



GFWC MASSACHUSETTS

Federation TOPICS

A newsletter for Clubwomen



Movin' On!

The GFWC MA 2020-2022 Administration wraps up a very unusual two-year term. This administration at the direction of President Donna Shibley and Director of Junior Clubs Katie Robey is the first to carry on state business electronically including Executive Committee Meetings, Board of Director Meetings, Installation of Officers, even national and region meetings were all done from the safety of our homes. The vision of Combined State Meetings including all clubwomen meeting as one cohesive unit as a collaborative effort was tried and accomplished. Thanks to some innovative thinking, online state fundraisers were held. Special attention was made to our Memorial Forest property. The business of federation was conducted with much success (thanks to All State Officers) proving the famous quote, "Teamwork makes the dream work"!

Please be sure to attend the GFWC MA Combined Annual Convention ~ Cherish the Past, Celebrate the Present, Create the Future ~ at the Courtyard by Marriott Natick on April 29 & 30 to wish this administration well as they move on (and up!), and welcome the new administration at Installation on Saturday night. Details are provided on pages 10 & 11.

Editor: Darlene Coutu

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Message From President, Donna Shibley



This State President has mixed feelings writing her last TOPICS issue as your State President. For two years we have navigated this crazy world with its many challenges, twists and turns together. Even through these trials GFWC Massachusetts clubwomen have managed to stay the course in their communities, you have supported GFWC Massachusetts (as clubs and individuals) and we continued using our **Hearts & Hands for GFWC** in positive ways getting our volunteering efforts back in motion. I feel I can say I have served you well as your 62nd President.

In recognition of **Federation Day on April 24**, let's celebrate the long history of clubwomen working tirelessly within their communities to make the world a better place. Massachusetts clubwomen are no strangers to making a lasting impact. Since our illustrious founder and first President Julia Ward Howe united us to "watch legislative proceedings of the Boston City Council, to cooperate in community betterment efforts, and create public opinion for good legislation" **we have lived the volunteer spirit. Celebrate the 24th ♥**

See *Tips from the Prez* later on in this edition of TOPICS for information on the new GFWC Affiliate ~ **Hope for Justice and GFWC 100 years**

"Keep your face to the sunshine and you can never see the shadow."

Helen Keller

The **GFWC Massachusetts Combined Annual Convention: *Cherish the Past, Celebrate the Present, Create the Future*** will be on **Friday, April 29 and Saturday, April 30, 2022** at the **Marriott Natick**. This in person meeting is planned with YOU in mind. Loads of fun and celebrating is in store for attendees.

Friday: (dressy/cocktail – tiaras encouraged)

Special Guests and Activities

Fun Night hosted by Junior Membership

Saturday: (emblematic wear during the day, dressy/cocktail at night)

Cheer on your State Officers as they are honored in a Processional

Business includes: Annual Reports, Invitations to GFWC Convention in New Orleans and NER Conference in Rhode Island

Scholarship Awards

Contest Award winners

Awards and Recognitions

Trophy Presentations

Installation of the 2022-2024 GFWC MA and Junior Membership Officers

President's 30-week NEW Beginning Challenge: EXPRESS ~ EXPLORE ~ EXPAND ~ and so much more

September 8, 2021 ~ April 6, 2022 has ended!

The goal was to try something NEW each week. Trying new activities opens your horizon, pushes you a little bit out of your comfort zone with the hope might just find a new activity, hobby, or craft you would like to get to know a little better while investing in YOU♥

Bring your completed sheet (attached) to be entered in our drawing.

Continued on page 3

President's Message *continued from page 2*

SAVE the DATE:

The **2022 GFWC Annual Convention: *Catch the Volunteer Spirit and Let the Good Times Roll***, will be held at the Hilton New Orleans, Louisiana from Saturday, June 25-28. Are you planning on attending? Please consider joining your fellow Massachusetts clubwomen ♥ GFWC Annual Convention is a time to celebrate our Massachusetts accomplishments in 2021, attend workshops put on by GFWC Chairmen, and connect with other clubwomen across the country.

Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention items will be for sale at the GFWC MA Combined Annual Convention. (SALE prices!)

Heart/Hand Bracelets ~ \$10.00 each (great gift items for someone special)

Ribbon pins ~2/\$5.00 (these multicolored pins announce "Hope Comes in All Colors")

Handmade cards ~ \$15.00 for a pack of beautiful cards

Have you as a Club President or club leader participated in one of the monthly **Heart to Heart** talks via Zoom? We've had **twenty-one** chats this administration. These informal Zoom talks were meant to help us stay connected, share happenings in our clubs, and we even had some special guests.

The monthly President's newsletter **The BEAT of the Federation** is delivered via email to Club Presidents and Board of Directors members. Please continue to share with your clubmembers. This last edition (**#22**) was sent out on the 13th.

The **TAG SALE** scheduled for June 11, 2022 at our GFWC MA Headquarters is cancelled. Watch for a State Fundraising event to take its place for our **Pave the Way to Headquarters** fund for our new driveway.

I **hope** your spring brings some colorful perennials, warm weather coming soon, and all things rejuvenating. Take time for yourself, for your health and wellbeing. We need YOU! I appreciate every one of our clubmembers. Your passion and commitment to making this world a better place - one project, one donation, one helping hand, one heartfelt action at a time is valued. I **hope** you continue giving your Hearts and Hands to GFWC.

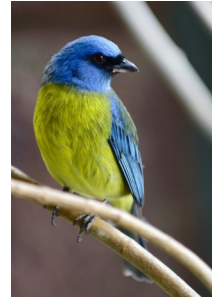
In honor of April as Poetry month, I am sharing one of my favorite poems:

"Hope" is the thing with feathers - (314) – by Emily Dickinson

"Hope" is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all -

And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -
And sore must be the storm -
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm -

I've heard it in the chillest land -
And on the strangest Sea -
Yet - never - in Extremity,
It asked a crumb - of me.



"Don't count
the days,
make the days
count."

*Muhammad
Ali*

Director of Junior Membership, Katie Robey



Celebrate and Applaud is an appropriate theme for this director's final column in *Topics*. This director applauds all the clubwomen of Junior Membership as they have continued to "Live each day trying to accomplish something, not merely to exist" during these past two years under very unusual circumstances. Former first lady Michelle Obama said, "You should never view your challenges as a disadvantage. Instead, it's important for you to understand that your experience facing and overcoming adversity is actually one of your biggest advantages."

This director looks forward to celebrating the volunteer projects completed by the clubwomen at the upcoming Combined Annual Convention. The day is filled with celebrating the clubs selected for special recognition and overall recognition in the various programs of GFWC as well as the clubs chosen for the coveted Division Bowls and the P&A Bowl. This director applauds the energy and support she received from the chairman and officers of Junior Membership as well as Past Directors of Junior Clubs; that support during these unusual times was appreciated.

The white palette we started with in 2020 is now complete and is full of the colors of projects of GFWC Massachusetts Junior Membership. This director is ready to celebrate as the new administration is installed and begins adding their history to GFWC MA.

With Junior Friendship and love,

Katie Robey
GFWC MA Director of Junior Clubs 2020-2022

"You must be
the change
you wish to
see in the
world."

Gandhi

From the desk of the Treasurer,

Darlene Coutu

In order to maintain your tax-exempt status, each GFWC Massachusetts club must file a tax return within five months of your fiscal end-of-year. Clubs with income of less than \$50,000 per year should file a simple 990-N. Instructions are available at www.gfwcma.org. Click on "Members", then "Tax Filings for Clubs" for a step-by-step PowerPoint presentation to help you file. It's that easy! Be sure to send a copy of your confirmation sheet to treasurer@gfwcma.org.

Have questions?

Please email GFWC Massachusetts Treasurer, at treasurer@gfwcma.org for assistance.



Message From President-elect, T Jablanski



Come Join the 2022 - 2024 GFWC Massachusetts Board of Directors. We are looking for a few more volunteers to chair and to complete our administration's board. We meet 4 times a year for 2 years in Sudbury at your Headquarters, 245 Dutton Road. Come help us, help our fellow clubs and clubwomen.

Chairs needed:

Women's History & Resource Center (WHRC), Domestic Violence, Civic Engagement

Committee members needed:

Bylaws, Resolutions, Arts, Music & Photography Contest

Interested? Send T Jablanski a note at: tjablanski@gmail.com

“The journey
of a thousand
miles begins
with one
step.”

Lao Tzu

Eduation and Libraries

Anne Marie Bielenin, Chairman

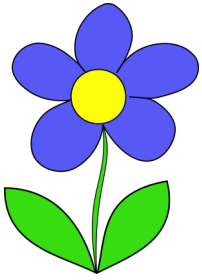
April is School Library Month

School librarians are encouraged to host events to help their school and local community celebrate the essential role strong school libraries play in transforming learning. School Library Month was first observed in 1985 and the theme was “Where Learning Never Ends”.

Ways to help your local school libraries this month:

- 1) Host a day when you read to classes for the librarian.
- 2) Have a book drive and give the books to young children in the school.
- 3) Give them a “book shower”.
- 4) Donate monies for them to purchase library quality books.

Reprinted from GFWC 2020-2022 Education and Libraries newsletter by Chairman, Tina Neese, Ed.D., LPC



“Keep knocking, and the joy inside will eventually open a window and look out to see who’s there.”

Rumi

Tips from the Prez ~

NEW GFWC Affiliate Hope for Justice

Announcing Hope for Justice ~ fighting human trafficking and helping victims and survivors all around the world. This work is only possible because of a growing global movement of ordinary people who support this life-changing work in many different ways. Be part of it.

Commemorating 100 Years of GFWC History

Since April 1, 1922, GFWC has called the beautiful building at 1734 N St. NW, Washington, DC, home. Since the purchase of the mansion, it has been filled with the stories of countless clubwomen and their guests

Join us in celebrating this exciting milestone by enjoying the GFWC 100th Anniversary Virtual Tour, hosted by International President Marian St.Clair and President-elect Deb Strahanoski. Registration is available through the [Member Portal](#), and once you have registered, starting on April 24, you will receive a link to view the virtual tour. The tour link will be active until the end of June.

NEW ADDRESS for March of Dimes Blankets:

Send Your Blankets & Hats to:
March of Dimes Fulfillment Center
Attn: GFWC (+Club Name)
930 Markeeta Spur Road, Bldg 2, Suite 1,
Moody, AL 35004

What’s coming up in 2022

GFWC will be using the full name of our Community Service Programs (CSP), Special Programs (SP) and Advancement Plans from now on. This will help communities know what we are referring to when we talk about our volunteer work categories.

Have a success story to tell?

Email PR@GFWC.org to have you club project considered for the GFWC Blog. Let the **GFWC Massachusetts Communications and Public Relations Chairman** know about your project so it can be highlighted on our website.

Be sure to sign up for the Legislative Action Center:

Sign up and keep abreast of legislation on affecting issues or find your representatives and their contact info from the national level to the local level. On the GFWC MA website homepage click on the scroll bar Take Action on Legislation ~ then Join Now (Join the Legislative Action Center) the link to sign up.

CHALLENGE

The GFWC Legislation Public Policy Committee has a Challenge for all States and Regions to increase their percentage of members who are signed up for the **Legislative Action Center**.

GFWC Massachusetts has a GREAT chance at winning this challenge if we get our members to sign up.

Contact Martha Casassa, L/PP Chairman and learn how to sign up:

labmom416@gmail.com

Memorial Education Scholarships

Lynne Stader, Chairman

GFWC Massachusetts Mission to Provide Scholarships

Did you know GFWC Massachusetts currently distributes almost \$50,000 in scholarship awards each year? Each spring appointed selection committees process applications received for the Memorial Education Scholarships for Graduate Studies as well as other scholarships for students pursuing degrees in Business, Public Health, Speech Therapy, Education, Music and more.

During this administration the Memorial Education scholarships were offered for students continuing their studies in the Mental Health field or Public Health and Epidemiology. This year 10 candidates were interviewed for Memorial Education and 7 were selected as final recipients of the scholarships, including young women enrolled in degree programs at Simmons University, Boston University, UMass-Amherst, Bridgewater State University, and Northeastern University.

An addition to the Memorial Education Scholarships, seventy applications were received and reviewed by the Scholarship Committee with twenty-eight being chosen for scholarship awards in nine different degree programs.

Thanks to the generous donations of GFWC MA clubs and wise investment of funds over the years, our state federation continues its mission to support the educational journeys of deserving individuals.

For more information visit www.gfwcma.org/scholarships or email Scholarships@gfwcma.org



“It is never too late to be what you might have been.”

George Eliot

ESO

Pat Furtado, Chairman

“READ ALL ABOUT IT”

The Education and Libraries ESO Facebook Book Group meets online to discuss various books. There will be a featured book each month. The month of April features “*Every Little Thing*” by Mary Lou Sanelli. During the month on Tuesdays, readers are encouraged to post their thoughts on our “Tuesday Chats” on the ESO private Facebook page, as well as participate in the live interviews and workshops presented by the author.

Not an ESO member yet? What do I do?

Request to be added to the GFWC 2020-2022 ESO Book Club on Facebook. Order or download your book. Read and discuss the book on the group page during the month. Join the 1,000 plus members on the page who are loving the chance to read together!

Reprinted from GFWC 2020-2022 Education and Libraries newsletter by Chairman, Tina Neese, Ed.D., LPC

Advocacy Works!!



Exciting news! VAWA (Violence Against Women Act) has been reauthorized in part because of GFWC advocacy efforts. GFWC International President Marian St. Clair was *invited* (yes, invited) to the White House for the celebration. Left is the photo of her with President Biden posted in *GFWC News* (March 16, 2022) and on the GFWC Facebook page. GFWC and GFWC State Federations joined with 740 organizations to sign the VAWA National Sign-On Letter. However – individual advocacy by GFWC clubwomen through the Legislative Action Center was critical to bring attention to this bill and gain the bipartisan support to pass the US House and Senate. To date 159 Massachusetts clubwomen have signed up for the Legislative Action Center. ARE YOU SIGNED UP? ARE YOUR CLUBMEMBERS SIGNED UP? Joining and taking action is an important part of being a GFWC clubwoman. Your advocacy supports

legislation that promotes our Federation beliefs per our GFWC Resolutions. It also creates an awareness of the power of GFWC clubwomen in Congress. So – if you have already signed up, THANK YOU!! If not, it is not too late! See below for the instructions. Please know your personal information (name, address, and email) is secure. The third-party software GFWC uses for the Legislative Action Center communications to Congress has been vetted and approved by GFWC.

“For every minute you are angry, you lose sixty seconds of happiness.”

Author Unknown

How to sign up:

1. Go to <https://www.gfwc.org/legislative-action-center/>
2. Look for blue link in paragraph saying: [Click here to visit the Legislative Action Center.](#) or go to <https://www.gfwc.org/legislative-action-center/>
3. Look for blue “Join Now” box on right side of the page and click on it.

Join the Legislative Action Center

Join the LAC to get updates and alerts on GFWC's legislative and policy priorities

JOIN NOW

4. Fill in the information requested, check off both boxes to save typing your info each time and to subscribe to email alerts from GFWC (<1/month generally). Click Register.

* First Name

* Last Name

* Address Line 1

Address Line 2

* City

* State

* ZIP Code

* Email Address

Remember Me

Email Opt-In

Please be sure to check the "Email Opt-In" box to receive our legislative alerts!

REGISTER

5. You are ready to advocate!!



1898 Society

- Become a **Bronze Member** for \$18.98 which includes attendance to the Members Only Reception in May 1, 2022
- Become a **Silver Member** for \$50 which includes the above plus Raffle Tickets at BoD & State Meetings
- Become a **Gold Member** for \$100 which includes all the above plus GFWC Stainless Wine Tumbler
- Become a **Platinum Member** for \$250 which includes all the above plus GFWC Embroidered Blanket
- Become a **Platinum Plus Member** for \$500 which includes all the above plus a Brick with your Name as a Member of the **1898 Society** for the Unity Walkway.

All proceeds support GFWC MA. Please use the membership application on page 17.

**** **1898 Society** will host a Sunny Side Up Reception by invitation only for members Sunday morning, May 1 @ 9:00am ****

Chickadee Shirts

\$20 each. All proceeds support GFWC MA.

Other items for sale

Contact Donna Shibley for colors and choices

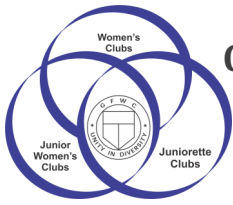
Tissue pack holders \$3.00 each or 5/\$10.00 this would be a fun stocking stuffer, or a small gift for someone special.

Pup Bandanas - \$10.00 each for the fashionable pup or 3/\$20.00. XS, S, M, L, XL sizes

Be sure to check out our Fundraising page on our GFWC MA website at www.gfwcma.org

“If you are too busy to laugh, you are too busy.”

Proverb



General Federation of Women's Club of Massachusetts

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

**Official *Call* to the
 Combined Annual Convention**
Cherish the Past, Celebrate the Present, Create the Future

Friday, April 29 ~ Saturday, April 30, 2022
Installation of 2022-2024 Officers directly after Saturday dinner

Massachusetts Clubwomen Have Been Using Their Hearts and Hands for 130 years ♥

Celebrate the Present!
Friday Evening
 Festivities start at the 6:00 pm cocktail hour
 Dinner served at 7:00 pm
 Join us with tiaras, crowns, and sashes for a night of bling and fun
 Special Guests and Surprises in store

Cherish the Past!
 Starting at 9:30am
Saturday Morning Session
 Opening and Introductions
 Annual Reports and Financial Report
 Scholarship Awards
 Frances Perkins Traveling Exhibit
 Donations
with our SPECIAL GUEST ~ Susan Howards

Join Junior Membership
Friday Evening after 9:00pm
for a night of FUN to Celebrate 1924
All are welcome!
 Learn to dance the Charleston
 Use the props and take some photos
 Play "21" ~ everyone will receive 1 chip to use; you can purchase more and test your luck
 Try your skill at ring toss and win a prize
 Get the password and visit our Speakeasy
 Buy some beads* join the Heads/Tails Game
 *Bring a donation for Dignity Matters and receive a string of pearls
 Spend some money or just come have fun and explore the history of Junior Membership

Celebrate the Present!
 Lunch served at noon
Saturday Afternoon Session
 Contest Winners
 Awards
 Updates on President and Director Focus Areas
 Raffles

Overnight accommodations Friday night, April 29 and/or Saturday night, April 30, Courtyard by Marriott Natick, Speen Street
 A block of rooms is secured for overnight guests.
 Call **508-655-6100** and mention GFWC MA.
 Guests must book by Friday, April 15, 2022 to secure the \$139.00 (plus applicable taxes) per night room rate.

Celebrate the Present!
 Starting at 6:00pm
Saturday Evening Session
 Dinner served at 7:00pm
 Awards and Trophy Presentations
 Courtesies and Closing Remarks

Create the Future!
Installation of 2022-2024 GFWC MA Officers
 Starting at 8:30pm
 Presiding Officers Mary Ann Pierce and Jen Nowak will conduct the installation of the new administrations
 Passing of the Gavels and Closing the Meeting
 Celebrate at the **After Party** with DJ Jerry Booth

Continued on page 12

Combined Annual Convention continued from page 11

Let's Welcome Guest Speaker: Susan K. Howards

Susan K Howards is a former college professor who trained teachers from 34 countries. Midlife she took her pension and went to law school. She was the second oldest in her class and wore her jeans as a student.



She received her PhD from Boston College. She also received a Fulbright-Hays grant to India where she travelled the region. A criminal defense attorney she was a quasi-public defender as a bar advocate in the old Chelsea Court, the Boston Municipal Court, and Brookline District Court. She represented Eugenia Moore, the first of the Framingham Eight to have her life sentence commuted. She has a national practice representing victim survivors.

Currently she is a member of the Norfolk County Domestic Violence Round Table, the Jennifer A. Lynch Committee Against Domestic Violence, and she is on the Counsel to Reverse Patterns and Women Thriving Inc.

Donate a raffle prize for the Celebrating YOU ~ In a Basket, In a Box, In a Purse, In a Hat Raffle

How can you creatively celebrate YOU? Display your items in a unique way. Judging categories:

- ♥ Best depiction of raffle theme
- ♥ Most creative use of container
- ♥ Best in Show

Let Chairman Mary Ann Pierce know (781.424.0286) you are donating a raffle prize in advance or bring your donation day of.

Thank YOU for supporting
♥ GFWC MA and Junior Membership ♥

MassSTAR, Birthday Wishes, and Dignity Matters Representatives will be on hand to thank GFWC MA for our support.

Fun surprises are planned ♥
You don't want to miss being able to interact with fellow clubwomen

Clubwomen have Giving Hearts ~ Much needed items you can donate:

Together we can help our Youth

Items for clients at

Dignity Matters, Framingham

Bring requested items to the meeting. New underwear in original packaging and/or like new bras in all sizes and brands (most needed size 38D). Use the link as a shopping guide to see what is needed:

<https://www.dignity-matters.org/donate-products/>
This is the **T** in our H-E-A-R-T Meeting Collection

Clubwomen have Giving Hearts ~ Much needed items you can donate:

Together we can help our Youth

Items for clients at

Birthday Wishes, Natick

Donate these requested items at the Convention. Donate these supplies to make a birthday party in a box ~ these should include: paper plates, cups, party hats, single use tablecloth, centerpiece
Suggested themes: Unicorn, Mario Bros, Toy Story, Minnie Mouse, Mickey Mouse, Barbie, Dinosaurs, Princess, Superheroes, Paw Patrol, Maribel, Happy Birthday, NO Lego please

Or 12 cake mixes and 12 frostings

Or 12 disposable pans

Or 12 pkgs of candles

Or 12 pkgs of balloons

Contact Jen Nowak (413.535.9083) to offer your donation in advance so we do not have duplicates.

This is the **T** in our H-E-A-R-T Meeting Collection

GFWC MA:

1898 Society Reception

Mary Ann Pierce, Fundraising Chairman

Join us on **Sunday Morning, May 1 @ 9:00am**
for the 1898 Society Reception

If you are an **1898 Society** member you will receive an invitation in the mail.

GFWC MA, Junior Membership: 1924 Society

Support the **1924 Society** (minimum donation \$19.24) celebrating the year GFWC Massachusetts federated Junior Clubs.

Memorial Forest

Mary Kemp and Nancy Coughlin, Co-chairmen

This year Federation Day at the Forest will be May 21st from 1:00 – 2:00. Please join us to remember past members and friends and to honor the donations made in their memories. There is still time to make a donation. Donations made by May 8 will be recognized at this year's Federation Day. Any donations made after May 8 will be recognized next year. The Donation Form is available on page 18 as well as on the website and will be at the Combined Annual Convention.

Purchasing bricks for the “This is Us” Unity Walkway is a great way to remember and honor clubwomen and friends. What do you get for the clubwoman who has everything? How about a lasting memory brick! The order form for Walkway Bricks is available on page 19 as well as on the website and will be at the Combined Annual Convention.



Women's History and Resource Center (WHRC)

Laurie LaBrecque, Chairman

GFWC Celebrates 100 Years at Its Historic Home

April 1, 2022

One-hundred years ago today, April 1, 1922, GFWC acquired its historic home at 1734 N St. NW in Washington, DC.

The GFWC International President Alice Winter had signed an option and began soliciting funds to initially pay for the building. Five clubwomen each put up \$1,000. In January 1922, when the GFWC Board met, it sustained the action and entered into a contract of purchase. The balance of the necessary \$20,000 “down payment” was completed using advance loans of \$13,500 and \$1,500 from the GFWC General Fund.

Within forty minutes of the April 1922 GFWC Convention Call to Order, delegates pledged \$105,000 from the Convention floor. The three-year \$50,000 mortgage was paid off and necessary updates and redecorating were begun.

Reprinted from GFWC News

“Happiness
makes up in
height for
what it lacks
in length.”

Robert Frost

Presidents' Appreciation Tea



It is tradition that every two years when the ending of a administration is about to occur, The Holly Club Of Wrentham hosts a Presidents Appreciation Evening. This is dedicated to the current outgoing President as well as invitations are extended to all past presidents of the club as well and those on the state level administration and Past Presidents on the state level. Each invited guest is given a flower for their service and dedication.

Since Covid has changed many things, the event was changed to a Saturday afternoon tea to make it easier for many to attend and each was honored with a beautiful long stemmed rose. High Tea began at

2pm and ended at 4pm. Menu consisted of scones with clotted cream, lemon curd and preserves. Second course assorted finger sandwiches followed by third course of miniature pastries featuring chocolate covered strawberries. Members of the Holly Club served tea from fancy teapots.

Enjoyed by all!

Submitted by Donna Canavan



Pictured at right are Alicia Sheridan, Donna Canavan, Patty Provencher, Caron Ketchum, and incoming Holly Club President, Penny Olson.





Senior America Pageant

Diane Erickson, President of the Millbury Women's Club competed on Sunday April 3 at the Agawam Sr. Center in the Ms. Senior America Pageant; She was supported by members of the MWC.

Pictured left to right are Madeline Lennon, MaryLou Mulhane, Diane Erickson, Marguerite Duncan and Diane Hill from the Millbury Women's Club.

Millbury Women's Club

The Millbury Women's Club held their fourteenth year supporting the Pancreatic Cancer Alliance with a pansy sale March 31st at the Charles F. Minney post #3329.

Many members of the MWC with a great support from the town of Millbury that continue to support this worthwhile project with 100% of the proceeds donated to Pancreatic Cancer Alliance which supports research, patient support, awareness and education. Over the years the MWC has donated more than \$20,000 to the Alliance.



Left to right are Jane Cheetham, Marguerite Duncan, Mary Lou Mulhane, Leslie Vigneau, (Standing) Marie Boire, Cindy Flaherty, Nancy Fin, Rose Duquette..

Submitted by Diane Erickson



Dear MYL Family,

It is my pleasure to announce that we are moving full steam ahead in preparation for the **2022 MassSTAR Citizenship Conference** to be held Friday, June 3rd through Sunday, June 5th at Lasell University. At this moment, we are planning a fully in-person conference but we will continue to update delegates, schools, and volunteers if and/or when changes may occur. Led by our wonderful Conference Director Keanna Lamont and Vice President Tram-Anh Nguyen, our Conference Planning Committee has been working tirelessly to help make the magic happen.

I am incredibly excited to see the great energy of our volunteer staff, the weekend transformation of our delegates, and our PMA cheers in person once again. Since the last in-person conference in 2019, we have gained new insights on effective programming through our virtual sessions held these past two years. We plan to take these lessons learned to create a new experience for our delegates this year. This will be a revamped conference and will be the start of a new era for the MYL Foundation.

Interested in being part of the Conference? Today is the last day to sign up to be part of our **OUTSTANDING** conference staff. We cannot put on this event without the help of our gracious volunteers. If you have felt as though your E-WORD has been low, this is the opportunity to re-charge! Sign up on our [website](#) today!

Know a high school sophomore who would be a great fit for MassSTAR? Guidance counselors can nominate a student today via our [online form](#). Reach out to your local guidance counselor and tell them about the everlasting impact the MassSTAR conference has on its delegates. Deadline for nominations is April 29th.

Can't make it to the conference but still want to help out? We are proud to continue offering all of our programming 100% free of charge to our delegates and their schools. In order to continue doing this, we constantly look for funding throughout the year. If you are willing and able to help, please go to our [donate page](#) and help us to continue our mission of providing high school students with the skills, opportunities, and inspiration to affect positive change in their communities.

As we get closer to the conference, we will be sending out more notices and updates on the event. I urge you to continue spreading the word about MassSTAR and the core mission of the MYL Foundation to your communities in the coming months. As always, we thank you for all your love, care, and support! We are excited to be back in-person and look forward to connecting with all of you in the near future!

Warm Regards,
Cristian Bedoya
Massachusetts Youth Leadership Foundation, President

Help Us Reach Our Fundraising Goal

Every purchase of premium nuts, gourmet confections, and Sweet & savory snack mixes benefits our cause.



Terri Lynn offers an incredible assortment of premier products not available in retail stores--there's something for everyone!

 **SHOP TO SUPPORT US NOW!**

<https://gfwc-massachusetts.terri Lynn.com>



Fundraising Webstore
Supported by Terri Lynn



Julia Ward Howe



Julia Ward Howe was the founder of the GFWC Massachusetts Federation. She served as the first President 1893 to 1898. Among her many contributions to American society is her famous "Battle Hymn of the Republic," and was co-editor and writer for *The Woman's Journal*, which lobbied for suffrage and human rights. Julia traveled the world promoting Women's Rights, Peace, Prison and Education Reform as a preacher, lecturer, and dignitary. She was seen as a bridge between Society and Reform and used her celebrity and social status to further her ideology.

Show your support of GFWC Massachusetts by joining the 1898 Society. Members are dedicated to the financial well-being of our state organization, all funds raised contribute to the welfare of this Federation and help to maintain our property and headquarters building. GFWC Massachusetts is a 501(c) organization.

We encourage all members to join each administration and we will celebrate together at the Members Only reception which is held at Annual Convention.

Membership Levels

- **Bronze Membership for \$18.98** - includes attendance to the Members Only Reception in May 2024
- **Silver Membership for \$50** - includes the above plus Raffle Ticket at BoD & State Meetings
- **Gold Membership for \$100** - includes all the above plus GFWC Stainless Wine Tumbler
- **Platinum Membership for \$250** - includes all the above plus GFWC Embroidered Blanket
- **Platinum Plus Membership for \$500** - includes all the above plus a Brick with your Name as a Member of the 1898 Society for the Unity Walkway

Name _____

Level _____

Address _____

Email _____

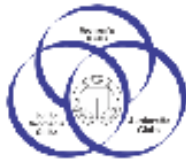
Date _____

Club Name _____

Amount _____ Venmo or Ck # _____

Venmo or Check payable to GFWC MA with 1898 Society in the memo line. Contact Jen Nowak with questions.

Your contribution to the *1898 Society* is Greatly Appreciated



General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts
Donna M. Shibley, President



Memorial Forest Donation Form

A donation in any amount to Memorial Forest is greatly appreciated.

Donations of not less than \$10 will be inscribed in the Memorial Book as a permanent record and recognized during the program held on Federation Day.

An acknowledgement that a donation was received will be emailed to the donor.

Memorial (Deceased) Donation: _____

Tribute (Living) Donation: _____

In Memory/Tribute to (Name/Club Name [if appropriate]) _____

In a **FEW** Words tell us something about this person: (i.e. always smiling)

Donated by: _____

Individual: _____ Club: _____

Name/E-Mail for Donation Acknowledgement: _____

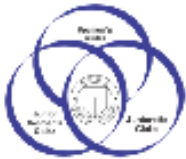
- PLEASE:**
- ✓ Make checks payable to **GFWC MA**
 - ✓ Include this form. If donating for more than one person, a list of names may be attached to this form.
 - ✓ Mail to: **GFWC Massachusetts, PO Box 679, Sudbury MA 01776**
 - ✓ To be included in the 2022 Federation Day at the Forest; donation must be received at Headquarters by **May 8, 2022**

OFFICE USE ONLY: Date Received _____

Check Number _____

Date Check sent to Treasurer _____

Acknowledgement Thank You Sent _____



General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts
Donna M. Shibley, President



THIS IS US ~ Unity Walkway



The Memorial Forest Committee encourages all members to tell their story and memorialize it in stone (or brick) by becoming a part of the *THIS IS US ~ Unity Walkway*. The brick walkway in front of our Headquarters Building is a lasting legacy that honors our leaders and remembers our friends. But this administration, we invite you to think outside the box (or brick).

Why not purchase a brick telling us something about yourself: *Mary Kemp's One Word "Dependable; give a birthday gift of a brick to a Federation Sister Mary Anne Bryant turned 60 in 2020. Boy she looks good for her age!*; or something about your club *GFWC Marlborough Juniors-The Queens of the Princess Boutique*. You get the idea! Let's continue to honor our leaders and remember our friends but let's also tell a little more personal story about ourselves!

To purchase a brick, fill out the form below, make a check payable to GFWC MA and mail it to Headquarters at GFWC Massachusetts, P.O. Box 679, Sudbury, MA 01776. Once engraved bricks have been received from the vendor and cemented into the *This Is Us ~ Unity Walkway*, we will notify you of its installation. All bricks will be placed randomly throughout the walkway. If you need additional information, contact Mary Anne Bryant at ruthieandpat@gmail.com or 508-320-5506.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Brick size: _____ Total enclosed: \$ _____

- Brick size – 4" x 8"**
- Up to two (2) lines for \$60
 - Up to three (3) lines for \$70
- Brick size – 8"x 8"**
- Up to five (5) lines for \$125

Please print in CAPITAL LETTERS. 20 characters on each line.
Spaces and hyphens are considered characters. Bricks will be set exactly as written by you so please center and space accordingly.

Thank you for your generous support as we honor our Clubwomen!

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Apr 1 Clubwoman Award and Julia Ward Howe Presidents Award due
- Apr 2 Executive Committee Meeting - social 9:30, start time 10:00am at HQ
- Apr 6 Junior Executive Board Meeting
- Apr 23 Reflection & Recognition of 2020-2022 Administration
- Apr 24 GFWC Federation Day
- Apr 24-30 GFWC Volunteers in Action Week
- Apr 29 Combined Annual Convention: Cherish the Past, Celebrate the Present, Create the Future and Fun Night hosted by Junior Membership
- Apr 30 Combined Annual Convention & Installation of 2022-2024 Officers
- May 1 1898 Society Reception at 9:00am by invitation
- May 21 Board of Directors Meeting of the 2022-2024 administration, start time 10:00am at HQ
Day at the Forest, start time 1:00pm at HQ
- June 24-28 GFWC Convention - Hilton New Orleans Riverside, New Orleans, LA
- Sept 23-25 New England Region Conference - Warwick, RI

**Spring is a
reminder of
how wonderful
change can be!**