



GFWC Massachusetts Federation TOPICS



A Newsletter for Clubwomen

GFWCMA ANNUAL CONVENTION



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The GFWC Massachusetts Combined Annual Convention: *Cherish the Past, Celebrate the Present, Create the Future* was held on **Friday, April 29** and **Saturday, April 30, 2022** at the **Courtyard Marriott Natick**. This in person meeting was planned with club members in mind. There were loads of fun opportunities and celebrating for the attendees.

We started off **Friday night** with our dressy/cocktail attire where tiaras were encouraged. Attendees designed a beauty pageant sash depicting their special attributes (e.g., Drama Queen, Friend to All, 50 and Fabulous). Unbeknown to our evening's attendees our Special Guests, Debbie Peixoto, Ms Senior America 2022, Gabriela Taveras Miss Massachusetts 2018, and Lynne Burkhardt, Director of Sales Courtyard Marriott were scoping out future Ms. GFWC MA contestants. Introductions and dinner led to the evening's surprise activity emceed by Diane Erickson, the Ms. Senior America 2nd runner up 2022. Good-humored contestants walked the room and gave their reason for being chosen Ms GFWC MA. The judges chose Nancy Coughlin and crowned her the winner. All contestants received a token of appreciation for participating.

Fun Night hosted by Junior Membership was next on the agenda which continued the evening with 1924 activities including Blackjack, Charleston dance lessons and more fun.

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FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT T JABLANSKI



I saw an article in our local newspaper with a picture of someone familiar to me. It was a friend I knew from church and it was congratulating her on being newly installed as an officer of the Auburn Junior Woman's Club. I approached her at church the following week and inquired about the club. She told to me they meet the first Monday of the month at the Elks and that I could just show up. Show up I did and showing up for GFWC Massachusetts I have continued to do since that November in 1997.



I have served in many positions over the years. My favorite or most recent being, Director of Junior Clubs 2010-2012, Club Institute Chairman, Membership Chairman, Treasurer, 1st Vice President and in GFWC as Membership committee member, Leadership Chairman, Assistant to the Director of Junior Clubs and Fundraising committee member.

I love all things construction, building things, putting things together, mostly because I love using power tools. I am a creative to a fault. Having drawers, closets, buckets and bins filled with un-godly amounts of supplies I lovingly call my basement my Mini-Michael's.

I am blessed to have been born in the Berkshires, raised in Southern California and raised and raising my family in Massachusetts. I have three beautiful, grandchildren, one wonderful ex-daughter-in-law, one awesome daughter-in-law, an absolutely fantastic son and one happy husband!

My friends almost all come from GFWC Massachusetts volunteering. The benefits beyond the networking, leadership, philanthropy is the incredible relationships and friendships that I so covet. My GFWC Massachusetts friends are the best in the world!!

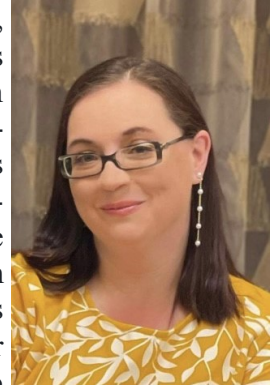
I remember reading from an old Massachusetts State Federation club manual, I think it was 1924, and the president was sharing her excitement over being installed and how she was enlivened about the changes in the roles of woman in the household and in the political world. She knew her worth and the worthiness of the work we do. I too know the worthiness of what we do and want to continue that legacy. I want you to KNOW YOUR WORTH and what you bring to the table, not only in your family or workplace but in your club and in your community.

I thank you for the opportunity to share my passion and experience with you as your newly installed president. See you at the meeting!

FROM THE DESK OF DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP, MARISA JABLANSKI



After joining GFWC, Auburn Junior Woman's Club in 2009, Marisa quickly involved herself at the state level. Starting as an assistant for T Jablanski when she was Director, to then being a Chairman, and eventually an Officer for Junior Membership. With strong roots in her Auburn club, Marisa enjoys attending all things GFWC at any level. Serving her community and helping to encourage future leaders is something she is passionate about. For the 2022-2024 administration, with the theme of Stand Tall and Proud with GFWC, Marisa is looking forward to working closely with clubs to get their names out in the community, as well as helping clubs to



increase their membership numbers. Marisa is the proud mother of Tessa, and serves as Director in her work life as well, managing an eight classroom nursery school in West Boylston. In her spare time, Marisa enjoys taking time to relax, cook, explore new breweries, and caring for her ever growing house plant collection.

GFWC MASSACHUSETTS FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, JEN NOWAK



In 1994 I was first introduced to GFWC and became a member of GFWC Wilbraham Junior Women's Club. I worked with my club on great projects, learned how to chair a project and eventually became a club leader. That was when the GFWC "bug" began. In 2007 the opportunity was presented to become Western District Representative. Learning more about the GFWC Massachusetts organization. About 2011 I was introduced to the Region Conferences and in 2013 was my first International Convention. As they say the rest is history . . .

My favorite past time would be quilting. Although I enjoy making a beautiful piece of art to wrap around you, when asked if I can sew, my response is No! In my mind an accomplished seamstress is being able to make an outfit and wear it proudly. So can I sew – No ~ but can I quilt – Yes and I love it!

Family is very important to me. I am lucky to be married to Mark for 39 years, we have 3 beautiful daughters, and 3 awesome grandchildren. I am very close with my 4 sisters, their families and my husband's siblings, their children, and grandchildren. So, to say family occasions are large, fun and a bit crazy would be an understatement.

I work at NEPM - New England Promotional Marketing, here in Wilbraham. I have enjoyed working for this family-owned business since 1994 with a break from 2000-2010 when our last daughter arrived.

GFWC has changed my life in so many fabulous ways. Not only the good we do for our community, the people whose life that have been made easier by the work we do, but the friendships that have impacted me are amazing. I am lucky to be a part of this great organization.

GFWC MASSACHUSETTS SECOND VICE PRESIDENT, TERRY ROUVALIS

I have been a member of the Braintree Women's Club since 2008 when a Club sister was kind enough to invite me to a meeting. Without hesitation I agreed to join the club. The ladies were nice, fun loving and purposeful in their commitment to community service, and I wanted to be part of that sisterhood. This club sister suggested I volunteer to be a backstage manager for the club's latest drama club production. The following year she asked me to co-chair with her the Community Service Committee with a goal of purchasing a whiteboard for one of the local grammar schools. I have been on BWC Club's Board of Directors ever since, working my way up to Club President and then with the subtle guidance from another club sister I was introduced to GFWC Massachusetts. The rest is history. You might say I'm hooked on GFWC, and I fully plan to stay awhile longer.



ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP BETH MCKEON

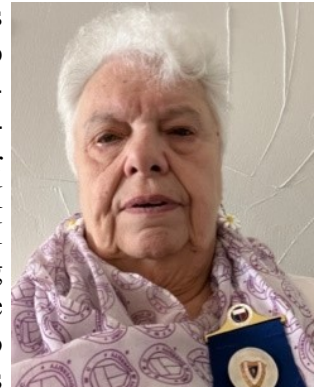


Beth became a member of GFWC in 2012, but feels like she's been a member her whole life because of her mom (Diane McCurley). She had been a member since Beth's earliest memories, and she believes there is no better way to honor her memory than to continue to do the work of GFWC.

Beth was also president of her club, GFWC Marlboro Junior Woman's Club, from February 2020 to 2022. It was a challenge to try and lead during COVID, but with amazing women surrounding her, it was a challenge worth taking on. Now she is looking forward to her new role as Assistant Director and serving Massachusetts Junior Membership.

GFWC MASSACHUSETTS CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, BERNADETTE BENNETT

This officer became a member of the Woman's Club of Newton Highlands in 2004. I was introduced by my Origami friends who shared what the club members were doing such as having different speakers, awarding Scholarships to Newton High School Students who wanted to further their education, and having social events and great desserts. I became Chairman of our Annual Craft Fair which provides funding for the Scholarship Awards. I served as Woman's club of Newton Highlands Federation Secretary where I attended State meetings. I particularly enjoyed having lunch and hearing about different clubs' activities. I became Club President and joined the Boston Parliamentary Law Club learning how to run meetings according to Robert's Rules of Order including how to handle motions. Last year I was privileged to be Chairman of President Shibley's Focus Area - GFWC Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention. And was recently elected as GFWC Massachusetts Corresponding Secretary.



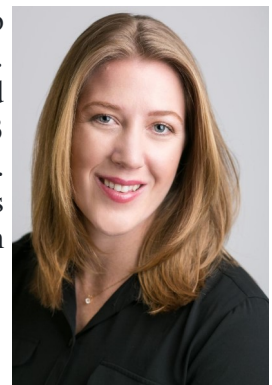
GFWC MASSACHUSETTS RECORDING SECRETARY, ALICIA SHERIDAN



"Hi! I'm Alicia Sheridan. I've been a member of the Holly Club of Wrentham since October 2014. I served as President from 2018-2022 and now I'm the Federation Secretary. The Holly Club introduced me to GFWC MA and I jumped in, learning more about how our wonderful organization helps Massachusetts. I was the 2018 GFWC MA LEADS Graduate, which was an awesome experience, attending the training in Kansas City. I'm currently serving as the GFWC MA Recording Secretary and the Leadership Chairman. When I'm not working or volunteering, you'll find me hanging out with my family and Aruban Cunucu. I'm also an aspiring writer and avid reader involved with several book groups.

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY, SARAH SARGENT

Sarah Sargent is a current member of the GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club where she has held several board positions and chaired numerous committees. Outside of club work Sarah is actively engaged in the community, as she has held a leadership role with Northampton Young Professionals, Northampton Ward 3 Neighborhood Association and been a volunteer for several local non-profits. Currently she works for Valley Community Development as the Small Business Program Manager where she provides business consulting to small businesses in her community. Sarah resides in Northampton with her husband Greg.



GFWC MASSACHUSETTS TREASURER, KATIE ROBEY



Thank you for electing me to office of treasurer for the 2022-2024 administration. I'm learning the ropes of GFWC MA accounts from our former treasurer, Darlene Coutu. The treasurer@gfwcma.org email has been changed and is received by me, so that is step 1. We have a few other things to tackle before this officer is fully set up to take on all the responsibilities of the office so bear with us as we make the transition.

Here are a few things you might not know about me--I am a twenty-five year member of the GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club. I served for four years as the treasurer of my own club as well as being president 2007-2008. I just completed service as Director of Junior Clubs and will serve as the president of Past Junior State Officers Club 2022-2024.

I served for fourteen years as an elected member of the Marlborough School Committee, serving as president of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees in 2010. I am currently serving in my tenth year as an at-Large City Councilor in Marlborough and am Vice-President of the Council and chair of the Urban Affairs and Housing Committee.

Although I was born and raised in Missouri, I have lived in Massachusetts since 1983 when my husband and I moved here; we will celebrate 40 years of marriage in September. I have 2 grown children and currently have three cats.



JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP TREASURER, ELIZABETH YOUNG

Elizabeth has been a member of the Marlborough Junior Woman's Club since September 2004. Joining Juniors was something her mother encouraged her to do in order to meet other young women in her new community. She has held the positions of Treasurer, VP and President along with the current position of co-chair of the MetroWest Princess Boutique. The boutique is one of Marlborough's flagship programs aiding young women to attend their prom. Mother to three (one a new college graduate) she is the Dean of First Year students at MIT. She loves going to the beach, watching sporting events and spending time with friends.



COMBINED ANNUAL CONVENTION

Continued from page 1

Saturday morning attendees donned their GFWC emblematic wear during the day. Sarah Sargent conducted the ***Celebrate the Present*** processional of our State Parliamentarian, GFWC Massachusetts and Junior Membership Officers while these leaders were welcomed by the membership. To ***Cherish the Past*** all living Past Presidents were honored with a short introduction of each depicting their administration theme. Past Directors in attendance were also honored by Katie Robey. A memorial tribute was given for Clementine (Tina) Macrina. Then the day continued with Annual Reports and Invitations to GFWC Convention in New Orleans and NER Conference in Rhode Island. The 129-year Trivia contest was presented throughout the day which culminated with Martha Casassa winning the Starfish Project bracelet donated by President Shibley. Donations for Dignity Matters (with representative Liz Jackson), Birthday Wishes and MassSTAR (with representative Brittany Stefano) were given. Our GFWC MA 2022 LEADS attendee, Robin Gendron was introduced.

At the break attendees viewed the Frances Perkins Traveling Display, voted for the 2022-2024 GFWC MA Nominees, bought raffle tickets for the baskets, boxes, purses and hats raffles, and to a chance or two on the split the pot opportunity.

After grace and lunch, **Awards** were the highlight of the afternoon: Scholarship Awards, Contest Awards, and Community Service Program, Special Program and Advancement Awards were given with applause and congratulations for all the winners. The President's New Beginnings Challenge winner was announced, again Martha Casassa, who received another gift from President Shibley. The Headquarters Commission and Memorial Forest reports were given by the Chairmen, per our Bylaws. Election results were given with all nominees declared elected. An update on the President's focus area and the Director of Junior Clubs focus were given. First time attendees' gifts and Heart Awards were given.

Are we tired yet? Let's hope not as after the break the evening's dressy/cocktail night continued. We welcomed family members of incoming Officers, and Reports by the President and Director of Junior Clubs highlighted their past years, Awards and Recognitions, and Trophy Presentations were given with more applause and celebrations.

The **Installation** of the 2022-2024 GFWC Massachusetts and Junior Membership Officers was the final item on the Combined Annual Convention agenda and the passing of the gavels signified the end of one administration and the beginning of another.

MESSAGE FROM PAST PRESIDENT, DONNA SHIBLEY

This Past State President is thankful for all the love and well wishes she received at the beautiful **Day of Recognition & Reflection** held on April 23, 2022. Sincere thanks to Jen Nowak, Marisa Jablanski, and Sarah Sargent for the organization of the heartfelt event. The sparkly Past President's pin will be worn with pride and the monetary donation will be well used for plantings around our Florida home with thoughts of the giftees in mind. Thank you ♥

This Past State President is proud of the Massachusetts clubwoman who have navigated this crazy world with its many challenges, twists and turns together these last two years. You have supported GFWC Massachusetts (as clubs and individuals) as we used our **Hearts & Hands for GFWC** in positive ways and I am so proud of each and every one of you. Much success to the new GFWC MA administration as you ***Know Your Worth*** and ***Stand Tall and Proud with GFWC***.

Congratulations to GFWC MA Contest Winners

Mary Barnes, GFWC Massachusetts Photography Contest Chairman

World in Pictures: Our World Up Close ~ **Kamila O'Neill**, GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club

World in Pictures: Natural Wonders ~ **Elizabeth McKeon**, GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club

World in Pictures: Reflections ~ **Kamila O'Neill**, GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club

Emily Duserick, GFWC Massachusetts Community Impact Program Contest Chairman

The **GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club** first-place winner worked hard to keep their community fed, while working with more groups in their community on this ongoing project.

The **Braintree Women's Club** second-place winner worked with the foster care facility in their area providing for the young teen's needs.

GFWC MA State Clubwomen Awards ~ Congratulations!

Marilyn Perry Leadership Award

The winner is: **Denise Ryan**, GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club

Martha Michalewich Clubwoman of the Year Award

The winner is: **Barbara Waible**, GFWC Northborough Junior Woman's Club

GFWC Massachusetts Clubwoman of the Year

The winner is: **Robin O'Connor**, GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club

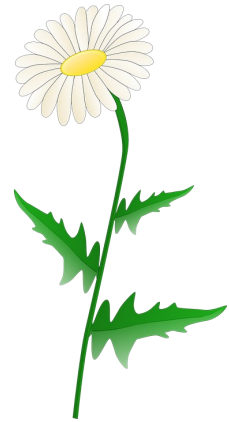
Sheila E. Shea Junior Club President Award

The winner is: **Marva Walting**, GFWC Wilbraham Junior Women's Club

Julia Ward Howe Club President Award

The winner is: **Mary Ann Pierce**, President GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club

ANNUAL CONVENTION



President T Jablanski and Past Presidents



Director of Junior Clubs Marisa Jablanski and Past Directors

ANNUAL CONVENTION



ANNUAL CONVENTION



ANNUAL CONVENTION



GFWC MA Special and Community Service Program Awards

GFWC Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention

Trisha Rusco, Junior Membership Chairman

Special Recognition: **Needham Women's Club** ~ Speaker at October Meeting

Special Recognition: **GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors** ~ How Domestic Violence Affects Children and How to Show Them Empathy

Creativity Award: **GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club** ~ NOW SAVE: Domestic Violence Resources for Northboro

Bernadette Bennett, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

GFWC Boston Parliamentary Law Club ~ purchased items for clients at RIA House (Ready, Inspire, Act) for the holidays

Braintree Women's Club ~ working with Braintree Public Schools BASHY Group (Braintree Alliance for Safe and Healthy Youth)

Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children

Marisa Jablanski, Dean of Chairman for Junior Membership

Special Recognition: **GFWC Wilbraham Junior Women's Club** ~ Halloween Mask/Lanyard Project

Special Recognition: **Junior Woman's Club of Walpole** ~ Holiday Meals

Creativity Award: **GFWC Auburn Junior Woman's Club** ~ Advocates for Children's Week

Jen Nowak, GFWC MA Dean of Chairmen

GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club ~ collection of foster care travel bags, backpacks, and suitcases

Hopkinton Women's Club ~ donated vocabulary recognition cards and carrying cases to Hopkinton Public Children's Library

Arts and Culture

Nancy Coughlin and Mary Kemp, Junior Membership Chairmen

Special Recognition: **GFWC Dedham Junior Women's Club** ~ deCordova Museum Picnic

Special Recognition: **GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors** ~ Pumpkins for a Nursing Home

Creativity Award: **GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club** ~ Crafts for the Library

Mary Barnes, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

The Holly Club of Wrentham, Inc. ~ Senior Center Valentine's Day cards to residents

Ousamequin Club ~ picture of the seasons, autumnal equinox and winter solstice

Civic Engagement and Outreach

Marisa Jablanski, Dean of Chairman for Junior Membership

Special Recognition: **GFWC Dedham Junior Women's Club** ~ Suitcase Stories Presentation

Special Recognition: **GFWC Taunton & Raynham Juniors** ~ New Food Pantry in Town

Creativity Award: **Hanover Woman's Club, Juniors** ~ Candidates Night

Diane Murphy, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

GFWC Boston Parliamentary Law Club ~ support of Johnathan, a seventeen-year-old boy leaving foster care

Lunenburg Woman's Club ~ assembled baskets for shut-ins in the community, partnered with the Turkey Hill Lions Club and a local Girl Scout Troop

GFWC MA Special and Community Service Program Awards *continued*

Education and Libraries

Nancy Martin, Junior Membership Chairman

Special Recognition: **GFWC Wilbraham Junior Women's Club** ~ Read Across America Day

Special Recognition: **GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club** ~ High School Senior Encouragement Cards & Gift Bags

Creativity Award: **GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club** ~ Women in STEM-From SARS to STARS

AnnMarie Bielenin, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

Dennis-Yarmouth Woman's Club ~ support of a high school student going to a technical school and students getting an associate degree at a Community College

Ousamequin Club ~ scholarships to three high school students

Environment

Marisa Jablanski, Dean of Chairman for Junior Membership

Special Recognition: **GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club** ~ T-shirt Bags

Special Recognition: **GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club** ~ Challenge - Make Haste to Minimize Waste

Creativity Award: **GFWC Dedham Junior Women's Club** ~ Native Plant Project

Jen Nowak, GFWC MA Dean of Chairmen

GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club ~ closet clean out and donations for SAVERS

Ousamequin Club ~ Iron Works Park beautification project plantings

Health and Wellness

Brenda Geary, Junior Membership Chairman

Special Recognition: **Sandwich Women's Club** ~ Chicas for Change

Special Recognition: **Westford Women's Club** ~ Volunteer Help for Craft Days at Bridges by Epoch

Creativity Award: **GFWC Wilbraham Junior Women's Club** ~ Comfort Pillows for Breast Cancer Patients

Mary Baird, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

Millbury Women's Club, Inc. ~ pansy plant sale for Pancreatic Cancer Alliance

Westborough Woman's Club ~ support of the Community Harvest Project, a farming project for hunger relief

“Creative people are curious, flexible, persistent, and independent with a tremendous spirit of adventure and a love of play.”

Henri Matisse

Congratulations to GFWC MA Advancement Plan Winners

Women's History and Resource Center

Laurie LaBrecque Junior Membership Chairman

Special Recognition: **GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club** ~ Member Yearbook

Special Recognition: **GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club** ~ Organizing/Storing Club Records

Creativity Award: **GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors** ~ Women We Admire

Laurie LaBrecque, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club ~ 1898 Society celebration organization of reception

Legislation/Public Policy

Marisa Jablanski, Dean of Chairman for Junior Membership

Special Recognition: **GFWC Dedham Junior Women's Club** ~ Candidate Forum

Special Recognition: **GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club** ~ GFWC Legislative Alerts

Creativity Award: **GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors** ~ Promoting Awareness of GFWC's Legislative Priorities

Fundraising

Mary Ann Pierce, Chairman for both Junior Membership and GFWC Massachusetts Junior Membership:

Special Recognition: **Junior Woman's Club of Walpole** ~ Festival of Trees

Special Recognition: **GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors** ~ Suffrage Centennial Tea

Creativity Award: **Needham Women's Club** ~ Holiday House Tour

GFWC Massachusetts:

Hopkinton Women's Club ~ girl's night out cocktail party

Westborough Woman's Club ~ online treasured goods auction with 50 items for sale

Communications and Public Relations

Kathleen Goneau, Junior Membership Chairman

Special Recognition: **GFWC Auburn Junior Woman's Club-** ~ Duck Race Modifications w/Facebook Live

Special Recognition: **GFWC Wilbraham Junior Women's Club** ~ All Inclusive Media to Increase Awareness of Projects

Creativity Award: **Needham Women's Club** ~ Video, Signage, and Relationships

Jen Nowak, GFWC MA Dean of Chairmen

Westborough Woman's Club ~ use of social media/Facebook to communicate with the community

Leadership

Beth McKeon, Junior Membership Chairman

Special Recognition: **Needham Women's Club** ~ Program Committees and Leaders

Special Recognition: **GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club** ~ Hybrid Club Business Meetings

Creativity Award: **GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club** ~ Past President's Leadership Video Presentation

Congratulations to GFWC MA Advancement Plan Winners *continued*

Membership

Marisa Jablanski, Junior Membership Chairman

Special Recognition: **Westford Women's Club** ~ How to Have a Zoom Tea Party!

Special recognition: **GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club** ~ Club Member Bingo

Creativity Award: **GFWC Wilbraham Junior Women's Club** ~ Monthly Hospitality

Pat Furtado, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman

Ousamequin Club ~ various speakers at Zoom club meetings

Woman's Club of Newton Highlands ~ invitational open house for prospective members

"The three great essentials to achieve anything worth while are, first, hard work; second, stick-to-itiveness; third, common sense."

Thomas Edison

GFWC MA Club Awards ~ Congratulations!

Junior Membership

Barbara Baker Tray ~ GFWC Randolph Junior Woman's Club

Division II (6-30 members) – Small Bowl ~ GFWC Wilbraham Junior Woman's Club

Division I (31+ members) - Small Bowl ~ GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club

P & A – Large Bowl ~ GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors

Women's Clubs

2021 Club Performance Award Bowls:

GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club ~ MaryAnn Pierce, President

Pepperell Woman's Club ~ Darlene Coutu, President

Westborough Women's Club ~ Renee Hatherley, President

DAY OF REFLECTION & RECOGNITION



COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS OF GFWC HISTORY

Since April 1, 1922, GFWC has called the beautiful building at 1734 N St. NW, Washington, DC, home. Since the purchase of the mansion, it has been filled with the stories of countless clubwomen and their guests

Join in celebrating this exciting milestone by enjoying the GFWC 100th Anniversary Virtual Tour, hosted by International President Marian St.Clair and President-elect Deb Strahanoski. Registration is available through the [Member Portal](#), and once you have registered, with a delayed view date, you will receive a link to view the virtual tour when it is ready.

Have a success story to tell?

Let the **GFWC Massachusetts Communications and Public Relations Chairman** know about your project so it can be highlighted on our website and FaceBook page.

Email: dmsibley@gmail.com

Also email PR@GFWC.org to have your club project considered for the GFWC Blog.

IMPORTANT REMINDER!

Please be sure to submit your Manual Sheet and 990 tax filing confirmation to HQ by June 15.

Manual Sheets should have the club's current information to be printed in the 2022-2023 Manual/Directory.



Board of Directors Meeting ~ May, 2022

FEDERATION DAY AT MEMORIAL FOREST



The 72nd GFWC Massachusetts Federation Day at the Forest was held at Headquarters on May 21, 2022.

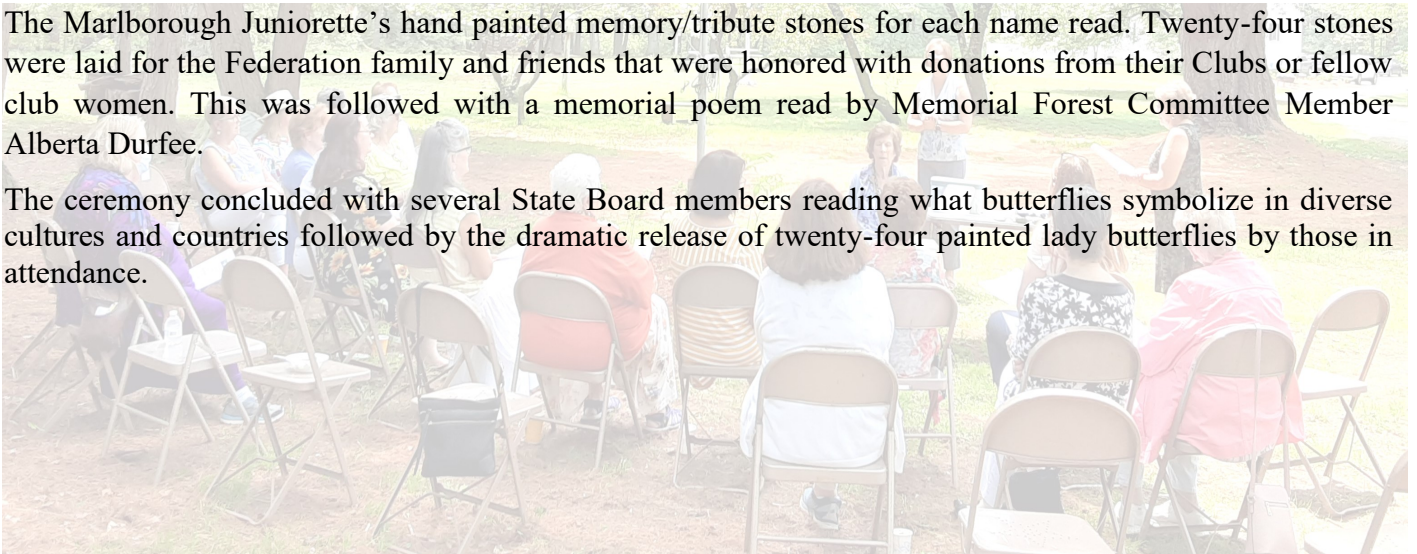


On a beautiful New England Spring Day, club members gathered near the flagpole to honor and celebrate the lives of dedicated club women and their families and friends.

We retired the flag that had been flying for the past year in honor and in memory of Michael ‘Mehi’ Jablanski, WWII Army Veteran. We returned the flag to his family and raised a new flag that day.

The Marlborough Juniette’s hand painted memory/tribute stones for each name read. Twenty-four stones were laid for the Federation family and friends that were honored with donations from their Clubs or fellow club women. This was followed with a memorial poem read by Memorial Forest Committee Member Alberta Durfee.

The ceremony concluded with several State Board members reading what butterflies symbolize in diverse cultures and countries followed by the dramatic release of twenty-four painted lady butterflies by those in attendance.





GFWC Boston Parliamentary Law Club celebrates another successful year at the club's annual luncheon held at the Wayside Inn in Sudbury.



THE HOLLY CLUB OF WRENTHAM, MA hosted our second Annual First Responders Appreciation Dinner for our Police, Firefighters, and Veterans in partnership with Lutz Buddy Up.

They enjoyed a Steak and Chicken BBQ with salad, rice, and topped off with homemade chocolate and vanilla cupcakes. It was wonderful to see our men in uniform stopping long enough to allow us to say Thank You for all they do to protect us and to enjoy each other's company.

This was a wonderful, fun, and inspiring evening and I'm so grateful for the work the Holly Club does for our community and to each member who is part of this club.

Submitted by President, Penelope Olson





1898 Society

Members gather at Annual Convention for the Annual Members' Reception.



Millbury Woman's Club

The Auction Plant Sale took place at the Asa Water Mansion on June 6th held to raise funds for the Club. Members and guests were very generous with their donation of plants from their gardens as well as with the auction.

Pictured are Dana Christman, Mary Lou Mulhane (auctioneer) and Sandy Cristo.



Randolph Junior Woman's Club

President, Diane Murphy and Treasurer, Martha Casassa accepting the Barbara Baker Tray at Annual Convention.



MassSTAR

GFWC Massachusetts has supported the **Massachusetts Youth Leadership Foundation MassSTAR Citizen Conference** since its inception in 2002. This past weekend they were back in person at Lasell University with 59 delegates for a weekend of speakers, group learning activities, and intensive small group discussions to empower the delegates to be proactive leaders in their schools, communities, and the world. A service project, with over 150 thinking of you care packets to benefit CASA Worcester, was also completed. Kuddos and many thanks were given to GFWC MA and GFWC MA clubs for their financial support of this conference.

financial support of this conference.

With parents, friends and delegates in attendance Donna Shibley, 2020-2022 GFWC MA President, spoke at the closing ceremony. Mary Ann Pierce and Bernadette Bennett also attended.

An excerpt from her presentation: *If there is one thing that each of you take from your weekend with MassSTAR is that no matter how successful you are in the future as a leader in school or in your life's work, you too can make a difference. Volunteers do make a difference every day! And, they also make great leaders! Just look around at the amazing volunteers who worked to create this wonderful experience for you this weekend.*

*The civil rights leader **Martin Luther King, Jr.** said, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, What are you doing for others?"*

Leave today with that goal in mind. Take your newfound knowledge and maybe one day, you too will make a difference and change the world! GFWC MA believes in the MassSTAR Program and together with our youth we will make a difference in the lives of others!



Watch for a refreshing update at Headquarters.



Save the Date

Everything's Coming Up Daisies Tea Party

Join us for a Tea-rific time!

August 7, 2022

1:00pm - 3:00pm

Donation \$30

GFWC MA Headquarters

245 Dutton Rd

Sudbury, MA

Limited seating – please reserve early

For additional information contact

Mary Ann Pierce at mapgfwc@msn.com

781-424-0286

Mall check payable to "GFWC MA" to

Katie Robey, Treasurer, 97 Hudson St,

Marlborough, MA 01752



Save the Date

Saturday

October 29, 2022

Join us for the
GFWC Massachusetts
Fall Meeting
at the



Publick House
Historic Inn & Country Lodge

277 Main Street (RT 131)

Sturbridge MA 01566

Check out this beautiful venue for
our Fall Meeting.

www.publickhouse.com

More information to follow!



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Stand Tall and Proud with GFWC



Julia Ward Howe



Julia Ward Howe was the founder of the GFWC Massachusetts Federation. She served as the first President 1893 to 1898. Among her many contributions to American society is her famous "Battle Hymn of the Republic," and was co-editor and writer for *The Woman's Journal*, which lobbied for suffrage and human rights. Julia traveled the world promoting Women's Rights, Peace, Prison and Education Reform as a preacher, lecturer, and dignitary. She was seen as a bridge between Society and Reform and used her celebrity and social status to further her ideology.

Show your support of GFWC Massachusetts by joining the 1898 Society. Members are dedicated to the financial well-being of our state organization, all funds raised contribute to the welfare of this Federation and help to maintain our property and headquarters building. GFWC Massachusetts is a 501(c) organization.

We encourage all members to join each administration and we will celebrate together at the Members Only reception which is held at Annual Convention.

Membership Levels

- **Bronze Membership for \$18.98** - includes attendance to the Members Only Reception in May 2024
- **Silver Membership for \$50** - includes the above plus Raffle Ticket at BoD & State Meetings
- **Gold Membership for \$100** - includes all the above plus GFWC Stainless Wine Tumbler
- **Platinum Membership for \$250** - includes all the above plus GFWC Embroidered Blanket
- **Platinum Plus Membership for \$500** - includes all the above plus a Brick with your Name as a Member of the 1898 Society for the Unity Walkway

Name _____ Level _____

Address _____

Email _____ Date _____

Club Name _____ Amount _____ Venmo or Ck # _____

Venmo or Check payable to GFWC MA with 1898 Society in the memo line. Contact Jen Nowak with questions.

Your contribution to the *1898 Society* is Greatly Appreciated

THINGS TO REMEMBER

June 15	Manual Sheets Due
June 24 - 29	GFWC Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA
Aug 7	Executive Committee Meeting 10am
Aug 7	Everything's Coming Up Daisies Tea Party 1:00pm
Aug 10	Junior Executive Board Meeting
Aug	Junior Jumpstart (Date TBD)
Aug 18 - 21	GFWC Board of Directors Meeting, Washington DC
Aug 27	Board of Directors Meeting & Club Leaders Day
Sept 23-25	New England Region Conference, Rhode Island
Oct	Executive Committee Meeting (Date TBD)
Oct 12	Junior Executive Board Meeting
Oct 23-29	GFWC Advocates for Children Week
Oct 29	Fall Meeting, Publick House, Sturbridge

