

Wyoming News Blast
September 2018



Proud GFWC members
Since 1904

GFWC Wyoming President's Message - Mary Lee Dixon



Be Silly—Be Honest—Be Kind

Hello, my federation sisters! It's always exciting to start a new club year and this year will be no exception. My guess is some of you are well underway with initial meetings and outlining projects for your clubs. I am excited to start getting things underway also. I would like to let you know about the theme for the 2018-2020 administration and the goals we hope to achieve.

The theme is “Be Silly – Be Honest – Be Kind”. Have fun within your clubs, be honest with each other in all that you do and most of all treat each other with kindness.

The goals for the next two years are: Collecting a Mile of Dimes (only 90,000 needed) to donate to the March of Dimes from GFWC-Wyoming; support the Raising Readers Initiative within most of our Wyoming communities and lastly, treat our club members with respect and kindness. We sometimes forget to be kind to ourselves!!

How to do these things? Well, attached you will find 2 different outlines for each month or every other month for quirky fund raisers to help clubs achieve a goal and a calendar with silly, fun days to embrace if you feel like it!

Please take a moment to visit the GF website – gfwc.org – and check out the club manual for lots of information and suggestions for projects, help and the listing of our International President, Mary Ellen Brock's Grand Initiatives. Hopefully, you'll gain a sense of belonging to something greater than your own community.

The Fall Workshop is below, outlining all the pertinent information, tentative agenda and RSVP date.

One initiative I'd like clubs to participate in when attending the Fall Workshop is the Soles 4 Souls project of Mary Ellen's. Please bring gently used shoes to be donated through the organization to needy areas. I will take them to the collection center in Colorado and they ship them to the headquarters in Nashville. From there they are

shipped wherever they are needed. How easy is that? Just put each pair in a separate bag with the size indicated.

A **quirky fundraiser** to get started with collecting dimes:

Lose a Latte Wednesday - Put the cost of a latte (\$4) in your Mile of Dimes jar

Silly calendar days for September (Happy Cat Month)

Saturday, Sept 16 -- Collect Rocks Day (why not?)

Monday, September 18 – Ice Cream Cone Day (have one ...or two)

Friday, Sept 22 – White Chocolate Day (who can resist?)

Monday, Sept 25 – Johnny Appleseed Day (trees, trees, trees)

Tuesday, Sept 26 – Love Note Day (send one!)

Thursday, Sept 28 – Good Neighbor Day (be one!)

Friday, Sept 29 – Ask a Stupid question Day (...no stupid questions, are there?)

As you collect dimes, I encourage you to send in pictures to the news blast editor – Trish Peoples at tlapples@yahoo.com and feature your dimes outlining something fun, quirky, cute, etc. Some photos are included to give you an idea of what we mean.



Have fun! Be Kind! Enjoy your club year.

In Federation, Mary Lee Dixon

What's Happened Lately?

GFWC Laramie Woman's Club and the Senior Olympics

On August 2-4, the Laramie Woman's Club, for the 2nd year in a row, assisted the Laramie Parks & Recreation Center by checking in 452 seniors from 20 states who arrived in Laramie to participate in over 2600 events. Of the 452, 206 were from out-of-state. Pickle ball was the most popular event with 52 signed up.

Last year there were 13 states represented with 270 registrants. This year's event saw a significant increase in participation and the need to have volunteers assisting in making the event run smoothly and be a success. In spite of the huge increase in participation comments from participants were glowing regarding the friendliness, professionalism and efficiency of holding such a massive undertaking and we were proud to have been a part of this special event.

For those participants from here in Wyoming, the 2019 games will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico on June 14-16. Put this in your calendar and be ready to represent our State well in New Mexico.

Karen C Bard, Publicity Chair, Laramie Woman's Club

GFWC X-JWC, Trish Peoples



Our very talented Bev Campbell created this magnificent quilt over the summer, which X-JWC is using as a fundraiser for our Community Improvement Projects. Let me know if you're interested in purchasing a ticket.

What's Happening Next?

GFWC-W Fall Workshop

When: October 6, 2018

Where: Alice Hardie Stevens Center, 603 Ivinson Avenue, Laramie, WY

Time: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

What: Tentative Agenda

President's Theme and Projects

Get Acquainted - Introductions/Icebreaker

Job Descriptions – Club Presidents and Chairman

Report Writing

Parliamentary How To's

News Blast/Legislative Action Center Sign Up

Soles 4 Souls Donation

Calendar Fun Days/ Quirky Fundraisers

Why: To get better informed and more comfortable in your club

How: Interactive/ hands on projects and FUN

Lunch: \$10 – arranged by the Laramie Woman's Club

RSVP: Club Presidents, please send number attending from your club to me at dandmdixon91@gmail.com by **Oct 3**, 2018.

Club Presidents:

International President Mary Ellen Brock would like to invite each state to send one Holiday Tree to be displayed at the Headquarters Holiday Open House. Would each of you bring 1 - 3 ornaments suitable for an 18" tree to the fall workshop? I will provide the tree and send it to HQ but would like help in getting decorations. Thank you. For any club who is not attending the fall workshop but would like to contribute please send the ornaments to me at 503 Princeton Lane, Cheyenne, WY 82009. Please have things to me by Oct 20, 2018.



Notes from the Board

Leadership Chair, Sherri Geringer

On Leadership...

“It’s amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit.”
---President Harry S. Truman

Among the many exciting opportunities GFWC offers members are Leadership, Education, And Development Seminars (LEADS). “GFWC members at the local level who have the potential and desire to assume leadership positions in their State Federation and/or on the national level” are identified. “Participation in GFWC LEADS can help up-and-coming leaders gain the capabilities, confidence and commitment necessary to pursue and achieve higher officers and serve with distinction. GFWC LEADS is held annually each June on the day before the official opening of the GFWC Annual Convention.” One person from each State Federation may attend the annual program. GFWC helps train leaders by funding a portion of the expense; the State may also help with funding, and the participant is asked to share in the expenses as well.

When the application period for June 2019, is open and the deadline is known, the LEADS application will be made available to GFWC-W clubs through the “News Blast.” In the meantime, clubs can be thinking of a member they would like to nominate to attend this amazing program. GFWC LEADS may include the following:

- “ * Program: conflict resolution, mediation, public speaking, time management, parliamentary procedure
- * Explanation of GFWC resources, materials and assistance
- * Discussions on GFWC policies and parliamentary procedure
- * Tips and techniques for pursuing leadership opportunities”

Membership Chair, Katherine Van Dell



The Magic of the Dance

Whether dancing by yourself, with that special person, or with a group, you always feel invigorated and exultant. I believe that membership and involvement with a group of women working towards the improvement of their community is like dancing to a great tune. The accomplishments achieved bring happiness to our very being.

Ask the women in your family, friends, neighbors who are not already a member to join our dance. We all will enjoy and benefit in the group “dance.”

GFWC Seasonal Recruitment Campaigns “United by Our Diversity”

“GFWC is rich in history and at the very core of our history is our Motto: Unity in Diversity. GFWC benefits from the fact that we each bring something different to the organization which makes us “United by Our Diversity.” Your 2018-2020 Membership Committee has chosen to return to our roots to secure our future. We have plans to increase our membership 20% by 2020 and to have something for both our seasoned members as well as our new members.” Clubwoman Magazine, Fall 2018, Volume 96, Issue 5, pg 21

Please mark your calendar with these important reporting dates:

Summer Retention June, July, Aug; report due September 1
(I hope you were able to submit your report by 9/1/18, as requested in my email the week of Aug 27th.)

Fall Recruitment Sept, Oct, Nov; report due December 1

Winter Mentoring Dec, Jan, Feb; report due March 1

Spring Recognition Mar, Apr, May; report due June 1

Send reports to GFWC Recruitment Campaign, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036-2990 and to me, Katherine Van Dell, GFWC-W Membership Chair, 1732 Oxford Dr., Cheyenne, 82001-1663. A copy of this report is included.

GFWC Wyoming Fall Workshop – October 6, 2018

I look forward to meeting club members, especially the local membership chairs at the workshop. At this time, it is my goal to further discuss and review a proposed membership plan for the state.

Please send me a copy of your club’s yearbook or membership list along with a count of your membership beginning in September. Also, I would ask that you submit a list of new members, with their information to me throughout the year.

Public Relations Chair, Pat Stenback

As I begin writing this, I almost have to giggle. I am asking you to make sure your websites, face book or any other way you communicate about your club are up to date.

Why am I laughing? I do not use face book, tweet, or text so I am a dinosaur! However, I know the importance of attracting younger women to our organizations and this is how they find us. It does not bode well to have obsolete information out there.

Also, this year, I would like to write an article each month about one of the clubs. Therefore, please send me information about the history and why your club was started. Do any of the original ladies still belong? Please include some amusing incidents that still make you all smile. I want the ladies to know what happens in the different parts of

our state. Please get the information to me as soon as possible, as I want to start next month. Pictures are always fun.

Keep me informed, patual@onemain.com

Rating Guide Chair, Bev Campbell

For the 2018 Club Presidents

Sue Ann Shaffer, for multi years, was our Rating Guide Chairman. She did an awesome job of developing a guide that will help the Club Presidents track and meet the expectation of the State GFWC. The guide serves as a tool to plan your club year and when completing the year end reports the Presidents are responsible for.

The reporting period for this document is March 1 through February 28th. For our state presidents that means you will most likely have two Presidents for the reporting period. You as a new President may want to meet with last year's President and collect the information for March 2018 to Sept 2018. The new President will track from September to February 28th.

You can go the State web site to view the document, but I will also send you the form in the near future.

I have agreed to be the Rating Guide Chairman for the next two years. If you have any questions you can contact me at bevrogercampbell@gmail.com or 307-634-4483.

Writing Contest Chair, Mary Huff

For some, writing is a wonderful pastime and for others, getting words down on paper is a little trickier. Whether you have a "future author" in you or writer's block, the best way to start...is to just start... now!

Not a story writer? Maybe a short poem or a limerick? You never know unless you try.

I find my best time to get creative is in the morning over coffee or at night right before bed. These are MY quite times & I just let my mind wonder & explore.

Here is a simple sample of what you could write:

Limerick Basics:

A limerick has five lines that rhyme AABBA. The first, second, and fifth lines should have eight or nine syllables, while the third and fourth lines should have five or six. A limerick also has a specific rhythm, or "meter," that is created when syllables are stressed in different ways.

Sample Limerick:

A woman who once heard a mouse
ran screaming all throughout her house.
She sent in the cat
to dispose of the rat
to find it was only her spouse



So give it try & submit your masterpiece to the GFWC writing contest!



The *new* GFWC WY State Facebook page already has 42 followers!

It can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/WomansClubWY/>

This page is dedicated to posts about happenings around the state with our clubs, how volunteering for our cities is fun & rewarding while sharing ideas about fundraising that others would find useful.

If you have anything that you would like others to see, please contact Mary Huff at the Facebook page by using the "Send Message" link or you can email directly @ mary-huff@hotmail.com.

Let's stay connected through this free social media!