**GFWC of Montana GFWCMontana.org** 

November 2021 Volume 58, Issue 2



# The Montana Woman



## Let Your Light Shine 2020-2022

## **GFWC Montana Fall Meeting**

What an amazing 2021 Fall Meeting we enjoyed on October 1-2 at the Great Northern Hotel in Helena. We were so pleased to see each of you and best of all, no reports of illness from anyone. President's Club Reports, Reporting, Writing and Photography workshops filled out days. Shani Henry spoke to us about gun safety in homes. Yes, we can have a pistol safely in our bedside stand. By adding a trigger lock, no grandchild can accidently fire it. Karl Rosston provided the latest information on Suicide Prevention effort across Montana. Montana continues to rank near the top of this tragic list.

The GFWC International Awards were given to the state chairmen: Communications & Public Relations, Nancy Hanford, Chairman, Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention, Judy Senteney, Chairman and Newsletter Contest, Karen Gustavsen, Editor.

Check out the photos from International Convention and Montana Fall Meeting at gfwcmontana.org/photos/

Our fundraising efforts allowed you to each "Let Your Lights Shine" by sharing your talents -- dog blanket kits, bird houses, canned goods, jewelry, wreaths, paintings, sewing and quilting projects, and the list continues. Saturday night fundraising had a live auction with numerous spotters to cover all the bidders.

Oh, what about the evening entertainment? One evening we enjoyed the company of our own Districts. On Friday evening we played, "What's in your purse?" and sang songs from the GFWC Montana Choir Books. Pretty sure our laughter could be heard for blocks!

Ask your attending clubs members to share their experiences.

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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)





Dear Sisters in GFWC of Montana Federation,

I am sure you have found new and innovative ways to continue support for you communities. January is the time to write your club reports so we can all hear of these amazing feats. Please follow the guidelines provided to each club president by Marsha Hotchkiss, First Vice-President.

Did you attend the online Leadership Seminar last spring? GFWC of MT Executive Committee has another planned for you Spring of 2022. Watch for this invite coming through your club president.

April 29-30 plan to be with us in Bozeman at the GFWC of Montana Convention. GFWC international President Marion St. Clair and Suellen Brazil, First Vice-President are planning to be with us. We have been

requested to repeat the Writing and Photography Workshops as attendees had to choose at the fall meeting. Installation of our new state and district officers will be Saturday night. Can we increase our attendance by 25%? Please encourage all club officers, chairman, and members to attend.

Enjoy your holiday season with your fellow club women and your families.

FEBRUARY 5

JULY 1

"Let Your Lights Shine Brighter Than Ever!" Florence Diede GFWC Montana President

## 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)

# Spring 2022 Online Leadership Seminar is coming! Watch for details being sent to Club Presidents.

**CALENDAR OF 2022 FEDERATION DEADLINES** 

Kim Montag

# MARCH 1 Writing Contest Entries Due to Marsha Baumeister MARCH 1 Media Campaign & Newsletter Contest entries due to Karen Charvet, 716 Wildflower Cir., Naperville, IL 60504 MARCH 1 Community Impact Program entries due to Joyce Hooper MARCH 2 LEADS Applications due to Florence Diede APRIL 1 Photography Contest Entries due to Jo Campbell JUNE 1 Jennie Award Nominations due to Susan Macartney

Club Reports Due to Marsha Hotchkiss & Florence Diede

GFWC of MT dues with 3 copies of membership list to



# Welcome to TOPPs, Joyce DeCunzo! The Organization of Past Presidents



Welcoming Joyce DeCunzo at MT Fall Board Meeting, Oct 1 & 2, 2021 in Helena to GFWC TOPP's. Members left to right: Dixie Hertel (1998-2000), Joyce DeCunzo (2018-2020), Joyce Rogers (2014-2016), Sandi Conrady (1994-1996), Nancy Hanford (2012-2014), Joyce Hooper (2016-2018), Adina Fox (2004-2006).

# Online Safe Shopping Civil Engagement and Outreach

With holiday shopping on our minds, many of us will be doing our shopping online. It is important to be aware of scammers and thieves just waiting to take advantage of consumers. It is important we consumers know how to protect ourselves from threats that exist on the web.

- \*Before we begin shopping online, secure our computer by updating our security software. Every computer should have antivirus software, antispyware, and antispam software, as well as a good firewall. Firewalls and antivirus software are the first line of defense. They help to keep our computers safe and secure.
- \*Keep our personal information private and our passwords secure. Don't respond to any requests to "verify" your password or credit card information unless you initiated the contact. Legitimate businesses won't ask for this information.
- \*Beware of bargains from unfamiliar companies. If an offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- \*Use secure websites for purchases. Look for the icon of a locked padlock at the bottom of the screen or "https" in the URL address. They indicate that you are dealing with a secure website.
- \*Shop with companies we know and trust. Check a company's background if we're not familiar with it.
- \*Donate to charities online only if we have investigated the charity. Be sure that the charity's site is secure or make a donation through the mail.
- \*Consider alternate options to pay for your merchandise, such as onetime or multiuse disposable credit cards or money orders, at online stores and auctions sites. Also make sure you know all the rules and policies of these sites. Yes, that means we will need to read the Terms of Agreement.



# Suicide Prevention Through Education President's Special Project

Suicide continues to plague Montana and the holiday season and winter seem harder than ever. Ask the question when you see and feel the need. "Are you thinking of killing yourself?" "Do you have a plan?" When the answer is, "yes." Don't leave this person alone.

## Get help. Call 1-800-273-8255.

Frank King, a mental health comedian, spoke at the Montana Farm Bureau Convention in Billings regarding suicide and farmers. In 2014 farming was in the top five occupations most at risk for suicide. This year has provided farmers and ranchers with surmounting difficulties, drought, grasshoppers, extreme heat, poor crop production and the list goes on. Be aware, there is great concern for this group. Frank King has multiple TED Talks choose one to view individually or as a club. Let's continue to learn how we can help.

An artistic, queen-size, Liberty's Stars quilt donated by Pauline Baker of Madison Valley Woman's Club will be raffled for our fundraising!

# For \$20 you may purchase one of only 52 chances offered to win this beautiful treasure.

Contact President Florence Diede to purchase your card. The last chance will be at the April Convention where the drawing will be Saturday night.

BELIEVE IN
YOURSELF.
IF CAULIFLOWER
CAN BECOME PIZZA,
YOU CAN DO ANYTHING.

## **Important 2022 Meeting Dates**

APRIL 29-30 GFWC of MT Biennial Convention

Bozeman, MT

JUNE 25-28 GFWC International Convention

**New Orleans, LA** 

AUGUST 26-28 WSR Conference, Alaska

**BOOK HOTEL NOW!** (see next page)



## "North to Alaska" August 26 to 28, 2022

**Greetings GFWC Western States!** 

Each of you is personally invited to attend WSR 2022 in Alaska! The hotel stay will be at the Anchorage Hilton on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, in the heart of downtown with charming souvenir shops, museums and more.

## NOW IS THE TIME TO BOOK HOTEL, RENTAL CARS AND PERSONAL TOURS.

The summer tourist season in Alaska is very popular. There are limited reserved hotel spaces, especially extra days ahead of and after WSR. Rental cars should also be reserved now if possible. Driving in Alaska is an absolute delight with vistas you will want to stop and visit along every highway. Make sure to reserve now while cars are available.

## **GROUP TOURS**

No group tours have been set up yet, but types of tours may include a Red Trolley Tour around town with visit to the Ulu Factory or a bus ride to nearby seaport Whittier that is accessible through a tunnel under a mountain followed by tour on the water in the fjord to view glaciers and marine life. Unforgettable.

## **FAMILY & FRIENDS**

A lot of folks are planning to bring family or tour with fellow GFWC members. We encourage you to book your personal tours as soon as you are able.

Additional things to do in Alaska tagged onto your trip are limitless. Alaska State Fair with giant vegetables and a pumpkin over 2,000 pounds; Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center where bison roam; or take a tram at Alyeska Resort and enjoy dining at a world-premiere wine restaurant overlooking 7 glaciers. And so much more!

## **HOTEL BOOK NOW!**

Anchorage Hilton rooms are \$249 + 12% hotel tax (normally \$339). You can book an additional three days ahead of or post conference for extra tour time on a first-come basis, so book quickly!

- www.hiltonanchorage.com
- Group ID is "WSR22"

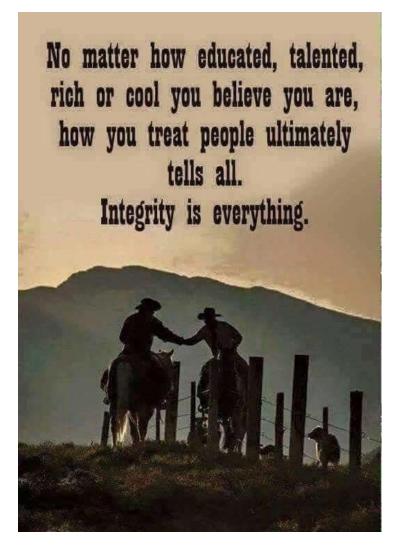
We look forward to seeing you come North to Alaska in August 2022!

# **GFWC Montana Writing Contest Marsha Baumeister, Chairman**

Are you busily working on your contest entries? We are confident there are many authors among us. The deadline for getting your entries to the Creative Writing Chairman is March 1, 2022, but it must have been written in this 2021 calendar year.

This is a great opportunity to share your creativity! In recent years there has been only one clubwoman entry each year while participation in the Youth Contest has been much stronger. The writing activity at the Fall Meeting in October showed how fun it can be to create a story.

The contest details and "story starters" may be found at **gfwcmontana.org/resources**. The judges are looking forward to reading your creative works this winter!



## **Submission Guidelines:**

Full details may be found at the following link: <a href="https://gfwcmontana.org/gfwc-writing-for-members-and-vouth/">https://gfwcmontana.org/gfwc-writing-for-members-and-vouth/</a>

Short stories are limited to 2,000 words

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

#### **Student Entries:**

Must be typed, double-spaced, 1" margins on all sides

Student and teacher's names, name of school, sponsoring club and state, category, title of work and grade level on top right of each page

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

## **Club Member Entries:**

Must be typed, double-spaced, 1" margins on all sides

Author's name, email address, mailing address, phone number, club name, state, category and title on top right of each page

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

Note to self:
When things feel
overwhelming, remember:
One thought at a time
One task at a time
One day at a time



## YOUTH WRITING CONTEST (Sponsored by the General Federation of Woman's Clubs)

What: An opportunity for students grades K-12 to express their creativity, compete with other students, be recognized for their work and possibly win awards by writing short story or poetry.

How: The writing assignments students normally do as part of their curricula would work well; **there is no need for extra projects on the part of teachers or students.** Parents sign a creative arts waiver. Students (or parents) type the entry in the specified format and, where possible, submit the entry electronically to the appropriate teacher who will forward it to the GFWC State Writing Chair, noted below.

<u>When</u>: Teachers gather entries until the December holiday break. Entries should be sent by e-mail with hard copy to the State Chair (contact information is below) anytime prior to last week of February 2022.

Writings are then submitted to a panel of judges who determine state winners for first, second and third place for both poetry and short story, for grade groups K-2, 3-5, 6-9 and 10-12. Those winners will receive recognition from GFWC/Montana as well as a small monetary award. The entries for the first place winners will be forwarded to GFWC/international in Washington,DC to compete with writings by students across the U.S.

<u>Who</u>: The contest is sponsored by GFWC/International (a philanthropic organization dedicated to improving the lives of members of their community through volunteer service).

For contest details, please contact:

GFWC State Chair/Writing Contests:

Marsha Baumeister

sagemesa@msn.com, 505-681-1912

1325 Angus Rd, Helena 59602





## **CREATIVE ARTS WAIVER**

With my signature I declare that:					
I have created the submitted work, entitled full copyright. The work has not been published.	hed before.		, and I own the		
With my work, including pictures, tables, or other persons or entities.	additional media, I do not v	violate or	infringe the copyright of		
The work in question is (please check one):	Photography	Poetry	Short Story		
I grant the General Federation of Women's Clubs a royalty-free perpetual license to use, reproduce, post, display, create derivative works, sell, license, or sub-license the work in any media now known or later invented without limitation, for commercial or non-commercial purposes.					
I agree that I shall not release the work to any other publication in the same or substantially similar form, without prior written and explicit consent from the General Federation of Women's Clubs.					
This agreement shall become effective and bind by the General Federation of Women's Clubs.	ing at the date of formal acc	eptance o	f the work for publication		
Full Name (Print)					
Mailing Address					
City	State		Zip		
Email	Email				
Phone					
Signature		Date			
Parent / Cuardian Signature (if submitter is under	19 years of ago)	Data			

## GFWC MT Photography Contest Jo Campbell, Chairman

2021 is speeding by; soon the holidays will be upon us! This is a wonderful opportunity for taking pictures of family get togethers. Fall is a favorite time for taking pictures ... the air is crisp and clear and the colors are beautiful!

Our October state meeting in Helena was an opportunity to meet new friends, reuniting with others, and gave us the chance to talk about photography. Hopefully you liked our session and were able to take something away from it. There is always something new we can learn as we share our past experience.

Any pictures to be submitted to the photo contest must be taken during 2021 and are due to this Chairman by April 1, 2022. 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.

## All details available at gfwcmontana.org/resources

## A few important things to remember when composing a photo:

- always make sure that your photo is clearly focused, possibly using a tripod.
- when taking group photos, you may have to arrange some people sitting or kneeling in front to get everyone in close enough to see their faces.
- sometimes candid photos are best, catching someone unaware.
- study photographs and think about what draws you into a particular photo, what catches your eye, what leads you into that picture.

## **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: (sample on next page)
  - 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 jocam724@gmail.com



Below are the GFWC Montana entries selected by our state level judges for submission to the 2020 GFWC Contest.

A big thank you to everyone who entered photos for last year's photography contest. They were all wonderful pictures! Have fun taking pictures, and remember...SMILE!



Our World Up Close Linda Baker Billings Junior Woman's Club



Reflections
Toni Scully
Madison Valley Woman's Club



Natural Wonders Kim Montag Madison Valley Woman's Club

Here is a sample label for the back of your Photography Contest Entry

THE WORLD IN PICTURES O	GFWC LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT	
CONTEST NAME:		
CLUB NAME:	STATE:	
TITLE:		
LOCATION, DATE, OTHER NOTES:		
PHOTOGRAPHER'S NAME:		
EMAIL ADDRESS:		
MAILING ADDRESS:		
PHONE NUMBER:		

## COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM AWARD REMINDER

Entries are due to Joyce Hooper at <a href="https://hooperj139@gmail.com">hooperj139@gmail.com</a> by March 1, 2022 for judging. The two year award period is from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021. Award Rules and Entry Form follow on next three pages. They may also be found on <a href="mailto:gfwcmontana.org/resources">gfwcmontana.org/resources</a> and <a href="mailto:gfwc.org">gfwc.org</a>. If you have any questions, contact Joyce Hooper.

# 100th Anniversary Celebration GFWC Thompson Falls Woman's Club



Museum Director and club member, Vonn Briggs, welcomed the club and thanked it for the work done to create the museum.



Margie Rohwer, Club President 1957-1958, received a pansy corsage. Margie joined the club in 1949!

On October 21, 2021, the GFWC Thompson Falls Woman's Club celebrated the 100th Anniversary as a Federated Club. Held in the Old Jail, which the club helped save in 1981 to become home of the Sanders County Historical Society and Museum, the event was attended by representatives from the museum, schools, County Commissioners, City Mayor, and fellow Woman's Club members of the GFWC Montana Western District.

Assembled for this one day event, the room featured a display case holding a timeline of the club's 100 year history. Other cases offered vignettes of the club's scholarship named in honor of the first graduate of Thompson Falls High School who later became principal, the museum at the time it was saved, the 1960 cookbook sold by the club to build bathhouses for the community pool, and a tea service depicting the membership drives held at the library.

Members dressed in the club color of purple also acknowledging Domestic Violence Month and the national Signature Project for GFWC. Pansies were featured in corsages and on the cake served.





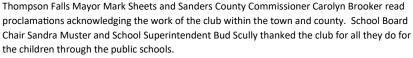




Sandra Cullen, Club President 1979-1981, greeted guests and asked them to sign our Guest Book. Sandy joined the club in 1966.



Adina Fox, GFWC MT Western District President, (second from right) offered congratulations to the club on it's accomplishments.





## 2020-2022 GFWC CLUB MANUAL COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM AWARD

GFWC's scope of work, as outlined in the two Special Programs and five Community Service Programs, can stimulate project ideas. Look to GFWC's Advancement Programs for guidance on leadership, fundraising, communication, and other project essentials.

## **AWARD RULES**

#### **Award Period:**

January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2021.

## **Contest Description:**

- Each entry can feature one to three local projects undertaken by a club, all accomplished during the Award Period.
- Each entry should include one page of information on each project (maximum 500 words) to highlight:
  - ø Project selection process
  - Ø Project goal(s)
  - Ø Plan of action, including timeline
  - ø Engagement of members, including total hours
  - ø Financial/funding details, including total contributed
  - ø Collaborating partners or individuals
  - ø Media coverage
  - Ø Measurable impact(s)
  - Ø Any other key information
- Each entry can contain one page of photographs for each project (maximum of 4 photographs per page).
- Each entry can contain one page of publicity highlights for each project (maximum of 4 highlights per page).
- Total entry cannot exceed 10 pages: A Community Impact Program Award Cover Form plus three additional pages for each project (info page, photo page, publicity page).

#### **Entry Process:**

- Club entries are to be sent to the State Chairman by March 1, 2022.
- State Chairmen should forward the winning entry and the club name of the second place winner to the GFWC Community Impact Program Award Chairman by March 20, 2022.
- Contest entries will be judged by State Categories, with one winner per category.
- National and International Community Impact Program Awards will be presented at the GFWC Annual Convention in New Orleans, LA, in June 2022.

#### **Other Guidelines:**

- Clubs that have previously won this award must submit entirely new projects for consideration. Expanded projects will not be considered.
- International Affiliates may submit an Award Entry to be judged in conjunction with other International
  Affiliates.
- All deadlines and other rules must be followed.
- Joint entries of clubs are not allowed.
- All monetary awards must be used to further the community impact initiative.
- Award entries of national winners will be kept in the GFWC Women's History and Resource Center.



# **Community Impact Program Award**

## **COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM AWARD ENTRY FORM/COVER SHEET 2020-2022**

CLUB AND COMMUNITY INFORMATION						
State Federation	Date					
GFWC Club Name	District					
Number of Members	Number of Members Involved					
Project City	County					
Population Served						
Type of Community (Check one)						
PROJECT DESCRIPTION						
1. Identify the target issue and provide a brief description of	of each project that does not exceed 50 words.					

2. Describe the community collaboration, plan of action, and the obstacles encountered while working on this project.				
		-		
		(12)4/4		
3. Outline permanent results achieved, both tangible and in of the project on the community?	tangible. Was the project succe	sstul! What are the long-term effects		
C. 0.0 p. 0,000 c. 1.10 c. 1.1111111,				
STATISTICS				
SIMIBILES				
Club CIP Chairman	Phone – –			
Email	1			
Club President	Phone – –			
Email	Learning to the second			
Mailing Address				
City	State	Zip Code		
Club President's Signature				

## OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MARCH 1, 2022

Make two copies of completed form and accompanying materials. Send one to the GFWC Community Impact Program Award State Chairman and keep one for the club's files.

## Centennial Celebration a Year in the Making GFWC Glacier Park Woman's Club

On September 12th, the Glacier Park Woman's Club of East Glacier, Montana hosted community members for a celebration of their 100th anniversary, recognition of recent donors and listing of their building on the National Historic Register. The celebration was delayed by more than a year due to Covid, but members are so happy to be together at last.



Following a welcome by Club President, Michelle Petersen, Roberta Rink and Roslyn Schildt reviewed the history of the club starting December 4, 1920, with 22 members. Seven years later the club had raised enough money to purchase land. By 1934, a one-story log structure was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps Indian Division (CCC-ID) at no cost to the club. Since then, the hall has been used as the local library, a polling place, venue for classes, parties, dances, community potluck dinners and a meeting place for various groups.



Club member Jo Flick and Becky Campbell of the Montana State Historical Society teamed up to get the hall listed on the National Historic Register in 2019. The plaque at the entrance describes the building and who the club is, both now and 100 years ago.

The library is one of a few in Montana started by a Woman's Club that is still in operation thanks to club volunteers. Beginning with private donated book collections, the library has children's as well as adult books which are supplemented with books from the Glacier County Library on a rotating basis. Thanks to fund raising efforts by Judy Moats during the pandemic, the club received a Pilcrow Foundation grant to purchase 71 new children's books.

This fall the 5 original windows in the library were replaced thanks to a grant from the Glacier County Port Authority of \$2000 and volunteer labor (again thanks to Judy Moats). Local businesses were kind enough to provide space near their cash registers for club donation cans and over several thousand dollars were collected.



Through two fundraisers per year, hall rental fees, and donation cans, the club was close to their goal of a new roof. Then in 2020 the price of materials skyrocketed during the pandemic and hall rental income fell to zero. The project was delayed yet another year. Thanks to a heads up from local business owners, the Cenex Home Town Proud program donated \$5,000 making a new roof a possibility before the snow flies.

The club finished their celebration with pie and coffee, of course!

## **President's Special Project Raffle**

A few of the prizes were drawn at the Fall Meeting in October. Tickets are still available for the remaining prizes to be drawn at the Biennial Convention Spring 2022.



Embroidered Towel Set Thompson Falls Woman's Club

Handmade Lap Quilt Beverly Silkwood of Billings Junior Woman's Club



Pair Hand Painted Flower Pots with Flowers Bitterroot Woman's Club





# Spirit of Montana Award GFWC Madison Valley Woman's Club

On August 10, 2021, The Madison Valley Woman's Club was awarded the **Spirit of Montana** award by Governor



Greg Gianforte. This award is given to individuals and groups that have demonstrated a commitment to service to their communities. The Governor presented to the Executive Board - a plaque and a Montana State flag (that flew over the capital in Helena on August 4<sup>th</sup>) at a ceremony in Peter T's Park in Ennis. In attendance were MVWC clubwomen and many representatives of organizations to whom MVWC has made donations. In the past 10 years the MVWC have generated over 1 million dollars in sales operating their all-volunteer Nearly New

Shoppe in
Ennis and have
donated over
\$810,000 in
scholarships
and donations
to those in
need in their
community.



Cynthia Quirk, president; Sue Sherrard; Kim Montag; Toni Scully; Cynthia Bach and Andi Marks of Madison Valley Woman's Club proudly display the flag presented by Governor Gianforte.

## **GFWC of Montana**

The Montana Memory Project is being moved to a new platform and the archived issues of *The Montana Woman* are not accessible at this time.

One document available is the First Annual Meeting Booklet of the Montana State Federation of Women's Clubs on June 6, 7, 8, 1905 in Deer Lodge. This booklet is part of the Billings Public Library collection.

Organized in Butte in 1904 and accepted into GFWC April 30, 1904, this gathering of members were from Great Falls, Deer Lodge, Butte, Anaconda, Missoula, Billings, Livingston, Dillon, Malta, Kalispell, Helena, Whitehall, Stevensville, and Boseman representing 25 clubs and over 800 members.

It is interesting to note in the outlook of the organization presented by President Mary G. Mitchell, the following six goals:

- 1. Talk and work for remedying the social wrongs of the present day.
- 2. Every club members should interest herself in child labor laws, juvenal courts, and probation system.
- 3. Encourage self-supporting students by giving federation scholarships.
- 4. Have a school committee to support schools, work for manual training, and kindergartens.
- 5. Influence public sentiment in a positive way such as supplying seeds to school children to beautify back yards.
- 6. Work with state aquicultural, educational, and historical to better conditions and elevate tone of life.

She also mentions the strong support of the traveling library. Clubs were assessed a \$.50 per capita tax towards this goal in addition to collecting books "sufficient for several libraries."

So much like today, the Constitution object was to bring into relation of mutual helpfulness and cooperation the various clubs and organizations of women throughout the state. Specific notation was the inclusion of clubs organized for kindred aims and purposes, such as literary, educational, industrial, philanthropic, city and village improvement societies not requiring a religious or political test.

"when you have a friend going through a personal storm, instead of being a weatherman spreading the news, be an umbrella and cover them with love."

