



The Laurel News and Notes

Newsletter of The Women's Club of Madison Member of General Federation of Women's Club of Connecticut, Inc



All General Membership Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month. Unless otherwise noted, they are at 6:30 p.m. and are via Zoom. If you are new to Zoom meetings, the Guilford Public Library offers assistance. Check out their website for more details. If anyone is aware of a member needing assistance with Zoom, please let me know. **Board meetings** are held on the third Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted, and are also via Zoom. I will forward the Zoom access information and agendas prior to both meetings. Board meetings are open to all members.

If you have any items for the agenda or would like to include committee information or information relevant to the Women's Club of Madison in this newsletter, please email me at patriciathal@aim.com.

COVID-19 testing is available on a first come, first serve basis at Hammonasset State Park, Camping area. The testing site is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Sunday. No appointment needed. Community Health Center opened the new testing center to offer free COVID-19 testing to children and adults of all ages. There is a **COVID-19 Testing Form** that should be completed prior to going to the Park. This will expedite the process.

Madison Alerts – If you have not already done so, please consider signing up for Madison's new communication system, Madison Alerts. In order to register, you will need an email address. You may sign up at www.madison.org/madisonalerts. If you know of someone who does not have internet access, he or she may contact the Madison Senior Center at 203-45-5627 for assistance.

COVID-19 Vaccine – If you have access to a computer and email, please register yourself on the VAMS system. You will receive follow up emails from VAMS on how to make an appointment for vaccine clinics in your area.



STATE PROJECT – MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS

Thank you to those who signed up to assist with the NAMI-CT “Caring Cards” project. Tool kits with all the necessary information and instructions will be sent out soon. NAMI makes sure that every patient from a hospital in CT that treats survivors of suicide attempts has a "caring card" given to them when discharged. The cards have hand written messages explaining that they are not alone and they do matter.



Let's Get Together – It's been almost a year since we were last together, in person, as a group. If you have any ideas about ways that we can get together as a group, following CDC and local guidelines, please contact **Jan Crawford, Social Chairwoman** at either lincrawmadison@comcast.net or **203-779-5582**.



Food Pantry – Both **Donna Dougherty** and **Phyllis Denton** volunteer at the Food Pantry every Wednesday. Please drop off your donations at either Phyllis' or Donna's home. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Phyllis' address is 8 Runnymede Lane and Donna's is 38 Aylesbury Circle.

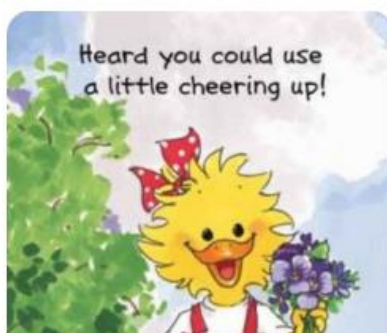
Thank you to Donna and Phyllis for bringing in the donations and thank you to all members who have donated!



Website – Check out the website at: <https://womensclubmadisonct.com>. **Denise Rose** is doing a great job keeping the website updated. She is including a newsletter section, snippets from meetings regarding upcoming events, news from the State GFWC, information about the book clubs, etc. **Thank you Denise.**



Book Club - If you are interested in joining the Book Club, please contact **Josephine Mokriski** at either josephinemokriski@hotmail.com or at 203-245-0706. The next meeting will be either March 16th or 18th. Once the date and time are determined, the Zoom invitation will be sent. The book for March is **The Last Flight** by Julie Clark. Betty King is the Facilitator.



Pauline Hale is the Club **Corresponding Secretary**. If you know of a member who is ill, in need of a bit of cheer, or is celebrating a special event, please contact Pauline. She will send a card from the Club, letting our member know that we are all thinking about her. Pauline's email address is pshmadison@gmail.com.



CTGFWC State Advocate for Children – Donna Farrell is putting together the finishing touches on the little bags with school items for children. If you have any ideas as to where to distribute these bags, please contact Donna directly. Her phone number is 203-804-2693 or email her at farrell.donna@gmail.com.



Fundraising – If you have any ideas on how to raise funds this year, please let me know. Due to Covid19 restrictions, we have been unable to do the fundraising activities we had planned. As we cannot meet in person, alternatives to our typical Babysitting Seminar format are being explored. More information on this as it becomes available.



Shopping During Covid19 – During the pandemic, several of our local merchants offer delivery, curbside pickup, and special senior hours. Contact your favorite locals for details. Local restaurants offer take-out service. Think of ways that you can help support our local businesses during this time. Maybe a gift certificate? Remember to **Love your locals!**



Thank you **Dee Mulqueen** for organizing and coordinating the Veterans' Project! Dee filled five large plastic bins with the items donated by the Club. **The American Legion Auxiliary** is selling patriotic masks. They are \$5 each and may be purchased at Hammonasset Package Store, 1333 Boston Post Road, Madison.



St. Jude Fund - Josephine Mokriski continues to collect money for the St. Jude Fund. If you would like to make a contribution, please contact Josephine at josephinemokriski@hotmail.com or call her at 203-245-0706. **Thank you Josephine!**



Knitting Club – Our knitting club remains active, in spite of the challenges of Covid19. **Barbara DeRosa** and **Denise Daly** have instructions on how to make the afghan squares. Please contact either Barbara or Denise to obtain either the knitting instructions or a kit to help put together these lovely afghans. Barbara's email address is dderosa72@comcast.net or call her at 203-245-6063. Denise's email address is ddaly524@gmail.com or call her at 203-458-3309.

Thank you to Barbara, Denise, and all the Knitters!



Attention All Walkers – Our **Walking Club** remains committed to staying fit and healthy. Members walk every day at 9:00 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday they meet at East Wharf and on Wednesday at Hammonasset Park. For more information contact **Donna Dougherty at 203-605-4841.**



GFWC has launched its five new community service programs. The following information was taken from the GFWC's website. Moving forward, I will be hi-lighting both the Community Service Programs and Special Programs.

“The Community Service Programs and Special Programs have been re-structured to help clubs light a path for the future and better address the current and upcoming needs of its communities.”

Environment Community Service Program

The GFWC Environment Community Service Program encourages us to become stewards of the earth by working to preserve the world's resources, protect wildlife and domesticated animals, live sustainably, and beautify our communities and enjoy nature. Environmental degradation is cumulative and many scientists warn that we are at a tipping point. There is no time like the present to act.

Please visit the GFWC website at <https://www.gfwc.org/> for more information.



Conservation and Environment – Margaret Hopkins and Carol Musante, Co-Chairpersons.
Carol is researching how the state is planning to utilize the new gasoline tax. She will be contacting our state representative, John Michael-Parker, to discuss and will provide an update to the Club.



E. C. Scranton Memorial Library Raffle – The E. C. Scranton Memorial Library is holding a raffle with the drawing on Valentine’s Day, February 14th, at 2:00 p.m. “A Year in the Heart of Madison” has one winner in each of the following four categories. Tickets are \$20 each.

- **Eat Your Heart Out – Total Prize Value \$2,750** – Winner receives 55 gift cards, each with a face value of \$50, to spend at the following restaurants: Cafe Allegre, Friends & Company, Jia Mei, Lenny and Joe’s, and Madison Beach Hotel.
- **Love Your Local – Total Prize Value \$2,080** – Winner receives 52 gift cards, each with a face value of \$40, to spend at the following local shops: RJ Julia Booksellers, Walker Loden, Willow & Birch, and The Audubon Shop.
- **Home Sweet Home – Total Prize Value \$1,560** – Winner receives 52 gift cards, each with a face value of \$30, to spend at the following: Bradley and Wall, Grande Apizza, Madison Earth Care, and Ring’s End.
- **Sweet and Savory – Total Prize Value \$1,300** – Winner receives 52 gift cards, each with a face value of \$25, to spend at the following: Ashley’s, Madison Coffee House, Meriano’s Bake Shoppe, and Willoughby’s.

Tickets may be purchased using one of the following methods:

- Purchase a physical ticket by calling the library at 203-245-7365 or visiting the ticket sales table (courtyard next to Grande Apizza on Boston Post Road) on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Visit www.scrantonlibrary.org and click on A Year in the Heart of Madison.
- Text “Raffle” to 406-302-5086

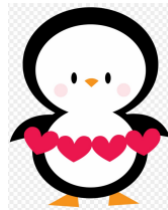
DATES TO REMEMBER:

Tuesday February 2 – Ground Hog Day



Tuesday February 9 – General Membership Meeting – 6:30 p.m., via Zoom

Sunday February 14 – Valentine’s Day



Monday February 15 – Board Meeting – 5:30 p.m., via Zoom

Monday February 15 – Presidents’ Day



