

JUNIORS IN ACTION

GFWC Greater Taunton Woman's Club
MEMBER OF THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS



Holiday Party 2023

UPCOMING MEETINGS

January 8:
Jan Business Meeting
Silver Platter, 7 p.m.
Hospitality: Judy Floor & Diane Huling

January 20:
GFWC Midwinter Meeting
Wrentham Sr. Center
9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

January 29:
Board Meeting
Silver Platter, 6:30 p.m.

February 7:
Feb Business Meeting
Silver Platter, 7p.m.
Hospitality: Gail Knowles & Nancy Clark

BRING IN JANUARY

- Check for \$20 if you have signed up to attend the Midwinter Meeting
- Items for conservation
- Sugar or tuna for the Matthew Mission Food Pantry



Our 2023 Holiday Party was held at the Fireside Grill in Middleboro. President Robin Gendron opened the evening with a warm welcome. It was a festive affair with lots of good food and cheer. We installed our 2024 board members, recognized many club anniversaries, and gave out perfect attendance awards. Members brought donations for animals, which were delivered to Winslow Animal Farm & the Taunton Animal Shower. We exchanged gifts and wished each other the happiest of Holidays!

Congratulations to our 2024 Board Members

Robin Gendron, President | Emily Weiland, Vice President | Joyce Clark, Recording Secretary | Sarah Brink, Treasurer | Ana Kearnan, Corresponding Secretary | Cindy Brogan, Parliamentarian | Denise Wheeler, Director | Linda Brosseau, Auditor

Club News from December 2023

Dighton Arts Festival

Clubwomen created two trees, with a Snowman and an Eeyore theme, for the Dighton Garden Club's Festival of Trees held at Arujo Farms. The trees were raffled off and raised \$282 for the club.

Supporting Animals

In addition to donating goods for animal shelters at our party, GFWC Greater Taunton Woman's Club donated two baskets for the Norton Nine Lives Animal Shelter's December Fundraiser.



Pancakes with Mrs. Claus

We held our first-ever pancake breakfast featuring songs and a story with Mrs. Claus on December 9. We had a delightful surprise visit from Mr. Claus as well! Neighborhood kids made great memories. Our club profited \$594 from tickets, the raffle and roll-ups.



Bracks Fundraiser

On December 27th Bracks Grille and Tap in Taunton supported our club with a fundraiser offering us 20% of their sales. We used this opportunity to raise money for another cause as well with a raffle basket to benefit St. Jude Children's Hospital. This fundraiser resulted in \$228 for our club and \$750 for St. Jude!



Book a Baby 2023

Sarah Brink

Grandson: Zander Quinn Brink 12/7/23

Book: Freckles the Cow

Linda Brosseau

Grandson: Oliver Joseph Brosseau 3/2/23

Book: Grandma's Kisses

Fran Perry

Granddaughter: Jillian Ruth Clark 5/29/23

Book: Llama, llama, Red Pajama

Diane Huling

Grandson: Adam Randolph Huling 5/22/23

Book: On the Night You Were Born

Grace Doel

Grandson: Jayden C. Simeon 8/22/23

Book: Grasshopper and the Ants

December Leadership Award

The December Leadership Award went to Denise Wheeler for all the work she did during the month of November. Denise prepared multiple baskets for our club to donate, organized our club membership for the Dighton Arts Festival and decorated the two Christmas tree for the Araujo fundraiser. She has continued as the environment Chairman collecting and delivering items the membership collects to the different agencies as well as sharing collections with club members during Business Meetings. she keeps accurate records of all our club collections each month.



December Program

At the GFWC Greater Taunton Woman's Club December Business Meeting club members assembled ten frosty the snowman centerpieces. The materials were donated and organized by a member of the Holiday Breakfast Committee. Clear vases were filled with white tissue paper and stuck on

face features were placed on each side of the vase including eyes, carrot noses, eyelashes and mouths. Red and green bows and ribbons were glued on creating scarfs and neckties. Black top hats were decorated and glued on the top. They were used as centerpieces at the Holiday Breakfast Community Fundraiser surrounded by white sparkled tissue paper and silver and gold tinsel or green pine tree branches. They were then used again at the club Christmas Party as centerpieces and given out as prizes to take home.

Committee Reports

Advocates for Children - Robin Gendron

Arts - Edie Edlund

GFWC Massachusetts writing and poetry contests entries are due by February 15, and photography contest entries are due by March 1. See all the details at the [GFWC MA website](#).

Civic Engagement and Outreach - Cindy Brogan

Communication and Public Relations - Nancy Clark

Please send any news articles or flyers about the club that you would like to share to Nancy.

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Awareness - Linda Brosseau

National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month is in January. GFWC’s partner program Hope for Justice is a good resource for learning to spot the signs of trafficking, and know how to report suspected actions to law enforcement. Check out the website: <https://hopeforjustice.org/>

Environment - Denise Wheeler

Fundraising and Development - Diane Huling

Health and Wellness – OPEN

Leadership - Nancy Martin

New chairs for the New Year!

Communication and Public Relations - Nancy Clark

Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Awareness - Linda Legislation and Public Policy – Emily
Programs – Nancy Brown

Education and Libraries - Nancy Martin

The Prison Book program shared its amazing achievements in 2023, including...

63,000 free books sent

18,172 book packages shipped

12,764 volunteer hours by 1, 429 people

The Prison book program is 51 years old!

We will send a team of volunteers to the Prison Book program, which is headquartered in Quincy, this winter.

Legislation and Public Policy – Emily Weiland

The latest GFWC Legislative Action Alert is “Protect Children Online”, a package of five bipartisan bills has been approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee and the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee and are ready for floor action. Together, they revise and update the legal framework used in the prevention and prosecution of online sexual abuse of children.

To learn more and have the opportunity to sign a petition to move this legislation forward, go to

<https://www.votervoice.net/GFWC/home>

Membership - Joyce Clark

Congratulations to our members who were recognized at the Holiday Party!

5 Years: Sarah Brink

10 Years: Fran Perry, Robin Gendron, Cindy Leonard

15Years: Nancy Clark and , Cindy Brogan

25 year: Denise Wheeler

30 Years: Darlene Brow

45 Years: Joan Stevens, Judy DeAbrue, Nancy Brown

2023 Perfect Attendance Awards went out to Judy Ackerman, Joyce Clark, Nancy Clark, Diane Huling, Ana Kearnan, Fran Perry, Emily Weiland and Denise Wheeler.

Women’s History and Resource Center - Nancy Brown

General Federation of Women’s Clubs & Junior Membership of Massachusetts



The CALL to Midwinter Meeting


Saturday, January 20, 2024
Wrentham Senior Center
400 Taunton Street
9:30 – 3:00 - Registration opens at 8:30




What’s Happening

-  Wear your favorite hat, scarf
-  **Special guest, Libby Wiers, NER President**
-  **Registration & Raffles**
-  **Mental Health Grants Awarded**
-  **Soup Contest**
-  **Hands On Project**

Staying Friday night before Midwinter Meeting?

 The President has reservations at Café Assisi in Wrentham. If you would like to join us, please let Donna Shibley know.





Overnight Accommodations

 **Hampton Inn Franklin MA** \$119 plus tax. We have a block of 10 double /queen rooms. **Deadline to book:** January 1, 2024. Breakfast is included.

Many thanks to our host club, The Holly Club of Wrentham!







WHAT TO BRING?

-  Hats or mittens or soup or all three 😊 
-  Your hand work, knitting, crocheting or needlepoint; bring it along to work on at your table.
-  **YOUR WARM-UP SOUP ENTRY:**

Bring your favorite homemade soup, chowder, or bisque to be entered into the Warm-Up Soup Contest. Each entry should be brought in a 5-7 quart crockpot so it can be kept warm until serving. Please provide the name of your soup and ingredients on an index card, with your name and club name on the reverse side. You must **pre-register by January 13th**. **Prizes will be awarded!**

Basket Donation Themes

-  Winter Wonderland
-  Winter Remedies
-  This Will Warm You UP
-  Here’s to a New Year!



President T Jablanski and Director of Junior Clubs, Marisa Jablanski have planned and prepared a great Saturday meeting and are looking forward to welcoming you to **Midwinter Meeting** in Wrentham, Massachusetts.

