



# The BEAT of the Federation

**PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER**

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

**MARCH 16, 2021**

**VOLUME 9**

**Executive Committee:**

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**Director of Junior Clubs**  
**Katie Robey**  
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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:**

Happy St. Patty's Day to our members who continue to have the amazing luck to be in the business of volunteering. We all give our **Hearts & Hands for GFWC** even with current restrictions in place. 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.



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

Is there a club success story to tell? Email to be considered for GFWC's Blog. Share upcoming club projects with **GFWC MA** to be including on our website or to *Federation TOPICS* editor Darlene Coutu (due March 20 for the spring edition.)

**Events you DO NOT want to miss:**

**GFWC Massachusetts Combined Annual Convention**

President Shibley and Director Robey are EXCITED to invite YOU to the **2021 GFWC Massachusetts Combined Annual Convention: Hearts and Hands Together** to be held virtually on **Saturday May 1, 2021** starting at 9:00am. Highlights include:

**GFWC President-elect, Deb Strahanoski** will be the special guest

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

Friday night **1898 Society Reception** starting at 8:00pm

Business of the Federation, Annual Reports

Awards, Recognitions, Anniversaries

**From Your Heart Raffle** ~ donate and take a chance

**The Second Step** ~ Essential item donations

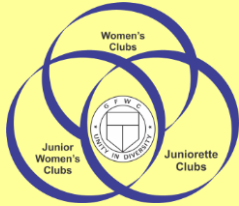
**Hands on Activities** ~ What to do while Zooming

**GFWC Massachusetts LEADS (Leadership Education and Development Seminar)** Watch for more information on this prerecorded leadership event. Register at [gfwcmaleads@gmail.com](mailto:gfwcmaleads@gmail.com)

Please register and encourage your clubmembers to attend.  
Each club should have at least one attendee at each state meeting.

**GFWC New England Region Conference**

NER President JoAnn Calnen is EXCITED to invite YOU to the **2021 GFWC NER Conference: Celebrate Change** to 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 put on your party clothes to you join us at the state night banquet featuring special guest Sara Hammel. Join for the fun and federation friendship with fellow New Englanders. See the save the date flier.



### 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

GFWC International President Marian St.Clair is EXCITED to invite YOU to the **2021 GFWC Annual Convention: Celebrating Culture, Cultivating Connections** to be held 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.

## Club Presidents Heart to Heart Talk:

There will be an email invite coming for you as Club President to join this State President on Thursday night, **April 8 @ 6:00** for a Heart to Heart talk. Our **special guest, Bernadette Bennett**, GFWC MA Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention Chairman will talk about an upcoming **Fundraiser raffle and auction**. Please attend ♥

## State Leadership Tools:

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

**GFWC MA President's Handbook** ~ be in the know!

**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 members their connection to GFWC and GFWC MA, or make your own club powerpoint.

**GFWC MA VidHug** ~ show at a club meeting or make your own video.

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

## Upcoming Women's Club State Awards are due by April 1:

Information is on the GFWC MA website under Members: Fliers and Forms  
**Clubwoman of the Year Award**  
**Julia Ward Howe Club President's Award**

## 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
- Sign up through the GFWC Member Portal for these upcoming Webinars:
- ♥ Heifer International ~ March 17 @ 3:00pm
  - ♥ Operation Smile ~ March 17 @ 4:00pm
  - ♥ UNICEF ~ March 31 @ 4:00pm

Sign up. If you can't watch at the scheduled time, watch at your convenience when GFWC sends you the link after the event

## March as Women's History Month:

Hope you have been enjoying the FaceBook posts on distinguished women on the GFWC MA and Junior Membership FaceBook pages.

## GFWC Woman's History Month:

Did you watch Sara Hammel, journalist, bestselling author, screenwriter and first GFWC Jane Cunningham Croly Award winner talking about her book, "The Strong Ones," and her journey since 1996 when she won the award? If not, see information under **2021 NER Conference**.



**GFWC MA Website  
GFWCMA.org  
Scavenger Hunt #8**

Can you find and answer these questions:

1. **About GFWC:** When was GFWC's Women's Crusade for Seat Belts program that resulted in the installation of more than one million seat belts over the course of one year?

2. **Events~Club Events:** Which GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club raffle basket did President Shibley win at their online basket raffle? How excited was she?

3. **Members~Fundraising:** What history book can you buy for \$5.00?

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

5. **Members~GFWC MA Program Information:** It is not too early to be thinking of the GFWC MA Community Impact Program Award. When is the application due?

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

### **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**.

### **Lucky in March Fundraiser:**

Back by popular demand - **\$100 in lottery tickets.**

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.

**April Fundraiser:** to be determined

### **Past Fundraiser winners:**

January's LUCKY 2021 \$100 Lottery tickets ~ winner Maureen Crowley  
February's Pretty in pink/re/purple quilt ~ winner Joyce Clark

### **Legislation and Public Policy:**

**Please Take Action** on GFWC's Legislative Priorities

- [Time for Women to have Equal Rights](#)
- [End Campus Sexual Assault](#)

### **GFWC AWARD and CONTESTS entries:**

All state award entries have been submitted before the March 15 due date. Thank you to Jen Nowak, State Report Writing Chairman for compiling all the club and chairmen write ups. Can't wait to collect our state awards at the GFWC International Convention in Atlanta with Director Katie Robey. Please make sure this State President knows if your club entered any of these **Special Club Contests directly to GFWC:**

#### **WEBSITE Contest**

#### **NEWSLETTER Contest**

#### **WHRC special Suffrage Contest entry**

#### **Arts & Culture President's Prize Award**

### **State Garden Flag Contest:**

**ALL** clubwomen can enter! Update from Nancy Coughlin & Mary Kemp, Junior Membership Arts and Culture Co-Chairmen.

**What has stayed the same:** Flags can be created using any materials you choose and should measure 12" wide and 18" long. Winning entries will be announced at the Combined Annual Convention.

**What has changed:** Mail your flag entry to Nancy Coughlin, 28 Leland Drive, Northborough, MA 01532 received by Saturday, April 24, 2021. Include your name, address, email address, phone number, club name and if you wish any special information about your design.

### **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.