

GFWC BILLINGS JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB

1st Presbyterian Church, 2420 13th St West

February 18, 2025

AGENDA

Meeting on Zoom

Guest speaker- Please check in by 6:15 pm

Officers:

President – Marsha Hotchkiss

President Elect – Peggy O'Brien

Secretary – Kristen Stewart

Treasurer – Karin Green

Member at Large – Amanda Webber

Parliamentary Advisor – Gayle Carter

Program 6:30 PM

Meeting Hosts : Health & Wellness

Speaker: Melanie Williams Montana Alzheimer's Association Coordinator

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:

- None

New Business

- Arts Committee - Karen & Kathy

Billings Studio Theater Outing

Spring Dinner

Coming Events! Dates to Remember

April 20-26, 2025 GFWC Volunteers in Action Week

April 26, 2025 MT Eastern District Convention, Big Timber

June 7-10, 2025 GFWC International Convention, Atlanta, GA

**September 11-14, Western States Regional Convention,
California**

September 26-28 GFWC MT Fall Meeting, Great Falls

Committee Reports

Domestic Violence Committee

Chairman: Judy Senteney

Angela's Piazza: The Committee helped with the Souper Bowl fund raiser – members worked delivering soup as well as attending the lunch.

Volunteer Hours: 24

Club Dollars Used: 0

In-Kind Donations: 240

Crisis Center: 4 of our members have been donating time each week organizing client files so they may be scanned into their computer system. Coordinator Mar-Cee McNeary has been trying to accomplish this task for many months, and staff at the Center simply do not have time to do it.

Volunteer Hours: 32

Club Dollars Used: 0

In-Kind Donations: 45

Grand Total for February:

Number of Programs: 2

Volunteer Hours: 56

Club Dollars Used: 0

In-Kind Donations: 285

Advocates for Children

Chairman: Florence Diede

Family Tree Nurturing Center

Yes, Mary Huffmaster, Melinda Christensen and Jody Schofield are already working on decorations for the 2025 tree. Little sheep, Christmas trees and reindeer. We can hardly wait to see the grand 2025 tree.

Volunteer hours: 5

Club dollars used:

Blanket project

Blanket kits are ready just waiting for your call to let me know you are ready to tie more. Thank you each for all you do to help this project be successful.

Do you have fleece blankets completed? Turn in to Florence.

Volunteer hours:

Club dollars used: \$ 0

CASA

There's a record number of children in Montana's foster care system.

In the past decade, Yellowstone County has experienced a significant increase of children removed from their homes and placed into foster care. Nation-wide, the state of Montana has one of the highest populations of children in foster care per capita with Yellowstone County accounting for approximately 25% of all statewide removals each year.

<https://www.yellowstonecasa.org/information-sessions/>

Check out a training session that fits your schedule.

Karin Green used her sharp eyes and found children's winter jackets on sale for \$4.97. She snagged about 20-25, both boys and girls and great colors. Six were delivered to CASA.

Then we received a call from Friendship House letting us know of their great need to have warm jackets for the children who go to their facility. I delivered the remaining 19. They were so excited and thankful.

Volunteer hours: 80. Always a guess.

Club dollars used: \$150

In-Kind donations: \$

Plan USA

Pillowcase Dresses

Ask Gayle to show you the pillowcases dresses she painted. You will love these plain, drab beauties.

Joan completed 9 dresses and they are now packaged with a t-shirt and panties.

We are working to have a collection ready for AidSpirit when they travel to Uganda mid-2025.

Florence purchased a few t-shirts to help with matching colors but we had many left from previous years so are happy we can use them.

If you or someone you know is going to a third-world country and would like to take a few dresses, let us know. We may be able to help.

Volunteer hours: 25

Club dollars used: \$27.02

School Medical

Chairman: Barb Hogg

Arts & Culture

Chairmen: Karen Durfey & Kathy Broyles

Arts and Culture Report

Plans for the arts this time include a group attendance at Billings Studio Theatre performance in May. To see Mama Won't Fly. Signup sheets will be available but the main thing we need to know when buying group tickets is whether you are a season ticket holder or need to pay. We will need checks to submit at the time of seat reservation.

We also hope to encourage children, youth and members to enter writing the writing competitions and decided that children who do enter will be awarded \$5 as an incentive. The Billings Public Schools do not allow this, but other organizations who work with kids can enter. Since culture is part of our program, we have chosen our May dinner meeting to serve food from a different culture that will be selected at our February meeting and we hope that 12 members of our club are willing to help with cooking. Recipes will be provided once the culture is selected.

Several other ideas came forth but need more discussion before implementing.

Civic Engagement

Chairman: Barb Barrett

Education & Libraries

Chairman: Karin Green

Books for Babies

Chairman: Joan Sleeth

Delivered 250 books to the hospitals in January.

Volunteer members: 1 Guest: 1 Volunteer hours: 4

2,682 books were delivered to the 2 local hospitals in 2024!

In January 15 boxes of Board books were delivered to the B4Bs chairman's house. The member and a guest loaded the books into a pickup, then drove to the BJWC garage and unloaded the books. This represents half of the 2,700 books ordered for 2025. The rest of the books are on back order until March 2025.

Volunteer members: 1 Guest: 1 Volunteer hours: 3

Club dollars spent: \$7,290.00 In-Kind Donation dollars: \$810.00 (10% discount)

Chairman met with Heather to finalize the bag design for our 2025 order of 5,000 bags. Heather completed the design and has researched costs and suppliers for the bags. She will order the bags in February.

Volunteer members: 2 Volunteer hours: 5

The Chairman picked up the labels for the board books. The invoice didn't reflect the 10% non-profit discount so a new invoice will be mailed to the club for payment.

Volunteer members: 1 Volunteer hours: 1

Club dollars spent: \$322.71 In-Kind Donation dollars: \$35.86 (10% discount)

The B4Bs chairman reread monthly reports to compile data for volunteer hours, guest hours, and dollars spent for 3 projects to complete the Project description and details for the end of year report due to the state by Feb. 5.

Volunteer members: 1 Guest: 0 Volunteer hours: 8

Club dollars spent: 0 In-Kind Donation dollars: 0

Total Club dollars spent: \$ 7,612.71 In-Kind Donation dollars: \$845.86

Total volunteer members: 3 Total guests: 2 Total Volunteer hours: 21

Scholarship

Chairman: Linda Baker

The scholarship information was sent out to the schools and the committee has received 7 applications as of February 15th. The closing date is March

1st. We also have received two scholarship applications for our

Community Scholarship. They have been accepted and the money has been sent for those classes to the Adult and Community center. One was for an accounting class and the other one was for a CNA.

5 Gift cards were also purchased for our scholarship winners. They will be sent with a graduation card in May.

Volunteer members: 2 (guest)

Volunteer hours: 16

Club dollars spent: \$573.95

In-Kind Donation dollars:0

ESO

Chairmen: Karin Green & Marsha Hotchkiss

Environment

Chairman: Bev Silkwood

Thanks everyone for continuing to fill the garage with plastic! We'll be making another run to Albertsons as soon as the weather cooperates. We have decided to honor Kevin Kooistra by giving \$50 to Yellowstone Forever which was one of his cherished places.

Total for February

Volunteer Hours 10

Guest Hours

Dollars \$50

In Kind Donation

Committee: School Medical

Chairman: Barbara Hogg

Members: Florence Diede, Gayle Carter, Jude Russell, Ellen Smith, Judy Senteney, Lynn Ehresman .

1. Obtained 10 small zipper pouches to make Period Packs from switch. (At no cost)
2. Purchased 20 pairs of undies for future Period Packs.
3. Received request from Florence. There is a School Nurse who wants lip gloss. It was ordered from Amazon and delivered to Jessica who got it to the requesting nurse.
4. CVS at 6th and Central is closing soon. I plan to buy the remaining headdlice shampoo that they ordered and were holding for us. I also plan to use coupons and earned credits to purchase supplies for the Period Packs.

Monthly Totals

Volunteer members: 2

Volunteer hours: 2

Club dollars spent: \$35.99 for 110 tubes of lip gloss, \$31.90. for 10 pair undies

In-Kind Donation dollars: \$10.00 (small bags used for Period Packs)

Committee: Civic Engagement & Outreach
Chairman: Barb Barrett

Project: Casey's Dream

Jan 15 - Casey's Dream Craft Day.

We hosted craft day at Casey's Dream making a winter greeting card with a snowman on the front. There were 20 participants who made a card with a winter scene and snowflakes on the front. Everyone enjoyed themselves and got to be creative with a little winter fun!

Volunteer members: Joan Sleeth, Barb Barrett, Amanda Webber, Carrie Egan, Marin Egan (guest)

Volunteer hours: 14

Club dollars spent: \$0

In-Kind Donation dollars: \$20

Project: Tumbleweed

Jan. 6 & Jan 29 – Lunch for Tumbleweed

Hot food was prepared and delivered for lunch at Tumbleweed to feed 70 individuals 2 days in January. Meat was purchased from a meat broker to use for the next several months to help members with cost of preparing maindishes.

Volunteer members: Barb Barrett, Marsha Price, Barb Hogg, Peggy O'Brien, Kristen Stewart, Carrie Egan

Volunteer hours: 10

Club dollars spent: \$300

In-kind Donation dollars: \$350

Member donations during the month of January – 2 large suitcases, new winter coats, hoodies, sweaters, stretch pants

Volunteer members: Joan Sleeth, Barb Barrett

Volunteer hours: 2

Club dollars spent: \$0

In-kind Donation Dollars: \$300

Project: Free Store donations
Volunteer members: Marsha Price
Volunteer hours: 1
Club dollars spent: \$0
In-kind Donation Dollars: \$1,150

Project: Senior High Pantry
Volunteer members: Marsha Price
Volunteer hours: 4
Club dollars spent: \$0
In-kind Donation Dollars: \$214

Committee: Communication/PR
Chairman: Gayle Carter

Project 1
General Communications

gfwcbill@aol.com - A variety of messages are were to members the last two months.

gfwcbillings.org – The club website had many updates. Photographs of the December were removed. Committee chairwomen are encouraged to send photos of new events. Thanks for the picture of the Souper Bowl attendees currently posted on the Home page.

GFWC Eastern District is having their District Meeting in Big Timber, Saturday, April 26th. Applications are on our website for members interested in attending. More information will be sent to the members including a new Standing Rules Document which will be sent on February 22 for review.

Thanks to the amazing members that volunteered to help with the Eastern District By-laws (Karin & Kristen), Fundraising (Marsha H. & Ellen), Treats (Marsha P. & Bev) and we even have a new Parliamentary Advisor (Linda B.)

Hope you are planning to attend, this will be a fun time!

At the Board meeting Kristen Stewart agreed to work with Karen Durfey and get the Facebook set up and maybe Instagram, too. Kristen will manage Facebook. A meeting is pending.

Volunteer hours: 6

Club dollars spent:

Health & Wellness

Chairman: Deb Willis

Communications/ PR

Chairman: Gayle Carter

Building & Grounds

Chairman: Marsha PriceProjects:

One Furnace unit not outputting heat-Replaced zone damper motor

Number of members:1

Volunteer hour: 1

Club Dollars Used: \$465.00

In Kind Donation: 0

Snow blocking garage driveway

Number of Members 3

Volunteer hours – 3

Club dollars - -0-

In Kind - \$40.00

Piglet room ballasts out

Number of Members – 1

Volunteer hours – 1
Club dollars – none yet
In Kind -0-

Grand Totals for February 2025

Number of Programs: 3
Number of Members: 3
Volunteer Hours: 5
Club Dollars Used: \$0
In Kind Donations: \$40.

Leadership

Chairman: Florence Diede

GFWC

Have you read the most recent News & Notes?

MARCH 19, 2025 @ 7 p.m. ET - When Passion and Purpose Collide

Ann Lauer, Quilt Pattern and Fabric Designer and GFWC Arts & Culture Honorary
Chairman. Let me know as you attend so your hours are counted.

Check this out at www.gfwc.org

GFWC Annual Convention June 7-9 in Atlanta. Registration is now open. Yes, Florence
and Marsha Hotchkiss need to attend due to responsibilities. Want to join us?

GFWC of Montana

Writing Contest entries due to Cathy McCormick by March 5.

Website entry due March 15.

Photo Contest entries due April 1 to Lynn Foreman.

GFWC Montana Eastern District

Saturday, April 26 for “our” Eastern District Convention meeting in Big Timber. Gayle Carter
is Eastern District President, Marsha Price, President Elect, Nancy Bruce, Big Timber,
Secretary and Bev. Silkwood our Treasurer.

Please bring your checkbook to the meeting. We will have registration forms available.

Make a copy so you can turn in your registration to Leadership for reimbursement.

Membership

Chairman: Peggy O'Brien

The Membership Committee met on January 27th. Five members were present. We discussed developing a new trifold for our club, as our current one is outdated. We looked at three different trifolds, discussed what we liked or disliked on each one, and decided what information and pictures should be included in the brochure. Burson agreed to take on this project. We plan to meet again on Monday, February 24, at 1:00 at the library to look at what Heather has designed. Members interested in this project are welcome to attend. Members felt that the trifold could be passed out by our members, or put at various locations in the city as a way of advertising our club.

We also talked about making changes to our binder given to new members. The information could be put in a smaller notebook that members could bring to meetings. Marsha Price will look into a variety of notebooks available.

It was decided that the Membership Committee would host a Bunco Party on Tuesday, March 4, at the First Presbyterian Church, at 6:00. Membership members will provide refreshments for the event. A sign up sheet will be available at the February meeting, or text or e-mail Peggy if you are planning to come to this event. Members are encouraged to bring friends.

As members are aging, we are facing more and more surgeries! It was decided that rather than sending flowers, we will replace them with a card and a phone call.

We welcome new member, Patty Segna, to our club! We are anxious to get to know you!

One member attended the GFWC International Webinar titled "The Rose Storytelling Plays in Advancing a Brand and Building Membership".

Volunteer members: 5

Volunteer hours: 13

Club dollars spent: 0

In-Kind Donation dollars: \$5.00

History

Chairman: Judy Senteney

Document Organization

Chairman: Marsha Price