

# Who's New in Madison

Where New Faces Become Old Friends

June 2020 Newsletter

## Please Take Note

Visit our member website at:  
[www.whosnew.org](http://www.whosnew.org)

Visit our public website is:  
[www.whosnew.org](http://www.whosnew.org)

Find us on Facebook at:  
Who's New in Madison



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

Liz Freitick or Gail Green  
[whosnew.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:whosnew.newsletter@gmail.com)

## President's Corner

Anne Brasier

Thank you for your efforts to vote via email this spring. More than a quorum was met with 170 votes being cast. We appreciate your belief and trust in Who's New to regroup from this social distancing by keeping Who's New on track with leadership ready to serve you as soon as we can. I welcome continuing to work with Barbara White as our treasurer and new executive board members Anne Cooper (VP) and Sue Simon (Secretary). Give any of us a call with concerns or issues about WN. You will find our contact information online in the Who's New directory and at the end of this newsletter.

As you know the last few months have been challenging individually and for Who's New as an organization. Kudos to our outgoing President, Paula Primm, who handled the initial safer at home directives and shutting down our group meetings in a timely and professional manner.

Keeping or establishing a new community without face to face meetings makes our work doubly hard and doubly important. We all need someone to whom we can turn to celebrate life events be they good or bad. As I write this Governor Evers has just extended the safer at home order until May 26, hopefully shortly after that smaller interest groups can start meeting again in person; many interest groups had continued to keep in touch via social media and other means during March, April and May. And I hope we will be able to safely conduct a full calendar of the luncheons, Not Just Wine & Cheese and new member coffees in the fall after their normal summer hiatus.

I was reading an article in Time magazine called "Apart. Not Alone." They quoted 2 organizations talking about community and both resonated with my view of Who's New. First was a spokesperson for the National Domestic Workers Alliance, "When building support and community, an offering is more at-

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tractive than a request. One of the most effective approaches that we use is by beginning our meetings with sharing personal care stories.”

Several of the Interest Groups I’m in kept up this tradition by using Sign up Genius to post the question of the day in place of introductions at the beginning of hikes or rides. My book club in addition to the monthly book review and discussion met weekly via Zoom and informally discussed a literary question each time in addition to just checking in with each other. The second organization was the United Order of Tents, a black women’s social and mutual aid society, “....how much of what they were able to complete together was based on fostering a sense of community. The women I spoke to pointed as much to their gatherings, celebrations and parties as they did to their community work—for many, these were one and the same.”

Rely on your history and connections with Who’s New if you are a long standing member and reach out to our new members that aren’t yet fully integrated to offer a helping hand or listening ear until we can meet again in person at the Mah Jongg table or the bike trail. Who’s New was formed in 1935 to help new residents of Madison become acquainted with their new community through shared interests and social activities. Who’s New certainly provided an interesting welcoming community when I moved to Madison 2 years ago not knowing a single person. Here’s to getting back in full swing and adding more wonderful women to our group. In the meantime, stay healthy and stay in touch.

*Anne Brasier, President 2020-21*

## **Membership Renewal**

This is an early notification that the Membership Renewal period will run between July 1 and September 1, 2020. Renewal and payment must be made on the [www.whosnew.org](http://www.whosnew.org) website. Membership dues will remain \$20 as long as you renew by the September 1 deadline. Please note that payment is non-refundable. A \$15 late charge will be added if you renew after September 1, 2020. You will receive email reminders during the renewal period.

Last year we had many last-minute requests for help logging in. Please make sure you can log into the web site now and then renew soon after July 1 so that we have time to help you if you have any difficulties. Should you need help logging in, please contact Membership at [WNIM.membership@gmail.com](mailto:WNIM.membership@gmail.com).

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## WN Service Committee News - June 2020



The current Service Committee is stepping down and handing off to a new committee of wonderful and enthusiastic women. The new Service Committee members are: Susan Cambria - chair, Nancy Daly, Barbara Fahey, Martha Main, and Carol Ottenstein.

Respecting the “Safer at Home” order, the new committee met via Zoom and researched nonprofits for consideration as the Who’s New Service Project for 2020-2021.

- The Committee reviewed ten organizations that Who’s New members suggested to the committee, and after an initial online research and committee discussion, five nonprofits were chosen for consideration. A letter was sent to the five nonprofit organizations describing WN, our service objectives and fundraising commitments along with a questionnaire to get to know them better.
- Potential organizations were selected based on the organization’s mission especially in a post COVID-19 world, population served, impact our contributions can make to the organization and other factors.
- The committee reviewed the questionnaire responses and chose two to interview via a Zoom meeting/conference call. A first and second choice will be presented to the WN Board of Directors in May for approval. The new Service Project will be introduced to members in the September newsletter.



As we say goodbye to our 2019-2020 Service Project, **Maydm**, we thought you would like to see what they have planned for their immersive summer school programs. We wish them success in their endeavors to provide girls and youth of color in grades 7-12, with the skills and training to diversify the technology industry. We have been so inspired by their mission and have enjoyed working with them throughout the year. Maydm students will have an opportunity to be involved in many different learning opportunities this summer. Maydm is poised to use distance learning and many other innovative approaches to keep students engaged and learning. How many of us wish we could learn to be tech savvy and become future innovators?



- *Wonderful World of Web Development*- These students learn HTML, CSS, and JavaScript- three languages that are the building blocks of the web. Students then use these new components to build their own websites and web-based games. Students learn how to code, and they also gain extremely valuable critical thinking and interpersonal communication skills.

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- *STEM Power is Girl Power*- These students will learn the basics of a variety of STEM concepts. Girls will explore what they can do with robots and tiny computers. They'll learn foundational programming skills by guiding robots through mazes with programs they'll write themselves. They'll use computers that fit in the palm of your hand to sense the world around it and program hardware to automate small mundane tasks that we do every day, like check the weather or find something to do after school.
- *SolidWorks*- Solidworks is a 3D Modeling software that allows students to create digital models of anything from a flower pot, to furniture, to components for a car. The possibilities are endless. It is through software like this that companies draft nearly all new design ideas now. We're working with Madison College so that students will be able to print their models on a 3D printer and actually hold their digital creations. Additionally, our students will earn certification that can be used for gainful employment in a STEM career while they are still in high school. \*\*\*In all of our immersive summer programs, students are paired with a mentor, who works as a professional in the tech sector, to work with weekly during their program and monthly for the remainder of the year. Students also go on field trips to local tech companies to see first hand what a career in tech could look like and the variety of opportunities that are available to them.
- Follow Maydm on Facebook for updates on their fun, inter-active educational programs and design contests!

**To all our members** - the Service Committee thanks you for your support. WN raised almost \$7,500 for Maydm through our Fall Walk, Holiday Bazaar, and the Scholarship Giving Tree fundraisers. Additional gifts from the Giving Tree included over 40 books showcasing women in science and gift cards to Target, Walgreens and Staples. Members also donated many needed items through the monthly luncheon donations. Unfortunately, two fundraisers were cancelled due to the Covid-19 "Safer at Home" order.

If you are interested in helping Maydm during this difficult time, you can find the donate page on the website [www.maydm.org](http://www.maydm.org). When donating, please tell them you are from Who's New in Madison. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities contact them at [www.maydm.org](http://www.maydm.org).

Please stay safe and healthy, your 2019-2020 Service Committee: Patti Bavlnka, Sue Ciurczak, Genevieve Murtaugh, Susan Cambria, Jill Westberg





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## *New Normal—Trying to Make the Show go On*

The WNIM board met May 5th via zoom for its regular monthly meeting. WNIM 2020-21 officers were installed and plans were discussed for next year's events.

This year will be different. It isn't going to look like any other year in Who's New history. We ask for your patience and flexibility while we wrestle with the best way to be a social group in days of physical distancing.

We will overwhelmingly follow state of Wisconsin recommendations on when to open up and guidance for group sizes for meetings. Interest group leaders we ask that you follow state guidelines and consider the comfort level of your members as you move toward more contact. Each interest group will be different. Some of the smaller interest groups may be able to meet sooner; others may elect to meet several times a month in groups of 4 or 5 instead of one large meeting. Outdoor groups that can maintain social distancing may be able to meet earlier. Each of our situations is different; remember it is your individual responsibility and decision whether you will participate in activities offered or use personal protective equipment if you do. Look for information from the interest groups as we move forward.

We are reserving venues and finding speakers for the large monthly luncheons with the awareness we may need to cancel at the last moment or transition to an online event. Refunds will be made if the luncheons need to be canceled. Options to change your luncheon fee to a donation toward a food bank or our service project may be offered.

The Service Committee presented finalists for the 2020-21 service project and the board selected the Madison Reading Project as this year's group. You will hear more about them in the next newsletter and they may just be our first virtual presenters at the September luncheon. Again, fund raising and supporting the Madison Reading Project will look different this year. Perhaps a virtual walk in October?!

One of WNIM primary goals is to promote friendships through a variety of social activities. We ask for your understanding over the uncertainty of the next year, but know we are working to provide you with a vibrant and valuable connection to the Madison community.



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## 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.

### Who's New Board Members 2020-2021

#### Executive Board

##### **President**

Anne Brasier 409-771-5244  
Abrasier2@gmail.com

##### **Vice President**

Anne Cooper, 507-458-4256  
amm1114@gmail.com

##### **Secretary**

Sue Simon, 819-6235  
suesmn@gmail.com

##### **Treasurer**

Barbara White 402 203-9440  
Blwhite2@me.com

#### Committee Members

##### **Hostess**

Mary Knight, 715-379-4203  
rmmbknight@gmail.com

##### **Committee:**

Cathy Broan, Lisa Kass, Sue  
Madson, Chris Olejniczak,  
Hedy Stieber, Chari Wood

##### **New Member Coffee/Cocktail**

Kerry Jewison, 692-0939  
Jewison.k@gmail.com

Melody Panek, 622-5550  
mpanek00@msn.com

##### **Committee:**

Pam Wade, Ann Crabb,  
Eleanor Jurkowski, Dottie  
Schoenke, Janet Pawelski

##### **Archives**

Vacant

##### **Luncheons**

Judy White, 714-267-2160  
Jawhite1106@gmail.com

Barbara Foster, 608-203-8010  
foster8434@prodigy.net

##### **Committee:**

Kate Heling, Merriel Kruse,  
Kathy Zastrow, Barb Nuti, Sue  
Friedman

##### **Membership/Directory**

Susan Cambria, 603-714-1411  
susancambria@gmail.com

##### **Committee:**

Diane Galarneau

##### **Newsletter**

Liz Freitick, 438-2988  
whosnew.newsletter@gmail.com

Gail Green, 509-6214

whosnew.newsletter@gmail.com

##### **Not Just Wine & Cheese**

Cathy Broan, 215-3379  
Cbroan@gmail.com

##### **Programs**

Diane Wiersema 608 837-3080  
dutch5@charter.net

##### **Committee:**

Joy Cardin, Trish Iaccarino,  
Sandy Solomon

##### **Website:**

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

Anne Spurgeon, 251-3837  
anne@spurgeonwoods.com

##### **Service Project**

Vacant

##### **Committee:**

Martha Main, Carol Ot-  
tenstein, Nancy Daly, Bar-  
bara Fahey

##### **Past President**

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

##### **Note for members:**

If you have a change of  
address, email or phone num-  
ber, please update your infor-  
mation on the website.

Go to—

- [www.whosnew.org](http://www.whosnew.org),
- click on *My Account* box
- then go to *Account Details* to edit.