

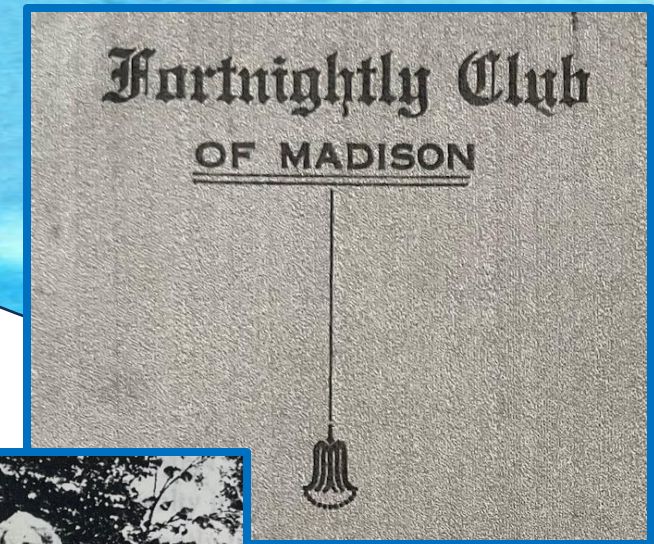
1900

Women's Club of Madison was founded on February 2, 1900 as "Fortnightly Club"

Under the leadership of Ellen Miner Dowd, the Club's first president, a small group of far-sighted and enterprising women joined forces to establish The Fortnightly Club.

The Club focuses on literary endeavors, self-improvement, and created social and community service opportunities for women. The first area of study was American authors.

In 1902, the Club joins the Connecticut State Federation, at the time, a network of 27 Clubs and thousands of Connecticut women, and the General Federation of Women's Clubs, an international women's organization with more than 100,000 members in Clubs in every state and more than a dozen countries worldwide.



*Cover of club yearbook
Credit: Charlotte L. Evarts
Memorial Archives*



*Mrs. Frank Dowd
Credit: Charlotte L. Evarts
Memorial Archives*



Members of the Madison Women's Club circa 1910
 Credit: Charlotte L. Evarts Memorial Archives

The Club:

- Celebrates 10 years of gathering and community service.
- Advocates to install fire escapes on school buildings and establish pensions for school teachers.
- Creates a Public Speaking prize for Hand Consolidated school students.
- Donates \$25 to Madison Public Health and Nursing Association and \$5 for town sidewalk improvements.
- Places three rubbish bins throughout town with the note "Please use these bins instead of the custom of scattering such rubbish about on the ground anywhere".
- Secures funds for the extermination of the elm tree beetles.
- Remains devoted to supporting Red Cross work.
- Establishes discussion groups on the French/German Peace Agreements.



Boston Post Road with East River Station in the distance





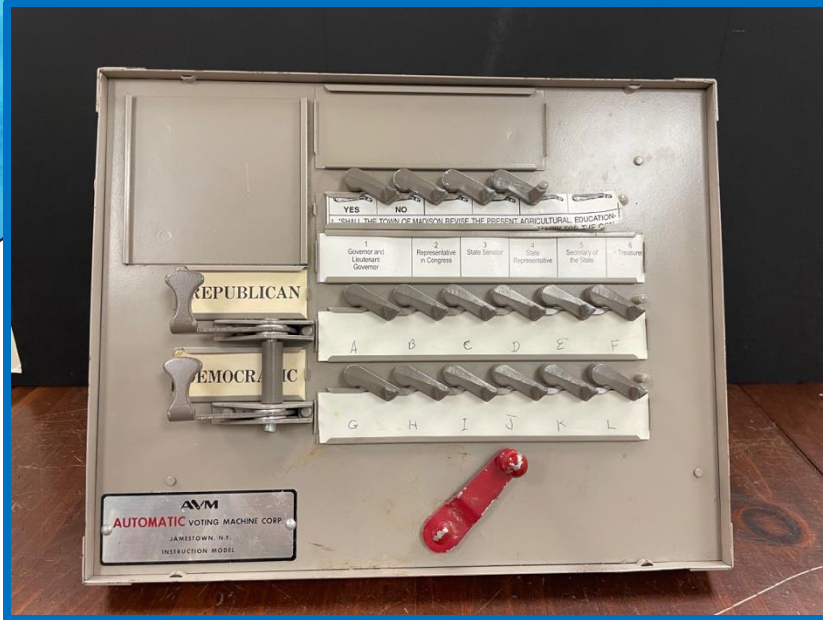
The Club:

- Celebrates 20 years of community service.
- Establishes a Declamation Contest to promote interest in literature and poetry, which continues into the 1970's.
- Advocates for better lighting at the railway station.
- Presents films and plays, offering cultural activities to residents while raising funds for charitable endeavors.
- Ways and Means chairman resigns due to lack of accessible phone service and inability to contact members.
- Beautifies the area between the flagpole and Memorial Town Hall with shrubs and lowers in partnership with Madison Garden Club.
- "Each member is asked to donate \$1, she earned or has obtained", to replenish the club treasury.
- Works to suppress the publication of details of notorious cases.



The Club:

- Celebrates 30 years of community service.
- Establishes discussion groups on the “Russian Situation”.
- Charges annual dues of \$1.50.
- Supports the addition to Hand School (known as Academy School) including, a gymnasium and classrooms.
- Mourns the passing of Founder Ellen Miner Dowd at age 76 on November 1, 1935.



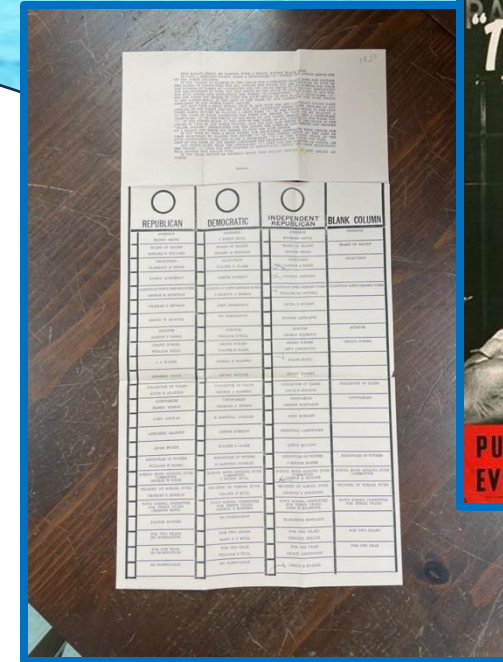
Credit: Charlotte L. Evarts Memorial Archives

The Club:

- Celebrates 40 years of community service.
- Meetings were again devoted to Red Cross work during WWII.
- Members man a booth in Post Office to sell war bonds.
- Educates the citizens of Madison when the town transitioned from paper ballots to the new voting machines.
- Discusses the United Nations and focuses attention on the Veteran's Hospital and state hospital.
- Elects' poet Grace Miner Lippincott, the 11th club president, she continues to participate in the "News from Home" publication for overseas serviceman, and serves as historian and secretary, capturing the club's history.



Credit: Charlotte L. Evarts Memorial Archives

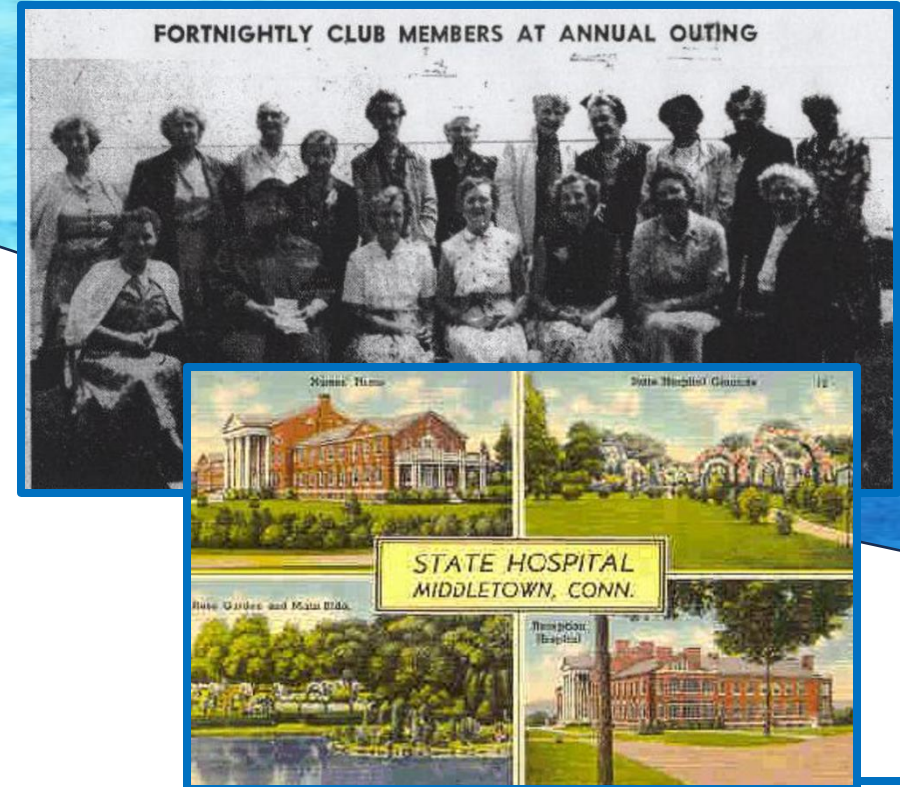


Credit: Charlotte L. Evarts Memorial Archives





Credit: Charlotte L. Evarts Memorial Archives



The Club:

- Celebrates 50 years of community service.
- Has organized over 400 meetings from the initial meeting on February 2, 1900 to present.
- Supports the purchase of new town ambulance and a new piano for Hand High School.
- Members continue to support patients of state hospitals with gifts at the holidays.
- Grace Miner Lippincott continues to share her poetry with members of the club.

When you find a pretty village
That surrounds a square of green,
You will listen for the echoes
That recall each festive scene

Over Tuxis Lake, through shorelands
There are voices calling you
To the hilltops or the beaches
For a thrilling point of view

If your home is in New England
You'll accept the widest range
With the seasonal performance
When each year the echoes change.



Credit: Charlotte L. Evarts Memorial Archives



The Club:

- Celebrates 60 years of community service and officially becomes The Women's Club of Madison.
- Monitors a new survey to benefit the Scranton library. This results in enlarged facilities at the town library.
- A music award is established at the Middle School in Grace Miner Lippincott's honor. This award is a savings bond presented to an 8th grade student.

1970



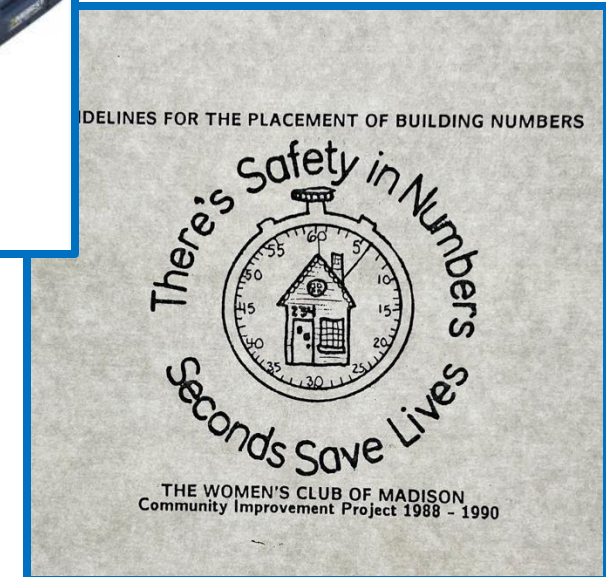
- The Club:
- Celebrates 70 years of community service.
- Begins a recycling program, donning goggles, members collect and break glass bottles in the effort to raise funds, the conservation efforts continues to present day.
- Organizes a town-wide candy sale to support the installation of cable tv in Madison School system.
- Initiates a town wide toothbrush sale to benefit the purchase of athletic uniforms for a girl's school team.
- Mourns the passing of Grace Miner Lippincott at age 96. A distinguished Madison resident, she was a past president of the Women's Club of Madison, a member of the Madison Historical Society and noted poet.

Grace Miner Lippincott
Credit: Charlotte L. Evarts
Memorial Archives



The Club:

- Celebrates 80 years of community service.
- Raises funds for a Community Impact Projects:
 - Purchase of “Jaws of Life” equipment for Madison Fire Hose Company #1;
 - Supports the purchase of new Town ambulance;
 - Raised and contributed funds to assist in the purchase of uniforms for DHHS Band members.
- Advocates that all homes and buildings in town have reflective numbers, which later becomes a town ordinance.





20-plus Years of Service



Members of the Women's Club of Madison with more than 20 years of service were honored at the club's annual dinner meeting held in June. The club recently completed its 99th year of service to the Madison Community. Back row (l-r): Barbara Gillis, Doris Burr, Maragret Luecke, Madeline Larsons, Barbara Birnie; Middle row: Lakadia Genesisus, Lillian Zaparanick, Carol Begor, Margaret Hopkins; Front row: Marie Scalon, Mildred Beckert.

Credit: Charlotte L. Evarts Memorial Archives

The Women's Club celebrates 99 years

The Women's Club of Madison celebrated the close of its 99th club year with a tribute to its members with more than 20 years of service. Honored at the dinner meeting were Doris Burr and Mildred Beckert, 22 years; Lillian Zaparanick, 23 years; Margaret Luecke and Madeline Larsons, 25 years; Barbara Birnie, 27 years; Margaret Hopkins, 32 years; Barbara Gillis, 33 years; Carol Begor, 34 years and Lakadia Genesisus with 52 years of service. Special recognition went to Marie Scalon with 42 years of service.

Women's Club President Anna Marie Lane reported on the club's disbursements for 1998-99 club year. In addition to its annual \$1,000 scholarship, more than \$2,000 was dispersed to various community groups including the Red Cross Blood Drive Canteen, D.A.R.E., Nite in Hand, and Madison Community Services. Past President Maria Gilmore presented Peggy Keenan with the 1998-99 Past President Award, presented annually to a club member for her special contributions to the club.

The club is currently raising funds for the purchase of thermal imaging goggles for the fire department. These goggles will enable firefighters to locate victims through the smoke in a fire. The club's goal is to raise \$15,000 for the project, and members will be selling pierogies at the Shellfish Festival in August and raffling a quilt to raise funds. Donations for the may also be sent to the Women's Club of Madison, P.O. Box 691, Madison, 06443.

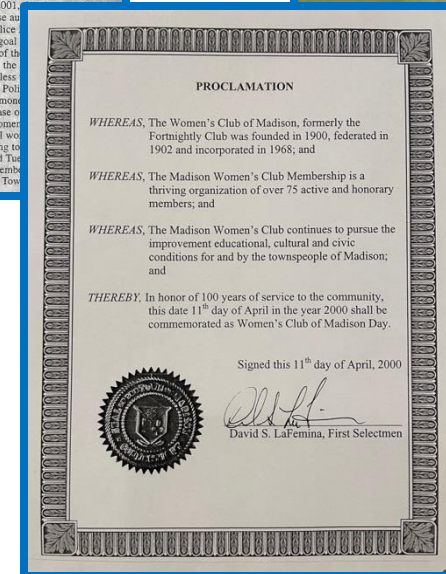
The Women's Club of Madison was founded in 1900 and is a volunteer service organization focused on the needs of the community. Membership is open to women of all ages. Monthly meetings take place the second Tuesday of the month September through June. The current membership is comprised of more than 90 women who range from the young to the young at heart. If you are interested in more information about the Women's Club of Madison, please call Peggy Keenan, membership chairwoman, 245-3151.

- The Club:
- Celebrates 90 years of community service.
- Donates funds to frame and display historic prints at the Memorial Town Hall.
- Celebrates members with over 20 plus years of community service.
- Donates the first handmade afghans to the Strong House Adult Day Center.
- As of 2025, over 2,000 afghans have been donated to area organizations and local police and fire departments.





- Celebrating 100 years of community service, the Club:
 - Raises and donates funds to support:
 - The Madison Fire Department for the purchase of Thermal Imaging equipment;
 - Heating system at Meigs Point Nature Center;
 - Defibrillators for Madison Police Department;
 - Wheelchairs for the town beach access;
 - Golf cart to transport injured students.
 - Establishes a scholarship for a DHHS Senior Scholarship for the Arts.
 - Offers Babysitting Certification Courses.
 - Supports the Nite in Hand and the Community Food Pantry.
 - Celebrates the town of Madison proclamation for 100 years of Community Service, April 11, 2000.

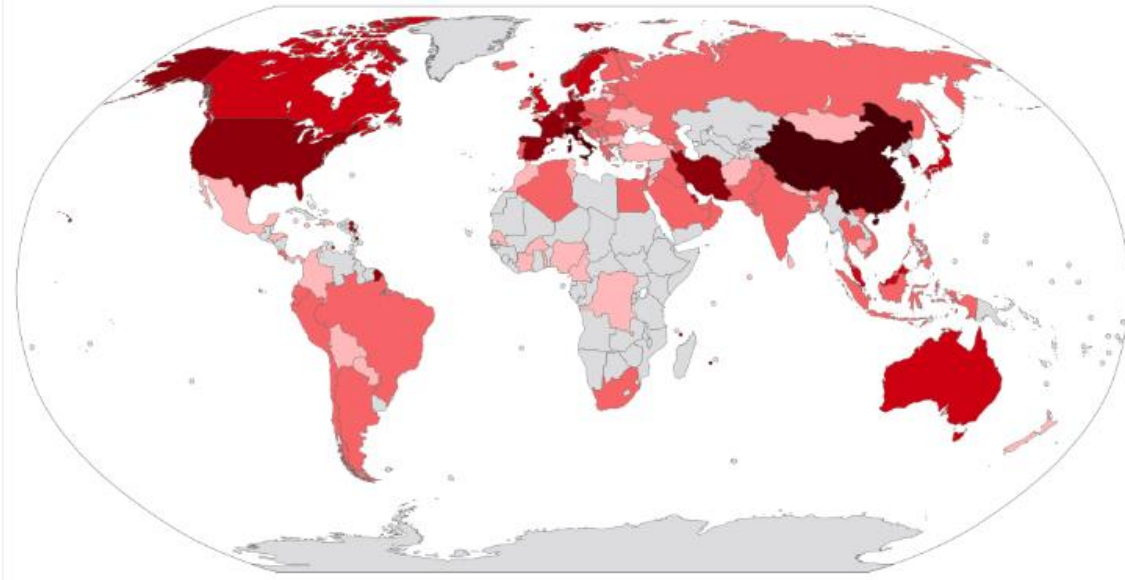




Celebrating 110 years of community service, the Club:

- Furnishes a room at the Madison Ambulance.
- Furnishes a room at the Madison Senior Center.
- Donates funds for new benches, grills and bocce court resurfacing at Madison Surf Club.
- Donates funds for building walkways on the Shoreline trail, and the Shoreline Greenway Trail.

The Club joins forces with area organizations and the Town of Madison to donate an ambulance to the south shore of Long Island after the devastation of Hurricane Sandy.



Map of the COVID-19 outbreak as of 11 March 2020.

3/11/2020: COVID 19 is declared a Global Pandemic

Celebrating 120 years of community service, the club continues to:

- Meet via Zoom technology, a learning curve for many.
- Work as best possible under the pandemic circumstances.
- Raise awareness within the community about Domestic Violence Awareness after receiving a grant from Connecticut Women's Club Federation.

