



The Montana Woman



Let Your Light Shine 2020-2022

OFFICIAL CALL TO THE 2022 GFWC OF MONTANA Biennial Convention April 29-30, 2022

Best Western GranTree Inn, 1325 North 7th Ave., Bozeman, MT 59715

Phone 406-587-5261

Rooms : \$96 plus taxes, total \$105.68

Call 406-587-5261 for reservations. Refer to General Federation of Women's Clubs/GFWC

RATE DEADLINE: April 1, 2022 NO GUARANTEE OF ROOM OR PRICE AFTER THAT DATE

Tentative Agenda

Friday, April 29th (Business Casual Attire)

Executive Committee meeting: 9:00 a.m.

Registration: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

General meeting: 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

District meetings: 4:45 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Dinner: 6:30 p.m. (Cocktail Attire)

Saturday, April 30th (Business Casual Attire)

Memorial Breakfast: 8:30 a.m.

General Meeting: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Dinner: 6:30 p.m. (Cocktail Attire)

What to bring to this meeting?

- ◆ A GREAT attitude, willingness to learn and desire to strengthen your club!
- ◆ Be ready to report on your club's success with the President's Special Project, "Suicide Prevention Through Education."
- ◆ Bring your President Special Project Raffle Fundraising STUBS, additional tickets available.
- ◆ Jewelry to recycle with the Past District Presidents.

**NOTE: All GFWC MT members are invited to the GFWC of Montana Biennial Convention.
Make every effort to have your club represented.**

Inside this issue

Convention Registration.....	1-2
From the President	3
Leadership Seminar.....	4
Suicide Prevention Updates.....	5
Meet the Candidates.....	6-7
2022 LEADS Candidate.....	8-10
Club Successes	11-12
GFCW Montana History.....	13

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)



GFWC of Montana 2022 Biennial Convention April 29-30, 2022



Please send one registration form for each person attending.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ *First Timer: Yes* _____ *No* _____

Email Address: _____

District: Western Central Eastern

Club Name: _____

Club Position(s): _____

GFWC Montana Position(s): _____

Registration Deadline: Postmarked by April 15, 2022

Make checks payable to: GFWC of Montana

Mail Registration form and check to: Marsha Price, GFWC MT Corresponding Secretary
2623 Terrace Drive, Billings, MT 59102 (askmap@gmail.com)
406-698-6946

REGISTRATION:

Please indicate special dietary needs: _____

*Please Note - special diets need to be noted with your registration.
The hotel may have difficulty adapting dishes at the time of the meeting without prior warning.*

Registration Fee:	includes all sessions	\$45.00
Friday, April 29th	Dinner	
	Champagne Chicken	\$35.00
Sauteed chicken breast with mushrooms and onions, finished with champagne beurre blanc sauce and capers, wild rice, roasted zucchini and yellow squash		
Saturday, April 30th	Memorial Breakfast	
	Palisade Falls	\$18.00
Vanilla French toast with maple syrup, scrambled eggs and hickory smoked bacon		
Saturday, April 30th	Luncheon	
	Italian Turkey and Bacon Wrap	\$22.00
Home roasted turkey, hickory smoked bacon, romaine lettuce, parmesan cheese, tomatoes and artichoke hearts with pesto aioli on a garlic herb tortilla		
Saturday April 30th	Dinner	
	Herb Roasted Pork Loin	\$30.00
8oz. Roasted pork loin brushed with Dijon brandy sauce and topped with caramelized onions and fresh parsley, honey buttered tarragon carrots, loaded mashed potatoes		

Total Registration and all meals = \$150 **TOTAL \$** _____

Greetings Fellow GFWC MT Club Members



Dear Sisters in GFWC of Montana Federation,

I hope you have started 2022 with plans full of new and exciting events!

I have spent some time thinking about “KUDZO.” At one time, Kudzo was a beautiful ornamental plant with sweet smelling blossoms. Years ago, it was planted and cultivated to help with erosion. Kudzo’s growth was rapid spreading across our continent strangling out native grasses and even full-grown trees.

Are “Kudzo vines” like our long-time traditions? Let’s look at those traditions that have carried our clubs through the years: bake sales, auctions, evening meetings, lunch meetings, dinner meetings, etc. Have long-time traditions impacted our clubs like the sweet smelling Kudzo? Can we attract new members while doing the same projects and fundraisers year after year? Take a serious look at our projects, meeting times and

fundraising. Which project can we put to rest for a few years? Can we change to an evening meeting, a Saturday meeting, or even have an afternoon meeting?

Try changing “We’ve always done it that way!” to “Let’s move forward, open new doors, and do something new.” It’s a new year and we have faced two difficult years forcing us to meet in new ways, drop some projects, and still we survived and thrived. I urge our clubs to let one long-traditional struggling project (kudzo vine) rest for a bit and try something new (a new crop). The club manual in the Member Portal at <https://www.gfwc.org/> has projects listed under each Community Service Project and each Advancement Area. Learn about successful projects. Choose one, try one by putting your own club spin on it.

Please share your club’s new crop idea or project you are resting with me at fdiede2020@gmail.com. Watch for the list in our next issue of *The Montana Woman*.

“Let Your Light Shine”

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)

Online Leadership Seminar

February 23, 2022

DETAILS ON THE NEXT PAGE!

CALENDAR OF 2022 FEDERATION DEADLINES

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
JULY 1	GFWC of MT dues with 3 copies of membership list to Kim Montag





GFWC of Montana Leadership Seminar

**Wednesday, February 23 @ 7:00-8:30 pm
Zoom Meeting**

Who is invited? **ALL MEMBERS** are invited to attend free Leadership Seminar.

Ever wonder—How can Montana students find scholarships? Especially GFWC scholarships...

Ever wonder—How can I get a message to the chair conducting or speaking?

Ever wonder—How should we address GFWC visiting officers?

Ever wonder—What is Legislative Policy & Resolutions about?

Ever wonder—What new projects can my club do in Education & Libraries?

SECRETS will be revealed! *YOU* will be in the know!

PROTOCOL presented by Sandi Conrady, Parliamentary Advisor

SCHOLARSHIPS for Montana Students presented by Wendy Fawns Valley Oak Education Research (501c3)

BREAKOUT SESSIONS (Select ONE)

EDUCATIONS & LIBRARIES CSP led by Dawn Conklin, CSP Chairman

LEGISLATION & RESOLUTIONS Advancement Plan led by Mary Sedwick, CPS Chairman

Register **today by emailing your name, club, email address, and which
Breakout Session you wish to attend to:**

Marsha Price, Corresponding Secretary, askmap@gmail.com

Your zoom invitation will be emailed on February 22.

Registration deadline: Monday, February 21, 2022

I'm so glad friends
don't come
with price tags.



I could never afford
the wonderful
friends I've got!

Important 2022 Meeting Dates

FEBRUARY 23 ZOOM Leadership Institute, 7:00 PM

APRIL 29-30 GFWC of MT Biennial Convention
Bozeman, MT (Details in this issue)

JUNE 25-28 GFWC International Convention
New Orleans, LA

AUGUST 26-28 WSR Conference, Alaska
BOOK HOTEL NOW! (see February
Montana Woman for details)



Suicide Prevention Through Education President's Special Project

Here are the 5 states with the highest suicide rates for 2021:

Wyoming—29.3 per 100,000

Alaska—28.5 per 100,000

Montana—26.2 per 100,000

New Mexico—24 per 100,000

Colorado—22.1 per 100,000

What efforts are being made in our Nation to reduce suicide?

Universal screening at emergency rooms to identify patients at higher risk of suicide.

Safety planning at emergency rooms to assist patients with suicidal behaviors by providing them with a prioritized list of evidence-based coping strategies and sources of support.

Cognitive behavioral therapy to identify and manage suicidal thoughts.

Reducing access to lethal means such as firearms, lethal doses of medications and alcohol.

Devoting resources to the ten public health domains of suicide prevention outlined in The State of State, Tribal and Territorial Suicide Prevention report.

Each club has had about 18 months to choose and implement some way to impact or educate our members on Suicide Prevention. At the upcoming GFWC of Montana 2022 Convention, you will be asked to share the opportunities you or your club took to become more educated in this area. Just as a reminder, at <https://gfwcmontana.org/> you will find speakers, TED Talks, and a variety of website with valuable information on Suicide Prevention. Each club has the opportunity to apply for a \$50 grant to help with their club's project. Don't miss out on this!

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.



Meet the Candidates

2022-2024 Nominations for Office

President Elect—Karen Gustavsen



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 2006, she completed the training necessary and became a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians. Since moving to Montana, she has held the state level positions of Treasurer (4 years), Conservation CSP Chairman and currently is Editor of *The Montana Woman*. She has served as Western District Treasurer and currently is Vice President. Within GFWC Thompson Falls Woman's Club, Karen served as Secretary (6 years) and currently is Treasurer.

Employed as receptionist by Thompson Falls Veterinary Clinic in Thompson Falls, her current obligations include scheduling, accounts receivable, and office operations. For 20 years she was the Operations Director of a large 501(c)(3) day-care center before moving to Montana.

Since moving to Montana in 2013, Karen has been active on the Friends of the Thompson Falls Library serving as Secretary (6 years) and currently as Treasurer.

Married for over 50 years, John and Karen have worked together on Beautification Days trimming the rose hedges in the downtown area for 5 years. They are proud parents of grown daughters Katie and Emily. She looks forward to working with all the clubs of Montana during the next four years.

Vice President —Kim Montag



After a 30-year career in Houston, TX with the international accounting firm of Deloitte & Touche, Kim retired in 2007 and moved to Montana with her husband Jeff. Kim joined the GFWC Madison Valley Woman's Club in 2008. She has served her club as Treasurer, Recording Secretary, currently serves as President Elect, and looks forward to serving as club President.

Beyond her club, Kim has served as Central District Treasurer for four years, currently is serving as Vice President, and will serve a District President next term. On the GFWC of Montana state level she has served as co-chair of fundraising for the YouthEquip Project and on the Budget and Finance Committee.

Since arriving in Montana, Kim has been involved in many other charitable and civic organizations including the Council of Trustees for the Montana Land Reliance, the Board of the Ennis Senior Center, the Madison Valley Medical Center Foundation, and as a Director for the Henry's Fork Foundation. She is a life member of Trout Unlimited and a member of TU's Coldwater Conservation Group.

Kim and Jeff live in McAllister, Montana with their Border Collie - Belle. Kim enjoys fly-fishing, photography, golf and cooking. Kim is honored to have been nominated for the position of Vice President and looks forward to serving the GFWC of Montana in this role.



Recording Secretary—Marsha Baumeister



Her heart having always been rooted in Montana, Marsha returned to Helena in 2016, after wandering for forty years following graduation from UM. Those wanderings took her and later her husband, Max, to Madrid, Spain, Vancouver, BC, Canada, Denver, Houston and Albuquerque. No surprise her license plate now reads “I M BAK”!

Shortly after returning, Marsha attended her first GFWC meeting with her sister-in-law, where she was welcomed warmly by the club President, Sandi Conrady, and other members. Once she became familiar with the mission and intent as well as history and depth of GFWC, she knew she had discovered the perfect service organization for her and joined the Helena Woman’s Club. She was elected Secretary a year or so later, and once she heard of the writing contests for youth and GFWC members, a spark was lit! She is currently serving as state chairman for the Writing Contests which serve both youth and GFWC members in good standing.

Prior to retiring from the University of New Mexico and coming back to Montana, Marsha had accumulated roughly 40 years of administrative support experience. She looks forward to working with members of the Executive Board and serving all the members of GFWC Montana.

Treasurer —Lorrie Hardy



Lorrie Hardy, was raised in Great Falls moving to Fort Benton area in 1973. She has enjoyed her career in insurance and financial services assisting her clients throughout Montana. Lorrie began in crop insurance, then grew into management positions where she was responsible for coordinating the underwriting, processing, and education of the staff and agents throughout the country. Lorrie has been an active agent with New York Life Insurance for over twenty years.

Lorrie joined the GFWC Fort Benton Woman’s Club in 2001, has served on the board of directors for six years. She is now the Fort Benton Woman’s Club Treasurer. She chaired or co-chaired the famous Pie Contest and Auction for ten plus years. She has also served on the Central District Board as Secretary for six years. Lorrie previously served on the GFWC MT board as Corresponding Secretary.

Lorrie has served on the Fort Benton Chamber of Commerce board of directors and enjoyed new challenges with the board. In this role she worked with the Explore the Big Sky national program acting as the liaison between the Fort Benton and Great Falls’ committees.

Lorrie and George have four daughters and seven grandchildren. Lorrie enjoys her home, travel, “glamping”, reading, golf and cooking. She and her husband, George Fultz, currently live in Great Falls and are looking forward to retiring together in the near future.

Nominated for the board position of Treasurer, she looks forward to again serving GFWC MT members.





LEADS

Leadership Education and Development Seminar

Yes, YOU! Would you feel more comfortable serving as an officer in your club, district or GFWC Montana? LEADS helps provide the needed skills through a one-day seminar. 2022 LEADS will be held in New Orleans, LA on June 24. Check out the application on the following pages or at <https://gfwcmontana.org/resources/>.

GFWC will cover a portion of expenses and GFWC of Montana will provide an additional \$500.

Apply before March 2, 2022 by mailing your form and two letters of support to :

GFWC of Montana

Florence Diede

**GENERAL FEDERATION
of WOMEN'S CLUBS**



GFWC Leadership Education and Development Seminar (LEADS)

The GFWC Leadership, Education, and Development Seminar identifies GFWC members at the local level who have the potential and desire to assume leadership positions in their State Federations and/or GFWC on the national level. Participation in GFWC LEADS can help up-and-coming leaders gain the capabilities, confidence, and commitment necessary to pursue and achieve higher offices and serve with distinction.

GFWC LEADS is typically held annually on the day prior to the official opening of the GFWC Annual Convention. The program may include the following:

- Overview of public speaking, time management, vision casting, and conflict resolution. Explanation of GFWC resources, materials, and assistance.

- Outline of GFWC policies, parliamentary procedure, and protocol.

- Discussion of tips and techniques for pursuing personal growth and developing leadership opportunities.

Application Process and Deadline

Each State Federation and International Affiliate may select one LEADS attendee annually.

LEADS Candidate: Return this form, along with two letters of support from active GFWC club members, to your State Federation by the state application deadline.



Criteria for LEADS Participation

It is highly recommended that each State Federation or International Affiliate LEADS candidate meet the following criteria:

- Demonstrates leadership capabilities at the club level as an active club president, club officer, or club project or committee chairman.
- Exhibits a commitment to the Federation.
- Exhibits an understanding of the GFWC mission of community service, illustrated by programs and projects in which she is or has been involved.
- Demonstrates leadership characteristics, including, but not limited to, organization, responsibility, trustworthiness, enthusiasm, and flexibility.
- Exhibits an interest in and willingness to pursue higher leadership positions in GFWC.
- Agrees to share information gained from participation in LEADS with others in the State Federation.
- Understands and accepts potential expenses involved in participation.
- Has not held elected positions at or beyond the state level (this criterion is recommended in order to encourage potential leaders at the club level to apply).
- Has not attended a previous LEADS program. Members are eligible to attend only once.

Expenses

GFWC demonstrates its commitment to training leaders by funding a portion of the expenses of candidates who are members of per capita dues paying clubs. State Federations may consider underwriting a portion of an attendee's expenses. LEADS candidates are asked to be responsible for a portion of their expenses as an affirmation of their personal commitment to the leadership development and training. LEADS participants are responsible for making their own travel and lodging arrangements.

State Federation attendees receive:

Stipend of \$250 for travel.

Lodging allowance for half of the double room rate for two nights at the Convention hotel.

Breakfast and lunch during the LEADS program (no registration fee is required).

In addition, GFWC Montana will provide \$500 to help with expenses

Checks will be distributed to candidates upon attendance and completion of the seminar.



GFWC Leadership, Education and Development Seminar (LEADS) APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Club: _____ District: _____

Please conceal applicant's identity during selection deliberation

Please answer the following questions in as much detail as possible:

(Attach a separate sheet of paper if more space is needed)

List all local club offices and/or chairmanships held: _____

List all District offices and/or chairmanships held: _____

List GFWC club/District programs/projects in which involved: _____

List positions at the District, State Federation, and/or national level in which you are interested: _____

Are you willing to:

Cover costs to attend GFWC LEADS not covered by GFWC or state? Yes ___ No ___
Share what you have learned at LEADS with your state's members? Yes ___ No ___

**Return this form, along with two letters of support from active GFWC club members,
to your State Federation by the application deadline.**

GFWC MT Central District **Bobbie Conrady, District President**

GFWC Helena Woman's Club

Freedom's Path at Ft. Harrison is a residential community for homeless veterans and their families. GFWC Helena has assisted by providing the veterans and their families with food baskets, Christmas gifts for the children and darkening drapes for the apartments as many of the windows face the sun giving too much heat to the rooms. The members also gave a baby shower for one family.

Another project was "Sandi's Sweatshop." Before the pandemic, the members gathered to cut, see, iron, and create projects for donations to the March of Dimes, Operation Smile, and several community needs. These meets were discontinued because of the pandemic with the exception of the local Humane Society. Blankets were distributed to members for at-home projects. Completed blankets became beds for the dogs and cats. The Humane Society was so pleased they requested more later in the year.

GFWC Madison Valley Woman's Club

Members realized a fundraising event by wearing aprons with the GFWC logo made by a club member. These are worn at the Nearly New thrift stores. When the customers see the aprons, they learn this is an all-volunteers organization ultimately giving the proceeds back to the community. The aprons have increased the quality of customer interaction and even resulted in customers giving extra money. It is forecast that 2021-2022 will be strong financial years.

GFWC Madison Valley was awarded the Spirit of Montana Award presented by Governor Gianforte. This award is given to individuals and groups for their accomplishments, dedication, and services to their communities. The ceremony required the members to arrange the event from gathering tables, chairs, microphones, flags, and a podium as well as other details. The Governor presented a plaque and Montana State flag to the club. In addition to club members, over 18 representatives of organizations to whom MVWC has made donations, attended the event.

During the Ennis Fourth of July parade, the Madison Valley Woman's Club ladies walked and rode in the MVWC float as the Grand Marshals honoring the club's 100-year anniversary as a member of GFWC. Members wore white to also honor the passage of the 19th amendment deemed that the right to vote should not be based on sex. With decorated float, this parade also gave members the opportunity to celebrate 50 years operating the Nearly New Shoppe.

This Central District President is still working on ways for all clubs in this District to report, participate in District meetings and State gatherings.

***"Don't nag yourself with thoughts of failure.
Don't set goals far beyond your capacity to achieve.
Simply do what you can do in the best way you know how."***





Goin's on Out West

GFWC MT Western District

Bitterroot Woman's Club:

- ✓ Just completed: Food Drive for the Haven House to honor a friend of the club
- ✓ Looking forward to:
 - Spring into Summer Non-Profit Fair
 - Flower Power & Seed Sale on Facebook
 - Setting next fundraiser-an online auction
 - Preparing Valentines for nursing home residents

Deer Lodge Woman's Club:

- ✓ Fun at the club Christmas Party
- ✓ Coming up:
 - Honor Meals on Wheels Volunteers with Gift Certificates
- ✓ Club program: New Mayor of Deer Lodge
- ✓ Updating By-Laws

Plains Woman's Club:

- ✓ Make Cookies for Teachers
- ✓ Hold Health Fair
- ✓ Coming up: Missoula Children's Theatre

Ronan Woman's Club:

- ✓ Planning 34th Annual Arts & Crafts Fair-Sat, April 2
- ✓ Hosting a Membership Drive in the Fall
- ✓ Updating By-Laws

Thompson Falls Woman's Club:

- ✓ Supported the Running Start Racing Program
- ✓ Reception for our Club's 100th Anniversary
- ✓ A New Centennial Cookbook including committee that researched club history for the publication
- ✓ New Fundraising for "Get Sneakers"



**Proud of
you all!!**

Adina Fox
**Western District
President
2020-2022**



Inquiring Minds Want to Know!



What is the history of the GFWC of Montana logo?

- ◆ Who designed the logo?
- ◆ When was it designed?
- ◆ What does the symbol mean?

We are hoping one or more of our members will be able to provide some insight for us.

(Looking back at past Montana Woman Magazine covers, the seal was not used in 1994-1996 when Sandi Conrady was President. There is no fall 1996 or winter 1997 issue in the Memory Project, but it does appear on the spring 1997 cover. A quick review of the 1994-1996 issues did not reveal any sketch of the seal being developed or being voted upon. The inclusion of the seal on the cover may have just been a personal preference of the next State President to update the look of The Montana Woman or a judging requirement from GFWC for a state magazine to win a national award.)

Do you have any answers? Contact President Florence Diede at fdiede2020@gmail.com.



**“In the midst of darkness,
light persists.”**

– Mahatma Gandhi

