

General Federation of Women's Clubs of

# Massachusetts

## TOPICS

A newsletter for Clubwomen

Fall 2017

General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts Headquarters - P.O. Box 679, Sudbury, MA 01776 [www.gfwcma.org](http://www.gfwcma.org)

*"If you are really thankful, what do you do?  
You share."*

W. Clement Stone



GFWC of Massachusetts Officers and Director of Junior Clubs honor veterans in red, white and blue at Fall Meeting at Delaney House in Holyoke.

### Inside Highlights

President's Message  
Director of Junior Clubs' Message  
Fall Meeting  
New England Region Conference  
Club Happenings  
President's Project  
Membership Message  
Resolutions Refresher  
Treasurer's Tidbits  
Reporting Reminder  
Dates to Remember



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Lynne M. Stader

Thankful  
&  
blessed

*"Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings."*

My, did we see a room full of blessings and opportunities at GFWC of Massachusetts Fall Meeting in Holyoke! We joined with the American Legion in retiring American flags, supported women veterans with our table piled high with donations, and heard the issues facing today's veterans returning home. We celebrated each other and the leaders among us. Standing on the platform for the first time as your state president I was so proud of our members who made the day a success!

Since September I have been on the road visiting our clubs, each a blessing in the fabric of our federation. Members are engaged and committed to supporting their communities and the needs of others. Have I been to your club yet? There is much to be excited about as a GFWC member and I want to share updates with all our members.

Is **Saturday, January 27, 2018** on your calendar? Let's meet at the tavern- **Stoneforge Tavern** in Raynham for **Midwinter Meeting**. Ashley Bendiksen, a renowned survivor, advocate, and motivational speaker will join us for the day. We have reserved a block of rooms at the Courtyard Marriot for those who like to travel on Friday. Watch for the Call in late December.

My thanks to our Headquarters Secretary Diane for getting this issue of Topics out to you in time to share with our members during the holiday season ahead. Thank you for all you do for your clubs and for the mission of GFWC.

Lynne





**Junior Membership Connection**  
Martha Casassa  
Director of Junior Clubs



With just over 4 weeks to Christmas as I write this, it is amazing how fast time has flown this year. It has truly been a time of Living the Volunteer Spirit as you, our Massachusetts Juniors, connect, grow, and change our world. Your work combined with that of Massachusetts Women's Clubs was fabulous and earned recognition of our state at Convention. This Fall saw a successful Fall Conference where we learned about Project Bread (my Director's Project), saw one of their chefs cook for us, and got to taste it, too! Our MassSTAR networking workshop speaker taught us to "squeeze the peach" as a way to remember a firm, yet friendly handshake when we meet others. And, we shared it all with Jolie Frankfurth, GFWC Director of Junior Clubs, as she taught us how we all connect with GFWC – just like the puzzle pieces of her theme. This Director has also been inviting herself to clubs and meeting so many wonderful, dedicated clubwomen doing incredible projects. You make me proud to represent you and humbled by what you do. I also want to remind you to report on all those projects this coming January 2018. What you do deserves to be recognized! Only by reporting do you get that opportunity. Check the [gfwcmajuniors.org](http://gfwcmajuniors.org) website for details. Club leaders, you will get reminders! We may work diversely, but it is always with a unified goal of making positive change in our clubs, our communities, and the world. As the holidays approach and continuing beyond, keep that spirit of change alive. So many are in need.

In January, I also hope to see you at the GFWC MA Mid-Winter Meeting on Saturday, January 27. Juniors can attend! Meet your 2018-2020 Junior Officer candidates. Cast your vote on GFWC MA business. Be part of how GFWC MA Junior Membership connects with GFWC of Massachusetts. Look for the Call.

Here's wishing each of you a wonderful holiday season with your family and friends and a New Year that is blessed with health and happiness.

In Junior Love and Holiday Warmth, *Martha*

**Walk For St. Jude Children's Research Hospital**

Clouds didn't damper the enthusiasm of the participants for the Sept. 23rd St. Jude Walk to End Childhood Cancer. Joining Director of Junior Clubs **Martha Casassa** (3rd from right) were Diane Murphy, Katie Robey, Diane McCurley, Cindy Roberge and members of Cindy's family from the GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club.



## **FALL MEETING** - Delaney House, Holyoke

A day of remembrance and honor, a day of service, a day of fun and friendship with women from across the state who came together to bring into action what our membership in GFWC is all about!



Flag retirement ceremony.  
Maureen Crowley, President, Braintree Women's Club (I) and Terry Rouvalis, South Shore District Director present flags to be retired.

Past State President Lorraine Gorham places flag in box at retirement ceremony.



What a wonderful looking group!  
Mary Ann Pierce, Membership Chairman, presents Charter to newest GFWC of Massachusetts Club President, Lorraine Gorham, and members of the GFWC Friends Forever Club!

President Stader thanks guest speaker Steve Connor, Hampshire County Veterans Service Agent for telling attendees what support we can give our veterans.



Were you unable to join us at Fall Meeting? Midwinter Meeting is coming soon-- January 27, 2018 at the Stoneforge Tavern in Raynham. Look for the Call shortly before Christmas! More Federation fun and function will be had by all!

**JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP FALL CONFERENCE - Trinity Church, Northborough**

Sixty Massachusetts Junior club members and guests enjoyed a fulfilling day of service and fun on October 28th. Honored to have GFWC Director of Junior Clubs **Jolie Frankfurth** as a special guest, Juniors filled bags with confetti (No Mo Chemo), toiletries (St. Jude family hospitality) and flag stars (honoring veterans). Juniors are the "new" bag ladies for the Advocates for Children Partner of GFWC!



GFWC Director of Junior Clubs Jolie Frankfurth (left) joins Massachusetts Juniors assembling flag star packets for veterans.

Corn and black bean salad bruchetta created for all attendees by **Chef Vanessa** from Project Bread. DELISH!



Sunshine Millea (r) and Pat Owens going round and round the table to fill hospitality bags for families staying at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital while child undergoes treatment

GFWC Director of Junior Clubs Jolie Frankfurth Congratulates Massachusetts Director Martha Casassa on her Platinum Millie Crom (Outstanding Director of Junior Clubs) award she received for 2016!!  
Way to go, Martha!



## NEW ENGLAND REGION CONFERENCE, Windsor, Connecticut



Massachusetts Jennie Award Nominee, **Donna Shibley** receiving recognition from Massachusetts President, **Lynne Stader** and New England Region President, **Debra Capuano** as well as GFWC International President, **Sheila Shea**!

Congratulations, Donna!

Thirty-four Massachusetts clubwomen traveled to Windsor, Connecticut for the 108th New England Region Conference on October 20-22, 2017. From a spirited game of Halloween trivia at Junior Fun Night, to the announcement of Jennie Award nominee **Donna Shibley**, to the report of the LEADS seminar in Palm Desert, California from **Donna Canavan**, to the reports from President **Lynne Stader** and Director of Junior Clubs **Martha Casassa** to the presentation by our own **Sheila Shea**, GFWC International President and the sneak peek at 2018-2020 by GFWC President-elect **Mary Ellen Brock**, to the overall well-run business sessions presided over by **Deb Capuano**, GFWC New England Region President, it was certainly a weekend to remember! Next year we'll be traveling to Maine--**join us for another weekend of Federation fun, friendship and memories.**

**Nancy Coughlin**, Northboro Junior Woman's Club, models prototype outfit during announcement by GFWC President Sheila Shea of "Project Runway Contest" for state federations at next June's GFWC Convention. Look for more info coming soon! Meanwhile, don't throw out those reusable shopping totes!



## CLUB HAPPENINGS



President Stader with members and guests at the **Ousamequin Club** high tea.

President Lynne Stader with **Ousamequin Club** President Leslie Dorr and Membership/Leadership Chairman Mary Ann Pierce at Ousamequin's High Tea! Lime and black--so chic!



Members of the **Bay State Contemporary Club** pose with new GFWC of Massachusetts state banner they donated for display at all state meetings. People will know who WE are!



President Stader with Lucille Barton and Terry Rouvalis of the **Braintree Women's Club** with Colton Carson 2017 MassSTAR grad!

Members of the Needham Women's Club came up with a unique idea to raise funds for hurricane relief—

### *Her - i - Cane*

A fun girls' night out with a great purpose!  
Pictured, with yummy-looking refreshments are  
Carol Stento and Linda Kickham



## More Clubs, More Happenings!



**Westwood Young Women's Club** members pose with a few of their many donations for Dignity Matters. Can you find Director of Junior Clubs Martha Casassa among the ladies?

Mia Corinha, President **Nahant Woman's Club** (2nd from left) welcomes club members and Massachusetts State President Lynne Stader.



Club advisor, Diane McCurley has fun with **GFWC Girls for a Greater Good** Juniores after the Melrose Alliance Against Violence Walk.

Director Martha enjoys meeting with **Milford Junior Woman's Club**. (l to r) Jeanette Shorn, Treasurer, Martha, Paula Mallahoo, President and Cheryl Miller, Secretary.





## **President's Project** - Lynne Stader

MassSTAR - Through the MassSTAR Citizenship Conference one student from each Massachusetts high school has the opportunity to experience 3 days of intensive programming including speakers, large and small group activities and discussions and a hands-on service project. These young people are challenged to broaden their perspective and bring out their inner leaders. Each year GFWC of Massachusetts partners with the Massachusetts Youth Leadership Foundation for the community service project during this Conference. In addition, GFWC of Massachusetts is a leading monetary sponsor allowing MYLF to conduct these conferences. Please consider supporting MYLF and GFWC of Massachusetts through a contribution. One full student scholarship (all students attend free of any charge to themselves or their school) is \$300 but any amount donated is greatly appreciated! Look for the MassSTAR line on the GFWC of Massachusetts Contribution Form and Junior Donation form. And also look for the dates of the 2018 Conference because you'll want to be part of our volunteer effort!

## **Resolutions Refresher** - Donna Shibley, First Vice President

Resolutions, upon adoption, are an integral part of the policy of GFWC. The subject matter of all resolutions is germane to the interests or work of GFWC. We, in Massachusetts, take pride in knowing that our club members can work for causes that the entire state is invested in. Together we can make a difference. Please review the following Resolutions that were recently updated at Fall Meeting. These can be found on the GFWC of MA website under the Member link. If a hard copy is requested, please contact Donna Shibley.

### **Conservation:**

- Support of Coastal Wetland Restoration



### **Home Life:**

- Breast Cancer
- Child and Adult Abuse
- Improper Portrayal of Women
- Intellectual Disability
- Mental Health
- National Women's Health Week
- Persons with Disabilities
- Retired Persons
- Sexual Exploitation of Children



### **International Outreach:**

- Terrorism

### **Public Issues:**

- Driving Under the Influence
- Government Involvement
- Susan B. Anthony Day



**Treasurer's Tidbits** - T Jablanski, Treasurer

Dues are DUE – **January 15, 2018**

Bills will be sent the **first week of December** for the immediate past fiscal year. The invoice you will receive this year are for dues paid to your club during the club year 2016-2017. The information your club submitted on the Manual Questionnaire is used to determine the number of dues paying members in your club. **Be sure to look** in a current manual for the number of members in your club, this is the number I will use to determine how many members your club has.



GFWC MA will collect \$23 in total - \$15 for GFWC International and \$8 for GFWC MA. Please see – BYLAWS Article IV – Dues, Finances and Fiscal Year Section 1 of current manual.

**Your membership is greatly appreciated – Thanks for Living the Volunteer Spirit!**

\* \* \* \* \*



Did your club file their form 990-N?

<https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/annual-electronic-notice-form-990-n-for-small-organizations-faqs-when-to-file>

**When is Form 990-N due? How often do I**

Form 990-N is due **every year** by the 15th day of the 5th the close of your tax year (usually the same as your period).

**Example:** If your tax year ended on December 31, Form May 15 of the following year. If the due date falls on a or legal holiday, the due date is the next business day.

If you do not file your *e-Postcard* on time, the IRS may send you a reminder notice but you will not be assessed a penalty for late filing the *e-Postcard*. However, an organization that fails to file required *e-Postcards* (or information returns – Forms 990 or 990-EZ) for three consecutive years will **automatically lose its tax-exempt status**. The **automatic revocation** of the organization’s tax-exempt status will not take place until the filing due date of the third year.

*Do you know what address they will send the notice to?*

**need to file?**

month after accounting

990-N is due Saturday, Sunday

**Noteworthy Noeses** - Look that one up in your Funk & Wagnalls!

GFWC of Massachusetts Contribution forms have been sent via email to all club presidents. Please let Diane McCurley at Headquarters (gfwcma@aol.com) know if you have not received yours. Contributions are due by January 31, 2018 to Treasurer T Jablanski for inclusion in the 2017 reports.

Speaking of reports....



## **Reporting Refresher** – Donna Shibley

**Yes**, it is that time of year to be thinking of organizing your numbers to prepare to write your 2017 reports.

**No**, the process is not difficult if you follow the guidelines given to all Club Presidents on Informational Day and posted on the GFWC of MA website under the Member link.

**Maybe**, you might need help, and Donna Shibley is just a phone call, email away to help answer your questions.

**Because**, reporting is a way to keep your club history while bragging about your accomplishments to fellow clubwoman.

**So that**, January 24, 2018 is when reports are due to your District Director and Headquarters Secretary Diane McCurley at [GFWCMA@AOL.org](mailto:GFWCMA@AOL.org) or mail to GFWC of MA Headquarters, P.O. Box 679, Sudbury, MA 01776

## **Membership Message** – Mary Ann Pierce, Membership/Leadership Chairman **Recruitment Campaign for Membership**

**November 30** is the deadline to send Mary Ann Pierce information in regards to new members recruited in September, October, and November. Please include, the new member's name, address, phone and email to Mary Ann Pierce **no later than 11/30**. Her email is [mapgfwc@msn.com](mailto:mapgfwc@msn.com).

## **Holiday at Headquarters**

Kick up your **Holiday Spirit** on December 7, 2017 at 10 a.m. at GFWC of Massachusetts Headquarters for our Annual **Holiday at Headquarters!** Enjoy our guest speaker, Katherine Gilpin, raise your voice in song during caroling, listen as our State President Lynne Stader reads a holiday message and taste the marvelous products of our members' kitchens as we swap (and eat) cookies

(Please share recipes with Diane McCurley at [gfwcma@aol.com](mailto:gfwcma@aol.com))

Raffle Baskets and Opportunity Raffle will be held- some great surprises! So, be prepared to shop at the Federation Holiday Boutique (Federation Station), take chances on some holiday baskets, and split the pot for some extra holiday cash!

**Join us as we Celebrate the Season of Sharing!**



## Dates to Remember

- December 7 - Holiday at Headquarters, Sudbury  
Club Institute  
Speaker, Katherine Gilpin, "Find Your Voice & Be Heard"  
Carol Singing  
**SECOND ANNUAL COOKIE SWAP!!**  
Holiday Reading from President Stader
- January 15 Club dues due to Treasurer, T Jablanski
- 27 Fall Meeting - Stoneforge Tavern, Raynham
- February 1 LEADS Applications due to GFWC of MA, PO Box 679,  
Sudbury 01776
- March 1 GFWC of Massachusetts Scholarship and Memorial  
Education Fund Fellowship Applications are due to  
GFWC of MA, PO Box 679, Sudbury 01776
- April 28 Junior Membership Annual Meeting, Hilton Garden Inn,  
Springfield  
Awards, Installation of 2018-2020 Officers
- May 5-6 GFWC of Massachusetts Annual Meeting, Westford Regency  
Scholarship/Fellowship presentations, Club Awards,  
Installation of 2018-2020 Officers
- June MassSTAR Leadership Seminar, Lasell College  
Saturday June Service Project
- June 23-26 GFWC Annual Convention, St. Louis Union Station Hotel  
St. Louis, Missouri



**Happy  
Thanksgiving!**

Hope you enjoyed this edition of **TOPICS**. When your club does something new/fun/important in your community, takes lots of pictures and send them to [gfwcma@aol.com](mailto:gfwcma@aol.com) for publication in our next issue!

**Thanks for reading!**  
Diane McCurley, Editor