

General Federation of Women's Clubs Massachusetts Federation TOPICS

Lynne M. Stader, President



Newsletter for Massachusetts Clubwomen

Spring/Summer Issue 2019

GFWC Massachusetts Annual Meeting



Winners of the Teal and Purple Creativity Contest pose with Miss Massachusetts, Gabriela Taveras, at the Teal and Purple Passion Brunch. Handcrafted items included oil paintings, knitting, quilting, string art, cross stitch, floral arrangements, mixed media and more. Items were displayed throughout the weekend, prizes were given for creative talent, and items were auctioned in support of GFWC Massachusetts 2019 Domestic Violence Club Grants to be awarded in October. Winners for categories such as *Best in Apparel*, *Best Spirit*, *Mixed Media*, *Most Colorful*, and *Best in Show* are all smiles at the Courtyard- Marlborough, posing with President Stader and Arts Chairman Diane Murphy.

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Message from Your State President



This state president is proud to mark the halfway point of this administration with so many success stories, evidencing the power of our federation when clubwomen embrace issues that matter to us. More than **17,000 books** collected for **More Than Words** by 37 clubs in one year? *Amazing*. A display of 55 handcrafted items donated to the Teal and Purple contest in support of **Domestic Violence club grants**? *Heartwarming*. Almost \$2,000 raised for the **Turning Point Suffragist Memorial** being built as a national Landmark? Why am I *not* surprised? Because since this administration began, our members have been working together to answer the call in support of state and national initiatives and projects.

Where do we go from here? We do it again! **FIND** more books at summer yard sales. **PLAN** a day of service at More Than Words. Keep collecting those shoes. Plan an event for women veterans. **CONNECT** with your local domestic violence shelter to find out their needs and **SUBMIT** a grant application. Grants will be awarded again at Fall Meeting in October. The Domestic Violence Grant Application for 2019 is already posted on the HOME page of the GFWCMA.org website. Now is also a good time to **PLAN** a fall fundraiser for Wreaths Across America, Heifer International, or other GFWC Partners.

Please see the time-sensitive articles inside about honoring a clubwoman by nominating her for the Jennie Awards, submitting Manual Sheets, and Memorial Forest donations due very soon if you wish to honor a member at Federation Day at the Forest on June 6th. And as you swing into summer, and begin to plan your fall meetings, do remember to invite your District Directors, officers, or state president to one of your meetings. Invitations do not need to be formal- an email will do nicely- but give us the opportunity to see you in action and bring you updates from federation.

Keep those boots pointed forward! Thank you for all you do!

Lynne



Jessie Sylvia, Business Training Manager of More Than Words and MTW Associate Nadia accept a GFWC MA donation at Annual Meeting, with President Stader and President's Project Chairman Lucille Barton.

In 2018
GFWC MA Clubs
Reported
1,679 projects,
60,148 hours,
\$184,145.00
Dollars donated
and
\$228,775.00
additional
In-Kind
donations.

Wow!



Director of Junior Clubs Jen Nowak poses with Bernadette Bennett, of the Woman's Club of Newton Highlands, who proudly won the Angel-themed quilt Jen contributed to the Teal and Purple Creativity Contest. Fun!

More Annual Meeting Highlights

Celebration of Women's Suffrage Centennial continues . . .

Cathy Freedberg, Communications Committee of the Women's Suffrage Celebration Coalition and Ann Borg, WSCC Board Member, were on hand during the morning session to share updates on events planned in Massachusetts to honor the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment. President Stader wore her suffragist sash once again, and shared stories about contributions of Massachusetts women long before the work of Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton. The WSCC invites club women to attend the Suffrage Centennial Kick-Off Celebration Tuesday, June 25, 2019, 5-7pm, Faneuil Hall, Boston.



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Freedom Quilters of Millbury presents Quilts of Valor to Two Massachusetts Clubwomen . . .

Karen Magnant, Founder and Group Leader for the Freedom Quilters of Millbury, Inc. shared with the members about their mission and how clubs may get involved in awarding a Freedom Valor Quilt to one of their members who is a veteran. In an emotional ceremony two quilts were awarded to Cindy Brogan and her daughter Maryellen Founds, both members of the GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors and veterans of the military.

President Stader thanked Cindy and Maryellen for their service and thanked the Freedom Quilters for joining GFWC Massachusetts and honoring our veterans. During the break, members wrote messages to veterans on fabric squares to be used by the group in designing future quilts.

GFWC MA presents check to MassSTAR for \$6800. Director of Development Adrian Petrou shares words of appreciation to GFWC MA Clubwomen:



Our annual MassSTAR Conference invites over 100 high school sophomores from across Massachusetts to attend a weekend focused on community service and engagement. Delegates gain confidence in their ability to make positive change in the world. A cornerstone of our conference is that it's provided at no cost to students or their schools.

GFWC is the biggest sponsor of our conference, year after year. We would not have a conference without the generosity of the members of the GFWC. We've relied on your critical funds to make sure that as many students as possible can attend our conference. **Your members are helping us change lives one student at a time,** and we will forever be grateful for the opportunities you've given to our organization.

GFWC Massachusetts Awards 2019 Scholarships and Fellowships

Congratulations to Andrea Liptack and Jordan Nashawaty, students of nursing who were each presented \$10,000 fellowships at Annual Meeting for graduate studies. Memorial Education Chairman Shirley Gomes made the presentation. Darlene Coutu, Scholarship Chairman announced that GFWC Massachusetts awarded an additional 36 scholarships of \$500 each for both undergraduate and graduate studies, including Pennies for Arts, Nickels for Notes, teaching scholarships, communications and speech disorders, and scholarships for women returning to school.

GFWC Bourne Women's Club celebrates their win of a club Performance Bowl



Clubwomen of the Year Nominees were celebrated



- Kay Hurley**, Westborough Woman's Club
- Annie Wales**, Woman's Club of Newton Highlands
- Jean Guarino**, Ousamequin Club
- Katie Robey**, GFWC Bay State Contemporary Club

President Stader congratulates
Mary Rochon
 30 year member of the Braintree Women's Club,
Clubwoman of the Year 2019



Miss Massachusetts, Gabby Taveras, congratulates Katie Robey, GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club for receiving Best in Show for her entry in the Teal and Purple Creativity Contest.
 Katie's teal and purple cross stitch rendering of the **Collect for Clubwomen** has been accepted as a gift for GFWC MA Headquarters in Sudbury.



Past State Presidents gather with flowers following a memorial ceremony held for Past State President Catherine Faucher.



Greeting from the Director of Junior Clubs

The Junior Annual Conference theme was *“Every Little Thing We Do is Magic!”* and it lived up to the title. This was time to celebrate all the hard work Junior Clubs accomplished in 2018, applaud members who went above and beyond and commend the support given to assorted causes. GFWC Massachusetts members are extremely generous with their time and talents; it showed as we announced each award.



This year the **Martha Michalewicz Clubwoman Award** went to **Donna Shibley** from **GFWC Agawam Junior Women’s Club**. The **Marilyn Perry Leadership Award** went to **Sarah Vazquez** from **GFWC Dedham Junior Women’s Club**. For the first time ever the new **Sheila E. Shea Club President Award** went to **Sunshine Millea** also from **GFWC Dedham Junior Women’s Club**. Congratulations, ladies for your continued dedication to your club, community and members.

Public Issues was the prominent message for the day, along with the topics of both speakers. **Julie Lovely** from **Wild Hearts Horses for Heroes** informed the group the many advantages that veterans with PTSD get by working with horses on a regular basis. After lunch we enjoyed the **Illusionist Lyn Dillies**, perform a few tricks followed by her message of the importance of voting. The service project was to package **“Pick-Me-Up” Kits** for clubs to bring back to their towns and deliver to their Police and Fire departments. The kits had specific candies in a baggie with a hand signed star card thanking them for their service.

Fundraising for the Director’s Focus Project **Wreaths Across America** brought quite a few smiles throughout the day. As seen in the pictures the lovely sequin and satin red, white and blue jacket was up for bids. For the nominal fee of \$10 you could sign up to wear the jacket for an hour; however, for the same price you could NOT wear the jacket! We had so much fun with this creative idea – thank you ladies who supported Wreaths Across America that day.



It’s my turn! Brenda Geary, GFWC Marlborough Junior Women’s Club President gets her turn to wear the patriotic jacket with all its glitx and sparkle for one hour. Members paid \$10 in this unique fundraiser for Wreaths Across America.



Any GFWC Conference would not be complete without raffles, donations, collections and shopping. Thank you to all who supported the Director’s Travel Fund by donating raffle items or purchasing tickets. This conference we collected baby diapers and wipes to donate to **Project New Hope’s Baby Pantry**. The response that day was outstanding, and the trunk and back seat of my car were filled to capacity. Project New Hope was grateful beyond words.

The prelude on Friday evening was dinner at Longhorn Steakhouse, followed by **Junior Fun Night**. A mildly competitive game of OpinioNation was played with seven teams trying to figure out the most popular answers. A tradition of Junior Board is to recognize a board member as the **Shell Award** Recipient, this year the award went to **Nancy Clark**.

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported Junior Membership that day at Stoneforge Tavern in Raynham.

GFWC Volunteers Make Magic and **Every Little Thing We Did WAS Magic** that day.

Meet your 2019 LEADS Candidate



Elizabeth McCurley McKeon, of GFWC Marlborough Junior Women's Club has been chosen as the 2019 Massachusetts LEADS Candidate to attend the leadership training at GFWC Convention in June. Beth has been the Education Co-Chairman for the Marlboro Juniors and is serving as Conservation chairman for the club, and has served as the advisor for the Marlborough Juniorettes. As a member of the Junior Board she is serving as Education Chairman 2018-2020. Beth is also a member of the Memorial Forest Committee, and is co-chairing the Brick Walkway project. One letter of recommendation states that Beth would be an exceptional asset to our federation given the opportunity to participate in the GFWC LEADS program. Beth will be attending the LEADS Seminar in Austin, Texas. Congratulations, Beth!

GFWC JENNIE AWARD entries: Due June 1st

The GFWC Jennie Award is the highest honor awarded by GFWC to an individual member for personal excellence. It is much like a lifetime achievement award in its recognition of a member's dedication to their club, their community and to family. Winners (one per region) receive roundtrip transportation to GFWC convention in Atlanta in June 2020.

Are you nominating a member of your club? Every club has a member deserving of this recognition. But the deadline for materials is just around the corner. Nominations require a letter of recommendation from the club president, as well as a letter of recommendation from another community organization for which the member is involved outside of federation. Media articles and a photo must be included with the application. Download the form at <https://www.gfwcma.org/uploads/1/2/9/6/12968947/jennieawardnominationform.pdf>

It's Time!

Domestic Violence CLUB GRANTS ~ 2019 Grant Application Form is now online



Thanks to the generosity of our clubwomen and friends, we are pleased to offer this opportunity for Massachusetts clubs to **apply directly for funds** to benefit Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault victims in their own town or community. Funds will be awarded based on the proceeds from **Stronger Together** jewelry, towels, and from the Teal and Purple Creativity auction items. Grants to be awarded up to \$500. Now is the time to talk to your local agencies to determine a way your club can lend your support. GFWC Massachusetts can help.

Guidelines

- Clubs complete the DV Grant Application Form and submit to GFWC Massachusetts headquarters by **October 10, 2019. Grants will be awarded at Fall Meeting October 19, 2019** in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
- Clubs must use the award to fund a program that directly benefits victims of domestic violence or sexual violence. Funds may be used for monetary or material donations, awareness materials, or any project or program described in the application that would be implemented with the funds given them.
- Download the Grant Application Form at www.gfwcma.org on the Home Page.

Join us at the Forest!
It may be SUMMER, but don't miss these special events
at GFWC MA Headquarters. . .



Federation Day at Memorial Forest
June 6, 2019 ~ 1:00p.m.

Fill your car with club members and attend this annual event honoring our beautiful property in Sudbury. Women attending this event will experience a sense of spirituality and serenity of our Memorial Forest.

This day is especially set aside by GFWC of Massachusetts to celebrate the lives of dedicated club women, living and deceased. It is also a day for us to honor our **Veterans**. **Dr. Maureen Murray, Assistant Director, Tufts Wildlife Clinic is our Guest**



Speaker. The Memorial Forest trustees have planned an **ice cream social** to follow the ceremony.



It is not too late to send in a donation in honor of a club member, friend or family member. Names of all honorees will be read during the ceremony. Donations of \$10 or more are due to GFWC MA by June 1 each year. Find the form online: <https://www.gfwcma.org/forms.html>



Suffrage MA event on June 25 at Faneuil Hall

The Women's Suffrage Celebration Coalition of Massachusetts and The Greater Boston Women's Vote Centennial invite you to the **Suffrage Centennial Kick-Off Celebration Tuesday, June 25, 2019, 5-7pm, Faneuil Hall, Boston.** This is one of several planned events honoring 100 years since Massachusetts became the 8th state to ratify the 19th Amendment to the U.S.

Constitution (enabling women to vote), and kicking off a year of commemorations celebrating 100 years since the 19th Amendment was adopted in 1920. The event features a live performance by Boston Children's Chorus and an original play. The event is free and open to the public. GFWC Massachusetts encourages members to support these events. *Our members were there then, and we support the mission now.*



Book Donation Pick-ups during the Summer

Book pickups at GFWC Massachusetts headquarters are scheduled every three weeks throughout the summer. If you have a large quantity of books to drop off, please contact Lucille Barton (jeblab@beld.net) or Lynne Stader

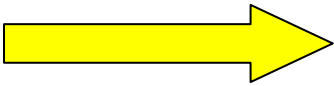
(lynne@stader.org) to ensure access to the headquarters building should the MTW container be too full to accept the amount of books. We don't want books sitting in the rain! It can be helpful to drop off books close to one of the scheduled pick-up dates. You can also arrange a home pickup of 7 or more boxes of books.

Scheduled HQ Dates

Friday, May 24
Friday, June 14
Friday, July 5
Friday, July 26
Friday, August 16
Friday, September 6

2019 CLUB MANUAL SHEETS are DUE June 15

Each year clubs are to provide verified contact information and member numbers. In order to be a club in good standing dues must be current, and a completed copy of this Manual/Directory sheet must be on file with GFWC of Massachusetts along with a copy of your most recent receipt for your **990-E2** filing. This will ensure that should questions arise about your 501(c)3 status or your EIN number that information is available at Headquarters. Download at <https://www.gfwcma.org/forms.html>



Calling Club Presidents, Officers and Leaders ~ Important SUMMER event...

Club Leader’s Day and LEADS Training Sat. August 24, 2019; 9:30a.m. ~ 2:30p.m.

(Leadership Education and Development)

Calling all club presidents and club leaders! This day is for you! Designed in 2 parts, but as a president, officer, or club chairman you will want to take it all in and go home empowered to lead your club successfully in the year ahead. The morning session features “**Is Your Club in the Know? Do’s and Don’ts as a 501C3**” and a hands-on session to show you how easy it can be to record club projects and submit reports each year in January. The annual **Club Forum** will allow for questions on any topic or concern. Write down your questions and bring them along.

The Afternoon session will be a **Mini- LEADS Seminar** led by Martha Casassa, Leadership Chairman and MaryAnn Pierce, Past State President and special guests. This event will be well worth your time. Highlights include:

- Say What you Mean. Mean What You Say** – conflict resolution; how to promote your ideas and gain support
- Leading Through the Ages** – how to bridge the age differences in a successful club
- Public Speaking: OMG – Me? Give a Speech?** – basics of speech writing
- Scripting: Who Needs A Script?** - using templates; how to customize for your style; how to time a script; delivery

Past LEADS graduates will help with the presentations. **SAVE THE DATE! Registration materials will be sent in July.**

Around the state...

Hopkinton Women’s Club



President Stader and Hopkinton Women’s Club President Barbara Bucher with club officers during a recent visit.

Lunenburg Woman’s Club



In March Lunenburg members held a baby shower for CareNet, a pregnancy resource center of North Central Massachusetts.

Westborough Woman’s Club

Westborough Women’s Club enjoying first year as sponsor to the Westborough Little League Girls Softball team.



GFWC Grand Initiatives

At GFWC Convention in St. Louis GFWC President Mary Ellen Brock announced Seven Grand Initiatives with a goal of 1,000 for each. Clubs embraced these challenges, and Massachusetts had impressive numbers to report for 2018.

(25) Projects for women in the military; (970) Pairs of shoes were collected for Soles4Souls; (109) Dr. Seuss books donated to inner city programs; and (7) projects were reported on Martin Luther King Day of Service on January 21st.

Fabulous! See <https://www.gfwc.org/sevengrandinitiatives/> for more information. The “Grands” continue for 2019.

Calendar of Events

June 1-2 (Fri-Sun)

Save the Dates!

MassSTAR Conference;
Lead service project on June 1st

June 6 (Thurs.)

Day at the Forest 1:00 pm at HQ,
Ice Cream Social

June 15

Manual sheets due to HQ

June 29- July 1

GFWC Convention, Austin, TX

August 24 (Sat.)

Club Leader’s Day and
LEADS Training

August 29 (Thurs.)

Junior Jumpstart HQ; 6:00pm

September 5 (Thurs.)

Executive Board/ Manual Day

October 4-6

GFWC New England Region, Nashua, NH

October 19 (Sat.)

GFWC Massachusetts Fall Meeting,
Great Pond Hall, Braintree

October 26 (Sat.)

GFWC MA Junior Fall Conference, Allin Congregational Church, Dedham

December 5 (Thurs.)

Holiday at Headquarters, 10:00am; All club women invited.

Prayers and Concerns

We continue to send our love and support to Headquarters Secretary and GFWC MA Second Vice President **Diane McCurley** and her family during this difficult time. Diane was diagnosed in April with esophageal cancer and is currently receiving care at home.

Clubwomen at Annual Meeting and Junior Annual Conference wore periwinkle awareness ribbons in honor of Diane’s journey with this disease.



Cards can be sent to Diane at:
**221 Stevens Street,
Marlborough, MA 01752**



SUMMER HOURS at GFWC Massachusetts Headquarters

245 Dutton Road, Sudbury

During the Leave of Absence of Headquarters Secretary Diane the building is not staffed as posted in the CLUB MANUAL. Staffing will continue on **Thursdays from 10:00am-2:00pm**. Other use will continue when scheduled IN ADVANCE. Phone messages and headquarters email are being monitored remotely. Phone messages (978-443-4569) or email to GFWCMA@AOL.com will receive a timely response. Thank you for your understanding.

NOTE: Headquarters will be closed during the weeks of July 8th and July 15th.