



# The Montana Woman



*Community -  
Acknowledgement  
Respect -  
Empowerment*

*Taking care of those who take care of us*



**"Never much owed by so  
many to so few. "**

**Winston Churchill**

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## GFWC of Montana Executive Committee

ALL COMMUNICATION WITH THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO :

[GFWCMT.BOARD@GMAIL.COM](mailto:GFWCMT.BOARD@GMAIL.COM)

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See the 2022-2024 Contact Book given to each Board Member for more information.

## 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*.

Email news and photographs to:

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Mail or email change of address to:

GFWC of Montana Membership Chairman  
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[gfwcmt.board@gmail.com](mailto:gfwcmt.board@gmail.com)

## *From the President*



Greetings to you all. What Season is it? We ended Sept. & started Oct. with rain, hail, thunder & lightning at in the Fall Meeting in Great Falls; followed by several weeks of a beautiful Indian Summer, clear (no smoke), brisk mornings & unseasonably warm afternoons. And then Oct 23rd winter hit Ennis - golden leaves still on trees, non-stop heavy snowfall 10" deep with patches still remaining on a beautiful sunny day a week later.

Another in-person Fall Board of Director's meeting was held. This issue is filled with many pictures for those of you that were part of it, as well as for those unable to attend, to enjoy. As a first, Colonel Tory D. Kendrick from Malmstrom Air Force Base welcomed us to Great Falls. She commands a group of three missile squadrons and an operations support squadron, providing nuclear combat capability to the commander of United States Strategic Air Command. The Malmstrom U S Airforce Honor Guard presented the colors. Evening social hour and dinner entertainment was music provided by The Lucky Valentines, a married duo from Fort Benton. The Madison Valley Woman's Club provided beautiful Fall table decorations on stunning red chargers. That was followed by 50-50 I-C-A-R-E (aka BINGO) - with 3 lucky winners & 50 % for my CARE Project. A sample Bingo Card with icons representing those who take care of us is included; if you would like a set to play at a Club meeting or event, contact me. Barbara Hogg did an excellent job as the I CARE Bingo, caller. Saturday lunch, the table decorations "Bees" were provided by the Bitterroot Woman's Club, we all received a shopping list of the items used for the center pieces and were supposed to guess how much they cost (I lost big time my total was over by \$50+!) The winner, without going over, won a prize. Our speaker following lunch, Emily Frazier, Executive Director of the Greater Helena Area Foundation, was delightful. Toni Molinaro, our Fundraising Chairman passed around the "blessing" basket which provided an opportunity for those who voluntarily wished to express their gratitude for something they were thankful for by making a donation. Saturday evening, the Fort Benton Woman's Club provided the table decorations, each table represented "those that take care of us". The speaker was Sarah Adcock, Associate Curator of the Charley Russell Museum who shared history, photos, and future plans for the museum. We wrapped up by collecting the silent auction items; and heading to the District Social gatherings before calling it a night.

The reports & "skits" by our Community Service Program & Special Projects Chairman were informative & in many cases fun. The State of Montana received a number of awards at the 2022 Convention—which were presented by Florence Diede, Past State President 2020-2022. Congratulations to all of the clubs who were honored, particularly during the 2020-2021 a difficult period.

You will soon be receiving the reminder from Kim Montag, Vice President & Dean of Departments that your 2022 annual reports will be due February 5th. I encourage you to share your stories of how you "Volunteer to Serve" YOUR communities. I also want you to "sparkle & shine" when any of your projects touches on "taking care of those that take care of us". You do not need to write a separate narrative; you may simply check a box for the for consideration for the 2022 State President's project. I encourage club women's attendance at the District Meetings in the Spring. I look forward to seeing those of you who I have grown to know over the years, but also meet those who have not been able to attend.

I would also like to request that you contact me by email, snail mail or a phone call and let me know the date & time of your Club meetings, or special events. I will make every effort to come to your Community! Be sure to reach out if you need assistance from myself and any member of the Executive Board—or another Club.

Enclosed is the flyer regarding "Friendsgiving". I have received feedback that this may difficult for a Club to host this event. A suggestion: is to reach out to those you support by inviting them to one of your meetings.

*Thank you for all that you do for your community. Peace & Happiness Be with you this Winter.*

*In Federation & Kindness,  
Lynn*

If your club would like a full set of cards to play this fun “BINGO” style game to support The CARE Project, contact State President Lynn Foreman.

# i C A R E



**General Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc.**  
**National Event**



**Why GFWC Friendsgiving?**

Friendsgiving is the blend of the words *Friends* and *Thanksgiving*, and it refers to a large meal shared with friends either near or on Thanksgiving. But why should we make this concept of a meal with friends just for Thanksgiving time?

The **GFWC National Event: GFWC Friendsgiving** will help build the GFWC brand in your community: gather and thank leaders, individuals, and businesses who have participated in some way in club projects by their donations of items, time, gift cards, and/or sponsorship; and enlighten potential members to the vast reach of club philanthropy and grassroots volunteer dedication.

Reach out to organizations that have benefited from your hands-on community service and/or In-kind donations and invite them. Think of your local organization contacts your club works with, such as the humane society, domestic violence shelters, after-school programs, food kitchens and pantries, and the list goes on.

Who else to invite? Town/city leaders, local business owners, past club members, co-workers, friends, members from other social groups you belong to, ladies who have attended club events or meetings but never joined, and even the micro-volunteers who assisted your club over the past few years. Pretty much, *EVERYONE* your club members are in contact with could be invited.

The goal is to get together for fun and fellowship. It can be scheduled around any holiday, such as:

- *GFWC Friendsgiving* – Ringing in the New Year with Friends (New Year's)
- *GFWC Friendsgiving* – Show the Love (Valentine's Day)
- *GFWC Friendsgiving* – Join us for a "Hoppy" Celebration (Easter)
- *GFWC Friendsgiving* – It's A Federation Day Friendsgiving
- *GFWC Friendsgiving* – Let the Summer Warm Your Heart (summer months)

The possibilities are endless. GFWC clubs are creative – we encourage you to create your own **GFWC Friendsgiving** event.

All the facets needed to plan a successful event are located in the  
*GFWC Friendsgiving ~ Box of Gems*  
located in the F Resources Folder in the Member Portal

**GFWC Friendsgiving** ~ a wonderful opportunity to be *Thankful* for the community's support and to BRAG about the good GFWC grassroots volunteering your members participate in while gaining a few new members in the process!

## 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 cameras 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

### PHOTO TIP:

As you prepare to take a picture, think about what draws you into the scene, what catches your eye, what leads you into that picture. The interest is not always in the center.

## GFWC MT Photography Contest Jo Campbell, Chairman

It was wonderful seeing all of your beautiful faces at the meeting in Great Falls a few weeks ago! And for those of you who did not attend, I wish you had been. It's such a wonderful opportunity to meet new friends and learn about our organization, as well as so many ways to get involved and work together. New faces are always welcome, which brings me to my main topic .... The 2023 PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST! I am honored to be your photography chairman for another two years!

The majority of us take pictures...pictures of the faces of our grandbabies, our families, our pets. Pictures of a beautiful scene that takes our breath away, and we long to capture it. Pictures of a moment so special we want to remember it forever! And pictures of our club members as we meet, work and play together. The holidays are rapidly approaching, giving us many opportunities to take great photos. The lens on your camera is your eyes, and just one single CLICK may be the photo of a lifetime! Pictures are judged by originality, visual impact and technical skill (or just a good luck shot!). I am here to encourage you and help you. Please contact me for any questions you may have concerning the contest or your photographs.

Any pictures to be submitted to the photo contest must be taken during 2022 and are due to this Chairman by April 1, 2023. 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.



## **GFWC Montana Writing Contests**

### **Jan Beekman, Chairman**

Wake up your muse, you Montana writers out there! The world of GFWC wants to enjoy your short stories or poems. The deadline for getting your entries to the Creative Writing Chairman is March 1, 2023, but all entries must have been written in this 2022 calendar year.

This is a great opportunity to share your creativity and get your muse recognized! The contest is not only for students, but it's for our GFWC members as well. We really appreciate the level of participation in the Youth Contest in the recent past, but we have not seen many entries from our GFWC members. You can remedy that!

Get going and get writing! Submit your own, but also contact your local schools and let teachers know about this opportunity for their students. Tell homeschoolers about it ... and invite your children and grandchildren to participate! The contest details and "story starters" may be found at [gfwcmontana.org/resources](http://gfwcmontana.org/resources).

The judges are looking forward to reading your creative works this winter!

**On the following two pages are an explanation sheet about the contest for parents and teachers plus the Creative Arts Waiver needed for all writing and photography entries.**



#### **Unlock Your Creativity**

There's a muse who lives inside you  
She is clever, strong and cute  
She is lonely there and waiting  
For your visit – she's not mute

When you meet her, she will speak up  
She will help you find your voice  
Pick up pen and grab a paper  
Writing is your muse's choice

#### **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

#### **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

For more information, contact **Jan Beekman** at [bobjanbeek@icloud.com](mailto:bobjanbeek@icloud.com).

Submissions should be addressed to her at PO Box 1477, Ennis, MT 59729

I've a blog – it's name is **janbeek**  
It spreads love and unity  
Joy and peace and faith are plenty  
There my muse can speak for me

You've a muse who lives inside you  
She is waiting to be free  
Free to help you find your own voice  
Unlock your creativity

*Jan Beekman*

<http://www.janbeek.blog>



## **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.

**When:** 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) any time prior to last week of February 2023. 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.

**Who:** 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 Montana State Chair/Writing Contests: Jan Beekman**

**[bojanbeek@icloud.com](mailto:bojanbeek@icloud.com), 406-599-9678, PO Box 1477,  
Ennis, MT 59729**



## CREATIVE ARTS WAIVER

With my signature I declare that:

- I have created the submitted work, entitled \_\_\_\_\_, and I own the full copyright. The work has not been published before.
- With my work, including pictures, tables, or additional media, I do not violate or infringe the copyright of other persons or entities.

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 binding at the date of formal acceptance of the work for publication by the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

Full Name (Print)		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip
Email		
Phone		

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature (if submitter is under 18 years of age)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## How Mai Tai Help? GFWC Helena Woman's Club

Members of GFWC Helena Woman's Club recently stepped out of their comfort zone and into leis and hula skirts in support of a fundraiser sponsored by Treasure State Runners called "For the Helena Of It". Proceeds benefitted The Friendship Center, a local shelter for those affected by domestic violence.

GFWC Helena Woman's Club members offered water to runners as they raced by, cheering them on with hula dances, cowbells and bright posters quipping "How Mai Tai help?" and "One Hula of a Club."

Club women, sporting purple t shirts (purple being the color for domestic violence awareness), won first place in the water station theme competition and decided that "Living the Volunteer Spirit" could indeed be fun!

Club members L-R: Terry Kockler, Cathy Kipping, Linda Peterson, Sandi Conrady, Beth Campbell, Bobbie Conrady, and Marsha Baumeister



## Pop-Top Challenge GFWC Montana Western District

**TABS** From the Fall Meeting until the Western District Spring Convention on April 22, 2023, the clubs of the Western District are having a challenge to collect aluminum can pull tabs to support Ronald McDonald House.

Each club is to bring their collection in gallon Ziploc baggies marked with the club's name for a weigh-in during registration.

The president of the winning club will get to wear a special tiara for the day, plus Past District and State Presidents Adina Fox and Joyce Hooper will present the club with a \$25 gift card.

Just a fun little event to support a facility in Missoula that serves the families of our District.

**THANK YOU** health care workers  
**THANK YOU** first responders  
**THANK YOU** grocery workers  
**THANK YOU** delivery workers  
**THANK YOU** truck drivers  
**THANK YOU** mail carriers  
**THANK YOU** sanitation workers  
**THANK YOU** pharmacy workers  
**THANK YOU** transit workers  
**THANK YOU** to all the essential workers supporting our community



## Forward to a Bigger and Brighter Future

### GFWC Mission Valley Woman's Club

The GFWC Ronan Woman's Club has announced that it is expanding its outreach by changing its name to The GFWC Mission Valley Woman's Club (MVWC).

The newly identified club is expanding its outreach to cover all of the Mission Valley of Montana, not just Ronan as reflected in the new MVWC logo (developed with the help Sarah Fryer of the GFWC Bitterroot Woman's Club).



The organization was created 105 years ago when some 20 Ronan women got together to form the club in the fall of 1917 as the Great War raged in Europe.

Over the next century, the woman's group made things happen in the city of Ronan. Those efforts included actively working toward the establishment of St. Luke Community Hospital in the early 1950's with bake sales, community plays, rummage sales and special dinners. One activity supporting the hospital involved knitting "booties" for newborns at the hospital.

The Ronan Woman's Club for years sponsored the Red Cross Blood Mobile and the Red Cross swimming program at Flathead Lake in Polson. The club was also instrumental in sponsoring the first polio vaccinations in the area to help stem the tide of the epidemic in the early 1950's.

The active group of women rolled up their sleeves to make sure that the Ronan City Library had a home on Main Street while providing much of the furnishings and fixtures for the building. Plus, as a forward looking organization, the club helped form the Mission Valley Heritage Association which would eventually establish The Garden of the Rockies Museum on Round Butte Road in Ronan. The support for the museum has not only included funding but also many hours of volunteer work. There is even a special section set aside in the museum to recognize the woman's club and its importance to the community.

There is so much more the club has done behind the scenes including giving scholarships to graduating seniors, sending girls to Girls' State, helping plant over 200 ash and elm trees around the community and assisting with the flower basket project for downtown beautification. That's in addition to assisting the Ronan Bread Basket and giving aid to the Florence Crittenton Home and Services in Helena.

One of the first steps of expanding outreach to other communities in the Mission Valley is offering scholarships to graduating seniors from all the schools in the Mission Valley including Polson, Ronan, Charlo, and St. Ignatius.

That's another a good reason for women throughout the Valley to come be a part of a group of women who like to get things done. The funding for the many projects the club is noted for is generated by the Annual Arts and Crafts Show traditionally held the first Saturday in April.

Pictured at this past April's Arts and Crafts Show are members of the Mission Valley Woman's Club (MVWC) and the Bitterroot Woman's Club (BWC) who came to Ronan to help with the fundraiser:

(L-R): Diane Grant (MVWC), Connie Romero (MVWC), Kathy Symington (MVWC), Karen Hoyt (BWC), Adina Fox (MVWC), Cathy Barth (BWC), Ruth Hazelton (BWC), Sandra Taylor (BWC), Sarah Fryer (BWC) and Patti Mocabee (MVWC)



## Membership Corner “Sparkle and Shine” Karen Gustavsen, Chairman

### Suggestions for a New Member Orientation Packet

- ◆ Application to join the club
- ◆ Copy of the club bylaws
- ◆ Copy of the club program for the year, including officers, club members, contact information, meeting dates, programs, and speakers.
- ◆ Dates for all District, State, Region, and GFWC Conferences and Conventions
- ◆ Copy of the Collect
- ◆ Copy of the GFWC brochure, state brochure, and club brochure

Always have several New Member Orientation Packets available at each meeting. You want to be prepared when a new member wants to join your club!

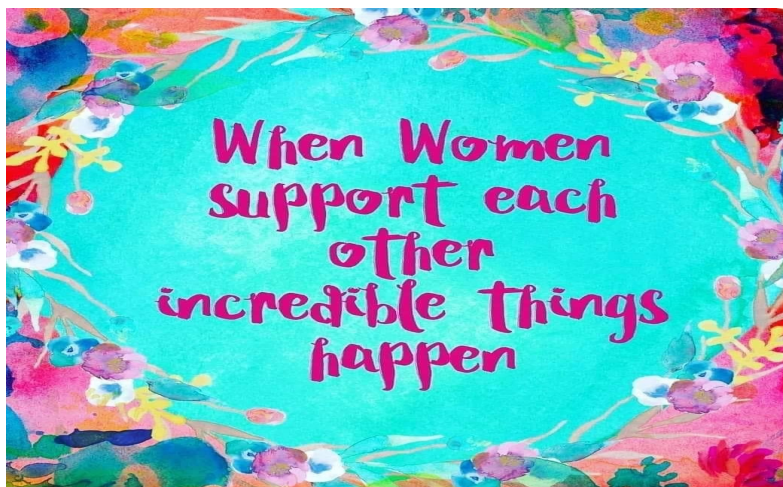
Does your club have a clever idea for a membership recruitment project and need a little financial help to make it happen? Every three months GFWC offers \$50 grants to underwrite expenses.

December 1	deadline for December—February projects
March 1	deadline for March—May projects
June 1	deadline for June—August projects
September 1	deadline for September—November projects

Your event might be to help **RETAIN** members through “Strengthening Relationships,” **RECRUITMENT** of new members by “Sharing Your Passion!” **MENTORING** current members through exploring “Harmonious Connections” with GFWC, or **RECOGNITION** of your members as they “Shine Bright” for a job well done.

The 2022-2023 Membership Grant Club Application Form is available through the member portal under “M”. The form is a fillable pdf that may be submitted online.

If you are not a member already, check out the GFWC Advancements and Programs Forum on Facebook  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/892214227854217>  
and click to join! A great page for members of all activity levels to share and learn from each other.



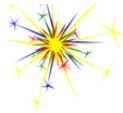
## ***Education and Libraries***

### **Lorraine Renard, Chairman**

In the 1930's, women's clubs were credited by the American Library Associations as having founded over 474 free public libraries and 4,655 traveling libraries. Supporting local libraries continues to be a Federation priority today.

Was your local library started by your GFWC club? Tell us about its history and we may print it in an up-coming Education & Libraries newsletter and/or feature in *News & Notes*. Send to LorriLeigh.Renard@gmail.com

Bring The Sparkle to Public Libraries!



## ***Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention***

### **Cathy Barth, Chairman**

In October GFWC announced partnering with a new Affiliate Organization, **Secure the Call**, a 501(c)(3) organization, to aid them in their mission to provide free emergency devices to domestic violence shelters throughout the U.S.

**From now through February 28**, we are all invited to hold a drive to collect the cell phones. The goal is 7,500 phones nationally! We can do it! To get started planning your cell phone drive, visit [www.securethecall.org/GFWC](http://www.securethecall.org/GFWC).

### **GFWC Montana**

Begun as the *Woman's Voice* in 1921, the publication was changed in October 1924 to *The Montana Woman*. This insightful 34 page publication announced the formation of "Montana Products for Montana People" as the slogan of the **Department of American Home's** new Division of Montana Products. The **Department of Public Welfare** wrote of the new Division of Indian Welfare, club's questions about mental hygiene, drug traffic, child welfare, social and industrial conditions, and the call for club women to consider the subject of institutions for the care of the dependent and delinquent. The **Department of American Citizenship** stepped up to urge club women to instruct and inform women as to the platform of the political parties, the procedure to register to vote, and the effect of primaries. The **Department of Applied Education** championed the need for better and more efficient rural schools. **Department of Fine Arts** asked clubs to study the needs of art in their community then plan programs accordingly. The **Department of Legislation** suggested clubs invite local lawyers to debate three issues—jury duty for women, repeal of the Medical Prescription Law, marriage and divorce bills. The newly formed **Department of Local History** challenged members to gather, compile, and record the facts and data involved in the discovery and settlement of their communities of the territory because the "actors in these great dramas of life will pass away." And finally, the **Department of International Relations** explored the composition, funding, and judiciary of the Permanent Court of International Justice.

These women of 98 years ago were strong, thoughtful, and devoted to their communities and homes — much like our members of today! This link will take you to the full October 1924 issue: <https://mtmemory.recollectcms.com/nodes/view/89588keywords=&type=all&lsk=7014d5e5b235e2ece24e094dcf0d77b5#idx745783>

