



The BEAT of the Federation

PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

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

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VOLUME 10

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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:

As we celebrate Earth Day this month let us also celebrate our members who continue to give back to their communities and beyond. We all can give our **Hearts & Hands for GFWC** even with current restrictions slowly lifting. I am available (a phone call/an email away) to help Club Presidents with ideas and suggestions to keep your members involved, while working on club business until we can safely meet in person.



Events you DO NOT want to miss:

GFWC Massachusetts Combined Annual Convention

This is to remind YOU about the upcoming **2021 GFWC Massachusetts Combined Annual Convention: Hearts and Hands Together** to be held virtually on **Saturday May 1, 2021** starting at 9:00am. \$15.00 registration. **Have you registered? How many of your club members have registered? Each club should have at least one attendee at each State Meeting.**

Highlights include:

GFWC President-elect, Deb Strahanoski will be the special guest speaker Business of the Federation, Annual Reports, Awards, Recognitions, Anniversaries, Raffles, Fun Facts

From Your Heart Raffle ~ donate and take a chance

The Second Step ~ Essential item donations ~ <https://a.co/520OpvC>

Hands on Activities ~ What to do while Zooming – a multitask opportunity

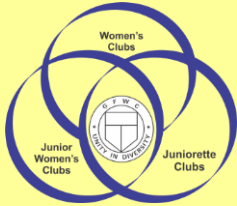
Friday night **Fun Night** ~ Reverse Trivia starting at 7:00pm

Friday night **1898 Society Reception** starting at 8:00pm ~ wear your biggest flower and come up with trivia/tidbits from 1898 to share.

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 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**. 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.



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
each or a heart/hand
bracelet for \$20.00 All
proceeds will go towards
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, funds
contribute to the welfare
of this Federation. We
encourage all members
to join each year at
\$18.98 per year.

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.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month:

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month and GFWC is proud to support GFWC Affiliate Organization Prevent Child Abuse America (PCAA) in its **Pinwheels for Prevention** campaign. Display your pinwheels.

GFWC Jennie June Award:

The GFWC Jennie Award, the only national honor bestowed by GFWC, recognizes individuals for personal excellence. Named in honor of GFWC's founder, Jane Cunningham Croly, writer for national newspapers under the pseudonym "Jennie June", club members are nominated by their clubs to compete at state, regional, and national levels for the Federation's highest honor. Nominee's paperwork is **due June 1, 2021**.

Suffrage100 MA will be hosting a free Author Talk with Lucy Stone biographer Joelle Million.

Lucy Stone: Voice of the Early Woman Suffrage Movement April 15, 2021 from 7:00 - 8:00 pm on Zoom

Join Lucy Stone biographer Joelle Million, author of *Woman's Voice, Woman's Place: Lucy Stone and the Birth of the Woman's Rights Movement* to learn what motivated Massachusetts native Lucy Stone to become an orator, a field almost exclusively male in the mid-19th century; follow Lucy Stone's journey to become the voice of the antebellum woman's rights movement. Please join this free event!

[Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

Club Presidents Heart to Heart Talk:

There will be an email invite coming for you as Club President to join this State President on Tuesday night, **May 4 @ 6:00** for a Heart to Heart talk. Our **special guest, Jen Nowak** GFWC MA 2nd Vice President will share updates about next year's new and improved report writing tips. Please attend ♥

State Leadership Tools:

Find these great Leadership tools on the GFWC MA website ~ look under Members: Especially for Club Presidents:

GFWC MA President's Handbook ~ be in the know! Tips and tidbits.

GFWC MA Membership Brochure ~ hot off the presses, make your own copies or request copies from our HQ Secretary.

GFWC MA PowerPoint for Members ~ show your club members their connection to GFWC and GFWC MA, or make your own club PowerPoint to use as a membership recruitment tool.

GFWC MA VidHug ~ show at a club meeting or make your own video for posting in social media.

GFWC MA Tools of the Trade Club Leaders PowerPoint ~ tips and pointers for Presidents. Watch for the 2021 event coming in the fall.



GFWC MA Website
GFWCMA.org
Scavenger Hunt #9
Can you find and
answer these questions:

1. **About GFWC:** When did GFWC actively supported the passage of the Violence Against Women Act; the Americans With Disabilities Act; the Family and Medical Leave Act; and legislation supporting handgun control?

2. **Events ~ Club Events:** Which club is sponsoring a Suffrage Centennial Tea-In A-Bag event to benefit their scholarship fund?

3. **Members ~ Fundraising:** What fun MA state shirt can you buy for \$20.00?

4. **Calendar:** When is GFWC Volunteers in Action week? When is Federation Day?

5. **Members ~ GFWC MA Program Information:** What two clubwomen won the GFWC MA Writing Poetry and Short Story contests?

Remember your State President as well as the Officers are available for your club meetings as presenters. Let us know what topic(s) you are looking for ♥

April Fundraiser:

\$100 Amazon gift card (or your choice gift card).

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.

May Fundraiser: a special Mother's Day gift

June Fundraiser: 4th of July mania

Past Fundraiser winners:

February's Pretty in pink/re/purple quilt ~ winner Joyce Clark
LUCKY in March \$100 Lottery tickets ~ Jen Nowak



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? Decorate a picture frame? Create jewelry? Arrange flowers or make a wreath? Design a garden stone? 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 every club will have at least one item donated. All entries will be recognized. Time to get creating or shopping. We need your creativity and support. Contact Bernadette Bennett for more information: bbennett@bu.edu | 781.690.2824

Publicity: Do you have club news to share with GFWC?

Is there a club success story to tell? 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 Affiliate Webinars:

Contact President Shibley for the links to watch these previously presented 30-minute videos:

- ♥ St. Jude Children's Research Hospital ♥ UN Foundation Shot@Life
- ♥ Prevent Child Abuse America ♥ Canine Companions for Independence
- ♥ Heifer International ♥ Operation Smile ♥ UNICEF

Legislation and Public Policy:

Please Take Action on GFWC's Legislative Priorities

- [Time for Women to have Equal Rights](#)
- [End Campus Sexual Assault](#)
- [Reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act](#)

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.