



Juniors in Action



GFWC of Taunton and Raynham Juniors

A member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

Representing: Taunton, Dighton, Assonet, Raynham, Norton, Berkley, Brockton, Freetown, Middleboro & Rehoboth

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September 2023

President – Robin Gendron, Vice President –Emily Weiland, Recording Secretary - Joyce Clark,
Corresponding Secretary – Ana Kearnan, Treasurer –Sarah Brink, Auditor –Cindy Brogan,
Director – Nancy Martin

September 11th Business Meeting:

Due to the awful weather there was a low attendance at the meeting. Members present put together multiple **purple pinwheels** and put domestic violence quotes on them to help members



become more aware of what they could do to assist people who are victims of abuse and words of wisdom to share. Some of the quotes were “I am a survivor not a victim”, “Don’t judge yourself by what others did to you” and “You are the light



that refused to surrender” among many others. Due to the low attendance

many of the pinwheels were not completed so member and teacher Denise Wheeler took them and two of her students volunteered to complete them. They will be put into the community during October to bring awareness to Domestic Violence Month. President Robin Gendron was unable to attend the meeting



so **Vice President Emily Weiland**

ran the meeting. Great job Emily! Once again the



Environment Chairman Denise Wheeler shared items with members and collected others from members for her STEM Projects at school. Her newest request is round cool whip lids. Nancy Brown shared a new item members could purchase, a **jacket** with our new club logo. The price will be \$35, more discussion at the next meeting. **Nurse Ana Kearnan** recommended members get the flu shot as well as the RSV shot and covid shot, but not all at once, space them about 2 weeks apart. She also advised members when shopping at a super market to keep your purse on you and not in your shopping basket!

Emily volunteered to look into the **mental health and wellness grants** being offered by GFWC Massachusetts. Our membership had a **moment of silence** for those killed or hurt during 9/11. Our club received 2 free **Festival tickets** and they were offered to the membership. Susan Johnson volunteered to

attend, but then couldn't attend: so Nancy Clark represented our club with a guest who was a former member. Nancy Brown was chosen to be honored with the first **Leadership Award** from our club. She was very thankful for the honor and the the kind words. She chose Birthright of Greater Taunton, Inc., which is a pregnancy center, as her charity of choice, and the check of \$50 has been sent forward by our treasurer Sarah Brink to the nonprofit organization.



What has our club and its' members done this month?

The **Food Pantry Bingo** at the VFW on Sunday September 17th was attended by several members of our club. Those in attendance donated nonperishable items and raffle items. The club donated items as well. Members bought raffle tickets and several won items; member Edith Edlund donated a large doll house. During the month our club supported **community fundraisers** with baskets to the Taunton Animal Shelter Fundraiser, Downtown Art Jam and James Martin Memorial Fund. If any members are aware of a community fundraiser please let President Robin Gendron know so we can show our support.



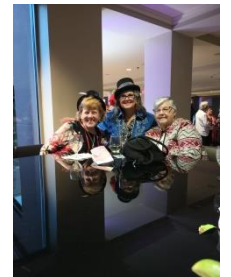
Member Fran Perry continues to **encourage members to try pickle ball** for exercise and offers free lessons. Please take her up on it! Our **Executive Board Meeting** was conducted at the



LaFamilia Restaurant. Thanks to President Robin for organizing the event. Honorary member **Joanna Alden's son** passed away. If you would like to send a card her address is 306 Carver Street, Raynham,

MA 02767. Our prayers are with her. Donations collected from September meeting were dropped off to **TRUE Diversity** by Ana Kearnan. She Thanks members for their generosity!! She collected from the membership: 24- 3 Packs of boys under pants, 2 pkgs of boys socks, 3pkgs of girls under pants, 1 package of girls socks, 6 boxes of maxi pads, 1 package of tampons, and 2 feminine sprays. In regards to **rent relief** from Nancy Brown: during the September Meeting she collected rent relief donations from the members who braved the rainy night. For those of you who weren't able to attend she hopes that you have sent your contribution to her through the mail. Nancy Brown 261 Hart Street, Dighton, MA 02715. A total of \$33 was collected. Nancy Clark has provided the gift for September's drawing and members can wait to see who the lucky winner will be. Thanks for always supporting your /our club. If any of you can't be at the October meeting for whatever reason please drop your October donation in the mail too. The

Program for this month is making candy bags for Trunk or Treat, so bring candy to the meeting! Joyce Clark and Robin Gendron represented our club at the **GFWC New England Regional Conference** in Connecticut from September 22nd to the 24th. The conference theme was "Carnival". Our club donated books and stuffed animals which were donated to the key note speaker. Robin will share information about the conference at the October meeting.



COMMITTEES:

ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN—
Robin Gendron – Presidents' Project – No Report



ARTS AND CULTURE—Edith Edlund – For the GFWC Fall Combined Conference clubs have been asked for their members to make items using pearls and petals. It could be knit/crocheted, embroider, flower arrangement, jewelry, stationary, etc. They must be submitted by October 13th. The items will be auctioned off at the conference with the money going to Mental Health and Wellness Grants. Edith is making one contribution from our club, if you are creative and have another contact Edith.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH –Cindy Brogan –Our club will be making a decorated Christmas Tree for Araujo Farm Fundraiser in November with a “Snowman Theme”. Bring your snowman and gift card donations to this month business meeting or contact Denise Wheeler to drop off your donations. Last month Emily Weiland collected a few packages of sugar for the Food Pantry. They are in desperate need of food items!

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS– Judy Floor –If you run an event please forward an article to Judy with pictures attached separately.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT – AWARENESS AND PREVENTION: - Emily Weiland – For Domestic Violence month which is October we will be placing our purple pinwheels and scarecrow in the community to bring recognition to domestic abuse.

EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES – Nancy Martin –I know there have been some new grandchildren born, please notify me so we can award our Book-A-Baby Program. You can start to bring books again for Nancy Brown’s Community Library or the Prison Book Program.

ENVIRONMENT – Denise Wheeler – She is in need of round cool whip lids, newspapers, Styrofoam trays meats are wrapped, grocery plastic and cloth bags, shoe boxes, old batteries, old crayons, cereal and granola bar boxes flattened, shoes, clothes, broken jewelry, watches, yarn, fabric, ribbon, cardboard form notepads, eye/reading glasses, baskets, front of greeting cards, soda/beer can

tabs, old markers, egg cartons for stem projects. Denise has paper lists of items for recycling that our club collects: just ask her for a copy; it is also on our club website.

FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT – Diane Huling – Our club will be having our annual Soup and Pie Sampler Fundraiser on Saturday, October 21, 2023, from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m., at the Winthrop Street Baptist Church Hall, 39 Winthrop Street in Taunton. Members will be providing homemade soups, sandwiches, and pies for people to sample and enjoy. Tickets are priced at \$15.00 and have been distributed during the meeting to sell or by calling Diane Huling, 508-728-7823. If you did not attend the last meeting you can get them at the October meeting. We will also be selling tickets at the door the day of the event. All proceeds will be used to provide our student scholarships and support of local charities. We look forward to seeing you there!!

HEALTH AND WELLNESS – Ana Kearnan – True Diversity is collecting women's black leggings of all sizes. It's part of the Period Poverty Project. They are used for women and girls who have accidents at school, shelters etc... If you could pick up a pair and bring it to the October meeting it would be greatly appreciated.

LEADERSHIP – Nancy Martin – Seeking new Chairmen’s for Domestic Violence Awareness and Education. Monthly \$50 charity Leadership Award will be awarded.

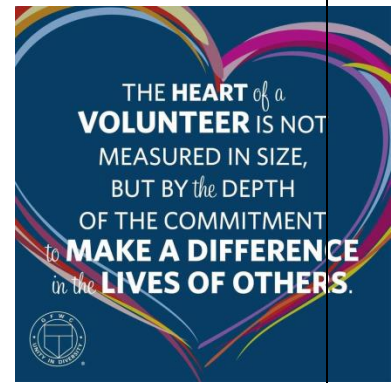
LEGISLATION/ PUBLIC POLICY – Nancy Clark –Go to the Action Center and support: the GFWC Legislative Alert: Support Funding for Hunger and Food Insecurity"; if you didn't receive the notice then sign up for the Legislative Action Center. If you need help signing up please contact Nancy Clark.

MEMBERSHIP – Joyce Clark –A copy of the yearbook is on our website. Nancy Clark keeps it updated. Joyce has purchased pens with our new

club name on them for both old and new members.

Nancy Brown – No Report

WOMENS HISTORY AND RESOURCE CENTER–



Members' Birthdays

Edith Edlund

Gail Knowles



What's Happening Within our Club?

Next Business Meeting is October 2nd at Silver Platter BP at 7:00pm

Soup Sampler Saturday October 21st at Winthrop Street Baptist Church Taunton: 12-2pm

Easter Seals in Bridgewater - special needs / sensory friendly - Oct 27, 4:30pm

Taunton Parks and Rec Trunk or Treat - Oct 28, 4pm

Sunday October 29th, 9am – 3pm: GFWC Massachusetts Fall Conference at the Publick House in Sturbridge

Next Executive Board Meeting is October 30th at BP at 6:00pm

Dighton Arts Festival@Araujo Farms November 5th 9pm-3pm

Bingo to support our club is Sunday November 29th at the VFW Hall 82 Ingalls Street, Taunton: 10am-2pm

Lights On Downtown Taunton Dec 2nd

Holiday Themed Pancake Breakfast Saturday December 9th

December 11th Club Holiday Party: 6pm-9pm at the Fireside Grille Restaurant, Middleboro

After the first of the year a movie night: proceeds going to a council on Aging, TBA

A presentation about our club to Senior Girl Scouts and their moms: TBA



What to Bring to the October Meeting

Halloween candy for Trunk or Treat

Flour, sugar, pancake mixes and syrup for the Food Pantry

Women's black leggings of all sizes and new packages and Feminine Products

Money for Rent Relief and \$35 if you want to purchase the club jacket

Snowmen items and gift cards for Araujo Christmas Tree