



**GFWC Massachusetts Awards**  
**Presented at the GFWC Massachusetts Annual Convention**  
**May 4, 2024**



**SPECIAL PROGRAM, COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM AND ADVANCEMENT PLAN AWARDS:**

**Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children**

**Marisa Jablanski, Chairman for Junior Membership**

- Special Recognition: GFWC Greater Taunton Woman's Club ~ Bringing Christmas Spirit to Children
- Special Recognition: Hanover Woman's Club, Juniors ~ Halloween Parade
- Creativity Award: GFWC Dedham Junior Women's Club ~ Grow Program

**Katie Robey, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman**

- Braintree Women's Club ~ As a thank you to the local library for allowing the club's Board of Directors to conduct their business meeting at the facility the club donated \$200. At the request of the club the donation was used for the purchase of books for grammar and middle school children spotlighting Women in History.
- Holly Club of Wrentham ~ 10 members donated 34 hours of their time and partnered with the Wrentham Food Bank to purchase and package 27 pairs of pajamas for 13 families totaling \$350.

**GFWC Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention**

**Shannon Butler, Junior Membership Chairman**

- Special Recognition: GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club ~ Secure the Call Phone Collection
- Special Recognition: GFWC Marlborough Woman's Club ~ RAD guest speaker
- Creativity Award: GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club ~ Police Resource Packet

**Mary Ann Pierce, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman**

- Bay State Contemporary Club ~ Contributed 48 hours of their time to donate cash and goods to three different local organizations dedicated to supporting the needs and services for victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence as well as Human Trafficking.

**Arts and Culture**

**Beth McKeon, Dean of Chairmen for Junior Membership**

- Special Recognition: GFWC Dedham Junior Women's Club ~ Augmented Realty Art Exhibit Visit
- Special Recognition: Hanover Woman's Club, Juniors ~ Scholarship Contest
- Creativity Award: GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club ~ Neurographic Art Workshop

**Bernadette Bennett, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman**

- Ousamequin Club ~ Presented a program that demonstrated how to recycle old jewelry into purse jewelry.

**Civic Engagement and Outreach**

**Beth McKeon, Dean of Chairmen for Junior Membership**

- Special Recognition: Hanover Woman's Club, Juniors ~ Candidates Night
- Special Recognition: GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club – Hospital Community Closet
- Creativity Award: GFWC Dedham Junior Women's Club ~ Migrant Family Support

**Ann Marie Bielenin, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman**

- Braintree Women's Club ~ Donated \$630 worth of various requested items packaged in tote bags to the residents of Caritas House, a local transitional house for the homeless.
- Holly Club of Wrentham ~ 10 Members donated 25 hours of their time and the club donated \$200 towards providing a dinner for all the first responders in their community.

### **Education and Libraries**

#### **Beth McKeon, Dean of Chairman for Junior Membership**

- Special Recognition: Hanover Woman's Club, Juniors ~ National Library Week
- Special Recognition: GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club ~ Nutrition 68 Program
- Creativity Award: GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club ~ Wine Pull Fundraiser

#### **Terry Rouvalis, GFWC Massachusetts Dean of Chairmen**

- Hopkinton Women's Club ~ Members donated 154 hours and \$9100 providing scholarships and various educational opportunities in their community.

### **Environment**

#### **Beth McKeon, Dean of Chairman for Junior Membership**

- Special Recognition: GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club ~ Working Alongside Agawam Garden Club
- Special Recognition: GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club ~ Rain Barrel Raffle and Water Bottle Pledge
- Creativity Award: ~ GFWC Greater Taunton Woman's Club ~ Collecting Reusable Items for Local STEM Teacher

#### **Mary Barnes, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman**

- Ousamequin Club ~ Two club members spent about 3 hours in April at "our" little space at Iron Works Park in Bridgewater, cleaning up the space the club sponsors as well as helped during town clean-up day.

### **Health and Wellness**

#### **Beth McKeon, Dean of Chairman for Junior Membership**

- Special Recognition: GFWC Greater Taunton Woman's Club ~ Benefits a Nurse Member
- Special Recognition: ~ GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club ~ Community Self Care Fair for Women
- Creativity Award: GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club ~ Refugee Support

#### **Penny Olson, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman**

- Millbury Women's Club ~ After hearing the presentation at a state meeting by a representative of NAMSI telling of the need of bringing mental health information into homes, members brought the information to the attention of their local school authorities. Working with NAMSI, and the schools, programs were presented to the students and their families on the support services that are available for mental health.
- Ousamequin Club ~ Penny Olsen, GFWC Massachusetts Health and Wellness Chairman presented the program The Power of Letting Go which included a workshop introducing tools to relieve stress.

### **Communications and Public Relations**

#### **Beth McKeon, Dean of Chairman for Junior Membership**

- Special Recognition: GFWC Northboro Woman's Club ~ Who? What? Where?
- Special Recognition: GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club ~ Stepping into New Media to Build a Community Presence
- Creativity Award: Westford Women's Club ~ Design and Launch of a New Logo

#### **Donna Shibley, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman**

- Ousamequin Club ~ At their Annual Meeting Banquet, the club celebrated their 125-year anniversary with a member designed printed program and slide show highlighting the history of the club and its relationships to the town. Many of the guests were town dignitaries who thanked the club for their contributions to the community.

## **Fundraising**

### **Mary Ann Pierce, Junior Membership Chairman**

- Special Recognition: GFWC Wilbraham Junior Women's Club – Designer Bag BINGO
- Special Recognition: Needham Women's Club ~ Holiday House Tour
- Creativity Award: Junior Woman's Club of Walpole ~ Festival of Trees

### **Mary Ann Pierce, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman**

- Hopkinton Women's Club ~ Partnered with the Hopkinton Emergency Fund to run a Golf Tournament which included raffles, a silent auction and lunch. A net profit was raised of \$17,524 which was divided between the two organizations.
- GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club ~ A BINGO was held at HQ where small purse accessories were given with gift certificates as prizes. Snacks were provided and a small basket raffle contributed to the proceeds of \$415.

## **Leadership**

### **Beth McKeon, Junior Membership Chairman**

- Special Recognition: GFWC Auburn Junior Woman's Club ~ Wall of Leaders
- Special Recognition: GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club ~ Non-Profit Community Collaboration Event Planning
- Creativity Award: GFWC Greater Taunton Woman's Club ~ Leadership Awards with Donations to Charity

### **Alicia Sheridan, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman**

- Ousamequin Club ~ Leaders spent 218 hours organizing, seeking projects, publicizing, applying for Cultural Grants and overall operational chores for keeping this club active and attractive to new and existing members. The president and vice president attended State Meetings as well as their club meetings.

## **Legislation/Public Policy**

### **Beth McKeon ~ Dean of Chairmen for Junior Membership**

- Special Recognition: GFWC Auburn Junior Woman's Club ~ Legislation Lesson through GFWC Leadership Certification
- Special Recognition: GFWC Marlboro Junior Woman's Club ~ Governors Proclamation for Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- Creativity Award: GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors ~ Impacting Local Legislation

### **no women's club entries**

## **Membership**

### **Theresa Frias, Junior Membership Chairman**

- Special Recognition: Westford Women's Club ~ Membership Recruitment Table
- Special recognition: GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club ~ Lucky Ladies Shop, Eat and Talk
- Creativity Award: Needham Women's Club ~ Think Pink Membership event

### **Elaine Brickman, GFWC Massachusetts Chairman**

- Holly Club of Wrentham ~ Held a Membership Tea where each member, besides being treated to some wonderful donated goodies, was honored and given a framed Certificate of Appreciation printed with the date they joined the club, the date the club was formed and signed by the club president.

- Bourne Women's Club ~ Able to add 4 new members to their rolls as well as the potential to add 4 more in 2024 by holding a late summer picnic, Holiday Hoopla (cookie swap) as well as monitoring their Facebook page for those inquiring information on local activities. Designated members contacted these people and provided information on their club plus inviting them to a meeting.

## **Women's History and Resource Center**

### **Beth McKeon ~ Dean of Chairmen for Junior Membership**

- Special Recognition: GFWC Auburn Junior Woman's Club ~ A visit to HQ in Washington DC
- Special Recognition: GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club ~ Women's History Month Movie Trivia Contest
- Creativity Award: Westford Women's Club ~ Honoring Massachusetts Women, Past and Present

### **Terry Rouvalis, Dean of Chairmen Massachusetts**

**no women's club entries**

## **CONTESTS**

### **Photography**

**Our World Up Close** ~ Jeanne Dee, GFWC Auburn Junior Woman's Club (Iguana in a Tree)

**Natural Wonders** ~ Jeanne Dee, GFWC Auburn Junior Woman's Club (Sunset over the Caribbean)

**Reflections** ~ Gina Guasconi, Ousamequin Club (Reflections of Autumn)

**Living the Volunteer Spirit** ~ Jeannie Dee ~ GFWC Auburn Junior Woman's Club (prepping waters for Duck Race)

### **Writing Contest ~ Clubwomen**

**Poetry** ~ Mary Barnes, GFWC Pepperell Woman's Club ~ "Importance of a Letter"

**Short Story** ~ Jean Guarino, Ousamequin Club ~ "Images in Winter"

### **Writing Contest ~ Youth ~ Category 3 Grade Level 6, 7, 8**

**Poetry** ~ Graham Baker, GFWC Greater Taunton Woman's Club ~ "Lord of the Deep"

**Short Story** ~ Adelaide E. Collins, Junior Woman's Club of Walpole ~ "The Chase"

## **STATE INDIVIDUAL AWARDS:**

### **Marilyn Perry Leadership Award**

**Beth McKeon, Junior Membership Leadership Chairman**

**The winner is: Gigi Chamberlain, GFWC Marlborough Junior Women's Club**

### **Martha Michalewicz Clubwoman of the Year Award**

**Theresa Frias Junior Membership Membership Chairman**

**The winner is: Vicki Greenberg Levine, GFWC Marlborough Junior Women's Club**

### **GFWC Massachusetts Clubwoman of the Year**

**Elaine Brickman, GFWC Massachusetts Membership Chairman**

This award is based on a Nomination essay submitted by a club.

**The winner is: Martha Casassa, GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club**

### **Sheila E. Shea Junior Club President Award**

**Marisa Jablanski, Director of Junior Clubs**

**The winner is: Robin Gendron ~ GFWC Greater Taunton Woman's Club**

**Julia Ward Howe Club President Award**

**T Jablanski, President**

**The winner is: Penny Olsen, Holly Club of Wrentham**

## **STATE OVERALL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

**Presented by Beth McKeon, Director-elect**

**Barbara S. Baker Tray ~ GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club**

**Division II (6-30 members) ~ Small Bowl ~ GFWC Auburn Junior Woman's Club, Inc.**

**Division I (31+ members) ~ Small Bowl ~ GFWC Marlborough Junior Women's Club**

**P & A ~ Large Bowl ~ GFWC Greater Taunton Woman's Club**

**Presented by Jen Nowak, President-elect**

**2023 Club Performance Award Bowls**

- **GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club**
- **GFWC Boston Palimentary Law**
- **Woman's Club of Newton Highlands**



**Congratulations to ALL the Winners!**