



## *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 2026*



The next Women's Club of Madison meeting is Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Senior Center.

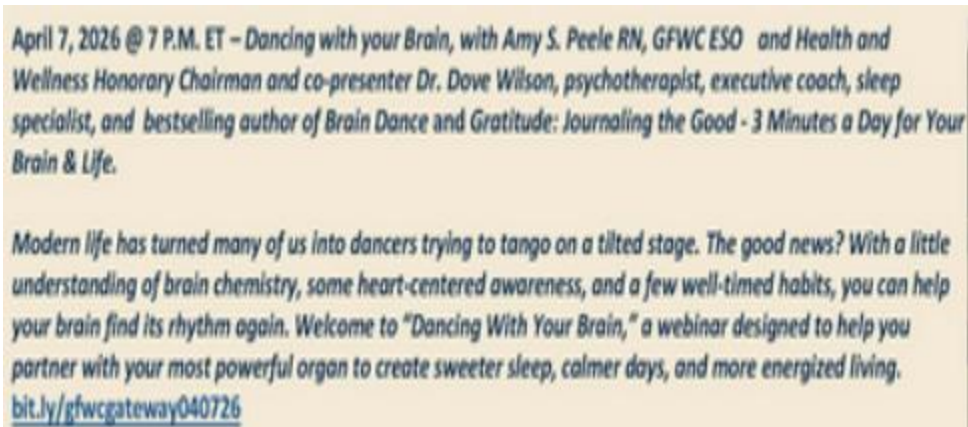
Board Meetings will continue to be held via Zoom on the third Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. Remember to send any agenda items or committee information for both the Membership and Board Meetings to **President Liz Early**. Liz's email address is [ack.girl@hotmail.com](mailto:ack.girl@hotmail.com).

If you have information for the newsletter, please email me at [patriciathal@aim.com](mailto:patriciathal@aim.com).





Check out the **GFWC/CT Newsletter**. It's filled with great information about the **GFWC/CT** and the state Clubs. Also, if you have not already done so, subscribe to **GFWC News and Notes**. The **GFWC Learning Gateway Services**. GFWC is hosting two informative webinars for you. Register to take part in the live sessions. If you can't attend at the scheduled times, simply register, and you'll receive a link to the recorded sessions. The next session is scheduled for April 7, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.



**GFWC/CT May Convention** will be held in Windsor on **05/16/2026**.

**Southeast District Day** is **04/11/2026** and will be held at the Westbrook Elks Club. Each group will do centerpieces for their tables. **Theme is "You Are Not Alone"**. **BH Cares** will speak in the morning. For the centerpieces, please bring toiletries, socks, etc. to our March WCM meeting. There also will be a **Photo Contest** at **District Day**.

The **Women's Club of Madison** will receive a **Chamber of Commerce Milestone Recognition Award** at the **2026 Madison Chamber Annual Awards and Installation Dinner**. The dinner will be held on March 18, 2026, at The Woodwinds in Branford. More information is contained on the Chamber website. Congratulations to us!

## WHIST FUND RAISER



Thank you to **Betty King, Joan Powers, and all their committee members**, for planning our Whist Fund Raiser, which was held on Friday, March 6, 2026 at the First Congregational Church. It was enjoyed by all who attended. **Thank you** to those who purchased tickets, donated for the raffle baskets, and provided goodies for the evening.



## PURSES WITH A PURPOSE

**Donna Farrell** is collecting gently used purses and tote bags. They will be available to purchase at various meetings, general and state, for a nominal price. As you clean out your closets, please consider donating the items as the money brought in will go into the Club treasury. **Thank you Donna!**



**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](mailto:josephinemokriski@hotmail.com) . **Thank you Josephine!**



Please contact **Laurie Storino** if you are able to volunteer to bring refreshments to upcoming meetings. **Laurie** may be contacted at [lastorino@mac.com](mailto:lastorino@mac.com).

Our **June Dinner Meeting and Installation** will take place **Tuesday, June 9, 2026** at **Cafe Allegre**. More information to follow.



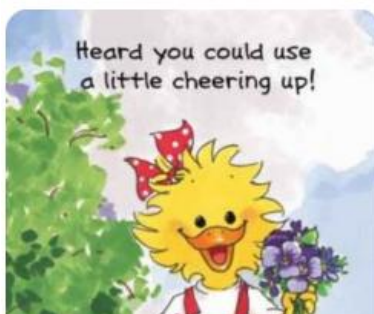
## Food Pantry

The Food Pantry serves approximately 110 families each month. 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 Group** - If you are interested in joining the Book Group or have any suggestions for future books, please contact **Josephine Mokriski**. She may be contacted at either [josephinemokriski@hotmail.com](mailto:josephinemokriski@hotmail.com) or at **203-245-0706**. Meetings take place on the Third Wednesday of every other month starting in September. The Group meets at the Scranton Memorial Library. If you would like more information and a list of books for the year, please contact Josephine.



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](mailto:shermo1981@att.net).



**Attention All Walkers** – Spring is in the air! Our Walking Group meets Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 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. Contact Barbara DeRosa at 203-215-2684 for more information.



**Knitting Group** – The Women’s Club of Madison Knitting Group 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 – Lessons 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!**



**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!**



**Chairpersons** are needed for the following committees:

- **Hospitality**
- **Conservation**

Please contact either the current chairperson or **Liz Early** for more information or to volunteer.



**Homes for the Brave: Dee Mulqueen and Mary O’Connell** recently delivered items to the women’s Homes for the Brave program in Bridgeport. Approximately \$1,200.00 worth of items were donated by the Club.

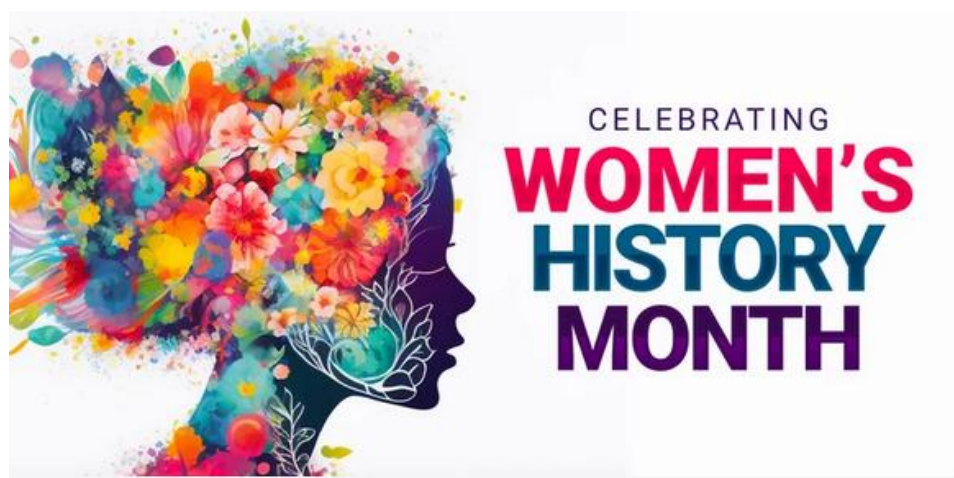


**Arts Committee**

The **Arts Committee** recently met at the Library to make centerpieces for Meals on Wheels. They will be meeting again on **03/04/2026** at the **Library** to make decorations for **St. Patrick's Day**. **Melody Wirgau** is coordinating the project.



**J McLaughlin** is hosting a shopping night for the **Women's Club of Madison** on **Thursday, May 7, 2026 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** Last year **J McLaughlin** donated \$1,250 to the **Women's Club of Madison**. Please add the date to your calendars and come out and support the store and the Club.



## **From the National Archives EEO Special Emphasis Observances**

### **March: National Women's History Month**

**Authority:** *Public Law 103-22, 107 Stat. 58 and Executive Order 11375*

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.



**Dates to remember:**

- 03/08/2026 – International Women’s Day**
- 03/10/2026 – General Membership Meetings**
- 03/16/2026 – Board Meeting**
- 03/17/2026 – St. Patrick’s Day**

