



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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October 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

October 2nd Meeting:

Fundraising Chairman Diane Huling talked about the upcoming **Soup Sampler** on Saturday October 21st from noon to 2pm at Winthrop Street Baptiste Church in Taunton. Edith Edlund talked about our **Bingo Club Fundraiser** on Sunday November 26th. She is looking for items for gift baskets that include: items for a Christmas wrap basket, hot chocolate themed items, Christmas cookies, Santa socks/items, and gift cards or make a basket of your own. You can bring items to the November meeting. Joyce Clark Membership Chairman gave **birthday gift bags** to members Edith Edlund and Gail Knowles. During the meeting break with food items provided by Nancy Martin and Edith Edlund members put together 50 bags for the Easter seals Massachusetts **"The Bridge Center Trunk or Treat"** on Friday October 27th from 4:30 to 6:30pm. Members brought candy to the meeting for this and the **Taunton Trunk or Treat** on the Green Saturday October 28th at 4pm. The **Leadership Award** for this month went to Cindy Brogan for all she has done over the summer for our club. She organized the June Social and offered her house for it,



and she orchestrated our club banner for the East Taunton Little League and had members sign up to help run their food hut. She also organized members to attend benefit bingos throughout the summer and raffles for them, assisted with the Friendsgiving event and she helps with all the raffles and events to raise money for our scholarships and the selection of the recipients. A \$50 check will be awarded to her choice of a charity: Birthright of Taunton. Nancy Clark: Legislation and Public Policy Chairman encouraged members to go onto our website and click the link to the Action Center and support the GFWC Legislative Alert: Support **"Funding for Hunger and Food Insecurity"**. Standing in for Nancy Brown, Fran Perry talked about the **club jackets** with our club logo and took names and size for those who wish to order one for \$35. Fran also reminded members for WHRC that October 10th is **Woman's Day**: bring awareness to gender equality. Health and Wellness Chairman Ana Kearnan talked about **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**. She reminded us to check ones breasts every month and how to do it. She also suggested requesting a 3D mammogram. Ana made members aware that there is a a law that mandates doctors have a 24

hour answering service for patient questions. Ana made collections for TRUE Diversity again from club members consisting of: 3 pairs of boys' socks, 2 packs of girls underpants, 4 women's' leggings, two packs of girls' socks, 3 packages of maxi pads and 4 packages of tampons. President Robin Gendron gave a report on the **GFWC New England Region Conference** that she and member Joyce Clark attended. Treasurer Sarah Brink took names and \$40 from members planning to attend the **GFWC Fall Conference** October 29th in Sturbridge. Arts and Culture Chairman Edith Edlund described and shared pictures of her "**petals and pearls**" creation for our clubs contribution at the Fall Conference and she encouraged other members to make contributions. The items will be auctioned off at the conference with the money going to Mental Health and Wellness Grants. **Environment** Chairman Denise Wheeler distributed to members who wanted them, mirrors, cards, Velcro wraps, birthday cups and tape measures. Edith Edlund also donated to members candles she made with her daughter. Robin reminded the membership that they are once again collecting clear water bottle tops and tabs from cans. Bring them to the next meeting. Treasurer Sarah Brink selected her **budget committee** of herself, President Robin Gendron, Diane Huling and Linda Brosseau. **Director** Nancy Martin noted to all chairman she will need a budget request for their committee. She also made note to the membership if they would like to run for a club officer or chairman to let her know and she will be calling in the next few weeks for admissions. President Robin Gendron suggested we



have co-positions and member Mary Barrett brought up the fact that it would not follow our by-laws confirmed by member Nancy Martin. Vice President **By-Law Chairman** is looking into rewriting the bylaw. She will report on it at the next Business meeting. The **Holiday Pancake Breakfast** meeting will be taking place on Thursday October 19th at Nancy Martins' house at 6:30pm. All are invited. The club voted to give Denise Wheeler up to \$200 to spend on our Christmas trees for the **Dighton Arts Festival Decorated Christmas Tree** Fund Raiser. If you would like to make a contribution she is looking for Snowman themed ornaments, gift cards and scratch tickets. It looks like our club **Christmas Party** will be on December 11th at the Fireside Restaurant and members are welcome to bring family members, cost: \$21 for members and \$42 for guests. Member Edith Edlund talked about the **Brockton homeless** that are mostly veterans that are in need of sleeping bags, thermal socks etc. Robin Gendron is donating 2 of her daughter's sleeping bags and our club voted to donate up to \$100 for Edith to buy what is needed for them and to come back to the club if more items are needed. We had a **total rent**

relief of \$42 contributed this month to supplement our storage fees which included some mail in donations. Gail Knowles is the gift giver this month and our lucky junior friend, Diane Huling is the winner!

What have our members done this month?

This month was **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**. Joyce Clark and Nancy Martin placed the 90 pinwheels our club and 2 Martin School students put together and printed words of encouragement on for domestic violence



victims on 128 Winthrop Street. Nancy Martin updated our Domestic Violence Scarecrow with new attire and Nancy Clark and Nancy Martin added her to our pinwheels. Members Cindy



Brogan, Robin Gendron, Edith Edlund and Joyce Clark attended the **GFWC Massachusetts Junior Women's Club Conference** at the Publick House Restaurant in Sturbridge on Saturday October 28th. The picture shows our

member Edith Edlund wearing the hat made by club woman Joyce Clark. The conference included a revamping of the by-laws and reports on the GFWC International and Regional Conferences. Our club was recognized for our Elephant Project. The Pedals and Pearls auction and raffles brought in over \$3000, which included our club donation made by Edith Edlund. They explained how membership was



once again asking all clubs to ask their membership to complete 75 100X surveys. The money raised will help support



thank you for selling tickets ahead of time and getting the word out that we would welcome people to pay at the door. We had a good showing of politicians, including Mayor O'Connell and several people running in the upcoming election. Diane thanks everyone who helped that afternoon!! It takes a lot of people to help set up, serve the soup, monitor the sandwich platters, cut and plate the pies, make and keep refreshing the coffee, and clean up at the end. Our members stepped up to the plate and performed their duties with a warm smile, which made everyone in attendance feel welcome and appreciated. Our club raised \$1,331.00 in ticket sales and an additional \$725.00 selling raffle tickets, for a total of \$2,056.00!! Several



members of our club attended the **Bridge Center Trunk-A-Treat** to distribute the 50 bags of candy put together at the Business Meeting and distributed them in costume. Several members also attended **City of Taunton Trunk-A-Treat** and distributed candy donated by the membership. Robin Gendron and Linda Brosseau attended the **Taunton Food Stroll** with the 2 free tickets awarded to the club. They had a wonderful time. It included stops at TSG, El Mariachi, Ugly Duckling and the Pearl to name a few: which included appetizers and drinks!



Mental Health & Wellness Grants. You should be receiving the link through an email. The **Soup & Pie Sampler** was a huge success thanks to all of you!! The homemade soups, sandwiches, and pies were amazing. We got nothing but compliments on how delicious everything was! Diane Huling committee chairman of the event did a wonderful job. She was impressed with how many people attended. There was not an empty seat in the room! So, a huge



Note from your President Robin Gendron: Food insecurity is prevalent in our area. As always we budget for thanksgiving baskets. If members wish to bring to the meeting fixings for the baskets it will be greatly appreciated. The board discussed to collaborate with Taunton Diversity for a family in



need. Times have changed and many organizations have collections in different ways. In that being said if any

member knows of any other ideas going forward please let the board know. I appreciate all that you do in the community and with the club. See you Monday at the meeting.

COMMITTEES:

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

ARTS AND CULTURE—Edith Edlund – Edith will be bringing to a meeting all the fixings to make a Bingo Fundraiser Basket and will demonstrate how to put a raffle basket together.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH –Cindy Brogan –Last month Emily Weiland collected a few packages of sugar for the Food Pantry. They are in desperate need of food items! Our club is also collecting items for Thanksgiving baskets and Bingo raffle baskets.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS— Judy Floor –If you run an event please forward an article to Judy with pictures attached separately. Judy would be happy to have someone new take over this committee. Please let the Director know if you are interested.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT – AWARENESS AND PREVENTION: - Emily Weiland – No report.

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 – The club is once again collecting soda tabs and water bottle tops! Denise 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 first Holiday Pancake Breakfast with Mrs. Clause on Saturday December 9th at Winthrop Street Baptist Church from 9:00am to noon. Tickets to sell will be given out at the November Meeting. Sign-up sheets to support this event will be available at the November Business Meeting. Brack's Grille & Tap at 2097 Bay Street in Taunton is sponsoring us on Wednesday December 27th by giving us 20% of everyone's meal check and gift card purchases when presented with a coupon which will be sent to all the members to share with family and friends.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS – Ana Kearnan – Please bring tampons and pads to donate for Period Poverty.

LEADERSHIP – Nancy Martin –Monthly \$50 charity Leadership Award will be awarded.

LEGISLATION/ PUBLIC POLICY – Nancy Clark –Go to the Action Center and support: the GFWC Legislative Alert: **Protect Children Online**: 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. The GFWC Massachusetts *hundredX* fundraiser has started. You should receive an email with the link. You are asked to complete 75 surveys.

WOMENS HISTORY AND RESOURCE CENTER— Nancy Brown – No Report

Members' Birthdays

Robin Gendron

Paula Gasparoni

Rosalie Conti-Stebe



What's Happening Within our Club?

Next Business Meeting is Monday November 6th at Silver Platter BP at 7:00pm

Next Executive Board Meeting is Monday November 27th at BP at 6:00pm

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

Bingo to support our club is Sunday November 26th at the VFW Hall 82 Ingalls Street, Taunton: 10am-2pm

Holiday Pancake Breakfast Saturday December 9th 9:00 to noon at Winthrop Street Baptist Church

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

Eat at Brack's Bar & Grille in Taunton or purchase gift cards on Wednesday December 27th with 20% of purchase going to our club!

Saturday January 20th GFWC Massachusetts Midwinter Conference at Wrentham Center
Report Writing TBA

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

GFWC Combined Winter Conference TBA

What to Bring to the November Meeting

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

Please bring tampons and pads to donate for period poverty

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

Items for Bingo Baskets: hot chocolate, Christmas cookies, teas, children toys & gift cards

Items for Thanksgiving Baskets

November is the Awareness Month for:

Native American Heritage Month

Diabetes Awareness Moth

Epilepsy Awareness Month

National Homeless Youth Awareness Month

Don't Forget to do your civic duty and vote on Tuesday November 7th

