

# JUNIORS *in Action*



[www.GFWCTauntonRaynhamJuniors.org](http://www.GFWCTauntonRaynhamJuniors.org)

Nancy Clark, President



## What Did We Do?

SUSAN CARLSON

Editor



The Juniors had another successful fundraiser in late September though it rained in the morning and the temperature never got

to 60°. Our combined Plant and Yard Sale added more to our scholarship fund for 2013.



The day after our Plant and Yard Sale, we had several members participate in the Fall River Walk to End Alzheimer's. Denise Wheeler and Nancy Clark did more than the expected 1 mile walk. Congratulations.



We were really busy at our October meeting decorating our 44 D Bling Bra for Dusty

Showers, who we hope will wear it during his run across the US to raise money and awareness for breast cancer research. You go Dusty!

We also cut, wrapped and pasted nearly 50 Hershey bars to sell at all our upcoming fundraising events. We'll sell each bar at \$2 and make a nice profit to put into our scholarship fund.



At our October meeting, we were treated to a great and fun presentation (by Cathy, Cotton and Avis from the Blanding Public Library in Rehoboth) on the success and benefits of helping children read through their Puppy Pals Program. Their combination of books, children and dogs blend perfectly into a reading program for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders who are struggling with reading. The children read to the dogs in a private setting. Dogs are not judgmental, they are trusting and make the perfect conduit to help build the children's self esteem in their short 15 minute session that are held once a week for 4 weeks.



At the end of the 4 weeks, each child will be given a 'Pawtographed post card' with a photo of themselves with the dog.

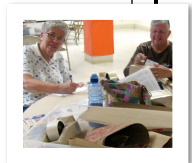
Kudos to these women who support this great free program. And special Kudos to the *Canine Good Citizen Dogs* and *Therapy Dogs* who are certified to hold these titles.

What a fun time we had on October 15 on our 1st Mystery Ride. Little did we know where we were going, but trusted Nancy Brown and Joyce



Clark to put together this great event. We all became artists for the night and created some very unique and customized ceramics. Thanks to Jean Kingsbury at Creative Getaway in Easton for letting us in after hours. When can we do it again?

On October 16, a team of our club members went to Quincy to donate their time to the Prison Book Club. Thank you to Joyce Clark, Cindy Burch, and Dolores Costa.



We had a team of Juniors attend the October 20 GFWC of MA Junior Fall Conference in Northboro, MA. Nancy Clark, Susan Carlson, Cindy Brogan, Nancy Brown and Denise Wheeler enjoyed a day full of interesting speakers.

In honor of **Advocacy for Children**, each of our club members were given a bag to fill with a small blanket, a bear and a book for a child. We donated 17 bags and delivered them to the Taunton Federal Credit Union for distribution to kids in need.



Thanks to Nancy Brown who created this wonderful and easy way of giving.

# Upcoming Events

The **Dighton Arts Festival** will be held on November 4 at Araujo's in Dighton. Our club will be represented with a Membership table and we'll also be offering Christmas cards for children to make for our veterans.

Our **November guest speaker will be David**

**Cucinotta** who is a retired supervisor of Somerset Town School Reading Program and the membership chairman for Bristol County Retired Teachers. He will talk to us about the benefits for retiring teachers.

Our **Membership Brunch** will be held at Joan Curran's house on Saturday, November 17

from 11 to 1:00. Please plan to bring a friend or someone you know may be interested in becoming a member of the GFWC Taunton & Raynham Juniors.

Our annual **Pie and Coffee** fundraiser will be Sunday, November 18 from 1:00 to 3:00 at the VFW in Taunton.

Our annual **Holiday Party** will be on Monday, December 10 and a special thanks to Joanna Alden and Judy Ackerman for planning this for our club. They have made reservations for us at Bella Roma

Denise Wheeler will prepare for the Installation for our 2013 Board.

DATES TO REMEMBER	NOV 5 BUSINESS MEETING	NOV 26 BOARD MEETING	DEC 3 BUSINESS MEETING	DEC 10 HOLIDAY PARTY
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## November 2012

Sun 28	Mon 29	Tue 30	Wed 31	Thu 1	Fri 2
			Halloween		
4 Daylight Saving... DIGHTON ARTS FESTIVAL AT ARAUJO'S IN DIGHTON	5 JR. BUSINESS MEETING AT THE ARBORS AT 7:00	6	7	8	9
11 Veteran's Day	12	13	14	15	16
					17 MEMBERSHIP BRUNCH AT JOAN CURRAN'S 11:00 TO 1:00
18 Pie & Coffee	19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving D...	23
25 OPEN HOUSE AT GFWC HEADQUARTERS IN SUDBURY	26 JR. BOARD MEETING AT THE ARBORS AT 7:00	27	28	29	30
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November Hospitality	December Hospitality	January Hospitality
Joyce Clark (C)	Cheryl Carlos (C)	To Be Announced in December's Newsletter
Darlene Brown	Joanna Alden	



## Vel Bleau

✿ Born In Mechanicsville, NY ✿ Lived in Stillwater, NY, Cherry Point, NC, Medford, MA, Stoughton, MA, N. Dighton, MA ✿ Member since 2009 ✿ Hobbies are sewing, knitting and crocheting ✿ Favorite Things are camping and traveling, being with her family and especially being involved in her grandchildren's activities.

### VEL'S CAREER

Vel graduated from Stillwater High School at the age of 17.

She worked as a secretary for a printing company in Cohoes, New York for two years. She was a Sunday school teacher for two years and Superintendent of Sunday School for three years at the Stoughton Methodist Church.

Vel was a stay at home Mom for 12 years. She worked as a waitress for one year, then worked for a printing company as an office manager/



bookkeeper for five years.

She also worked at the Stoughton Middle School for 13 years as administrative secretary to the Principal. Vel just retired five years ago.

### VEL'S FAMILY

Vel's been married for 51 years to her husband Dick. They were high school "sweethearts".

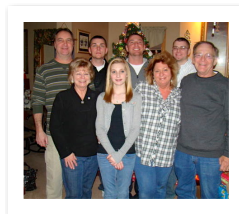


They have two children; Rick and Rene'. Rick is an elevator

technician/supervisor and Rene is an RN nurse with a BSN degree. Vel and Dick adopted their niece Sherry, when Vel's sister

died at the early age of 43. Sherry is an RN nurse.

Vel and Dick have thirteen grandchildren. Ten grandsons and three granddaughters.

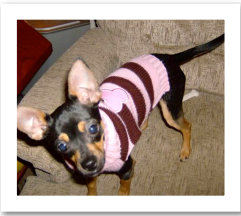
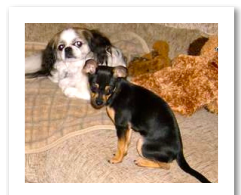


Vel and Dick love retirement! They have a park model trailer in Plymouth, Ma, where they spend summer and fall months. They also enjoy traveling with our travel trailer.



### VEL'S PETS

Vel has three **pets** – Toby, Jasmine, and Venus.



Vel has been an active Junior member during her short tenure and has done a great job a our Membership Chairman for two years.



# Committees

## ARTS

Susan Carlson

Congratulations to our winners of our October Trivia winners.

Art Trivia: Name the Women As Art at our November meeting.

## CONSERVATION

Denise Wheeler

We **recycle!** See our website for a list of all items, including dead batteries.

Darlene continues to collect for the Central Square Congregational Church in Bridgewater clean used blankets hats, gloves, mittens, socks, hooded sweatshirts, scarves, mittens (preferably large), small duffle bags and soap for needy families. She is also collecting yarn except fun fur or eyelash to have Birthright baby sets. Denise is collecting eyelash and fun fur yarn.

We are collecting men's clothing for Taunton charitable associations.

### Monthly Prize Contributor

Last month's winner was Judy deAbreu. She will be the contributor of this month's prize.

## EDUCATION

Nancy Clark

Donate a paperback dictionary, Spanish/English dictionary or thesaurus for the Prison Book Program. For more information on this program, go to [www.prisonbookprogram.org](http://www.prisonbookprogram.org).

Bring books to swap or that can be donated to Friends of the Library.

## FUNDRAISING

Jane Pittsley

Please donate mugs, specialty tea bags, tea pots and large baskets for our raffles, and fall, spring and kids items.

## HOME LIFE

Denise Wheeler

Save Toiletries for Samaritan House and Main Spring House.

Save board games and craft supplies (see website) for Pride Inc. dayhab center.

Save cereal for Raynham Food Basket.

Save canned goods for St. Vincent dePaul.

Save your spare change for A Women's Concern.

Save flashlights, D batteries and other items listed on Winslow Farm website.

## INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

Cindy Brogan

Bring pens and pencils for a catholic mission in India. Save stamps and Christmas cards for India Missions.

Our pig, Cha-Ching is filled, but we will continue to collect this year.

We will be collecting for Shot @ Life, our focus project for GFWC of MA Jrs this year and decorating our bear with band-aids for the April convention.

## LEADERSHIP

Nancy Brown

In December our club will be installing new officers to our 2013 Board. We hope that you will consider taking on a new leadership role to help grow with us. Please encourage your fellow members to volunteer.

## MEMBERSHIP

Vel Bleau

### Happy Birthday to You!

Mary Reilly on November 11th !

At our October meeting we had 65% in attendance.

"Lace Up Your Shoes" and let's recruit new members. Please bring a friend to our meeting this month.

## PUBLICITY

Nancy Brown

Please view your local cable station in Taunton and Berkley for our club ads and take a photo of the ad on screen.

Please save newspaper articles concerning our club when you see them and give to Nancy Brown or Nancy Clark.

Our Pie and Coffee fundraiser was announced in the Raynham Buzz.

## PUBLIC ISSUES

Open

We are still collecting teddy bears for TEMS and items for our troops in two bins at the Taunton Public Library.

## PROGRAMS

Joanna Alden

Our November guest speaker will be David Cucinotta who is a retired supervisor of Somerset Town School Reading Program and the membership chairman for Bristol County Retired Teachers. He will talk to us about the benefits for retiring teachers.

## GFWC Juniors of MA



Cindy Brogan, who is the State Chairman for International Affairs, a graduate of 2012 LEADS, and currently our club's Director and Chair of International Outreach, gave us an overview of the GFWC initiative 'Shot @ Life' at our September meeting as well as at the GFWC Junior Membership Fall Conference. It's amazing that it only cost \$0.20 per shot for a child in third world countries to be vaccinated to prevent diseases that our children here in the US have not been at risk for years. Our goal is to raise \$250 by the GFWC Annual Convention in April 2013. The GFWC's goal is to raise \$150,000. All money will be equally divided to 3 organizations; Unicef, WHO, and GAVI (a global organization whose mission is to save children's lives and protect people's health by increasing access to immunization in the world's poorest countries).

How do we plan to raise \$250? We will be decorating a stuffed bear in a costume made of bandaids which will be on display at the April convention along with all other Junior clubs' decorated Bandaid Bears.

## 2013 GFWC Taunton & Raynham Juniors Need You



The Nominating committee may be calling you, so be ready to step up to the plate. There are a few positions opening up for the 2013 board. We are also looking to expand each of our committees to 2 or more people. With a team, we can accomplish so much more. Which committee do you want to join? See below for your options.

## Juniors' Committees - What Do They Do?

There are 7 Standing Club Committees: Ways & Means, Programs, Newsletter, Yearbook, Hospitality, Sunshine and Publicity.

In addition, we have 6 Community Service Program Committees created to carry on the work of the GFWC of MA and the GFWC Department Committees. These Committees are: Arts, Conservation, Education, HomeLife, International Outreach, and Public Issues. Leadership, Communications & Public Relations, Fundraising and Membership are GFWC Advancement Areas.

Our monthly Newsletter will focus on one of these Committees each month and I encourage each of you to join one or volunteer to Chair a Committee.

**Let's understand what the Education Committee is about . . .** The Education Community Service Program is designed to improve the lives of others and leave your community and world better than you found it. For the past two years our club has presented the "Cat in the Hat" learning events to the children at the Taunton Public Library for Dr. Seuss' birthday. The children have a personal reading from The Cat in the Hat (aka Nancy Brown), refreshments, a craft, coloring pages, puzzles, pencils, and for the parents, a Green Eggs and Ham Literacy Pack.



The Education Committee supports the Prison Book Program by donating dictionaries and thesauruses. Club members regularly volunteer at the Prison Book center in Quincy, MA and select, pack, and prepare the books for mailing. The Education Committee also collects Box Tops for Education and Campbell Soup Labels for schools. Three \$500 scholarships have been given to local high school students and \$195 donated to GFWC of Massachusetts scholarships last year and we also gave a \$200 scholarship to Girl's Inc. for a girl to attend their summer camp.

We supported the Friends of the Taunton Public Library by donating books for their book sales last year, we participate in the "Book a Baby" program, and had a monthly book swap for members at our meetings. During National Library Week this year, our club presented local library workers with chocolate dipped strawberries. Our Education programs include speakers, such as most recently, from the Blanding Library of Rehoboth concerning the "Puppy Pals" reading program.



## 2012 Honduras Mission



Dear Juniors:

I want to thank you once again for supporting my efforts to aid the poor in Honduras last year. I want to tell you that Brian and I are returning again this December to continue our mission of service.

You have all so generously saved empty prescription bottles for use at the clinic at St. Rose of Lima Parish, for which they are very grateful. While there I noticed that these drugs were put in little plastic baggies which didn't keep out moisture or could easily be misplaced or lost. The bottles make it so much easier and I'm sure the patients feel more important having their medication in a real prescription bottle. It's amazing how something as simple as getting vitamins or Tylenol in a bottle labeled with your name makes such a difference.

If you are still willing to help me, the sisters are requesting **school supplies** and most importantly **white knee high socks** for the school girls. **Spanish books** for children are always asked for too. However, anything you can donate is greatly appreciated. Money that is collected for the mission helps to buy tools for the farm, pay for gas for the bus, or whatever the sisters feel is needed for the families. There is also a very active St. Vincent dePaul Society which takes all our clothing donations.

Because our club collects monthly for so many organizations and causes, I am not going to burden you with another list other than the three items that I have already mentioned above.

We will be leaving on December 1st, so I ask that you bring whatever you can to the November business meeting. There are many ways to be of service to the poor, and your participation in helping me is your mission and I take you with me.

Thank you and God bless,

Nancy Brown



GFWC

An international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service.

MEETING NOTES

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Volunteering

“I always wondered why somebody didn't do something about that. Then I realized I was somebody.”

--Lily Tomlin

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