

Braintree Women's Club



October 2023 Newsletter



October Meeting: Thursday, October 5, 2023, 6:00 P.M. – Annual Fall Dinner Meeting

Please join us to officially kick off our new club year and reconnect with new and old friends. This year's buffet is catered by Anthony Columbus Catering. The cost is \$40.00. The menu is listed under Membership.

Doors will open at 6:00 P.M. and dinner will be served at approximately 6:30 P.M.

Program Chairmen: Gerry McCarthy and Mary O'Donnell

Greeter: Jane Gillis

Invocation: Vera Parker

WEBSITE: <https://braintreewomensclub.weebly.com>

GFWC Website: gfwcma.org

President's Message - Hello to All!!

Summer is coming to an end and Fall is on the doorstep, bringing along the hustle and bustle of many activities. I hope you got out to enjoy the warm weather and are ready to move ahead with BWC programs.

I look forward to our opening meeting and dinner which is being thoughtfully put together by our Membership Committee and is always a welcome way to gather and catch up.

We have registered to participate in the first GFWC National Day of Service which is scheduled for Saturday, September 30. Our volunteers will assemble 30 – 35 brown bag lunches for our neighbors through Fr. Bill's Shelter. This is keeping with the focus for this day of food insecurity. Thank you to those who have stepped up to make this a special day for our club and for the federation across the country.

We have once again produced a special town Christmas ornament using the sketch of the Thayer House submitted by BHS student, Zhiyan Zou, who won our contest (see picture). We will have them available for purchase at our October, November and December meetings and will also be at several upcoming fairs where they can be purchased. So please tell your friends and family to buy an ornament and help to support our many community endeavors.

Don't forget to check out our website braintrewomensclub.weebly.com or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Braintrewomensclub1> to keep up with happenings and fundraisers and encourage your friends and family to follow our Facebook page as well.

I know we ask much of you to contribute to many organizations and neighbors that can use our help. You are what volunteer service is all about, and I thank you for all you do.

"Without volunteers, we'd be a nation without a soul." Rosalynn Carter

Rosemarie Doherty, President

Telephone – The Telephone Committee will be calling members to ask if they will attend the October Meeting in order to get a count. Please respond as soon as possible.

Christine Sheehan, Chairman



Arts and Literature – Welcome back everyone and book club members. Our next book club meeting is scheduled for October 11th at the Devon Wood Clubhouse at 7:00 PM. We will discuss our favorite summer reads as well as the book we chose to reread. Hospitality will be provided by me. I am looking forward to hearing what everyone read during the many rainy days we experienced this rainy summer and to plan this year's books. As always, new members to our book club are welcome.

Terry Rouvalis, Chairman

Community Service – Community Service continued our monthly birthday celebrations to the Holbrook House. The residents always appreciate receiving the birthday cakes and BWC's acknowledgement of their special day. We also acknowledge the co-partnering of our club and Shaw's Market to make this project possible. We will also continue our annual activities with the Crispin Center and Xmas Families in the coming months.

Members of our committee also volunteer at the Ruth McLain Hospice House on Washington St. We sometimes answer the door and the telephone if needed. We also provide desserts for holidays.

Lucille Barton and Jean Donohue, Chairmen



Membership – October – *So many associations:* vibrant colors, falling leaves, cooler temperatures, pumpkins, mums, witches, goblins, trick or treaters, etc. For **Braintree Women’s Club members** there is yet another association: **Club Year Begins!** As is our tradition our Club Year officially begins with **BWC’s Opening Fall Dinner & Meeting**. This is where we celebrate each other and prepare to roll up our sleeves to make a difference in our community and beyond. This year’s opening dinner will feature Anthony Columbus Catering. He is excited to be working with BWC and is preparing a sumptuous buffet:

Chicken and Broccoli, Classic Chicken Piccata, Yukon Gold Potatoes Tuscan style, Chef’s Vegetable Medley, Fresh Garden Salad and a Basket of bakery fresh rolls and sweet cream butter. There will also be a decaf coffee, tea and dessert station consisting of chocolate chip cookies, double fudge brownies and mini cupcakes.

The cost of the dinner will be \$40.00. Doors will open at 6:00 pm. Dinner will be served at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Looking forward to seeing you!

Place: First Congregational Church
Cost: \$40.00
Checks Made Out To: **Braintree Women’s Club**
Checks Sent to: **Mary O’Donnell**
6 Winter St. Braintree
Check Deadline: Saturday, Sept.30, 2023

Gerry McCarthy and Mary O’Donnell, Chairmen

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Fellowship and Remembrance – This committee has been renamed because the committee is not just for people who have passed. We also remember people who are sick and if anybody needs encouragement or are going thru hard times.

If you know of a club member who is sick or hospitalized or the passing of a family member, please call Helen Casey at 781-849-0119.

The Sunshine Fund jar will be at the Executive Board table if you are able to help.

Helen Casey, Chairman

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Federation - Please be on the lookout for the Call to the GFWCMA Fall Meeting. This year it is being held on Sunday, October 29, at the beautiful Publick House in Sturbridge. There will be speakers, ice breakers, raffles, friends to be made and information for new projects/fundraisers. So, get a carful of your Braintree Women's Club sisters together for a lovely fall ride to Sturbridge for some GFWCMA fun and inspiration.

*Terry Rouvalis, Federation Secretary,
GFWC MA 2nd V.P.*

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Ways and Means - Based on last year's success, the Ways and Means Committee will be selling another Christmas ornament. A contest was held for Braintree High School students to assist with furnishing an image of a town landmark for our 2023 Christmas ornament fundraiser. Our selection was a wonderful sketch of the Thayer House submitted by BHS student, Zhiyan Zou who was awarded \$100.00. We will sell the ornaments at the following BWC meetings: October, November, and December. The price remains the same as last year; \$15.00 members and \$18.00 non-members. We will sell the ornaments at the following craft fairs: Thanksgiving Holiday Farmer's Market on Saturday, November 18th, the Gardener's Guild (date TBD), and the First Congregational Church Fair on Saturday, October 21, 2023. We accept cash, check, or Venmo.

Our first fundraiser is scheduled for Tuesday, October 17th, at The Chateau. Let your server know that you are participating in the Braintree Women’s Club fundraiser, and we will receive 20 percent of the sale, excluding tax. Online and take-out orders are also included. Don’t forget to tell your friends !

The next Ways and Means Committee Meeting will be held on September 28, 2023, at 6:30PM - 7:30PM at Thayer Public Library, 2nd floor.

Rebecca Adams and Vera Parker, Chairmen

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Veterans – We gathered more gift cards for activities for the families of Charlie Company and they will be distributed in the next month or so now that they are reconvening after a summer hiatus. This Club year, probably January or February, we will be volunteering for a local group sending care packages to troops. More information to follow on that.

Lauren Durgin, Chairman

Dates to Remember:

October Executive Board Meeting

Thursday, October 19, 2023

Thayer Public Library

GFWC Sunday Fall Meeting

Sunday – October 29, 2023

Publick House, Sturbridge

*Jane Gillis
Corresponding Secretary*

