

# Who's New in Madison

Where New Faces Become Old Friends

## Please Take Note

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

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 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*

Annie Cooper



“You will find your people here.” When I heard these words spoken at my first New Member Coffee in February 2019 by Past President, Paula Primm, I didn’t recognize just how true they were. She encouraged all of us to just jump into WNIM by volunteering to head an Interest Group or even start a new one. I am truly grateful for that advice. It has been the perfect way to grow new friendships by sharing common interests.

After my husband and I moved to Madison to be closer to our family, it was WNIM that provided us the gift of a caring, supportive, and spirited community that has enabled us to make our lives richer and fuller. We attended several couples events. I also joined the West Side One and Done walking group, Women’s Biking group and Diversity in Madison. What an AMAZING group of women who volunteer their time and talent to make WNIM an UNPARALLELED opportunity for newcomers to Madison as well as longtime Madisonians to meet and share their lives.

As I reflect on all that this incredible group of women have done for me, I would like to thank the nominating committee for the privilege of electing me to serve as the 86th President of WNIM. I look forward to furthering the group’s mission of helping new and established residents of Madison explore our community and develop friendships. I often marvel at the thousands of lifetime friendships that have been formed right here in our WNIM group over the past 86 years. I will do my part to continue this rich history of women supporting women.

*(Continued on page 2)*

*(President's Corner continued from page 1)*

I would like to encourage members to offer a big thanks to Anne Brasier for everything that she has done in her term as President during these unprecedented times. Covid forced decisions on Anne's shoulders that NO ONE had ever seen before or could have predicted. It took a lot of the fun out of it and left tough decisions to be made. It was her steadfastness and vision that enabled our little social group to continue in the midst of a worldwide pandemic. With her tireless work, creativity, and courage, we were able to stay connected when many of us needed it more than ever!

Our 2020-2021 Board has also served us well in these uncertain times and is deserving of our deep gratitude and praise. These women challenged themselves during the pandemic to learn new skills and take risks on new ways for members to stay connected over this past year. Our volunteer board and committee chairs, committee members, and Interest Group Leaders are the simple reason that so many activities are available to us. Some are serving in their first leadership rotation, others have extended to multi terms. Some are serving in their first leadership rotation, others have extended to multiple terms. Please offer them your thanks, or better yet, volunteer to serve next year.

At our April meeting a quorum was met with over 210 votes cast for this year's executive board. Thank you to all who voted. We are beyond delighted to welcome Joy Cardin as this term's VP and we are extraordinarily fortunate to announce a second term for Barbara White as our Treasurer and Sue Simon as Secretary. All three come to us with brilliant minds, hard working attitudes and a dedication to WNIM's mission of building friendship.

As we begin another awesome Wisconsin summer of time outside with fresh air and sunshine, let's all hope that our lives can resume some semblance of normalcy. I suspect adjusting to the "new normal" will continue to involve several steps forward and a few back. So, as we have done under the leadership of Anne Brasier, we will continue to have fun together gathering under the Covid-19 guidelines of the CDC and Dane County.

As a reminder, there will be no Luncheons or Not Just Wine & Cheese events during the summer months, but expect most IG's to meet throughout the summer. Also, watch for the Membership renewal reminders which will be emailed to you. The next WNIM Newsletter will be the September issue. It will arrive in your email inbox in mid-August, packed with news for the start of the Who's New year. In the meantime, stay healthy and stay in touch.

## Welcome New WNIM Members

Wishing a warm welcome to our new members:

*Sandra Perry*

*Linda Potter*

*Jennifer Fagan*

*Betty Dolan*

*Mary Karau*

*Jeannine Ramsey*

*Marcia Getto*

*Betty Jean Grafton*

*Pat Schwarz*

*Martha LaMar*

### What to Expect from WNIM This Summer

- Most Interest Groups continue to meet during the summer.
- Membership renewal reminders will be emailed to you.
- There are no luncheons or Not Just Wine & Cheese sessions during the summer months.
- The next issue of the WNIM Newsletter will be the September issue. It will arrive in your email inbox in mid-August, packed with news for the start of the Who's New year.

### Programs Wrap-Up

*The Programs Committee has had a remarkable and satisfying COVID year! Joy Cardin and I explored new ways to find speakers that were Zoom-ready or Zoom-ready-to-learn. Like most of us, I think it will be so much more fun to meet in person and enjoy our time together! We all have much to be proud of in how we moved forward, adapted to many changes, and persevered to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of our positions!*

*Our 2021-22 committee, Pam Benish, Marge Kostichka, and I, look forward to 2021-22 luncheons. We hope to be scheduling in person speakers with exciting and relevant new topics for our members.*

*Thank you to the board and other committee members for all your hard work and helping Programs execute its mission of providing a variety of quality monthly topics for our members.*

*- Diane Wiersema, Programs Chair*

### A Favorite IG Returns

**Rambling Women** has been brought back to life by Candice Lutz and Cathy Broan. These leisurely walks will begin on Tuesday, June 1, and continue every other Tuesday. Start time will be weather contingent, but will typically be in the morning during the summer to avoid the heat. Plan on walking for 1-2 hours. An email listing the exact time and location will be sent out the preceding Friday AM along with a link to Sign Up Genius. Our first ramble will be in Hoyt Park where along the way we will visit what might be Madison's only pyramid. We hope many of you will join us.

Please update your old membership interest and contact information or register as new IG member.

## Service Committee News

What a wonderful and inspiring year we had getting to know our Service Project - Madison Reading Project! Check out our fundraising results for 2020-2021. This past year's COVID restrictions demanded the Service Committee to be flexible, creative, and to think outside the box and we did so with great gusto and success!



- **The Fall Walk:** The Fall Walk fundraiser was very successful with 48 Who's New members donating \$3455 for Madison Reading Project! Multiple walk options were suggested and members walked in small groups for a combined distance of over 215 miles!
- **October Wishlist Donations:** During October, members donated books on diversity issues for teachers to read and discuss with their students. 10 members donated 60 books for an approximate value of \$600 and donated \$150 worth of office supplies.
- **Holiday Bazaar:** The Service Committee planned a "virtual" Holiday Bazaar. We offered made to order, colorful, warm polar fleece hats and Jennifer Allen's beautiful notecard sets! Who's New raised \$3,567 for Madison Reading Project! In summary: 54 members placed orders for 180 notecard sets and 131 polar fleece hats. In addition, members and friends of members donated \$457 to Madison Reading Project. A big THANK YOU to Jennifer Allen for donating her beautiful notecards and the Who's New "Hat Ladies" for making the fun polar fleece hats.
- **The Valentine Giving Tree Challenge** - 200 books for 200 kids! Your giving spirit helped us surpass our goal! Nineteen members donated 207 books for an estimated in kind value of \$2,000. In addition, 18 members donated a combined total of \$1,000 using the donate button on our website or with personal checks.
- **May Quilt Raffle with WNIM and Madison Reading Project:** For our final fundraiser we held a quilt raffle with Madison Reading Project. A stunning king size quilt, beautifully designed and handcrafted by Stephanie Kissel was donated. Tickets sales from WNIM came to \$1,445 and sales from MRP were \$500. Total quilt tickets sales: \$1,945. The winner was announced at the May luncheon.

**Thank you!**  
**Your  
generosity  
and support  
was amazing!**

**The total monetary amount donated to Madison Reading Project through fundraisers and through the donate button on our website came to: \$10,039.**

In kind donations from the donated books, office supplies, quilt, notecards and material for the polar fleece hats came to an approximate value of over \$3,500.

### Donating used or new books?

If you're doing spring cleaning and find gently used books for children and adolescents, consider donating them to Madison Reading Project. For used book donation guidelines, click [here](#) to check out their website. We hope you will keep donating books to this worthy organization.

## Service Committee News *continued*

### *Many Thanks from the Service Committee*

Your generosity made a real difference! The Committee is especially appreciative of member support for our fundraisers. We had to try a different approach this year due to the pandemic restrictions, but you were willing to go along with us and support the important work of Madison Reading Project.

Sincerely, WNIM Service Committee members:

*Stephanie Kissel, Nancy Daly, Barbara Fahey, Martha Main,  
Carol Ottenstein, and Patti Bavlka*

### A Message and Thank-you from Madison Reading Project



So far in 2021, MRP has given away nearly 14,000 books to 7,000 children, and our planning for the Summer Reading Program is in full swing! In addition, we're looking forward to celebrating our (virtual) Grand Opening celebration on May 26th. Leading up to the main event on the 26th, we're planning book giveaways for teachers, the Who's New Quilt Raffle, MRP swag giveaways and more sneak peaks inside the center. We would love for our supporters from Who's New to follow along online on our facebook event.

Rowan, Sarah, and all the staff at Madison Reading Project want to extend our deepest gratitude for all of your support over this past year through book drives, giving trees, your holiday bazaar and financial donations. We are so proud that we were chosen as your 2020-2021 nonprofit partner! I can't say enough about how generous the members of Who's New have been.

We thought you might like to hear what some schools and community organizations have to say about Madison Reading Project.

Thank you so much for the generous book donation! We used them to create a whole new library nook. We especially appreciate how many books are culturally diverse! It's great to have characters that the kids can really identify with.

**Domestic Abuse Intervention Services**

Madison Reading Project has given our school an avenue to ensure our at-risk students have access to books they are excited about. Students are talking about their birthday book and there is nothing better than sharing a high-five when they've finished. We are thankful for this gift that bridges reading between school and home.

**Northside Elementary**

I wanted to thank you again for this amazing opportunity! As a first year teacher, I especially appreciate your support while building a classroom library that is representative of my students' interests and lived experiences.

**Allis Elementary**

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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 WNIM 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 2021-2022

### Executive Board

**President**

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

**Vice President**

Joy Cardin, 608-698-1041  
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**Secretary**

Sue Simon, 608-819-6235  
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**Treasurer**

Barbara White 402-203-9440  
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### Committee Members

**Hostess**

Julie Allen, 608-347-3324  
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**Committee:**

Sue Simon, Chris Olejniczak,  
Hedy Stieber, Lisa Kass

**New Member Coffee/Cocktail**

Carol Boe, 608-957-2849  
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**Committee:**

Cindi Jaggi, Terry Payne,  
Jo Linder, Janet Pawelski

**Archives**

Vacant

**Luncheons**

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**Committee:**

Merriel Kruse, Kathy Zastrow

**Member Services**

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**Committee:** Sondra Jackson**Newsletter**

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Gail Green, 608-509-6214  
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**Not Just Wine & Cheese**

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**Committee:** Barbara White**Past President**

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**Programs**

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**Committee:** Marge Kostichka**Website:**

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Barbara White, 402-203-9440  
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**Service Project**

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Genevieve Murtaugh, 804-441-5896  
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**Committee:**

Nancy Daly, Martha Main,  
Judy Thorpe, Nan Youngerman

**Note for members:**

If you have a change of contact information, 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.