



The BEAT of the Federation

PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

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

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Executive Committee:

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Director of Junior Clubs

Katie Robey
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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:

July is a favorite month of mine because it involves fresh produce harvested from my hubby's garden and lazy beach days with friends. But GFWC business still can happen. Maybe hold a fun summer member



activity? A membership recruitment event? We all give our **Hearts & Hands for GFWC** even when we are not holding a monthly meeting. Need some suggestions ~ I am a phone call/an email away to help Club Presidents with ideas/plans to vitalize your members, and get club back to business.

GFWC New England Region Conference:

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. Join for the fun and federation friendship with fellow New Englanders. Chairman Jen Nowak is hoping for a well-attended event. August 16th 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. The CALL is coming out soon.

GFWC International Convention:

The **2021 GFWC Annual Convention: Celebrating Culture, Cultivating Connections** will be held at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Atlanta, Georgia (\$129 per night) from Saturday, August 28, to Monday, August 30. Additionally, a Board of Directors Meeting, the 2020 and 2021 LEADS training, a 2020-2022 Installation, and a Celebration Banquet "Gateway to the World," will be held on Friday, August 27. Are you attending? This President can't wait to accept our 2020 State Awards.

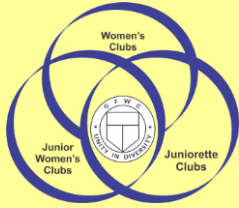
GFWC Massachusetts LEADS (Leadership Education and Development Seminar): Understanding Membership as a Leader

This free prerecorded leadership event is being finalized by Alicia Sheridan and Beth McKeon, GFWC MA Leadership Chairmen.

Questions: gfwcmaleads@gmail.com

Please encourage your clubmembers to virtually attend. This will be ready for presentation and viewing on **August 2**. Loads of information!

GFWC and GFWC MA Resolutions: Updated resolutions are found on the GFWC MA website: Members/Governing documents. Promote them!



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 All proceeds
support club grants and
DV/SA A&P. Contact
Bernadette Bennett for
your purchases:
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
with 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
raffles
\$100.00 ~ above & more
\$250.00 ~ above & even
more
\$500.00 ~ above & a
special honor

GFWC Massachusetts Club Leaders Day:

Save the date – August 21 @ 1:30 at our HQ in Sudbury

Join GFWC MA Officers T Jablanski and Darlene Coutu as they give tidbits and tips to club leaders for successful clubs. Learn about the new report writing format. All are welcome!

GFWC Massachusetts donates to GFWC Florida:

Your Executive Committee voted to donate \$500 to GFWC Florida for assistance with their support of the many first responders who have been working 12 hour shifts on Search and Rescue, now Search and Recovery. condominium disaster in Surfside, Florida.

Club Presidents Heart to Heart Talk:

There will be an email invite coming for you as Club President to join this State President on Monday night, **August 2 @ 6:00** for a Heart to Heart talk. Our **special focus, Communication and Public Relations: Be Better with Branding**. Please attend ❤

Shopping tip:

If your club is planning on donating school supplies in the fall, Staples always has weekly summer deals. This week backpacks and lunch sets are \$14.99 and spiral one subject notebooks are \$.25. Ask the manager if you can buy more than the allotted limited sale quantities because you are donating them to *name of school/organization* and be prepared to give the manager your business card.

July Fundraiser:

ONE NIGHT STAY at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites and a bottle of wine on Friday, October 15, 2021

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.



August Fundraiser: one night stay at the NER hotel,

DoubleTree by Hilton Boston in Westborough, a bottle of wine and some yummy snacks.

Past Fundraiser winners:

- May Pamper Yourself basket ~ Robin O'Connor
- June Celebrate the 4th basket ~ Don Coutu

GFWC MA High Tea Garden Party Membership Event:

Join us for a fun afternoon with friends and family. Don your fancy hats, flowery dresses, pearls, parasols while we enjoy tea, scones, petite sandwiches, and scrumptious desserts. Surprises for all attendees. Bring your own teacup and small plate. Chair: Mary Ann Pierce & Committee. Date: Sunday, August 1, 2021 @ GFWC MA Headquarters in Sudbury from 1:00 ~ 3:00pm Your donation: \$30.00 (includes 5 raffle tickets) Be part of the FUN ~ bring a guest or two ~ all are welcome!

Publicity: Do you have club news to share with GFWC? Pictures tell a story. Email 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 MA Website

GFWCMA.org

Do You Know #1

Can you find and answer these questions:

1. About GFWC: GFWC

MA History and Accomplishments:

What two donated items were a priority for many clubs in 2021?

2. Members ~ Report

Writing: Have you looked at the new Report Writing Project forms?

3. Members ~

Fundraising: What handmade item can you buy for 3/\$10.00 for a member gift?

4. Calendar: When is the International Day of Friendship?

5. Members ~ GFWC MA Program Information:

What is the theme of the Writing Contest for 2022?

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 website ~ <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

State Blue and Yellow Fundraiser:

Can you knit/crochet a hat or scarf? Stitch a pillow or quilt? Create note cards or stationery? Paint a picture? Create jewelry? 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 | 781.690.2824



GFWC Challenge Projects for 2020-2022:

- Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention ~ Teen Dating Awareness & Prevention Programs
- Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children ~ Service Project for Advocates for Children Week
- Arts and Culture ~ Youth Art Contest
- Civic Engagement and Outreach ~ Support and Aid Women Veterans
- Environment ~ Reduce Plastic Use: Refuse, Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle
- Health and Wellness ~ Physical Funding for Mental Health Programs
- Education and Libraries ~ Support STEM Programs/Activities for Special Needs Students

Contact your GFWC MA State Chairmen for program/project ideas ♥

GFWC Affiliate:

♥ **MARCH OF DIMES:** If you believe that Arif, a 12-year-old in Bangladesh, should be able to learn and safely attend school; or that Mickenson and Enau, a father and son in the Darien Gap, should receive hygiene resources and education to protect themselves from COVID-19; or that Faustina, a mother of four in Zambia, deserves the opportunity to give her infant daughter a healthy start to life – then please take moment to speak up for children and advocate

[When you speak up for children, legislators will listen. \(unicefusa.org\)](https://www.unicefusa.org/)

Legislation and Public Policy:

Please Take Action on GFWC's Legislative Priorities for the 117th Congress

- **Federal - HR 485** ~ A bill to reauthorize the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, and for other purposes.
- **Federal - S J Res 1** ~ Equal Rights Amendment
- **Federal - H J Res 17** ~ Equal Rights Amendment
- **Federal - HR 7** ~ A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.
- **Federal - S 205** ~ A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

GFWC MA FaceBook page:

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

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