



The Laurel News and Notes

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



Thank you to Rita Foster, RN, MSN, Public Health Nurse Supervisor at East Shore District Health Department, who spoke at our March General Membership Meeting. She provided great information and update regarding Covid-19. Lots of fantastic questions and discussion! **Thank you Liz Early** for coordinating this.

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. **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. There is a **COVID-19 Testing Form** that should be completed prior to going to the Park.

Madison Alerts – You may sign up for Madison Alerts at www.madisonct.org/madisonalerts. In order to register, you will need an email address.

If you have access to a computer and email, please register for the Covid vaccine on the VAMS system. Vaccines are also being offered at CVS, Walgreens, and various health services, such as Yale New Haven Health Services and Stop and Shop will be offering the vaccine in the future. Please check their websites for updates and registration information.

Website – Check out our 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.**



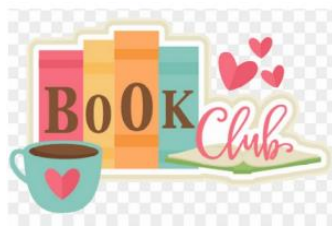
GFWC/CT Southeast District Day April 11, 2021– As you know, in lieu of an in-person meeting, District Day was celebrated with a great newsletter – a copy of which was sent to each of you. There are messages from the GFWC/CT President Deborah Fiore; Southeast District President, Zunny Martinez; GFWC/CT First Vice President, our own Kathy DeBurra; GFWC/CT Second Vice President, Kathy Barnes; and GFWC/CT Third Vice President, Kathy Matusiak. The President of each club in the district submitted an article, telling about the past club year. There are also some neat photos from the clubs. Check them out – you might recognize a few people!



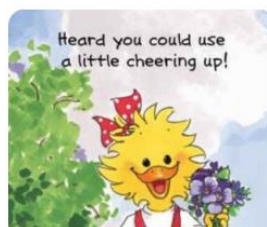
Now It's Time to Brag about the Fantastic Women's Club of Madison! This year the Club won district awards in five areas: Membership, Fundraising, Civic Engagement and Outreach, Environment, and Education and Libraries. In spite of a global pandemic you all did an outstanding job of meeting the challenge, working hard, and contributing to our community. I am so proud of all you accomplished in 2020 and know that you will continue to shine in 2021! Thank you!



Food Pantry – Both **Donna Dougherty** and **Phyllis Denton** volunteer at the Food Pantry every Wednesday. Please drop off your donations at Phyllis’ house. Her address is 8 Runnymead Lane. In February the Club contributed 14 pounds of peanut butter and jelly and in March 27.5 pounds. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. **Thank you to Donna and Phyllis for bringing in the donations and thank you to all members who have donated!**



Book Club - If you are interested in joining the Book Club or have any suggestions for future books, please contact **Josephine Mokriski** at either josephinemokriski@hotmail.com or at 203-245-0706. The next Book Club meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 21, 2021. This month’s book is **Hidden Valley Road** by Robert Kolker. At this time, the meeting will take place via Zoom. Watch for updates from Josephine.



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.



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. Josephine also is providing monthly updates about St. Jude's. Watch for them in your email. **Thank you Josephine!**



Knitting Club – Anyone interested in knitting or crocheting afghan squares may contact either **Barbara DeRosa** or **Denise Daly** for instructions. 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 – Now that Spring is here, let's get outside, meet up with friends, and take a walk. Our group meets Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 9:00 a.m. at East Wharf and Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. at Hammonasset Park.

The Club participated in the GFWC/CT Walking and Exercise Contest. So far, we have clocked 175.2 miles of walking and 1.5 hours of aerobic exercise. Remember – If you participated, you must submit your information to Barbara DeRosa no later than Friday, April 16th!

Thank you Barbara for Coordinating this!



Disbursements – Lynne Sarro, Vice President, will be emailing members with the list of organizations being considered for disbursements this year. We have \$1,500.00 for disbursements. While we had requests for funds from many great organizations, the five chosen by the Disbursement Committee for consideration include Night in Hand, Literacy Volunteers, ABC House, Smile Train, and the American Legion. Be on the look-out for Lynne’s email which will outline the organizations and voting procedure.



STATE PROJECT – MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS

Thank you to those who signed up to assist with the NAMI-CT “Caring Cards” project. I have requested additional cards and will distribute them once they are received. If you are interested in helping out, please let me know. Thank you.



The GFWC/CT Convention is scheduled for May 14, 2021 and May 15, 2021, via Zoom. The official Call for the Convention will be coming out soon. I will forward it once it is received.

GFWC has launched its five new community service programs. The following information was taken from the GFWC's website.

“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.”

For more information, please checkout the GFWC website.



Conservation – Carol Musante and Margaret Hopkins, Co-Chairpersons

Madison Clean-Up, Green-Up Day is Saturday, April 24, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Gloves and bags will be distributed at the Madison Town Green and Robert's Food Center parking lot. The Club will be working in the parking lot behind the post office. Please contact **Carol Musante** if you are able to help. Carol will be forwarding additional information prior to that day. **Thank you Carol!**



Friends of Hammonasset Virtual Plant Sale – Friends of Hammonasset will be holding a virtual plant sale this year. You may go on line to start ordering plants on April 21, 2021. Then pick up your plants Thursday through Sunday. The plant sale runs from Thursday, May 6 to Sunday, May 30.



Let me know what you think...

Over the years, when we have met in person, there have been some delicious sweet and savory dishes prepared for meetings. If any of you have some recipes to share, please forward to me. I will include them in future newsletters. While we may not be able to get together as a group, we can still share some of the recipes for goodies that people have prepared over the years.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Monday April 19th – Board Meeting – 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

Wednesday April 21st – Book Club – via Zoom

Thursday April 22nd – Earth Day

Saturday April 24th – Madison Clean-Up, Green-Up Day

Friday April 30th – National Arbor Day

And just for the fun of it...

Saturday April 17th – Husband Appreciation Day

Wednesday April 21st – National Tea Day

Friday April 23rd – World Book Day