



GFWC

est. 1890

**GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**

MAINE

PINE TREE NOTES

GFWC MAINE NEWSLETTER

MARCH | APRIL 2026

Breaking Barriers

- Offering Hope



GFWC MAINE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear GFWC Maine Members,

I am finding it hard to believe that we are nearing the conclusion of the “Breaking Barriers – Finding Hope” Administration. It seems only a year ago that this journey began, but as the saying goes, time flies. It has been a whirlwind of activity, but I wouldn't trade any of it for a minute.

First, I want to thank our clubs for reporting! We know it takes extra time to write about club projects, tally the volunteer hours, and total the dollars earned and spent, but it is so important. Thank you for sharing your stories. Thank you for your service. Our club members do such amazing things! To quote Michael Jordan, “Some people want it to happen, some wish it would happen, others make it happen.” GFWC Maine members make it happen!

Spring Convention is right around the corner! It is always a wonderful time of togetherness, that in itself is cause for celebration. It is exciting when awards are given – yes, there will be state awards, (based on club reports received), membership awards, awards for photography, short stories, poetry, scrapbooks, etc., not to forget the coveted Carolyn Lombardi Award! Please plan to join us – May 14-15 th at the Bangor Hilton Garden Inn. The Call is included in this newsletter. We will be honored to have GFWC International President Suellen Brazil with! She is such a phenomenal leader, engaging speaker, and one of the most empowering women I have ever met.

Did you know that May 4-10 th is National Children's Book Week (the longest-running national literacy in the US)? To take part in this initiative (since we will be meeting the 14-15 th) I am asking members to bring new / gently used books to donate. On the first day of convention, Mary Taylor, Executive Director, Literacy Volunteers of Bangor, will be coming to speak in the afternoon. She said they will gladly accept the books for families that they serve. A listing of the types of books is in the Call.

Our entertainment for the evening banquet will be the Hearts of Harmony Chorus singing in the barbershop harmony style. They have been entertaining audiences in the Greater Bangor area since the 1980's. Our own Ellen Van Vranken, President of GFWC Winterport Woman's Club is a member! Word has it that there will be some sing-alongs included in their performance.

Between now and convention there is still much to do. My calendar still has dates filled to visit with more of our clubs and as GFWC Maine President I have been invited to attend the Maine Women's Hall of Fame Induction of Dr. Alane O'Connor and the late Frances Perkins. I look forward to all that is ahead.

As I close this letter, I would like to take this opportunity to THANK each and every one of you, the members of GFWC Maine, for making a world of difference in the lives of others. And, of course, I hope to see many of you at the spring convention!

Suzanne Raymond, GFWC Maine President



GFWC ME President's Project

A brief update from the President's Project chairman:

I contacted our Treasurer, Jane Briggs, to get a current donation total for this club year to date. Club donations and various fundraising efforts have provided a generous total of \$1235.00 by way of GFWC Maine. There have been other donations made directly to St. Jude that I will attempt to account for in a final report in May.

In addition, please come prepared in May for one final fundraiser for this more than worthy organization. I look forward to seeing you all there!

Libby Wiers

GFWC Maine President's Project Chairman 2024-2026

GFWC MAINE VICE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Happy March GFWC Maine. My favorite month of the year - St. Patrick's Day celebrating my Irish heritage, my next turn around the sun, and the arrival of Spring! I am also looking forward to touring Memphis and St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital with GFWC New England Region President Tina Smith, and 25 other GFWC NER members, beginning on March 6. I sure hope the Tennessee temperatures will warm us up.

Your Vice President had a busy January receiving statistical reporting from 15 of our 16 GFWC Maine Clubs, recording them, and then sending "Top 10" information, narratives, and submission forms to our respective GFWC Maine Program Chairmen. The narratives received presented beautifully described and innovative projects for our 2025 federation year.

On February 10 I attended the GFWC Learning Gateway Webinar on Heart Health with Dr. Ben Citrin, along with 200 GFWC Members. It included much relevant information, and time for questions and answers from Dr. Citrin. The next LG Webinar scheduled for April 7, *Dancing With Your Brain*, is designed to help you create sweeter sleep, calmer days, and energized living. bitly.gfwcgateway040726 to register.

On Saturday, February 21, I joined our GFWC Maine Executive Committee at the lovely new home of President-elect Nancy Ames for our winter meeting. The snow stopped just in time for sunny travel, and a very productive and informative meeting that day.

The May 1 postmark deadline is fast approaching to submit your club's entry for The Carolyn Lombardi Award. This award covers your club's activity from May 1, 2025 through April 30, 2026. You will find the entry form on pages 78-79 of the current GFWC Maine Directory. (Please note: under #12, Contributions, delete the second item Educational Loan Fund.) This award is presented at the GFWC Maine Spring Convention annually, with the first place club receiving \$50 and a first-place certificate. The club receiving second place will receive \$25 and a second-place certificate. All clubs are encouraged to take a few minutes to complete the entry form and submit to me at: Gloria Aurelio, 20 Rob Clark Street, Winterport, ME 04496, post-marked no later than May 1, 2026. I look forward to announcing the results at our Spring Convention in Bangor this May!

Did you know? Volunteering doesn't just make you feel better—it can actually help you live longer. According to studies from organizations like the Mayo Clinic, people who volunteer tend to live longer and report higher levels of life satisfaction. This could be due to a variety of factors, such as improved mental health, reduced stress, and increased physical activity—all of which contribute to longevity. By giving your time and energy to others, you create a positive ripple effect that not only improves the lives of those around you but also enhances your own quality of life.

Thinking young,
Gloria Aurelio, GFWC Maine Vice President

*****ATTN CLUB PRESIDENTS*****

Dear Ladies,

If your Club has lost any members due to death since last May, as GFWC Maine Necrologist, I would like to have their information as to what they may have done, and how long they were a club member. It would be nice to have a copy of their obituary, or info as to where a copy can be located. This info is needed no later than May 1. Your help is appreciated.

Thank-you!

Anne Cress

GFWC ME Signature Program

Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness & Prevention

Spring is upon us! With it brings Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April. This is a campaign held every year to raise public awareness about sexual violence and educate communities on how to prevent it.

Though activists have been working on these issues for decades, SAAM wasn't officially recognized in the US until April 2001. In the 1970s, activists organized "Take Back the Night" marches to protest violence against women. In the 1980s, advocacy groups began coordinating events during a specific week in April. 2001 was when the National Sexual Violence Resource Center formally designated the entire month of April for awareness and prevention activities.

There are two major landmarks during the month that you might see on your social media or in your community:

- **SAAM Day of Action** (First Tuesday of April) Supporters wear teal, the official color of sexual assault awareness, to kick off the month.
- **Denim Day** (Last Wednesday of April) This grew out of a 1990's Italian Supreme Court case where a conviction was overturned because the victim wore tight jeans, which the judges argued implied consent. Now, millions wear denim to protest victim-blaming.

Awareness months are vital because many survivors feel isolated. simply seeing a teal ribbon or a post of support can be a powerful signal that they are in a safe environment.

For 2026, the theme for Sexual Assault Awareness Month is "25 Years Stronger: Looking Back, Moving Forward." This year marks the 25th anniversary of the national campaign. This theme honors the progress made by survivors and advocates over the last quarter-century while focusing on the work still needed to create a safer future.

Harmony In Graham, Signature Program Chairman

GFWC ME Education & Libraries

A wonderful quote for all of us to ponder: “A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies. The man who never reads lives only one.” by George R.R. Martin.

To add to our own book stack this spring I am asking members to bring any number of books to exchange at the GFWC Convention. The books you get are the same number you bring. New reads are so exciting to get.

As I browsed facebook recently I noticed the Reels Feed along with & Jeff & Lauren. These two sites offer quick and numerous ideas: recipes, art, recycled items for daily use.

I encourage all of you to get more involved at the regional and or state levels of this positive organization. Being a part of a group enhances your belonging. It helps divide the work needing to be done. Get out of your comfort zone and enjoy the results.

This list of thoughts to ponder may help you know you are enough:



John Lennon:” Everything will be okay in the end. And if it isn't okay , it isn't the end.”

Deb Burnham, GFWC Maine Education & Libraries Chairman,

GFWC ME Health & Wellness

I hope that 2026 will be a healthy year for us both physically and mentally. The days are getting longer, so that means more light to brighten our days is coming! Light is so important for our mental wellness. If you don't want to go out because of the cold temperatures, at least sit by a window or step out of your front or back door for a brief sun infusion. Taking vitamin D also helps when sunshine is at a minimum. Reading a good book or calling a friend who is "shut in" can brighten up one's day and theirs also.

Do you know that there is a help line that we can access that will give us places to call for our various needs? Dial 211 and the helpful person who answers will be able to direct you to the proper agency for your needs or answer simple questions for both physical or mental health. If you consult the National Month List you received a couple of years ago you will find that January is National Blood Donor Month. February is American Heart Month and March is National Nutrition Month.

Let's make a resolution to get more sunshine in 2026 for our mental and physical health. Brighten up someone else's day with a call or cheery note.

Sincerely,

Lovedy Alexander, Health and Wellness Chairman

GFWC ME Photography, Writing & Scrapbooks

Ladies, it is time to think about submitting photographs to be entered into the GFWC Photography Contest. The information about this contest is in the Directory on pages 74 and 75. The deadline for me receiving photos is April 1. They must be in my hands by that date. Any late entries will not be accepted.

Last year, there were many entries and I hope there are many of you entering this year's contest. I have already had entries and hope to see many more by April 1. There are two categories offered in this contest. 1. The World in Pictures and 2. GFWC Living the Volunteer Spirit.

Sadly, there were not any entries submitted for the GFWC Creative Writing Contest.

Hoping to hear from many of you.

Marjorie Pfeiffer

Photography Contest Chairman





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**GFWC ME Membership
MAMA DUCK TALES**
Katherine (Kathy) White, Chairman

Membership is the heart of our organization and with each recruitment we strengthen our clubs and our communities in GFWC Maine. It doesn't seem possible that this will be the last PTNs from your Membership Mama Duck. What a pleasure it has been, for this Chairman, to work with our membership on recruiting, retaining and rewarding members while sharing the amazing "Mama Duck and Ducklings" theme! It's been a joy "Quackin' up with our flock." We have had some awesome moments and members are no longer "ducking" the issue of membership.

Mama Duck is so grateful to our members who focused and brought in quality new members with awesome talents, kept our members engaged, and stimulated our members with rewards all the while continuing to train through conferences, meetings, PTNs and social media so to minimize members leaving and maximize member participation. What a "Quack-tastic" achievement!

You, our members, took on the challenge and were successful in adding new members to strengthen our organization during this administration. This Chairman is hoping that each one of you will be attending our convention in May. It will be a time to celebrate all the wonderful work that has been done during this administration. Please be sure to invite and bring your new members that have joined your club so we can recognize them at this convention! Join with me and President Suzanne to welcome them and show them how we appreciate their service to our great organization. Be proud of your work for GFWC Maine!

In closing, your chairman is proud to have had the privilege to serve as your membership chairman. Your membership Mama Duck wishes that in celebration, that we be proud and loud with quacking, splashing, laughing, bobbing and dancing in celebration of our "quack-tack-ular" membership year! A final word from me to each one of you, keep the **Momentum Going in ME Membership**. Keep your wings flapping and feathers flying because YOU have just touched the surface for increasing GFWC Maine membership. The greatest treasure in joining is finding a "quack-tastic" volunteer opportunity serving with "quacker-jack" members. GFWC Maine Quacked the Code to happiness in membership!

GFWC ME Environment

As the annual reports arrive to this Chairman, it is obvious that caring for our environment is an important aspect of GFWC. Creative, interesting projects have been reported during this Administration. Many hours and many donations show the interests of individuals and clubs. However, there is still much to be done. When we connect with GFWC's affiliate organizations, using GFWC resources available to us, we can make a difference as caretakers of our most precious resources and as stewards of the earth.

Words of Theodore Roosevelt :

“ HERE IS YOUR COUNTRY. CHERISH THESE NATURAL WONDERS, CHERISH THE NATURAL RESOURCES, CHERISH THE HISTORY AND ROMANCE AS A SACRED HERITAGE FOR YOUR CHILDREN AND YOUR CHILDREN'S CHILDREN. DO NOT LET SELFISH MEN OR GREEDY INTERESTS SKIN YOUR COUNTRY OF ITS BEAUTY, ITS RICHES OR ITS ROMANCE.”

Gerry Richardson, GFWC Me Environment Chairman

GFWC ME Maine Youth Leadership

It is hard to believe this is the final Pine Tree Notes of this administration. I ask myself all the time, “Where does the time go?” It has a way of just flying by.

Once again, the Maine Youth Leadership conference will soon be upon us. It will take place at the end of May at Saint Joseph's College in Standish. All the Maine high schools have been asked to nominate a student from the sophomore class to attend the conference. Attendees will develop their leadership skills and hopefully be motivated to create a network of other civic-minded students who will better their communities through volunteering. Remember, this is a free conference for all attendees and is funded through sponsorships, fundraisers, and donations. GFWC Maine clubs have been a long-time donor of this event. I am so appreciative of all the donations sent in by our clubs. This club year, you have given \$1,225 to help defray the cost of students to attend. I thank you for your generosity in supporting this worthwhile cause. Remember, there is still time to donate. No one will reject your check!

Carol Jarvais, GFWC Maine Youth Leadership Chairman

**THANK
YOU**

GFWC ME Legislative Action & Public Policy

In the area of Legislative and Public Policy, this chairman has emphasized increasing membership in the GFWC Legislative Action Committee, and encouraging clubs to participate in advocacy. This is such a central tenet of our mission as GFWC members. I am glad to report that club women and clubs have answered the call.

Since August 2024, GFWC Maine has increased its membership in the GFWC Legislative Action Committee from 20 in August 2024 to 64 in January 2026. That is an increase of 44 members or 240%. But there is still room to grow! The GFWC Legislative Action Committee is the easiest way to lend your voice to advocating for legislation that supports our resolutions. Go to <https://www.gfwc.org/legislative-action/> to learn more, and to sign up if you have not already done so.

I am also glad to see that more clubs reported in the area of Legislation and Public Policy. Last year, there was only 1 club that reported with a narrative. This year we have 4. We are moving in the right direction. Thanks to all of you who are working to increase your activity in this most important area.

Gloria Leveillee - Legislative and Public Policy Chairman

UPCOMING EVENTS

GFWC Maine Northern District Meeting

April 11, 2026

Newport Cultural Center - Newport, ME

GFWC Maine Spring Convention

May 14 - 15, 2026

Hilton Garden Inn - Bangor, ME

GFWC Annual Convention

June 26 - 29, 2026

The Westin Kierland Resort & Spa - Scottsdale, AZ

GFWC Newport Women's Club

Things are pretty quiet here at our club as we move forward under new leadership. Again our club discovers how important it is to have a full slate of officers with each administration. Our Vice President has stepped right up to the President's position after the very untimely death of our beloved President Jen Davis.

We honored Veterans at our November meeting by collecting gift cards to send to Veterans in nursing care facilities. We also Invited members of American Legion Post 105 in Newport ,who explained the Honor Flag program. Subsequentially the club has since voted to honor a young Veteran, a former club member, who is now in a nursing facility, with the Honor Flag which will be hung in the Spring on a flag pole in Newport.

Two members attended GFWC Gorham Woman's Club's 100th. Anniversary celebration.

Once it was brought to our attention that the Maine Discovery Museum in Bangor was in need of assistance we voted to partner with the Friend's Of The Library and provide the funds needed for this program.

And then it was December.....
What fun. We had a short meeting for "housekeeping chores"....made sure all dues were paid to our Treasurer, all reports filed, etc. etc. and then we ate.....followed by a Yankee Ornament swap.....and a time of fellowship.

Gerry Richardson, Secretary



GFWC Outlook Club

Our club had our first meeting of the year in February, and we had three guests! The more members we acquire, and the more visibility we have online and in the community, the word is getting out and women are coming to meetings to check us out. This is wonderful news, as growth is very important in ensuring that the GFWC Outlook Club exists for many generations to come! We are proud to continue supporting the local senior rehabilitation center, food pantry and library with donations and drives and volunteer work. Here's to spring!

21 Club of Kezar Falls

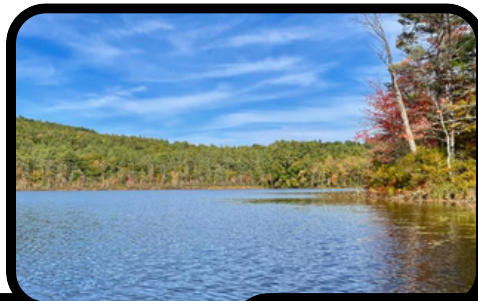
After taking a winter break, 21 Club gathered back together for our annual Ronald McDonald “shower”. Being able to purchase items on Amazon and send directly sure makes it easy to support this worthy cause, and support the families who stay at the House during one of the hardest times of their lives.

The remainder of our first meeting was all about planning. Spring is coming, and we are about to get very busy! The Art Contest is almost here, the High School art teacher is enthusiastic and ready to get her kids started. We are planning a public supper and spring yard sale in April.

We found out the stuffed animals we donated in December have already been depleted! We will be collecting a new bunch to donate very soon.

The CIP committee is working on trimming and marking a nature trail at the local beach and boat launch at Spectacle Pond. The art teacher is going to enlist a gifted student or two to paint some bespectacled critters to mark the trail, committee members are making signage to mark notable flora and fauna, and work already began cleaning up the trail last fall. This is all in coordination with the Town of Porter’s Conservation Commission. We are really excited about this project!

Here’s to an early spring, green grass, and yellow tulips.



GFWC Westbrook Woman's Club

Westbrook Woman's Club entered the new year with grateful hearts and renewed enthusiasm, reflecting on a meaningful holiday season and looking ahead to exciting plans in the months to come.

During this past Christmas season several of our dedicated members volunteered their time ringing the bells for the Salvation Army, our volunteers greeted shoppers with warm smiles and holiday cheer while helping raise funds for neighbors in need. Their efforts embodied the true spirit of the season-generosity, service and community connection. During December we also gathered at a local restaurant to celebrate the season as a Club. December also had us hosting the Madhatter's tea party entertaining guests from surrounding nursing facilities, to everyone's delight Santa made a surprise appearance. A great time was had by all.

Through These Doors attended a meeting and was gifted with 43 gift bags our members had put together, using a list of their needs, to help support their efforts. Every person coming to their doors gets a welcome bag. Our members wore purple to recognize their efforts.

We welcomed a new member into the club. Welcoming new faces brings fresh energy, ideas and friendships and we look forward to the many contributions she she will make as we continue our shared mission of service. Members of our Education committee are working diligently to prepare for the Westbrook High School Art Show scheduled in March.

In January, the club honored the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with a donation to Maine Needs. Supporting Maine Needs reflects our ongoing commitment to community care and service.

In an effort to implement a systematic plan for keeping our hours, a session was held in hopes of making the end of year reporting more manageable. Excitement is also building as plans are well underway for our Annual Meeting. This year we will gather at a new venue causing a wonderful sense of anticipation among members. At our first meeting of the months, we also held our popular 50/50 drawing, which continues to be a fun and effective way to support our fundraising efforts.

As always, the strength of the Westbrook Woman's Club lies in the dedication of its members. We are proud of what we have accomplished and excited for what lies ahead.



GFWC Winterport Woman's Club

We are proud to announce that Lisa Hanson, Maine's current LEADS ambassador, and our VP, was featured along with New Hampshire's LEADS ambassador, San Phan, in a mini LEADS Zoom meeting sponsored by GFWC New Hampshire in January. Both women spoke enthusiastically of their experiences during their LEADS training sessions last June in Atlanta. It's clear that both of these talented ladies will continue to bring their leadership skills to their respective organizations within GFWC!

Although our club has taken a two month mid winter break from our membership meetings many of us were able to gather at a new stained glass studio in town called The Glass Feather in February. What a fun "cabin fever reliever" time we had learning the many steps to create lovely stained glass hummingbirds! Many thanks to the studio's owner and engaging instructor, Heather Burgess as well as to our VP, Lisa who organized the event.

The Valentine Bandits were at it again this year peppering Winterport with brightly colored hearts to celebrate GFWC Maine Day and to spread good cheer. No one seems to know their identities but the effect on the town certainly was heart warming!

We all would like to give a shout out to a special club member who has been with our club for the most number of years. Jackie Watson received her 55 year pin last year! Jackie opens up her cozy home for our monthly board meetings and always has hot tea and homemade goodies to greet us. She was the club secretary for many years, has created many beautiful scrapbooks of club activities, and has made hundreds of handmade knitted hats and mitten ornaments that she donates to our local food cupboard every year. Jackie is currently a valued board member and serves as our Sunshine Committee. We whole heartedly thank Jackie for all the ways she has served WWC!

We are looking forward to March 11th, our next membership meeting, which will feature Lily Calderwood of Winterport's Land Conservation Commission speaking about some new town trails. We also will learn about the new composting program that has started up in town.

Hope you all are finding ways to embrace the winter!
If not, take heart,
spring is just around the corner!

Ellen Van Vranken
President: GFWC
Winterport Woman's Club



GFWC Lubec Women's Club

The Lubec Women's Club (LWC) is enjoying a quiet winter with meetings suspended until March. That doesn't mean the ladies are not active or plans for 2026 are not ongoing.

Jeanne Drews and Cindy Ferriere were featured guests of "Meet You Neighbor" at the Lubec Library last month and had an opportunity to promote their shared love of Lubec and of the Woman's club.

On February 12th ladies broke their record when they packed 62 gift bags in 20 minutes. The treats were distributed to seniors in our area on Valentine's Day and what a wonderful way to warm a heart on a cold day. This ongoing initiative is an example of how the LWC is encouraging community involvement and welcoming partners for special projects.

Membership is growing and we welcome the energy and enthusiasm these women bring to our club. So as the days grow longer and the sun shines brighter the LWC is bracing for what shall inevitably be a busy 2026.



Standing: Juanita Presley, Denise Rule, Cathy Daye, Nancy Bagley, Diane Sarao, Kay Sloane. Seated: Carol Barclay.

*******Please take note*******

The following pages include:

Call to Spring Convention

Slate of Officers: 2026 - 2028 Administration

GFWC ME Northern District Meeting Registration

Official Call to GFWC Maine Spring Convention
May 14-15, 2026 – Hilton Garden Inn – Bangor
“Celebrating Success – Inspiring Tomorrow”

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

<i>Wednesday, May 13</i>	3:00 PM	GFWC Maine Executive Committee Meeting	Board Room
	6:30 PM	Dinner (location TBD)	
	8:30 AM		
<i>Thursday, May 14</i>		Setup Marketplace (to open at 9 AM)	
		Coffee and tea	
		Sponsored by AE Robinson Oil Co.	
	9:00 AM	Registration	Entry area to Ballroom A
		Marketplace	Ballroom B or C
	10:00 AM	Business Session Opens	Ballroom A
		Call to Order/Welcome	
		Opening Ceremonies	
		GFWC Welcome	
		Arts and Culture	
		Health and Wellness	
		Environment	
		GFWC Maine Strategic Plan	
		President’s Project	
		WHRC	
		Fundraising	
		Keynote: GFWC International President Suellen Brazil	
	12:00 PM	“Together in Service” Luncheon	
		Honoring our District and Club Presidents	
	1:15 PM	Business Session Reconvenes	
		Ice Breaker Leadership LEADS Candidate	
		2026 Education and Libraries ESO Speaker:	
		Literacy Volunteers of Bangor Break Signature	
		Program Civic Engagement & Outreach Maine	
		Youth Leadership Nominating Committee	
		Report for 2026-2028 Nominating Speeches	
		Election of Officers	
	3:30 PM	MARKETPLACE	
		Past State Presidents Club Meeting	
	4:00 PM		

GFWC Maine Spring Convention – May 14 & 15, 2026

Hilton Garden Inn Bangor

250HaskellRd,BangorME 04032
207-262-0099 (ext.0)

Guest Room Special Group Rate
\$160.00 (plus tax) per night Double Queen Beds

Reservations must be received by April 29, 2026 for this special room rate.

Please register early before the room block gets filled.

Booking Instructions:

- **Phone:** Call the Bangor Hilton front desk at **207-262-0099 (ext. 0)**.
To get the special rate you must share the Group Code: **GFWC**

Rooms offer, microwave, refrigerator, and coffee maker, and free Wi-Fi. The hotel offers an on-site restaurant, indoor pool, fitness center and business center.

Check-in time 3:00 pm-Check-out time 11:00 am

Attire for our gatherings

- **During the day – Business Casual** – dresses, jackets, skirts, khakis or dress pants, open-collared shirts, sweaters.
- **For “An Evening of Harmony and Hope” Banquet – After Five:** Cocktail dress or dressy sundress, long dressy skirt and top, or dressy pants outfit.

Collection/Service Project: National Children’s Book Week is May 4-10!!

The week was created by Every Child a Reader in 1919 and is the longest-running national literacy initiative in the nation. We will be collecting new / gently used books to give to Literacy Volunteers of Bangor. These children’s books will be given to the families that they serve!

They accept the following:



- board books
- picture book
- graphic novels
- early chapter books through young adult
- fiction and nonfiction

For those who wish to do so, GFWC Maine book labels will be available to stick inside the books – to be done at your convenience during the non-business sessions on Thursday only. The books will be on their way to Literacy Volunteers of Bangor later that afternoon - after Executive Director Mary Marin Taylor speaks!



GFWC Maine Spring Convention- May 14-15,2026

Check box if this is your first state convention or conference

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Name for nametag: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Telephone: _____ E-mail _____
Name of Club _____
GFWC Maine Position: _____ [] Guest _____
Emergency Contact and phone: _____

Registration Fee - [] Thursday \$20.00 [] Friday \$20.00 [] Both days \$35.00

- Checks payable to **GFWC Maine** for registration and meal fee.
- Please complete a **separate registration form** for each attendee.
- Mail registration form and check to Anne Cress, PO Box 623, Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426
Phone 207- 717 -7576 | Email jkhranch09@gmail.com
- **A late fee of \$5.00** will be added for registrations postmarked after April 22nd.
- **Please note:** No refunds after May 2nd.
- ❖ All meals include regular and decaf coffee and hot tea – and lunches include bottled water and soft drinks [tax and service fee incl]

Thursday Lunch - Assorted Sandwich Buffet:

- Tossed garden salad, potato salad, and kettle cooked chips
- Sandwich - choice of roast beef/turkey club / vegetarian
- Dessert – assorted dessert bars or cookies \$30.00 _____

Thursday Dinner – The 2 Entrée Buffet:

This dinner buffet comes with: house salad, chef selection vegetable and starch, fresh baked dinner rolls and butter, in addition to -

- Chicken Picatta: lemon, wine, butter, capers and sundried tomatoes
- Sweet Bourbon Steak Tips: sirloin tip with onion, mushroom, sweet bourbon glaze
- Dessert - Cake \$48.00 _____

Friday Lunch – Italian Buffet:

- Caesar salad, garlic bread sticks, chef's selection of vegetable
- Roasted tomato and spinach tortellini
- Chicken Marsala: Sliced mushrooms and shallots, marsala wine sauce \$30.00 _____

TOTAL Registration & Meals _____

Please write in dietary allergies and we *will try* to accommodate:

SPRING CONVENTION MARKETPLACE REGISTRATION

Name _____ Phone: _____

Email _____

Name of Club or State Committee _____

Registration for _____ **Half Table** _____ **Full Table**

ALL State Committees and Clubs MUST register for a Marketplace – Limited Space

- Club's must fill out this form and mail it to Suzanne Raymond
- A Club must register/pay for its half table even if it is sharing with a committee fundraiser
- Table space for state chairmen is FREE but you still must register to save your space.
- *GFWC Maine Committees can register by email...straymond72@gmail.com*
- Deadline to register for a table – **must be received by April 29.**

Club fee for half table is \$5.00

Club fee for full size table is \$10.00

Tables are 6 ft clothed, skirted & with chair

Make check payable to **GFWC Maine.**

Mail to: Suzanne Raymond
 PO Box 26
 Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426



Marketplace items for sale (or for raffle) must NOT include any homemade food items. This includes all items such as muffins, pies, breads, fudge, cookies, bars, etc. This does NOT include commercial items that are intended for group fundraising.



GFWCMaine Slate of officers for the 2026-2028 Administration

The GFWC Maine Nominating Committee presents the slate of officers for the GFWC Maine 2026 – 2028 administration.

- For the office of President: Nancy Ames, GFWC Semper Fidelis Club (automatic)
- For the office of President-elect: Gloria Aurelio, GFWC Winterport Women's Club
- For the office of Vice President: Lisa Hanson, GFWC Winterport Women's Club
- For the office of Recording Secretary: Jen Mabee, GFWC Outlook Club
- For the office of Treasurer: Suzanne Raymond, GFWC MIOSAC Club

The new GFWC Maine President will appoint her Corresponding Secretary and Parliamentary Advisor.

The Nominating Committee has confirmed that all nominees are members in good standing with GFWC and meet all requirements as stated in the GFWC Maine Constitution & Bylaws, Article XI – Elections/Voting Privileges.

Elections will take place during the GFWC Maine Spring Convention, to be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Bangor, Maine, May 14th, and 15th. Nominations may be taken from the floor in accordance with the GFWC Maine Bylaws. All dues paying members may vote.

Submitted by,
Maureen Provencal, GFWC Maine Nominating Chairman





GFWC MAINE NORTHERN DISTRICT MEETING

Saturday, April 11, 2026
10:00am – 3:00pm
Newport Cultural Center
154 Maine Street, Newport, ME

Tentative Agenda

9:30 to 10:00	Registration and Artwork delivery and viewing
10:00	Welcome: Maureen Provencal GFWC Maine Northern District Co-President Club Collect: Susan Lord, GFWC Semper Fidelis Club Vice President Pledge Allegiance of the United States of America: Lisa Hanson, GFWC Winterport Women's Club President Workshop: "Understanding Body Language Cues" GFWC Maine Northern District Co-Presidents Art Show Results Luncheon
11:30	Inspiration: Anne Cress, GFWC Maine Past State President 2012-2014 Speaker: Heather Kerner, The Good Crust – "Good Grains on the Go"
12:30	Club Reports
1:00	President Remarks: Suzanne Raymond GFWC Maine President
2:00	Drawing: St Jude Nancy Ames, GFWC Maine Northern District Co-President
Closing:	

"Let There Be Peace on Earth" – Sung by All

NOTES:

- Please have any high school artwork at the Center by 9:30 -9:45 am
- Workshop: Team building is an essential aspect of creating a strong and cohesive Club. This workshop will create a fun and engaging environment to help develop stronger connections, enhance communication, and boost membership morale.
- Club Presidents or representatives, please be prepared to report (3 minutes) on the following topics:
 - What has been your most impactful project, successful fundraiser, and leadership support in your Club.
- The raffle available today with proceeds benefiting GFWC Maine State President Project, St Jude.



GFWC MAINE NORTHERN DISTRICT MEETING

Saturday, April 11, 2026
10:00am – 3:00pm
Newport Cultural Center
154 Maine Street, Newport, ME

You are invited by GFWC Maine Northern District Co-Presidents Nancy Ames & Maureen Provencal to attend the GFWC Northern District meeting and High School Art Show! Join members from other Clubs, discover new friendships, engage/ participate in workshop, enjoy speakers and come away with new ideas!

Be **EMPOWERED** by GFWC Maine President Suzanne Raymond as she delivers her message and welcomes membership.

EDUCATING ourselves with the invited speaker, Heather Kerner founder and CEO of the Good Crust as she presents “*Good Grains on the Go*” an initiative to bring Maine’s own grain to schools.

ENGAGE in an interactive workshop: “Understanding Body Language Cues”. This workshop will create a fun and engaging environment to help develop stronger connections, enhance communication, and boost membership morale.

Enjoy and be amazed with the high school talent at this District Art Show!



- Registration Fee: \$25.00 (includes a luncheon)
The luncheon will be catered by the GFWC Newport Woman’s Club: soups, sandwiches, accompaniments, desserts, and refreshments.

Registration begins at 9:30am – Artwork to be delivered at this time

Name: _____

Club: _____ Position: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Mail your registration form and check (payable to Maureen Provencal) to:

MaureenProvencal (mrprovencal81@gmail.com)

7 Daisy Ln

Skowhegan, ME 04976

Deadline for registration: April 3rd (no refunds after this date)

(Registration helps to defray room rental, art contest prizes, sundries, and luncheon)



Living the Volunteer Spirit

GFWC



President **Suellen Brazil**
SBrazil@gfwc.org
President-Elect **Wendy Carriker**
WCarriker@gfwc.org
First Vice **Jolie R. Frankfurth**
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JCasper@gfwc.org
Director/Junior Clubs **Shannon Bailey**
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Parliamentarian **Carol Habgood**
CHabgood@gfwc.org

GFWC MAINE



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straymond72@gmail.com
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