



GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors

A member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

Apr. 2009

Volume 4

<http://gfwctauntonraynhamjuniors.com>



What's New?'s Paper

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Apr. 1: April Fool's Day

Apr. 6: regular meeting at The Arbors, 7 p.m.

Apr. 12: Drop Everything and Read Day

Apr. 19 GFWC of Massachusetts *Sophisticated Ladies* Fashion Show and Luncheon, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Doubletree Hotel, Westborough, MA

Apr. 27: board meeting at The Arbors, 7 p.m.

April's Meeting

Our speaker for this month's meeting will be John Gonsalves, the founder of **Homes for Our Troops**. Before founding Homes for Our Troops, Mr. Gonsalves had 20 years of experience in the construction field. As it did for many of us, September 11th changed his life.



After hearing on the news about our soldiers returning from the war with severe brain injury or loss of arms, legs, or vision, John wondered how these men and women would get around in the comfort of their homes. He found that most of them could not afford to own their own homes and most houses and apartments are not easily adapted to take into consideration their types of injuries.

John decided to do something about this by founding Homes for Our Troops, based right here in Taunton. His foundation has completed over 30 specially adapted homes for disabled veterans and has a many in progress. For more information see www.homesforourtroops.org.

Hospitality

April 6

Sharon W. (C) and Susan C.

May 4

Joanna (C) and Nancy C.

Don't forget:

Secret Pal Gifts!

Rent Relief for April:

Nancy C.

Submit Articles to Editor: Nancy Clark
tauntonraynhamjrwomen@yahoo.com

Reminders for April's Meeting

Samaritan House: bath towels

Education: a paperback dictionary, thesaurus, or Spanish-English dictionary

Pride Inc.: Craft Supplies (see website), board games

St. Vincent de Paul: 2 or more canned goods

Taunton Emergency Management System: Teddy Bears or brownies for Denise to sell.

Main Spring House: bar soap

March Meeting

Norma Pimenta, author of *Smiling Eyes, a Cheerleading Coach's Personal Victory*, talked to us about the experiences that lead to her writing her book and gave us advice about writing and publishing your own book.

Because our meeting had been postponed due to the snow storm, we met in the pub and arboretum at The Arbors



Artist Tea

Nancy C. attended the annual Artist Tea at the GFWC of Massachusetts headquarters in Sudbury, MA.

Donna Shibley, our Junior Director, is helping Nancy hold up some of the artwork entered in the GFWC art and photography contest by our club members.



Prison Books

Darlene, Joyce, and Nancy C. brought bags of dictionaries and thesaurus the club had donated to Quincy for the Prison Book Program. They helped fill orders for prisoners all over the country and packaged them for mailing.



International Affairs:

- We are continuing to collect children's books for nomadic schools in Kenya. For ideas of the types of books to collect check them out on our website at:
http://gfwctauntonraynhamjuniors.com/Club_Reminders.aspx.
- Denise is also requesting that you clean out your junk drawers for any used pens and pencils to be donated to a Catholic Mission in India.



Homelife:



- Joyce has been knitting baby caps to donate to Morton Hospital and other hospitals in the area. Anyone interested in knitting or crocheting caps can find patterns at http://www.warmupamerica.com/Jul06_kit.html or http://www.bbc.co.uk/stoke/my_pages/babywear/hkp/012.shtml. If you slightly enlarge the pattern, the hats can be donated to *Helping Hands* and homeless shelters.
- We have 9 club members who have registered for the "Step for the Roses" walking program. We have two members who haven't recorded their steps and need to soon!
- Kim McMann is collecting coupons (any coupons). They cannot be expired. Please bring any you have to this month's meeting.

Education:

- Bring a paperback dictionary, thesaurus, or Spanish-English dictionary for the *Prison Book Program*, www.prisonbookprogram.org.
- Celebrate "Drop Everything and Read Day." This year's D.E.A.R. Day falls not only on Beverly Cleary's birthday, but also on Easter Sunday. As always, April 12th is a great day to come together with family and friends for thirty minutes of reading. Of course, you may decide to celebrate the day before or the day after. Or, you may want to make *every day* a D.E.A.R. Day! Go to www.dropeverythingandread.com for more ideas.
- Support our libraries: The *Friends of the Taunton Public Library's* monthly book sale is April 11th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Nancy C. will be working this sale (from 11:30-2).
- Celebrate National Library Week April 12th-18th! Visit your local library!
- Bring books you have read to swap at this month's meeting if you have any.
- Are you "Steppin' Out?" Have you signed up for the GFWC and AARP walking program you can join at anytime. If you have, don't forget to record your daily steps by logging onto www.stepfortheroses.com or for more information see Nancy C.
- GFWC and your local PBS station invite you to see "Little Dorrit" read the book by Charles Dickens and see the movie March 29-April 26 (5 episodes).

Conservation:

- See our website at http://gfwctauntonraynhamjuniors.com/Club_Reminders.aspx to see the list of items we are collecting to recycle. The destinations for the items are now listed on our website.

- Go to www.freecycle.org/ to donate or swap items you no longer want.  is a grassroots and entirely nonprofit movement of people who are giving (& getting) stuff for free in their own town. It's all about reuse and keeping good stuff out of landfills.
- Darlene's church is collecting clean used blankets, hats, gloves, mittens, socks, sweatshirts, scarves, thick socks, mittens (preferably large), and small duffle bags for needy families. Socks and small and large duffle bags are especially needed.
- Help protect the rainforests! Every time you buy a  Tropicana product you can go to www.tropicanaforest.com and enter the unique # code on your container. For every code entered, they will preserve 100 square feet of rainforest.

Membership:

- April birthdays: Denise Wheeler 3rd, Nancy Brown 5th, Sue Leddy 12th, and Laretta Davis 26th when you see them, wish them a Happy Day!
- Don't forget to wear your club shirt to meetings and events if you have one.
- When ordering from Amazon.com, GFWC gets a percentage generated to them every time you click on the affiliate link.
- If anyone has the "Travel Journal" please bring it in.
- If you ordered a club vest, please bring your money to this month's meeting.

Arts:

- Congratulations to those "Smart About Art" in March: Nancy C., Jane, Sharon W., Cheryl, Denise, Nancy B., Joanna, Judy A., Deb B., and Joyce!
- Answer: the three women in Boston's memorial are Abigail Adams, Lucy Stone, and Phillis Wheatley. The artist who created it was Meredith Bergmann.
- **Question for April:** (Women in History) Blanche Ames Ames is an outstanding artist known for hundreds of botanical etchings. In 1910 she designed and constructed the stone mansion in which she and her husband lived. Where did Blanche Ames Ames & Oakes Ames live? (The picture to the right is a hint)
 - Good Luck! Call 508-345-5320 or email audree11@verizon.net
- The "Fancy Hats" were admired by all-so don't forget to bring your "Designer Purse" for display and remember to pick up your "Artful Necklace" to design and create for April!!



Fundraising:

- Continue to make brownies for Denise to sell at school donate money for boxes of brownie mix and candy
- Tickets will be available for our May 17th Ice Cream Social at this month's meeting. Don't forget to pick up your tickets

Save the Date: May 2nd is the date for the GFWC of Massachusetts, Junior Membership's annual conference at Sea Crest Resort in Falmouth. Let us know at this month's meeting if you are planning to attend.

Publicity: Send all info to Nancy B.

We had several articles in both the *Taunton Daily Gazette* and the *Silver City Bulletin* this month!

Silver City Bulletin

SATURDAY MARCH 21, 2009 Last modified: Thursday, March 12, 2009 3:03 AM

Author signs book at club meeting

TAUNTON - GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors hosted local author Norma Pimenta at meeting. Norma's book, 'Smiling Eyes', shows the dedication and courage of a coach, it anyone facing a challenge. Her book sends a true inspirational message to cheerleaders

Norma discussed what prompted her to write this book and the process involved in getting it into print. She happily signed copies for club members who purchased the book that evening.

The GFWC club women are also participating in MassSTAR's Blue Bear Service Project by cutting and sewing bear patterns out of blue material. The bears are then stuffed and finished by tenth graders in the Mass STAR Program to be distributed to Emergency Service Organizations for children in trauma situations.

Women 18 years or older are invited to attend a club meeting, which is held on the first Monday of the month, except for July and August, at 7 pm at the Arbors on County Street in Taunton. For more information call 508-880-3882 or 508-558-5439.

Hearts O'Fire Afternoon Tea

On Feb. 8, the members of the GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors turned the Arbors community room into a tea room for their "Hearts O'Fire Afternoon Tea" fundraiser. China tea pots, cups and saucers, along with all the typical tea delicacies, made by the Juniors, were prepared and set out in anticipation of the ticket holding guests, who arrived decked out in their decorative hats. All of this was to support the club's cause.
The Junior Woman's club holds this event yearly and it is a very successful fundraiser which helps support their high schools' scholarship funds. Over \$1,000 was raised at the tea.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Audrey Serrechia serves guests.



Nancy Brown serves tea.



Hailee Mello won a prize for her hat. Her mother Laurie is in the background.



Mia Brown-Seguín helps out.

Silver City Bulletin

Print Page

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Cat in the Hat visits Taunton

TAUNTON -The GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors celebrated Read Across America Week with two members reading at Summer Street School and Leddy elementary school.

The Cat in the Hat spent the day Tuesday at Summer Street Kindergarten talking about Dr. Seuss and reading "Did I Ever Tell You How Lucky You Are?" to the students. Thing 1 and Thing 2 also made an appearance. The Cat (Mrs. Brown), brought in his official Cat in the Hat telephone and during each classes session in the library a call would come in for one of the children, who would then be asked to go to the office because the Cat had left a surprise for that child.

Four children, one from each class, received a set of special shiny markers. Students also colored pictures of the Cat which were hung in the library.

Ms. Milam and Mrs. Nelson's Class made and wore their own Cat in the Hat hats in honor of Dr. Seuss's birthday.

On Wednesday, Mrs. Serrechia from Leddy School read "And to Think That I Saw It On Mulberry Street" to Ms. Lawson's first grade. She then made a surprise visit to Summer Street to read "Happy Birthday To You to Ms. Olican" and Mrs. Kiri's Kindergarten classes.

Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Serrechia are the school librarians and also members of the GFWC Taunton and Raynham Juniors. The prizes given to the students on behalf of the Cat were donated by the club.



Tyler Spear hangs out with Cat in the Hat.
SUBMITTED PHOTOS.