



The Laurel News and Notes

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

May 2022 – Edition II



Our next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at the Maritime Grill in Guilford. The meeting begins at 6:00 p.m. This is the annual end of year dinner and will also be installation of Officers for the 2022-2024 Women's Club of Madison. This is the last meeting until September. Thank you to Dawn Tiscia for organizing the dinner. Board Meetings will continue to be held via Zoom on the third Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

This year we **disbursed funds** to the following organizations: **Scranton Library - \$500; Nite in Hand - \$500; ABC House - \$500; and St. Jude's - \$200.**

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.



This week's GFWC News and Notes featured our wonderful group of knitters and crocheters. I just had to share it again!

President's Pick

By Marian St.Clair, International President



GFWC is proud to share stories **each week** on the *Volunteers in Action Blog* about club women making an impact in their communities and around the world. Recently, in honor of Federation Day and Volunteers in Action Week, special emphasis was placed on clubs that have formed long-term partnerships to develop projects with local organizations that have a lasting impact.

One of those clubs was the GFWC Women's Club of Madison (Connecticut), also

selected as this month's "President's Pick" for their 22-year partnership with The Village, a local organization that works to build strong, healthy families that protect and nurture children in Greater Hartford. The Village provides critical support to the region around the state's capital by providing a full range of behavioral health, early childhood and youth development, substance use treatment, and other support services for children, adults, and families.

During their partnership, the club women have put smiles on the faces of many children in Greater Hartford by creating and donating more than 1,000 unique, child-size blankets for children who have been removed from their home due to an accident or other incident. "These kids have had tremendous trauma and they are often pulled out of their homes with nothing," Club Treasurer Katherine De Burra explained, "but then they get a blanket that is unique to them and it's really special."

To create the blankets, club members and friends knit or crochet small rectangles throughout the year and then schedule a day to get together to combine the pieces. On occasion, the club women have also donated items such as teddy bears, duffle bags, backpacks, and school and personal supplies.

As the club's mission on its website notes, "We are not known so much by what we keep, but what we share." Indeed! Congratulations to President Patricia Thal and the club women of the GFWC Women's Club of Madison on this exceptional project and their dedication to supporting local children and families.



GFWC/CT DISTRICT DAY. Around the World with GFWC, was held on Saturday, May 7th, at LaLuna Ristorante in Branford. The Women's Club of Madison was well represented. **District President, Donna Farrell**, spoke about the country (France) which we represented and we even had a special guest appearance by none other than Julia Child, who provided a brief cooking lesson. The Women's Club of Madison won awards in the following areas: **Veterans, Membership, and Arts and Culture!** Our own **Barbara Birnie** was honored for **50 years of service!**

Thank you to Donna and her committee for a great District Day!



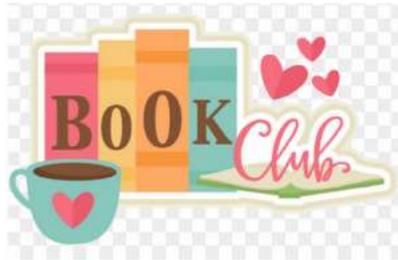
Annie Edwards, Assistant Treasurer, has sent out reminders regarding Membership Dues. Please watch your emails for details. You may bring your dues to the May meeting. Otherwise, checks are to be mailed to **The Women's Club of Madison, PO Box 691, Madison, CT 06443.**



Food Pantry – Both **Donna Dougherty** and **Phyllis Denton** volunteer at the Food Pantry every Wednesday. You may bring your donations of peanut butter and jelly to the General Membership Meetings or drop off your donations at Phyllis' house, 8 Runnymede Lane.

For the month of March, **50 pounds** of peanut butter and jelly were collected.

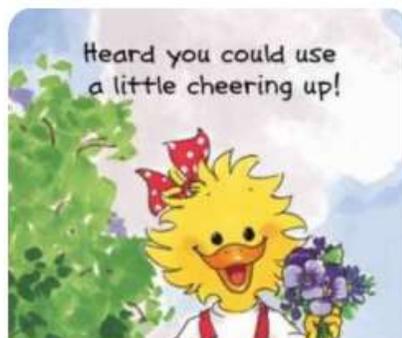
Thank you to Donna and Phyllis for bringing in the donations and thank you to all members who have donated!



Book Club - If you are interested in joining the Book Club or have any suggestions for future books, please contact **Josephine Mokriski**. She may be contacted at either josephinemokriski@hotmail.com or at 203-245-0706. More information to follow as to dates, time, and place. Watch your emails! Here's a preview of upcoming books to be discussed.

May - **The Book of Lost Friends** - Lisa Wingate

July - **Homefront** - Kristin Hannah



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. She will be collecting at the meetings. If you would like to make a contribution, and are unable to attend the meeting, please contact Josephine at either 203-245-0706 or email her at josephinemokriski@hotmail.com . **Thank you Josephine!**



Attention All Walkers – Now that Spring is here, it's time to get outside, take a walk, and enjoy the fresh air and sunshine. Our Walking 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. Contact **Barbara DeRosa** for details.



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 dderosa73@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!**



Donna Farrell and Gail Lennox are collecting tabs from soda and beer cans – just the tab, not the whole can or top. Please start collecting them. They will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House in New Haven. Please bring the tabs to the meeting or contact **Donna** or **Gail** directly for drop off information. Ronald McDonald house will receive all of the recycling money.

Gail also is collecting empty plastic prescription bottles for Doctor's Without Borders. Please remove the labels from the bottle prior to giving them to **Gail**. Bottles may be brought to the meetings or contact **Gail** for drop off information. These containers are not recyclable so here is a way to put them to good use.



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.**



The Women's Club of Madison will be participating in the Madison Lions Club Tag Sale on the Madison Green on Saturday, June 18, 2022 from 9:00 to 3:00. This is a good time to do some "spring cleaning". Would you please consider putting aside some gently-used items for the sale? Put a suggested price on each item (subject to change during the day) and plan to bring them to the Green by 7:30 a.m. the day of the sale. If the items do not sell, they will be donated to a charitable organization or you may reclaim them at the Green by 3:00. If you have allowed us to borrow a folding table or two, please arrange to pick up your table(s) at 3:00. We will need volunteers to help in 2 hour shifts from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to set up, sell and clean-up at the end of the day. A sign-up sheet will be circulated at the May Meeting. We have a lot of fun at the sale and it is a good way to generate positive publicity for our Club. Hope you can come and find a treasure or two!

Thank you to our Committee!

Karin Casey – 203-421-4754
Gail Lennox – 201-704-0939

Mary Davis – 203-245-8459
Anna Marie Lane – 202-245-0240



The Madison Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 30, starting at 10:00 a.m. The parade will start at Samson Rock and go to the Green.



The Annual Friends of Hammonasset Plant Sale will be held **May 5 through May 29, 2022**. The Sale is open Thursday through Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The sale is located 0.3 miles east of the main entrance to the park, on Route 1. Proceeds support Friends of Hammonasset projects at Meigs Point Nature Center and throughout the Park.

DATES TO REMEMBER

05/ 05/2022 - 05/29/2022 - The Annual Friends of Hammonasset Plant Sale

05/30/2022 – Memorial Day Parade

06/10/2022 – Father’s Day

06/14/2022 – Flag Day

06/14/2022 – Annual Dinner

JUST FOR FUN

06/01/2022 – National Pen Pal Day

06/05/2022 – World Environment Day

06/06/2022 – National Gardening Exercise Day

06/15/2022 – Smile Power Day

DISTRICT DAY 2022

