

# Who's New in Madison

Where New Faces Become Old Friends

## Please Take Note

Visit our member website at:

[www.whosnew.org](http://www.whosnew.org)

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

Webster defines resiliency as, “1. The capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness, 2. The ability of a substance or object to spring back in to shape; elasticity.”

The Who's New board and committee chairs have been tough and elastic. Who's New has stretched this year and continued to provide opportunities to connect with some outdoor (walking, biking and snowshoeing) interest groups meeting throughout the pandemic, Zoom meetings for monthly lunches and presentations, and recently some virtual Not Just Wine and Cheese gatherings. Other interest groups have met via Zoom to keep their groups going.

Now, along with spring coming and vaccines ramping up, the horizon holds a view of Who's New springing back into its old shape. At a recent revived Diversity group meeting we were urged to develop a mutual respect or acceptance of our differences. The comment was in respect to racism, but I believe it applies to all gaps large or small, political, religious, mask wearing, which way to hang the toilet paper or how Who's New was run this year. Thank you for hanging in with us and trying all these new ways of staying connected.

At the March luncheon we will be presenting the proposed slate of officers for the 2021-22 year and will take any floor nominations for the positions. Voting will take place virtually and the results will be announced at the April luncheon. Details on voting will come as soon as we figure out which of many options we will utilize.

Our March 11 luncheon program will feature travel writer, Kevin Revolinski, author of *Backroads and Byways of Wisconsin: Drives, Day Trips and Weekend Excursions*. Watch for

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details in the newsletter. The Not Just Wine and Cheese Committee is still working on a presenter for March 19. A beer tasting is looking promising, again, please watch for details.

I've started perusing seed catalogs. This farmer's daughter, finds hope in the rebirth each spring of the earth. March adds almost an hour and a half of daylight. We've signed up to host a Mallard's ball player or intern this summer. The dreams of planting the garden, the lengthening days and the start of baseball spring training are big markers that winter will end. Pursue the things that bring you joy and watch for the first robin and snowdrop blooming and pushing through the snow. Happy Spring!

**Thought for the month:** *If you don't leave your past in the past it will destroy your future. Live for what today has to offer, not what yesterday has taken away. Unknown*

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## Our March Program

### On the Road Again!

Do you have a case of cabin fever because of the long winter and the precautions needed because of the COVID-19 pandemic? Ready to hit the road to do a little traveling once the snow and ice is off the roads? Then don't miss our March luncheon speaker who will highlight some of Wisconsin's best places to visit, based on his newly updated book, *Backroads and Byways of Wisconsin: Drives, Day Trips and Weekend Excursions*.



Freelance travel writer Kevin Revolinski will take us on a virtual tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright Trail, where you can see the famed architect's work and even stay overnight in a home designed by Wright. Or perhaps you would prefer a waterfall tour in Marinette County, dubbed the Waterfall Capital of Wisconsin. From the Lake Michigan shoreline, to the Baraboo Hills, to the Northwoods and the Great River Road, there are endless places to explore in Wisconsin. And Kevin also knows where you can get the best food and drink and local products along the way.

Kevin has written several Midwest and Wisconsin travel and guide books - including *60 Hikes Within 60 Miles: Madison*, *Paddling Wisconsin*, *Best Rail Trails Wisconsin* and *Wisconsin's Best Beer Guide*.

More information is available on his website: <https://themadtraveler.com/>



Please welcome new members to Who's New in Madison.

*Jill Annis*

*Patricia McDermott*



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## **Grateful - Thankful - Humbled**

To everyone who volunteers their time as a IG leader or co-leader please accept a colossal THANK YOU from ALL of us who benefit from the time and effort you so generously share! The reason WNIM flourishes is because of you. At last count this group of amazing leaders and co-leaders represents just under 80 women volunteering their time in nearly 65 IG's! That's quite an army of women volunteering on our behalf!

### **Diversity In Madison**

A HUGE thank you to Pat Eaton, IG leader for the Diversity Group. The group is now meeting again once a month via Zoom until further notice. This group, under her leadership, is extremely informative and uplifting. They meet to explore Social Justice in our community, along with learning about various groups that make up Madison and Dane County. Check out the January Zoom recording on our WNIM home page. What a gift Pat and the Diversity Group are to our members! Thank you, Pat!

### **Weekend Hiking Group seeks new leadership!**

The Who's New Weekend Hiking Group began in 2017 to provide members plus their spouses/partners with opportunities to explore the beauty of the hiking and walking paths in the greater Madison area. Over the past 3 years, hikes were organized once or twice per month on Sunday mornings, often followed by a group brunch at a nearby restaurant. Unfortunately, the group has been inactive since last March because of the pandemic. The group's current co-leaders are stepping down and are hoping that other hiking enthusiasts might be interested in planning and leading the group's activities when conditions seem right to resume our hikes.

Please contact Annie Cooper([amm1114@gmail.com](mailto:amm1114@gmail.com)) if you are interested in volunteering in any way. We need you.



**WN Skywalkers group**



**West Side One and Done walking group**



## March Service Committee News

### The 2021 Valentine Giving Tree Challenge

We need 200 books for 200 Kids!

Will YOU accept our challenge?

- To accept this challenge, virtually pick a heart from our Valentine Giving Tree and buy a book for every heart you take.
- Place your book in a bag. Include your heart (use the heart we include in the February newsletter) and drop it off at a Service Committee member's house near you by February 28th. Our addresses are also listed in the February newsletter.
- Then challenge another Who's New member to do the same. If you are in an active Interest Group or are on a Who's New Committee, challenge your members or challenge another Interest Group or Committee.
- Most of the books listed on Madison Reading Project's website and the books listed in the February newsletter are under \$16.00—less than the cost of a luncheon.
- Let's ignite a love of reading! So many of us are grandmothers, let's pay this forward so others can read to their grandchildren, too.
- Check out the Who's New Facebook page for fun book donation ideas!
- The Who's New website has a video explaining the Giving Tree on the Service Project page, as well as a place to click for more information and book suggestions.
- All books will be donated to **Madison Reading Project**.



## Upcoming News and Fundraiser Events!



### *Our Impact Since 2014*

Books given: 184,519  
Children impacted: 97,683

### *Our Year-to-Date Impact*

Books given: 2,842  
Children impacted: 1,351

#### **Do you know of a non-profit that would be a good fit for Who's New?**

- The Service Committee will soon begin researching non-profits for our 2021-2022 Service Project. The nonprofit should be well established in the Madison community, and since we typically raise between \$7,000–\$9,000 from our fundraisers, it should be a non-profit where this amount can be a significant help. The committee chooses 3-4 non-profits to research, interview and visit. The committee then discusses the choices, picks one and presents it to the Board of Directors for approval. If you know of a non-profit that would be a good match for Who's New, please contact a Service Committee member with your suggestions.

The **Madison Reading Project Book Center has moved** to Madison's south side. Their new space will help them more effectively achieve their mission and community outreach. It is conveniently located near many of the organizations and schools that they serve and will have 5 times the space.

**Their new address is: 1337 Greenway Cross. Suite 186, Madison, WI53713.**



## *Virtual Not Just Wine and Cheese*

**February 26, 6 - 8 PM    No signup required, Zoom link will be sent to all members.**

Who's New in Madison welcomes renowned local chocolatier, Gail Ambrosius. She is excited to take you on a chocolate journey around the world. The perfect evening for any chocolate lover!

Gail will present a chocolate journey around the world including:

- Chocolate travels to Central and South America
- Chocolate selection process
- Flavor pairing selection and perfection



Participants may purchase a 12-piece box of selected chocolates including three each of the following chocolates:

	Optional beverage pairing
<i>Caramel with Sea Salt</i>	IPA beer
<i>Jasmine Tea</i>	Dry red wine
<i>Raspberry with Cacao Nibs</i>	Dry red wine
<i>Lemongrass with Ginger</i>	Dry white wine or Hefeweizen style



Chocolate purchase must be made prior to midnight **February 21**. Price \$25. **Please go to the WNIM website, NJWC tab to complete order.** For your convenience, chocolates will be available for contactless pickup at geographically dispersed member homes. Pickup times and addresses to follow. Delivery to your home is offered if times and locations are not convenient for you.

### **Program details:**

Gail will discuss her path to become a chocolatier and how the business has grown over the years. This first half of the presentation will tell the story of Gail's start and inspiration, her chocolate travels to Central and South America, how she picks the chocolate to sell in the shop, and what makes these chocolates so special.

The second half of the presentation is for tasting. Sit back and let Gail guide you through tasting four of her signature truffles including all-time best seller, caramel with sea salt. We will discuss the process of how flavor pairings are chosen and perfected, along with how the flavor of chocolate differs depending on where it's grown. After everyone has had their fill of delicious chocolates, Gail will open things up for a Q & A to close out the evening.

## 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 Home-page, 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  
wnim.secretary@gmail.com

##### **Treasurer**

Barbara White 402 203-9440  
Blwhite2@me.com

#### Committee Members

##### **Hostess**

Mary Knight, 715-379-4203  
mmbknight@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

#### Website:

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

##### **Committee:**

Anne Spurgeon, Barbara White

#### Service Project

Stephanie Kissel, 395-4939  
shkiss46@gmail.com

##### **Committee:**

Patti Bavlka, Martha Main, Carol Ottenstein, Nancy Daly, Barbara Fahey

#### Past President

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

#### Note for members:

If you have a change of address, email or phone number, please update your information on the website.

Go to—

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