



OFFICIAL CALL
to the 99TH ANNUAL
WESTERN STATES REGION CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 7 - 10, 2017
HELENA, MONTANA
RADISSON COLONIAL HOTEL

“WESTERN STATES STARS”

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” Helen Keller

Dear Western States Members,

It is my honor and privilege as WSR President to personally invite all clubwomen in our region to the 99th Annual Western States Region Conference to be held in Helena, Montana, September 7-10, 2017, at the Radisson Colonial Hotel. We will be joined by GFWC International President Sheila Shea and GFWC President-elect Mary Ellen Brock to bring us important information and GFWC inspiration.

The Montana Clubwomen have prepared for us a fun and exciting start to the conference with tours both Thursday and Friday. We will learn about Helena and Montana history, see works of art, amazing natural sights, have a gem mining experience, and still have a chance to shop and eat. The tours will be followed by the conference itself where on Friday, following the tour, a “Take a Step to Leadership” workshop is planned prior to the WSR Board Meeting. Incoming leaders will also have an opportunity to meet with President-elect Mary Ellen Brock.

If you are a L.E.A.D.S. graduate, and want to join other graduates for dinner on Thursday evening, please contact: Cathy McCormick, cathym@montanamadeonline.com, and let her know you are planning to participate so she can make arrangements to accommodate everyone. Please also indicate your intention to attend on the registration form.

On Friday evening, September 8, 2017, the Conference will officially open with the “Soaring With Eagles Under the Montana Sky” Montana State Night Banquet. Expect a star-bright evening of food and entertainment where GFWC Montana will truly shine.

Saturday, September 9th, WSR business sessions will be filled with valuable information about GFWC programs, State Presidents’ reports, and platform workshops. The luncheon will give us a chance to financially support the Placer Pantry, a Helena organization assisting community members in need. The Helena Woman’s Club partners with the YWCA and other local organizations to provide needed personal and household items. There are no donation items to pack - just be willing to give at the luncheon. Mary Ellen Brock, GFWC President-elect will be our guest speaker at lunch on Saturday.

Saturday evening will be the “Western States Stars Sparkle in Purple” WSR Banquet. Plan to wear a touch of purple, or go all the way and “sparkle in purple” for Domestic Violence Awareness and to honor our International President, Sheila Shea who will be our banquet speaker.

Throughout this conference there will be an opportunity to help support GFWC Partner, Heifer International. If you make a donation you could win a gift on Sunday morning. Heifer creates change for women and families worldwide. By working together, WSR can invest in women who need our help with a hand-up, rather than a hand-out. They, in turn, improve their communities just as we strive to improve ours. Please plan to help with this project.

Send in your registration quickly – before August 16, 2017. I’m looking forward to a very special 2017 WSR Conference and to seeing all the Western States Stars shining brightly!

Cathi Poer, President
Western States Region

GFWC 99TH ANNUAL
WESTERN STATES REGION CONFERENCE
September 7 - 10, 2017
HELENA, MONTANA

The members of GFWC Montana are proud to welcome you to Helena for an informative and fun-filled conference! Come and join us for some Big Sky wonder in our State's Capital City, known as the Queen City. Fresh air, breathtaking scenery, history and so much more await you in Helena. The conference location is the newly remodeled:

Radisson Colonial Hotel

2301 Colonial Drive, Helena, MT 59601 (406) 443-2100 or 800-333-3333

Conference code: General Federation of Women's Clubs

www.radisson.com/helenamt, Promo Code GENE0906

Reservation Deadline: August 7, 2017

Room rates are: Single/Double – 2 queen beds or king bed \$99.00 per night (plus state & local taxes) More than 2 people add \$10 per person per night.

Transportation to the hotel via free 24 hour hotel airport shuttle service. Call hotel for pickup.

The hotel features free parking, free wi-fi, indoor swimming pool, whirlpool, fitness center, business center, restaurant, lounge, and in rooms: microwave, mini-fridge, coffee maker, and hairdryer.

PLEASE NOTE: The Radisson room block is currently sold out, however, more rooms may open up later. There are still rooms available at the nearby:

Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott

2150 11th Avenue, Helena, MT 59601, (406) 449-9944 or 800-228-2800. www.marriott.com.

Conference Code: GFW.

Reservation Deadline: August 7, 2017

The room rate is also \$99.00 per night (plus state & local taxes)

Transportation to the hotel via the free Radisson airport shuttle. Call the Radisson for pickup. 403-443-2100 and indicate you are with the General Federation of Women's Clubs Conference.

Hotel has an indoor pool, and fridge and microwave in the room. The room includes a free breakfast.

TOUR INFORMATION: (Registration Deadline August 16, 2017)

Thursday, September 7th, 8:00am - Board Bus. Tour: 8:30am – 4:30pm. \$60.00

Tour members will be divided into 3 groups to tour the Montana State Capital, the Montana Historical Society Museum and to ride on the Last Chance Tour Train. Each group will visit all three sites with each group starting at a different site. Lunch will be on your own at the Last Chance Gulch Walking Mall which features unique shops as well as restaurants and micro-breweries. The Parrot Confectionary is a sweet delight not to be missed. The train is a one-hour narrated tour of Helena attractions that winds through town and includes the mansion district. The State Capital Building was constructed in 1902 and restored 100 years later. It features Charles M. Russell murals and a dome of copper with a Liberty statue. The Historical Society Museum gives a glimpse into Montana's rich past and has a permanent collection of nearly 80 pieces by "Cowboy Artist" Charles M. Russell.

Friday, September 8th, 8:00am - Board Bus. Tour: 8:30am – 1:45pm. \$70.00

First, we will head to the Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine and Gold Fever Rock Shop where you can do a little mining for your own sapphire. Next, experience a Lewis and Clark type adventure on the Gates of the Mountains Boat Tour on the Missouri River. This 2-hour cruise features towering limestone cliffs in a mountain gorge that forms a river "gate" leading upstream to the Missouri headwaters. The boat features both indoor and outdoor seating. Watch for bighorn sheep, deer, eagles and other wildlife. A box lunch is included. (You may want a jacket for the boat tour.)

Boosters are invited to join us on any of the tours.

**GFWC WESTERN STATES REGION
2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 7-10, 2017
HELENA, MONTANA
PRELIMINARY AGENDA**

REGISTRATION:

Wednesday, September 6, 2017 4pm-7pm
Thursday, September 7, 2017 8am-11am & 2pm -5pm
Friday, September 8, 2017 8am-11am & 2pm -5pm
Saturday, September 9, 2017 8am-10am

Thursday, September 7, 2017

8:00am – 4:30pm - All Day Tour to Montana State Capital, MT Historical Society Museum and Last Chance Tour Train
2:00pm - 6:00pm Fundraising Room Open
6:00pm - “Western States Stars” Dinner Off-Site by Invitation (WSR Officers, GFWC Guests, Past GFWC International Presidents living in Western Region, and GFWC Montana State President)
6:00pm - No Host LEADS Graduates Dinner – Open to all LEADS Graduates

Friday, September 8, 2017

8:00am -1:45pm - Half-Day Tour –Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine & Gates of the Mountains Boat Tour
2:00pm - 6:00pm Fundraising Room Open
2:30pm - Executive Committee Meeting
2:30pm - Incoming 2018-2020 Leaders meet with GFWC President-elect Mary Ellen Brock
2:50pm - 3:50pm Leadership Workshop
4:00pm - Board of Directors Meeting (WSR Officers, State Presidents, WSR Committee Chairmen and Members, GFWC Chairmen from Western Region)
6:00pm - Social Hour
6:45pm - Formation Of Processional (WSR Officers, GFWC Guests, GFWC Intl Past Presidents living in the Region and GFWC MT Officers)
7:00pm – Montana State Night Banquet: “Soaring With Eagles Under the Montana Sky”
Official Opening of the 2017 WSR 99th Annual Conference

Saturday, September 9, 2017

9:00am -11:30am Business Session
11:15am -12:30pm Polls Open
12:00 Noon -1:30pm “WSR Stars Luncheon”
Supporting The Placer Pantry, assisting Helena community members in need.
Speaker: Mary Ellen Brock, GFWC President-elect
1:45pm - 4:45pm Business Session
6:00pm - 7:00pm Social Hour
7:00pm - WSR Banquet “Western States Stars – Sparkle in Purple”
Speaker: Sheila Shea, GFWC International President
Following Banquet: Reception Honoring GFWC and WSR Officers hosted by GFWC-NV

Fundraising Room will be open between business sessions.

Sunday, September 10, 2017

8:30am -11:00am Inspirational Breakfast
Business Session
Adjournment of the 2017 WSR Annual Conference
Safe Travel Home!

Questions about what to wear?

Tours: Comfortable clothing and walking shoes. You may want a jacket or sweater.
Friday State Night Banquet: Cocktail Attire
Saturday Business Sessions: Business Casual
Saturday WSR Banquet: “Western States Stars – Sparkle in Purple” Cocktail Attire
Sunday Morning: Casual Dress for Travel - Suggestion: GFWC emblematic wear

GFWC WESTERN STATES REGION
SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR WSR OFFICE 2018-2020

The WSR Nominating Committee: Chairman Carol Lopez-Lucey, CA; Members Jeanette Jester, WA; and Cheryl Martin, MT; have submitted the following slate of candidates for office. All the candidates have met the requirements to run for office according to the WSR Standing Rules.

WSR President: Patty Benskin, GFWC Wyoming

WSR Vice President: Cheryl Holman, GFWC Washington

WSR Secretary: Kate LeMere, GFWC Colorado

WSR Treasurer: Valerie Barnes, GFWC California
Pam Briggs, GFWC Oregon
Sandi Conrady, GFWC Montana

The election will be held on Saturday, September 9, 2017, during the Conference

**2017 GFWC WESTERN STATES REGION CONFERENCE
 SEPTEMBER 7-10, 2017
 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: AUGUST 16, 2017
LATE FEE FOR REGISTRATION AFTER DEADLINE: \$15.00
 (Please use a separate form for each attendee)
 PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL _____ 1ST TIME ATTENDEE? (_____) YES

FEDERATION TITLE _____
 (GFWC, WSR, STATE, DISTRICT, CLUB, GUEST, BOOSTER)

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEE \$25.00 \$ _____

Or, after 8/16/17 (\$40.00) \$ _____

TOUR REGISTRATION:

Thursday, September 7th - 8:00am – 4:30pm \$60.00 \$ _____

Montana State Capital, MT Historical Society Museum & Last Chance Tour Train
 (Lunch on your own)

Friday, September 8th - 8:00am – 1:45pm \$70.00 \$ _____

Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine & Gates of the Mountains Boat Tour
 (Box lunch included)

*Boosters are invited to join the tours with members. To receive additional activity suggestions
 Contact Adina Fox at: adinaf@ronan.net

MEAL REGISTRATION:

Please indicate any special dietary needs _____

Friday, September 8th - Montana State Night : Montana Angus Top Sirloin \$50.00 \$ _____
 “Soaring With Eagles Under The Montana Sky”

Saturday, September 9th - “WSR Stars Luncheon” Malibu Chicken Sandwich \$25.00 \$ _____

Saturday, September 9th - WSR Banquet: Stuffed Boneless Pork Chop \$45.00 \$ _____
 “Western State Stars Sparkle in Purple”

Sunday, September 10th - Breakfast: Ranch Hand Breakfast - Eggs, Bacon, Potatoes \$20.00 \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Are you a LEADS Graduate and plan to attend the LEADS no-host dinner on Thursday? (____) YES

Make checks payable to: GFWC MONTANA

Mail Registration Form & Check to: Cathy McCormick, 1133 Meridian Road, Victor, MT 59875

Phone: (406) 381-7568 Email: cathym@montanamadeonline.com

Questions?: Conference Chair Adina Fox, (406) 253-1774, adinaf@ronan.net

REGISTRATION CLOSING 8/25/17 - NO REFUNDS AFTER AUGUST 30, 2017 - TOURS & MEALS

Hotel Reservations: Radisson Colonial Hotel, (406) 443-2100, General Federation of Women’s Clubs, by 8/7/17. Overflow Hotel: Fairfield Inn & Suites, (406) 449-9944 by 8/7/17