

GFWC BILLINGS JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB

1st Presbyterian Church, 2420 13th St West

February 18, 2026

AGENDA

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 : Health & Wellness

Speaker:

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:**

**Coming Events! Dates to Remember**

**April 17-19, 2026 - GFWC Montana Annual Convention, Helena  
(new officers will be installed at this meeting)**

**June 26-29, 2026 GFWC International Convention, Scottsdale, AZ**

**Donation bins will be available at each club meeting to bring items  
for the various non-profits that we support. Thanks so much for  
your donations and reporting help!**

**Members wear your vests and name tags!!**

*Bring your own beverage*

**Committee Reports on next page**

**Committee Reports**

## **Domestic Violence**

**Chairman: Judy Senteney**

**Angela's Piazza:** Winter clothing was donated.

Volunteer Hours: 2

Club Dollars Used: 0

In-Kind Donations: 150

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

Volunteer Hours: 15

Club Dollars Used: 0

In-Kind Donations: 25

**Grand Total for January:**

Number of Programs: 2

Volunteer Hours: 17

Club Dollars Used: 0

In-Kind Donations: 175

## **Advocates for Children**

**Chairman: Florence Diede**

### **Blanket Project**

Would you like to tie a fleece blanket or two? These are simply--- 1.25 yards, one layer and only two sides are tied. Text Florence at 406-861-1681 and she will bring fabric to you or to the meeting.

**NO RUSH ON COMPLETING THESE!**

Volunteer hours: 0

Club dollars used: \$

## **CASA**

CASA provides numerous monthly trainings for their Advocates. This month has focused on domestic violence. Coercion is a recent focus in domestic violence. Just imagine being told the children would suffer if the wife did not do something just right, the house was not just perfect, or the dinner didn't taste as expected. Yes, domestic violence does not always leave a bruise or wound as we had previously thought. Four of our members continue to participate in this learning provided and represent children in foster care.

Volunteer hours: 60. Always a guess.

Club dollars used:

### **Friendship House**

Patty Segna came across a great find at Walmart == girls winter coat for \$5. We purchased 10 and delivered them to Friendship House. They were super excited to receive these.

Volunteer Hours: 2.5 Club dollars spent \$50

### **Easter Eggs**

Supplies have been gathered/ordered and we are ready to fill a couple hundred plastic eggs to deliver to families needing a letter lift at this time. Join us on Tuesday March 10 at 1:00 at 535 Johnson Lane and spend an hour or two chatting, laughing and filling Easter baskets. Always a great time.

NOW please provide us with names and addresses of families who will be happy to receive these for their children.

Volunteer Hours: 1

## **Arts & Culture**

**Chairmen: Karen Durfey & Kathy Broyles**

No report this month

## **Civic Engagement**

**Chairman: Barb Barrett**

**Project: Tumbleweed**

Hot food was prepared and delivered for lunch at Tumbleweed to feed 70 individuals for 2 days each month during the month of February: for a total of 2 meals.

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

**Volunteer hours:** 20

**Club dollars spent:** \$0

**In-kind Donation dollars:** \$440

**Member donations during the month of February**

**177 items were donated:** food pantry items, bedding, men & women's clothing, socks, household items and hygiene products.

**Volunteer members:** Joan Sleeth, Barb Barrett, Marsha Price, Ellen Smith, Karen Durfey, Peggy O'Brien

**Volunteer hours:** 5

**Club dollars spent:** \$0

**In-kind Donation Dollars:** \$473.20

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**Project: Yellowstone Methodist Free Store**

**75 items in total donated:** bedding, adult Depends, women's clothing, shoes, winter coats, misc. household items.

**Volunteer members:** Marsha Price, Barb Barrett

**Volunteer hours:** 5

**Club Dollars spent:** \$0

**Donations in-kind:** \$858.00

\*\*\*\*\*

### **MSU-B Yellowjacket Food Pantry**

85 items Donated for their food pantry. These items included prepackaged snacks, noodle cups, protein bars, cereal, granola bars, mac & cheese.

**Volunteer members:** Joan Sleeth + 4 other members

**Volunteer hours:** 2

**Club dollars spent:** \$0

**Donations in-kind:** \$149.58

## **Education & Libraries**

### **Chairman: Karin Green**

#### **Volunteering in Billings Public Schools/Libraries – 49 hours**

Schools:

Cost - \$0    Members – 2    Volunteer Hours – 15

Friends of the Library Valentine Pop-Up Sale

Cost - \$0    Members – 3    Volunteer Hours – 8

Billings Public Library:

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

Friends of the Library Book Nook

Cost - \$0    Members – 1    Volunteer Hours – 12

ESO:

12 members met at Perkins on February 2 and discussed the 62 books they had read in January. Some of the books reported on were “The Correspondent” by Virginia Evans, “Raising Hare: A Memoir” by Chloe Dalton, “How to Stand up to a Dictator” by Marie Ressa and “Shogun” by James Clavell.

## **Books For Babies Committee**

### **Joan Sleeth Chairman**

Bev and her husband delivered 80 bags of books to iHealth and 20 bags to Billings Clinic in January. iHealth recorded 137 babies born and Billings Clinic recorded 54 babies born in January.

Volunteer members: 1                      Guest Volunteer: 1

Volunteer hours: 4

Club dollars spent: 0

In-Kind Donation dollars: 0

**\*If you are interested in delivering the tubs of books for babies to the hospitals, please message Joan at [sleethjoan@gmail.com](mailto:sleethjoan@gmail.com), or call or text 406-860-3515**

## **Scholarship**

**Chairman: Linda Baker**

## **Enviroment**

**Chairman: Bev Silkwood**

No report this month.

## **Health & Wellness**

## **Chairman: Deb Willis**

This month we completed a rather unusual project. Barb Hogg's brother, Greg needed help with a client through his work at MSU-B (Disabilities Coordinator). On Friday, Marsha Price, Amanda Webber and myself began to move this client out of one resident hall room to another. She had been exposed to high-grade fiberglass insulation in an apartment she had rented. Previously she had suffered severe frost bite and this exacerbated it. She had to throw away all her clothes and bed linens. Everything that was kept had to be cleaned with Dawn soap. We had gathered clothing, hygiene products, bed linens (even a handmade quilt and pillowcase) and towels. This happened between floors 4 and 6 in the residence hall with flatbed carts that barely fit in the elevators!

Volunteer Members: Marsha Price, Amanda Webber, Barb Hogg, Debbie Willis

Volunteer Hours: 3-4 in the residence hall

Club Dollars spent: 0

In-Kind Donation dollars: \$50

## **Communications & PR**

**Chairman: Gayle Carter**

## **Building & Grounds**

## **Chairman: Marsha Price**

### **Project 1**

One furnace unit was not working. It needed a special-order gasket. The part took a week to arrive. Unfortunately, that happened during a cold snap, so those rooms serviced by that unit, fell to below 50 degrees. Two classrooms had to be moved to other areas of the building (one good reason to have multiple furnace units!)

Denise was wearing parkas, gloves, and a hat in her office!

Volunteers - 1

Volunteer hours – 2

Club dollars - \$685.

In Kind - -0-

### **Project 2**

Two committee members did a walk-through of the building to go over 3 pages of issues and

repairs submitted by Denise. Our newest member, Vicki Hert, had not been through our

building before. We made a list of tasks that we could do ourselves and others that we will

need professionals to take care of.

Volunteers -2

Volunteer hours- 4

Club dollars -0-

In Kind Dollars - -0

### **Project 3**

The oven on the incredibly old, original commercial range was not heating properly. We called in a repairman that diagnosed it needing a new thermostat and control unit. Those parts were ordered. I also had him look at the 2nd oven's door that has a broken hinge. We have attempted to have it repaired several times over the past years and have not found anyone who could fix it. Cello thinks he can repair it! Fingers crossed.

Volunteers – 1

Volunteer hours – 2

Club dollars – Unknown

In kind - -0-

Totals:

Volunteers- 3

Volunteer hours: 8

Club Dollars: \$685

In Kind: -0-

## **Leadership**

**Chairman: Florence Diede**

### **GFWC Montana**

To recruit and retain members, it is essential to evaluate the appeal of your club to both current members and potential recruits.

Join us Sunday, February 22nd at 3:00 PM as Montana's LEADS graduates help with the process as this course will offer self-evaluation and insights into attracting members.

**GFWC MT Learning Academy Training Session Part 1**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85422746259?pwd=89OKByYj0Xx2ufn0Bq97assCt7B>

6T1.1

Meeting ID: 854 2274 6259 Passcode: 567231

**GFWC Montana Convention 2026** will be held April 17-19, 2026 in Helena at the Great Northern Hotel. The room reservation block for our Montana Biennial Convention at the Great Northern Hotel is open! You may use this link to make your reservation:

[https://www.bestwestern.com/en\\_US/book/hotel-rooms.27075.html?groupId=C23EX1](https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.27075.html?groupId=C23EX1)

Information about free tours Thursday afternoon of the State Capital and the brand-new Montana Heritage Center will be included in the Call. You might want to plan your

travels to include Thursday evening. So that would be April 16-19.

Please get a roommate, plan to attend and make your reservations now.

BJWC will pay for ½ your room during official meeting times. Just a

reminder, BJWC will pay for your registration and official meals during official meeting times.

### **GFWC**

Join us at the GFWC Convention “Climbing Together, Shaping Tomorrow,” in Scottsdale, AZ on June 26-29 at the Westin Kierland Resort. Convention discounts until March 16. Please get a roommate, plan to attend and make your reservations now. BJWC will pay for ½ your room and meals during official meeting times.

Yes, there will be a Western States Meeting at this time.

Yes, this is the meeting where Bonnie Conner WSR Jenny Award winner will be honored. <https://www.gfwc.org/annual-convention/>

**GFWC Learning Gateway Series** provides learning for members. This past week several club members joined several hundred other club members to glean information regarding Women and Heart Health. “Know Your Numbers” was one of the important messages.

\*\*\*The Gateway Learning Series is via Zoom and if registered, one will receive the recording after the session even if you are not able to attend. SOOO don't miss the upcoming one...”Dancing with Your Brain,” *a webinar designed to help you partner with your most powerful organ to create sweeter sleep, calmer days, and more energized living.*”

April 7 at 5:00 pm. Register today!

[bit.ly/gfwcgateway040726](https://bit.ly/gfwcgateway040726)

In the Gateway Learning Series, no products are advertised. These are pure educational seminars.

## **Legislation & Public Policy**

### **Chairman: Marsha Hotchkiss**

I received an announcement from GFWC reporting that the **Trafficking Survivors Relief Act** has been signed into law. This important legislation was supported by thousands of club women who contacted their US senators and representatives through the Legislative Action Center. If you haven't done so, I encourage you to sign up to the Legislative Action Center to consider doing so.

## **Membership**

### **Chairman: Peggy O'Brien**

The Membership Meeting met on Wednesday, February 4, 2026, at 1:00. Five members were present.

We discussed the Bunco Party that we are hosting on Tuesday, February 10 at 6:00 at the First Presbyterian Church. The Membership Committee will provide refreshments for the event. Any member bringing a guest can put their name in for a drawing to win a box of Valentine candy! Members will meet at 5:30 to set up tables and decorate. Amanda will pick up Bunco prizes for most Buncos, first and second most wins, and most loses!

We discussed doing an art activity in March or April in coordination with making rice bags, but it was decided to possibly postpone that idea and do something for Summer University instead.

Ideas for the May dinner were discussed. It will be held on Tuesday, May 19 at 6:00 at the First Presbyterian Church. We will have a western theme (get out those cowboy boots) with a red and white color theme! We will cater bar-b-que. We will be installing our new officers on that day. Watch for more details to come.

Fourteen members and three guests attended our Bunco Party! We had a great time! We enjoyed great snacks and playing Bunco, but more importantly, it was fun visiting and catching up with our friends. Lisa Hansen won the drawing for a box of candy.

The nomination's committee of four members met on Wednesday, February 3 at 4:00. We discussed possible members who would be good leaders for our club. If you are interested in becoming an officer, please let Peggy know. We would love to have you!

We are getting both Instagram and Facebook up and running. I try to post pictures and write short stories about our activities. If you haven't checked it out, go to GFWC Billings Junior Woman's Club. I am still learning how to post on Instagram, and have had to get assistance from my granddaughter in Virginia! We are hopeful to find some new members by spreading the word about what our club does, both for fun and for the benefit of our community.

Volunteer members: 8

Volunteer hours: 30

Club dollars spent: 0

In-Kind Donation dollars: \$50.00

**History & Resource Center**  
**Chairman: Judy Senteney**

One member worked in the garage organizing Club scrapbooks.

Projects: 1

Volunteer Hours: 3

Club Dollars Used: 0

In-Kind Dollars Used: 0

**Documentation Organization**

**Chairman: Marsha Price**

Project #1: framed Award Certificates

Volunteer members: 1

Volunteer Hours: 2

Club Dollars: -0-

In Kind Dollars: -0-

Project #2: Researched Scrapbooks and previous Club Minutes

Volunteer members: 2

Volunteer hours: 2

Club dollars: -0-

In kind Dollars: -0-

Total:

Volunteer members: 2

Volunteer hours: 4

Club Dollar: -0-

In Kind: -0-