



# General Federation of Women's Clubs New England Region 114th Conference



**• Connecticut • Maine • Massachusetts • New Hampshire • Rhode Island • Vermont •**

Libby Wiers, GFWC New England Region President

Theme: ***Moving Ahead with Big Dreams***

September 22-24, 2023

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**CALL to the 114<sup>th</sup> GFWC New England Region Conference**

**Sheraton Hartford South**

**Hotel 100 Capital Boulevard,**

**Rocky Hill, CT**

**860-257-6000**

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**Conference Theme: "The Greatest Show in Connecticut"**

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**2023 Conference Chairman:**

Donna Farrell, [farrell.donna@gmail.com](mailto:farrell.donna@gmail.com)

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Sisters in Federation,

You are cordially invited to the 114<sup>th</sup> GFWC New England Region Conference hosted by GFWC Connecticut in Rocky Hill, CT. Please mark your calendars for September 22-24, 2023, and get your reservations made. We are looking forward to a great time and we need you all to make that happen.

Come connect with old friends, make new friends, and to meet our GFWC leaders - GFWC International President Debra Strahanoski and GFWC President-elect Suellen Brazil will be joining us. We will learn about our organization, learn new ways to serve our communities, and have some fun. Our states all have big dreams they want to accomplish. Let this weekend help you add some sparkle and shine to those dreams.

The hotel restaurant is open for breakfast on your own at 6:30 a.m. Hotel amenities include free parking, free wi-fi, coffee maker in the room, recently renovated fitness center and pool, and more.

Connecticut is excited to welcome us, and they have planned a wonderful time. Share this with your Federation friends, the more the merrier. We look forward to seeing many of you in September!

Libby Wiers, President  
GFWC New England Region  
207.416.2496  
[mlbby49@gmail.com](mailto:mlbby49@gmail.com)

**GFWC Guests, GFWC NER Friends, Speakers, Raffles,  
Shopping, Entertainment, Junior Fun Night (all are welcome)**



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## **Hotel Information:**

**Reservations:** Sheraton Hartford South, 100 Capital Boulevard, Rocky Hill, CT 06067  
(860) 257-6000 Direct number - Group Code GFWGFWH

Or use link - <https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1685543185857&key=GRP>

Room block price is \$139. and the group rate will close on 8/23/2023 or when the block is sold out.

**Directions: From North** - Follow I-91 south to exit 23. At end of ramp, make a left. At second light, turn right and hotel driveway is on your right. **From the West** - Route 15 (Merritt Parkway), follow to Meriden exit 68 for I-91 South. Continue on I-91 South to exit 23. At end of ramp, make a left. At second light, turn right and hotel driveway is on your right. **From the East** - Follow I-84 toward Hartford. Take exit for I-91 South. Continue on I-91 South to exit 23. At end of ramp, make a left. At second light, turn right and hotel driveway is on your right. **From the South** - Take I-91 North to exit 23. At end of ramp, make a left. At second light, turn right and hotel driveway is on your right.

## **Thursday:**

For those who arrive early, there are several options for Thursday dinner or Friday lunch within a mile of the hotel.

Also, there are several points of interest if you are looking for something special to do.

These are listed on the page at the end of this CALL.

## **Friday: Under the Big Top!**

Suggested attire – cocktail attire with a fun carnival detail of your choice.

Entertainment: Circus Moves (no clowns), juggling/stilt walkers/etc.

Fun Night hosted by MA Junior Membership – Federation Feud.

## **Saturday:**

Suggested attire –business casual

### **Lunch: Hats Off to a Magical Day!**

### **Dinner: Spotlight to Sparkle & Splendor!**

Suggested attire – cocktail attire to include something denim and diamonds.

Entertainment: Brian Gillie and the Elderly Brothers, music & dancing.

## **Sunday: Dare to Dream with Deb!**

Wear emblematic attire to show who we are as we leave for home.

Remembrance Ceremony

Speaker from New Haven Reads



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## **NER State Tables:**

**State Presidents:** If your state wishes to have a table to fundraise for your state, please contact: Donna Farrell, Conference Chairman ([farrell.donna@gmail.com](mailto:farrell.donna@gmail.com)) by September 1, 2023.

## **NER Raffle:**

The theme will be **designer purses** to be raffled off. These may or may not include extra items.

**Note:** CT has strict rules about **no alcohol** to be included in any type of raffle.

## **Service Project: New Haven Reads**

New Haven Reads is a beautiful, simple equation to assist literacy in Connecticut communities. Trained Volunteer Tutors work one-on-one with students to build skills and confidence and school success. Parents find a community that offers hope and support. Tutors get great satisfaction, intangible joy and "real hugs!" Donors enable New Haven Reads to transform lives and they thank you for your generosity GFWC New England! Many of our CT Members volunteer there, too, which is wonderful - reading to and with the users of New Haven Reads.

Attendees are asked to bring a new children's book for any age with a **small** stuffed toy (think Beanie Baby size) - with a focus to have the stuffed toys "match" the stories/books if possible.

## **Exhibitor Showcase:**

Ancient Mysteries with Jennifer Leach (**Karen Leach's daughter from RI**)

Paper Pie Books with Cyndi Arsenault (Beautiful books! Former Usborne Books.)

Seacret - Beauty & Health items with Colette Schultz and Helene Erskine.

These are confirmed, more to follow.

## **Request for information for Remembrance Ceremony:**

**State Presidents**, please email Marge Pfeiffer ([DMGOODWIN@LIVE.COM](mailto:DMGOODWIN@LIVE.COM)) by **Sept. 2** with the names of any New England Region board members who have passed away since fall of 2022.

## **Fun Night with MA Juniors:**

Survey Says...Federation Feud will be back for another round! All clubwomen are invited to attend Fun Night following the Friday evening program. Bring your competitive spirit and participate on a large team, or just come for the entertainment! Reach out to MA Director of Junior Clubs, Marisa Jablanski at [mjabo115@yahoo.com](mailto:mjabo115@yahoo.com) with any questions. All are invited and encouraged to attend.



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## MEAL REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

State Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_ Present Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Previously attended a GFWC New England Region Conference? [  ] Yes [  ] No

**MEALS:**

**Friday - GFWC Connecticut State Night Banquet:**

Soup, salad, rotisserie-style roasted chicken breast, tenderloin tips  
stroganoff, roasted vegetables, rice pilaf, dessert (  ) Dinner Buffet \$50.00

**Saturday Lunch:**

Deli Buffet, make your own sandwiches, and more (  ) Lunch Buffet \$40.00

**Saturday Night – New England Region Banquet:**

Soup, salad, chicken marsala, salmon with lemon olive oil,  
roasted vegetable, dessert (  ) Dinner Buffet \$50.00

**Sunday Breakfast:**

Sheraton Signature Breakfast (  ) Breakfast Buffet \$30.00

**TOTAL FOR MEALS \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Please list any dietary restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE:** One reservation form for each attendee (copy if needed)

Make separate check for meals payable to **GFWC Connecticut**

**Send to:** Pam Lerner GFWC/CT Assistant Treasurer, 20 Brenton Terrace, Hamden, CT 06518

**Questions:** [pamlern41044@aol.com](mailto:pamlern41044@aol.com) 203-281-3090

**Meal Fee Deadline:** Must be received by **September 1, 2023**; no refunds after that date.



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## CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

State Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_ Present Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Previously attended a GFWC New England Region Conference? [  ] Yes [  ] No

[ \$25 ] \_\_\_\_\_ per person for the entire Conference

Attending: Friday 09/22 \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday 09/23 \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday 09/24 \_\_\_\_\_

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Medical Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE:** One registration form for each attendee (copy if needed)

Make a separate check for registration payable to **GFWC New England Region**

Registration must be received by **9/1/23**

**Mail this form to Bev Pallmerine, Box 1095, White River Jct, VT 05001**

**Questions: [bpallmerine@gmail.com](mailto:bpallmerine@gmail.com) or 802.738.2832**

**Registration Deadline September 1, 2023 ~ Sorry no refunds after 9/1/2023**



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## Preliminary Agenda

### Friday

9:00am-12:00pm, 2:00pm-6:00pm Registration open

3:00pm-6:30pm Exhibitor Showcase

2:30pm Region Officer Meeting; 3:45pm Region Board of Directors Meeting

6:00pm Social Gathering

7:00pm Connecticut State Night Banquet and Entertainment, followed by Junior Fun Night

### Saturday

8:00am-6:30pm Exhibitor Showcase

8:45am Processional Formation

9:00am Business Session

- Opening exercises and reports
- Reports of GFWC Committees
- Luncheon Recess: Guest Speaker – GFWC President-elect Suellen Brazil
- Reports of GFWC Committees, continued
- Speaker: Louisa Iacurci, 300 Years of CT's Remarkable Women

6:00pm Social Gathering

7:00pm Region Banquet

- Guest Speaker: GFWC International President Debra Strahanoski
- Entertainment: music & dancing

### Sunday

8:00am-9:00am Breakfast

9:00am Remembrance Ceremony

- Panel of State Presidents and Director of Junior Clubs
- Speaker from New Haven Reads
- Final business



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## **Nominating Committee Report for the 2024-2026 Administration**

July 18, 2023 – Nominating Committee Zoom Call

The GFWC New England Region Nominating Committee hereby places the following names into nomination:

For the office of Vice-President/President-elect: Donna Shibley – GFWC Massachusetts

For the office of Secretary: Deborah Fiore – GFWC Connecticut

For the office of Treasurer: Janet Trombetti – GFWC Rhode Island

The Nominating Committee has confirmed that all nominees are members in good standing with GFWC and meet other requirements as stated in the GFWC NER Standing Rules.

As the chairman of the Nominating Committee, I would like to thank the following committee members for their work in preparing this slate of candidates for office.

- Dee Beckman – GFWC Vermont
- Carol Jarvais – GFWC Maine
- Jeanne O'Sullivan – GFWC New Hampshire
- Janet Trombetti – GFWC Rhode Island
- Jeanne Waseleski – GFWC Connecticut

Submitted by,  
Martha Casassa, Chairman – GFWC Massachusetts



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## Suggestions for early arrivals

### Places to eat:

“NYPD” - New York Pickle Deli - 397 Cromwell Avenue, Rocky Hill

Wood N' Tap - 12 Town Line, Rocky Hill

Elizabeth's - 825 Cromwell Avenue, Rocky Hill

Also, within the area - Japanese, Asian & Mexican cuisine.

### Things to do:

The 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Durham Fair is voted the best Connecticut Fair 2023 in the State of Connecticut and is just south of the Hotel in the Town of Durham. Open Thursday to Sunday - Thursday from 4:00 PM to Sunday at 6:00 PM.

Dinosaur State Park is a half mile from the hotel.

In close by Hartford is the Mark Twain House, the Wadsworth Atheneum and Elizabeth Park.

The oldest running Ferry in CT is located in Rocky Hill Ferry Park and takes you across the CT River for \$5 to Glastonbury. Only 3 cars can fit on the Ferry at once.