



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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Treasurer

Darlene Coutu
Treasurer@gfwcma.org

Director of Junior Clubs

Katie Robey
kdrobey@robeybaur.org

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:

June brings us to the halfway mark in the calendar year and also has us looking forward to the relaxing days of summer. Moving forward, what can you accomplish with your club? Is it time to set up a planning meeting? Clean up your bylaws? Schedule a membership event? We all give our **Hearts & Hands for GFWC** with current restrictions lifting. I am available (a phone call/an email away) to help Club Presidents with ideas and suggestions to get your membership involved again, while working on club business and safely meeting in the fall in person.



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 so make sure to put on your party clothes to 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 looking forward to a well-attended event. If anyone has any connections for freebees to give to attendees, please reach out to her.

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?

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

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

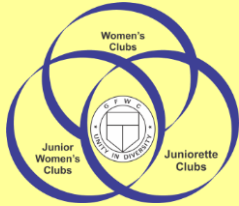
Questions: gfwcmaleads@gmail.com

Please encourage your clubmembers to attend. This will be ready for presentation and viewing on **August 2**. Mark your calendars!

GFWC Massachusetts Cub 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. All are welcome!



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

Club Presidents Heart to Heart Talk:

There will be an email invite coming for you as Club President to join this State President on Wednesday night, **July 1 @ 6:00** for a Heart to Heart talk. Our **special guest, Diane Murphy**, Civic Engagement and Outreach Chairman talking about **All Things with Safety in Mind**. Please attend ❤

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

June Fundraiser:

over \$100 worth of CELEBRATE the 4th items to make your 4th festive.

- 60" x 70" outdoor blanket, flag design socks, Lady Liberty sunglasses
- Let Freedom Ring hand towel, blue/white/red stripe chef's apron, flag apron, patriotic magnets, star spoon holder, patriotic coasters
- 2 stay put table covers, assorted paper products, handbag decor
- star metal bucket, 2 pkgs patriotic centerpieces, star wall hanging
- 2 pkg self adhesive red/blue mustaches, patriotic eyelashes

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.

July Fundraiser: one night stay at the Fall Meeting hotel.

Past Fundraiser winners:

- April \$100 Amazon gift card ~ Bernadette Bennett
- May Pamper Yourself basket ~ Robin O'Connor



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!

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**. We hope to get many items donated. All entries will be recognized. Time to get creating or shopping. Contact Bernadette Bennett for more information: bbennett@bu.edu | 781.690.2824





GFWC MA Website

GFWCMA.org

Scavenger Hunt #11

Can you find and answer these questions:

1. About GFWC: GFWC MA History and Accomplishments:

What was the theme at the time as shown in the GFWC MA Headquarters picture?

2. Events ~ Club Events:

Which club is sponsoring a Girl's Night Out event featuring a ventriloquist?

3. Members ~

Fundraising: What GFWC MA Fundraiser offers snacks, nuts, and chocolate?

4. Calendar: When is the GFWC MA Manual sheet (and copy of your club's tax filing) due?

5. Members ~ GFWC MA Program Information:

What two women's clubs won awards for Arts & Culture announced at the GFWC MA Combined Convention?

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 National Statistics to use in your promotional material:

Number of Projects: 74,702

Volunteer Hours: 3,640,335

Dollars Donated: \$9,412,210

In-Kind Donations: \$6,775,312

Dollars Raised: \$5,697,553

Dollars Spent: \$1,636,606

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:

♥ CANINE COMPANIONS:

Canine Companions, the largest organization to place expertly trained service dogs for children, adults and veterans with disabilities, **hit a major milestone this month – matching the 7,000th service dog team** since their founding in 1975. Despite the obstacles from the pandemic in 2020 and earlier this year, Canine Companions continued to place task trained service dogs through innovative hybrid training classes. These measures ensured that people with disabilities could still receive a life-changing service dog without severe delays. It also meant that Canine Companions was able to safely place the 7,000th team.

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 Engagements allow you to also take action on GFWC Legislative Priorities. From service dogs to fund global vaccination efforts there are many opportunities to make your voice heard.

[Home \(carcengage.com\)](http://www.carcengage.com)

GFWC MA FaceBook page:

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

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

GFWC MA website ~ <https://www.gfwcma.org/>:

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