

GFWC BILLINGS JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB

1st Presbyterian Church, 2420 13th St West

January 20, 2026

AGENDA

Remember: park in the side lot and come through the playground door

Officers:

President - Marsha Hotchkiss

President Elect - Peggy O'Brien

Secretary - Kristen Stewart

Treasurer - Karin Green

Member at Large - Amanda Webber

Parliamentarian - Gayle Carter

Program 6:30 PM

Meeting Hosts : Civic Engagement

Speaker: Marge Hall & Wesly from Pooch'z, a home for senior dogs

General Meeting Opens 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CLUB COLLECT

INTRODUCE GUESTS, WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Minutes:** Kristin Stewart

**Treasurer's Report:** Karin Green

**Correspondence:**

**Announcements;**

**Unfinished Business:**

**New Business:**

**History Committee Request - Judy Senteney**

**New learning opportunities - Marsha H**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Arts & Culture**

Chairmen: Kathy Broyles & Karen Durfey

### **Education & Libraries**

Chairman: Karin Green

#### **Youth Services Center**

Eight boxes of books were taken to the Youth Services Center in December for the lock-up side library. The book collection was evaluated and several boxes of damaged books were removed.

Cost - \$0      Members – 2      Volunteer Hours – 6

#### **Volunteering in Billings Public Schools/Libraries – 64 Hours**

##### Schools

Cost - \$0      Members – 2      Volunteer Hours – 25

##### Billings Public Library

Pulling holds – Children’s section

Cost - \$0      Members – 1      Volunteer Hours - 20

Friends of the library - Pop-up Sales

Cost - \$0      Members – 2      Volunteer Hours – 5

Friends of the library - Book Nook

Cost - \$0      Members – 1      Volunteer Hours – 14

### **Books for Babies**

Chairman: Joan Sleeth

In November, Bev and her husband delivered 2 tub of books to iHealth, and 2 tubs to Billings Clinic. iHealth reported 153 babies born. Billings Clinic reported 59 babies born.

Volunteer members: 1 Guest Volunteer: 1 Volunteer hours: 4

In December, Bev and her husband delivered 3 tubs of books to iHealth, and 2 tubs to Billings Clinic . iHealth reported 137 babies born. Billings Clinic reported 63 babies born.

Volunteer members: 1 Guest Volunteer: 1 Volunteer hours: 4

In December, Joan ordered 2,000 B4B's book labels from Ultragraphics and picked them up. A bill for \$217.73 was submitted to the treasurer for payment. Joan also ordered 2,010 Touch and Feel board books from All About Books. We were able to get the same cost per book (\$2.70) as last year by placing our order before the end of 2025. Total billed is \$5,427.00 and the bill was submitted to the treasurer for payment.

Volunteer members: 1 Guest Volunteer: 0 Volunteer hours: 2

Club dollars spent: \$5,644.7

Discounts/Donations we received : \$659.96 total with \$51.96 from Ultragraphics (10% discount + \$25 gift card) and \$603.00 from AAB (10% discount)

**Total** Volunteer members: 2 **Total** Guest Volunteers: 1

**Total** Volunteer hours: 10

## **Scholarship**

Chairman: Linda Baker

**A member of the scholarship committee visited the Community Education center. Information is now updated on the website advertising the community scholarship.**

**High school scholarship application information, a poster advertising our scholarships, a letter to the counselors, and a brochure from our club were sent out to**

**West High School,**

**Senior High School,**

**Skyview High School,**

**Broadview High School,**

**Shepherd High School,**

**Huntley Project High School,**

**Custer High School,**

**Laurel High School,**

**Lockwood High School,**

**Career Center and the Trio Educational Center.**

**The scholarship pdf's were updated by our member Heather Burson.**

**A special thankyou to her for helping us accomplish that.**

**3 members 1 guest**

**21 hours**

**\$20.90 money spent**

**ESO**

**Chairman: Karin Green & Marsha Hotchkiss**

Nine members met January 6th and discussed 12 books. Anyone interested in increasing your “to be read” list join us at Perkin’s Downtown on the 1st Monday of every month at 12:00 pm.

## **Health & Wellness**

Chairman: Deb Willis

## **Environment**

Chairman: Bev Silkwood

Seven members met to review our end of the year projects, discuss getting a speaker for our April meeting, and consider our future donations. We will present a check for \$250 to Poochz BNB at our meeting on Tuesday.

Thanks to the generosity of our members, I delivered \$170 worth of in-kind items (leashes, pet treats, toys) to the Yellowstone Valley Animal Shelter in December.

Three members and one guest also delivered 331 pounds of plastic to Albertsons. So, we’re well on our way to earning another bench. I’ll collect any plastic if you bring it to our January meeting.

Total for November

Volunteer Hours 18

Guest Hours 1

Dollars \$250

In Kind Donation - \$170

## **Civic Engagement**

Chairman: Barb Barrett

### **Project: Tumbleweed**

**Nov-Jan – Lunches for Tumbleweed**

Hot food was prepared and delivered for lunch at Tumbleweed to feed 70 individuals for 2 days each month during the months of November, December & January: for a total of 6 meals.

**Volunteer members:** Barb Barrett, Marsha Price, Barb Hogg, Joan Sleeth, Harriette Brandon, Ellen Smith, Rena Bucher, Judy Senteney, Lisa Hanson, Peggy O'Brien, Kristen Stewart and Carrie Egan.

**Volunteer hours:** 60

**Club dollars spent:** \$0

**In-kind Donation dollars:** \$1,320

**Member donations during the month of November, December, January**

**243 items were donated:** food pantry items, hats, gloves, coats, sweaters, gift cards, blankets, socks, underclothing, misc. hygiene and cleaning products.

**Volunteer members:** Joan Sleeth, Barb Barrett, Marsha Price, Barb Hogg

**Volunteer hours:** 4

**Club dollars spent:** \$0

**In-kind Donation Dollars:** \$295

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**Project: Friendship House**

30 items total donated for their Dress a Child Project. We shopped for 2 children who were participants in Friendship House's program, purchasing pants, shirts, underclothing, socks, shoes, coat, hat, and boots and a fun item for Christmas gifts for each child.

**Volunteer members:** Amanda Webber, Barb Barrett

**Volunteer hours:** 5

**Club Dollars spent:** \$234.18

**Donations in-kind:** \$5

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### **Yellowjacket Food Pantry**

156 items Donated for their food pantry. These items included prepackaged snacks, noodle cups, and protein bars.

**Volunteer members:** Joan Sleeth

**Volunteer hours:** 2

**Club dollars spent:** \$0

**Donations in-kind:** \$113.25

### **Domestic Violence**

**Chairman:** Judy Senteney

**Angela's Piazza:** 35 Christmas gift bags for Angela's Piazza were taken to St. Patrick's Church for the party. Items were donated to the Thrift Store.

Volunteer Hours: 40

Club Dollars Used: 700

In-Kind Donations: 750

**Crisis Center:** Work has resumed at the Crisis Center organizing files.

Volunteer Hours: 10

Club Dollars Used: 0

In-Kind Donations: 0

### **Grand Total for January:**

Number of Programs: 2

Volunteer Hours: 50

Club Dollars Used: 700

In-Kind Donations: 750

# **Advocates for Children**

## **Chairman: Florence Diede**

### **Blanket Project**

Please do bring any completed blankets to the meeting. Ten blankets were delivered to the Yellowstone County Sheriff's Department. They will likely not need more for a couple of months.

Volunteer hours: 1 Club dollars used: \$ 0

### **CASA**

Four members continue to work with CASA. One has an open case, one works with Drug Court, one works with ICWA Court and another works with approving training materials. 450 children are in Yellowstone County Foster Care and 220 have CASA's supporting them. The next CASA Information session is Wednesday, January 28 at noon at the CASA office. If you know someone who would make a great CASA, encourage them to attend.

Volunteer hours: 60. Always a guess. Club dollars used:

### **Festival of Trees Family Tree Nurturing Center**

Thursday, Dec. 4., our tree was beautiful and ready to bring in a great price for the Family Tree Nurturing Center at the auction and dinner. Malinda Christensen and Marge Ewen attended with their husbands. The tree was purchased by Fuller Medical for \$2000. The tree was loaded with handmade reindeer and ornaments. The top had a beautiful handmade Santa. Very talented ladies!!!!

Tea in the Trees was held on Friday Dec. 5 with 18 members and friends attending. Four members modeled clothing from Dillards. This was a great chance to view the trees and enjoy the beginning of the holiday season.

Volunteer hours: 35

### **Ted Lechner Youth Service Center**

Saturday, December 6, five members decorated the hygiene tree and then enjoyed the company of the six youth currently being housed. We provided hot chocolate and treats. Of course, all the goodies were left for them to enjoy again later.

Six members had gathered earlier in the week and prepared the items for the tree.

The YSC youth were taken shopping at Heights Target on Monday, Dec. 22. Seven members greeted them with a \$35 gift card and assisted them with their shopping. Two of these youth had

just arrived YSC in the afternoon. They were extremely appreciative and well behaved, as always.

At the club Christmas party donation envelopes were placed on the tables. Members were encouraged to make a donation to help with costs for the supervisors at YSC to attend events with the youth. Often, groups invite the youth for free like to a musical, a rodeo or play. Then YSC needs to cover the cost for chaperones. Advocates brings the total to \$300.

Volunteer hours: 35 Dollars Spent: \$416 In Kind: \$75 (treats)

## **SCHOOL MEDICAL**

Chairman: Barb Hogg

**December activities included: Purchasing and delivering head lice treatment to be sent out to District Schools. As always “Jessica” at Riverside Middle School was the coordinator.**

**School nurses responded to help opportunities. We were able to furnish insulin for a youth whose pump malfunctioned and wasted his insulin. (Insurance refused replacement.) We have also been asked to help with lost/broken glasses, and a prescription needed during an insurance Stoppage.**

**Riverside Middle School donated 30 turkeys for Christmas dinners. Our committee donated “fixings” for 16 meals. Advocates helped with this donation.**

**Various feminine supplies were delivered to School nurses for distribution at several schools.**

**Volunteer members: 1**

**Volunteer hours: 4**

**Club dollars spent: \$166.93 Waiting on bills from school nurses.**

## **Communications/PR**

Chairman: Gayle Carter

## **Project 1**

### **General Communications**

[gfwcbill@aol.com](mailto:gfwcbill@aol.com) - A variety of messages including the GFWC News and Views were sent to members during the last month. Reminder that all of the club's monthly reports are on the Documents page of the website. They are helpful for the end-of-the year reports.

**Volunteer hours: 3 hours**

**3 hours**

## **Project 2**

### **Cards of Encouragement**

Eight members sent interesting notes about their cards. Notes included a caregiver that went above and beyond, an employee that took money out his own pocket when his employer did not have change, and other great notes. If you have given your card but have not sent the information to me please sent it. If you have not given your card please do it soon and send the information to me. I want to include some of the stories in my end-of-the year report. Thank You!

**Volunteer hours: 1 hours**

**1 hours**

## **Project 3**

### **Website**

The 2026 scholarships were posted on the club website. Encourage members that know a senior in high school in our area to apply. Special thanks to Heather Burson for making our scholarships fillable pdfs.

**Total Volunteer hours: 3 hours**

**Total Hours 3 hours**

# **Building & Grounds**

**Chairman: Marsha Price**

## **Project # 1**

**Replace Vinyl Baseboard in Baby Room, replace door sweep on large playground door. Add downspout to gutter.**

**Volunteer Members: 1**

**Volunteer hours: 8**

**Club Dollars: \$775.82**

**In Kind dollars: 10.00**

## **Project # 2**

**Replace section of Sewer line in basement with PVC.**

**Volunteers: 1**

**Volunteer hours: 2**

**Club dollars: \$257.66**

**In Kind -0-**

## **Project #3**

**County Property Taxes ( ½ year)**

**Totals for November**

**Volunteer members: 1**

**Volunteer hours: 0**

**Club Dollars: \$5,504.32**

**In Kind: -0-**

## **Project #4**

**Replace Dishwasher, Installation and 5 yr Protection plan**

**Volunteer members : 4**

**Volunteer hours: 3**

**Club Dollars: \$1,285.45**

**In Kind Dollars: \$12.00**

## **Project #5**

**Replace 10ft metal trim piece that blew off in a wind storm. Also remove and clean plexiglass piece on skylight in kitchen.**

**Volunteer members: 1**

**Volunteer hours: 2 ½**

**Club dollars: \$12.00**

**In Kind dollars: \$40.**

**Totals:**

**Volunteer members: 4**

**Volunteer hours: 16.5**

**Club dollars: \$6,549.80**

**In Kind dollars: \$62.00**

## **Leadership**

**Chairman: Florence Diede**

### GFWC

Have you read the most recent News & Notes?

Plan to participate in the GFWC Learning Gateway Series of educational opportunities virtually.

January 27 ESO Beyond the Page...

February 5 Heart Health

February 11 The Role Storytelling Plays in Advancing a Brand and Building Membership.

Let me know as you attend so your hours are counted.

Check these out at [www.gfwc.org](http://www.gfwc.org)

GFWC Annual Convention June 7-9 in Atlanta. Let's plan to attend along with 800 members from 11 countries. Yes, Florence needs to attend due to her responsibilities with WSR.

### GFWC of Montana

GFWC Montana reports are due. Please do send a copy to Marsha Hotchkiss, President.

The new form can be found on the RESOURCES tab or at the <https://gfwcmontana.org/reporting/>

### GFWC Montana Eastern District

Please do mark your calendar Saturday, April 26 for "our" meeting in Big Timber. Gayle Carter is Eastern District President, Marsha Price, President Elect, Nancy Bruce, Big Timber, Secretary and Bev. Silkwood our Treasurer. We will distribute registration forms at the February meeting. It promises to be a fun day.

## **Membership**

**Chairman: Peggy O'Brien**

**Volunteer members: 6**

**Volunteer hours: 40 hours**

**Club dollars spent: \$130.00**

**In-Kind Donation dollars: \$25.00**

Our annual Christmas dinner was held on Wednesday, December 17, at the Windmill.

Twenty-three members enjoyed tables decorated with a gingerbread theme and

gingerbread men party favors. Following dinner, members were entertained with a

mystery theater entitled, "There Might Be No Christmas." Eight members were suspects

that Santa had summoned to his workshop. They were under suspicion of stealing the

sack of presents Santa needs to deliver on Christmas Eve. Which character from folklore could it be? We have an impressive group of ladies who played their roles well. With the idea of getting more exposure for our club, we set up both a Facebook and an Instagram account. Committees are encouraged to send pictures and information about their projects to Peggy so that the stories can be posted. Let's get our name out to the public!

Sadly, we lost another member in November. Francis Sprengelmeyer was a delightful lady, and she will be missed. A donation of \$100 to the Military Women's Memorial was made in her honor.

Eight get well/sympathy cards were sent in the past couple of months. If there are members that are sick or having surgery, please let Peggy know.

Please welcome new members, Carolyn McCoy, Shirley Petersen, and Marge O'Reilly.

## **History & Resource**

Chairman: Judy Senteney

Members of the Committee met for 2 hours to discuss Club history from the 60's and 70's, when Shirley was a member. She is attempting to contact two others who were members at that time. She would like items from our scrapbook collection about a style show fundraiser, in which she modeled a full-length white mink coat.

## **Document Organization**

Chairman: Marsha Price

Project #1: Purchased document frames for Award Certificates

Volunteer members: 1

Volunteer Hours: 2

Club Dollars: -0-

In Kind Dollars: \$29.69

