* Try using Tumble Dryer Balls - dryer sheets leave harmful chemicals in the clothing. Dryer balls are 100% New Zealand wool which softens fabric, reduces static and wrinkles, and cuts drying time. They are also great to use with your favorite essential oils to naturally scent your laundry.

* Sponsor a recycling contest for students or club members. They could make posters depicting recyclable materials in their home or create robots out of recycled materials.

* Have a photography contest featuring outdoor views, recycled items, or environmental projects as the subject.

* With Christmas coming soon, make pinecone wreaths. Pinterest has many ideas. It could be a fund raiser.

* Think ahead to Spring - soil conservation, planting trees, making compost, planting flowers, or starting a garden.

* Rain harvesting by storing and saving rainwater.

* Make the earth beautiful with homemade seed paper. Learn how to recycle toilet paper rolls into seeded paper you can plant.

* Grow a plant from food scraps.

Be creative, learn and have fun! Choose projects that promote the environment through conserving water and energy, reusing, and recycling. Get involved!

Door Prize Winners GFWC Montana Fall Meeting 2020

Thank you to GFWC Billings Junior Woman's Club for donating the following gift cards:

Patty Paulson of Fort Benton - \$10 Starbucks
Sandra Cullen of Thompson Fall - \$25 Wal-Mart
Dawn Conklin of Madison Valley - \$10 Target
Bobbie Conrady of Helena - \$10 Target
Lorrie Hardy of Fort Benton - \$10 Barnes & Nobel
Bonnie Conner of Big Timber - \$10 Starbucks
Florence Diede Billings Junior's - \$10 Burger King
Judy Senteney of Billings Junior's - McDonald's
Sandi Conrady of Helena - \$5 McDonald's
Adina Fox of Ronan - \$10 Burger King
Debbi Kirschbaum of Plains - \$10 Barnes & Nobel
Toni Molinario of Fort Benton - \$10 Target
Dixie Hertel of Moore - \$10 Starbucks
Cindy Thomas of Plains - \$10 Target

THE GREATEST GIFT WOMEN
CAN GIVE IS TO SUPPORT,
COLLABORATE, SHARE,
MENTOR, AND INSPIRE EACH
OTHER AND TO RAISE THE NEXT
GENERATION OF WOMEN TO BE
STRONG, CONFIDENT, AND
FEARLESS.

PHILETTE KLEN FOR LIFE TRAVELED IN STILETTOS

Highlights from the Fall Meeting survey

- ◆ 99% of attendees were able to access the meeting without problems
- ◆ 1% solved their own problems
- ◆ Voice of Hope-Jackie Gittens- Suicide Prevention was the most meaningful speaker but votes were received for many other presentations.
- ◆ The GFWCMontana.org website was a favorite with almost every section being mentioned. Of course, discovering *The Montana Woman* and its archives will be so useful for years. The *Resources* section has many, many pieces of information for your use.
- ◆ An overwhelming vote was given to attend another Zoom meeting should it be necessary. Members say it is easy to use, no travel time, saves money, and keeps us connected.
- ◆ The meeting closed with *BreakOut Rooms* of 6 to a room where we could take ourselves off mute and VISIT, MAKE NEW FRIENDS, and have FUN. This was a favorite for many attendees.



ESO Today **Bobbie Conrady, Chairman**



The purpose of ESO is to provide clubwomen with a structural reading program, which is educational and stimulates a desire for self-improvement. Review the ESO Handbook at the gfwc.org members portal. The handbook has been revised this year and gives each club guidance realizing each State will and can have its own program.

You can also find an updated reading list in the same section as the handbook. The list can be modified by each State and is solely a suggestion list. Montana ESO has previously agreed the members can choose books to their likings. The members can report all books read regardless whether with a book club or individually.

Reporting rules have relaxed! You can report books read using the ESO Book Report form or other ways. The Billings Junior Woman's Club submits their reports to the ESO State Chair by way of an Excel sheet prepared by one of their members. Another way is the use of a Google sheet or the reports can be sent in listing all the information on a document such as Word. Include in the report the member's name, title of book, author, category and number of pages.

The ESO Reading List includes the categories and can be found with the handbook at gfwc.org, members portal. The State ESO Chair may alter this list. The Helena Club has revised the list and received approval by the State President two years ago. The National Chair has recommended that we use one categories list for all our clubs. I have prepared such a category list which is a combination of Helena Club's and the 2020 revised National list. I will be sending this to all the Club Presidents and Montana Executive Committee. Please share with all members and inform me of any changes you wish. Then I will forward to our State President for approval.

*That's the thing about books. They let you travel without moving your feet.--
Jhumpa Lahiri*

The National Chair has set up an ESO Facebook Book Club for any members interested. This is online with one book featured each month and then there are discussions and speakers. To join, request to be added to the GFWC 2020-2022 ESO Book Club Facebook. This is a private group, and you must be a GFWC member.

Congratulations to GFWC Bitterroot Woman's Club for its outstanding participation and reporting. With 16 members, they reported 460 books read with volunteer hours totaling 6, 443 hours! Three Clubs reported for 2019 year. Awards went to one member in each club who reported the greatest number of books read and volunteer hours. They are Linda Stephani of Bitterroot Club who read 127 books with 650 volunteer hours; Karen Durfey of Billings Junior Club reading 16 books with 236 volunteer hours and Joyce DeCunzo of Helena Woman's Club reading 37 books with 400 volunteer hours.



Jennie Award Susan Macartney, Chairman

“Jennie June” aka Jane Cunningham Croly, GFWC’s founder, wrote for national newspapers under this pen name. GFWC has honored her by creating the **Jennie Award** the *only national honor* bestowed by GFWC that recognizes individual members for personal excellence.

The award is an occasion to highlight extraordinary clubwomen who epitomize her spirit of independence, courage, and persistence through their roles as volunteers within their clubs, representatives of their community, and as members of a family or extended family.

There are many women in Montana who deserve the **Jennie Award**. Please take the time to nominate a GFWC Montana Clubwoman from your club. A copy of the judging criteria, nomination form, and award rules were sent to each club president in October. Information can also be found on the gfwc.org website under “my digital library” after logging in.

Remember: Nominee must be a member in good standing of a GFWC club for a minimum of five consecutive years.

The deadline for submission is June 1, 2021. Send them to: Susan Macartney, 1808 Yucca Ct, Golden, CO 80401 smmacartney@gmail.com. The Montana winner will be announced in GFWC MT Fall Board of Directors Meeting on October 1-2, 2021



Jane Cunningham Croly

Youth Writing Contest Marsha Baumeister, Chairman

Submission Guidelines:

Short stories are limited to 2,000 words

Poetry entries can be any style, with minimum length of 8 lines and maximum of 50

Entries must be typed, double-spaced with the student and teacher’s names, name of school, grade level, and title of work on each page

There are four grade level groupings:
Category 1: K-2nd; Category 2: 3rd-5th; Category 3: 6th-8th; Category 4: 9th-12th

Contact Marsha Baumeister at sage-mesa@msn.com for further information. Submissions should be addressed to her at 1325 Angus Rd, Helena, MT 59602.

What an exciting year 2019 was for those involved in the GFWC Writing Contest, and particularly for the Fort Benton Club as they had another national winner! Kailyn Rominger, a sixth-grade student at Fort Benton Elementary, placed first in poetry for her age division. **Kudos** to the Fort Benton Club who has very successfully promoted our contest to their schools.

Despite the complications presented by this pandemic, the intention of GFWC is to carry forward with our contest. As the national contest chair, Shirley Holly, so aptly said to me, what better outlet for our young writers to express their feelings of disappointment and frustration. In addition, the mechanisms for promoting the contest, receiving and judging entries and communicating the results has been almost entirely electronic, making the process ideal for virtual learning.

Club participation hasn’t been as high as we had hoped in recent years. Each club president will soon be provided with information that should be helpful in communicating the program’s benefits to teachers, parents and students. Following are some of the key points regarding the contest:

December 31, 2020 deadline for students to have written their entry

February 29, 2021 deadline for students or their teachers to submit electronic (where feasible) and mailed entries to the Montana State Chair.....address noted in ‘Submission Guidelines’ to the left.

April 1, 2021: winners in poetry and short story for each category on the state level is determined, announced to winners and their entries forwarded to GFWC National to compete with those from across the US.

Let’s give our youth across Montana an opportunity to use their creative skills and voices!



Photography Contest

Jo Campbell, Chairman

This has been a very challenging year for all of us. Last year our photography contest was cancelled due to the COVID-19 disease. That may have been discouraging to you whom have submitted photos. However, because of that the rules have changed allowing photos taken between January 1, 2019, and December 31, 2020 to be submitted!

So, tell us your story with photographs! There are two contests:

First Contest - The World in Pictures

Our World Up Close - Create a visual image that takes the viewer into a whole new, tiny world.

Natural Wonders - use wide angles and panoramas, or moody landscape images to showcase mountains, meadows, sand hills, rivers, waterfalls ,oceans, deserts, or any other magnificent vista.

Reflections - Feature a setting, situation, or landmark that brings back poignant memories, or capture a fleeting image reflected in glass, water, or another mirrored surface.

Second Contest - GFWC Living the Volunteer Spirit

These photographs capture the special moments in the lives of GFWC clubwomen as they meet, plan, advocate, volunteer, or celebrate, in groups or one-on-one.

As horrible as the Corona Virus is, it does open up some opportunities for us to capture the pain, love, and experiences of the lives that it has effected through photography. A moment in history.

Go girls, I know that you have the talent and interests!

Artwork Guidelines

- * Photographs may be vertical or horizontal.
- * Photographs must be the original work of a dues paying member.
- * Each entry must be an 8" X 10" print mounted on a rigid board of the same size not to exceed 3/8" thick.
- * No mattes, frames, or hangers.
- * Judges will look at the overall creativity of subject and quality of the photograph.
- * Photographs may be taken using film or digital camaras in color or black & white.
- * Photographs will NOT be returned.
- * A label must be affixed to the back with the following information:
 - Contest Name - *The World in Pictures* with category or *GFWC Living the Volunteer Spirit*
 - Photographer's name, mailing address, email, phone number
 - Name and state of their club
 - Title and brief caption giving location, date, & other pertinent info about the picture
 - Arrow indicating top of the photograph

Entries are due April 1st to:

Jo Campbell

27 Raghorn Court, Ennis Mt 59729

406-640-1083

Tips from the GFWC Club Manual

- When posting on social media, use short, complete, and clear descriptions and let the photos tell the story.
- Plan your photo so something is happening. People lined up or standing do not make interesting photos.
- Limit the number of people in a photo to five.

Something I have learned....

Marriage is hard. Divorce is hard. Choose your hard.

Obesity is hard. Being fit is hard. Choose your hard.

Being in debt is hard. Being financially disciplined is hard. Choose your hard.

Communication is hard. Not communicating is hard. Choose your hard.

Life will never be easy. It will always be hard. But we can choose our hard.

Pick wisely.



Not Many Things, but Much! **GFWC Bitterroot Woman's Club**

We give babies their first book, provide birthday celebrations for those who cannot afford it and give scholarships to help with the expense of college. We brighten peoples' lives with Valentine's cookies, decorated pumpkins and festive flower boxes on Corvallis main street. We serve our community at concerts, parades and Christmas tree lightings. We respond when needs are identified like: clothing and personal items for female veterans, sanitary products for area high schools and baby shower items for veterans who are mothers-to-be. We support our schools with the teachers' luncheon, GFWC Writing Contest, judging speech contest, donations to Science Olympiad and sewing class after school.



Front Left to Right: Ruth Hazelton, Bobbie Short (behind Ruth), Cathy Barth, Margaret Sharp, Linda Stephani Back Left to Right: Roberta Burruss, Cathy McCormick, Denise Guillemotto, Linda Niezgodzki, Sarah Fryer, Gerri Blair, Nancy Graham, Linda Sinerius

During COVID-19, we are using Zoom meetings. We have developed a "Pod" system. Working with the Ravalli County Health Department we have developed guidelines for meeting together in small groups of 3-4 people. We have "Pod Hostesses" who offer their homes for these small groups to view Zoom meetings. This allows for some fun, and we can do some activities in small groups. In October we are decorating individual pumpkins to take to nursing home residents.

For the president's project we will have speakers periodically throughout the term. At our Pie and Plant Sale during the Memorial Day parade, we will have a tribute to veterans who have lost their lives to suicide. We will also provide information on prevention. This will become a permanent part of this annual event.

Our club motto is: Not many things, but much. Our club has 35 members. That, of course, is the best part. 35 wonderful women working together to make life better for someone.



Christmas Connection Just Part of the Season **GFWC Canton Valley Woman's Club**

GFWC Canton Valley Woman's Club is located in beautiful Townsend, Montana. It was Federated in 1924 so 100 years is right around the corner.

The Canton Valley Club receives funding through the Rotary Club and the Cotter Foundation. Thomas Cotter was a businessman and rancher in the area near Canton, MT. The Cotter family still resides in the area. This donation must be spent by the end of the calendar year. Each year near Christmas, the club donates gas and grocery gift cards to a select group of older single women.

Canton Valley Woman's club participates in the "Christmas Connection." People in the area-pick up food, clothes and toys. Donating money to the local Food Bank is another favorite club project.

Yes, this club is striving to find ways to meet and participate in the projects that impact their community. The Canton Valley Woman's Club has solid leadership, and eleven hearty members that are ready to make 100 years.



Mary Sedwick Named to National Top 100



Mary Sedwick (center) with grandchildren Howard and Josephine Roberts

Mary Sedwick, former president of the **Madison Valley Women's Club (MVWC)**, has been named to the 2020 lists of Top 100 Volunteers in the Nation for towns of less than 5,000 in population. She was selected by the Ennis Chamber of Commerce and her name was submitted to the Small Town America Civic Volunteer Award organization, which is based in Kansas with a goal of spotlighting "small town heroes".

In a statement from Sedwick "I am honored to have been selected for this award. Recognition should also be given to the many excellent and hardworking volunteers who make the town of Ennis such a wonderful place to live. In these difficult times volunteerism is desperately needed. Hopefully, this national recognition will encourage others to get involved in the community."

The Ennis Chamber of Commerce selected Sedwick after receiving nominations from several organizations and individuals from within the Ennis community. Sedwick was first nominated by the Madison Valley Women's Club Board of Directors. In a statement from Ennis Chamber of Commerce Board President Danica Lewis; "Within our small community there are many citizens who provide much needed volunteer hours and generous commitment to the town. Mary's leadership is undeniable especially during this year of uncertainty. We are delighted to see one of our own receive this well-deserved national recognition."

Comfort Cards Project GFWC Thompson Falls Woman's Club

We currently have 14 members and recently kicked off a new advertising campaign. Our newest member is a hairdresser and owner of a coffee shop. Her recruitment has proven to be a wonderful asset for the club. So a new larger Covid compliant location will be needed for our meetings to allow guest a safe place to visit us.



Brainstorming for projects and fundraisers truly has proved challenging. One idea generated was "Comfort Cards." The intent is to send Get Well, Sympathy, Thinking of You cards, etc. to community members, Veterans, nursing home residents and others needing well wishes during this stressful time.

The club held a Greeting Card Workshop as a fundraiser/recruitment event and to generated cards for the project. The workshop was planned with personal safety and social distancing in mind by limiting attendance to fifteen. Using donated supplies to create packets, participants learned to make three cards for \$5.00. We asked that they select one to donate back to the club for the Comfort Card Project. Most gave back all their cards to the project.

A fourth red, white and blue Comfort Card was included for anyone who completed their cards quickly and would like to support a special Veteran's Day distribution. A total of 25 cards were sent to Fort Harrison thank patients for their service to our country.



100th Anniversary Celebration GFWC East Glacier Park Woman's Club



The East Glacier Park Woman's Club announces that after several years of hard work in the planning and fundraising stages, the East Glacier Community Hall/Library got a facelift by Garth Stewart of Glacier Country Construction over the summer while the club marked 100 years of community service.

The work included replacing rotten sill and gable logs, leveling the building, replacing rotten log ends, adding new cedar shakes on the back of the building, installation of two new exterior doors, replacing support posts in the basement, and the logs were cleaned by soda blasting process and stained.

One-third of the funding came from an anonymous donor, one-third matched by the East Glacier Woman's Club through rental fees and library stipend, and the final third in the donation of labor by Garth Stewart and Randi Biskupiak of Cut Bank.

The work is not done. Window frames and exterior doors will need to be painted before the weather turns cold and Woman's Club member, Judy Moats has taken on this project. The floor needs to be refinished and new windows purchased and installed in the library. These projects are next on the Woman's Club "to do" list to keep the hall clean, looking good and appealing for all the gatherings that are held in this historic log Community Hall.

Most of the labor for these projects as well as the day-to-day cleaning and maintenance is donated by club members and others who care about the building. Materials are paid from the club budget.

The East Glacier Park Woman's Club invites anyone to come to monthly meetings beginning in October and help keep this vital piece of the East Glacier Community open, warm and inviting for us all to use.

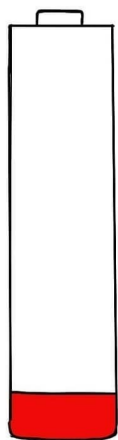
GFWC of Montana

Women's History Matters was created in 2014 by the Montana Historical Society to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of women's suffrage in Montana. Visit www.montanawomenshistory.org to explore more. Here are a few points from an article submitted by Annie Hanshew about Women's Advocacy for Public Libraries.

Women's clubs founded libraries in communities across Montana. Most of these libraries started small: club members donated books, and a local milliner, dressmaker, or hotelier would offer shelf space. As the library (and the community) grew, it often moved to a room in city hall before, finally, opening in a separate building. By 1896 Montana could boast seven public libraries with collections of a thousand volumes or more, and the State Federation of Women's Clubs maintained a system of traveling libraries. Over the course of the nineteenth century women increasingly viewed access to education as a key to "breaking the cycle of poverty."

Two Federated Woman's Clubs still active today were noted in the article for their support of these early libraries. The Miles City Woman's Club was mentioned for making fund-raising for the town's Carnegie Library their "main objective" after the building was completed in 1902. The East Glacier Woman's Club was heralded for opening the community's first library in the East Glacier School in the 1920s and moving the library into its newly constructed community hall in 1934.

YOU WOULDN'T LET
THIS HAPPEN TO
YOUR PHONE.



SELF-CARE IS A PRIORITY.
NOT A LUXURY.

DON'T LET THIS
HAPPEN TO
YOU EITHER.

