



# The BEAT of the Federation

**PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER**

**Editor: DONNA M. SHIBLEY, GFWC MASSACHUSETTS PRESIDENT 2020-2022**

**AUGUST 15, 2021**

**VOLUME 14**

## **Executive Committee:**

### **President:**

**Donna M. Shibley**  
**President@gfwcma.org**

**First Vice President**  
**T Jablanski**  
**tjablanski@gmail.com**

**Second Vice President**  
**Jen Nowak**  
**jwnowak@charter.net**

**Recording Secretary**  
**Terry Rouvalis**  
**trouvalis@msn.com**

**Corresponding Secretary**  
**Donna Canavan**  
**donnacan715@aol.com**

**Treasurer**  
**Darlene Coutu**  
**Treasurer@gfwcma.org**

**Director of Junior Clubs**  
**Katie Robey**  
**kdrobey@robeybaur.org**

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### **Help Wanted:**

We have some  
Chairmen openings:

**Environment**  
**Communications and**  
**Public Relations**  
**Legislation/Public**  
**Policy**

### **Fundraising Committee**

Email President Shibley  
if you are interested.

We'd love to have  
you join the Board of  
Directors.

## **President's message:**

August has always been a busy month for me with beach days and getting ready for back to school. Well, beach days have not happened yet, but I have shopped at Staples for their back-to-school deals to donate to classrooms/schools in the fall. Giving our **Hearts & Hands for GFWC** happens every day in many ways.



How does it happen for you and your club?

## **GFWC MA Nominating Committee:**

Just a reminder that Endorsements for Candidates for Office for the 2022-2024 administration are due to Nominating Committee Chairman Sheila Shea by the October 1, 2021 deadline. Additional information can be found in the GFWC Massachusetts Bylaws, Article XI. Nominations and Elections on the GFWC MA website at [GFWCMA.org/Members/Governing Documents/GFWC MA Bylaws](http://GFWCMA.org/Members/Governing Documents/GFWC MA Bylaws). For further information, please contact Sheila at [sheas1972@msn.com](mailto:sheas1972@msn.com)

## **GFWC Massachusetts LEADS (Leadership Education and Development Seminar): Understanding Membership as a Leader**

Did you view this prerecorded leadership event from Alicia Sheridan and Beth McKeon, GFWC MA Leadership Chairmen. Loads of information! Please take the 30 minutes to watch this wonderful presentation. You'll be glad you did. Click here: [GFWC MA Leadership 2021 - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

## **GFWC MA Website Additions ~ <https://www.gfwcma.org/>**

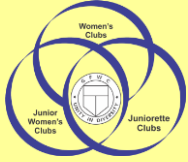
Keep within easy access. Don't forget to send us any upcoming **Club Events** to be included on the Club Events page

- ♥ \$50 GFWC Membership Grant Application – deadline September 1
- ♥ GFWC MA Domestic Violence Grant Application – deadline January 10, 2022. Follow the criteria to be considered. (flier attached)
- ♥ All GFWC MA Scholarships have been updated
- ♥ All GFWC MA forms and reporting information has been updated. What you need as a Club President.
- ♥ Pictures of the High Tea Garden Party FUNdraiser/Membership event.

## **GFWC Massachusetts The Art of Leadership ~ Club Leaders Day:**

### **Are you attending? August 21 @ 1:30 at our HQ in Sudbury**

Join Moderator, Darlene Coutu and presenters as they give art inspired tidbits and tips to club leaders for successful clubs. Learn about the new report writing format. Learn more about GFWC MA history. Loads of information. Invite other club leaders to attend with you. All are welcome! Manuals will be ready for distribution at this time.



### For Sale:

Support the Massachusetts President's focus area: Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention



Purchase a heart diversity pin for \$5.00 or a heart/hand bracelet for \$20.00 Also offered are 20 handmade cards with a special card for \$15.00. All proceeds support club DV/SA A&P grants open to ALL clubs. Contact Bernadette Bennett for your purchases: [bbennett@bu.edu](mailto:bbennett@bu.edu)

### Show your support of GFWC Massachusetts by joining The 1898 Society.

Members are dedicated to the financial well-being of our state organization. Look for the updated flier listing the gifts you receive for your yearly donations.

\$18.89 ~ attendance at 2022 Annual Convention event

\$50.00 ~ the above and entry into all BoD and State Meeting 1898 Society raffles

\$100.00 ~ above & a stainless wine mug

\$250.00 ~ above & a GFWC embroidered blanket

\$500.00 ~ above & a brick for the Unity Walkway as an 1898 Society member

### GFWC New England Region Conference:

The CALL is out! The **2021 GFWC NER Conference: Celebrate Change** will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Westborough on **Friday, September 17- Sunday, September 19, 2021** with GFWC Guests: GFWC President Marian St.Clair and GFWC President-elect, Deb Strahanoski. Massachusetts is the host state; make sure to don your party clothes and join us at the state night banquet featuring special guest author Sara Hammel. Come for the fun and federation friendship with fellow New Englanders. Chairman Jen Nowak is hoping for a well-attended event. **August 16<sup>th</sup>** is the deadline for the discounted hotel rate. We are looking for donations of snacks, candy, trinkets, other items for the registration welcome table. Think 100 of something.

### GFWC MA Combined Fall Meeting:

The CALL will be out soon! **GFWC Massachusetts Combined Fall Meeting: Fall in To Serve Together** will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, Marlborough on **Saturday, October 16, 2021**. This in person meeting will feature GFWC guest, Kristina Higbee, Director of Junior Clubs. Highlights will include the Blue and Yellow Fundraiser raffle and auction, decorated teddy bear/book challenge, art supply donation to Boys & Girls MetroWest, two hands on projects, A-ticket, A-tasket basket raffle, some state business but loads more FUN. Hotel accommodations available Friday night for \$119 per room. Our monthly fundraising raffle for September is a way to win an overnight stay.

### GFWC International Convention:

The **2021 GFWC Annual Convention: Celebrating Culture, Cultivating Connections** will be held at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Atlanta, from August 27th (opening night banquet) – 30th. We have 11 Massachusetts clubwoman attending. This President and Director Robey are looking forward to accepting our 2020 State Awards.

### Club Presidents Heart to Heart Talk:

There will be an email invite coming for you as Club President to join this State President on Thursday night, **September 2 @ 6:00** for a Heart to Heart talk. Our **special focus** will be **Education and Libraries with Ann Marie Bielenin, GFWC MA Chairman**. Please attend ♥

### State Blue and Yellow Fundraiser:

Can you knit/crochet, stitch/sew, create, paint? Not crafty? Store bought items are welcome! Members are encouraged to start NOW to create/donate your entry to the **Blue and Yellow FUNdraiser**. Items will be collected at HQ in Sudbury, please donate by October 7, 2021. These special items will be raffled and auctioned at the Combined Fall Meeting October 16, 2021. Proceeds will be used to fund **GFWC MA Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention Club Grants**. Time to get creating or shopping. Contact Bernadette Bennett for more information: [bbennett@bu.edu](mailto:bbennett@bu.edu) | 781.690.2824



### GFWC MA FaceBook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/GFWCMA>

Join us here for postings that are relevant to GFWC Massachusetts.



**GFWC MA Website**  
**GFWCMA.org**

**Do You Know #2**

Can you find and answer these questions:

**1. About GFWC: GFWC MA History and Accomplishments:**

What two types of gatherings were mentioned as the prelude to organized women's clubs?

**2. Events ~ Featured Club Event:**

What club is sponsoring a photography contest focusing on the Solstice and Equinox?

**3. Members ~**

**Fundraising:** What handmade item can you buy for \$10.00 for your favorite pup?

**4. Calendar:** When is National Women's Equality Day?

**5. Members ~ Forms:**

Looking for official club letterhead? Check out the version that allows you to add your own club logo.

**Remember your State President as well as Officers are available for your club meetings as presenters. Let us know what topic(s) you are looking for ♥**

**GFWC MA SAVERS FUNdrasier:**

Save your soft goods for our next SAVERS collection.

Collections at our HQ only until our delivery day of October 22 by 9:00am. Drop off by contacting our HQ Secretary for drop off times at [HQSecretary@gfwcma.org](mailto:HQSecretary@gfwcma.org) or 617-588-2154 (flier attached)

**August Fundraiser:**

ONE NIGHT STAY at the DoubleTree by Hilton Boston in Westborough during the NER Convention, a bottle of wine and some yummy snacks. Prize entries are \$5.00 each or 3/\$10.00. Drawing will be held at the end of the month. Pay by check (GFWC MA and mail to Treasurer Darlene Coutu, P.O. Box 236, Pepperell, MA 01463) or pay via Venmo.



**September Fundraiser:** one night stay (and bottle of wine) at the Holiday Inn, Marlborough for Combined Fall Meeting.

**Past Fundraiser winners:**

- June Celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> basket ~ Don Coutu
- July one night stay (and bottle of wine) at the Holiday Inn, Marlborough for Combined Fall Meeting ~ Mary Ann Pierce

**Publicity:** Do you have club news to share with GFWC? Pictures tell a story. Email [PR@gfwc.org](mailto:PR@gfwc.org). to be considered for GFWC's Blog. Share upcoming club projects with **GFWC MA** to be including on our website. We want to hear from YOU!

**GFWC Affiliate:**

**OPERATION SMILE**

<https://www.operationsmile.org/>

**Clement Ofosuhemeng, Operation Smile Ghana's patient**

**coordinator**, has created countless new smiles by bringing hundreds of potential patients to medical missions in the country. He puts his entire being into his role. Clement excels at convincing naturally skeptical families and patients that they can trust Operation Smile. "When they return to their villages, I see them to be potential ambassadors to help erase the stigma ... (and) remove the negative perception that people have about cleft." Watch this video about Clement.

[\(71\) Driven to Help, Clement Goes the Extra Mile in Ghana - YouTube](#)

**Legislation and Public Policy:**

Are you signed up to get **Legislative Action Alerts?**

It is easy to sign up. Click here to sign up NOW

[Home \(cqrcengage.com\)](http://Home.cqrcengage.com)

These are the GFWC Legislative Actions that were sent out in 2021:

- ✓ Feb 4, 2021: The Equal Rights Amendment
- ✓ March 16, 2021: Reauthorize The Violence Against Women's Act
- ✓ April 13, 2021: Equal Pay for Equal Work
- ✓ April 21, 2021: Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act
- ✓ April 27, 2021: Fully Fund Global Childhood Immunization
- ✓ May 7, 2021: The Victims of Crime Act
- ✓ May 24, 2021: Service Dogs for Veterans

