



The BEAT of the Federation

PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

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

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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:

October in New England can include all types of weather, an Indian Summer, cool fall breezes or even a snowstorm. This time of year, my thoughts turn to one of my favorite Robert Frost poems:

Nothing Gold Can Stay

Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.



Even though the fleeting nature of beauty, youth, and life itself can be gloomy, this reminds me that we need to do the best that we can in our short time here on earth. By following your **Hearts & Hands for GFWC** you can and will make a difference in this crazy world.

GFWC Massachusetts LEADS (Leadership Education and Development Seminar) application

Will you consider applying for the class of 2022? This valuable training will help you will grow as a GFWC leader.

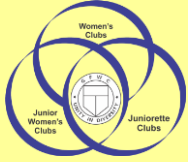
Applications are due February 1, 2022 to GFWC MA HQ by mail or email.

GFWC New England Region Conference:

The **2021 GFWC NER Conference: Celebrate Change** held at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Westborough from **September 17-19** with GFWC Guests: GFWC President Marian St.Clair and GFWC President-elect, Deb Strahanoski was a huge success with Massachusetts as the host state. NER President JoAnn Calnen presided over this fabulous conference with a focus on St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital donations. Kuddos to Junior Membership for a fast and furious Fun Night.

GFWC MA Combined Fall Meeting:

The **GFWC Massachusetts Combined Fall Meeting: Fall in To Serve Together** held at the Holiday Inn, Marlborough on **Saturday, October 16** was another huge success. This meeting featured GFWC guest, Kristina Higbee, Director of Junior Clubs. The generosity of attendees was phenomenal. There were over 70 Blue and Yellow Fundraiser raffle/auction items, 24 decorated teddy bear/book donations, art supply donations to Boys & Girls Club MetroWest, assembled over 500 Veteran star remembrances, tied 27/34 baby blankets for March of Dimes), and A-ticket, A-tasket basket raffle was a success. Thank you ♥



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 or a heart/hand bracelet for \$20.00 Also offered are 20 handmade cards with a special card for \$15.00. All proceeds support club DV/SA A&P grants open to ALL clubs. 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. Look for the updated flier listing the gifts you receive for your yearly donations.

\$18.89 ~ attendance at 2022 Annual Convention event

\$50.00 ~ the above and entry into all BoD and State Meeting 1898 Society raffles

\$100.00 ~ above & a stainless wine mug

\$250.00 ~ above & a GFWC embroidered blanket

\$500.00 ~ above & a brick for the Unity Walkway as an 1898 Society member

GFWC MA Combined Mid-winter Meeting:

The **GFWC Massachusetts Combined Mid-winter Meeting: Flannel and Frost** will be held at the John Boyle O'Reilly Hall, 17 Willow Street in Westborough on **Saturday, January 22, 2022.**

Save the date will be out soon. Plans are being made for programming. The day promises to be filled with ideas for your club membership, and Domestic Violence Grant Awards will be presented.

State Blue and Yellow Fundraiser:

Your entries to the **Blue** and **Yellow** FUNdraiser were phenomenal. President's focus area Chairman Bernadette Bennett and I could not believe the generosity of items donated and the monies raised for the raffle/auction. Proceeds will be combined with line-item funds and used to fund **GFWC MA Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention Club Grants**. Make sure you apply before the deadline of January 10, 2022.

GFWC MA SAVERS FUNdrasier:

Your soft goods donated to our SAVERS collection added up to 2,064 pounds. Thank you!

GFWC MA Usborne Books and More FUNdrasier:

Watch for the invite to this FaceBook event on November 11th @ 8:30 pm to participate for prizes. If you cannot attend the event, you can still order books for the holidays and birthdays your favorite child(ren). Our profit will be paid in books to be given to children in need. Please consider joining in on this shopping experience.

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, **November 2 @ 6:00** for a Heart to Heart talk. Our **special guest** will be T Jablanski to discuss the upcoming 2022-2024 administration and how you might be able to help. Please attend ❤

Publicity: Do you have club news to share with GFWC? Pictures tell a story. 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 Holiday Open House:

Hosted by GFWC International President Marian St.Clair, is an exciting opportunity for you to celebrate this giving season and experience a bit of holiday magic. Register to attend one of two receptions from 10:00am-12:00 noon or from 1:30 pm-3:30 pm on **December 8**. Attendees will be welcomed into the historic GFWC Headquarters at 1734 N St. NW, Washington D.C., to mingle with fellow clubwomen and enjoy this year's theme, *Good Tidings of Comfort and Joy*. Attendance is limited for safety and **registration will close at 12:00 noon on December 1**. Register through the GFWC Member Portal.

GFWC President's Prize Award:

A "President's Prize" of \$100 plus an award certificate will be given at the 2022 GFWC Annual Convention to the club that best represents the holiday theme. Form must be filled out and submitted.



**GFWC MA Website
GFWCMA.org**

Do You Know #2
Can you find and
answer these questions:

**1. About GFWC: GFWC
Chairmen Updates
and Handouts:**

For updated information from your GFWC National Chairman, click on the icon to see the most recent newsletter.

**2. Events ~ Featured
Club Event:** What club is sponsoring a Harrow's pie through November 6th? What club is sponsoring their Outdoor Holiday House Tour?

**3. Members ~
Fundraising:** What GFWC MA Fundraiser offers yummy snacks, nuts, and chocolate for sale?

4. Calendar: When is Wreaths Across America?

**5. Members ~ Fliers
and Forms:** Have you considered buying a brick to memorize or honor a clubmember? Recognize your club?

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

GFWC MA Website ~ <https://www.gfwcma.org/>

Keep within easy access. Don't forget to send us any upcoming Club Events to be included on the Club Events page.

Members: Flier and Forms for you as State President:

2021 Club Participation Awards Form

2021 Contribution Form

GFWC Massachusetts Appointments Interest Survey for the 2022-2024 Administration

Buy A-Brick Order Form

Benefits of Belonging

GFWC MA FaceBook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/GFWCMA>

Join us here for postings that are relevant to GFWC Massachusetts.

GFWC Affiliate:

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital:

The life-threatening illness of a child has far-reaching effects. It can uproot families, mobilize communities, cause people to question their faith or to find their purpose. St. Jude Soundbites collects the stories that unfold around St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, as told by those who live them: patients, parents, donors, volunteers and more.

[St. Jude Soundbites - St. Jude Inspire | St. Jude Children's Research Hospital \(stjude.org\)](http://stjude.org)

Legislation and Public Policy:

Are you signed up to get **Legislative Action Alerts**?

It is easy to sign up.

Click below to sign up NOW!

[Home \(cqcengage.com\)](http://cqcengage.com)



Two Action Alerts:

The **Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA)** reauthorization bill, H.R. 2119, provides core funding for more than 1,500 domestic violence programs nationwide, supports more than 240 tribes and tribal organizations, provides funding for state domestic violence coalitions, and provides funding for a network of training and technical assistance resource centers key to prevention. The bill also funds the National Domestic Violence Hotline and the StrongHearts Native Helpline. Urge Congress to provide these resources which are so critical to local communities to help families in need.

Once again it is time for GFWC clubwomen to urge Congress to reauthorize the **Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)**. The General Federation of Women's Clubs has long supported local domestic violence shelters and rape crisis centers even before the first Violence Against Women Act was passed by Congress in 1994. Today, we continue to support survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking with our advocacy, time, energy, donations, resources, scholarships, and commitment to education and prevention.