



The Laurel News and Notes

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

March 2025



The next meeting of the Women's Club of Madison will be held on Tuesday, March 11, 2025 6:00 p.m., at the Madison Senior Center. Board Meetings will continue to be held via Zoom on the third Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. Remember to send any agenda items or committee information for both the Membership and Board Meetings to **President Liz Early**. Liz's email address is ack.girl@hotmail.com.

Lynn Sarro has been serving as Vice President this year. However, this was a one-year commitment. If you are interested in the position of Vice President please contact **Liz Early**.

The June Dinner is scheduled for Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at Cafe Allegre. The reservation form is attached to this newsletter. Thank you **Laurie Storino, Jessica Tonini, and Beth Slattery** for planning this.

If you have information for the newsletter, please email me at patriciathal@aim.com.



The Southeast District Day is Saturday March 29, 2025. It will be held at Nataz, 280 Branford Road, North Branford, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The Call has been sent out via email. This year's theme is **"Growing Awareness"**. The Guest Speaker is **Amy Mullen of Vista Life Innovations**.

If you are planning to attend, registration is due no later than March 11, 2025. Registration Form is attached to the newsletter. Please send the check and form to:

Women's Club of Madison
P.O. Box 691
Madison, CT 06443

Cost is \$45.00. Please make payment to the: Women's Club of Madison.

The \$10 registration fee is being covered by the WCM.

Please look for centerpiece basket items, including adult colored pencils, coloring books, and word find books. Also any raffle basket items, e.g. self care, relaxation, wine, etc. All items may be brought to the March membership meeting.



WOMEN'S CLUB OF MADISON TO CELEBRATE 125TH ANNIVERSARY



The Women's Club of Madison is celebrating is **125 Anniversary** this year. The Club is building a float to be in the July 4th Parade. **Sheila Kinscherf** is coordinating the project and will be providing updates as we move forward.

Our Club supports a variety of organizations, not just in our community, but nationally and internationally. Doctors Without Borders, Homes for the Brave, Madison Police Department, the Ronald McDonald House, St. Jude Fund, and the Food Pantry of Madison Community Services are just a few that we support. The Club also provides a scholarship to one or more graduating students at Daniel Hand High School. Annual gifts are given to the Polson Middle School Music and Arts Departments. Through annual grants and disbursements, we lend support to local organizations.

As part of the **125th Anniversary** we would like to hilight the various accomplishments of the Club. If you have any history information or photos that you would like to see as part of our celebration, please contact **Sheila** at **skinscherf@comcast.net**.

Looking forward to a wonderful celebration!

Thank you **Sheila** for chairing this event.

WHIST FUND RAISER



Betty King and her committee are hard at work planning our Whist fundraiser, which will be held on Friday, April 11, 2025 at the First Congregational Church. Betty and her Committee will be selling tickets at the March General Membership Meeting. The cost is \$15.00 per person. An email recently went out to all members with a sign-up for food items. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. and the game starts at 6:00 p.m.

Please contact **Joan Powers** at **917-601-8194** or jonci1@verizon.net if you have questions regarding signing up to donate food. You may contact either **Joan** or **Betty** if you have questions regarding the Whist. **Betty** may be contacted at eliz@madisonct.com.

Thank you **Betty, Joan and your committee!**



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!**

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



March is Women's History Month The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in commemorating and encouraging the study, observance and celebration of the vital role of women in American history.

According to the National Archives website,

“National Women's History Month was established by a presidential proclamation to draw attention to and improve the focus on women in historical studies. It began in New York City on March 8, 1857, when female textile workers marched in protest of unfair working conditions and unequal rights for women. It was one of the first organized strikes by working women, during which they called for a shorter work day and decent wages. Also on March 8, 1908, women workers in the needle trades marched through New York City's Lower East Side to protest child labor and sweatshop working conditions, and demand women's suffrage. Beginning in 1910, March 8 became annually observed as International Women's Day. Women's History Week was instituted in 1978 to begin adding women's history into educational curricula. In 1987, the National Women's History Project successfully petitioned Congress to include all of March as a celebration of the economic, political, and social contributions of women.”

Visit <https://womenshistorymonth.gov> for more information about Women's History Month.



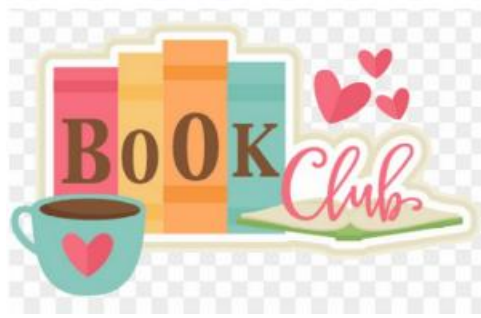
Melody Wirgau, Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee, will be hold a Scholarship Screening Meeting on Monday, April 14, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. The group will review the high school scholarship application to determine viable candidates. There will be a sign-up sheet at the March meeting for anyone who would like to read the applications.

Melody has submitted Katrina Engelhardt's application to the state GFWC for consideration for the Phipps scholarship.



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 Runnymead Lane.

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. Meetings take place on the Third Wednesday of every other month starting in September. This year the Club will be meeting at the Scranton Memorial Library in the Life Long Learning Rook at 3:00 p.m. The Hostess will bring cups, napkins, etc. and organizing three members to bring snacks and one to bring ice. Everyone should bring her own drink. The next meeting is March 19th. Members are reading **Rise and Shine** by Anna Quindlen.



If you know of a member who is ill, in need of a bit of cheer, or is celebrating a special event, please contact **Sue Hermonat, Corresponding Secretary**. She will send a card from the Club, letting our member know that we are all thinking about her. Sue's email address is **shermo1981@att.net**.



Attention All Walkers – Spring is on the way. Really! Time to get out there and take a walk. 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. Enjoy some time with your Women's Club of Madison friends.



Knitting Club – The Women's Club of Madison Knitting Club meets the first Tuesday of every month from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Scranton Memorial Library. No experience needed – Lesson are provided! This is the group that makes the beautiful afghans which are donated to the Madison Police Department, Ronald McDonald House, and other organizations.





Website – Check out our website at: <https://womensclubmadisonct.com>. Here you will find loads of information about the Club, supporting our community, activities, events, photos., and membership information. Thank you **Barbara Cervoni!**

TAG SALE



The **Tag Sale** will be held on Saturday, June 7, 2025, on the Green. Start cleaning out those closets, attics, and cellars looking for those hidden gems that no longer bring you joy. Remember – one woman's trash is another woman's treasure. This year's Chairperson is **Dawn Tiscia**.

Please consider donating your gently used items for the sale. Some items to consider: housewares, furniture, garden tools, vintage items, toys, jewelry, glassware, dishes, books, games, bikes, sports equipment. We are looking for anything you think may sell!

Dawn will be providing more information as we get closer to June. Thank you **Dawn** for again chairing this event.



Gail Lennox 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. **Thank you Gail!**



Pat Sangster is 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 a meeting or contact **Pat Sangster**. Ronald McDonald house will receive all of the recycling money. **Thank you Pat!**



Madison's Annual Green Up, Clean Up will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2025. More information will be available at the March Meeting. The Club has participated in this event for the past several years. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Old Town Hall. Gloves, trash bags, and safety vests will be provided. Eight or more volunteers needed. The clean up should take about one hour. Thank you!

HOMES FOR THE BRAVE/FEMALE SOLDIERS FORGOTTEN HEROES



Mary O’Connell and Dee Mulqueen delivered the donations to **Homes for the Brave** in Bridgeport. Members of the **Women’s Club of Madison** donated numerous bed and bath items (sheets, towels, blankets, comforters, etc.), clothes (hats, gloves, shirts, socks, tights), candy, toiletries and pampering products, headbands, jewelry, candy and an entire bag of clothing for a four year old child!

Thank you **Dee and Mary** for organizing this project!

WCM DATES TO REMEMBER:

03/11/2025 – General Membership Meeting
03/15/2025 – Registration Deadline for Southeast District Day
03/17/2025 – Board Meeting – Via Zoom
03/29/2025 – Southeast District Day

DATES TO REMEMBER:

03/04/2025 – Mardi Gras
03/08/2025 – International Women’s Day
03/09/2025 – Daylight Savings Time Begins
03/14/2025 – Pi Day
03/17/2025 – St. Patrick’s Day
03/20/2025 – First Day of Spring

SE District Day Registration Form – Women’s Club of Madison

Date: Saturday, March 29, 2025

Location: Nataz, 280 Branford Road, North Branford, CT

Time: 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

Invited: SE District Club Members & Guests/ Prospective Members are Invited.

Luncheon: \$45.00 Registration per person (Coffee, Tea, Pastries will be available at 9:30am)

Station Menu Lunch to Include: Charcuterie Board & Salad; Braised Prime Beef, Potatoes, Green Beans; Chicken with lemon, white wine, basil, artichoke hearts and tomatoes; Pasta with marinara cream sauce.

There is a cash bar for soda & alcoholic beverages.

Please indicate if you have any dietary restrictions*. _____

Member Name: _____

E-Mail: _____

Telephone: _____

Please mail check to PO Box 691, Madison, CT 06443 or bring it to the March 11 General Membership meeting.



June Dinner Meeting

SPONSORED BY THE WOMEN'S CLUB OF MADISON
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

Cafe Allegre

TUESDAY, JUNE 10TH AT 6:00PM

725 BOSTON POST ROAD, MADISON

DINNER COST: \$50 PER PERSON

RETURN YOUR DINNER CHOICE WITH YOUR \$50 CHECK
MADE OUT TO WCM, P.O. BOX 691, MADISON, CT 06443
BY **MAY 31, 2025**

QUESTIONS:

JESSICA TONINI 671-272-0433
BETH SLATTERY 402-212-1217
LAURIE STORINO 203-258-6075

PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT

DINNER MENU (PLEASE SELECT YOUR DINNER CHOICE)

- ☐ CHICKEN MARSALA
☐ SOLE FLORENTINE
☐ VEAL PARMIGIANA
☐ PASTA PRIMAVERA (VEGETARIAN)

SALAD, DESSERT, COFFEE & TEA INCLUDED; CASH BAR

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____