



Club Connections

With your GFWC Massachusetts State President

2020 AWARDS ISSUE!



Thank you to the outgoing state officers:

- Lynne M. Stader**
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- Donna Shibley**
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- Diane Erickson**
Recording Secretary
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- Ann Marie Bielenin**
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- T Jablanski**
Treasurer
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- Jen Nowak**
Director of Junior Clubs
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Turning the Page

For a time when all around us is most unusual, your state federation has been rather busy moving forward the business that will take our clubs and clubwomen into the next chapter. Contests have been judged, scholarship recipients chosen, elections planned and executed, and bylaws were passed to define updated procedures. Unusual methods have been used- Facetime interviews, email voting, but the mission has stayed the same. Meanwhile our clubwomen turned from meetings to masks, helping to arm family, friends and medical workers on the front line of today's healthcare crisis. It's what our members do- we see a need and respond.

We are just days away from turning the page to begin the 2020-2022 administration- on May 3rd. I have been truly humbled by the efforts of our clubwomen across the state supporting the passions and initiatives of this president during the past three years. MassSTAR, Turning Point Suffragist Memorial and the Centennial, club grants in response to domestic abuse, and the way you mobilized in support of More Than Words- over 35,000 books! My heartfelt thanks!

This issue presents all awards that would have been presented at Annual Meeting- can you find your club name? Did you report? Congratulations to all the winners! I extend my sincere appreciation to the 2018-2020 officers and Executive Board for their work this administration and offer congratulations and support to the officers bringing a new legacy of leadership to GFWC Massachusetts for 2020-2022. Donna S, T, Jen, Terry, Donna C, and Darlene- take it away!

~ *Lynne*

April 2020

NOTE: These Events have been cancelled:

- MassSTAR Youth Leadership Conference**
May 29-31
- Day at the Forest- HQ Celebration/ Awards**
June 4, 2020
- GFWC Convention**
Atlanta- June 27-30

Update on Turning Point Suffragist Memorial and Events

Excerpt from Pat Wirth, Executive Director for TPSMA

For many months the TPSM Association has been planning a momentous, day-long celebration August 26, 2020, to formally dedicate the memorial and mark the **100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment**. Due to far-reaching effects of the pandemic, the event has now been indefinitely postponed. However, the memorial is under construction. A major portion will be completed by August 2020 using funds on hand. Donations are still needed and naming opportunities for significant, memorial components are still available. Donations can be made electronically via the TPSM website or by check made payable to TPSMA and mailed to **Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association, 5400 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22039**. The General Federation of Women's Clubs has been dynamic in its support of this landmark.

GFWC Photography Contests!

Click here to view winning photos!
<https://www.gfwcma.org/2020-annual-meeting.html>

See more Page 4

Club Manual/Directory Sheet is due June 15th.

It's time to report the number of club members who paid dues in your club January 1, 2019- December 31, 2019. Manual Sheets are used to update the GFWC MA Directory every summer and to calculate dues invoices in November. Both your Club President and Treasurer need to sign the form to verify information for our records including the contact information for new officers. Find the form at www.gfwcma.org under "Forms" or click on this link:
https://www.gfwcma.org/uploads/1/2/9/6/12968947/manual_sheet_2020_fill.pdf



2020 GFWC Community Service Program, Special Program and Advancement Awards
Presented by President-elect - Donna Shibley

It is a pleasure and honor to recognize GFWC MA clubs who energized this state with their projects, programs, donations and hard work. I would like to personally thank all club members for all you do for GFWC and GFWC Massachusetts.

Advocates for Children: for donated warming hats, mittens, and scarves to children distributed by South Middlesex County Opportunity Council of Rhodes to Recovery ~
GFWC Boston Parliamentary Law Club

Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention: for their support of Second Step with the purchase of much needed bedding for residents using GFWC MA grant money~
Woman's Club of Newton Highlands

Arts: holding Arts and Literature group meetings to educate and enlighten members ~
Braintree Women's Club

Conservation: donating towels, blankets, dog and cat food to Bypass Humane Society ~
Hopkinton Women's Club

Education: for providing \$4000 in scholarships and awards ~
Westborough Women's Club

ESO: for 1630 hours / 163 books read ~
GFWC Bourne Women's Club

Home Life: for their support of Care Net, educating new parents and parents to be. Members hosted a baby shower donating much needed items for new babies worth \$1000 in-kind donation ~
Lunenburg Woman's Club

Public Issues: for sponsored an outerwear clothing drive for Veterans with a \$1100 in-kind donation ~
The Holly Club of Wrentham, Inc.

International Outreach: for their support of Heifer International with a monetary donation of \$103 ~
Ousamequin Club

Communications and Public Relations: for holding a weather-related club program and being featured on the Channel 5 news ~ **Ousamequin Club**

Fundraising: **GFWC Bourne Women's Club** for their successful Harvest Train Ride in collaboration with the Bourne Historical Society which raised \$5190

Leadership: for club members' organization of and support of the Massachusetts LEADS seminar -
GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club

Legislation/Public Policy: no award

Membership: designing club t-shirts for members to wear at fundraising events ~
Lunenburg Woman's Club

WHRC: \$50 donated to the GFWC MA HQ Fund for maintenance ~ **GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club**

Special Congratulations to all the winners!

Clubwoman of the YEAR 2020

The Clubwoman of the Year Award honors an outstanding member who best exemplifies GFWC's guiding principle of Service to Community whether it be local, regional, national, or international.

Congratulations to all of the Nominees! Excerpts from entries:

Darlene Coutu, nominated by the GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club. "Darlene never fails to heed the call for service, doing everything she can to make an event successful."

Diane Erickson, nominated by the Millbury Women's Club. "Diane always acts with utmost grace and kindness, quietly, yet efficiently, getting things done."

Jean Sawyer, nominated by GFWC Bourne Women's Club. Jean's middle name is "I'll do it", followed by "I'll make it", "I'll bake it", "I'll get it", and "I'll buy it". Jean has held most of the leadership positions in the club."



Marie Smith, nominated by the Hopkinton Women's Club. "Whenever there is a task to be completed, Marie's voice or hand is raised; she deserves countless accolades for her exceptional dedication and involvement in club."

Following judging by outside judges,
the Bouquet goes to... Marie Smith!

Hopkinton Women's Club

Clubwoman of the Year! Congratulations!



Julia Ward Howe Club Presidents Award 2020

Club Presidents are nominated by their club for excellence in connecting club with GFWC, encouraging member participation, and overall organization and leadership success. **Nominees:**

MaryAnn Pierce, President GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club. "MaryAnn is an exceptional Club President, a die-hard clubwoman who believes our organization is making a difference."

Barbara Buchner, President Hopkinton Woman's Club. "Barbara spearheaded major changes that occurred during her two-year term. Barbara finds ways to promote our club so we can get support to help others in our community."



Reene Hatherley, President Westborough Woman's Club. "Use of social media and club website, 20% increase in club membership, attending state meetings... Reene brings energy, vision and passion to the role of president."

And the Bouquet goes to... Reene Hatherley!

President, Westborough Woman's Club.



2020 Club Performance Award Bowls

The following clubs are recognized for excellence in supporting GFWC Massachusetts programs and events. Awards bowls will be presented at a future state meeting.

GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club

Ousamequin Club

GFWC Boston Parliamentary Law Club *Congratulations!*

Membership Award for Most New Members- 2019- Terry Rouvalis, Membership Chairman
Goes to Westborough Woman's Club - 10 New Members reported! Excellent recruitment efforts!

GFWC Community Improvement Contest Award, Ann Marie Bielenin, Chairman



GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club selected **First Place (\$50)** for their work to provide sunscreen to all town residents when they use town parks. Northboro clubwomen worked with town officials and the DPW to install sunscreen dispensers that provide 1,000 applications.

Braintree Woman's Club received **2nd Place (\$35)** for funding the play, **THE YELLOW DRESS** to Braintree High School students. This one-woman play tells the story of a young woman's abuse and ultimate death from a violent relationship. Includes a Q and A session with the audience. Members worked with DOVE, a shelter for domestic violence in Norfolk County.

GFWC Photography Contests - Diane Murphy, Chairman

The GFWC Photography Contests have been cancelled. The GFWC Massachusetts Photography contests have NOT been cancelled. Before the quarantine went into effect, I had all the photographs judged by five independent judges. Since our Annual Meeting has been cancelled, I wanted to share the winners with all of you.

See the Video clip of winners on the GFWC MA website! <https://www.gfwcma.org/2020-annual-meeting.html>

World in Pictures - Living Things -Black & White

"Amelia Joy" Nancy Brown - GFWC Taunton & Raynham Juniors

World in Pictures - Living Things - Color

1st Place – "Cinderella's Pony – Nancy Brown - GFWC Taunton & Raynham Jrs

2nd Place – "Ok Who Is Next?" – Denise Wheeler - GFWC Taunton & Raynham Jrs

3rd Place – "Spring Is Blooming" – Diane Murphy – GFWC Randolph Jr Woman's Club

World in Pictures – Scenes

1st Place – "Take My Breath Away" – Denise Wheeler - GFWC Taunton & Raynham Juniors

2nd Place – "God's Reflection" – Denise Wheeler - GFWC Taunton & Raynham Juniors

3rd Place – "Winter's Flow" - Diane Murphy – GFWC Randolph Junior Woman's Club

World in Pictures – Still Life - Color

1st Place – "African American History Memorial - Diane Murphy – GFWC Randolph Jr Woman's Club

2nd Place – "Snowy White & Blue" - Nancy Brown - GFWC Taunton & Raynham Juniors

3rd Place – "You Better Watch Out" - Denise Wheeler - GFWC Taunton & Raynham Juniors

GFWC Volunteers in Action

1st Place – "This is How You Do It" - Nancy Brown - GFWC Taunton & Raynham Juniors

2nd Place – GFWC MA Juniors Making Magic" - Diane Murphy – GFWC Randolph Jr Woman's Club

Thank President Stader for the opportunity to serve as the GFWC MA Photography Chairman. Stay safe!



A Very Special Bouquet Goes to Past State President - Dorothy K. Graham



Serving GFWC Massachusetts for 28 years as Parliamentarian.

GFWC Massachusetts would like to thank Dorothy Graham for her dedication to serving the federation as state Parliamentarian. A member of the Framingham Woman's Club, Dorothy served as Parliamentarian beginning with President Tina Macrina in 1992. Dorothy also served as GFWC Parliamentarian for several GFWC International Presidents beginning in 1992 with Ann Holland of Massachusetts. Thank you, Dorothy for bringing your experience and insight as advisor to many clubs and state presidents as well as to our Bylaws and Resolutions Committees over the years.

It's a wrap! Thank you GFWC Massachusetts for a special year! Stay safe, stay well!

Lynne ~ Donna ~ Diane ~ Ann Marie ~ J ~ Jen