



Who's New in Madison

April 10, 2026



Find complete information and details at whosnew.org

President's Message



Dear Members,

The votes are in! I am pleased to announce that we have reached the quorum needed to elect our BOD Officers for 2026-2027. The officers are: Judy White, President; Nancy Fucinato, Vice President; Jean Murray, Treasurer; Sue Terry, Secretary. The officers will be inducted at the May luncheon.

Also, we have chairs and co-chairs for all of the WNIM committees for 2026-2027, except for Not Just Wine and Cheese. Many, many thanks to all the past leaders, those who are retiring and those who are carrying on into next year. The new chairs will be announced in the May newsletter.

Not Just Wine and Cheese is a fun event which occurs at members' homes on Friday evenings once a month. It is an intimate gathering, where a member may bring a guest if she chooses. Welcomed are friends, partners, or spouses of the member. It's a great way to get to know other WNIM members and the people important to them in their lives. NJWC cannot continue without leaders. **Please volunteer - remember that any committee can have as many chairs as they want.** Locations for the event are established through October 2026 - that's a great start. [Contact the current chairs](#) (Joan Bachhuber or Nancy Chapman) for information on the position.

ELLEN

Join us to celebrate the Luke's Closet - WNIM partnership year

Join us to celebrate Luke's Closet and wrap up our Who's New year-long partnership.

Seize this opportunity to connect with your Who's New friends before summer activities gear up, in a joyful event filled with generosity, fun games and prizes, a luncheon, and a short wrap up of the year's activity.

Suggested luncheon donation items: boys & girls athletic pants, elastic waist pants with soft fabric such as joggers or sweatpants. Sizes: 6, 7, 8, 10/12, 14/16 or med., lg, or x-lg.

WNIM members are also invited to shop the Luke's Closet Amazon wishlist. When ordering, please make a note in the gift section that you are a WNIM member. Use the [Supporting Luke's Closet](#) link to learn more.

Date: Thursday, May 14

Location: Blue Plate Catering, Fowler Event Center, 5302 Verona Road, Madison

Time: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Cocktails & visiting; 12:00 pm Luncheon seating

Deadline to register: April 26 or when capacity is reached. [Click here to register](#)

Luncheons and Programs

Not Just Wine and Cheese



The April NJWC event is full and registration is closed.

Please watch for the signup for the May 15 NJWC.

Interest Groups

Interest Group leaders if you need any changes to your Interest Group page on the website, please email the Vice President, Judy White at VP@whosnew.org

Did you know?

Most Interest Group (IG) leaders use SignUpGenius to manage events.

Just clicking a sign-up link does **not** mean you have a SignUpGenius account. By creating a free account, you can:

- View all your sign-ups in one place
- See your upcoming commitments at a glance
- Easily edit your sign-ups if your plans change (no need to contact the IG leader)

To create a free account, simply click "Sign Up" in the top right corner of the SignUpGenius homepage.

Mah Jongg Tournament - It's filling up fast, but there is still time to register! Open to members and non-members, all skill levels welcome! **The 2026 National Mah Jongg League card will be used.** Net proceeds benefit Luke's Closet.

Date: April 29 **Cost:** \$35 per player **Time:** Check-in 11:30 am Play 12:45 – 4:30 pm

Location: East Side Club, 3735 Monona Drive, Madison

[Click here for more information & to register](#)

Service Committee Leadership for 2026-2027

The committee is pleased to announce that Who's New members Mary Vowinkel and Jodi Wagner have volunteered to lead next year's Service Committee as co-chairs. Mary has been a member since 2014, resides in Middleton, and lived in Madison for more than 50 years. Jodi has been a member since 2025, lives in Sun Prairie and has lived in the area for more than 40 years. Thanks to these two wonderful volunteers for stepping up!

Service Partner Selection

The committee is in the process of vetting nominees for selection as next year's partner. Who's New members nominated 16 local nonprofits as potential partners. All 16 of those nominees were invited to apply. Of those 16, 11 responded. The committee is currently reviewing applications using [Service Partner Nonprofit Selection Criteria](#), and will make a recommendation of one or two potential partners to the Board for approval.

Note from Luke's Closet

Kim Nickle, leader of Luke's Closet, shared this special message of thanks:

I thought you'd appreciate hearing about the special shopping we were able to do today, thanks to WNIM funds. We had a request for 2 teen boys needing 2X and 3X men's athletic clothing. While we had some items in stock, we needed to purchase several items.

With some Kohl's magic and your donations, we spent \$178 on the 17 items of needed clothing. We thank you for making this possible.

New Member Happy Hour

On March 11, WNIM hosted a **New Member Happy Hour**. The happy part of the hour was the main focus for the 19 new members who attended. The food was plentiful and so was the sharing. It's always a treat to hear others' stories and how many connections were made. Thanks to our wonderful Welcome Committee for their work to organize and host this event - Martha, Barb, Julie, Sue, Linda, Debbie and Lisa! Thanks also to our President, Ellen, our Vice President, Judy White, and Service Co-chair, Gail Powers Schaub, for all the information that was shared about WNIM.

Member Spotlight

Each month, one or two Who's New members will be featured by filling out a questionnaire. A member chooses 10+ questions from 26 available questions to answer. Have fun learning more about your peers! Created by Diane Wiersema.

Introducing: Lynn Fortner

- Member of WN:** Just over three years
- Interest Groups:** Birders Group; CHIX with STIX; Classical, Modern, and Jazz Music Lovers Group; Diversity in Madison; International Travel Discussion Group; Ladies of the Garden; Make New Friends Morning Coffee; Walkie Talkies; Wednesday Hikers/Snowshoers; West Side One and Done Walking; and Who Wants to Go?
- Favorite part of WN:** Friendships I've made, the community I've built, and volunteer activities; Giving backing is a huge part of my life that I find deeply fulfilling.
- WN leadership/volunteer position(s), past and/or present:** Co-chair of Website committee; will start as Co-chair of Welcome Committee in May; IG Leader or Co-lead of CHIX with STIX and Walkie Talkies; and will start as Co-lead of Ladies of the Garden in June
- Family:** a brother, 18 months younger and lives in California; father died in September 1988 of AIDS; mother died in April 2023 from Covid; cousins and an aunt in England; two kitties - Marvin and Wilson; and many close friends
- Career or work experience:** Audiologist at the Madison VA for 20 years, also instrumental in opening the VA Kids Center, an on-site childcare center; and Clinical Systems Analyst at UW Health for 7 years; Clinical Systems Supervisor for 8 years at UW Health
- Hobbies/collections:** Knitting, weaving, birding, gardening, reading, cooking and baking, hiking, foraging in nature; local live music, traveling, and cocktail/mocktail making. I also collect yarn, barware, and stemware.
- Favorite exercise:** Strength training
- Favorite restaurants:** Osteria Papavero, Sardine, Lombardino's, Ahan, and Nook
- Favorite movie/film genre:** The Sound of Music; romance, especially Hallmark and Hallmark-style Christmas movies
- Favorite podcasts:** The Splendid Table; VeryPink Knits; Wait, Wait Don't Tell Me!; What Should I Read Next?; Nature Centered; Home Cooking; Betty in the Sky with a Suitcase; and Brought to you by...
- Favorite colors:** Purple, especially lavender; and every shade of green, from deep forest to chartreuse
- Special childhood memories:** Visiting my Granny and Grandpa in Manchester, England; While there, I loved decorating the trifle for tea and taking a turn at the old-fashioned clothing wringer. My most favorite memory is Granny bringing me tea or milk with sugar and little iced biscuits, and we would talk and talk. No rushing, no agenda, just the two of us!
- Favorite quotes/words of wisdom/advice:** This too shall pass; No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted; and It takes a village



*About six weeks ago, I broke both my legs. What followed has been humbling, challenging, and unexpectedly, one of the most moving experiences in my life. I am homebound and wheelchair bound, and without my community of about 50 friends providing meals, grocery shopping, light housekeeping, and visits, I would not be able to live at home. I am reminded every day of the above quotes!

Member Photo Gallery



Downhill Ski group in Utah

New Member Happy Hour



Who's New in Madison ... where new faces become old friends
Celebrating 91 Years

Member Spotlight

Introducing: Sue Terry

1. **Member of WN:** Joined in January 2024
2. **Interest Groups:** Tuesday Euchre & Ladies Lunch (Northeast); Sun Prairie Chinese Mah Jongg; Who Wants to Go; Eastside Coffee Bunch; Savvy Sips; Wednesday Euchre & Ladies Lunch (Fitchburg)
3. **Favorite part of WN:** Meeting new people; giving back to the community through volunteer activities
4. **WN leadership/volunteer position(s):** Currently, co-chair of Service Committee; co-leader of Tuesday Euchre & Ladies Lunch; and leader of Sun Prairie Chinese Mah Jongg. Past, co-leader April 2025 Mah Jongg Tournament; Winter 2025 co-leader of Euchre Tournament; and Fall 2025 Mah Jongg Social Day, all fundraisers for our Service Projects.
5. **Family:** Married to my high school sweetheart and celebrating 56 years in May; one son in Oconomowoc; and one daughter and one granddaughter (who's officially a teenager at 13!), in Madison
6. **Career or work experience:** I lived in different states and worked as a nurse in hospital specialty areas from critical care, to pediatrics, and in the OR, working as a surgical assistant with open-heart and plastic surgeons; medical laser manufacturer nurse educator, providing laser physics, laser safety presentations, and hands-on instruction with the equipment, traveling the world!
7. **Favorite beverage:** Coke Zero
8. **Favorite foods:** Thin crust supreme pizza; a warm oatmeal raisin cookie with vanilla ice cream and a cup of coffee
9. **Favorite musicians:** Female - Sylvia; male - Neil Diamond
10. **Favorite actors:** Female - Sandra Bullock; male - Keanu Reeves
11. **Favorite TV shows:** Matlock with Kathy Bates; The Count of Monte Cristo series
12. **Favorite color:** Purple
13. **Favorite places to travel:** So many wonderful travel memories through my job; We sold our home in 2013 and went on the road, full time, for almost six years. I drove a 45-foot diesel pusher and towed a car! If I had to choose it would be either Traverse City/Cherry Festival or Albuquerque/Balloon Festival.
14. **Favorite genres/authors:** A good 'who done it?'; romance and historical fiction; series by Mary Ellen Taylor and Simon Gervais
15. **A perfect day to me:** A sunny day, temps in the 70's, strolling anywhere with my husband
16. **Something you might not know about me, but now do:** I grew up in Indianapolis and was a majorette in high school. Our band performed at the Indy 500 in 1964 and marched on the racetrack!
17. **Favorite quotes or words of wisdom/advice:** Live each day to the fullest; Life is not a dress rehearsal



Member Photo Gallery



Wednesday Euchre



Not Just
Wine
& Cheese

