General Federation of Women’s Clubs of Massachusetts

COMBINED ANNUAL CONVENTION

Cherish the Past, Celebrate the Present, Create the Future

Donna M. Shibley, President
Katie Robey, Director of Junior Clubs

Friday, April 29 - Saturday, April 30, 2022
Courtyard Marriott Natick, Speen Street

Massachusetts Clubwomen Have Been Using Their Hearts and Hands for 129 years ♥
MASSACHUSETTS OFFICERS
Donna M. Shibley, President
Katie Robey, Director of Junior Clubs
T Jablanski, President-elect
Marisa Jablanski, Director-elect
Jen Nowak, Second Vice President
Theresa Rouvalis, Recording Secretary
Elizabeth McKeon, Junior Membership Recording Secretary
Donna Canavan, Corresponding Secretary
Kathleen Goneau, Junior Membership Corresponding Secretary
Darlene Coutu, Treasurer
Nancy Coughlin, Junior Membership Treasurer

PARLIMENTARIAN
Shirley Gomes

Junior Pledge
I pledge my loyalty
to the Junior Clubwomen
By doing better than ever before, what work I have to do,
By being prompt, honest, courteous
By living each day, trying to accomplish something,
Not merely to exist.

Collect for Clubwomen
Keep us, Oh God, from pettiness; let us be large in thought, in word, in deed.
Let us be done with fault-finding and leave off self-seeking.
May we put away all pretense and meet each other face to face, without
self-pity and without prejudice.
May we never be hasty in judgment and always generous.
Let us take time for all things; make us to grow calm, serene, gentle.
Teach us to put into action our better impulses, straight-forward and unafraid.
Grant that we may realize it is the little things that create differences,
that in the big things of life we are at one.
And may we strive to touch and to know the great common human
heart of us all; and, Oh Lord God, let us forget not to be kind.
FRIDAY EVENING

Celebrate the Present!

Festivities start at the 6:00pm Cocktail Hour ~ Dinner in the Commons Room at 7:00pm

Welcome

Donna M. Shibley, President

Special Guests

Theresa Rouvalis, Recording Secretary

Grace

Diane Erickson, Meetings Chairman

Surprise Activity

hosted by Junior Membership in the Eliot Room

Fun Night

Katie Robey, Director of Junior Clubs

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION ~ starting promptly at 9:30am in the Commons Room

Cherish the Past!

Processional, Introductions of GFWC Massachusetts and Junior Membership Officers and Parliamentarian

Sarah Sargent, President’s Assistant

Presiding

Donna M. Shibley, President

Katie Robey, Director of Junior Clubs

Invocation

Alicia Sheridan, Leadership Chairman

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

Diane Murphy, Civic Engagement and Outreach Chairman

129 years of GFWC Massachusetts volunteer service

Darlene Coutu, Treasurer

Presentation of Past State Presidents and Presentation of Past Directors of Junior Clubs

Mary Baird, Past President 2008-2010

Tribute to Tina Macrina, Past President, 1992-1994

Martha Casassa, Credentials and Registration

Report of Registration

Theresa Rouvalis, Recording Secretary

Adoption of the Printed Program

Donna Canavan, Corresponding Secretary

Report of Correspondence

Darlene Coutu, Treasurer

Accountant’s Review

Marisa Jablanski, Elections Chairman

Election Committee

Update on Director of Junior Clubs Focus Area

Katie Robey, Director of Junior Clubs

Update on President Focus Area

Donna M. Shibley, President

Donations: MassSTAR, Birthday Wishes, Dignity Matters

Cathy Freedberg, Needham Women’s Club

Frances Perkins traveling panels

Elizabeth McKeon, Junior Membership Leadership Chairman

GFWC LEADS Candidate for 2022

introduced by Mary Ann Pierce, Past President

Guest Speaker, Susan Howards

Diane Erickson, Meetings Chairman

Announcements
SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION ~ Lunch served at noon

Celebrate the Present!

Grace Bernadette Bennett, Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness/Prevention Chairman

Scholarship Awards

- Ricky Gomes Memorial Scholarship  Nancy Martin, Junior Membership Chairman
- GFWC MA Scholarships  Lucille Barton, Chairman
- Memorial Education Scholarships for Graduate Studies  Lynne Stader, Chairman

Contest Winners

- Photography  Mary Barnes, Chairman
- Community Impact Program Award  Emily Duserick, Chairman

Headquarters Commission Annual Report  Sandy Krafsig, Chairman

Memorial Forest Annual Report  Nancy Coughlin/Mary Kemp, Co-Chairmen

2022 GFWC Annual Convention in New Orleans invite  T Jablanski, President-elect

2022 GFWC New England Region Conference invite  Jen Nowak, 2nd Vice-President

Special Programs, Community Service Programs, and Advancement Plan Awards  GFWC MA and Junior Membership Chairmen

Voting results  Marisa Jablanski, Elections Chairman

Raffles  Mary Ann Pierce, Fundraising Chairman

Announcements  Diane Erickson, Meetings Chairman

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION ~ Cocktails at 5:30pm, in session starting at 6:00pm

Celebrate the Present!

Award and Trophy Presentations  Donna M. Shibley, President

Katie Robey, Director of Junior Clubs

State Clubwomen Awards

State Overall Achievement Awards

Grace  Elizabeth Young, candidate for Junior Membership Treasurer

Final Report of Director of Junior Clubs  Katie Robey, Director of Junior Clubs

Final Report of State President  Donna M. Shibley, President

Report of Registration  Martha Casassa, Credentials and Registration Chairman

Courtesies

Junior Pledge  Kathleen Goneau, Junior Membership Corresponding Secretary

Collect for Clubwomen  Darlene Coutu, Treasurer

Announcements

Break for 15 minutes ~ please allow head table to leave first
Create the Future!

Installation of 2022-2024 GFWC MA Officers

Following the break in the Eliot Room

Presiding Officers Mary Ann Pierce and Jen Nowak

Installation addresses

President T Jablanski and Director of Junior Clubs, Marisa Jablanski

Passing of the Gavels

Closing of the 129th GFWC Massachusetts Annual Convention

ADJOURNMENT

Celebrate and Enjoy Dessert at the After Party with DJ Jerry Booth in the Commons Room

Thank you to all who presented today ♥
Thank you to all attendees today ♥
♥ Thank you for your raffle donations ♥

♥ SPECIAL APPRECIATION ♥

Parliamentarian: Shirley Gomes
Protocol Chairman: Marisa Jablanski
Fundraising Chairman: Mary Ann Pierce
Meetings Chairman: Diane Erickson
Credentials and Registration Chairman: Martha Casassa
Minutes Review: Beth McKeon

President’s Assistants
Robin O’Connor
Sarah Sargent
Joyce Clark

Director’s Assistant
Diane Erickson

HQ Secretary

*** DATES TO REMEMBER ***

May 21: Board of Directors at HQ (9:30am-12:30pm)
May 21: Federation Day at the Forest (1:00-2:00pm)
June 15: Manual sheet due to HQ
June 25-28: GFWC Annual Convention, Hilton New Orleans, Riverside, LA
August 10: Junior Executive Board Meeting
August: Junior Jumpstart TBD
August 27: Board of Directors at HQ (9:30am-12:30pm)
August 27: Leadership Day (1:30pm)
Sept 23-25: 113th GFWC NER Conference, Radisson Hotel Providence in Rhode Island
October 29: Combined Fall Meeting, Publick House, 277 Main Street, Sturbridge
Oct 23-29: Advocates for Children’s Week
December 31: Club dues due | End of Year Contribution Form due
GFWC Massachusetts 2021 Reporting Statistics
44 Active Clubs, 7 Associate Clubs
1385 members
Projects: 942
Hours: 43,805
In-Kind Donations: $98,599
Monetary Donations: $101,669
Fundraising monies raised: $111,494

GFWC Massachusetts Members serving GFWC National 2020-2022

• Donna Shibley ~ GFWC Massachusetts President
• Katie Robey ~ GFWC Massachusetts Director of Junior Clubs
• Shelia Shea ~ Resolutions Committee Chairman
• Jen Nowak ~ Membership Committee, Junior Executive Committee
• Mary Ann Pierce ~ Capital Campaign Committee
• Lynne Stader ~ International Liaisons Committee
• Mary Baird ~ Woman's History and Resource Center Committee
• T Jablanski ~ Fundraising Committee
• Martha Casassa ~ Credentials Committee

GFWC Massachusetts Members serving GFWC New England Region 2020-2022

• Donna Shibley ~ GFWC Massachusetts President
• Katie Robey ~ GFWC Massachusetts Director of Junior Clubs
• Jen Nowak ~ Meetings and Protocol
• Mary Ann Pierce ~ Fundraising Chairman
• Donna Canavan ~ Fundraising Committee
• Darlene Coutu ~ Fundraising Committee
• Robin O'Connor ~ Fundraising Committee
• T Jablanski ~ Leadership Committee
• Diane Murphy ~ Standing Rules Committee
• Shirley Gomes ~ Jennie June Committee

Standing Rules of Federation Meeting

1. Doors will be closed and opened at the discretion of the Meetings Chairman, or upon the request of the presiding officer.
2. If a member wishes to speak, she shall rise, address the Chairman and give her name and club.
3. A delegate may speak no more than two minutes and no more than twice to the same question without the consent of the assembly, nor speak a second time to the same questions until all who wish to speak have been heard.
4. All main motions shall be submitted in writing and sent to the President immediately.

Memorial Education Scholarship Awards for Graduate Study winners
7 Scholarship Winners ~ Total Funding $30,000.00

• Katherine O’Malley ~ $6,000.00
• Priya Bajracharya ~ $4,000.00
• Makayla Davis ~ $4,000.00
• Maria Kaya ~ $4,000.00
• Alexandra McCabe ~ $4,000.00
• Natalie Manfra ~ $4,000.00
• Kynza Khimani ~ $4,000.00
GFWC Massachusetts Scholarship Award Winners
23 Scholarship Winners ~ Total Funding $12,500.00

“Nickels for Notes” Music Scholarship
- Shaylyn White ~ $1,000.00
- Jemella Piersol-Freedman ~ $500.00
- Diego Vilches ~ $500.00
- Dakota Schantz ~ $500.00
- Amelia Vanderwoude ~ $500.00

“Pennies for Art” Scholarship
- Samara Reid ~ $500.00

Education-Teaching Scholarship
- Emma Aberle ~ $500.00
- Molly Lamothe ~ $500.00
- Jayden Kelly ~ $500.00
- Brynn Goulet ~ $500.00

Business Scholarship for Undergraduate or Graduate Study
- Samantha Kersey ~ $500.00
- Elyse Whittemore ~ $500.00
- Emmanuel Barris ~ $500.00

Communication Disorder/Speech Therapy for Graduate Study
- Hannah Rose Manni ~ $500.00

Julia Ward Howe Political Science Scholarship for Graduate Study
- Paige E. Ferreira ~ $500.00

Boston City Federation Scholarship for a Woman Returning to School
- Jennifer Thibodeau ~ $1,000.00
- Gillian Tisdale ~ $500.00
- Afsah Dean ~ $500.00

International Study Abroad Scholarship for Undergraduate or Graduate Study
- Catherine Reidy ~ $500.00

Catherine E. Philbin Study in Public Health Scholarship
- Alyssa Abbe ~ $500.00
- Luberlandia O’Connor ~ $500.00
- Gavin Blazonis ~ $500.00
- Victoria Wheeler ~ $500.00

Women’s Italian Club of Boston Scholarships
5 scholarship winners ~ total funding $5,000.00
- Gianna Fiore ~ $1000.00
- Julianna Nutile ~ $1000.00
- Victoria Perry ~ $1000.00
- Carli Quinlan ~ $1000.00
- Leila Smadi ~ $1000.00
Dear GFWC Friends,

Our founder, Jane Cunningham Croly (1829-1901), earned her place in history through a lifetime of barrier-breaking work. First employed as a housekeeper by her brother John, a Unitarian minister, Jane launched her journalism career by writing a semi-monthly newspaper that she read to parishioners. By the age of 26, she was in New York writing about anything relating to “women’s sphere in society” for various newspapers and magazines, including the New York Tribune and Sunday Times.

Known for her interest in women’s welfare, Jane called for the first woman’s congress in 1856 for a dialog on the changing role of women in society. A dozen years later she and 11 other women established Sorosis, a woman’s club to “promote agreeable and useful relations among women of literary and artistic tastes,” and to recognize “women of thought, culture and humanity everywhere, particularly when these qualities have found expression in outward life and work.”

In the 1870s and 1880s, in many parlors large and small across a nation that was growing and changing, women were meeting to work together, learn from each other, and reach towards “higher aims,” not only for themselves but for social improvement. In 1890, with Jane in constant communication with women’s clubs across the country, Sorosis hosted a convention in New York City that culminated with women from 63 clubs acting on April 24 to establish the General Federation of Women’s Clubs.

Today, with clubs across the U.S. and in several countries, GFWC members honor the spirit and vision of Jane Cunningham Croly each day with works that improve communities and enhance the lives of others through volunteer service.

As you gather together at your 2022 state conventions, I hope you will be inspired by Jane’s story to continue to work towards “higher aims,” through serving others and learning and growing from your experiences. And I hope that you will relish the “broader and nobler life” that Jane and her contemporaries often spoke of, as they blazed a new path for women such as you and me.

Congratulations to each of you and your clubs for your many successes in the past year, and good luck as you continue to work towards a better future for individuals and communities, near and far.

Yours in Living the Volunteer Spirit!

Marian Simmons-St.Clair
GFWC International President