

June 2019 Newsletter

Who's New in Madison

Where New Faces Become Old Friends

Please Take Note

Visit our member website at:

www.whosnew.org

Visit our public website is:

www.whosnew.org

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Who's New in Madison



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Please contact the editor with any questions or concerns regarding the newsletter.

Liz Freitick - efreitick@gmail.com,
call 438-2988.

President's Corner

Paula Primm

When I retired and moved to Madison from suburban Atlanta five years ago, I didn't know anyone in Wisconsin other than a few family members - my son, my daughter-in-law, and some of her kin. I had plenty of things I wanted to do and plenty of time to do them, but no one to do them with. Each morning, I gave myself a little pep talk that sounded like this, "You will make friends here. You always do. Give it time." I anticipated that it would take about two years for me to really feel a part of this community. That was before I joined Who's New in Madison (WNIM). As a new member, I started going to the luncheons, I signed up for some interest groups, and I told others my life story and listened to theirs. Before I knew it, I was not just socializing, I was learning more about my community through our luncheon speakers and conversation with other members, I was hiking and biking and snowshoeing, and I had made real friends. It didn't take two years. More like six months.

In the past five years, I've learned a lot about the rhythms of life here in the Madison area. I delight in watching the lakes ice in and ice out, I smile as I see the students move in and move out and have learned all about Hippie Christmas. Now that June is right around the corner, I'm looking forward to the long relaxed days of summer and outdoor everything. Not just outdoor sports and recreational activities, but outdoor markets on the Square and all over the area; outdoor dining both at home and at any restaurant with a few square feet of sidewalk; and outdoor music on the Square, on the Rooftop, on Union Terrace, really everywhere and anywhere. We even have a world-class outdoor theater an hour's drive away. It's a magical time of the year.

For WNIM, the summer is a busy time, too. Luncheons don't start up again until September, but most of our interest

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groups continue year-round. Our outdoor activity groups are in full swing. Your new board and committees will be busy all summer planning the luncheons, programs, and service project opportunities for next year, orchestrating membership renewal, and updating and improving the website. You can find the names of all of the women who will be working on your behalf, this summer and throughout the year, listed on page 8 of this newsletter. When you see these dedicated women, please thank them for stepping up to serve this year.

In the May newsletter, Kathy Nelson did a good job of thanking the outgoing board and committee members for their service. I want to add my thanks to hers and also to thank Kathy herself. Her calm, cheerful, insightful leadership this past year set the tone for all us. I give her an outstanding performance rating for 2018/2019. I'm relieved that she will still be on hand as past-president to advise me as I take over her duties. Thank you, Kathy!

Finally, I want to thank each of you for all that you do with and for WNIM and with and for each other. You are an amazing group of women, almost 600 strong. I am honored to serve as your president for the 2019/2020.

We do not have luncheons planned for June, July or August. Please join us on September 12th for our kickoff luncheon and program at the Goodman Community Center Brassworks Building for the 2019-2020 season.

Luncheon Highlights and Announcements

- We had 70 women in attendance at Maple Bluff Country Club for our Luncheon.
- Ann Brazier and Barbara White were installed as VP and Treasurer for 2019/2020.
- Diane Zimermann and Carole Schaefer, on behalf of the Maj Jong tournament players, presented a check in the amount of \$1531.63 to MUM from their April 24th event.
- Diane Wiersema and MUM representatives gave a recap of the events and donations from WNIM fund-raisers, as well as progress on The Healing House and Just Bakery.
- The club now has 601 members, an increase of 76 for the year!



Mah Jongg Tournament winners

1st place, Carol Carnine 2nd place, Janeen Stassi 3rd place, Beth Duvick

Meet a Member

by Pat Eaton

Spend any time talking with Genevieve Murtaugh and you'll feel you've been around the world. How many people do you know who have hiked the Great Walk of Africa –10 miles a day in silence and in single file or white water rafted in a wooden dory on the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon?

The fifth of six children, Genevieve grew up on a small farm near Glenwood, Minnesota, a town of 2500. Here community life revolved around the schools and education was highly valued. She graduated from the University of Minnesota in social work and continued on to law school at Cleveland State University.

She joined the law firm of the IRS (who knew that the IRS had its own law firm?) and spent 10 years there becoming a tax expert. She then joined the tax department of a large global corporation and began her international business travel. She and her husband spent 6 years in Richmond, Virginia where she was head of the tax department of a Fortune 500 company. That led to an opportunity to spend 3 ½ years working in Amsterdam. Genevieve and her husband and two children had traveled in Europe, including a two

week driving trip throughout Ireland, but living there was a whole new adventure. In Amsterdam their many friends included both locals and ex-pats from around the world. Attending a service in the 400 year old English Reformed Church they once sat across the aisle from Queen Elizabeth!

Returning to Richmond in 2009 they bought and refurbished an old house in the city. Genevieve remarked how fortunate she was to be back in Richmond among old friends when she was widowed in 2010. She “eased into retirement” by reducing her work to 30 hours a week in 2015 and fully retired a year later.

Both of her children live here in Madison just minutes apart. They encouraged her to join them here to be close to her 4 grandchildren. So in 2017 she bought a double unit condo on the lake in Shorewood. She says “Madison is an easy place to live.....everything is 20 minutes away at the most.”

Genevieve continued her travels hiking in Jackson Hole annually, two other trips to Africa where she viewed “all kinds of wildlife” and spent two days among the gorillas. She joined Adventure Women

Genevieve Murtaugh, Bound for Adventure



Patagonia trip, March 2019

hiking in Nepal and Machu Picchu, 3 weeks in Patagonia, the Cleveland Way and the Cotswolds in England along with trips in West Virginia.

She joined Who's New as soon as she moved to Madison (recommended by her daughter's neighbors). WN was a “life saver” introducing her to a group of women with whom she snow shoes, skis, belongs to an evening book club, hikes, attends Not Just Wine and Cheese, and Diversity in Madison. She is in her second year on the Service Committee. She delights in Concerts on the Square joining the WN group “on those orange sheets.” Incredibly she finds time to monitor the water in Lake Mendota as a member of Friends of the Nature Preserve.

A Friday morning walking group from her daughter's neighborhood is yet another local hiking source. An avid music lover, Genevieve subscribes to the Symphony, Opera and praises the Overture Organ concerts.



To The Amazing Members of Who's New in Madison

It is difficult to articulate what the partnership with your group has meant to us at Madison-area Urban Ministry this year. From the moment we were introduced at your September luncheon, I knew this was going to be a special experience for us.

We could feel the synergy in the room--the power of women united in a sense of purpose. What an honor it was for our Executive Director, Linda Ketcham, to share with you the story of Healing House, which you fully embraced and is a dream coming true this month. Each month you have affirmed our work with your gifts--gifts that will help Healing House feel like a home to so many.

Your overwhelming response at Christmas time made the holiday season brighter for so many families in our programs, with each child receiving amazing presents chosen with them in mind. Just Bakery has been blessed by your enthusiastic response to their products. Each purchase you have made allows them to impact more lives.

And thank you for the strong representation of Who's New at our annual Partners for Change luncheon. It was so heartening to have you there. I feel like I have gained a community of friends.



For everything you mean to the community and have meant to us, thank you!

Gratefully,
Kathy Eckenrod, MUM Development Director

Volunteers Needed for Website Committee

Want to get involved in Who's New decision making? Have a tech background or a desire to learn? Want to make new friends? Contact Mary Lindstrom mary.jth@gmail.com about joining the committee. Our website helps keep members informed and connected and we need your talent to keep it vibrant and useful. You can decide how much time you can commit and what aspects of the website you are interested in. Come join us!

Help Wanted for the Programs Committee

The Programs Committee is looking for a volunteer to help set up the projector and sound equipment (as needed) for the Who's New luncheon programs. This is your chance to be a roadie! Please contact Gail Green at gailkgreen@gmail.com for more information about the job qualifications and duties.

Service Project Summary 2018-2019



Who's New wrapped up its partnership with Madison-area Urban Ministry (MUM) at the May luncheon! We will adopt another wonderful Service Project for our upcoming 2019-20 year, as is our policy, but it is always bittersweet to let go, as we get very involved with the charity and the people that work there! We have loved working with the MUM staff, and we not only become advocates for what they do, but also friends!

Here is a brief summary of what WE, all of our generous and kind members, have done to help support **Healing House**, a recuperative care facility for homeless families in Dane County that will be accepting its first patients in the next week! Starting last October, we held a linen shower and November saw us holding a kitchen shower. In December, we sponsored The Giving Tree, as we gave gifts for children involved in the Mentoring Program.



Diane Wiersema & Patti Bavlka,
Service Project Committee,
thanking WN members for
donating to MUM!

January saw us switching gears for just one month, as we donated very much needed under-wear for both men and women for **The Beacon**, a day care center for the homeless.

In February, we collected personal care items. Our March shower was books, activities, and toys for the children that will be at Healing House. In April, we held a baby shower.

In May, we asked our members to donate money, so that Healing House can finalize their home and purchase things like blinds, furniture, and all the many little and big things that will allow them to open their arms to homeless patients that are in need of loving care and support as they heal from

some medical procedure! We thanked our donors with a lovely annual from the Sun Prairie High School greenhouse plant sale.



Phillip Thomas, Just Bakery staff member, selling delicious products at our Maple Bluff Country Club Luncheon

In addition to all the items WE donated, we also raised approximately \$6100, from the Fall Hike in October, a silent auction in December, the Mahjong tournament in April, and our free will donation in May!

Who's New also supported another MUM program, **Just Bakery**. It is an educational and vocational training program that works with individuals who are experiencing significant barriers to employment and who have an interest in baking or culinary arts as a career. One of the staff members, Phil, brought their delicious products to our luncheons, one in December and one in May. We helped them raise almost \$1700 to put back into their program.

Thank You!

Membership Renewal

This is an early notification that the Membership Renewal period will run **between July 1 and September 1, 2019**. Renewal and payment must be made on the www.whosnew.org website. Membership dues will remain \$20 as long as you renew by the September 1 deadline. Payment is non-refundable. A \$25 late charge will be added if you renew after September 1, 2019.

You will receive email reminders during the renewal period. Please log into the [whosnew.org](http://www.whosnew.org) website and verify that your profile email address is accurate. Please correct it before July 1.

Interest Groups

If you would like to start a new group or have an idea for a new group, please let Anne Braiser know (abrasier2@gmail.com). We have over 60 current groups, but there is always room for more. Chances are very good that if you have an interest, other members will,

Now Every Sunday **Outdoor Activities for Members and Spouses/Partners**

Hiking — 2nd and 4th Sunday mornings of the month. Our Sunday hikes are about 5 miles in length at various locations in Madison and surrounding areas. There is usually a brunch or lunch option offered. **Contact Betty Cohen** - bettycohen3@gmail.com

Biking — 3rd Sunday morning of the month. Our Sunday bicycle rides offering varying distances and include a stop for brunch or lunch. **Contact Debbie Wise** - dwise52@charter.net

NEW! Kayaking— 1st Sunday morning of the month. All of our venues for kayaking offer the option to rent if you do not own a kayak. We will meet Sunday mornings for a group paddle of about 2 hours. **Contact Kathy Nelson** - katnels59@gmail.com

Golf Subs Needed

We play Thursday mornings at Glenway in Madison, May-August. Subs are needed most weeks with no long term commitments. Play if you are available when called. Please contact Kelly-Anne Robert karobert@charter.net to sign up to sub.

Welcome New Members to WNIM

Wynona Pyrtel	Betty Forest	Hedy Stieber	Christine White
Karla Mieden	Rena Gelman	Nancy Ross	Linda White
Renee Hoxie	Joyce Bringe	Carol Korth	Mary Lenart-Kirchoff
Diana Hollender	Carol Johnson	Jan Muellman	Nan Youngerman

✓ Check website directory for more details on new members.



Overture Center Group Tickets

Who's New in Madison members are invited to purchase tickets to a variety of Overture Center performances at reduced group ticket prices. By purchasing as a group, we have priority seating before tickets go on sale to the general public. Group ticket sales will **not be available for any of the Hamilton** performances. If you want guaranteed tickets for Hamilton, you should purchase the Broadway Series tickets for yourself to assure that you will get tickets for Hamilton.

The following shows will be offered for the Fall/early Winter season. Seats for the Broadway shows will be at the Circle level - seats for Overture presents shows will be either on the main floor or upper orchestra for shows in both the Capital Theater and Overture Hall. Ticket purchases for these shows must be received by June 28, 2019. Checks should be payable to Debbie Wise and sent to 14 Saint Andrews Circle, Madison, WI 53717. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelop with your order. Only one envelop is needed for your entire order. Tickets will be mailed in August. Please feel free to pass this information on to any Who's New members you feel would be interested. Any questions, please contact Debbie—dwise52@charter.net. If there are any shows you are interested in that are not on this list, please feel free to send me your suggestions for additional shows and we can see what we can do. Further information about any of these shows can be found on the Overture website - www.overture.org.

Broadway Shows (all at 6:30pm)

Book of Mormon - Sunday, September 22, 2019- \$82.50

The SpongeBob Musical - Sunday, October 13, 2019 - \$72.50

Riverdance - Wednesday, January 29, 2020 - \$72.50

Wicked - Sunday, March 29, 2020 - \$125.50

Overture Presents Shows

Cirque Dreams Tuesday, September 10, 2019, 7:30PM - Overture Hall- \$58.50

That Golden Girls Show - Saturday, Saturday, November 3, 2019, 3:00PM - Capital Theater - \$40.50

Straight No Chaser - Monday, November 4, 2019, 7:30PM - Overture Hall - \$58.50

For late Winter/Spring/Summer, we are offering the following shows. Payment for these tickets will be due December 15, 2019. If you would like to include any of these shows in your first order, you are welcome to do so.

Broadway Shows

The Color Purple - Sunday, February 25, 2020 - \$72.50

My Fair Lady - Sunday, April 26, 2020 - \$72.50

The Play That Goes Wrong - Sunday, May 17, 2020 - \$72.50

Come from Away - Sunday, August 9, 2020- 72.50

Overture Presents Shows

Diavolo - Thursday, February 27, 2020, 7:30PM - Capital Theater - \$63.00

One Night of Queen - Tuesday, March 24, 2020, 7:30PM - Capital Theater - \$54.00

Step Afrika - Thursday, April 16, 2020, 7:30PM - Capital Theater - \$45.00

Second City Laughing - Saturday, June 13, 2020, 6:00PM - Capital Theater - \$45.00

What does the Who's New Board of Directors talk about each month?

You can find out by reading the minutes of our board meetings, which are available on our website. Use the Quick Menu to find the "Board Minutes" tab; or from the Members Homepage, scroll down to Board Meeting Minutes in the Club Information section. Your WN Board members welcome your input and ideas on any of the matters that we discuss – contact any of us to let us know your thoughts. There was not a Board meeting in the month of January.

Who's New Board Members 2018 - 2019

Executive Board

President

Paula Primm, 404-229-7455
paulalprimm@gmail.com

Vice President

Anne Brasier 409 771-5244
Abrasier2@gmail.com

Secretary

Betty Cohen, 617-447-5412
bettycohen3@gmail.com

Treasurer

Barbara White 402 203-9440
Blwhite2@me.com

Committee Members

Hostess

Debbie Snyder, 318-1764
debsny1@gmail.com

Committee:

Pam Benish, Mary Knight,
Sue Madson, Terry Payne,
Sue Simon

New Member Coffee/Cocktail

Dawn Curatolo 331 643-9620
Dcurl18@hotmail.com

Committee:

Sue Bishop, Janet Pawelski,
Lydia Weber

Archives

Carol Carnine, 833-9642
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Luncheons

Barbara Foster, 608-203-8010
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Debbie Wallace 608 203-8537

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Committee:

Debbie Wallace, Katie Heling

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Susan Cambria 603 714-1411

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Liz Freitick, 438-2988
efreitick@gmail.com

Gail Green, 509-6214

gailkgreen@gmail.com

Programs

Diane Wiersema 608 837-3080
dutch5@charter.net

Committee:

Pam Benish, Mary Bergin,
Joy Cardin, Marge Kostichka

Website:

Mary Lindstrom, 217-5044
mary.jth@gmail.com

Anne Spurgeon 608 251-3837

anne@spurgeonwoods.com

Committee:

Denise Cariski, Kathy Condit,
Barb Foster, Debbie Wise

If you have a change of address, email or phone number, please update your information on the website. Go to www.whosnew.org, click on **My Account** box and then go to **Account Details** to edit.

Service Project

Diane Wiersema, 837-3080
dutch5@charter.net

Patti Bavlka 608 825-2292

pbavlka@gmail.com

Committee:

Genevieve Murtaugh, Jill
Westberg, Sue Cambria

Fashion Show Coordinator

Marge Kostichka

Past President

Kathy Nelson, 269-208-8257