

Who's New in Madison

Where New Faces Become Old Friends

February 2021 Newsletter

Please Take Note

Visit our member website at:
www.whosnew.org

Visit our public website is:
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

President's Corner

Anne Brasier

As I write this we have had our first significant snowfall and I can no longer deny that winter will come this year. I've been faithfully using My SAD light for a few minutes each morning since Thanksgiving, and Mother Nature is making longer days as well. As much as I try to embrace winter, this is a tough time of year for me. And a time when hearing from my Who's New family helps my spirits. Please reach out to someone you haven't talked to in awhile and let them know you are thinking of them. The connections made through Who's New is one of the club's strength - keep those ties strong.

The Skywalker group has been getting out and providing distanced and masked opportunities to cross country ski or snowshoe and welcome you to sign up and join us. Since moving here I've taken to heart the following quote, "If you choose not to find joy in the snow, you will have less joy in your life but still the same amount of snow." Hope to see you on the trails on a sunny, snowy day!

Our February 11 luncheon program is "Wellness Connections on the Farm," presented by Joy Miller and Rufus Haucke from Keewaydin Farms. Learn more about CSAs (community support-

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Welcome New Members to WNIM



Wishing a warm welcome to these new members

LuAnne Pink
Margaret Draper

(President's Corner continued from page 1)

ed agriculture shares) and the benefits of eating local.

The next NJWC is Jan 22 featuring French cheeses, followed by another one on February 19. We are working on a chocolate tasting for the February NJWC. Both events are virtual guided tastings. Watch for details on the website and in the newsletter.

Annie Cooper is heading up the nominating committee for 2021-22, please contact her if you have any interest in serving on a committee for next year. Who's New relies on volunteers to remain a vibrant organization and we can use your talents! With the vaccine making its way into society, 2021-22 should be a year with more "normal" activities and more chances to gather in person again.

May the love of your family, friends and significant others warm your heart this Valentine's Day.

Anne Brasier

***Not Just
Wine and Cheese***

Friday, January 22



Join us Friday, January 22 at 6 PM for the Not Just Wine and Cheese second Zoom gathering, to socialize with other participants. At 6:30 PM Metcalfe's Cheese-monger, Sally Rossmiller, will guide us on a French cheese tour. Featured will be some of France's most iconic cheeses. Sample 5 specialties from around the country and hear a brief history of each. Carrie, Jay and Sally will lead you on a taste and travel adventure through the kingdom of cheese culture! Cheese boards may be ordered online and picked up curbside or inside at Metcalfe's Hilldale specialty cheese department. Price \$25.00/board. *Please RSVP by midnight on Sunday, January 17*, by logging in to your WNIM account and scrolling to "Sign Up" on the Not Just Wine and Cheese page.

Wellness Connections On The Farm

February 11 Zoom Luncheon Speakers

Rufus Haucke and Joy Miller of Keewaydin Farms will be sharing a scope of wellness connections on the farm. They'll discuss the paths that led them to farming and why they've chosen to pursue organic and regenerative practices. Rufus will speak to the history of Keewaydin Farms, some of the creative ways we "make it work", and ultimately how his love of growing food has kept him planting again every spring. Joy will discuss the findings of her graduate research project with Johns Hopkins University and how her thesis "Socially Responsible Food and Ethical Food Consumerism: A Community Based Research Project in Driftless Wisconsin" has helped her understand the complexities of the food system. Further, she'll explain how her research has inspired the formation of a nonprofit organization with a mission to deepen the connections between people and the land.

Finally they'll deliberate on how connecting with our food, whether it's through a CSA program or growing a garden has positive impacts on our health. This includes the physical nourishment of the food, the mental and emotional benefits of connecting with nature, the social networks created, and the positive environmental impact we make through these connections. They will close their presentation by taking questions from any curious gardeners in the group, so if you couldn't quite get your tomatoes to thrive, they'll try to tell you why.

Click [here](#) for more information about Keewaydin Farms.



Members In Memoriam 2020

January 27	Jan Wagoner, Past President
June 29	Lynne Kosterman, Past President
August 27	Sally Hughes



Service Committee News

The Service Committee has a
♥ Giving Tree Challenge for You!

Will YOU accept our challenge?



♥ Why a Giving Tree Challenge?

- The **Giving Tree** is a Who's New holiday tradition that provides gifts to our Service Project each December. A tree was decorated with gift tags at our November luncheon and the gifts were purchased and returned in gift bags to our December luncheon. Since we couldn't do gifts this year, we had to change things up a bit. A **Valentine's Giving Tree Challenge** - asking members to buy and donate books to Madison Reading Project - seemed like the perfect alternative. *So this year, let's help ignite a love of reading and buy a book for children in need in the Madison area.*

♥ Here's how the Valentine Giving Tree Challenge will work:

- "Virtually" pick one or more ♥s from our **Giving Tree** and buy a book to represent each heart.
- Our "challenge" goal is to donate **200** books for **200** kids! Most of the books on Madison Reading Project's website are under \$15 - less than the cost of a luncheon!
- Book suggestions, where to shop, and book drop off sites are listed on the next pages.
- Together we can help kids build their own home libraries and ignite a love of reading to last a lifetime!

♥ Interest Group Leaders and Who's New Committee Chairs:

- Please challenge your members to purchase a book toward our goal. If your group is not active at this time, this may be a good way to communicate and stay in touch. Interest groups can challenge other interest groups and so on. Committee chairs can challenge their members and other Committees.
- Let's have some fun with this and post your book challenges on the Who's New Facebook page! Let's keep the challenge going! Thank you.

♥ Giving Tree Monetary Donations

- If you'd rather make a monetary donation, use the new, convenient **"Donate"** button on the Service Committee page on the Who's New website. On the comment section of the donation form, please write **"2021 Valentine Giving Tree Challenge."** This will help us keep track of the donations for this fundraiser.
- You can also write a check out to Madison Reading Project and mail it to Carol Ottenstein, caottenstein@gmail.com



Service Committee News continued

Helpful shopping and book buying tips for the Giving Tree Challenge!

Shop for new books online through Madison Reading Project's website or at your favorite bookstores. All books have been recommended by educators and reading specialists.

Here's how to do it:

- Go to Madison Reading Project's website or you can click right here: madisonreadingproject.com. Hit "open" and their website will pop up.
- When you see the website, Click on "**Support our work**" in the middle of the top gray panel. A gray box will drop down. Click on "**wish list**" at the bottom of the box for buying options.
- In addition to the stores listed on their website, "Mystery to Me" bookstore on Monroe Street has a list of approved books for Madison Reading Project.
- **We have a favor to ask** - If you buy online, and choose to send the books directly to Madison Reading Project, please contact Carol Ottenstein, caottenstein@gmail.com and let her know the # of books purchased. This allows us to track the success of our fundraiser.
- If you would rather shop in person, and support your favorite local bookstores, MRP has provided us with a list of "most wanted" books by age. Call the store to see if they offer in store shopping and/or curbside pickup.
- Drop off your books at one of the Service Committee member's homes listed below by **2/28/2021**. Book bins will be provided on our front porches or entry ways. Email us when you plan to drop off your books. Thank you.

♥ Book drop off sites:

Stephanie Kissel: 17 Highgate Circle, Madison 53717 shkiss46@gmail.com

Nancy Daly: 1112 Lincoln St. Madison 53711 nmdaly@charter.net

Carol Ottenstein: 26 Oxwood Circle, Madison 53717 caottenstein@gmail.com

Martha Main: 99 Golf Pkwy, Unit D, Madison 53704 mmmain48@gmail.com

Patti Bavlnka: 640 Eddington Dr. Sun Prairie, 53590 pbavlnka@gmail.com

♥ For your shopping convenience, here are some favorite books suggested by Madison Reading Project and are on their "most wanted" book list. Print these 2 pages or take a screen shot with your phone and take to your favorite Madison area bookstores. Many of these are Series Books that the kids love to collect. Pick a heart from the **Giving Tree** and buy a book to help ignite a love of reading!

Books for ages 7 -12

Dog Man, Captain Underpants, Dragon Series by Dav Pilkey

Big Nate: series by Lincoln Peirce

Dork Diaries, by Rachel Renee Russell

Long Way Down, by Jason Reynolds

Star Wars and Disney character books



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Service Committee News *continued*

Ghosts, Guts, Smile, Drama, Sisters, by Raina Telgemeier
Bad Kitty is a series, by Nick Bruel
Maya and the Rising Dark, by Rena Brown
From the Desk of Zoe Washington, by Janae Marks
BenBee and the Teacher Griefer: The Kids Under the Stairs, by KA Holt
Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls, by Elena Favilli
Woke: A Young Poet's Call to Justice, by Browne, Acevedo, Gatwood

Books for ages 3-8

Click Clack! Books by Doreen Cronin
Pete the Cat is a popular picture book series
It's Okay to be Different and other Todd Parr books
My New Friend Is So Fun and other Mo Willems books
Bear Books by Karma Wilson
Sesame Street books
ABC For Me: ABC What Can I Be? by Sugar Snap Studios
Your Name is Song, by Jamilah Thompkins up to age 10
We are WaterProtectors, by Carole Lindstrom
Magnificent Homespun Brown: A Celebration, by Damara Cole Doyon

Books for Ages 0-3

Priddy Baby Board Books
Brown Bear and Friends, Little Bear books by Bill Martin
Numbers, Colors, Shapes (padded board book)
Lil Libros, by Patti Rodriguez, Adriana Stein
Future Baby (series) by Lori Anderson



****Giving Tree Book Challenge:** Print the form below, write your name and # of books in the heart and attach it to your book bag. Then drop off your books at a Service Committee member's home near you.

♥ **Challenge accepted and book(s) donated by:**



Interest Group News from Annie Cooper

Our vibrant and active Interest Groups are the heart and soul of WNIM. They are not only where you meet new people, but where you develop and strengthen your friendships. The Pandemic has taken its toll on many of our IGs. Many groups simply cannot meet safely, like Couples Night Out, Lunch Adventures, and several more. But thanks to creative IG Leaders, many more groups are up and running through CDC Social Distancing guidelines and Zoom meetings.

Diversity Group Zoom - We continue to explore Social Justice in our community along with learning about various groups that make up Madison and Dane County. All are welcome. Now meeting via Zoom.

Dividend Divas - We learn about investing and enjoying watching our portfolio develop. We pool our money together in order to make joint investment decisions. It's a great way to educate yourself about the stock market, so why not join our friendly group. No prior investment knowledge is required. Now meeting via Zoom.

Couples Film Discussion - This couples film group meets once a month for a discussion about a great classic or contemporary film that we watch at home prior to the meeting. Now meeting Via Zoom.

Genealogy Explorers - WNIM family history researchers at all levels are welcome, from people who already have a lot of documents, charts, records, and photos to those who know very little about their family history and want to get started. We will brainstorm with one another on how to break down walls and solve mysteries! We learn about technological tools and online resources available to genealogists and how to use them. We talk about DNA tests and genetic genealogy, how they can and can't help in your search, and how to best make use of the information you can get from them. Now meeting via Zoom.

East Side One & Done Walking Group - This walking group meets on Wednesdays from 2:00 to 3:00 pm. Walks are a quick out and back for 1 hour. Starkweather Creek Path - walk from Anderson St. to Aberg Ave and back. Park in Madison College lot at the corner of Anderson St. & Hoffman St. (no permit required)

West Side One and Done Walking Group - This walking group meets on Thursdays from 3:00 to 4:00 pm. Walks are a quick out and back for 1 hour.

Wednesday Hikers/ Snow Shoeing - Women's Wednesday Hikers meet every Wednesday morning, weather permitting, for a 5-6 mile hike at locations throughout the Madison area. We hike at a 3 to 3.5 mile pace. During the winter, provided we have enough snow, the group goes snowshoeing. During October, we do an annual hike around Lake Monona. Start times vary depending on weather and starting location.



Many of our book clubs, card groups and Mah Jongg groups are meeting via Zoom, too. To find an open group you may have an interest in, login to your WNIM account and choose "Accepting New Members" in your interest group search.

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

Website:

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

Anne Spurgeon, 251-3837
anne@spurgeonwoods.com

Service Project

Stephanie Kissel, 395-4939
shkiss46@gmail.com

Committee:

Patti Bavluka, 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 num-
ber, please update your infor-
mation on the website.

Go to—

- www.whosnew.org,
- click on *My Account* box
- then go to *Account Details* to edit.