



Juniors in Action



GFWC of Taunton and Raynham Juniors

A member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

Volume 17

wwwGFWCTauntonRaynhamJuniors.org

January 2020

Our Board Members

A past President– President, Cindy Brogan - Vice President, Joyce Clark - Recording Secretary, Joanna Alden - Corresponding Secretary, Nancy Clark – Treasurer, Nancy Martin - Auditor, Cindy Leonard – Director

Highlights of the December 2nd Meeting:

The December Meeting was conducted by the Acting President of the Month Nancy Clark. Due to the awful weather there was a low attendance.

A thank-you was received for the baby hats that were made by Joyce Clark and her knitting group and donated through our club.

A thank-you was also received from Pathways for our money donation from our Pathways Awareness Walk.

It was noted by Nancy Brown that our club received recognition for the Best Non-Profit in the Raynham Center for the last two years.

Judy Ackerman has volunteered to be the new Program Chairman starting in January for the new year.

It was recommended to the membership to watch on Netflix the movie on Suffragettes.

WHRC Chairman Nancy Brown read a biography on Blanch Ames who held a lifelong passion for women's rights. In 1915, when Massachusetts voters would decide whether to allow women the right to vote, Blanche attended 40 events throughout the commonwealth to spread the word of female equality. She was president of the Easton Woman Suffrage League and from 1915 to 1918 and was Treasurer of the Massachusetts Woman Suffrage League. In 1916 she helped found the Birth Control League of Massachusetts, an affiliate of Margaret Sanger's group and served as its' first President. In



this role Ames helped to form The Doctors Bill to Clarify the Law, which regulated the ability of doctors to provide birth control counseling to married women with health problems, and later helped establish universal access to birth control. Massachusetts did not legalize contraception for married women until 1966, the last state in the nation to do so, and Ames set the standard for perseverance in the decades-long effort. In 1941 Ames also served as a board member and later as President of the New England Hospital for Women and Children in Boston. In 1952 because of financial circumstances they opened up to the possibility of employing male staff. Ames fought to keep the hospital as only female staff and administration through funding methods. The Ames estate in North Easton, Massachusetts, called Borderland, was designed by Ames herself in the early 1900s, and it is now Borderland State Park. Nancy Brown and Robin Gendron visited the Park and suggested we might consider a membership field trip this spring. They spoke with Paul Clifford from Borderland and he sounded interested in coming to one of our meetings as a speaker.

The yearly meeting was conducted and Nancy Clark the Treasurer and Joanna Alden the Corresponding Secretary read their yearly reports.

What did our club members do this December?

We had our club Christmas Party at Home Plate on December 9th at 5:00pm. It was well attended. Collections were made for Toys for Tots, Citizens

for Citizens and the Wish List for a local Council on Aging Veterans. Denise Wheeler conducted the Installations of Cindy Brogan as Vice President and Joyce Clark as Recording Secretary. Joyce Clark



Membership Chairman gave out membership pins to Joan Curran for 40 years, Vel Bleau for 10 years; Mary Barrett, Edith Edlund, Paula Gasperoni, Joan Matthews, and Jane Pacheco for 5 years.



Joyce also gave out Perfect Attendance Awards to Nancy Clark, Denise Wheeler, Robin

Broberg and Joyce Clark. Door prizes were awarded to Cindy Leonard, Denise Wheeler, Fran Perry, Cathy Sampson and two baskets to Judy Riley and Nancy Martin. The winners for our Scholarship fundraiser raffle conducted by Cindy Brogan were awarded. The \$500 in cash went to Mary Benavides, the \$200 went to member Susan Johnson and the \$100 to Mary Alice Price. A profit of \$1400 was made. **Saturday December 7th** the GFWC Taunton and



Raynham Jr. Woman's Club once again were part of the festivities for the 106th Annual



Lighting of the Green in Taunton themed "The Night Before Christmas". Members portraying Mrs. Claus and Santa's Elves read and sang to children and handed out cookies and drinks and letters to Santa. Members Brenda Saben, Cheryl Carlos, Nancy Martin, Cindy Leonard and Kathy Sampson acted as Santa's Elves. They helped Mrs. Claus, Nancy Brown to entertain the hundreds of visitors coming into Hometown Furnishings on Main Street with the reading of "The Night Before Christmas



"and the singing of at least one Christmas song selected by the children. The club supplied sugar



cookies and DeAvilas Catering provided hot cocoa. **Cindy Brogan and Joyce Clark** delivered items collected at the Christmas Party to local hospitals.

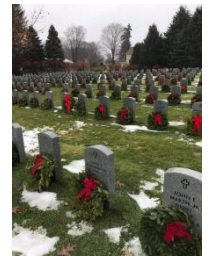
Our club donated two trees to community events one for the Taunton Green and one for the First Parish Church. Members took time to decorate the one at the church.



Baby Clothes collected through the membership was delivered by Joyce Clark to New Hope in Taunton.

Our club donated towards Wreaths Across America.

Mary Barrett delivered the Toys for Tots. The final count was 60 items consisting of 45 Beanie Babies and 15 games, stuffed animals, dolls, markers, etc.. Mary was very excited at how the girls came through with so many toys for these children! The value on these items was between \$300--\$400 since they were all new.



The 48 books collected for Citizens for Citizens was delivered by Nancy Martin with an additional 50 books going to More Than Words.

Baskets made with member donations made by Joyce Clark were donated to fundraisers at Bristol Plymouth, Christmas for Parkinson's, Stone Church in Raynham, Girls Incorporated, Veterans for the Coyle Breakfast, and RAVE at LaLiberty Elementary School in Raynham.

Denise Wheeler's class has written the first round of postcards to be sent to students in Texas. Our club is sponsoring the cost of this endeavor. More information on this next month.

Joyce Clark has taken a lot of time and effort throughout this past year organizing trips and collecting books for the Prison Book Program. They emailed a thank-you for our support in 2019. They highlighted what had been contributed through the year to their program. They summarized how

11,427 people all over the country got packages of carefully selected books, 1099 people spent 7123 hours picking books, packing them up to mail, quality controlling packages, sorting donations and much more. How we were 1 of the 50 service groups that volunteered. They have raised the weight limit for the New Year on packages so that people could get heavier or more books. They explained how the vast majority of those who asked for a Legal Primer, GED Study Guide or dictionary got one. They were able to get 215 people hard-to-find books through their wish lists on Amazon and Wellesley Books. Thanks to a grant from The Vireo Fund, they hosted the Books to Prisoners National Conference. Representatives of 35 groups collaborated over three days in April and learned from each other's experiences. The major outcome was the formation of a "Books to Prisoners Alliance" (in the works) that will present a unified front when addressing unjust and arbitrary restrictions by prisons and DOC's around the country.

We also received an email from Free the Girls Program to thank us for our continued support of their program. We have given bras which they feel is a commitment to step into the story of human trafficking and work toward restoration and a hopeful future for survivors of trafficking as a beautiful thing. They wished our club a very Merry Christmas, one filled with the kind of peace and joy that the world longs for. One filled with hope for what is to come.

Committees:

ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN: - Nora Orfanello & Robin Broberg- Nothing at this time.

ARTS - Kathy Sampson-The GFWC Arts Junior Challenge is "What called our ancestors to America?" The reasons are different yet we all come from somewhere else. Tell your story through art, glass, fabric, song or video. More Details are on the website Due at April Conference.

COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS - Nancy Brown – Continue to save newspaper clippings and bring them to the meetings. We have been receiving a lot of club publicity online, take some time to check it out.

CONSERVATION – Denise Wheeler Collecting newspapers, puzzles, board games, empty ink cartridges, fabric, yarn, old cell phones, eye and reading glasses, small jewelry boxes, coffee cans, old batteries, embroidery floss, used eye glasses with cases, metal and plastic coat hangers, holiday cards, used shoes; winter hats, coats and mittens; soda tabs, sweaters and old bras.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: - Nancy Martin/Joyce Clark- White ribbon campaign will continue in January. February is Teen Dating Awareness Month.

EDUCATION – Nancy Martin/Joyce Clark –A reminder there are scholarships for members and their children and grandchildren can apply for. You can go on the state site and get additional information yourself. If you need assistance please contact me. The next Virtual Book Club selection is "Wide Sargasso" A Novel by Jean Rhys, updates will be posted on Facebook. GFWC Mass State will be having a silent on-line auction to raise money for scholarships in the New Year.



FUNDRAISING – Cindy Brogan – A Pie and Coffee or Soup Sampler sometime in March and the Fashion Show in August.

HOME LIFE – Nancy Brown- Prime Time wish list:



Individually wrapped snack size; raisins, cookies, chips and crackers. Please note that they now have someone with sensitivity to peanuts. Denise Wheeler

is looking for winter hats, gloves, coats, scarfs and earmuffs. She also is looking for twin sheets, blankets, hand towels, etc.

HOSPITALITY – Robin Gendron – January - Amanda Fata and Cindy Leonard. February – Paul Gasperoni and Kathleen Sampson.



INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH –Cindy Brogan- The International Institute of New England is a great resource– check out Suitcase Stories® is a traveling live performance series that features foreign and U.S.-born residents sharing refugee and immigrant stories. The format of storytelling in a theatrical setting and is especially suited to these powerful tales of real-life experience. Check it out <https://iine.org/suitcase>.

LEADERSHIP: - Paula Gasparoni and Joan Curran – Nothing at this time.

MEMBERSHIP —Joyce Clark / Jane Pacheco– Bring a friend to a meeting.

NEWSLETTER – Nancy Martin – If you do something representing our club during any given month, please forward information about it along with pictures to MRMartin947@aol.com. Since there has been little interest of members submitting items to sell, we are discontinuing this from the newsletter.

PRESIDENTS SPECIAL PROJECT: Edie Edlund- Since this year our meetings will be conducted each month by a former president, no project has been selected at this time.

PROGRAMS-Judy Ackerman–We will have a visit by “Heroes at Both Ends of the Leash”, where veterans and dogs train together sometime in the future.

PUBLIC ISSUES –Cindy Brogan – Continue to read and follow those running for major elections, especially woman.

LEGISLATION/ PUBLIC POLICY- Nancy Clark – Click on the picture of the US capital on the slide show on the Home Page of or club's website and 'Take Action' on any of the issues you haven't already addressed.

WEBMASTER – Nancy Clark – If you haven't gone to our website yet, go and check it out!

WHRC – Nancy Brown- in January Nancy Brown will continue with Who’s Who, women who have made a difference in women’s history. A reminder for everyone to please bring their short bio written on an index card to the January meeting if you haven’t done one yet. Something about yourself that no one knows that you would like to share. ie: I love to roller skate and was once a member of a skating group or I am a grandmother to 10 boys!

YEARBOOK–Edith Edlund– If you haven’t received a book, let Joyce Clark know.

Happy Birthday to Members: Judy DeAbreau 

Up Coming Events

Executive Board Meeting at BP on Monday January 27th at 6:00pm

Business Meeting Monday January 6th at BP at 7:00pm

January 25th a GFWC Massachusetts Combined Conference at Stoneforge in Raynham

Pie and Coffee/Soup Sampler in March TBA

Fashion Show in August TBA

GFWC Massachusetts Combined Conference

Join our membership at the January 25th GFWC Massachusetts Combined Conference at Stoneforge in Raynham. Our membership pays the \$15 entrance fee and all you pay is the \$25 for the meal of Baked stuffed Chicken or Baked Boston Cod or a Vegetarian Option along with Pasta Primavera, garlic mashed potatoes, green beans almandine, rolls and butter with chocolate mousse for dessert and coffee or tea. . If interested bring a check for the \$25 to the January meeting or send it to our treasurer Nancy Clark. What to wear to the event Cruise wear, Winter wear or GFWC or Club identity Wear. What to bring for Projects: used books for More Than Words, Shoes for Soles4Souls, and \$25 gift cards. Guest speaker is Jolie Franfurth, and the project will be around the fact that February is the Teen Dating Awareness Month.

What Do I Need to Bring to the Meeting?

- Folded Books
- Something for Primetime
- Baby Blankets
- Recycle Items

Publicity

GFWC of Massachusetts donates to Penelope's Place and Brockton Hospital

Wicked Local Bridgewater

GFWC Taunton and Raynham Junior Women's Club President Edie Edlund and Membership Chairwoman Joyce Clark recently delivered a \$300 ...

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GREATER TAUNTON / NEWS



© Taunton and Raynham Jr. Women's Club joined in on Taunton's Lights On festivities with a reading by Mrs. Claus of "The Night Before Christmas" from the warm showroom of Hometown Furnishing on Main Street. Club member Nancy Brown was Mrs. Claus. The children received candy canes and could write a letter to Santa to be mailed to the North Pole in time for Christmas.



The children received candy canes, cookies and could write a letter to Santa to be mailed to the North Pole in time for Christmas.

Taunton woman's club hosts primetime with Mrs. Claus

TAUNTON — The Taunton and Raynham Jr. Women's Club in on Taunton's Lights On festivities with a reading by Mrs. Claus of "The Night Before Christmas," which was the highlight of this year's celebration, from the warm

showroom of Hometown Furnishing on Main Street. Club member Nancy Brown as Mrs. Claus, was assisted by members Cheryl Carlos, Brenda Saben, Kathy

Sampson, Cindy Leonard and Nancy Martin. The children received candy canes, cookies and could write a letter to Santa to be mailed to the North Pole in time for Christmas.

RIGHT: Club member Nancy Brown as Mrs. Claus, was assisted by Santa's elves played by members Cheryl Carlos, Brenda Saben, Kathy Sampson, Cindy Leonard and Nancy Martin.

